## **CHAPTER 6: PHYSICAL INACTIVITY**

Physically Inactive: During the past month, other than their regular job, did not participate in any physical activities or exercise such as running, calisthenics, golf, gardening, or walking for exercise.

State Prevalence 28.0% (95% CI: 26.3-29.7); 11<sup>th</sup> highest among 54 BRFSS participants.

National prevalence: 24.6% (95% CI: 24.3 -24.9).

Time Trends Historically, West Virginia has ranked high in physical inactivity. However,

inactivity dropped sharply after 1998 and has continued to decline for the past four years. Between 2001 and 2003, the prevalence significantly declined from

31.7% to 28.0%.

**Gender** Men 24.9% (95% CI: 22.3-27.4); Women 30.9% (95% CI: 28.7-33.2).

Since 1984 women have had higher rates of physical inactivity than men. In 2003, the gender difference was statistically significant. Between 2000 and 2003, the prevalence of inactivity significantly declined among men (32.0% versus

24.9%) but not women (35.0% versus 30.9%).

Age Physical inactivity significantly increased with age, ranging from a low of 13.6%

of 18 to 24-year-olds to 34.3% of those aged 65 and older. Women had a significantly higher rate of inactivity than men at ages 55 to 64 (39.5% versus

25.5%) and 65 and older (39.2% versus 27.2%).

**Education** The prevalence of physical inactivity significantly decreased as education

increased. Adults without a high school diploma/GED were significantly more likely to be inactive that those at all higher levels of educational attainment. More than 44% of adults with fewer than 12 years of school were participating in no

leisure-time physical activities, compared with 14% of college graduates.

**Household Income** There was also an inverse relationship between physical inactivity and household

income. Adults in the poorest households had the highest prevalence of inactivity (43.8% - more than four times higher than those with the highest income). Significant declines in physical inactivity occurred when income reached \$25,000-34,999 and \$75,000 or more. Adults living in the wealthiest households

were significantly less likely to be inactive than those at all other income levels.

**Quick Stats** • 57.3% of adults did not meet the CDC's Healthy People-2010 objective for

moderate or physical activity.

Moderate activity: small increases in heart rate - 30+ min., 5+ days/wk. Vigorous activity: large increases in heart rate - 20+ min., 3+ days/wk.

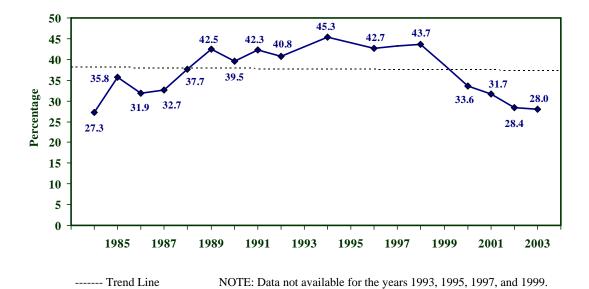
## West Virginia Healthy People 2010 Objectives

Objective 22.1 Reduce to 37% the proportion of people aged 18 and older who report no leisure-time physical activity. (Baseline: 43.7% in 1998; Current: 28.0% in 2003)

