Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) – Purposes

State-level health status and risk-related behaviors

Provision of estimates to state public health officials

Measurement of net change over time

Measurement of health issues of specific interest to individual states

BRFSS – Key Design Features

Target population:
   U.S. adults in HH population

Random-digit-dialed samples of state telephone HH populations

Repeated cross-section surveys (annually)

Telephone interviewers using CATI

BRFSS – Questionnaire

Section 1: Health Status

1.1 Would you say that in general your health is—?

(73)

Please read:
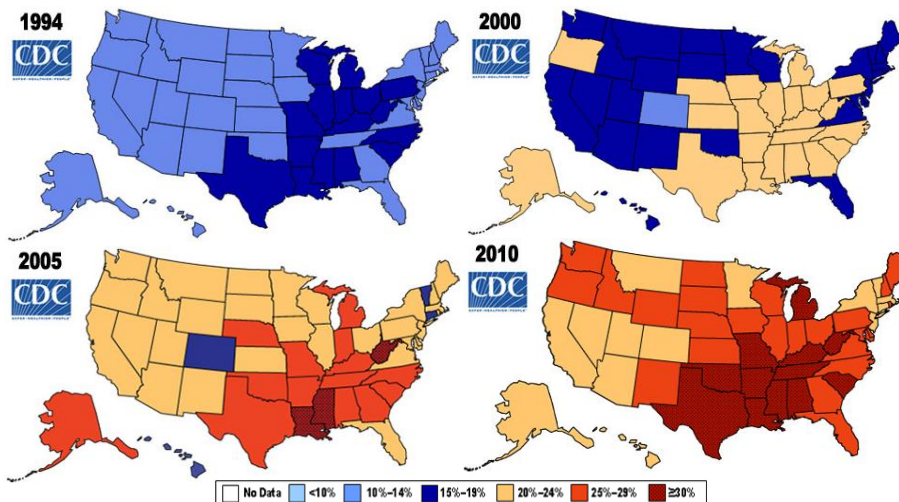
1 Excellent
2 Very good
3 Good
4 Fair

Or

5 Poor

Do not read:

7 Don't know / Not sure
9 Refused

http://www.cdc.gov/brfss/index.htm

BRFSS – Obesity Trends* Among U.S. Adults, 1994, 2000, 2005, 2010

| No Data | <10% | 10%–14% | 15%–19% | 20%–24% | 25%–29% | ≥30% |

*BMI ≥30, or about 30 lbs. overweight for 5'4" person

http://www.cdc.gov/brfss/index.htm

BRFSS – Design Issues

Difficulties of standardizing across states given multiple data collection organizations

Balance of innovation in measurement and change over time

Increasing nonresponse rate