

Complete Health Indicator Report of Child emotional abuse, self-reported

Definition

Self-reported child emotional abuse data is retrospective data collected from adults via the Utah BRFSS Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) Module and youth via the Utah YRBS tier 2 ACEs and Positive Childhood Experiences (PCEs) questionnaire. Adult prevalence is looking retrospectively at their whole childhood (<18), while youth prevalence only looks back at the previous 12 months.

Numerator

The number of youth or adults who indicated at least one instance of emotional abuse on the YRBS (2021) or BRFSS (2013, 2016, 2018, 2020).

Denominator

The total number of youth or adults who provided any response to the emotional abuse question on the YRBS (2021) or BRFSS (2013, 2016, 2018, 2020).

Data Interpretation Issues

BRFSS (Adults) - How often did a parent or adult in your home ever swear at you, insult you, or put you down? Was it . . . (Possible answers: Never, Once, More than once; question refers to the time period before the respondent was 18 years of age)

YRBS (Youth) - During the past 12 months, how many times has a parent or other adult in your home sworn at you, insulted you, or put you down? (Possible answers: 0, 1, 2 or 3, 4 or 5, or 6+)

Response options from both surveys were dichotomized into whether or not emotional abuse occurred at all during the referenced time frame.

The responses are subjective, however, the subjective reality is what seems to matter when considering the potential for long-term negative impacts.

Why Is This Important?

All types of child abuse represent a threat to public health. Child emotional abuse is one of eight commonly tracked adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and research into child abuse and neglect (CAN) and ACEs has consistently shown the potential for many negative long-term impacts on health, opportunity, and well-being.

Tracking child abuse prevalence is a complicated task and some of the best data available are self-reported retrospective data which gives a more complete view of prevalence over child protective services or hospital data.

Healthy People Objective IVP-38:

Reduce nonfatal child maltreatment

U.S. Target: 8.5 maltreatment victims per 1,000 children

How Do We Compare With the U.S.?

When comparing BRFSS data, the prevalence of emotional child abuse in Utah is higher than nationally (38.3% vs 34.4%, both ~1 in 3). National prevalence comes from a 2018 Merrick, et al. study that included 2011-2014 BRFSS data from 23 states, while Utah prevalence is from the ACEs Module included in the Utah BRFSS in 2013, 2016, 2018, and 2020.

Source: Merrick, M.T., Ford, D.C., Ports, K. A., Guinn, A. S. (2018). Prevalence of Adverse Childhood Experiences From the 2011-2014 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System in 23 States. *JAMA Pediatrics*, 172(11), 1038-1044.

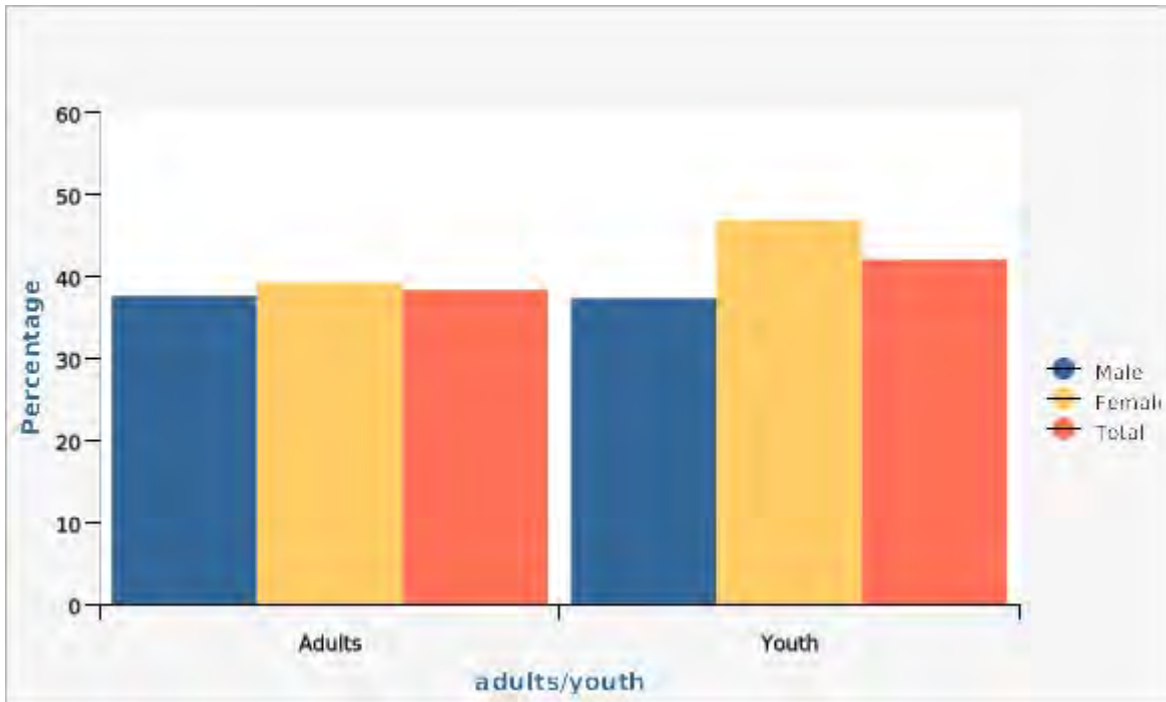
Evidence-based Practices

Promote safe stable nurturing relationships and environments for all children by:

- Strengthen economic support for families
- Strengthen social norms to connect with and support parents and youth
- Enhance parenting skills to promote healthy child development
- Promote quality care and education early in life
- Intervene to lessen harm and prevent future risk

Graphical Data Views

Self-reported child emotional abuse prevalence (YRBS/youth and age-adjusted BRFSS/adults) by sex and data source, Utah, 2021 (YRBS) and 2013, 2016, 2018, 2020 (BRFSS)



Female adults indicated a significantly higher prevalence of emotional abuse during their childhood than male adults (both ~1 in 3). Among youth, females also indicated a significantly higher prevalence of emotional abuse in the last 12 months than males (~1 in 2 vs ~1 in 3).

