Selected Results from the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System for Alaska Natives 2001-2003



Alaska Native Epidemiology Center Alaska Native Health Board June 2004





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Rebecca Wells, S.M.
Epidemiologist
Alaska Native Epidemiology Center
3700 Woodland Drive, Suite 500
Anchorage, AK 99517
907-562-6006
www.anhb.org

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The full range of published national BRFSS materials, including some state-specific analyses, is available at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website:

http://www.cdc.gov/brfss/

The suggested citations for the national data and the questionnaires are:

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System Survey Data. Atlanta, Georgia: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, [appropriate year].

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System Survey Questionnaire. Atlanta, Georgia: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, [appropriate year].

Details about the BRFSS in Alaska and state publications are available at the State of Alaska BRFSS website:

i

http://www.epi.alaska.gov/hp/brfss/default.htm

Summary of Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System

Background

The Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) is an ongoing national survey supported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) (1). Alaska began participating in the BRFSS in 1990 (2). The CDC now provides funding and technical assistance to all 50 states, Washington DC, and three Territories to conduct the survey annually. The survey includes questions about health status and perceptions, preventive health practices, and risky behaviors that influence the prevalence of chronic disease, injury, and preventable infectious diseases.

The BRFSS is a standardized telephone interview conducted with a computer-assisted script. There is a Fixed Core of questions asked by all states every year and a Rotating Core asked by all states in alternate years. In addition, there are a number of Optional Modules that states may choose to use and states may add questions of their own. The entire interview takes less than 30 minutes to complete. Interviews are conducted during every month of the year. Approximately 200 adults are interviewed each month in Alaska.

Respondents are 18 years and older living in households. Individuals in military barracks, dormitories, nursing homes, and other group living situations are excluded. Apart from that exclusion, each state's sample is designed to be representative of the state population. Respondents are contacted by telephone using a selection process based on area codes and prefixes that are highly likely to be associated with residential listings. Alaska uses an additional sampling procedure to take into account differences in telephone coverage by geographic and economic factors. It is estimated that 97% of the households in the state as a whole have telephones (3), but the percentage is substantially lower in some geographic areas and among groups of low socioeconomic status.

The analysis of BRFSS data requires complex statistical procedures to take into account the fact that not every adult resident of the state has an equal chance of being contacted for an interview. The analysis assigns a probability to each respondent which reflects their likelihood of being contacted. In addition, each person interviewed is treated as a representative for other, similar persons. The probability factor and assumption of representativeness are used to calculate a statistical weighting factor that is assigned to each person's responses. The weight is used in analysis to draw inferences about the overall population.

In Alaska, the annual sample includes approximately 500 respondents per region as defined by the BRFSS (see maps on pages 4 and 5) for a total of approximately 2,500 people per year. Because the population of each BRFSS region varies, sampling 500 respondents from each region results in a larger proportion of non-urban residents being contacted. It also results in adequate numbers of Alaska Natives being included in the sample. In this document, Alaska Native respondents were those who declared themselves to be Alaska Native alone or in combination with one or more other races (see page 6). In the 2000 Census, using this same definition, Alaska Natives made up 19% of the population of Alaska (4). In this report, based on the years 2001, 2002 and 2003 of the Alaska BRFSS, Alaska Natives made up approximately 28% of the unweighted sample and 17% of the weighted sample.

Although the proportion of Alaska Natives in the BRFSS sample is larger than the proportion in the state population, the actual number of Alaska Native respondents is still too small to support detailed statistical analysis on an annual basis. Therefore, for most indicators, we have combined multiple years of data in the analyses reported here. For the Fixed Core questions asked every year, we have combined 2001, 2002 and 2003 data. For questions not asked every year or for indicators for which there was a question change during the 2001 to 2003 period, only one or two years of data were available.

Both the State of Alaska and the CDC do not report results for analyses in which there are fewer than 50 respondents in a category. We have followed this guideline, limiting our ability to do multivariate analysis. Because of the small samples, it is usually not possible to perform analyses looking at the effects of more than one variable at a time for Alaska Natives. For example, we cannot examine the simultaneous effects of sex and region of residence on the prevalence of a characteristic among Alaska Natives. For indicators for which we only had one year of data, we limited our analyses to comparing Alaska Natives and non-Natives statewide.

Format of the Charts

Each section of this report includes the question or combination of questions asked in the interview, together with the possible responses unless the responses were Yes/No or a number. The first chart in each series compares Alaska Native and non-Native men and women. If differences between Alaska Native men and women were not statistically significant, the following chart in each series combines men and women for each race and compares three age groups, 18-34 years, 35-49 years, and 50 years and older. The third chart in each series presents results by region as defined by the BRFSS (see maps on pages 4 and 5). If the differences between Alaska Native men and women were statistically significant and showed differences by age, the second chart in a series presents prevalence estimates for Alaska Native men and women separately by age group. We compare Alaska Natives and non-Natives in most charts to document possible disparities.

A Comment on Interpretation of Differences

In some charts, the bars representing the estimated prevalence of characteristics for Alaska Natives and non-Natives, or men and women, or for regions, may look different. However, unless they are described as *statistically significantly different* in the accompanying text, we must assume that the true prevalence is probably not different. This is because the potential error of the estimate may be large, usually because of small numbers of respondents.

The potential error is reflected by the Confidence Interval (CI) line. The CI indicates that the true value of the prevalence falls within the range given with reasonable, but not absolute, certainty. In this case, we have used 95% CIs, indicating that the true value of the estimate lies within the range given with 95% probability. In comparing the prevalence of a characteristic for two groups, for example between men and women or between Alaska Natives and non-Natives, if the CI lines overlap, the estimated prevalences are not statistically significantly different, even if the bars representing the estimated prevalences are of different heights. If the CI lines do not

overlap, the differences between two groups are said to be statistically significantly different, with a probability of less than 5% (p < .05) of being the same.

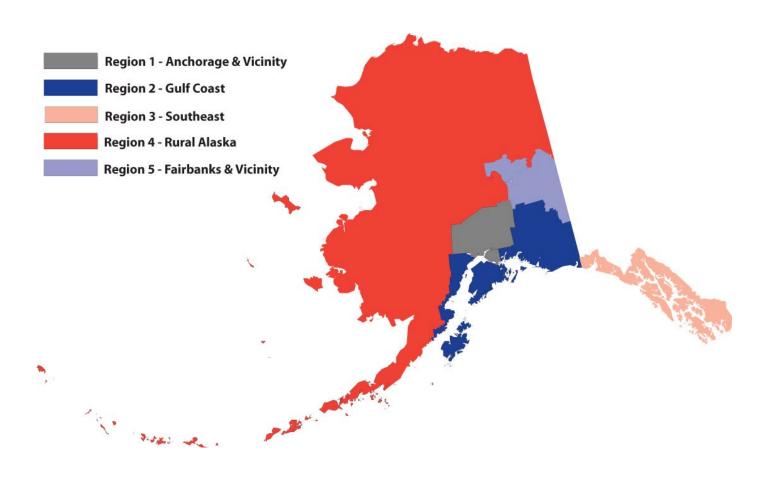
The length of the CI line relative to the height of the bar gives a visual impression of the reliability of the estimate -- if the CI line is long, the estimate is less reliable than if the CI line is short. If the 95% CI is more than one third as large as the estimated prevalence, we consider the estimate to be unreliable and we recommend using that estimate with caution. This is indicated by footnotes to the charts. A large CI may be the result of small numbers of people who gave the response tabulated, even though the group as a whole included more than 50 people. A large CI may also be the result of a very uneven distribution of answers to a question that asked for numbers, for example, how many days of illness the person experienced. Many people may say none, some people may say 1 or 2 days, and a few may report a larger number of days.

BRFSS Regions in Alaska

The maps show the BRFSS regions in Alaska (page 4) and the boundaries of the Alaska Native Regional Health Corporations (page 5). The BRFSS now defines 5 regions, separating Anchorage and Fairbanks. For some indicators (smokeless tobacco use and diabetes prevalence) we combined *Anchorage and Vicinity* and *Fairbanks and Vicinity* into a single urban category in order to include enough Alaska Natives in urban areas to support analysis. The Rural Alaska region as defined by the BRFSS is very large and diverse and does not correspond closely to Regional Health Corporation boundaries.

References

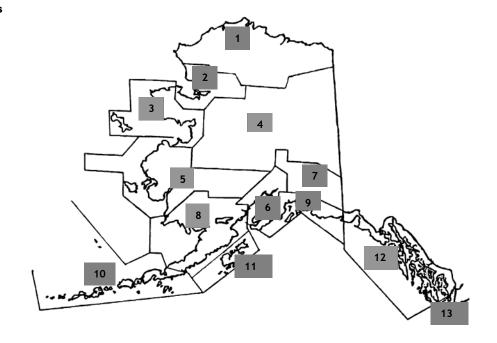
- 1) Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, BRFSS website: http://www.cdc.gov/brfss/
- 2) Department of Epidemiology, Division of Public Health, Department of Health and Social Services, State of Alaska, BRFSS website: http://www.epi.alaska.gov/hp/brfss/default.htm).
- 3) 2000 US Census, Summary File 3, available at: http://almis.labor.state.ak.us/?
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- 4) 2000 US Census, Summary File 2, available at: http://almis.labor.state.ak.us/?
 PAGEID=67&SUBID=114



Map of the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System Regions in Alaska

- 1 Arctic Slope Native Association
- 2 Manillaq Association
- 3 Norton Sound Health Corporation
- **4 Tanana Chiefs Conference**
- * Council of Athabascan Tribal Governments
- 5 Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation
- **6 SouthCentral Foundation**
- * Native Village of Eklutna
- * Native Village of Tyonek
- * Ninilchik Village Traditional Council
- * Seldovia Village Tribe
- 7 Copper River Native Association
- * Mt. Sanford Tribal Consortium
- 8 Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation
- 9 Chugachmiut
- * Valdez Native Tribe
- 10 Aleutian/Pribilof Island Association
- * Eastern Aleutian Tribes
- 11 Kodiak Area Native Association
- 12 SouthEast Alaska Regional Health Consortium
- * Ketchikan Indian Community
- 13 Metlakatla Indian Community
 - +Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium

^{*}Tribal councils not numbered are included among the 23 Board members and are listed after the nearest Regional Health Corporation.



Map of the Alaska Native Regional Health Corporations

Racial Distribution of Alaska BRFSS Respondents

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

- 1. White
- 2. Black
- 3. Asian
- 4. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- 5. American Indian, Alaska Native
- 6. Other, specify _____

Editor's Note: In 2001, the CDC changed the BRFSS race question to allow respondents to identify themselves as belonging to more than one race. For this document, we defined American Indian/Alaska Native (referred to as Alaska Native throughout) as any respondent who said they were American Indian/Alaska Native alone or in combination with any other race(s).

