

Alcohol Use Among Adults: United States, 1997–98
Advance Data No. 324:
Companion Tables - Unadjusted
INTERNET RELEASE ONLY
Revised 4/18/02

Advance Data No. 324, “Alcohol Use Among Adults: United States, 1997–98,” published by the National Center for Health Statistics on September 14, 2001, includes four detailed tables that show selected measures of alcohol use among U.S. adults. Each table in the published report presents crude rates for the total population and age-specific rates. All other statistics included in the published tables are age-adjusted to the 2000 Projected U.S. population.

The following four tables are designed as companions to [tables 1–4](#) of the published report. They provide the crude (unadjusted) estimates for each of the published tables. A subtitle on each table identifies them as “INTERNET RELEASE ONLY.” Together with the population table ([table X](#)), these tables can be used to estimate the actual number and percent of persons in the various drinking categories but should not be used for analysis of differences between subgroups except insofar as variations in age composition of the groups are considered. The tables are:

[Table 1](#). Percent distribution of lifetime alcohol drinking status for adults 18 years of age and older according to selected characteristics: United States, average annual, 1997–98. [CRUDE (unadjusted) estimates, with age-adjusted totals. Companion to Advance Data No. 324. INTERNET RELEASE ONLY]

[Table 2](#). Percent distribution of current alcohol drinking status for adults 18 years of age and older according to selected characteristics: United States, average annual, 1997–98. [CRUDE (unadjusted) estimates, with age-adjusted totals. Companion to Advance Data No. 324. INTERNET RELEASE ONLY]

[Table 3](#). Percent of adults 18 years of age and older who had five or more drinks in a day at least once in the past year and percent of adults 18 years of age and older 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. INTERNET RELEASE ONLY]

[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. INTERNET RELEASE ONLY]

[Table X](#). Number of adults 18 years of age and older, by selected characteristics, United States, average annual, 1997–98. [Companion to Advance Data No. 324. INTERNET RELEASE ONLY]

Table 1. Percent distribution of lifetime alcohol drinking status for adults 18 years of age and older according to selected characteristics: United States, average annual, 1997–98CRUDE (unadjusted) estimates, with age-adjusted totals. Companion to Advance Data No. 324
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Selected characteristic	Total	Lifetime alcohol drinking status ¹			
		Lifetime abstainer	Former infrequent	Former regular	Current
Percent distribution (standard error)					
Both sexes					
Ages 18 years and older (crude) ²	100.00	21.5 (0.24)	9.0 (0.15)	6.7 (0.14)	62.8 (0.29)
Ages 18 years and older (age-adjusted) ^{2,3}	100.00	21.7 (0.24)	9.1 (0.15)	6.8 (0.14)	62.4 (0.29)
Age					
18–24 years	100.00	32.4 (0.72)	3.7 (0.27)	2.5 (0.23)	61.4 (0.77)
25–44 years	100.00	16.4 (0.30)	7.1 (0.18)	5.1 (0.17)	71.3 (0.35)
45–64 years	100.00	18.8 (0.37)	10.7 (0.29)	8.0 (0.27)	62.4 (0.49)
65–74 years	100.00	26.6 (0.64)	14.2 (0.45)	11.2 (0.45)	48.0 (0.69)
75 years and older	100.00	35.5 (0.74)	15.8 (0.55)	13.1 (0.55)	35.7 (0.74)
Race-ethnicity					
Hispanic	100.00	32.3 (0.62)	7.6 (0.33)	4.7 (0.26)	55.3 (0.60)
White, non-Hispanic	100.00	17.5 (0.28)	8.7 (0.18)	7.2 (0.17)	66.6 (0.36)
Black, non-Hispanic	100.00	32.0 (0.74)	11.8 (0.38)	7.0 (0.34)	49.3 (0.78)
Asian/Pacific Islander, non-Hispanic	100.00	45.0 (1.50)	7.2 (0.72)	2.2 (0.34)	45.6 (1.42)
Education					
Less than high school graduate	100.00	33.9 (0.52)	12.8 (0.36)	9.7 (0.32)	43.6 (0.55)
GED diploma ⁴	100.00	17.5 (1.08)	9.5 (0.80)	9.1 (0.71)	63.8 (1.36)
High school graduate	100.00	23.0 (0.43)	10.5 (0.27)	6.9 (0.25)	59.6 (0.47)
Some college - no degree	100.00	18.1 (0.49)	7.1 (0.27)	6.1 (0.24)	68.6 (0.54)
Associate of Arts degree	100.00	16.2 (0.58)	7.5 (0.39)	6.4 (0.36)	70.0 (0.66)
Bachelor of Arts, Science degree	100.00	13.9 (0.44)	5.9 (0.28)	4.5 (0.25)	75.7 (0.53)
Masters, doctorate, medical degree	100.00	13.5 (0.58)	6.0 (0.34)	4.1 (0.32)	76.4 (0.69)
Poverty status					
Below poverty	100.00	33.9 (0.77)	11.0 (0.46)	7.6 (0.41)	47.5 (0.78)
Poverty-199% above	100.00	28.3 (0.58)	11.5 (0.37)	8.5 (0.33)	51.7 (0.62)
200–399% above	100.00	19.7 (0.39)	9.1 (0.27)	7.1 (0.23)	64.1 (0.49)
400% or more above	100.00	11.4 (0.30)	6.3 (0.21)	5.1 (0.19)	77.3 (0.39)
Marital status					
Never married	100.00	27.6 (0.54)	4.5 (0.21)	3.8 (0.20)	64.1 (0.60)
Married	100.00	19.4 (0.30)	9.5 (0.19)	7.2 (0.19)	63.8 (0.36)
Cohabiting	100.00	10.0 (0.64)	6.6 (0.47)	5.1 (0.44)	78.4 (0.87)
Divorced or separated	100.00	16.6 (0.46)	10.2 (0.35)	8.4 (0.33)	64.7 (0.56)
Widowed	100.00	36.8 (0.69)	15.8 (0.52)	9.9 (0.42)	37.4 (0.69)
Geographic region					
Northeast	100.00	16.7 (0.41)	9.2 (0.33)	5.6 (0.31)	68.5 (0.58)
Midwest	100.00	17.5 (0.53)	8.9 (0.26)	6.4 (0.24)	67.2 (0.58)
South	100.00	27.0 (0.44)	9.6 (0.30)	7.6 (0.26)	55.7 (0.55)
West	100.00	21.2 (0.50)	7.6 (0.29)	6.8 (0.26)	64.5 (0.52)
Place of residence ⁵					
MSA, central city	100.00	23.4 (0.44)	8.6 (0.23)	6.2 (0.21)	61.8 (0.50)
MSA, not central city	100.00	18.5 (0.34)	8.4 (0.20)	6.2 (0.19)	66.9 (0.45)
Not MSA	100.00	25.8 (0.56)	10.7 (0.40)	8.8 (0.35)	54.8 (0.62)

