

Table C-4a. Age-adjusted percentages (with standard errors) of having a problem for which prescription medication has been taken regularly for at least 3 months for children under age 18 years, by selected characteristics: United States, 2017

Selected characteristic	Prescription medication taken regularly for at least 3 months ¹
Total	13.0 (0.43)
Sex	
Male	15.1 (0.65)
Female	10.8 (0.53)
Age	
0-4 years	6.8 (0.72)
5-11 years	13.3 (0.72)
12-17 years	17.5 (0.77)
Race	
One race ²	12.9 (0.44)
White	13.4 (0.52)
Black or African American	13.4 (1.21)
American Indian or Alaska Native	10.5 (2.87)
Asian	5.6 (1.35)
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	*
Two or more races ³	14.7 (2.11)
Black or African American and white	18.1 (3.39)
American Indian or Alaska Native and white	17.5 (4.68)
Hispanic or Latino origin ⁴ and race	
Hispanic or Latino	10.1 (0.83)
Mexican or Mexican American	8.9 (1.01)
Not Hispanic or Latino	13.9 (0.51)
White, single race	14.9 (0.63)
Black or African American only, single race	13.5 (1.31)
Family structure ⁵	
Mother and father	11.7 (0.53)
Mother, no father	15.3 (0.90)
Father, no mother	13.6 (2.13)
Neither mother nor father	21.5 (3.30)
Parent's education ⁶	
Less than high school diploma	11.8 (1.43)
High school diploma or GED ⁷	14.0 (1.13)
More than high school	12.5 (0.49)
Family income ⁸	
Less than \$35,000	15.6 (1.00)
\$35,000 or more	12.4 (0.48)
\$35,000-\$49,999	14.3 (1.49)
\$50,000-\$74,999	11.0 (0.97)
\$75,000-\$99,999	12.6 (1.21)
\$100,000 or more	12.2 (0.74)

Table C-4a. Age-adjusted percentages (with standard errors) of having a problem for which prescription medication has been taken regularly for at least 3 months for children under age 18 years, by selected characteristics: United States, 2017

Selected characteristic	Prescription medication taken regularly for at least 3 months ¹
Poverty status ⁹	
Poor	15.3 (1.24)
Near poor	13.7 (0.94)
Not poor	12.2 (0.49)
Health insurance coverage ¹⁰	
Private	12.1 (0.55)
Medicaid or other public	15.2 (0.79)
Other	14.1 (2.54)
Uninsured	6.8 (1.34)
Place of residence ¹¹	
Large MSA	11.8 (0.60)
Small MSA	14.4 (0.74)
Not in MSA	15.1 (1.16)
Region	
Northeast	12.9 (1.13)
Midwest	14.2 (0.95)
South	14.3 (0.67)
West	9.9 (0.86)
Current health status	
Excellent or very good	10.5 (0.43)
Good	22.5 (1.57)
Fair or poor	65.1 (5.21)

* Estimate is considered unreliable, as specified in National Center for Health Statistics Data Presentation Standards for Proportions (available from: https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr_02/sr02_175.pdf), so the frequency is not shown.

¹Based on the question, "Does [child's name] now have a problem for which [he/she] has regularly taken prescription medication for at least three months?"

²Refers to children with only a single race group indicated, including those of Hispanic or Latino origin.

³Refers to children with more than one race group indicated, including those of Hispanic or Latino origin. Only two combinations of multiple race groups are shown due to small sample sizes for other combinations.

⁴Refers to children who are of Hispanic or Latino origin and may be of any race or combination of races. "Not Hispanic or Latino" refers to children who are not of Hispanic or Latino origin, regardless of race.

⁵Refers to parents living in the household. "Mother and father" can include biological, adoptive, step, in-law, or foster relationships. Legal guardians are classified in "Neither mother nor father."

⁶Refers to the education level of the parent with the higher level of education, regardless of that parent's age, provided the parent(s) live(s) in the household.

⁷GED is General Educational Development high school equivalency diploma.

⁸Includes children in families that reported either dollar amounts or would not provide a dollar amount but provided an income interval.

⁹"Poor" children live in families defined as below the poverty threshold. "Near poor" children live in families with incomes of 100% to less than 200% of the poverty threshold. "Not poor" children live in families with incomes that are 200% of the poverty threshold or greater.

¹⁰Based on a hierarchy of mutually exclusive categories. Children with more than one type of health insurance were assigned to the first appropriate category in the hierarchy. "Uninsured" includes children who had no coverage as well as those who had only Indian Health Service coverage or had only a private plan that paid for one type of service such as accidents or dental care.

¹¹MSA is metropolitan statistical area. Large MSAs have a population size of 1 million or more; small MSAs have a population size of less than 1 million. "Not in MSA" consists of persons not living in a metropolitan statistical area.

