

**Table 4. Percent of current drinkers 18 years of age and older who had five or more drinks in a day at least once in the past year and percent who had five or more drinks in a day on at least 12 days in the past year, by selected characteristics: United States, average annual, 1997–98**

CRUDE (unadjusted) estimates, with age-adjusted totals. Companion to Advance Data No. 324  
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Selected characteristic	5 or more drinks in a day at least once			5 or more drinks in a day on at least 12 days		
	Current drinkers	Men	Women	Current drinkers	Men	Women
	Percent of current drinkers (standard error)					
Ages 18 years and older (crude) <sup>1</sup>	33.5 (0.35)	44.6 (0.46)	21.0 (0.40)	15.0 (0.25)	22.4 (0.36)	6.6 (0.22)
Ages 18 years and older (age-adjusted) <sup>1,2</sup>	31.5 (0.31)	42.0 (0.44)	19.7 (0.36)	14.2 (0.22)	21.2 (0.33)	6.3 (0.21)
Age						
18–24 years	52.4 (1.05)	61.8 (1.39)	41.2 (1.42)	25.2 (0.94)	34.7 (1.42)	13.8 (0.93)
25–44 years	39.0 (0.44)	51.5 (0.60)	25.1 (0.55)	16.8 (0.34)	25.3 (0.52)	7.4 (0.31)
45–64 years	24.9 (0.48)	35.8 (0.76)	12.4 (0.47)	11.4 (0.34)	17.5 (0.56)	4.5 (0.30)
65–74 years	12.9 (0.67)	20.1 (1.08)	5.0 (0.61)	5.8 (0.48)	9.9 (0.84)	1.4 (0.31)
75 years and older	6.3 (0.59)	10.3 (1.12)	2.4 (0.49)	3.0 (0.41)	5.0 (0.81)	1.1 (0.32)
Race-ethnicity						
Hispanic	39.2 (0.92)	49.6 (1.23)	22.1 (0.97)	21.8 (0.78)	29.8 (1.12)	8.7 (0.62)
White, non-Hispanic	33.9 (0.40)	45.4 (0.54)	21.6 (0.46)	14.4 (0.26)	22.0 (0.38)	6.4 (0.24)
Black, non-Hispanic	25.8 (0.95)	34.9 (1.46)	16.0 (0.99)	13.8 (0.76)	19.9 (1.14)	7.2 (0.77)
Asian/Pacific Islander, non-Hispanic	24.1 (2.20)	29.5 (2.69)	15.0 (2.36)	9.1 (1.40)	11.7 (1.90)	*4.6 (1.55)
Education						
Less than high school graduate	37.2 (0.81)	46.3 (1.08)	23.3 (0.99)	22.1 (0.72)	29.6 (1.07)	10.7 (0.68)
GED diploma <sup>3</sup>	45.2 (1.84)	55.5 (2.51)	30.8 (2.34)	25.2 (1.56)	33.2 (2.09)	14.0 (1.78)
High school graduate	33.1 (0.56)	45.9 (0.86)	20.1 (0.62)	16.2 (0.44)	25.4 (0.77)	6.7 (0.40)
Some college, no degree	36.5 (0.67)	48.5 (0.95)	24.1 (0.82)	15.8 (0.54)	24.0 (0.81)	7.4 (0.52)
Associate of Arts degree	33.5 (0.83)	47.0 (1.40)	20.3 (0.94)	13.6 (0.62)	21.4 (1.14)	6.0 (0.60)
Bachelor of Arts, Science degree	31.6 (0.63)	42.0 (0.95)	20.2 (0.75)	10.4 (0.42)	15.8 (0.72)	4.5 (0.39)
Masters, doctorate, medical degree	22.9 (0.77)	29.5 (1.07)	14.1 (0.93)	7.0 (0.45)	10.4 (0.73)	2.5 (0.41)
Poverty status						
Below poverty	41.8 (1.15)	53.9 (1.55)	30.8 (1.45)	23.0 (0.96)	32.3 (1.47)	14.3 (1.03)
Poverty-199% above	37.1 (0.86)	48.7 (1.20)	24.2 (1.05)	19.6 (0.72)	29.2 (1.08)	8.7 (0.66)
200–399% above	35.1 (0.55)	46.8 (0.78)	22.0 (0.65)	15.7 (0.41)	23.5 (0.66)	6.9 (0.37)
400% or more above	33.4 (0.48)	44.5 (0.69)	20.1 (0.59)	12.9 (0.34)	19.6 (0.54)	4.9 (0.32)
Marital status						
Never married	48.0 (0.77)	57.8 (0.96)	34.4 (1.05)	24.0 (0.69)	32.4 (0.97)	12.2 (0.71)
Married	28.6 (0.37)	38.4 (0.53)	16.9 (0.45)	11.4 (0.26)	17.2 (0.43)	4.5 (0.23)
Cohabiting	49.9 (1.18)	59.5 (1.58)	39.0 (1.65)	24.0 (1.05)	33.2 (1.60)	13.6 (1.13)
Divorced or separated	34.6 (0.69)	51.5 (1.08)	21.1 (0.82)	17.8 (0.56)	30.1 (1.00)	7.9 (0.50)
Widowed	12.1 (0.72)	25.3 (1.79)	7.6 (0.70)	5.8 (0.51)	14.1 (1.47)	2.9 (0.46)
Geographic region						
Northeast	30.8 (0.87)	42.5 (1.09)	18.8 (0.84)	12.4 (0.52)	18.9 (0.79)	5.6 (0.42)
Midwest	36.4 (0.66)	47.8 (0.88)	24.0 (0.89)	16.1 (0.46)	24.0 (0.67)	7.5 (0.47)
South	32.3 (0.60)	42.5 (0.84)	19.9 (0.65)	16.0 (0.48)	23.3 (0.67)	7.3 (0.42)
West	34.3 (0.63)	45.7 (0.86)	21.3 (0.81)	14.6 (0.47)	22.6 (0.74)	5.5 (0.40)
Place of residence <sup>4</sup>						
MSA, central city	33.5 (0.59)	44.3 (0.76)	21.3 (0.75)	16.3 (0.42)	24.1 (0.64)	7.6 (0.40)
MSA, not central city	32.3 (0.48)	43.3 (0.62)	20.3 (0.50)	13.2 (0.32)	20.2 (0.48)	5.5 (0.26)
Not MSA	36.9 (0.88)	48.3 (1.16)	22.9 (0.97)	18.1 (0.62)	26.1 (0.86)	8.4 (0.62)

\* Figure does not meet standards of reliability or precision (see Technical notes.)

<sup>1</sup>Persons of other races and unknown race and ethnicity, unknown education, unknown poverty status, and unknown marital status are included in the total.

<sup>2</sup>Age adjusted to the 2000 projected U.S. population using age groups 18–24 years, 25–44 years, 45–64 years, 65–74 years, and 75 years and over.

<sup>3</sup>GED is General Educational Development high school equivalency diploma.

<sup>4</sup>MSA is metropolitan statistical area (see Technical notes).

NOTE: Denominator for each cell excludes persons with unknown lifetime drinking status, nondrinkers, and current drinkers with unknown five or more drinks in 1 day.