

Table 74. Untreated dental caries, by selected characteristics: United States, 1971-1974, 1988-1994, and 2005-2008

(Data are based on dental examinations of a sample of the civilian noninstitutionalized population)

Sex, race and Hispanic origin ¹ , and percent of poverty level	Age 2-5 years			Age 6-19 years		
	1971-1974	1988-1994	2005-2008	1971-1974	1988-1994	2005-2008
	Percent of persons with untreated dental caries					
Total ²	25.0	19.1	...	54.7	23.6	16.1
Sex						
Male.....	26.4	19.3	...	54.9	22.8	17.0
Female.....	23.6	18.9	...	54.5	24.5	15.3
Race and Hispanic origin						
Not Hispanic or Latino:						
White only.....	23.7	13.8	...	51.6	18.8	12.8
Black or African American only.....	29.0	24.7	...	71.0	33.7	22.1
Mexican.....	---	34.9	...	---	36.5	22.2
Percent of poverty level: ³						
Below 100%.....	32.0	30.2	...	68.0	38.3	25.3
100%-199%.....	29.9	24.3	...	60.3	28.2	18.3
200% or more.....	17.8	9.4	...	46.2	15.1	11.9
200%-399%.....	---	10.7	...	---	16.3	14.2
400% or more.....	---	*	...	---	*10.2	9.3
Race, Hispanic origin, and percent of poverty level ³						
Not Hispanic or Latino:						
White only:						
Below 100% of poverty level.....	32.1	25.7	...	65.9	33.5	25.2
100% or more of poverty level.....	22.0	11.7	...	49.9	16.7	11.0
Black or African American only:						
Below 100% of poverty level.....	29.1	27.2	...	73.9	37.0	26.9
100% or more of poverty level.....	27.9	22.5	...	67.3	31.0	19.1
Mexican:						
Below 100% of poverty level.....	---	38.8	...	---	46.4	25.3
100% or more of poverty level.....	---	30.3	...	---	26.4	20.4

	Age 20-64 years			Age 65-74 years		
	1971-1974	1988-1994	2005-2008	1971-1974	1988-1994	2005-2008
	Percent of persons with untreated dental caries					
Total ²	48.0	28.3	23.2	29.7	25.4	18.3
Sex						
Male.....	50.5	31.5	26.6	32.6	29.8	22.9
Female.....	45.6	25.3	19.9	27.4	21.5	14.6
Race and Hispanic origin						
Not Hispanic or Latino:						
White only.....	45.3	23.9	18.8	28.3	22.7	16.6
Black or African American only....	67.3	48.5	39.0	41.5	46.7	31.3
Mexican.....	---	40.2	34.6	---	43.8	31.9
Percent of poverty level: ³						
Below 100%.....	63.5	48.1	41.2	34.3	46.6	41.7
100%-199%.....	56.2	43.5	36.7	35.6	40.1	22.2
200% or more.....	42.7	19.6	16.3	26.2	19.2	14.2
200%-399%.....	---	24.6	23.9	---	24.1	*16.2
400% or more.....	---	12.7	10.9	---	13.5	11.5
Race, Hispanic origin, and percent of poverty level ³						
Not Hispanic or Latino:						
White only:						
Below 100% of poverty level.....	60.2	43.7	39.4	33.3	*39.0	*38.5
100% or more of poverty level.....	44.2	21.8	16.7	28.3	22.7	15.1
Black or African American only:						
Below 100% of poverty level.....	71.9	60.4	50.7	39.8	49.7	54.0
100% or more of poverty level.....	65.3	43.9	36.4	41.1	43.8	27.6
Mexican:						
Below 100% of poverty level.....	---	52.7	43.6	---	55.5	47.8
100% or more of poverty level.....	---	31.8	30.2	---	35.6	*23.2

Age 75 years and over

	1971-1974	1988-1994	2005-2008
Percent of persons with untreated dental caries			

Total ²	---	30.3	17.7
Sex			
Male.....	---	34.4	22.1
Female.....	---	28.1	14.3
Race and Hispanic origin			
Not Hispanic or Latino:			
White only.....	---	27.8	15.4
Black or African American only....	---	62.6	40.5
Mexican.....	---	55.6	41.1
Percent of poverty level: ³			
Below 100%.....	---	47.1	36.0
100%-199%.....	---	34.5	20.2
200% or more.....	---	23.2	11.9
200%-399%.....	---	24.3	11.5
400% or more.....	---	21.6	*

Race, Hispanic origin,
and percent of poverty level³

Not Hispanic or Latino:			
White only:			
Below 100% of poverty level.....	---	38.0	*
100% or more of poverty level.....	---	26.1	13.7
Black or African American only:			
Below 100% of poverty level.....	---	68.6	*55.1
100% or more of poverty level.....	---	60.2	33.0
Mexican:			
Below 100% of poverty level.....	---	79.4	71.4
100% or more of poverty level.....	---	*	*28.0

...Category not applicable.

---Data not available.

*Estimates are considered unreliable.

Data preceded by an asterisk have a relative standard error (RSE) of 20%-30%.

Data not shown have an RSE of greater than 30% or fewer than 30 cases.

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.

²Includes persons of all races and Hispanic origins, not just those shown separately, and those with unknown percent of poverty level.

³Percent of poverty level is based on family income and family size.

Persons with unknown percent of poverty level are excluded (5% in 2005-2008).

See Appendix II, Family income; Poverty.

NOTES: Root caries are not included.

Persons without at least one primary or one permanent tooth or one root tip were classified as edentulous and were excluded from this analysis. The majority of edentulous persons are 65 years of age and over. Estimates of edentulism among persons 65 years of age and over are 46% in 1971-1974, 33% in 1988-1994, and 23% in 2005-2008.

For estimates prior to 2005-2008, only dental caries in primary teeth was evaluated for children 2-5 years of age.

Caries in both permanent and primary teeth was evaluated for children 6-11 years of age.

For children 12-19 years of age and adults, only dental caries in permanent teeth was evaluated.

Starting with 2005-2006 data, dental caries data were collected using a simplified examination process that used health technologists to screen for caries instead of using dentists to conduct a comprehensive caries exam.

In addition, dental caries data were not collected on children younger than 5 years of age.

Because of this change in the examination process and because 2005-2008 dental caries data are based on both primary and permanent teeth, regardless of age, data for 2005-2008

need to be interpreted with caution, especially when comparing with earlier data.

For more information on the methodology changes, see Appendix II, Dental caries;

http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nhanes/nhanes_05_06ohx_d.pdf and Dye BA, Barker LK, Li X, Lewis BG, Beltran-Aguilar ED. Overview and quality assurance for the Oral Health

Component of the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES), 2005-08. *J Public Health Dent*, in press.

Standard errors are available in the spreadsheet version of this

table. Available from: <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/hs.htm>.

Data for additional years are available. See Appendix III.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS,

National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey.

Health, United States 2009 Web Update