Using Federal Survey Data to Inform State Health Policy

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U.S. Census Bureau Health Statistics Forum
October 17, 2012
Washington, DC
About SHADAC

• We help states collect and analyze data to inform state health policy decisions relating to health insurance coverage and access to care
• Our goal: To help states bridge the gap between health data and the policy-making process
• Based at the University of Minnesota
• Funded primarily by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF)
Outline

• Data products
• SHADAC data enhancements relevant to health policy
• Policy questions SHADAC helps states answer
• Disseminate estimates in easy to use format
• Survey research
• Education and capacity building for states
• Suggestions for Census Bureau
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Key federal survey data sources

• General household survey
  – ACS: American Community Survey

• Employment/Income survey
  – CPS: Current Population Survey (ASEC)

• Longitudinal survey
  – SIPP: Survey of Income and Program Participation

• Health surveys
  – NHIS: National Health Interview Survey
  – MEPS: Medical Expenditure Panel Survey
  – BRFSS: Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System
Data products used

• Census Bureau published reports and summary tabulations
  – Timely estimates
  – Sub-state geographies (counties)
  – Small sub-population analysis

• Public Use Micro-data files
  – Custom tabulations, for example age 19-25 and \( \leq 138\% \) poverty
  – Easier to work with standard errors
State Data Centers

• Missouri Census Data Center
  – MABLE/Geocorr for geography crosswalks
  – mcddc.missouri.edu/websas/geocorr2k.html

• Minnesota Population Center
  – Integrated Public Use Microdata Series (IPUMS)
  – www.ipums.org
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SHADAC’s data enhancements

• Create policy relevant measures for the CPS and ACS
  – Health Insurance Unit (HIU)
  – Federal Poverty Guidelines (FPG)

• Create a consistent CPS time series with historical weighting and coverage enhancements
  – SHADAC-Enhanced CPS
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Where should we allocate funds for community clinics?

% Uninsured in West Virginia, Age 0-64, ≤200% of poverty

Source: 2010 American Community Survey
Percent of private sector employers offering employer-sponsored coverage 2008/2009

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SHADAC’s Data Center

### Health Insurance Coverage Estimates, CPS (SHADAC-enhanced), All Ages, <= 138% FPG, Ohio: Calendar Years 2008 - 2010

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<th>Age (detailed)</th>
<th>Population</th>
<th>Uninsured</th>
<th>Insured</th>
<th>Private Coverage</th>
<th>Public Coverage</th>
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<tbody>
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<td></td>
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<td>Total</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>Employer</td>
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<td>%</td>
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[www.shadac.org/datacenter](http://www.shadac.org/datacenter)
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) Data Hub

Percent of individuals in families with a high health care cost burden (Total, 2010-2011)

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Survey research: use of ACS data

• State surveys use as control totals in weighting
  – To make state surveys representative of the population weight to ACS estimates
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Education and capacity building for states

- Documentation and help navigating Census Bureau products
- Annual ACS and CPS data release webinar with Census Bureau experts
- Provide resources for states to conduct own analysis
  - Variables available through IPUMS for HIU and FPG for CPS and ACS and SHADAC-Enhanced CPS
  - STATA and SAS code for HIU and FPG
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Suggestions for Census Bureau

• American FactFinder (AFF)
  – Percent and margin of error
  – Totals for categories (a lot of cells to add up)
  – Training so it’s more accessible

• ACS PUMS verification, percent example

• Provide CPS public use data in SAS

• CPS continuous poverty variable

• Documentation
Resources

• “Defining Family for Studies of Health Insurance Coverage”
  – http://www.shadac.org/publications/defining-family-studies-health-insurance-coverage

• Briefs about SHADAC-Enhanced CPS
Resources (2)

• “State-Level Trends in Employer-Sponsored Health Insurance”

• “Monitoring the Impacts of Health Reform at the State Level: Using Federal Survey Data”
Resources (3)

• “Number of Children with Health Coverage Increases During Economic Downturn”

• “Understanding 1-, 3-, and 5-year ACS”
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