

**2006**  
**Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System Report**  
**Annual Prevalence Report**

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## *Introduction*

There is a basic consensus among health care professionals that certain conditions along with behavior patterns are associated 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 and other health risk factors in all states 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. 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, lifestyle, and preventive health. Individual states are allowed to include questions addressing specific issues that are of particular interest 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 6,039 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.

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 2005 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 percentage of high-risk behavior, conditions and certain chronic diseases within each demographic group for each of the risk factors. The demographic information for persons reporting high-risk behavior, conditions or chronic disease is also presented. The demographic information collected and presented in this survey covers sex, age, race, education, 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**

Sample sizes vary by question and response category due to 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 of respondents 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 between 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.

*Drinking and Driving* - Respondents who report that have driven a vehicle after they have had too much to drink

### **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.

### **Breast Cancer Screening**

*Mammogram and Clinical Breast Examination (CBE)* - Female respondents, age 40 and older, who report that they have ever had a mammogram and a CBE.

*Mammogram and CBE within 2 years* - Female respondents, age 40 and older, who report that they have had a mammogram and a CBE within the last two years.

*Mammogram and CBE within 2 years* - Female respondents, age 50 and older, who report that they have had a mammogram and a CBE within the last two years.

### **Cervical Cancer Screening**

*Pap Smear* - Female respondents, age 18 and older, who have not had a hysterectomy and who report that they have ever had a pap smear.

*Pap Smear Within 3 Years* - Female respondents, age 18 and older, who have not had a hysterectomy and who report that they have a pap smear within the last three years.

### **Colorectal Cancer Screening**

*Colonoscopy or Sigmoidoscopy* - Respondents age 50 and older who report that they have ever had a sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy test.

*Blood Stool Test* – Respondents age 50 and older who report that they have not had a blood stool test in the past two years.

## **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.

## **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.

## **Falls**

*Falls* – Respondents, age 45 and older, who report that they have sustained one or more falls in the past three months.

*Injury From Falls* – Respondents, age 45 and older, who report that the fall limited their regular activities for at least one day or required them to see a doctor.

## **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**

*Never Tested for HIV* - Respondents age 18 to 64 who report that they have never 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.

## **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.

*Anxiety Disorder* - Respondents who report that they have ever been diagnosed with an anxiety disorder.

*Depression Disorder* - Respondents who report that they have ever been diagnosed with a depressive disorder.



## **Oral Health**

*Permanent Teeth Extracted* - Respondents who report that they have had at least one of their permanent teeth extracted excluding extraction because of injury or orthodontics.

*Dental Visits* - Respondents who report that their last visit to a dentist was more than one year ago.

*Last Dental Cleaning* - Respondents who report that it has been more than one year ago since they have had their teeth cleaned by a dentist or a dental hygienist or they have never had their teeth cleaned by a dentist or dental hygienist.

## **Prostate Cancer Screening**

Males, age 40 and older, who report that they have ever had a prostate specific antigen (PSA) test.

## **Seatbelt Use**

Respondents who report that they always or nearly always wear seat belts.

## **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  $\leq 12\%$ .

## **Weight Based on Body Mass Index (BMI)**

*Healthy Weight*: - Respondents whose body mass index (BMI) is  $18.5 \leq \text{BMI} \leq 24.9$ . This measures Healthy People 2010 Objective 19.1 - Target  $\geq 60\%$ .

*Overweight* - Respondents whose body mass index (BMI) is  $25.0 \leq \text{BMI} \leq 29.9$ .

*Obese* - Respondents whose body mass index (BMI)  $\geq 30.0$ . This measures Healthy People 2010 Objective 19.2 - Target  $\leq 15\%$

## *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 they may indicate dysfunction and disability not measured in standard morbidity mortality data.

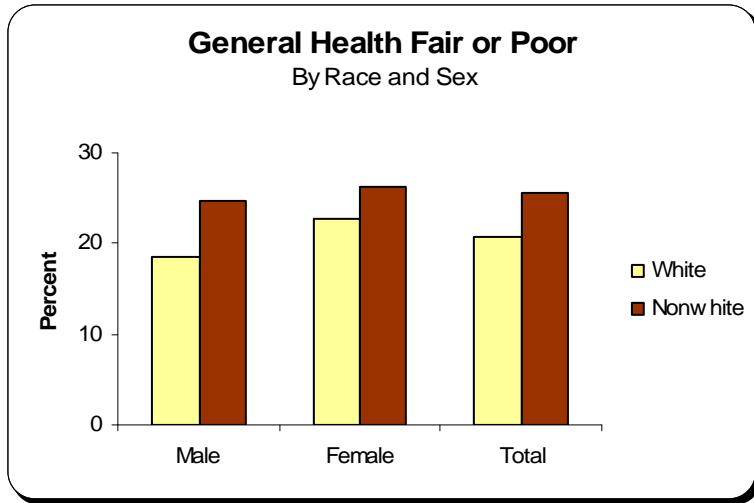


Figure 1

Females of races reported their health as worse than males (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 20.7 percent for whites.

Not surprisingly, reported fair or poor health tended to increase with age. Persons in the 18 to 24 age group reported a rate of 11.3 percent while those more than 65 years of age reported a rate of 42.2 percent (Figure 2).

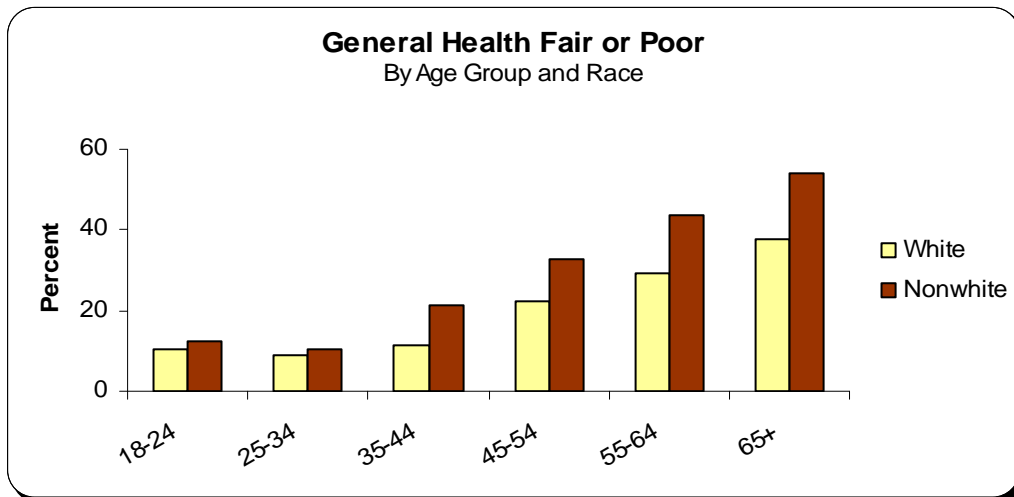


Figure 2

**Table 1 General Health Fair or Poor**

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>
<b>Sex</b>						
Male	340	18.5	169	24.7	512	20.7
Female	699	22.7	459	26.2	1,166	24.0
<b>Age Group</b>						
18-24	12	10.4	13	12.2	25	11.3
25-34	28	8.7	37	10.3	65	9.4
35-44	70	11.4	82	21.2	152	15.2
45-54	178	22.2	136	32.7	315	25.8
55-64	255	29.1	157	43.5	414	33.2
65+	494	37.7	199	54.1	699	42.2
<b>Education</b>						
< High School Graduate	286	43.9	272	42.3	564	43.2
High School Graduate or GED	414	25.1	181	22.8	596	24.2
Some College or Technical School	218	16.1	111	18.6	332	17.1
College Graduate	121	8.9	63	15.7	185	10.8
<b>Income</b>						
< \$15,000	310	54.6	271	40.0	585	46.2
\$15-\$24,999	274	37.2	158	24.9	434	31.3
\$25-\$34,999	105	19.7	38	16.8	143	18.5
\$35-\$49,999	89	13.9	38	19.4	127	15.5
\$50-\$74,999	47	7.3	11	10.8	58	8.2
\$75,000+	52	6.1	8	10.3	60	6.6
<b>Employment Status</b>						
Employed	208	9.6	161	14.7	370	11.4
Not Employed	34	33.5	43	19.6	78	25.3
Student/Homemaker	98	15.2	30	9.6	128	13.6
Retired/Unable to Work	698	46.4	391	60.0	1098	51.2
<b>Total</b>	1,039	20.7	628	25.5	1,678	22.5

<sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<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 2006, 20.8 percent of the respondents indicated they had no health care

plan compared to 18.3 percent in 2005. According to the survey, nonwhite males have the highest rate of non-coverage at 32.0 percent; nonwhite females were next at 25.6 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 45.1 percent (Figure 4).

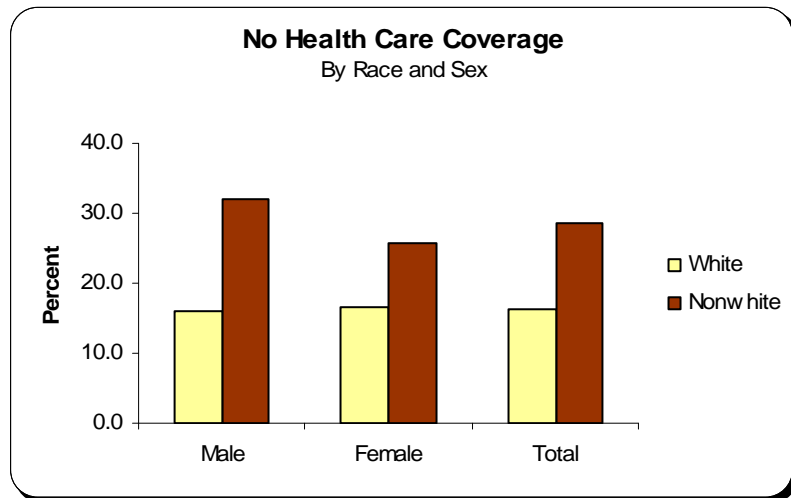


Figure 3

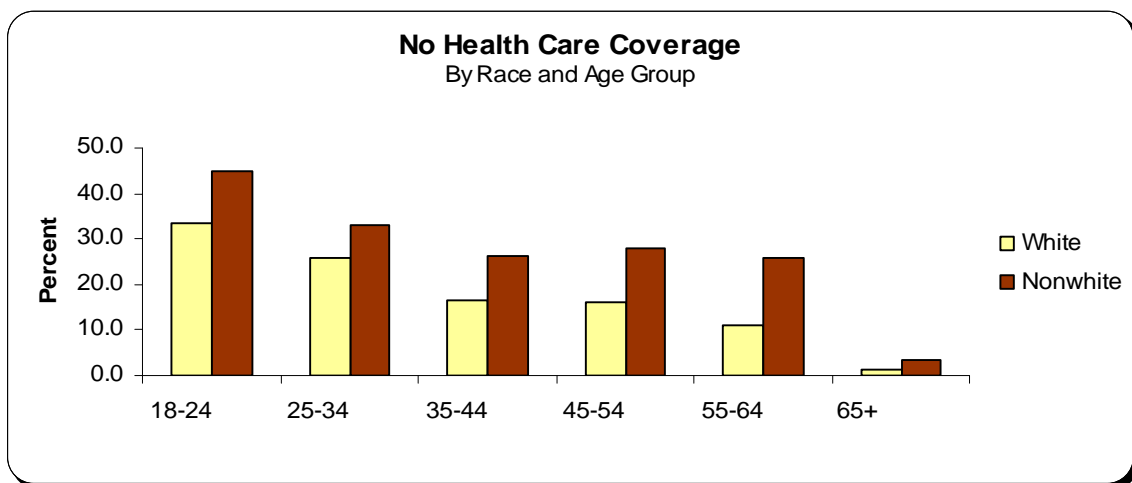


Figure 4

**Table 2 Respondents Having No Health Care Coverage**

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>
<b>Sex</b>						
Male	188	16.0	128	32.0	316	21.7
Female	288	16.7	322	25.6	613	20.0
<b>Age Group</b>						
18-24	41	33.5	54	45.1	95	39.0
25-34	95	25.8	97	32.9	192	28.7
35-44	98	16.5	94	26.2	192	20.2
45-54	124	16.1	102	27.8	229	20.3
55-64	102	11.2	86	25.8	188	15.3
65+	16	1.4	17	3.6	33	2.0
<b>Education</b>						
< High School Graduate	101	31.8	119	31.0	220	31.3
High School Graduate or GED	182	17.5	174	34.4	357	23.9
Some College or Technical School	136	17.7	115	29.6	253	21.6
College Graduate	56	5.8	41	12.8	97	7.7
<b>Income</b>						
< \$15,000	84	24.0	186	41.9	271	34.6
\$15-\$24,999	157	32.9	133	32.7	291	32.8
\$25-\$34,999	62	21.5	42	25.8	104	23.1
\$35-\$49,999	62	14.1	25	19.6	87	15.8
\$50-\$74,999	25	4.6	9	10.8	34	6.2
\$75,000+	28	5.2	7	10.2	35	5.9
<b>Employment Status</b>						
Employed	271	16.9	244	29.0	517	21.2
Not Employed	53	46.3	89	56.4	143	52.6
Student/Homemaker	76	23.3	41	32.1	117	25.9
Retired/Unable to Work	75	6.7	73	13.6	148	9.1
<b>Total</b>	476	16.3	450	28.6	929	20.8

<sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>2</sup>Weighted

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

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>
<b>Sex</b>						
Male	143	10.7	98	22.5	241	14.9
Female	406	18.8	398	28.9	807	22.6
<b>Age Group</b>						
18-24	21	17.0	38	31.8	59	24.0
25-34	76	19.6	87	24.8	164	21.8
35-44	113	18.5	112	27.5	225	22.0
45-54	141	17.7	116	29.6	258	21.8
55-64	126	13.0	91	22.8	217	15.7
65+	72	5.2	49	13.3	121	7.4
<b>Education</b>						
< High School Graduate	130	29.2	154	33.1	284	31.2
High School Graduate or GED	199	16.7	166	27.3	365	20.6
Some College or Technical School	143	14.3	124	26.2	268	18.2
College Graduate	76	6.4	49	12.1	126	8.0
<b>Income</b>						
< \$15,000	140	31.1	215	42.8	356	38.0
\$15-\$24,999	165	30.3	137	28.8	303	29.6
\$25-\$34,999	59	16.0	51	25.0	110	19.4
\$35-\$49,999	70	13.7	27	14.7	97	14.0
\$50-\$74,999	39	7.3	12	11.6	51	8.4
\$75,000+	26	4.1	2	0.8	28	3.7
<b>Employment Status</b>						
Employed	247	13.5	242	24.4	490	17.4
Not Employed	50	38.0	72	39.0	123	38.8
Student/Homemaker	66	16.3	39	23.4	105	18.4
Retired/Unable to Work	186	13.8	139	23.7	326	17.2
<b>Total</b>	549	14.9	496	25.9	1,048	18.9

<sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<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 have often used health-related quality of life to measure the effects of chronic illness in patients to better understand how an illness interferes with the day-to-day life activities of an individual.

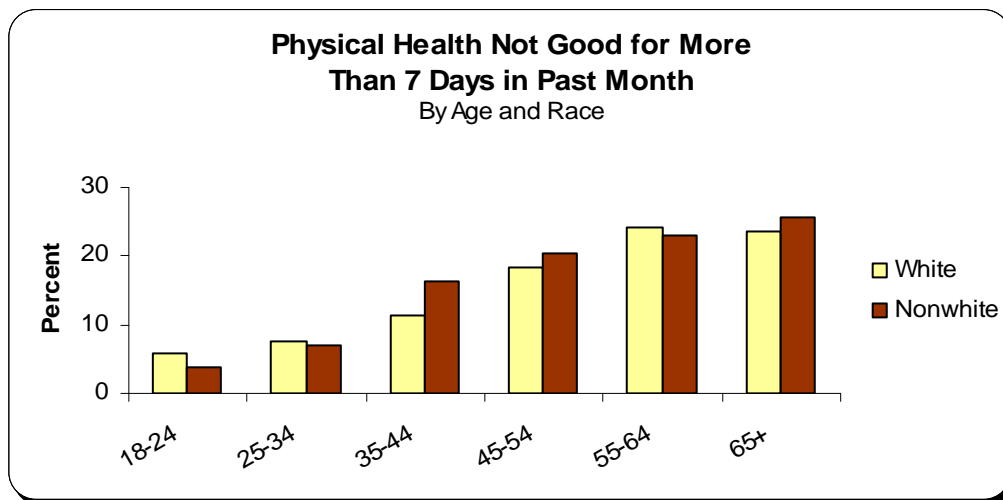


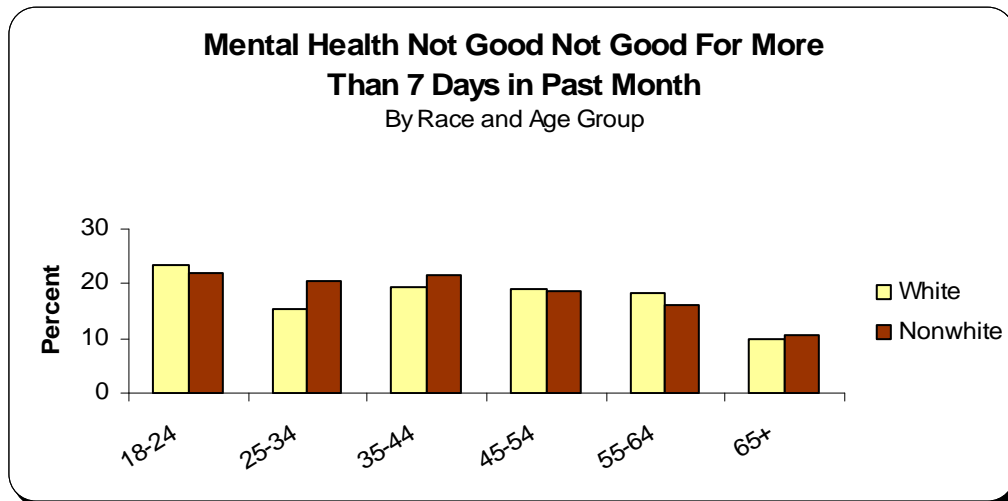
Figure 5

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.

In Mississippi, the 2006 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. Table 4 shows that people 55 years old and above 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 23.7 percent compared to 25.7 percent for nonwhites. For those in the 55 to 64 age group, whites reported a rate of 24.3 percent compared to 23.1 for nonwhites.



People in the 18 to 24 year old age group had the highest percentage of seven or more days when their mental health was not good with a rate of 22.7 percent– 23.5 for whites and 21.9 for nonwhites (Figure 6).



**Figure 6**

As can be seen in Table 5, people who have incomes below \$15,000 annually report a rate of 28.0 percent for seven or more days with poor mental health. The highest category of all for days of poor mental health are the unemployed who have a rate of 30.3 percent: 37.9 percent for whites and 25.0 percent for nonwhites.

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

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>
<b>Sex</b>						
Male	236	13.1	87	11.8	324	12.6
Female	563	18.2	284	16.7	854	17.8
<b>Age Group</b>						
18-24	9	5.9	5	3.8	14	4.9
25-34	26	7.6	25	6.9	51	7.2
35-44	78	11.4	64	16.3	142	13.3
45-54	149	18.4	87	20.3	237	19.1
55-64	219	24.3	90	23.1	313	24.2
65+	316	23.7	98	25.7	416	24.2
<b>Education</b>						
< High School Graduate	184	29.3	154	21.6	341	25.3
High School Graduate or GED	310	18.6	103	11.4	414	15.9
Some College or Technical School	196	13.7	79	14.5	278	14.1
College Graduate	109	8.1	34	9.6	144	8.5
<b>Income</b>						
< \$15,000	230	42.6	173	23.9	406	31.7
\$15-\$24,999	183	23.9	95	15.6	280	20.0
\$25-\$34,999	78	14.2	19	9.1	97	12.1
\$35-\$49,999	82	13.0	19	9.1	101	11.8
\$50-\$74,999	52	7.4	9	6.8	61	7.2
\$75,000+	50	5.0	8	7.3	58	5.3
<b>Employment Status</b>						
Employed	179	7.0	81	6.5	260	6.8
Not Employed	24	21.6	26	9.9	51	14.8
Student/Homemaker	75	12.7	22	10.9	97	12.2
Retired/Unable to Work	519	36.4	241	36.7	767	36.6
<b>Total</b>	799	15.8	371	14.4	1,178	15.3

<sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>2</sup>Weighted

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

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>
<b>Sex</b>						
Male	188	12.1	72	15.5	260	13.3
Female	491	21.9	293	21.9	788	21.9
<b>Age Group</b>						
18-24	30	23.5	28	21.9	58	22.7
25-34	62	15.3	58	20.6	120	17.4
35-44	123	19.5	88	21.5	211	20.2
45-54	157	18.9	85	18.8	243	18.9
55-64	168	18.2	64	16.1	233	17.5
65+	135	9.7	42	10.5	178	9.9
<b>Education</b>						
< High School Graduate	126	25.5	111	21.5	239	23.4
High School Graduate or GED	245	18.5	111	19.4	357	18.8
Some College or Technical School	189	17.9	89	18.5	279	18.1
College Graduate	119	10.8	54	14.9	173	11.9
<b>Income</b>						
< \$15,000	152	31.7	137	25.2	292	28.0
\$15-\$24,999	146	25.4	100	21.6	246	23.5
\$25-\$34,999	71	18.2	37	18.2	108	18.1
\$35-\$49,999	93	16.4	33	15.6	126	16.1
\$50-\$74,999	66	10.2	12	7.5	78	9.5
\$75,000+	76	10.5	11	16.6	87	11.2
<b>Employment Status</b>						
Employed	264	13.7	164	17.0	428	14.8
Not Employed	41	37.9	36	25.0	78	30.3
Student/Homemaker	60	17.2	22	14.6	82	16.4
Retired/Unable to Work	314	21.9	143	22.8	460	22.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>679</b>	<b>17.2</b>	<b>365</b>	<b>18.9</b>	<b>1,048</b>	<b>17.8</b>

<sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>2</sup>Weighted

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

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>
<b>Sex</b>						
Male	150	8.6	72	10.2	222	9.2
Female	357	12.6	182	12.1	542	12.4
<b>Age Group</b>						
18-24	8	6.2	7	4.8	15	5.5
25-34	22	6.4	28	8.2	50	7.1
35-44	62	8.8	51	12.9	113	10.4
45-54	106	13.2	68	16.5	174	14.3
55-64	137	15.5	57	16.3	195	15.7
65+	172	12.8	42	12.4	215	12.7
<b>Education</b>						
< High School Graduate	129	22.8	82	13.2	213	17.7
High School Graduate or GED	198	12.7	77	10.0	276	11.6
Some College or Technical School	111	8.1	73	14.4	184	10.1
College Graduate	69	5.3	22	6.5	91	5.6
<b>Income</b>						
< \$15,000	172	32.6	103	17.2	277	23.5
\$15-\$24,999	114	17.2	75	14.7	189	16.0
\$25-\$34,999	46	9.2	20	10.1	66	9.5
\$35-\$49,999	51	8.2	15	5.5	66	7.4
\$50-\$74,999	29	4.3	10	5.4	39	4.5
\$75,000+	29	2.7	4	2.8	33	2.7
<b>Employment Status</b>						
Employed	89	3.6	59	4.7	148	4.0
Not Employed	28	27.3	28	14.3	56	19.4
Student/Homemaker	44	7.9	11	6.2	55	7.4
Retired/Unable to Work	346	25.6	156	27.3	505	26.1
<b>Total</b>	507	10.7	254	11.2	764	10.9

<sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<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 significantly. During the same period smokeless 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 smoke.

