

ACS Summary Data Report

For the Vision & Eye Health Surveillance System

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PRESENTED TO:
Vision Health Initiative
Division of Diabetes
Translation,
Centers for Disease Control
and Prevention

PRESENTED BY:
Phoebe Lamuda,
John Wittenborn,
David Rein,
NORC at the University of
Chicago



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Overview

This Data Brief Report presents the analysis of the American Community Survey (ACS) for the Vision and Eye Health Surveillance System (VEHSS). This document describes the methods used to construct the estimates. For VEHSS, we analyzed Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS) to estimate the prevalence of self-reported vision difficulty at the national and state level by detailed demographic, risk factor and social determinant of health (SDOH) characteristics. Because PUMS data is not available at the county level, we report county-level estimates from 5-year merged ACS samples as reported through disability subject tables on data.census.gov.

Dataset Description

Purpose:

The American Community Survey (ACS), conducted by the United States (US) Census Bureau, is an annual nationwide survey that collects and produces information on demographic, social, economic, and housing characteristics of the US population. The ACS serves the nation by providing a consistent and cohesive collection of characteristics that are comparable across all US geographies.

The Census Bureau releases summary tables with limited stratification factors through data.census.gov. Census provides access to the PUMS for users who want to create custom tables that are not available through summary ACS data products. However, to protect respondent privacy, PUMS data includes only a subsample of the ACS with limited geographic detail. ACS was selected for inclusion in the VEHSS system due to its representative and robust national and state sample, and because information contained in the ACS supports stratification by the key demographic and geographic variables of interest to the VEHSS system.

ACS self-reported vision difficulty prevalence is utilized as a data source for the VEHSS composite estimates on the prevalence of vision loss and blindness. Specifically, these estimates use variation in ACS self-reported vision to predict variation in acuity-based vision loss among population groups not represented by available examination-based data, including persons living in group quarters and those at oldest ages, as well as geographic variation by state and county. More details on the VEHSS composite estimates of the prevalence of vision loss is available at <https://www.cdc.gov/visionhealth/vehss/estimates/index.html>

Sample Design:

The Census Bureau selects a random sample of addresses to be included in two separate samples that together constitute the ACS: housing unit (HU) addresses and residents of group quarters (GQ) facilities (e.g., college residence halls, residential treatment centers, skilled nursing facilities, group homes, military barracks, correctional facilities, workers' dormitories, and facilities for people experiencing homelessness). These samples are drawn from the Census Bureau's Master Address File (MAF), an inventory of living quarters and nonresidential units in the US and Puerto Rico. Independent HU address samples are selected for each of the counties and county equivalents in the US, as well as for each of the municipalities in Puerto Rico. GQ resident samples are independent state-level samples.

As of 2011, the targeted sample size of the HU sample is approximately 3.54 million. Interviews are conducted monthly, and no HU address or small GQ facility residents are eligible to be in the sample more than once in a five-year period. Residents of large GQ facilities are eligible to be sampled every year.¹

ACS PUMS files consist of sub-samples of ACS HU and GQ respondents. These files are designed to include one percent of both the HU and GQ populations estimated by the full ACS. HU and GQ PUMS samples were constructed separately, and sampling intervals for each are calculated to yield target sample sizes at the state level.²

Data Collection Procedures:

ACS data are collected in one of four modes: Internet, mail, telephone, and personal visit. For most HUs, mailed invitations to participate via internet are extended initially. If no response is received, this is followed by invitations to participate via mail, telephone, or personal visit, in that order, based on participant response or non-response to each previous option. Data are collected from GQ residents via personal interview only. For sampled HUs, information is collected for all residents living in the household.

PUMS Analysis Process and Suppression

We estimated the prevalence rate and sample size for each survey instrument selected for inclusion. We analyzed data from the PUMS files starting with 2014, each year was analyzed separately. The prevalence rate was defined as the number of persons who gave an affirmative

¹ US Census Bureau. (2014). Design and Methodology Report: Chapter 4. Sample Design and Selection. Retrieved from: https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/methodology/design_and_methodology/acs_design_methodology_ch04_2014.pdf.

² US Census Bureau. (2017). PUMS Accuracy of the Data (2015). Retrieved from: https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/tech_docs/pums/accuracy/2015AccuracyPUMS.pdf

response to the question divided by the total number of respondents who gave an affirmative or negative response and multiplied by 100 for presentation in percentage format. We estimated upper and lower confidence intervals and the relative standard error of the prevalence estimate using the Clopper-Pearson method with the smaller of the effective sample size and the sample size. The respondent sample size was reported for each response.

All estimates were calculated using SAS® PROC SURVEY FREQ procedure. Suppression was determined using the National Center for Health Statistics Data Presentation Standards for Proportions released in August 2017³.

Vision-related Variables

ACS contains a single question relevant to VEHSS: “Is this person blind or does he/she have serious difficulty seeing even when wearing glasses?” This question, which was first fielded in 2008, is categorized under the VEHSS ‘Visual Function’ topic and ‘Difficulty Seeing with Glasses’ category. **Table 1** presents additional details about the question, including the ACS variable name, the year(s) survey data are available, the survey question, and the response options.

Table 1. Overview of Eye Health Variable in the ACS

| ACS eye health questions and response options | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|---|------------------|
| VEHSS Indicator Topic | VEHSS Indicator Category | ACS Variable Name | Years Available | Question | Response Options |
| Visual Function | Difficulty Seeing with Glasses | DEYE | 2008-2019 | Is this person blind or does he/she have serious difficulty seeing even when wearing glasses? | 1 Yes |
| | | | | | 2 No |

Stratification Variables:

We stratified the vision-related prevalence rates by age, sex, race/ethnicity, and state. Participant ages (variable: AGEP) ranged from zero to 96 and were recoded into the following categories: 0-17 years, 18-39 years, 40-64 years, 65-84 years, and 85 years and older. Participant sex (variable: SEX) was coded as Male or Female. The Hispanic and race variables (variables: HISPFLG and RAC1P) were combined to create a single race/ethnicity variable, with

³ Parker JD, Talih M, Malec DJ, et al. National Center for Health Statistics Data Presentation Standards for Proportions. National Center for Health Statistics. Vital Health Stat 2(175). 2017.

anyone identifying as Hispanic being placed in a single category. The race categories were coded as follows: Non-Hispanic Asian, Non-Hispanic Black, Hispanic, Non-Hispanic North American Native, Non-Hispanic Other, and Non-Hispanic White. The “Other” category consists of those who identified as Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander Alone, Some Other Race Alone, or Two or More Races. Data were available for all 50 States and DC (variable: ST).

