

Table 16. Respondent-assessed fair or poor health status, by selected characteristics: United States, selected years 1991–2018

Excel version (with more data years and standard errors when available): <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/hus/contents2019.htm#Table-016>

[Data are based on household interviews of a sample of the civilian noninstitutionalized population]

Characteristic	1991 ¹	1997	2000	2007	2010	2016	2017	2018
	Percent of persons with fair or poor health ²							
All ages, age adjusted ^{3,4}	10.4	9.2	9.0	9.5	9.6	9.0	9.0	9.0
All ages, crude ⁴	10.0	8.9	8.9	9.8	10.1	9.9	10.0	10.0
Age group								
Under 18 years.....	2.6	2.1	1.7	1.7	2.0	1.6	1.6	1.7
Under 6 years.....	2.7	1.9	1.5	1.5	1.8	1.2	1.3	1.2
6–17 years.....	2.6	2.1	1.8	1.7	2.2	1.8	1.7	2.0
18–44 years.....	6.1	5.3	5.1	5.9	6.3	6.1	5.9	6.1
18–24 years.....	4.8	3.4	3.3	3.3	3.9	3.9	4.1	3.9
25–44 years.....	6.4	5.9	5.7	6.8	7.2	6.9	6.6	6.9
45–54 years.....	13.4	11.7	11.9	13.3	13.3	13.4	13.3	12.6
55–64 years.....	20.7	18.2	17.9	17.9	19.4	17.7	18.7	17.8
65 years and over.....	29.0	26.7	26.9	26.8	24.4	21.6	21.7	22.2
65–74 years.....	26.0	23.1	22.5	23.4	21.2	18.8	18.2	19.1
75 years and over.....	33.6	31.5	32.1	30.7	28.3	25.7	26.9	26.6
Sex ³								
Male.....	10.0	8.8	8.8	9.1	9.2	8.7	8.7	8.8
Female.....	10.8	9.7	9.3	9.9	10.0	9.2	9.2	9.1
Race ^{3,5}								
White only.....	9.6	8.3	8.2	8.8	8.8	8.3	8.2	8.2
Black or African American only.....	16.8	15.8	14.6	14.2	14.9	13.5	13.4	13.5
American Indian or Alaska Native only.....	18.3	17.3	17.2	17.1	17.8	17.6	14.2	18.6
Asian only.....	7.8	7.8	7.4	7.1	8.1	6.9	8.2	8.2
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander only.....	---	---	*	*	*	12.7	15.3	10.9
2 or more races.....	---	---	16.2	16.8	15.6	12.6	15.2	12.3
Black or African American and white.....	---	---	*14.5	*16.6	*16.7	8.5	16.4	13.6
American Indian or Alaska Native and white.....	---	---	18.7	19.2	19.0	15.6	17.3	15.7
Hispanic origin and race ^{3,5}								
Hispanic or Latino.....	15.6	13.0	12.8	13.0	13.1	12.4	12.0	12.3
Mexican.....	17.0	13.1	12.8	13.2	13.7	12.7	12.9	12.6
Not Hispanic or Latino.....	10.0	8.9	8.7	9.1	9.2	8.5	8.6	8.5
White only.....	9.1	8.0	7.9	8.3	8.2	7.6	7.7	7.6
Black or African American only.....	16.8	15.8	14.6	14.1	14.9	13.4	13.3	13.5
Percent of poverty level ^{3,6}								
Below 100%.....	22.8	20.8	19.6	21.0	20.9	20.6	21.4	21.0
100%–199%.....	14.7	13.9	14.1	15.3	15.2	15.0	14.2	14.6
200%–399%.....	7.9	8.2	8.4	9.0	8.3	8.1	8.7	8.5
400% or more.....	4.9	4.1	4.5	4.7	4.3	4.2	4.2	4.1

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 16. Respondent-assessed fair or poor health status, by selected characteristics: United States, selected years 1991–2018—Con.

Excel version (with more data years and standard errors when available): <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/hus/contents2019.htm#Table-016>

[Data are based on household interviews of a sample of the civilian noninstitutionalized population]

