# Figure 11.1. Percentage of persons of all ages who had excellent or very good health: United States, 1997–2008
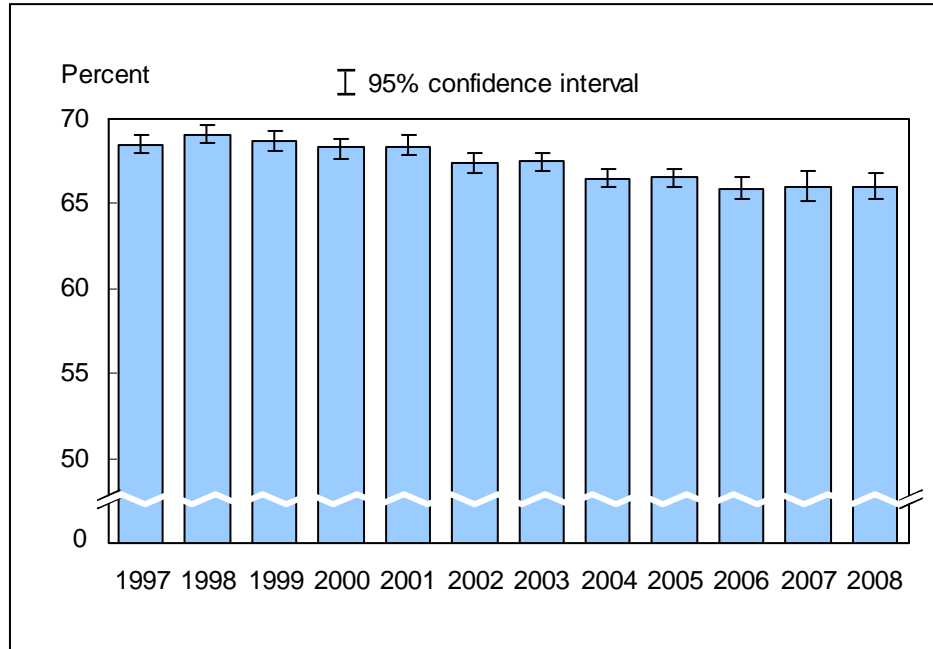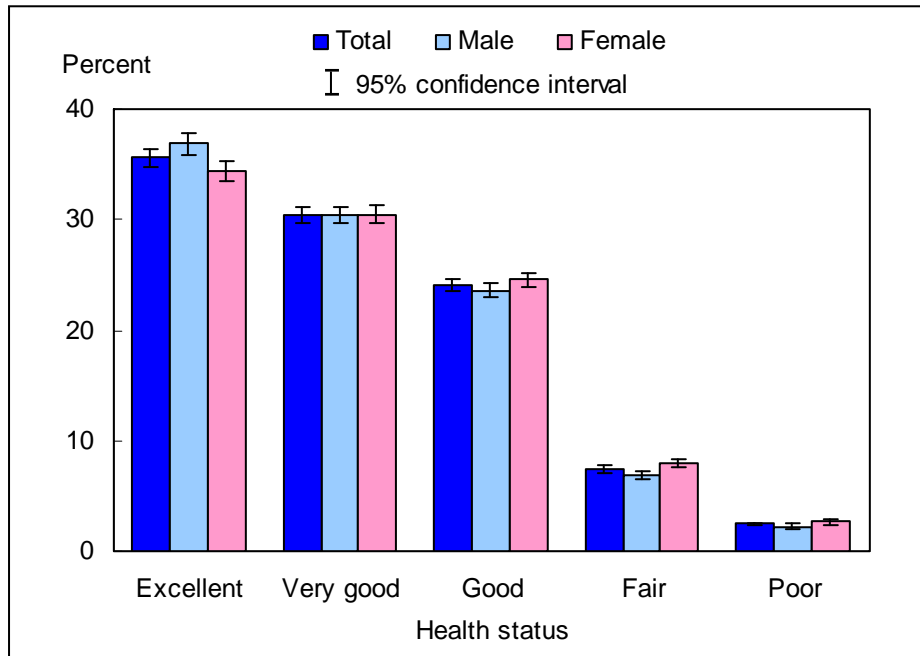


NOTES: Health status data were obtained by asking respondents to assess their own health and that of family members living in the same household as excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor. The analyses excluded persons with unknown health status (about 0.2% of respondents each year). Beginning with the 2003 data, the National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) transitioned to weights derived from the 2000 census. In this Early Release, estimates for 2000–2002 were recalculated using weights derived from the 2000 census. See "About This Early Release" for more details.