According to the 2006 BRFSS report, the group with the highest percentage of current smokers is nonwhite males at 31.5 percent followed by white males at 25.6 percent and white females at 24.7 percent. The group with the lowest percentage of current smokers is nonwhite females at 19.0 percent (Figure 7). Overall, the rate of current smoking in Mississippi is 25.0 percent, an increase from 23.5 reported in 2005. The Healthy People 2010 objective is 12 percent.

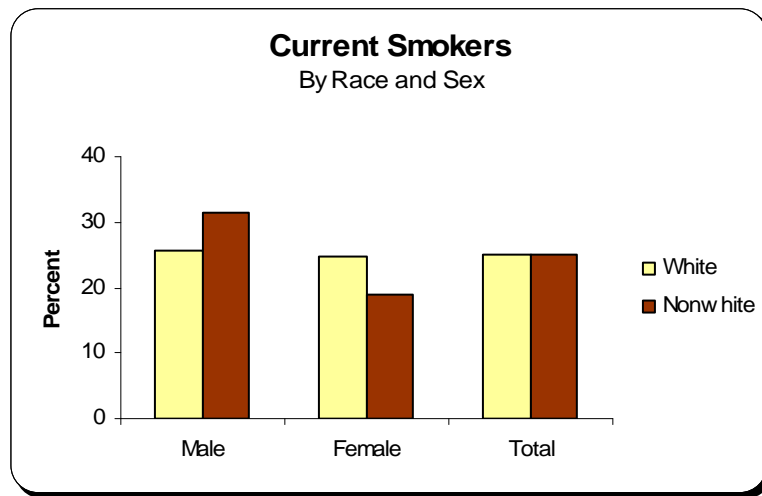


Figure 7

**Table 7 Current Smokers**

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>
<b>Sex</b>						
Male	349	25.6	156	31.5	507	27.7
Female	557	24.7	275	19.0	835	22.5
<b>Age Group</b>						
18-24	39	31.7	26	23.6	65	27.9
25-34	111	32.7	55	25.9	166	29.6
35-44	183	29.3	97	27.9	281	28.8
45-54	213	26.6	109	30.1	323	27.8
55-64	215	23.5	91	25.1	308	24.0
65+	142	10.4	49	13.3	191	11.1
<b>Education</b>						
< High School Graduate	156	37.0	145	34.0	302	35.4
High School Graduate or GED	357	31.5	149	27.4	508	29.9
Some College or Technical School	241	24.2	98	23.2	339	23.8
College Graduate	151	12.8	39	9.6	191	12.0
<b>Income</b>						
< \$15,000	156	34.3	149	32.1	306	33.0
\$15-\$24,999	185	33.4	127	30.5	312	31.9
\$25-\$34,999	117	32.2	42	25.2	159	29.3
\$35-\$49,999	132	25.2	35	18.5	167	23.1
\$50-\$74,999	114	21.8	14	10.6	128	18.9
\$75,000+	127	17.3	13	20.9	142	17.8
<b>Employment Status</b>						
Employed	487	25.9	225	24.1	715	25.2
Not Employed	53	54.9	51	44.5	104	48.5
Student/Homemaker	87	21.1	20	13.2	107	18.8
Retired/Unable to Work	278	20.7	133	21.9	413	21.0
<b>Total</b>	906	25.1	431	24.9	1,342	25.0

<sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<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 2005

with a death rate of 22.9 per 100,000 population.

According to the 2006 BRFSS survey, 10.8 percent of all respondents reported being told by a doctor that they have diabetes. This represents an increase of 11.3 percent over the rate of 9.7 percent reported in 2005 and a small decrease from 11.0 percent reported in 2004.

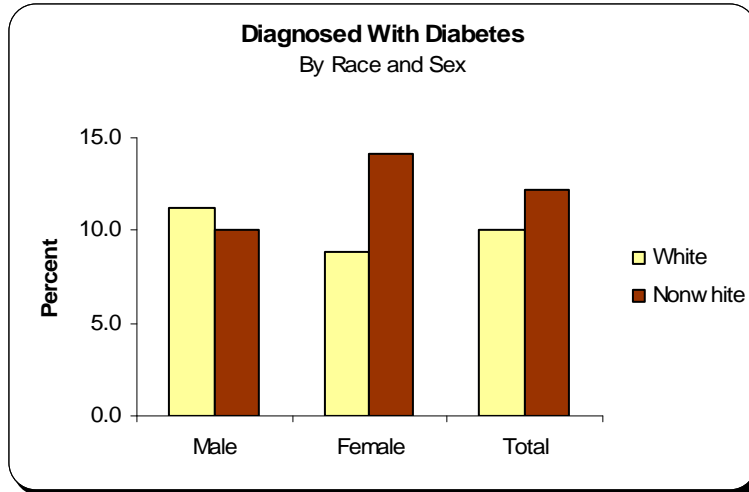


Figure 8

largest group having a rate of 14.1 percent followed by white males with a rate of 11.2 percent. Nonwhite males reported a rate of 10.0 percent and white females were the lowest at 8.9 percent (Figure 8).

Nonwhite females continue to comprise the

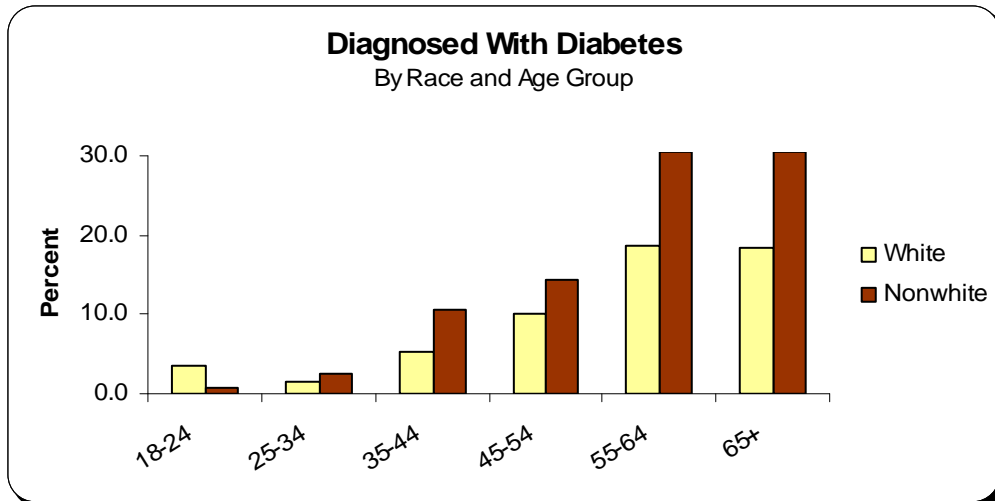


Figure 9

The rate of diabetes showed a marked difference by categories of education. Respondents who did not complete high school reported rates of 15.1 percent which is

more than 52 percent higher than other education categories. Those with a high school education reported a rate of 11.6 percent; those with some college work, a rate of 10.2 percent; and college graduates a rate of 7.3 percent (Table 8).

There are obvious differences seen by age of the respondent in the rate of diabetes. Only 4.0 percent of respondents under age 45 reported having diabetes while 18.1 percent of those above 45 reported they had diabetes. Respondents 65 years and older reported a rate of 21.8 percent: 18.5 percent for whites and 30.4 percent for nonwhites (Figure 9).



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

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>
<b>Sex</b>						
Male	215	11.2	84	10.0	300	10.7
Female	290	8.9	271	14.1	568	10.9
<b>Age Group</b>						
18-24	3	3.6	1	0.8	4	2.3
25-34	7	1.6	11	2.5	18	2.0
35-44	32	5.3	35	10.7	67	7.3
45-54	78	10.2	62	14.4	141	11.7
55-64	154	18.7	113	30.4	270	22.1
65+	231	18.5	130	30.4	364	21.8
<b>Education</b>						
< High School Graduate	96	13.3	142	16.6	241	15.1
High School Graduate or GED	195	11.4	104	12.0	300	11.6
Some College or Technical School	120	9.3	74	11.8	196	10.2
College Graduate	93	7.5	34	6.7	128	7.3
<b>Income</b>						
< \$15,000	105	18.9	139	17.6	247	18.3
\$15-\$24,999	113	14.0	84	12.8	199	13.5
\$25-\$34,999	69	12.1	25	8.6	94	10.7
\$35-\$49,999	46	7.2	25	8.9	71	7.7
\$50-\$74,999	48	7.0	13	6.5	61	6.8
\$75,000+	60	6.3	6	4.6	66	6.0
<b>Employment Status</b>						
Employed	157	6.8	92	6.7	250	6.8
Not Employed	9	7.8	13	4.2	23	5.9
Student/Homemaker	39	5.2	20	5.4	59	5.3
Retired/Unable to Work	299	20.1	229	31.4	533	24.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>505</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>12.2</b>	<b>868</b>	<b>10.8</b>

<sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>2</sup>Weighted

## Breast Cancer Screening

### Survey Question:

*A mammogram is an x-ray of each breast to look for breast cancer. Have you ever had a mammogram?*

A mammogram and a breast examination by a medical professional (clinical breast exam or CBE) are recommended yearly by the American Cancer Society and the National Cancer Advisory Board for women over the age of 40. The American Cancer Society states that women between the ages of 20 and 39 should have a clinical breast examination every three years, and all women over age 20 should do breast self examinations (BSE) every month

The MSDH breast and cervical cancer program has established a goal to reduce breast cancer deaths to no more than 24.0 per 100,000 female population by 2005. In 2003, the death rate for breast cancer was 28.6 per 100,000 female population: 28.9 for whites and 28.1 for nonwhites. The rate for 2004 was 29.8 with a rate of 30.5 for white females and 28.7 for nonwhites. In 2005 the overall death rate was 28.5 per 100,000 with whites having a rate of 27.5 while nonwhites had a rate of 29.9.

The 2006 BRFSS survey indicated that 80.3 percent of the women in Mississippi age 40 and above had ever had a mammogram and a clinical breast examination (CBE). In women age 50 and older, white respondents had a mammogram and CBE within two years at a rate of 59.0 percent compared to a rate of 56.8 percent for nonwhites.

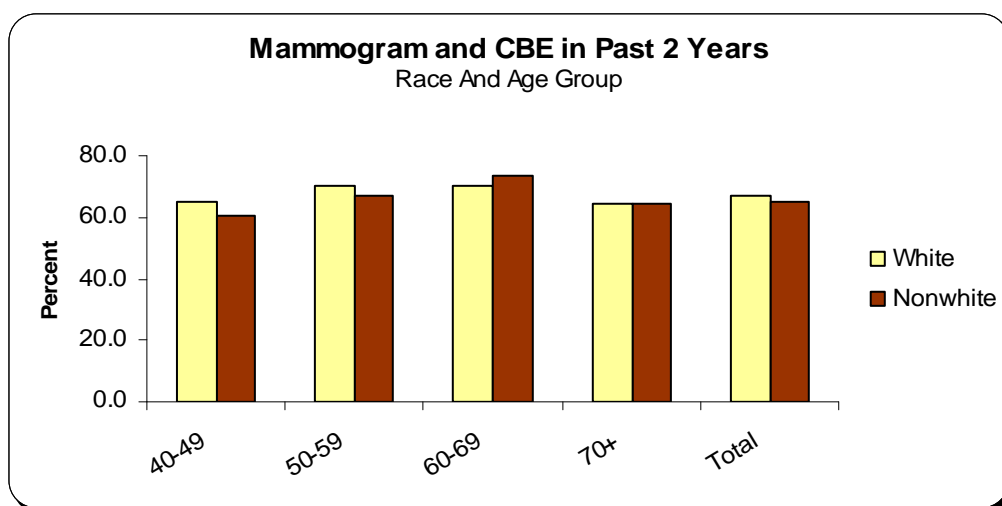


Figure 10

### Year 2010 National Health Objective

Increase to at least 70.0 percent the proportion of women aged 50 and older who have received a clinical breast examination and mammogram within the preceding one to two years.

2006 BRFSS data revealed that 58.2 percent of Mississippi women aged 50 and older have received a clinical breast examination and mammogram within the preceding one to two years.

Centers for Disease Control surveys reveal that early detection of breast cancer has increased considerably in recent years, but in 1993 in the United States, only 47 percent of the women aged 50-64 years and 39 percent of women aged 70 years or older reported having a recent mammogram.

The Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program follows the National Cancer Advisory Board recommendations; however, because of increased incidence and mortality among older women, the program targets women aged 50 to 64.

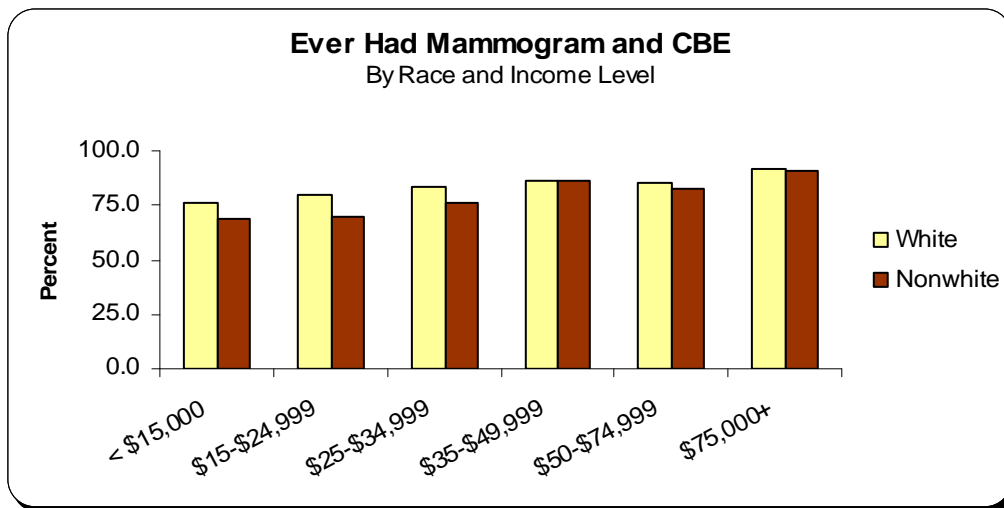


Figure 11

**Table 9 Ever Had a Mammogram and CBE ( Females 40+)**

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>
<b>Age Group</b>						
40-49	338	81.6	202	69.1	542	76.9
50-59	494	87.2	228	78.5	724	84.3
60-69	420	85.9	153	79.7	573	84.2
70+	510	79.8	141	70.1	656	77.0
<b>Education</b>						
< High School Graduate	237	78.0	205	63.7	446	70.6
High School Graduate or GED	650	82.2	224	75.1	875	80.2
Some College or Technical School	460	84.5	148	77.6	609	82.3
College Graduate	415	88.4	145	84.2	562	87.3
<b>Income</b>						
< \$15,000	274	76.5	238	68.4	514	72.1
\$15-\$24,999	313	80.0	161	69.6	475	75.8
\$25-\$34,999	189	83.6	67	75.8	256	81.3
\$35-\$49,999	205	86.5	71	86.2	277	86.3
\$50-\$74,999	201	85.3	43	83.0	244	84.8
\$75,000+	302	91.5	38	90.9*	340	91.5
<b>Employment Status</b>						
Employed	678	85.1	306	73.9	987	81.5
Not Employed	41	71.6	38	59.3	79	64.0
Student/Homemaker	254	85.7	46	71.4	300	83.3
Retired/Unable to Work	787	82.1	333	76.4	1,125	79.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,762</b>	<b>83.6</b>	<b>724</b>	<b>73.7</b>	<b>2,495</b>	<b>80.3</b>

\*Sample size <50

<sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>2</sup>Weighted

**Table 10 Mammogram and CBE in Past Two Years (Females 50+)**

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>
<b>Age Group</b>						
40-49	356	64.0	172	58.9	530	62.3
50-59	297	60.8	117	61.2	414	60.9
60-69	330	51.7	102	50.3	434	51.0
70+						
<b>Education</b>						
< High School Graduate	118	43.3	124	46.1	244	44.6
High School Graduate or GED	370	56.5	106	58.1	476	56.9
Some College or Technical School	257	63.4	73	65.2	330	63.5
College Graduate	238	70.5	88	71.0	327	70.5
<b>Income</b>						
< \$15,000	129	38.0	137	52.0	268	44.7
\$15-\$24,999	184	55.6	77	52.9	261	54.6
\$25-\$34,999	114	63.6	37	73.3	151	65.9
\$35-\$49,999	117	67.2	38	82.4*	156	70.2
\$50-\$74,999	115	72.5	23	73.9*	138	72.8
\$75,000+	149	74.3	20	72.9	169	74.1
<b>Employment Status</b>						
Employed	320	66.5	129	58.3	449	64.1
Not Employed	21	52.2	16	46.7*	37	49.4
Student/Homemaker	140	59.7	26	61.7*	166	60.0
Retired/Unable to Work	500	54.3	220	56.5	723	54.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>983</b>	<b>59.0</b>	<b>391</b>	<b>56.8</b>	<b>1,378</b>	<b>58.2</b>

\*Sample size <50

<sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>2</sup>Weighted

## Cervical Cancer Screening

### Survey Question:

*A Pap test is a test for cancer of the cervix. Have you ever had a Pap test?*

According to the National Cancer Institute, cervical cancer, once one of the most common cancers affecting women in the United States, now ranks 14th in frequency in this population. In 2006, approximately 10,000 women in the United States will be diagnosed with cervical cancer comprising about 1.5 percent of all new cancer cases in women and 3,700 will die of the disease which is about 1.3 percent of cancer-related deaths among women. In contrast, the lifetime risk of cervical cancer would be an estimated 3.7 percent in the absence of cervical cancer screening.

There is ample epidemiological evidence to suggest that screening can reduce the number of deaths from cervical cancer. Invasive cervical cancer is preceded in a large proportion of cases by pre-cancerous changes in cervical tissue that can be identified with a Pap test. If cervical cancer is detected early, the likelihood of survival is almost 100 percent with appropriate treatment and follow-up. Risk is substantially decreased among former smokers in comparison to continuing smokers.

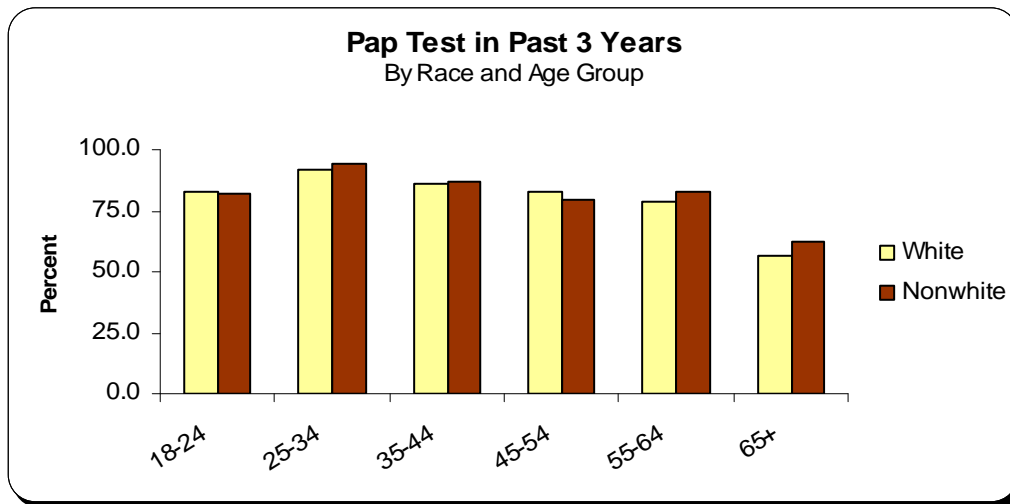


Figure 12

### *Year 2010 National Health Objectives*

1. Increase to at least 97.0 percent the proportion of women aged 18 and older who have ever received a Pap test.

2006 BRFSS data indicate that 94.5 percent of Mississippi women aged 18 and older have received a Pap test (Table 11). This figure represents a slight decrease from 95.6 percent reported in 2005 and also a decrease from 94.7 percent reported in 2004.

2. Increase to at least 90.0 percent the proportion of women aged 18 and older who have received a Pap test within the preceding one to three years.

The 2006 BRFSS data indicate that 82.2 percent of Mississippi women aged 18 and older have received a Pap test within the preceding one to three years which is a small decrease from 82.7 percent reported in 2005.

The rate of recent Pap screening among women ages 65 and older was substantially lower with rate of 58.7 percent being reported. Nonwhite females reported a higher rate at 62.5 percent that did white females who reported a rate of only 56.5 percent.

