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Summary Health Statistics for U.S. Children: National Health Interview Survey, 1999

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
National Center for Health Statistics

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
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Hyattsville, Maryland
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Abstract

Objectives

This report presents statistics from the 1999 National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) on selected health measures for children under 18 years of age, classified by sex, age, race/ethnicity, family structure, parent's education, family income, poverty status, health insurance coverage, place of residence, region, and current health status. The topics covered are asthma, allergies, learning disability, attention deficit disorder, use of medication, respondent-assessed health status, school-loss days, usual place of medical care, time since last contact with a health care professional, selected health care risk factors, and time since last dental contact.

Source of Data

The NHIS is a multistage probability sample survey conducted annually by interviewers of the U. S. Census Bureau for the National Center for Health Statistics, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and is representative of the civilian noninstitutionalized population of the United States. Basic information is collected during face-to-face interviews with adults present at the time of interview. Information about children is collected about one randomly selected child per family in face-to-face interviews with an adult proxy respondent familiar with the child's health.

Selected Highlights

In 1999 most U.S. children under 18 years of age enjoyed excellent or very good health (83%). However, 12% of children had no health insurance coverage, and 6% of children had no usual place of medical care. Eleven percent of children had ever been diagnosed with asthma. An estimated 7% of children 3–17 years of age had a learning disability, and an estimated 6% of children had Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD). Lastly, 9% of children in single mother families had two or more visits to an emergency room in the past year, compared with 4% of children in two parent families.

Keywords: child health • health conditions • access to care • health provider contacts • unmet medical need • ADD

Summary Health Statistics for U.S. Children: National Health Interview Survey, 1999

by Debra L. Blackwell, Ph.D., and Luong Tonthat, National Health Interview Survey Statistics

Introduction

This report is one of a set of reports summarizing data from the 1999 National Health Interview Survey (NHIS), a multipurpose health survey conducted by the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The purpose of this report is to provide national estimates for a broad range of health measures for the U.S. civilian noninstitutionalized population of children under 18 years of age. Two other reports in this set provide data on health measures for the U.S. population and for adults (1,2). These three data reports are published for each year of the NHIS (3–8), and replace the annual, one-volume Current Estimates series (10, 12, 14–26).

Estimates are presented here for asthma, allergies, learning disability, attention deficit disorder, use of medication, respondent-assessed health status, school-loss days, usual place of medical care, time since last contact with a health care professional, selected health care risk factors, and time since last dental contact. (Information regarding injuries to children is contained in the U.S. population report.) They are derived from the Sample Child component of the annual NHIS Basic Module. These estimates are shown in tables 1–18 for various subgroups of the population, including those defined by sex, age, race/ethnicity, family structure, parent's education, family income, poverty status, health insurance coverage, place of residence, region, and current health status. Estimates for other characteristics of special relevance are also included, where appropriate. Appendix I contains brief technical notes, and appendix II contains definitions of terms used in this report.

The NHIS has been an important source of information about health and health care in the United States since it was first conducted in 1957. Given the ever-changing nature of the U.S. population, the NHIS has been revised every 10–15 years, with the latest revision taking place in 1997. The first design changes were introduced in 1973 and the first procedural changes in 1975 (9). In 1982 the NHIS questionnaire and data preparation procedures of the survey were extensively revised. The basic concepts of NHIS changed in some cases, and in other cases the concepts were measured in a different way. A more complete explanation of these changes is in appendix IV of Series 10, No. 150 (10). In 1985 a new sample design for NHIS and a different method of presenting sampling errors were introduced (11,12). In 1995 another change in the sample design was introduced, including the oversampling of black and Hispanic persons (13).

The latest revision of the NHIS was implemented in 1997. The 1997 design of the NHIS features a substantially revised instrument (in terms of content) as well as a new means of administration (i.e., computer-assisted personal interviewing). This new design improves the ability of the NHIS to provide important health information. However, comparisons of the 1997 data to data from previous NHIS survey

years should not be undertaken without a careful examination of the changes across survey instruments (10, 12, 14–26).

In response to the changing demographics of the U.S. population, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) issued new standards for race and ethnicity data collection in 1997. Most notably, the new standards allow respondents to the Census and Federal surveys to indicate more than one group in answering questions on race. Additionally, the category ''Asian or Pacific Islander'' is now split into two distinct categories, ''Asian'' versus ''Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander'' (NHOPI), for data collection purposes. While the NHIS had allowed respondents to choose more than one race group for many years, the NHIS became completely compliant with all the new race and ethnicity standards with the fielding of the 1999 survey. The tables in this report reflect these new standards for reporting race and ethnicity data: breakdowns are shown for single and multiple race groups (where numerically appropriate), and for Asians and Native Hawaiians or Other Pacific Islanders separately.

Methods

Data Source

The main objective of the NHIS is to monitor the health of the U.S. population through the collection and analysis of data on a broad range of health topics. The target population for the NHIS is the civilian noninstitutionalized population of the United States. Persons excluded are patients in long-term care institutions (e.g., nursing homes for the elderly, hospitals for the chronically ill, disabled, or retarded, as well as wards for abused/neglected children), correctional facilities (e.g., prisons or jails, juvenile detention centers, and halfway houses), active duty Armed Forces personnel (although their dependents are included), and U.S. nationals living in foreign countries. Each year a representative sample of households across the country is selected for the NHIS using a multistage cluster sample design. Details on sample design can be found in *Design and Estimation for the National Health Interview Survey, 1995–2004* (13). Trained interviewers from the U.S. Census Bureau visit each selected household and administer the NHIS in person. Detailed interviewer instructions can be found in the NHIS Field Representative's Manual (27).

The annual NHIS questionnaire, now called the Basic Module or Core, consists of three main components: the Family Core, the Sample Adult Core, and the Sample Child Core. The Family Core collects information for all family members regarding household composition and sociodemographic characteristics, along with basic indicators of health status, activity limitations, and utilization of health care services. All members of the household 17 years of age and over who are at home at the time of the interview are invited to participate and respond for themselves. For children and those adults not at home during the interview, information is provided by a knowledgeable adult family member (18 years of age or over) residing in the household. Although considerable effort is made to ensure accurate reporting, the information from proxy and self-respondents may be inaccurate because the respondent is unaware of relevant information, has forgotten it, does not wish to reveal it to an interviewer, or does not understand the intended meaning of the question.

The Sample Adult and Sample Child Cores obtain additional information on the health of one randomly selected adult and child in the family; the sample adult responds for himself/herself, while a knowledgeable adult in the family provides proxy responses for the sample child. The Sample Child Core is the primary source of data for this report, while information regarding demographic characteristics is derived from the Family Core.

The interviewed sample for 1999 consisted of 37,573 households, which yielded 97,059 persons in 38,171 families. There were 14,217 children aged 0–17 years eligible for the Sample Child questionnaire. Data were collected for 12,910 children, a conditional response rate of 90.8%. The unconditional or final response rate for the Sample Child component was calculated by multiplying the conditional rate by the overall family response rate of 86.1%, yielding a rate of 78.2% (28).

Estimation Procedures

The data presented in this report are weighted to provide national health estimates. For each health measure, both weighted frequencies and percents for all children and for various subgroups of the child population are shown. All counts are expressed in thousands. Counts for persons of unknown status with respect to each health characteristic of interest are not shown separately in the tables, nor are they included in the calculation of percents, in order to make the presentation of the data more straightforward. For all health measures in this report, the overall percent unknown is typically small, in most cases less than 1%, and is shown in appendix I. These unknown cases are nevertheless included in the total population counts for each table. It should therefore be noted that the reader may obtain slightly different percentages than those shown in the tables if he or she elects to calculate percentages based on the frequencies and population counts presented in the tables.

Additionally, some of the sociodemographic variables that are used to delineate various subgroups of the population have unknown values. Again, for most of these variables, the percent unknown is small. However, in the case of family income, there is no income information for about 9% of respondents in the 1999 survey, while 15% of respondents stated that their combined family income was $20,000 or more without providing additional detail. Poverty status, which is based on family income, has a high nonresponse rate as a result. Health estimates for persons with these unknown sociodemographic characteristics are not shown in the tables, but readers should refer to appendix I for more information on the quantities of cases in the

unknown income and poverty status categories.

Limitations of the Data

Although the data are presented for various age groups, estimates for other sociodemographic subgroups are not age adjusted, so differences between groups should be interpreted with caution. Also, as mentioned previously, the redesigned NHIS is quite different in content, format, and mode of data collection from earlier versions of the survey. These changes make it difficult to compare 1997–99 NHIS estimates with those of earlier years.

In addition it is important to note that frequencies are underestimates due to item nonresponse and unknowns, both of which are excluded from the tables (with the exception of the "All children" or total columns shown in each table). See appendix I for more information about the number of unknowns with respect to each health characteristic.

Variance Estimation and Significance Testing

The NHIS data are based on a sample of the population and are therefore subject to sampling error. Standard errors are reported in order to indicate the reliability of the estimates. Estimates and standard errors were calculated using SUDAAN software that takes into account the complex sampling design of the NHIS. The Taylor series linearization method was used for variance estimation in SUDAAN (29).

Standard errors are shown for all percents in the tables (but not for the frequencies). Estimates with relative standard errors of greater than 30% are considered unreliable and are indicated with an asterisk (*). The statistical significance of differences between point estimates was evaluated using two-sided *t* tests at the 0.05 level and assuming independence. Terms such as "greater than," "less than," "more likely," "less likely," "compared with," or "opposed to" indicate a statistically significant difference between estimates, whereas "similar," "no difference," or "comparable" indicate that the estimates are not statistically different. A lack of commentary about any two estimates should not be interpreted to mean that a *t*-test was performed and the difference was found to be not significant. Furthermore, these tests did not take multiple comparisons into account.

Further Information

Data users can obtain the latest information about the National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) by periodically checking our Web site:

www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhis.htm.

The Web site features downloadable public use data and documentation for recent surveys, as well as important information about any modifications or updates to the data and/or documentation.

Researchers may also wish to join the NHIS electronic mail list. To do so, go to:

www.cdc.gov/subscribe.html.

Fill in the appropriate information, and click the "NHIS researchers" box, followed by the "Subscribe" button at the bottom of the page. The listserv is made up of approximately 3,000 NHIS data users located around the world who receive e-news about NHIS surveys (e.g., new releases of data or modifications to existing data), publications, and conferences.

Highlights

In the following section, brief, bulleted summaries of the estimates shown in tables 1–18 are presented. All estimates were calculated using the appropriate weight variable, which is calibrated by NCHS staff to produce numbers consistent with the population estimates of the United States by age, sex, and race/ethnicity, based on projections from the 1990 U.S. Census.

Health Conditions (tables 1,2)

- Eleven percent of U.S. children under 18 years of age, or 7.8 million children, have ever been diagnosed with asthma. Boys were more likely than girls to have ever been diagnosed with asthma (13% and 9%, respectively).
- Nearly 4 million children, or 5% of all children, had an asthma attack in the past 12 months. Boys were more likely to have had an asthma attack in the past 12 months than girls.
- Twenty-four percent of single race American Indian or Alaska native children have ever been diagnosed with asthma, compared with 14% of single race black children and 10% of single race white children.
- Single race non-Hispanic black children (14%) were more likely than single race non-Hispanic white or Hispanic children (10% and 10%, respectively) to have ever been diagnosed with asthma.
- Children from single mother families (14%) were more likely to have ever been diagnosed with asthma than children from two-parent families (10%).
- Eleven percent of U.S. children under 18 years of age suffered from respiratory allergies, 10% from hay fever, and 9% from other allergies in the past 12 months.
- As the level of parent's education increases, the proportion of children with all types of allergies increases. For example, 6% of children whose parents did not obtain a high school diploma had respiratory allergies, compared with 13% of children with a parent who continued education beyond high school.
- Children with private health insurance coverage were more likely to have had respiratory allergies (12%) than children with Medicaid or other public insurance (10%) or children who were uninsured (9%).

Learning Disabilities and Attention Deficit Disorder (table 3)

- An estimated 4.3 million children 3–17 years of age (7%) had been identified by a school representative or health care professional as having a learning disability, and an estimated 3.4 million children (6%) had been identified by a health care professional as having Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD).
- Ten percent of boys had a learning disability, compared with 5% of girls; 8% of boys had ADD, compared with 3% of girls.
- The percent of children with a learning disability in the lowest income group is more than double that of the highest income group.
- Six percent of children with private health insurance coverage and 6% of children lacking insurance coverage had a learning disability, compared with 14% of children with Medicaid or other public insurance coverage.
- Children with a fair or poor health status were more than four times as likely to have a learning disability and three times as likely to have ADD than children with an excellent, very good , or good health status.

Medication Use (table 4)

- Ten percent or 7.5 million children in the United States had a problem for which prescription medication had been taken regularly for at least 3 months.
- Children aged 12–17 years were more likely to have been on medication regularly for at least 3 months (13%) than children aged 5–11 years (11%) or children less than 5 years of age (6%).
- Twelve percent of boys were on prescription medication regularly for at least 3 months, compared with 9% of girls.
- Single race non-Hispanic white children and single race non-Hispanic black children were almost twice as likely to have been on prescription medication regularly for at least 3 months than Hispanic children (11% and 6%)
- Children from single mother families (12%) were more likely to have been on medication regularly for at least 3 months than children from two-parent families (10%).
- Thirteen percent of children with Medicaid or other public insurance coverage were on medication regularly for at least 3 months, compared with 10% of children with private insurance and 6% of children with no health insurance coverage.
- Eleven percent of children with a parent who continued education beyond high school were on medication regularly for at least 3 months, compared with 10% of children with parents who obtained a high school diploma and 7% of children whose parents did not obtain a high school diploma.

Respondent-Assessed Health Status (tables 5–8)

- In 1999 the overwhelming majority of children in the United States enjoyed excellent or very good health (60 million children or 83%). In addition, 11 million children (15%) were in good health. The remaining 2% of children were in fair or poor health.
- Children's health status was associated with race/ethnicity: Sixty-one percent of single race non-Hispanic white children had excellent health, while 46% of single race non-Hispanic black children and 46% of Hispanic children had excellent health.
- Parental educational attainment was positively associated with children's health: only 41% of children whose parent(s) did not obtain a high school diploma were in excellent health, compared with 48% of children whose more highly educated parent had graduated from high school or received a General Educational Development high school equivalency diploma (GED) and 63% of children whose more highly educated parent had continued education beyond high school.
- Children living in two-parent families were more likely to be in excellent health (60%) than children living in single mother families (46%) or children living in single father families (50%).
- Poverty status was associated with children's health: 63% of children from not poor families were in excellent health, compared with 49% of children from near poor families and 43% of children from poor families.
- Children with Medicaid insurance coverage were less likely to be in excellent health (41%) than children with private health insurance (61%) or children with no health insurance coverage (47%).
- In general, a child's health status was much more likely to be the same as last year than to be better than last year, and much more likely to be better than last year than to be worse than last year.
- Among children with currently excellent or very good health status, the chance of the child's having experienced an improvement in health status since a year ago was greater for Hispanic children (28%) than for single race non-Hispanic white children (18%) or single race non-Hispanic black children (23%).

School-Loss Days Due to Illness or Injury (tables 9,10)

- Of the 52 million school-aged children (aged 5–17 years) in the United States, 13 million or 26% never missed a day of school in the past 12 months due to illness or injury, 28% missed 1–2 days, and 28% missed 3–5 days of school.
- Six percent of all school-aged children (aged 5–17 years) missed 11 or more days of school because of illness or injury in the past 12 months.
- Single race non-Hispanic black and Hispanic children were more likely than single race non-Hispanic white children to have missed no school in

the past 12 months due to illness or injury. Children who were poor or near poor were more likely than children who were not poor to have missed no school due to illness or injury.

- Children in single-parent families were absent from school for 11 or more days in the past year at about twice the rate of children in two-parent families.
- Parental education is associated with the number of school days missed. Seven percent of children whose parent(s) did not have a high school diploma and 8% whose more highly educated parent had a high school diploma or GED missed 11 or more days of school, compared with 5% of children whose more highly educated parent had continued education beyond high school.

Usual Place of Health Care (tables 11,12)

- In 1999, 6% of children in the United States did not have a usual place of health care.
- Five percent of single race non-Hispanic white children did not have a usual place of health care in 1999, compared with 6% of single race non-Hispanic black children and 14% of Hispanic children.
- Among children with a usual place of health care, 77% visited a doctor's office, 20% received care in a clinic, 2% used a hospital outpatient department, and 1% used a hospital emergency room (ER) as a usual place of health care.
- Among children with a usual place of health care, 83% of single race non-Hispanic white children visited a doctor's office for that care, compared with 69% of single race non-Hispanic black children and 64% of Hispanic children. Hispanic and single race non-Hispanic black children were more likely to have a clinic as their usual place of care (32% and 26%, respectively) than were single race non-Hispanic white children (16%).
- Children living with two parents were more likely to go to a doctor's office for care (81%) than those living in a single mother family (68%), a single father family (72%), or with neither parent present (64%).

Time Since Last Contact With a Health Care Professional (tables 13,14)

- Most children had a contact with a doctor or other health professional at some time during the past 6 months, ranging from 66% of children aged 12–17 years to 86% of children 0–4 years of age.
- Sixty-three percent of children whose parent(s) did not have a high school diploma and 71% whose more highly educated parent had a high school diploma or GED had a contact with a doctor or other health professional at some time during the past 6 months, compared with 76% of children whose more highly educated parent had continued education beyond high school.
- Seventy-five percent of children with private health insurance coverage and 77% of those with Medicaid had a contact with a doctor or other health professional in the past 6 months, compared with 52% of children with no insurance coverage. Fifteen percent of uninsured children had not had a contact with a doctor or other health professional in more than 2 years (or had never had a contact), compared with 3% for both children with private coverage and children with Medicaid.