Starting in 2019, we added nine stratification variables to the national and state level PUMS analysis, including five additional disability variables and four social determinants of health (SDOH) variables. Poverty (variable: POVPIP) was coded less than or equal to poverty level and above poverty level. Educational attainment (variable: SCHL) was coded as less than High School; High School degree, GED, or some college; Associates or Bachelor’s degree; and Advanced degree. Employment status (variable: ESR) was coded as employed or unemployed. Self-care disability (variable: DDRS) was coded as Yes or No and was not applicable for people less than 5 years old. Hearing disability (variable: DEAR) was coded as Yes or No. Go-outside-home disability/independent living disability (variable: DOUT) was coded as Yes or No and not applicable for people less than 15 years old. Ambulatory disability (variable: DPHY) was coded as Yes or No and was not applicable for people less than 5 years old. Mental/Cognitive disability (variable: DREM) was coded as Yes or No. Due to the need to limit the number of stratification variables, state-level prevalence rates were stratified by a combination of age*sex, age*race/ethnicity, or sex*race/ethnicity and one of the new stratification variables. The ACS does not contain health risk factor information, such as for smoking, diabetes, or hypertension.

Stratification variables for the PUMS analysis are displayed in **Table 2**.

The county-level results are reproduced as reported by the Census Bureau based on 5-year ACS estimates by age and sex. No other stratification variables are included in the county-level results. County level stratification variables are listed in **Table 3**.

Table 2. Stratification Variables for National and State Estimates

| <i>Stratification factor</i> | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <i>Years</i> | 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019 |
| <i>Age</i> | 0-17 years |
| | 18-39 years |
| | 40-64 years |
| | 65-84 years |
| | 85 years and older |
| | |
| <i>Race/Ethnicity</i> | Non-Hispanic Asian |
| | Non-Hispanic Black |
| | Hispanic |
| | Non-Hispanic North American Native |
| | Non-Hispanic Other |
| | Non-Hispanic White |
| <i>Sex</i> | Male |
| | Female |
| <i>Poverty</i> | Yes |
| | No |
| <i>Education</i> | Less than high school |
| | HS degree, GED, some college |
| | Associates/bachelors degree |
| | Advanced degree |
| <i>Insurance</i> | Medicare |
| | Medicaid |
| | Other government |
| | Private insurance |
| | Uninsured |
| <i>Unemployed</i> | Yes |
| | No |
| <i>Self-care difficulty</i> | Yes |
| | No |
| <i>Hearing difficulty</i> | Yes |
| | No |
| <i>Independent living difficulty</i> | Yes |
| | No |
| <i>Ambulatory difficulty</i> | Yes |
| | No |
| <i>Cognitive difficulty</i> | Yes |
| | No |
| <i>Geographies</i> | National |
| | State, DC |

Table 3. Stratification Variables for County Estimates

| <i>Stratification factor</i> | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------|---|
| | <i>Years</i> | 2011-15, 2012-16, 2013-17, 2014-18, 2015-2019 |
| | <i>Age</i> | 0-4 years |
| | | 18-34 years |
| | | 35-64 years |
| | | 65-74 years |
| | | 75 years and older |
| | <i>Sex</i> | Male |
| | | Female |
| | <i>Geographies</i> | Counties |

Stratification Combinations

All stratification combinations for the PUMS analysis are displayed in **Table 4**. We stratified data using all possible combinations of age, race/ethnicity, and sex at both the national and state levels. For the county-level results, estimates are stratified by age group for 2015-2018 estimates, and sex*age group for 2019 estimates.

Table 4. Stratification Factor Combinations Included in PUMS Analysis

| | National | State |
|----------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 0-level | All participants | All participants |
| 1-level | Age | Age |
| | Race/ethnicity | Race/ethnicity |
| | Sex | Sex |
| 2-level | Age*Race/ethnicity | Age*Race/ethnicity |
| | Age*Sex | Age*Sex |
| | Race/ethnicity *Sex | Race/ethnicity *Sex |
| 3-level | Age*Race/ethnicity *Sex | Age*Race/ethnicity *Sex |

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| | Age*Race/ethnicity*poverty | Age*Race/ethnicity*poverty |
| | Race/ethnicity*Sex*poverty | Race/ethnicity*Sex*poverty |
| | Age*Sex*poverty | Age*Sex*poverty |
| | Age*Race/ethnicity*employment | Age*Race/ethnicity*employment |
| | Race/ethnicity*Sex*employment | Race/ethnicity*Sex*employment |
| | Age*Sex*employment | Age*Sex*employment |
| | Age*Race/ethnicity*self-care | Age*Race/ethnicity*self-care |
| | Race/ethnicity*Sex*self-care | Race/ethnicity*Sex*self-care |
| | Age*Sex*self-care | Age*Sex*self-care |
| | Age*Race/ethnicity*hearing difficulty | Age*Race/ethnicity*hearing difficulty |
| | Race/ethnicity*Sex*hearing difficulty | Race/ethnicity*Sex*hearing difficulty |
| | Age*Sex*hearing difficulty | Age*Sex*hearing difficulty |
| | Age*Race/ethnicity*independent living | Age*Race/ethnicity*independent living |
| | Race/ethnicity*Sex*independent living | Race/ethnicity*Sex*independent living |
| | Age*Sex*independent living | Age*Sex*independent living |
| | Age*Race/ethnicity*ambulatory difficulty | Age*Race/ethnicity*ambulatory difficulty |
| | Race/ethnicity*Sex* ambulatory difficulty | Race/ethnicity*Sex* ambulatory difficulty |
| | Age*Sex*ambulatory difficulty | Age*Sex*ambulatory difficulty |
| | Age*Race/ethnicity*cognitive difficulty | Age*Race/ethnicity*cognitive difficulty |
| | Race/ethnicity*Sex*cognitive difficulty | Race/ethnicity*Sex*cognitive difficulty |
| | Age*Sex*cognitive difficulty | Age*Sex*cognitive difficulty |
| | Age*Race/ethnicity*insurance type | Age*Race/ethnicity*insurance type |
| | Race/ethnicity*Sex*insurance type | Race/ethnicity*Sex*insurance type |
| | Age*Sex*insurance type | Age*Sex*insurance type |
| | Age*Race/ethnicity*education | Age*Race/ethnicity*education |
| | Race/ethnicity*Sex*education | Race/ethnicity*Sex*education |
| | Age*Sex*education | Age*Sex*education |

County-level Estimates

ACS PUMS does not include county-level geographies. We therefore include county-level estimates of vision difficulty from 5-year ACS samples as reported directly by the Census Bureau in subject table “B18103 - SEX BY AGE BY VISION DIFFICULTY”, available at data.census.gov. This table uses merged samples of 5 years of the full ACS sample to report person count, denominators and margin of error estimates of vision difficulty by age group and sex for all US counties. Because these data are from 5-year samples they are not subject to any suppression.

Validation

Internal Validation

Sample Size

ACS is the largest survey included in the VEHSS system. The ACS PUMS for 2014 - 2019 provide a sample size totaling more than three million for each of the data years.