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Percent distribution of lifetime alcohol drinking status for adults 18 years of age and older according to selected characteristics: United States, average annual, 1997–98—ConCRUDE (unadjusted) estimates, with age-adjusted totals. Companion to Advance Data No. 324
INTERNET RELEASE ONLY

Selected characteristic	Total	Lifetime alcohol drinking status ¹			
		Lifetime abstainer	Former infrequent	Former regular	Current
Percent distribution (standard error)					
Men					
Ages 18 years and older (crude) ²	100.00	14.2 (0.27)	7.5 (0.18)	8.4 (0.20)	69.9 (0.34)
Ages 18 years and older (age-adjusted) ^{2,3}	100.00	14.3 (0.27)	7.7 (0.19)	8.9 (0.21)	69.1 (0.34)
Age					
18–24 years	100.00	27.7 (1.02)	2.9 (0.38)	2.2 (0.35)	67.2 (1.10)
25–44 years	100.00	11.5 (0.35)	5.9 (0.25)	5.8 (0.25)	76.9 (0.46)
45–64 years	100.00	10.8 (0.41)	9.1 (0.38)	10.6 (0.40)	69.6 (0.62)
65–74 years	100.00	14.6 (0.68)	12.8 (0.63)	16.1 (0.77)	56.5 (1.00)
75 years and older	100.00	19.9 (1.05)	14.2 (0.88)	20.7 (1.09)	45.2 (1.29)
Race-ethnicity					
Hispanic	100.00	18.7 (0.78)	7.2 (0.45)	5.8 (0.43)	68.2 (0.84)
White, non-Hispanic	100.00	11.7 (0.31)	7.1 (0.21)	9.0 (0.25)	72.2 (0.41)
Black, non-Hispanic	100.00	22.4 (0.97)	10.4 (0.61)	9.0 (0.56)	58.2 (1.20)
Asian/Pacific Islander, non-Hispanic	100.00	31.1 (2.16)	7.1 (1.01)	2.8 (0.60)	59.0 (2.17)
Education					
Less than high school graduate	100.00	19.8 (0.62)	11.6 (0.48)	13.1 (0.51)	55.5 (0.79)
GED diploma ⁴	100.00	8.7 (1.02)	8.9 (1.09)	11.2 (1.13)	71.2 (1.73)
High school graduate	100.00	15.2 (0.57)	8.2 (0.36)	9.1 (0.39)	67.5 (0.64)
Some college - no degree	100.00	13.3 (0.61)	5.5 (0.33)	7.7 (0.41)	73.5 (0.76)
Associate of Arts degree	100.00	10.7 (0.75)	5.7 (0.55)	7.6 (0.62)	76.0 (0.96)
Bachelor of Arts, Science degree	100.00	10.5 (0.52)	5.3 (0.38)	4.9 (0.37)	79.3 (0.66)
Masters, doctorate, medical degree	100.00	11.6 (0.76)	5.3 (0.45)	4.5 (0.44)	78.6 (0.88)
Poverty status					
Below poverty	100.00	22.7 (1.12)	9.3 (0.66)	9.2 (0.71)	58.9 (1.21)
Poverty-199% above	100.00	18.1 (0.69)	9.9 (0.51)	11.0 (0.53)	60.9 (0.86)
200–399% above	100.00	13.6 (0.44)	8.1 (0.36)	9.2 (0.35)	69.1 (0.59)
400% or more above	100.00	8.4 (0.37)	5.0 (0.25)	6.1 (0.28)	80.4 (0.48)
Marital status					
Never married	100.00	22.5 (0.70)	4.1 (0.31)	4.3 (0.30)	69.1 (0.81)
Married	100.00	12.7 (0.33)	8.7 (0.24)	9.3 (0.27)	69.4 (0.41)
Cohabiting	100.00	7.1 (0.77)	5.0 (0.65)	5.7 (0.67)	82.1 (1.18)
Divorced or separated	100.00	8.3 (0.55)	7.1 (0.48)	11.0 (0.58)	73.6 (0.89)
Widowed	100.00	15.9 (1.14)	11.7 (0.94)	19.6 (1.19)	52.8 (1.57)
Geographic region					
Northeast	100.00	10.9 (0.51)	6.7 (0.37)	7.2 (0.45)	75.3 (0.71)
Midwest	100.00	12.5 (0.58)	6.8 (0.32)	7.5 (0.37)	73.2 (0.61)
South	100.00	17.3 (0.50)	9.0 (0.36)	10.0 (0.38)	63.7 (0.64)
West	100.00	14.1 (0.49)	6.4 (0.36)	8.0 (0.41)	71.5 (0.66)
Place of residence ⁵					
MSA, central city	100.00	15.2 (0.53)	7.2 (0.32)	7.6 (0.31)	69.9 (0.62)
MSA, not central city	100.00	12.6 (0.36)	6.8 (0.24)	7.7 (0.28)	72.8 (0.51)
Not MSA	100.00	16.6 (0.64)	9.2 (0.42)	11.2 (0.50)	63.0 (0.73)