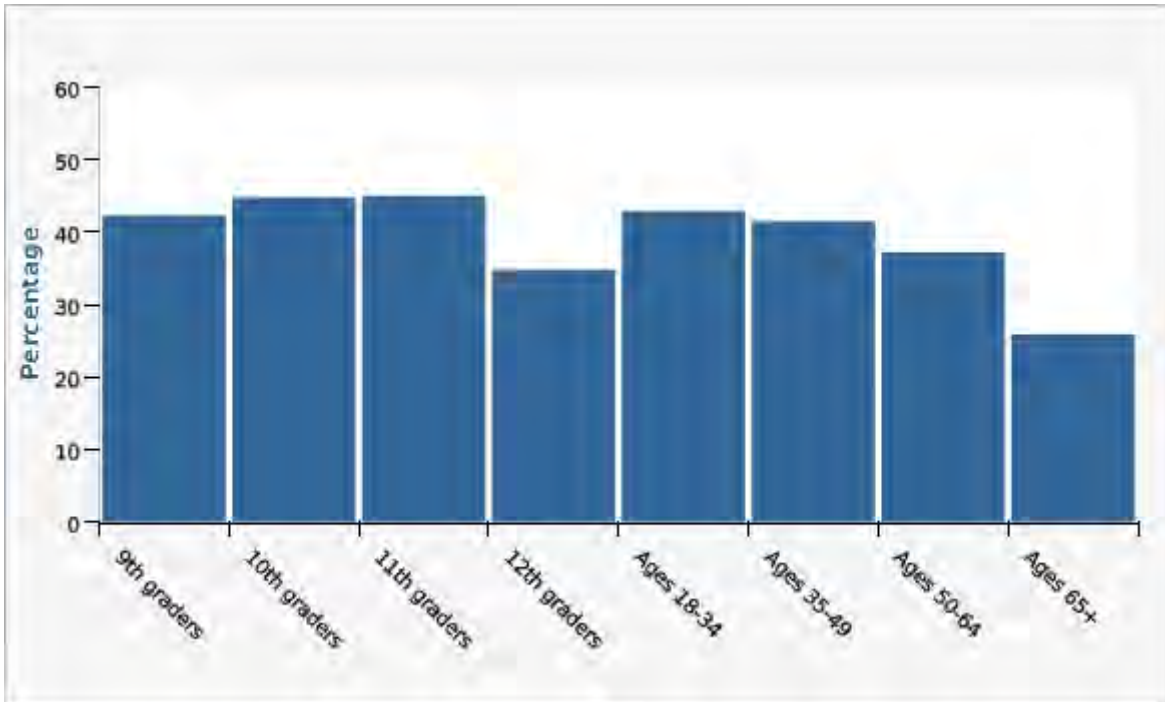
Males vs. Females	adults/youth	Percentage	Lower Limit	Upper Limit	Note	Numer-ator	Denom-inator
Male	Adults	37.6	36.4	38.7		4,183	
Male	Youth	37.3	34.2	40.5			702
Female	Adults	39.2	38.0	40.3	significantly higher than the adult male prevalence	4,695	
Female	Youth	46.8	42.6	51.1	significantly higher than the adult male prevalence		779
Total	Adults	38.3	37.5	39.2		8,882	
Total	Youth	42.0	39.0	45.1			1,492

Data Notes

Adult/BRFSS and youth/YRBS emotional abuse data are each collected with different questions that include different time frames. The emotional abuse question utilized in the YRBS has only been asked one time in 2021, while the BRFSS question has been asked in 2013, 2016, 2018, and 2020.

Self-reported child emotional abuse prevalence (YRBS/youth and BRFSS/adults) by grade/age-group, Utah, 2021 (YRBS) and 2013,

2016, 2018, 2020 (BRFSS)



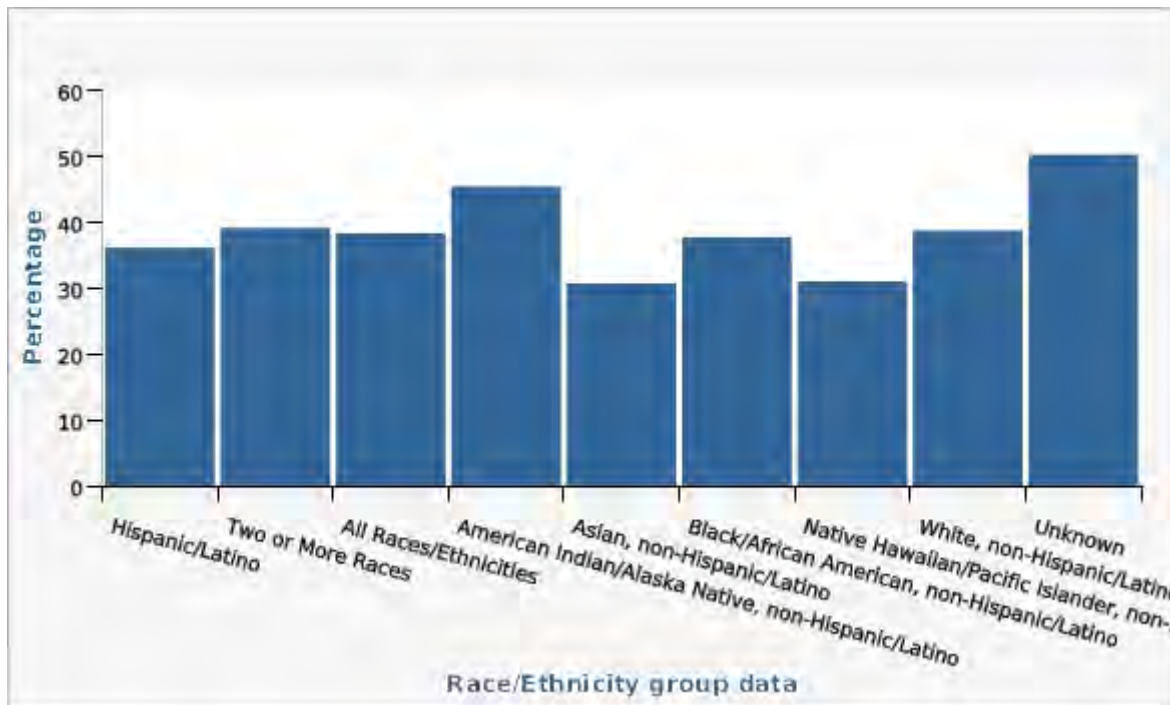
11th-grade youth respondents indicated the highest prevalence of emotional abuse in the last 12 months (~1 in 2). Adults 18-34 and 35-49 indicated a significantly higher prevalence of emotional abuse during their childhood than the overall state adult prevalence (~1 in 2 and 1 in 3 vs ~1 in 3).

