

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

Selected characteristic	Total	Current alcohol drinking status ¹				
		Nondrinker	Infrequent	Light	Moderate	Heavier
Percent distribution (standard error)						
Both sexes						
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)
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)
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 ³ :						
Hispanic	100.00	47.7 (0.60)	12.8 (0.44)	25.4 (0.53)	10.5 (0.40)	3.6 (0.25)
White, non-Hispanic	100.00	33.1 (0.35)	15.2 (0.20)	31.3 (0.30)	15.2 (0.22)	5.2 (0.12)
Black, non-Hispanic	100.00	52.6 (0.77)	13.2 (0.47)	21.0 (0.57)	9.6 (0.40)	3.6 (0.21)
Asian/Pacific Islander, non-Hispanic	100.00	56.1 (1.49)	13.9 (1.00)	21.4 (1.19)	7.2 (0.75)	1.4 (0.30)
Education ³ :						
Less than high school graduate	100.00	53.0 (0.56)	12.6 (0.35)	19.4 (0.44)	9.8 (0.32)	5.1 (0.24)
GED diploma ⁴	100.00	38.8 (1.39)	16.3 (1.10)	24.7 (1.16)	13.0 (0.92)	7.2 (0.70)
High school graduate	100.00	40.4 (0.47)	16.2 (0.35)	25.9 (0.40)	12.6 (0.31)	4.9 (0.20)
Some college - no degree	100.00	32.2 (0.53)	16.4 (0.36)	31.2 (0.49)	15.1 (0.37)	5.2 (0.22)
Associate of arts degree	100.00	32.1 (0.74)	15.8 (0.60)	33.1 (0.75)	14.8 (0.57)	4.3 (0.30)
Bachelor of arts, science degree	100.00	25.5 (0.57)	13.3 (0.38)	38.6 (0.62)	18.3 (0.47)	4.3 (0.27)
Masters, doctorate, medical degree	100.00	26.8 (1.30)	11.2 (0.58)	40.3 (1.28)	18.3 (0.81)	3.5 (0.43)
Poverty status ³ :						
Below poverty	100.00	54.5 (0.67)	11.6 (0.42)	20.1 (0.50)	9.0 (0.41)	4.8 (0.29)
Poverty–199% above	100.00	48.0 (0.59)	14.5 (0.42)	22.6 (0.45)	10.2 (0.37)	4.7 (0.24)
200–399% above.	100.00	37.2 (0.50)	16.3 (0.34)	28.6 (0.43)	13.1 (0.31)	4.8 (0.18)
400% or more above	100.00	24.4 (0.44)	13.9 (0.29)	36.8 (0.45)	19.7 (0.39)	5.2 (0.20)
Marital status ³ :						
Never married.	100.00	39.6 (0.71)	12.7 (0.46)	27.7 (0.59)	14.8 (0.46)	5.2 (0.28)
Married	100.00	37.7 (0.38)	15.8 (0.24)	29.6 (0.35)	13.2 (0.23)	3.8 (0.13)
Cohabiting	100.00	26.9 (1.25)	13.1 (0.94)	32.2 (1.09)	18.4 (1.15)	9.4 (0.76)
Divorced or separated.	100.00	36.4 (0.76)	15.4 (0.55)	27.6 (0.61)	14.2 (0.55)	6.4 (0.38)
Widowed	100.00	44.1 (1.85)	12.0 (1.08)	31.2 (1.87)	8.0 (0.97)	4.7 (0.79)
Region ³ :						
Northeast	100.00	31.7 (0.58)	15.9 (0.44)	33.1 (0.60)	15.4 (0.43)	3.9 (0.21)
Midwest	100.00	33.3 (0.57)	16.4 (0.30)	31.2 (0.54)	14.4 (0.35)	4.7 (0.18)
South	100.00	44.8 (0.54)	13.1 (0.26)	25.2 (0.39)	12.1 (0.30)	4.8 (0.18)
West	100.00	36.0 (0.49)	14.3 (0.36)	29.6 (0.43)	14.7 (0.36)	5.4 (0.25)
Place of residence ^{3,5} :						
MSA, central city	100.00	38.6 (0.49)	13.7 (0.30)	28.1 (0.38)	14.3 (0.34)	5.3 (0.19)
MSA, not central city	100.00	33.8 (0.44)	15.4 (0.25)	31.7 (0.36)	14.6 (0.26)	4.5 (0.15)
Not MSA	100.00	44.8 (0.57)	14.7 (0.32)	24.5 (0.45)	11.5 (0.32)	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.