Respondents by Race Alaska BRFSS 2001,2002 and 2003

	Number of Respondents				
Race	2001	2002	2003		
Alaska Native	628	591	579		
Non-Native	2165	2076	2072		

Alaska Native Respondents by Sex and Region Alaska BRFSS 2001,2002 and 2003

	2001	2002	2003	Total
Total				
Men	272	241	252	765
Women	356	350	327	1033
Anchorage and Vicinity				
Men	12	15	21	48
Women	33	37	29	99
Gulf Coast				
Men	30	29	18	
Women	30	39	28	97
Southeast				
Men	39	35	46	120
Women	66	67	57	190
Rural				
Men	176	143	140	459
Women	190	174	179	543
Fairbanks and Vicinity				
Men	15	19	27	61
Women	37	33	34	104

Selected Demographic Characteristics* of Respondents Alaska BRFSS 2001, 2002 and 2003

	Men		Women	
	Alaska Native	Non-Native	Alaska Native	Non-Native
Marital Status				
Married	43%	59%	46%	63%
Unmarried Couple	8%	4%	8%	5%
Widowed/Divorced/Separated	15%	15%	21%	20%
Single, never married	33%	21%	25%	12%
Missing or Refused	1%	< 1%	< 1%	< 1%
Highest Level of School Completed				
Not high school graduate	20%	7 %	19%	4%
High school graduate	50%	29%	39%	27%
Some college	23%	31%	31%	35%
College graduate or more	6%	33%	11%	34%
Missing or Refused	< 1%	< 1%	0%	< 1%
Employment Status				
Employed for wages	52%	67%	51%	56%
Self-employed	10%	11%	5%	10%
Out of work	23%	4%	13%	5%
Homemaker	< 1%	< 1%	11%	14%
Student	2%	3%	5%	4%
Retired	8%	11%	7%	10%
Unable to work	4%	3%	7%	3%
Missing or Refused	1%	< 1%	1%	< 1%
Household Income				
< \$15,000/year	15%	4%	16%	6%
\$15,000 - \$24,999/year	21%	10%	25%	12%
\$25,000 - \$49,999/year	28%	29%	24%	
\$50,000 - \$74,999/year	13%	20%	9%	19%
\$75,000 or more/year	9%	28%	11%	22%
Missing or Refused	14%	8%	15%	10%

^{*}Demographic distributions were determined using weighted AK BRFSS data.

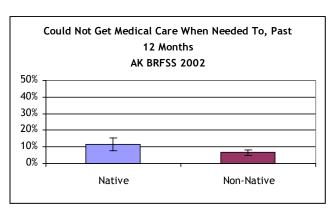
Access to Health Care

Editor's note: Two versions of the question "Was there a time in the past 12 months when you needed medical care but could not get it?" were asked in 2002 and 2003. In 2002, if respondents answered yes to the question, they were asked a follow-up question about the reason. In 2003, one question was asked specifically about not being able to see a doctor due to cost. The responses to the questions for both years are analyzed here. Due to the small one-year samples, we only analyzed the responses to these questions by race for the whole state.

2002

Was there a time in the past 12 months when you needed medical care but could not get it?

Approximately 11% of Alaska Natives statewide said that, in the past 12 months, they could not get medical care when they needed it compared to 7% of non-Natives.
 This difference was not significant.



Note: The CIs are greater than 1/3 of the estimates for Alaska Natives and non-Natives.

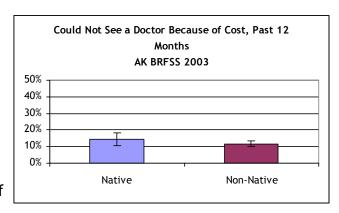
What is the main reason you did not get medical care?

- 1. Cost (includes no insurance)
- 2. Distance
- 3. Office was not open when I could get there
- 4. Too long a wait for an appointment
- 5. Too long a wait in waiting room
- 6. No child care
- 7. No transportation
- 8. No access for people with disabilities
- 9. Medical provider did not speak my language
- 10. Other
- The most common reasons Alaska Natives said they could not get medical when they needed it were
 - 1. Cost (47% of respondents)
 - 2. Other (25%)
 - 3. Too long a wait for an appointment (12%)
- The most common reasons for not being able to get medical care were the same among non-Natives
 - 1. Cost (57%)
 - 2. Other (16%)
 - 3. Too long a wait for an appointment (14%)

2003

Was there a time in the past 12 months when you needed to see a doctor but could not because of cost?

Approximately 15% of Alaska Natives statewide said they could not see a doctor because of cost in the past 12 months compared to 12% of non-Natives. This difference was not statistically significant.

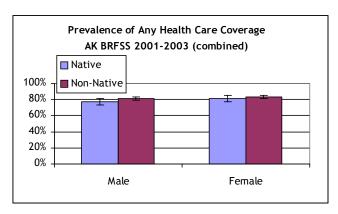


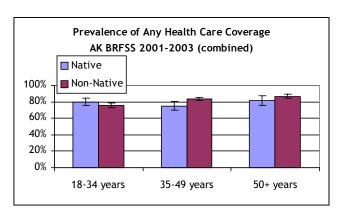
Note: The CIs are greater than 1/3 of the estimates for Alaska Natives and non-Natives.

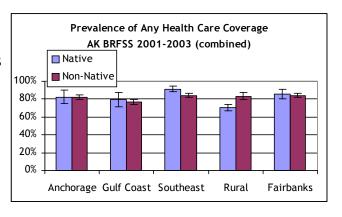
Do you have any kind of health care coverage, including health insurance, prepaid plans such as HMOs, or government plans such as Medicare?

- 75% or more of all respondents had some type of healthcare coverage.
- There were no statistically significant differences between Alaska Natives and non-Natives, and no differences between men and women within either race.
- In the Rural region, fewer Alaska Natives reported having any type of health care coverage than non-Natives (p < .05).
- In the Southeast region, more Alaska Natives reported having any type of health care coverage than non-Natives (p < .05).
- Significantly fewer Alaska Natives living in the Rural region had any type of health care coverage than Alaska Natives living in the Anchorage, Southeast or Fairbanks regions (p < .05).

Editor's note: From 1996-2000, a followup question was asked determining if respondents had any other health care coverage that may have not been considered in the above question. The results suggest that some respondents do not consider certain types of health care plans to be "insurance" or "coverage," such as





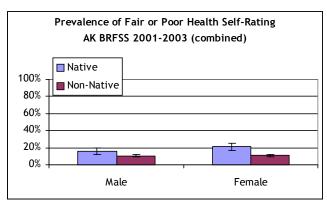


Alaska Natives with coverage through the Indian Health Service. The State of Alaska suggests applying a +6.5% adjustment to the Alaska estimate of health care coverage for all races combined (Health Risks in Alaska Among Adults, Alaska BRFSS 2000/2001 Annual Report, Dec. 2003, available at: http://www.epi.alaska.gov/pubs/brfss00-01/cover.pdf).

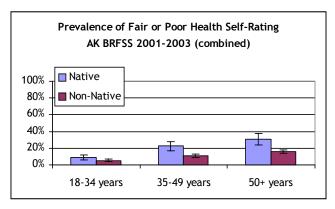
Self-Rated Physical and Mental Health Status

Would you say that in general your health is

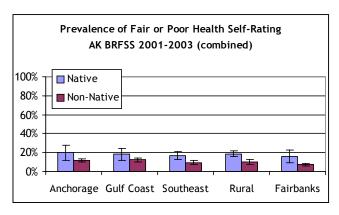
- 1. Excellent
- 2. Very Good
- 3. Good
- 4. Fair
- 5. Poor
- Fewer than 20% of respondents characterized their own health as fair or poor.
- There were no statistically significant differences between men and women.
- More Alaska Natives than non-Natives characterized their health as fair or poor among both men and women (p < .05).
- Among Alaska Natives, respondents age 18-34 years reported fair or poor health significantly less often than older respondents (p < .05). The difference between Alaska Natives age 35-49 years and those age 50 years and older was not significant.
- Among non-Natives, the proportion of respondents characterizing their health as fair or poor increased consistently with age (p < .05).
- Among Alaska Natives, there were no statistically significant differences by region.
- In the Southeast, Rural and Fairbanks regions, significantly more Alaska Natives reported fair or poor health than non-Natives (p < .05).



Note: The CIs are greater than 1/3 of the estimates for Alaska Natives.



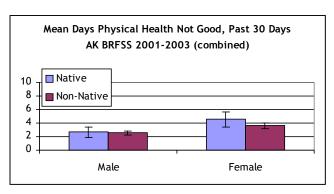
Note: The CIs are greater than 1/3 of the estimates for Alaska Natives.



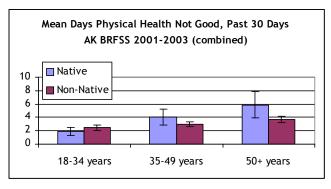
Note: The CIs are greater than 1/3 of the estimates for Alaska Natives.

Now thinking about your physical health, which includes physical illness and injury, for how many days during the past 30 days was your physical health not good?

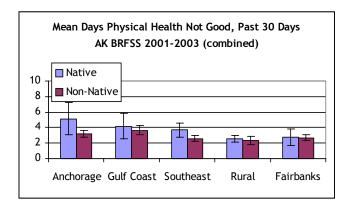
- Alaska Natives and non-Natives reported similar numbers of days of poor physical health.
- Alaska Native men and women reported similar numbers of days of poor physical health but non-Native women reported more days than non-Native men (p < .05).
- Alaska Natives age 18-34 years reported fewer days of poor physical health than other age groups (p < .05).
- The only statistically significant regional difference among Alaska Natives was between residents of Anchorage and the Rural region (p < .05).



Note: The CIs are greater than 1/3 of the estimates for Alaska Natives.



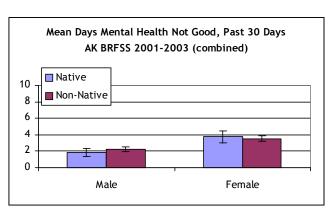
Note: The CIs are greater than 1/3 of the estimates for Alaska Natives.



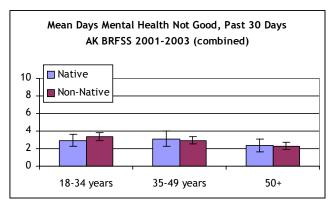
Note: The CIs are greater than 1/3 of the estimates for Alaska Natives and Rural non-Natives.

Now thinking about your mental health, which includes stress, depression, and problems with emotions, for how many days during the past 30 days was your mental health not good?

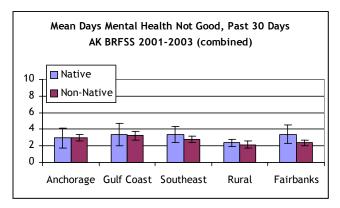
- Alaska Natives and non-Natives reported about the same number of days of poor mental health in the month before the interview, about 2 days for men and nearly 4 days for women.
- The differences between men and women were statistically significant for both Natives and non-Natives (p < .05).
- Among Alaska Natives, there were no significant differences by age group or region.



Note: The CIs are greater than 1/3 of the estimates for Alaska Natives.