DATA SOURCE: Family Core component of the 1997–2008 NHIS. Data are based on household interviews of a sample of the civilian noninstitutionalized population.

- In 2008, the percentage of persons who had excellent or very good health was 66.0% (95% confidence interval = 65.30%–66.79%), which was the same as the 2007 estimate.

- The annual percentage of persons who had excellent or very good health generally decreased from 1998 (69.1%) to 2008 (66.0%).

## Figure 11.2. Percent distribution of respondent-assessed health status, by sex for all ages: United States, 2008
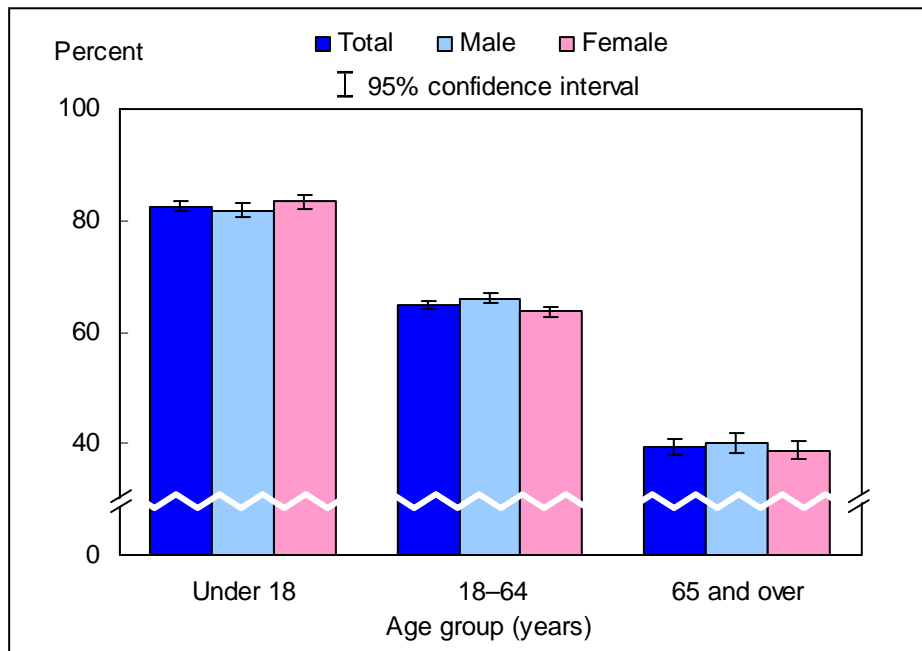


NOTES: Health status data were obtained by asking respondents to assess their own health and that of family members living in the same household as excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor. The analyses excluded 137 persons (0.2%) with unknown health status.

DATA SOURCE: Based on data collected in the Family Core component of the 2008 National Health Interview Survey. Data are based on household interviews of a sample of the civilian noninstitutionalized population.

- For both sexes combined, most persons' health was either excellent (35.6%) or very good (30.5%). Smaller percentages of persons had good (24.1%), fair (7.4%), or poor (2.5%) health.

- Compared with males, females were less likely to have excellent health and more likely to have fair or poor health.