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Percent distribution of lifetime alcohol drinking status for adults 18 years of age and older according to selected characteristics: United States, average annual, 1997–98—Con.CRUDE (unadjusted) estimates, with age-adjusted totals. Companion to Advance Data No. 324
INTERNET RELEASE ONLY

Selected characteristic	Total	Lifetime alcohol drinking status ¹			
		Lifetime abstainer	Former infrequent	Former regular	Current
Percent distribution (standard error)					
Women					
Ages 18 years and older (crude) ²	100.00	28.1 (0.34)	10.3 (0.20)	5.2 (0.16)	56.4 (0.38)
Ages 18 years and older (age-adjusted) ^{2,3}	100.00	28.1 (0.34)	10.3 (0.19)	5.2 (0.16)	56.4 (0.38)
Age					
18–24 years	100.00	37.2 (1.03)	4.4 (0.40)	2.8 (0.31)	55.6 (1.08)
25–44 years	100.00	21.2 (0.41)	8.3 (0.26)	4.5 (0.21)	66.0 (0.48)
45–64 years	100.00	26.4 (0.54)	12.2 (0.39)	5.6 (0.28)	55.8 (0.64)
65–74 years	100.00	36.2 (0.88)	15.4 (0.62)	7.3 (0.47)	41.1 (0.85)
75 years and older	100.00	45.4 (0.98)	16.8 (0.69)	8.2 (0.50)	29.5 (0.85)
Race-ethnicity					
Hispanic	100.00	46.4 (0.86)	8.1 (0.41)	3.5 (0.28)	42.0 (0.82)
White, non-Hispanic	100.00	22.8 (0.40)	10.3 (0.24)	5.5 (0.19)	61.5 (0.46)
Black, non-Hispanic	100.00	39.6 (0.89)	12.9 (0.55)	5.4 (0.39)	42.1 (0.92)
Asian/Pacific Islander, non-Hispanic	100.00	58.1 (1.92)	7.3 (0.97)	1.7 (0.42)	32.9 (1.84)
Education					
Less than high school graduate	100.00	46.7 (0.74)	13.9 (0.45)	6.7 (0.34)	32.7 (0.63)
GED diploma ⁴	100.00	27.5 (1.75)	10.2 (1.27)	6.8 (0.93)	55.4 (1.94)
High school graduate	100.00	29.4 (0.56)	12.3 (0.38)	5.2 (0.26)	53.0 (0.61)
Some college - no degree	100.00	22.5 (0.68)	8.7 (0.39)	4.7 (0.27)	64.1 (0.72)
Associate of Arts degree	100.00	20.8 (0.82)	9.0 (0.52)	5.4 (0.47)	64.9 (0.94)
Bachelor of Arts, Science degree	100.00	17.4 (0.62)	6.4 (0.40)	4.1 (0.31)	72.1 (0.77)
Masters, doctorate, medical degree	100.00	15.8 (0.85)	6.9 (0.54)	3.6 (0.42)	73.7 (1.03)
Poverty status					
Below poverty	100.00	41.1 (0.86)	12.1 (0.56)	6.6 (0.44)	40.2 (0.86)
Poverty-199% above	100.00	36.8 (0.79)	12.8 (0.48)	6.4 (0.37)	44.0 (0.77)
200–399% above	100.00	25.7 (0.58)	10.1 (0.35)	5.1 (0.27)	59.1 (0.69)
400% or more above	100.00	14.6 (0.44)	7.7 (0.33)	3.9 (0.23)	73.9 (0.56)
Marital status					
Never married	100.00	33.8 (0.77)	5.0 (0.29)	3.1 (0.25)	58.1 (0.80)
Married	100.00	26.3 (0.43)	10.4 (0.27)	5.1 (0.21)	58.2 (0.48)
Cohabiting	100.00	12.9 (1.01)	8.2 (0.77)	4.4 (0.57)	74.5 (1.27)
Divorced or separated	100.00	22.1 (0.63)	12.3 (0.47)	6.8 (0.37)	58.9 (0.72)
Widowed	100.00	41.6 (0.78)	16.8 (0.59)	7.7 (0.44)	33.9 (0.74)
Geographic region					
Northeast	100.00	21.9 (0.54)	11.4 (0.44)	4.3 (0.37)	62.5 (0.74)
Midwest	100.00	22.2 (0.69)	10.9 (0.40)	5.3 (0.30)	61.6 (0.82)
South	100.00	36.0 (0.61)	10.2 (0.36)	5.4 (0.27)	48.4 (0.68)
West	100.00	27.8 (0.77)	8.7 (0.37)	5.6 (0.30)	57.9 (0.76)
Place of residence ⁵					
MSA, central city	100.00	30.7 (0.57)	9.9 (0.32)	4.8 (0.23)	54.6 (0.63)
MSA, not central city	100.00	23.9 (0.46)	9.9 (0.26)	4.9 (0.22)	61.4 (0.58)
Not MSA	100.00	34.4 (0.85)	12.0 (0.54)	6.5 (0.38)	47.1 (0.89)

¹Lifetime alcohol drinking status: Lifetime abstainer is defined as a person who had less than 12 drinks in lifetime; former infrequent is defined as having had 12 or more drinks in lifetime, but less than 12 in 1 year, and none in past year; former regular is defined as having had 12 or more drinks in 1 year but none in past year; current is defined as having had 12 or more drinks in lifetime and 1 or more drinks in past year.²Persons of other races and unknown race and ethnicity, unknown education, unknown poverty status, and unknown marital status are included in the totals.³Age 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.⁴GED is General Educational Development high school equivalency diploma.⁵MSA is metropolitan statistical area (see Technical notes).

NOTE: Denominator for each percent distribution excludes persons with unknown lifetime drinking status.

Table 2. Percent distribution of current alcohol drinking status for adults 18 years of age and older according to selected characteristics: United States, average annual, 1997–98CRUDE (unadjusted) estimates, with age-adjusted totals. Companion to Advance Data No. 324
INTERNET RELEASE ONLY

Selected characteristic	Total	Current alcohol drinking status ¹				
		Nondrinker	Infrequent	Light	Moderate	Heavier
Percent distribution (standard error)						
Both sexes						
Ages 18 years and older (crude) ²	100.00	37.2 (0.29)	14.8 (0.16)	29.4 (0.24)	13.9 (0.18)	4.7 (0.10)
Ages 18 years and older (age-adjusted) ^{2,3}	100.00	37.6 (0.29)	14.7 (0.16)	29.1 (0.24)	13.8 (0.18)	4.7 (0.10)
Age						
18–24 years	100.00	38.6 (0.77)	12.2 (0.49)	31.4 (0.71)	12.7 (0.52)	5.1 (0.34)
25–44 years	100.00	28.7 (0.35)	15.9 (0.23)	35.3 (0.33)	15.4 (0.27)	4.9 (0.15)
45–64 years	100.00	37.6 (0.49)	15.5 (0.32)	27.5 (0.39)	14.1 (0.32)	5.3 (0.18)
65–74 years	100.00	52.0 (0.69)	13.7 (0.48)	18.5 (0.57)	11.9 (0.44)	3.9 (0.26)
75 years and older	100.00	64.3 (0.74)	11.8 (0.48)	13.0 (0.47)	9.1 (0.45)	1.8 (0.19)
Race-ethnicity						
Hispanic	100.00	44.7 (0.60)	13.0 (0.41)	27.4 (0.56)	11.2 (0.39)	3.7 (0.26)
White, non-Hispanic	100.00	33.4 (0.36)	15.3 (0.20)	31.1 (0.30)	15.2 (0.22)	5.1 (0.12)
Black, non-Hispanic	100.00	50.7 (0.78)	13.4 (0.47)	22.2 (0.59)	10.0 (0.43)	3.7 (0.22)
Asian/Pacific Islander, non-Hispanic	100.00	54.4 (1.42)	14.2 (0.96)	23.0 (1.23)	7.1 (0.70)	1.4 (0.26)
Education						
Less than high school graduate	100.00	56.4 (0.55)	12.3 (0.34)	17.8 (0.42)	9.0 (0.29)	4.5 (0.21)
GED diploma ⁴	100.00	36.2 (1.36)	16.3 (1.05)	26.2 (1.20)	13.7 (0.98)	7.6 (0.73)
High school graduate	100.00	40.4 (0.47)	16.2 (0.34)	25.8 (0.41)	12.6 (0.31)	4.9 (0.19)
Some college - no degree	100.00	31.4 (0.54)	16.0 (0.37)	32.3 (0.51)	15.0 (0.37)	5.3 (0.24)
Associate of arts degree	100.00	30.0 (0.66)	16.5 (0.59)	34.4 (0.67)	14.7 (0.51)	4.4 (0.29)
Bachelor of arts, science degree	100.00	24.3 (0.53)	13.7 (0.37)	40.0 (0.57)	18.0 (0.45)	4.0 (0.23)
Masters, doctorate, medical degree	100.00	23.6 (0.69)	12.5 (0.55)	40.4 (0.79)	19.9 (0.69)	3.7 (0.30)
Poverty status						
Below poverty	100.00	52.5 (0.78)	11.5 (0.43)	21.7 (0.57)	9.6 (0.43)	4.7 (0.29)
Poverty-199% above	100.00	48.3 (0.62)	14.2 (0.39)	22.8 (0.46)	10.1 (0.36)	4.5 (0.23)
200–399% above	100.00	35.9 (0.49)	16.5 (0.33)	29.5 (0.43)	13.3 (0.31)	4.8 (0.18)
400% or more above	100.00	22.7 (0.39)	14.5 (0.28)	37.8 (0.41)	19.7 (0.35)	5.4 (0.19)
Marital status						
Never married	100.00	35.9 (0.60)	11.8 (0.36)	30.9 (0.53)	15.7 (0.41)	5.7 (0.27)
Married	100.00	36.2 (0.36)	15.9 (0.22)	30.2 (0.32)	13.8 (0.24)	4.0 (0.13)
Cohabiting	100.00	21.6 (0.87)	13.8 (0.70)	36.8 (1.02)	18.4 (0.88)	9.4 (0.62)
Divorced or separated	100.00	35.3 (0.56)	15.5 (0.40)	28.8 (0.50)	14.1 (0.38)	6.4 (0.28)
Widowed	100.00	62.6 (0.69)	13.1 (0.45)	14.9 (0.53)	6.6 (0.33)	2.8 (0.21)
Geographic Region						
Northeast	100.00	31.5 (0.58)	16.0 (0.45)	33.2 (0.59)	15.4 (0.43)	3.9 (0.21)
Midwest	100.00	32.8 (0.58)	16.4 (0.31)	31.6 (0.57)	14.6 (0.35)	4.7 (0.18)
South	100.00	44.3 (0.55)	13.2 (0.26)	25.5 (0.39)	12.2 (0.30)	4.8 (0.18)
West	100.00	35.5 (0.52)	14.4 (0.36)	30.0 (0.43)	14.8 (0.37)	5.4 (0.25)
Place of residence ⁵						
MSA, central city	100.00	38.2 (0.50)	13.7 (0.30)	28.5 (0.39)	14.4 (0.35)	5.3 (0.19)
MSA, not central city	100.00	33.1 (0.45)	15.5 (0.25)	32.2 (0.37)	14.7 (0.27)	4.5 (0.15)
Not MSA	100.00	45.2 (0.62)	14.6 (0.32)	24.3 (0.49)	11.5 (0.33)	4.4 (0.20)