**Table 11 Ever Had a Pap Test (Females Age 18+)**

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>
<b>Age Group</b>						
18-24	60	84.3	62	82.1	122	83.4
25-34	210	98.4	193	98.4	404	98.4
35-44	288	98.1	221	96.2	510	97.4
45-54	264	99.8	170	94.8	437	98.0
55-64	240	97.1	115	95.6	358	96.7
65+	306	93.1	133	90.5	441	92.2
<b>Education</b>						
< High School Graduate	146	93.2	203	88.9	352	90.8
High School Graduate or GED	409	92.9	289	91.4	700	92.3
Some College or Technical School	408	95.7	227	95.3	638	95.6
College Graduate	409	98.1	175	97.7	585	98.0
<b>Income</b>						
< \$15,000	163	94.1	283	94.5	449	94.4
\$15-\$24,999	213	95.1	228	94.1	443	94.6
\$25-\$34,999	153	95.4	111	100.0	264	97.3
\$35-\$49,999	182	99.7	80	96.4	262	98.7
\$50-\$74,999	197	99.7	56	94.5	253	98.4
\$75,000+	290	96.0	36	90.9*	327	95.4
<b>Employment Status</b>						
Employed	704	96.2	485	94.7	1,193	95.6
Not Employed	59	88.9	93	98.3	153	94.3
Student/Homemaker	265	95.2	84	81.7	349	91.5
Retired/Unable to Work	342	95.0	234	93.6	581	94.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,372</b>	<b>95.3</b>	<b>898</b>	<b>93.1</b>	<b>2,281</b>	<b>94.5</b>

\*Sample size <50

<sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>2</sup>Weighted



**Table 12 Pap Test in Past 3 Years (Females Age 18+)**

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>
<b>Age Group</b>						
18-24	58	82.7	62	82.1	120	82.5
25-34	198	91.7	187	94.3	386	92.9
35-44	252	85.7	201	86.9	454	86.2
45-54	218	82.4	139	79.2	359	81.0
55-64	196	78.8	97	82.9	294	79.6
65+	190	56.5	95	62.5	287	58.7
<b>Education</b>						
< High School Graduate	95	73.3	155	71.7	253	72.5
High School Graduate or GED	311	74.3	259	83.3	572	78.3
Some College or Technical School	340	82.8	206	89.3	547	84.8
College Graduate	366	89.9	159	90.7	526	90.2
<b>Income</b>						
< \$15,000	101	65.1	226	76.8	329	72.8
\$15-\$24,999	156	76.1	210	89.1	368	82.8
\$25-\$34,999	118	77.0	103	95.2	221	84.6
\$35-\$49,999	164	90.9	76	92.1	240	91.3
\$50-\$74,999	181	92.1	53	91.6	234	92.0
\$75,000+	261	86.7	30	76.7*	292	85.6
<b>Employment Status</b>						
Employed	619	87.0	437	87.3	1,060	87.2
Not Employed	44	69.9	83	88.7	127	80.2
Student/Homemaker	210	82.0	72	74.9	282	80.0
Retired/Unable to Work	237	64.7	188	76.2	428	69.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,112</b>	<b>81.4</b>	<b>781</b>	<b>83.7</b>	<b>1,900</b>	<b>82.2</b>

\*Sample size <50

<sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>2</sup>Weighted

## Prostate Cancer Screening

### Survey Question:

*A Prostate-Specific Antigen test, also called a PSA test, is a blood test used to check men for prostate cancer. Have you ever had a PSA test?*

According to the American Cancer Society (ACS) prostate cancer is the most common type of cancer found in American men, other than skin cancer. The ACS estimates that there will be about 218,890 new cases of prostate cancer in the United States in 2007 and about 27,050 men will die of this disease. Prostate cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death in men with lung cancer being the first. While one man in six will get prostate cancer during his lifetime, only one man in 34 will die of this disease. The death rate for prostate cancer is going down, and the disease is being found earlier as well.

The Centers for Disease Control reports that the incidence of prostate cancer in the United States increased by 1.1 percent per year from 1995–2003. The incidence of prostate cancer remained level from 1995 to 2003 among African-Americans. Deaths from prostate cancer in the United States decreased significantly by 4.0 percent per year from 1994–2003. More than 65 percent of all diagnosed prostate cancers are found in men aged 65 years or older. African-American men die of prostate cancer more often than do men in any other racial/ethnic group.

In 2005 the death rate in Mississippi among males for prostate cancer was 23.5 per 100,000: 19.1 for whites and 23.5 for nonwhites.

Prostate cancer is most common in men aged 65 years

and older, who account for approximately 80 percent of all cases of prostate cancer. Digital rectal examination (DRE) and the prostate-specific antigen (PSA) test are two commonly used methods for detecting prostate cancer.

Although several treatment alternatives are available for prostate cancer, their impact on reducing death from prostate cancer when compared with no treatment in patients with

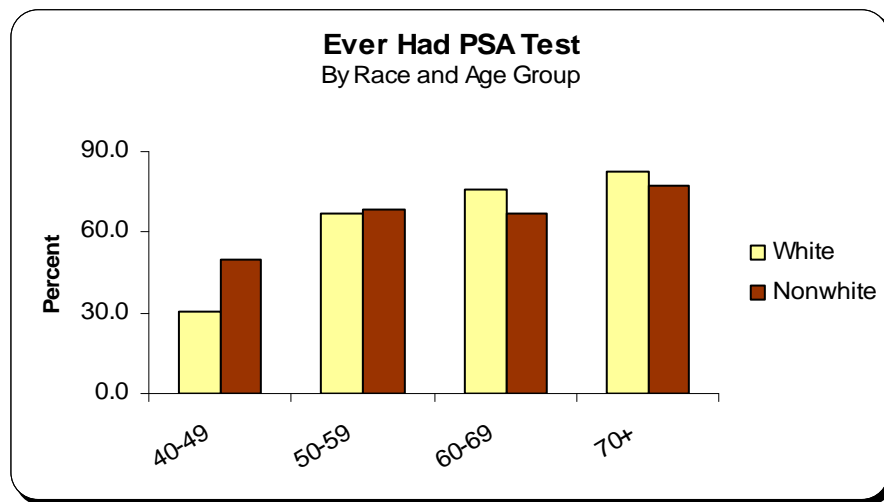
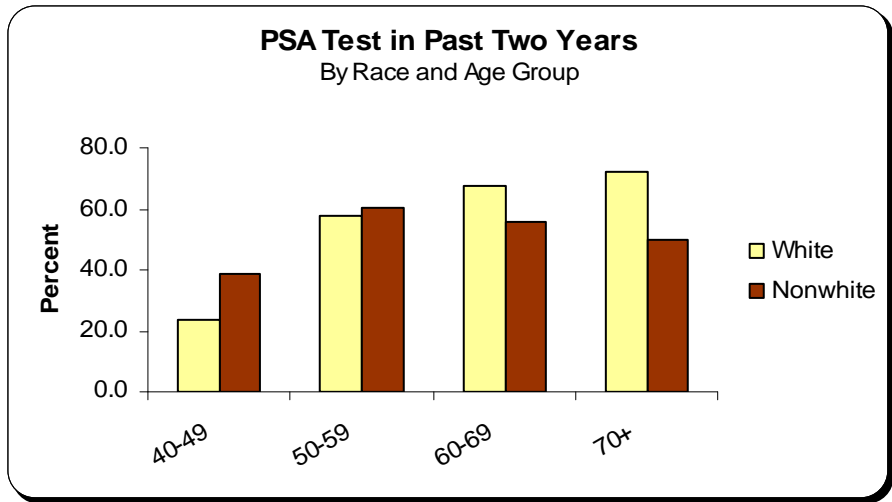


Figure 13

operable cancer is uncertain. Efforts aimed at reducing deaths through screening and early detection remain controversial because of the uncertain benefits and potential risks of screening, diagnosis, and treatment.

The 2006 BRFSS survey for Mississippi indicated that 60.7 percent of males more than 40 years of age reported ever having had a PSA test. The overall rate for white respondents was 59.8 percent while nonwhites reported a rate of 63.2 percent. There was a greater difference in rates for men age 60 and older. In the 60-69 age category, the screening rate for whites was 76.2 percent compared to 66.6 percent for nonwhites and for men 70 and older, whites had a rate of 82.7 percent while nonwhites had a rate of 77.7 percent.



**Figure 14**

race in rates for men more than 70 years of age. White males reported a rate of 71.9 percent while in the nonwhite group the rate was on 50.0 percent

Only 50.8 percent of males over 40 years of age reported having a PSA test within the past two years. The rate for white respondents was 51.2 percent compared to 50.6 percent for nonwhites. There was a conspicuous difference by

**Table 13 Ever Had a PSA Test (Men 40+)**

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>
<b>Age Group</b>						
40-49	97	30.5	42	49.5	139	36.2
50-59	231	67.1	79	68.7	310	67.5
60-69	222	76.2	63	66.6	286	73.3
70+	194	82.7	52	77.7	247	81.4
<b>Education</b>						
< High School Graduate	70	43.9	76	57.9	147	51.1
High School Graduate or GED	240	58.4	65	65.4	306	60.3
Some College or Technical School	177	60.0	57	69.4	234	62.6
College Graduate	256	67.9	38	61.8	294	66.1
<b>Income</b>						
< \$15,000	60	49.6	63	74.0	124	61.2
\$15-\$24,999	125	65.2	60	64.8	185	64.8
\$25-\$34,999	86	61.2	28	59.9*	114	60.7
\$35-\$49,999	110	51.2	28	52.7*	138	51.6
\$50-\$74,999	106	59.1	12	61.0*	118	59.4
\$75,000+	201	70.6	15	58.1*	216	68.6
<b>Employment Status</b>						
Employed	367	54.4	95	57.0	462	54.9
Not Employed	9	29.5	6	48.4*	15	37.2
Student/Homemaker	1	8.6	0	0.0	1	4.7
Retired/Unable to Work	367	71.3	134	74.3	503	72.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>744</b>	<b>59.8</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>63.2</b>	<b>982</b>	<b>60.7</b>

\*Sample size <50

<sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>2</sup>Weighted

**Table 14 PSA Test in Past Two Years (Men 40+)**

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>
<b>Age Group</b>						
40-49	72	23.8	31	38.9	103	28.4
50-59	196	57.4	71	60.5	267	58.3
60-69	197	67.8	52	55.6	250	64.3
70+	170	71.9	36	50.0	206	65.4
<b>Education</b>						
< High School Graduate	52	32.0	59	47.3	112	39.9
High School Graduate or GED	209	51.4	51	51.1	260	51.1
Some College or Technical School	152	51.6	46	53.5	198	52.2
College Graduate	222	59.2	34	52.1	256	57.3
<b>Income</b>						
< \$15,000	46	38.9	48	58.1	95	48.1
\$15-\$24,999	111	58.2	49	51.3	160	55.1
\$25-\$34,999	73	51.0	23	44.9	96	48.8
\$35-\$49,999	95	44.5	24	46.9	119	45.1
\$50-\$74,999	88	48.9	9	46.9	97	48.6
\$75,000+	175	62.0	15	58.1	190	61.0
<b>Employment Status</b>						
Employed	306	46.0	81	47.3	387	46.2
Not Employed	6	18.3	4	34.5	10	24.9
Student/Homemaker	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Retired/Unable to Work	323	62.5	105	58.1	429	60.8
<b>Total</b>	635	51.2	190	50.6	826	50.8

\*Sample size <50

<sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>2</sup>Weighted

## Colorectal Cancer Screening

### Survey Question:

*Sigmoidoscopy and colonoscopy are exams in which a tube is inserted in the rectum to view the colon for signs of cancer or other health problems. Have you ever had either of these exams?*

Other than skin cancers, colorectal cancer is the third most common cancer found in men and women in the United States. The American Cancer Society estimates that there will be about 112,340 new cases of colon cancer and 41,420 new cases of rectal cancer in 2007. Together, they will cause about 52,180 deaths.

The death rate from colorectal cancer has been declining for the past 15 years. One

of the main reasons is that the number of new cases has also decreased. Because of more colorectal cancer screening, polyps can be found and removed before developing into cancer.

Colorectal cancer can also be detected earlier when it can be treated more effectively.

Treatments for this disease have improved greatly in recent years.

Risk factors for CRC may include age, personal and family history of polyps or colorectal cancer, inflammatory bowel disease, inherited syndromes, physical inactivity (colon only), obesity, alcohol use and a diet high in fat and low in fruits and vegetables. Detecting and removing precancerous colorectal polyps and detecting and treating the disease in its earliest stages will reduce deaths from CRC. Fecal Occult Blood Testing and sigmoidoscopy are widely used to screen for CRC, and barium enema and colonoscopy are used as diagnostic tests.

In 2005, the death rate for colorectal cancer in Mississippi was 103.0 per 100,000 among people age sixty-five and older; in 2004 it was 112.2. Regular screening, beginning at age 50, is the key to preventing colorectal cancer. The U.S. Preventive

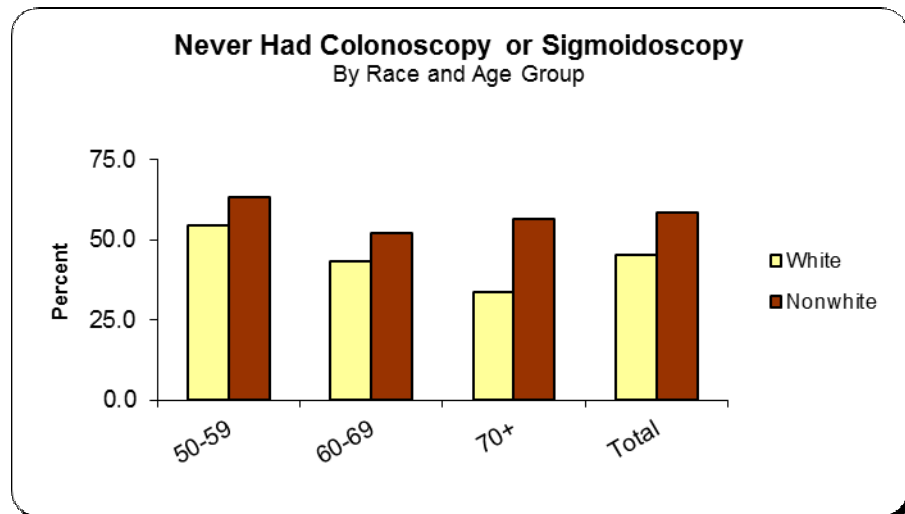


Figure 15

Services Task Force (USPSTF) recommends screening for colorectal cancer using high-sensitivity fecal occult blood testing, sigmoidoscopy, or colonoscopy beginning at age 50 years and continuing until age 75 years.

The 2006 BRFSS data for Mississippi indicates that 49.1 percent of those surveyed had never had sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy examination which is an improvement from 52.2 percent that was reported in the 2004 survey. The survey showed that nonwhite respondents were 1.3 times more likely to have never had an examination.

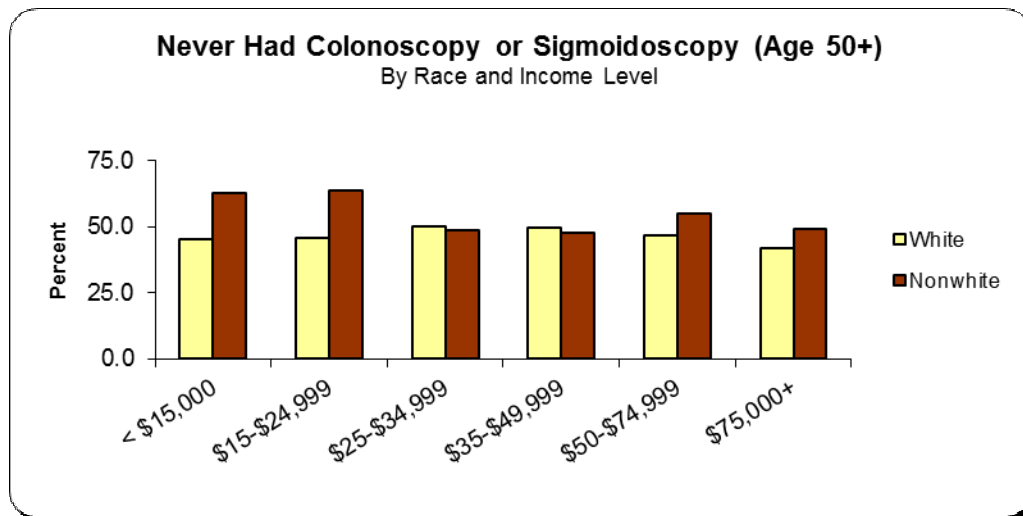


Figure 16

The rate for nonwhites was 58.4 percent compared to 45.2 percent for whites. Nonwhites who are age 70 or older were 1.7 times more likely to have never had a sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy: 56.6 for nonwhites and 33.7 for whites (Figure 15 and Table 15).

**Table 15 Never Had Sigmoidoscopy or Colonoscopy (Age 50+)**

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>
<b>Sex</b>						
Male	404	47.9	148	59.4	555	51.3
Female	690	43.1	369	57.6	1,064	47.4
<b>Age Group</b>						
50-59	481	54.7	240	63.2	725	57.4
60-69	327	43.3	145	52.1	473	45.7
70+	286	33.7	132	56.6	421	40.2
<b>Education</b>						
< High School Graduate	183	49.8	222	66.2	408	58.2
High School Graduate or GED	398	46.3	153	61.7	553	50.1
Some College or Technical School	257	43.6	77	45.3	335	44.0
College Graduate	255	42.6	63	48.8	320	44.1
<b>Income</b>						
< \$15,000	182	45.5	193	62.6	377	53.6
\$15-\$24,999	217	45.9	124	63.8	341	52.0
\$25-\$34,999	136	50.1	41	48.6	177	49.6
\$35-\$49,999	145	49.7	31	47.5	177	49.2
\$50-\$74,999	112	46.7	17	54.9*	129	47.8
\$75,000+	157	42.0	19	49.4*	177	42.9
<b>Employment Status</b>						
Employed	464	53.3	173	61.1	638	55.4
Not Employed	34	64.2	26	67.0*	60	65.5
Student/Homemaker	96	42.2	26	60.7*	122	45.1
Retired/Unable to Work	500	38.6	289	55.6	796	44.2
<b>Total</b>	1,094	45.2	517	58.4	1,619	49.1

\*Sample size <50

<sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>2</sup>Weighted



**Table 16 No Blood Stool Test in Past 2 Years (Age 50+)**

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>
<b>Sex</b>						
Male	621	72.6	205	78.6	829	74.4
Female	1,334	79.7	536	81.9	1,880	80.4
<b>Age Group</b>						
50-59	730	81.4	315	82.8	1,050	81.9
60-69	599	76.7	232	80.6	832	77.8
70+	626	69.4	194	76.5	827	71.5
<b>Education</b>						
< High School Graduate	317	79.8	298	84.9	621	82.5
High School Graduate or GED	715	76.2	209	82.8	926	77.8
Some College or Technical School	464	76.1	117	67.7	582	74.1
College Graduate	456	75.3	114	80.0	572	76.4
<b>Income</b>						
< \$15,000	321	75.7	254	79.5	577	77.5
\$15-\$24,999	383	76.4	168	81.2	551	77.9
\$25-\$34,999	230	77.1	69	85.0	299	79.3
\$35-\$49,999	231	76.5	52	71.5	285	75.5
\$50-\$74,999	199	76.1	29	78.8*	228	76.5
\$75,000+	288	76.8	31	74.2*	320	76.6
<b>Employment Status</b>						
Employed	722	82.3	250	86.6	974	83.5
Not Employed	50	91.1	30	83.4*	80	87.4
Student/Homemaker	194	80.8	34	79.6*	228	80.6
Retired/Unable to Work	985	70.5	423	76.4	1,418	72.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,955</b>	<b>76.5</b>	<b>741</b>	<b>80.5</b>	<b>2,709</b>	<b>77.7</b>

\*Sample size <50

<sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>2</sup>Weighted

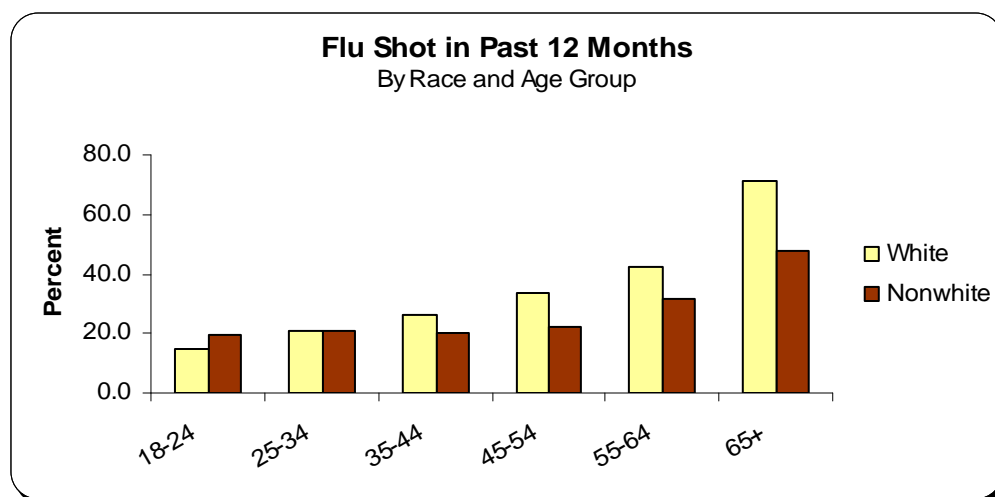
## Immunization

### 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 2005 producing a death rate of 21.8 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 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 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.



**Figure 17**

In the 2006 BRFSS survey, 64.1 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: 70.9 percent of whites reported having been vaccinated compared to only 46.3 percent for nonwhites. For the total population the vaccination rates showed little difference with respect to gender: 31.6 percent of the males and 33.1 percent of the females reported receiving a flu vaccination in the past 12 months.

Only 24.4 percent of the respondents said that they had ever received a pneumonia vaccination. Respondents over the age of 65 reported a vaccination rate of 66.6 percent.

