Table 46. Serious psychological distress in the past 30 days among adults aged 18 and over, by selected characteristics: United States, average annual, selected years 1997–1998 through 2015–2016

Excel version (with more data years and standard errors when available): https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/hus/contents2017.htm#046. [Data are based on household interviews of a sample of the civilian noninstitutionalized population]

Characteristic	1997–1998	1999–2000	2001–2002	2004–2005	2010–2011	2015–2016
	Percent of adults with serious psychological distress ²					
18 years and over, age-adjusted ^{3,4}	3.2	2.6	3.1	3.0	3.3	3.6
18 years and over, crude ⁴	3.2	2.6	3.1	3.0	3.4	3.6
Age						
18–44 years	2.9	2.3	2.9	2.8	2.9	3.5
18–24 years	2.7	2.2	2.8	2.5	2.4	3.9
25–44 years	3.0	2.4	3.0	2.9	3.1	3.3
I5–64 years	3.7	3.2	3.9	3.7	4.5	4.4
45–54 years	3.9	3.5	4.2	3.9	4.2	4.5
55–64 years	3.4	2.6	3.4	3.4	4.7	4.3
55 years and over	3.1	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.4	2.3
65–74 years	2.5	2.3	2.4	2.2	2.6	2.4
75 years and over	3.8	2.5	2.4	2.9	2.1	2.3
Sex ³						
Male	2.5	2.0	2.4	2.3	2.8	2.9
Female	3.8	3.1	3.8	3.7	3.7	4.2
Race ^{3,5}						
White only	3.1	2.5	3.0	2.9	3.2	3.6
Black or African American only	4.0	2.9	3.5	3.6	3.7	3.6
American Indian or Alaska Native only	7.8	*7.2	8.1	*3.5	5.6	9.2
Asian only	2.0	*1.4	*1.8	1.7	1.7	2.1
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific	2.0					2.1
Islander only		*	*	*	*	2.1
or more races		4.8	5.0	7.9	5.6	6.7
Hispanic origin and race ^{3,5}						
Hispanic or Latino	5.0	3.5	4.0	3.7	4.0	3.7
Mexican	5.2	2.9	3.8	3.6	3.6	3.6
Not Hispanic or Latino	3.0	2.5	3.1	3.0	3.2	3.6
White only	2.9	2.4	3.0	2.9	3.2	3.7
Black or African American only	3.9	2.9	3.5	3.6	3.7	3.6
Percent of poverty level ^{3,6}						
Below 100%	9.1	6.8	8.4	8.6	8.2	9.3
00%–199%	5.0	4.4	5.2	5.0	5.0	5.8
200%–399%	2.5	2.3	2.8	2.5	2.9	3.0
100% or more	1.3	1.2	1.3	1.1	1.2	1.5
Hispanic origin and race and percent of poverty level ^{3,5,6}						
Hispanic or Latino:						
Below 100%	8.6	6.1	7.5	6.6	7.5	6.8
100%–199%	5.4	3.8	4.1	3.9	4.3	4.1
200%–399%	3.4	2.1	3.5	2.6	3.1	2.6
400% or more	*	2.3	*	*1.9	*1.4	2.4
Not Hispanic or Latino:						
White only:						
Below 100%	9.6	7.8	9.2	10.2	9.6	12.1
100%–199%	5.2	4.9	5.9	5.6	5.6	7.6
200%–399%	2.5	2.3	2.9	2.6	3.2	3.1
400% or more	1.3	1.1	1.3	1.1	1.1	1.6

Table 46. Serious psychological distress in the past 30 days among adults aged 18 and over, by selected characteristics: United States, average annual, selected years 1997–1998 through 2015–2016

