

CHAPTER 12: CHOLESTEROL

No Cholesterol Screening

Definition Responding “No” to the following question: “Blood cholesterol is a fatty substance found in the blood. Have you ever had your blood cholesterol checked?”

Prevalence **WV: 20.5%** (95% CI: 18.7-22.3) in 2005.
US: 22.8% (95% CI: 22.5-23.1) in 2005.
 West Virginia ranked 37th highest among 53 BRFSS participants in 2005.

Gender **Men:** 24.7% (95% CI: 21.6-27.7) in 2005.
Women: 16.6% (95% CI: 14.6-18.6) in 2005.
 Lack of cholesterol screening was significantly more prevalent among men than women.

Age, Education, & Household Income Generally, lack of cholesterol screening was more common among groups who were younger, had less education, or had lower income.

WV HEALTHY PEOPLE 2010 OBJECTIVES

Objective 12.4 Increase to at least 75% the proportion of adults who have had their blood cholesterol checked within the preceding five years. (Baseline: 67.2% in 1997; Current: 76.6% in 2005)

Table 12.1 Prevalence of never having had a blood cholesterol screening by demographic characteristics: WVBRFSS, 2005

Characteristic	Men			Women			Total		
	# Resp.	%	95% CI	# Resp.	%	95% CI	# Resp.	%	95% CI
TOTAL	1,337	24.7	21.6-27.7	2,139	16.6	14.6-18.6	3,476	20.5	18.7-22.3
Age									
18-24	65	62.7	50.4-75.0	89	40.7	29.7-51.8	154	52.4	43.7-61.1
25-34	179	42.9	35.2-50.6	266	38.0	31.6-44.4	445	40.5	35.5-45.5
35-44	222	29.7	22.9-36.4	349	17.6	13.3-21.9	571	23.5	19.5-27.5
45-54	281	11.6	7.4-15.8	456	11.0	7.9-14.1	737	11.3	8.7-13.9
55-64	270	7.3	3.7-10.8	363	3.9	1.8-6.1	633	5.5	3.5-7.6
65+	318	5.7	3.1-8.3	607	4.1	2.5-5.6	925	4.8	3.3-6.2
Education									
Less than H.S.	242	30.0	22.2-37.8	367	18.6	13.2-24.0	609	24.5	19.6-29.4
H.S. or G.E.D.	546	28.9	24.0-33.7	843	17.0	13.8-20.2	1,389	22.9	19.9-25.8
Some Post-H.S.	245	23.8	16.7-31.0	493	15.9	11.7-20.1	738	19.2	15.3-23.1
College Graduate	303	12.6	7.9-17.3	434	15.0	10.9-19.0	737	13.8	10.7-16.9
Income									
Less than \$15,000	164	33.8	24.6-43.0	422	19.4	14.3-24.5	586	24.9	20.1-29.7
\$15,000- 24,999	266	26.1	19.6-32.6	447	20.1	15.3-24.8	713	22.9	18.9-26.9
\$25,000- 34,999	209	18.7	12.3-25.1	253	16.8	11.1-22.5	462	17.8	13.5-22.1
\$35,000- 49,999	204	23.7	16.4-30.9	262	14.2	9.0-19.5	466	19.2	14.6-23.8
\$50,000- 74,999	207	15.4	9.4-21.3	258	16.6	10.9-22.4	465	16.0	11.8-20.1
\$75,000+	174	18.6	10.7-26.5	209	9.3	4.6-13.9	383	14.3	9.4-19.2

High Cholesterol Awareness among Those Who Have Ever Had It Checked

Definition Responding “Yes” to the following question: “Have you ever been told by a doctor, nurse, or other health professional that your blood cholesterol is high?”

Prevalence **WV: 39.9%** (95% CI: 37.9-41.9) in 2005.
US: 35.9% (95% CI: 35.6-36.3) in 2005.
 West Virginia ranked 1st highest among 53 BRFSS participants in 2005.

Time Trends Between 1995 and 2005, the prevalence of high cholesterol among West Virginia adults generally increased.

