State Estimates of Health Insurance Coverage

Data from the National Health Interview Survey

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NHIS State Health insurance data

Current products

Early Release Program full year report (June)
– 20 largest states (population)
  age groups: under 65; under 18; 18-64
  at time of interview percentage
  uninsured;
  public coverage;
  private coverage
NHIS State Health insurance data

Periodic product
(National Health Statistics Report (NHSR) Number 1, June 19, 2008)
State, Regional and National Estimates
– 41 states with at least 1,000 NHIS respondents (AK, DE, DC, MT, NH, ND, RI, SD, CT, WY excluded)
– 3 years of data combined (2004-06)
– age groups: under 65; under 18; 18-64

NHIS State Health insurance data

NHSR continued
Coverage status:
  at time of interview: no coverage, private coverage, Medicaid or SCHIP
Uninsured at time of interview:
  uninsured for part of past year,
  uninsured for more than a year
NHIS State Health insurance data

NHSR continued
Coverage status and type of coverage by poverty level
State-specific estimates compared with national average on all tables and maps

Illustrations
Children under age 18 with private coverage at the time of interview, by state, 2004-2006

Source: CDC/NCHS, National Health Interview Survey. Chart from NCHS, National Health Statistics Reports, No. 1.

Children under age 18 uninsured at time of interview, by state, 2004-2006

Source: CDC/NCHS, National Health Interview Survey. Chart from NCHS, National Health Statistics Reports, No. 1.
Children under age 18 with Medicaid / SCHIP coverage at time of interview, by state, 2004-2006

NHIS State Health insurance data

NHISR continued
CPS and NHIS estimates compared in appendix table
uninsured for full year
uninsured at time of interview
uninsured for more than 1 year
Differences consistent with previously published comparisons
CPS estimates of uninsured full year similar to NHIS estimates of uninsured at time of interview

Source: CDC/NCHS, National Health Interview Survey; Chart from NCHS, National Health Statistics Reports, No. 1.
NIS State Health insurance data

• Other uses
  – Regional estimates

High Deductible Health Plans - comparisons of BEA regions and national percentages for persons under 65 years of age, 2007

NOTE: U.S. overall rate is 17.3%.
NHIS State Health insurance data

Limitations in NHIS direct state estimates
Excludes smaller states
Limits disaggregation into smaller subpopulations (race, etc)
Geographic codes not available on public use files due to confidentiality issues

NHIS State Health insurance data

Future possibilities for producing state estimates

Use modeling techniques
Create statistical “noise” to enable release of geographic identifiers on public use files
Expand state access in larger states
  California – UCLA uses NHIS data to calibrate with the CHIS
Use geocoded data to capture area characteristics