

*Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services  
Division of Community Health  
Section of Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion*

**Missouri County-level Study, 2003  
Study Description**

The Missouri County-level Study was one of the largest special surveys ever undertaken by the Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) with a total of 15,000 Missourians interviewed. The study was designed to produce county-level data (arranged into seven regions). In some instances when the sample size was too small to produce reliable stand-alone data, two or three counties with similar chronic disease profiles were combined.

DHSS began planning for the study in January 2001. The survey was initiated at the end of March 2002 with most of the data collected between April 2002 and January 2003. Editing, verification callbacks and additional data collection took place between February and June 2003, with data analysis and report preparation occurring from June through September 2003.

The study used standard Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) methods and techniques. The questionnaire contained standard U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) BRFSS questions and Adult Tobacco Survey (ATS) questions as well as a few state-added questions. All questions used to develop indicators presented here are standard ATS questions. Data have been weighted to be representative of the adult (> 18 years of age), non-institutionalized population of the area covered. For this report, the rates are age adjusted to the 2000 U.S. standard population. Due to the rounding error, the total responses to certain questions may slightly exceed or be less than 100 percent.

Reports are available for prevalence at the state, regional and county levels. Demographics of respondents are available for state and regional reports only and include gender, race, education level and income level.

For more information about the study design, contact the DHSS at 573-522-2800, PO Box 570, Jefferson City MO, 65102. Questions about these reports should be directed to Janet Wilson, Chief, Health Promotion Unit at 573-522-2820, or e-mail [janet.wilson@dhss.mo.gov](mailto:janet.wilson@dhss.mo.gov)

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