# 2007 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System Report Annual Prevalence Report

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# Table of Contents

Introduction	iii
Methodology	iv
Definition of Terms and Risk Factors	vi
Survey Results	1
Health Status	2
Health Care Coverage	5
Healthy Days	9
Tobacco Use	14
Diabetes	17
Hypertension Awareness	20
Cholesterol Awareness	24
Immunization	28
Overweight and Obesity	34
Asthma	38
Exercise and Physical Activity	42
Arthritis	48
Cardiovascular Disease	51
Disability	56
Alcohol Consumption	60
Fruits and Vegetables	64
HIV/AIDS	67
Emotional Support and Life Satisfaction	71

# Introduction

Among health care professionals there is a general consensus that certain health conditions and behavior patterns have a strong correlation with disease, injury and death. Some examples are cigarette smoking, physical inactivity, obesity, alcohol consumption and risky sexual behavior. The Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) is a surveillance system designed to estimate the prevalence of these along with other health risk factors in every state and some territories in the United States. The results provide a tool for evaluating health trends, assessing the risk of chronic disease, and measuring the effectiveness of policies, programs, intervention strategies and awareness campaigns.

The BRFSS is a cooperative agreement between the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH). The first survey was done in 1984 when the data was collected at one given point in time. The survey was repeated in 1988 using the same methodology. Beginning in 1990 there has been an annual survey with the data being collected monthly.

The BRFSS survey contains a set of core questions provided by the CDC to gather comprehensive standard information nationwide. The questions are related to health status, access to health care, health awareness, lifestyles, and preventive health. Individual states may include questions addressing specific risk factors that are of particular concern to that state.

# Methodology

#### A. SAMPLING DESIGN

The Mississippi BRFSS is a random sample telephone survey. Utilizing the disproportionate stratified sample (DSS) design with random digit dialing and the Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI) system, the survey has the potential to represent 93 percent of all households in Mississippi that have telephones according to BellSouth data. A sample size of 7,818 interviews over a 12-month period was selected to obtain a 95 percent confidence interval of  $\pm 2.5\%$  on risk factor prevalence estimates in the adult population. Prevalence estimates by individual demographic variables, comprising smaller sample sizes, do not achieve the same level of accuracy as the total sample.

In the 2007 survey, the following eighteen counties in the Mississippi delta were over-sampled by 1,200 interviews: Bolivar, Carroll, Coahoma, Grenada, Holmes, Humphreys, Issaquena, Leflore, Panola, Quitman, Sharkey, Sunflower, Tallahatchie, Tate, Tunica, Warren, Washington, and Yazoo. One of the main purposes of the over sample was to compare certain cardiovascular risk factors with the rest of Mississippi and the United States.

Interviewers, contracted by the MSDH, contact the residences during weekdays between 9:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. and Saturdays between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. After a residence has been contacted, one adult (18 years of age or older) is randomly selected to be interviewed from all adults residing in the household. Interviews are collected during a two-week period each month.

# **B. QUESTIONNAIRE**

The questionnaire, designed through cooperative agreements with the CDC, is divided into three sections. The first section contains questions on health risk behavior; the second section contains demographic information; and the third contains optional modules covering topics of interest to the state.

#### C. DATA ANALYSIS

The data collected by the MSDH Office of Public Health Statistics was compiled and weighted by the CDC. Weighted counts were based on the 2006 Mississippi population estimates to accurately reflect the population demographics. The weighting factor considered the number of adults and telephone lines in the household, and age, race, and sex distribution of the general population. Therefore, the estimated prevalence of any risk factor from the survey represents the total population of Mississippi residents very well. The reader should be aware that the numbers presented in the tables of this report reflect the actual, non-weighted observations for each cell while the percentages in each cell represent the weighted prevalence.

This report presents the weighted percentage of high-risk behavior, conditions and certain chronic diseases by gender, age group, race, education level, annual household income, and employment status.

#### D. LIMITATIONS OF THE DATA

All data collection systems are subject to error, and records may be incomplete or contain inaccurate information. All information in this survey is self-reported; people may not remember essential information, a question may not mean the same thing to different respondents, and some individuals may not respond at all. It is not always possible to measure the magnitude of these errors or their impact on the data. The user must be the final arbiter in evaluating the data.

#### E. SAMPLE SIZE

Although the total sample size for the survey was 7,818, the reader should note that sample sizes by question and response category may vary because of non-response and skip patterns within the survey instrument. Overall estimates generally have relatively small sampling errors, but estimates for certain population subgroups may be based on small numbers and have relatively large sampling errors. Interpreting estimates that are based on small numbers can mislead the reader into believing that a given finding is more precise than it actually is. When the number of events is small and the probability of such an event is small, considerable caution should be observed in interpreting the estimates or differences among groups. The BRFSS recommends not interpreting percentages where the denominator is based upon fewer than 50 non-weighted respondents. In the tables of the report, such results are marked with an asterisk that indicates a sample size less than 50.

# **Definition of Terms and Risk Factors**

# **Alcohol Consumption**

*Binge Drinking Risk Factor* - Respondents who report that they have had at least five drinks on one or more occasion during the past thirty days.

Heavy Drinking Risk Factor - Male respondents who report having more than two drinks per day and female respondents who report having more than one drink per day during the past thirty days.

#### **Arthritis**

*Arthritis Awareness* - Respondents who have been told by a doctor or other health professional that they have some form of arthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, gout, lupus, or fibromyalgia.

The reader should note that in 2003 the definition of "arthritis" was changed. Before 2003, it included respondents who not only had been diagnosed with arthritis but also those who reported pain or stiffness in the joints for at least thirty days during the previous year.

#### **Asthma**

Asthma Awareness - Respondents who report being told they have asthma by a doctor, nurse or other health professional.

*Current Asthma* - Respondents who report that being told they have asthma by a doctor, nurse or other health professional and who still suffer from the condition.

#### Cardiovascular Disease

*Heart Attack* – Respondents who report that they have ever been diagnosed with a heart attack.

Stroke – Respondents who report that they have ever been diagnosed with a stroke.

Coronary Heart Disease – Respondents who have ever been diagnosed with angina or coronary heart disease.

#### **Cholesterol Awareness**

*Cholesterol Checked* - Respondents who report that they have ever had their blood cholesterol checked.

Cholesterol *Checked in Past Five Years* - Respondents who report having had their blood cholesterol checked within the past five years.

Cholesterol High - Respondents who have had their blood cholesterol checked and who have ever been told that their blood cholesterol is high by a doctor, nurse, or other health professional.

#### **Diabetes**

*Diabetes Awareness* - Respondents who report they have ever been told by a doctor that they have diabetes. Female respondents diagnosed with diabetes only during pregnancy are not included.

# **Disability**

*Limited Activity* - Respondents who report that their activity is limited in any way because of physical, mental or emotional problems.

Special Equipment Requirements - Respondents who report having health problems that require the use of special equipment such as a cane, wheelchair, special bed or special telephone.

#### Exercise

Exercise in Last 30 Days - Respondents who report that, excluding their regular job, in the past 30 days they participated in any physical activity or exercise such as running, walking, calisthenics, golf, or gardening.

*Moderate Physical Activity* - Respondents who report doing 30 or more minutes per day of moderate physical activity and for five or more days per week of moderate physical activity. Moderate physical activities are those such as brisk walking, bicycling, vacuuming or gardening that causes small increases in breathing or heart rate. This measures *Healthy People 2010* Objective 22.2 - Target ≥30%.

Vigorous Physical Activity - Respondents who report doing 20 or more minutes per day of vigorous physical activity and three or more days per week of vigorous physical activity. Vigorous physical activities are those such as running, aerobics or heavy yard work that causes large increases in breathing or heart rate. This measures Healthy People 2010 Objective 22.3 - Target ≥30%.

*People Who Are Physically Inactive* - Respondents that report doing no moderate or vigorous physical activity or exercise. This measures *Healthy People 2010* Objective 22.1 - Target ≤20%

### Fruits and Vegetables

Fruit and Vegetable Consumption - Respondents who report that they eat at least five servings of fruits or vegetables per day.

### **Health Insurance**

*Health Care Coverage* - Respondents who report they have no health care coverage, including health insurance, Health Maintenance Organizations, or Medicare.

*Unable to See a Doctor* - Respondents who report that they needed to see a doctor within the past 12 months but who were unable because of the cost.

#### **Health Status**

*Self-Reported Health Status* - Respondents who report that their general health status is fair or poor.

## **Healthy Days**

*Physical Health* - Respondents who report more than seven days during the past month when their physical health was not good.

*Mental Health* - Respondents who report more than seven days during the past month when their mental health was not good.

Activities Limited - Respondents who report more than seven days during the past month when they could not perform their normal activities because of poor physical or mental health.

#### **HIV/AIDS**

Ever Tested for HIV - Respondents age 18 to 64 who report that they have ever been tested for HIV, excluding tests done as part of a blood donation.

*High Risk Behavior* - Respondents age 18 to 64 who report that they have used intravenous drugs, have been treated for a sexually transmitted or venereal disease, have given or received drugs or money in exchange for sexual favors, or have had anal intercourse without a condom during the past year.

## **Hypertension**

*Hypertension Awareness* - Respondents who have ever been told they have high blood pressure by a doctor, nurse or other health professional.

Taking Blood Pressure Medicine - Respondents who have been told they have high blood pressure by a doctor, nurse or other health professional and who are taking medication to control it.

#### **Immunization**

*Flu Shots* - Respondents who report that they received a flu shot or the flu spray vaccine within the last twelve months.

*Pneumonia Shots* - Respondents who report that they have ever received a pneumonia shot.

#### **Mental Health**

*Emotional Support* - Respondents who report that they rarely or never get the social and emotional support that they need.

*Life Satisfaction* - Respondents who report that they are dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with their life.

#### **Tobacco Use**

*Cigarette Smoker* - Respondents who have ever smoked 100 cigarettes in their lifetime and report currently smoking every day or some days. This relates to Healthy People 2010 Objective 27.1a - Target ≤12%.

# Weight Based on Body Mass Index (BMI)

*Body Mass Index (BMI)* - Weight in kilograms divided by height in meters squared (kg/m<sup>2</sup>).

*Healthy Weight* - Respondents whose BMI is  $18.5 \le BMI \le 24.9$ . This measures Healthy People 2010 Objective 19.1 - Target  $\ge 60\%$ .

*Overweight* - Respondents whose BMI is  $25.0 \le BMI \le 29.9$ .

*Obese* - Respondents whose BMI is  $\ge 30.0$ . This measures Healthy People 2010 Objective 19.2 - Target  $\le 15\%$ 

Mississippi Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey 2007

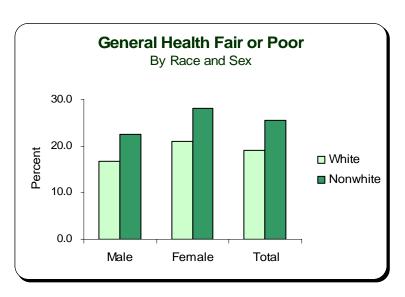
Survey Results

#### **Health Status**

# **Survey Question:**

Would you say that in general your health is excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor?

This part of the survey attempts to determine how people look at their personal health and how well they function physically, psychologically and socially while engaged in normal, daily activities. The questions are important because they may indicate dysfunction and disability not measured in standard morbidity and mortality data.



Females of both races reported their health as worse than males (Figure 1).

Figure 1

Nonwhite respondents report their health as worse than whites.

Nonwhite respondents reported fair or poor health at a rate of 25.5 percent compared to 19.1 percent for whites.

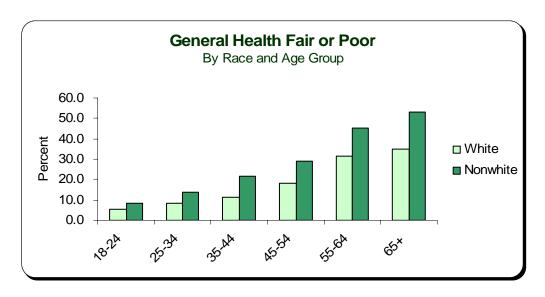


Figure 2

Not surprisingly, reported fair or poor health tended to increase with age. Persons in the 18 to 24 age group reported a rate of only 7.0 percent while those more than 65 years of age reported a rate of 39.8 percent (Figure 2).

Table 1: General Health Fair or Poor

	Wh	nite	Nonv	white	То	tal
Groups	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>
Sex						
Male	405	16.8	248	22.5	654	18.8
Female	882	21.1	644	28.1	1,529	23.7
Age Group						
18-24	9	5.6	15	8.6	24	7.0
25-34	40	8.6	52	13.9	92	10.8
35-44	84	11.1	101	21.7	185	15.2
45-54	188	18.3	182	29.1	370	22.1
55-64	336	31.3	215	45.2	551	35.3
65+	626	34.8	323	52.9	953	39.8
Education						
< High School Graduate	322	36.6	379	40.6	703	38.7
High School Graduate or GED	477	23.2	293	24.9	771	23.9
Some College or Technical School	296	16.6	145	19.7	442	17.5
College Graduate	186	9.4	72	13.3	258	10.3
Income						
< \$15,000	314	49.1	375	42.1	690	44.6
\$15-\$24,999	302	33.4	210	29.3	512	31.2
\$25-\$34,999	161	23.7	65	13.6	226	19.1
\$35-\$49,999	123	15.3	44	13.6	167	14.7
\$50-\$74,999	115	12.6	27	14.8	142	13.0
\$75,000+	74	5.7	10	8.9	84	6.1
Employment Status						
Employed	250	8.5	214	13.4	464	10.2
Not Employed	27	17.2	56	22.8	83	20.6
Student/Homemaker	127	14.3	48	19.3	175	15.8
Retired/Unable to Work	880	45.9	571	54.5	1,455	49.1
Total	1,287	19.1	892	25.5	2,183	21.4

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Weighted

# **Health Care Coverage**

# **Survey Question:**

Do you have any kind of health care coverage, including health insurance, prepaid plans such as HMOs, or government plans such as Medicare?

The questions in this section are designed to estimate the number of people who cannot obtain the health care they need because they are not covered by a health care plan or other health insurance. People at risk are those without any coverage.

In 2007, 19.3 percent of the respondents indicated they had no health care plan compared to 20.8 percent in 2006. According to

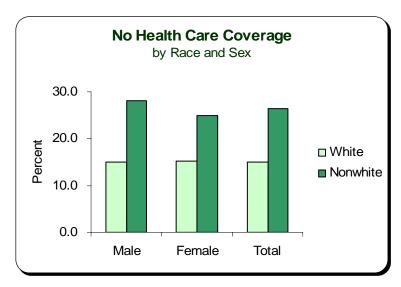


Figure 3

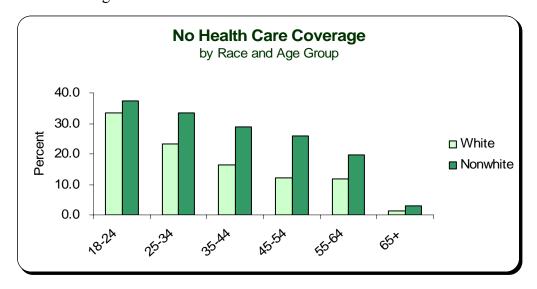


Figure 4

the survey, nonwhite males have the highest rate of non-coverage at 28.2 percent; nonwhite females were next at 25.0 percent (Figure 3).

When viewed by age categories, nonwhites from the age of 18 to 24 reported the highest prevalence of no health care coverage at 37.3 percent (Figure 4).

Another factor that adversely affects the health status of people is access to medical care and in 2007 18.4 percent of Mississippians said they were unable to see a doctor in the prior twelve months because cost. Nonwhites (25.1 percent) were almost twice as likely to have not seen a doctor as whites (14.6 percent). Also females of both races were much more likely to experience this phenomenon than males: 22.0 percent to 14.6 percent.

The survey revealed that one of the biggest barriers to access is income. Not surprisingly, those in the lower income ranges reported the greatest difficulty in gaining access to care (Figure 5).

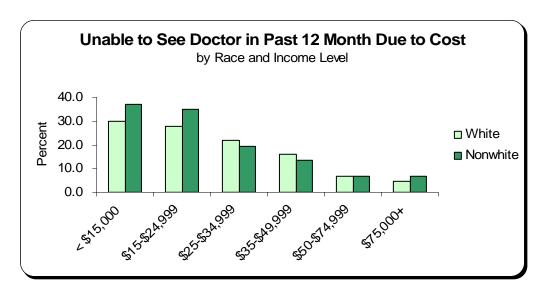


Figure 5

Table 2: Respondents Having No Health Care Coverage

	Wh	ite	Nonv	vhite	Total	
Groups	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>
Sex						
Male	199	15.0	181	28.2	382	19.8
Female	329	15.2	386	25.0	716	18.8
Age Group						
18-24	49	33.3	49	37.3	98	35.1
25-34	96	23.4	113	33.5	210	27.7
35-44	111	16.3	127	29.0	238	21.1
45-54	124	12.2	147	26.0	271	17.1
55-64	129	11.7	109	19.7	239	14.1
65+	18	1.2	22	2.8	40	1.6
Education						
< High School Graduate	111	27.5	163	31.3	274	29.4
High School Graduate or GED	213	20.2	259	35.1	473	26.6
Some College or Technical School	145	15.3	105	20.0	251	16.8
College Graduate	57	4.6	39	8.7	97	5.6
Income						
< \$15,000	87	25.6	204	33.1	291	30.4
\$15-\$24,999	144	32.1	193	36.8	337	34.4
\$25-\$34,999	82	19.9	61	26.4	144	22.9
\$35-\$49,999	70	15.3	29	14.5	100	15.2
\$50-\$74,999	30	5.6	8	7.8	38	6.0
\$75,000+	40	5.7	8	8.3	48	6.0
<b>Employment Status</b>						
Employed	303	16.2	316	27.5	621	20.2
Not Employed	60	42.7	104	61.3	165	54.4
Student/Homemaker	98	24.5	40	29.5	138	25.9
Retired/Unable to Work	66	4.4	106	11.0	172	6.8
Total	528	15.1	567	26.5	1,098	19.3

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Weighted

Table 3: Unable to See Doctor in Past 12 Months Because of Cost

	Wh	nite	Nonwhite		Total	
Groups	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>
Sex						
Male	188	11.1	137	20.9	325	14.6
Female	481	17.9	520	28.9	1,003	22.0
Age Group						
18-24	31	19.1	33	30.2	64	24.2
25-34	93	18.4	97	22.1	190	19.9
35-44	126	17.3	143	28.0	269	21.4
45-54	173	16.6	188	31.6	361	21.9
55-64	158	14.6	127	25.0	285	17.7
65+	86	4.1	68	9.9	154	5.7
Education						
< High School Graduate	156	23.9	180	26.1	336	25.0
High School Graduate or GED	233	17.6	267	29.7	500	22.7
Some College or Technical School	182	16.1	132	24.6	314	18.8
College Graduate	98	6.5	77	14.0	177	8.3
Income						
< \$15,000	141	30.1	267	37.2	408	34.7
\$15-\$24,999	168	28.0	200	34.9	368	31.4
\$25-\$34,999	100	22.0	55	19.3	156	20.7
\$35-\$49,999	86	16.1	40	13.6	126	15.3
\$50-\$74,999	50	6.9	13	6.6	63	6.8
\$75,000+	40	4.5	10	6.7	50	4.8
Employment Status						
Employed	321	13.9	320	22.7	642	17.0
Not Employed	50	30.1	79	36.8	129	34.1
Student/Homemaker	94	20.6	41	30.0	135	23.4
Retired/Unable to Work	202	11.4	215	24.6	417	16.3
Total	669	14.6	657	25.1	1,328	18.4

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Weighted

# **Healthy Days**

# **Survey Question:**

- 1. Now thinking about your physical health, which includes physical illness and injury, for how many days during the past 30 days was your physical health not good?
- 2. Now thinking about your mental health, which includes stress, depression, and problems with emotions, for how many days during the past 30 days was your mental health not good?

In both public and private medicine, the concept of health-related quality of life refers to the physical and mental health perceived by a person or a group of persons. Health care professionals use health-related quality of life to measure the effects of chronic illness in patients and to better understand how an illness interferes with the day-to-day life activities of an individual. Similarly, health professionals use health-related quality of life to measure the effects of numerous disorders, short-term and long-term disabilities, and diseases in different populations. Tracking health-related quality of life in different populations can aid in identifying subgroups with poor physical or mental health and can help in developing policies or interventions to improve their health.

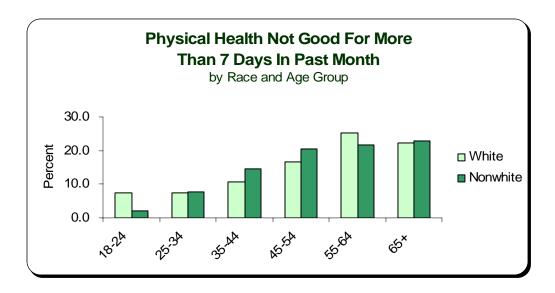


Figure 6

In Mississippi, the 2007 BRFSS survey showed that bad days of poor physical health tends to increase with age while the bad days of poor mental health were more evenly distributed among age groups. Figure 6 shows that people 55 to 64 year old age group reported the highest percentage (24.2) of more than seven days when their physical health was not good. For those 65 and older white respondents had a rate of 22.3 percent

compared to 23.0 percent for nonwhites. For those in the 55 to 64 age group, whites reported a rate of 25.3 percent compared to 21.7 for nonwhites.

People in the 45 to 54 year old age group had the highest percentage of seven or more days when their mental health was not good with a rate of 18.8 percent—17.3 for whites and 21.6 for nonwhites (Figure 7).

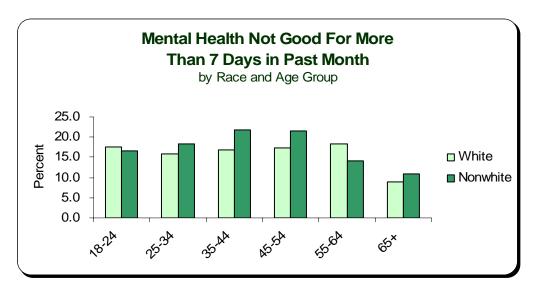


Figure 7

The highest category of all for days of poor mental health are whose annual income is less than \$15,000 per year at 30.5 percent: 29.6 percent for whites and 31.0 percent for nonwhites. The second highest category is the unemployed who report a rate of 23.5 percent. White respondents had a rate of 22.7 percent; nonwhites a rate of 24.1 percent.

Table 4: Physical Health Not Good for More Than 7 Days in Past Month

	Wh	ite	Nonwhite		Total	
Groups	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>
Sex						
Male	301	13.0	107	10.3	408	12.0
Female	677	17.6	374	16.9	1,052	17.3
Age Group						
18-24	9	7.4	5	2.2	14	5.0
25-34	35	7.4	26	7.6	61	7.5
35-44	84	10.8	66	14.7	150	12.3
45-54	171	16.7	127	20.4	298	18.0
55-64	264	25.3	115	21.7	379	24.2
65+	412	22.3	139	23.0	552	22.5
Education						
< High School Graduate	226	27.6	185	19.9	411	23.7
High School Graduate or GED	342	18.0	180	14.4	522	16.5
Some College or Technical School	253	14.8	80	12.0	334	13.8
College Graduate	156	8.1	36	6.3	192	7.7
Income						
< \$15,000	231	36.9	204	25.6	435	29.6
\$15-\$24,999	196	23.2	107	14.1	303	18.6
\$25-\$34,999	130	18.8	46	9.6	176	14.6
\$35-\$49,999	110	14.4	21	8.5	131	12.7
\$50-\$74,999	99	10.5	13	5.4	112	9.4
\$75,000+	70	6.1	7	3.8	77	5.8
Employment Status						
Employed	200	7.2	94	5.7	294	6.6
Not Employed	29	20.9	33	10.8	62	14.5
Student/Homemaker	95	11.9	27	11.0	122	11.6
Retired/Unable to Work	653	35.4	326	33.2	980	34.5
Total	978	15.4	481	13.8	1,460	14.8

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Weighted

Table 5: Mental Health Not Good for More Than 7 Days in Past Month

	Wh	ite	Nonv	white	То	tal
Groups	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>
Sex						
Male	211	11.8	115	15.4	326	13.0
Female	572	19.0	342	19.9	914	19.3
Age Group						
18-24	23	17.6	24	16.6	47	17.2
25-34	76	15.8	69	18.2	145	16.8
35-44	129	16.8	98	21.7	227	18.6
45-54	188	17.3	131	21.6	319	18.8
55-64	207	18.4	70	14.2	277	17.1
65+	159	8.8	64	11.0	223	9.4
Education						
< High School Graduate	146	25.3	143	20.8	289	23.0
High School Graduate or GED	251	16.4	163	19.4	414	17.7
Some College or Technical School	213	15.5	100	17.9	313	16.2
College Graduate	173	10.5	51	9.8	224	10.3
Income						
< \$15,000	139	29.6	192	31.0	331	30.5
\$15-\$24,999	146	22.9	121	21.0	267	21.9
\$25-\$34,999	110	20.3	51	14.8	161	17.8
\$35-\$49,999	101	15.1	19	6.9	120	12.7
\$50-\$74,999	113	13.3	11	6.9	124	12.0
\$75,000+	94	8.3	9	5.7	103	8.0
Employment Status						
Employed	329	13.2	172	13.3	501	13.2
Not Employed	33	22.7	49	24.1	82	23.5
Student/Homemaker	89	16.4	27	15.7	116	16.2
Retired/Unable to Work	331	19.4	208	25.8	539	21.8
Total	783	15.5	457	17.8	1,240	16.3

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Weighted

Table 6: Activities Limited for More Than 7 Days in Past Month Because of Poor Health

	Wh	nite	Nonwhite		То	tal
Groups	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>
Sex						
Male	461	20.1	198	20.6	662	20.3
Female	1,038	26.0	511	21.9	1,551	24.5
Age Group						
18-24	8	4.2	9	3.7	17	3.9
25-34	59	11.9	52	14.6	111	13.0
35-44	119	17.3	76	21.4	195	18.8
45-54	248	25.2	179	28.4	427	26.3
55-64	381	35.5	187	39.8	569	36.8
65+	678	38.4	205	31.8	887	36.6
Education						
< High School Graduate	286	33.0	251	28.9	539	30.9
High School Graduate or GED	517	26.4	236	20.5	753	23.9
Some College or Technical School	404	23.9	143	19.9	548	22.5
College Graduate	289	15.2	77	14.2	368	15.0
Income						
< \$15,000	307	48.8	318	40.0	626	43.2
\$15-\$24,999	300	33.1	153	22.7	453	27.8
\$25-\$34,999	189	27.0	51	11.3	240	19.9
\$35-\$49,999	174	21.4	38	14.2	213	19.4
\$50-\$74,999	161	18.2	23	11.6	184	16.8
\$75,000+	147	11.7	14	5.6	162	10.9
Employment Status						
Employed	328	11.3	121	9.2	451	10.5
Not Employed	46	30.7	44	18.9	90	23.2
Student/Homemaker	163	20.1	40	12.6	203	17.9
Retired/Unable to Work	961	51.3	502	51.2	1,466	51.2
Total	1,499	23.2	709	21.3	2,213	22.5

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Unweighted

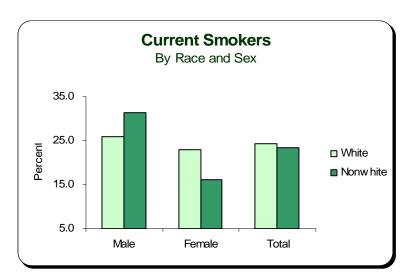
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Weighted

### **Tobacco Use**

# **Survey Question:**

Have you smoked at least 100 cigarettes in your entire life and do you now smoke cigarettes every day, some days, or not at all?

Tobacco use is the single leading preventable cause of death in Mississippi and the United States. Each year, about one-fifth of the deaths in Mississippi are from tobacco-related causes. Health problems related to tobacco use include cancers, lung disease, and heart disease. Over the past decade the percentage of current adult smokers has not changed significant



has not changed significantly.

During the same period smokeless Figure 8 tobacco and cigar use among

adults has increased. Mississippi was the first state to reach a settlement with the tobacco industry. The Mississippi State Department of Health has drafted a state tobacco plan that includes strategies to prevent initiation of tobacco use among youth, promote cessation among youth and adults, and eliminate exposure to environmental tobacco

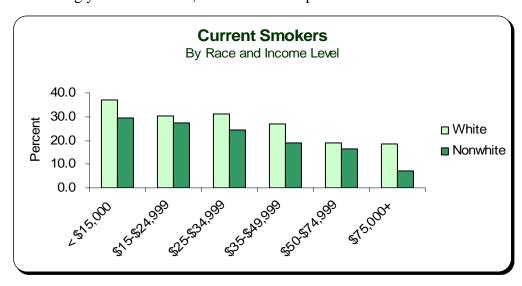


Figure 9

smoke.

According to the 2007 BRFSS report, the group with the highest percentage of current smokers is nonwhite males at 31.3 percent followed by white males at 25.9 percent and white females at 23.0 percent. The group with the lowest percentage of current smokers is nonwhite females at 16.2 percent (Figure 8).

Overall, the rate of current smoking in Mississippi is 23.9 percent, a slight decrease from 25.0 reported in 2006. The Healthy People 2010 objective is 12 percent.

Table 7: Current Smokers

	Wh	nite	Nonv	vhite	Total	
Groups	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>
Sex						
Male	395	25.9	232	31.3	628	27.8
Female	687	23.0	290	16.2	978	20.4
Age Group						
18-24	49	38.2	26	22.2	75	30.8
25-34	117	26.8	76	25.9	194	26.3
35-44	199	29.1	89	23.3	288	26.9
45-54	282	26.1	160	31.0	442	27.8
55-64	222	20.0	103	21.7	325	20.5
65+	208	10.9	68	11.7	277	11.1
Education						
< High School Graduate	218	41.5	178	31.1	396	36.2
High School Graduate or GED	369	28.0	178	25.2	548	26.9
Some College or Technical School	308	26.2	114	21.7	422	24.6
College Graduate	185	11.7	52	10.5	238	11.4
Income						
< \$15,000	169	37.0	172	29.6	341	32.2
\$15-\$24,999	177	30.3	154	27.3	331	28.7
\$25-\$34,999	154	31.0	59	24.4	213	27.9
\$35-\$49,999	172	26.9	42	19.1	214	24.6
\$50-\$74,999	144	18.8	23	16.6	169	18.4
\$75,000+	155	18.4	11	7.1	166	16.9
Employment Status						
Employed	572	25.8	265	23.9	838	25.1
Not Employed	52	42.8	55	34.5	108	37.5
Student/Homemaker	104	23.3	22	13.8	126	20.5
Retired/Unable to Work	353	19.2	178	21.3	531	20.0
Total	1,082	24.4	522	23.3	1,606	23.9

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Weighted

## **Diabetes**

# **Survey Question:**

Have you ever been told by a doctor that you have diabetes? (Note that females diagnosed only while pregnant are excluded.)

Diabetes was the seventh leading cause of death in Mississippi for the year 2006 with a death rate of 24.1 per 100,000 population. According to the 2007 BRFSS survey, 11.1 percent of all respondents reported being told by a doctor that they have diabetes which represents a small increase from the rate of 10.8 percent reported in 2006 as well as an increase from the rate of 9.7 percent reported in 2005.

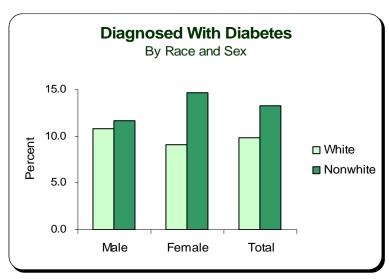


Figure 10

Nonwhite females continue to comprise the largest group having a rate of 14.7 percent followed by nonwhite males with a rate of 11.7 percent. White males reported a

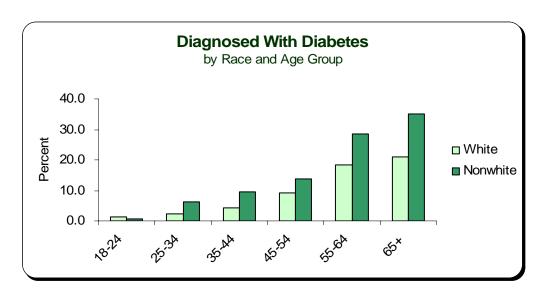


Figure 11

rate of 10.8 percent and white females were the lowest at 9.1 percent (Figure 10).

The rate of diabetes continues to show a marked difference by categories of education. Respondents who did not complete high school reported rates of 17.8 percent which is more than 53 percent higher than the next highest education category. Those with a high school education reported a rate of 11.6 percent; those with some college work, a rate of 9.0 percent; and college graduates a rate of 8.2 percent (Table 8).

There are also obvious differences seen by age of the respondent in the rate of diabetes. Only 1.0 percent of respondents under age 24 reported having diabetes while those age 65 and above reported a rate of 24.9 percent: 21.0 percent for whites and 35.0 percent for nonwhites (Figure 11).

Table 8: Ever Told by a Doctor That You Have Diabetes

	Wh	ite	Nonwhite		Total	
Groups	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>
Sex						
Male	277	10.8	138	11.7	416	11.1
Female	396	9.1	390	14.7	788	11.1
Age Group						
18-24	2	1.3	2	0.7	4	1.0
25-34	13	2.2	19	6.2	32	3.9
35-44	29	4.1	50	9.5	79	6.2
45-54	83	9.3	96	13.7	179	10.8
55-64	185	18.4	143	28.6	328	21.4
65+	360	21.0	215	35.0	578	24.9
Education						
< High School Graduate	137	16.0	212	19.5	351	17.8
High School Graduate or GED	238	10.9	162	12.5	400	11.6
Some College or Technical School	153	8.2	95	10.8	249	9.0
College Graduate	143	7.6	59	10.1	202	8.2
Income						
< \$15,000	124	18.6	196	18.9	321	18.8
\$15-\$24,999	143	14.7	107	12.7	250	13.7
\$25-\$34,999	71	9.9	43	8.0	114	9.0
\$35-\$49,999	79	9.1	41	11.9	120	9.8
\$50-\$74,999	83	8.8	18	8.6	101	8.7
\$75,000+	75	5.7	25	18.2	100	7.3
Employment Status						
Employed	172	5.4	146	8.0	318	6.3
Not Employed	15	7.3	18	6.7	33	6.9
Student/Homemaker	46	5.5	19	4.3	65	5.2
Retired/Unable to Work	439	22.6	342	30.0	784	25.4
Total	673	9.9	528	13.3	1,204	11.1

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Weighted

# **Hypertension Awareness**

# **Survey Question:**

Have you ever been told by a doctor, nurse or other health professional that you have high blood pressure? (Females reporting hypertension only during pregnancy are excluded.)

Early detection of high blood pressure allows treatment that can prevent many complications of the disease. Untreated high blood pressure increases the risk of stroke, heart attack and kidney failure. High blood pressure can be controlled by losing weight, taking medication, exercising, not smoking, managing stress and lowering sodium and alcohol intake.

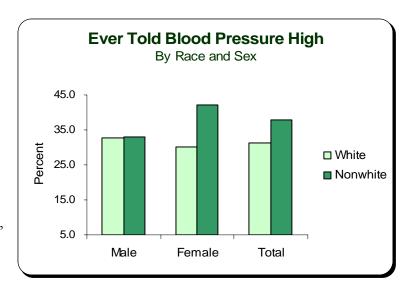


Figure 12

Two indicators of hypertension in Mississippi are available in this report; a) respondents who have ever been told they have high blood pressure by a health care professional and b) respondents who are taking medication to control high blood pressure.

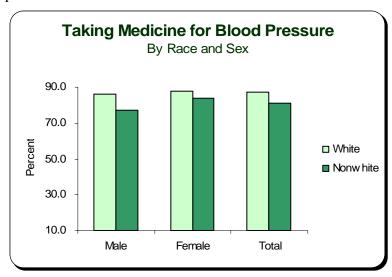


Figure 13

The 2007 BRFSS survey indicates that approximately 33.7 percent of the people surveyed in Mississippi have been told they have high blood pressure by a health care professional.

Nonwhites were more likely to be hypertensive than whites. The overall rate of hypertension among nonwhites in Mississippi was 37.8 percent compared to 31.4 for whites. Nonwhite females in the survey reported a rate of 42.1 percent rate for hypertension compared to 30.2 percent of the white females (Figure 12). Approximately 33.0 percent of the nonwhite male respondents had been told they were hypertensive. The white male rate was 32.6 percent.

Table 9: Ever Told Blood Pressure is High

	Wh	ite	Nonv	vhite	То	Total	
Groups	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	
Sex							
Male	756	32.6	348	33.0	1,106	32.7	
Female	1,352	30.2	1,038	42.1	2,396	34.6	
Age Group							
18-24	10	6.8	11	8.3	21	7.5	
25-34	48	11.5	66	19.0	114	14.7	
35-44	126	18.6	156	31.4	282	23.5	
45-54	333	34.3	308	49.5	641	39.6	
55-64	541	50.4	353	68.1	895	55.7	
65+	1,043	57.3	485	78.8	1,533	63.2	
Education							
< High School Graduate	361	41.3	469	46.0	832	43.7	
High School Graduate or GED	745	34.7	439	36.4	1,185	35.4	
Some College or Technical School	512	28.9	263	33.4	778	30.2	
College Graduate	485	25.8	212	35.6	699	28.2	
Income							
< \$15,000	327	47.3	459	48.3	787	47.9	
\$15-\$24,999	361	34.0	321	40.4	682	37.2	
\$25-\$34,999	267	36.8	134	26.0	402	31.9	
\$35-\$49,999	254	29.0	101	30.9	357	29.6	
\$50-\$74,999	254	26.5	65	31.8	319	27.5	
\$75,000+	316	25.9	65	39.3	381	27.6	
Employment Status							
Employed	690	22.3	490	27.1	1,182	24.0	
Not Employed	45	27.7	66	27.2	111	27.3	
Student/Homemaker	195	21.5	61	19.4	256	20.8	
Retired/Unable to Work	1,177	57.6	765	70.9	1,947	62.5	
Total	2,108	31.4	1,386	37.8	3,502	33.7	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Weighted

Table 10: Taking Medication for Blood Pressure\*

	Wh	nite	Nonv	white	То	tal
Groups	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>
Sex						
Male	674	86.2	295	77.1	971	82.9
Female	1,233	87.9	937	84.1	2,176	86.2
Age Group						
18-24	3	32.2	3	9.2	6	20.5
25-34	24	64.4	39	53.5	63	58.3
35-44	90	71.2	123	78.6	213	75.0
45-54	288	87.7	267	83.1	555	85.7
55-64	500	92.8	328	92.4	829	92.7
65+	995	95.3	465	94.6	1,465	95.1
Education						
< High School Graduate	331	86.6	432	87.2	765	86.9
High School Graduate or GED	668	84.2	379	73.0	1,048	79.4
Some College or Technical School	462	86.6	227	83.3	692	85.4
College Graduate	441	91.7	191	86.9	634	90.3
Income						
< \$15,000	304	88.4	415	84.4	720	85.8
\$15-\$24,999	329	86.3	273	75.1	602	80.1
\$25-\$34,999	238	88.9	117	77.6	356	84.7
\$35-\$49,999	226	85.4	90	85.6	318	85.5
\$50-\$74,999	231	90.5	60	83.3	291	88.8
\$75,000+	283	85.5	60	93.0	343	86.9
Employment Status						
Employed	582	81.2	406	75.6	990	78.9
Not Employed	36	73.9	53	67.0	89	69.6
Student/Homemaker	180	85.9	50	62.0	230	79.3
Retired/Unable to Work	1,108	93.4	720	89.7	1,833	91.8
Total	1,907	87.1	1,232	81.2	3,147	84.7

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Weighted

<sup>\*</sup>Denominator is those with high blood pressure

#### **Cholesterol Awareness**

# **Survey Question:**

Have you ever had your blood cholesterol checked?

Persons having elevated blood cholesterol levels experience twice the risk of developing coronary heart disease. Studies reveal that small reductions in cholesterol levels are effective in reducing risks.

For those with high cholesterol readings, changes in diets along with increasing physical activity will reduce the level approximately 75 percent of the time. The National

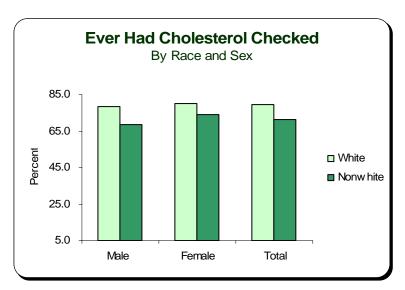


Figure 14

Cholesterol Education Program recommends that healthy adults more than twenty years old have their blood cholesterol levels checked at least once every five years.

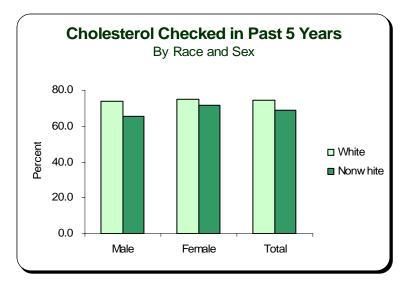


Figure 15

The 2007 survey revealed that 76.5 percent of the respondents reported that they have ever had their blood cholesterol checked (Figure 14) and 72.4 percent reported that it had been checked in the past five years (Figure 15). In 2005 the rates were 71.7 percent and 66.8 percent respectively White respondents were more likely to have had their cholesterol checked within five years

reporting a rate of 74.5 percent than nonwhites who reported a rate of 68.7 percent (Table 12).

Nonwhite male respondents reported the lowest rate for examinations within the past five years with a rate of 65.4 percent which is better than the rate of 59.7 percent reported in 2005. Of those who have ever had their cholesterol checked, 38.3 percent said they have been told their blood cholesterol is high but in those age 65 and above, the rate was 56.7 percent.

Table 11: Ever Had Cholesterol Checked

	Wh	nite	Nonv	white	То	tal
Groups	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>
Sex						
Male	1,559	78.6	579	68.4	2,145	74.9
Female	2,832	80.2	1,531	74.1	4,372	78.0
Age Group						
18-24	48	37.9	56	44.6	104	41.1
25-34	274	61.8	203	58.8	479	60.6
35-44	547	79.2	354	74.6	901	77.3
45-54	845	89.9	494	82.8	1,339	87.4
55-64	1,005	93.8	441	87.5	1,448	91.9
65+	1,654	96.5	551	93.5	2,212	95.7
Education						
< High School Graduate	534	64.4	564	71.9	1,100	68.2
High School Graduate or GED	1,361	78.5	659	62.6	2,022	71.8
Some College or Technical School	1,107	78.1	454	75.0	1,567	77.1
College Graduate	1,380	87.6	430	85.8	1,816	87.1
Income						
< \$15,000	461	81.4	554	63.1	1,016	69.6
\$15-\$24,999	612	69.7	507	73.5	1,120	71.6
\$25-\$34,999	508	75.7	249	68.5	758	72.3
\$35-\$49,999	607	81.9	216	80.3	826	81.6
\$50-\$74,999	683	82.3	142	79.9	827	81.8
\$75,000+	952	83.7	143	91.4	1,096	84.6
Employment Status						
Employed	2,009	75.9	991	68.0	3,008	73.1
Not Employed	90	65.9	121	61.0	212	62.7
Student/Homemaker	441	69.4	106	61.4	547	67.0
Retired/Unable to Work	1,848	94.1	889	85.7	2,743	91.0
Total	4,391	79.5	2,110	71.4	6,517	76.5

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Weighted

Table 12: Cholesterol Checked in Past 5 Years

	White		Nonwhite		Total	
Groups	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>
Sex						
Male	1,468	73.9	550	65.4	2,024	70.8
Female	2,652	75.1	1,478	71.7	4,138	73.8
Age Group						
18-24	45	36.1	54	43.2	99	39.4
25-34	257	57.8	200	57.8	459	57.9
35-44	495	72.0	336	70.0	831	71.1
45-54	787	83.8	472	79.4	1,259	82.3
55-64	950	88.6	424	84.4	1,375	87.3
65+	1,568	92.2	531	90.2	2,105	91.7
Education						
< High School Graduate	498	60.3	541	68.3	1,040	64.4
High School Graduate or GED	1,285	74.3	634	60.4	1,921	68.4
Some College or Technical School	1,031	72.5	434	72.3	1,471	72.5
College Graduate	1,298	82.2	416	83.2	1,719	82.3
Income						
< \$15,000	417	72.5	532	60.2	949	64.6
\$15-\$24,999	580	66.4	488	70.4	1,069	68.4
\$25-\$34,999	479	71.4	241	66.2	721	68.9
\$35-\$49,999	572	76.4	210	79.0	784	77.2
\$50-\$74,999	653	78.5	137	77.4	792	78.2
\$75,000+	903	79.2	137	87.7	1,041	80.2
Employment Status						
Employed	1,876	70.7	947	65.2	2,830	68.7
Not Employed	82	60.8	118	59.2	201	59.6
Student/Homemaker	412	64.7	99	57.7	511	62.6
Retired/Unable to Work	1,748	89.6	862	83.1	2,615	87.2
Total	4,120	74.5	2,028	68.7	6,162	72.4

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Weighted

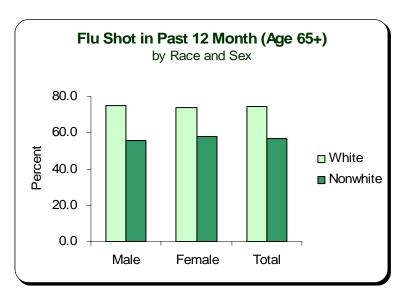
### **Immunization**

## **Survey Question:**

A flu shot is an influenza vaccine injected in your arm. During the past 12 months, have you had a flu shot or have you had a flu vaccine that was sprayed in your nose?

Influenza and pneumonia was the ninth leading cause of death in Mississippi for 2006 producing a death rate of 21.2 per 100,000 population.

The Healthy People 2010 goal for influenza vaccinations is that 90 percent of the noninstitutionalized people age 65 and older have been vaccinated in the preceding



twelve months. The target for those in the 18 to 64 age group

Figure 16

who are noninstitutionalized is 60 percent. Influenza vaccine can prevent the disease and its complications. In the elderly, the vaccine is less effective in disease prevention, but

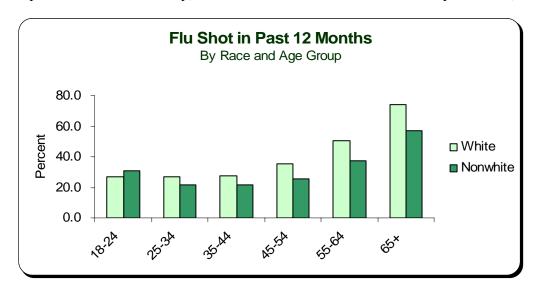


Figure 17

reduces severity of disease and the incidence of complications and death. It is an important intervention to reduce hospitalizations due to complications of influenza. Influenza vaccine is recommended for all persons 65 years of age and older, and for those with chronic health problems which put them at risk for complications.

In the 2007 BRFSS survey, 69.6 percent of the respondents age 65 and older reported they had received the influenza vaccine in the last 12 months. The proportion vaccinated in this age group reflected a marked difference according to race: 74.3 percent of whites reported having been vaccinated compared to only 57.1 percent for nonwhites Figure 17). For the total population the vaccination rates showed little difference with respect to gender: 37.2 percent of the males and 37.4 percent of the females reported receiving a flu vaccination in the past 12 months (Figure 16).

Only 26.0 percent of the respondents said that they had ever received a pneumonia vaccination. Respondents over the age of 65 reported a vaccination rate of 63.2 percent. As was the case with influenza vaccinations there was a marked difference with respect to race: 70.5 percent for whites but only 43.9 percent for nonwhites (Table 15).

Table 13: Had a Flu Vaccination in the Past 12 Months

	Wr	nite	Nonv	white	Total	
Groups	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>
Sex						
Male	886	40.8	255	30.9	1,144	37.2
Female	1,670	42.0	636	29.7	2,311	37.4
Age Group						
18-24	38	27.0	29	30.9	67	28.8
25-34	127	27.0	77	21.4	206	24.9
35-44	198	27.3	96	21.9	295	25.3
45-54	334	35.2	158	25.4	492	31.7
55-64	553	50.5	184	37.5	737	46.5
65+	1,297	74.3	342	57.1	1,643	69.6
Education						
< High School Graduate	342	37.7	269	31.4	611	34.5
High School Graduate or GED	787	37.8	280	30.5	1,069	34.8
Some College or Technical School	630	39.8	163	26.3	796	35.4
College Graduate	792	47.9	178	33.4	973	44.4
Income						
< \$15,000	306	46.6	250	31.8	556	37.1
\$15-\$24,999	381	36.8	204	28.4	585	32.5
\$25-\$34,999	291	38.0	91	25.7	384	32.6
\$35-\$49,999	329	38.9	84	26.9	415	35.8
\$50-\$74,999	375	43.2	63	37.0	439	41.9
\$75,000+	497	41.2	48	30.4	546	39.9
<b>Employment Status</b>						
Employed	950	34.5	328	26.1	1,280	31.6
Not Employed	32	24.7	37	14.1	71	18.4
Student/Homemaker	233	30.1	41	29.1	274	29.8
Retired/Unable to Work	1,338	64.7	484	45.4	1,825	57.5
Total	2,556	41.4	891	30.3	3,455	37.3

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Weighted

Table 14: Had a Flu Vaccination in the Past 12 Months (Age 65+)

	Wh	ite	Nonwhite		Total	
Groups	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>
Sex						
Male	412	75.1	83	55.8	495	69.9
Female	885	73.7	259	58.1	1,148	69.4
Education						
< High School Graduate	2 55	71.4	173	57.2	428	63.8
High School Graduate or GED	479	73.3	81	55.4	561	69.9
Some College or Technical School	284	75.4	42	50.6	328	71.0
College Graduate	276	77.8	45	69.9	322	76.6
Income						
< \$15,000	231	75.2	127	59.7	358	67.7
\$15-\$24,999	259	73.3	73	52.0	332	66.6
\$25-\$34,999	176	71.0	25	58.3*	201	69.2
\$35-\$49,999	141	73.1	15	52.7*	157	70.2
\$50-\$74,999	124	81.5	10	83.8*	135	81.7
\$75,000+	104	76.3	4	61.3	108	75.0
Employment Status						
Employed	125	61.5	25	44.4	150	57.5
Not Employed	3	32.6*	5	74.3*	9	48.9
Student/Homemaker	138	76.7	12	51.5*	150	73.3
Retired/Unable to Work	1,031	76.4	300	58.6	1,334	71.1
Total	1,297	74.3	342	57.1	1,643	69.6

<sup>\*</sup>Sample size <50

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Weighted

Table 15: Ever Had a Pneumonia Vaccination

	Wh	ite	Nonv	white	Total	
Groups	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>
Sex						
Male	644	30.1	176	21.5	822	26.8
Female	1,301	29.8	436	17.6	1,741	25.3
Age Group						
18-24	19	20.2	13	8.9	32	14.6
25-34	42	11.2	30	11.5	72	11.3
35-44	77	11.5	57	14.6	134	12.7
45-54	168	16.8	99	18.5	267	17.4
55-64	373	36.1	132	29.2	505	34.0
65+	1,259	72.3	280	46.1	1,544	65.3
Education						
< High School Graduate	340	41.6	203	24.7	545	32.9
High School Graduate or GED	656	32.1	201	18.8	858	26.3
Some College or Technical School	488	29.1	108	15.3	597	24.4
College Graduate	455	23.7	99	19.0	556	22.5
Income						
< \$15,000	311	46.1	210	24.5	522	32.2
\$15-\$24,999	360	40.2	145	20.0	505	29.8
\$25-\$34,999	251	36.3	60	18.1	312	28.2
\$35-\$49,999	246	27.4	45	13.9	292	23.5
\$50-\$74,999	208	21.5	20	10.4	228	19.2
\$75,000+	237	18.4	30	24.0	268	19.1
Employment Status						
Employed	431	15.5	175	13.5	607	14.8
Not Employed	24	18.7	25	10.7	49	13.6
Student/Homemaker	194	26.4	27	8.9	221	21.0
Retired/Unable to Work	1,294	64.1	384	38.0	1,682	54.4
Total	1,945	30.0	612	19.4	2,563	26.0

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Weighted

Table 16: Ever Had a Pneumonia Vaccination (Age 65+)

	Wh	nite	Nonwhite		То	Total	
Groups	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	
Sex							
Male	374	69.3	53	36.1	429	60.6	
Female	885	74.4	227	52.7	1,115	68.5	
Education							
< High School Graduate	252	71.5	136	44.4	390	57.5	
High School Graduate or GED	459	71.2	64	43.3	524	66.0	
Some College or Technical School	286	73.1	42	48.7	329	68.9	
College Graduate	258	74.1	37	57.9	296	71.8	
Income							
< \$15,000	238	75.8	99	43.7	338	60.9	
\$15-\$24,999	252	72.2	62	40.6	314	62.5	
\$25-\$34,999	169	65.9	22	53.6	191	64.2	
\$35-\$49,999	133	69.2	15	43.1	149	65.4	
\$50-\$74,999	105	71.7	5	49.9	110	69.5	
\$75,000+	94	71.1	3	50.0	98	69.9	
Employment Status							
Employed	119	59.3	24	39.7	144	54.9	
Not Employed	4	49.2	2	15.9	6	34.3	
Student/Homemaker	130	74.8	16	62.2	146	73.1	
Retired/Unable to Work	1,006	74.2	238	46.5	1,248	66.3	
Total	1,259	72.3	280	46.1	1,544	65.3	

<sup>\*</sup>Sample size <50

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Weighted

# **Overweight and Obesity**

## **Survey Question:**

There is no survey question that solicits the respondent to provide his body mass index (BMI) rather it is calculated from the self reported height and weight. See the "Definitions" section for the formula.

The proportion of overweight persons has increased substantially during the past twenty years. Morbidity related to being overweight is the second leading cause of death in the United States and causes approximately 300,000 deaths each year. Overweight persons substantially increase their risk of illness from hypertension, high cholesterol,

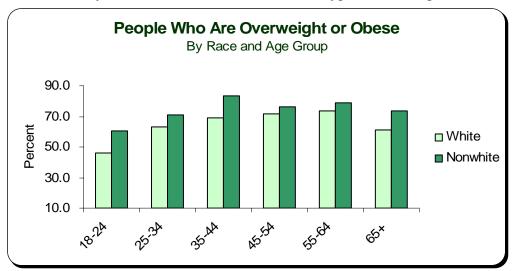


Figure 18

Type 2 diabetes, heart disease and stroke, gall bladder disease, cancer of the endometrium, breast, prostate and colon as well as arthritis. Overweight people may also suffer from social stigmatization, discrimination and low self-esteem.

Weight may be controlled by dietary changes such as decreasing caloric intake and by increasing physical activity. According to the 2007 BRFSS study 68.1 percent of those surveyed in Mississippi reported themselves as being either overweight (BMI  $\geq$  25) or obese (BMI  $\geq$ 30). The rate for whites was 64.9 percent compared to 73.7 percent for nonwhites (Table 17). In year 2006 the overall-reported rate was 64.2 percent and in 2005 it was 64.9 percent.

The total obesity rate for 2007 was 32.6 percent: 27.5 for whites and 41.3 for nonwhites (Table 18). Nonwhite females reported the highest rate of obesity at 46.7

percent and nonwhite males reported the second highest rate at 35.5 percent. Nonwhite respondents who report an annual income below \$15,000 per year have an obesity rate of 48.1 percent compared to a rate of 29.2 for whites in the same income group.