Due to its data collection design that includes sequential internet, mail, telephone, and in-person interviews, ACS achieves exceptionally high response rates (Table 5).

Table 5. ACS Response Rates

| Response Rates | Household Units | Group Quarters |
|----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| 2014 | 96.7% | 95.9% |
| 2015 | 95.8% | 95.3% |
| 2016 | 94.7% | 95.7% |
| 2017 | 93.7% | 94.7% |
| 2018 | 92.0% | 91.4% |
| 2019 | 86.0% | 90.9% |
| 2020 | 71.2% | 47.2% |

Validating Responses

There were no other survey questions that could be used to check the internal consistency responses.

External Validation

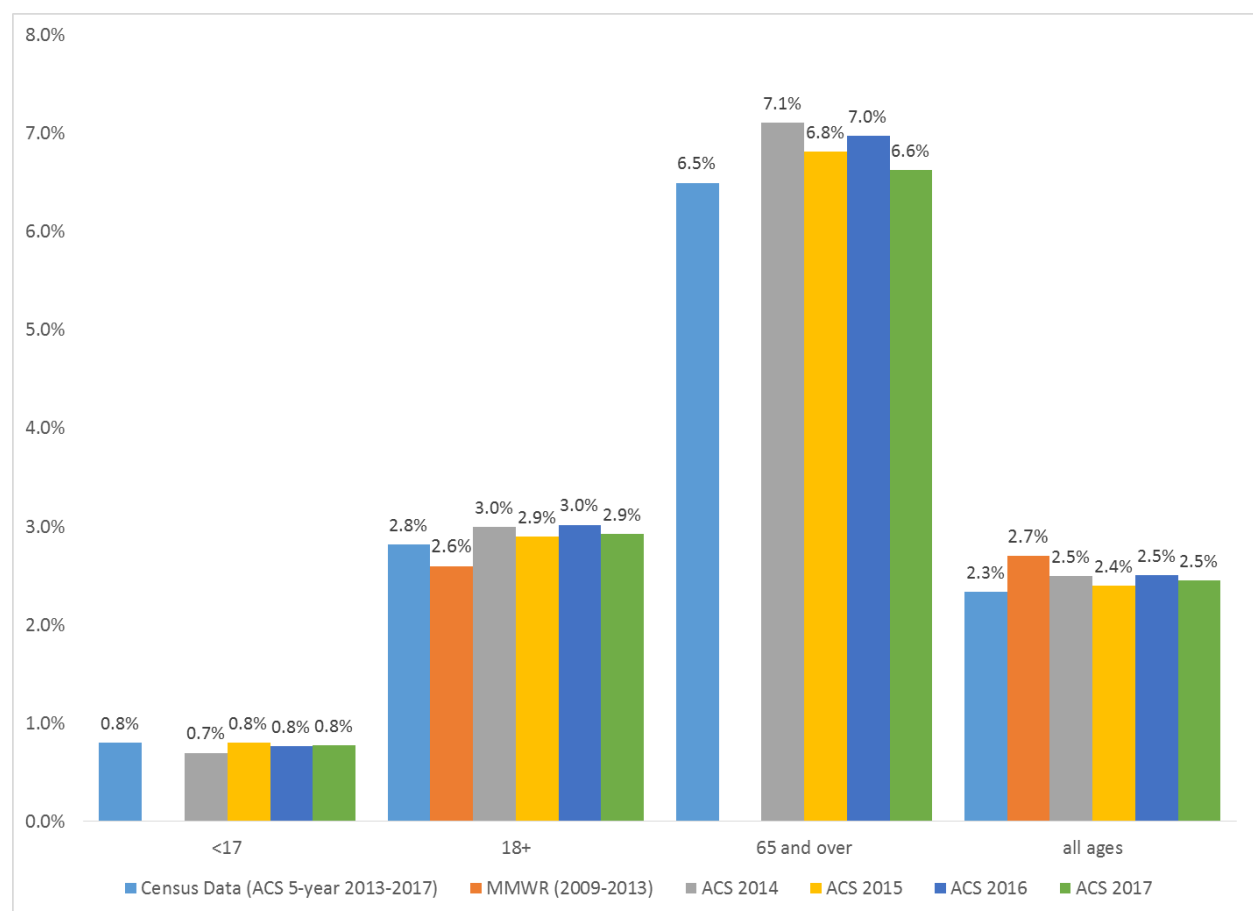
We compared our findings to other analyses of the ACS vision-related question and found comparable results, as shown in **Figure 1**. For participants ages 0 to 17, American Fact Finder (AFF) data (now census.data.gov as of July 1, 2019), based on ACS 5-year estimates between 2013 and 2017, show similar results to our yearly findings. Our estimates for the 18+, 65+, and all age groups were slightly higher than AFF results, and our estimates for the <17 age group were the same or slightly lower. A Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR), based on ACS 5-year estimates between 2009 and 2013, presented prevalence results for participants 18 years and older that are slightly lower than our findings.⁴ These differences across age groups may be attributable primarily to the different years of data on which the analyses are based. However, it is also important to note that estimates may differ because PUMS is comprised of a sub-sample of the full ACS sample (on which the AFF and MMWR analyses were based) and therefore is subject to additional sampling error.^{5,6} As previously stated, we opted to base our analyses on PUMS files due to the flexibility it allows with regards to stratification (e.g., stratifying by various combinations of age, race, sex, and geography) when compared to AFF.

⁴ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2015). Geographic Disparity of Severe Vision Loss — United States, 2009–2013. MMWR; 64(19), 513–517.

⁵ United States Census Bureau. (2017). PUMS FAQs. Retrieved from: https://ask.census.gov/prweb/PRServletCustom/YACFBFye-rFlz_FoGtyvDRUGglUzu5Mn*!STANDARD?pyActivity=pyMobileSnapStart&ArticleID=KCP-2951

⁶ US Census Bureau. (2017). PUMS Accuracy of the Data (2015). Retrieved from: https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/tech_docs/pums/accuracy/2015AccuracyPUMS.pdf

Figure 1. ACS Prevalence of Difficulty Seeing by Age Group, AFF and MMWR



Additionally, we compared our findings to results from other surveys. Both the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) survey and the National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) include questions that are worded similarly to the vision question in ACS:

ACS: “Is this person blind or does he/she have serious difficulty seeing even when wearing glasses?”