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Percent distribution of current alcohol drinking status for adults 18 years of age and older according to selected characteristics: United States, average annual, 1997–98—Con.CRUDE (unadjusted) estimates, with age-adjusted totals. Companion to Advance Data No. 324
INTERNET RELEASE ONLY

Selected characteristic	Total	Current alcohol drinking status ¹				
		Nondrinker	Infrequent	Light	Moderate	Heavier
Percent distribution (standard error)						
Men						
Ages 18 years and older (crude) ²	100.00	30.1 (0.34)	11.3 (0.22)	30.9 (0.33)	21.9 (0.30)	5.8 (0.15)
Ages 18 years and older (age-adjusted) ^{2,3}	100.00	30.9 (0.34)	11.3 (0.22)	30.3 (0.32)	21.7 (0.30)	5.7 (0.15)
Age						
18–24 years	100.00	32.8 (1.10)	9.4 (0.66)	32.1 (1.01)	19.7 (0.89)	6.0 (0.55)
25–44 years	100.00	23.1 (0.46)	11.1 (0.31)	35.8 (0.49)	23.9 (0.44)	6.0 (0.24)
45–64 years	100.00	30.4 (0.62)	12.6 (0.43)	28.8 (0.58)	21.9 (0.54)	6.4 (0.28)
65–74 years	100.00	43.5 (1.00)	11.6 (0.69)	21.1 (0.88)	18.9 (0.80)	4.8 (0.41)
75 years and older	100.00	54.8 (1.29)	10.4 (0.78)	16.4 (0.90)	16.4 (0.92)	2.0 (0.37)
Race-ethnicity						
Hispanic	100.00	31.8 (0.84)	10.0 (0.47)	33.9 (0.81)	18.9 (0.66)	5.4 (0.42)
White, non-Hispanic	100.00	27.8 (0.41)	11.6 (0.26)	31.2 (0.40)	23.3 (0.35)	6.1 (0.18)
Black, non-Hispanic	100.00	41.8 (1.20)	10.1 (0.63)	25.6 (0.92)	17.8 (0.87)	4.7 (0.35)
Asian/Pacific Islander, non-Hispanic	100.00	41.0 (2.17)	13.5 (1.38)	31.7 (1.96)	12.0 (1.38)	1.9 (0.43)
Education						
Less than high school graduate	100.00	44.5 (0.79)	10.7 (0.45)	22.3 (0.64)	15.5 (0.52)	7.0 (0.38)
GED diploma ⁴	100.00	28.8 (1.73)	12.2 (1.24)	28.8 (1.66)	20.4 (1.62)	9.8 (1.13)
High school graduate	100.00	32.5 (0.64)	12.1 (0.45)	27.9 (0.59)	21.0 (0.61)	6.5 (0.33)
Some college - no degree	100.00	26.5 (0.76)	11.9 (0.51)	32.3 (0.75)	23.0 (0.64)	6.3 (0.38)
Associate of arts degree	100.00	24.0 (0.96)	11.7 (0.76)	35.5 (1.03)	24.1 (0.97)	4.9 (0.44)
Bachelor of arts, science degree	100.00	20.7 (0.66)	10.4 (0.51)	39.1 (0.77)	26.2 (0.68)	3.6 (0.31)
Masters, doctorate, medical degree	100.00	21.4 (0.88)	9.8 (0.66)	38.5 (1.10)	27.3 (1.03)	3.0 (0.39)
Poverty status						
Below poverty	100.00	41.1 (1.21)	9.2 (0.62)	25.8 (0.96)	17.3 (0.82)	6.6 (0.56)
Poverty-199% above	100.00	39.1 (0.86)	10.9 (0.56)	25.9 (0.72)	17.5 (0.67)	6.7 (0.39)
200–399% above	100.00	30.9 (0.59)	11.5 (0.41)	30.8 (0.62)	20.6 (0.50)	6.3 (0.32)
400% or more above	100.00	19.6 (0.48)	10.7 (0.38)	36.3 (0.56)	28.0 (0.56)	5.4 (0.26)
Marital status						
Never married	100.00	30.9 (0.81)	9.1 (0.46)	30.7 (0.71)	22.6 (0.62)	6.7 (0.41)
Married	100.00	30.6 (0.41)	12.3 (0.29)	31.6 (0.43)	20.9 (0.37)	4.6 (0.18)
Cohabiting	100.00	17.9 (1.18)	11.4 (0.93)	32.2 (1.45)	27.6 (1.49)	10.9 (0.95)
Divorced or separated	100.00	26.4 (0.89)	10.1 (0.56)	28.8 (0.86)	25.5 (0.75)	9.1 (0.53)
Widowed	100.00	47.2 (1.57)	10.3 (0.95)	20.0 (1.22)	17.2 (1.13)	5.3 (0.66)
Geographic Region						
Northeast	100.00	24.7 (0.71)	12.1 (0.56)	34.4 (0.83)	24.3 (0.75)	4.4 (0.32)
Midwest	100.00	26.8 (0.61)	12.5 (0.40)	32.0 (0.71)	22.7 (0.60)	6.0 (0.28)
South	100.00	36.3 (0.64)	10.2 (0.37)	27.7 (0.50)	19.7 (0.48)	6.1 (0.28)
West	100.00	28.5 (0.66)	10.9 (0.53)	32.0 (0.68)	22.5 (0.58)	6.2 (0.31)
Place of residence ⁵						
MSA, central city	100.00	30.1 (0.62)	10.3 (0.37)	30.2 (0.55)	22.9 (0.57)	6.4 (0.28)
MSA, not central city	100.00	27.2 (0.51)	11.7 (0.33)	33.1 (0.48)	22.6 (0.44)	5.4 (0.23)
Not MSA	100.00	37.0 (0.73)	11.7 (0.46)	26.7 (0.67)	18.7 (0.54)	5.9 (0.31)