Selected Health Care Risk Factors (tables 15,16)

- In 1999, 8.3 million children (12%) had no health insurance coverage, ranging from 2% of children in families with an income of $75,000 or more to 22% of children in families with an income of less than $20,000.
- Nearly 2 million children (3%) were unable to get needed medical care because the family could not afford it, and medical care for 2.7 million children (4%) was delayed because of worry about the cost.
- Four percent of children in single mother families and 3% of children in single father families were unable to get needed medical care because the family could not afford it, compared with 2% of children in two-parent families.
- Nine percent of children in single mother families had two or more visits to an emergency room in the past year, compared with 4% of children in two-parent families.
- Children in poor and near poor families were more likely to be uninsured, to have unmet medical need, delayed care, no usual place of medical care, and high use of ER service than children in not poor families.
- Regionally, 14% of children in the West and 16% of children in the South had no health insurance, compared with 7% of children in the Midwest and 7% of children in the Northeast.
- Regionally, 9% of children in the West and 8% of children in the South had no usual place of medical care, compared with 5% of children in the Midwest and 2% of children in the Northeast.
- When compared with children with an excellent, very good, or good health status, children with a fair or poor health status were:
    - four times as likely to have unmet need (8% versus 2%)
    - three times as likely to have delayed medical care (12% versus 4%)
    - almost five times as likely to have two or more ER visits (24% versus 5%)

Dental Care (tables 17,18)

- An estimated 4.2 million children had unmet dental need because their families could not afford dental care.
- Twenty-one percent of children lacking health insurance coverage experienced unmet dental need because their families could not afford dental care, compared with

4% of children with private health insurance coverage and 7% of children with Medicaid.

- Ten percent of children in single mother families had unmet dental needs, compared with 5% of children in two-parent families.
- Regionally, 4% of children in the Northeast experienced unmet dental needs, compared with 6% of children in the Midwest, 7% of children in the South, and 8% of children in the West.
- Single race white children were more likely to have had a dental contact in the past 6 months (59%) than single race black children (44%) and American Indian or Alaska native only children (40%).
- Single race non-Hispanic white children were more likely to have had a dental contact in the past 6 months (62%) than single race non-Hispanic black children (44%) and Hispanic children (43%).
- Hispanic children were nearly twice as likely as single race non-Hispanic white children to have had no dental contact for more than 2 years.

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Table 1. Frequencies and percents (with standard errors) of ever having asthma and having an asthma attack in the past 12 months, for children 17 years of age and under, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999

Selected characteristic	All children 0–17 years	Ever told had asthma[1]	Had asthma attack in past 12 months[1]	Ever told had asthma	Had asthma attack in past 12 months
	Number in thousands[2]			Percent (standard error)[2]	
Total	72,080	7,761	3,799	10.8 (0.35)	5.3 (0.24)
Sex					
Male	36,871	4,759	2,262	12.9 (0.50)	6.1 (0.36)
Female	35,208	3,002	1,537	8.5 (0.43)	4.4 (0.31)
Age					
0–4 years	19,601	1,368	825	7.0 (0.48)	4.2 (0.38)
5–17 years	52,479	6,393	2,974	12.2 (0.43)	5.7 (0.30)
5–11 years	28,882	3,420	1,605	11.9 (0.58)	5.6 (0.39)
12–17 years	23,596	2,974	1,369	12.6 (0.62)	5.8 (0.44)
Race					
Single race:[3]					
White	54,499	5,380	2,630	9.9 (0.38)	4.8 (0.27)
Black or African American	10,578	1,445	780	13.7 (1.03)	7.4 (0.72)
American Indian or Alaska Native	625	147	*46	23.8 (4.57)	7.3 (2.14)
Asian	1,987	172	*84	8.7 (1.88)	*4.2 (1.51)
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	*66	*13	*13	*19.4 (15.52)	*19.4 (15.52)
Multiple race:[4]					
2 or more races	1,579	300	122	19.1 (3.16)	7.8 (1.50)
Black or African American; white	525	94	*37	18.0 (4.20)	*7.1 (2.26)
American Indian or Alaska Native; white	288	66	*15	23.0 (5.55)	*5.4 (2.97)
Hispanic origin and race[5]					
Hispanic or Latino	11,461	1,155	510	10.1 (0.69)	4.4 (0.45)
Mexican or Mexican American	7,782	575	282	7.4 (0.69)	3.6 (0.54)
Not Hispanic or Latino	60,567	6,606	3,289	10.9 (0.38)	5.4 (0.28)
White, single race	46,329	4,668	2,294	10.1 (0.43)	5.0 (0.31)
Black or African American, single race	10,404	1,432	779	13.8 (1.05)	7.5 (0.73)
Family structure[6]					
Mother and father	50,872	4,900	2,448	9.6 (0.39)	4.8 (0.29)
Mother, no father	16,319	2,279	1,090	14.0 (0.74)	6.7 (0.52)
Father, no mother	2,942	301	133	10.2 (1.36)	4.5 (0.96)
Neither mother nor father	1,947	281	127	14.4 (2.16)	6.5 (1.41)
Parent's education[7]					
Less than high school diploma	9,250	952	362	10.3 (0.89)	3.9 (0.48)
High school diploma or GED[8]	16,827	1,905	913	11.4 (0.66)	5.4 (0.48)
More than high school	43,556	4,593	2,370	10.6 (0.44)	5.4 (0.32)
Family income[9]					
Less than $20,000	13,607	1,865	898	13.7 (0.81)	6.6 (0.59)
$20,000 or more	55,560	5,631	2,763	10.1 (0.37)	5.0 (0.27)
$20,000–$34,999	10,254	1,093	582	10.7 (0.89)	5.7 (0.56)
$35,000–$54,999	13,107	1,450	728	11.1 (0.77)	5.6 (0.58)
$55,000–$74,999	9,613	924	415	9.6 (0.87)	4.3 (0.57)
$75,000 or more	13,697	1,420	715	10.4 (0.76)	5.2 (0.57)
Poverty status[10]					
Poor	9,585	1,299	610	13.6 (1.03)	6.4 (0.65)
Near poor	12,134	1,358	660	11.2 (0.89)	5.4 (0.60)
Not poor	35,757	3,737	1,855	10.5 (0.47)	5.2 (0.34)
Health insurance coverage[11]					
Private	49,644	5,042	2,422	10.2 (0.39)	4.9 (0.28)
Medicaid/other public	12,345	1,839	990	14.9 (0.93)	8.0 (0.70)
Other	1,561	165	*60	10.6 (2.13)	*3.8 (1.32)
Uninsured	8,334	690	309	8.3 (0.83)	3.7 (0.59)

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Frequencies and percents (with standard errors) of ever having asthma and having an asthma attack in the past 12 months, for children 17 years of age and under, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999—Con.

Selected characteristic	All children 0–17 years	Ever told had asthma[1]	Had asthma attack in past 12 months[1]	Ever told had asthma	Had asthma attack in past 12 months
Place of residence[12]	Number in thousands[2]			Percent (standard error)[2]	
Large MSA	34,327	3,654	1,830	10.7 (0.47)	5.3 (0.34)
Small MSA	22,591	2,445	1,159	10.8 (0.61)	5.1 (0.44)
Not in MSA	15,162	1,662	809	11.0 (0.85)	5.3 (0.58)
Region					
Northeast	13,283	1,489	700	11.2 (0.77)	5.3 (0.51)
Midwest	18,061	1,911	1,020	10.6 (0.70)	5.7 (0.56)
South	25,387	2,691	1,317	10.6 (0.58)	5.2 (0.42)
West	15,349	1,670	762	10.9 (0.77)	5.0 (0.44)
Current health status					
Excellent/very good/good	70,786	7,375	3,534	10.4 (0.35)	5.0 (0.24)
Fair/poor	1,228	386	265	31.4 (3.32)	21.6 (2.84)
Sex and age					
Male:					
0–4 years	10,018	895	545	8.9 (0.78)	5.4 (0.62)
5–17 years	26,853	3,864	1,717	14.4 (0.62)	6.4 (0.42)
5–11 years	14,814	2,217	1,039	15.0 (0.85)	7.0 (0.59)
12–17 years	12,040	1,648	678	13.7 (0.88)	5.6 (0.59)
Female:					
0–4 years	9,583	473	280	5.0 (0.57)	2.9 (0.42)
5–17 years	25,625	2,529	1,256	9.9 (0.55)	4.9 (0.39)
5–11 years	14,069	1,203	565	8.6 (0.72)	4.0 (0.48)
12–17 years	11,557	1,326	691	11.5 (0.80)	6.0 (0.62)

* Data preceded by an asterisk have a relative standard error of greater than 30%, and should be used with caution as they do not meet the standard of reliability or precision.

[1]The data in this table are based on the following questions: ''Has a doctor or other health professional ever told you that {child's name} had asthma?'' and ''During the past 12 months, has {child's name} had an episode of asthma or an asthma attack?'' See appendix II for more detailed definitions of selected terms used in this report.

[2]Unknowns for the variable of interest are not included in the denominators when calculating percents. They are, however, included in the ''All children'' column.

[3]Starting with data year 1999, the categories ''White'' and ''Black or African American'' under ''Single race'' include persons who reported only one racial group. The category ''American Indian or Alaska Native'' under ''Single race'' includes some persons who indicated both the ''American Indian'' and ''Alaska Native'' racial groups. Also, the category ''Asian'' under ''Single race'' includes some persons who indicated more than one Asian subgroup (such as Asian Indian, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean, or Vietnamese). Further, the racial group ''Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander'' under ''Single race'' includes some persons who indicated both the ''Native Hawaiian'' or ''other Pacific Islander'' (such as Guamanian or Samoan) categories. Single race persons who indicated a race other than white, black or African American, American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, or Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander are not shown. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

[4]Although all persons who reported a multiple race combination are shown in ''2 or more races,'' the only specific combinations shown are ''Black or African American; white'' and ''American Indian or Alaska Native; white.'' Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

[5]''Mexican or Mexican American'' is a subset of Hispanics. Under the catergory ''Not Hispanic or Latino,'' ''White, single race'' and ''Black or African American, single race'' refer to non-Hispanic single race white persons and non-Hispanic single race black or African American persons, respectively. Although all non-Hispanic persons are shown in ''Not Hispanic or Latino,'' the only specific categories shown are ''White, single race'' and ''Black or African American, single race.'' Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

[6]Mother and father can include biological, adoptive, step, in-law, or foster relationships. Legal guardians are classified in ''Neither mother or father.''

[7]Parent's education is the education level of the parent with the higher level of education, regardless of that parent's age.

[8]GED is General Educational Development high school equivalency diploma.

[9]''Less than $20,000'' and ''$20,000 or more'' include both respondents reporting specific dollar amounts and respondents reporting that their incomes were within those categories (see appendix I). The indented categories include only those respondents who reported specific dollar amounts. Children with unknown family income are not shown.

[10]Poverty status is based on family income and family size using the Census Bureau's poverty thresholds. ''Poor'' children are in families defined as below the poverty threshold. ''Near poor'' children are in families with incomes that are 100% to less than 200% of the poverty threshold. ''Not poor'' children are in families with incomes that are 200% of the poverty threshold or greater.

[11]Private health insurance may be obtained through the workplace or purchased directly. Among children under 18 years of age, ''Medicaid/other public'' includes those with Medicaid or other public health insurance coverage (e.g., most State-sponsored coverage). ''Other coverage'' includes Medicare, military health insurance coverage, and/or another form of government-sponsored health insurance coverage. Children with only Indian Health Service coverage are considered uninsured.

[12]''MSA'' is metropolitan statistical area. Large MSAs have a population size of 1,000,000 or more; small MSAs have a population size of less than 1,000,000. ''Not in MSA'' consists of persons not living in a metropolitan statistical area.

Table 2. Frequencies and percents (with standard errors) of hay fever, respiratory allergies, and other allergies in the past 12 months, for children 17 years of age and under, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999

Selected characteristic	All children 0–17 years	Hay fever[1]	Respiratory allergies[1]	Other allergies[1]	Hay fever	Respiratory allergies	Other allergies
	Number in thousands[2]				Percent (standard error)[2]		
Total	72,080	6,992	7,369	6,290	10.3 (0.35)	10.8 (0.35)	9.2 (0.33)
Sex							
Male	36,871	3,824	4,177	3,303	11.0 (0.48)	12.0 (0.53)	9.5 (0.47)
Female	35,208	3,168	3,192	2,987	9.5 (0.47)	9.6 (0.46)	9.0 (0.44)
Age							
0–4 years	19,601	683	1,090	1,603	4.3 (0.43)	6.9 (0.54)	10.2 (0.64)
5–17 years	52,479	6,309	6,279	4,687	12.1 (0.42)	12.0 (0.43)	8.9 (0.38)
5–11 years	28,882	3,080	3,206	2,550	10.7 (0.54)	11.1 (0.55)	8.8 (0.50)
12–17 years	23,596	3,229	3,074	2,137	13.7 (0.65)	13.1 (0.66)	9.1 (0.53)
Race							
Single race:[3]							
White	54,499	5,344	5,717	4,563	10.4 (0.40)	11.1 (0.42)	8.9 (0.37)
Black or African American	10,578	993	1,009	1,021	9.9 (0.84)	10.0 (0.85)	10.1 (0.80)
American Indian or Alaska Native	625	*37	88	*28	*6.4 (2.65)	15.3 (4.16)	4.9 (2.14)
Asian	1,987	145	154	196	7.6 (2.07)	8.1 (2.08)	10.3 (2.38)
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	*66	*–	*13	*13	*–	*23.3 (18.2)	*24.0 (18.)
Multiple race:[4]							
2 or more races	1,579	246	202	256	16.4 (2.42)	13.5 (2.14)	17.1 (2.76)
Black or African American; white	525	*53	69	94	*10.7 (3.29)	13.9 (3.25)	*19.1 (4.5)
American Indian or Alaska Native; white	288	*72	*50	*35	26.8 (7.86)	*18.6 (6.84)	13.0 (4.99)
Hispanic origin and race[5]							
Hispanic or Latino	11,461	807	670	722	7.4 (0.54)	6.2 (0.53)	6.7 (0.58)
Mexican or Mexican American	7,782	468	358	411	6.4 (0.61)	4.9 (0.59)	5.6 (0.66)
Not Hispanic or Latino	60,567	6,185	6,687	5,558	10.8 (0.40)	11.7 (0.40)	9.7 (0.37)
White, single race	46,329	4,851	5,270	4,102	11.1 (0.46)	12.1 (0.48)	9.4 (0.42)
Black or African American, single race	10,404	984	1,002	1,009	9.9 (0.85)	10.1 (0.87)	10.2 (0.81)
Family structure[6]							
Mother and father	50,872	4,827	5,271	4,289	10.1 (0.40)	11.0 (0.44)	8.9 (0.38)
Mother, no father	16,319	1,722	1,739	1,563	11.1 (0.68)	11.2 (0.68)	10.1 (0.63)
Father, no mother	2,942	287	242	310	10.1 (1.40)	8.5 (1.27)	10.9 (1.56)
Neither mother nor father	1,947	155	117	128	8.4 (1.55)	6.3 (1.28)	6.9 (1.56)
Parent's education[7]							
Less than high school diploma	9,250	480	550	520	5.5 (0.63)	6.3 (0.68)	5.9 (0.64)
High school diploma or GED[8]	16,827	1,369	1,496	1,261	8.6 (0.62)	9.4 (0.67)	7.9 (0.64)
More than high school	43,556	4,973	5,190	4,376	12.1 (0.49)	12.6 (0.49)	10.6 (0.45)
Family income[9]							
Less than $20,000	13,607	1,100	1,210	1,107	8.6 (0.71)	9.5 (0.71)	8.6 (0.69)
$20,000 or more	55,560	5,665	5,878	5,009	10.8 (0.39)	11.2 (0.41)	9.5 (0.38)
$20,000–$34,999	10,254	960	1,015	940	9.9 (0.91)	10.5 (0.87)	9.7 (0.84)
$35,000–$54,999	13,107	1,268	1,498	1,189	10.3 (0.81)	12.1 (0.85)	9.6 (0.76)
$55,000–$74,999	9,613	973	1,060	939	10.7 (0.87)	11.7 (0.97)	10.3 (0.96)
$75,000 or more	13,697	1,710	1,626	1,281	13.2 (0.88)	12.6 (0.86)	9.9 (0.76)
Poverty status[10]							
Poor	9,585	788	802	794	8.7 (0.86)	8.8 (0.89)	8.7 (0.87)
Near poor	12,134	987	1,133	1,052	8.6 (0.82)	9.9 (0.82)	9.2 (0.78)
Not poor	35,757	4,064	4,281	3,411	12.1 (0.51)	12.7 (0.51)	10.1 (0.50)
Health insurance coverage[11]							
Private	49,644	5,247	5,423	4,507	11.2 (0.41)	11.6 (0.42)	9.6 (0.40)
Medicaid/other public	12,345	958	1,095	1,181	8.3 (0.81)	9.5 (0.77)	10.2 (0.82)
Other	1,561	*116	169	161	7.9 (2.22)	11.5 (2.68)	11.0 (2.45)
Uninsured	8,334	658	680	440	8.3 (0.94)	8.6 (0.95)	5.6 (0.64)

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Frequencies and percents (with standard errors) of hay fever, respiratory allergies, and other allergies in the past 12 months, for children 17 years of age and under, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999—Con.