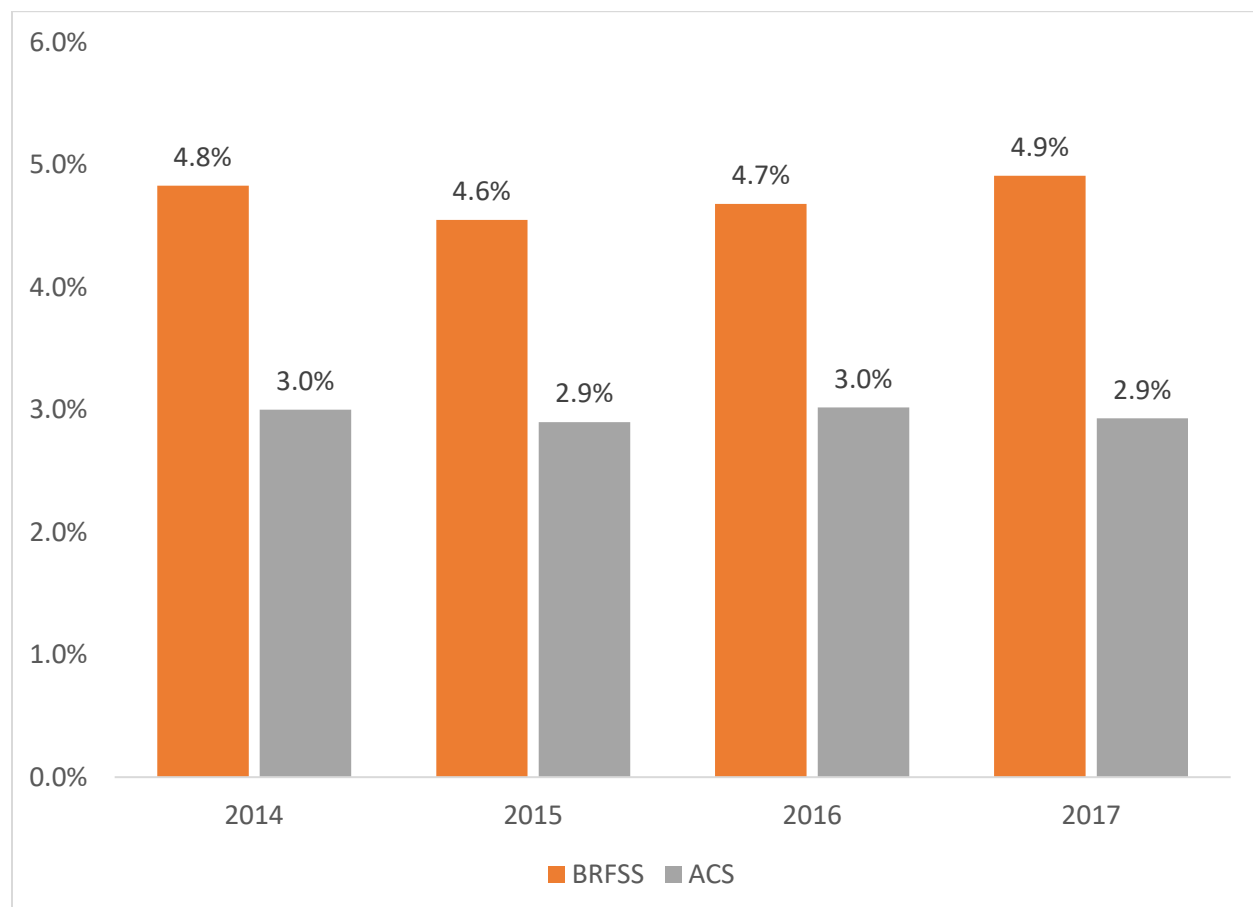
BRFSS: “Are you blind or do you have serious difficulty seeing, even when wearing glasses?”

NHIS Adults: “Do you have any trouble seeing, even when wearing glasses or contact lenses?”

NHIS Children: “Does [name] have any trouble seeing, even when wearing glasses or contact lenses?”

CDC VHI analysis of 2014, 2015, 2016, and 2017⁷ BRFSS data, shows prevalence rates of ‘difficulty seeing’ that were notably higher than that observed in the same years of ACS. Of note, BRFSS only fields the ‘difficulty seeing’ for adults ages 18 and older. **Figure 2** compares the prevalence estimates for this question in BRFSS and ACS, restricted to respondents ages 18 and older.

Figure 2: Prevalence of Difficulty Seeing, Ages 18 Years and Older, BRFSS vs. ACS