As was the case with influenza vaccinations there was a marked difference with respect to race: 73.3 percent for whites but only 48.6 percent for nonwhites.

**Table 17 Had a Flu Vaccination in the Past 12 Months**

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>
<b>Sex</b>						
Male	606	34.7	158	26.1	768	31.6
Female	1,203	38.2	391	24.3	1,604	33.1
<b>Age Group</b>						
18-24	19	15.1	23	19.7	42	17.3
25-34	86	21.1	53	20.8	139	20.8
35-44	165	26.5	82	20.5	247	24.1
45-54	262	33.3	84	22.2	347	29.4
55-64	371	42.1	120	31.8	496	39.3
65+	902	71.4	184	47.5	1,093	65.0
<b>Education</b>						
< High School Graduate	269	37.0	173	29.7	446	33.2
High School Graduate or GED	580	33.2	163	23.5	745	29.5
Some College or Technical School	461	35.5	116	22.6	581	31.4
College Graduate	498	41.3	97	25.1	597	36.7
<b>Income</b>						
< \$15,000	274	43.3	172	27.9	448	34.2
\$15-\$24,999	322	36.1	140	26.6	465	31.6
\$25-\$34,999	195	36.2	47	16.9	242	28.5
\$35-\$49,999	205	29.4	46	23.6	252	27.7
\$50-\$74,999	229	37.9	31	25.0	260	34.6
\$75,000+	327	38.2	23	23.8	351	36.1
<b>Employment Status</b>						
Employed	683	30.5	208	19.6	893	26.5
Not Employed	31	22.8	27	24.7	58	23.9
Student/Homemaker	167	25.0	30	19.3	197	23.3
Retired/Unable to Work	924	58.3	282	40.5	1,217	52.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,809</b>	<b>36.5</b>	<b>549</b>	<b>25.1</b>	<b>2,372</b>	<b>32.3</b>

<sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>2</sup>Weighted

**Table 18 Had a Flu Vaccination in the Past 12 Months (Age 65+)**

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>
<b>Sex</b>						
Male	277	70.7	50	42.0	329	63.0
Female	629	71.0	137	49.2	772	64.9
<b>Education</b>						
< High School Graduate	194	73.6	98	44.7	295	58.8
High School Graduate or GED	345	69.0	50	50.9	396	65.5
Some College or Technical School	212	69.6	16	32.6*	230	64.9
College Graduate	154	73.8	23	59.5*	178	71.0
<b>Income</b>						
< \$15,000	203	71.6	77	47.0	281	61.1
\$15-\$24,999	207	73.8	41	47.9	249	67.2
\$25-\$34,999	111	68.9	9	37.3*	120	63.3
\$35-\$49,999	79	73.3	6	34.4*	86	65.5
\$50-\$74,999	58	72.3	1	30.9*	59	70.3
\$75,000+	59	68.3	2	50.8*	61	67.4
<b>Employment Status</b>						
Employed	91	63.5	21	47.0*	112	58.9
Not Employed	4	55.1	1	23.4*	5	40.2
Student/Homemaker	100	67.1	12	46.8*	112	63.9
Retired/Unable to Work	708	72.7	152	46.5	868	65.1
<b>Total</b>	906	70.9	187	46.3	1,101	64.1

\*Sample size <50

<sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>2</sup>Weighted

**Table 19 Ever Had a Pneumonia Vaccination**

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>
<b>Sex</b>						
Male	455	24.9	148	23.6	605	24.4
Female	1,006	28.6	297	17.3	1,310	24.4
<b>Age Group</b>						
18-24	15	10.7	14	11.6	29	11.1
25-34	36	11.5	21	9.7	57	10.7
35-44	64	10.2	49	15.4	113	12.1
45-54	142	18.0	74	22.5	216	19.5
55-64	258	28.3	104	30.0	364	28.7
65+	943	73.3	181	48.6	1,129	66.6
<b>Education</b>						
< High School Graduate	271	36.7	155	25.3	429	30.7
High School Graduate or GED	522	28.7	135	21.1	660	25.8
Some College or Technical School	370	26.0	90	15.6	461	22.6
College Graduate	297	20.7	65	17.9	362	19.8
<b>Income</b>						
< \$15,000	300	48.9	157	24.8	458	34.7
\$15-\$24,999	301	33.7	107	19.4	409	26.7
\$25-\$34,999	173	28.5	42	21.3	215	25.6
\$35-\$49,999	152	21.8	32	13.9	185	19.5
\$50-\$74,999	126	17.9	18	13.9	144	16.8
\$75,000+	146	14.5	17	20.3	164	15.2
<b>Employment Status</b>						
Employed	344	14.5	118	12.3	463	13.7
Not Employed	26	21.0	14	7.7	40	12.9
Student/Homemaker	143	19.8	28	18.2	171	19.3
Retired/Unable to Work	945	59.2	283	45.3	1,236	54.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,461</b>	<b>26.8</b>	<b>445</b>	<b>20.2</b>	<b>1,915</b>	<b>24.4</b>

<sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>2</sup>Weighted

**Table 20 Ever Had a Pneumonia Vaccination (Age 65+)**

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>
<b>Sex</b>						
Male	273	70.9	48	49.4	322	65.2
Female	670	74.9	133	48.2	807	67.5
<b>Education</b>						
< High School Graduate	204	75.7	87	42.1	293	58.4
High School Graduate or GED	357	70.6	51	53.9	409	67.7
Some College or Technical School	226	74.4	22	64.2*	249	73.3
College Graduate	155	74.7	21	63.1*	176	72.1
<b>Income</b>						
< \$15,000	220	76.6	76	46.0	296	63.4
\$15-\$24,999	209	73.4	39	53.3	249	68.3
\$25-\$34,999	115	69.2	8	46.6*	123	65.3
\$35-\$49,999	82	73.6	10	69.0*	93	72.5
\$50-\$74,999	52	69.4	2	100.0*	54	70.1
\$75,000+	60	74.3	1	100.0*	61	74.7
<b>Employment Status</b>						
Employed	84	59.7	16	50.5*	100	57.5
Not Employed	4	70.5	1	33.9*	5	56.6
Student/Homemaker	108	70.7	12	50.8*	120	67.8
Retired/Unable to Work	745	75.7	151	48.5	901	67.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>943</b>	<b>73.3</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>48.6</b>	<b>1,129</b>	<b>66.6</b>

\*Sample size <50

<sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<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 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, Type 2 diabetes, heart disease and stroke, gallbladder 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.

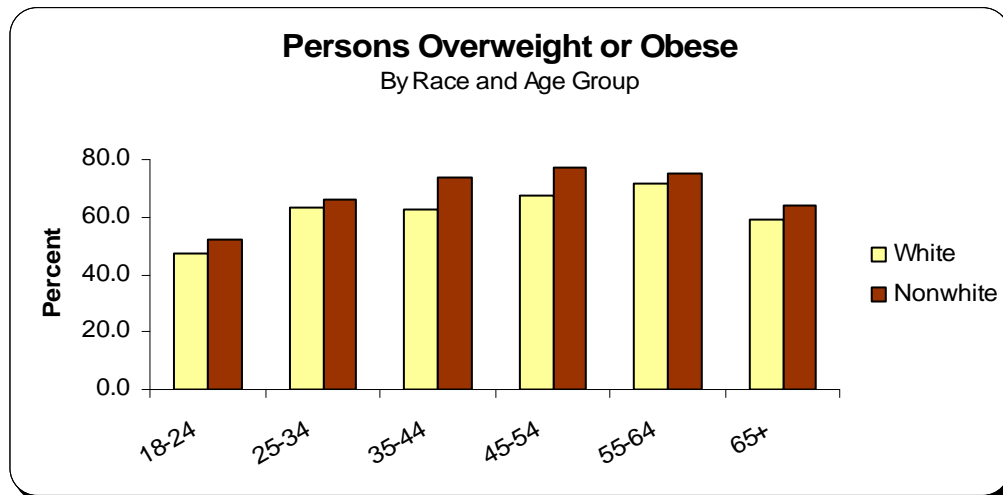


Figure 18

Weight may be controlled by dietary changes such as decreasing caloric intake and by increasing physical activity. According to the 2006 BRFSS study 64.2 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 62.2 percent compared to 67.5 percent for nonwhites (Table 25). In year 2005 the self-reported rate was 64.9 percent and in 2004 it was 62.2 percent.



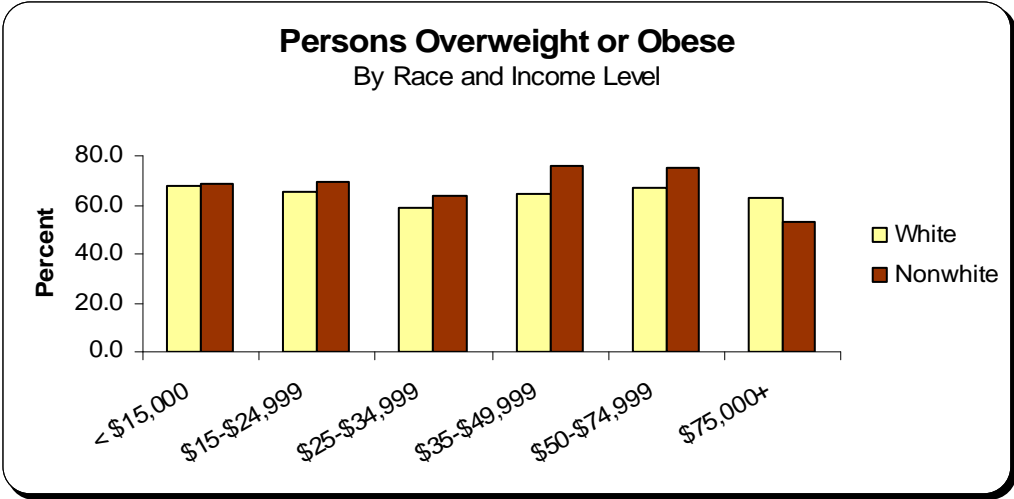


Figure 19

**Table 21 Respondents Who Are Either Overweight or Obese**

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>
<b>Sex</b>						
Male	1,091	72.4	361	63.5	1,459	69.2
Female	1,416	52.9	1,019	71.0	2,448	59.6
<b>Age Group</b>						
18-24	58	47.1	78	52.5	136	49.6
25-34	235	63.4	186	66.1	424	64.8
35-44	364	62.5	284	73.8	650	66.9
45-54	503	67.4	304	77.0	810	70.7
55-64	610	71.4	263	74.9	876	72.3
65+	734	58.9	257	64.2	998	60.3
<b>Education</b>						
< High School Graduate	337	62.2	358	59.8	701	61.0
High School Graduate or GED	859	63.3	448	69.4	1,312	65.6
Some College or Technical School	650	61.3	335	73.7	988	65.3
College Graduate	661	62.1	237	66.9	904	63.6
<b>Income</b>						
< \$15,000	346	67.7	402	68.9	752	68.5
\$15-\$24,999	426	65.1	358	69.2	788	67.2
\$25-\$34,999	292	58.8	146	63.5	439	60.8
\$35-\$49,999	349	64.7	157	76.1	508	68.1
\$50-\$74,999	349	66.8	94	74.8	443	68.8
\$75,000+	473	62.8	58	53.2	536	61.7
<b>Employment Status</b>						
Employed	1,284	65.3	714	69.4	2,008	66.9
Not Employed	77	68.4	112	63.2	190	65.4
Student/Homemaker	209	44.7	88	61.0	297	49.5
Retired/Unable to Work	934	63.2	463	68.1	1,406	64.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,507</b>	<b>62.2</b>	<b>1,380</b>	<b>67.5</b>	<b>3,907</b>	<b>64.2</b>

<sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<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 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, your 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.

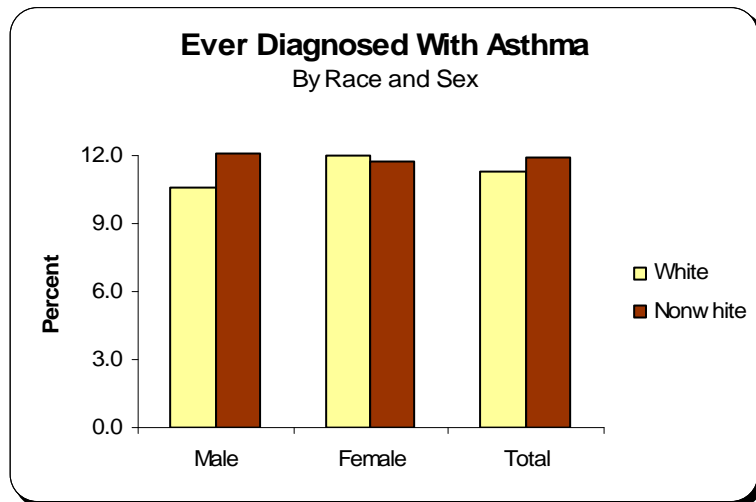
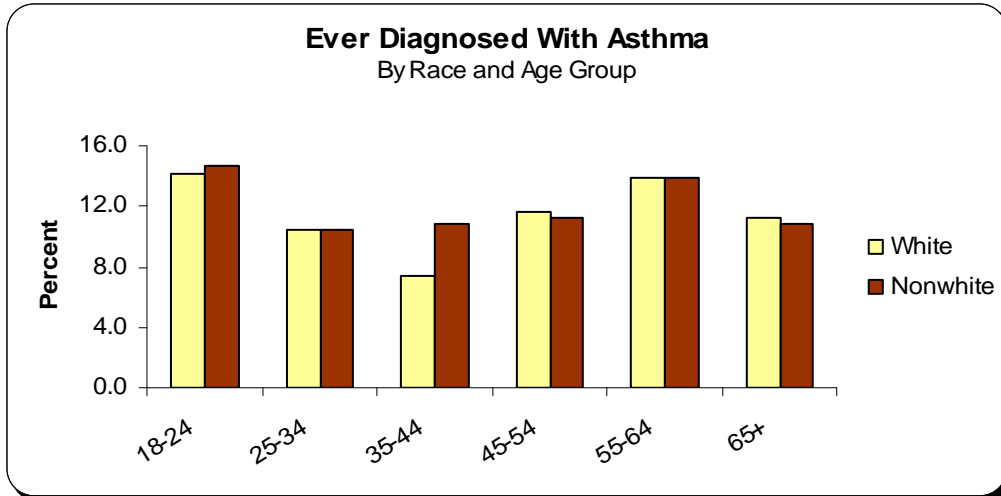


Figure 20

In Mississippi, the 2006 BRFSS survey revealed that 11.5 percent of the respondents said that they had ever had asthma, a minimal increase from 11.0 percent reported in 2005 and 10.9 percent in 2004. The nonwhite rate in 2006 was 11.9 percent compared to 11.3 percent for white respondents. Women reported a higher rate than men (Figure 20 and Table 22).



**Figure 21**

**Table 22 Ever Diagnosed With Asthma**

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>
<b>Sex</b>						
Male	141	10.6	59	12.1	200	11.1
Female	338	12.0	179	11.7	520	11.9
<b>Age Group</b>						
18-24	14	14.1	18	14.7	32	14.4
25-34	40	10.4	27	10.5	67	10.4
35-44	51	7.4	45	10.9	96	8.7
45-54	99	11.7	51	11.2	150	11.5
55-64	117	13.9	54	13.9	172	13.9
65+	155	11.3	41	10.9	198	11.2
<b>Education</b>						
< High School Graduate	103	17.1	71	12.4	176	14.6
High School Graduate or GED	168	12.0	81	14.0	249	12.7
Some College or Technical School	98	9.5	54	11.2	152	10.0
College Graduate	110	9.7	32	8.2	142	9.3
<b>Income</b>						
< \$15,000	97	16.8	79	15.6	177	16.0
\$15-\$24,999	104	16.8	67	14.4	171	15.6
\$25-\$34,999	50	11.5	22	7.6	72	9.9
\$35-\$49,999	57	10.4	22	10.9	80	10.5
\$50-\$74,999	53	7.9	13	10.0	66	8.4
\$75,000+	63	9.1	7	4.8	70	8.5
<b>Employment Status</b>						
Employed	183	9.6	102	10.1	285	9.8
Not Employed	17	11.2	21	14.2	38	13.0
Student/Homemaker	47	11.5	12	9.6	59	10.9
Retired/Unable to Work	232	15.2	102	15.1	337	15.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>479</b>	<b>11.3</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>11.9</b>	<b>720</b>	<b>11.5</b>

<sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>2</sup>Weighted

**Table 23 Currently Have Asthma**

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>
<b>Sex</b>						
Male	79	5.7	31	5.0	110	5.4
Female	241	8.4	132	8.1	375	8.3
<b>Age Group</b>						
18-24	7	7.6	8	5.6	15	6.6
25-34	19	5.5	20	5.9	39	5.6
35-44	31	4.6	30	7.4	61	5.7
45-54	65	7.6	39	7.5	104	7.5
55-64	76	9.2	41	9.5	118	9.3
65+	120	8.2	23	4.8	144	7.3
<b>Education</b>						
< High School Graduate	82	12.0	51	7.0	135	9.4
High School Graduate or GED	117	8.8	63	9.4	180	9.0
Some College or Technical School	62	5.4	36	5.5	98	5.4
College Graduate	59	4.6	13	2.5	72	4.0
<b>Income</b>						
< \$15,000	76	12.8	56	8.5	133	10.3
\$15-\$24,999	75	11.1	53	9.6	128	10.4
\$25-\$34,999	26	5.7	16	5.8	42	5.7
\$35-\$49,999	35	6.3	9	4.2	44	5.7
\$50-\$74,999	34	5.0	6	3.2	40	4.5
\$75,000+	34	4.8	4	2.1	38	4.4
<b>Employment Status</b>						
Employed	105	5.7	62	5.2	167	5.5
Not Employed	8	7.1	14	5.8	22	6.3
Student/Homemaker	28	5.0	7	6.2	35	5.4
Retired/Unable to Work	179	11.5	80	10.8	261	11.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>485</b>	<b>6.9</b>

<sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>2</sup>Weighted

## Exercise

### 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.

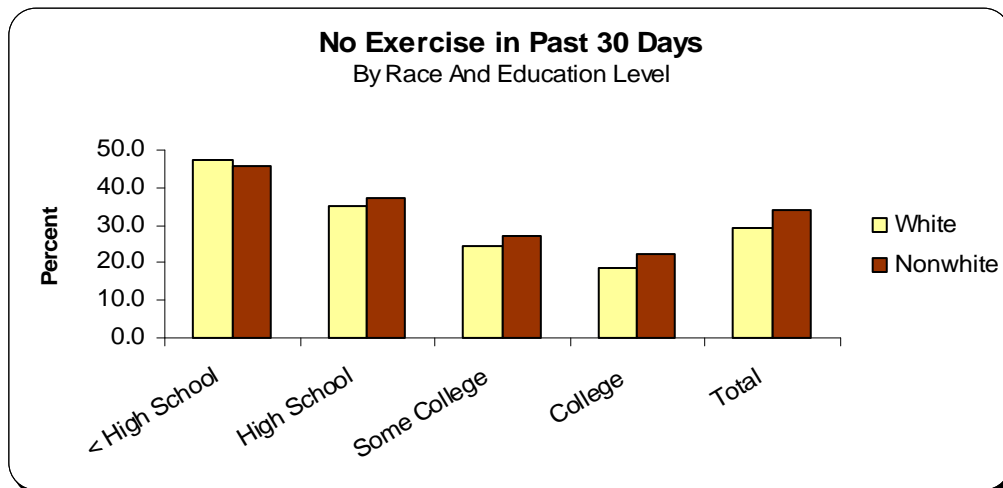


Figure 22

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, 31.0 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.

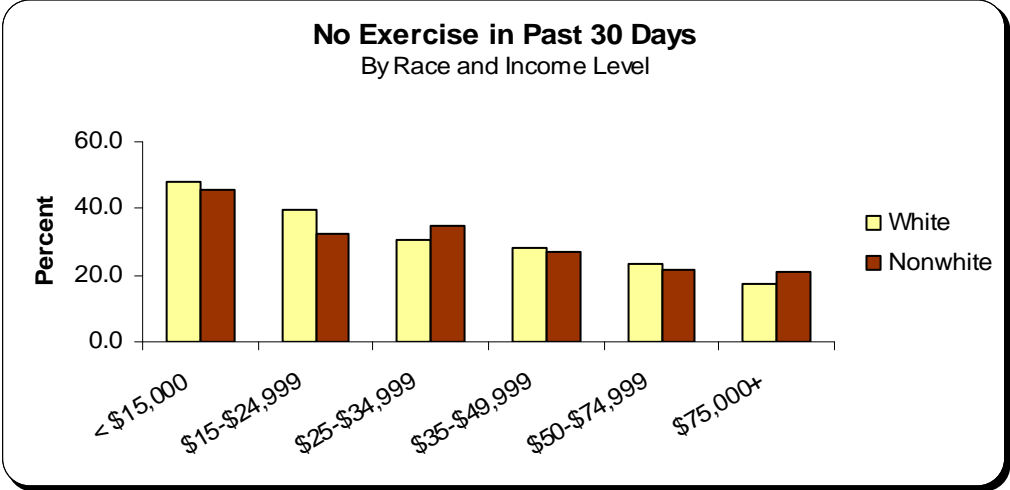


Figure 23



**Table 24 No Exercise in Past 30 Days**

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>
<b>Sex</b>						
Male	423	27.8	174	31.1	600	28.9
Female	879	30.5	528	37.1	1,417	33.0
<b>Age Group</b>						
18-24	20	15.0	41	29.3	61	21.8
25-34	91	26.3	91	32.0	182	28.6
35-44	169	27.6	127	32.9	297	29.7
45-54	250	31.9	139	35.4	390	33.1
55-64	280	32.2	144	40.2	428	34.5
65+	489	37.3	159	42.8	655	38.9
<b>Education</b>						
< High School Graduate	268	47.2	259	45.6	534	46.5
High School Graduate or GED	500	34.9	224	37.0	725	35.6
Some College or Technical School	312	24.5	136	27.0	449	25.3
College Graduate	221	18.7	82	22.6	305	19.8
<b>Income</b>						
< \$15,000	264	47.9	251	45.9	519	46.8
\$15-\$24,999	279	39.6	176	32.1	455	35.8
\$25-\$34,999	139	30.9	71	34.7	210	32.2
\$35-\$49,999	174	28.5	54	27.0	229	28.1
\$50-\$74,999	122	23.3	26	21.4	148	22.8
\$75,000+	133	17.2	17	21.2	152	17.8
<b>Employment Status</b>						
Employed	523	25.8	310	31.2	836	27.7
Not Employed	43	27.2	62	35.7	106	32.5
Student/Homemaker	123	21.0	36	19.7	159	20.7
Retired/Unable to Work	610	41.4	289	45.9	907	42.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,302</b>	<b>29.2</b>	<b>702</b>	<b>34.3</b>	<b>2,017</b>	<b>31.0</b>

<sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>2</sup>Weighted

## Oral Health

### Survey Question:

1. *How long has it been since you last visited a dentist or a dental clinic for any reason?*
2. *How many of your permanent teeth have been removed because of tooth decay or gum disease?*
3. *How long has it been since you had your teeth cleaned by a dentist or dental hygienist?*

Oral health is an essential and integral component of health throughout life. According to Healthy People 2010, poor oral health and untreated oral diseases and conditions can have a significant impact on quality of life. Millions of people in the United States are at high risk for oral health problems. Oral and facial pain affects a substantial proportion of the general population.

