



Major findings include the following:

- In general, women were more likely to report problems with their health status and access to care across a variety of measures:
 - Table 1. General Health Status: Percentage of Persons Who Were in Fair or Poor Health, Males 7.0%, Females 9.7%
 - Table 2. General Physical Functional Status: Percentage of Adults Who Accomplished Less as a Result of Their Physical Health, Males 18.4%, Females 25.3%
 - Table 3. General Mental Functional Status: Percentage of Adults Who Accomplished Less as a Result of Their Mental Health, Males 11.4%, Females 15.8%
 - Table 10. Arthritis: Percentage of Persons Who Have Ever Been Diagnosed with Arthritis, Males 9.0%, Females 14.9%
 - Despite the finding that males were less likely to report that they had health insurance coverage, females were more likely to report that they had been unable to get needed health care, Table 5. Access to Health Care: Percentage of Persons Who Were Unable to Get Needed Medical, Dental, or Mental Health Care in the Previous 12 Months, Males 15.7%, Females 20.2%
 - Table 6. Health Care Utilization: Average Number of Medical Visits in the Previous 12 Months, Males 3.1 Visits, Females 4.3 Visits
- There was a negative association between increasing age and health status:
 - As age increased, general physical functioning declined.
 - As age increased, people were more likely to report arthritis, diabetes, and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD).
- There was a positive association between household income and health:
 - People who had lower incomes being more likely to report fair or poor health.
 - People with low incomes were also more likely to report lacking health insurance and having problems accessing health care.
 - As income increased, the incidence of chronic illnesses like diabetes, asthma, and arthritis decreased.

Trend Summary, Improvements in Health Status and Access to Care

- The percentage of the population reporting fair or poor health decreased between 1996 (8.6%) and 2003 (8.3%). However, this finding was not significant.
- The percentage of those reporting that they accomplished less because of their physical health decreased slightly between 2001 (23.1%) and 2003 (21.9%).
- People were less likely to report accomplishing less because of their mental health in 2003 (13.6%) than 2001 (14.6%) or 1996 (14.9%).
- There was a slight drop in the percentage of persons without a usual place of medical care between 2001 (8.8%) and 2003 (7.9%).
- There was a decrease in the percentage of children 17 and under who were exposed to cigarette smoke in the home between 2001 (6.0%) and 2003 (4.3%).

Executive Summary



Trend Summary, Decline in Health Status and Access to Care

- The percentage of Utahns with no health insurance increased from 2001 (8.7%) to 2003 (9.1%).
- The inability to afford insurance was the most common reason reported for lacking health insurance. The percentage of those reporting this reason increased significantly in 2003 (66.3%) compared to 2001 (52.1%).
- The percentage of those reporting the loss of a job as a reason for lacking health insurance increased dramatically and significantly from 2001 to 2003. 29.5% reported this reason in 2001 compared to 47.5% in 2003.
- There was a significant increase in the percentage of people whose usual point of access was a hospital emergency department or urgent care center from 2001 (4.1%) to 2003 (6.1%).
- The percentage of the population that had been diagnosed with diabetes since 1996 is increasing.
- The proportion of the adult population who were obese (18.4%) has increased significantly since at least 1996 (7.0%).