

1) Subjective Cognitive Decline (SCD): The Cognitive Module asks individuals aged 45 and older if, in the previous 12 months, they have “experienced confusion or memory loss that is happening more often or is getting worse.” *Subjective cognitive decline* refers to the percentage of respondents who answered yes to this question. While some individuals who respond affirmatively to this question may have mild cognitive impairment (MCI) or be in the early stages of Alzheimer’s disease and other dementias – and may have received such a diagnosis from a physician – this question does not measure the prevalence of any medical condition. Rather, it measures the prevalence of “subjective cognitive decline” – a non-medical term that identifies the percentage of individuals who self-report they are having increasing memory problems. A growing number of studies has shown that SCD is associated with an increased risk of future dementia. Thus, this data indicate the potential future problem and burden.

2) Have Not Talked to Health Care Provider: Individuals with SCD are asked if they have talked to a health care provider about their memory problems. The percentage included on the data sheet is those who have not talked to a provider.

3) Functional Difficulties: Individuals are described as having *functional difficulties* if they have *day-to-day limitations* and/or *work/social limitations*. See items 5 and 6 below.

4) Demographic Data: These data are the percentages of individuals aged 45 and older within each demographic category who report increasing memory problems. For example, the percentage under the category “< high school” represents the percentage of non-high school graduates aged 45 and older who are experiencing SCD.

5) Work/Social Limitations: Individuals with SCD are asked how often their memory problems have interfered with their ability to work, volunteer, or engage in social activities. Those who responded “always, usually, or sometimes” are identified as having *work/social limitations*.

6) Day-to-Day Limitations: Individuals with SCD are asked how often they have had to give up household activities or chores – such as cooking, cleaning, taking medications, driving, or paying bills – as a result of their memory problems. Those who responded “always, usually, or sometimes” are identified as having *day-to-day limitations*.

7) Need Assistance Day-to-Day: Individuals with SCD are then asked how often they need assistance with day-to-day activities as a result of their memory problems. Those who responded “always, usually, or sometimes” are identified as *needing assistance day-to-day*. While this group is, for all intents and purposes, a subset of those who have day-to-day limitations, the percentage included on the data sheet is the percentage of the total SCD population who need assistance, not the percentage of those with day-to-day limitations who need assistance. Because of the revision to the BRFSS Cognitive Module, the data regarding those who need assistance day-to-day are *not* comparable with the percentage identified as needing assistance in previous years’ surveys.

8) Live Alone: This percentage represents those with SCD who live by themselves and thus may be in greater need of services and supports.

9) At Least One Other Chronic Condition: This is the percentage of those with SCD who have at least one of six other chronic conditions. Those chronic conditions are: arthritis, asthma, cancer, cardiovascular disease, COPD, and/or diabetes. These six conditions most closely correspond with the definition of chronic condition used by *Healthy People 2020*.