1997-1998 2004-2005 2010-2011 2015-2016¹ Characteristic 1999-2000 2001-2002 Hispanic origin and race and percent of poverty level^{3,5,6}—Con. Percent of adults with serious psychological distress² Black or African American only: 7.6 Below 100% 8.7 6.0 72 7.6 77 100%-199% 43 3.6 4.9 4.8 4.4 3.9 200%-399% 2.2 *1.7 2.3 2.1 1.9 2.8 400% or more *1.0 *1.5 1.1 Geographic region³ Northeast 2.7 1.9 2.8 2.5 3.0 3.1 Midwest 2.5 2.6 2.9 2.7 3.1 3.6 South 29 35 37 3.6 36 38 West 3.3 2.8 3.0 2.8 3.3 3.8 Location of residence^{3,7} Within MSA 3.0 2.3 3.0 2.8 3.1 3.3 Outside MSA 3.9 3.5 38 4.0 4.0 51

Excel version (with more data years and standard errors when available): https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/hus/contents2017.htm#046. [Data are based on household interviews of a sample of the civilian noninstitutionalized population]

* Estimates are considered unreliable. Starting with 2015–2016 data, the reliability of survey percentage estimates was assessed using new multistep National Center for Health Statistics data presentation standards for proportions. Prior to 2015–2016 data, the reliability of estimates for earlier years was evaluated based on relative standard errors (RSE). Data preceded by an asterisk have an RSE of 20%–30%. Data not shown have an RSE greater than 30%. For more information, see Appendix II, Data presentation standards for proportions; Relative standard error (RSE). --- Data not available.

¹Starting in 2013 (shown in spreadsheet version), the six psychological distress questions were moved to the adult selected items section of the sample adult questionnaire. Observed differences between 2012 and earlier estimates and 2013 and later estimates may be partially or fully attributable to this change in question placement within the sample adult questionnaire. ²Serious psychological distress is measured by a six-question scale that asks respondents how often they experienced each of the six symptoms of psychological distress in the past 30 days. Respondents must have answered all six questions to have a computed K6 score. Only those with K6 scores were included in this analysis. See Appendix II, Serious psychological distress are age-adjusted to the year 2000 standard population using five age groups: 18–44 years, 45–54 years, 55–64 years, 65–74 years, and 75 years and over. See Appendix II, Age adjustment.

⁴Includes all other races not shown separately.

⁵The race groups white, black, American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, and 2 or more races include persons of Hispanic and non-Hispanic origin. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race. Starting with 1999 data, race-specific estimates are tabulated according to the 1997 *Revisions to the Standards for the Classification of Federal Data on Race and Ethnicity* and are not strictly comparable with estimates for earlier years. The five single-race categories and multiple-race categories shown in the table conform to the 1997 Standards. Starting with 1999 data, race-specific estimates are for persons who reported only one racial group; the category 2 or more races includes persons who reported more than one racial group. Prior to 1999, data were tabulated according to the 1977 Standards with four racial groups, and the Asian only category included Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander. Estimates for single-race categories prior to 1999 included persons who reported one race, or if they reported more than one race, identified one race as best representing their race. Starting with 2003 data, race responses of other race and unspecified multiple race were treated as missing, and then race was imputed if these were the only race responses. Almost all persons with a race response of other race were of Hispanic origin. See Appendix II, Hispanic origin; Race.

⁶Percent of poverty level is based on family income and family size and composition using U.S. Census Bureau poverty thresholds. Missing family income data were imputed for 1997 and beyond. See Appendix II, Family income; Poverty; Table VII.

⁷MSA is metropolitan statistical area. Starting with 2016 data, MSA status is determined using 2010 Census data and the 2010 standards for defining MSAs. For more information, including the definition prior to 2016, see Appendix II, Metropolitan statistical area (MSA) for the applicable standards.

NOTES: Standard errors for selected years are available in the spreadsheet version of this table. Data for additional years are available. See the Excel spreadsheet on the Health, United States website at: https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/hus.htm.

SOURCE: NCHS, National Health Interview Survey, sample adult questionnaire. See Appendix I, National Health Interview Survey (NHIS).