	Percentage	Lower Limit	Upper Limit	Note	Numer-ator	Denom-inator
9th graders	42.3	36.2	48.6		483	
10th graders	44.8	39.4	50.3		487	
11th graders	45.0	38.6	51.6		302	
12th graders	34.8	28.8	41.4		205	
Ages 18-34	42.9	41.3	44.6	significantly higher than the state prevalence	2,403	
Ages 35-49	41.5	39.9	43.1	significantly higher than the state prevalence	2,546	
Ages 50-64	37.2	35.5	38.8		2,198	
Ages 65+	25.9	24.5	27.3		1,735	

Data Notes

Adult/BRFSS and youth/YRBS emotional abuse data are each collected with different questions that include different time frames. The emotional abuse question utilized in the YRBS has only been asked one time in 2021, while the BRFSS question has been asked in 2013, 2016, 2018, and 2020.

Self-reported child emotional abuse prevalence (BRFSS, age-adjusted) by race/ethnicity, Utah, 2013, 2016, 2018, 2020



Adults who did not specify a race or ethnicity had a significantly higher prevalence of emotional abuse during their childhood than all races and ethnicities together (~1 in 2 vs ~1 in 3), while Asian (non-Hispanic) adults had a significantly lower prevalence (both ~1 in 3).

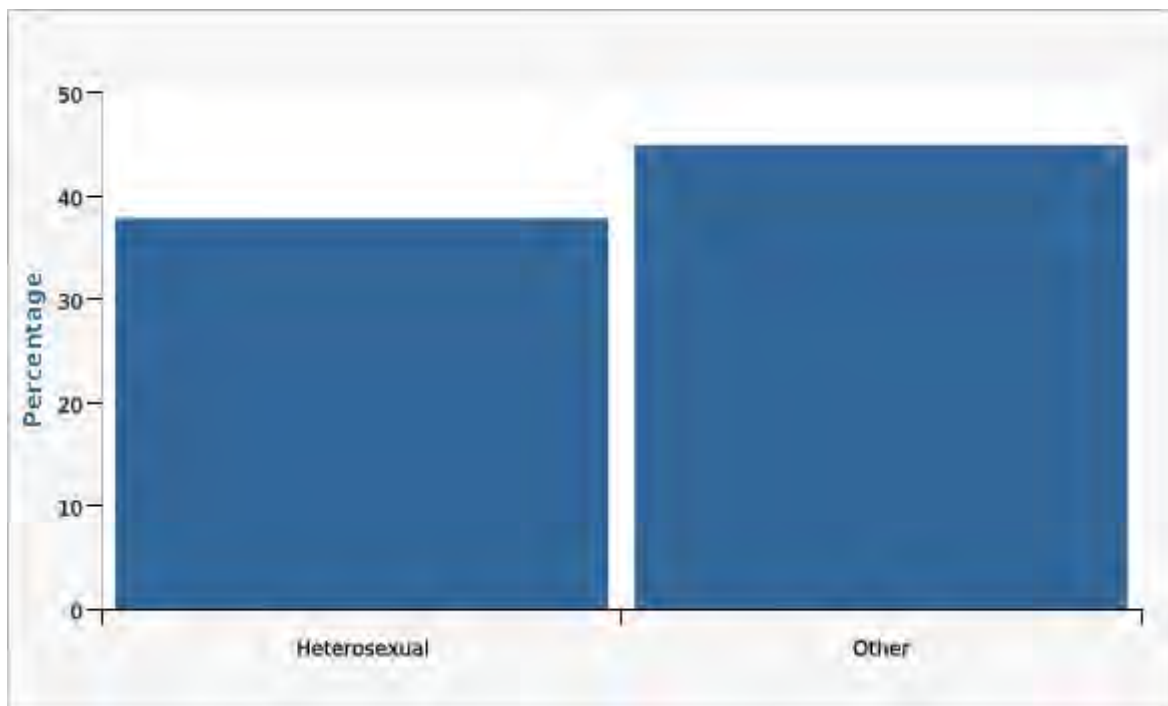
Race/Ethnicity group data	Percentage	Lower Limit	Upper Limit	Note	Numerator
Hispanic/Latino	36.1	33.3	39.1		657
Two or More Races	39.1	30.6	48.8		79
All Races/Ethnicities	38.3	37.5	39.2		8,882
American Indian/Alaska Native, non-Hispanic/Latino	45.4	37.3	53.8		118
Asian, non-Hispanic/Latino	30.7	24.4	37.9	significantly lower than the state prevalence	85
Black/African American, non-Hispanic/Latino	37.7	27.6	49.0		69
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, non-Hispanic/Latino	31.0	21.9	41.8		45

Race/Ethnicity group data	Percentage	Lower Limit	Upper Limit	Note	Numer-ator
White, non-Hispanic/Latino	38.7	37.8	39.5		7,746
Unknown	50.2	40.6	59.7	significantly higher than the state prevalence	83

Data Notes

Analysis by race and ethnicity only utilizes age-adjusted adult data collected in the 2013, 2016, 2018, and 2020 BRFSS and not youth/YRBS data.