Selected characteristic	All children 0–17 years	Hay fever[1]	Respiratory allergies[1]	Other allergies[1]	Hay fever	Respiratory allergies	Other allergies
Place of residence[12]	Number in thousands[2]				Percent (standard error)[2]		
Large MSA	34,327	3,393	3,141	2,991	10.5 (0.50)	9.7 (0.50)	9.2 (0.47)
Small MSA	22,591	2,102	2,537	2,188	9.9 (0.59)	11.9 (0.65)	10.3 (0.68)
Not in MSA	15,162	1,496	1,691	1,111	10.4 (0.82)	11.7 (0.77)	7.7 (0.62)
Region							
Northeast	13,283	1,215	1,182	1,276	9.8 (0.76)	9.5 (0.74)	10.2 (0.84)
Midwest	18,061	1,672	1,657	1,581	9.8 (0.64)	9.7 (0.67)	9.2 (0.66)
South	25,387	2,440	3,313	1,972	10.2 (0.60)	13.8 (0.69)	8.2 (0.48)
West	15,349	1,664	1,217	1,460	11.4 (0.82)	8.4 (0.64)	10.0 (0.79)
Current health status							
Excellent/very good/good	70,786	6,796	7,088	6,145	10.2 (0.35)	10.6 (0.35)	9.2 (0.33)
Fair/poor	1,228	195	281	145	17.3 (3.31)	24.8 (3.53)	12.7 (2.43)
Sex and age							
Male:							
0–4 years	10,018	449	677	893	5.6 (0.68)	8.5 (0.80)	11.1 (0.96)
5–17 years	26,853	3,375	3,501	2,410	12.6 (0.57)	13.1 (0.64)	9.0 (0.53)
5–11 years	14,814	1,715	1,854	1,364	11.6 (0.77)	12.5 (0.86)	9.2 (0.70)
12–17 years	12,040	1,660	1,647	1,046	13.8 (0.88)	13.7 (0.93)	8.7 (0.74)
Female:							
0–4 years	9,583	234	413	710	3.0 (0.53)	5.4 (0.74)	9.2 (0.87)
5–17 years	25,625	2,934	2,779	2,277	11.5 (0.58)	10.9 (0.56)	8.9 (0.50)
5–11 years	14,069	1,365	1,352	1,186	9.7 (0.78)	9.7 (0.69)	8.4 (0.67)
12–17 years	11,557	1,569	1,427	1,091	13.6 (0.91)	12.4 (0.90)	9.4 (0.74)

* Data preceded by an asterisk have a relative standard error of greater than 30%, and should be used with caution as they do not meet the standard of reliability or precision.

– Quantity zero.

[1] The data in this table are based on the following questions: "During the past 12 months, has {child's name} had any of the following conditions? Hay fever? Any kind of respiratory allergy? Any kind of food or digestive allergy? Eczema or any kind of skin allergy?" See appendix II for more detailed definitions of selected terms used in this report. A child may be counted in more than one category.

[2] Unknowns for the variable of interest are not included in the denominators when calculating percents. They are, however, included in the "All children" column.

[3]Starting with data year 1999, the categories "White" and "Black or African American" under "Single race" include persons who reported only one racial group. The category "American Indian or Alaska Native" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "American Indian" and "Alaska Native" racial groups. Also, the category "Asian" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated more than one Asian subgroup (such as Asian Indian, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean, or Vietnamese). Further, the racial group "Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "Native Hawaiian" or "other Pacific Islander" (such as Guamanian or Samoan) categories. Single race persons who indicated a race other than white, black or African American, American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, or Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander are not shown. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

[4]Although all persons who reported a multiple race combination are shown in "2 or more races," the only specific combinations shown are "Black or African American; white" and "American Indian or Alaska Native; white." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

[5] "Mexican or Mexican American" is a subset of Hispanics. Under the catergory "Not Hispanic or Latino," "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race" refer to non-Hispanic single race white persons and non-Hispanic single race black or African American persons, respectively. Although all non-Hispanic persons are shown in "Not Hispanic or Latino," the only specific categories shown are "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

[6]Mother and father can include biological, adoptive, steps, in-law, or forster relationships. Legal guardians are classified in "Neither mother or father."

[7] Parent's education is the education level of the parent with the higher level of education, regardless of that parent's age.

[8] GED is General Educational Development high school equivalency diploma.

[9] "Less than $20,000" and "$20,000 or more" include both respondents reporting specific dollar amounts and respondents reporting that their incomes were within those categories (see appendix I). The indented categories include only those respondents who reported specific dollar amounts. Children with unknown family income are not shown.

[10] Poverty status is based on family income and family size using the Census Bureau's poverty thresholds. "Poor" children are in families defined as below the poverty threshold. "Near poor" children are in families with incomes that are 100% to less than 200% of the poverty threshold. "Not poor" children are in families with incomes that are 200% of the poverty threshold or greater.

[11] Private health insurance may be obtained through the workplace or purchased directly. Among children under 18 years of age, "Medicaid/other public" includes those with Medicaid or other public health insurance coverage (e.g., most State-sponsored coverage). "Other coverage" includes Medicare, military health insurance coverage, and/or another form of government-sponsored health insurance coverage. Children with only Indian Health Service coverage are considered uninsured.

[12] "MSA" is metropolitan statistical area. Large MSAs have a population size of 1,000,000 or more; small MSAs have a population size of less than 1,000,000. "Not in MSA" consists of persons not living in a metropolitan statistical area.

Table 3. Frequencies and percents (with standard errors) of ever having a learning disability or Attention Deficit Disorder, for children 3–17 years of age, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999

Selected characteristic	All children aged 3–17	Ever told had: Learning disability[1]	Ever told had: Attention Deficit Disorder[1]	Ever told had: Learning disability	Ever told had: Attention Deficit Disorder
	Number in thousands[2]			Percent (standard error)[2]	
Total	60,362	4,323	3,382	7.2 (0.29)	5.6 (0.27)
Sex					
Male	30,881	3,005	2,603	9.8 (0.48)	8.4 (0.45)
Female	29,481	1,318	780	4.5 (0.33)	2.6 (0.26)
Age					
3–4 years	7,884	87	*47	1.1 (0.29)	*0.6 (0.21)
5–17 years	52,479	4,237	3,336	8.1 (0.33)	6.4 (0.30)
5–11 years	28,882	1,977	1,520	6.9 (0.44)	5.3 (0.36)
12–17 years	23,596	2,260	1,816	9.6 (0.54)	7.7 (0.48)
Race					
Single race:[3]					
White	45,694	3,264	2,787	7.2 (0.34)	6.1 (0.32)
Black or African American	9,009	714	395	7.9 (0.82)	4.4 (0.55)
American Indian or Alaska Native	512	*78	*54	*15.2 (4.75)	*10.9 (4.06)
Asian	1,629	*15	*27	*0.9 (0.58)	*1.7 (0.87)
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	*46	*1	*–	*2.6 (2.83)	*–
Multiple race:[4]					
2 or more races	1,305	92	*45	7.0 (1.56)	*3.4 (1.12)
Black or African American; white	435	*16	*16	*3.6 (2.17)	*3.8 (2.33)
American Indian or Alaska Native; white	230	*37	*12	*16.1 (5.52)	*5.3 (3.05)
Hispanic origin and race[5]					
Hispanic or Latino	9,280	505	248	5.4 (0.52)	2.7 (0.36)
Mexican or Mexican American	6,244	303	111	4.9 (0.64)	1.8 (0.34)
Not Hispanic or Latino	51,052	3,806	3,123	7.5 (0.34)	6.1 (0.31)
White, single race	39,015	2,940	2,623	7.6 (0.39)	6.7 (0.37)
Black or African American, single race	8,879	705	390	7.9 (0.83)	4.4 (0.55)
Family structure[6]					
Mother and father	42,269	2,538	2,051	6.0 (0.34)	4.9 (0.31)
Mother, no father	13,874	1,409	960	10.2 (0.69)	6.9 (0.57)
Father, no mother	2,529	206	202	8.1 (1.41)	8.0 (1.53)
Neither mother nor father	1,690	170	169	10.1 (1.95)	10.0 (2.05)
Parent's education[7]					
Less than high school diploma	7,638	694	438	9.1 (0.89)	5.7 (0.74)
High school diploma or GED[8]	14,109	1,121	811	8.0 (0.64)	5.8 (0.52)
More than high school	36,486	2,333	1,954	6.4 (0.37)	5.4 (0.34)
Family income[9]					
Less than $20,000	11,099	1,252	803	11.3 (0.80)	7.3 (0.67)
$20,000 or more	46,754	2,903	2,479	6.2 (0.32)	5.3 (0.30)
$20,000–$34,999	8,462	684	501	8.1 (0.81)	5.9 (0.69)
$35,000–$54,999	10,940	860	720	7.9 (0.75)	6.6 (0.67)
$55,000–$74,999	8,213	464	420	5.6 (0.72)	5.1 (0.65)
$75,000 or more	11,565	597	579	5.2 (0.59)	5.0 (0.60)
Poverty status[10]					
Poor	7,919	937	610	11.9 (1.09)	7.7 (0.86)
Near poor	9,955	875	564	8.8 (0.85)	5.7 (0.68)
Not poor	30,140	1,853	1,756	6.2 (0.38)	5.8 (0.39)
Health insurance coverage[11]					
Private	42,104	2,483	2,134	5.9 (0.33)	5.1 (0.31)
Medicaid/other public	9,629	1,318	805	13.8 (1.00)	8.4 (0.81)
Other	1,288	103	76	8.1 (2.09)	5.9 (1.57)
Uninsured	7,167	415	368	5.8 (0.67)	5.1 (0.70)

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 3. Frequencies and percents (with standard errors) of ever having a learning disability or Attention Deficit Disorder, for children 3–17 years of age, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999—Con.

Selected characteristic	All children aged 3–17	Ever told had: Learning disability[1]	Ever told had: Attention Deficit Disorder[1]	Ever told had: Learning disability	Ever told had: Attention Deficit Disorder
Place of residence[12]	Number in thousands[2]			Percent (standard error)[2]	
Large MSA	28,347	1,871	1,425	6.6 (0.42)	5.0 (0.37)
Small MSA	18,952	1,357	1,136	7.2 (0.50)	6.0 (0.50)
Not in MSA	13,064	1,096	822	8.4 (0.68)	6.3 (0.57)
Region					
Northeast	11,048	803	498	7.3 (0.68)	4.5 (0.53)
Midwest	15,252	1,059	928	7.0 (0.62)	6.1 (0.53)
South	21,229	1,642	1,424	7.7 (0.49)	6.7 (0.51)
West	12,834	820	532	6.4 (0.61)	4.1 (0.47)
Current health status					
Excellent/very good/good	59,279	4,030	3,217	6.8 (0.29)	5.4 (0.26)
Fair/poor	1,022	293	166	28.7 (4.08)	16.3 (3.13)
Sex and age					
Male:					
3–4 years	4,028	*50	*29	*1.2 (0.41)	*0.7 (0.34)
5–17 years	26,853	2,955	2,573	11.0 (0.54)	9.6 (0.51)
5–11 years	14,814	1,388	1,198	9.4 (0.69)	8.1 (0.62)
12–17 years	12,040	1,567	1,375	13.1 (0.86)	11.5 (0.80)
Female:					
3–4 years	3,856	*37	*17	*1.0 (0.41)	*0.4 (0.23)
5–17 years	25,625	1,282	762	5.0 (0.38)	3.0 (0.29)
5–11 years	14,069	589	322	4.2 (0.49)	2.3 (0.35)
12–17 years	11,557	693	440	6.0 (0.61)	3.8 (0.49)

* Data preceded by an asterisk have a relative standard error of greater than 30%, and should be used with caution as they do not meet the standard of reliability or precision.

– Quantity zero.

[1]The data in this table are based on the following questions: "Has a representative from a school or a health professional ever told you that {child's name} had a learning disability?" and "Has a doctor or health professional ever told you that {child's name} had Attention Deficit Disorder?" See appendix II for more detailed definitions of selected terms used in this report.

[2]Unknowns for the variable of interest are not included in the denominators when calculating percents. They are, however, included in the "All children" column.

[3]Starting with data year 1999, the categories "White" and "Black or African American" under "Single race" include persons who reported only one racial group. The category "American Indian or Alaska Native" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "American Indian" and "Alaska Native" racial groups. Also, the category "Asian" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated more than one Asian subgroup (such as Asian Indian, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean, or Vietnamese). Further, the racial group "Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "Native Hawaiian" or "other Pacific Islander" (such as Guamanian or Samoan) categories. Single race persons who indicated a race other than white, black or African American, American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, or Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander are not shown. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

[4]Although all persons who reported a multiple race combination are shown in "2 or more races," the only specific combinations shown are "Black or African American; white" and "American Indian or Alaska Native; white." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

[5]"Mexican or Mexican American" is a subset of Hispanics. Under the catergory "Not Hispanic or Latino," "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race" refer to non-Hispanic single race white persons and non-Hispanic single race black or African American persons, respectively. Although all non-Hispanic persons are shown in "Not Hispanic or Latino," the only specific categories shown are "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

[6]Mother and father can include biological, adoptive, step, in-law, or foster relationships. Legal guardians are classified in "Neither mother nor father."

[7]Parent's education is the education level of the parent with the higher level of education, regardless of that parent's age.

[8]GED is General Educational Development high school equivalency diploma.

[9]"Less than $20,000" and "$20,000 or more" include both respondents reporting specific dollar amounts and respondents reporting that their incomes were within those categories (see appendix I). The indented categories include only those respondents who reported specific dollar amounts. Children with unknown family income are not shown.

[10]Poverty status is based on family income and family size using the Census Bureau's poverty thresholds. "Poor" children are in families defined as below the poverty threshold. "Near poor" children are in families with incomes that are 100% to less than 200% of the poverty threshold. "Not poor" children are in families with incomes that are 200% of the poverty threshold or greater.

[11]Private health insurance may be obtained through the workplace or purchased directly. Among children under 18 years of age, "Medicaid/other public" includes those with Medicaid or other public health insurance coverage (e.g., most State-sponsored coverage). "Other coverage" includes Medicare, military health insurance coverage, and/or another form of government-sponsored health insurance coverage. Children with only Indian Health Service coverage are considered uninsured.

[12]"MSA" is metropolitan statistical area. Large MSAs have a population size of 1,000,000 or more; small MSAs have a population size of less than 1,000,000. "Not in MSA" consists of persons not living in a metropolitan statistical area.

Table 4. Frequencies and percents (with standard errors) of having a problem for which prescription medication had been taken regularly for at least 3 months, for children 17 years of age and under, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999

Selected characteristic	All children 0–17 years	Prescription medication taken regularly for at least 3 months[1]	Prescription medication taken regularly for at least 3 months[1]
	Number in thousands[2]		Percent (standard error)[2]
Total	72,080	7,455	10.3 (0.33)
Sex			
Male	36,871	4,309	11.7 (0.50)
Female	35,208	3,145	8.9 (0.43)
Age			
0–4 years	19,601	1,222	6.2 (0.49)
5–17 years	52,479	6,233	11.9 (0.41)
5–11 years	28,882	3,133	10.9 (0.54)
12–17 years	23,596	3,100	13.1 (0.65)
Race			
Single race:[3]			
White	54,499	5,802	10.6 (0.39)
Black or African American	10,578	1,167	11.0 (0.85)
American Indian or Alaska Native	625	*51	*8.2 (3.08)
Asian	1,987	*89	*4.5 (1.40)
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	*66	*7	*10.3 (8.61)
Multiple race:[4]			
2 or more races	1,579	172	10.9 (1.88)
Black or African American; white	525	*74	14.1 (3.92)
American Indian or Alaska Native; white	288	*30	*10.5 (3.59)
Hispanic origin and race[5]			
Hispanic or Latino	11,461	711	6.2 (0.48)
Mexican or Mexican American	7,782	386	5.0 (0.51)
Not Hispanic or Latino	60,567	6,731	11.1 (0.39)
White, single race	46,329	5,296	11.4 (0.45)
Black or African American, single race	10,404	1,163	11.2 (0.86)
Family structure[6]			
Mother and father	50,872	4,948	9.7 (0.40)
Mother, no father	16,319	1,994	12.2 (0.67)
Father, no mother	2,942	286	9.7 (1.48)
Neither mother nor father	1,947	227	11.7 (1.80)
Parent's education[7]			
Less than high school diploma	9,250	678	7.3 (0.69)
High school diploma or GED[8]	16,827	1,611	9.6 (0.63)
More than high school	43,556	4,915	11.3 (0.45)
Family income[9]			
Less than $20,000	13,607	1,466	10.8 (0.72)
$20,000 or more	55,560	5,761	10.4 (0.39)
$20,000–$34,999	10,254	1,041	10.2 (0.84)
$35,000–$54,999	13,107	1,372	10.5 (0.75)
$55,000–$74,999	9,613	854	8.9 (0.80)
$75,000 or more	13,697	1,744	12.7 (0.86)
Poverty status[10]			
Poor	9,585	1,021	10.7 (0.95)
Near poor	12,134	1,202	9.9 (0.81)
Not poor	35,757	3,989	11.2 (0.48)
Health insurance coverage[11]			
Private	49,644	5,153	10.4 (0.40)
Medicaid/other public	12,345	1,634	13.2 (0.85)
Other	1,561	154	9.9 (2.33)
Uninsured	8,334	484	5.8 (0.79)

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 4. Frequencies and percents (with standard errors) of having a problem for which prescription medication had been taken regularly for at least 3 months, for children 17 years of age and under, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999—Con.

Selected characteristic	All children 0–17 years	Prescription medication taken regularly for at least 3 months[1]	Prescription medication taken regularly for at least 3 months[1]
Place of residence[12]	Number in thousands[2]		Percent (standard error)[2]
Large MSA	34,327	3,307	9.6 (0.47)
Small MSA	22,591	2,324	10.3 (0.61)
Not in MSA	15,162	1,824	12.0 (0.78)
Region			
Northeast	13,283	1,337	10.1 (0.80)
Midwest	18,061	1,894	10.5 (0.72)
South	25,387	3,066	12.1 (0.58)
West	15,349	1,158	7.5 (0.58)
Current health status			
Excellent/very good/good	70,786	6,884	9.7 (0.33)
Fair/poor	1,228	571	46.5 (3.98)
Sex and age			
Male:			
0–4 years	10,018	635	6.4 (0.65)
5–17 years	26,853	3,674	13.7 (0.63)
5–11 years	14,814	2,033	13.7 (0.85)
12–17 years	12,040	1,641	13.6 (0.88)
Female:			
0–4 years	9,583	586	6.1 (0.69)
5–17 years	25,625	2,559	10.0 (0.53)
5–11 years	14,069	1,100	7.8 (0.62)
12–17 years	11,557	1,459	12.6 (0.93)

* Data preceded by an asterisk have a relative standard error of greater than 30%, and should be used with caution as they do not meet the standard of reliability or precision.