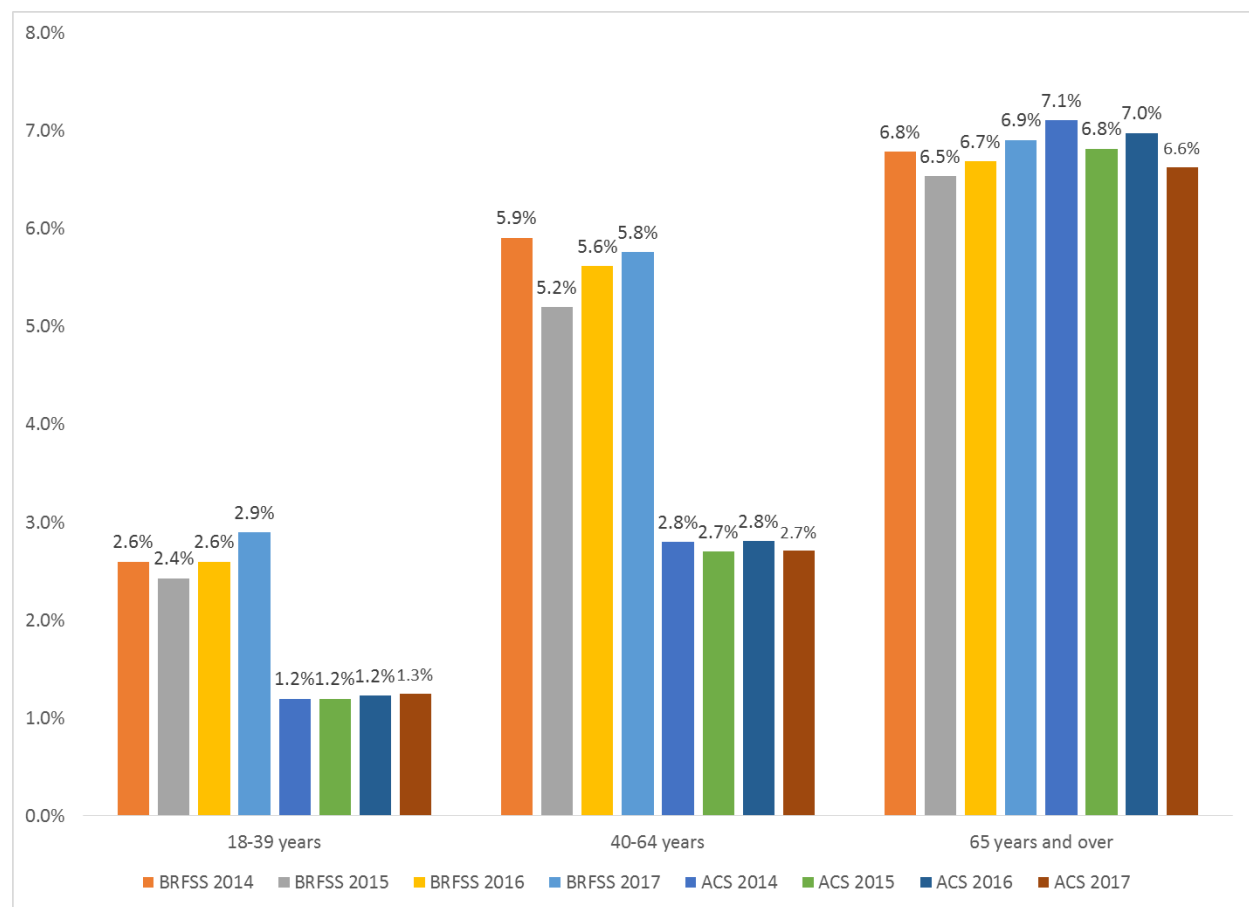


BRFSS data analyzed by CDC VHI found that prevalence rates in BRFSS continue to be higher than were observed in ACS for every age group except for the 65 and older age group where ACS is higher in 2014, 2015, and 2016 but BRFSS reports higher prevalence rates in 2017. **(Figure 3).**⁸

⁷ 2014 and 2015 were analyzed for the CDC VHI data portal and 2016 and 2017 were analyzed for VEHSS

⁸ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. BRFSS Prevalence & Trends Data. Retrieved from: <https://www.cdc.gov/brfss/brfssprevalence/index.html>

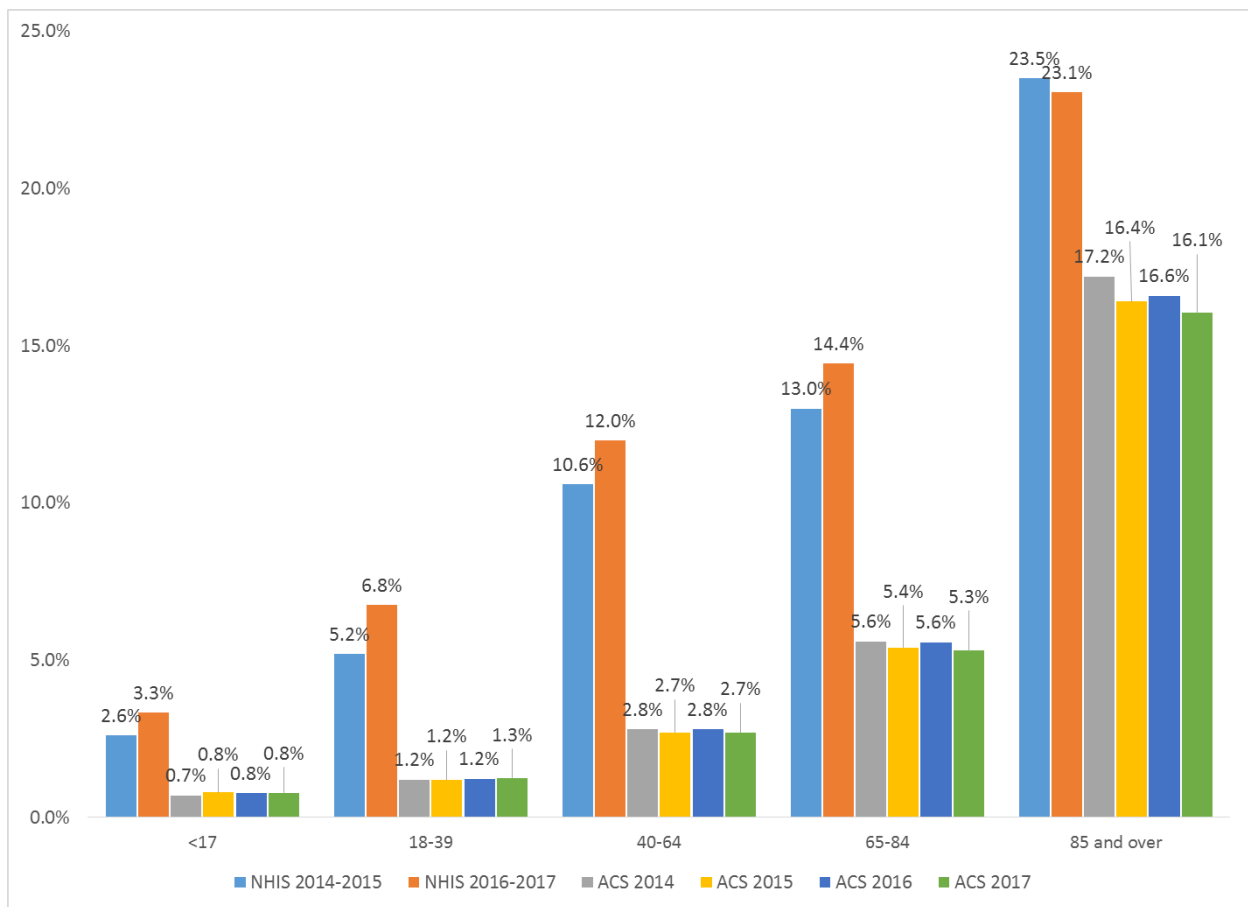
Figure 3: Prevalence of Difficulty Seeing by Age Group, BRFSS vs. ACS



NORC also analyzed the prevalence rate for the ‘difficulty seeing’ question in merged 2014-2015 and 2016-2017 NHIS data. Like BRFSS, the NHIS estimates are much higher than observed in ACS for all age groups (**Figure 4**).⁹ The NHIS question, however, differs from the ACS question, which may explain the notable discrepancy.

⁹ These analyses were conducted by NORC and have not been published.

Figure 4: Prevalence of Difficulty Seeing by Age Group, NHIS vs. ACS



Limitations

This analysis is limited in a number of ways. ACS is a household response survey that contains only one self-reported measure of visual function. The prevalence of this measure cannot be directly translated into the prevalence of defined visual impairment or blindness. ACS also does not include health risk factors such as smoking, hypertension, or diabetes. In addition, external validation shows that ACS yields much lower estimates than BRFSS or NHIS, even while using the same or similarly worded questions. The NHIS question does not include the word “blind”, which could potentially contribute to the differences in the response values. Additionally, ACS is not intended to be a health survey. It is possible that persons responding to a health survey may be somehow primed to be more likely to answer in the affirmative to health questions. Finally, ACS has a unique sampling frame; it is a household response survey with multiple modes of deployment. Any of these differences may have affected the difference in outcomes between the surveys.

In addition, the accuracy and validity of self-reported difficulty seeing is unknown and is not directly analogous with objectively measured visual function, such as best corrected visual acuity. However, surveys do provide important information on variation and drivers of disparities in health outcomes that are not available in other data sources.

