

Table 95. Prescription drug use in the past month, by sex, age, race and Hispanic origin: United States, 1988-1994 and 2005-2008

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

Sex and age	All persons ¹		White only ²		Black or African American only ²		Mexican ^{2,3}	
	1988-1994	2005-2008	1988-1994	2005-2008	1988-1994	2005-2008	1988-1994	2005-2008
Percent of population with at least one prescription drug in past month								
Both sexes, age-adjusted ⁴	39.1	47.2	41.1	52.0	36.9	42.1	31.7	32.2
Male.....	32.7	41.8	34.2	46.1	31.1	37.2	27.5	28.8
Female.....	45.0	52.4	47.6	57.9	41.4	46.0	36.0	35.6
Both sexes, crude.....	37.8	47.9	41.4	55.0	31.2	39.5	24.0	24.5
Male.....	30.6	41.7	33.5	48.4	25.5	33.9	20.1	21.4
Female.....	44.6	53.9	48.9	61.5	36.2	44.4	28.1	27.9
Under 18 years.....	20.5	25.3	22.9	29.9	14.8	20.8	16.1	17.0
18-44 years.....	31.3	37.8	34.3	45.1	27.8	29.4	21.1	17.7
45-64 years.....	54.8	64.8	55.5	67.7	57.5	62.6	48.1	50.1
65 years and over.....	73.6	90.1	74.0	91.1	74.5	89.1	67.7	76.7
Male:								
Under 18 years.....	20.4	25.3	22.3	29.2	15.5	23.4	16.3	17.3
18-44 years.....	21.5	27.5	23.5	33.3	21.1	20.9	14.9	14.2
45-64 years.....	47.2	59.3	48.1	62.3	48.2	54.7	43.8	46.0
65 years and over.....	67.2	89.7	67.4	91.6	64.4	85.1	61.3	67.8
Female:								
Under 18 years.....	20.6	25.2	23.6	30.7	14.2	18.1	16.0	16.7
18-44 years.....	40.7	47.9	44.7	56.6	33.4	36.6	28.1	22.0
45-64 years.....	62.0	70.2	62.6	73.0	64.4	69.1	52.2	54.1
65 years and over.....	78.3	90.5	78.8	90.7	81.3	91.7	73.0	83.9
Percent of population with three or more prescription drugs in past month								
Both sexes, age-adjusted ⁴	11.8	20.8	12.4	22.3	12.6	20.0	9.0	13.8
Male.....	9.4	18.3	9.9	19.5	10.2	17.5	7.0	11.6
Female.....	13.9	23.2	14.6	25.1	14.3	21.8	11.0	15.9
Both sexes, crude.....	11.0	21.4	12.5	25.3	9.2	17.5	4.8	7.8
Male.....	8.3	17.8	9.5	21.3	7.0	14.4	3.4	6.1
Female.....	13.6	24.8	15.4	29.1	11.1	20.2	6.4	9.7
Under 18 years.....	2.4	4.4	3.2	5.3	1.5	3.6	*1.2	2.7
18-44 years.....	5.7	9.8	6.3	12.1	5.4	7.3	3.0	2.7
45-64 years.....	20.0	34.1	20.9	35.6	21.9	34.5	16.0	24.5
65 years and over.....	35.3	65.0	35.0	65.7	41.2	67.0	31.3	52.5
Male:								
Under 18 years.....	2.6	5.0	3.3	5.7	1.7	5.3	*	3.5
18-44 years.....	3.6	6.2	4.1	8.0	4.2	*4.9	*1.8	*1.5
45-64 years.....	15.1	28.6	15.8	29.4	18.7	29.0	11.6	19.7
65 years and over.....	31.3	64.6	30.9	66.3	31.7	61.5	27.6	45.0
Female:								
Under 18 years.....	2.3	3.8	3.0	4.8	*1.2	*1.9	*1.5	1.8
18-44 years.....	7.6	13.3	8.5	16.1	6.4	9.4	4.3	4.1
45-64 years.....	24.7	39.4	25.8	41.8	24.3	39.1	20.3	29.0
65 years and over.....	38.2	65.3	38.0	65.3	47.7	70.6	34.5	58.6

*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%.

¹Includes persons of all races and Hispanic origins, not just those shown separately.

²Starting 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.

³Persons of Mexican origin may be of any race.

⁴Age-adjusted to the 2000 standard population using four age groups: Under 18 years, 18-44 years, 45-64 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.

NOTES: See Appendix II, Drug.
Standard errors are available in the spreadsheet version of this table. Available from: <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/hus.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