Characteristic	1991 ¹	1997	2000	2007	2010	2016	2017	2018
Hispanic origin and race and percent of poverty level ^{3,5,6}		Percent of persons with fair or poor health ²						
Hispanic or Latino:								
Below 100%	23.6	19.9	18.7	21.0	19.2	20.4	20.0	20.5
100%–199%	18.0	13.5	15.3	15.1	15.6	14.1	14.0	14.1
200%–399%	10.3	10.0	10.3	10.5	10.3	9.5	9.9	9.7
400% or more	6.6	5.7	5.5	7.2	6.4	6.5	5.7	5.7
Not Hispanic or Latino:								
White only:								
Below 100%	21.9	19.7	18.8	20.9	20.9	19.7	21.8	20.5
100%–199%	14.0	13.3	13.4	15.2	14.8	15.4	14.6	15.2
200%–399%	7.5	7.7	7.9	8.4	7.7	7.7	8.2	8.1
400% or more	4.7	3.9	4.2	4.3	4.0	3.7	3.9	3.7
Black or African American only:								
Below 100%	25.8	25.3	23.8	22.6	23.9	23.2	24.0	23.8
100%–199%	17.0	19.2	18.2	17.7	18.3	17.1	16.6	16.3
200%–399%	12.0	12.2	11.7	11.3	11.2	9.9	9.9	11.1
400% or more	5.9	6.1	7.3	7.2	6.8	6.9	6.0	6.3
Level of difficulty ^{3,7}								
18 years and over:								
A lot of difficulty or cannot do at all	---	---	---	---	47.3	52.1	48.0	44.7
Some difficulty	---	---	---	---	17.1	15.5	14.9	14.0
No difficulty	---	---	---	---	5.2	5.5	4.8	4.1
Geographic region ³								
Northeast	8.3	8.0	7.6	8.4	7.9	7.9	8.3	7.6
Midwest	9.1	8.1	8.0	8.6	9.0	8.6	8.1	8.3
South	13.1	10.8	10.7	11.0	11.1	10.1	9.9	10.3
West	9.7	8.8	8.8	9.0	9.2	8.4	8.9	8.6
Location of residence ^{3,8}								
Within MSA	9.9	8.7	8.5	9.0	9.2	8.6	8.6	8.7
Outside MSA	11.9	11.1	11.1	12.0	11.9	11.4	11.5	11.2

--- Data not available.

¹Estimates are considered unreliable. Starting with 2016 data, the reliability of survey percentage estimates is assessed using new multistep National Center for Health Statistics data presentation standards for proportions. Before 2016 data, the reliability of estimates was evaluated based on relative standard errors (RSEs). 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).

²Data before 1997 are not strictly comparable with data for later years due to the 1997 questionnaire redesign. See Appendix I, National Health Interview Survey (NHIS).

³Based on a family respondent answering the following question about his or her health or the health of a family member: "Would you say [person's] health in general is excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor?" See Appendix II, Health status, respondent-assessed.

⁴Estimates are age adjusted to the year 2000 standard population using six age groups: under 18 years, 18–44 years, 45–54 years, 55–64 years, 65–74 years, and 75 years and over. The disability measure is age adjusted using five adult age groups: 18–44 years, 45–54 years, 55–64 years, 65–74 years, and 75 years and over. Age-adjusted estimates in this table 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.

⁵Includes all other races not shown separately and unknown disability status.

⁶The race groups white, black, American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, and 2 or more races include persons of Hispanic and non-Hispanic origin. Persons of Hispanic 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 five single- and multiple-race categories shown follow the 1997 standards. Starting with 1999 data, race-specific estimates are for persons who reported only one racial group; the category 2 or more races includes persons who reported more than one racial group. Before 1999, data were tabulated with four racial groups according to the 1977 standards, and the Asian only category included Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander. Estimates for single-race categories before 1999 included persons who reported one race or, if they reported more than one race, identified one race as best representing their race. Starting with 2003 data, race responses of other race and unspecified multiple race are treated as missing, and then race is imputed if these were the only race responses. Almost all persons with a race response of other race are of Hispanic origin. See Appendix II, Hispanic origin; Race.

⁷Percent of poverty level is based on family income and family size and composition using U.S. Census Bureau poverty thresholds. Missing family income data are imputed for 1991 and beyond. See Appendix II, Family income; Poverty; Table VII.

⁸Functional limitation is defined by the reported level of difficulty in six domains of functioning: seeing (even if wearing glasses), hearing (even if wearing hearing aids), mobility (walking or climbing stairs), communication (understanding or being understood by others), cognition (remembering or concentrating), and self-care (such as washing all over or dressing). Respondents with answers to one or more of the six questions are included in one of three mutually exclusive categories. Adults who respond "a lot of difficulty" or "cannot do at all/unable to do" to at least one question are classified in the "a lot of difficulty or cannot do at all" category. Of the remaining respondents, adults who respond "some difficulty" to at least one question are classified in the "some difficulty" category, and adults who respond "no difficulty" to all questions are classified in the "no difficulty" category. Adults who respond "don't know" or "refused" to all six questions are excluded. During 2010–2018, 1%–8% of respondents were missing data and excluded. See Appendix II, Functional limitation.

⁹MSA is metropolitan statistical area. Starting with 2016 data, MSA status is determined using 2010 Census data and the 2010 standards for defining MSAs. For more information, including the definition applied before 2016, see Appendix II, Metropolitan statistical area (MSA).

NOTE: Standard errors and data for additional years are available in the Excel spreadsheet version of this table on the *Health, United States* website at: <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/hus/index.htm>.

SOURCE: NCHS, National Health Interview Survey, Family Core and Sample Adult questionnaires. Data for level of difficulty are from the 2010 Quality of Life, 2011–2017 Functioning and Disability, and 2018 Sample Adult questionnaires. See Appendix I, National Health Interview Survey (NHIS).