

**Table 59. Obesity among children and adolescents aged 2–19 years, by selected characteristics: United States, selected years 1988–1994 through 2013–2016**

Excel version (with more data years and standard errors when available): <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/hus/contents2017.htm#059>.

[Data are based on measured height and weight of a sample of the civilian noninstitutionalized population]

Sex, age, race and Hispanic origin <sup>1</sup> , and percent of poverty level	1988–1994	1999–2002	2003–2006	2007–2010	2013–2016
2–19 years					
Percent of population					
Both sexes <sup>2</sup>	10.0	14.8	16.3	16.8	17.8
Not Hispanic or Latino:					
White only	9.2	12.6	14.7	14.6	14.7
Black or African American only	12.5	18.2	20.7	22.1	20.4
Asian only	---	---	---	---	9.8
Hispanic or Latino	---	---	---	21.1	23.6
Mexican origin	14.3	20.0	20.9	21.0	24.2
Boys	10.2	15.5	17.0	18.2	18.1
Not Hispanic or Latino:					
White only	9.7	13.2	15.6	15.8	15.3
Black or African American only	10.6	16.0	17.4	20.6	17.9
Asian only	---	---	---	---	11.9
Hispanic or Latino	---	---	---	23.9	24.3
Mexican origin	14.8	23.0	23.2	24.4	24.2
Girls	9.8	14.1	15.5	15.4	17.5
Not Hispanic or Latino:					
White only	8.6	12.0	13.7	13.3	14.1
Black or African American only	14.5	20.5	24.1	23.5	23.0
Asian only	---	---	---	---	7.4
Hispanic or Latino	---	---	---	18.1	22.9
Mexican origin	13.8	16.9	18.4	17.4	24.2
Percent of poverty level: <sup>3</sup>					
Below 100%	12.6	17.6	18.9	20.8	21.0
100%–199%	10.2	15.3	17.4	18.3	20.7
200%–399%	9.4	14.0	17.1	16.7	16.9
400% or more	*4.7	12.6	11.0	11.9	12.2
2–5 years					
Both sexes <sup>2</sup>	7.2	10.3	12.5	11.1	11.6
Not Hispanic or Latino:					
White only	5.2	8.7	10.8	9.0	9.9
Black or African American only	7.8	8.8	14.9	15.0	11.6
Asian only	---	---	---	---	*
Hispanic or Latino	---	---	---	15.3	16.5
Mexican origin	12.3	13.1	16.7	14.6	15.1
Boys	6.2	10.0	12.8	11.9	11.5
Not Hispanic or Latino:					
White only	*4.5	*8.2	11.1	8.8	9.3
Black or African American only	7.9	*8.0	13.3	15.7	12.4
Asian only	---	---	---	---	*
Hispanic or Latino	---	---	---	17.7	16.7
Mexican origin	12.4	14.1	18.8	19.1	13.1
Girls	8.2	10.6	12.2	10.2	11.7
Not Hispanic or Latino:					
White only	5.9	*9.0	10.4	*9.2	10.4
Black or African American only	7.6	9.6	16.6	*14.2	11.0
Asian only	---	---	---	---	*
Hispanic or Latino	---	---	---	12.7	16.3
Mexican origin	12.3	*12.2	14.5	*9.9	17.1

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[Data are based on measured height and weight of a sample of the civilian noninstitutionalized population]

