



Austin Public Health



Health Workgroup, Asian American Quality of Life Commission

Chronic Disease Data

Using the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System

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Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS)

- ▶ Telephone survey that collects data about U.S. residents regarding:
 - ▶ Health-related risk behaviors
 - ▶ Chronic health conditions
 - ▶ Use of preventive services
- ▶ Primarily intended for state level analysis
 - ▶ Oversample to get county level data
 - ▶ Not all questions are asked every year
 - ▶ Not all questions are asked on every interview

Data Limitations and Opportunities

► Limitations

- Sample size
- Approximately 1,200 calls are used to provide county level estimates
- No sub-county geographical information is available for analysis
- Questions of interest asked in a inconsistent manner over the years should not be combined
- Data only for those who respond to survey, 2011-2015 over represents whites
 - 50%* of Travis County population is Non-Hispanic White while 69% of the interviews were from Non-Hispanic Whites
 - 6%* of Travis County population is Asian while 3% of the interviews were from Asians

► Opportunities

- Combine years
- Use questions asked at least 3 out of the last 5 years

Data request:

- ▶ Prevalence of high cholesterol among Asians is 23.3%
 - ▶ 32.6% amongst Travis County overall
 - ▶ 38.3% among Whites
 - ▶ 37.4 among Blacks
 - ▶ 31.8% Hispanics
- ▶ Prevalence of diabetes among Asian respondents is 4.3%
 - ▶ 7.8% amongst Travis County overall
 - ▶ 5.4% among Whites
 - ▶ 13.4 among Blacks
 - ▶ 11.2% Hispanics

Potential topics*

- ▶ Cardiovascular disease
- ▶ Stroke
- ▶ Heart Disease
- ▶ Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
- ▶ Physical and mental health
- ▶ Vaccinations
- ▶ Seen by a doctor
- ▶ Cancer screenings
- ▶ Alcohol use

See: <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/ss/ss6504a1.htm>
<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/chs/brfss/pages/questions.shtm>

* Questions need to be asked in three out of the last five years.

Questions?

Additional Information

How Race/Ethnicity is Assessed:

- ▶ Are you Hispanic, Latino/a, or Spanish origin?
 - ▶ Yes
 - ▶ No
 - ▶ Don't Know/ Not Sure
 - ▶ Refused

Which one or more of the following would you say is your race?

- ▶ 10 White
- ▶ 20 Black or African American
- ▶ 30 American Indian or Alaska Native
- ▶ 40 Asian
 - ▶ 41 Asian Indian
 - ▶ 42 Chinese
 - ▶ 43 Filipino
 - ▶ 44 Japanese
 - ▶ 45 Korean
 - ▶ 46 Vietnamese
 - ▶ 47 Other Asian
- ▶ 50 Pacific Islander
 - ▶ 51 Native Hawaiian
 - ▶ 52 Guamanian or Chamorro
 - ▶ 53 Samoan
 - ▶ 54 Other Pacific Islander
- ▶ 60 Other [Specify]
- ▶ 77 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
- ▶ 99 REFUSED
- ▶ 88 NO ADDITIONAL CHOICES

INTERVIEWER NOTE: IF 40 (ASIAN) OR 50 (PACIFIC ISLANDER) IS SELECTED READ AND CODE SUBCATEGORIES UNDERNEATH MAJOR HEADING.

The logic of race categories

- ▶ If yes to Hispanic = Hispanic
- ▶ If White and no other race = White
- ▶ If Black and no other race = Black
- ▶ Other:
 - ▶ If American Indian and no other race = American Indian
 - ▶ If Asian and no other race = Asian
 - ▶ If Pacific islander and no other race = Pacific islander
 - ▶ If Other race and no other race = Other
 - ▶ If more than one race selected = Multiracial