

Comparison of Estimates of Having a Dental Visit in the Past Year among Adults from Four Surveys

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Background

- ❑ Healthy People 2020 (HP 2020) Objective OH-7 (Leading Health Indicator): Increase oral health care utilization in the past year
- ❑ **National data sources: National** estimates
 - Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS): Data source for OH-7
 - National Health Interview Survey (NHIS)
 - National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES)

Background

- **State-level data source for adults**
 - Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS): National and **state-level** estimates

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Objective

- To compare prevalence estimates of having a dental visit in the past year among adults aged ≥ 18 years (DV) from BRFSS to those from MEPS, NHIS and NHANES

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Methods

□ Data Sources

BRFSS	MEPS	NHIS	NHANES
2002	2002	2002	1999-2004
2010	2010	2010	DV not available for 2005-2010

□ Study Population

- Adults aged ≥18 years, representative of non-institutionalized civilian US adult population

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Methods

□ Prevalence of having a dental visit in the past year (DV)

- Self-reported visit to any dental care providers

□ Other variables

- Age
- Race/ethnicity
- Education level
- Poverty status
- Edentulism

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Methods

□ Statistical Analyses

- Age-race/ethnicity adjusted* DV overall and stratified by age, race/ethnicity, education level, poverty status, and dentate status
- T-tests ($p \leq 0.05$) to compare DV
 - Between BRFSS and other surveys
 - Between 2002 and 2010 overall within BRFSS, MEPS and NHIS

* Direct standardization based on 2000 projected US population

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DV Questions

	BRFSS	MEPS	NHIS	NHANES
Interview Type	Telephone	In-person, 5 rounds	In-person	In-person
Question	<p>How long has it been since you last visited a dentist or a dental clinic for any reason?</p> <p>Include visits to dental specialists, such as orthodontists</p>	<p>Since (START DATE)/Between (START DATE) and (END DATE), did (PERSON) see or talk to any/other type of dental care provider*, such as the types listed on this card, for dental care or a dental check-up?</p>	<p>About how long has it been since you last saw a dentist? Include all types of dentists, such as orthodontists, oral surgeons, and all other dental specialists, as well as dental hygienists.</p>	<p>About how long has it been since {you/SP} last visited a dentist? Include all types of dentists, such as, orthodontists, oral surgeons, and all other dental specialists, as well as dental hygienists.</p>
Past year	<1 year ago	In the calendar year	≤1 year ago	≤1 year ago

*General dentist, Dental hygienist, Dental technician, Dental surgeon, Orthodontist, Endodontist, Periodontist, or other dental specialist

