

Table 68 (page 1 of 4). Cholesterol among persons 20 years of age and over, by selected characteristics: United States, selected years 1988–1994 through 2005–2008

[Data are based on interviews and laboratory data of a sample of the civilian noninstitutionalized population]

<i>Sex, age, race and Hispanic origin¹, and percent of poverty level</i>	<i>1988–1994</i>	<i>1999–2002</i>	<i>2005–2008</i>
Percent of population with high cholesterol (serum total cholesterol greater than or equal to 240 mg/dL or taking cholesterol-lowering medications) ³			
20 years and over, age-adjusted ²			
Both sexes ⁴	22.8	25.0	27.5
Male	21.1	25.3	27.3
Female	24.0	24.3	27.5
Not Hispanic or Latino:			
White only, male	21.1	26.0	27.9
White only, female	24.2	25.1	28.1
Black or African American only, male	18.6	20.1	24.1
Black or African American only, female	23.1	22.0	25.3
Mexican male	19.9	21.6	26.2
Mexican female	19.8	19.3	25.0
Percent of poverty level: ⁵			
Below 100%	23.0	25.0	27.1
100%–199%	22.1	25.9	26.3
200%–399%	23.1	26.5	28.7
400% or more	21.7	23.1	27.5
20 years and over, crude			
Both sexes ⁴	21.5	25.0	28.4
Male	19.6	25.1	27.7
Female	23.2	24.8	29.1
Not Hispanic or Latino:			
White only, male	20.0	26.8	29.7
White only, female	24.5	27.0	31.2
Black or African American only, male	16.0	18.5	22.7
Black or African American only, female	19.7	19.9	24.5
Mexican male	16.2	17.0	21.1
Mexican female	14.9	13.8	20.6
Percent of poverty level: ⁵			
Below 100%	19.4	21.6	23.1
100%–199%	21.3	25.4	27.8
200%–399%	21.3	26.2	29.8
400% or more	21.9	24.2	28.9
Male			
20–34 years	8.2	10.4	10.1
35–44 years	21.0	23.1	21.5
45–54 years	29.6	34.1	33.2
55–64 years	30.8	39.1	43.4
65–74 years	27.4	36.3	49.5
75 years and over	24.4	29.0	39.4
Female			
20–34 years	7.3	9.1	9.5
35–44 years	13.5	14.4	17.0
45–54 years	28.2	27.2	29.9
55–64 years	45.8	39.2	50.0
65–74 years	46.9	51.9	51.8
75 years and over	41.2	44.0	51.7

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 68 (page 2 of 4). Cholesterol among persons 20 years of age and over, by selected characteristics: United States, selected years 1988–1994 through 2005–2008

[Data are based on interviews and laboratory data of a sample of the civilian noninstitutionalized population]

<i>Sex, age, race and Hispanic origin¹, and percent of poverty level</i>	<i>1988–1994</i>	<i>1999–2002</i>	<i>2005–2008</i>
Percent of population with high serum total cholesterol (greater than or equal to 240 mg/dL) ⁶			
20 years and over, age-adjusted ²			
Both sexes ⁴	20.8	17.3	14.9
Male	19.0	16.4	13.4
Female	22.0	17.8	16.0
Not Hispanic or Latino:			
White only, male	18.8	16.5	13.5
White only, female	22.2	18.1	16.8
Black or African American only, male	16.9	12.4	9.5
Black or African American only, female	21.4	17.7	13.2
Mexican male	18.5	17.4	16.8
Mexican female	18.7	13.8	13.9
Percent of poverty level: ⁵			
Below 100%	20.6	18.3	15.6
100%–199%	20.6	19.1	15.0
200%–399%	20.8	18.9	16.1
400% or more	19.5	14.4	14.0
20 years and over, crude			
Both sexes ⁴	19.6	17.3	15.2
Male	17.7	16.5	13.8
Female	21.3	18.0	16.6
Not Hispanic or Latino:			
White only, male	18.0	16.9	14.0
White only, female	22.5	19.1	17.8
Black or African American only, male	14.7	12.2	9.6
Black or African American only, female	18.2	16.1	12.8
Mexican male	15.4	15.0	15.5
Mexican female	14.3	10.7	13.0
Percent of poverty level: ⁵			
Below 100%	17.6	16.4	14.0
100%–199%	19.8	18.2	14.8
200%–399%	19.3	18.7	16.0
400% or more	19.9	15.5	15.3
Male			
20–34 years	8.2	9.8	9.1
35–44 years	19.4	19.7	16.0
45–54 years	26.6	23.6	19.8
55–64 years	28.0	19.9	16.2
65–74 years	21.9	13.7	7.9
75 years and over	20.4	10.2	8.6
Female			
20–34 years	7.3	8.9	8.4
35–44 years	12.3	12.4	13.7
45–54 years	26.7	21.4	18.6
55–64 years	40.9	25.6	27.1
65–74 years	41.3	32.3	21.8
75 years and over	38.2	26.5	19.4