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Percent distribution of current alcohol drinking status for adults 18 years of age and older according to selected characteristics: United States, average annual, 1997–98—Con.CRUDE (unadjusted) estimates, with age-adjusted totals. Companion to Advance Data No. 324
INTERNET RELEASE ONLY

Selected characteristic	Total	Current alcohol drinking status ¹				
		Nondrinker	Infrequent	Light	Moderate	Heavier
Percent distribution (standard error)						
Women						
Ages 18 years and older (crude) ²	100.00	43.6 (0.38)	18.0 (0.23)	28.1 (0.32)	6.6 (0.16)	3.7 (0.13)
Ages 18 years and older (age-adjusted) ^{2,3}	100.00	43.6 (0.38)	18.0 (0.23)	28.1 (0.32)	6.6 (0.16)	3.8 (0.13)
Age						
18–24 years.	100.00	44.4 (1.08)	14.9 (0.72)	30.8 (0.94)	5.7 (0.48)	4.2 (0.36)
25–44 years.	100.00	34.0 (0.48)	20.4 (0.36)	34.7 (0.45)	7.1 (0.24)	3.8 (0.19)
45–64 years.	100.00	44.2 (0.64)	18.2 (0.44)	26.3 (0.52)	6.9 (0.28)	4.3 (0.22)
65–74 years.	100.00	58.9 (0.85)	15.4 (0.61)	16.3 (0.69)	6.3 (0.40)	3.2 (0.34)
75 years and older.	100.00	70.5 (0.85)	12.7 (0.60)	10.8 (0.54)	4.5 (0.38)	1.6 (0.22)
Race-ethnicity						
Hispanic	100.00	58.0 (0.82)	16.1 (0.62)	20.7 (0.63)	3.2 (0.29)	2.0 (0.22)
White, non-Hispanic	100.00	38.5 (0.46)	18.7 (0.29)	31.0 (0.39)	7.7 (0.20)	4.2 (0.16)
Black, non-Hispanic	100.00	57.9 (0.92)	16.1 (0.63)	19.4 (0.69)	3.7 (0.33)	2.9 (0.28)
Asian/Pacific Islander, non-Hispanic	100.00	67.1 (1.84)	14.8 (1.31)	14.7 (1.43)	2.4 (0.56)	*0.9 (0.28)
Education						
Less than high school graduate.	100.00	67.3 (0.63)	13.8 (0.51)	13.7 (0.47)	2.9 (0.24)	2.3 (0.19)
GED Diploma ⁴	100.00	44.6 (1.94)	20.9 (1.66)	23.2 (1.51)	6.2 (0.88)	5.1 (0.86)
High school graduate	100.00	47.0 (0.61)	19.6 (0.46)	24.1 (0.53)	5.7 (0.25)	3.6 (0.22)
Some college - no degree	100.00	35.9 (0.72)	19.7 (0.53)	32.4 (0.68)	7.7 (0.40)	4.4 (0.30)
Associate of arts degree	100.00	35.1 (0.94)	20.5 (0.83)	33.5 (0.97)	6.9 (0.49)	4.0 (0.41)
Bachelor of arts, science degree	100.00	27.9 (0.77)	17.1 (0.59)	40.9 (0.84)	9.8 (0.46)	4.4 (0.32)
Masters, doctorate, medical degree	100.00	26.3 (1.03)	16.0 (0.90)	42.7 (1.10)	10.6 (0.76)	4.5 (0.44)
Poverty status						
Below poverty.	100.00	59.8 (0.86)	13.0 (0.56)	19.0 (0.66)	4.7 (0.35)	3.5 (0.30)
Poverty-199% above	100.00	56.0 (0.77)	16.9 (0.53)	20.3 (0.57)	4.0 (0.30)	2.8 (0.24)
200–399% above.	100.00	40.9 (0.69)	21.3 (0.52)	28.2 (0.57)	6.2 (0.29)	3.4 (0.20)
400% or more above	100.00	26.1 (0.56)	18.7 (0.48)	39.5 (0.58)	10.4 (0.36)	5.3 (0.29)
Marital status						
Never married.	100.00	41.9 (0.80)	15.0 (0.53)	31.1 (0.74)	7.5 (0.42)	4.4 (0.30)
Married	100.00	41.8 (0.48)	19.6 (0.33)	28.7 (0.40)	6.6 (0.21)	3.3 (0.17)
Cohabiting	100.00	25.5 (1.27)	16.4 (1.04)	41.6 (1.41)	8.7 (0.76)	7.8 (0.76)
Divorced or separated.	100.00	41.1 (0.72)	19.1 (0.56)	28.7 (0.62)	6.5 (0.36)	4.6 (0.29)
Widowed	100.00	66.1 (0.74)	13.7 (0.51)	13.8 (0.56)	4.2 (0.29)	2.2 (0.21)
Geographic region						
Northeast	100.00	37.5 (0.74)	19.4 (0.55)	32.0 (0.72)	7.5 (0.35)	3.5 (0.25)
Midwest	100.00	38.4 (0.82)	19.9 (0.46)	31.2 (0.76)	7.0 (0.32)	3.5 (0.24)
South	100.00	51.6 (0.68)	15.9 (0.37)	23.6 (0.50)	5.3 (0.26)	3.6 (0.21)
West	100.00	42.1 (0.76)	17.7 (0.53)	28.1 (0.60)	7.5 (0.35)	4.6 (0.37)
Place of residence ⁵						
MSA, central city	100.00	45.4 (0.63)	16.7 (0.42)	26.9 (0.51)	6.7 (0.29)	4.2 (0.22)
MSA, not central city	100.00	38.6 (0.58)	19.1 (0.34)	31.3 (0.47)	7.3 (0.24)	3.7 (0.18)
Not MSA	100.00	52.9 (0.89)	17.2 (0.42)	22.1 (0.67)	4.7 (0.28)	3.0 (0.24)