## Figure 11.3. Percentage of persons of all ages who had excellent or very good health, by age group and sex: United States, 2008
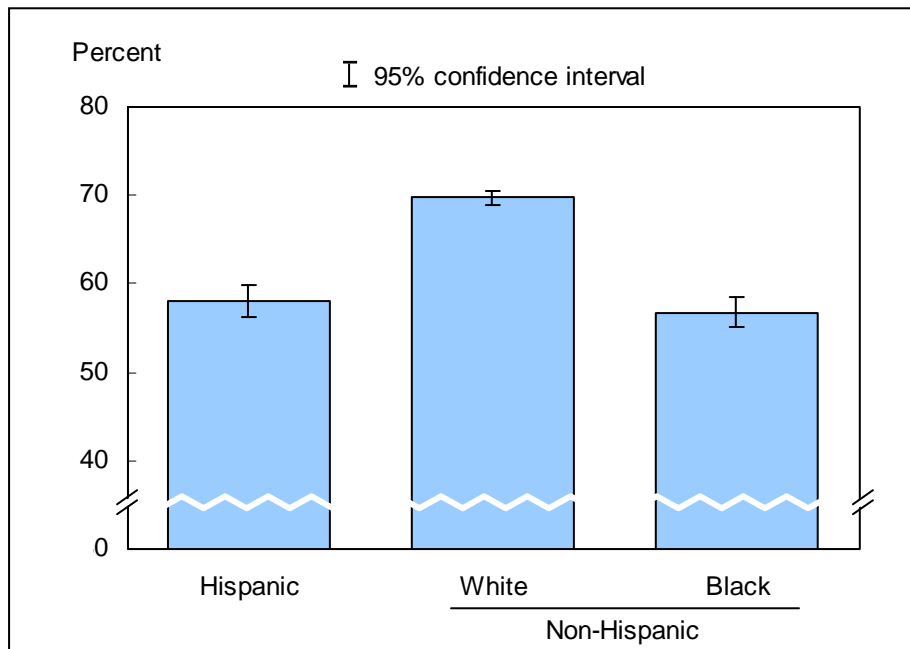


NOTES: Health status data were obtained by asking respondents to assess their own health and that of family members living in the same household as excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor. The analyses excluded 137 persons (0.2%) with unknown health status.

DATA SOURCE: Based on data collected in the Family Core component of the 2008 National Health Interview Survey. Data are based on household interviews of a sample of the civilian noninstitutionalized population.

- For both sexes combined, the percentage of persons with excellent or very good health decreased with age: 82.5% for those under 18 years, 64.8% for those aged 18–64 years, and 39.3% for those aged 65 years and over.

- For adults aged 18–64 years, the percentage of persons who had excellent or very good health was higher for men than for women.

## Figure 11.4. Age-sex-adjusted percentage of persons of all ages who had excellent or very good health, by race/ethnicity: United States, 2008



NOTES: Health status data were obtained by asking respondents to assess their own health and that of family members living in the same household as excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor. The analyses excluded 137 persons (0.2%) with unknown health status. Estimates are age-sex adjusted using the projected 2000 U.S. population as the standard population and using three age groups: under 18 years, 18–64 years, and 65 years and over.

DATA SOURCE: Based on data collected in the Family Core component of the 2008 National Health Interview Survey. Data are based on household interviews of a sample of the civilian noninstitutionalized population.

- After adjusting for age and sex, the percentage of persons who had excellent or very good health was 58.1% for Hispanic persons, 69.7% for non-Hispanic white persons, and 56.8% for non-Hispanic black persons.

- The health of Hispanic persons and non-Hispanic black persons was less likely to be excellent or very good than that of non-Hispanic white persons.

## Data tables for Figures 11.1–11.4:

**Data table for Figure 11.1. Percentage of persons of all ages who had excellent or very good health: United States, 1997–2008**

| Year | Percent | 95% confidence interval |
|------|---------|-------------------------|
| 1997 | 68.5 | 68.0-69.1 |
| 1998 | 69.1 | 68.6-69.6 |
| 1999 | 68.7 | 68.1-69.3 |
| 2000 | 68.3 | 67.7-68.8 |
| 2001 | 68.4 | 67.9-69.0 |
| 2002 | 67.4 | 66.8-68.0 |
| 2003 | 67.5 | 66.9-68.0 |
| 2004 | 66.5 | 66.0-67.1 |
| 2005 | 66.5 | 65.98-67.11 |
| 2006 | 65.9 | 65.25-66.61 |
| 2007 | 66.0 | 65.18-66.88 |
| 2008 | 66.0 | 65.30-66.79 |

NOTES: Beginning with the 2003 data, the National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) transitioned to weights derived from the 2000 census. In this Early Release, estimates for 2000–2002 were recalculated using weights derived from the 2000 census. See "About This Early Release" for more details.

