### Table 22. Hypertension among adults aged 20 and over, by selected characteristics: United States, selected years 1988–1994 through 2015–2018

**Percent of population with hypertension (systolic pressure of at least 130 mm Hg or diastolic pressure of at least 80 mm Hg or taking high blood pressure medication)**

<table>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Both sexes ⁴</td>
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<td>47.9</td>
<td>45.7</td>
<td>43.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>36.5</td>
<td>43.2</td>
<td>41.2</td>
<td>40.1</td>
<td>40.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>White only</td>
<td>41.4</td>
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<td>44.9</td>
<td>42.9</td>
<td>43.1</td>
<td>43.7</td>
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<tr>
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<td>47.3</td>
<td>46.9</td>
<td>49.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>38.5</td>
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<td>37.3</td>
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<td>56.0</td>
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<td>57.5</td>
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<td>53.7</td>
<td>55.1</td>
<td>54.5</td>
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<td>45.8</td>
<td>46.6</td>
<td>50.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hispanic or Latino, male</td>
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<td>57.9</td>
<td>53.4</td>
<td>54.0</td>
<td>56.2</td>
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<td>50.3</td>
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<td>44.9</td>
<td>46.6</td>
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<td>47.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>100%–199%</td>
<td>43.8</td>
<td>49.6</td>
<td>48.0</td>
<td>46.8</td>
<td>47.0</td>
<td>48.1</td>
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<tr>
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<td>44.9</td>
<td>43.9</td>
<td>48.2</td>
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<td><strong>Percent of poverty level³:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Below 100%</td>
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<td>38.5</td>
<td>39.9</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

See footnotes at end of table.

---

1. Data are based on interviews and physical examinations of a sample of the civilian noninstitutionalized population.
2. Asian only refers to persons whose race is Asian.
3. Percent of population with hypertension (systolic pressure of at least 130 mm Hg or diastolic pressure of at least 80 mm Hg or taking high blood pressure medication).
4. Both sexes refer to both males and females. For more information, see footnotes at end of table.

Excel version (with more data years and standard errors when available): [https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/hus/contents2019.htm#Table-022](https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/hus/contents2019.htm#Table-022)

[Data are based on interviews and physical examinations of a sample of the civilian noninstitutionalized population]

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<tr>
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</tbody>
</table>

¹Persons of Hispanic or 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 conform to the 1997 standards. Starting with 1999 data, race-specific estimates are for persons who reported only one racial group. Before 1999, estimates were tabulated according to the 1977 standards. 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. See Appendix II, Hispanic origin; Race.

²Estimates are age adjusted to the year 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 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.

³Hypertension is having measured high blood pressure or taking high blood pressure medication. High blood pressure is defined as having measured systolic pressure of at least 130 mm Hg or diastolic pressure of at least 80 mm Hg or taking high blood pressure medication. Those taking high blood pressure medication may not have measured high blood pressure but are still classified as having hypertension. Pregnant women are excluded. In 2017, the American College of Cardiology and the American Heart Association Task Force recommended adopting lower thresholds of high blood pressure. For systolic blood pressure, the threshold was lowered from 140 mm Hg to 130 mm Hg, and for diastolic blood pressure, from 90 mm Hg to 80 mm Hg. Those with high blood pressure may also be taking prescribed medicine for high blood pressure. Respondents were asked, “Are you now taking prescribed medicine for your high blood pressure?” Those taking high blood pressure medication may not have measured high blood pressure but are still classified as having hypertension. See Appendix II, Hypertension; Table VI.

⁴Includes persons of all other races and Hispanic origins not shown separately.

⁵Calculated 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 percentage of poverty level are excluded (9% in 2015–2018). See Appendix II, Family income; Poverty.

NOTES: Percentages are based on the average of blood pressure measurements taken. In 2015–2018, 86% of participants had three systolic or diastolic blood pressure readings. Estimates exclude pregnant women. 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](https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/hus/index.htm). Data have been revised for the new definition of hypertension and differ from previous editions of Health, United States.