Self-reported child emotional abuse prevalence (BRFSS, age-adjusted) by sexual orientation, Utah, 2013, 2016, 2018, 2020



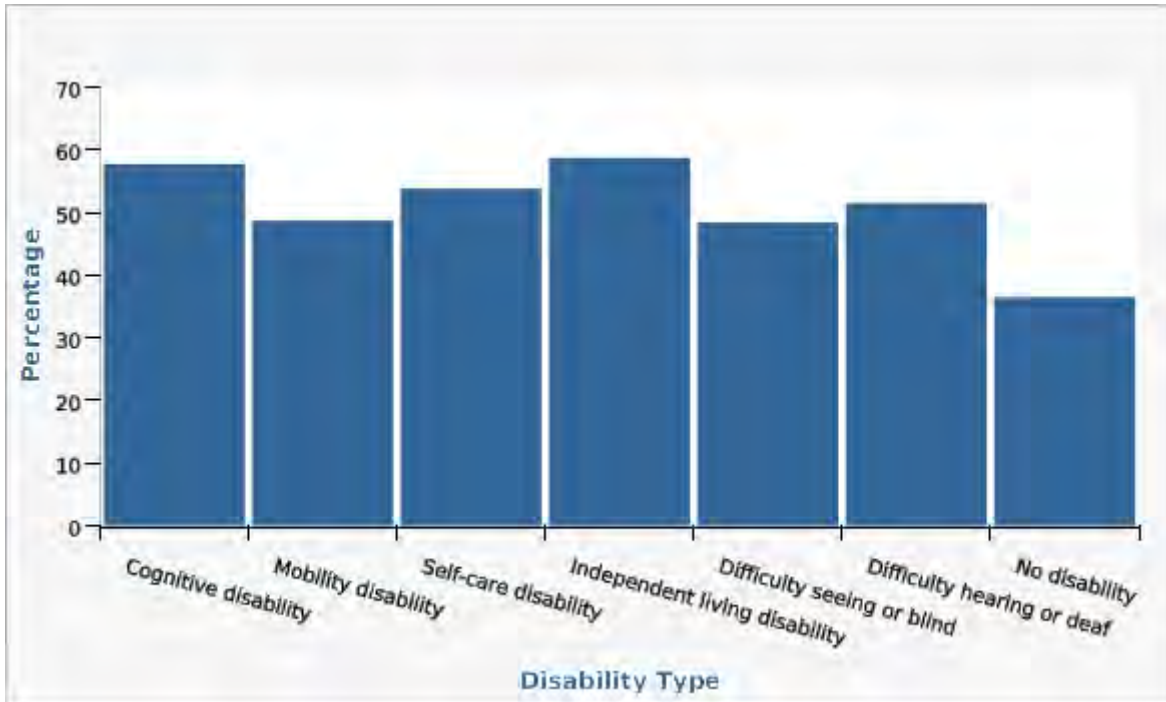
Adults who indicated a sexual orientation other than heterosexual (homosexual, bisexual, or other) had a significantly higher prevalence of emotional abuse during their childhood than the overall state prevalence (~1 in 2 vs ~1 in 3).

	Percentage	Lower Limit	Upper Limit	Note	Numer-ator
Heterosexual	37.8	37.0	38.7		8,179
Other	44.9	41.1	48.8	significantly higher than the state prevalence	575

Data Notes

Analysis by sexual orientation only utilizes age-adjusted adult data collected in the 2013, 2016, 2018, and 2020 BRFSS and not youth/YRBS data.

Self-reported child emotional abuse prevalence (BRFSS, age-adjusted) by disability type, Utah, 2013, 2016, 2018, 2020



Adults who indicated any type of disability (cognitive, mobility, self-care, independent living, difficulty seeing/blind, or difficulty hearing/deaf) all had a significantly higher prevalence of emotional abuse during their childhood than adults with no disability, and significantly higher than the overall state prevalence (all ~1 in 2 vs ~1 in 3).

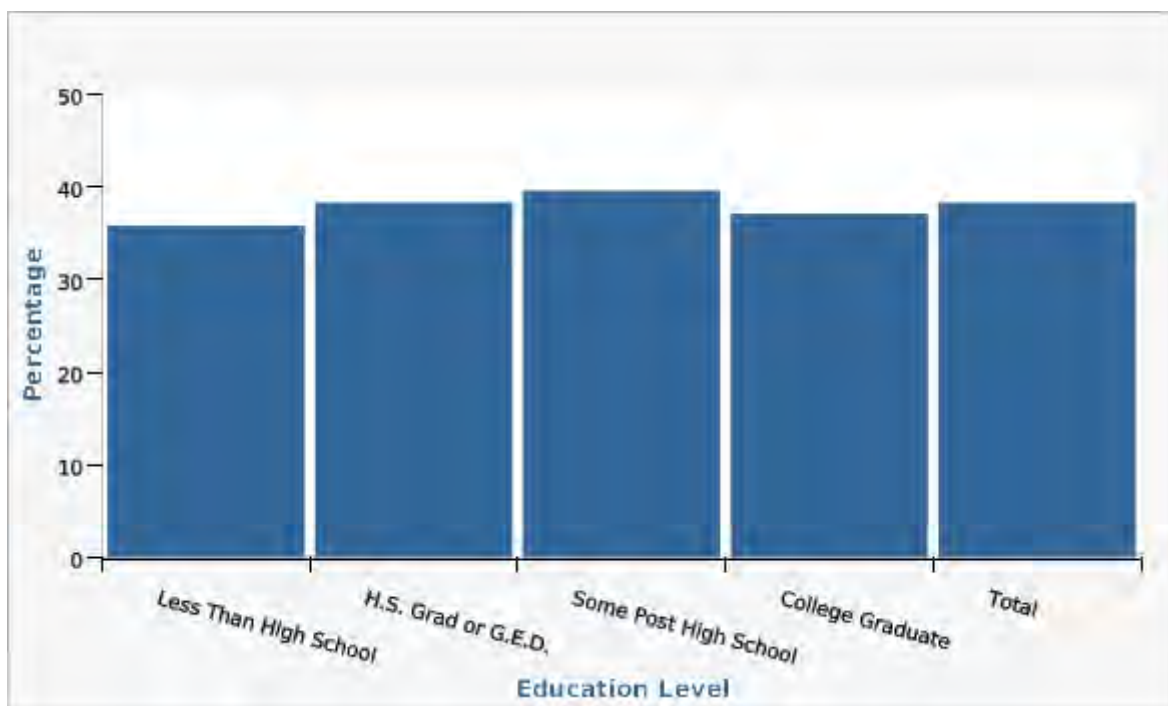
Disability Type	Percentage	Lower Limit	Upper Limit	Note	Numerator
Cognitive disability	57.7	55.0	60.3	significantly higher than the state prevalence	1,349
Mobility disability	48.7	44.6	52.9	significantly higher than the state prevalence	1,145
Self-care disability	53.8	45.8	61.6	significantly higher than the state prevalence	313
Independent living disability	58.7	54.9	62.5	significantly higher than the state prevalence	699
Difficulty seeing or blind	48.4	43.0	53.9	significantly higher than the state prevalence	366

Disability Type	Percentage	Lower Limit	Upper Limit	Note	Numer-ator
Difficulty hearing or deaf	51.5	46.0	56.9	significantly higher than the state prevalence	509
No disability	36.5	35.4	37.5		4,864

Data Notes

Analysis by disability type only utilizes age-adjusted adult data collected in the 2013, 2016, 2018, and 2020 BRFSS and not youth/YRBS data.