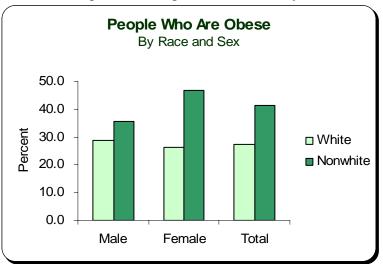


Figure 19

Table 17: Respondents Who Are Either Overweight or Obese

	Wh	nite	Nonv	white	Total	
Groups	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>
Sex						
Male	1,374	73.9	552	73.0	1,932	73.6
Female	1,844	56.3	1,429	74.4	3,280	63.0
Age Group						
18-24	59	46.2	76	60.7	135	52.7
25-34	277	63.0	250	71.2	530	66.8
35-44	459	69.2	380	83.5	839	74.6
45-54	652	71.6	462	76.4	1,114	73.3
55-64	756	73.4	387	79.1	1,145	75.1
65+	1,007	61.4	419	73.6	1,431	64.6
Education						
< High School Graduate	434	64.1	502	70.5	937	67.3
High School Graduate or GED	1,048	68.7	663	74.4	1,713	71.1
Some College or Technical School	839	64.6	453	75.3	1,298	68.2
College Graduate	892	61.5	362	74.4	1,258	64.6
Income						
< \$15,000	341	59.8	556	81.0	897	73.2
\$15-\$24,999	475	63.0	518	76.0	994	69.5
\$25-\$34,999	374	63.1	240	71.2	615	66.8
\$35-\$49,999	482	69.1	199	78.9	684	72.1
\$50-\$74,999	517	67.5	126	79.8	646	70.1
\$75,000+	660	65.4	115	68.5	776	65.8
Employment Status						
Employed	1,588	65.2	991	73.3	2,585	68.1
Not Employed	89	69.1	136	78.7	227	75.1
Student/Homemaker	304	56.7	103	59.4	408	57.5
Retired/Unable to Work	1,233	67.6	747	77.7	1,984	71.3
Total	3,218	64.9	1,981	73.7	5,212	68.1

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Weighted

Table 18: People Who Are Obese

	Wh	nite	Nonwhite		То	tal
Groups	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>
Sex						
Male	520	28.9	262	35.5	786	31.4
Female	826	26.2	897	46.7	1,727	33.7
Age Group						
18-24	24	17.7	44	31.6	68	23.9
25-34	130	29.4	164	43.9	296	36.0
35-44	202	29.5	227	47.5	429	36.3
45-54	310	33.2	275	42.7	585	36.6
55-64	352	33.8	230	45.1	584	37.3
65+	327	20.1	215	36.2	544	24.3
Education						
< High School Graduate	189	28.2	293	37.3	483	32.8
High School Graduate or GED	429	30.1	414	44.7	844	36.1
Some College or Technical School	369	27.4	259	40.7	631	32.0
College Graduate	357	24.7	192	40.0	552	28.5
Income						
< \$15,000	163	29.2	359	48.1	522	41.1
\$15-\$24,999	206	28.3	308	44.3	515	36.4
\$25-\$34,999	143	23.3	128	39.0	271	30.4
\$35-\$49,999	203	30.4	109	43.4	314	34.5
\$50-\$74,999	231	31.7	63	39.2	296	33.3
\$75,000+	262	26.2	63	41.8	325	28.2
Employment Status						
Employed	676	27.6	561	39.3	1,242	31.8
Not Employed	47	34.7	78	48.9	126	43.3
Student/Homemaker	123	22.6	72	36.7	195	26.7
Retired/Unable to Work	498	28.8	446	44.8	946	34.6
Total	1,346	27.5	1,159	41.3	2,513	32.6

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Weighted

#### **Asthma**

## **Survey Question:**

Have you ever been told by a doctor, nurse, or other health professional that you had asthma? If yes: Do you still have asthma?

According to the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services, Healthy People 2010 publication, asthma is a serious and growing health problem. Asthma is a chronic lung disease that affects more than 17 million Americans. The disease is characterized by inflammation of the airways with intermittent bronchospasm which is a narrowing of the bronchial tubes. Bronchospasm is caused by the inflammation

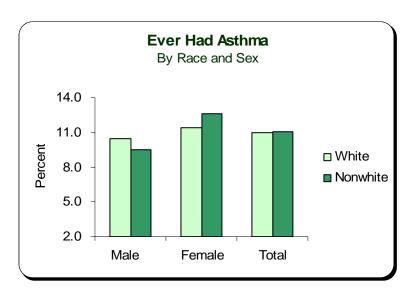


Figure 20

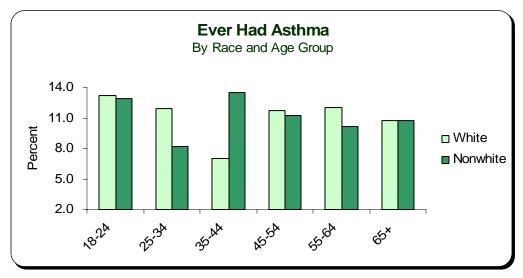


Figure 21

of the muscles surrounding the air passageways. The inflammation makes the airways smaller and therefore making it more difficult for air to move in and out of the lung. In

some cases, the breathing may be so labored that an asthma attack becomes life-threatening.

Most of the problems caused by asthma could be averted if persons with asthma and their health care providers managed the disease according to established guidelines. Effective management of asthma comprises four major components: controlling exposure to factors that trigger asthma episodes, adequately managing asthma with medicine, monitoring the disease by using objective measures of lung function and educating asthma patients to become partners in their own care. Such prevention efforts are essential to interrupt the progression from disease to functional limitation and disability and to improve the quality of life for persons with asthma.

In Mississippi, the 2007 BRFSS survey revealed that 11.0 percent of the respondents said that they had ever had asthma. This rate has remained stable for the past three years with 11.5 percent reported in 2006 and 11.0 percent in 2005. There was practically no difference reported between whites and nonwhites. Women reported a higher rate (11.8 percent) than men (10.1 percent). Table 19 contains the figures related to the various rates.

Table 19: Ever Diagnosed With Asthma

	Wh	nite	Nonwhite		Total	
Groups	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>
Sex						
Male	173	10.5	72	9.5	245	10.1
Female	402	11.4	248	12.6	652	11.8
Age Group						
18-24	16	13.2	15	12.9	31	13.1
25-34	57	11.9	36	8.2	93	10.2
35-44	54	7.0	52	13.5	106	9.5
45-54	115	11.7	78	11.2	193	11.5
55-64	132	12.0	61	10.2	193	11.5
65+	200	10.8	76	10.8	278	10.8
Education						
< High School Graduate	107	14.5	118	12.6	225	13.5
High School Graduate or GED	196	13.6	109	14.0	306	13.8
Some College or Technical School	144	9.0	55	7.4	200	8.5
College Graduate	126	8.5	38	7.7	164	8.3
Income						
< \$15,000	114	19.2	130	17.4	244	18.1
\$15-\$24,999	99	12.1	63	7.4	162	9.7
\$25-\$34,999	62	9.1	34	12.1	96	10.4
\$35-\$49,999	66	8.9	18	8.3	84	8.6
\$50-\$74,999	64	8.8	8	3.8	72	7.8
\$75,000+	90	10.0	15	11.9	105	10.2
<b>Employment Status</b>						
Employed	213	9.4	109	9.7	322	9.5
Not Employed	20	15.3	25	7.9	45	10.6
Student/Homemaker	47	9.1	21	10.8	68	9.6
Retired/Unable to Work	295	14.9	163	15.5	460	15.1
Total	575	11.0	320	11.1	897	11.0

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Weighted

Table 20: Currently Have Asthma

	Wh	nite	Nonv	white	Total	
Groups	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>
Sex						
Male	93	4.8	37	4.5	130	4.7
Female	292	8.1	181	8.6	473	8.3
Age Group						
18-24	9	6.4	9	6.1	18	6.2
25-34	27	4.9	23	4.5	50	4.7
35-44	35	4.1	29	7.3	64	5.3
45-54	74	7.4	62	8.7	136	7.9
55-64	96	8.5	41	6.9	137	8.0
65+	144	7.9	53	7.5	197	7.8
Education						
< High School Graduate	85	9.6	84	8.8	169	9.2
High School Graduate or GED	133	8.2	69	7.7	202	8.0
Some College or Technical School	91	5.3	39	4.4	130	5.0
College Graduate	74	4.5	26	4.7	100	4.6
Income						
< \$15,000	90	15.3	103	14.9	193	15.1
\$15-\$24,999	70	8.2	41	4.3	111	6.2
\$25-\$34,999	43	6.3	18	4.3	61	5.4
\$35-\$49,999	40	5.0	10	2.8	50	4.3
\$50-\$74,999	33	4.1	5	2.5	38	3.8
\$75,000+	50	4.1	10	5.0	60	4.2
Employment Status						
Employed	118	4.3	57	4.3	175	4.3
Not Employed	15	12.3	20	6.2	35	8.4
Student/Homemaker	36	6.9	15	5.2	51	6.4
Retired/Unable to Work	216	10.8	125	12.4	341	11.4
Total	385	6.5	218	6.7	603	6.6

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Weighted

# **Exercise and Physical Activity**

## **Survey Question:**

During the past month, other than your regular job, did you participate in any physical activities or exercises such as running, calisthenics, golf, gardening, or walking for exercise?

On average, physically active people outlive those who are inactive. Regular physical activity helps to maintain the functional independence of older adults and enhances the quality of life for people of all ages. The role of physical activity in preventing coronary heart disease (CHD) is of particular importance, given that CHD is the leading cause of death and disability in the United States and in Mississippi. Physically inactive people are almost twice as likely to develop CHD as persons who engage in regular physical activity. The risk posed by physical inactivity is almost as high as several well-known CHD risk factors such as cigarette smoking, high blood pressure and high blood cholesterol. Physical inactivity is more prevalent than any of these other risk factors.

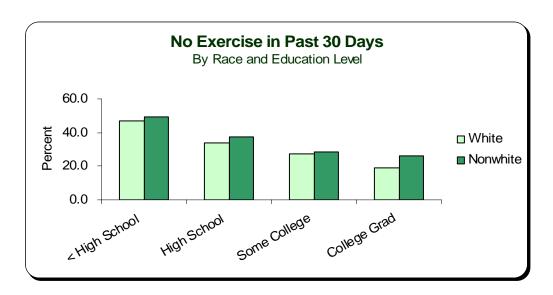


Figure 22

Regular physical activity is important for people who have joint or bone problems and has been shown to improve muscle function, cardiovascular function, and physical performance. People with osteoporosis may respond positively to regular physical activity, particularly weight-bearing activities such as walking and especially when combined with appropriate drug therapy and calcium intake.

In Mississippi, 31.8 percent of the population is reported as not participating in any physical activity outside of work in the past 30 days. People with less education (Figure

22) and in lower income levels (Figure 23) and reported the highest percentage of physical inactivity.

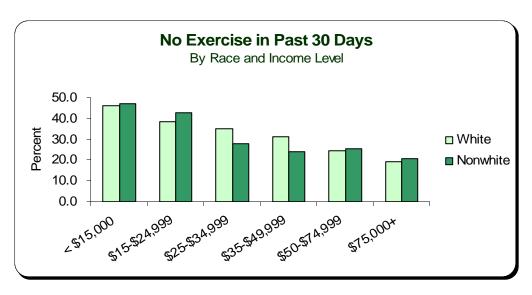


Figure 23

Table 21: No Exercise in Past 30 Days

	Wh	ite	Nonwhite		Total	
Groups	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>
Sex						
Male	511	25.6	265	31.3	777	27.6
Female	1,175	32.7	800	40.7	1,979	35.7
Age Group						
18-24	27	20.2	53	34.2	80	26.6
25-34	91	20.0	120	31.4	212	24.9
35-44	180	26.2	175	34.5	355	29.4
45-54	331	32.9	225	38.0	556	34.7
55-64	394	36.2	214	40.5	609	37.5
65+	659	37.0	273	44.1	935	38.9
Education						
< High School Graduate	330	47.2	367	49.1	698	48.2
High School Graduate or GED	614	33.8	368	37.6	984	35.4
Some College or Technical School	403	27.2	192	28.4	597	27.5
College Graduate	335	19.0	136	26.1	471	20.6
Income						
< \$15,000	270	46.1	363	47.1	634	46.8
\$15-\$24,999	306	38.3	287	42.6	594	40.5
\$25-\$34,999	217	35.3	103	28.1	320	32.0
\$35-\$49,999	231	31.3	67	24.0	298	29.1
\$50-\$74,999	210	24.7	45	25.6	256	24.9
\$75,000+	214	19.4	35	20.6	249	19.5
Employment Status						
Employed	672	25.4	460	33.3	1,133	28.1
Not Employed	44	29.8	74	38.1	118	34.9
Student/Homemaker	176	25.6	50	25.6	226	25.5
Retired/Unable to Work	791	39.9	478	45.6	1,273	42.1
Total	1,686	29.3	1,065	36.3	2,756	31.8

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Weighted

Table 22: People Who Are Physically Inactive

	Wh	nite	Nonv	white	То	tal
Groups	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>
Sex						
Male	199	9.1	114	11.9	314	10.1
Female	509	13.1	415	20.3	925	15.8
Age Group						
18-24	7	5.7	21	9.6	28	7.5
25-34	20	4.0	46	14.0	67	8.3
35-44	51	8.5	77	13.6	128	10.5
45-54	101	11.0	97	16.5	198	12.9
55-64	157	14.3	105	19.9	262	15.9
65+	369	21.1	181	30.8	551	23.7
Education						
< High School Graduate	166	21.5	209	26.7	376	24.2
High School Graduate or GED	254	13.1	168	15.0	423	13.9
Some College or Technical School	162	10.2	85	11.9	247	10.7
College Graduate	123	6.0	66	11.8	189	7.4
Income						
< \$15,000	152	23.7	202	26.3	355	25.4
\$15-\$24,999	143	16.2	131	18.8	274	17.5
\$25-\$34,999	80	12.3	37	6.3	117	9.6
\$35-\$49,999	77	10.3	28	8.8	105	9.8
\$50-\$74,999	73	7.8	15	8.4	89	8.0
\$75,000+	62	6.3	14	9.3	76	6.7
Employment Status						
Employed	191	7.5	178	12.8	370	9.3
Not Employed	10	8.5	31	11.8	41	10.5
Student/Homemaker	68	7.5	21	9.3	89	8.0
Retired/Unable to Work	438	22.1	298	27.9	737	24.3
Total	708	11.2	529	16.4	1,239	13.1

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Weighted

Table 23: Do Not Meet Moderate Physical Activity Recommendations

	Wh	nite	Nonv	white	Total	
Groups	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>
Sex						
Male	1,142	66.2	533	75.6	1,681	69.6
Female	2,191	70.2	1,402	76.7	3,600	72.6
Age Group						
18-24	81	67.6	90	77.0	171	71.7
25-34	282	65.4	234	72.9	518	68.7
35-44	457	67.1	330	72.2	788	69.1
45-54	633	69.9	425	75.7	1,058	71.9
55-64	724	69.0	391	80.6	1,117	72.5
65+	1,145	70.1	457	83.5	1,606	73.8
Education						
< High School Graduate	447	70.9	532	77.4	981	74.3
High School Graduate or GED	1,053	67.6	640	74.5	1,694	70.5
Some College or Technical School	868	71.2	417	77.8	1,290	73.5
College Graduate	959	65.3	344	76.2	1,308	67.9
Income						
< \$15,000	380	73.3	551	75.7	932	74.9
\$15-\$24,999	512	72.1	472	75.9	986	74.1
\$25-\$34,999	386	69.3	232	74.9	619	71.8
\$35-\$49,999	473	70.4	177	73.4	652	71.4
\$50-\$74,999	510	67.5	121	76.4	634	69.3
\$75,000+	650	63.2	109	74.4	761	64.7
Employment Status						
Employed	1,589	68.3	923	75.7	2,519	71.0
Not Employed	84	76.5	132	74.7	217	75.4
Student/Homemaker	345	61.5	102	64.9	448	62.5
Retired/Unable to Work	1,312	70.5	775	81.2	2,090	74.5
Total	3,333	68.3	1,935	76.2	5,281	71.2