NOTES: Based on household interviews of a sample of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. This table is based on responses about the sample child, not all children in the family. Data came from the Sample Child File and were weighted using the Sample Child weight. Estimates are age-adjusted using the projected 2000 U.S. population as the standard population and using age groups 0-4 years, 5-11 years, and 12-17 years. Estimates for age groups are not age-adjusted. Unknowns for the columns were not included in the denominators when calculating percentages. Percentages may not add to totals due to rounding. "Total" includes children of other races not shown separately and children with unknown family structure, parent's education, family income, poverty status, health insurance, or current health status. For more information on the data source, methods, and definitions used for this table, refer to Technical Notes for Summary Health Statistics Tables: National Health Interview Survey (available from <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhis/SHS/tables.htm>).

Suggested citation: Black LI, Benson V. Tables of Summary Health Statistics for U.S. Children: 2017 National Health Interview Survey, 2018. Available from: <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhis/SHS/tables.htm>.

SOURCE: NCHS, National Health Interview Survey, 2017.

Table C-4b. Frequencies (in thousands) of having a problem for which prescription medication has been taken regularly for at least 3 months for children under age 18 years, by selected characteristics: United States, 2017

Selected characteristic	All children under age 18 years	Prescription medication taken regularly for at least 3 months ¹
Total	73,529	9,544
Sex		
Male	37,520	5,657
Female	36,009	3,887
Age		
0-4 years	19,694	1,338
5-11 years	28,875	3,830
12-17 years	24,960	4,377
Race		
One race ²	69,897	9,021
White	53,672	7,209
Black or African American	10,796	1,445
American Indian or Alaska Native	1,063	112
Asian	4,189	237
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	177	*
Two or more races ³	3,632	523
Black or African American and white	1,754	309
American Indian or Alaska Native and white	558	109
Hispanic or Latino origin ⁴ and race		
Hispanic or Latino	18,490	1,845
Mexican or Mexican American	12,090	1,049
Not Hispanic or Latino	55,039	7,699
White, single race	37,781	5,668
Black or African American only, single race	9,761	1,320
Family structure ⁵		
Mother and father	51,402	5,963
Mother, no father	16,919	2,658
Father, no mother	2,739	377
Neither mother nor father	2,469	546
Parent's education ⁶		
Less than high school diploma	7,595	904
High school diploma or GED ⁷	12,062	1,677
More than high school	51,207	6,418
Family income ⁸		
Less than \$35,000	17,396	2,682
\$35,000 or more	48,533	6,051
\$35,000-\$49,999	7,517	1,056
\$50,000-\$74,999	10,736	1,160
\$75,000-\$99,999	7,892	991
\$100,000 or more	22,388	2,844

Table C-4b. Frequencies (in thousands) of having a problem for which prescription medication has been taken regularly for at least 3 months for children under age 18 years, by selected characteristics: United States, 2017

Selected characteristic	All children under age 18 years	Prescription medication taken regularly for at least 3 months ¹
Poverty status ⁹		
Poor	12,571	1,919
Near poor	16,070	2,186
Not poor	41,704	5,153
Health insurance coverage ¹⁰		
Private	40,543	4,991
Medicaid or other public	26,690	3,941
Other	2,323	328
Uninsured	3,655	269
Place of residence ¹¹		
Large MSA	42,560	5,016
Small MSA	22,141	3,178
Not in MSA	8,829	1,350
Region		
Northeast	12,777	1,674
Midwest	15,980	2,249
South	27,370	3,894
West	17,403	1,727
Current health status		
Excellent or very good	62,574	6,522
Good	9,694	2,225
Fair or poor	1,257	793

* Corresponding crude percentage for the frequency is considered unreliable, as specified in National Center for Health Statistics Data Presentation Standards for Proportions (available from: https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr_02/sr02_175.pdf), and is not shown.

¹Based on the question, "Does [child's name] now have a problem for which [he/she] has regularly taken prescription medication for at least three months?"

²Refers to children with only a single race group indicated, including those of Hispanic or Latino origin.

³Refers to children with more than one race group indicated, including those of Hispanic or Latino origin. Only two combinations of multiple race groups are shown due to small sample sizes for other combinations.

⁴Refers to children who are of Hispanic or Latino origin and may be of any race or combination of races. "Not Hispanic or Latino" refers to children who are not of Hispanic or Latino origin, regardless of race.

⁵Refers to parents living in the household. "Mother and father" can include biological, adoptive, step, in-law, or foster relationships. Legal guardians are classified in "Neither mother nor father."

⁶Refers to the education level of the parent with the higher level of education, regardless of that parent's age, provided the parent(s) live(s) in the household.

⁷GED is General Educational Development high school equivalency diploma.

⁸Includes children in families that reported either dollar amounts or would not provide a dollar amount but provided an income interval.

⁹"Poor" children live in families defined as below the poverty threshold. "Near poor" children live in families with incomes of 100% to less than 200% of the poverty threshold. "Not poor" children live in families with incomes that are 200% of the poverty threshold or greater.