Note: The CIs are greater than 1/3 of the estimates for all groups.

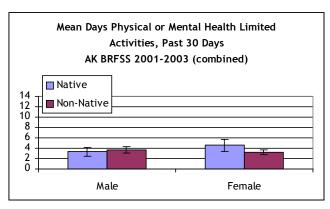


Note: The CIs are greater than 1/3 of the estimates for Alaska Natives, Gulf Coast non-Natives and Rural non-Natives.

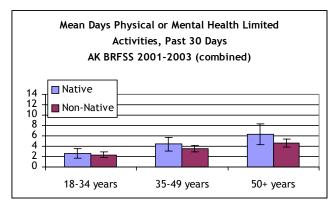
During the past 30 days, for about how many days did poor physical or mental health keep you from doing your usual activities, such as self-care, work, or recreation?

(Only respondents who reported poor physical or mental health in the month before the interview)

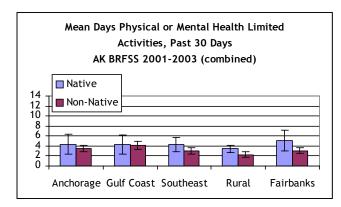
- Alaska Native and non-Native men reported an average of slightly more than 3 days during which their health limited their activities.
- Alaska Native women reported an average of slightly less than 5 days and non-Native women reported an average of slightly more than 3 days; this difference was not statistically significant.
- Respondents age 50 years and older reported statistically significantly more days than 18-34 year old respondents (p < .05) for both Alaska Natives and non-Natives.
- Among Alaska Natives, there were no significant differences by region.



Note: The CIs are greater than 1/3 of the estimates for Alaska Natives.



Note: The CIs are greater than 1/3 of the estimates for Alaska Natives and non-Natives age 18-34 years.



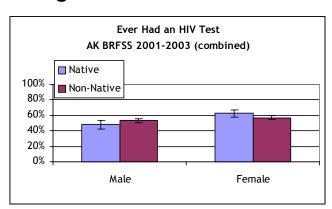
Note: The CIs are greater than 1/3 of the estimates for all groups.

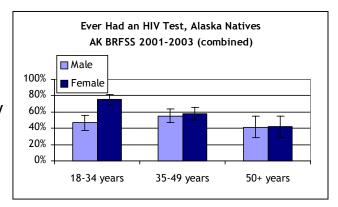
HIV Testing

The next few questions are about the national health problem of HIV, the virus that causes AIDS. Please remember that your answers are strictly confidential and that you don't have to answer every question if you don't want to.

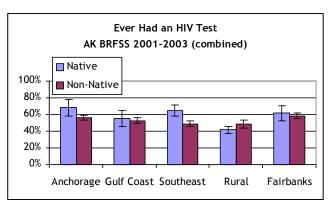
Have you ever been tested for HIV? Do not include tests that you may have had as part of a blood donation (includes saliva tests).

- Nearly half of all respondents reported having an HIV test.
- There were no statistically significant differences between Alaska Natives and non-Natives in proportion of respondents who had an HIV test.
- More Alaska Native women than men reported ever having had an HIV test (p < .05)
- Alaska Native women age 18-34
 years reported ever having had an
 HIV test significantly more than
 other age groups (p < .05). There
 was no difference by age for Alaska
 Native men.
- Among Alaska Natives age 18-34 years, more women than men reported ever having had an HIV test (p < .05).
- Among Alaska Natives, fewer rural residents had been tested for HIV than residents in other regions (p < .05).
- Regional differences between Alaska Natives and non-Natives were significant only in the Southeast region (p < .05).





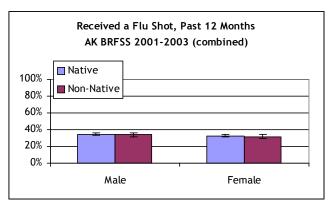
Note: The CIs are greater than 1/3 of the estimates for Alaska Native men and women age 50 years and older and men age 18-34 years.



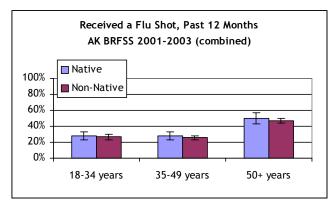
Flu Shots

During the past 12 months, have you had a flu shot?

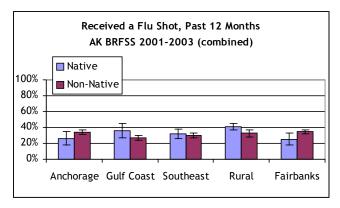
- Approximately one third of all respondents reported having a flushot in the past year.
- There were no statistically significant differences between Alaska Natives and non-Natives, and no differences between men and women.
- More respondents age 50 years and older than younger respondents had a flu shot among both Alaska Natives and non-Natives (p < .05).
- Only about half of Alaska Natives age 50 years and older had a flu shot.
- Significantly fewer Alaska Natives in either the Anchorage or Fairbanks region reported a flu shot in the past 12 months than Alaska Natives in the Rural region (p < .05).
- In the Rural region, more Alaska Natives reported a flu shot than non-Natives (p < .05).



Note: The CIs are greater than 1/3 of the estimates for Alaska Natives



Note: The CIs are greater than 1/3 of the estimates for Alaska Natives and non-Natives age 18-34 and 35-49 years.



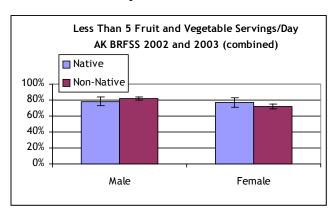
Note: The CIs are greater than 1/3 of the estimates for Alaska Natives.

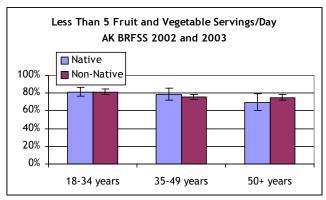
Fruit and Vegetable Consumption

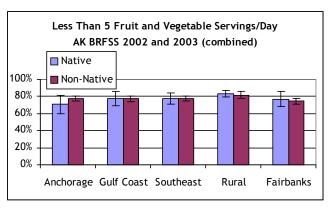
The US Department of Health and Human Services recommends that everyone eat at least 5 servings of fruit and vegetables a day. The following questions were used to calculate the number of servings of fruits and vegetables per day respondents ate.

These next questions are about the foods you usually eat or drink. Please tell me how often you eat or drink each one, for example, twice a week, three times a month, and so forth. Remember, I am only interested in the foods you eat. Include all the foods you eat, both at home and away from home.

- How often do you drink fruit juices such as orange, grapefruit, or tomato?
- 2. Not counting juice, how often do you eat fruit?
- 3. How often do you eat green salad?
- 4. How often do you eat potatoes not including French fries, fried potatoes, or potato chips?
- 5. How often do you eat carrots?
- Not counting carrots, potatoes, or salad, how many servings of vegetables do you usually eat? Example, a serving of vegetables at both lunch and dinner would be two servings.







For each question, the possible responses were never or a number of servings per day, week, month, or year.

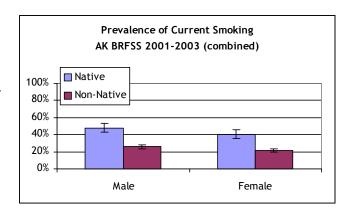
- 72% or more of respondents reported eating fewer than 5 servings of fruit and vegetables per day.
- There were no statistically significant differences between Alaska Natives and non-Natives.
- Among Alaska Natives, there were no statistically significant differences by sex, age group, or region.

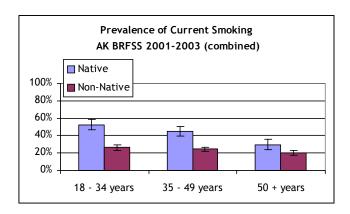
Tobacco Use

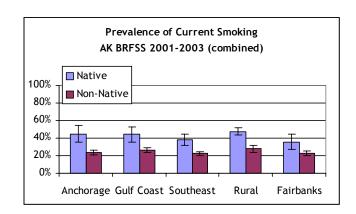
Have you smoked at least 100 cigarettes in your entire life?
Do you now smoke cigarettes every day, some days, or not at all?

Current smokers were defined as respondents who reported smoking at least 100 cigarettes in their lifetime and now smoke, either some days or every day.

- More than 40% of Alaska Natives were current cigarette smokers, while 26% or fewer of non-Natives were current smokers (p < .05).
- Among Alaska Natives, there were no statistically significant differences between men and women.
- Among Alaska Natives, fewer respondents age 50 years and older smoked cigarettes than younger respondents (p < .05).
- There were no statistically significant regional differences in the prevalence of smoking cigarettes for Alaska Natives or non-Natives.







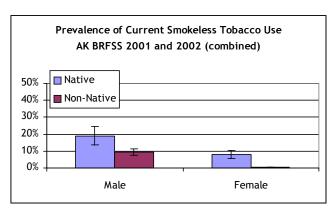
Have you ever used or tried any smokeless tobacco products such as chewing tobacco or snuff?

Do you currently use chewing tobacco or snuff every day, some days or not at all?

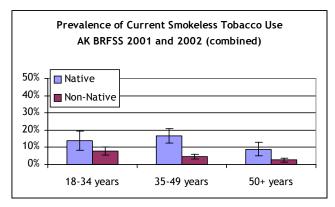
Current smokeless tobacco users were respondents who reported ever using or trying a smokeless tobacco product and currently use smokeless tobacco, either some days or every day.

The smokeless tobacco questions were part of the state added series of questions in 2001 and 2002.

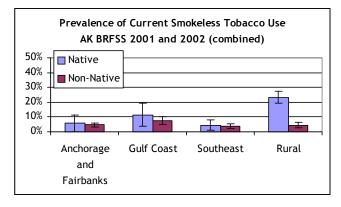
- Among Alaska Natives, 19% of men and 8% of women reported using smokeless tobacco products compared to 9% of non-Native men and fewer than 1% of non-Native women. The differences between Alaska Natives and non-Natives were statistically significant at p
 .05.
- The differences between men and women were statistically significant for both Alaska Natives and non-Natives (p < .05).
- Among Alaska Natives, smokeless tobacco use was much more common in the Rural region than other regions. The differences were statistically significant for all but the comparison with the Gulf Coast region (p < .05).



Note: The CIs are greater than 1/3 of the estimates for all groups.



Note: The CIs are greater than 1/3 of the estimates for all groups.



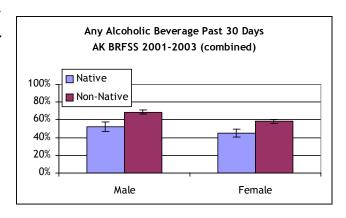
Note: The CIs are greater than 1/3 of the estimates for all groups.

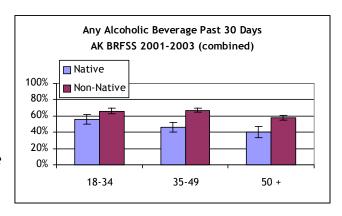
Alcohol Use

A drink of alcohol is 1 can or bottle of beer, 1 glass of wine, 1 can or bottle of wine cooler, 1 cocktail, or 1 shot of liquor. During the past 30 days, how many days per week or per month did you have at least one drink of any alcoholic beverage?

