

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, 2018

Selected characteristic	Prescription medication taken regularly for at least 3 months ¹
Total	11.9 (0.41)
Sex	
Male	13.5 (0.60)
Female	10.4 (0.56)
Age	
0-4 years	5.6 (0.59)
5-11 years	11.4 (0.65)
12-17 years	17.7 (0.82)
Race	
One race ²	11.9 (0.42)
White	12.3 (0.48)
Black or African American	12.4 (1.16)
American Indian or Alaska Native	*
Asian	5.8 (1.11)
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	*
Two or more races ³	13.7 (1.83)
Black or African American and white	17.0 (3.24)
American Indian or Alaska Native and white	*
Hispanic or Latino origin ⁴ and race	
Hispanic or Latino	9.3 (0.73)
Mexican or Mexican American	7.7 (0.79)
Not Hispanic or Latino	12.8 (0.50)
White, single race	13.7 (0.60)
Black or African American only, single race	12.5 (1.22)
Family structure ⁵	
Mother and father	10.9 (0.47)
Mother, no father	14.3 (0.98)
Father, no mother	9.7 (1.62)
Neither mother nor father	21.0 (2.72)
Parent's education ⁶	
Less than high school diploma	8.1 (1.13)
High school diploma or GED ⁷	10.2 (0.94)
More than high school	12.6 (0.51)
Family income ⁸	
Less than \$35,000	13.8 (1.01)
\$35,000 or more	11.7 (0.47)
\$35,000-\$49,999	13.5 (1.44)
\$50,000-\$74,999	9.8 (0.91)
\$75,000-\$99,999	10.6 (1.07)
\$100,000 or more	12.3 (0.69)

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, 2018

Selected characteristic	Prescription medication taken regularly for at least 3 months ¹
Poverty status ⁹	
Poor	12.0 (1.15)
Near poor	12.6 (0.94)
Not poor	11.9 (0.50)
Health insurance coverage ¹⁰	
Private	11.6 (0.52)
Medicaid or other public	13.9 (0.76)
Other	9.3 (2.06)
Uninsured	3.9 (0.95)
Place of residence ¹¹	
Large MSA	10.5 (0.50)
Small MSA	13.4 (0.81)
Not in MSA	14.8 (1.31)
Region	
Northeast	12.5 (1.15)
Midwest	13.4 (0.97)
South	13.0 (0.67)
West	8.9 (0.68)
Current health status	
Excellent or very good	9.9 (0.40)
Good	21.5 (1.57)
Fair or poor	45.0 (5.54)

* Estimate does not meet NCHS standards of reliability.

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: 2018 National Health Interview Survey. 2019. Available from: <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhis/SHS/tables.htm>.

SOURCE: NCHS, National Health Interview Survey, 2018.

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, 2018

Selected characteristic	All children under age 18 years	Prescription medication taken regularly for at least 3 months ¹
Total	73,452	8,768
Sex		
Male	37,489	5,001
Female	35,963	3,767
Age		
0-4 years	19,678	1,105
5-11 years	29,220	3,331
12-17 years	24,554	4,332
Race		
One race ²	69,541	8,245
White	53,462	6,601
Black or African American	10,618	1,329
American Indian or Alaska Native	1,085	*
Asian	4,148	239
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	228	*
Two or more races ³	3,912	524
Black or African American and white	1,718	279
American Indian or Alaska Native and white	677	*
Hispanic or Latino origin ⁴ and race		
Hispanic or Latino	18,717	1,738
Mexican or Mexican American	12,074	923
Not Hispanic or Latino	54,736	7,030
White, single race	37,234	5,131
Black or African American only, single race	9,692	1,214
Family structure ⁵		
Mother and father	52,206	5,616
Mother, no father	16,128	2,362
Father, no mother	2,987	314
Neither mother nor father	2,131	476
Parent's education ⁶		
Less than high school diploma	7,077	587
High school diploma or GED ⁷	12,221	1,235
More than high school	51,759	6,464
Family income ⁸		
Less than \$35,000	15,871	2,092
\$35,000 or more	50,690	5,978
\$35,000-\$49,999	6,944	937
\$50,000-\$74,999	10,972	1,057
\$75,000-\$99,999	7,653	801
\$100,000 or more	25,121	3,183

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, 2018

Selected characteristic	All children under age 18 years	Prescription medication taken regularly for at least 3 months ¹
Poverty status⁹		
Poor	11,378	1,293
Near poor	15,425	1,926
Not poor	43,482	5,272
Health insurance coverage¹⁰		
Private	40,428	4,785
Medicaid or other public	26,673	3,578
Other	2,340	221
Uninsured	3,697	156
Place of residence¹¹		
Large MSA	41,594	4,342
Small MSA	23,145	3,109
Not in MSA	8,714	1,318
Region		
Northeast	11,614	1,434
Midwest	14,949	2,019
South	28,080	3,658
West	18,810	1,658
Current health status		
Excellent or very good	63,035	6,165
Good	9,159	1,989
Fair or poor	1,253	609

* Corresponding crude percentage for the frequency does not meet NCHS standards of reliability, 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+American Indian or Alaska Native 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, 2018

Selected characteristic	Prescription medication taken regularly for at least 3 months ¹
Total	12.0 (0.41)
Sex	
Male	13.4 (0.60)
Female	10.5 (0.57)
Age	
0-4 years	5.6 (0.59)
5-11 years	11.4 (0.65)
12-17 years	17.7 (0.82)
Race	
One race ²	11.9 (0.43)
White	12.4 (0.49)
Black or African American	12.6 (1.19)
American Indian or Alaska Native	*
Asian	5.8 (1.10)
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	*
Two or more races ³	13.4 (1.77)
Black or African American and white	16.2 (3.04)
American Indian or Alaska Native and white	*
Hispanic or Latino origin ⁴ and race	
Hispanic or Latino	9.3 (0.74)
Mexican or Mexican American	7.6 (0.80)
Not Hispanic or Latino	12.9 (0.51)
White, single race	13.8 (0.63)
Black or African American only, single race	12.6 (1.26)
Family structure ⁵	
Mother and father	10.8 (0.47)
Mother, no father	14.7 (0.99)
Father, no mother	10.5 (1.81)
Neither mother nor father	22.5 (2.91)
Parent's education ⁶	
Less than high school diploma	8.3 (1.14)
High school diploma or GED ⁷	10.1 (0.94)
More than high school	12.5 (0.51)
Family income ⁸	
Less than \$35,000	13.2 (0.98)
\$35,000 or more	11.8 (0.48)
\$35,000-\$49,999	13.5 (1.45)
\$50,000-\$74,999	9.6 (0.89)
\$75,000-\$99,999	10.5 (1.07)
\$100,000 or more	12.7 (0.73)
Poverty status ⁹	
Poor	11.4 (1.10)
Near poor	12.5 (0.93)
Not poor	12.1 (0.52)

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, 2018

Selected characteristic	Prescription medication taken regularly for at least 3 months ¹
Health insurance coverage ¹⁰	
Private	11.8 (0.54)
Medicaid or other public	13.4 (0.74)
Other	9.4 (2.10)
Uninsured	4.2 (1.00)
Place of residence ¹¹	
Large MSA	10.5 (0.50)
Small MSA	13.4 (0.82)
Not in MSA	15.1 (1.33)
Region	
Northeast	12.4 (1.17)
Midwest	13.5 (1.01)
South	13.0 (0.67)
West	8.8 (0.68)
Current health status	
Excellent or very good	9.8 (0.41)
Good	21.8 (1.57)
Fair or poor	48.8 (5.11)

* Estimate does not meet NCHS standards of reliability.

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