Self-reported child emotional abuse prevalence (BRFSS, age-adjusted) by education, Utah, 2013, 2016, 2018, 2020



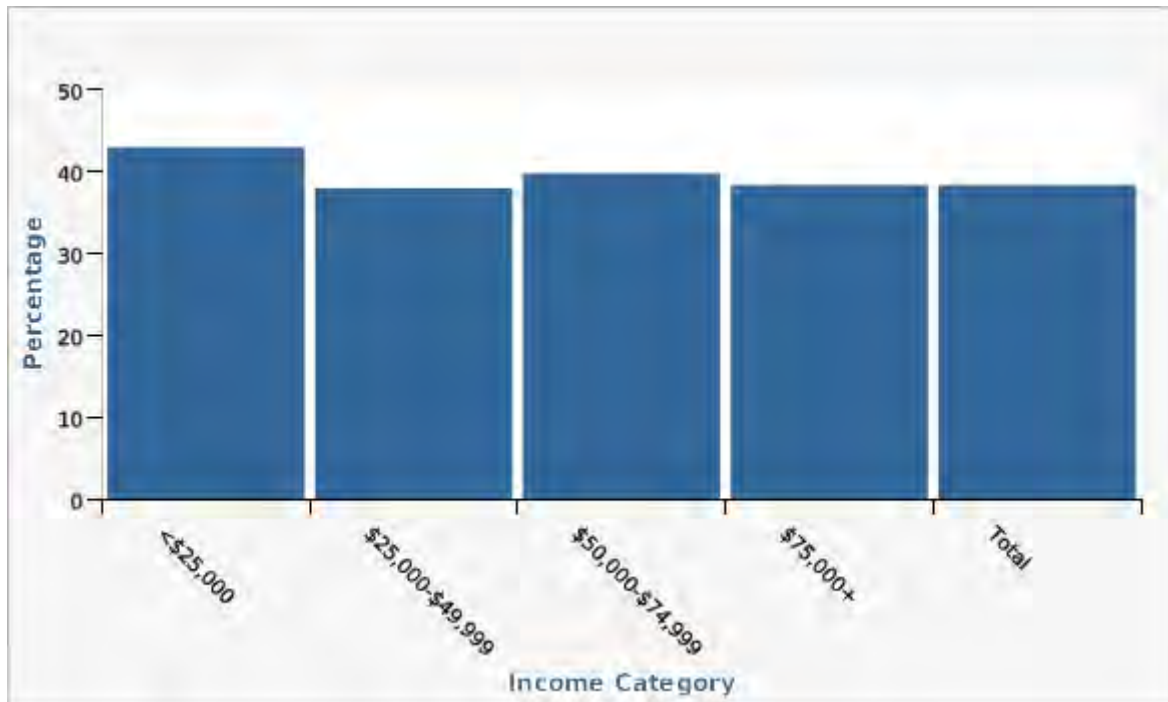
There was no significant difference in the prevalence of emotional abuse during childhood when comparing different levels of adult educational attainment (all ~1 in 3).

Education Level	Percentage	Lower Limit	Upper Limit	Numer-ator
Less Than High School	35.8	32.2	39.5	362
H.S. Grad or G.E.D.	38.3	36.8	40.0	2,192
Some Post High School	39.6	38.2	41.0	3,041
College Graduate	37.1	35.7	38.6	3,278
Total	38.3	37.5	39.2	8,882

Data Notes

Analysis by education only utilizes age-adjusted adult data collected in the 2013, 2016, 2018, and 2020 BRFSS and not youth/YRBS data.

Self-reported child emotional abuse prevalence (BRFSS, age-adjusted) by income, Utah, 2013, 2016, 2018, 2020



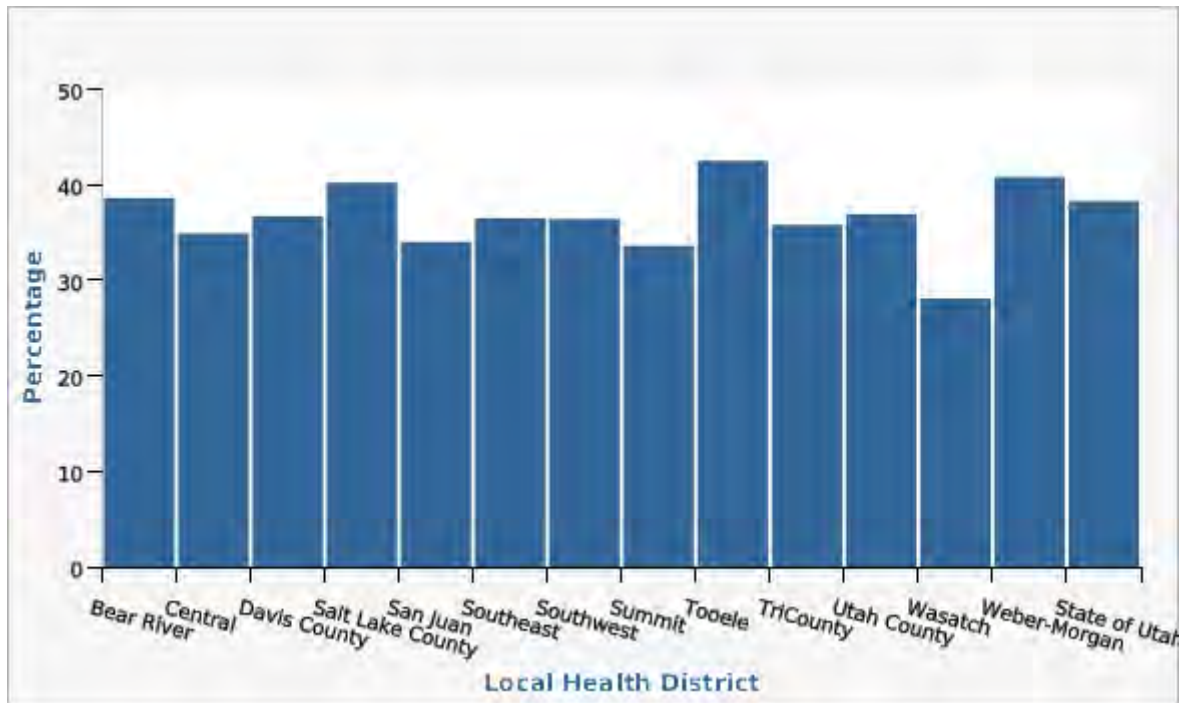
Adults who indicated a household income of <\$25,000 a year had a significantly higher prevalence of emotional abuse during their childhood than the overall state prevalence (~1 in 2 vs ~1 in 3).

