CHRONIC DISEASE PREVENTION
& HEALTH PROMOTION

STATE of ALASKA
Department of Health and Social Services

ALASKA DIVISION OF
Public Health

How many adults in Alaska have arthritis?

Table 1. Prevalence of arthritis[1] among adults, by selected characteristics.
Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, Alaska, 2011.

Characteristic	Unweighted Sample Size	Weighted State Population Estimates (1,000s)	Adults with Arthritis			
			Unweighted Sample Size	Weighted Population Prevalence		
				Adults (1,000s)	(%)[2]	95% CI[3]
Total	3543	525	943	110	21.3	(19.6-23.0)
Age Group (Years)						
18-44	1311	276	123	24	8.8	(7.1-10.9)
45-64	1566	186	512	57	30.9	(28.0-34.0)
65-74	429	38	199	19	50.5	(43.7-57.2)
75+	202	21	102	9	49.8	(40.6-59.0)
18-64	2877	462	635	81	17.7	(16.0-19.5)
65+	631	58	301	28	50.3	(44.8-55.7)
Sex						
Female	1901	253	545	57	22.8	(20.4-25.3)
Male	1642	272	398	53	19.8	(17.5-22.4)
Race/Ethnicity						
White, Non-Hispanic	2555	348	712	77	22.3	(20.4-24.3)
Black, Non-Hispanic	*	*	*	*	*	*
Hispanic	*	*	*	*	*	*
Other	795	116	187	22	19.2	(15.8-23.2)
Education (Highest Grade)						
11 or less	265	56	81	13	23.8	(18.1-30.8)
12 or equivalent	1041	152	258	28	18.9	(16.2-22.0)
13 or more	2227	316	601	69	21.9	(19.8-24.2)

Estimates represented by an asterisk (*) are based on an unweighted sample size of fewer than 30 responses or have a relative standard error of greater than 30%. These estimates therefore do not meet the standards of reliability or precision. The relative standard error is calculated by dividing the standard error of the estimate by the estimate itself, then multiplying that result by 100.

Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System data are representative of the civilian, non-institutionalized adults ages ≥ 18 years.

Responses of "Don't know/Not sure," refused, or missing were removed from the numerator and denominator in all estimates.

1. **Respondents with arthritis answered "Yes" to the question: "Has a doctor, nurse, or other health professional told you that you have some form of arthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, gout, lupus, or fibromyalgia?"**
2. **The numerator is the estimated number of adults with arthritis. The denominator is the estimated adult population.**
3. **Confidence Interval.**

NOTE: 2011 is the new BRFSS baseline. In 2011, two updates occurred in the BRFSS that impact state-level prevalence estimates. First, there was an overall change in the BRFSS methodology, including the incorporation of cell-phone only households. Second, there is now a new weighting process. Because of these changes, estimates of prevalence from 2011 forward cannot be compared to estimates from previous years. Data collected in 2011 is the new baseline for BRFSS prevalence data collected in subsequent years.