



POSITIVE OUTCOMES

Home Ownership (Adults)

INDICATOR

Percent of adults who own their home.

Numerator Number of adults who own their own home

Denominator Individuals aged 18 to 64

DESCRIPTION

This metric is from the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), showing the percentage of adults 18 and over who own their own home.

IMPORTANCE

Homeownership is a mark of economic and social success. Homeownership is also associated with increased feelings of stabilization for families. As such, having stable housing can decrease mental stress, and may be associated with higher quality home environments, greater cognitive achievement, and fewer challenging behaviors, independent of socioeconomic status and other factors (Haurin, 2002). Tracking homeownership alongside other measures such as poverty and community safety, provides a more complete picture of overall well-being.

LIMITATIONS

- BRFSS includes only non-institutionalized individuals with a cellphone or land line.
- This metric does not differentiate between people who own their house outright versus those who carry mortgage debt. These are crude rates of homeownership, unadjusted for differences in cost-of-living in various geographies, such as by city, state, or rural versus urban.
- There are potential negative consequences of homeownership, such as the burden of mortgage debt on individuals, and augmenting societal problems of segregation, sub-urbanization, and pollution (Nettleton, 1998; Shlay, 2005).

ADDITIONAL ANALYSES

Wisconsin Analyses

Race/Ethnicity	% Adults who Own their Home
American Indian/Alaska Native	57.6%
Asian	44.4%
Black or African American	30.1%
Hispanic/Latino	45.1%
Other, non-Hispanic	57.0%
White	76.4%

National Analyses

Race/Ethnicity	% Adults who Own their Home
Data not available.	

YEAR:		2016	
WI	US	Best	Worst
71.0%	70.0%	76.1%	44.4%
		WV	DC
PAST YEAR:		2015	
WI	US		
71.3%	70.3%		

SOURCE

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2015). Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) Prevalence Data (2011 to present) [Data table]. Retrieved from <https://chronicdata.cdc.gov/>

Haurin, D. R., Parcel, T. L., & Haurin, R. J. (2002). Does homeownership affect child outcomes?. *Real Estate Economics*, 30(4), 635-666.

Nettleton, S., & Burrows, R. (1998). Mortgage debt, insecure home ownership and health: an exploratory analysis. *Sociology of health & Illness*, 20(5), 731-753.

Shlay, A. B. (2006). Low-income homeownership: American dream or delusion? *Urban Studies*, 43(3), 511-531.