Summary Outcome measures

Table 6. National Estimates of Prevalence of Difficulty Seeing (2014)

| Stratification factor | Prevalence Rate | Sample Size |
|-----------------------|------------------|-------------|
| All respondents | 2.5 (2.4-2.5) | 3,132,610 |
| | | |
| Age | | |
| 0-17 years | 0.7 (0.7-0.8) | 662,930 |
| 18-39 years | 1.2 (1.1-1.2) | 825,726 |
| 40-64 years | 2.8 (2.7-2.8) | 1,077,951 |
| 65-84 years | 5.6 (5.5-5.7) | 491,432 |
| 85 years and older | 17.2 (16.8-17.6) | 74,571 |
| | | |
| Race/Ethnicity | | |
| Asian | 1.4 (1.3-1.5) | 153,967 |
| Non-Hispanic Black | 3.1 (3.0-3.2) | 323,722 |
| Hispanic | 2.2 (2.2-2.3) | 441,267 |
| North American Native | 4.2 (3.9-4.5) | 30,569 |
| Other | 2.2 (2.0-2.3) | 76,519 |
| Non-Hispanic White | 2.5 (2.4-2.5) | 2,106,566 |
| | | |
| Sex | | |
| Male | 2.3 (2.2-2.3) | 1,529,229 |
| Female | 2.6 (2.6-2.7) | 1,603,381 |

Table 7. State Estimates of Difficulty Seeing (2014)

| State | Prevalence Rate | Sample Size | State | Prevalence Rate | Sample Size |
|----------------------|-----------------|-------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| United States | 2.5 (2.4-2.5) | 3,132,610 | Montana | 2.2 (1.8-2.6) | 9,878 |
| Alabama | 3.0 (2.8-3.2) | 47,793 | Nebraska | 1.9 (1.7-2.2) | 19,181 |
| Alaska | 1.9 (1.5-2.5) | 6,787 | Nevada | 3.3 (3.0-3.5) | 26,812 |
| Arizona | 2.6 (2.4-2.7) | 66,177 | New Hampshire | 1.7 (1.4-2.0) | 13,426 |
| Arkansas | 3.4 (3.1-3.6) | 29,369 | New Jersey | 2.1 (2.0-2.2) | 88,152 |
| California | 2.1 (2.0-2.1) | 372,553 | New Mexico | 3.6 (3.2-3.9) | 19,283 |
| Colorado | 2.0 (1.9-2.2) | 52,929 | New York | 2.3 (2.2-2.3) | 196,276 |
| Connecticut | 1.8 (1.6-2.0) | 35,985 | North Carolina | 2.7 (2.6-2.9) | 97,830 |
| Delaware | 2.1 (1.7-2.6) | 9,014 | North Dakota | 2.2 (1.7-2.7) | 7,625 |
| Florida | 2.5 (2.4-2.6) | 192,673 | Ohio | 2.5 (2.3-2.6) | 117,468 |
| Georgia | 2.7 (2.6-2.9) | 97,519 | Oklahoma | 3.7 (3.4-3.9) | 37,293 |
| Hawaii | 1.8 (1.5-2.2) | 14,322 | Oregon | 2.7 (2.5-3.0) | 39,336 |
| Idaho | 2.3 (2.0-2.6) | 15,602 | Pennsylvania | 2.4 (2.3-2.5) | 127,859 |
| Illinois | 2.2 (2.0-2.3) | 126,650 | Rhode Island | 2.5 (2.1-3.0) | 10,803 |
| Indiana | 2.7 (2.6-2.9) | 66,555 | South Carolina | 3.1 (2.9-3.3) | 47,361 |
| Iowa | 1.8 (1.6-1.9) | 31,819 | South Dakota | 2.7 (2.2-3.2) | 8,626 |
| Kansas | 2.3 (2.1-2.6) | 28,802 | Tennessee | 3.3 (3.1-3.4) | 65,554 |
| Kentucky | 3.5 (3.2-3.7) | 44,868 | Texas | 2.6 (2.5-2.7) | 254,883 |
| Louisiana | 3.1 (2.9-3.3) | 43,908 | Utah | 1.8 (1.6-1.9) | 28,666 |
| Maine | 2.7 (2.3-3.2) | 12,962 | Vermont | 2.6 (2.1-3.3) | 6,370 |
| Maryland | 2.1 (1.9-2.2) | 58,876 | Virginia | 2.1 (1.9-2.2) | 83,393 |
| Massachusetts | 2.1 (2.0-2.2) | 68,544 | Washington | 2.3 (2.2-2.5) | 70,600 |
| Michigan | 2.4 (2.3-2.6) | 98,180 | West Virginia | 4.6 (4.2-4.9) | 18,216 |
| Minnesota | 1.7 (1.5-1.9) | 54,297 | Wisconsin | 1.9 (1.8-2.1) | 58,549 |
| Mississippi | 3.6 (3.3-3.8) | 29,255 | Wyoming | 2.9 (2.4-3.4) | 5,820 |
| Missouri | 2.8 (2.7-3.0) | 61,394 | District of Columbia | 2.9 (2.5-3.3) | 6,517 |

Table 8. National Estimates of Prevalence of Difficulty Seeing (2015)

| Stratification factor | Prevalence Rate | Sample Size |
|------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| All respondents | 2.4 (2.4-2.4) | 3,147,005 |
| | | |
| Age | | |
| 0-17 years | 0.8 (0.7-0.8) | 656,389 |
| 18-39 years | 1.2 (1.1-1.2) | 831,248 |
| 40-64 years | 2.7 (2.7-2.7) | 1,075,985 |
| 65-84 years | 5.4 (5.3-5.5) | 507,287 |
| 85 years and older | 16.4(16.1-16.8) | 76,096 |
| | | |
| Race/Ethnicity | | |
| Asian | 1.4 (1.3-1.4) | 157,718 |
| Non-Hispanic Black | 3.1 (3.0-3.1) | 318,215 |
| Hispanic | 2.2 (2.1-2.2) | 449,024 |
| North American Native | 4.3 (4.0-4.6) | 29,355 |
| Other | 2.1 (2.0-2.2) | 78,534 |
| Non-Hispanic White | 2.4 (2.4-2.5) | 2,114,159 |
| | | |
| Sex | | |
| Male | 2.3 (2.2-2.3) | 1,536,836 |
| Female | 2.6 (2.5-2.6) | 1,610,169 |

