

Cervical Cancer Screening Among Mississippi Women Aged 21-65 Years in 2020

The Mississippi Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) is conducted annually to monitor the prevalence of behaviors that contribute to the leading causes of morbidity and mortality among adults in our state. The 2020 Mississippi BRFSS was completed by 2,218 Mississippi women aged 21 to 65 years, and 1,473 of these women answered both Cervical Cancer Screening questions.

About Cervical Cancer and Screening

- Cervical cancer is cancer of the **cervix**, which connects the vagina to the upper part of the uterus in the female reproductive system.¹
- All women are at risk for developing cervical cancer, although it **most commonly** occurs in women over the age of 30 years.¹
- The main cause of cervical cancer is **human papillomavirus (HPV)**. Therefore, getting **screening** tests, such as a Pap test, and the HPV **vaccine** can help prevent cervical cancer.¹
- In Mississippi in 2019, the age-adjusted rate of **new cervical cancer cases** was 9.1 per 100,000 women.²
- In 2020, there were a total of 60 **deaths** from cervical cancer in Mississippi. The age-adjusted death rate for cervical cancer was 3.3 per 100,000 women.²

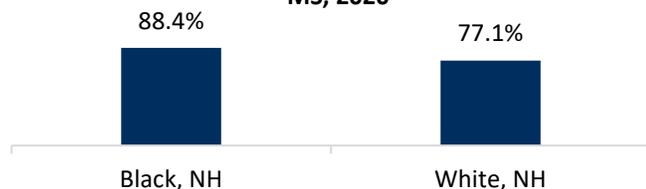
Self-Reported Cervical Cancer Screening in Mississippi in 2020

- Approximately 8 in 10 women aged 21 to 65 years (**82.3%**) reported having a Pap test in the **past 3 years**.³
- The percentage of having had a Pap test in the past 3 years was **significantly higher** among **Black, Non-Hispanic (NH) women** (88.4%) compared to **White, NH women** (77.1%).³ (Figure 1)
- Having had a Pap test in the past 3 years was **significantly lower** among women **aged 50 to 65 years** (71.8%) compared to women aged 30 to 39 years (88.3%) or 40 to 49 years (87.2%).³ (Figure 2)

Definitions

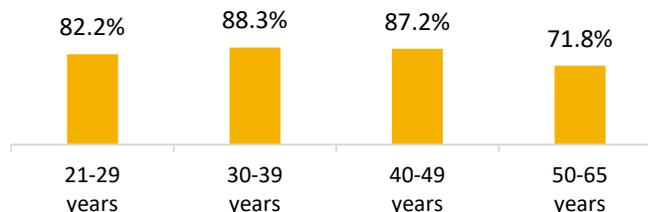
- Cervical Cancer Screening Questions:
(1) *Have you ever had a Pap test?*
(2) *How long has it been since had your last Pap test?*³
- A **Pap test** is a test for cancer of the cervix.³
- In this report, "**Other Race**" refers to adults who reported their race/ ethnicity as anything other than White, Non-Hispanic (NH) or Black, NH.
- The difference between two estimates is considered **statistically significant** (also stated as "significantly higher/lower" or "significant" in this fact sheet) if the 95% confidence intervals do not overlap.

Figure 1. Percent of Women Aged 21-65 Years Who Had a Pap Test in Past 3 Years by Race/Ethnicity, MS, 2020



Note: Data for the "Other Race" group are suppressed due to low response.

Figure 2. Percent of Women Aged 21-65 Years Who Had a Pap Test in Past 3 Years by Age, MS, 2020



Note: In the 2020 MS BRFSS, the numbers of responses for individual races and ethnicities contained in the "Other Race" demographic group were too low to allow for meaningful estimates. To request additional race/ethnicity data, please [submit a data request using MSDH's online form](#).