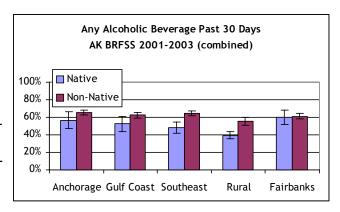
For this analysis, we report the proportion of respondents who reported having at least one alcoholic beverage on at least one occasion in the past 30 days.

- More non-Natives reported having at least one alcoholic beverage in the past 30 days than Alaska Natives (p < .05).
- Among Alaska Natives, there was no difference between men and women in the proportion of respondents who reported having at least one alcoholic beverage in the past 30 days.
- Among Alaska Natives, more respondents age 18-34 years reported having at least one alcoholic beverage in the past 30 days than those age 50 years and older (p < .05).
- Among Alaska Natives, fewer Rural respondents reported having an alcoholic beverage in the past 30 days than respondents in other regions. The differences were statistically significant (p < .05) for all but the comparison with the Southeast region.





Note: The CIs are greater than 1/3 of the estimates for Alaska Natives and non-Natives age 50 years and older.

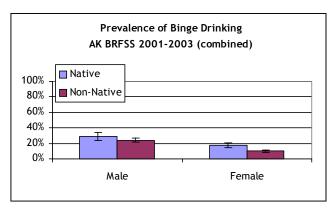


Binge Drinking

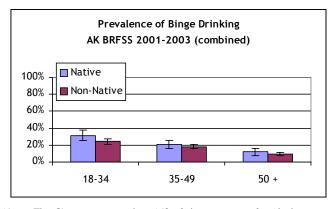
Considering all types of alcoholic beverages, how many times during the past 30 days did you have 5 or more drinks on an occasion?

Binge drinking was defined as having 5 or more drinks in a single occasion at least once in the 30 days before the interview.

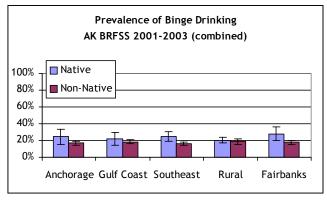
- Alaska Natives reported binge drinking significantly more than non-Natives (p < .05).
- For both Alaska Natives and non-Natives, men reported binge drinking significantly more often than women (p < .05).
- Among Alaska Natives, respondents age 50 years and older reported binge drinking less than younger respondents (p < .05).
- There were no significant differences in the prevalence of binge drinking by region for either Alaska Natives or non-Natives.



Note: The CIs are greater than 1/3 of the estimates for Alaska Natives.



Note: The CIs are greater than 1/3 of the estimates for Alaska Natives.

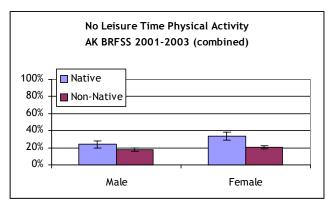


Note: The CIs are greater than 1/3 of the estimates for Alaska Natives and Rural non-Natives.

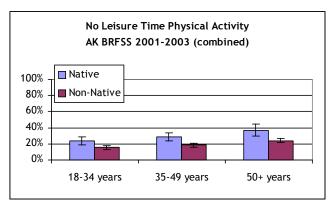
Physical Activity

During the past month, other than your regular job, did you participate in any physical activities or exercises such as running, calisthenics, golf, gardening, or walking for exercise?

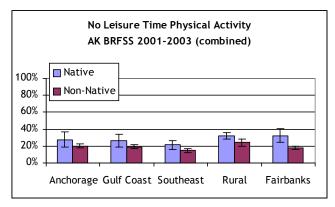
- More Alaska Natives than non-Natives reported no leisure time physical activity (p < .05).
- Among women, more Alaska Natives than non-Natives reported no leisure time physical activity (p < .05).
- Alaska Native women reported no leisure time physical activity more often than Alaska Native men (p < .05).
- Alaska Native respondents in the Rural region reported no leisure time physical activity significantly more often than those in the Southeast region (p < .05).
- In the Rural and Fairbanks regions, Alaska Native respondents reported no leisure time physical activity significantly more often than non-Natives (p < .05).



Note: The CIs are greater than 1/3 of the estimates for Alaska Native males.



Note: The CIs are greater than 1/3 of the estimates for Alaska Natives.



Note: The CIs are greater than 1/3 of the estimates for Alaska Natives except those in the Rural region.

Overweight and Obesity

About how much do you weigh without shoes?

About how tall are you without shoes?

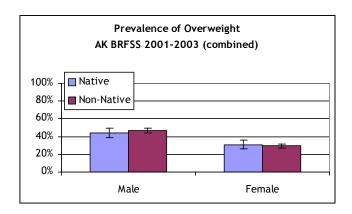
This information was used to calculate the Body Mass Index (BMI), an indirect measure of overweight and obesity:

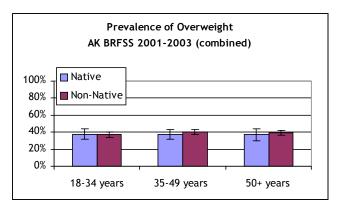
- 1. Weight in pounds was converted to weight in kilograms (calculated as weight in lbs./2.2).
- 2. Height in inches was converted to height in meters (calculated as (height in inches x 2.54)/100)
- 3. BMI was calculated as weight in kilograms/(height in meters)²

Overweight was defined as a BMI of 25.0 to 29.9 and obesity as a BMI of 30.0 or greater according to the US Public Health Service Guidelines (Clinical Guidelines on the Identification, Evaluation, and Treatment of Overweight and Obesity in Adults. Bethesda, MD: NHLBI, 1998).

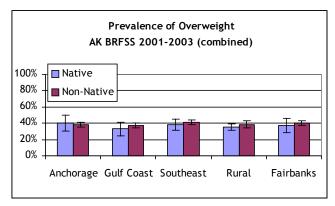
Overweight

- The prevalence of overweight was similar for Alaska Natives and non-Natives.
- Among both Alaska Natives and non-Natives, the prevalence of overweight was greater for men than for women (p < .05).
- There were no statistically significant differences by age group or region for either Alaska Natives or non-Natives.





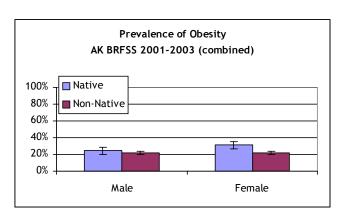
Note: The CIs are greater than 1/3 of the estimates for Alaska Natives.



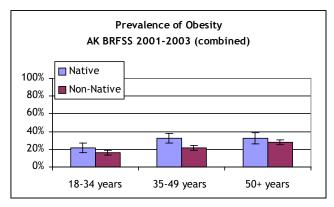
Note: The CIs are greater than 1/3 of the estimates for Alaska Natives except those in the Rural region.

Obesity

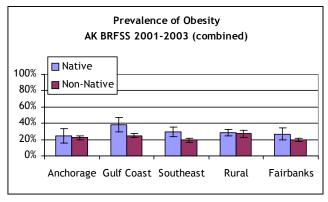
- Among women, Alaska Natives had significantly higher prevalence of obesity than non-Natives (p < .05).
- Alaska Native respondents age 18-34 years had a lower prevalence of obesity than those age 35-49 years (p < .05).
- In the 35-49 year age group, Alaska Natives had a higher prevalence of obesity than non-Natives (p < .05).
- Among both Alaska Natives and non-Natives there was an increase in obesity with increasing age.
- In the Southeast and Gulf Coast regions, Alaska Natives had a significantly higher prevalence of obesity than non-Natives (p < .05).



Note: The CIs are greater than 1/3 of the estimates for Alaska Native males.



Note: The CIs are greater than 1/3 of the estimates for Alaska Natives age 18-34 years and 50 years and older.

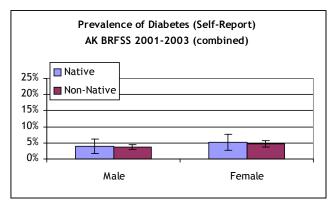


Note: The CIs are greater than 1/3 of the estimates for non-Natives in the Rural region and Alaska Natives except those in the Rural region.

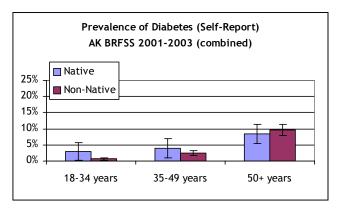
Diabetes

Have you ever been told by a doctor that you have diabetes?

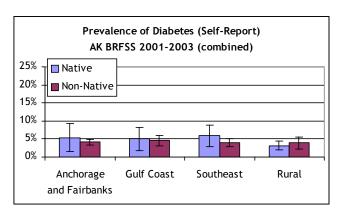
- Approximately 5% of Alaska Natives and 4% of non-Natives reported being told that they had diabetes; this difference was not significant.
- The prevalence of diabetes did not differ by sex.
- Among non-Natives, the prevalence of diabetes increased consistently with age (p < .05).
- There were no differences between Alaska Natives and non-Natives by sex, age or region.
- There were no differences in the prevalence of diabetes by region for either Alaska Natives or non-Natives.



Note: The CIs are greater than 1/3 of the estimates for all groups.



Note: The CIs are greater than 1/3 of the estimates for all groups.



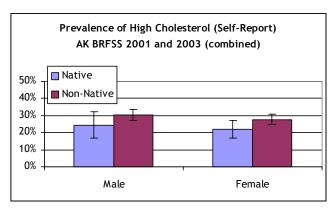
Note: The CIs are greater than 1/3 of the estimates for all groups.

High Cholesterol

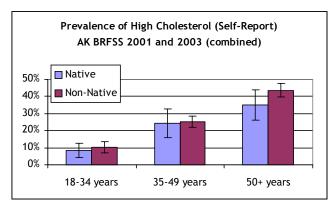
Have you ever been told by a doctor, nurse, or other health professional that your blood cholesterol is high? (Asked only of those respondents who reported ever having a cholesterol test).

Editor's Note: The cholesterol question is part of the rotating core of the BRFSS and was asked in 2001 and 2003.

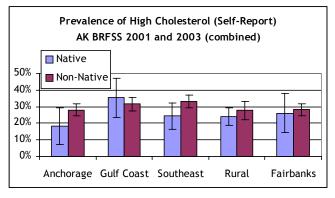
- Approximately 23% of Alaska Natives and 29% of non-Natives reported that their cholesterol is high; this difference was not significant.
- There were no differences by sex in the prevalence of high cholesterol among Alaska Natives or non-Natives.
- Among Alaska Natives, significantly fewer 18-34 year old respondents reported that they had high cholesterol than older respondents (p < .05).
- The prevalence of high cholesterol increased consistently with age among non-Natives (p < .05).
- There were no differences in the prevalence of high cholesterol by region for either Alaska Natives or non-Natives.