Table 68 (page 3 of 4). Cholesterol among persons 20 years of age and over, by selected characteristics: United States, selected years 1988–1994 through 2005–2008

[Data are based on interviews and laboratory data of a sample of the civilian noninstitutionalized population]

<i>Sex, age, race and Hispanic origin¹, and percent of poverty level</i>	<i>1988–1994</i>	<i>1999–2002</i>	<i>2005–2008</i>
20 years and over, age-adjusted ²		Mean serum total cholesterol level, mg/dL ⁷	
Both sexes ⁴	206	203	198
Male	204	202	195
Female	207	204	200
Not Hispanic or Latino:			
White only, male	205	202	194
White only, female	208	205	201
Black or African American only, male	202	195	190
Black or African American only, female	207	202	193
Mexican male	206	204	202
Mexican female	206	199	198
Percent of poverty level: ⁵			
Below 100%	205	201	198
100%–199%	205	204	199
200%–399%	207	205	197
400% or more	205	202	197
20 years and over, crude			
Both sexes ⁴	204	203	198
Male	202	202	195
Female	206	204	201
Not Hispanic or Latino:			
White only, male	203	203	195
White only, female	208	206	203
Black or African American only, male	198	194	190
Black or African American only, female	201	199	193
Mexican male	199	200	201
Mexican female	198	194	196
Percent of poverty level: ⁵			
Below 100%	200	198	196
100%–199%	202	202	198
200%–399%	205	204	197
400% or more	206	204	200
Male			
20–34 years	186	188	186
35–44 years	206	207	205
45–54 years	216	215	205
55–64 years	216	212	199
65–74 years	212	202	184
75 years and over	205	195	179
Female			
20–34 years	184	185	186
35–44 years	195	198	196
45–54 years	217	211	209
55–64 years	235	221	216
65–74 years	233	224	209
75 years and over	229	217	203

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 68 (page 4 of 4). Cholesterol among persons 20 years of age and over, by selected characteristics: United States, selected years 1988–1994 through 2005–2008

[Data are based on interviews and laboratory data of a sample of the civilian noninstitutionalized population]

¹Persons of Mexican origin may be of any race. Starting with 1999 data, race-specific estimates are tabulated according to the 1997 Revisions to the Standards for the Classification of Federal Data on Race and Ethnicity and are not strictly comparable with estimates for earlier years. The two non-Hispanic race categories shown in the table conform to the 1997 Standards. Starting with 1999 data, race-specific estimates are for persons who reported only one racial group. Prior to data year 1999, estimates were tabulated according to the 1977 Standards. Estimates for single-race categories prior to 1999 included persons who reported one race or, if they reported more than one race, identified one race as best representing their race. See Appendix II, Hispanic origin; Race.

²Age-adjusted to the 2000 standard population using five age groups: 20–34 years, 35–44 years, 45–54 years, 55–64 years, and 65 years and over. Age-adjusted estimates may differ from other age-adjusted estimates based on the same data and presented elsewhere if different age groups are used in the adjustment procedure. See Appendix II, Age adjustment.

³High cholesterol is defined as measured serum total cholesterol greater than or equal to 240 mg/dL or reporting taking cholesterol-lowering medications. Respondents were asked, "Are you now following this advice [from a doctor of health professional] to take prescribed medicine [to lower your cholesterol]?"

⁴Includes persons of all races and Hispanic origins, not just those shown separately.

⁵Percent of poverty level is based on family income and family size. Persons with unknown percent of poverty level are excluded (4% in 2005–2008). See Appendix II, Family income; Poverty.

⁶High serum total cholesterol is defined as greater than or equal to 240 mg/dL (6.20 mmol/L), regardless of whether the respondent reported taking cholesterol-lowering medications.

⁷Risk levels for cholesterol have been defined by the Third Report of the National Cholesterol Education Program Expert Panel on Detection, Evaluation, and Treatment of High Blood Cholesterol in Adults. National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, National Institutes of Health. September 2002. (Available from: <http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/guidelines/cholesterol/index.htm> and summarized in JAMA 2001;285(19):2486–97). Serum total cholesterol greater than or equal to 240 mg/dL (6.20 mmol/L) is considered high. Serum total cholesterol greater than or equal to 200 mg/dL and less than 240 mg/dL is considered borderline high.

NOTES: See Appendix II, Cholesterol. Standard errors for selected years are available in the spreadsheet version of this table. Available from: <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/hus.htm>. Data for additional years are available. See Appendix III.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey.