Selected Findings

Mortality and natality
- In 2017, the average life expectancy at birth, a summary measure of population health, was 78.6 years, down from 78.9 in 2014.
- The birth rate among teenagers aged 15–19 years fell to 18.8 live births per 1,000 teens in 2017—a record low for the United States.
- From 2007 to 2017, the age-adjusted death rate for drug overdose deaths increased 82%, from 11.9 to 21.7 deaths per 100,000.
- The age-adjusted drug overdose death rate for females aged 15 years and over was 64% higher in 2017 than in 2007 (14.4 compared with 8.8 deaths per 100,000).

Current cigarette smoking
- Cigarette smoking, a key health behavior, continues to decline. The age-adjusted percentage of adults aged 18 and over who smoked cigarettes decreased from 19.7% in 2007 to 14.1% in 2017.
- Among students in grades 9–12, use of any tobacco products in the past 30 days increased from 24.2% in 2011 to 27.1% in 2018. Electronic cigarettes were the most commonly used tobacco product in 2018; 20.8% of students had used electronic cigarettes in the past 30 days.
Health care utilization

- The age-adjusted percentage of Americans taking 5 or more prescription drugs in the past 30 days increased from 6.5% in 1999–2000 to 10.0% in 2003–2004, and then remained stable through 2015–2016 (11.0%).
- The percentage of Americans taking 5 or more prescription drugs in the past 30 days increased with age. In 2015–2016, fewer than 1% of children under age 18 years took five or more prescription drugs, compared with 3.9% of adults aged 18–44, 19.1% of adults aged 45–64, and 39.8% of adults aged 65 and over.
- In 2017, 16.2% of adults living below 100% of the poverty level delayed or did not receive needed medical care due to cost compared with 5.1% of those living at or above 400% of the poverty level.

Health care resources and expenditures

- In 2017, personal health care expenditures in the United States totaled almost $3.0 trillion—a 3.8% increase from 2016.
- The percentage of uninsured adults aged 18–64 decreased from 19.6% in 2007 to 13.3% in 2018 (preliminary estimates).