

Data table for Figure 28. Prescription drug use in the past 30 days among adults aged 55–64, by number of drugs and selected drug class: United States, 1999–2002 and 2009–2012

Excel and Powerpoint: <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/hus/contents2014.htm#fig28>

Characteristic	1999–2002		2009–2012	
	Percent	SE	Percent	SE
Number of prescription drugs in past 30 days ¹				
No prescription drugs	26.9	1.5	24.2	1.4
1–4 prescription drugs	55.4	1.8	55.6	1.4
5 or more prescription drugs	17.7	1.7	20.3	1.3
Prescription drug use in past 30 days, by selected Multum Lexicon Plus therapeutic drug class (common indications for use) ²				
Cardiovascular (heart, blood pressure, and kidney disease)	41.3	2.0	45.0	2.2
Cholesterol-lowering (high cholesterol)	20.6	1.7	31.8	1.7
Gastric reflux (gastroesophageal reflux disease [GERD], anti-acid reflux, ulcers)	9.0	1.6	16.0	1.2
Analgesic (pain, inflammation, blood clot prevention)	16.8	1.4	15.0	1.7
Antidepressant (depression, anxiety, perimenopausal symptom, pain)	10.3	1.2	14.4	1.2
Antidiabetic (high glucose [blood sugar])	10.0	1.1	12.9	0.9

SE is standard error.

¹Respondents were asked if they had taken a prescription drug in the past 30 days. Those who answered “yes” were asked to show the interviewer the medication containers for all prescriptions. If no container was available, the respondent was asked to verbally report the name of the medication. Each drug’s complete name was recorded and classified.

²The December 2012 Multum Lexicon Plus database was used for processing and editing the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey prescription drug data. Lexicon Plus, a proprietary database of Cerner Multum, Inc. (Denver, CO), is used to assist with collection, editing, and release of drug data. Lexicon Plus is a comprehensive database of all prescription and some nonprescription drug products available in the U.S. drug market. See: <http://www.multum.com/>. Lexicon Plus provides a three-level nested category system that assigns a therapeutic classification to each drug reported. Not all drugs have three classification levels; some may only have two classification levels, and others only have one classification level. For more information, see: http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhanes/1999-2000/RXQ_DRUG.htm. Up to four different therapeutic classes can be assigned to each drug. Drugs classified into more than one class were counted in each therapeutic class. Respondents taking more than one drug in a specific drug class were counted once; respondents taking drugs in different drug classes were counted in both classes. The therapeutic drug class identifies the therapeutic effect(s) of the drug as a whole and for multi-ingredient drugs differs from a classification scheme based on drug ingredients. In this analysis, cardiovascular drugs (including ACE inhibitors, beta blockers, calcium channel blockers, and diuretics) are level 1, class 40; cholesterol-lowering drugs are level 2, class 19; antidepressant drugs are level 2, class 249; analgesic drugs are level 2, class 58; gastric reflux drugs (including proton pump inhibitors) are level 2, class 272, and H₂ antagonists are level 2, class 94; and antidiabetic drugs are level 2, class 99. The therapeutic drug classes proton pump inhibitors (272) and H₂ antagonists (94) were combined because of their similar indications for use. See Appendix II, Drug; Multum Lexicon Plus therapeutic drug class.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey. See Appendix I, National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES).