

# VITAL HEALTH STATISTICS

## **Anthropometric Reference Data and Prevalence of Overweight United States, 1976–80**

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This report presents descriptive data for selected anthropometric measurements and provides estimates of overweight and severe overweight by age, race, and sex. This information is from the second National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey, a national probability sample survey of the civilian, noninstitutionalized population of the United States, that was conducted during the period 1976–80.

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**Data From the National Health Survey  
Series 11, No. 238**

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DHHS Publication No. (PHS) 87–1688

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U.S. Department of Health and Human  
Services  
Public Health Service  
National Center for Health Statistics  
Hyattsville, Md.  
October 1987

Table 47. Handedness for persons 6 months-74 years of age--number examined and percent distribution by hand preference, according to sex and age: United States, 1976-80

Sex and age	Examined persons	Hand preference				
		Total	Right	Left	Both	Not sure
<b>Both sexes</b>		<b>Percent distribution</b>				
6-11 months.....	356	100.0	27.8	5.7	10.0	56.6
1 year.....	706	100.0	42.5	9.0	11.7	36.9
2 years.....	711	100.0	63.2	7.9	10.7	18.2
3 years.....	784	100.0	76.0	10.3	6.3	7.4
4 years.....	800	100.0	82.4	9.4	3.3	4.9
5 years.....	761	100.0	89.5	8.4	1.6	0.5
6-11 years.....	1,725	100.0	87.0	12.4	0.5	0.1
12-17 years.....	1,975	100.0	87.0	11.7	1.3	0.0
18-24 years.....	2,054	100.0	88.3	9.8	1.9	0.1
25-34 years.....	2,237	100.0	89.8	9.2	0.9	0.1
35-44 years.....	1,589	100.0	91.0	8.1	0.9	-
45-54 years.....	1,453	100.0	93.4	5.1	1.5	-
55-64 years.....	2,556	100.0	93.4	4.6	2.0	-
65-74 years.....	2,615	100.0	94.2	3.8	1.9	0.0
<b>Male</b>						
6-11 months.....	179	100.0	29.4	4.8	15.2	50.5
1 year.....	370	100.0	42.5	7.6	10.7	39.1
2 years.....	375	100.0	62.0	7.5	12.6	17.8
3 years.....	418	100.0	74.9	10.5	6.8	7.8
4 years.....	404	100.0	78.9	11.4	4.7	5.0
5 years.....	397	100.0	88.8	8.8	1.9	0.5
6-11 years.....	885	100.0	86.9	12.3	0.8	-
12-17 years.....	1,039	100.0	84.5	13.9	1.6	-
18-24 years.....	988	100.0	87.2	9.8	2.8	0.2
25-34 years.....	1,067	100.0	87.9	10.5	1.6	-
35-44 years.....	745	100.0	89.6	9.4	1.0	-
45-54 years.....	690	100.0	91.5	6.8	1.7	-
55-64 years.....	1,227	100.0	91.7	6.0	2.3	-
65-74 years.....	1,199	100.0	92.3	5.2	2.5	0.1
<b>Female</b>						
6-11 months.....	177	100.0	26.1	6.5	4.5	62.9
1 year.....	336	100.0	42.5	10.4	12.6	34.5
2 years.....	336	100.0	64.5	8.2	8.7	18.6
3 years.....	366	100.0	77.2	10.1	5.8	7.0
4 years.....	396	100.0	86.2	7.2	1.8	4.8
5 years.....	364	100.0	90.2	8.0	1.2	0.6
6-11 years.....	840	100.0	87.2	12.5	0.1	0.3
12-17 years.....	936	100.0	89.7	9.3	0.9	0.1
18-24 years.....	1,066	100.0	89.3	9.7	1.0	-
25-34 years.....	1,170	100.0	91.6	7.9	0.3	0.1
35-44 years.....	844	100.0	92.3	6.9	0.8	-
45-54 years.....	763	100.0	95.2	3.5	1.3	-
55-64 years.....	1,329	100.0	94.8	3.4	1.8	-
65-74 years.....	1,416	100.0	95.7	2.8	1.5	-