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

¹Current alcohol drinking status: Nondrinker is defined as a person who had no drinks in past year (includes both former drinkers and lifetime abstainers); infrequent is defined as having had 12 or more drinks in lifetime and 1–11 drinks in past year; light is defined as having had 12 or more drinks in lifetime, at least 12 drinks in the past year, and 3 drinks or fewer per week, on average; moderate is defined as having had more than 3 drinks per week up to 14 drinks per week (for men) and more than 3 drinks per week up to 7 drinks per week (for women), on average; heavier is defined as having had more than 14 drinks per week (for men), and more than 7 drinks per week (for women), on average.²Persons of other races and unknown race and ethnicity, unknown education, unknown poverty status, and unknown marital status are included in the total.³Age 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.⁴GED is General Educational Development high school equivalency diploma.⁵MSA is metropolitan statistical area (see Technical Notes)

NOTE: Denominator for each percent distribution excludes persons with unknown lifetime and unknown current drinking status.

Table 3. Percent of adults 18 years of age and older who had five or more drinks in a day at least once in the past year and percent of adults 18 years of age and older 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, 1997–98CRUDE (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		
	Both sexes	Men	Women	Both sexes	Men	Women
Percent of adults (standard error)						
Ages 18 years and older (crude) ¹	20.9 (0.25)	30.9 (0.37)	11.8 (0.24)	9.3 (0.16)	15.5 (0.27)	3.7 (0.13)
Ages 18 years and older (age-adjusted) ^{1,2}	20.5 (0.23)	29.8 (0.35)	11.9 (0.23)	9.2 (0.15)	15.0 (0.25)	3.7 (0.12)
Age						
18–24 years	31.8 (0.80)	40.9 (1.22)	22.7 (0.93)	15.3 (0.61)	23.0 (1.04)	7.6 (0.54)
25–44 years	27.6 (0.35)	39.3 (0.51)	16.5 (0.38)	11.9 (0.25)	19.3 (0.42)	4.8 (0.20)
45–64 years	15.4 (0.33)	24.7 (0.58)	6.9 (0.27)	7.1 (0.22)	12.1 (0.41)	2.5 (0.17)
65–74 years	6.1 (0.33)	11.3 (0.65)	2.0 (0.25)	2.8 (0.23)	5.5 (0.49)	0.6 (0.13)
75 years and older	2.2 (0.21)	4.6 (0.52)	0.7 (0.15)	1.1 (0.14)	2.3 (0.37)	*0.3 (0.09)
Race-ethnicity						
Hispanic	21.5 (0.60)	33.5 (0.99)	9.2 (0.44)	12.0 (0.46)	20.2 (0.84)	3.6 (0.26)
White, non-Hispanic	22.4 (0.30)	32.5 (0.46)	13.2 (0.30)	9.6 (0.18)	15.7 (0.30)	3.9 (0.15)
Black, non-Hispanic	12.5 (0.48)	19.9 (0.87)	6.6 (0.43)	6.7 (0.37)	11.4 (0.67)	3.0 (0.33)
Asian/Pacific Islander, non-Hispanic	10.9 (1.12)	17.3 (1.80)	4.9 (0.86)	4.1 (0.68)	6.9 (1.20)	*1.5 (0.54)
Education						
Less than high school graduate	15.9 (0.44)	25.2 (0.74)	7.5 (0.35)	9.4 (0.35)	16.1 (0.67)	3.4 (0.23)
GED diploma ³	28.6 (1.34)	39.0 (2.02)	17.0 (1.41)	15.9 (1.07)	23.3 (1.61)	7.7 (1.00)
High school graduate	19.5 (0.37)	30.6 (0.68)	10.6 (0.35)	9.5 (0.28)	16.9 (0.57)	3.5 (0.22)
Some college, no degree	24.9 (0.49)	35.3 (0.75)	15.4 (0.57)	10.8 (0.38)	17.5 (0.60)	4.7 (0.34)
Associate of Arts degree	23.3 (0.64)	35.6 (1.17)	13.1 (0.65)	9.5 (0.45)	16.2 (0.91)	3.9 (0.39)
Bachelor of Arts, Science degree	23.8 (0.50)	33.2 (0.77)	14.6 (0.56)	7.8 (0.32)	12.5 (0.57)	3.3 (0.28)
Masters, doctorate, medical degree	17.5 (0.60)	23.2 (0.84)	10.4 (0.70)	5.3 (0.35)	8.2 (0.58)	1.8 (0.31)
Poverty status						
Below poverty	19.5 (0.69)	31.2 (1.12)	12.2 (0.67)	10.7 (0.51)	18.7 (0.92)	5.7 (0.44)
Poverty-199% above	19.0 (0.53)	29.3 (0.89)	10.6 (0.51)	10.0 (0.41)	17.6 (0.74)	3.8 (0.30)
200–399% above	22.4 (0.38)	32.1 (0.60)	12.9 (0.40)	10.0 (0.27)	16.1 (0.48)	4.1 (0.22)
400% or more above	25.8 (0.40)	35.7 (0.60)	14.8 (0.45)	9.9 (0.27)	15.7 (0.45)	3.6 (0.23)
Marital status						
Never married	30.4 (0.60)	39.4 (0.85)	19.8 (0.72)	15.2 (0.47)	22.1 (0.74)	7.0 (0.43)
Married	18.1 (0.25)	26.4 (0.41)	9.8 (0.27)	7.2 (0.17)	11.9 (0.31)	2.6 (0.13)
Cohabiting	38.8 (1.05)	48.5 (1.48)	28.9 (1.33)	18.7 (0.84)	27.1 (1.35)	10.1 (0.85)
Divorced or separated	22.2 (0.50)	37.4 (0.97)	12.4 (0.48)	11.4 (0.38)	21.9 (0.81)	4.6 (0.29)
Widowed	4.5 (0.28)	13.2 (1.01)	2.6 (0.24)	2.1 (0.20)	7.3 (0.78)	1.0 (0.16)
Geographic region						
Northeast	21.0 (0.63)	31.7 (0.90)	11.7 (0.55)	8.4 (0.36)	14.1 (0.63)	3.5 (0.27)
Midwest	24.3 (0.49)	34.7 (0.72)	14.7 (0.59)	10.7 (0.33)	17.4 (0.51)	4.6 (0.29)
South	17.8 (0.40)	26.9 (0.65)	9.6 (0.35)	8.9 (0.28)	14.7 (0.46)	3.5 (0.20)
West	21.9 (0.46)	32.4 (0.67)	12.2 (0.50)	9.3 (0.34)	16.0 (0.58)	3.1 (0.24)
Place of residence ⁴						
MSA, central city	20.5 (0.40)	30.7 (0.59)	11.5 (0.43)	10.0 (0.27)	16.7 (0.48)	4.1 (0.22)
MSA, not central city	21.5 (0.37)	31.3 (0.53)	12.4 (0.33)	8.7 (0.22)	14.6 (0.37)	3.4 (0.16)
Not MSA	19.9 (0.57)	30.0 (0.93)	10.7 (0.52)	9.8 (0.37)	16.2 (0.62)	3.9 (0.31)