Note: The CIs are greater than 1/3 of the estimates for Alaska Natives.



Note: The CIs are greater than 1/3 of the estimates for Alaska Natives and non-Natives age 18-34.



Note: The CIs are greater than 1/3 of the estimates for Alaska Natives and Rural region non-Natives.

Hypertension

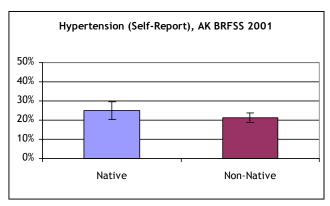
Editor's note: During 2001 and 2003, two versions of the question "Have you ever been told by a doctor, nurse or health professional that you have high blood pressure?" were asked. In 2001, respondents could say yes or no to the above question. In 2003, there were three response choices:

- 1. Yes
- 2. Yes, but female told only during pregnancy
- 3. No

The responses to both questions are analyzed here. In calculating the prevalence of hypertension for 2003, we did *not* include women who were told they had high blood pressure only during pregnancy. Due to the small one-year samples, we only analyzed the responses to these questions by race for the whole state.

2001

 25% of Alaska Natives and 21% of non-Natives reported being told they had high blood pressure; this difference was not significant.

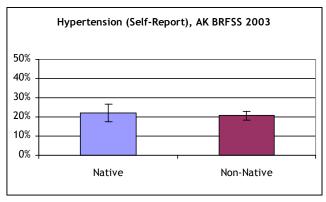


Note: The CIs are greater than 1/3 of the estimates for Alaska Natives.

2003

 22% of Alaska Natives and 21% of non-Natives reported being told they had high blood pressure; this difference was not significant.

There was no difference between the 2001 and 2003 estimates of high blood pressure for either race group.

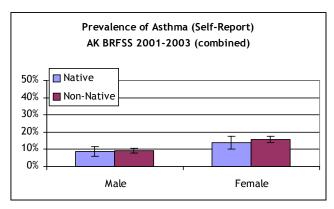


Note: The CIs are greater than 1/3 of the estimates for Alaska Natives.

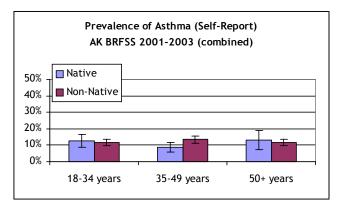
Asthma

Have you ever been told by a doctor, nurse or other health professional that you had asthma?

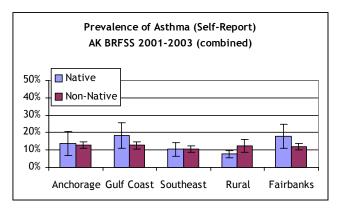
- There were no differences between Alaska Natives and non-Natives by sex, age or region in the proportion of respondents who reported having asthma.
- There were no differences in the prevalence of asthma by age for either Alaska Natives or non-Natives.
- Among Alaska Natives, respondents in the Rural region reported asthma significantly less often than respondents in the Gulf Coast or Fairbanks regions (p < .05).



Note: The CIs are greater than 1/3 of the estimates for all groups.



Note: The CIs are greater than 1/3 of the estimates for Alaska Natives and non-Natives age 18-34.



Note: The CIs are greater than 1/3 of the estimates for Alaska Natives and Gulf Coast and Rural non-Natives.

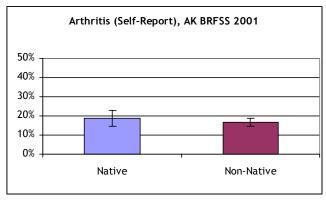
Arthritis

Editor's note: In 2001 and 2003, two versions of the question "Have you ever been told by a doctor that you have arthritis?" were asked. In 2001, respondents could say yes or no to the above question. In 2003, the question was more detailed in defining arthritis (see below). The responses to both questions are analyzed here. Due to the small one-year samples, we only analyzed the responses to these questions by race for the whole state. Because of the difference in the two questions, we did not compare the results.

2001

Have you ever been told by a doctor that you have arthritis?

Approximately 19% of Alaska Natives and 17% of non-Natives reported being told that they have arthritis; this difference was not significant.

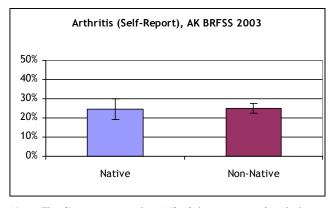


Note: The CIs are greater than 1/3 of the estimates for Alaska Natives.

2003

Have you ever been told by a doctor or other health professional that you have some form of arthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, gout, lupus, or fibromyalgia?

 Approximately 25% of both Alaska Natives and non-Natives reported being told that they have arthritis.



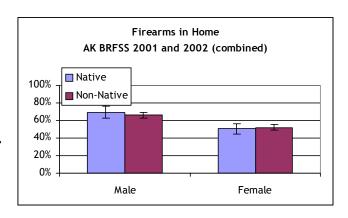
Note: The CIs are greater than 1/3 of the estimates for Alaska Natives.

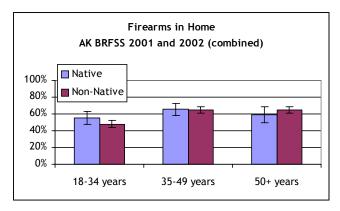
Firearms in the Home

The next three questions are about firearms. We are asking these in a health survey because of our interest in firearm related injuries. Please include weapons such as pistols, shotguns, and rifles; but not BB guns, starter pistols, or guns that cannot fire. Include those kept in a garage, outdoor storage area, or motor vehicle.

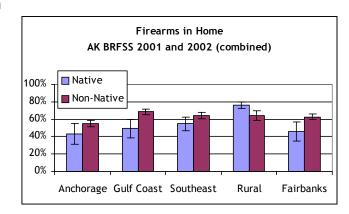
Are any firearms kept in or around your home?

- Nearly 60% of all respondents reported firearms in their home.
- Among both Alaska Natives and non-Natives, men reported a firearm in the home more often than women (p < .05).
- There were no differences between Alaska Natives and non-Natives by age or sex.
- Alaska Native respondents in the Rural region reported firearms in the home significantly more often than Alaska Native respondents in any other region (p < .05).





Note: The CIs are greater than 1/3 of the estimates for women age 18-34 years and 50 years and older and men age 18-34.



Note: The CIs are greater than 1/3 of the estimates for Alaska Natives except those in the Southeast and Rural region.

Data Tables

Could Not Get Medical Care When Needed To, Past 12 Months, Alaska BRFSS 2002

	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI
Race				
Native	67	11	584	7.5 - 15.4
Non-Native	154	7	2071	5.0 - 8.4
Total	221	8	2655	6.0 - 9.1

Could Not See a Doctor Because of Cost, Past 12 Months, Alaska BRFSS 2003

	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI
Race				
Native	101	15	573	10.8 - 18.4
Non-Native	281	12	2070	10.0 - 13.5
Total	382	12	2643	10.7 - 13.9

Prevalence of Any Kind of Health Care Coverage by Selected Demographics, Alaska BRFSS 2001-2003 (combined)

	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI
Race				
Native	1410	79	1766	76.1 - 81.9
Non- Native	5234	82	6291	80.6 - 83.5
Total	6644	82	8057	80.2 - 82.9

		Native			Non-Native			
	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI
Gender								
Male	566	77	745	72.9 - 81.3	2391	81	2930	79.0 - 83.2
Female	844	81	1021	76.7 - 84.9	2843	83	3361	81.0 - 85.3
Age								
18-34	452	80	574	75.8 - 84.3	1261	76	1634	72.7 - 79.1
35-49	521	75	670	69.5 - 80.4	1928	83	2327	81.2 - 85.5
50 +	409	82	490	75.5 - 87.6	2019	87	2299	84.4 - 89.2

Prevalence of Any Health Care Coverage by Region Alaska BRFSS 2001-2003 (combined)

Region	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI
Anchorage and Vicinity				
Native	124	82	146	74.8 - 90.1
Non-Native	1216	82	1449	79.9 - 84.7
Total	1340	82	1595	80.1 - 84.6
Gulf Coast				
Native	145	79	170	71.3 - 87.5
Non-Native	1115	77	1417	73.8 - 79.4
Total	1260	77	1587	74.3 - 79.5
Southeast				
Native	275	91	307	88.0 - 94.6
Non-Native	1113	84	1315	81.9 - 86.4
Total	1388	86	1622	83.6 - 87.5
Rural				
Native	727	71	978	67.1 - 74.5
Non-Native	556	83	650	79.1 - 87.1
Total	1283	75	1628	72.2 - 77.9
Fairbanks and Vicinity				
Native	139	86	165	80.1 - 91.3
Non-Native	1234	84	1460	81.9 - 86.2
Total	1373	84	1625	82.2 - 86.2

Prevalence of Fair and Poor Health Self-Rating by Selected Demographics Alaska BRFSS 2001-2003 (combined)

	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI
Race				
Native	336	19	1794	15.7 - 21.5
Non-Native	699	11	6306	9.6 - 11.8
Total	1035	12	8100	11.0 - 13.1

		N	Native			Non-Native			
	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI	
Gender									
Male	143	16	763	12.2 - 19.4	306	11	2941	9.0 - 12.1	
Female	193	21	1031	16.9 - 25.5	393	11	3365	9.5 - 12.4	
Age									
18-34	62	9	592	6.0 - 11.6	89	5	16 4 6	3.7 - 6.7	
35-49	126	23	675	17.1 - 28.1	235	11	2331	9.0 - 12.6	
50 +	144	30	495	23.6 - 37.4	373	16	2298	14.0 - 18.3	

Prevalence of Fair and Poor Health Self-Rating by Region Alaska BRFSS 2001-2003 (combined)

Region	N	Weighted %	n	95% CI
Anchorage and Vicinity				
Native	146	20	25	11.9 - 28.1
Non-Native	1452	12	185	9.7 - 13.3
Total	1598	12	210	10.5 - 14.1
Gulf Coast				
Native	174	18	35	11.9 - 24.6
Non-Native	1418	12	182	10.4 - 14.5
Total	1592	13	217	11.1 - 15.0
Southeast				
Native	310	17	58	12.3 - 21.3
Non-Native	1317	10	138	7.8 - 11.4
Total	1627	11	196	9.3 - 12.7
Rural				
Native	999	19	193	15.8 - 21.8
Non-Native	651	10	69	7.5 - 12.9
Total	1650	16	262	13.7 - 18.1
Fairbanks and Vicinity				
Native	165	16	25	9.6 - 22.3
Non-Native	1468	7	125	6.0 - 8.8
Total	1633	8	150	6.8 - 9.7

Mean Days Physical Health Not Good, Past 30 Days, by Selected Demographics Alaska BRFSS 2001-2003 (combined)

	N	Mean	95% CI
Race			
Native	1709	4	2.9 - 4.3
Non-Native	6209	3	2.8 - 3.3
Total	7918	3	2.9 - 3.4

