



Health, United States, 2013

Health, United States is an annual report on the health status of the nation, produced by the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) and submitted by the Secretary of Health and Human Services to the President and Congress. *Health, United States, 2013*, the 37th report in this series, includes health data from a variety of sources within the federal government and in the private sector. Trend data on health topics from all stages of life are presented in tables and charts including data on births, deaths, health risk factors, disease prevalence, use of health care and preventive services, health care resources, and health care expenditures. The 2013 report includes a special section on use of prescription drugs.

Highlights of the prescription drug use data include:

- In 2007-2010, almost half of the U.S. population took at least one prescription drug in the preceding month and 1 in 10 reported taking five or more. Use increased with age, from 1 in 4 children to 9 in 10 persons 65 years of age and over reporting taking one or more prescription drug in the past 30 days.
- In 2012, adults 18-64 years of age who were uninsured for all or part of the past year were more than four times as likely to report not getting needed prescription drugs due to cost as adults who were insured for the whole year.
- Drug poisoning deaths involving opioid analgesics among those 15 years of age and over more than tripled in the past decade, from 1.9 deaths per 100,000 population in 1999-2000 to 6.6 in 2009-2010 (rates are age-adjusted).
- Computerized prescription ordering systems were reported by 53.7 percent of physician offices, 50.3 percent of hospital outpatient departments, 58.1 percent of hospital emergency departments, and 19.7 percent of residential care facilities in 2010.

Highlights from the 2013 report include:

- In 2009-2012, nearly one-half of adults aged 20 and over with hypertension continued to have uncontrolled high blood pressure.
- In 2012, 15.7 percent of persons had no health care visits in the past year, 47.3 percent had 1-3 visits, 24.0 percent had 4-9 visits, and 13.1 percent had 10 or more visits.
- Between 2002 and 2012, the birth rate among teenagers aged 15-19 fell 31 percent, from 42.6 to 29.4 live births per 1,000 females, reaching a record low for the United States.
- Expenditures for hospital care accounted for 31.5 percent of all national health care expenditures in 2011. Physician and clinical services accounted for 20.0 percent of the total, prescription drugs for 9.7 percent, and nursing care facilities and continuing care retirement communities for 5.5 percent.

The electronic version of *Health, United States, 2013*, including all tables, is available at <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/hus.htm>. A special abridged edition, *Health, United States, 2013: In Brief*, is available as a companion to the full report.