

Table 79. Untreated dental caries according to age, sex, race and Hispanic origin, and poverty status: United States, 1971–74, 1982–84, and 1988–94

[Data are based on dental examinations of a sample of the civilian noninstitutionalized population]

Sex, race and Hispanic origin, and poverty status	2–5 years			6–17 years			18–64 years			65–74 years		
	1971–1974	1982–1984	1988–1994	1971–1974	1982–1984	1988–1994	1971–1974	1982–1984	1988–1994	1971–1974	1982–1984	1988–1994
Percent of persons with untreated dental caries												
Total ¹	24.4	---	18.7	55.0	---	23.1	48.4	---	28.2	29.7	---	25.4
Sex												
Male	26.1	---	19.2	54.8	---	22.6	48.4	---	31.2	30.2	---	29.9
Female	22.7	---	18.1	55.2	---	23.7	48.5	---	25.3	28.3	---	21.5
Race and Hispanic origin ²												
Not Hispanic or Latino:												
White	23.7	---	14.4	52.3	---	18.9	45.2	---	23.6	28.1	---	22.7
Black or African American	28.2	---	25.1	70.9	---	33.0	68.1	---	47.9	41.5	---	46.7
Mexican	---	23.1	34.9	---	42.8	37.2	---	45.4	39.9	---	44.3	43.8
Poverty status ³												
Poor	30.7	---	28.8	70.4	---	36.3	63.6	---	47.3	34.3	---	46.7
Near poor	29.8	---	24.3	60.2	---	29.2	56.3	---	42.7	35.6	---	39.3
Nonpoor	17.5	---	9.7	46.3	---	14.5	43.1	---	19.5	26.2	---	19.4
Race, Hispanic origin, and poverty status ^{2,3}												
Not Hispanic or Latino:												
White:												
Poor	31.9	---	25.4	68.1	---	32.5	58.4	---	42.3	33.3	---	39.0
Near poor and nonpoor	22.1	---	12.4	50.3	---	16.7	44.3	---	21.6	28.0	---	22.7
Black or African American:												
Poor	29.0	---	27.5	73.4	---	35.6	73.1	---	59.0	39.8	---	50.1
Near poor and nonpoor	26.5	---	23.0	67.4	---	31.2	65.8	---	43.4	41.1	---	43.6
Mexican:												
Poor	---	22.6	38.5	---	46.4	45.8	---	56.3	52.4	---	54.4	55.5
Near poor and nonpoor	---	22.0	30.5	---	39.3	27.6	---	41.0	31.5	---	30.8	35.6

--- Data not available.

¹Includes all other races not shown separately and unknown poverty status.

²In 1971–74, data are for white persons and black persons. Persons of Mexican origin may be of any race.

³Poverty status is based on family income and family size. Poor persons are defined as below the poverty threshold. Near poor persons have incomes of 100 percent to less than 200 percent of the poverty threshold. Nonpoor persons have incomes of 200 percent or greater than the poverty threshold. Persons with unknown poverty status are excluded (4 percent in 1971–74, 8 percent in 1982–84, and 6 percent in 1988–94). See Appendix II, Family income; Poverty level.

NOTES: Excludes edentulous persons (persons without teeth) of all ages. The majority of edentulous persons are 65 years of age and over. Estimates of edentulism among the elderly are 46 percent in 1971–74, 37 percent in 1982–84, and 33 percent in 1988–94.

SOURCES: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES) I, Hispanic Health and Nutrition Examination Survey, and NHANES III.