Cervical Cancer Screening Among Mississippi Women Aged 21-65 Years in 2020

Self-Reported Cervical Cancer Screening in Mississippi in 2020 (continued)

- The percentage of having a Pap test in the past 3 years increased as education level increased. Having a Pap test was **significantly higher** among women who have **graduated from college** (89.0%) compared to women whose highest educational attainment was graduating from high school (79.1%) and those who did not graduate high school (71.5%).³ (Figure 3)
- The percentage of having had a Pap test in the past 3 years was **highest** among women whose annual household income was **\$50,000 or more** (87.8%) compared to women with lower annual household income levels; however, the difference was not statistically significant.³ (Figure 4)

Figure 3. Percent of Women Aged 21-65 Years Who Had a Pap Test in Past 3 Years by Education, MS, 2020

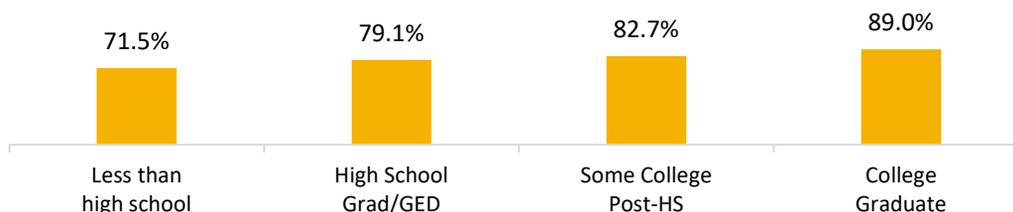
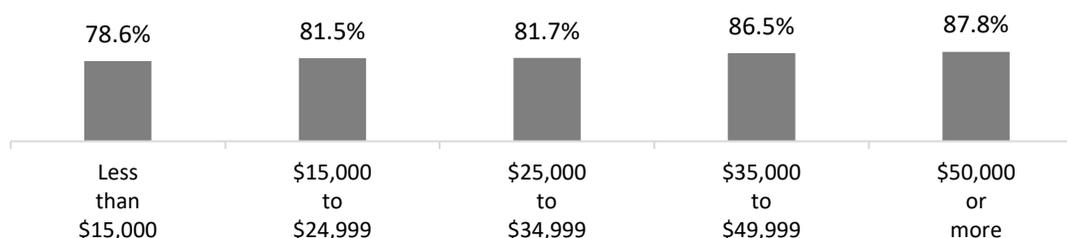


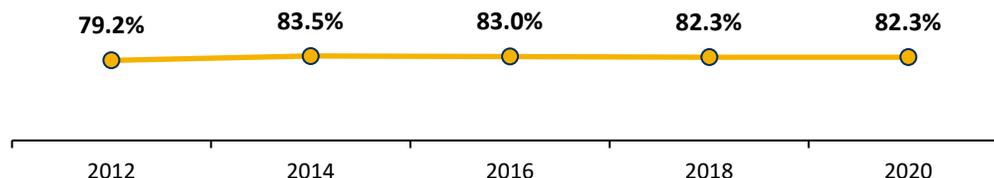
Figure 4. Percent of Women Aged 21-65 Years Who Had a Pap Test in Past 3 Years by Annual Household Income, MS, 2020



Cervical Cancer Screening Trends in Mississippi

- There was **no significant change** in the percentage of women aged 21 to 65 years who had a Pap test in the past 3 years in 2012 (79.2%) compared to 2020 (82.3%).³ (Figure 5)

Figure 5. 2012-2020 Trend of Having a Pap Test in Past 3 Years Among Women Aged 21 to 65 Years in Mississippi



References

- 1) Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). (2021, December 14). *Basic information about cervical cancer*. Retrieved 11-22-2022, from https://www.cdc.gov/cancer/cervical/basic_info/index.htm
- 2) Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH). (2022, November 17). *Mississippi Statistically Automated Health Resource System (MSTAHRS)*. Retrieved 1-18-2022, from <https://mstahrs.msdh.ms.gov/forms/morttable.html>
- 3) Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). (2022, May 4). *Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System*. Retrieved 5-12-2022, from <https://www.cdc.gov/brfss/index.html>

For More Information, Contact:
Mississippi State Department of Health