Selected characteristic	Total	Current alcohol drinking status ¹				
		Nondrinker	Infrequent	Light	Moderate	Heavier
Percent distribution (standard error)						
Men						
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)
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)
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 ³ :						
Hispanic	100.00	35.3 (0.84)	10.2 (0.50)	31.4 (0.83)	17.9 (0.72)	5.2 (0.42)
White, non-Hispanic	100.00	28.1 (0.41)	11.6 (0.27)	31.0 (0.40)	23.2 (0.36)	6.1 (0.18)
Black, non-Hispanic	100.00	43.5 (1.15)	10.1 (0.62)	24.5 (0.93)	17.2 (0.81)	4.6 (0.33)
Asian/Pacific Islander, non-Hispanic	100.00	42.2 (2.12)	13.9 (1.50)	30.0 (1.87)	12.1 (1.51)	1.8 (0.40)
Education ³ :						
Less than high school graduate	100.00	42.0 (0.79)	10.8 (0.46)	23.2 (0.65)	16.4 (0.54)	7.5 (0.41)
GED diploma ⁴	100.00	30.9 (1.82)	11.6 (1.18)	28.6 (1.74)	19.6 (1.56)	9.4 (1.08)
High school graduate	100.00	33.5 (0.63)	12.1 (0.45)	27.3 (0.57)	20.7 (0.60)	6.4 (0.32)
Some college - no degree	100.00	27.3 (0.75)	12.4 (0.52)	31.4 (0.74)	22.8 (0.64)	6.1 (0.36)
Associate of arts degree	100.00	26.4 (1.09)	11.4 (0.81)	33.8 (1.14)	24.2 (1.09)	4.4 (0.42)
Bachelor of arts, science degree	100.00	21.7 (0.75)	10.2 (0.52)	37.7 (0.86)	26.5 (0.74)	3.9 (0.37)
Masters, doctorate, medical degree	100.00	24.1 (1.97)	8.5 (0.58)	38.8 (2.03)	26.0 (1.54)	2.6 (0.34)
Poverty status ³ :						
Below poverty	100.00	44.1 (1.19)	9.5 (0.65)	23.8 (0.94)	15.9 (0.77)	6.7 (0.60)
Poverty–199% above	100.00	39.6 (0.85)	11.2 (0.61)	25.0 (0.71)	17.3 (0.69)	6.9 (0.42)
200–399% above.	100.00	32.2 (0.61)	11.5 (0.42)	29.9 (0.63)	20.2 (0.51)	6.2 (0.32)
400% or more above	100.00	20.9 (0.54)	10.3 (0.40)	35.5 (0.61)	28.0 (0.63)	5.3 (0.27)
Marital status ³ :						
Never married.	100.00	33.8 (1.09)	10.2 (0.59)	28.0 (0.97)	22.0 (0.75)	6.1 (0.42)
Married	100.00	31.0 (0.48)	12.3 (0.35)	32.0 (0.56)	20.3 (0.40)	4.4 (0.20)
Cohabiting	100.00	22.5 (1.54)	11.5 (1.22)	28.5 (1.50)	26.6 (1.62)	10.9 (1.07)
Divorced or separated.	100.00	27.6 (1.10)	10.9 (0.92)	26.9 (1.10)	26.0 (1.16)	8.6 (0.70)
Widowed	100.00	26.1 (2.73)	8.2 (2.16)	33.9 (3.88)	21.3 (3.20)	10.4 (3.08)
Region ³ :						
Northeast	100.00	25.4 (0.69)	12.1 (0.56)	34.0 (0.84)	24.2 (0.74)	4.3 (0.32)
Midwest	100.00	27.9 (0.61)	12.6 (0.42)	31.4 (0.70)	22.3 (0.59)	5.9 (0.28)
South	100.00	37.1 (0.64)	10.2 (0.37)	27.2 (0.48)	19.5 (0.48)	6.0 (0.27)
West	100.00	29.2 (0.64)	10.9 (0.53)	31.2 (0.67)	22.4 (0.59)	6.2 (0.30)
Place of residence ^{3,5} :						
MSA, central city	100.00	31.0 (0.62)	10.5 (0.38)	29.5 (0.55)	22.6 (0.56)	6.4 (0.28)
MSA, not central city	100.00	28.1 (0.50)	11.6 (0.34)	32.5 (0.47)	22.5 (0.44)	5.3 (0.23)
Not MSA	100.00	37.4 (0.66)	11.8 (0.47)	26.5 (0.62)	18.6 (0.52)	5.8 (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.

