Missouri Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS)

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services

BRFSS is a state based health survey that annually collects information on a range of issues including health conditions, risk behaviors, and preventive practices.

BRFSS is the largest continuously conducted health survey in the world coordinated and partially funded by the CDC.

In Missouri, approximately 7,000 adults are interviewed throughout the year.

Data is collected on major health topics, including:

- Health-related behaviors such as tobacco use, alcohol use, physical activity and nutrition
- Chronic health conditions such as diabetes, cancer, arthritis, asthma, and cardiovascular disease
- Emerging/high priority health issues such as mental illness, adverse childhood experiences, and influenza-like illness
- Health care access, general health, immunizations, and health-related quality of life

BRFSS data are used to:

- Identify emerging health problems
- Establish health objectives and track progress
- Support funding for public health programs
- Develop and evaluate public health policies and programs

As the nation’s premier system of health-related data collection, BRFSS data are used by:

- Public health officials
- Colleges/Universities
- Private organizations
- Researchers

For example:

35% of Missourians reported having 3 or more of the chronic conditions captured on the 2017 BRFSS survey.

Interviews are conducted through random digit dialed telephone interviews using standardized protocols and interviewing methods developed by the CDC. Because the CDC adopted a new weighting methodology in 2011, data collected after 2010 should not be compared to 2010 or previous years.

For more information, please contact:
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