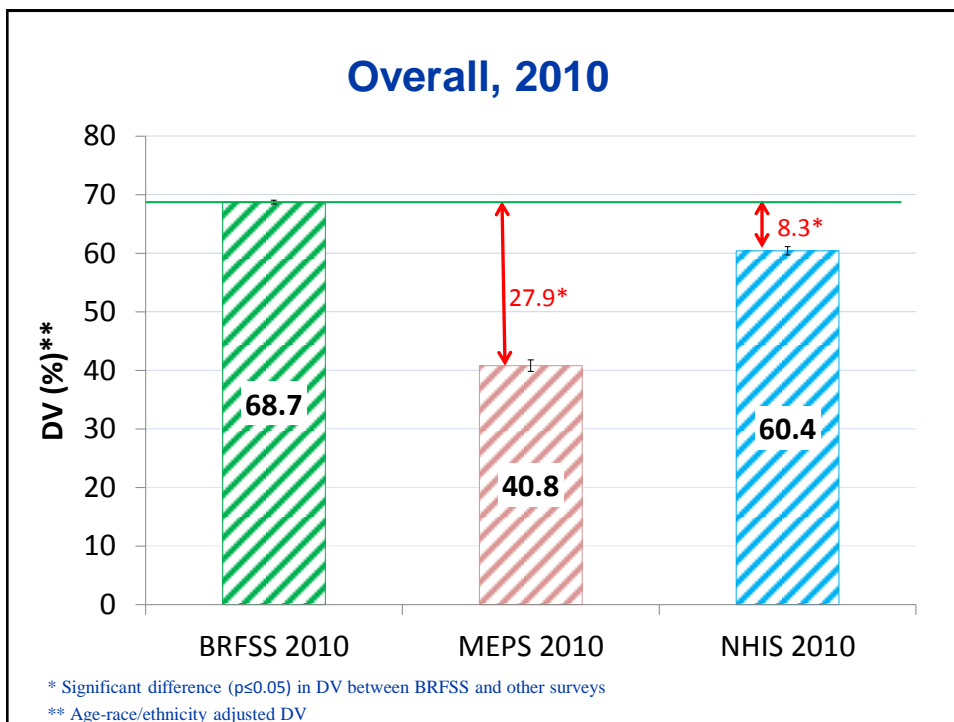
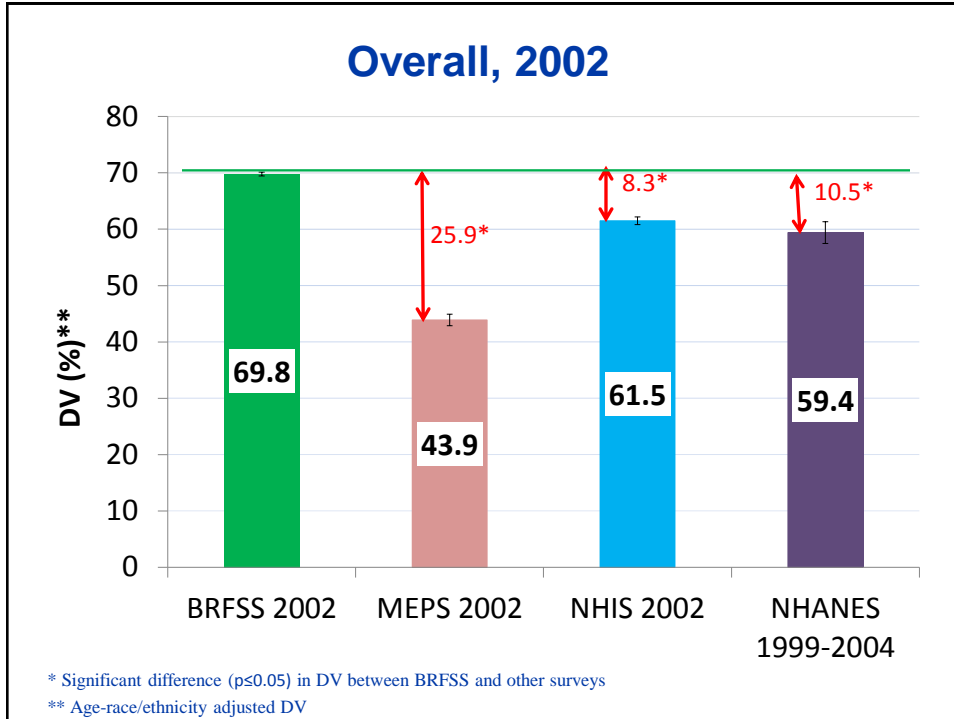
Results

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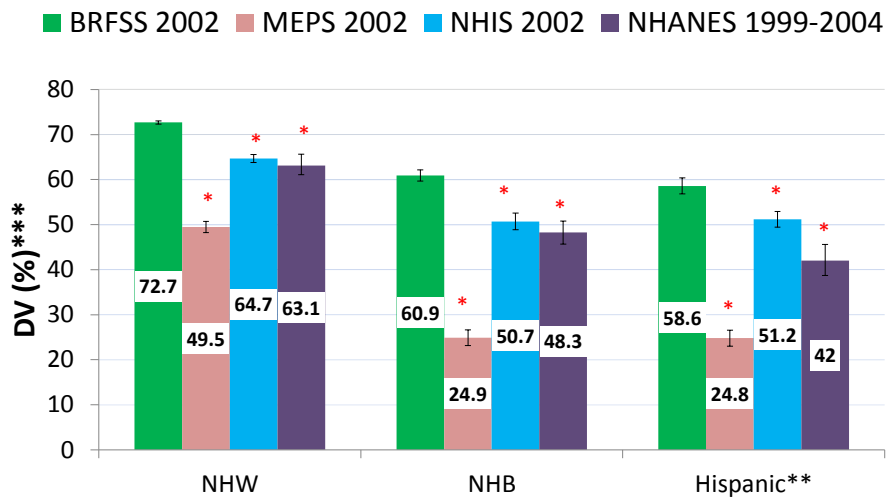
Compare DV Between BRFSS and