	Native			Non-Native		
	N	Mean	95% CI	N	Mean	95% CI
Gender						
Male	730	3	1.9 - 3.4	2891	3	2.2 - 2.9
Female	979	5	3.4 - 5.7	3318	4	3.2 - 4.0
Age						
18-34	559	2	1.3 - 2.5	1624	2	2.1 - 2.9
35-49	645	4	2.9 - 5.2	2295	3	2.6 - 3.4
50 +	473	6	3.9 - 7.8	2260	4	3.2 - 4.2

Mean Days Physical Health Not Good, Past 30 Days, by Region Alaska BRFSS 2001-2003 (combined)

Region	N	Mean	95% CI
Anchorage and Vicinity			
Native	144	5	3.1 - 7.2
Non-Native	1423	3	2.8 - 3.6
Total	1567	3	2.9 - 3.8
Gulf Coast			
Native	167	4	2.5 - 5.8
Non-Native	1399	4	3.1 - 4.2
Total	1566	4	3.2 - 4.2
Southeast			
Native	301	4	2.8 - 4.6
Non-Native	1304	3	2.2 - 2.9
Total	1605	3	2.5 - 3.1
Rural			
Native	933	3	2.1 - 3.0
Non-Native	638	2	1.8 - 2.8
Total	1571	2	2.1 - 2.8
Fairbanks and Vicinity			
Native	164	3	1.7 - 3.8
Non-Native	1445	3	2.3 - 3.1
Total	1609	3	2.3 - 3.1

Mean Days Mental Health Not Good, Past 30 Days, by Selected Demographics Alaska BRFSS 2001-2003 (combined)

	N	Mean	95% CI
Race			
Native	1703	3	2.4 - 3.3
Non-Native	6206	3	2.6 - 3.1
Total	7909	3	2.7 - 3.1

		Native			Non-Native			
	N	Mean	95% CI	N	Mean	95% CI		
Gender								
Male	721	2	1.4 - 2.3	2884	2	2.0 - 2.6		
Female	982	4	3.0 - 4.5	3322	4	3.2 - 3.9		
Age								
18-34	567	3	2.3 - 3.6	1618	3	2.9 - 3.8		
35-49	641	3	2.2 - 4.0	2298	3	2.6 - 3.3		
50 +	466	2	1.7 - 3.1	2260	2	1.9 - 2.7		

Mean Days Mental Health Not Good, Past 30 Days, by Region Alaska BRFSS 2001-2003 (combined)

Region	N	Mean	95% CI
Anchorage and Vicinity			
Native	145	3	1.8 - 4.1
Non-Native	1430	3	2.6 - 3.4
Total	1575	3	2.6 - 3.4
Gulf Coast			
Native	163	3	2.1 - 4.7
Non-Native	1384	3	2.7 - 3.8
Total	1547	3	2.7 - 3.7
Southeast			
Native	302	3	2.4 - 4.3
Non-Native	1303	3	2.4 - 3.1
Total	1605	3	2.5 - 3.2
Rural			
Native	931	2	1.9 - 2.8
Non-Native	642	2	1.7 - 2.6
Total	1573	2	2.0 - 2.6
Fairbanks and Vicinity			
Native	162	3	2.3 - 4.5
Non-Native	1447	2	2.1 - 2.7
Total	1609	2	2.2 - 2.8

Mean Days Physical or Mental Health Limited Activities, Past 30 Days, by Selected Demographics Alaska BRFSS 2001-2003 (combined)

	N	Mean	95% CI
Race			
Native	927	4	3.3 - 4.8
Non-Native	3247	3	3.1 - 3.8
Total	4174	4	3.2 - 3.8

		Native		Non-Native		
	N	Mean	95% CI	N	Mean	95% CI
Gender						
Male	328	3	2.4 - 4.2	1293	4	3.1 - 4.3
Female	599	5	3.4 - 5.7	1954	3	2.8 - 3.6
Age						
18-34	316	3	1.7 - 3.6	972	2	1.8 - 2.9
35-49	374	4	3.1 - 5.7	1228	4	3.0 - 4.2
50 +	222	6	4.3 - 8.3	1035	5	3.8 - 5.3

Mean Days Physical or Mental Health Limited Activities, Past 30 Days, by Region Alaska BRFSS 2001-2003 (combined)

Region	N	Mean	95% CI
Anchorage and Vicinity			
Native	82	4	2.3 - 6.4
Non-Native	794	4	2.9 - 4.1
Total	876	4	3.1 - 4.1
Gulf Coast			
Native	99	4	2.4 - 6.3
Non-Native	721	4	3.3 - 4.9
Total	820	4	3.4 - 4.9
Southeast			
Native	167	4	2.9 - 5.7
Non-Native	672	3	2.3 - 3.6
Total	839	3	2.7 - 3.8
Rural			
Native	490	3	2.7 - 4.1
Non-Native	327	2	1.7 - 2.9
Total	817	3	2.5 - 3.5
Fairbanks and Vicinity			
Native	89	5	3.0 - 7.1
Non-Native	733	3	2.5 - 3.6
Total	822	3	2.8 - 3.8

Ever had an HIV Test (Not Including Blood Donation) by Selected Demographics Alaska BRFSS 2001-2003 (combined)

	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI
Race				
Native	829	55	1548	51.7 - 59.2
Non-Native	2989	55	5396	52.9 - 56.9
Total	3818	55	6944	53.2 - 56.8

ĺ		Nati	ve			Non-Na	ative	
	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI
Gender								
Male	298	48	665	42.4 - 54.0	1366	53	2518	50.2 - 56.0
Female	531	63	883	57.9 - 67.4	1623	57	2878	54.1 - 59.6
Age								
18-34	368	61	567	55.1 - 67.0	1083	66	1597	62.1 - 69.0
35-49	334	56	625	50.7 - 62.1	1288	56	2237	53.5 - 59.4
50 +	114	42	328	32.5 - 51.2	608	37	1535	33.9 - 41.1
Gender and Age								
Male, 18-34	105	47	221	37.6 - 56.1				
Female, 18-34	263	75	346	68.4 - 81.8				
Male, 35-49	135	55	276	46.7 - 63.4				
Female, 35-49	199	58	349	49.9 - 65.7				
Male, 50+	53	42	155	28.2 - 54.9				
Female, 50+	61	42	173	28.9 - 55.3				

Ever had an HIV Test (Not Including Blood Donation) by Region Alaska BRFSS 2001-2003 (combined)

Region	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI
Anchorage and Vicinity				
Native	88	68	129	58.6 - 77.7
Non-Native	717	56	1236	52.9 - 59.4
Total	805	57	1365	54.3 - 60.5
Gulf Coast				
Native	89	55	152	46.0 - 64.4
Non-Native	659	53	1207	49.1 - 55.9
Total	748	53	1359	49.6 - 56.0
Southeast				
Native	170	65	264	58.0 - 71.2
Non-Native	549	49	1099	45.5 - 52.1
Total	719	52	1363	49.0 - 55.0
Rural				
Native	391	42	859	37.5 - 45.9
Non-Native	292	48	575	43.4 - 53.4
Total	683	44	1434	40.7 - 47.2
Fairbanks and Vicinity				
Native	91	61	144	52.4 - 70.5
Non-Native	772	58	1279	55.3 - 61.5
Total	863	59	1423	55.8 - 61.6

Received a Flu Shot, Past 12 Months, by Selected Demographics Alaska BRFSS 2001-2003 (combined)

	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI
Race				
Native	615	34	1757	30.4 - 36.9
Non-Native	2084	33	6286	31.0 - 34.5
Total	2699	33	8043	31.4 - 34.5

	Native				Non-Native			
	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI
Gender								
Male	274	35	751	29.7 - 39.5	992	34	2928	31.3 - 36.4
Female	341	33	1006	28.3 - 37.1	1092	32	3358	29.2 - 33.9
Age								
18-34	167	28	568	22.6 - 32.7	430	27	1633	23.5 - 29.9
35-49	191	28	666	23.2 - 33.1	599	26	2328	23.1 - 28.3
50 +	246	50	491	42.7 - 56.9	1042	47	2295	43.6 - 49.7

Received a Flu Shot, Past 12 Months, by Region Alaska BRFSS 2001-2003 (combined)

Region	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI
Anchorage and Vicinity				
Native	41	26	147	18.4 - 34.5
Non-Native	513	34	1446	31.2 - 37.0
Total	554	33	1593	30.6 - 36.0
Gulf Coast				
Native	59	36	173	27.5 - 44.6
Non-Native	403	27	1417	24.4 - 29.8
Total	462	28	1590	25.4 - 30.6
Southeast				
Native	103	32	306	26.0 - 38.0
Non-Native	415	30	1315	27.5 - 32.9
Total	518	31	1621	28.1 - 33.1
Rural				
Native	370	41	967	37.1 - 45.2
Non-Native	226	33	647	28.4 - 36.7
Total	596	38	1614	35.1 - 41.3
Fairbanks and Vicinity				
Native	42	25	164	17.7 - 32.5
Non-Native	527	35	1461	31.9 - 37.3
Total	569	34	1625	31.1 - 36.1

Less Than 5 Servings of Fruit and Vegetables Per Day, by Selected Demographics Alaska BRFSS 2001-2003 (combined)

	n	%	N	95% CI
Race				
Native	937	78	1168	73.7 - 81.7
Non-Native	3129	77	4146	75.4 - 79.0
Total	4066	77	5314	75.6 - 78.9

		Nativ	⁄e			Non-N	lative	
	n	%	N	95% CI	n	%	N	95% CI
Gender								
Male	399	78	492	72.7 - 84.1	1540	82	1893	79.6 - 84.4
Female	538	77	676	71.4 - 82.6	1589	72	2253	69.4 - 74.5
Age								
18-34	310	81	385	76.4 - 86.5	828	81	1064	78.3 - 84.4
35-49	366	79	444	72.1 - 85.5	1132	76	1494	72.7 - 78.8
50 +	245	70	321	60.0 - 79.1	1156	75	1572	71.8 - 78.0

Less Than 5 Servings of Fruit and Vegetables Per Day, by Region Alaska BRFSS 2001-2003 (combined)

Region	n	%	N	95% CI
Anchorage and Vicinity				
Native	74	71	102	60.1 - 81.6
Non-Native	725	78	959	74.6 - 80.4
Total	799	77	1061	74.0 - 79.6
Gulf Coast				
Native	88	78	114	69.0 - 86.1
Non-Native	717	77	947	74.1 - 80.2
Total	805	77	1061	74.3 - 80.0
Southeast				
Native	162	78	205	71.3 - 84.5
Non-Native	656	77	879	74.5 - 80.4
Total	818	78	1084	74.9 - 80.2
Rural				
Native	527	83	635	79.7 - 86.9
Non-Native	320	82	403	77.4 - 86.1
Total	847	83	1038	80.0 - 85.5
Fairbanks and Vicinity				
Native	86	77	112	68.5 - 85.7
Non-Native	711	74	958	71.3 - 77.6
Total	797	75	1070	71.8 - 77.7

Prevalence of Current Smoking* by Selected Demographics Alaska BRFSS 2001-2003 (combined)

	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI
Race				
Native	764	44	1786	40.6 - 47.9
Non-Native	1495	24	6305	22.1 - 25.3
Total	2259	27	8091	25.7 - 28.7

	Native				Non-Native			
	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI
Gender								
Male	352	48	762	42.7 - 53.5	762	26	2943	23.5 - 28.2
Female	412	41	1024	35.9 - 45.4	733	21	3362	19.3 - 23.3
Age								
18-34	298	53	590	46.7 - 58.6	426	26	1645	23.2 - 29.7
35-49	294	45	674	39.2 - 50.8	589	24	2329	21.9 - 27.0
50 +	159	30	490	23.5 - 36.0	475	20	2300	17.8 - 22.7

^{*}Current smokers are participants who smoked more than 100 cigarettes during their lifetime and now smoke (either every day or some days).

