

Data Brief 470. Characteristics of Adults Aged 18–64 Who Did Not Take Medication as Prescribed to Reduce Costs: United States, 2021

Data table for Figure 1. Percentage of adults aged 18–64 who took prescription medication in the past 12 months and did not take medication as prescribed to reduce costs, by sex, age, and race and Hispanic origin: United States, 2021

Characteristic	Percent (95% confidence interval)	Standard error
Total . . . . .	8.2 (7.6–8.8)	0.30
Sex		
Men . . . . .	7.0 (6.2–7.8)	0.42
Women . . . . .	9.1 (8.3–9.9)	0.40
Age		
18–29 . . . . .	8.1 (6.7–9.7)	0.75
30–44 . . . . .	8.7 (7.6–9.9)	0.57
45–64 . . . . .	7.9 (7.2–8.7)	0.39
Race and Hispanic origin		
Asian <sup>1</sup> . . . . .	6.8 (4.5–9.8)	1.29
Black <sup>1</sup> . . . . .	10.4 (8.6–12.4)	0.95
Hispanic <sup>2</sup> . . . . .	9.7 (8.0–11.7)	0.91
White <sup>1</sup> . . . . .	7.4 (6.7–8.1)	0.34
Other races <sup>1</sup> . . . . .	11.5 (8.0–15.9)	1.94

<sup>1</sup>Race groups are non-Hispanic.

<sup>2</sup>People of Hispanic origin may be of any race.

NOTES: Adults who did not take medication as prescribed were defined as those who reported taking prescription medications in the last 12 months (57.9% of adults aged 18–64 in 2021) and responded “yes” to at least one of the following: “During the last 12 months, were any of the following true for you: 1) Skipped medication doses to save money; 2) Took less medication to save money; 3) Delayed filling a prescription to save money.” Estimates are based on household interviews of a sample of the U.S. civilian noninstitutionalized population.

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Health Interview Survey, 2021.



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
National Center for Health Statistics

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**Data table for Figure 2. Percentage of adults aged 18–64 who took prescription medication in the past 12 months and did not take medication as prescribed to reduce costs, by disability status and health status: United States, 2021**

Characteristic	Percent (95% confidence interval)	Standard error
<b>Disability status</b>		
Without disabilities . . . . .	7.1 (6.5–7.6)	0.28
With disabilities . . . . .	20.0 (17.1–23.3)	1.54
<b>Health status</b>		
Excellent, very good, or good health . . . . .	6.3 (5.8–7.0)	0.29
Fair or poor health . . . . .	18.0 (16.0–20.2)	1.05

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**Data table for Figure 3. Percentage of adults aged 18–64 who took prescription medication in the past 12 months and did not take medication as prescribed to reduce costs, by family income as a percentage of the federal poverty level and health insurance coverage: United States, 2021**

Characteristic	Percent (95% confidence interval)	Standard error
Family income as a percentage of the federal poverty level (FPL)		
Less than 100% FPL . . . . .	14.5 (12.0–16.9)	1.26
100% to less than 200% FPL . . . . .	13.8 (11.9–15.8)	0.98
200% to less than or equal to 400% FPL . . . . .	9.9 (8.7–11.1)	0.62
Greater than 400% FPL . . . . .	3.9 (3.3–4.5)	0.31
Health insurance coverage		
Private . . . . .	6.5 (6.0–7.1)	0.29
Medicaid . . . . .	8.0 (6.7–9.5)	0.70
Other . . . . .	11.4 (8.8–14.5)	1.40
Uninsured . . . . .	22.9 (19.5–26.7)	1.71

NOTES: Adults who did not take medication as prescribed were defined as those who reported taking prescription medications in the last 12 months (57.9% of adults aged 18–64 in 2021) and responded “yes” to at least one of the following: “During the last 12 months, were any of the following true for you: 1) Skipped medication doses to save money; 2) Took less medication to save money; 3) Delayed filling a prescription to save money.” Estimates are based on household interviews of a sample of the U.S. civilian noninstitutionalized population.

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**Data table for Figure 4. Percentage of adults aged 18–64 who took prescription medication in the past 12 months and did not take medication as prescribed to reduce costs, by prescription drug coverage: United States, 2021**

Prescription drug coverage	Percent (95% confidence interval)	Standard error
Private . . . . .	6.6 (6.0–7.2)	0.31
Public . . . . .	7.6 (6.5–8.9)	0.59
None . . . . .	18.1 (15.7–20.7)	1.25

NOTES: Adults who did not take medication as prescribed were defined as those who reported taking prescription medications in the last 12 months (57.9% of adults aged 18–64 in 2021) and responded “yes” to at least one of the following: “During the last 12 months, were any of the following true for you: 1) Skipped medication doses to save money; 2) Took less medication to save money; 3) Delayed filling a prescription to save money.” Estimates are based on household interviews of a sample of the U.S. civilian noninstitutionalized population.

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