Sex, age, race and Hispanic origin <sup>1</sup> , and percent of poverty level	1988–1994	1999–2002	2003–2006	2007–2010	2013–2016
2–5 years—Con.					
Percent of poverty level: <sup>3</sup>					
Below 100%	9.7	10.9	14.3	13.2	13.5
100%–199%	7.3	*13.8	12.7	11.8	12.6
200%–399%	5.6	*7.6	11.9	13.9	10.4
400% or more	*	*	*10.0	*5.8	8.2
6–11 years					
Both sexes <sup>2</sup>	11.3	15.9	17.0	18.8	17.9
Not Hispanic or Latino:					
White only	10.2	13.6	15.0	16.4	14.0
Black or African American only	14.6	19.8	21.3	23.9	19.8
Asian only	---	---	---	---	12.9
Hispanic or Latino	---	---	---	23.8	25.3
Mexican origin	16.4	21.8	23.7	23.3	27.0
Boys	11.6	16.9	18.0	20.7	19.6
Not Hispanic or Latino:					
White only	10.7	14.0	15.5	18.6	17.3
Black or African American only	12.3	17.0	18.6	23.3	15.5
Asian only	---	---	---	---	*
Hispanic or Latino	---	---	---	26.0	26.1
Mexican origin	17.5	26.5	27.5	24.3	28.3
Girls	11.0	14.7	15.8	16.9	16.1
Not Hispanic or Latino:					
White only	*9.8	13.1	14.4	14.0	10.4
Black or African American only	17.0	22.8	24.0	24.5	24.1
Asian only	---	---	---	---	*
Hispanic or Latino	---	---	---	21.5	24.5
Mexican origin	15.3	17.1	19.7	22.4	25.8
Percent of poverty level: <sup>3</sup>					
Below 100%	11.4	19.1	22.0	22.2	20.8
100%–199%	11.1	16.4	19.2	20.7	20.8
200%–399%	11.7	15.3	16.7	18.9	17.1
400% or more	*	*12.9	*9.2	*12.5	12.2
12–19 years					
Both sexes <sup>2</sup>	10.5	16.0	17.6	18.2	20.6
Not Hispanic or Latino:					
White only	10.3	13.7	16.0	15.9	17.2
Black or African American only	13.4	21.1	22.9	24.1	25.0
Asian only	---	---	---	---	8.8
Hispanic or Latino	---	---	---	22.5	25.9
Mexican origin	13.8	22.3	21.1	23.1	26.6
Boys	11.3	16.7	18.2	19.4	20.0
Not Hispanic or Latino:					
White only	11.6	14.6	17.3	17.1	16.3
Black or African American only	10.7	18.8	18.4	21.2	22.0
Asian only	---	---	---	---	9.1
Hispanic or Latino	---	---	---	26.0	26.7
Mexican origin	14.1	24.7	22.1	27.9	26.4

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[Data are based on measured height and weight of a sample of the civilian noninstitutionalized population]

Sex, age, race and Hispanic origin <sup>1</sup> , and percent of poverty level	1988–1994	1999–2002	2003–2006	2007–2010	2013–2016
12–19 years—Con.					
			Percent of population		
Girls	9.7	15.3	16.8	16.9	21.2
Not Hispanic or Latino:					
White only	8.9	12.6	14.5	14.6	18.1
Black or African American only	16.3	23.5	27.7	27.1	28.2
Asian only	---	---	---	---	8.4
Hispanic or Latino	---	---	---	18.7	25.0
Mexican origin	*13.4	19.6	19.9	18.0	26.8
Percent of poverty level: <sup>3</sup>					
Below 100%	15.8	19.8	19.3	24.3	25.7
100%–199%	11.2	15.1	18.4	20.1	24.3
200%–399%	9.4	15.7	19.3	16.3	19.3
400% or more	*	13.9	12.6	14.0	13.7

--- Data not available.

\* Estimates are considered unreliable. Starting with 2013–2016 data, the reliability of survey percentage estimates was assessed using new multistep National Center for Health Statistics data presentation standards for proportions. Prior to 2013–2016 data, the reliability of estimates for earlier years was evaluated based on relative standard errors (RSE). Data preceded by an asterisk have an RSE of 20%–30%. Data not shown have an RSE greater than 30%. For more information, see Appendix II, Data presentation standards for proportions; Relative standard error (RSE).

<sup>1</sup>Persons of Hispanic and 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 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.

<sup>2</sup>Includes persons of all races and Hispanic origins, not just those shown separately.

<sup>3</sup>Percent of poverty level was calculated by dividing family income by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' poverty guideline specific to family size, as well as the appropriate year and state. Persons with unknown percent of poverty level are excluded (6% in 2013–2016). See Appendix II, Family income; Poverty.

NOTES: Obesity in youth is defined as body mass index (BMI) at or above the sex- and age-specific 95th percentile of the 2000 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Growth Charts. See: Kuczumarski RJ, Ogden CL, Guo SS, Grummer-Strawn LM, Flegal KM, Mei Z, et al. 2000 CDC Growth Charts for the United States: Methods and development. *Vital Health Stat 11(246)*. 2002. Available from: [https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr\\_11/sr11\\_246.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr_11/sr11_246.pdf). BMI equals weight in kilograms divided by height in meters squared. See Appendix II, Body mass index (BMI). In *Health, United States*, the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey variable Body Mass Index is used to assign persons to BMI categories. Age is at the time of examination. Height is measured without shoes. Data on both age and height were collected during a standardized physical examination conducted in mobile examination centers. Estimates exclude pregnant females. Crude percentages, not age-adjusted percentages, are shown. See *Health, United States, 2013*, Table 70, for earlier data years. Standard errors for selected years are available in the spreadsheet version of this table. Data for additional years are available. See the Excel spreadsheet on the *Health, United States* website at: <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/hus.htm>.

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