[1]The data in this table are based on the following question: "Does {child's name} now have a problem for which {he/she} has regularly taken prescription medication for at least 3 months?" See appendix II for more detailed definitions of selected terms used in this report.

[2]Unknowns for the variable of interest are not included in the denominators when calculating percents. They are, however, included in the "All children" column.

[3]Starting with data year 1999, the categories "White" and "Black or African American" under "Single race" include persons who reported only one racial group. The category "American Indian or Alaska Native" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "American Indian" and "Alaska Native" race groups. Also, the category "Asian" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated more than one Asian subgroup (such as Asian Indian, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean, or Vietnamese). Further, the racial group "Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "Native Hawaiian" or "other Pacific Islander" (such as Guamanian or Samoan) categories. Single race persons who indicated a race other than white, black or African American, American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, or Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander are not shown. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

[4]Although all persons who reported a multiple race combination are shown in "2 or more races," the only specific combinations shown are "Black or African American; white" and "American Indian or Alaska Native; white." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

[5]"Mexican or Mexican American" is a subset of Hispanics. Under the catergory "Not Hispanic or Latino," "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race" refer to non-Hispanic single race white persons and non-Hispanic single race black or African American persons, respectively. Although all non-Hispanic persons are shown in "Not Hispanic or Latino," the only specific categories shown are "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

[6]Mother and father can include biological, adoptive, step, in-law, or foster relationships. Legal guardians are classified in "Neither mother nor father."

[7]Parent's education is the education level of the parent with the higher level of education, regardless of that parent's age.

[8]GED is General Educational Development high school equivalency diploma.

[9]"Less than $20,000" and "$20,000 or more" include both respondents reporting specific dollar amounts and respondents reporting that their incomes were within those categories (see appendix I). The indented categories include only those respondents who reported specific dollar amounts. Children with unknown family income are not shown.

[10]Poverty status is based on family income and family size using the Census Bureau's poverty thresholds. "Poor" children are in families defined as below the poverty threshold. "Near poor" children are in families with incomes that are 100% to less than 200% of the poverty threshold. "Not poor" children are in families with incomes that are 200% of the poverty threshold or greater.

[11]Private health insurance may be obtained through the workplace or purchased directly. Among children under 18 years of age, "Medicaid/other public" includes those with Medicaid or other public health insurance coverage (e.g., most State-sponsored coverage). "Other coverage" includes Medicare, military health insurance coverage, and/or another form of government-sponsored health insurance coverage. Children with only Indian Health Service coverage are considered uninsured.

[12]"MSA" is metropolitan statistical area. Large MSAs have a population size of 1,000,000 or more; small MSAs have a population size of less than 1,000,000. "Not in MSA" consists of persons not living in a metropolitan statistical area.

Table 5. Frequency distributions of respondent-assessed health status, for children aged 17 years of age and under, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999

Selected characteristic	All children 0–17 years	Respondent-assessed health status[1]				
		Excellent	Very good	Good	Fair	Poor
		Number in thousands[2]				
Total	72,080	40,128	19,935	10,724	1,110	118
Sex						
Male	36,871	20,419	10,149	5,604	628	*42
Female	35,208	19,709	9,786	5,119	482	*76
Age						
0–4 years	19,601	11,313	5,447	2,501	297	*32
5–17 years	52,479	28,815	14,488	8,222	813	*86
5–11 years	28,882	16,133	8,070	4,194	407	*39
12–17 years	23,596	12,682	6,418	4,028	406	*47
Race						
Single race:[3]						
White	54,499	31,909	14,963	6,839	691	*45
Black or African American	10,578	4,801	3,063	2,395	257	*63
American Indian or Alaska Native	625	278	153	174	17	*3
Asian	1,987	943	600	415	*16	*–
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	*66	*33	*25	*6	*1	*–
Multiple race:[4]						
2 or more races	1,579	877	413	230	*56	*4
Black or African American; white	525	228	148	117	*33	*–
American Indian or Alaska Native; white	288	151	95	*21	*17	*4
Hispanic origin and race[5]						
Hispanic or Latino	11,461	5,312	3,581	2,304	237	*12
Mexican or Mexican American	7,782	3,442	2,457	1,696	163	*8
Not Hispanic or Latino	60,567	34,774	16,354	8,410	873	*106
White, single race	46,329	28,139	12,255	5,317	544	*37
Black or African American, single race	10,404	4,742	3,002	2,343	255	*63
Family structure[6]						
Mother and father	50,872	30,395	13,626	6,193	568	*24
Mother, no father	16,319	7,409	4,941	3,471	408	*90
Father, no mother	2,942	1,482	899	489	72	*–
Neither mother nor father	1,947	842	469	570	*62	*4
Parent's education[7]						
Less than high school diploma	9,250	3,767	2,819	2,367	262	*27
High school diploma or GED[8]	16,827	8,017	5,147	3,210	402	*36
More than high school	43,556	27,347	11,290	4,467	369	*52
Family income[9]						
Less than $20,000	13,607	5,788	4,071	3,203	464	*67
$20,000 or more	55,560	32,989	15,060	6,795	622	*49
$20,000–$34,999	10,254	5,143	2,840	2,025	231	*15
$35,000–$54,999	13,107	7,234	3,888	1,792	171	*18
$55,000–$74,999	9,613	5,985	2,654	902	*61	*5
$75,000 or more	13,697	9,600	3,089	929	*65	*4
Poverty status[10]						
Poor	9,585	4,065	2,792	2,259	407	*53
Near poor	12,134	5,883	3,563	2,398	261	*30
Not poor	35,757	22,643	9,340	3,483	257	*13
Health insurance coverage[11]						
Private	49,644	30,192	13,464	5,411	487	*53
Medicaid/other public	12,345	5,057	3,397	3,368	441	*63
Other	1,561	864	458	205	*34	*–
Uninsured	8,334	3,920	2,560	1,697	145	*2

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 5. Frequency distributions of respondent-assessed health status, for children aged 17 years of age and under, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999—Con.

Selected characteristic	All children 0–17 years	Respondent-assessed health status[1]				
		Excellent	Very good	Good	Fair	Poor
Place of residence[12]		Number in thousands[2]				
Large MSA	34,327	19,427	9,419	4,918	457	*75
Small MSA	22,591	12,805	6,302	3,108	335	*29
Not in MSA	15,162	7,896	4,214	2,698	318	*15
Region						
Northeast	13,283	7,492	3,553	2,037	180	*17
Midwest	18,061	10,118	5,129	2,508	242	*33
South	25,387	14,086	6,998	3,812	444	*41
West	15,349	8,431	4,255	2,368	244	*27
Sex and age						
Male:						
0–4 years	10,018	5,722	2,749	1,347	193	*6
5–17 years	26,853	14,697	7,400	4,257	435	*36
5–11 years	14,814	8,142	4,054	2,313	265	*22
12–17 years	12,040	6,554	3,346	1,945	171	*14
Female:						
0–4 years	9,583	5,590	2,697	1,154	103	*26
5–17 years	25,625	14,119	7,089	3,965	378	*50
5–11 years	14,069	7,991	4,016	1,882	143	*17
12–17 years	11,557	6,128	3,072	2,083	236	*33

* Data preceded by an asterisk have a relative standard error of greater than 30%, and should be used with caution as they do not meet the standard of reliability or precision.

– Quantity zero.

[1]The data in this table are based on the following question in the Family Core section of the survey: "Would you say {subject's name} health in general was excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor?" See appendix II for more information about the source question.

[2]Unknowns for the variable of interest are not shown in the frequency distributions. They are, however, included in the "All children" column. Hence, row frequencies may not sum to the total number of children in column 1. Additionally, numbers may not add to their respective totals because of rounding.

[3]Starting with data year 1999, the categories "White" and "Black or African American" under "Single race" include persons who reported only one racial group. The category "American Indian or Alaska Native" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "American Indian" and "Alaska Native" racial groups. Also, the category "Asian" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated more than one Asian subgroup (such as Asian Indian, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean, or Vietnamese). Further, the racial group "Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "Native Hawaiian" or "other Pacific Islander" (such as Guamanian or Samoan) categories. Single race persons who indicated a race other than white, black or African American, American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, or Native Hawaiian, or other Pacific Islander are not shown. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

[4]Although all persons who reported a multiple race combination are shown in "2 or more races," the only specific combinations shown are "Black or African American; white" and "American Indian or Alaska Native; white." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

[5]"Mexican or Mexican American" is a subset of Hispanics. Under the category "Not Hispanic or Latino," "White, single race," and "Black or African American, single race" refer to non-Hispanic single race white persons and non-Hispanic single race black or African American persons, respectively. Although all non-Hispanic persons are shown in "Not Hispanic or Latino," the only specific categories shown are "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race."

[6]Mother and father can include biological, adoptive, step, in-law, or foster relationships. Legal guardians are classified in "Neither mother nor father."

[7]Parent's education is the education level of the parent with the higher level of education, regardless of that parent's age.

[8]GED is General Educational Development high school equivalency diploma.

[9]"Less than $20,000" and "$20,000 or more" include both respondents reporting specific dollar amounts and respondents reporting that their incomes were within those categories (see appendix I). The indented categories include only those respondents who reported specific dollar amounts. Children with unknown family income are not shown.

[10]Poverty status is based on family income and family size using the Census Bureau's poverty thresholds. "Poor" children are in families defined as below the poverty threshold. "Near poor" children are in families with incomes that are 100% to less than 200% of the poverty threshold. "Not poor" children are in families with incomes that are 200% of the poverty threshold or greater.

[11]Private health insurance may be obtained through the workplace or purchased directly. Among children under 18 years of age, "Medicaid/other public" includes those with Medicaid or other public health insurance coverage (e.g., most State-sponsored coverage). "Other coverage" includes Medicare, military health insurance coverage, and/or another form of government-sponsored health insurance coverage. Children with only Indian Health Service coverage are considered uninsured.

[12]"MSA" is metropolitan statistical area. Large MSAs have a population size of 1,000,000 or more; small MSAs have a population size of less than 1,000,000. "Not in MSA" consists of persons not living in a metropolitan statistical area.

Table 6. Percent distributions (with standard errors) of respondent-assessed health status, for children 17 years of age and under, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999

Selected characteristic	All children 0–17 years	Respondent-assessed health status[1]				
		Excellent	Very good	Good	Fair	Poor
		Percent distribution (standard error)[2]				
Total	100.0	55.7 (0.56)	27.7 (0.49)	14.9 (0.40)	1.5 (0.13)	0.2 (0.05)
Sex						
Male	100.0	55.4 (0.75)	27.5 (0.67)	15.2 (0.55)	1.7 (0.19)	*0.1 (0.05)
Female	100.0	56.0 (0.80)	27.8 (0.69)	14.6 (0.55)	1.4 (0.19)	*0.2 (0.08)
Age						
0–4 years	100.0	57.7 (1.00)	27.8 (0.89)	12.8 (0.67)	1.5 (0.23)	*0.2 (0.11)
5–17 years	100.0	55.0 (0.66)	27.6 (0.57)	15.7 (0.48)	1.6 (0.16)	*0.2 (0.05)
5–11 years	100.0	55.9 (0.87)	28.0 (0.79)	14.5 (0.61)	1.4 (0.20)	*0.1 (0.06)
12–17 years	100.0	53.8 (0.99)	27.2 (0.85)	17.1 (0.71)	1.7 (0.25)	*0.2 (0.08)
Race						
Single race:[3]						
White	100.0	58.6 (0.64)	27.5 (0.58)	12.6 (0.42)	1.3 (0.14)	*0.1 (0.03)
Black or African American	100.0	45.4 (1.39)	29.0 (1.22)	22.6 (1.14)	2.4 (0.45)	*0.6 (0.27)
American Indian or Alaska Native	100.0	44.5 (5.52)	24.5 (4.88)	27.8 (6.19)	2.8 (0.52)	*0.4 (0.45)
Asian	100.0	47.8 (3.37)	30.4 (3.10)	21.0 (2.78)	*0.8 (0.46)	*–
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	100.0	*51.0 (17.89)	*38.6 (17.14)	*8.5 (8.34)	*1.8 (1.92)	*–
Multiple race:[4]						
2 or more races	100.0	55.5 (3.17)	26.2 (2.79)	14.5 (2.21)	*3.5 (1.51)	*0.2 (0.25)
Black or African American; white	100.0	43.4 (5.73)	28.1 (5.27)	22.2 (4.92)	*6.3 (3.09)	*–
American Indian or Alaska Native; white	100.0	52.5 (6.85)	33.0 (7.18)	*7.4 (3.49)	*5.8 (5.38)	*1.4 (1.33)
Hispanic origin and race[5]						
Hispanic or Latino	100.0	46.4 (1.09)	31.3 (1.00)	20.1 (0.89)	2.1 (0.30)	*0.1 (0.04)
Mexican or Mexican American	100.0	44.3 (1.30)	31.6 (1.23)	21.8 (1.15)	2.1 (0.38)	*0.1 (0.05)
Not Hispanic or Latino	100.0	57.5 (0.63)	27.0 (0.54)	13.9 (0.43)	1.4 (0.14)	*0.2 (0.05)
White, single race	100.0	60.8 (0.70)	26.5 (0.63)	11.5 (0.45)	1.2 (0.15)	*0.1 (0.03)
Black or African American, single race	100.0	45.6 (1.40)	28.9 (1.23)	22.5 (1.15)	2.4 (0.46)	*0.6 (0.28)
Family structure[6]						
Mother and father	100.0	59.8 (0.67)	26.8 (0.58)	12.2 (0.43)	1.1 (0.14)	*0.0 (0.02)
Mother, no father	100.0	45.4 (1.09)	30.3 (0.99)	21.3 (0.91)	2.5 (0.36)	*0.6 (0.18)
Father, no mother	100.0	50.4 (2.42)	30.6 (2.34)	16.6 (1.79)	2.4 (0.68)	*–
Neither mother nor father	100.0	43.2 (3.00)	24.1 (2.49)	29.3 (3.01)	*3.2 (1.00)	*0.2 (0.20)
Parent's education[7]						
Less than high school diploma	100.0	40.8 (1.37)	30.5 (1.29)	25.6 (1.24)	2.8 (0.44)	*0.3 (0.12)
High school diploma or GED[8]	100.0	47.7 (1.11)	30.6 (1.04)	19.1 (0.90)	2.4 (0.35)	*0.2 (0.10)
More than high school	100.0	62.8 (0.69)	25.9 (0.62)	10.3 (0.42)	0.8 (0.13)	*0.1 (0.06)
Family income[9]						
Less than $20,000	100.0	42.6 (1.11)	30.0 (1.03)	23.6 (0.99)	3.4 (0.43)	*0.5 (0.19)
$20,000 or more	100.0	59.4 (0.62)	27.1 (0.55)	12.2 (0.41)	1.1 (0.13)	*0.1 (0.03)
$20,000–$34,999	100.0	50.2 (1.33)	27.7 (1.22)	19.7 (1.10)	2.2 (0.40)	*0.1 (0.09)
$35,000–$54,999	100.0	55.2 (1.30)	29.7 (1.19)	13.7 (0.90)	1.3 (0.29)	*0.1 (0.10)
$55,000–$74,999	100.0	62.3 (1.49)	27.6 (1.40)	9.4 (0.85)	*0.6 (0.21)	*0.0 (0.05)
$75,000 or more	100.0	70.1 (1.16)	22.6 (1.03)	6.8 (0.63)	*0.5 (0.16)	*0.0 (0.03)
Poverty status[10]						
Poor	100.0	42.5 (1.42)	29.2 (1.28)	23.6 (1.24)	4.2 (0.62)	*0.6 (0.26)
Near poor	100.0	48.5 (1.28)	29.4 (1.12)	19.8 (1.07)	2.2 (0.39)	*0.2 (0.13)
Not poor	100.0	63.4 (0.73)	26.1 (0.66)	9.7 (0.44)	0.7 (0.11)	*0.0 (0.02)
Health insurance coverage[11]						
Private	100.0	60.9 (0.65)	27.1 (0.58)	10.9 (0.40)	1.0 (0.13)	*0.1 (0.05)
Medicaid/other public	100.0	41.0 (1.26)	27.6 (1.10)	27.3 (1.17)	3.6 (0.45)	*0.5 (0.18)
Other	100.0	55.4 (3.36)	29.3 (3.05)	13.2 (2.12)	*2.1 (1.61)	*–
Uninsured	100.0	47.1 (1.46)	30.8 (1.37)	20.4 (1.12)	1.7 (0.39)	*0.0 (0.02)

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 6. Percent distributions (with standard errors) of respondent-assessed health status, for children 17 years of age and under, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999—Con.