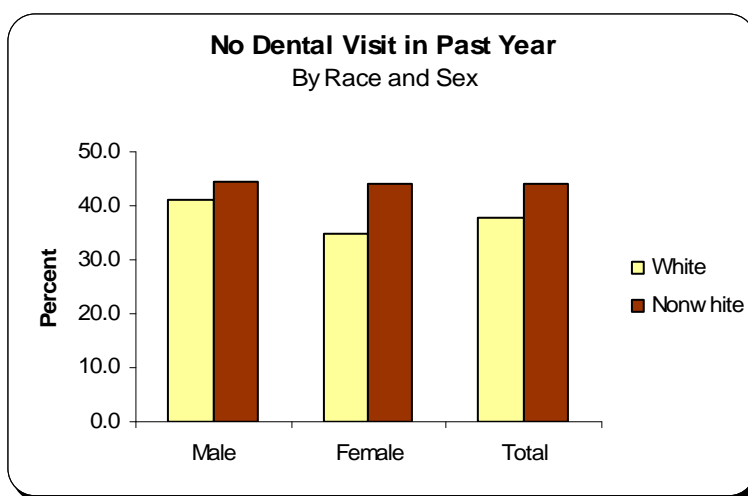


Figure 24

A full dentition is defined as having 28 natural teeth, exclusive of third molars and teeth removed for orthodontic treatment or as a result of trauma. Most persons can keep their teeth for life with optimal personal, professional and preventive practices.

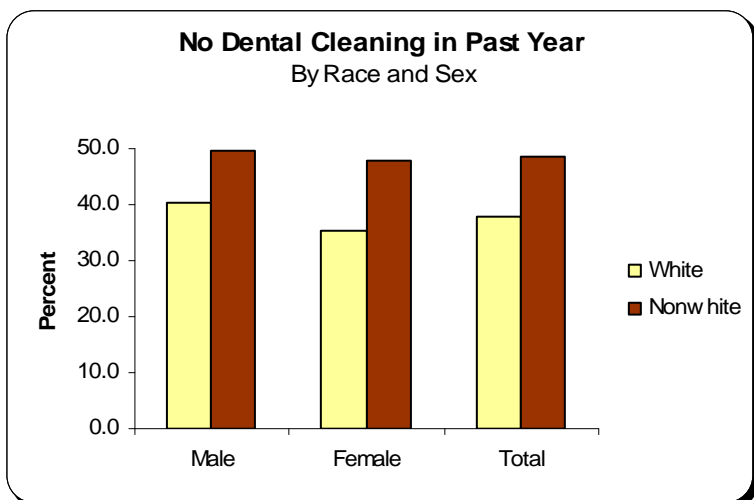


Figure 25

Early tooth loss has been shown to be a predictor of eventual edentulism. As teeth are lost, the ability to chew and speak decreases along with the ability to function properly socially. The 2010 national goal for adults who have never had permanent teeth extracted is 42 percent.

According to the 2006 BRFSS Survey for Mississippi, 57.8 percent of the respondents reported having one or more of their permanent teeth removed. In 2005 the rate was 54.7 percent.

Older people reported the loss of permanent teeth much more frequently than their younger counterparts (Figure 26). Only 23.7 percent of respondents in the 18-24 age category reported the loss of permanent teeth while almost 87 percent in the over age 65 category reported losing permanent teeth. The rate for white respondents reporting tooth loss was 54.9 percent; for nonwhites it was 62.8 percent.

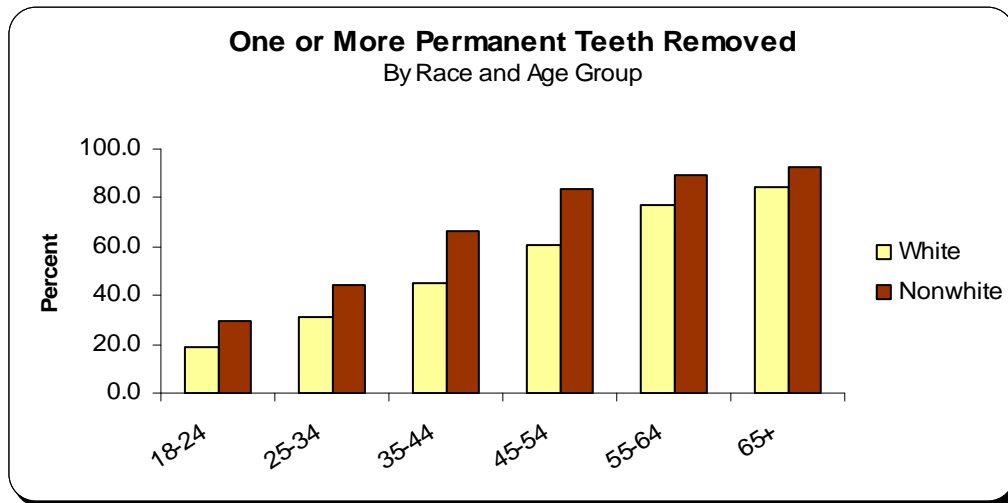


Figure 26

Oral health diseases such as tooth decay and periodontal diseases are common health problems in Mississippi, yet 40.2 percent of respondents from the 2006 BRFSS Survey reported that they have not seen a dentist within the last twelve months (Figure 24). Failure to see a dentist within the past year was observed most frequently among white respondents whose annual income is less than \$15,000 per year with a rate of 67.1 percent. Next were white respondents who have less than a high school education 66.0 percent, followed by nonwhites with less than a high school education with a rate of 60.3 percent.

As has been the case historically, people with incomes above \$75,000 per year reported the lowest number of visits outside a year with a rate of 20.1 percent. The survey revealed that as the income of the respondents decreases, so also the number of visits to a dentist within a year decreases. With respect to race, 44.5 percent of the nonwhite males reported visits to a dental facility more than one year ago compared to 41.2 percent for white males. The rate for nonwhite females was 44.0 percent while white females reported a rate of 34.8 percent (Table 25).

**Table 25 No Visits to a Dental Clinic Within the Past Year**

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>
<b>Sex</b>						
Male	638	41.2	265	44.5	904	42.3
Female	947	34.8	673	44.0	1,628	38.2
<b>Age Group</b>						
18-24	40	27.9	37	28.0	77	27.9
25-34	142	38.9	104	39.8	247	39.4
35-44	209	35.6	141	37.5	350	36.2
45-54	272	36.6	184	49.6	457	41.0
55-64	328	38.9	195	53.4	525	42.9
65+	592	46.3	270	72.4	866	53.2
<b>Education</b>						
< High School Graduate	360	66.0	367	60.3	731	63.0
High School Graduate or GED	592	42.1	299	44.2	893	42.9
Some College or Technical School	342	31.5	177	38.4	522	33.8
College Graduate	289	26.0	94	28.9	383	26.7
<b>Income</b>						
< \$15,000	356	67.1	346	56.4	705	60.8
\$15-\$24,999	339	49.5	235	46.1	575	47.8
\$25-\$34,999	183	42.9	77	38.4	261	41.4
\$35-\$49,999	200	37.1	67	34.4	267	36.2
\$50-\$74,999	138	26.7	32	32.1	170	28.1
\$75,000+	145	19.1	20	27.7	165	20.1
<b>Employment Status</b>						
Employed	668	34.1	370	37.4	1,040	35.3
Not Employed	64	60.2	74	47.4	139	52.6
Student/Homemaker	158	29.6	65	31.8	223	30.2
Retired/Unable to Work	693	47.0	427	64.4	1,126	53.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,585</b>	<b>37.9</b>	<b>938</b>	<b>44.2</b>	<b>2,532</b>	<b>40.2</b>

<sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>2</sup>Weighted

**Table 26 Last Dental Cleanings More Than One Year Ago**

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>
<b>Sex</b>						
Male	520	40.5	248	49.6	771	43.9
Female	769	35.2	598	47.9	1,373	39.9
<b>Age Group</b>						
18-24	37	27.5	40	32.4	77	29.8
25-34	154	43.2	128	48.3	283	45.4
35-44	227	40.5	174	46.1	401	42.6
45-54	280	39.8	196	58.4	477	46.2
55-64	251	36.1	159	55.7	412	41.5
65+	338	36.7	144	69.9	486	44.4
<b>Education</b>						
< High School Graduate	211	62.0	265	64.6	480	63.5
High School Graduate or GED	465	42.6	286	51.7	754	46.3
Some College or Technical School	328	34.1	192	42.6	522	36.9
College Graduate	285	27.6	102	32.9	387	28.9
<b>Income</b>						
< \$15,000	205	65.4	300	64.3	507	64.8
\$15-\$24,999	260	52.4	231	52.4	491	52.3
\$25-\$34,999	151	41.2	79	45.3	231	43.1
\$35-\$49,999	199	38.8	64	35.2	263	37.6
\$50-\$74,999	146	28.9	35	35.2	181	30.5
\$75,000+	157	22.1	26	33.8	183	23.5
<b>Employment Status</b>						
Employed	658	36.7	409	44.8	1,069	39.6
Not Employed	63	66.7	82	55.6	146	60.0
Student/Homemaker	133	29.5	55	31.4	188	30.0
Retired/Unable to Work	435	40.3	297	65.9	738	49.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,289</b>	<b>37.8</b>	<b>846</b>	<b>48.7</b>	<b>2,144</b>	<b>41.8</b>

<sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>2</sup>Weighted

**Table 27 One or More Permanent Teeth Extracted**

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>
<b>Sex</b>						
Male	956	54.7	375	59.6	1334	56.4
Female	1,645	55.1	1,063	65.8	2,724	59.1
<b>Age Group</b>						
18-24	22	18.6	38	29.4	60	23.7
25-34	106	31.4	137	44.0	244	36.7
35-44	266	45.4	260	66.0	528	53.5
45-54	468	60.3	316	83.6	784	68.1
55-64	659	76.7	319	89.2	982	80.2
65+	1,077	84.8	361	92.5	1,447	86.8
<b>Education</b>						
< High School Graduate	454	73.1	460	77.3	921	75.4
High School Graduate or GED	1,021	68.6	457	62.6	1,481	66.1
Some College or Technical School	658	48.8	298	54.6	958	50.7
College Graduate	464	36.3	219	53.4	688	41.2
<b>Income</b>						
< \$15,000	446	77.6	473	75.8	922	76.5
\$15-\$24,999	555	74.4	359	68.8	917	71.7
\$25-\$34,999	317	62.9	149	61.3	466	61.9
\$35-\$49,999	337	53.1	131	57.6	471	54.5
\$50-\$74,999	277	45.2	72	50.0	349	46.4
\$75,000+	308	35.0	48	38.8	358	35.5
<b>Employment Status</b>						
Employed	1,014	45.7	656	58.1	1,675	50.1
Not Employed	86	63.9	103	53.5	189	57.5
Student/Homemaker	255	38.4	76	37.0	331	38.0
Retired/Unable to Work	1,242	83.0	598	88.0	1,854	84.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,601</b>	<b>54.9</b>	<b>1,438</b>	<b>62.8</b>	<b>4,058</b>	<b>57.8</b>

<sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>2</sup>Weighted

## Cardiovascular Disease

### Survey Question:

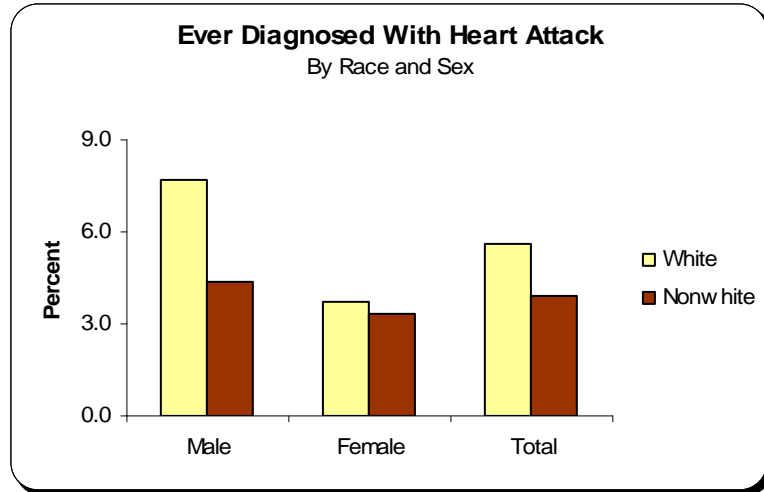
*Has a doctor, nurse, or other health professional ever told you that you had any of the following: A heart attack, also called a myocardial infarction? Angina or coronary heart disease? A stroke?*

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

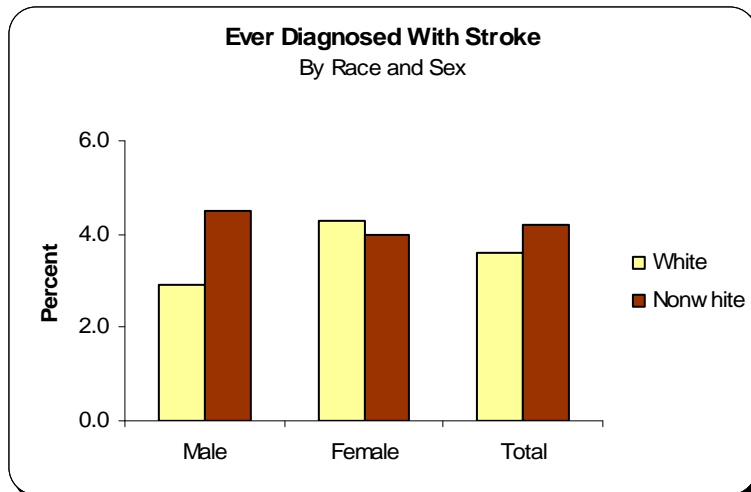
Mississippians each year. In the 2006 BRFSS

survey approximately ten percent of Mississippi adults (220,000 people) report having some kind of CVD, such as coronary heart disease, angina, previous heart attack, or stroke.

In 2005 Mississippi reported 8,584 deaths from heart disease and 1,617 from cerebrovascular disease (stroke). The two combined accounted for more than thirty-five percent of all the deaths reported that year and more than forty-six percent of the total from the ten leading causes of death.



**Figure 27**



**Figure 28**

The 2006 BRFSS survey revealed that 13.1 percent of the population 65 years of age or older reported that they have been diagnosed as having had a heart attack: 13.4 for white respondents and 11.5 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 11.3 percent while nonwhites reported a rate of 9.8 for a total rate of 10.8 percent (Table 28).

Table 29 shows the rate for those who had been diagnosed with a stroke age 65 and greater was 10.5 for both whites and nonwhites. In the 55 to 64 group the rates were 5.8 and 10.3 for whites and nonwhites respectively.

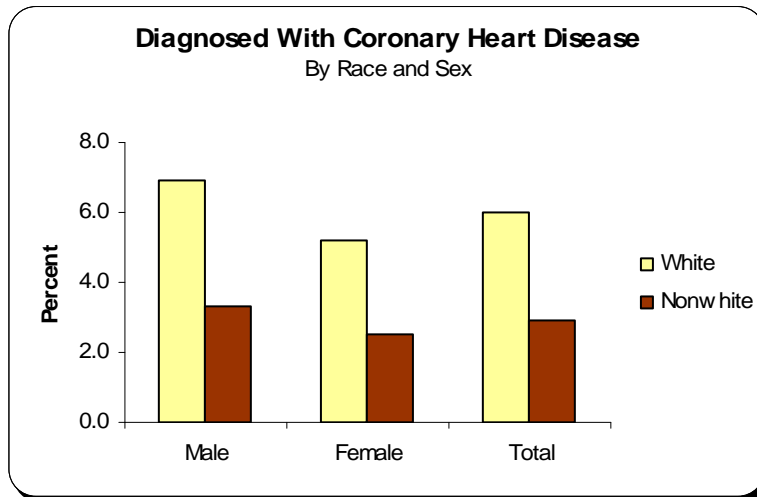


Figure 29

Those in the older age groups also reported a higher rate of coronary artery disease. Those age 65 and older reported a rate of 12.5 percent with white respondents having a rate of 13.5 percent compared to 9.7 for nonwhites. The 55 to 64 age category had an overall rate of 9.4 percent: 10.8 for whites and 6.0 for nonwhites (Table 30).



**Table 28 Ever Diagnosed With Heart Attack**

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>
<b>Sex</b>						
Male	156	7.7	38	4.4	195	6.6
Female	142	3.7	63	3.3	206	3.6
<b>Age Group</b>						
18-24	1	0.5	1	0.6	2	0.5
25-34	3	0.7	1	0.1	4	0.4
35-44	10	1.6	10	3.1	20	2.2
45-54	31	4.5	16	4.0	47	4.3
55-64	88	11.3	30	9.8	118	10.8
65+	164	13.4	43	11.5	209	13.1
<b>Education</b>						
< High School Graduate	78	11.7	49	6.5	127	8.9
High School Graduate or GED	110	5.9	25	2.6	136	4.7
Some College or Technical School	71	5.1	16	3.3	88	4.6
College Graduate	39	2.9	11	3.1	50	2.9
<b>Income</b>						
< \$15,000	87	15.9	52	6.0	139	10.1
\$15-\$24,999	73	7.8	17	3.9	91	6.0
\$25-\$34,999	37	7.3	5	2.4	42	5.4
\$35-\$49,999	28	3.9	8	2.7	36	3.6
\$50-\$74,999	14	1.9	2	1.1	16	1.7
\$75,000+	26	2.6	2	1.4	28	2.5
<b>Employment Status</b>						
Employed	59	2.6	16	1.3	75	2.1
Not Employed	7	4.5	3	1.2	10	2.4
Student/Homemaker	15	1.8	2	1.5	17	1.7
Retired/Unable to Work	217	14.7	80	12.2	299	13.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>298</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>401</b>	<b>5.0</b>

<sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>2</sup>Weighted

**Table 29 Ever Diagnosed With a Stroke**

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>
<b>Sex</b>						
Male	62	2.9	40	4.5	102	3.5
Female	157	4.3	74	4.0	231	4.2
<b>Age Group</b>						
18-24	0	0.0	1	0.4	1	0.2
25-34	1	0.3	4	1.8	5	0.9
35-44	6	1.1	13	3.3	19	2.0
45-54	23	2.6	15	4.5	38	3.2
55-64	52	5.8	39	10.3	91	7.0
65+	137	10.5	42	10.5	179	10.4
<b>Education</b>						
< High School Graduate	57	7.3	44	6.0	101	6.6
High School Graduate or GED	86	4.4	42	4.9	128	4.6
Some College or Technical School	44	2.5	19	3.1	63	2.7
College Graduate	32	2.2	9	1.9	41	2.1
<b>Income</b>						
< \$15,000	72	11.9	53	6.4	125	8.6
\$15-\$24,999	57	6.0	25	4.5	82	5.3
\$25-\$34,999	22	3.7	5	2.7	27	3.3
\$35-\$49,999	13	1.6	6	1.9	19	1.7
\$50-\$74,999	10	1.2	4	2.5	14	1.5
\$75,000+	8	1.1	2	2.8	10	1.3
<b>Employment Status</b>						
Employed	26	1.0	21	1.4	47	1.1
Not Employed	4	1.9	5	1.5	9	1.6
Student/Homemaker	17	1.8	2	0.4	19	1.4
Retired/Unable to Work	172	10.8	86	13.7	258	11.7
<b>Total</b>	219	3.6	114	4.2	333	3.8

<sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>2</sup>Weighted

**Table 30 Ever Diagnosed With Heart Coronary Heart Disease**

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>
<b>Sex</b>						
Male	139	6.9	27	3.3	166	5.6
Female	187	5.2	54	2.5	243	4.2
<b>Age Group</b>						
18-24	3	2.0	0	0.0	3	1.0
25-34	3	1.2	0	0.0	3	0.7
35-44	8	1.4	9	2.4	17	1.8
45-54	43	5.6	17	3.6	60	4.9
55-64	95	10.8	21	6.0	117	9.4
65+	174	13.5	34	9.7	209	12.5
<b>Education</b>						
< High School Graduate	70	8.5	35	4.9	106	6.6
High School Graduate or GED	126	7.0	24	2.4	150	5.2
Some College or Technical School	79	5.9	10	2.1	90	4.7
College Graduate	51	3.7	11	2.2	62	3.3
<b>Income</b>						
< \$15,000	94	16.0	35	3.6	130	8.7
\$15-\$24,999	75	8.7	18	2.5	94	5.8
\$25-\$34,999	39	6.1	7	4.3	46	5.4
\$35-\$49,999	36	5.3	4	2.1	40	4.3
\$50-\$74,999	19	2.6	2	0.6	21	2.1
\$75,000+	22	2.4	2	1.3	24	2.2
<b>Employment Status</b>						
Employed	63	2.9	14	0.8	77	2.1
Not Employed	6	2.7	1	0.2	7	1.1
Student/Homemaker	17	2.7	4	1.7	21	2.4
Retired/Unable to Work	240	15.3	61	9.6	303	13.3
<b>Total</b>	326	6.0	81	2.9	409	4.9

<sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<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.