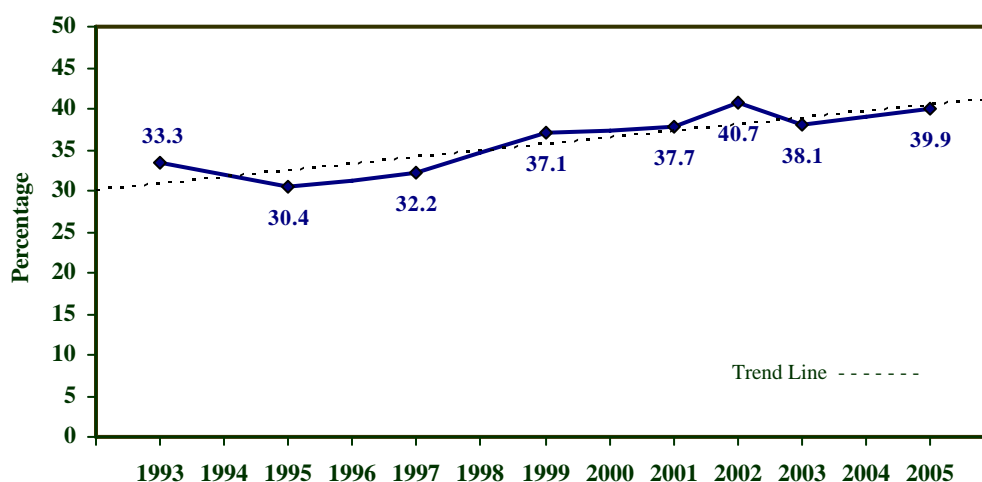
Gender **Men:** 39.8% (95% CI: 36.6-43.1) in 2005.
Women: 40.0% (95% CI: 37.5-42.5) in 2005.

Age Generally, the prevalence of high blood cholesterol increased with increasing age.

Education Prevalence declined with increasing education. Adults with less than a high school education were significantly more likely than college graduates to have high cholesterol.

Household Income About half of those with an annual household income of less than \$15,000 had high cholesterol. Only about one-third of those in the upper income brackets reported having high cholesterol levels.

Figure 12.1 Prevalence of high blood cholesterol by year: WVBRFSS, 1993-2005*



NOTES: Data not available for the years 1994, 1996, 1998, 2000, and 2004.

* Among those who have ever had blood cholesterol checked.

Table 12.2 Prevalence of high cholesterol among those who have ever had their blood cholesterol checked by demographic characteristics: WVBRFSS, 2005

Characteristic	Men			Women			Total		
	# Resp.	%	95% CI	# Resp.	%	95% CI	# Resp.	%	95% CI
TOTAL	1,078	39.8	36.6-43.1	1,832	40.0	37.5-42.5	2,910	39.9	37.9-41.9
Age									
18-24	28	9.0	0.0-19.6	52	9.2	1.3-17.2	80	9.1	2.7-15.5
25-34	102	14.1	7.4-20.8	173	19.6	13.5-25.6	275	16.9	12.4-21.4
35-44	161	35.4	27.5-43.2	284	34.6	28.5-40.8	445	35.0	30.1-39.9
45-54	246	47.0	40.2-53.7	402	39.8	34.6-45.0	648	43.3	39.1-47.6
55-64	245	56.3	49.5-63.1	347	49.8	44.1-55.5	592	52.9	48.5-57.3
65+	294	44.8	38.7-51.0	566	54.7	50.2-59.2	860	50.6	46.9-54.2
Education									
Less than H.S.	186	45.4	37.2-53.5	314	52.4	46.1-58.8	500	49.0	43.9-54.2
H.S. or G.E.D.	415	39.8	34.7-44.9	712	41.7	37.6-45.7	1,127	40.8	37.6-44.0
Some Post-H.S.	206	38.6	31.4-45.8	428	38.3	33.1-43.5	634	38.4	34.2-42.7
College Graduate	271	37.1	30.7-43.4	376	29.4	24.6-34.3	647	33.3	29.3-37.4
Income									
Less than \$15,000	116	49.7	39.1-60.2	359	51.7	45.8-57.6	475	51.0	45.7-56.3
\$15,000- 24,999	207	45.5	37.6-53.3	368	46.8	40.9-52.7	575	46.2	41.4-51.0
\$25,000- 34,999	175	42.4	34.4-50.5	217	38.7	31.4-46.0	392	40.7	35.2-46.2
\$35,000- 49,999	165	35.4	27.7-43.0	231	34.7	28.1-41.4	396	35.0	30.0-40.1
\$50,000- 74,999	183	35.7	28.3-43.1	225	32.2	25.7-38.7	408	34.0	29.1-39.0
\$75,000+	151	38.1	29.8-46.3	190	26.3	19.8-32.8	341	32.3	27.0-37.6

Figure 12.2 High cholesterol awareness by county: WVBRFSS, 2001-2003, 2005