Selected characteristic	All children 0–17 years	Respondent-assessed health status[1]				
		Excellent	Very good	Good	Fair	Poor
		Percent distribution (standard error)[2]				
Place of residence[12]						
Large MSA	100.0	56.6 (0.79)	27.5 (0.70)	14.3 (0.55)	1.3 (0.16)	*0.2 (0.09)
Small MSA	100.0	56.7 (1.09)	27.9 (0.88)	13.8 (0.66)	1.5 (0.25)	*0.1 (0.06)
Not in MSA	100.0	52.2 (1.19)	27.8 (1.07)	17.8 (0.96)	2.1 (0.34)	*0.1 (0.06)
Region						
Northeast	100.0	56.4 (1.30)	26.8 (1.13)	15.3 (0.91)	1.4 (0.27)	*0.1 (0.07)
Midwest	100.0	56.1 (1.11)	28.4 (1.04)	13.9 (0.78)	1.3 (0.24)	*0.2 (0.10)
South	100.0	55.5 (1.00)	27.6 (0.79)	15.0 (0.68)	1.7 (0.25)	*0.2 (0.09)
West	100.0	55.0 (1.15)	27.8 (1.02)	15.5 (0.86)	1.6 (0.26)	*0.2 (0.09)
Sex and age						
Male:						
0–4 years	100.0	57.1 (1.45)	27.4 (1.23)	13.4 (0.95)	1.9 (0.37)	*0.1 (0.04)
5–17 years	100.0	54.8 (0.87)	27.6 (0.80)	15.9 (0.67)	1.6 (0.22)	*0.1 (0.06)
5–11 years	100.0	55.0 (1.20)	27.4 (1.11)	15.6 (0.90)	1.8 (0.33)	*0.2 (0.09)
12–17 years	100.0	54.5 (1.30)	27.8 (1.16)	16.2 (0.93)	1.4 (0.27)	*0.1 (0.06)
Female:						
0–4 years	100.0	58.4 (1.42)	28.2 (1.28)	12.1 (0.93)	1.1 (0.25)	*0.3 (0.21)
5–17 years	100.0	55.1 (0.96)	27.7 (0.81)	15.5 (0.66)	1.5 (0.24)	*0.2 (0.08)
5–11 years	100.0	56.9 (1.26)	28.6 (1.13)	13.4 (0.84)	1.0 (0.23)	*0.1 (0.07)
12–17 years	100.0	53.0 (1.42)	26.6 (1.20)	18.0 (1.02)	2.0 (0.43)	*0.3 (0.14)

* Data preceded by an asterisk have a relative standard error of greater than 30%, and should be used with caution as they do not meet the standard of reliability or precision.

– Quantity zero.

[1]The data in this table are based on the following question in the Family Core section of the survey: "Would you say {subject's name} health in general was excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor?" See appendix II for more information about the source question.

[2]Unknowns for the variable of interest are not included in the denominators when calculating percents. Additionally, percents may not add to 100% because of rounding.

[3]Starting with data year 1999, the categories "White" and "Black or African American" under "Single race" include persons who reported only one racial group. The category "American Indian or Alaska Native" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "American Indian" and "Alaska Native" racial groups. Also, the category "Asian" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated more than one Asian subgroup (such as Asian Indian, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean, or Vietnamese). Further, the racial group "Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "Native Hawaiian" or "other Pacific Islander" (such as Guamanian or Samoan) categories. Single race persons who indicated a race other than white, black or African American, American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, or Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander are not shown. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

[4]Although all persons who reported a multiple race combination are shown in "2 or more races," the only specific combinations shown are "Black or Africian American; white" and "American Indian or Alaska Native; white." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

[5]"Mexican or Mexican American" is a subset of Hispanics. Under the category "Not Hispanic or Latino," "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race" refer to non-Hispanic single race white persons and non-Hispanc single race black or African American persons, respectively. Although all non-Hispanic persons are shown in "Not Hispanic or Latino," the only specific categories shown are "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

[6]Mother and father can include biological, adoptive, step, in-law, or foster relationships. Legal guardians are classified in "Neither mother nor father."

[7]Parent's education is the education level of the parent with the higher level of education, regardless of that parent's age.

[8]GED is General Educational Development high school equivalency diploma.

[9]"Less than $20,000" and "$20,000 or more" include both respondents reporting specific dollar amounts and respondents reporting that their incomes were within those categories (see appendix I). The indented categories include only those respondents who reported specific dollar amounts. Children with unknown family income are not shown.

[10]Poverty status is based on family income and family size using the Census Bureau's poverty thresholds. "Poor" children are in families defined as below the poverty threshold. "Near poor" children are in families with incomes that are 100% to less than 200% of the poverty threshold. "Not poor" children are in families with incomes that are 200% of the poverty threshold or greater.

[11]Private health insurance may be obtained through the workplace or purchased directly. Among children under 18 years of age, "Medicaid/other public" includes those with Medicaid or other public health insurance coverage (e.g., most State-sponsored coverage). "Other coverage" includes Medicare, military health insurance coverage, and/or another form of government-sponsored health insurance coverage. Children with only Indian Health Service coverage are considered uninsured.

[12]"MSA" is metropolitan statistical area. Large MSAs have a population size of 1,000,000 or more; small MSAs have a population size of less than 1,000,000. "Not in MSA" consists of persons not living in a metropolitan statistical area.

Table 7. Frequency distributions of health status compared with a year ago given current health status, for children 1–17 years of age, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999

Selected characteristic	Current health status among persons 18 years of age and over[1]								
	Excellent/very good			Good			Fair/poor		
	Better than last year	About the same as last year	Worse than last year	Better than last year	About the same as last year	Worse than last year	Better than last year	About the same as last year	Worse than last year
	Number in thousands[2]								
Total	11,474	44,244	765	2,643	7,363	274	363	714	139
Sex									
Male	6,289	21,971	426	1,591	3,678	138	199	365	*94
Female	5,185	22,273	339	1,052	3,685	135	164	349	*45
Age									
1–4 years	3,659	9,382	167	678	1,314	*71	124	140	*52
5–17 years	7,815	34,862	598	1,965	6,049	203	239	574	*87
5–11 years	4,584	19,207	397	1,119	2,983	*93	123	289	*35
12–17 years	3,232	15,655	202	846	3,066	110	116	285	*52
Race									
Single race:[3]									
White	8,407	35,160	589	1,561	4,816	177	230	413	*81
Black or African American	1,730	5,575	*89	637	1,612	*41	*86	196	*38
American Indian or Alaska Native	119	271	*21	*54	*97	*21	*3	17	*–
Asian	352	1,068	*9	96	309	*–	*2	*13	*–
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	*16	*39	*–	*–	*6	*–	*–	*1	*–
Multiple race:[4]									
2 or more races	292	893	*22	85	120	*7	*20	*23	*17
Black or African American; white	106	239	*9	*43	*63	*7	*20	*13	*–
American Indian or Alaska Native; white	54	163	*3	*4	*18	*–	*–	*4	*17
Hispanic origin and race[5]									
Hispanic or Latino	2,301	5,747	123	650	1,515	*51	101	134	*10
Mexican or Mexican American	1,541	3,788	*58	469	1,118	*45	76	89	*2
Not Hispanic or Latino	9,173	38,468	633	1,993	5,838	222	262	580	129
White, single race	6,797	30,896	500	1,159	3,777	155	159	338	*76
Black or African American, single race	1,687	5,525	*89	636	1,563	*39	*86	194	*37
Family structure[6]									
Mother and father	8,028	32,841	509	1,426	4,340	156	166	369	*50
Mother, no father	2,673	8,742	233	965	2,245	*112	155	280	*64
Father, no mother	531	1,663	*13	112	365	*3	*24	*40	*4
Neither mother nor father	242	998	*10	140	413	*3	*18	*25	*22
Parent's education[7]									
Less than high school diploma	1,712	4,324	*81	608	1,567	*77	100	157	*26
High school diploma or GED[8]	2,671	9,513	179	829	2,233	*69	165	236	*33
More than high school	6,810	29,107	495	1,062	3,046	125	79	279	*58
Family income[9]									
Less than $20,000	2,219	6,769	159	944	2,040	*86	141	336	*46
$20,000 or more	8,844	35,867	590	1,595	4,743	163	204	369	*93
$20,000–$34,999	1,858	5,524	98	522	1,386	*20	*64	128	*49
$35,000–$54,999	2,374	7,996	139	483	1,130	*89	*69	*97	*24
$55,000–$74,999	1,504	6,515	137	190	648	*21	*16	*41	*8
$75,000 or more	2,098	9,778	162	152	741	*8	*17	*40	*12
Poverty status[10]									
Poor	1,572	4,636	166	743	1,354	*60	124	271	*60
Near poor	2,158	6,623	93	630	1,629	*36	*80	165	*39
Not poor	5,949	23,842	432	734	2,482	*104	85	146	*40
Health insurance coverage[11]									
Private	7,763	33,082	505	1,122	3,935	143	148	331	*56
Medicaid/other public	2,021	5,368	143	975	2,111	*82	178	247	*71
Other	277	955	*11	*48	155	*–	*6	*28	*–
Uninsured	1,373	4,740	106	481	1,136	*49	*31	*105	*11

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 7. Frequency distributions of health status compared with a year ago given current health status, for children 1–17 years of age, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999—Con.

Selected characteristic	Current health status among persons 18 years of age and over[1]								
	Excellent/very good			Good			Fair/poor		
	Better than last year	About the same as last year	Worse than last year	Better than last year	About the same as last year	Worse than last year	Better than last year	About the same as last year	Worse than last year
	Number in thousands[2]								
Place of residence[12]									
Large MSA	5,673	20,941	396	1,157	3,456	91	182	269	*72
Small MSA	3,557	14,214	247	780	2,158	*60	87	262	*12
Not in MSA	2,244	9,090	122	705	1,749	*122	95	183	*54
Region									
Northeast	2,023	8,299	126	523	1,374	*61	*34	136	*28
Midwest	2,506	11,735	171	475	1,831	*73	*79	154	*39
South	4,150	15,221	285	980	2,576	98	115	297	*68
West	2,795	8,990	183	665	1,582	*41	135	127	*4
Sex and age									
Male:									
1–4 years	1,963	4,507	137	446	648	*62	79	*63	*45
5–17 years	4,327	17,464	289	1,145	3,030	76	120	303	*49
5–11 years	2,520	9,479	190	692	1,578	*42	78	176	*34
12–17 years	1,806	7,985	99	453	1,452	*34	*42	127	*15
Female:									
1–4 years	1,696	4,875	*29	233	666	*9	*45	*77	*7
5–17 years	3,489	17,398	309	820	3,019	127	119	271	*38
5–11 years	2,064	9,729	207	427	1,405	*50	*45	113	*1
12–17 years	1,425	7,669	102	393	1,614	*76	*74	158	*37

* Data preceded by an asterisk have a relative standard error of greater than 30%, and should be used with caution as they do not meet the standard of reliability or precision.

– Quantity zero.

[1]The data in this table are based on the following questions: "Would you say {subject's name} health in general was excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor?" and "Compared with 12 months ago, would you say {child's name}'s health is better, worse, or about the same?" See appendix II for more information about the source question.

[2] Unknowns for the variable(s) of interest are not shown in the frequency distributions.

[3]Starting with data year 1999, the categories "White" and "Black or African American" under "Single race" include persons who reported only one racial group. The category "American Indian or Alaska Native" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "American Indian" and "Alaska Native" racial groups. Also, the category "Asian" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated more than one Asian subgroup (such as Asian Indian, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean, or Vietnamese). Further, the racial group "Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "Native Hawaiian" or "other Pacific Islander" (such as Guamanian or Samoan) categories. Single race persons who indicated a race other than white, black or African American, American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, or Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander are not shown. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

[4]Although all persons who reported a multiple race combination are shown in "2 or more races," the only specific combinations shown are "Black or African American; white" and "American Indian or Alaska Native; white." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

[5]"Mexican or Mexican American" is a subset of Hispanics. Under the category "Not Hispanic or Latino," "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race" refer to non-Hispanic single race white persons and non-Hispanic single race black or African American persons, respectively. Although all non-Hispanic persons are shown in "Not Hispanic or Latino," the only specific categories shown are "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

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[9]"Less than $20,000" and "$20,000 or more" include both respondents reporting specific dollar amounts and respondents reporting that their incomes were within those categories (see appendix I). The indented categories include only those respondents who reported specific dollar amounts. Children with unknown family income are not shown.

[10]Poverty status is based on family income and family size using the Census Bureau's poverty thresholds. "Poor" children are in families defined as below the poverty threshold. "Near poor" children are in families with incomes that are 100% to less than 200% of the poverty threshold. "Not poor" children are in families with incomes that are 200% of the poverty threshold or greater.

[11]Private health insurance may be obtained through the workplace or purchased directly. Among children under 18 years of age, "Medicaid/other public" includes those with Medicaid or other public health insurance coverage (e.g., most State-sponsored coverage). "Other coverage" includes Medicare, military health insurance coverage, and/or another form of government-sponsored health insurance coverage. Children with only Indian Health Service coverage are considered uninsured.

[12]"MSA" is metropolitan statistical area. Large MSAs have a population size of 1,000,000 or more; small MSAs have a population size of less than 1,000,000. "Not in MSA" consists of persons not living in a metropolitan statistical area.

Table 8. Percent distributions (with standard errors) of health status compared with a year ago given current health status, for children 1–17 years of age, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999

Selected characteristic	Current health status among persons 18 years of age and over[1]								
	Excellent/very good			Good			Fair/poor		
	Better than last year	About the same as last year	Worse than last year	Better than last year	About the same as last year	Worse than last year	Better than last year	About the same as last year	Worse than last year
	Percent distribution (standard error)[2]								
Total	20.3 (0.48)	78.3 (0.49)	1.4 (0.14)	25.7 (1.15)	71.6 (1.20)	2.7 (0.48)	29.9 (3.62)	58.7 (3.96)	11.4 (2.76)
Sex									
Male	21.9 (0.69)	76.6 (0.71)	1.5 (0.21)	29.4 (1.74)	68.0 (1.78)	2.6 (0.63)	30.2 (4.72)	55.5 (5.26)	14.3 (4.12)
Female	18.7 (0.66)	80.1 (0.68)	1.2 (0.19)	21.6 (1.60)	75.6 (1.70)	2.8 (0.77)	29.4 (5.54)	62.5 (6.08)	*8.1 (3.55)
Age									
1–4 years	27.7 (1.06)	71.0 (1.07)	1.3 (0.27)	32.9 (2.79)	63.7 (2.90)	*3.4 (1.32)	39.3 (7.33)	44.2 (7.85)	*16.5 (6.55)
5–17 years	18.1 (0.54)	80.6 (0.55)	1.4 (0.16)	23.9 (1.23)	73.6 (1.31)	2.5 (0.52)	26.5 (4.12)	63.8 (4.57)	*9.7 (2.92)
5–11 years	19.0 (0.72)	79.4 (0.76)	1.6 (0.26)	26.7 (1.83)	71.1 (1.95)	*2.2 (0.77)	27.5 (5.86)	64.8 (6.47)	*7.7 (3.74)
12–17 years	16.9 (0.76)	82.0 (0.77)	1.1 (0.20)	21.0 (1.71)	76.2 (1.80	2.7 (0.71)	25.6 (5.88)	62.9 (6.63)	*11.5 (4.49)
Race									
Single race:[3]									
White	19.0 (0.53)	79.6 (0.55)	1.3 (0.16)	23.8 (1.42)	73.5 (1.49)	2.7 (0.56)	31.8 (4.70)	57.0 (5.17)	*11.3 (3.45)
Black or African American	23.4 (1.38)	75.4 (1.40)	*1.2 (0.42)	27.8 (2.57)	70.4 (2.56)	*1.8 (0.78)	26.9 (7.72)	61.2 (8.42)	*11.9 (5.33)
American Indian or Alaska Native	29.0 (5.19)	65.8 (5.38)	*5.2 (2.75)	*31.4 (10.61)	56.5 (10.50)	*12.0 (10.38)	*13.9 (12.08)	86.1 (12.08)	*–
Asian	24.7 (3.57)	74.7 (3.59)	*0.6 (0.45)	23.7 (6.09)	76.3 (6.09)	*–	*15.0 (15.28)	85.0 (15.28)	*–
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	*29.2 (18.40)	70.8 (18.40)	*–	*–	100.0 (0.00)	*–	*–	100.0	*–
Multiple race:[4]									
2 or more races	24.2 (3.11)	74.0 (3.16)	*1.8 (0.75)	40.2 (8.28)	56.4 (8.38)	*3.5 (3.39)	*33.7 (16.89)	*38.6 (19.02)	*27.7 (21.78)
Black or African American; white	29.9 (7.12)	67.5 (7.15)	*2.5 (1.89)	*38.1 (11.83)	55.5 (12.02)	*6.4 (6.23)	*61.2 (27.03)	*38.8 (27.03)	*–
American Indian or Alaska Native; white	24.8 (6.48)	74.0 (6.53)	*1.3 (1.18)	*17.5 (16.48)	82.5 (16.48)	*–	*–	*19.2 (21.92)	80.8 (21.92)
Hispanic origin and race[5]									
Hispanic or Latino	28.2 (1.19)	70.3 (1.23)	1.5(0.32)	29.3 (2.15)	68.4 (2.34)	*2.3 (0.89)	41.3 (7.06)	54.8 (7.10)	*3.9 (1.99)
Mexican or Mexican American	28.6 (1.50)	70.3 (1.55)	*1.1 (0.32)	28.7 (2.62)	68.5 (2.89)	*2.8 (1.19)	45.6 (8.92)	53.2 (8.90)	*1.2 (1.21)
Not Hispanic or Latino	19.0 (0.52)	79.7 (0.54)	1.3 (0.15)	24.7 (1.35)	72.5 (1.39)	2.8 (0.56)	27.0 (4.08)	59.7 (4.68)	13.3 (3.41)
White, single race	17.8 (0.57)	80.9 (0.59)	1.3 (0.17)	22.8 (1.63)	74.2 (1.71)	3.0 (0.69)	27.8 (5.21)	59.0 (5.99)	*13.2 (4.27)
Black or African American, single race	23.1 (1.38)	75.7 (1.40)	*1.2 (0.43)	28.4 (2.62)	69.8 (2.61)	*1.8 (0.79)	27.1 (7.78)	61.2 (8.48)	*11.7 (5.36)
Family structure[6]									
Mother and father	19.4 (0.55)	79.4 (0.57)	1.2 (0.16)	24.1 (1.55)	73.3 (1.61)	2.6 (0.59)	28.4 (4.88)	63.1 (5.49)	*8.5 (3.45)
Mother, no father	23.0 (1.04)	75.0 (1.07)	2.0 (0.36)	29.0 (2.11)	67.6 (2.19)	*3.4 (1.02)	31.1 (6.09)	56.1 (6.69)	*12.8 (4.66)
Father, no mother	24.1 (2.42)	75.4 (2.44)	*0.6 (0.41)	23.4 (4.84)	76.0 (4.87)	*0.7 (0.67)	*35.7 (14.39)	58.9 (14.49)	*5.4 (5.29)
Neither mother nor father	19.3 (2.69)	79.9 (2.77)	*0.8 (0.69)	25.1 (5.48)	74.3 (5.49)	*0.6 (0.57)	*28.0 (14.18)	*38.6 (14.10)	*33.4 (15.71)
Parent's education[7]									
Less than high school diploma	28.0 (1.49)	70.7 (1.53)	*1.3 (0.41)	27.0 (2.45)	69.6 (2.60)	*3.4 (1.25)	35.3 (7.22)	55.4 (7.50)	*9.3 (4.76)
High school diploma or GED[8]	21.6 (1.02)	76.9 (1.06)	1.5 (0.33)	26.5 (2.23)	71.3 (2.37)	*2.2 (0.91)	38.1 (6.70)	54.4 (7.06)	*7.5 (3.45)
More than high school	18.7 (0.59)	79.9 (0.61)	1.4 (0.18)	25.1 (1.78)	72.0 (1.86)	3.0 (0.74)	19.0 (5.15)	67.0 (6.86)	*13.9 (5.54)

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 8. Percent distributions (with standard errors) of health status compared with a year ago given current health status, for children 1–17 years of age, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999—Con.