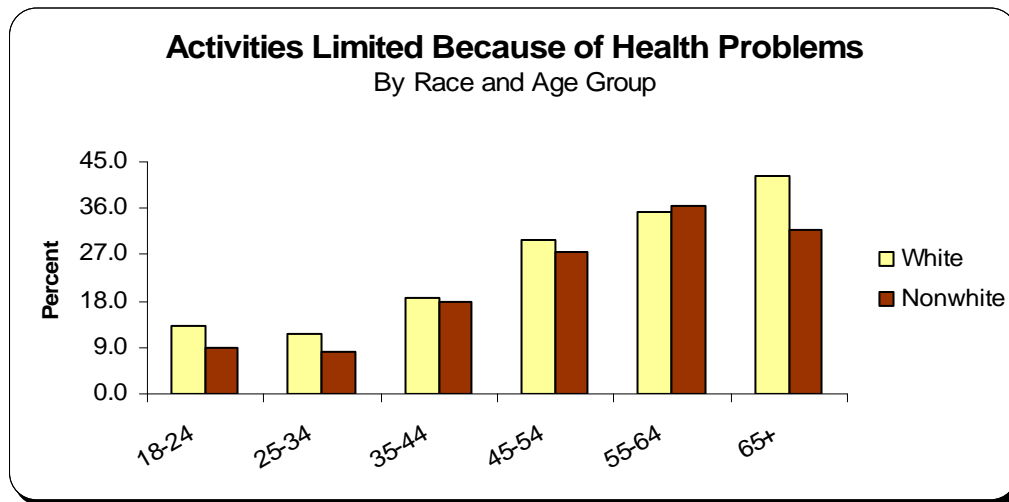


Figure 30

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 2006 BRFSS survey, 23.6 percent of Mississippians reported that their activities were limited because of health problems compared to 21.8 percent in 2005.

White respondents reported a rate of 26.0 percent, up from 22.9 in 2004 while nonwhites reported a rate of 19.5 percent, a decrease from 19.7 in 2005. Figure 30 reflects the fact that these limitations increase with age for both races. People over the age of 65 report a rate of 39.5 percent (42.3 for whites and 32.0 for nonwhites) but the 18-24 age group had a rate of only 11.3 percent (13.3 for white and 9.0 for nonwhites).

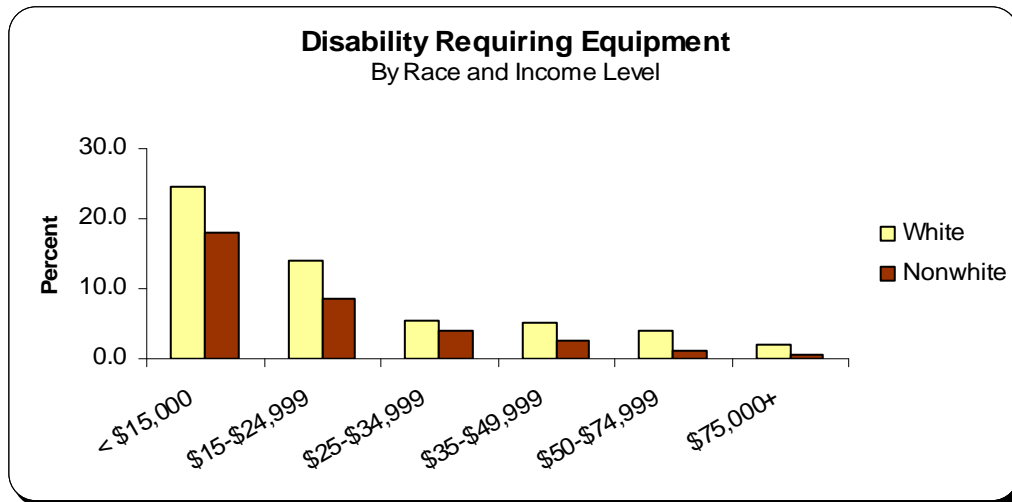


Figure 31

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 31 shows that those with lower incomes tend to require special equipment for health problems.

**Table 31 Activities Limited Because of Physical, Mental or Emotional Problems**

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>
<b>Sex</b>						
Male	422	23.3	120	16.2	544	20.7
Female	860	28.6	382	22.4	1,250	26.3
<b>Age Group</b>						
18-24	16	13.3	12	9.0	28	11.3
25-34	44	11.8	29	8.3	73	10.2
35-44	121	18.6	77	18.0	198	18.3
45-54	235	29.7	120	27.7	355	28.9
55-64	325	35.2	133	36.3	461	35.6
65+	539	42.3	129	32.0	672	39.5
<b>Education</b>						
< High School Graduate	264	42.0	187	29.2	454	35.3
High School Graduate or GED	475	29.3	144	15.3	620	23.9
Some College or Technical School	315	23.6	107	19.9	425	22.5
College Graduate	228	16.9	63	12.9	293	15.8
<b>Income</b>						
< \$15,000	317	56.9	219	32.2	538	42.3
\$15-\$24,999	306	42.9	122	21.8	430	32.7
\$25-\$34,999	124	23.1	32	14.6	156	19.7
\$35-\$49,999	140	21.0	29	10.8	169	17.9
\$50-\$74,999	110	17.5	16	7.5	126	14.9
\$75,000+	101	11.1	9	5.0	110	10.3
<b>Employment Status</b>						
Employed	315	13.9	95	6.7	410	11.2
Not Employed	49	41.4	43	19.8	92	28.2
Student/Homemaker	112	17.6	36	16.7	148	17.3
Retired/Unable to Work	805	55.5	326	51.0	1,141	54.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,282</b>	<b>26.0</b>	<b>502</b>	<b>19.5</b>	<b>1,794</b>	<b>23.6</b>

<sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>2</sup>Weighted

**Table 32 Health Problems That Require Special Equipment**

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>
<b>Sex</b>						
Male	148	7.9	73	8.9	222	8.2
Female	307	8.3	164	8.9	473	8.6
<b>Age Group</b>						
18-24	0	0.0	1	1.8	1	0.8
25-34	9	2.7	4	0.8	13	1.9
35-44	24	3.9	28	7.7	52	5.4
45-54	64	7.7	42	10.2	106	8.5
55-64	98	10.7	60	16.4	158	12.3
65+	259	20.3	102	27.9	364	22.4
<b>Education</b>						
< High School Graduate	111	14.9	120	19.2	232	17.1
High School Graduate or GED	170	8.9	55	5.9	225	7.7
Some College or Technical School	101	6.9	36	5.2	138	6.4
College Graduate	73	5.3	26	4.9	100	5.2
<b>Income</b>						
< \$15,000	145	24.5	113	18.1	259	20.7
\$15-\$24,999	118	13.9	56	8.7	175	11.4
\$25-\$34,999	31	5.5	9	3.9	40	4.8
\$35-\$49,999	31	5.1	9	2.5	40	4.3
\$50-\$74,999	29	4.0	2	1.2	31	3.3
\$75,000+	21	2.0	1	0.7	22	1.8
<b>Employment Status</b>						
Employed	50	2.2	15	0.8	65	1.7
Not Employed	10	5.3	7	1.9	17	3.2
Student/Homemaker	36	4.2	13	3.0	49	3.8
Retired/Unable to Work	358	24.0	201	33.5	562	27.3
<b>Total</b>	455	8.1	237	8.9	695	8.4

<sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<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.

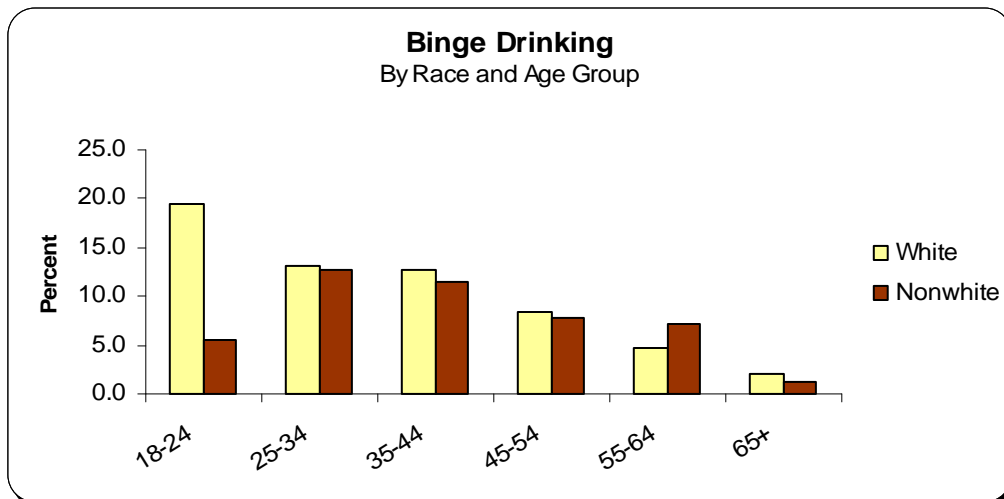


Figure 32

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 2006 survey the rate for this group was 19.5 percent. Since 1999 when the rate of binge drinking for this group was reported to be 33.5 percent, the survey has shown a 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 and in 2005 it was 21.2 percent. Males were 2.5 times more likely to indulge in binge drinking than females. Only 5.2 percent of female respondents said they had five or more drinks on one occasion during the last thirty days compared to 13.2 percent for males.



**Table 33 At Risk From Binge Drinking**

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>
<b>Sex</b>						
Male	172	13.6	56	12.7	228	13.2
Female	113	5.9	64	4.0	177	5.2
<b>Age Group</b>						
18-24	23	19.5	7	5.6	30	12.9
25-34	52	13.2	19	12.7	71	12.9
35-44	74	12.7	41	11.4	115	12.2
45-54	72	8.5	29	7.7	101	8.2
55-64	40	4.8	20	7.2	60	5.4
65+	23	2.0	4	1.2	27	1.8
<b>Education</b>						
< High School Graduate	27	8.8	27	5.9	54	7.3
High School Graduate or GED	85	9.7	44	8.6	129	9.3
Some College or Technical School	71	8.7	29	10.5	100	9.2
College Graduate	102	10.7	20	7.4	122	9.7
<b>Income</b>						
< \$15,000	18	6.2	29	7.4	47	6.8
\$15-\$24,999	50	9.4	37	10.2	87	9.8
\$25-\$34,999	26	8.1	15	7.9	41	8.0
\$35-\$49,999	47	12.5	15	11.7	62	12.3
\$50-\$74,999	43	8.4	11	10.2	54	8.8
\$75,000+	86	13.6	6	6.9	92	12.7
<b>Employment Status</b>						
Employed	208	12.2	77	8.9	285	11.0
Not Employed	12	9.9	19	16.8	31	14.0
Student/Homemaker	24	10.4	4	5.6	28	9.0
Retired/Unable to Work	41	3.1	19	3.1	60	3.1
<b>Total</b>	285	9.6	120	8.1	405	9.0

<sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>2</sup>Weighted

**Table 34 At Risk From Heavy Drinking**

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>
<b>Sex</b>						
Male	82	4.9	26	6.3	108	5.4
Female	60	2.9	27	1.9	87	2.5
<b>Age Group</b>						
18-24	6	5.2	4	4.0	10	4.6
25-34	15	3.3	10	5.8	25	4.4
35-44	29	5.4	14	3.7	43	4.8
45-54	36	4.1	17	5.6	53	4.6
55-64	29	3.3	7	2.6	36	3.1
65+	27	2.2	1	0.3	28	1.6
<b>Education</b>						
< High School Graduate	16	5.6	14	3.8	30	4.6
High School Graduate or GED	37	3.1	24	5.3	61	3.9
Some College or Technical School	36	2.9	11	4.5	47	3.4
College Graduate	53	5.0	4	0.9	57	3.8
<b>Income</b>						
< \$15,000	14	3.5	12	4.6	26	4.2
\$15-\$24,999	21	3.6	15	4.2	36	3.9
\$25-\$34,999	16	4.4	11	6.3	27	5.2
\$35-\$49,999	15	2.2	4	4.2	19	2.8
\$50-\$74,999	24	4.4	3	1.6	27	3.7
\$75,000+	41	4.4	4	3.9	45	4.3
<b>Employment Status</b>						
Employed	97	4.9	34	4.1	131	4.6
Not Employed	6	4.7	10	9.7	16	7.7
Student/Homemaker	9	3.1	3	4.8	12	3.6
Retired/Unable to Work	30	1.8	6	0.9	36	1.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>3.9</b>

<sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>2</sup>Weighted

## Drinking and Driving

### Survey Question:

*During the past month, how many times have you driven when you have had perhaps too much to drink?*

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) reports that in 2004 there were 16,694 alcohol-related motor vehicle fatalities in the United States. In Mississippi that year there were 341 such fatalities which accounted for approximately 38 percent of all vehicular deaths that year and represented a 3.2 percent increase from the prior year.

Between 2000 and 2004 NHTSA further reported that on Mississippi roadways there were 654 traffic fatalities in which the crash was classified as “alcohol-related.” This is an average of 330 fatalities per year and accounts for nearly 38 percent of all traffic fatalities during the five-year period.

In Mississippi, males were much more likely than females to have driven after having too much to drink than females according to the 2006 BRFSS report. The rate for males was 6.1 percent compared to only 2.0 for females. White males were 3.4 times more likely to drive after excessive drinking than white females; nonwhite males were 2.6 times more likely than were nonwhite females.

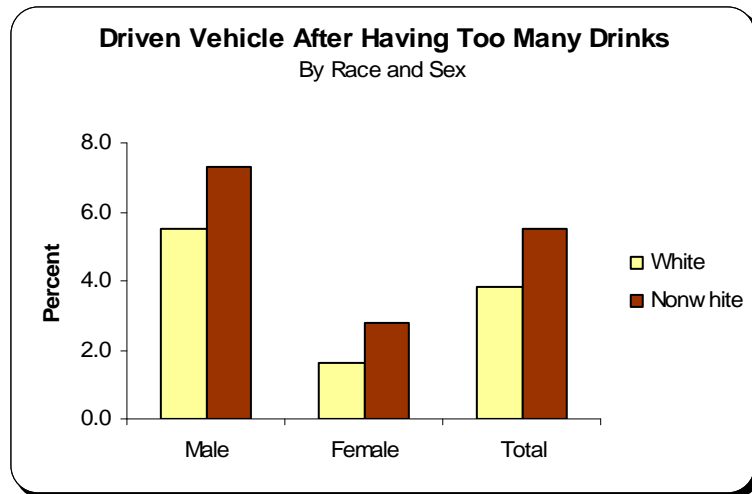


Figure 33

The demographic group that reported the highest rate of drinking and driving was nonwhite males age 25 to 34. The next highest group was nonwhite males in the 35 to 44 age group showed a rate of 6.8 percent. The third highest group was white males who had rate of 6.4 percent.

**Table 35 Drove Vehicle After Drinking Too Much in Past 30 Days\***

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>
<b>Sex</b>						
Male	27	5.5	13	7.3	40	6.1
Female	12	1.6	8	2.8	20	2.0
<b>Age Group</b>						
18-24	3	6.4	1	3.6*	4	5.2
25-34	7	4.2	5	8.4	12	5.9
35-44	12	5.3	7	6.8	19	5.9
45-54	12	3.1	3	2.7	15	3.0
55-64	4	1.2	4	4.7	8	2.1
65+	1	0.4	1	2.7*	2	0.8
<b>Education</b>						
< High School Graduate	2	8.6	3	1.4	5	4.8
High School Graduate or GED	11	4.6	8	5.8	19	5.2
Some College or Technical School	9	3.0	6	8.0	15	4.5
College Graduate	17	2.8	4	5.2	21	3.3
<b>Income</b>						
< \$15,000	1	1.6	4	2.1	5	1.9
\$15-\$24,999	7	4.4	5	2.9	12	3.5
\$25-\$34,999	5	4.3	2	6.1	7	5.0
\$35-\$49,999	4	3.0	3	7.4	7	4.3
\$50-\$74,999	9	3.8	2	12.2*	11	6.0
\$75,000+	9	2.8	3	7.2*	12	3.2
<b>Employment Status</b>						
Employed	30	4.4	14	6.7	44	5.2
Not Employed	4	9.9*	3	5.5	7	7.3
Student/Homemaker	1	0.4	0	0.0*	1	0.3
Retired/Unable to Work	4	1.7	4	2.8	8	2.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>4.4</b>

<sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>2</sup>Weighted

\*Denominator is those who drink

## Falls

### Survey Question:

1. *The next question asks about a recent fall. By a fall, we mean when a person unintentionally comes to rest on the ground or another lower level. In the past three months, how many times have you fallen?*
2. *How many of these falls caused an injury? By an injury, we mean the fall caused you to limit your regular activities for at least a day or to go see a doctor.*

Unintentional falls are the seventh leading cause of injury death among people age 45 to 54, and are fourth in the 55 to 64 age group. Falls are the leading cause of injury deaths and serious injuries among people age 65 and older, the fastest growing segment of the population in the United States. From 2000 to 2040, the number of people age 65 and older is projected to increase from 35 million to 77 million. For people age 85 and above, the relative growth rates are even faster.

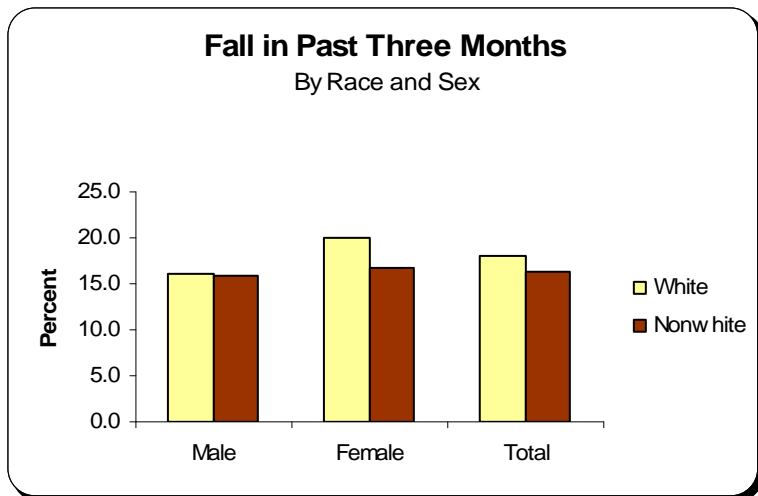


Figure 34

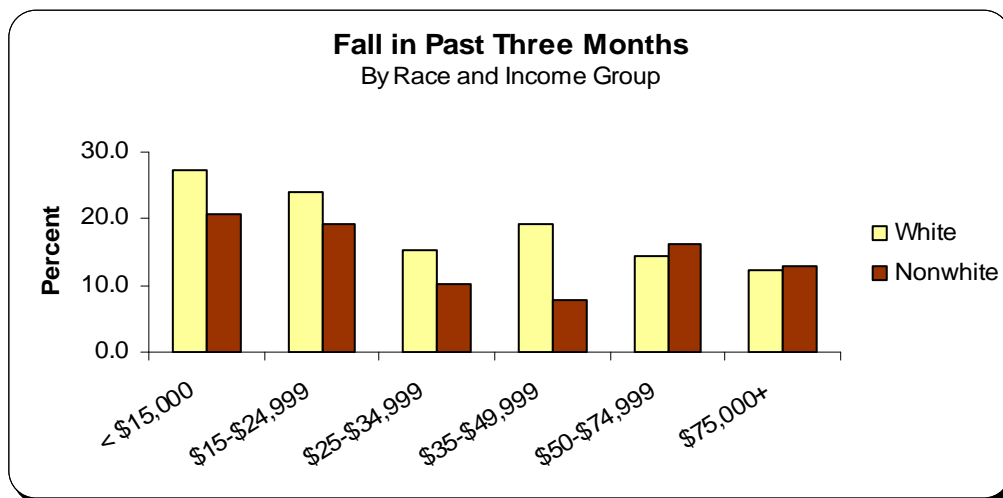


Figure 35

Recent studies have shown that in the United States, one of every three people age 65 years and older falls each year. In 2001, about 11,600 people age 65 and above died

and 1.6 million were treated in emergency departments for fall-related injuries. Of those who fall, 20 to 30 percent suffer moderate to severe injuries such as fracture or head trauma that reduce mobility and independence, and increase the risk of premature death. The prevalence of falls that result in any injury is not known. The direct cost of fall injuries in 1994 for people age 65 and older was \$27.3 billion.

One of the strongest predictors of a fall is having sustained a previous fall. A fall is often a marker of increasing fragility, functional decline, or neurological impairment and may indicate the need for a secondary prevention strategy such as hip protectors to guard against hip fractures.

In the 2006 BRFSS survey for Mississippi, the question related to falls was only asked to those who 45 year old or older. Of those, 17.6 percent reported that they had sustained a fall in the past three months. White respondents reported a rate of 18.1 percent while nonwhites reported a rate of 16.4.