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

¹Persons of other races and unknown race and ethnicity, unknown education, unknown poverty status, and unknown marital status are included in the total.²Age 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.³GED is General Educational Development high school equivalency diploma.⁴MSA is metropolitan statistical area (see Technical notes).

NOTES: Question was asked only of current drinkers, but prevalence shown here as percent of all adults. Denominator for each cell excludes persons with unknown lifetime drinking status and/or unknown five or more drinks in 1 day.

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) ¹	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) ^{1,2}	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 ³	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 ⁴						
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.)

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

²Age 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.

³GED is General Educational Development high school equivalency diploma.

⁴MSA 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.

Table X. Number of adults 18 years of age and older, by selected characteristics: United States, average annual, 1997–98

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[INTERNET RELEASE ONLY]

Selected characteristic	Both sexes	Men	Women
Number in thousands			
Total ¹	196,290	94,187	102,103
Age			
18–24 years	25,213	12,659	12,554
25–44 years	83,180	40,997	42,184
45–64 years	55,783	26,996	28,786
65–74 years	18,096	8,094	10,002
75 years and older	14,018	5,441	8,577
Race-ethnicity			
Hispanic	19,624	9,990	9,634
White non-Hispanic	147,133	70,803	76,329
Black non-Hispanic	21,814	9,697	12,117
Asian/Pacific Islander non-Hispanic	6,170	3,001	3,169
Education			
Less than high school graduate	36,869	17,632	19,237
GED diploma ²	4,961	2,643	2,318
High school graduate	54,100	24,506	29,593
Some college - no degree	37,985	18,270	19,715
Associate of Arts degree	17,208	7,853	9,354
Bachelor of Arts, Science degree	28,758	14,357	14,401
Masters, doctorate, medical degree	14,681	8,147	6,534
Poverty status			
Below poverty	18,963	7,421	11,542
Poverty-199% above	28,596	12,972	15,624
200–399% above	52,165	25,784	26,381
400% or more above	58,036	30,564	27,472
Marital status			
Never married	36,462	19,912	16,550
Married	116,211	58,598	57,613
Cohabiting	9,584	4,943	4,641
Divorced or separated	19,890	7,941	11,949
Widowed	13,388	2,466	10,922
Geographic region			
Northeast	39,221	18,371	20,850
Midwest	49,781	24,066	25,715
South	69,991	33,655	36,336
West	37,297	18,095	19,201
Place of residence ³			
MSA, central city	56,987	26,853	30,133
MSA, not central city	97,672	47,175	50,498
Not MSA	41,631	20,159	21,472

¹Persons of other races and unknown race and ethnicity, unknown education, unknown poverty status, and unknown marital status are included in the total but not shown separately.²GED is General Educational Development high school equivalency diploma.³MSA is metropolitan statistical area.

NOTE: Population estimates were calculated using the 1997–98 National Health Interview Survey and can be used in conjunction with the unadjusted statistics to calculate the number of persons in each category shown in tables 1–4.