Selected characteristic	Total	Current alcohol drinking status ¹				
		Nondrinker	Infrequent	Light	Moderate	Heavier
Percent distribution (standard error)						
Women						
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)
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)
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 ³ :						
Hispanic	100.00	60.0 (0.83)	15.6 (0.66)	19.4 (0.61)	3.1 (0.28)	2.0 (0.24)
White, non-Hispanic	100.00	37.6 (0.46)	18.8 (0.29)	31.7 (0.40)	7.7 (0.21)	4.3 (0.17)
Black, non-Hispanic	100.00	59.6 (0.87)	15.7 (0.62)	18.3 (0.64)	3.6 (0.32)	2.8 (0.27)
Asian/Pacific Islander, non-Hispanic	100.00	69.4 (1.86)	14.0 (1.32)	13.1 (1.40)	2.4 (0.57)	*1.1 (0.38)
Education ³ :						
Less than high school graduate	100.00	63.6 (0.68)	14.6 (0.55)	15.7 (0.54)	3.3 (0.28)	2.8 (0.24)
GED diploma ⁴	100.00	48.3 (1.95)	21.2 (1.80)	20.3 (1.34)	5.7 (0.81)	4.5 (0.76)
High school graduate	100.00	46.1 (0.62)	19.7 (0.47)	24.7 (0.55)	5.8 (0.25)	3.6 (0.23)
Some college - no degree	100.00	36.6 (0.71)	20.0 (0.53)	31.1 (0.64)	8.0 (0.41)	4.2 (0.27)
Associate of arts degree	100.00	36.6 (0.98)	19.6 (0.82)	32.5 (1.01)	7.1 (0.53)	4.1 (0.44)
Bachelor of arts, science degree	100.00	29.5 (0.84)	16.3 (0.62)	39.4 (0.86)	10.0 (0.51)	4.7 (0.36)
Masters, doctorate, medical degree	100.00	30.4 (1.77)	14.2 (0.97)	41.8 (1.63)	9.2 (0.68)	4.4 (0.67)
Poverty status ³ :						
Below poverty.	100.00	61.1 (0.77)	13.0 (0.56)	17.7 (0.60)	4.5 (0.36)	3.6 (0.31)
Poverty–199% above	100.00	55.1 (0.77)	17.3 (0.57)	20.6 (0.60)	4.1 (0.31)	2.9 (0.25)
200–399% above.	100.00	42.1 (0.67)	21.1 (0.52)	27.3 (0.55)	6.1 (0.29)	3.4 (0.20)
400% or more above	100.00	28.3 (0.64)	17.9 (0.50)	38.2 (0.64)	10.4 (0.40)	5.2 (0.32)
Marital status ³ :						
Never married.	100.00	45.8 (0.95)	15.4 (0.65)	27.8 (0.73)	6.8 (0.41)	4.2 (0.35)
Married	100.00	43.9 (0.50)	19.2 (0.34)	27.5 (0.42)	6.3 (0.21)	3.2 (0.16)
Cohabiting	100.00	34.7 (1.56)	13.5 (0.92)	35.7 (1.56)	8.9 (1.08)	7.3 (0.79)
Divorced or separated.	100.00	42.0 (0.94)	18.3 (0.65)	28.1 (0.76)	6.6 (0.46)	4.9 (0.39)
Widowed	100.00	48.8 (2.51)	13.2 (1.32)	29.4 (2.62)	5.3 (1.29)	3.3 (0.69)
Region ³ :						
Northeast	100.00	37.1 (0.75)	19.4 (0.55)	32.5 (0.71)	7.5 (0.36)	3.6 (0.26)
Midwest	100.00	38.3 (0.80)	20.0 (0.47)	31.2 (0.73)	7.0 (0.32)	3.5 (0.24)
South	100.00	51.7 (0.66)	15.9 (0.37)	23.5 (0.50)	5.3 (0.26)	3.6 (0.21)
West	100.00	42.1 (0.72)	17.6 (0.53)	28.0 (0.60)	7.5 (0.35)	4.7 (0.37)
Place of residence ^{3,5} :						
MSA, central city	100.00	45.3 (0.61)	16.7 (0.42)	27.0 (0.50)	6.8 (0.29)	4.3 (0.22)
MSA, not central city	100.00	39.0 (0.57)	19.0 (0.35)	31.1 (0.48)	7.2 (0.24)	3.7 (0.19)
Not MSA	100.00	51.8 (0.82)	17.6 (0.43)	22.7 (0.62)	4.8 (0.29)	3.1 (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.