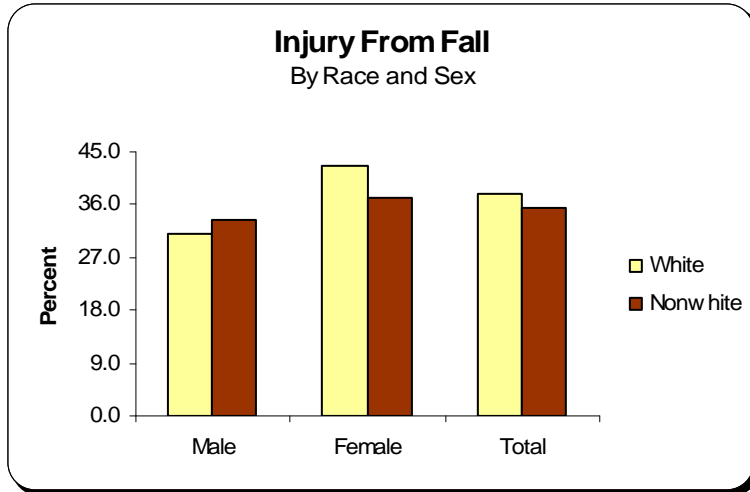


Figure 36

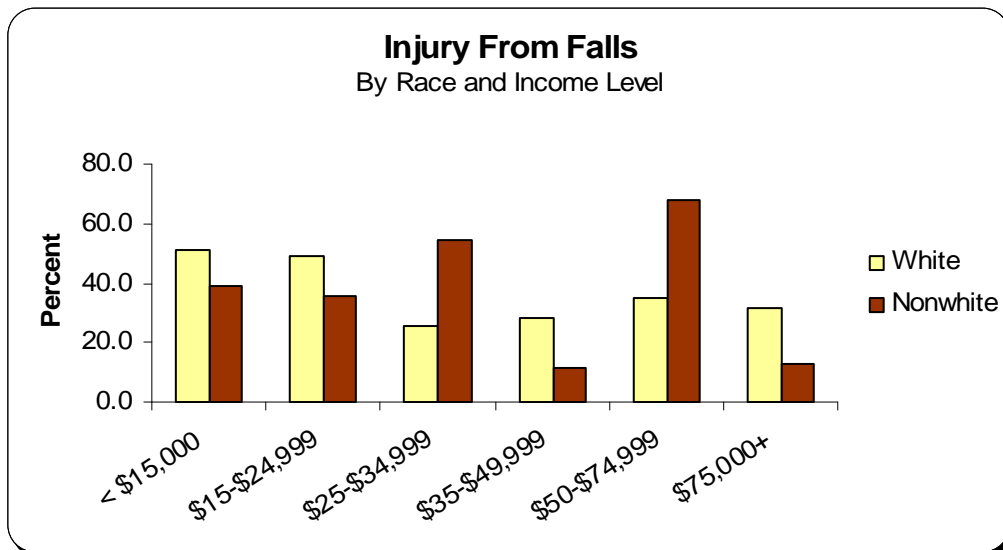


Figure 37

Lower income groups reported a higher rate of fall than those with incomes in the upper group. Those with incomes less that \$15 thousand annually had a rate of 24.0 percent and those in the \$15 to \$25 thousand annually reported a rate of 22.2 percent

while those with incomes greater than \$75 thousand annually experienced a rate of only 12.3 percent (See Figure 35 and Table 36). Females at 19.0 percent reported a higher rate of falls than males who had a rate of 15.9 percent (Figure 34).

Of those who reported a fall, 37.4 percent said that they sustained an injury from the fall. As was the case with falls, those in the lower income groups had the higher rates of injury as did females in the survey. Almost 46 percent of those with incomes less than \$15 annually reported receiving an injury from the fall and 41.5 percent of the females reported an injury from a fall compared to 31.7 percent for males (See Figures 36, 37 and Table 37).

**Table 36 Report a Fall in the Past Three Months (Age 45+)**

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>
<b>Sex</b>						
Male	167	16.0	50	15.9	218	15.9
Female	375	20.0	139	16.8	516	19.0
<b>Age Group</b>						
45-54	137	17.8	72	17.8	209	17.8
55-64	175	18.2	59	14.3	234	17.1
65+	230	18.6	58	16.7	290	18.1
<b>Education</b>						
< High School Graduate	107	24.3	70	18.4	178	21.2
High School Graduate or GED	184	16.5	61	17.8	246	16.8
Some College or Technical School	132	18.3	35	16.3	168	17.8
College Graduate	118	16.8	23	10.3	141	15.2
<b>Income</b>						
< \$15,000	120	27.4	78	20.6	199	24.0
\$15-\$24,999	128	23.9	46	19.1	175	22.2
\$25-\$34,999	51	15.4	11	10.2	62	13.7
\$35-\$49,999	67	19.2	7	7.7	74	16.5
\$50-\$74,999	49	14.4	8	16.2	57	14.7
\$75,000+	57	12.3	9	12.8	66	12.3
<b>Employment Status</b>						
Employed	144	12.7	54	12.1	198	12.5
Not Employed	20	24.9	7	10.0	27	17.6
Student/Homemaker	46	19.3	8	12.9	54	18.2
Retired/Unable to Work	332	23.4	120	21.3	455	22.7
<b>Total</b>	542	18.1	189	16.4	734	17.6

<sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>2</sup>Weighted



**Table 37 Report Injury From a Fall in the Past Three Months (Age 45+)<sup>3</sup>**

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>
<b>Sex</b>						
Male	53	31.1	16	33.3	69	31.7
Female	157	42.7	56	37.0	215	41.5
<b>Age Group</b>						
45-54	56	40.3	30	42.8	86	41.2
55-64	71	38.5	24	29.6	95	36.4
65+	83	35.4	18	28.7	102	33.9
<b>Education</b>						
< High School Graduate	50	43.5	25	28.3	75	36.6
High School Graduate or GED	74	42.5	22	33.5	97	40.4
Some College or Technical School	51	35.8	20	61.9*	72	42.2
College Graduate	34	29.0	5	19.3*	39	27.4
<b>Income</b>						
< \$15,000	61	51.1	34	38.9	95	45.8
\$15-\$24,999	58	49.1	16	35.7*	75	45.2
\$25-\$34,999	14	25.7*	6	54.4*	20	32.8
\$35-\$49,999	20	28.3*	1	11.1*	21	26.4
\$50-\$74,999	17	34.9*	4	68.2*	21	40.7
\$75,000+	16	31.3*	1	13.0*	17	29.2
<b>Employment Status</b>						
Employed	41	30.4	16	25.8	57	29.1
Not Employed	9	56.0*	3	31.0*	12	49.4
Student/Homemaker	20	44.1*	3	29.8*	23	42.3
Retired/Unable to Work	140	40.4	50	40.8	192	40.8
<b>Total</b>	210	38.0	72	35.4	284	37.4

\*Sample size <50

<sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>2</sup>Weighted

<sup>3</sup>Denominator is those who report a fall in past three months

## Seatbelt Use

### Survey Question:

*How often do you use seat belts when you drive or ride in a car? Would you say always, nearly always, sometimes, seldom or never?*

In the United States during 2005, safety belts saved the lives of an estimated 15,632 people over four years of age, and child-restraint use saved the lives of 420 children ages four years and younger according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).

The Agency also reports the following: in 2005, 31,415 occupants of passenger cars and light trucks died in motor vehicle crashes that included 1,617 children ages 15 years and younger and 4,899 people ages 16 to 20 years; more than half the people killed in motor vehicle crashes in 2005 were not wearing safety belts; and child safety seats reduce the risk of death in passenger cars by 71 percent for infants and by 54 percent for toddlers ages one to four.

The Center for Disease Control reports that motor vehicle-related injuries kill more children and young adults in the age group 1 to 34 than any other single cause in the United States.

According to the Mississippi Highway Safety Plan for fiscal year 2007, there were 2,712 unbelted vehicle occupant fatalities between 2000 and 2004 which is an average of 540 fatalities per year.

These occurrences accounted for nearly 62 percent of all traffic fatalities during this five-year period and approximately 71 percent of all fatalities from vehicle occupants. During this period, reported safety belt usage in Mississippi ranged from a low of 50.4 percent in 2000 to a high of 63.2 percent in 2004. In 2005, the seat belt usage rate dropped to 60.8 percent and was the lowest usage rate in the Nation.

The 2006 BRFSS survey in Mississippi revealed that 85.4 of the respondents say that they always or nearly always wear a seat belt when the either drive of ride in a car. Females report that they use seat belts more often than men. Women had a usage rate of 89.2 percent compared to 81.2 percent for men (Figure 38). Younger respondents

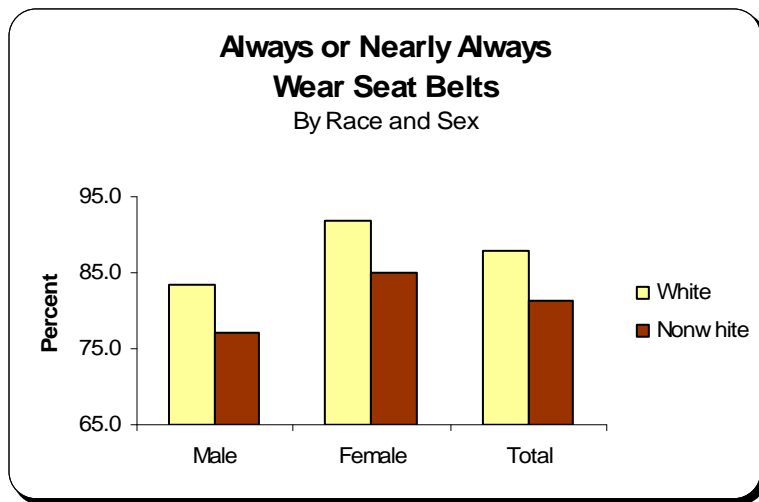


Figure 38

reported a higher rate of non-usage than older respondents. Those in the 18-24 age group said they always or nearly always use seat belts 74.0 percent of the time while those age 65 and older reported a rate of 92.2 percent (Figure 39).

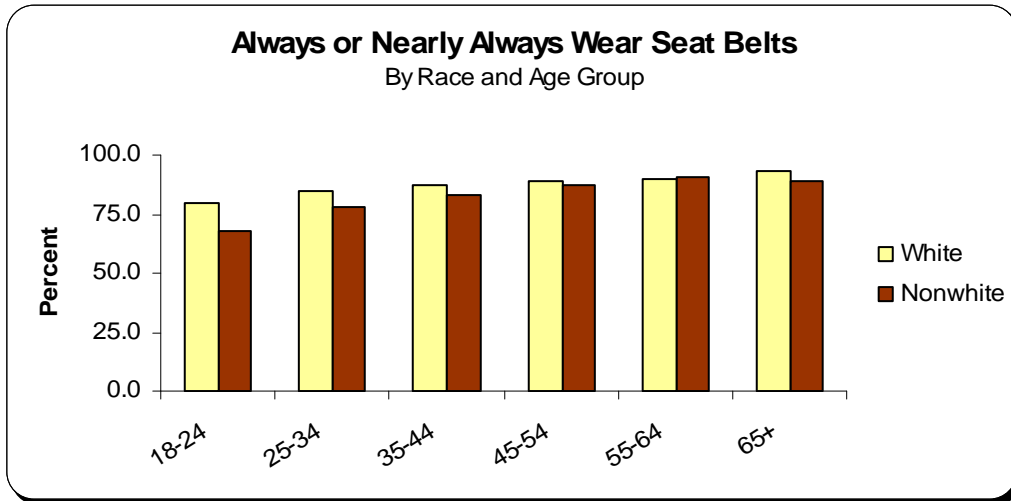


Figure 39

**Table 38 Always or Nearly Always Wear Seat Belts**

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>
<b>Sex</b>						
Male	1,247	83.4	427	77.2	1,683	81.2
Female	2,431	91.8	1,231	84.9	3,680	89.2
<b>Age Group</b>						
18-24	102	79.3	91	68.1	193	74.0
25-34	332	84.7	222	77.6	557	81.7
35-44	546	87.2	324	83.1	872	85.7
45-54	691	89.3	341	87.0	1,035	88.4
55-64	798	89.9	319	91.1	1,123	90.2
65+	1,201	93.5	350	88.9	1,560	92.2
<b>Education</b>						
< High School Graduate	477	85.5	433	77.8	917	81.5
High School Graduate or GED	1,204	85.8	517	80.5	1,728	83.8
Some College or Technical School	979	88.3	386	81.3	1,369	86.0
College Graduate	1,015	90.7	319	87.7	1,340	89.9
<b>Income</b>						
< \$15,000	479	88.4	470	73.6	952	79.6
\$15-\$24,999	617	86.7	414	83.5	1,035	85.2
\$25-\$34,999	401	87.0	183	79.4	585	84.1
\$35-\$49,999	501	86.9	174	84.5	677	86.1
\$50-\$74,999	492	88.5	113	88.2	605	88.4
\$75,000+	711	90.3	85	87.3	801	90.0
<b>Employment Status</b>						
Employed	1,763	86.2	828	81.1	2,602	84.4
Not Employed	101	79.9	120	74.2	221	76.2
Student/Homemaker	415	88.5	106	71.8	521	83.6
Retired/Unable to Work	1,394	92.3	599	88.6	2,008	91.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,678</b>	<b>87.8</b>	<b>1,658</b>	<b>81.3</b>	<b>5,363</b>	<b>85.4</b>

<sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>2</sup>Weighted

**Table 39 Sometimes, Seldom or Never Wear Seat Belts**

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>
<b>Sex</b>						
Male	201	15.0	84	20.1	285	16.8
Female	147	7.3	159	13.9	308	9.7
<b>Age Group</b>						
18-24	27	19.5	41	31.0	68	24.9
25-34	52	14.3	48	19.5	100	16.4
35-44	63	11.8	54	14.4	117	12.8
45-54	75	9.8	36	10.9	112	10.2
55-64	68	8.6	29	8.0	97	8.4
65+	63	5.2	34	9.8	98	6.4
<b>Education</b>						
< High School Graduate	51	12.8	80	21.1	131	17.1
High School Graduate or GED	137	13.2	84	17.7	221	14.8
Some College or Technical School	87	10.8	51	16.5	139	12.7
College Graduate	73	7.8	27	9.3	101	8.2
<b>Income</b>						
< \$15,000	42	11.0	87	25.1	130	19.4
\$15-\$24,999	68	12.8	54	14.9	122	13.8
\$25-\$34,999	45	12.7	27	20.0	72	15.5
\$35-\$49,999	54	11.6	22	13.8	77	12.3
\$50-\$74,999	44	10.0	13	10.9	57	10.2
\$75,000+	57	8.8	4	3.9	61	8.1
<b>Employment Status</b>						
Employed	211	12.6	124	16.2	335	13.9
Not Employed	17	19.3	35	24.5	53	22.7
Student/Homemaker	33	9.9	24	27.3	57	15.0
Retired/Unable to Work	87	6.5	59	10.9	147	8.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>348</b>	<b>11.0</b>	<b>243</b>	<b>16.8</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>13.1</b>

<sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<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.

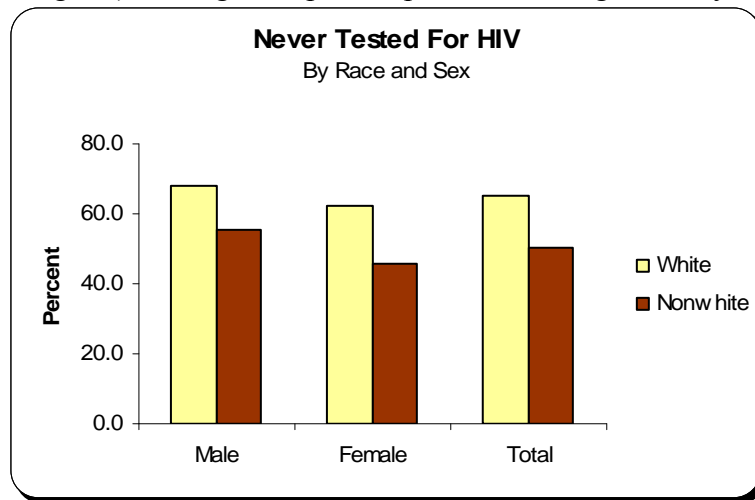


Figure 40

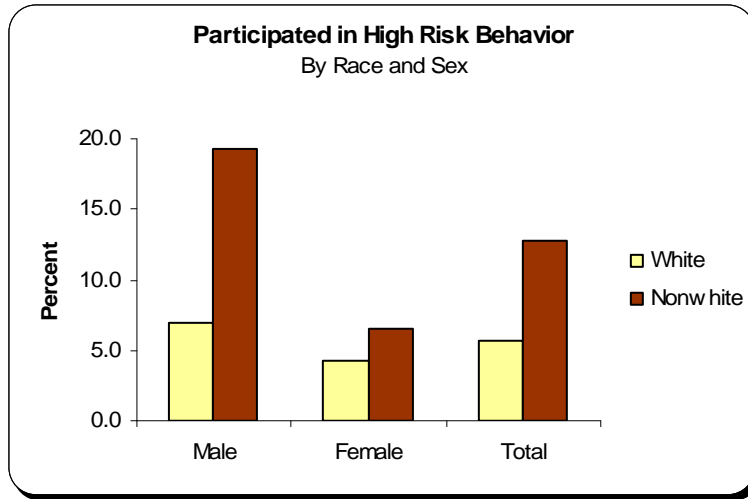
In 2005, the estimated number of diagnoses of AIDS in the United States and dependent areas was 45,669. Of these, 44,198 were in the 50 states and District of Columbia and 1,096 were in the dependent areas. In the 50 states and District of Columbia, adult and adolescent AIDS cases totaled 44,140 with 32,430 cases in males and 11,710 cases in females, and 58 cases estimated in children under age 13.

The cumulative estimated number of diagnoses of AIDS through 2005 in the United States and dependent areas was 988,376. Of these, 956,666 were in the 50 states and District of Columbia and 30,523 were in the dependent areas. In the 50 states and District of Columbia, adult and adolescent AIDS cases totaled 947,585 with 764,763

cases in males and 182,822 cases in females, and 9,078 cases estimated in children under age 13.

In 2005, Mississippi reported 577 new cases of HIV and there were 8,330 people with HIV 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 AIDS virus. In 2006, almost sixty percent (59.4) of the respondents reported that they



**Figure 41**

had participated in high risk behavior, nonwhites with a rate of 12.7 percent were more than twice as likely to have participated as whites who had a rate of 5.7 percent. In the gender category, nonwhite males who reported a rate of 19.3 percent were considerably higher than any of the other gender groups for engaging in high risk behavior. The next highest group was white males with a rate of 7.0 percent followed by nonwhite females at 6.5 percent. White females reported the lowest rate of risky behavior with a rate of 4.3 percent (Figure 41 and Table 41).

had never been tested. White respondents were more likely to have never been tested than nonwhites: 65.0 percent to 50.5. The rate for white respondents who have never been tested was 67.9 percent for males and 62.2 percent for females. For nonwhites, the rates were 55.4 percent for males and 45.8 for females. (Figure 40 and Table 40).

On the question of whether the respondents

**Table 40 Never Tested for HIV (Age 18-64)**

Groups	White		Nonwhite		Total	
	Number <sup>1</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>	Number <sup>1</sup>
<b>Sex</b>						
Male	727	67.9	237	55.4	967	63.1
Female	1,142	62.2	553	45.8	1,703	55.9
<b>Age Group</b>						
18-24	86	66.7	66	55.0	152	61.2
25-34	195	51.0	74	31.1	270	42.4
35-44	345	58.5	163	43.9	509	52.8
45-54	525	68.5	231	61.5	760	66.2
55-64	718	81.4	256	74.5	979	79.4
<b>Education</b>						
< High School Graduate	170	60.6	186	59.1	358	59.8
High School Graduate or GED	629	73.6	271	50.5	904	64.0
Some College or Technical School	492	60.9	180	45.6	675	55.6
College Graduate	576	61.9	152	47.5	729	57.6
<b>Income</b>						
< \$15,000	135	54.2	204	49.5	341	51.3
\$15-\$24,999	262	56.8	201	48.8	464	52.4
\$25-\$34,999	201	67.1	93	50.9	295	60.3
\$35-\$49,999	311	64.7	97	54.1	408	61.4
\$50-\$74,999	329	68.8	58	45.9	387	62.5
\$75,000+	456	66.9	49	43.4	508	63.6
<b>Employment Status</b>						
Employed	1,267	66.5	450	46.1	1,723	59.1
Not Employed	68	55.9	64	45.6	133	49.8
Student/Homemaker	188	60.9	59	60.2	247	60.6
Retired/Unable to Work	345	64.9	213	64.6	561	64.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,869</b>	<b>65.0</b>	<b>790</b>	<b>50.5</b>	<b>2,670</b>	<b>59.4</b>

<sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>2</sup>Weighted



**Table 41 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>
<b>Sex</b>						
Male	70	7.0	63	19.3	133	11.6
Female	43	4.3	58	6.5	101	5.1
<b>Age Group</b>						
18-24	16	15.2	28	27.6	44	21.1
25-34	20	5.9	28	12.0	48	8.5
35-44	26	3.6	26	5.8	52	4.4
45-54	37	4.3	24	8.1	61	5.6
55-64	14	1.6	15	6.1	29	2.9
<b>Education</b>						
< High School Graduate	17	7.4	29	17.9	46	13.0
High School Graduate or GED	33	6.9	46	14.5	79	10.1
Some College or Technical School	30	6.3	31	11.8	61	8.2
College Graduate	33	3.0	15	4.5	48	3.5
<b>Income</b>						
< \$15,000	17	7.6	34	14.0	51	11.7
\$15-\$24,999	19	7.3	34	12.9	53	10.3
\$25-\$34,999	10	6.2	19	10.8	29	8.1
\$35-\$49,999	20	6.4	13	8.5	33	7.0
\$50-\$74,999	13	2.3	5	7.1	18	3.6
\$75,000+	19	4.0	4	15.3	23	5.5
<b>Employment Status</b>						
Employed	68	4.8	74	11.6	142	7.3
Not Employed	13	13.5	15	20.9	28	17.9
Student/Homemaker	12	7.7	6	12.1	18	9.1
Retired/Unable to Work	20	4.9	26	11.3	46	7.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>5.7</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>12.7</b>	<b>234</b>	<b>8.3</b>

<sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>2</sup>Weighted

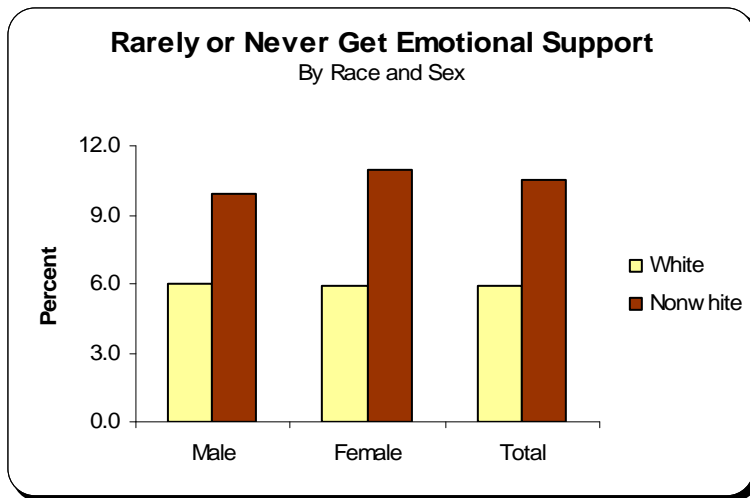
## Emotional Support and Life Satisfaction

### Survey Question:

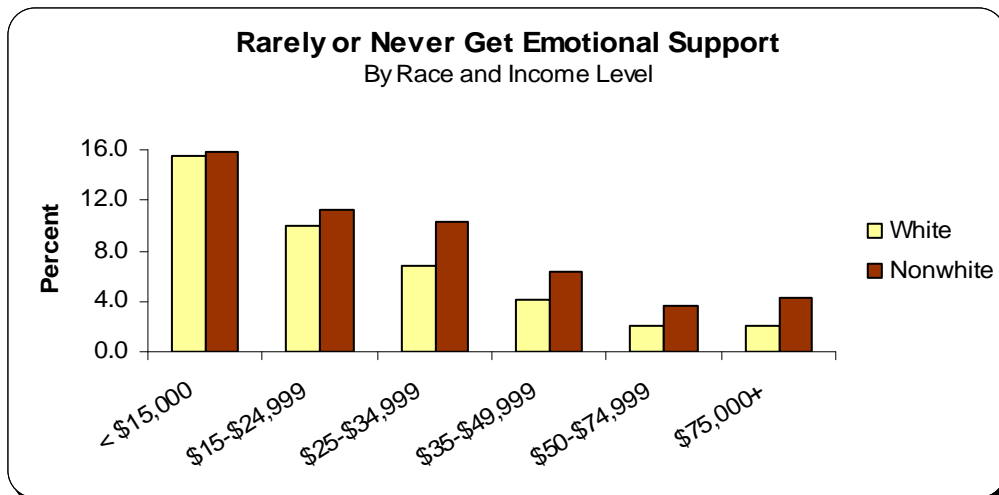
1. *How often do you get the social and emotional support you need?*
2. *In general, how satisfied are you with your life?*

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

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 42**



**Figure 43**

The 2004 *National Survey on Drug Use and Health* (NSDUH), which includes state-specific estimates of substance use and mental health problems based on 2003 and 2004

surveys indicated that an estimated 9.6 percent of Mississippians, aged 18 and older experienced serious psychological distress in the past year. Within the 18 to 25 year age group, 14.7 percent of Mississippians were estimated to have experienced serious psychological distress in the prior year.