- **MEPS, NHIS, and NHANES**
 - BRFSS vs. MEPS; BRFSS vs. NHIS; BRFSS vs. NHANES

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By Race/Ethnicity, 2002



NHW: Non-Hispanic White ; NHB: Non-Hispanic Black

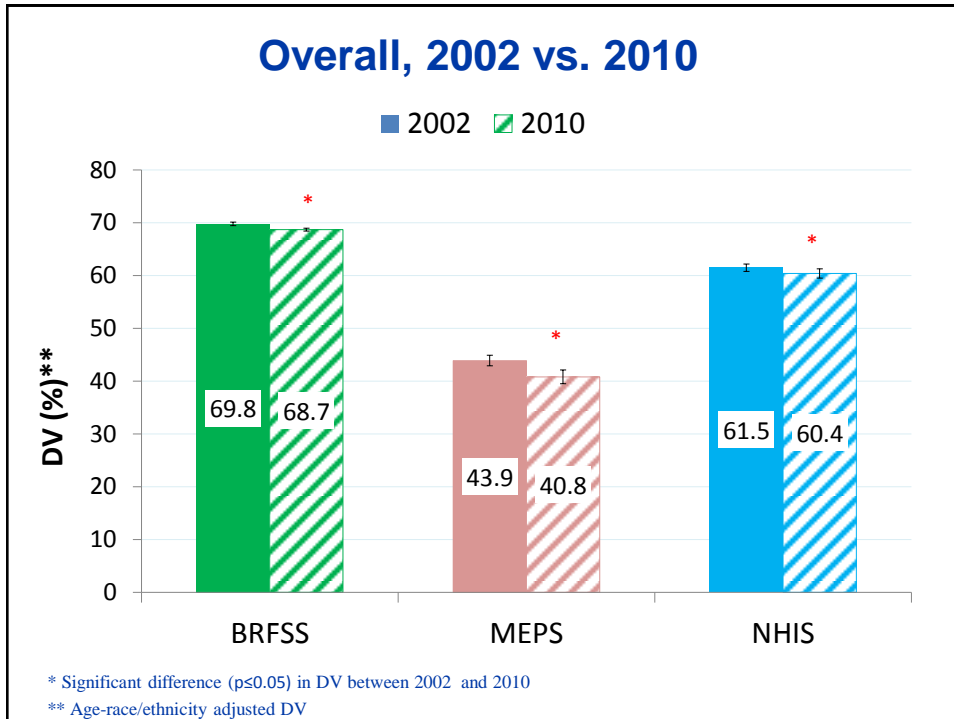
* Significant difference ($p \leq 0.05$) in DV between BRFSS and other surveys

** NHANES: Mexican American

*** Age adjusted DV

Compare Overall DV Between 2002 and 2010 within

- BRFSS
- MEPS
- NHIS



Limitations

- ❑ Self-reported DV
- ❑ Adjusted DV based on direct standardization: unstable estimates for populations with small size
- ❑ Changes between two time points may not reflect the trend over time

Conclusions

- ❑ Overall DV estimates were highest from BRFSS and lowest from MEPS
- ❑ Similar patterns of comparisons in DV between BRFSS and other surveys were observed in both 2002 and 2010 and most subpopulations.
- ❑ Overall DV decreased slightly but significantly from 2002 to 2010 within surveys

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Public Health Implications

- ❑ BRFSS is the primary state-level data source for DV among adults.
- ❑ When monitoring state progress in DV using BRFSS towards national goals (e.g., HP 2020) using MEPS, NHIS or NHANES, differences in estimates, survey methodologies and questions across surveys should be considered.

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Questions?

Thanks!

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The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

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