Selected characteristic	Current health status among persons 18 years of age and over[1]								
	Excellent/very good			Good			Fair/poor		
	Better than last year	About the same as last year	Worse than last year	Better than last year	About the same as last year	Worse than last year	Better than last year	About the same as last year	Worse than last year
	Percent distribution (standard error)[2]								
Family income[9]									
Less than $20,000	24.3 (1.17)	74.0 (1.22)	1.7 (0.40)	30.7 (2.35)	66.5 (2.39)	*2.8 (0.94)	26.9 (5.26)	64.3 (5.85)	*8.8 (3.39)
$20,000 or more	19.5 (0.53)	79.2 (0.55)	1.3 (0.15)	24.5 (1.44)	73.0 (1.50)	2.5 (0.55)	30.6 (4.89)	55.4 (5.36)	*14.0 (4.23)
$20,000–$34,999	24.8 (1.34)	73.9 (1.36)	1.3 (0.36)	27.1 (2.59)	71.9 (2.60)	*1.1 (0.41)	26.4 (7.73)	53.1 (8.98)	*20.5 (8.65)
$35,000–$54,999	22.6 (1.14)	76.1 (1.16)	1.3 (0.28)	28.4 (3.48)	66.4 (3.71)	*5.2 (1.88)	36.3 (10.24)	51.1 (10.81)	*12.6 (7.01)
$55,000–$74,999	18.4 (1.27)	79.9 (1.33)	1.7 (0.42)	22.1 (3.79)	75.4 (3.93)	*2.4 (1.27)	*24.6 (12.15)	62.8 (14.17)	*12.6 (8.74)
$75,000 or more	17.4 (1.02)	81.2 (1.06)	1.3 (0.32)	16.8 (3.18)	82.2 (3.24)	*0.9 (0.65)	*25.0 (12.36)	58.0 (15.17)	*17.1 (11.42)
Poverty status[10]									
Poor	24.7 (1.47)	72.7 (1.55)	2.6 (0.61)	34.4 (3.06)	62.8 (3.08)	*2.8 (1.14)	27.3 (6.10)	59.6 (7.14)	*13.1 (5.05)
Near poor	24.3 (1.25)	74.6 (1.28)	1.0 (0.28)	27.4 (2.74)	71.0 (2.76)	*1.6 (0.68)	28.1 (7.59)	58.2 (8.42)	*13.7 (6.55)
Not poor	19.7 (0.66)	78.9 (0.68)	1.4 (0.19)	22.1 (1.91)	74.8 (2.07)	*3.1 (0.97)	31.2 (6.78)	54.1 (7.62)	*14.7 (5.32)
Health insurance coverage[11]									
Private	18.8 (0.55)	80.0 (0.57)	1.2 (0.16)	21.6 (1.55)	75.7 (1.63)	2.8 (0.58)	27.7 (5.67)	61.8 (6.21)	*10.5 (3.80)
Medicaid/other public	26.8 (1.31)	71.3 (1.37)	1.9 (0.47)	30.8 (2.42)	66.6 (2.50)	*2.6 (0.97)	35.9 (5.67)	49.7 (6.13)	*14.4 (5.05)
Other	22.3 (3.57)	76.8 (3.60)	*0.9 (0.65)	*23.6 (9.15)	76.4 (9.15)	0.0 (0.0)	*17.5 (19.38)	82.5 (19.38)	0.0 (0.0)
Uninsured	22.1 (1.45)	76.2 (1.48)	1.7 (0.45)	28.9 (2.94)	68.2 (3.18)	*2.9 (1.71)	*20.9 (8.90)	71.4 (9.86)	*7.7 (4.10)
Place of residence[12]									
Large MSA	21.0 (0.71)	77.5 (0.73)	1.5 (0.21)	24.6 (1.65)	73.5 (1.68)	1.9 (0.52)	34.7 (5.65)	51.4 (5.92)	*13.9 (4.39)
Small MSA	19.7 (0.83)	78.9 (0.87)	1.4 (0.25)	26.0 (2.20)	72.0 (2.24)	*2.0 (0.68)	24.0 (5.68)	72.6 (6.05)	*3.4 (2.41)
Not in MSA	19.6 (1.05)	79.3 (1.06)	1.1 (0.26)	27.4 (2.32)	67.9 (2.55)	*4.7 (1.43)	28.6 (7.38)	55.0 (7.96)	*16.4 (6.48)
Region									
Northeast	19.4 (1.11)	79.4 (1.13)	1.2 (0.34)	26.7 (2.56)	70.2 (2.81)	*3.1 (1.30)	*17.2 (6.65)	68.8 (9.27)	*14.0 (8.26)
Midwest	17.4 (0.92)	81.4 (0.95)	1.2 (0.27)	20.0 (2.24)	77.0 (2.27)	*3.1 (1.15)	29.0 (8.00)	56.6 (7.97)	*14.3 (5.69)
South	21.1 (0.82)	77.4 (0.85)	1.5 (0.24)	26.8 (1.93)	70.5 (2.02)	2.7 (0.77)	24.0 (5.52)	61.8 (6.79)	*14.2 (4.97)
West	23.4 (1.06)	75.1 (1.06)	1.5 (0.30)	29.1 (2.60)	69.1 (2.63)	*1.8 (0.63)	50.7 (7.64)	47.7 (7.57)	*1.6 (1.15)
Sex and age									
Male:									
1–4 years	29.7 (1.52)	68.2 (1.55)	2.1 (0.50)	38.6 (3.89)	56.0 (3.97)	*5.4 (2.28)	42.4 (9.84)	33.5 (9.40)	*24.1 (9.81)
5–17 years	19.6 (0.76)	79.1 (0.78)	1.3 (0.22)	26.9 (1.95)	71.3 (1.99)	1.8 (0.50)	25.4 (5.29)	64.2 (5.97)	*10.4 (3.97)
5–11 years	20.7 (1.07)	77.8 (1.12)	1.6 (0.36)	29.9 (2.76)	68.2 (2.84)	*1.8 (0.70)	27.0 (6.94)	61.2 (8.23)	*11.7 (5.70)
12–17 years	18.3 (1.05)	80.7 (1.06)	1.0 (0.26)	23.4 (2.57)	74.9 (2.60)	*1.7 (0.72)	*22.8 (8.18)	68.8 (8.74)	*8.4 (5.06)
Female:									
1–4 years	25.7 (1.52)	73.9 (1.52)	*0.4 (0.18)	25.6 (3.73)	73.4 (3.76)	*0.9 (0.58)	*34.8 (10.71)	59.7 (11.42)	*5.5 (5.38)
5–17 years	16.5 (0.72)	82.1 (0.75)	1.5 (0.25)	20.7 (1.78)	76.1 (1.92)	3.2 (0.93)	27.8 (6.41)	63.4 (7.15)	*8.8 (4.32)
5–11 years	17.2 (0.93)	81.1 (0.98)	1.7 (0.37)	22.7 (2.66)	74.6 (2.89)	*2.7 (1.47)	*28.3 (9.88)	71.1 (9.90)	*0.6 (0.57)
12–17 years	15.5 (1.11)	83.4 (1.14)	1.1 (0.31)	18.8 (2.43)	77.5 (2.64)	*3.7 (1.19)	27.5 (8.25)	58.8 (9.54)	*13.7 (6.71)

* Data preceded by an asterisk have a relative standard error of greater than 30%, and should be used with caution as they do not meet the standard of reliability or precision.

– Quantity zero.

[1]The data in this table are based on the following questions: "Would you say {subject's name} health in general was excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor?" and "Compared with 12 months ago, would you say {child's name}'s health is better, worse, or about the same?" See appendix II for more information about the source question.

[2]Unknowns for the variable(s) of interest are not included in the denominators when calculating parents. This table consists of conditional percents; the total number of children in excellent or very good health (shown in table 7) serves as the denominator

for the percents in columns 1–3 above. Likewise, the number of children in good health is the denominator for the percents in columns 4–6, while the total number of children in fair or poor health is the denominator for the percents in columns 7–9.

[3]Starting with data year 1999, the categories "White" and "Black or African American" under "Single race" include persons who reported only one racial group. The category "American Indian or Alaska Native" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "American Indian" and "Alaska Native" racial groups. Also, the category "Asian" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated more than one Asian subgroup (such as Asian Indian, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean, or Vietnamese). Further, the racial group "Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "Native Hawaiian" or "other Pacific Islander" (such as Guamanian or Samoan) categories. Single race persons who indicated a race other than white, black or African American, American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, or Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander are not shown. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

[4]Although all persons who reported a multiple race combination are shown in "2 or more races," the only specific combinations shown are "Black or African American; white" and "American Indian or Alaska Native; white." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

[5]"Mexican or Mexican American" is a subset of Hispanics. Under the category "Not Hispanic or Latino," "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race" refer to non-Hispanic single race white persons and non-Hispanic single race black or African American persons, respectively. Although all non-Hispanic persons are shown in "Not Hispanic or Latino," the only specific categories shown are "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

[6]Mother and father can include biological, adoptive, step, in-law, or foster relationships. Legal guardians are classified in "Neither mother nor father."

[7]Parent's education is the education level of the parent with the higher level of education, regardless of that parent's age.

[8]GED is General Educational Development high school equivalency diploma.

[9]"Less than $20,000" and "$20,000 or more" include both respondents reporting specific dollar amounts and respondents reporting that their incomes were within those categories (see appendix I). The indented categories include only those respondents who reported specific dollar amounts. Children with unknown family income are not shown.

[10]Poverty status is based on family income and family size using the Census Bureau's poverty thresholds. "Poor" children are in families defined as below the poverty threshold. "Near poor" children are in families with incomes that are 100% to less than 200% of the poverty threshold. "Not poor" children are in families with incomes that are 200% of the poverty threshold or greater.

[11]Private health insurance may be obtained through the workplace or purchased directly. Among children under 18 years of age, "Medicaid/other public" includes those with Medicaid or other public health insurance coverage (e.g., most State-sponsored coverage). "Other coverage" includes Medicare, military health insurance coverage, and/or another form of government-sponsored health insurance coverage. Children with only Indian Health Service coverage are considered uninsured.

[12]"MSA" is metropolitan statistical area. Large MSAs have a population size of 1,000,000 or more; small MSAs have a population size of less than 1,000,000. "Not in MSA" consists of persons not living in a metropolitan statistical area.

Table 9. Frequency distributions of number of school days missed because of illness or injury in the past 12 months, for children 5–17 years of age, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999

Selected characteristic	All children 5–17 years	Number of school days missed in past 12 months[1]					
		None	1–2 days	3–5 days	6–10 days	11 or more days	Did not go to school
		Number in thousands[2]					
Total	52,479	13,490	14,184	14,381	5,771	2,989	604
Sex							
Male	26,853	6,971	7,284	7,042	3,036	1,518	361
Female	25,625	6,519	6,900	7,339	2,735	1,471	243
Age							
5–17 years	52,479	13,490	14,184	14,381	5,771	2,989	604
5–11 years	28,882	7,348	8,165	7,846	3,088	1,415	498
12–17 years	23,596	6,142	6,019	6,535	2,683	1,574	106
Race							
Single race:[3]							
White	39,882	8,883	11,175	11,766	4,510	2,271	500
Black or African American	7,874	2,991	1,893	1,628	751	430	*53
American Indian or Alaska Native	417	*152	*77	*88	*46	*43	*10
Asian	1,375	579	386	213	*74	*28	*3
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	*31	*–	*6	*14	*–	*11	*–
Multiple race:[4]							
2 or more races	1,053	274	205	255	197	107	*14
Black or African American; white	333	100	*42	69	*85	*29	*7
American Indian or Alaska Native; white	203	*22	*64	*47	*20	*45	*5
Hispanic origin and race[5]							
Hispanic or Latino	7,853	2,641	1,829	1,930	765	402	68
Mexican or Mexican American	5,235	1,855	1,216	1,289	466	221	*53
Not Hispanic or Latino	44,601	10,847	12,351	12,439	5,006	2,588	537
White, single race	34,244	6,955	9,877	10,317	4,023	1,990	462
Black or African American, single race	7,753	2,944	1,867	1,612	727	428	*53
Family structure[6]							
Mother and father	36,846	9,279	10,717	10,095	3,907	1,760	430
Mother, no father	11,838	3,140	2,594	3,182	1,489	1,018	136
Father, no mother	2,277	558	541	710	264	117	*25
Neither mother nor father	1,518	512	332	393	111	*95	*14
Parent's education[7]							
Less than high school diploma	6,446	2,083	1,306	1,615	712	441	106
High school diploma or GED[8]	12,471	3,383	2,865	3,347	1,466	909	196
More than high school	31,670	7,424	9,632	8,962	3,467	1,537	288
Family income[9]							
Less than $20,000	9,356	2,992	1,903	2,187	1,106	795	153
$20,000 or more	41,009	9,857	11,801	11,745	4,448	2,063	429
$20,000–$34,999	7,290	1,904	1,871	1,934	823	523	111
$35,000–$54,999	9,588	2,358	2,544	2,809	1,150	580	93
$55,000–$74,999	7,172	1,510	2,308	2,078	758	312	*75
$75,000 or more	10,242	2,084	3,278	3,160	1,179	425	*86
Poverty status[10]							
Poor	6,712	2,136	1,258	1,662	815	631	85
Near poor	8,650	2,361	2,174	2,161	1,018	674	113
Not poor	26,345	5,632	8,067	7,948	3,038	1,199	261
Health insurance coverage[11]							
Private	36,852	8,645	10,943	10,501	4,069	1,758	352
Medicaid/other public	7,982	2,467	1,482	1,861	1,012	768	120
Other	1,140	354	302	284	112	*62	*3
Uninsured	6,343	1,969	1,428	1,702	576	388	117

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 9. Frequency distributions of number of school days missed because of illness or injury in the past 12 months, for children 5–17 years of age, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999—Con.

Selected characteristic	All children 5–17 years	Number of school days missed in past 12 months[1]					
		None	1–2 days	3–5 days	6–10 days	11 or more days	Did not go to school
Place of residence[12]		Number in thousands[2]					
Large MSA	24,470	6,755	6,777	6,278	2,600	1,289	249
Small MSA	16,512	4,159	4,342	4,799	1,778	908	198
Not in MSA	11,497	2,576	3,064	3,303	1,393	791	158
Region							
Northeast	9,501	2,160	2,587	2,816	1,084	466	*75
Midwest	13,429	2,986	3,861	3,880	1,441	777	208
South	18,479	5,196	5,019	4,879	1,948	974	226
West	11,069	3,148	2,717	2,805	1,298	772	95
Current health status							
Excellent/very good/good	51,526	13,339	14,075	14,148	5,641	2,711	583
Fair/poor	899	138	98	226	130	273	*21
Sex and age							
Male:							
5–17 years	26,853	6,971	7,284	7,042	3,036	1,518	361
5–11 years	14,814	3,705	4,154	3,886	1,627	821	312
12–17 years	12,040	3,267	3,130	3,156	1,409	697	*49
Female:							
5–17 years	25,625	6,519	6,900	7,339	2,735	1,471	243
5–11 years	14,069	3,643	4,011	3,959	1,462	595	186
12–17 years	11,557	2,875	2,889	3,379	1,273	877	*58

* Data preceded by an asterisk have a relative standard error of greater than 30%, and should be used with caution as they do not meet the standard of reliability or precision.

– Quantity zero.

[1]The data in this table are based on the following question: "During the past 12 months, that is since {12-month ref. date}, about how many days did {child's name} miss school because of illness or injury?" See appendix II for more detailed definitions of selected terms used in this report.

[2]Unknowns for the variable of interest are not shown in the frequency distributions. They are, however, included in the "All children 5–17 years" column. Hence, frequencies may not sum to their respective totals. Additionally, numbers may not add to totals because of rounding.

