

shadac NEWSLETTER

STATE HEALTH ACCESS DATA ASSISTANCE CENTER

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SHADAC Announcements

An Annual Conversation with the U.S. Census Bureau: Addressing Data Quality Challenges in the 2020 American Community Survey



SHADAC recently welcomed experts from the U.S. Census Bureau for [a webinar discussion](#) regarding the unique challenges the Census Bureau faced in both data collection and production efforts for the 2020 ACS as a result of disruptions from the COVID-19 pandemic. Attendees learned about the limited set of ACS 1-year “experimental” estimates released last year and about the methodology behind the production of these estimates. A recording, slides, and other resources from the webinar can be accessed on the [SHADAC site](#).

Updated Annual SHADAC Brief Compares Federal Survey Uninsurance Estimates

In [this brief](#), SHADAC presents current and historical national- and state-level estimates of uninsurance from four major federal surveys—the ACS, CPS, MEPS-HC, and NHIS. This year the brief also includes an overview of the unique challenges faced by each agency conducting the four surveys due to pandemic-related disruptions, how the agencies addressed and compensated for these challenges, and what these impacts mean in terms of utilizing survey data on health insurance coverage for 2020.



Measuring Mentally and Physically Unhealthy Days in New SHADAC Infographics



To help policymakers and other stakeholders identify opportunities to improve health equity in their states, SHADAC has produced a [set of data resources](#) for the 50 states and the District of Columbia using a measure of [Adult Unhealthy Days](#) included in our State Health Compare web tool. SHADAC created accessible maps and charts that show how states compare to the U.S. average in measures of people’s self-reported physical and mental health, and how people’s physical and mental health varies depending on their race and ethnicity, level of income, and age [within each state](#).

Data, Analysis, and Trends from the States

California: Coverage during the COVID Pandemic Hits a Historic High in 2020

In a [new brief](#) prepared for the [California Health Care Foundation \(CHCF\)](#), SHADAC researchers analyzed data from the [California Health Interview Survey \(CHIS\)](#) regarding the coverage landscape in California in 2020. The brief highlights encouraging trends, including the historically low rate of uninsurance in 2020 (7.0%), and explores persistent disparities, such as the uninsured rate among Latinx Californians remaining almost three times as high as that of their White counterparts (10.5% versus 3.8%).



Rhode Island: Impacts of Adverse Childhood Experiences on Health Outcomes

A new study [published](#) by the Rhode Island Department of Health aims to understand the effects of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) on health outcomes for adults. According to the study, most Rhode Island adults (63%) have experienced at least one adverse childhood experience. Of these adults, 45% of respondents with a high score for adverse childhood experiences reported a history of depression



(versus 9% with no adverse childhood experiences), and almost 30% with higher adverse childhood experience scores were cigarette smokers (versus 7% with no adverse childhood experiences). SHADAC also has a [measure of state-level ACEs](#) available on our State Health Compare web tool.

Payment and Delivery System Reform in the States

State Delivery System and Payment Strategies Aimed at Improving Outcomes and Lowering Costs in Medicaid

Using data from their annual Medicaid budget survey, researchers from the Kaiser Family Foundation (KFF) have published a [new brief](#) that looks at changes in utilization and financial strain for some providers due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The brief provides an overview of current delivery system and payment reform initiatives in place across the states (at least one initiative in 43 out of 50 states and D.C.), as well as looking at which states are employing specific levers (e.g., financial incentive, quality incentive, MCO plan contracts) and how the impacts of these initiatives can be measured.



Additional Resources, Reports, and Guides

New State Health & Value Strategies Resources on Medicaid “Continuous Coverage” Wind Down



State Health & Value Strategies has added two new expert perspectives to their [resource page](#) for states regarding the “unwinding” of the Public Health Emergency (PHE) when the Medicaid continuous coverage requirement ends and eligibility determinations are restarted. The [first piece](#) by SHADAC offers guidance and examples for states on publishing timely data via easy-to-view dashboards on Medicaid enrollment, renewal, and disenrollment in order to understand who may be losing coverage and why. The [second](#), from Manatt Health, provides states with guidance on how to take advantage of text messaging as a mechanism to encourage them to update their contact information (i.e., phone, mailing address, email), and remind them to reply promptly to renewal requests.

State-Level Task Forces Work toward Championing Health Equity

A [new brief](#) from the National Governors Association (NGA) summarizes interviews conducted with 10 state COVID-19 health equity task forces and highlights key findings, including: recommendations for engaging community and cross-sector partners, strengthening partnerships and data infrastructure, and intentionally focusing on historically marginalized populations to garner success. State leaders also identified the following areas for future work and priority setting: employ sustainable strategies to maintain the focus on health equity; transition from public health emergency to broader health system response; and operationalize advisory role capacity.



Other Data News & SHADAC Updates

NHIS Early Estimates Released for July-September 2021



The National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) has recently released [health insurance coverage estimates](#) from the National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) for Quarter 3 of 2021 (July-September). A [new SHADAC analysis](#) of the data shows that at a high level, the new estimates show no significant changes in coverage type (public, private) or uninsured rate across all ages and income groups when compared to the same time period in 2020.

Race/Ethnicity Data in CMS Medicaid (T-MSIS) Analytic Files Updated December 2021 – Features 2019 Data

Medicaid has always played an essential role in providing coverage and care to vulnerable populations, particularly during economic downturns such as the one experienced during the COVID-19 pandemic. As a result, the ability to evaluate enrollment, access to services, and quality of care by race and ethnicity subpopulations is critical. The Transformed Medicaid Statistical Information System or T-MSIS Analytic Files (TAF) are an enhanced set of data on beneficiaries in Medicaid and CHIP that can help in this evaluation. An [updated SHADAC blog](#) examines and offers guidelines on the usability and completeness of race/ethnicity information in the 2019 TAF.



SHADAC's New State Survey Research Resource Page

A screenshot of a web page showing a grid of data. The grid has columns for years (2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021) and rows for states (AL, AK, AZ, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, DC, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NE, NH, NJ, NY, NC, ND, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY). The cells contain colored dots representing survey data points.

SHADAC has redesigned and [updated](#) its State Survey Research Activity web page using an [interactive tool](#) that allows users to easily identify the type and frequency of state-level health insurance surveys (household and/or employer) available for all 50 states and the District of Columbia. The surveys accessible through the page were collected from 2010 through 2021, with surveys that predate 2010 housed in SHADAC's archives and available upon request.

Recommendations for our Readers

[Uprooting Racism to Advance Health Equity](#)

Najaf Ahmad; RWJF Culture of Health Blog

[Using State-Level Data in Understanding Measures of Health Equity \(Part One - Coverage, Affordability and Cost of Care, Access to Care, and Quality of Care\)](#)

Andrea Stewart; SHADAC Blog

[Marketplace Enrollment Hits Record 14.2 Million As Deadline Looms](#)

Katie Keith; Health Affairs

[Parents with Low Incomes Faced Greater Health Challenges and Problems Accessing and Affording Needed Health Care in Spring 2021](#)

Jennifer M. Haley, Julia Long, Genevieve M. Kenney; Urban Institute

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