Table 9. State Estimates of Difficulty Seeing (2015)

| State | Prevalence Rate | Sample Size | State | Prevalence Rate | Sample Size |
|----------------------|-----------------|-------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| United States | 2.4 (2.4-2.4) | 3,147,005 | Montana | 2.1 (1.7-2.5) | 9,841 |
| Alabama | 3.2 (3.0-3.4) | 47,476 | Nebraska | 2.2 (2.0-2.5) | 19,089 |
| Alaska | 2.0 (1.6-2.4) | 6,619 | Nevada | 3.9 (3.5-4.2) | 26,988 |
| Arizona | 2.5 (2.3-2.6) | 67,014 | New Hampshire | 2.1 (1.7-2.5) | 13,378 |
| Arkansas | 3.7 (3.4-4.0) | 29,605 | New Jersey | 1.9 (1.8-2.1) | 87,815 |
| California | 2.0 (2.0-2.1) | 374,943 | New Mexico | 3.2 (2.9-3.5) | 19,072 |
| Colorado | 2.0 (1.8-2.1) | 53,570 | New York | 2.1 (2.0-2.2) | 195,742 |
| Connecticut | 1.8 (1.7-2.0) | 35,787 | North Carolina | 2.8 (2.7-2.9) | 98,184 |
| Delaware | 2.0 (1.7-2.4) | 9,017 | North Dakota | 1.9 (1.5-2.3) | 7,869 |
| Florida | 2.6 (2.5-2.7) | 194,548 | Ohio | 2.5 (2.4-2.6) | 118,123 |
| Georgia | 2.7 (2.6-2.9) | 97,854 | Oklahoma | 3.3 (3.1-3.6) | 37,251 |
| Hawaii | 1.6 (1.4-1.9) | 14,124 | Oregon | 2.5 (2.3-2.7) | 39,992 |
| Idaho | 2.4 (2.1-2.7) | 15,725 | Pennsylvania | 2.5 (2.4-2.6) | 128,145 |
| Illinois | 2.0 (1.9-2.1) | 126,642 | Rhode Island | 2.0 (1.7-2.4) | 10,563 |
| Indiana | 2.6 (2.5-2.7) | 66,045 | South Carolina | 3.1 (2.9-3.4) | 48,023 |
| Iowa | 2.0 (1.8-2.3) | 31,900 | South Dakota | 2.1 (1.7-2.5) | 8,742 |
| Kansas | 2.2 (2.0-2.4) | 28,774 | Tennessee | 3.2 (3.1-3.4) | 65,549 |
| Kentucky | 3.3 (3.1-3.6) | 44,749 | Texas | 2.6 (2.5-2.6) | 259,224 |
| Louisiana | 3.0 (2.8-3.2) | 43,892 | Utah | 1.8 (1.6-2.0) | 29,290 |
| Maine | 2.2 (1.8-2.7) | 13,059 | Vermont | 2.5 (2.1-3.1) | 6,326 |
| Maryland | 1.9 (1.8-2.0) | 59,332 | Virginia | 2.1 (2.0-2.2) | 83,472 |
| Massachusetts | 2.0 (1.9-2.1) | 68,785 | Washington | 2.3 (2.2-2.5) | 71,804 |
| Michigan | 2.3 (2.2-2.5) | 98,008 | West Virginia | 4.1 (3.7-4.4) | 18,051 |
| Minnesota | 1.7 (1.5-1.9) | 54,811 | Wisconsin | 1.8 (1.6-1.9) | 58,578 |
| Mississippi | 3.3 (3.0-3.5) | 29,600 | Wyoming | 2.5 (2.0-3.1) | 5,819 |
| Missouri | 2.6 (2.4-2.8) | 61,586 | District of Columbia | 2.6 (2.2-3.1) | 6,610 |

Table 10. National Estimates of Prevalence of Difficulty Seeing (2016)

| Stratification factor | Prevalence Rate | Sample Size |
|------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| All respondents | 2.5 (2.5-2.5) | 3,156,487 |
| | | |
| Age | | |
| 0-17 years | 0.8 (0.7- 0.8) | 652,737 |
| 18-39 years | 1.2 (1.2- 1.3) | 834,190 |
| 40-64 years | 2.8 (2.2- 2.9) | 1,068,742 |
| 65-84 years | 5.6 (5.5- 5.7) | 523,357 |
| 85 years and older | 16.6 (16.2- 17.0) | 77,461 |
| | | |
| Race/Ethnicity | | |
| Asian | 1.4 (1.4- 1.5) | 162,057 |
| Non-Hispanic Black | 3.2 (3.1- 3.3) | 313,748 |
| Hispanic | 2.3 (2.2- 2.3) | 455,012 |
| North American Native | 4.1 (3.8- 4.4) | 30,300 |
| Other | 2.2 (2.0- 2.3) | 81,691 |
| Non-Hispanic White | 2.5 (2.5- 2.6) | 2,113,679 |
| | | |
| Sex | | |
| Male | 2.4 (2.3- 2.4) | 1,544,141 |
| Female | 2.7 (2.6- 2.7) | 1,612,346 |

Table 11. State Estimates of Difficulty Seeing (2016)

| State | Prevalence Rate | Sample Size | State | Prevalence Rate | Sample Size |
|----------------------|-----------------|-------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| United States | 2.5 (2.5 - 2.5) | 3,156,487 | Montana | 2.2 (1.8 - 2.6) | 10,161 |
| Alabama | 3.3 (3.0 - 3.5) | 47,659 | Nebraska | 2.3 (2.0 - 2.6) | 19,017 |
| Alaska | 2.5 (2.0 - 3.0) | 6,815 | Nevada | 3.6 (3.2 - 4.0) | 27,285 |
| Arizona | 2.7 (2.5 - 2.8) | 68,398 | New Hampshire | 2.3 (2.0 - 2.7) | 13,428 |
| Arkansas | 3.5 (3.2 - 3.7) | 29,599 | New Jersey | 2.0 (1.8 - 2.1) | 87,279 |
| California | 2.1 (2.0 - 2.2) | 376,035 | New Mexico | 3.3 (2.9 - 3.6) | 19,060 |
| Colorado | 2 (1.9 - 2.2) | 54,571 | New York | 2.2 (2.1 - 2.3) | 196,104 |
| Connecticut | 1.8 (1.6 - 2.0) | 35,657 | North Carolina | 3.0 (2.9 - 3.1) | 99,596 |
| Delaware | 2.1 (1.7 - 2.6) | 8,873 | North Dakota | 2.2 (1.8 - 2.6) | 7,864 |
| Florida | 2.8 (2.7 - 2.9) | 196,828 | Ohio | 2.6 (2.4 - 2.7) | 117,426 |
| Georgia | 2.8 (2.6 - 2.9) | 98,064 | Oklahoma | 3.7 (3.4 - 3.9) | 37,022 |
| Hawaii | 1.8 (1.5 - 2.1) | 14,247 | Oregon | 2.6 (2.4 - 2.9) | 40,269 |
| Idaho | 2.7 (2.4 - 3.0) | 15,955 | Pennsylvania | 2.5 (2.4 - 2.6) | 127,270 |
| Illinois | 2.2 (2.1 - 2.3) | 126,334 | Rhode Island | 2.2 (1.8 - 2.6) | 10,338 |
| Indiana | 2.6 (2.4 - 2.8) | 66,262 | South Carolina | 3.2 (3.0 - 3.4) | 48,405 |
| Iowa | 2.1 (1.9 - 2.3) | 32,106 | South Dakota | 2.2 (1.8 - 2.7) | 8,725 |
| Kansas | 2.5 (2.3 - 2.7) | 28,590 | Tennessee | 3.3 (3.1 - 3.4) | 65,757 |
| Kentucky | 3.6 (3.4 - 3.9) | 44,739 | Texas | 2.7 (2.6 - 2.8) | 261,896 |
| Louisiana | 3.5 (3.3 - 3.7) | 43,598 | Utah | 1.9 (1.7 - 2.1) | 29,828 |
| Maine | 2.5 (2.1 - 2.8) | 12,460 | Vermont | 2.3 (1.8 - 2.9) | 6,411 |
| Maryland | 2.0 (1.8 - 2.1) | 59,408 | Virginia | 2.3 (2.1 - 2.4) | 83,546 |
| Massachusetts | 2.1 (1.9 - 2.2) | 69,126 | Washington | 2.3 (2.2 - 2.4) | 72,383 |
| Michigan | 2.4 (2.2 - 2.5) | 98,145 | West Virginia | 4.1 (3.7 - 4.5) | 17,909 |
| Minnesota | 1.7 (1.6 - 1.8) | 54,115 | Wisconsin | 2.0 (1.8 - 2.1) | 58,569 |
| Mississippi | 3.4 (3.2 - 3.7) | 28,986 | Wyoming | 2.6 (2.0 - 3.3) | 5,800 |
| Missouri | 2.7 (2.5 - 2.9) | 61,923 | District of Columbia | 2.5 (2.1 - 3) | 6,646 |