Prevalence of Current Smoking* by Region Alaska BRFSS 2001-2003 (combined)

Region	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI
Anchorage and Vicinity				
Native	61	45	147	35.0 - 54.5
Non-Native	332	23	1451	20.8 - 25.9
Total	393	25	1598	22.9 - 28.0
Gulf Coast				
Native	75	44	174	35.5 - 52.7
Non-Native	358	26	1417	23.2 - 28.9
Total	433	28	1591	25.2 - 30.6
Southeast				
Native	118	39	309	32.2 - 44.9
Non-Native	302	22	1320	19.8 - 24.9
Total	420	26	1629	23.2 - 28.0
Rural				
Native	455	48	992	43.5 - 51.6
Non-Native	172	28	650	23.4 - 32.2
Total	627	41	1642	37.7 - 43.9
Fairbanks and Vicinity				
Native	55	36	164	27.5 - 44.3
Non-Native	331	23	1467	20.4 - 25.3
Total	386	24	1631	21.8 - 26.6

^{*}Current smokers are participants who smoked more than 100 cigarettes during their lifetime and now smoke (either every day or some days).

Prevalence of Current Smokeless Tobacco Use* by Selected Demographics Alaska BRFSS 2001-2003 (combined)

	n	%	N	95% CI
Race				
Native	165	13	1219	10.3 - 16.0
Non-Native	175	5	4237	4.0 - 6.1
Total	340	6	5456	5.4 - 7.4

		Native			Non-Native			
	n	%	N	95% CI	n	%	N	95% CI
Gender								
Male	98	19	513	13.7 - 24.4	166	9	1975	7.3 - 11.2
Female	67	8	706	5.8 - 10.5	9	< 1	2262	0.1 - 0.5
Age								
18-34	53	14	397	8.2 - 19.3	70	8	1126	5.4 - 10.3
35-49	82	17	468	12.3 - 20.7	68	5	1599	3.2 - 6.2
50 +	29	9	335	4.9 - 13.1	37	3	1491	1.4 - 3.8

^{*}Current smokeless tobacco users are participants who have ever used a smokeless tobacco product during their lifetime and now use a smokeless tobacco product.

Prevalence of Current Smokeless Tobacco Use* by Region Alaska BRFSS 2001-2003 (combined)

Region	n	%	N	95% CI
Anchorage and Fairbanks				
Native	10	6	201	0.1 - 11.3
Non-Native	78	5	1920	3.5 - 6.2
Total	88	5	2121	3.6 - 6.2
Gulf Coast				
Native	11	12	128	3.8 - 19.3
Non-Native	48	7	970	4.9 - 9.9
Total	59	8	1098	5.5 - 10.3
Southeast				
Native	7	5	207	1.1 - 8.0
Non-Native	28	4	877	2.3 - 5.5
Total	35	4	1084	2.6 - 5.5
Rural				
Native	137	23	683	19.2 - 27.5
Non-Native	21	5	383	2.5 - 6.6
Total	158	17	1153	13.9 - 19.6

^{*}Current smokeless tobacco users are participants who have ever used a smokeless tobacco product during their lifetime and now use a smokeless tobacco product.

Any Alcoholic Beverage Last 30 Days by Selected Demographics Alaska BRFSS 2001-2003 (combined)

	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI
Race				
Native	796	49	1762	44.9 - 52.1
Non-Native	3891	64	6272	62.1 - 65.6
Total	4687	61	8034	59.7 - 62.8

		Nativ	е		Non-Native			
Ī	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI
Gender								
Male	363	52	748	46.8 - 57.6	1995	69	2922	66.3 - 71.2
Female	433	45	1014	40.3 - 49.9	1896	58	3350	56.0 - 60.8
Age								
18-34	309	56	581	50.2 - 61.8	1047	66	1638	62.8 - 69.4
35-49	306	46	667	40.2 - 51.5	1522	67	2319	64.4 - 69.8
50 +	169	40	483	33.2 - 47.5	1307	58	2284	55.2 - 61.2

Any Alcoholic Beverage Last 30 Days by Region Alaska BRFSS 2001-2003 (combined)

Region	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI
Anchorage and Vicinity				
Native	83	57	146	47.0 - 66.1
Non-Native	929	65	1446	62.5 - 68.1
Total	1012	64	1592	61.8 - 67.1
Gulf Coast				
Native	85	53	167	43.8 - 61.3
Non-Native	869	62	1412	59.4 - 65.4
Total	954	61	1579	58.5 - 64.2
Southeast				
Native	153	48	304	41.9 - 54.9
Non-Native	837	65	1307	61.8 - 67.6
Total	990	61	1611	58.8 - 64.2
Rural				
Native	385	40	983	35.5 - 43.6
Non-Native	363	56	648	51.0 - 60.3
Total	748	45	1631	41.9 - 48.1
Fairbanks and Vicinity				
Native	90	60	162	51.4 - 67.9
Non-Native	893	61	1459	58.5 - 64.1
Total	983	61	1621	58.5 - 63.8

Prevalence of Binge Drinking* by Selected Demographics Alaska BRFSS 2001-2003 (combined)

	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI
Race				
Native	374	23	1744	19.6 - 26.2
Non-Native	1036	17	6248	15.9 - 18.7
Total	1410	18	7992	16.9 - 19.5

		Nativ	re		Non-Native			
	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI
Gender								
Male	190	29	739	23.3 - 34.1	724	24	2903	21.8 - 26.3
Female	184	18	1005	14.0 - 21.1	312	10	3345	8.2 - 11.5
Age								
18-34	166	31	577	25.2 - 37.4	395	24	1636	21.0 - 27.2
35-49	143	21	659	16.1 - 25.2	413	18	2308	15.9 - 20.3
50 +	61	12	477	7.8 - 16.0	225	10	2273	8.0 - 11.4

^{*}Binge drinking is defined as having alcoholic beverages in the past month and having had five or more alcoholic drinks on one or more occasions in the past month.

Prevalence of Binge Drinking* by Region Alaska BRFSS 2001-2003 (combined)

Region	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI
Anchorage and Vicinity				
Native	32	24	146	15.6 - 33.1
Non-Native	232	17	1442	14.7 - 19.3
Total	264	18	1588	15.5 - 20.0
Gulf Coast				
Native	33	22	165	14.3 - 29.3
Non-Native	243	18	1406	15.8 - 20.8
Total	276	19	1571	16.2 - 21.0
Southeast				
Native	73	25	303	19.1 - 30.4
Non-Native	194	16	1304	13.8 - 18.5
Total	267	18	1607	15.7 - 20.0
Rural				
Native	195	20	969	16.7 - 24.0
Non-Native	119	19	643	15.0 - 22.2
Total	314	20	1612	17.1 - 22.5
Fairbanks and Vicinity				
Native	41	28	161	19.6 - 35.8
Non-Native	248	18	1453	15.5 - 20.0
Total	289	19	1614	16.5 - 21.0

^{*}Binge drinking is defined as having alcoholic beverages in the past month and having had five or more alcoholic drinks on one or more occasions in the past month.

No Leisure Time Physical Activity by Selected Demographics Alaska BRFSS 2001-2003 (combined)

	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI
Race				
Native	525	29	1795	25.7 - 32.3
Non-Native	1200	19	6309	17.9 - 20.8
Total	1725	21	8104	19.6 - 22.3

		Native				Non-Native			
	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI	
Gender									
Male	206	24	764	19.8 - 28.0	549	18	2944	15.9 - 20.1	
Female	319	34	1031	28.9 - 38.5	651	21	3365	18.7 - 22.8	
Age									
18-34	145	23	592	18.3 - 28.4	231	16	1647	12.7 - 18.3	
35-49	194	28	675	23.4 - 33.4	418	19	2331	16.3 - 20.8	
50 +	172	37	496	29.9 - 44.3	547	24	2301	21.4 - 26.6	

No Leisure Time Physical Activity by Region Alaska BRFSS 2001-2003 (combined)

	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI
Anchorage and Vicinity				
Native	35	28	147	18.8 - 36.8
Non-Native	299	20	1452	17.9 - 22.6
Total	334	21	1599	18.7 - 23.3
Gulf Coast				
Native	44	27	174	19.0 - 34.1
Non-Native	276	19	1419	16.7 - 21.5
Total	320	20	1593	17.6 - 22.2
Southeast				
Native	75	21	309	16.4 - 26.3
Non-Native	190	15	1320	12.5 - 16.9
Total	265	16	1629	14.0 - 18.0
Rural				
Native	322	32	1001	28.5 - 35.7
Non-Native	155	24	651	20.2 - 28.2
Total	477	29	1652	26.7 - 32.2
Fairbanks and Vicinity				
Native	49	32	164	24.3 - 40.6
Non-Native	280	18	1467	15.9 - 20.1
Total	329	19	1631	17.4 - 21.6

Prevalence of Overweight* by Selected Demographics Alaska BRFSS 2001-2003 (combined)

	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI
Race				
Native	615	37	1717	33.8 - 41.1
Non-Native	2342	39	6110	37.0 - 40.7
Total	2957	39	7827	37.0 - 40.3

	Native			Non-Native				
	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI
Gender								
Male	310	44	754	38.5 - 49.4	1387	47	2919	44.3 - 49.7
Female	305	31	963	26.5 - 35.7	955	29	3191	27.1 - 31.8
Age								
18-34	200	38	566	31.8 - 43.9	557	37	1603	33.3 - 40.5
35-49	231	38	655	31.9 - 43.5	869	40	2254	37.0 - 43.0
50 +	177	37	474	29.8 - 44.3	905	40	2229	36.5 - 42.5

^{*}Overweight was defined as a BMI between 25.0 and 29.9; obesity was defined as a BMI greater than 29.9.