Table 6.1: No leisure-time physical activity: WVBRFSS, 2003

Characteristic	Men			Women			Total		
	# Resp.	%	95% CI	# Resp.	%	95% CI	# Resp.	%	95% CI
TOTAL	1,323	24.9	(22.3-27.4)	2,026	30.9	(28.7-33.2)	3,349	28.0	(26.3-29.7)
Age									
18-24	92	13.2	(5.8-20.6)	111	14.0	(6.4-21.7)	203	13.6	(8.3-18.9)
25-34	187	24.7	(18.2-31.2)	268	21.0	(15.7-26.3)	455	22.8	(18.7-27.0)
35-44	235	25.3	(19.1-31.5)	322	31.5	(25.9-37.1)	557	28.4	(24.3-32.6)
45-54	284	29.9	(24.2-35.7)	388	32.0	(27.0-37.0)	672	31.0	(27.1-34.8)
55-64	250	25.5	(19.7-31.3)	397	39.5	(34.3-44.7)	647	32.6	(28.7-36.6)
65+	274	27.2	(21.5-33.0)	529	39.2	(34.7-43.7)	803	34.3	(30.8-37.9)
Education									
Less than H.S.	245	42.2	(35.1-49.4)	391	46.7	(41.2-52.2)	636	44.5	(40.0-49.0)
H.S. or G.E.D.	529	27.6	(23.5-31.8)	792	35.3	(31.6-39.1)	1,321	31.6	(28.8-34.4)
Some Post-H.S.	265	14.3	(9.7-18.9)	476	22.4	(18.2-26.6)	741	18.9	(15.8-22.0)
College Graduate	281	12.4	(8.3-16.5)	366	15.8	(11.8-19.8)	647	14.0	(11.2-16.9)
Income									
Less than \$15,000	171	47.7	(38.9-56.5)	355	41.0	(35.3-46.8)	526	43.8	(38.8-48.8)
\$15,000- 24,999	263	35.6	(29.2-42.0)	461	37.5	(32.6-42.4)	724	36.7	(32.7-40.6)
\$25,000- 34,999	194	17.7	(12.0-23.4)	269	28.3	(22.3-34.3)	463	23.3	(19.0-27.5)
\$35,000- 49,999	211	22.6	(16.6-28.5)	267	20.8	(15.7-26.0)	478	21.8	(17.8-25.7)
\$50,000- 74,999	168	14.1	(8.5-19.7)	225	23.6	(17.4-29.7)	393	18.8	(14.6-23.0)
\$75,000+	183	9.7	(5.1-14.4)	146	12.7	(6.5-18.9)	329	10.8	(7.1-14.5)

Figure 6.1: No leisure-time physical activity by year: WVBRFSS, 1984-2003



NOTE: Data not available for the year 1999.

2001 Estimated U.S. Prevalence – 26.4%

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Figure 6.2: No leisure-time physical activity by county: WVBRFSS, 2000-2003

Table 6.2: Adults who are being more physically active (in order to lower their risk of heart disease or stroke) and health professional advice on the same: WVBRFSS, 2003

Characteristic			are being cally active	Adults advised by a health professional in the past 12 months to be more physically active			
	# Resp.	%	95% CI	# Resp.	%	95% CI	
TOTAL	3,307	61.8	(60.0-63.7)	3,308	28.2	(26.5-30.0)	
Sex							
Males	1,305	60.6	(57.6-63.6)	1,304	26.8	(24.1-29.5)	
Females	2,002	63.0	(60.6-65.4)	2,004	29.5	(27.3-31.8)	
Age							
18-24	198	71.0	(63.9-78.2)	196	14.6	(8.6-20.7)	
25-34	446	67.3	(62.6-72.0)	447	21.4	(17.4-25.5)	
35-44	548	63.9	(59.4-68.3)	549	31.3	(27.0-35.5)	
45-54	668	64.0	(60.0-68.0)	667	34.8	(30.8-38.8)	
55-64	641	60.0	(55.9-64.2)	641	36.5	(32.4-40.6)	
65+	794	49.8	(46.0-53.6)	796	27.0	(23.7-30.3)	
Education							
Less than H.S.	627	54.5	(49.9-59.0)	627	31.2	(26.8-35.5)	
H.S. or G.E.D.	1,295	60.3	(57.3-63.3)	1,296	27.3	(24.6-29.9)	
Some Post-H.S.	739	65.2	(61.2-69.2)	739	27.3	(23.8-30.9)	
College Graduate	642	68.8	(64.8-72.8)	642	28.4	(24.5-32.3)	
Income							
Less than \$15,000	519	49.2	(44.1-54.3)	520	33.5	(28.8-38.2)	
\$15,000- 24,999	714	60.3	(56.3-64.4)	713	26.0	(22.5-29.6)	
\$25,000- 34,999	461	64.9	(60.1-69.6)	461	32.6	(27.9-37.4)	
\$35,000-49,999	475	67.6	(62.9-72.3)	475	29.5	(25.1-34.0)	
\$50,000-74,000	390	69.1	(64.0-74.2)	390	26.9	(22.1-31.7)	
\$75,000+	326	71.4	(65.8-77.0)	325	29.3	(24.0-34.7)	