

News, August 23
2010

Featured items

[Webinar: Sharon Long to Discuss Using the NHIS to Evaluate State Health Reform](#)


[CPS and ACS Data Releases](#)

[Health Security Index Retrospective Report Released](#)

[Sharon Long Releases SHARE Briefs about Massachusetts Health Reform](#)

[Colorado Underinsurance Brief Released](#)

Connect with SHADAC

 [Follow us on Twitter](#)

 [Become a fan](#)

 [Read our blog](#)

News and Announcements

Sharon Long to Discuss Using the NHIS to Evaluate State Health Reform

SHARE's next webinar will be on September 1, 2010, at 12:00 p.m. (EDT). The event will feature SHADAC Senior Economist Sharon Long, who will present findings from her research using the National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) to evaluate state health reform in New York and Massachusetts. Audrey Gasteier, Director for Health System Monitoring at the Massachusetts Division of Health Care Finance and Policy, will serve as the respondent to Sharon's presentation. This event is free and open to the public, but registration is required. [Click here to register for the webinar.](#)

SHADAC Assistance Available to States in Planning for Health Reform

SHADAC is available to help with your state's data collection and analysis needs under health reform, including help with your application for an [insurance exchange planning grant](#) and your activities under the grant. Examples of services that SHADAC can provide to states include background research, stakeholder perspectives, program integration, and planning for ongoing data needs for exchange operations. To talk with us about how we can help, please contact SHADAC's Research Coordinator, Leah Drilias, at 612-624-4802 or drili001@umn.edu.

CPS and ACS Data Releases

The health insurance estimates from the 2010 Current Population Survey (CPS), reflecting calendar year 2009, are tentatively scheduled to be released on September 16, 2010. The estimates from the 2009 American Community Survey (ACS) are tentatively scheduled to be released on September 28. SHADAC will host a webinar featuring Census Bureau experts to discuss the estimates; this date is also tentatively scheduled for September 30.

We will update this information as soon as possible, and a special announcement will be sent to our mailing list when the webinar date is finalized. If you received this newsletter you will receive the announcement. Others can sign up for our list [at this link](#).

Save the Date: NASHP State Health Policy Conference

The 23rd Annual State Health Policy Conference for the National Academy for State Health Policy (NASHP) will be held on October 4-6, 2010, in New Orleans, Louisiana. Registration is now open, with early bird rates available until September 10. Information is available at the [conference web site](#).

Publications

Health Reform Implementation Web Sites Compiled

SHADAC has compiled a list of state web sites dedicated to federal and/or state reform initiatives. This resource provides links to web sites in 37 states for which we have identified such a resource. The page is available [at this link](#), and also under the "Health Reform Resources section on the right-side of our home page.

Health Security Index Retrospective Report Released

New data suggest that Americans have had a remarkably even-keeled attitude towards their health care over the past year, despite the turmoil of debate that preceded and followed the passage of the Affordable Care Act. The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health Care Consumer Confidence Index (RWJF Index) fluctuated only moderately over the past year, ranging from 95.8 to 104.4. An analysis of the past year's data, "[Tracking Consumers' Attitudes Toward Health Care Over Time: July 2009 to June 2010](#)," reveals that while consumer confidence spiked the month after reform, it quickly returned to baseline numbers and proceeded to level out.

SNACC Medicaid Undercount Project Reports Available

Reports for Phases V and VI of the SNACC Medicaid Undercount project are now available. The research is designed to explain why discrepancies exist between survey estimates of enrollment in Medicaid and the number of enrollees reported in state and national administrative data. This project was a collaboration between SHADAC, the National Center for Health Statistics, the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Assistant Secretary for

Planning and Evaluation (ASPE), the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, and the U.S. Census Bureau. Information on the project is available at SHADAC's [Medicaid Undercount page](#). These latest reports include:

- "[Phase V Research Results](#): Extending the Phase II Analysis of Discrepancies between the National Medicaid Statistical Information System (MSIS) and the Current Population Survey (CPS) Annual Social and Economic Supplement (ASEC) from Calendar Years 2000-2001 to Calendar Years 2002-2005."
- "[Phase VI Research Results](#): Estimating the Medicaid Undercount in the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey Household Component (MEPS-HC)."

SHADAC Researchers Present at National Conference on Health Statistics

SHADAC Center Director Lynn Blewett Lynn organized a panel at the 2010 National Conference on Health Statistics highlighting approaches to developing state estimates from federal survey data. Two approaches presented in this panel require access to a Research Data Center (RDC), such as the one now open at the [University of Minnesota](#).

SHADAC researchers Sharon Long and Peter Graven presented at the National Conference on Health Statistics, held August 16-18, 2010 in Washington, DC. Lynn presented "Use of Federal Surveys for State Policy Analysis." Sharon presented "Using the National Health Interview Survey to Evaluate State Health Reform: Findings from New York and Massachusetts." Peter presented "A Two-sample Approach for State Estimates of a Chronic Condition Outcome." [View the presentations.](#)

SHADAC Researchers Present at Joint Statistical Meetings

Kathleen Call and Joanna Turner presented at the Joint Statistical Meetings of the American Statistical Association, held July 31-August 5, 2010 in Vancouver, BC, Canada. Joanna presented "Health Insurance Coverage Estimates from the American Community Survey." Kathleen presented "Can Post-Stratification Adjustments Do Enough to Reduce Bias in Telephone Surveys that Do Not Sample Cell Phones? It Depends." [View](#)

[the presentations.](#)

News from SHARE

Sharon Long Releases SHARE Briefs about Massachusetts Health Reform

SHADAC Senior Economist Sharon Long has released two issue briefs detailing findings from her SHARE-sponsored research project. In the first brief, "[Massachusetts Health Reform in 2008: Who are the Remaining Uninsured Adults?](#)" Dr. Long and her research team use the Integrated Public Use Microdata Series (IPUMS)-USA file of the 2008 American Community Survey to identify the characteristics of the remaining uninsured population in Massachusetts following the state's 2006 health reforms.