Prevalence of Overweight* by Region Alaska BRFSS 2001-2003 (combined)

Region	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI
Anchorage and Vicinity				
Native	53	40	142	30.7 - 50.2
Non-Native	510	39	1399	35.6 - 41.6
Total	563	39	1541	35.9 - 41.6
Gulf Coast				
Native	56	33	160	24.6 - 41.5
Non-Native	512	37	1383	34.2 - 40.2
Total	568	37	1543	33.9 - 39.6
Southeast				
Native	108	38	296	31.7 - 44.8
Non-Native	507	41	1272	38.1 - 44.2
Total	615	41	1568	37.9 - 43.3
Rural				
Native	342	36	961	31.6 - 39.7
Non-Native	253	38	634	33.9 - 42.7
Total	595	37	1595	33.5 - 39.6
Fairbanks and Vicinity				
Native	56	37	158	28.8 - 46.1
Non-Native	560	40	1422	37.1 - 42.9
Total	616	40	1580	37.0 - 42.5

^{*}Overweight was defined as a BMI between 25.0 and 29.9; obesity was defined as a BMI greater than 29.9.

Prevalence of Obesity* by Selected Demographics Alaska BRFSS 2001-2003 (combined)

	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI
Race				
Native	533	28	1717	24.7 - 31.1
Non-Native	1391	22	6110	20.5 - 23.6
Total	1924	23	7827	21.7 - 24.4

	Native				Non-N	ative		
	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI
Gender								
Male	204	24	754	19.9 - 29.0	664	22	2919	19.7 - 24.1
Female	329	31	963	26.7 - 35.7	727	22	3191	20.1 - 24.3
Age								
18-34	140	22	566	16.5 - 27.1	269	17	1603	13.9 - 19.2
35-49	232	33	655	27.2 - 37.8	517	22	2254	19.2 - 24.0
50 +	156	33	474	26.3 - 39.2	604	28	2229	25.4 - 31.1

^{*}Overweight was defined as a BMI between 25.0 and 29.9; obesity was defined as a BMI greater than 29.9.

Prevalence of Obesity* by Region Alaska BRFSS 2001-2003 (combined)

Region	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI
Anchorage and Vicinity				
Native	36	24	142	15.7 - 32.9
Non-Native	321	22	1399	19.7 - 24.7
Total	357	22	1541	20.0 - 24.8
Gulf Coast				
Native	60	38	160	29.4 - 46.7
Non-Native	349	25	1383	22.2 - 27.6
Total	409	26	1543	23.6 - 28.8
Southeast				
Native	93	30	296	23.7 - 35.5
Non-Native	262	19	1272	17.0 - 21.9
Total	355	21	1568	19.2 - 23.7
Rural				
Native	301	29	961	25.0 - 32.0
Non-Native	169	27	634	22.8 - 31.4
Total	470	28	1595	25.3 - 30.8
Fairbanks and Vicinity				
Native	43	27	158	19.1 - 34.1
Non-Native	290	20	1422	17.3 - 21.7
Total	333	20	1580	18.1 - 22.4

^{*}Overweight was defined as a BMI between 25.0 and 29.9; obesity was defined as a BMI greater than 29.9.

Prevalence of Diabetes* (Self-Report) by Selected Demographics Alaska BRFSS 2001-2003 (combined)

	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI
Race				
Native	78	5	1793	2.9 - 6.2
Non-Native	289	4	6308	3.5 - 4.8
Total	367	4	8101	3.6 - 4.8

		Nat	ive			Non-N	ative	
	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI	n	Weighted %	Z	95% CI
Gender								
Male	35	4	762	1.8 - 6.1	131	4	2941	2.8 - 4.5
Female	43	5	1031	2.6 - 7.6	158	5	3367	3.7 - 5.7
Age								
18-34	12	3	592	0.2 - 5.6	13	1	1647	0.2 - 1.0
35-49	22	4	676	1.0 - 7.0	61	2	2331	1.7 - 3.3
50 +	44	8	493	5.4 - 11.3	214	10	2299	7.9 - 11.3

^{*} Does not include women diagnosed with gestational diabetes.

Prevalence of Diabetes* (Self-Report) by Region Alaska BRFSS 2001-2003 (combined)

	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI
Anchorage and Fairbanks				
Native	14	5	311	1.5 - 9.3
Non-Native	140	4	2918	3.3 - 5.0
Total	154	4	3229	3.4 - 5.1
Gulf Coast				
Native	11	5	173	1.8 - 8.2
Non-Native	60	5	1419	3.2 - 5.9
Total	71	5	1592	3.3 - 5.9
Southeast				
Native	18	6	310	2.9 - 8.8
Non-Native	61	4	1320	2.9 - 5.1
Total	79	4	1630	3.3 - 5.4
Rural				
Native	35	3	999	2.0 - 4.4
Non-Native	28	4	651	2.2 - 5.5
Total	63	3	1650	2.5 - 4.4

^{*} Does not include women diagnosed with gestational diabetes.

Prevalence of High Cholesterol (Self-Report) by Selected Demographics Alaska BRFSS 2001 and 2003 (combined)

	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI
Race				
Native	185	23	673	18.6 - 27.8
Non-Native	1016	29	3255	26.8 - 31.3
Total	1201	28	3928	26.2 - 30.3

	Native			Non-Native				
	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI
Gender								
Male	82	24	278	16.8 - 32.1	499	30	1518	27.1 - 33.7
Female	103	22	395	16.7 - 27.2	517	28	1737	24.6 - 30.6
Age								
18-34	22	8	157	4.0 - 12.7	72	10	583	7.1 - 13.6
35-49	64	24	256	16.1 - 32.9	346	25	1262	22.1 - 28.5
50 +	95	35	245	26.2 - 44.0	594	44	1390	39.8 - 47.5

Prevalence of High Cholesterol (Self-Report) by Region Alaska BRFSS 2001 and 2003 (combined)

Region	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI
Anchorage and Vicinity				
Native	14	18	64	7.5 - 29.4
Non-Native	229	28	778	24.3 - 31.6
Total	243	27	842	23.7 - 30.6
Gulf Coast				
Native	33	35	74	23.7 - 47.2
Non-Native	231	32	696	27.6 - 35.4
Total	264	32	770	28.1 - 35.6
Southeast				
Native	38	24	144	16.6 - 32.3
Non-Native	235	33	697	29.5 - 37.1
Total	273	32	841	28.3 - 35.2
Rural				
Native	83	24	320	19.0 - 29.3
Non-Native	96	28	327	22.3 - 33.4
Total	179	26	647	22.0 - 29.6
Fairbanks and Vicinity				
Native	17	26	71	14.3 - 38.1
Non-Native	225	28	757	24.7 - 31.7
Total	242	28	828	24.7 - 31.4

Hypertension (Self-Report) by Race Alaska BRFSS 2001

	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI
Race				
Native	179	25	626	20.5 - 29.6
Non-Native	473	21	2160	18.6 - 23.9
Total	652	22	2786	19.5 - 24.2

Hypertension (Self-Report) by Race Alaska BRFSS 2003

	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI
Race				
Native	153	22	575	17.5 - 26.7
Non-Native	474	21	2071	18.4 - 23.0
Total	627	21	2646	18.8 - 23.0

^{*}Does not include women diagnose with hypertension during pregnancy.

Prevalence of Asthma (Self-Report) by Selected Demographics Alaska BRFSS 2001-2003 (combined)

	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI
Race				
Native	182	11	1789	9.1 - 13.9
Non-Native	767	12	6308	11.2 - 13.6
Total	949	12	8097	11.1 - 13.3

	Native			Non-Native				
	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI
Gender								
Male	69	9	760	6.0 - 11.6	266	9	2942	7.7 - 10.8
Female	113	14	1029	10.2 - 17.8	501	16	3366	14.0 - 17.7
Age								
18-34	64	13	589	8.6 - 16.4	206	12	1646	9.5 - 13.8
35-49	59	9	676	5.7 - 11.8	297	14	2332	11.4 - 15.7
50 +	55	13	492	7.5 - 19.0	260	12	2299	9.8 - 13.7

Prevalence of Asthma (Self-Report) by Region Alaska BRFSS 2001-2003 (combined)

Region	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI
Anchorage and Vicinity				
Native	21	14	145	6.9 - 20.4
Non-Native	198	13	1453	10.9 - 14.8
Total	219	13	1598	11.0 - 14.8
Gulf Coast				
Native	27	18	173	10.8 - 25.8
Non-Native	173	13	1419	10.5 - 14.7
Total	200	13	1592	11.2 - 15.3
Southeast				
Native	31	10	310	6.5 - 14.3
Non-Native	145	11	1319	8.8 - 12.5
Total	176	11	1629	8.9 - 12.3
Rural				
Native	76	8	997	5.7 - 9.8
Non-Native	79	12	651	8.9 - 16.0
Total	155	9	1648	7.5 - 11.2
Fairbanks and Vicinity				
Native	27	18	164	11.1 - 24.7
Non-Native	172	12	1466	9.9 - 13.5
Total	199	12	1630	10.6 - 14.1

Arthritis (Self-Report) by Race Alaska BRFSS 2001

	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI
Race				
Native	132	19	623	14.7 - 22.8
Non-Native	402	17	2158	14.6 - 18.8
Total	534	17	2781	15.1 - 18.9

Arthritis (Self-Report) by Race Alaska BRFSS 2003

	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI
Race				
Native	136	25	574	19.1 - 29.9
Non-Native	553	25	2056	22.4 - 27.3
Total	689	25	2630	22.5 - 27.0

Firearms in Home by Selected Demographics Alaska BRFSS 2001 and 2002 (combined)

	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI
Race				
Native	705	59	1168	54.4 - 63.6
Non-Native	2418	59	3991	57.0 - 61.6
Total	3123	59	5159	57.2-61.3

	Native			Non-Native				
	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI
Gender		7.0		7070 0.		70		7570 0.
Male	343	69	483	62.5 - 76.1	1272	66	1836	62.6 - 69.4
Female	362	51	685	44.6 - 56.6	1146	52	2155	48.8 - 55.1
Age								
18-34	209	55	387	47.4 - 62.7	554	48	1082	43.6 - 52.5
35-49	290	65	441	58.3 - 72.4	977	65	1504	61.1 - 68.3
50 +	197	59	322	49.9 - 68.6	879	65	1390	61.1 - 68.9

Firearms in Home by Region Alaska BRFSS 2001 and 2002 (combined)

Region	n	Weighted %	N	95% CI
Anchorage and Vicinity				
Native	42	43	94	31.4 - 55.4
Non-Native	472	55	891	51.2 - 58.9
Total	514	54	985	50.2 - 57.5
Gulf Coast				
Native	56	49	117	38.8 - 59.7
Non-Native	602	68	903	64.8 - 72.0
Total	658	66	1020	62.8 - 69.7
Southeast				
Native	101	55	200	46.8 - 62.8
Non-Native	514	64	840	60.3 - 67.6
Total	615	62	1040	58.8 - 65.5
Rural				
Native	466	76	659	72.6 - 80.1
Non-Native	283	65	447	58.9 - 70.1
Total	749	72	1106	69.0 - 75.5
Fairbanks and Vicinity				
Native	40	46	98	34.6 - 57.1
Non-Native	547	63	910	59.2 - 66.2
Total	587	61	1008	57.7 - 64.4