shadac
STATE HEALTH ACCESS DATA ASSISTANCE CENTER

About SHADAC

The University of Minnesota's State Health Access Data Assistance Center (SHADAC) is funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to collect and analyze data to inform state health policy decisions relating to health insurance coverage and access to care.

Our goal is to help states bridge the gap between health data and the policymaking process. SHADAC produces timely and targeted health policy research with a focus on deriving lessons from state variations in policy and outcomes in the national context.

SHADAC maintains an ongoing research agenda related to issues of health access and insurance coverage, data collection methods, and state health policy.

High quality data are needed to plan, implement and monitor the effects of federal- and state-level policies over time. Understanding the state and local level impacts of changes in health policy contributes to a better understanding of the overall impact of policy change and help identify any unintended effects. In 2008 the American Community Survey (ACS) added a health insurance question providing a new and important resource for policy evaluation at the federal, state and local level.

For information on how SHADAC can assist your state with small area estimation or other data issues relevant to state health policy, please contact us at:

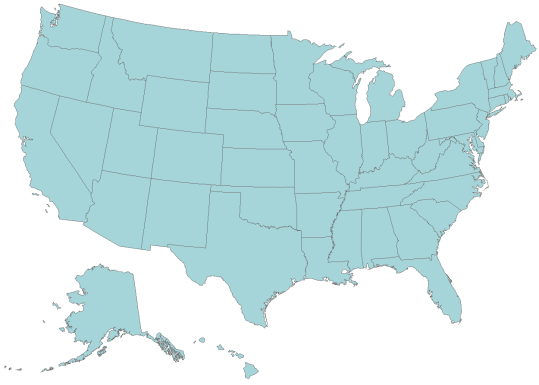
shadac@umn.edu or

612-624-4802

About the American Community Survey (ACS)

The ACS meets states' needs for monitoring health insurance coverage:

- Current coverage measured
- Consistent estimates
- Trends over time
  - Monitor impacts of health reform, change in economy or demographics
- Comparisons across states
- Excellent sample size
- Robust subpopulation analysis
  - Race/ethnicity, poverty, age
  - Counties/congressional districts, neighborhoods
- Representativeness
- Access to micro-data



The ACS Sample is almost 15 TIMES LARGER than the CPS Sample

Examples of questions answered by the ACS:

- How many uninsured are in my state and where do they live?
- What is their demographic profile?
- How many kids in each county are eligible for CHIP or Medicaid but not enrolled?
- How many people in my state will be eligible for Medicaid if eligibility is changed?

SHADAC Data Center

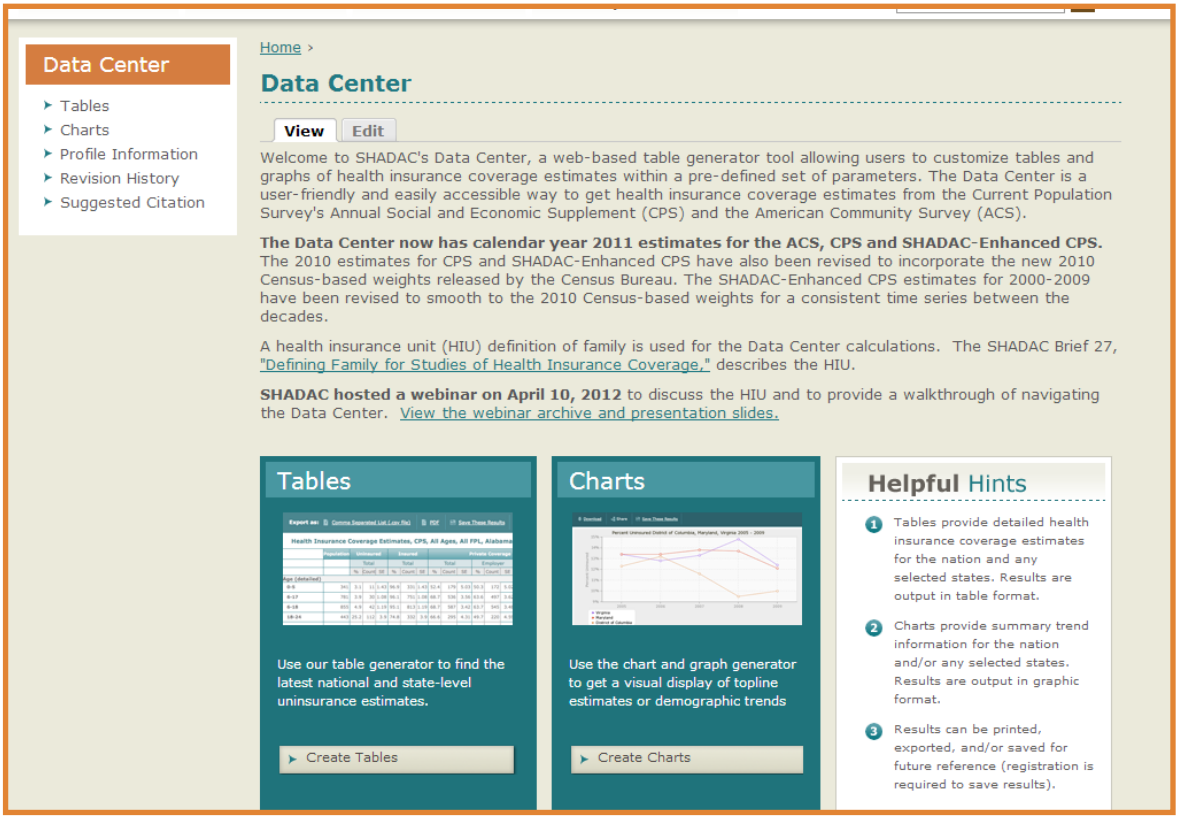
SHADAC's Data Center is a web-based tool to customize tables and graphs of health insurance coverage estimates.

The Data Center has the most up-todate state-level health insurance coverage estimates in an easy to access format. These estimates are presented in ways that are useful for both researchers and policymakers.

Go to **www.shadac.org/datacenter** and make data work for you!

With the Data Center, you can:

- Access state-level data from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey & the Current Population Survey Annual Social & Economic Supplement
- Find coverage trend data from 1987 to the present in one place, including updates based on Census revisions
- Access estimates using SHADAC's enhanced Current Population Survey data series to adjust for changes in the survey over time
- Produce customized tables and graphs that can be easily downloaded
- Export your data directly to Microsoft Excel, without the hassle of downloading new software



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Bridging the gap between research and policy @ www.shadac.org

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