[3]Starting with data year 1999, the categories "White" and "Black or African American" under "Single race" include persons who reported only one racial group. The category "American Indian or Alaska Native" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "American Indian" and "Alaska Native" racial groups. Also, the category "Asian" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated more than one Asian subgroup (such as Asian Indian, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean, or Vietnamese). Further, the racial group "Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "Native Hawaiian" or "other Pacific Islander" (such as Guamanian or Samoan) categories. Single race persons who indicated a race other than white, black or African American, American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, or Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander are not shown. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

[4]Although all persons who reported a multiple race combination are shown in "2 or more races," the only specific combinations shown are "Black or Africian American; white" and "American Indian or Alaska Native; white." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

[5]"Mexican or Mexican American" is a subset of Hispanics. Under the category "Not Hispanic or Latino," "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race" refer to non-Hispanic single race white persons and non-Hispanic single race black African American persons, respectively. Although all non-Hispanic persons are shown in "Not Hispanic or Latino," the only specific categories shown are "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

[6]Mother and father can include biological, adoptive, step, in-law, or foster relationships. Legal guardians are classified in "Neither mother nor father."

[7]Parent's education is the education level of the parent with the higher level of education, regardless of that parent's age.

[8]GED is General Educational Development high school equivalency diploma.

[9]"Less than $20,000" and "$20,000 or more" include both respondents reporting specific dollar amounts and respondents reporting that their incomes were within those categories (see appendix I). The indented categories include only those respondents who reported specific dollar amounts. Children with unknown family income are not shown.

[10]Poverty status is based on family income and family size using the Census Bureau's poverty thresholds. "Poor" children are in families defined as below the poverty threshold. "Near poor" children are in families with incomes that are 100% to less than 200% of the poverty threshold. "Not poor" children are in families with incomes that are 200% of the poverty threshold or greater.

[11]Private health insurance may be obtained through the workplace or purchased directly. Among children under 18 years of age, "Medicaid/other public" includes those with Medicaid or other public health insurance coverage (e.g., most State-sponsored coverage). "Other coverage" includes Medicare, military health insurance coverage, and/or another form of government-sponsored health insurance coverage. Children with only Indian Health Service coverage are considered uninsured.

[12]"MSA" is metropolitan statistical area. Large MSAs have a population size of 1,000,000 or more; small MSAs have a population size of less than 1,000,000. "Not in MSA" consists of persons not living in a metropolitan statistical area.

Table 10. Percent distributions (with standard errors) of number of school days missed because of illness or injury in the past 12 months, for children 5–17 years of age, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999

Selected characteristic	All children 5–17 years	Number of school days missed in past 12 months[1]					
		None	1–2 days	3–5 days	6–10 days	11 or more days	Did not go to school
		Percent distribution (standard errors)[2]					
Total	100.0	26.2 (0.58)	27.6 (0.60)	28.0 (0.62)	11.2 (0.41)	5.8 (0.30)	1.2 (0.14)
Sex							
Male	100.0	26.6 (0.78)	27.8 (0.82)	26.9 (0.83)	11.6 (0.59)	5.8 (0.41)	1.4 (0.22)
Female	100.0	25.9 (0.79)	27.4 (0.83)	29.1 (0.87)	10.9 (0.56)	5.8 (0.45)	1.0 (0.16)
Age							
5–17 years	100.0	26.2 (0.58)	27.6 (0.60)	28.0 (0.62)	11.2 (0.41)	5.8 (0.30)	1.2 (0.14)
5–11 years	100.0	25.9 (0.78)	28.8 (0.83)	27.7 (0.83)	10.9 (0.54)	5.0 (0.37)	1.8 (0.25)
12–17 years	100.0	26.6 (0.82)	26.1 (0.80)	28.3 (0.89)	11.6 (0.60)	6.8 (0.51)	0.5 (0.11)
Race							
Single race:[3]							
White	100.0	22.7 (0.64)	28.6 (0.72)	30.1 (0.73)	11.5 (0.49)	5.8 (0.34)	1.3 (0.16)
Black or African American	100.0	38.6 (1.64)	24.4 (1.39)	21.0 (1.32)	9.7 (0.96)	5.6 (0.76)	*0.7 (0.21)
American Indian or Alaska Native	100.0	36.6 (9.64)	*18.4 (5.57)	*21.2 (6.43)	*11.1 (5.67)	*10.4 (3.60)	*2.3 (2.18)
Asian	100.0	45.1 (4.17)	30.1 (3.73)	16.6 (3.06)	*5.8 (2.00)	*2.2 (1.19)	*0.2 (0.25)
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	100.0	*–	*20.2 (15.45)	*44.5 (26.95)	*–	*35.3 (26.93)	*–
Multiple race:[4]							
2 or more races	100.0	26.1 (3.52)	19.5 (3.14)	24.3 (3.16)	18.7 (2.99)	10.2 (2.82)	*1.3 (0.84)
Black or African American; white	100.0	30.0 (6.86)	*12.7 (4.43)	20.8 (5.10)	25.6 (6.54)	*8.8 (4.29)	*2.2 (2.18)
American Indian or Alaska Native; white	100.0	*11.1 (4.14)	31.6 (8.79)	*23.0 (7.20)	*9.9 (5.16)	*22.1 (10.30)	*2.2 (2.23)
Hispanic origin and race[5]							
Hispanic or Latino	100.0	34.6 (1.21)	24.0 (1.08)	25.3 (1.25)	10.0 (0.74)	5.3 (0.64)	0.9 (0.26)
Mexican or Mexican American	100.0	36.4 (1.49)	23.8 (1.29)	25.3 (1.59)	9.1 (0.87)	4.3 (0.73)	*1.0 (0.36)
Not Hispanic or Latino	100.0	24.8 (0.64)	28.2 (0.68)	28.4 (0.70)	11.4 (0.47)	5.9 (0.34)	1.2 (0.15)
White, single race	100.0	20.7 (0.70)	29.4 (0.80)	30.7 (0.81)	12.0 (0.55)	5.9 (0.39)	1.4 (0.19)
Black or African American, single race	100.0	38.6 (1.66)	24.5 (1.40)	21.1 (1.33)	9.5 (0.96)	5.6 (0.77)	*0.7 (0.21)
Family structure[6]							
Mother and father	100.0	25.6 (0.67)	29.6 (0.73)	27.9 (0.75)	10.8 (0.50)	4.9 (0.35)	1.2 (0.17)
Mother, no father	100.0	27.2 (1.15)	22.4 (1.01)	27.5 (1.20)	12.9 (0.87)	8.8 (0.75)	1.2 (0.28)
Father, no mother	100.0	25.2 (2.56)	24.4 (2.46)	32.0 (2.85)	11.9 (1.91)	5.3 (1.35)	*1.1 (0.47)
Neither mother nor father	100.0	35.2 (3.46)	22.8 (2.86)	27.0 (3.29)	7.6 (1.62)	6.5 (1.89)	*0.9 (0.44)
Parent's education[7]							
Less than high school diploma	100.0	33.3 (1.52)	20.9 (1.33)	25.8 (1.55)	11.4 (1.14)	7.0 (0.84)	1.7 (0.40)
High school diploma or GED[8]	100.0	27.8 (1.13)	23.6 (1.09)	27.5 (1.16)	12.0 (0.84)	7.5 (0.67)	1.6 (0.35)
More than high school	100.0	23.7 (0.72)	30.8 (0.81)	28.6 (0.80)	11.1 (0.55)	4.9 (0.37)	0.9 (0.17
Family income[9]							
Less than $20,000	100.0	32.7 (1.39)	20.8 (1.21)	23.9 (1.30)	12.1 (0.97)	8.7 (0.81)	1.7 (0.38)
$20,000 or more	100.0	24.4 (0.63)	29.3 (0.67)	29.1 (0.71)	11.0 (0.47)	5.1 (0.32)	1.1 (0.15)
$20,000–$34,999	100.0	26.6 (1.42)	26.1 (1.40)	27.0 (1.48)	11.5 (1.10)	7.3 (0.91)	1.5 (0.44)
$35,000–$54,999	100.0	24.7 (1.22)	26.7 (1.40)	29.5 (1.42)	12.1 (0.98)	6.1 (0.71)	1.0 (0.28)
$55,000–$74,999	100.0	21.4 (1.54)	32.8 (1.71)	29.5 (1.63)	10.8 (1.11)	4.4 (0.75)	*1.1 (0.36)
$75,000 or more	100.0	20.4 (1.15)	32.1 (1.39)	30.9 (1.41)	11.5 (0.93)	4.2 (0.59)	*0.8 (0.27)
Poverty status[10]							
Poor	100.0	32.4 (1.75)	19.1 (1.47)	25.2 (1.51)	12.4 (1.24)	9.6 (1.04)	1.3 (0.36)
Near poor	100.0	27.8 (1.39)	25.6 (1.43)	25.4 (1.38)	12.0 (1.06)	7.9 (0.92)	1.3 (0.37)
Not poor	100.0	21.5 (0.75)	30.9 (0.84)	30.4 (0.86)	11.6 (0.60)	4.6 (0.36)	1.0 (0.18)
Health insurance coverage[11]							
Private	100.0	23.8 (0.66)	30.2 (0.72)	29.0 (0.73)	11.2 (0.51)	4.8 (0.33)	1.0 (0.15)
Medicaid/other public	100.0	32.0 (1.52)	19.2 (1.31)	24.1 (1.43)	13.1 (1.21)	0.0 (1.04)	1.6 (0.36)
Other	100.0	31.7 (4.05)	27.0 (3.76)	25.4 (4.33)	10.1 (2.45)	*5.5 (1.80)	*0.3 (0.29)
Uninsured	100.0	31.9 (1.66)	23.1 (1.38)	27.5 (1.71)	9.3 (0.97)	6.3 (0.87)	1.9 (0.49)

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 10. Percent distributions (with standard errors) of number of school days missed because of illness or injury in the past 12 months, for children 5–17 years of age, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999—Con.

Selected characteristic	All children 5–17 years	Number of school days missed in past 12 months[1]					
		None	1–2 days	3–5 days	6–10 days	11 or more days	Did not go to school
Place of residence[12]		Percent distribution (standard erros)					
Large MSA	100.0	28.2 (0.85)	28.3 (0.84)	26.2 (0.83)	10.9 (0.59)	5.4 (0.44)	1.0 (0.18)
Small MSA	100.0	25.7 (0.99)	26.8 (1.07)	29.7 (1.19)	11.0 (0.70)	5.6 (0.50)	1.2 (0.24)
Not in MSA	100.0	22.8 (1.28)	27.2 (1.37)	29.3 (1.39)	12.3 (0.99)	7.0 (0.74)	1.4 (0.36)
Region							
Northeast	100.0	23.5 (1.34)	28.2 (1.34)	30.6 (1.46)	11.8 (0.99)	5.1 (0.71)	*0.8 (0.28)
Midwest	100.0	22.7 (1.06)	29.4 (1.21)	29.5 (1.26)	11.0 (0.84)	5.9 (0.60)	1.6 (0.36)
South	100.0	28.5 (1.02)	27.5 (0.98)	26.7 (1.04)	10.7 (0.62)	5.3 (0.45)	1.2 (0.21)
West	100.0	29.1 (1.27)	25.1 (1.33)	25.9 (1.32)	12.0 (1.00)	7.1 (0.79)	0.9 (0.25)
Current health status							
Excellent/very good/good	100.0	26.4 (0.59)	27.9 (0.60)	28.0 (0.63)	11.2 (0.42)	5.4 (0.29)	1.2 (0.14)
Fair/poor	100.0	15.5 (3.24)	11.0 (2.77)	25.5 (5.02)	14.7 (2.67)	30.8 (4.74)	*2.4 (1.32)
Sex and age							
Male:							
5–17 years	100.0	26.6 (0.78)	27.8 (0.82)	26.9 (0.83)	11.6 (0.59)	5.8 (0.41)	1.4 (0.22)
5–11 years	100.0	25.5 (1.04)	28.6 (1.10)	26.8 (1.08)	11.2 (0.75)	5.7 (0.56)	2.2 (0.38)
12–17 years	100.0	27.9 (1.15)	26.7 (1.15)	27.0 (1.24)	12.0 (0.88)	6.0 (0.61)	*0.4 (0.13)
Female:							
5–17 years	100.0	25.9 (0.79)	27.4 (0.83)	29.1 (0.87)	10.9 (0.56)	5.8 (0.45)	1.0 (0.16)
5–11 years	100.0	26.3 (1.12)	28.9 (1.18)	28.6 (1.19)	10.5 (0.80)	4.3 (0.50)	1.3 (0.28)
12–17 years	100.0	25.3 (1.11)	25.5 (1.14)	29.8 (1.24)	11.2 (0.79)	7.7 (0.77)	*0.5 (0.18)

* Data preceded by an asterisk have a relative standard error of greater than 30%, and should be used with caution as they do not meet the standard of reliability or precision.

– Quantity zero.

[1]The data in this table are based on the following question: "During the past 12 months, that is since {12-month ref. date}, about how many days did {child's name} miss school because of illness or injury?" See appendix II for more detailed definitions of selected terms used in this report.

[2]Unknowns for the variable of interest are not included in the denominators when calculting percents. Additionally, percents may not add to 100% because of rounding.

[3]Starting with data year 1999, the categories "White" and "Black or African American" under "Single race" includes persons who reported only one racial group. The category "American Indian or Alaska Native" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "American Indian" and "Alaska Native" racial groups. Also, the category "Asian" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated more than one Asian subgroup (such as Asian Indian, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean, or Vietnamese). Further, the racial group "Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "Native Hawaiian" or "other Pacific Islander" (such as Guamanian or Samoan) categories. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

[4]Although all persons who reported a multiple race combination are shown in "2 or more races," the only specific combination shown are "Black or Africian American; white" and "American Indian or Alaska Native; white." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

[5]"Mexican or Mexican American" is a subset of Hispanics. Under the category "Not Hispanic or Latino," "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race" refer to non-Hispanic single race white persons and non-Hispanic single race black or African American persons, respectively. Although all non-Hispanic persons are shown in "Not Hispanic or Latino," the only specific categories shown are "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

[6]Mother and father can include biological, adoptive, step, in-law, or foster relationships. Legal guardians are classified in "Neither mother nor father."

[7]Parent's education is the education level of the parent with the higher level of education, regardless of that parent's age.

[8]GED is General Educational Development high school equivalency diploma.

[9]"Less than $20,000" and "$20,000 or more" include both respondents reporting specific dollar amounts and respondents reporting that their incomes were within those categories (see appendix I). The indented categories include only those respondents who reported specific dollar amounts. Children with unknown family income are not shown.

[10]Poverty status is based on family income and family size using the Census Bureau's poverty thresholds. "Poor" children are in families defined as below the poverty threshold. "Near poor" children are in families with incomes that are 100% to less than 200% of the poverty threshold. "Not poor" children are in families with incomes that are 200% of the poverty threshold or greater.

[11]Private health insurance may be obtained through the workplace or purchased directly. Among children under 18 years of age, "Medicaid/other public" includes those with Medicaid or other public health insurance coverage (e.g., most State-sponsored coverage). "Other coverage" includes Medicare, military health insurance coverage, and/or another form of government-sponsored health insurance coverage. Children with only Indian Health Service coverage are considered uninsured.

[12]"MSA" is metropolitan statistical area. Large MSAs have a population size of 1,000,000 or more; small MSAs have a population size of less than 1,000,000. "Not in MSA" consists of persons not living in a metropolitan statistical area.

Table 11. Frequency distributions of having a usual place of health care for children 17 years of age and under, and frequency distributions of usual place of health care for children 17 years of age and under with a usual place of care, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999

Selected characteristic	All children 0–17 years	Has no usual place of health care	Has usual place of health care	Usual place of care[1]					
				Clinic	Doctor's office	Emergency room	Hospital outpatient	Some other place	Does not go to one place most often
	Number in thousands[2]								
Total	72,080	4,535	67,429	13,576	52,027	304	1,012	260	162
Sex									
Male	36,871	2,339	34,479	6,810	26,775	176	476	125	72
Female	35,208	2,196	32,950	6,766	25,252	128	537	135	*91
Age									
0–4 years	19,601	773	18,809	4,017	14,250	*55	361	*93	*20
5–17 years	52,479	3,762	48,621	9,559	37,778	249	651	167	143
5–11 years	28,882	1,711	27,145	5,374	21,155	127	361	*73	*30
12–17 years	23,596	2,052	21,475	4,185	16,623	122	290	95	*112
Race									
Single race:[3]									
White	54,499	3,193	51,227	9,288	40,892	163	493	199	*125
Black or African American	10,578	655	9,916	2,590	6,853	87	320	*24	*23
American Indian or Alaska Native	625	*83	540	292	202	0	*46	0	0
Asian	1,987	162	1,806	322	1,422	*9	*40	*9	*3
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	*66	*–	*66	*12	*53	*–	*–	*–	*–
Multiple race:[4]									
2 or more races	1,579	58	1,519	353	1,114	*15	*18	*14	*3
Black or African American; white	525	*21	502	117	376	*–	*6	*–	*–
American Indian or Alaska Native; white	288	*1	286	90	171	*15	*4	*7	*–
Hispanic origin and race[5]									
Hispanic or Latino	11,461	1,553	9,882	3,141	6,287	107	245	*20	49
Mexican or Mexican American	7,782	1,279	6,485	2,140	4,069	75	136	*9	43
Not Hispanic or Latino	60,567	2,979	57,499	10,436	45,692	197	768	240	*113
White, single race	46,329	2,076	44,192	7,023	36,419	89	342	193	*84
Black or African American, single race	10,404	630	9,766	2,561	6,745	84	319	*24	*23
Family structure[6]									
Mother and father	50,872	2,698	48,086	8,200	38,856	148	576	173	*103
Mother, no father	16,319	1,303	14,996	4,222	10,190	92	328	*80	*35
Father, no mother	2,942	340	2,600	626	1,868	*46	*49	*4	*4
Neither mother nor father	1,947	195	1,747	529	1,113	*18	*60	*4	*21
Parent's education[7]									
Less than high school diploma	9,250	1,366	7,873	2,986	4,507	119	181	*10	*50
High school diploma or GED[8]	16,827	1,285	15,497	3,719	11,197	94	356	*40	*65
More than high school	43,556	1,649	41,875	6,254	34,882	68	410	206	*26
Family income[9]									
Less than $20,000	13,607	1,681	11,902	4,347	6,910	170	346	*36	66
$20,000 or more	55,560	2,655	52,833	8,577	43,167	131	630	215	*84
$20,000–$34,999	10,254	963	9,285	2,521	6,404	*36	256	*25	*44
$35,000–$54,999	13,107	716	12,380	2,316	9,836	*48	95	*67	*18
$55,000–$74,999	9,613	281	9,333	1,400	7,756	*25	*89	*35	*11
$75,000 or more	13,697	231	13,434	1,366	11,947	*6	*64	*40	*4
Poverty status[10]									
Poor	9,585	1,151	8,428	3,130	4,835	121	262	*33	*41
Near poor	12,134	1,185	10,937	3,156	7,393	55	250	*28	*56
Not poor	35,757	1,129	34,585	4,805	29,253	80	252	142	*32

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 11. Frequency distributions of having a usual place of health care for children 17 years of age and under, and frequency distributions of usual place of health care for children 17 years of age and under with a usual place of care, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999—Con.