In the second brief, "[The Importance of Young Adult Provisions in Massachusetts' Health Reform,](#)" Dr. Long and co-authors use data from the 2006 to 2009 Current Population Survey to compare health insurance coverage for young adults before and after Massachusetts implemented its health reform initiative, with the goal of disentangling the effects of the special provisions implemented to expand coverage to young adults.

New SHARE Brief: Iowa's Efforts to Reach Uninsured Children through Tax Information

SHARE has released a new issue brief about Iowa's experience using income tax information to reach out to uninsured children who are potentially eligible for the state's CHIP ("hawk-i") and Medicaid programs. The new brief, "[Reaching Uninsured Children: Iowa's Income Tax return and CHIP Project.](#)" details how the state's Department of Revenue and Department of Human Services collaborated to implement the Iowa's tax-based outreach efforts and offers multiple lessons learned from the state's experience to date.

Health Reform News

Health and Human Services Announces \$51 Million in Grants for State Exchanges

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced on July 29th the availability of \$51 million in grants to assist states launch the insurance exchanges mandated by the Patient Protection and Affordable

Care Act (PPACA). The grants are available in amounts of up to \$1 million per state and are intended to help states conduct research and planning for the exchanges, which are scheduled to become active in 2014. As states move forward with the development of these exchanges, SHADAC is available to provide technical assistance relating to data collection, analysis and evaluation. To talk with us about how we can help, please contact SHADAC's Research Coordinator, Leah Drilias, at 612-624-4802 or drili001@umn.edu.

RWJF Coverage Team News

SCI Report on Implementing National Reform Released

State Coverage Initiatives (SCI) has released a report authored by Stan Dorn, "[State Implementation of National Health Reform: Harnessing Federal Resources to Meet State Policy Goals](#)." The intent of this report is to help state officials by synthesizing the details of federal reform into several broad themes.

Health Policy Orientation: Registration Now Open

Registration is now open for AcademyHealth's annual Health Policy Orientation, which will take place on October 25-28, 2010, in Washington, D.C. This event gives participants an in-depth understanding of the fundamentals of health policy development and implementation at the federal level. The Orientation is geared toward public officials, federal and state government employees, private sector health care employees, health policy analysts, and consultants. Space is limited to 50 participants. Visit www.academyhealth.org/orientation for more information, or call Anna LaFayette at 202.292.6739.

SCI Announces New Health Reform Resources Portal

State Coverage Initiatives (SCI) has launched an [online portal for health reform resources](#). The portal provides one-stop access to resources from research organizations, states, and the federal government. In order to facilitate information-sharing among states, state officials are encouraged to send relevant reports to SCI at sci@academyhealth.org for posting to the portal, which will be continually updated.

News from the States

California County-level Uninsurance Estimates Released

A new fact sheet, "[California's Uninsured by County](#)," from the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research provides detailed county-by-county estimates of the number of California residents who have lost health insurance during the economic downturn.

Colorado Underinsurance Brief Released

A new brief prepared by the Colorado Health Institute, "[The Magnitude of Underinsurance in Colorado](#)," finds almost as many Coloradans are underinsured as uninsured. Analysis of the 2008-09 Colorado Household Survey found 650,000 Coloradans were underinsured and 678,000 were uninsured at the time of the survey. Underinsured Coloradans have public or private health insurance that doesn't adequately cover the costs of necessary services, resulting in out-of-pocket expenses that often exceed their ability to pay. One in five Coloradans age 65 and older were underinsured.

Nebraska Medicaid Impact Report Released

A report prepared for the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services provides two estimates of the enrollment and fiscal impact associated with the Medicaid expansion and other related provisions of federal reform. The projections show that federal reform will cost the state of Nebraska between \$526 and \$766 million in unfunded Medicaid costs over the next decade. [Read the report.](#)

New York Reform Implementation Report Released

A report released by the New York State Health Foundation (NYSHealth) finds that Federal health reform could expand health care coverage for an estimated 1.2 million people in New York State who are currently uninsured. "[Implementing Federal Health Care Reform: A Roadmap for New York State](#)" also projects the unique implications that each provision of the law holds for New York, and identifies the tasks and hurdles that State government and other stakeholders must confront when implementing reform.

SHADAC is funded by The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to help states monitor rates of health insurance coverage and to understand factors associated with uninsurance. Visit us online at www.shadac.org

SHARE is a National Program Office funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to fund, synthesize and disseminate evaluations of state health reform. SHARE operates out of SHADAC. For more information, visit SHARE's web site, www.statereformevaluation.org.

Copyright (C) 2010 State Health Access Data Assistance Center (SHADAC) All rights reserved.