Table 12. National Estimates of Prevalence of Difficulty Seeing (2017)

| Stratification factor | Prevalence Rate | Sample Size |
|------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| All respondents | 2.5 (2.4 - 2.5) | 3,190,040 |
| | | |
| Age | | |
| 0-17 years | 0.8 (0.8 - 0.8) | 659,314 |
| 18-39 years | 1.3 (1.2 - 1.3) | 851,022 |
| 40-64 years | 2.7 (2.7 - 2.8) | 1,069,376 |
| 65-84 years | 5.3 (5.2 - 5.4) | 534,499 |
| 85 years and older | 16.1 (15.7 - 16.4) | 75,829 |
| | | |
| Race/Ethnicity | | |
| Asian | 1.4 (1.3 - 1.5) | 170,522 |
| Non-Hispanic Black | 3.2 (3.1 - 3.3) | 306,940 |
| Hispanic | 2.2 (2.1 - 2.3) | 463,589 |
| North American Native | 4.3 (4.0 - 4.7) | 30,643 |
| Other | 2.2 (2.1 - 2.4) | 85,496 |
| Non-Hispanic White | 2.5 (2.4 - 2.5) | 2,132,850 |
| | | |
| Sex | | |
| Male | 2.6 (2.6 - 2.6) | 1,628,854 |
| Female | 2.3 (2.3 - 2.3) | 1,561,186 |

Table 13. State Estimates of Difficulty Seeing (2017)

| State | Prevalence Rate | Sample Size | State | Prevalence Rate | Sample Size |
|----------------------|-----------------|-------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| United States | 2.5 (2.4 - 2.5) | 3,190,040 | Montana | 2.4 (2.0 - 2.8) | 10,221 |
| Alabama | 3.2 (3.0 - 3.5) | 47,645 | Nebraska | 2.2 (1.9 - 2.4) | 19,545 |
| Alaska | 2.5 (1.9 - 3.2) | 6,746 | Nevada | 3.0 (2.7 - 3.2) | 28,413 |
| Arizona | 2.5 (2.4 - 2.7) | 68,863 | New Hampshire | 2.1 (1.8 - 2.4) | 13,708 |
| Arkansas | 3.7 (3.4 - 4.0) | 30,021 | New Jersey | 2.0 (1.9 - 2.1) | 88,114 |
| California | 2.1 (2.0 - 2.1) | 377,575 | New Mexico | 3.5 (3.1 - 3.8) | 19,021 |
| Colorado | 2.0 (1.8 - 2.1) | 55,600 | New York | 2.2 (2.1 - 2.2) | 196,585 |
| Connecticut | 1.9 (1.7 - 2.0) | 35,978 | North Carolina | 2.6 (2.5 - 2.8) | 101,233 |
| Delaware | 2.1 (1.7 - 2.5) | 8,943 | North Dakota | 2.2 (1.8 - 2.6) | 7,892 |
| Florida | 2.7 (2.6 - 2.8) | 199,644 | Ohio | 2.5 (2.3 - 2.6) | 118,842 |
| Georgia | 2.5 (2.4 - 2.7) | 99,799 | Oklahoma | 3.7 (3.5 - 4.0) | 37,105 |
| Hawaii | 2.0 (1.7 - 2.4) | 14,433 | Oregon | 2.3 (2.2 - 2.5) | 41,219 |
| Idaho | 2.9 (2.5 - 3.3) | 16,536 | Pennsylvania | 2.5 (2.4 - 2.6) | 127,433 |
| Illinois | 2.1 (2.0 - 2.2) | 126,482 | Rhode Island | 2.2 (1.9 - 2.6) | 10,516 |
| Indiana | 2.6 (2.4 - 2.7) | 67,004 | South Carolina | 3.0 (2.8 - 3.2) | 49,438 |
| Iowa | 1.7 (1.5 - 1.9) | 32,456 | South Dakota | 2.3 (1.9 - 2.8) | 8,881 |
| Kansas | 2.6 (2.4 - 2.8) | 29,374 | Tennessee | 3.2 (3.0 - 3.4) | 66,575 |
| Kentucky | 3.8 (3.5 - 4.1) | 45,209 | Texas | 2.6 (2.5 - 2.6) | 265,842 |
| Louisiana | 3.4 (3.1 - 3.6) | 44,024 | Utah | 1.7 (1.5 - 1.8) | 30,904 |
| Maine | 2.0 (1.7 - 2.4) | 12,583 | Vermont | 2.1 (1.5 - 2.7) | 6,340 |
| Maryland | 1.9 (1.8 - 2.1) | 59,463 | Virginia | 2.4 (2.3 - 2.5) | 84,422 |
| Massachusetts | 2.0 (1.8 - 2.1) | 69,635 | Washington | 2.2 (2.1 - 2.3) | 74,695 |
| Michigan | 2.3 (2.2 - 2.4) | 99,459 | West Virginia | 4.5 (4.0 - 5.0) | 17,758 |
| Minnesota | 1.8 (1.6 - 2.0) | 55,161 | Wisconsin | 1.8 (1.6 - 1.9) | 59,059 |
| Mississippi | 3.9 (3.6 - 4.3) | 29,096 | Wyoming | 2.6 (2.1 - 3.1) | 5,912 |
| Missouri | 2.7 (2.5 - 2.8) | 62,073 | District of Columbia | 4.1 (3.3 - 4.9) | 6,565 |