Income Category	Percentage	Lower Limit	Upper Limit	Note	Numerator
<\$25,000	42.9	40.6	45.3	significantly higher than the state prevalence	1,414
\$25,000-\$49,999	37.9	35.9	39.8		1,712
\$50,000-\$74,999	39.7	37.6	41.8		1,472
\$75,000+	38.3	36.9	39.8		3,235
Total	38.3	37.5	39.2		8,882

Data Notes

Analysis by income only utilizes age-adjusted adult data collected in the 2013, 2016, 2018, and 2020 BRFSS and not youth/YRBS data.

Self-reported child emotional abuse prevalence (BRFSS, age-adjusted) by local health district, Utah, 2013, 2016, 2018, 2020



Adults in Salt Lake County had a significantly higher prevalence of emotional abuse during their childhood than the overall state prevalence (both ~1 in 3). Adults in Wasatch County had a significantly lower prevalence than the state (~1 in 4 vs ~1 in 3).

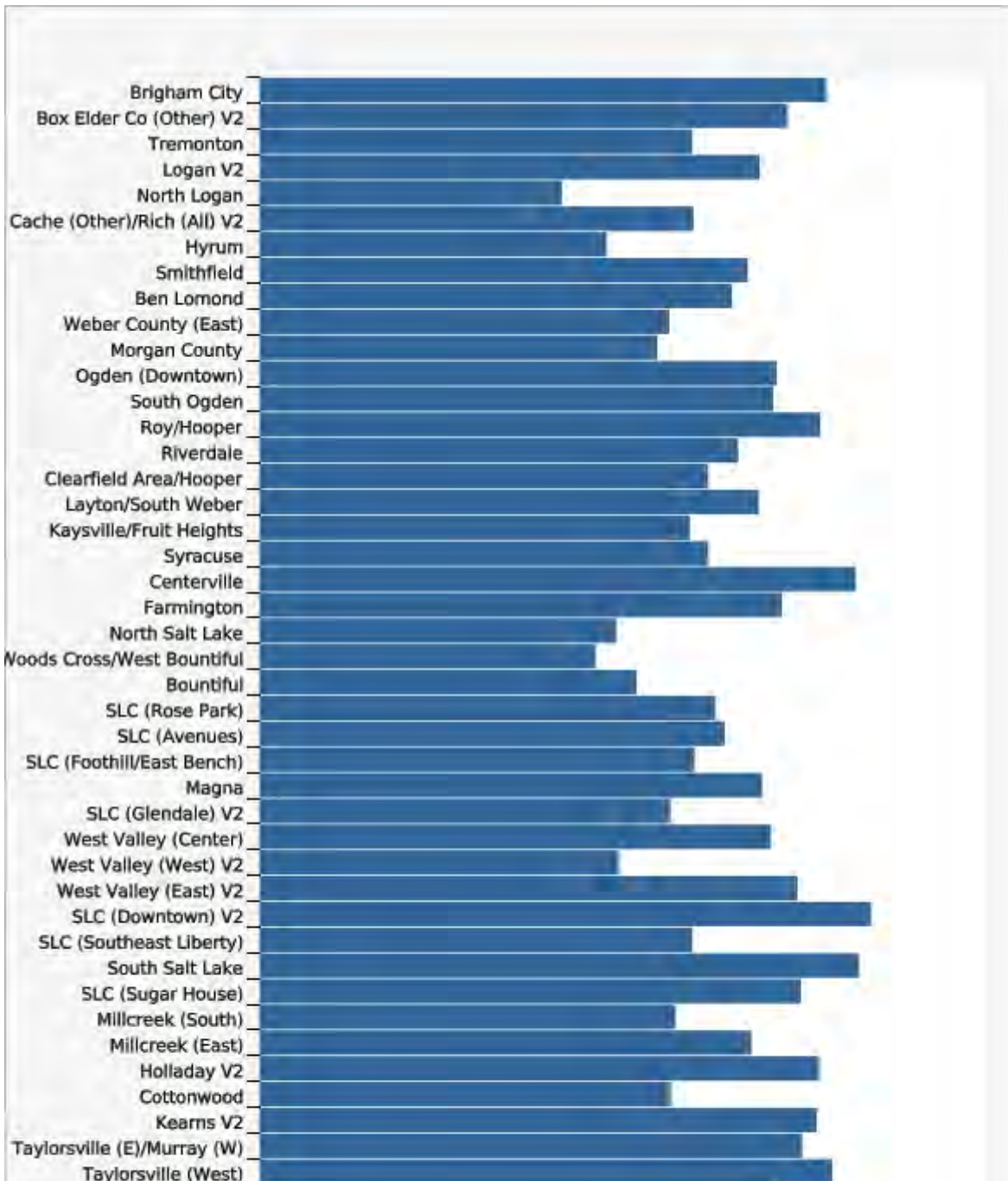
Local Health District	Percentage	Lower Limit	Upper Limit	Note	Numerator
Bear River	38.6	35.6	41.7		553
Central	34.9	31.0	38.9		447
Davis County	36.7	34.3	39.1		844
Salt Lake County	40.2	38.8	41.8	significantly higher than the state	2,627
San Juan	34.0	26.9	41.9		105
Southeast	36.5	31.6	41.6		301
Southwest	36.4	33.4	39.5		550
Summit	33.6	28.9	38.7		204
Tooele	42.5	38.2	47.0		410
TriCounty	35.8	32.4	39.4		453
Utah County	36.9	35.0	38.9		1,332
Wasatch	28.1	23.1	33.6	significantly lower than the state	205
Weber-Morgan	40.8	38.1	43.5		789

