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2011**

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## Announcements

### Current Population Survey: 49.9 Million Uninsured

New estimates from the Current Population Survey show that 49.9 million people (16.3%) were uninsured in the United States in 2010, compared to 49.0 in 2009. This is not a significant change for the population overall. These estimates show a significant increase in health insurance coverage for young adults (18-25 years), from 70.7% in 2009 to 72.8% in 2010. There is also a small but significant decline in coverage among the elderly, from 98.3% to 98.0%.

These estimates are available in the Census Bureau's report, "[Income, Poverty, and Health Insurance Coverage in the United States: 2010](#)." The Census Bureau's [health insurance page](#) also has updated tables and figures with the new estimates.

### ACS/CPS Data Release Webinar to be Held on September 23

SHADAC's annual webinar to discuss the release of health insurance coverage estimates from the American Community Survey (ACS) and the Current Population Survey (CPS) will be held at 1:00 PM EDT on September 23. [Register now for the ACS and CPS State Health Insurance Estimates Webinar](#).

The webinar will present results from both surveys, discuss methodological changes to the surveys, guide users in accessing the estimates, and discuss how to use these estimates as federal health reform is implemented by the states. Experts from the U.S. Census Bureau will join the call to discuss these issues and respond to questions.

The CPS estimates will be released on September 13 and the ACS will be released on September 22.

## Our highlighted blogs

[ACA Note: Defining FPL Categories in the Affordable Care Act](#)

[ACA Note: Modified Adjusted Gross Income - Implications for Medicaid Eligibility Systems](#)

[Tracking Reform at the State Level](#)

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## SHADAC Releases CPS Imputation Paper

SHADAC researchers Michel Boudreaux and Joanna Turner prepared new working paper for the Census Bureau, "[Modifications to the Imputation Routine for Health Insurance in the CPS ASEC: Description and Evaluation](#)." This paper describes a revised data imputation technique for health insurance estimates from the Current Population Survey's Annual Social and Economic Supplement (CPS ASEC). The Census Bureau implemented the new method with the 2011 CPS ASEC (reflecting calendar year 2010) and retroactively applied the new routine for the 2000 to 2010 CPS ASECs.

## SHARE Releases Three Briefs Exploring Data Linkages under the ACA

SHARE released a series of three briefs by grantee Michael O'Grady, Senior Fellow at the National Opinion Research Center (NORC), to identify the most useful set of next-generation data linkage projects for the purpose of informing health care reform implementation. The information in the briefs is based on interviews with key technical staff who work on linked data and with outside researchers and analytic staff whose work directly informs policymakers. The briefs explore, respectively, [\(1\) priority areas for data linkage under the ACA](#); [\(2\) barriers and challenges to creating linked data sets](#); and [\(3\) the sustainability of data linkage projects and potential coalitions of interest to support these efforts](#).

## Michele Burlew Wins Poster Award at SAS User Group

Michele Burlew, former SHADAC Senior Research Fellow, presented the winning poster at the NorthEast SAS User Group conference, held September 11-14 in Portland, Maine. Her poster, "[Using Macros to Compute US Health Insurance Coverage Estimates for Insertion into a Web-based Table Generator](#)," describes the SAS processing developed to create estimates for [SHADAC's Data Center](#). This work also included efforts by SHADAC researchers Peter Graven, Karen Turner, and Michel Boudreaux.

## Medicare Data Webinar on September 27

Changes in Health Care Financing and Organization (HCFO) and AcademyHealth's Methods Council are hosting a webinar at 1:00 PM EDT on September 27 to discuss the process of acquiring and using Medicare data. "[Getting and Using Medicare Data: What I Wish I Had Known Before I Started My Research](#)" is open to the public but pre-registration is required.

## Resources

### IOM Releases Report on Policy Initiatives to Reduce Disparities

The Institute of Medicine (IOM) released "[State and Local Policy Initiatives to Reduce Health Disparities - Workshop Summary](#)." This publication summarizes the proceedings of the IOM's May 2009 Roundtable on the Promotion of Health Equity and the Elimination of Health Disparities sponsored a public workshop to explore the role of state and local policy initiatives in reducing health disparities.

### Kaiser Releases Medicaid Managed Care State Report

The Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured released, "[A Profile of Medicaid Managed Care Programs in 2010: Findings from a 50-State Survey](#)." This report provides state-level overview of how Medicaid is managed and strategies for improving access to care, quality of care and accountability.

## News from the States

### HCFO Releases Brief on Oregon Health Plan Dental Benefits

Changes in Health Care Financing and Organization (HCFO) released the brief, "[The Individual and Program Impacts of Eliminating Medicaid Dental Benefits in the Oregon Health Plan](#)." Led by Neal Wallace of Portland State University, the researchers studied the impact of the 2003 elimination of the dental benefit for the Oregon Health Plan Standard, Oregon's Medicaid plan for the low-income adult population.

## Visit SHADAC's blog for regular updates and commentary

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These updates include our bi-weekly newsletter; webinars on data, evaluation, and reporting related to Affordable Care Act implementation; and other resources pertinent

to state health policy.

If you were forwarded this message and would like to subscribe to our email list, please visit our signup page at [www.shadac.org/content/stay-updated](http://www.shadac.org/content/stay-updated).

**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](http://www.shadac.org)

**SHARE** is a National Program 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](http://www.statereformevaluation.org).

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