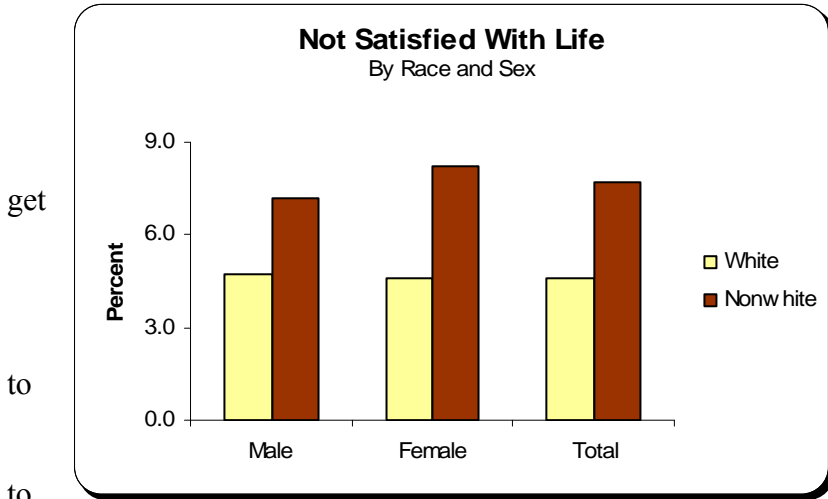


Figure 44

The 2006 BRFSS survey showed that 7.6 percent of the respondents said that they rarely or never get the emotional support they need. The rate in 2005 was 8.0 percent. Nonwhites were almost twice as likely to report no emotional support with a rate of 10.5 percent compared to a rate of 5.9 percent for whites. The difference was more

pronounced in the 18-24 age group where 10.1 percent of nonwhite respondents reported no emotional support compare to only 3.5 percent for whites (Table 42). The segment that reported the highest rate was those whose annual income was below \$15,000 per year who had a rate of 15.9 percent (Table 42).

There were 5.8 percent in the 2006 survey who said that they were either dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with life. Nonwhites at a rate of 7.7 percent were decidedly more likely to have reported dissatisfaction than white respondents who had a rate of 4.6 percent (Figure 44).

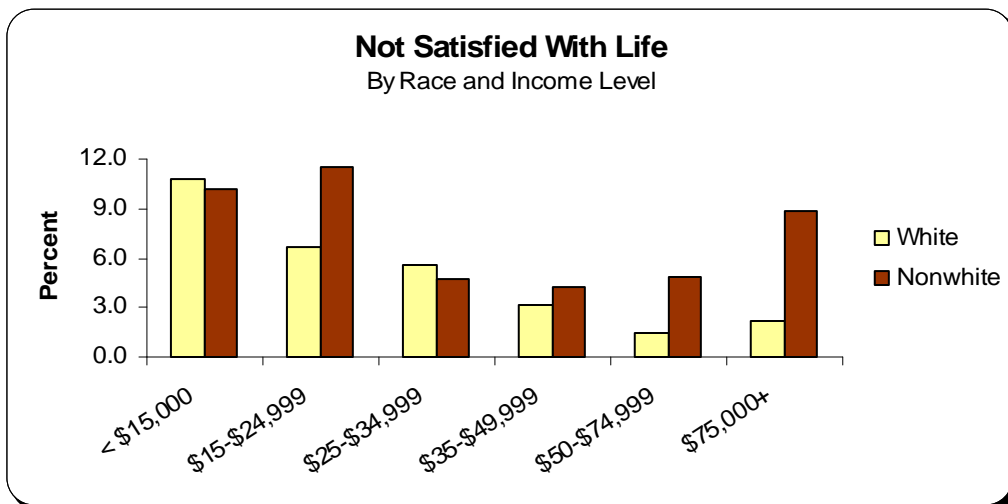


Figure 45

The category of people who reported the highest rate of not being satisfied with life were unemployed whites who had a rate of 16.9 percent compared to a rate of 8.6 percent for unemployed nonwhite respondents (Table 43). The second highest group who said they were dissatisfied with life was those whose annual incomes were less than \$15,000 per year. Whites reported a rate of 10.8 percent compared to 10.2 percent for nonwhites with a total rate of 10.4 percent (Table 43).

**Table 42 Rarely or Never Get the Emotional Support Needed**

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>
<b>Sex</b>						
Male	102	6.0	60	9.9	163	7.4
Female	172	5.9	175	11.0	350	7.8
<b>Age Group</b>						
18-24	5	3.5	15	10.1	20	6.6
25-34	19	4.4	27	8.7	46	6.2
35-44	33	5.4	47	10.0	80	7.2
45-54	51	6.5	53	13.0	105	8.8
55-64	47	5.4	45	12.6	92	7.4
65+	119	9.2	48	9.9	170	9.5
<b>Education</b>						
< High School Graduate	74	14.9	73	11.7	149	13.2
High School Graduate or GED	112	6.6	81	11.5	194	8.5
Some College or Technical School	52	4.1	58	11.3	111	6.5
College Graduate	36	2.8	23	5.6	59	3.6
<b>Income</b>						
< \$15,000	79	15.6	97	15.8	178	15.9
\$15-\$24,999	75	10.0	66	11.2	141	10.5
\$25-\$34,999	26	6.8	22	10.3	48	8.1
\$35-\$49,999	23	4.1	15	6.3	38	4.7
\$50-\$74,999	12	2.0	6	3.6	18	2.4
\$75,000+	18	2.1	5	4.2	23	2.4
<b>Employment Status</b>						
Employed	91	4.4	110	9.2	201	6.1
Not Employed	11	10.2	17	13.3	29	12.3
Student/Homemaker	22	3.7	15	9.2	37	5.3
Retired/Unable to Work	149	9.8	92	12.4	244	10.8
<b>Total</b>	274	5.9	235	10.5	513	7.6

<sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>2</sup>Weighted

**Table 43 Dissatisfied or Very Dissatisfied With Life**

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>
<b>Sex</b>						
Male	64	4.7	35	7.2	99	5.6
Female	128	4.6	118	8.2	248	5.9
<b>Age Group</b>						
18-24	4	4.6	9	6.3	13	5.4
25-34	10	2.9	31	12.3	41	6.9
35-44	35	5.6	38	8.3	73	6.7
45-54	49	6.0	37	8.0	86	6.6
55-64	51	5.3	26	6.3	78	5.6
65+	43	3.3	12	2.5	56	3.1
<b>Education</b>						
< High School Graduate	46	11.1	43	7.9	91	9.5
High School Graduate or GED	78	5.3	51	9.0	129	6.7
Some College or Technical School	37	3.0	40	8.5	77	4.7
College Graduate	31	2.4	19	4.2	50	2.9
<b>Income</b>						
< \$15,000	57	10.8	58	10.2	116	10.4
\$15-\$24,999	48	6.7	52	11.5	100	9.0
\$25-\$34,999	20	5.6	13	4.7	33	5.3
\$35-\$49,999	21	3.1	8	4.3	29	3.4
\$50-\$74,999	10	1.4	6	4.9	16	2.3
\$75,000+	9	2.2	3	8.9	12	3.1
<b>Employment Status</b>						
Employed	54	2.8	67	6.9	121	4.3
Not Employed	17	16.9	22	8.6	39	11.9
Student/Homemaker	14	2.0	11	8.1	25	3.8
Retired/Unable to Work	107	8.1	53	9.4	162	8.5
<b>Total</b>	192	4.6	153	7.7	347	5.8

<sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>2</sup>Weighted

## Anxiety and Depression

### Survey Question:

1. *Has a doctor or other healthcare provider ever told you that you had an anxiety disorder (including acute stress disorder, anxiety, generalized anxiety disorder, obsessive-compulsive disorder, panic disorder, phobia, posttraumatic stress disorder, or social anxiety disorder)?*
2. *Has a doctor or other healthcare provider ever told you that you have a depressive disorder (including depression, major depression, dysthymia, or minor depression)?*

Affective disorders, which encompass major depression and manic depressive illness, constitute a second category of severe mental illness. The World Health Organization found major depression to be the leading cause of disability among adults in developed nations such as the United States. About 6.5 percent of women and 3.3 percent of men will have major depression in any year. Manic depressive illness affects around one percent of adults,

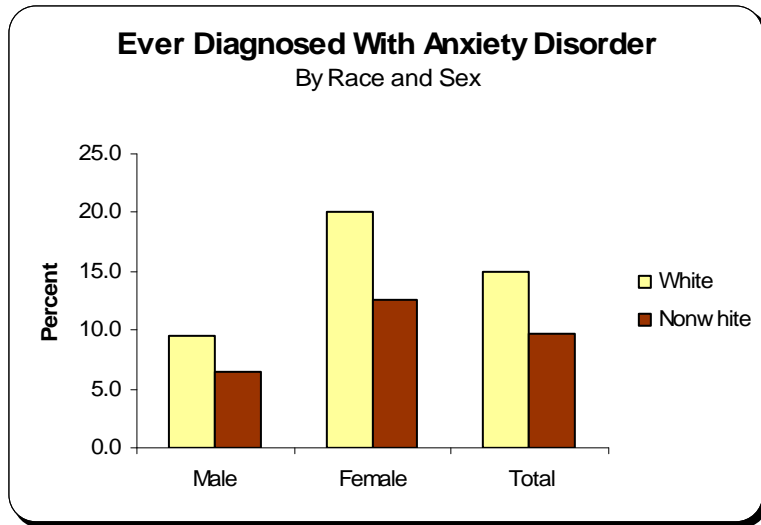


Figure 46

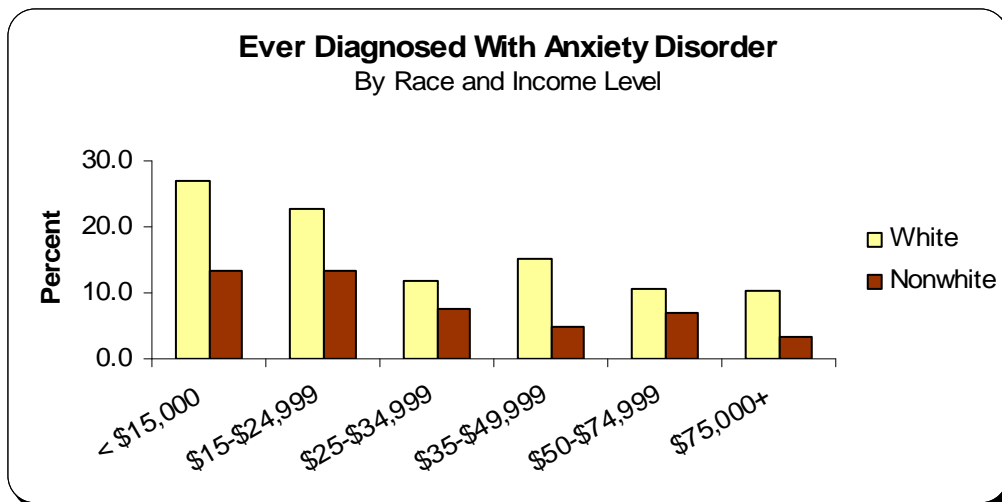


Figure 47

with comparable rates of occurrence in men and women. A high rate of suicide is associated with such mood disorders.

Anxiety disorders encompass several discrete conditions, including panic disorder, obsessive-compulsive disorder, posttraumatic stress disorder, and phobia. More common than other mental disorders, anxiety disorders affect as many as 19 million people in the United States annually.

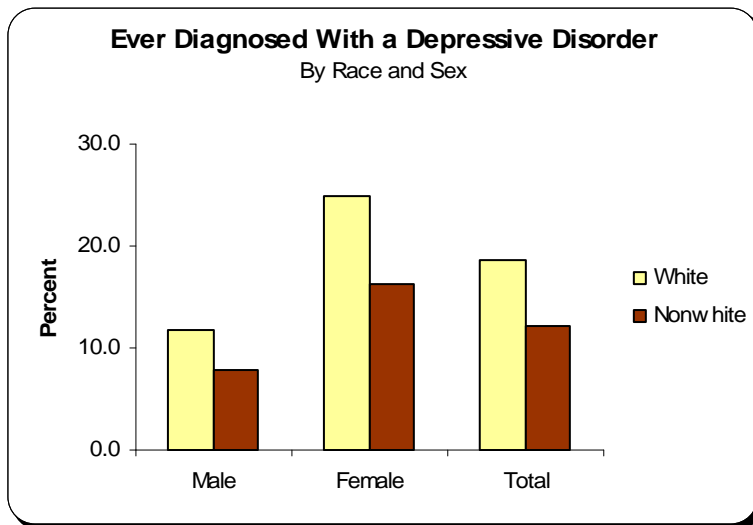


Figure 48

Anxiety disorders, which include generalized anxiety disorder, are common in all cultures. Twenty-four percent of the population will experience an anxiety disorder, many with concurrent substance abuse disorders.

Almost all adults will at some time experience a tragedy or times of profound sadness, grief, or distress. Major depressive disorder, however, differs both quantitatively and

qualitatively from episodes of normal sadness or grief. Depression disrupts the lives of depressed persons and their families and reduces economic productivity. Depression also can result in suicide and has an especially severe impact on women.

Depression also has a negative impact on the economy, costing the United States over \$40 billion each year, both in diminished productivity and in use of health care

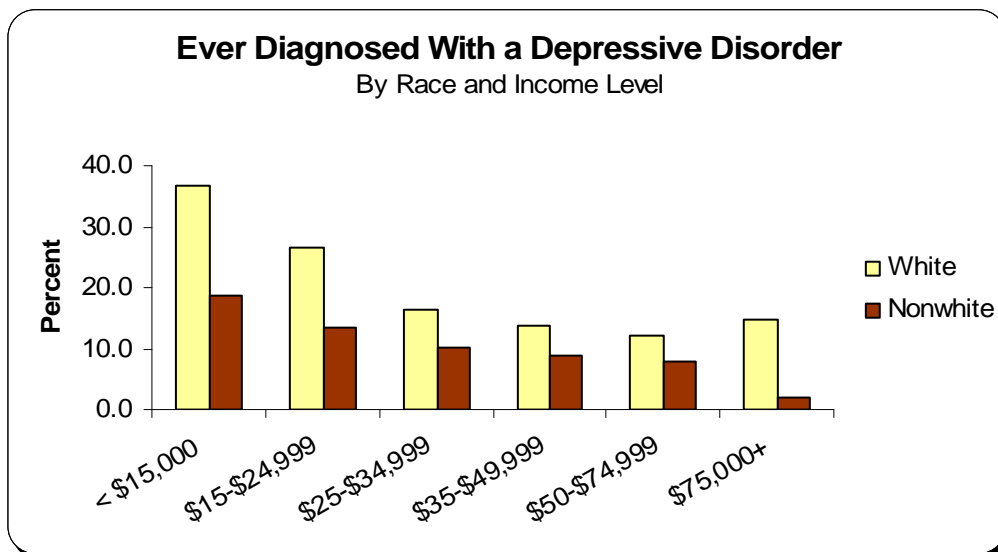


Figure 49



resources. In the workplace, depression is a leading cause of absenteeism and diminished productivity. Although only a minority seek professional help to relieve a mood disorder, depressed people are significantly more likely than others to visit a physician for some other reason.

In Mississippi, the 2006 BRFSS report revealed that 13.0 percent said that they had been told by a health professional that they have an anxiety disorder. Whites reported a rate of 15.0 percent while nonwhites reported a rate of 9.7 percent. People in the lower income groups had higher rates than those with higher incomes (Figure 47 and Table 44). Also the rate for females at 17.3 percent was more than double that of males who had a rate of 8.4 percent.

With respect to depressive disorders, 16.2 percent of those surveyed said they had been diagnosed with this condition. As was the case with anxiety disorders, women who had a rate of 21.7 percent were more than twice as likely to have been diagnosed as men who reported a rate of 10.3 percent (Figure 48). Similarly, the respondents in lower income category reported higher rates of diagnosed depression than those in the upper income groups. The group with the highest rate of depression was whites whose income was less than \$15 thousand annually with a rate of 36.8 percent (Figure 49 and Table 45).

**Table 44 Ever Diagnosed With Anxiety Disorder**

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>
<b>Sex</b>						
Male	136	9.6	41	6.4	178	8.4
Female	483	20.0	180	12.6	667	17.3
<b>Age Group</b>						
18-24	15	13.0	8	5.7	23	9.5
25-34	78	20.4	34	9.9	112	15.8
35-44	116	17.1	50	11.9	166	15.1
45-54	130	15.6	54	13.6	185	15.0
55-64	143	14.7	50	11.0	194	13.7
65+	137	9.7	24	5.7	162	8.6
<b>Education</b>						
< High School Graduate	110	19.8	62	10.4	174	14.9
High School Graduate or GED	201	14.8	72	10.2	274	13.0
Some College or Technical School	169	15.7	61	10.7	230	14.1
College Graduate	139	12.1	26	6.3	166	10.5
<b>Income</b>						
< \$15,000	141	27.1	87	13.4	230	19.1
\$15-\$24,999	135	22.6	66	13.2	201	18.0
\$25-\$34,999	58	11.9	16	7.6	74	10.2
\$35-\$49,999	78	15.1	13	4.7	91	12.0
\$50-\$74,999	64	10.6	8	7.0	72	9.7
\$75,000+	75	10.3	4	3.3	80	9.4
<b>Employment Status</b>						
Employed	226	11.8	79	6.8	306	10.0
Not Employed	41	33.0	23	11.1	64	19.7
Student/Homemaker	65	14.0	10	7.1	75	12.0
Retired/Unable to Work	287	20.0	109	16.9	400	18.9
<b>Total</b>	619	15.0	221	9.7	845	13.0

<sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>2</sup>Weighted

**Table 45 Ever Diagnosed With Depressive Disorder**

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>
<b>Sex</b>						
Male	173	11.7	52	7.8	225	10.3
Female	621	24.9	239	16.2	865	21.7
<b>Age Group</b>						
18-24	22	18.2	15	11.5	37	15.0
25-34	74	18.0	35	9.0	109	14.0
35-44	124	19.0	59	12.5	183	16.4
45-54	179	21.8	68	16.0	247	19.7
55-64	209	22.4	71	17.5	281	21.0
65+	185	12.9	42	9.0	229	11.9
<b>Education</b>						
< High School Graduate	137	24.9	86	12.8	225	18.5
High School Graduate or GED	270	19.1	91	12.2	362	16.4
Some College or Technical School	212	18.0	74	14.2	286	16.8
College Graduate	175	15.6	40	8.9	215	13.7
<b>Income</b>						
< \$15,000	184	36.8	123	18.6	309	26.1
\$15-\$24,999	156	26.5	67	13.5	223	20.1
\$25-\$34,999	81	16.4	24	10.1	105	13.9
\$35-\$49,999	84	13.9	22	8.9	107	12.5
\$50-\$74,999	79	12.0	13	7.8	92	10.9
\$75,000+	119	14.9	3	2.1	122	13.2
<b>Employment Status</b>						
Employed	296	14.8	88	6.7	384	11.8
Not Employed	38	35.3	29	18.2	67	24.9
Student/Homemaker	88	17.7	16	12.0	104	16.0
Retired/Unable to Work	372	25.2	158	22.8	535	24.3
<b>Total</b>	794	18.6	291	12.2	1,090	16.2

<sup>1</sup>Unweighted

<sup>2</sup>Weighted