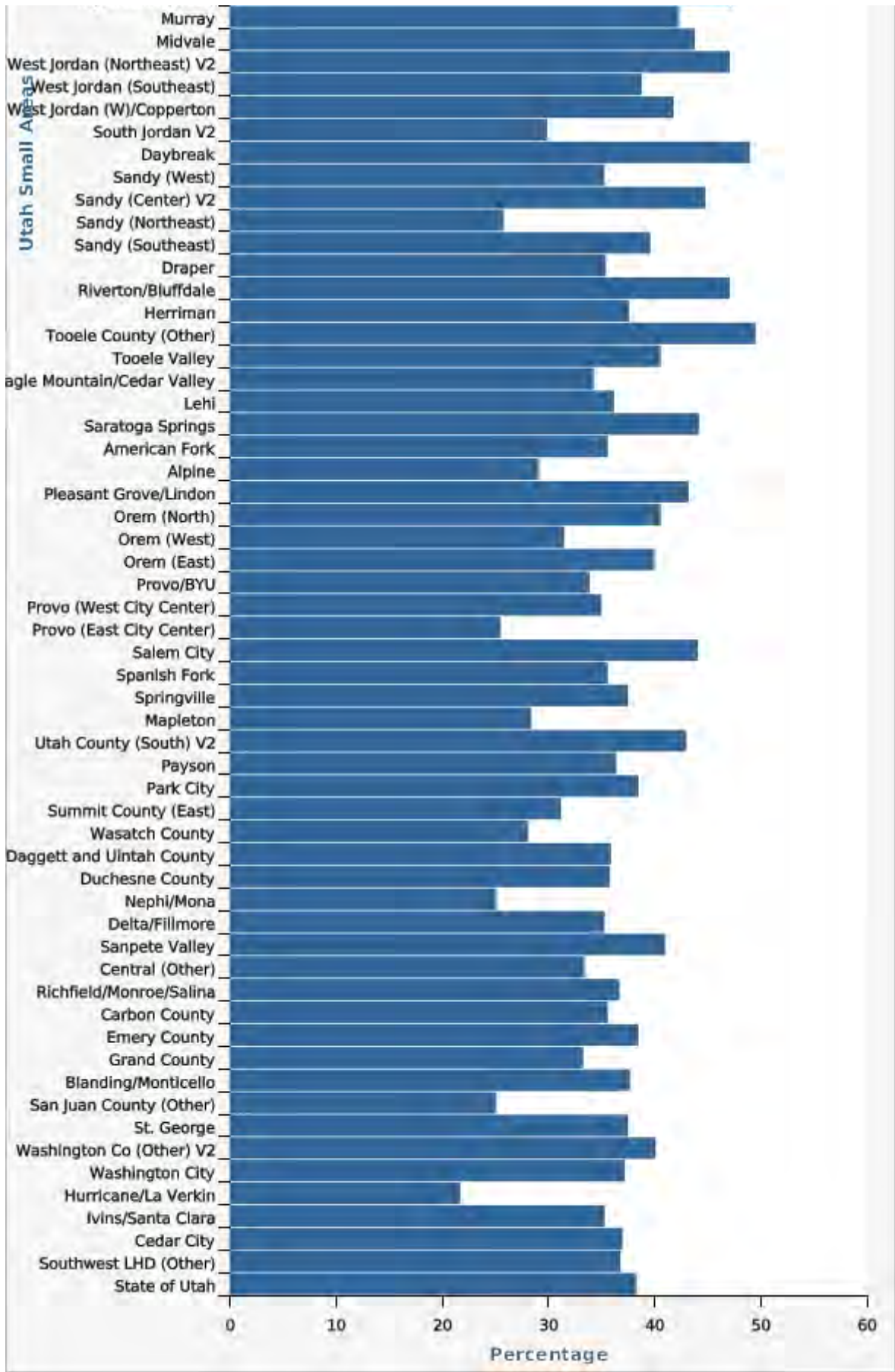
Local Health District	Percentage	Lower Limit	Upper Limit	Note	Numer-ator
State of Utah	38.3	37.5	39.2		8,882

Data Notes

Analysis by geography only utilizes age-adjusted adult data collected in the 2013, 2016, 2018, and 2020 BRFSS and not youth/YRBS data.

Self-reported child emotional abuse prevalence (BRFSS, age-adjusted) by small area, Utah, 2013, 2016, 2018, 2020





Adults in the Utah Small Areas of Roy/Hooper, Centerville, Salt Lake City (Downtown) V2, South Salt Lake, Taylorsville (West), West Jordan (Northeast) V2, Daybreak, Riverton/Bluffdale, and Tooele County (Other) had a significantly higher prevalence of emotional abuse during their childhood than the overall state prevalence (~1 in 2 vs ~1 in 3). Adults in the Utah Small Areas of North Logan, Woods Cross/West Bountiful, Bountiful, West Valley (West) V2, South Jordan V2, Sandy (Northeast), Provo (East City Center), Summit County (East), Wasatch County, Nephi/Mona, and Hurricane/La Verkin had a significantly lower prevalence of emotional abuse during their childhood than the overall state prevalence (~1 in 3-5 vs ~1 in 3).

