

**Table 9. Body mass index (kilograms divided by height in meters squared) for females 20 years and over-number of examined persons, mean, standard error of the mean, and selected percentiles, by race-ethnicity and age : United States, 1988-1994**

Race-ethnicity and age	Number of examined persons	Mean	Standard error of the mean	Selected percentile								
				5th	10th	15th	25th	50th	75th	85th	90th	95th
All race/ethnicity groups <sup>1</sup>												
20 years and over .....	8,758	26.5	0.14	18.8	19.8	20.5	21.8	25.0	29.9	32.8	35.3	38.8
20-29 years .....	1,665	24.3	0.20	18.4	19.0	19.5	20.5	22.8	26.3	29.8	32.0	35.8
30-39 years .....	1,775	26.3	0.24	18.7	19.4	20.0	21.3	24.3	30.2	33.3	35.9	39.6
40-49 years .....	1,367	27.0	0.27	19.2	20.4	21.0	22.4	25.5	30.2	33.2	36.0	39.9
50-59 years .....	1,006	28.4	0.31	19.9	21.0	22.2	23.6	27.2	32.1	35.1	37.1	40.6
60-69 years .....	1,172	27.6	0.27	19.7	20.9	21.8	23.5	26.6	30.8	33.6	35.7	38.6
70-79 years .....	985	26.9	0.28	19.5	20.7	21.4	22.6	25.9	29.9	32.1	34.5	38.8
80 years and over .....	788	25.2	0.26	17.7	19.3	20.3	21.7	25.0	28.4	30.0	31.4	33.6
Non-Hispanic white												
20 years and over .....	3,757	26.0	0.18	18.8	19.6	20.4	21.6	24.6	29.4	32.1	34.6	38.1
20-29 years .....	452	23.8	0.30	18.4	19.0	19.4	20.2	22.2	25.6	28.3	31.5	35.5
30-39 years .....	579	25.5	0.33	18.5	19.2	19.6	20.6	23.5	28.7	32.0	34.9	38.7
40-49 years .....	477	26.4	0.36	19.2	20.4	21.0	22.1	24.8	29.3	32.4	34.4	39.4
50-59 years .....	484	28.2	0.36	19.9	21.0	22.0	23.3	26.9	31.8	35.0	37.0	40.6
60-69 years .....	501	27.3	0.32	19.5	20.7	21.7	23.4	26.4	30.4	33.3	35.5	38.3
70-79 years .....	643	26.7	0.28	19.5	20.9	21.4	22.6	25.8	29.7	31.7	33.4	37.3
80 years and over .....	621	25.1	0.24	17.7	19.2	20.3	21.7	24.9	28.2	29.9	31.0	33.5
Non-Hispanic black												
20 years and over .....	2,493	28.8	0.20	19.3	20.6	21.7	23.5	27.6	32.7	35.8	38.4	42.3
20-29 years .....	563	26.3	0.30	18.7	19.5	20.6	22.0	24.9	29.5	32.9	35.3	38.3
30-39 years .....	626	28.7	0.34	19.6	20.5	21.5	23.2	27.3	32.8	36.1	38.2	42.5
40-49 years .....	456	30.4	0.42	20.4	21.5	22.7	25.0	28.9	34.7	38.6	40.8	46.2
50-59 years .....	275	30.5	0.50	19.9	21.7	23.0	25.6	29.9	34.6	38.3	40.0	42.4
60-69 years .....	300	30.3	0.49	20.4	22.1	24.0	25.5	29.5	33.7	36.4	38.6	43.9
70-79 years .....	181	29.4	0.59	*	21.9	22.9	25.0	28.3	32.9	36.0	39.2	*
80 years and over .....	92	25.9	0.66	*	*	20.4	22.1	25.2	29.1	31.3	*	*
Mexican American												
20 years and over .....	2,132	28.1	0.22	19.7	20.8	22.0	23.7	27.3	31.3	34.1	36.3	39.5
20-29 years .....	575	26.1	0.30	18.7	19.7	20.5	22.0	25.2	29.2	31.5	33.0	36.7
30-39 years .....	493	28.5	0.36	20.1	20.9	22.2	23.8	27.3	32.1	35.0	37.1	40.8
40-49 years .....	366	29.9	0.41	22.1	23.3	24.1	25.3	29.3	33.2	35.7	37.4	42.3
50-59 years .....	193	29.2	0.49	*	22.6	23.6	25.2	29.1	32.6	34.1	35.7	*
60-69 years .....	321	29.5	0.42	21.7	22.5	23.6	25.2	28.7	32.3	35.9	37.8	41.4
70-79 years .....	126	27.4	0.60	*	*	21.9	23.3	26.8	29.9	33.6	*	*
80 years and over .....	58	25.1	0.72	*	*	*	21.3	25.0	28.3	*	*	*

\* Figure does not meet standard of reliability or precision.  
<sup>1</sup> Includes all other race-ethnicity groups not listed separately.  
 NOTE: Pregnant women are excluded.