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Weighted

Table 24: Do Not Meet Vigorous Physical Activity Recommendations

	Wh	nite	Nonv	white	Total	
Groups	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>
Sex						
Male	1,387	74.2	580	75.6	1,970	74.6
Female	2,767	84.3	1,652	87.2	4,428	85.4
Age Group						
18-24	78	60.9	93	71.1	171	65.4
25-34	324	73.2	268	76.8	593	74.5
35-44	528	76.7	371	82.6	900	78.9
45-54	769	82.4	491	82.1	1,260	82.3
55-64	902	86.5	447	90.4	1,351	87.7
65+	1,540	90.2	553	94.9	2,097	91.4
Education						
< High School Graduate	592	82.5	647	90.3	1,240	86.5
High School Graduate or GED	1,356	82.8	734	80.7	2,092	81.9
Some College or Technical School	1,060	79.2	469	80.9	1,534	79.5
College Graduate	1,140	75.2	379	73.7	1,523	74.9
Income						
< \$15,000	489	87.2	661	92.0	1,151	90.3
\$15-\$24,999	643	82.8	555	84.6	1,200	83.8
\$25-\$34,999	491	85.0	254	68.0	746	77.3
\$35-\$49,999	583	82.8	198	77.4	783	80.9
\$50-\$74,999	636	79.2	129	73.0	768	78.0
\$75,000+	758	70.2	109	70.3	868	70.3
Employment Status						
Employed	1,842	75.2	1,031	77.5	2,878	75.9
Not Employed	104	80.1	154	79.6	259	79.8
Student/Homemaker	464	77.9	121	71.9	586	76.4
Retired/Unable to Work	1,740	89.9	923	94.4	2,667	91.6
Total	4,154	79.5	2,232	81.8	6,398	80.3

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Weighted

#### **Arthritis**

## **Survey Question:**

Have you ever been told by a doctor or other health professional that you have some form of arthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, gout, lupus, or fibromyalgia?

The various forms of arthritis affect more than 15 percent of the U.S. population—over 43 million persons—and more than 20 percent of the adult population, making arthritis one of the most common conditions in the United States according to the *Healthy People 2010* publication.

The significant public health impact of arthritis is reflected in a variety of measures. First, arthritis is the leading cause of disability. Arthritis limits the major activities (for example, working, housekeeping, school) of nearly 3 percent of the entire U.S. population (seven million persons), including nearly one out of every five persons with arthritis. Arthritis trails only heart disease as a cause of work disability. As a consequence, arthritis limits the independence of affected persons and disrupts the lives of family members and other care givers.

Health-related quality of life measures are consistently worse for persons with arthritis, whether the measure is healthy days in the past 30 days, days without severe pain, "ability days" (that is, days without activity limitations), or difficulty in performing personal care activities.

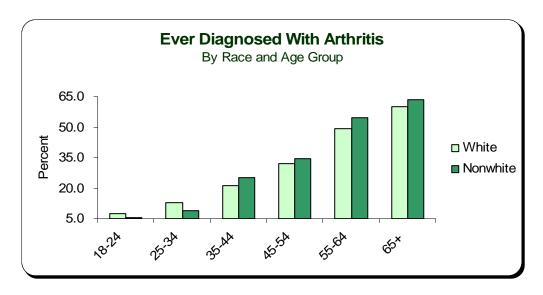


Figure 24

One of the national goals for *Healthy People 2010* is to reduce the rate of adults with chronic joint symptoms that limit the activity of a person to 21 percent. In Mississippi,

the 2007 BRFSS survey showed that 30.5 percent of the population had been diagnosed with arthritis by a health care professional. As noted in the "Definitions of Terms and Risk Factors", the question in the current report has been amended so that only those who have actually been diagnosed with arthritis by a health care professional are being reported. In 2003, the report included those who had reported pain or stiffness in the joints for at least 30 days during the previous year.

As seen in Figure 24, the proportion increases with age. Respondents over the age of 65 reported being diagnosed with arthritis at a rate of 60.9 percent. The difference by race within this age group was a little more than three percentage points. The rate for whites was 60.0 percent while nonwhites reported a rate of 63.4 percent. Only 6.6 percent of those 18-24 years old reported this condition.

Table 25: Ever Diagnosed With Arthritis

	White		Nonv	white	Total	
Groups	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>
Sex						
Male	659	29.0	232	21.9	893	26.4
Female	1,468	34.8	836	33.5	2,308	34.3
Age Group						
18-24	10	7.4	9	5.7	19	6.6
25-34	62	12.7	30	9.0	92	11.1
35-44	149	21.2	114	25.4	263	22.8
45-54	320	32.0	222	34.4	542	32.9
55-64	527	49.2	284	54.6	812	50.8
65+	1,052	60.0	404	63.4	1,460	60.9
Education						
< High School Graduate	393	46.3	403	40.7	798	43.5
High School Graduate or GED	710	34.1	335	24.8	1,045	30.2
Some College or Technical School	565	32.8	190	25.0	756	30.1
College Graduate	454	23.2	138	21.5	595	22.8
Income						
< \$15,000	343	53.1	390	40.1	734	44.8
\$15-\$24,999	371	37.1	233	26.0	604	31.5
\$25-\$34,999	281	40.1	102	22.5	383	32.1
\$35-\$49,999	285	33.8	82	24.7	368	31.2
\$50-\$74,999	255	26.3	46	25.2	302	26.1
\$75,000+	289	22.1	33	17.0	322	21.4
Employment Status						
Employed	643	21.1	309	17.6	954	19.8
Not Employed	50	34.0	41	15.1	92	22.2
Student/Homemaker	199	23.8	54	17.1	253	21.8
Retired/Unable to Work	1,232	61.1	662	58.9	1,897	60.2
Total	2,127	32.0	1,068	28.0	3,201	30.5

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Weighted

#### Cardiovascular Disease

# **Survey Question:**

Has a doctor, nurse, or other health professional ever told you that you had any of the following: A heart attack, also called a myocardial infarction? Angina or coronary heart disease? A stroke?

Cardiovascular disease (CVD) includes coronary heart disease, stroke, complications of hypertension, and diseases of the arterial blood vessels. In addition to causing almost half of all deaths in Mississippi, CVD is the major cause of premature, permanent disability among working adults. Stroke alone disables almost 2,000 Mississippians each year. In the 2007 BRFSS survey slightly more than nine

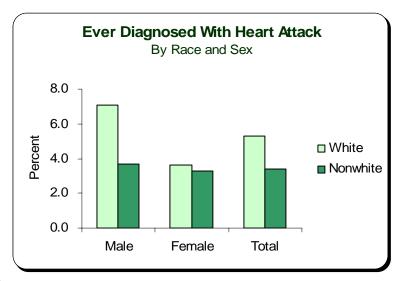


Figure 25

percent of Mississippi adults (almost 194,000 people) report having some kind of CVD, such as coronary heart disease, angina, previous heart attack, or stroke.

In 2006 Mississippi reported 8,043 deaths from heart disease and 1,570 from cerebrovascular disease (stroke). The two combined accounted for nearly thirty-four

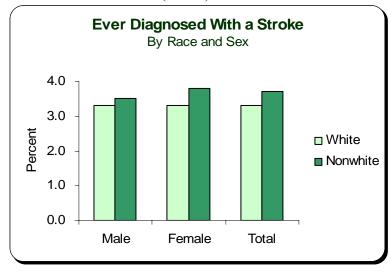


Figure 26

percent of all the deaths reported that year and a little less than thirty-seven percent of the total from the ten leading causes of death.

The 2007 BRFSS survey revealed that 14.1 percent of the population 65 years of age or older reported that they have been diagnosed as having had a heart attack: 14.7 for white respondents and 12.4

for nonwhites. The second highest age group that reported being diagnosed with a heart attack was the 55 to 64 category. Whites reported a rate of 9.9 percent while nonwhites reported a rate of 7.6 for a total rate of 9.2 percent (Table 26).

Table 27 shows the rate for those who had been diagnosed with a stroke age 65 and greater was 9.7 for whites and 11.1 for nonwhites creating a total rate of 10.1 percent. In the 55 to 64 group the rates were 5.7 and 7.3 for whites and nonwhites respectively.

Those in the older age groups also reported a higher rate of coronary heart disease. Those age 65 and older reported a rate of 11.7 percent with white respondents having a rate of 13.2 percent compared to 7.7 for nonwhites. The 55 to 64 age category had an overall rate of 7.5 percent: 8.3 for whites and 5.5 for nonwhites (Table 28).

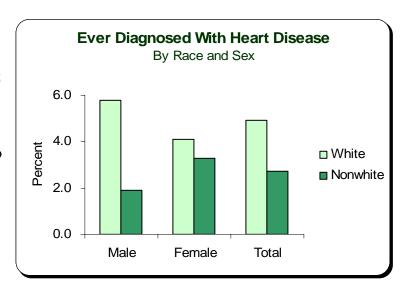


Figure 27

Table 26: Ever Diagnosed With Heart Attack

	Wh	ite	Nonv	vhite	Total		
Groups	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	
Sex							
Male	191	7.1	45	3.7	237	5.8	
Female	177	3.6	96	3.3	274	3.5	
Age Group							
18-24	1	1.0	0	0.0	1	0.5	
25-34	2	0.4	0	0.0	2	0.2	
35-44	9	1.5	5	1.6	14	1.5	
45-54	25	2.4	24	4.0	49	3.0	
55-64	95	9.9	38	7.6	133	9.2	
65+	235	14.7	73	12.4	310	14.1	
Education							
< High School Graduate	96	10.6	67	7.1	164	8.8	
High School Graduate or GED	120	5.5	41	2.5	162	4.2	
Some College or Technical School	72	4.3	23	3.4	95	4.0	
College Graduate	77	3.5	10	0.8	87	2.8	
Income							
< \$15,000	86	12.9	65	6.0	151	8.5	
\$15-\$24,999	78	7.6	21	2.8	99	5.1	
\$25-\$34,999	50	7.6	12	2.3	62	5.2	
\$35-\$49,999	39	4.6	6	1.2	45	3.6	
\$50-\$74,999	33	3.2	2	0.2	35	2.6	
\$75,000+	29	2.0	4	3.0	33	2.2	
Employment Status							
Employed	68	2.2	15	0.6	83	1.6	
Not Employed	5	2.5	5	3.3	10	3.0	
Student/Homemaker	26	2.5	5	1.2	31	2.1	
Retired/Unable to Work	268	14.0	116	10.3	386	12.7	
Total	368	5.3	141	3.4	511	4.6	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Weighted

Table 27: Ever Diagnosed With a Stroke

	Wh	ite	Nonv	vhite	Total		
Groups	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	
Sex							
Male	89	3.3	39	3.5	128	3.4	
Female	165	3.3	111	3.8	276	3.5	
Age Group							
18-24	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	
25-34	0	0.0	7	1.1	7	0.5	
35-44	6	0.6	8	2.1	14	1.2	
45-54	22	2.5	29	4.7	51	3.3	
55-64	61	5.7	40	7.3	101	6.2	
65+	165	9.7	66	11.1	231	10.1	
Education							
< High School Graduate	69	6.9	74	8.2	143	7.5	
High School Graduate or GED	92	3.9	31	1.8	123	3.0	
Some College or Technical School	60	2.9	30	3.3	90	3.0	
College Graduate	33	1.6	15	2.2	48	1.8	
Income							
< \$15,000	63	9.5	79	9.4	142	9.4	
\$15-\$24,999	52	4.8	27	3.2	79	4.0	
\$25-\$34,999	31	3.7	8	1.6	39	2.8	
\$35-\$49,999	27	2.6	5	0.9	32	2.1	
\$50-\$74,999	17	1.9	2	0.4	19	1.6	
\$75,000+	19	1.0	2	0.4	21	1.0	
<b>Employment Status</b>							
Employed	24	0.6	19	0.7	43	0.6	
Not Employed	4	1.8	5	2.1	9	2.0	
Student/Homemaker	20	2.1	7	1.9	27	2.0	
Retired/Unable to Work	205	10.5	118	11.2	323	10.7	
Total	254	3.3	150	3.7	404	3.4	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Weighted

Table 28: Ever Diagnosed With Heart Coronary Heart Disease

	Wh	ite	Nonwhite		Total	
Groups	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>
Sex						
Male	161	5.8	22	1.9	184	4.4
Female	187	4.1	99	3.3	288	3.8
Age Group						
18-24	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
25-34	3	0.6	5	0.8	8	0.7
35-44	11	1.5	10	1.7	21	1.6
45-54	37	3.9	26	3.4	63	3.7
55-64	82	8.3	30	5.5	112	7.5
65+	214	13.2	50	7.7	266	11.7
Education						
< High School Graduate	83	7.7	41	4.5	125	6.1
High School Graduate or GED	104	4.8	38	2.1	143	3.7
Some College or Technical School	80	4.3	26	2.3	106	3.6
College Graduate	80	4.3	16	1.8	97	3.7
Income						
< \$15,000	71	10.4	56	5.4	127	7.2
\$15-\$24,999	69	7.1	24	2.2	93	4.6
\$25-\$34,999	52	7.3	9	1.5	62	4.7
\$35-\$49,999	42	4.6	6	1.3	48	3.7
\$50-\$74,999	41	3.9	3	0.8	44	3.2
\$75,000+	26	1.9	4	1.1	30	1.8
Employment Status						
Employed	68	2.0	15	0.6	83	1.5
Not Employed	6	3.6	4	0.9	10	1.9
Student/Homemaker	23	2.4	9	1.9	32	2.2
Retired/Unable to Work	1	22.0	0	0.0	2	16.4
Total	348	4.9	121	2.7	472	4.1

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Weighted

### **Disability**

## **Survey Question:**

Are you limited in any way in any activities because of physical, mental, or emotional problems?

Traditionally, the health status of persons with disabilities has been associated with medical care, rehabilitation services and long-term care financing according to Healthy People 2010. A number of health care professionals believe that these are misconceptions resulting in a lack of emphasis on health promotion that target people with disabilities and has led to an increase in secondary conditions such as social, emotional, family and community problems.

