

Chronic Disease – Arthritis

Definition: Ever been told by a doctor that you have arthritis.

**Healthy People 2010
Objective 2.2:**

Reduce adults with limited activities due to chronic joint symptoms to 21%.

**Healthy Alaskan 2010
Objective 20.2:**

Reduce the proportion of adults with chronic joint symptoms who currently experience a limitation in activity due to arthritis to 45%.

- ▶ 16.8% of Alaskans have been told by a doctor they have arthritis.
- ▶ Significantly more females reported arthritis.
- ▶ As expected, reported diagnoses of arthritis increased with age.
- ▶ Arthritis was reported more frequently with the lower income classifications.
- ▶ 44% reported pain, aching, stiffness or swelling in or around a joint in the past 12 months.
- ▶ 52% of those that reported joint pain indicated the symptoms were present on most days for at least one month.
- ▶ 29% of those with symptoms reported limited activity because of joint pain.
- ▶ 38% of those with symptoms are currently being treated by a doctor for arthritis.

2001

Risk Factors

	n	%	N	95% CI		n	%	N	95% CI
Gender					Education				
Male	203	13.0	1,351	10.7-15.6	Some H.S.	203	13.0	1,351	10.7-15.6
Female	342	20.9	1,512	18.3-23.9	H.S. Grad or GED	342	20.9	1,512	18.3-23.9
Race					Some College or Tech School	171	17.7	883	14.4-21.6
Native (any mention)	132	18.7	623	14.7-22.8	College Grad	155	15.6	827	12.7-19.1
Non-Native	413	16.4	2,240	14.4-18.5	Income				
Total	545	16.8	2,863	15.0-18.7	< \$15,000	76	29	258	62.1-78.0
Age					15,000-24,999	88	20	431	74.3-85.1
18-24	9	2	300	96.0-99.1	25,000-34,999	60	16	352	78.1-88.7
25-34	38	6.4	510	89.9-96.0	35,000-49,999	81	16	474	79.1-88.4
35-44	111	12.5	748	84.0-90.3	50,000-74,999	98	15.3	524	80.3-88.2
45-54	149	24.2	688	70.8-80.2	> 75,000	86	13.7	542	82.0-89.7
55-64	129	32	350	60.3-74.8					
65+	103	40	232	51.1-68.3					

n = Number of respondents who report ever being told by doctor that they have arthritis.

% = This is a weighted (adjusted) percentage of the state population (adult) at risk in this demographic subgroup, based on the survey data.

N = Total number of respondents in this subgroup.

95% CI = 95% Confidence Interval; the range of values within which the true value of a prevalence estimate would be expected to fall within, 95% of the time.