¹⁰Based on a hierarchy of mutually exclusive categories. Children with more than one type of health insurance were assigned to the first appropriate category in the hierarchy. "Uninsured" includes children who had no coverage as well as those who had only Indian Health Service coverage or had only a private plan that paid for one type of service such as accidents or dental care.

¹¹MSA is metropolitan statistical area. Large MSAs have a population size of 1 million or more; small MSAs have a population size of less than 1 million. "Not in MSA" consists of persons not living in a metropolitan statistical area.

NOTES: Based on household interviews of a sample of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. This table is based on responses about the sample child, not all children in the family. Data came from the Sample Child File and were weighted using the Sample Child weight. Estimates of "All children under 18 years" in this table differ slightly from estimates of "All children under 18 years" in the other detailed tables that were based on the Person File and were weighted using the Person weight. Unknowns for the columns were not included in the frequencies, but they are included in the "All children under 18 years" column. "Total" includes children of other races not shown separately and children with unknown family structure, parent's education, family income, poverty status, health insurance, or current health status. For more information on the data source, methods, and definitions used for this table, refer to Technical Notes for Summary Health Statistics Tables: National Health Interview Survey (available from <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhis/SHS/tables.htm>).

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Table C-4c. Crude percentages (with standard errors) of having a problem for which prescription medication has been taken regularly for at least 3 months for children under age 18 years, by selected characteristics: United States, 2017

Selected characteristic	Prescription medication taken regularly for at least 3 months ¹
Total	13.0 (0.43)
Sex	
Male	15.1 (0.64)
Female	10.8 (0.54)
Age	
0-4 years	6.8 (0.72)
5-11 years	13.3 (0.72)
12-17 years	17.5 (0.77)
Race	
One race ²	12.9 (0.45)
White	13.4 (0.53)
Black or African American	13.4 (1.22)
American Indian or Alaska Native	10.6 (3.01)
Asian	5.7 (1.36)
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	*
Two or more races ³	14.4 (2.06)
Black or African American and white	17.7 (3.33)
American Indian or Alaska Native and white	19.6 (5.27)
Hispanic or Latino origin ⁴ and race	
Hispanic or Latino	10.0 (0.83)
Mexican or Mexican American	8.7 (1.00)
Not Hispanic or Latino	14.0 (0.51)
White, single race	15.0 (0.64)
Black or African American only, single race	13.5 (1.32)
Family structure ⁵	
Mother and father	11.6 (0.52)
Mother, no father	15.7 (0.94)
Father, no mother	13.8 (2.05)
Neither mother nor father	22.1 (3.31)
Parent's education ⁶	
Less than high school diploma	11.9 (1.42)
High school diploma or GED ⁷	13.9 (1.13)
More than high school	12.5 (0.49)
Family income ⁸	
Less than \$35,000	15.4 (0.99)
\$35,000 or more	12.5 (0.49)
\$35,000-\$49,999	14.1 (1.47)
\$50,000-\$74,999	10.8 (0.96)
\$75,000-\$99,999	12.6 (1.21)
\$100,000 or more	12.7 (0.78)
Poverty status ⁹	
Poor	15.3 (1.25)
Near poor	13.6 (0.95)
Not poor	12.4 (0.50)

Table C-4c. Crude percentages (with standard errors) of having a problem for which prescription medication has been taken regularly for at least 3 months for children under age 18 years, by selected characteristics: United States, 2017

Selected characteristic	Prescription medication taken regularly for at least 3 months ¹
Health insurance coverage ¹⁰	
Private	12.3 (0.56)
Medicaid or other public	14.8 (0.79)
Other	14.1 (2.52)
Uninsured	7.4 (1.35)
Place of residence ¹¹	
Large MSA	11.8 (0.60)
Small MSA	14.4 (0.74)
Not in MSA	15.3 (1.14)
Region	
Northeast	13.1 (1.16)
Midwest	14.1 (0.94)
South	14.2 (0.67)
West	9.9 (0.85)
Current health status	
Excellent or very good	10.4 (0.43)
Good	23.0 (1.54)
Fair or poor	63.1 (5.18)

* Estimate is considered unreliable, as specified in National Center for Health Statistics Data Presentation Standards for Proportions (available from: https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr_02/sr02_175.pdf), and is not shown.

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⁸Includes children in families that reported either dollar amounts or would not provide a dollar amount but provided an income interval.

⁹"Poor" children live in families defined as below the poverty threshold. "Near poor" children live in families with incomes of 100% to less than 200% of the poverty threshold. "Not poor" children live in families with incomes that are 200% of the poverty threshold or greater.

¹⁰Based on a hierarchy of mutually exclusive categories. Children with more than one type of health insurance were assigned to the first appropriate category in the hierarchy. "Uninsured" includes children who had no coverage as well as those who had only Indian Health Service coverage or had only a private plan that paid for one type of service such as accidents or dental care.

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