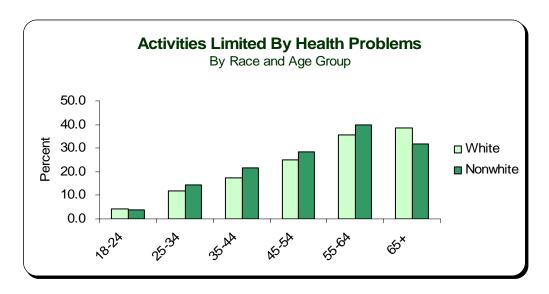


Figure 28

According to the Centers for Disease control and Prevention (CDC), people who have activity limitations report having had more days of pain, depression, anxiety, and sleeplessness and fewer days of vitality during the previous month than people not reporting activity limitations. In view of the increased rates of disability, it is important to target activities and services that address all aspects of health and well-being, as well as providing access to medical care. For an older person with a disability, it is important to target conditions that may threaten their well-being.

There are few data systems that identify those with disabilities as a sub-population. Despite the paucity of data, some disparities between people with and without disabilities have been noted. These disparities include excess weight, reduced physical activity, increased stress, and less frequent mammograms for women over age 55 years with disabilities.

In the 2007 BRFSS survey, 22.5 percent of Mississippians reported that their activities were limited because of health problems compared to 23.6 percent in 2006. White respondents reported a rate of 23.2 percent, down from 23.0 in 2006 while nonwhites reported a rate of 21.3 percent, an increase from 19.5 in 2006. Figure 27 reflects the fact that these limitations increase with age for both races. People over the age of 65 report a rate of 36.6 percent (38.4 for whites and 31.8 for nonwhites) but the 18-24 age group had a rate of only 3.9 percent (4.2 for white and 3.7 for nonwhites).

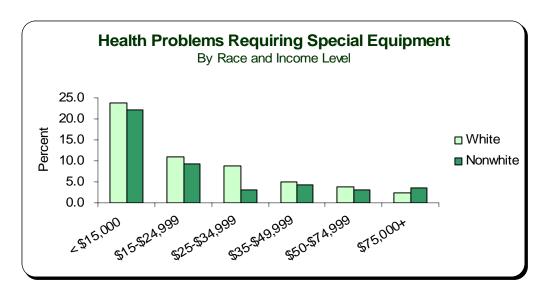


Figure 29

Only 8.4 percent of the population has health problems that require special equipment such as a wheelchair, special bed, cane or special telephone. Figure 29 shows that those with lower incomes tend to require special equipment for health problems.

Table 29: Activities Limited Because of Physical, Mental or Emotional Problems

	Wh	ite	Nonwhite		Total	
Groups	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>
Sex						
Male	461	20.1	198	20.6	662	20.3
Female	1,038	26.0	511	21.9	1,551	24.5
Age Group						
18-24	8	4.2	9	3.7	17	3.9
25-34	59	11.9	52	14.6	111	13.0
35-44	119	17.3	76	21.4	195	18.8
45-54	248	25.2	179	28.4	427	26.3
55-64	381	35.5	187	39.8	569	36.8
65+	678	38.4	205	31.8	887	36.6
Education						
< High School Graduate	286	33.0	251	28.9	539	30.9
High School Graduate or GED	517	26.4	236	20.5	753	23.9
Some College or Technical School	404	23.9	143	19.9	548	22.5
College Graduate	289	15.2	77	14.2	368	15.0
Income						
< \$15,000	307	48.8	318	40.0	626	43.2
\$15-\$24,999	300	33.1	153	22.7	453	27.8
\$25-\$34,999	189	27.0	51	11.3	240	19.9
\$35-\$49,999	174	21.4	38	14.2	213	19.4
\$50-\$74,999	161	18.2	23	11.6	184	16.8
\$75,000+	147	11.7	14	5.6	162	10.9
Employment Status						
Employed	328	11.3	121	9.2	451	10.5
Not Employed	46	30.7	44	18.9	90	23.2
Student/Homemaker	163	20.1	40	12.6	203	17.9
Retired/Unable to Work	961	51.3	502	51.2	1,466	51.2
Total	1,499	23.2	709	21.3	2,213	22.5

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Weighted

Table 30: Health Problems That Require Special Equipment

Groups	Wh	nite	Nonwhite		Total	
	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>
Sex						
Male	154	6.3	109	10.1	263	7.6
Female	402	8.1	284	10.7	688	9.1
Age Group						
18-24	3	2.5	3	1.2	6	1.9
25-34	5	0.8	13	3.2	18	1.9
35-44	20	2.9	27	8.4	47	5.0
45-54	60	5.7	61	10.0	121	7.2
55-64	123	11.6	94	18.9	217	13.7
65+	341	17.7	193	31.6	536	21.5
Education						
< High School Graduate	139	13.3	202	20.4	342	16.9
High School Graduate or GED	188	8.3	98	7.2	286	7.8
Some College or Technical School	141	6.8	65	9.4	207	7.7
College Graduate	86	4.0	27	5.1	113	4.3
Income						
< \$15,000	156	23.8	202	22.1	359	22.8
\$15-\$24,999	121	10.9	68	9.4	189	10.1
\$25-\$34,999	67	8.8	17	3.2	84	6.3
\$35-\$49,999	38	4.9	12	4.4	50	4.7
\$50-\$74,999	34	3.8	7	3.1	41	3.6
\$75,000+	32	2.5	5	3.6	37	2.6
Employment Status						
Employed	49	2.0	27	1.9	76	2.0
Not Employed	11	7.4	14	6.5	25	6.8
Student/Homemaker	50	4.6	22	6.0	72	5.0
Retired/Unable to Work	446	20.7	329	31.7	777	24.7
Total	556	7.3	393	10.4	951	8.4

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Weighted

# **Alcohol Consumption**

### **Survey Question:**

Considering all types of alcoholic beverages, how many times during the past 30 days did you have 5 or more drinks on an occasion?

Excessive drinking has consequences for virtually every part of the human body. The wide range of alcohol-induced disorders is due, among other factors, to differences in the amount, duration, and patterns of alcohol consumption, as well as differences in genetic vulnerability to particular alcohol-related consequences.

Alcohol use has been linked with a substantial proportion of injuries and deaths from motor vehicle crashes, falls, fires and drowning. It also is a factor in homicide, suicide, marital violence and child abuse and has been associated with high risk sexual behavior. Persons who drink even relatively small amounts of alcoholic beverages may contribute to alcohol-related death and injury in occupational incidents especially if they drink before operating a vehicle. In 2006 alcohol use was associated with almost 38 percent of all motor vehicle crash fatalities, according to the Mississippi Office of Highway Safety.

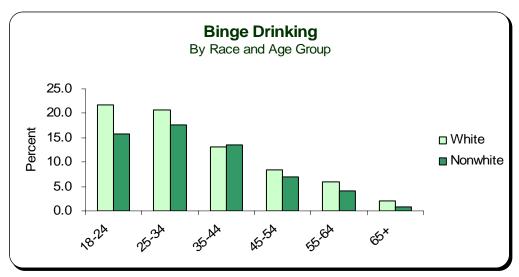


Figure 30

Historically the BRFSS Survey has revealed that the group with the highest rate of binge drinking has been white males in the 18-24 age category. In the 2007 survey the rate for this group was 21.8 percent (Figure 30). Since 1999 when the rate of binge drinking for this group was reported to be 33.5 percent, the survey has shown an overall decline within this age segment. The question was not on the 2000 or 2001 survey but in 2002 the rate was 24.0 percent, in 2003 it was 26.7, in 2004 it was 24.5 in 2005 it was 21.2 and in 2006 it was 19.5 percent Males were 2.4 times more likely to indulge in binge drinking than females. Only 5.9 percent of female respondents said they had five

or more drinks on one occasion during the last thirty days compared to 17.0 percent for males.

Table 31: At Risk From Binge Drinking

	Wh	nite	Nonwhite		Total	
Groups	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>
Sex						
Male	224	16.0	100	18.6	325	17.0
Female	166	6.9	68	4.3	234	5.9
Age Group						
18-24	26	21.8	16	15.8	42	19.0
25-34	92	20.7	45	17.7	138	19.4
35-44	87	13.1	46	13.5	133	13.3
45-54	88	8.4	40	6.9	128	7.9
55-64	61	6.0	16	4.0	77	5.4
65+	36	2.1	5	0.8	41	1.7
Education						
< High School Graduate	40	12.4	32	9.4	72	10.9
High School Graduate or GED	91	9.4	75	14.9	167	11.8
Some College or Technical School	115	12.9	46	10.9	161	12.2
College Graduate	144	11.1	15	3.9	159	9.4
Income						
< \$15,000	20	6.3	45	9.0	65	8.0
\$15-\$24,999	48	10.1	53	11.6	101	10.8
\$25-\$34,999	38	11.5	26	17.8	65	14.5
\$35-\$49,999	62	10.6	18	11.5	80	10.8
\$50-\$74,999	64	9.6	5	7.0	69	9.1
\$75,000+	138	16.4	9	5.6	147	15.0
Employment Status						
Employed	293	15.3	115	14.0	408	14.8
Not Employed	16	17.8	22	15.5	39	16.7
Student/Homemaker	24	7.1	11	10.8	35	8.2
Retired/Unable to Work	57	3.2	20	2.8	77	3.0
Total	390	11.2	168	10.9	559	11.1

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Weighted

Table 32: At Risk From Heavy Drinking

	Wh	nite	Nonwhite		Total	
Groups	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>
Sex						
Male	77	5.2	37	5.6	115	5.4
Female	74	2.3	24	1.0	98	1.8
Age Group						
18-24	8	6.4	0	0.0	8	3.4
25-34	20	4.5	13	5.5	34	5.0
35-44	30	4.6	20	5.3	50	4.9
45-54	36	3.6	19	4.0	55	3.7
55-64	22	2.0	7	1.8	29	1.9
65+	35	2.0	2	0.3	37	1.5
Education						
< High School Graduate	19	3.8	18	2.2	37	3.0
High School Graduate or GED	40	4.2	24	4.3	65	4.3
Some College or Technical School	38	3.7	13	3.3	51	3.6
College Graduate	54	3.1	6	1.3	60	2.7
Income						
< \$15,000	12	2.4	20	3.4	32	3.0
\$15-\$24,999	15	2.5	20	4.5	35	3.5
\$25-\$34,999	15	3.0	5	2.9	21	3.1
\$35-\$49,999	29	5.4	6	4.5	35	5.1
\$50-\$74,999	23	2.8	1	0.5	24	2.3
\$75,000+	50	5.3	3	1.6	53	4.8
Employment Status						
Employed	89	4.5	39	3.8	128	4.3
Not Employed	8	4.8	12	8.1	21	7.2
Student/Homemaker	16	3.3	1	0.4	17	2.5
Retired/Unable to Work	38	1.8	9	0.7	47	1.4
Total	151	3.7	61	3.1	213	3.5

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Weighted

## Fruits and Vegetables

### **Survey Question:**

There is no single question that elicits this information from a respondent. Rather the data is determined from a set of six questions that relate to the eating patterns of the respondent.

Nutrition plays a vital role in achieving and maintaining optimum health. Dietary factors have a significant impact in decreasing the risk of heart disease, stroke, diabetes mellitus, obesity and atherosclerosis. Some scientific studies have shown that greater fruit and vegetable consumption reduces the risk of cancer of the colon, breast, lung, oral cavity, larvnx, esophagus, stomach, bladder, uterine cervix and pancreas.

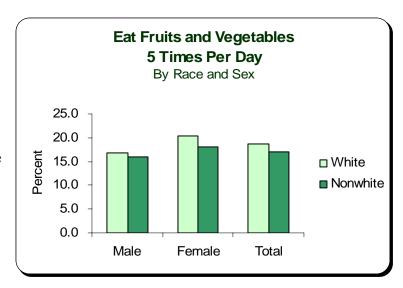


Figure 31

Fruits and vegetables are high in complex carbohydrates, fiber, minerals and vitamins and as a general rule are low in fat and calories. It is recommended that every

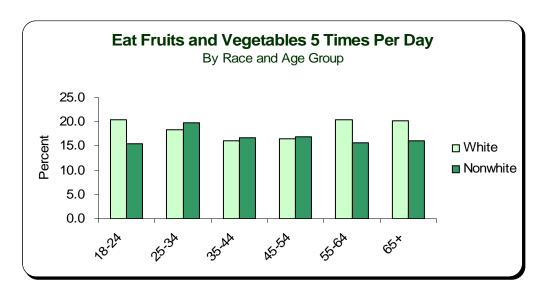


Figure 32

person eat a variety of and a minimum of five servings of fruits and vegetables each day.

The 2007 BRFSS Survey indicated that only 18.1 percent of the people in Mississippi consumed fruits and vegetables as much as five times per day (Table 33). The rate in 2005 was 18.4 percent which represented an increase from 17.9 percent reported in 2004 but a decrease from 19.2 percent reported in the year 2002. As noted in Figure 30, white females reported the highest rate of fruit and vegetables consumption at 20.3 percent. Next were nonwhite females at 18.0 percent followed by white males at 16.8 percent. Nonwhite males were the lowest at 15.9 percent.

Table 33: Eats Five or More Servings of Fruits or Vegetables Per Day

	White		Nonwhite		Total	
Groups	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>
Sex						
Male	291	16.8	111	15.9	405	16.6
Female	650	20.3	343	18.0	997	19.5
Age Group						
18-24	26	20.5	18	15.5	44	18.2
25-34	84	18.3	70	19.8	155	19.2
35-44	119	16.1	88	16.8	207	16.3
45-54	149	16.6	97	16.9	246	16.7
55-64	217	20.4	85	15.6	302	18.9
65+	340	20.3	94	16.1	436	19.2
Education						
< High School Graduate	86	17.4	91	14.1	177	15.7
High School Graduate or GED	225	14.5	131	14.0	356	14.3
Some College or Technical School	257	17.7	114	20.4	374	18.8
College Graduate	373	24.2	118	23.2	495	24.0
Income						
< \$15,000	74	13.8	106	11.8	180	12.5
\$15-\$24,999	123	18.5	105	14.9	228	16.7
\$25-\$34,999	104	17.2	51	20.7	155	18.8
\$35-\$49,999	108	14.5	53	19.5	162	16.3
\$50-\$74,999	168	20.3	39	18.8	209	20.0
\$75,000+	245	22.2	39	27.2	285	22.8
Employment Status						
Employed	431	18.2	244	17.6	680	18.1
Not Employed	19	14.9	28	12.8	48	13.6
Student/Homemaker	124	21.7	20	23.0	145	22.2
Retired/Unable to Work	367	18.7	160	15.2	527	17.4
Total	941	18.6	454	17.0	1,402	18.1

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Weighted

#### **HIV/AIDS**

#### **Survey Question:**

- 1. Have you ever been tested for HIV?
- 2. Are any of these statements is true? You are a man who has had sex with other men, even just one time. You have taken street drugs by needle, even just one time. You traded sex for money or drugs, even just one time.

Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) received designation as a legally reportable disease in July 1983. By 1990, AIDS had become the tenth leading cause of death in the United States. Individuals engaging in certain risky behaviors have greater risk of contracting AIDS. These behaviors include sharing needles or syringes, having unprotected sex (anal, oral or vaginal), having multiple sex partners, having a history of sexually transmitted diseases, abusing intravenous drugs and having sex with a person

engaged in one of these risky behaviors. AIDS is a life threatening condition representing the later stages of infection with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). Infection with HIV results in slow, progressive damage to the immune system and certain other organ systems. As the immune system weakens, certain opportunistic infections and cancers develop that are not normally seen in healthy individuals resulting in severe and frequently fatal illnesses.

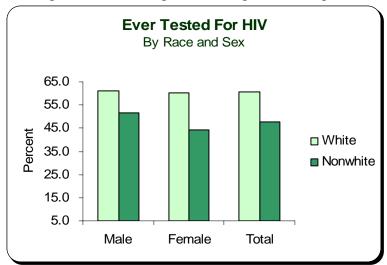


Figure 33

In 2006, the estimated number of new diagnoses of AIDS in the United States and dependent areas was 37,852. Of these, 36,828 were in the 50 states and District of Columbia and 833 were in the dependent areas. In the 50 states and District of Columbia, adult and adolescent AIDS cases totaled 36,790 with 26,989 cases in males and 9,801 cases in females, and 38 cases estimated in children under age 13.

The cumulative estimated number of diagnoses of AIDS through 2006 in the United States and dependent areas was 1,014,797. Of these, 982,498 were in the 50 states and District of Columbia and 31,217 were in the dependent areas. In the 50 states and

District of Columbia, adult and adolescent AIDS cases totaled 973,354 with 783,786 cases in males and 189,566 cases in females, and 9,144 cases estimated in children under age 13.

In 2007, Mississippi reported 611 new cases of HIV Disease (includes AIDS) and there were 8,806 people with HIV Disease living in the state. In 2006, 599 new cases were diagnosed and making a total of 8,540 people with the disease living in Mississippi as of December 31, 2006.

Questions about HIV and AIDS were only asked of persons between the ages of 18 and 64. One of the questions was whether the respondent had ever been tested for the

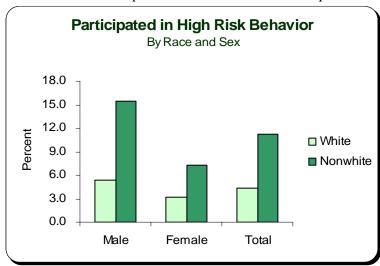


Figure 34

AIDS virus. In 2007, 55.5 percent of the respondents reported that they had ever been tested. White respondents were more likely to have ever been tested than nonwhites: 60.5 percent to 47.8 percent. The rate for white respondents who have ever been tested was 60.9 percent for males and 60.1 percent for females. For nonwhites, the rates were 51.5 percent for males and 44.2 for females. (Figure 33 and Table 34).

On the question of whether the respondents had participated in high risk behavior, nonwhites with a rate of 11.2 percent were more than two and one-half times mores likely to have participated as whites who had a rate of 4.3 percent. In the gender category, nonwhite males who reported a rate of 15.5 percent were considerably higher than any of the other gender groups for engaging in high risk behavior. The next highest group was nonwhite females with a rate of 7.3 percent followed by white males at 5.4 percent. White females reported the lowest rate of risky behavior with a rate of 3.2 percent (Figure 34 and Table 35).

Table 34: Ever Tested for HIV (Age 18-64)

	White		Nonwhite		Total	
Groups	Number <sup>1</sup>					
Sex						
Male	803	60.9	309	51.5	1,113	57.2
Female	1,308	60.1	703	44.2	2,012	53.9
Age Group						
18-24	81	62.9	59	50.3	140	57.1
25-34	199	44.8	110	36.7	309	41.1
35-44	361	51.0	180	38.0	541	46.0
45-54	662	70.0	332	57.8	994	65.7
55-64	808	74.1	331	65.1	1,141	71.5
Education						
< High School Graduate	195	54.0	217	50.7	412	52.3
High School Graduate or GED	657	65.3	394	50.7	1,051	58.4
Some College or Technical School	558	58.8	215	45.3	774	54.0
College Graduate	699	60.0	186	41.2	886	55.3
Income						
< \$15,000	126	56.2	236	46.4	362	49.4
\$15-\$24,999	227	53.1	261	43.6	489	47.9
\$25-\$34,999	226	61.9	126	42.9	352	51.9
\$35-\$49,999	335	60.0	116	48.8	452	56.4
\$50-\$74,999	413	60.7	70	41.4	483	56.5
\$75,000+	588	62.7	74	52.1	662	61.2
Employment Status						
Employed	1,417	60.7	589	45.5	2,007	55.2
Not Employed	66	52.6	86	46.3	152	48.5
Student/Homemaker	236	59.3	59	51.5	295	56.8
Retired/Unable to Work	389	62.8	277	54.9	667	59.3
Total	2,111	60.5	1,012	47.8	3,125	55.5

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Unweighted <sup>2</sup>Weighted

Table 35: Participated In High Risk Behavior in Past 12 Months (Age 18-64)

Groups	White		Nonwhite		Total	
	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>
Sex						
Male	58	5.4	78	15.5	138	9.3
Female	45	3.2	74	7.3	119	4.8
Age Group						
18-24	15	11.3	23	19.3	38	15.0
25-34	20	4.6	44	14.7	66	9.1
35-44	29	3.4	32	7.6	61	5.0
45-54	30	3.2	40	7.7	70	4.8
55-64	9	0.6	13	3.4	22	1.4
Education						
< High School Graduate	12	5.6	39	19.9	51	12.8
High School Graduate or GED	34	7.2	51	11.0	87	9.1
Some College or Technical School	30	3.5	37	8.8	67	5.3
College Graduate	27	1.9	25	5.8	52	2.9
Income						
< \$15,000	18	9.7	45	12.9	63	11.9
\$15-\$24,999	16	5.9	34	9.1	50	7.7
\$25-\$34,999	18	9.0	19	13.8	38	11.7
\$35-\$49,999	14	5.1	23	14.6	37	7.9
\$50-\$74,999	16	3.0	7	3.2	24	3.2
\$75,000+	13	1.6	8	5.0	21	2.0
Employment Status						
Employed	64	4.1	84	10.8	149	6.5
Not Employed	7	7.3	28	22.0	36	16.8
Student/Homemaker	12	5.7	9	7.7	21	6.3
Retired/Unable to Work	20	3.3	31	8.5	51	5.7
Total	103	4.3	152	11.2	257	7.0

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Weighted

# **Emotional Support and Life Satisfaction**

### **Survey Question:**

- 1. How often do you get the social and emotional support you need?
- 2. In general, how satisfied are you with your life?

In 2003, the President's New Freedom Commission on Mental Health report established six goals to transform the mental health system in the United States to address unmet needs and barriers to care. The first goal emphasized the need to understand that mental health is essential to overall health, and that mental health issues should be addressed with the same urgency as physical health. The Commission also cited

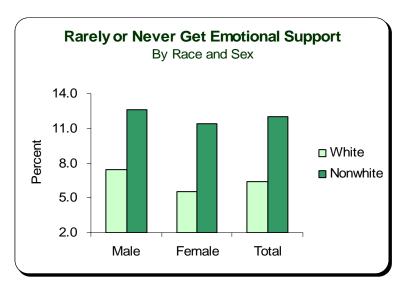


Figure 35

reports indicating that mental illnesses accounted for 24 percent of the causes of disability in the United States, Canada and Western Europe and that in the year 2000, suicide ranked 11th in cause of death among Americans.

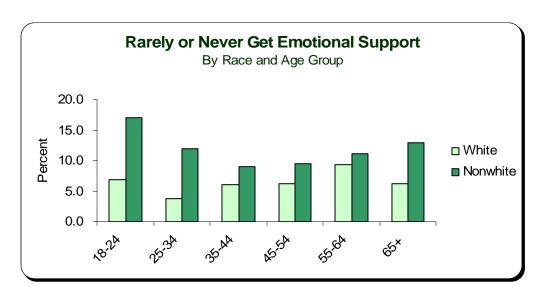


Figure 36

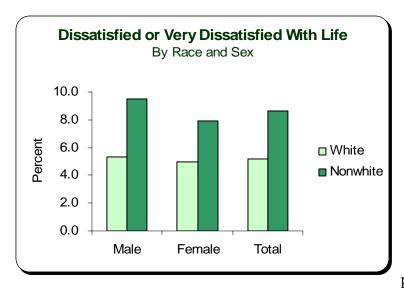


Figure 37
psychological distress in the prior year.

The 2006 National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH), which includes state-specific estimates of substance use and mental health problems based on 2005 and 2006 surveys indicated that an estimated 12.1 percent of Mississippians, aged 18 and older experienced serious psychological distress in the past year. Within the 18 to 25 year age group, 20.7 percent of Mississippians were estimated to have experienced serious

The 2007 BRFSS survey showed that 8.4 percent of the respondents said that they rarely or never get the emotional support they need (Table 36). The rate in 2006 was 7.6 percent and in 2005 it was 8.0 percent. Nonwhites were almost twice as likely to report no emotional support with a rate of 12.0 percent compared to a rate of 6.4 percent for whites. The difference was more pronounced in the 18-24 age group where 17.1 percent of nonwhite respondents reported no emotional support compare to only 6.9 percent for whites. The segment that reported the highest rate was those whose annual income was below \$15,000 per year who had a rate of 16.4 percent.

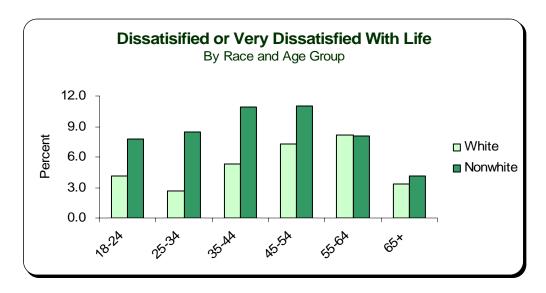


Figure 38

There were 6.4 percent in the 2006 survey who said that they were either dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with life. Nonwhites at a rate of 8.6 percent were decidedly more

likely to have reported dissatisfaction than white respondents who had a rate of 5.2 percent (Figure 37).

The category of people who reported the highest rate of not being satisfied with life were unemployed nonwhites who had a rate of 19.8 percent compared to a rate of 15.2 percent for unemployed white respondents (Table 37). The second highest group who said they were dissatisfied with life was those whose annual incomes were less that \$15,000 per year. Nonwhites reported a rate of 16.9 percent compared to 13.7 percent for whites with a total rate of 15.7 percent (Table 37).

Table 36: Rarely or Never Get the Emotional Support Needed

	White		Nonwhite		Total	
Groups	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>
Sex						
Male	161	7.4	84	12.6	246	9.2
Female	194	5.5	220	11.4	415	7.7
Age Group						
18-24	9	6.9	21	17.1	30	11.6
25-34	21	3.7	39	11.9	61	7.3
35-44	45	6.1	47	9.0	92	7.1
45-54	71	6.3	62	9.5	133	7.4
55-64	97	9.3	56	11.2	153	9.8
65+	110	6.2	75	13.0	185	8.0
Education						
< High School Graduate	87	11.9	118	18.3	205	15.1
High School Graduate or GED	137	7.8	100	12.3	238	9.7
Some College or Technical School	87	5.9	61	10.5	149	7.4
College Graduate	44	3.2	25	4.9	69	3.6
Income						
< \$15,000	71	14.6	127	17.4	198	16.4
\$15-\$24,999	87	11.2	79	13.7	167	12.5
\$25-\$34,999	44	7.6	32	9.6	76	8.5
\$35-\$49,999	47	6.4	12	3.7	59	5.7
\$50-\$74,999	26	3.2	11	10.0	38	4.6
\$75,000+	33	3.4	3	1.5	36	3.1
Employment Status						
Employed	131	5.1	124	10.0	257	6.8
Not Employed	18	10.6	30	18.6	48	15.5
Student/Homemaker	23	3.7	16	10.1	39	5.5
Retired/Unable to Work	182	10.0	134	14.6	316	11.7
Total	355	6.4	304	12.0	661	8.4

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Weighted

Table 37: Dissatisfied or Very Dissatisfied With Life

	White		Nonwhite		Total	
Groups	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Percent <sup>2</sup>
Sex						
Male	111	5.3	56	9.5	167	6.8
Female	179	5.0	137	7.9	316	6.1
Age Group						
18-24	5	4.1	10	7.8	15	5.8
25-34	15	2.7	29	8.5	44	5.1
35-44	42	5.3	37	10.9	79	7.4
45-54	78	7.3	58	11.0	136	8.6
55-64	89	8.2	36	8.1	125	8.2
65+	60	3.3	23	4.1	83	3.5
Education						
< High School Graduate	63	7.4	68	11.3	131	9.4
High School Graduate or GED	101	5.9	61	7.7	162	6.7
Some College or Technical School	85	6.2	48	10.6	133	7.6
College Graduate	40	2.5	16	4.3	56	2.9
Income						
< \$15,000	77	13.7	97	16.9	174	15.7
\$15-\$24,999	64	9.2	50	11.6	114	10.4
\$25-\$34,999	40	7.5	17	4.7	57	6.2
\$35-\$49,999	35	4.4	6	2.4	41	3.8
\$50-\$74,999	26	3.3	0	0.0	26	2.7
\$75,000+	19	1.8	3	1.7	22	1.8
Employment Status						
Employed	93	3.4	60	5.4	153	4.1
Not Employed	19	15.2	24	19.8	43	18.0
Student/Homemaker	20	3.6	15	9.8	35	5.4
Retired/Unable to Work	158	8.6	94	11.2	252	9.6
Total	290	5.2	193	8.6	483	6.4

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Weighted