DATA SOURCE: Family Core component of the 1997–2008 NHIS. Data are based on household interviews of a sample of the civilian noninstitutionalized population.

**Data table for Figure 11.2. Percent distribution of respondent-assessed health status, by sex for all ages: United States, 2008**

| Health status and sex | Percent | 95% confidence interval |
|---|---|---|
| Excellent, total | 35.6 | 34.73-36.45 |
| Excellent, male | 36.8 | 35.91-37.79 |
| Excellent, female | 34.4 | 33.47-35.30 |
| Very good, total | 30.5 | 29.77-31.14 |
| Very good, male | 30.4 | 29.64-31.19 |
| Very good, female | 30.5 | 29.74-31.25 |
| Good, total | 24.1 | 23.48-24.68 |
| Good, male | 23.6 | 22.96-24.26 |
| Good, female | 24.5 | 23.84-25.21 |
| Fair, total | 7.4 | 7.14-7.71 |
| Fair, male | 6.9 | 6.53-7.23 |
| Fair, female | 8.0 | 7.62-8.28 |
| Poor, total | 2.5 | 2.28-2.62 |
| Poor, male | 2.3 | 2.05-2.46 |
| Poor, female | 2.6 | 2.44-2.84 |

DATA SOURCE: Based on data collected in the Family Core component of the 2008 National Health Interview Survey. Data are based on household interviews of a sample of the civilian noninstitutionalized population.

**Data table for Figure 11.3. Percentage of persons of all ages who had excellent or very good health, by age group and sex: United States, 2008**

| Age and sex | Percent | 95% confidence interval |
|---|---|---|
| Under 18 years, total | 82.5 | 81.53-83.56 |
| Under 18 years, male | 81.8 | 80.62-82.96 |
| Under 18 years, female | 83.3 | 82.21-84.48 |
| 18–64 years, total | 64.8 | 64.03-65.64 |
| 18–64 years, male | 66.0 | 65.19-66.88 |
| 18–64 years, female | 63.7 | 62.73-64.60 |
| 65 years and over, total | 39.3 | 38.04-40.64 |
| 65 years and over, male | 40.1 | 38.28-41.83 |
| 65 years and over, female | 38.8 | 37.32-40.28 |
| All ages (crude[1]), total | 66.0 | 65.30-66.79 |
| All ages (crude[1]), male | 67.3 | 66.46-68.06 |
| All ages (crude[1]), female | 64.9 | 64.07-65.69 |
| All ages (age-adjusted[2]), total | 66.2 | 65.46-66.90 |
| All ages (age-adjusted[2]), male | 66.8 | 66.04-67.59 |
| All ages (age-adjusted[2]), female | 65.6 | 64.80-66.38 |

[1]Crude estimates are presented in the figure.
[2]Estimates are age adjusted using the projected 2000 U.S. population as the standard population and using three age groups: under 18 years, 18–64 years, and 65 years and over.

DATA SOURCE: Based on data collected in the Family Core component of the 2008 National Health Interview Survey. Data are based on household interviews of a sample of the civilian noninstitutionalized population.


**Data table for Figure 11.4. Age-sex-adjusted percentage of persons of all ages who had excellent or very good health, by race/ethnicity: United States, 2008**

| Race/ethnicity | Percent[1] | 95% confidence interval |
|---|---|---|
| Hispanic or Latino | 58.1 | 56.24-59.95 |
| Not Hispanic or Latino, single race, white | 69.7 | 68.94-70.51 |
| Not Hispanic or Latino, single race, black | 56.8 | 55.11-58.45 |

[1]Estimates are age-sex adjusted using the projected 2000 U.S. population as the standard population and using three age groups: under 18 years, 18–64 years, and 65 years and over.

DATA SOURCE: Based on data collected in the Family Core component of the 2008 National Health Interview Survey. Data are based on household interviews of a sample of the civilian noninstitutionalized population.