Utah Small Areas	Percentage	Lower Limit	Upper Limit	Note	Numer-ator
Brigham City	46.9	38.0	56.1		79
Box Elder Co (Other) V2	43.7	32.8	55.3		46
Tremonton	35.8	26.4	46.4		43
Logan V2	41.4	35.9	47.2		172
North Logan	25.0	18.3	33.1	significantly lower than the state	61
Cache (Other)/Rich (All) V2	35.9	28.6	43.9		79
Hyrum	28.7	18.9	40.9		16
Smithfield	40.4	29.7	52.1		41
Ben Lomond	39.1	33.7	44.8		166
Weber County (East)	33.9	27.6	40.9		110
Morgan County	32.9	23.0	44.6		29
Ogden (Downtown)	42.8	36.1	49.8		117
South Ogden	42.5	35.4	49.9		118
Roy/Hooper	46.4	40.4	52.4	significantly higher than the state	146
Riverdale	39.6	32.0	47.8		83
Clearfield Area/Hooper	37.1	31.7	42.8		145
Layton/South Weber	41.3	36.4	46.3		227
Kaysville/Fruit Heights	35.6	29.0	42.9		93
Syracuse	37.1	29.3	45.6		70
Centerville	49.3	39.1	59.6	significantly higher than the state	50
Farmington	43.2	33.9	53.0		44
North Salt Lake	29.5	21.6	39.0		39
Woods Cross/West Bountiful	27.8	19.4	38.1	significantly lower than the state	31
Bountiful	31.2	25.7	37.2	significantly lower than the state	125
SLC (Rose Park)	37.7	29.7	46.4		64
SLC (Avenues)	38.5	29.6	48.3		70

Utah Small Areas	Percentage	Lower Limit	Upper Limit	Note	Numer- ator
SLC (Foothill/East Bench)	36.0	27.1	46.0		62
Magna	41.6	32.4	51.4		52
SLC (Glendale) V2	34.0	24.8	44.6		39
West Valley (Center)	42.3	34.6	50.2		104
West Valley (West) V2	29.7	22.6	38.0	significantly lower than the state	57
West Valley (East) V2	44.5	37.2	52.1		116
SLC (Downtown) V2	50.6	42.3	58.8	significantly higher than the state	108
SLC (Southeast Liberty)	35.8	26.9	45.8		58
South Salt Lake	49.6	39.5	59.7	significantly higher than the state	79
SLC (Sugar House)	44.8	36.4	53.5		90
Millcreek (South)	34.4	24.9	45.3		55
Millcreek (East)	40.7	31.4	50.7		60
Holladay V2	46.3	37.4	55.5		61
Cottonwood	34.0	27.2	41.4		99
Kearns V2	46.1	37.9	54.5		97
Taylorsville (E)/Murray (W)	44.9	37.1	53.1		93
Taylorsville (West)	47.4	39.7	55.2	significantly higher than the state	93
Murray	42.3	34.3	50.7		91
Midvale	43.8	34.8	53.2		67
West Jordan (Northeast) V2	47.1	38.4	56.0	significantly higher than the state	79
West Jordan (Southeast)	38.8	31.7	46.5		85
West Jordan (W)/Copperton	41.8	34.5	49.4		95
South Jordan V2	29.9	24.0	36.6	significantly lower than the state	85
Daybreak	49.0	39.3	58.7	significantly higher than the state	55
Sandy (West)	35.3	27.0	44.6		59
Sandy (Center) V2	44.8	35.4	54.4		69
Sandy (Northeast)	25.8	17.8	35.8	significantly lower than the state	37
Sandy (Southeast)	39.6	31.7	48.1		80
Draper	35.4	28.0	43.5		82
Riverton/Bluffdale	47.1	39.5	54.9	significantly higher than the state	105

Utah Small Areas	Percentage	Lower Limit	Upper Limit	Note	Numer-ator
Herriman	37.6	30.8	44.9		100
Tooele County (Other)	49.5	39.7	59.3	significantly higher than the state	101
Tooele Valley	40.6	35.8	45.6		300
Eagle Mountain/Cedar Valley	34.3	25.1	44.8		49
Lehi	36.2	30.4	43.5		126
Saratoga Springs	44.2	34.9	53.9		62
American Fork	35.6	29.2	42.7		106
Alpine	29.1	17.3	44.7		14
Pleasant Grove/Lindon	43.2	36.3	50.4		124
Orem (North)	40.6	33.5	48.2		87
Orem (West)	31.5	24.9	39.0		80
Orem (East)	40.0	31.2	49.4		63
Provo/BYU	33.9	27.1	41.3		89
Provo (West City Center)	35.0	27.4	43.4		76
Provo (East City Center)	25.5	18.1	34.7	significantly lower than the state	53
Salem City	44.1	33.9	54.8		33
Spanish Fork	35.6	28.7	43.1		97
Springville	37.5	30.1	45.5		85
Mapleton	28.4	19.3	39.6		26
Utah County (South) V2	43.0	32.0	54.7		38
Payson	36.4	28.2	45.4		68
Park City	38.5	31.4	46.1		112
Summit County (East)	31.2	25.0	38.1	significantly lower than the state	90
Wasatch County	28.1	23.1	33.6	significantly lower than the state	205
Daggett and Uintah County	35.9	31.4	40.7		282
Duchesne County	35.8	30.7	41.3		171
Nephi/Mona	25.1	17.0	35.4	significantly lower than the state	33
Delta/Fillmore	35.3	26.5	45.3		59
Sanpete Valley	41.0	33.9	48.4		124
Central (Other)	33.4	26.3	41.2		137
Richfield/Monroe/Salina	36.7	28.7	45.5		80
Carbon County	35.6	29.4	42.3		145
Emery County	38.5	31.1	46.4		103
Grand County	33.3	23.1	45.4		53

Utah Small Areas	Percentage	Lower Limit	Upper Limit	Note	Numer-ator
Blanding/Monticello	37.7	30.2	45.8		78
San Juan County (Other)	25.1	14.4	39.9		25
St. George	37.5	32.4	42.9		197
Washington Co (Other) V2	40.1	30.4	50.6		36
Washington City	37.2	28.0	47.1		52
Hurricane/La Verkin	21.7	15.1	30.2	significantly lower than the state	36
Ivins/Santa Clara	35.3	25.0	47.1		33
Cedar City	37.0	30.9	43.5		102
Southwest LHD (Other)	36.8	28.6	45.8		81
State of Utah	38.3	37.5	39.2		8,882

Data Notes

Analysis by geography only utilizes age-adjusted adult data collected in the 2013, 2016, 2018, and 2020 BRFSS and not youth/YRBS data.

More Resources and Links

Evidence-based community health improvement ideas and interventions may be found at the following sites:

Additional indicator data by state and county may be found on these Websites:

- [CDC Prevention Status Reports for all 50 states](#)
- [County Health Rankings](#)
- Kaiser Family Foundation's [StateHealthFacts.org](#)
- CDC WONDER [DATA2010](#), the Healthy People 2010 Database.

Medical literature can be queried at the [PubMed](#) website.

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