Selected characteristic	All children 0–17 years	Has no usual place of health care	Has usual place of health care	Usual place of care[1]					
				Clinic	Doctor's office	Emergency room	Hospital outpatient	Some other place	Does not go to one place most often
Health insurance coverage[11]				Number in thousands[2]					
Private	49,644	1,568	47,988	6,330	41,157	60	271	107	*30
Medicaid/other public	12,345	655	11,674	4,142	7,013	*68	347	*32	*33
Other	1,561	*92	1,470	652	547	*12	205	*55	*–
Uninsured	8,334	2,204	6,118	2,406	3,191	165	190	*62	*100
Place of residence[12]									
Large MSA	34,327	2,099	32,192	5,724	25,533	139	558	87	*107
Small MSA	22,591	1,419	21,107	4,171	16,391	88	256	138	*36
Not in MSA	15,162	1,018	14,130	3,681	10,103	77	199	*36	*19
Region									
Northeast	13,283	279	12,998	1,514	11,168	*40	190	*13	*46
Midwest	18,061	840	17,193	4,451	12,337	*58	229	*86	*16
South	25,387	2,003	23,352	4,177	18,497	146	375	80	60
West	15,349	1,414	13,886	3,434	10,026	60	219	*81	*41
Current health status									
Excellent/very good/good	70,786	4,474	66,196	13,159	51,271	276	981	260	162
Fair/poor	1,228	*61	1,168	387	730	*19	*31	*–	*–
Sex and age									
Male:									
0–4 years	10,018	399	9,611	1,989	7,368	*35	159	*31	*20
5–17 years	26,853	1,940	24,869	4,821	19,407	141	317	94	52
5–11 years	14,814	896	13,904	2,747	10,834	64	184	*46	*14
12–17 years	12,040	1,043	10,964	2,074	8,572	77	133	*48	*38
Female:									
0–4 years	9,583	374	9,198	2,028	6,881	*20	202	*62	*–
5–17 years	25,625	1,823	23,752	4,738	18,371	108	334	*74	*91
5–11 years	14,069	815	13,241	2,627	10,320	*63	177	*27	*16
12–17 years	11,557	1,008	10,511	2,111	8,050	*44	157	*47	*75

* Data preceded by an asterisk have a relative standard error of greater than 30%, and should be used with caution as they do not meet the standard of reliability or precision.

– Quantity zero.

[1]The data in this table are based on the following questions: "Is there a place that {child's name} USUALLY goes who {he/she} is sick or you need advice about {his/her} health?" and "What kind of place is it — a clinic or health center, doctor's office or HMO, hospital emergency room, hospital outpatient department or some other place?" See appendix II for more detailed definitions of selected terms used in this report.

[2]Unknowns for the variable of interest are not shown among the frequencies. They are, however, included in the "All children" column. Hence, frequencies may not sum to their respective totals. Additionally, numbers may not add to totals because of rounding.

[3]Starting with data year 1999, the categories "White" and "Black or African American" under "Single race" include persons who reported only one racial group. The category "American Indian or Alaska Native" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "American Indian" and "Alaska Native" racial groups. Also, the category "Asian" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated more than one Asian subgroup (such as Asian Indian, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean, or Vietnamese). Further, the racial group "Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "Native Hawaiian" or "other Pacific Islander" (such as Guamanian or Samoan) categories. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

[4]Although all persons who reported a multiple race combination are shown in "2 or more races," the only specific combinations shown are "Black or Africian American; white" and "American Indian or Alaska Native; white." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

[5]"Mexican or Mexican American" is a subset of Hispanics. Under the category "Not Hispanic or Latino," "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race" refer to non-Hispanic single race white persons and non-Hispanc single race black or African American persons, respectively. Although all non-Hispanic persons are shown in "Not Hispanic or Latino," the only specific categories shown are "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

[6]Mother and father can include biological, adoptive, step, in-law, or foster relationships. Legal guardians are classified in "Neither mother nor father."

[7]Parent's education is the education level of the parent with the higher level of education, regardless of that parent's age.

[8]GED is General Educational Development high school equivalency diploma.

[9]"Less than $20,000" and "$20,000 or more" include both respondents reporting specific dollar amounts and respondents reporting that their incomes were within those categories (see appendix I). The indented categories include only those respondents who reported specific dollar amounts. Children with unknown family income are not shown.

[10]Poverty status is based on family income and family size using the Census Bureau's poverty thresholds. "Poor" children are in families defined as below the poverty threshold. "Near poor" children are in families with incomes that are 100% to less than 200% of the poverty threshold. "Not poor" children are in families with incomes that are 200% of the poverty threshold or greater.

[11]Private health insurance may be obtained through the workplace or purchased directly. Among children under 18 years of age, "Medicaid/other public" includes those with Medicaid or other public health insurance coverage (e.g., most State-sponsored coverage). "Other coverage" includes Medicare, military health insurance coverage, and/or another form of government-sponsored health insurance coverage. Children with only Indian Health Service coverage are considered uninsured.

[12]"MSA" is metropolitan statistical area. Large MSAs have a population size of 1,000,000 or more; small MSAs have a population size of less than 1,000,000. "Not in MSA" consists of persons not living in a metropolitan statistical area.

Table 12. Percent distributions (with standard errors) of having a usual place of health care for children 17 years of age and under, and percent distributions (with standard errors) of usual place of health care, for children 17 years of age and under with a usual place of care, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999

Selected characteristic	All children 0–17 years	Has no usual place of health care	Has usual place of health care	All children 0–17 years with a usual place of health care	Usual place of care[1]					
					Clinic	Doctor's office	Emergency room	Hospital outpatient	Some other place	Does not go to one place most often
					Percent distribution (standard error)[2]					
Total	100.0	6.3 (0.26)	93.7 (0.26)	100.0	20.2 (0.55)	77.3 (0.57)	0.5 (0.06)	1.5 (0.13)	0.4 (0.07)	0.2 (0.06)
Sex										
Male	100.0	6.4 (0.36)	93.6 (0.36)	100.0	19.8 (0.70)	77.8 (0.73)	0.5 (0.09)	1.4 (0.17)	0.4 (0.08)	0.2 (0.05)
Female	100.0	6.2 (0.36)	93.8 (0.36)	100.0	20.6 (0.74)	76.7 (0.76)	0.4 (0.09)	1.6 (0.19)	0.4 (0.10)	*0.3 (0.12)
Age										
0–4 years	100.0	3.9 (0.40)	96.1 (0.40)	100.0	21.4 (0.89)	75.8 (0.93)	*0.3 (0.11)	1.9 (0.28)	*0.5 (0.15)	*0.1 (0.05)
5–17 years	100.0	7.2 (0.32)	92.8 (0.32)	100.0	19.7 (0.62)	77.8 (0.64)	0.5 (0.08)	1.3 (0.14)	0.3 (0.07)	0.3 (0.08)
5–11 years	100.0	5.9 (0.39)	94.1 (0.39)	100.0	19.8 (0.78)	78.0 (0.80)	0.5 (0.11)	1.3 (0.19)	*0.3 (0.08)	*0.1 (0.04)
12–17 years	100.0	8.7 (0.49)	91.3 (0.49)	100.0	19.5 (0.83)	77.6 (0.86)	0.6 (0.12)	1.4 (0.20)	0.4 (0.12)	*0.5 (0.18)
Race										
Single race:[3]										
White	100.0	5.9 (0.29)	94.1 (0.29)	100.0	18.2 (0.59)	79.9 (0.60)	0.3 (0.06)	1.0 (0.12)	0.4 (0.08)	*0.2 (0.08)
Black or African American	100.0	6.2 (0.61)	93.8 (0.61)	100.0	26.2 (1.48)	69.2 (1.57)	0.9 (0.24)	3.2 (0.44)	*0.2 (0.13)	*0.2 (0.11)
American Indian or Alaska Native	100.0	13.3 (3.68)	86.7 (3.68)	100.0	54.0 (6.40)	37.5 (6.93)	*–	*8.5 (4.07)	*–	*–
Asian	100.0	8.2 (1.59)	91.8 (1.59)	100.0	17.8 (2.95)	78.7 (3.11)	*0.5 (0.50)	*2.2 (1.02)	*0.5 (0.38)	*0.2 (0.17)
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	100.0	*–	100.0	100.0	*18.9 (10.59)	81.1 (10.59)	*–	*–	*–	*–
Multiple race:[4]										
2 or more races	100.0	3.7 (1.08)	96.3 (1.08)	100.0	23.3 (2.75)	73.5 (2.94)	*1.0 (0.78)	*1.2 (0.59)	*1.0 (0.67)	*0.2 (0.17)
Black or African American; white	100.0	*4.1 (1.97)	95.9 (1.97)	100.0	23.5 (5.20)	75.4 (5.26)	0.0 (0.0)	*1.1 (1.12)	0.0 (0.0)	*–
American Indian or Alaska Native; white	100.0	*0.5 (0.49)	99.5 (0.49)	100.0	31.5 (7.12)	59.6 (8.57)	*5.2 (4.03)	*1.4 (1.40)	*2.3 (2.19)	*–
Hispanic origin and race[5]										
Hispanic or Latino	100.0	13.6 (0.76)	86.4 (0.76)	100.0	31.9 (1.40)	63.8 (1.41)	1.1 (0.25)	2.5 (0.37)	*0.2 (0.10)	0.5 (0.14)
Mexican or Mexican American	100.0	16.5 (1.00)	83.5 (1.00)	100.0	33.1 (1.84)	62.9 (1.84)	*1.2 (0.35)	2.1 (0.44)	*0.1 (0.08)	0.7 (0.20)
Not Hispanic or Latino	100.0	4.9 (0.27)	95.1 (0.27)	100.0	18.2 (0.60)	79.5 (0.62)	0.3 (0.06)	1.3 (0.14)	0.4 (0.08)	*0.2 (0.07)
White, single race	100.0	4.5 (0.30)	95.5 (0.30)	100.0	15.9 (0.62)	82.5 (0.63)	0.2 (0.06)	0.8 (0.12)	0.4 (0.10)	*0.2 (0.08)
Black or African American, single race	100.0	6.1 (0.60)	93.9 (0.60)	100.0	26.3 (1.50)	69.1 (1.58)	0.9 (0.24)	3.3 (0.45)	*0.2 (0.13)	*0.2 (0.11)
Family structure[6]										
Mother and father	100.0	5.3 (0.29)	94.7 (0.29)	100.0	17.1 (0.56)	80.9 (0.60)	0.3 (0.06)	1.2 (0.15)	0.4 (0.08)	*0.2 (0.08)
Mother, no father	100.0	8.0 (0.57)	92.0 (0.57)	100.0	28.2 (1.14)	68.2 (1.16)	0.6 (0.16)	2.2 (0.30)	*0.5 (0.16)	*0.2 (0.09)
Father, no mother	100.0	11.6 (1.67)	88.4 (1.67)	100.0	24.1 (2.32)	71.9 (2.38)	*1.8 (0.69)	*1.9 (0.77)	*0.1 (0.15)	*0.2 (0.15)
Neither mother nor father	100.0	10.0 (1.53)	90.0 (1.53)	100.0	30.3 (3.10)	63.8 (3.12)	*1.0 (0.51)	*3.4 (1.12)	*0.2 (0.17)	*1.2 (0.46)
Parent's education[7]										
Less than high school diploma	100.0	14.8 (1.02)	85.2 (1.02)	100.0	38.0 (1.54)	57.4 (1.56)	1.5 (0.38)	2.3 (0.40)	*0.1 (0.08)	*0.6 (0.20)
High school diploma or GED[8]	100.0	7.7 (0.54)	92.3 (0.54)	100.0	24.0 (1.07)	72.4 (1.12)	0.6 (0.15)	2.3 (0.34)	*0.3 (0.10)	*0.4 (0.24)
More than high school	100.0	3.8 (0.27)	96.2 (0.27)	100.0	14.9 (0.59)	83.4 (0.62)	0.2 (0.05)	1.0 (0.14)	0.5 (0.10)	*0.1 (0.02)

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 12. Percent distributions (with standard errors) of having a usual place of health care for children 17 years of age and under, and percent distributions (with standard errors) of usual place of health care, for children 17 years of age and under with a usual place of care, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999—Con.

Selected characteristic	All children 0–17 years	Has no usual place of health care	Has usual place of health care	All children 0–17 years with a usual place of health care	Usual place of care[1]					
					Clinic	Doctor's office	Emergency room	Hospital outpatient	Some other place	Does not go to one place most often
	Percent distribution (standard error)[2]									
Family income[9]										
Less than $20,000	100.0	12.4 (0.76)	87.6 (0.76)	100.0	36.6 (1.34)	58.2 (1.39)	1.4 (0.30)	2.9 (0.40)	*0.3 (0.12)	0.6 (0.15)
$20,000 or more	100.0	4.8 (0.27)	95.2 (0.27)	100.0	16.2 (0.55)	81.8 (0.56)	0.2 (0.05)	1.2 (0.13)	0.4 (0.08)	*0.2 (0.07)
$20,000–$34,999	100.0	9.4 (0.79)	90.6 (0.79)	100.0	27.1 (1.42)	69.0 (1.46)	*0.4 (0.13)	2.8 (0.44)	*0.3 (0.11)	*0.5 (0.38)
$35,000–$54,999	100.0	5.5 (0.54)	94.5 (0.54)	100.0	18.7 (1.10)	79.5 (1.12)	*0.4 (0.14)	0.8 (0.20)	*0.5 (0.18)	*0.1 (0.07)
$55,000–$74,999	100.0	2.9 (0.49)	97.1 (0.49)	100.0	15.0 (1.16)	83.2 (1.19)	*0.3 (0.13)	*1.0 (0.32)	*0.4 (0.18)	*0.1 (0.07)
$75,000 or more	100.0	1.7 (0.29)	98.3 (0.29)	100.0	10.2 (0.83)	89.0 (0.83)	*0.0 (0.04)	*0.5 (0.16)	*0.3 (0.12)	*0.0 (0.03)
Poverty status[10]										
Poor	100.0	12.0 (0.93)	88.0 (0.93)	100.0	37.2 (1.66)	57.4 (1.71)	1.4 (0.38)	3.1 (0.55)	*0.4 (0.17)	*0.5 (0.18)
Near poor	100.0	9.8 (0.76)	90.2 (0.76)	100.0	28.9 (1.32)	67.6 (1.40)	0.5 (0.14)	2.3 (0.45)	*0.3 (0.10)	*0.5 (0.32)
Not poor	100.0	3.2 (0.24)	96.8 (0.24)	100.0	13.9 (0.60)	84.6 (0.61)	0.2 (0.06)	0.7 (0.13)	0.4 (0.10)	*0.1 (0.03)
Health insurance coverage[11]										
Private	100.0	3.2 (0.23)	96.8 (0.23)	100.0	13.2 (0.54)	85.8 (0.54)	*0.1 (0.0)	0.6 (0.10)	0.2 (0.06)	*0.1 (0.03)
Medicaid/other public	100.0	5.3 (0.51)	94.7 (0.51)	100.0	35.6 (1.35)	60.3 (1.36)	*0.6 (0.18)	3.0 (0.39)	*0.3 (0.11)	*0.3 (0.11)
Other	100.0	*5.9 (1.77)	94.1 (1.77)	100.0	44.3 (4.56)	37.2 (3.97)	*0.8 (0.56)	13.9 (2.58)	*3.8 (1.64)	*–
Uninsured	100.0	26.5 (1.36)	73.5 (1.36)	100.0	39.4 (1.87)	52.2 (1.99)	2.7 (0.57)	3.1 (0.57)	*1.0 (0.37)	*1.6 (0.61)
Place of residence[12]										
Large MSA	100.0	6.1 (0.35)	93.9 (0.35)	100.0	17.8 (0.68)	79.4 (0.71)	0.4 (0.09)	1.7 (0.19)	0.3 (0.07)	*0.3 (0.12)
Small MSA	100.0	6.3 (0.47)	93.7 (0.47)	100.0	19.8 (1.16)	77.8 (1.22)	0.4 (0.11)	1.2 (0.23)	0.7 (0.18)	*0.2 (0.06)
Not in MSA	100.0	6.7 (0.66)	93.3 (0.66)	100.0	26.1 (1.39)	71.6 (1.43)	0.5 (0.16)	1.4 (0.30)	*0.3 (0.11)	*0.1 (0.07)
Region										
Northeast	100.0	2.1 (0.33)	97.9 (0.33)	100.0	11.7 (0.93)	86.1 (0.99)	*0.3 (0.10)	1.5 (0.26)	*0.1 (0.09)	*0.4 (0.27)
Midwest	100.0	4.7 (0.46)	95.3 (0.46)	100.0	25.9 (1.23)	71.8 (1.25)	*0.3 (0.12)	1.3 (0.25)	*0.5 (0.16)	*0.1 (0.06)
South	100.0	7.9 (0.52)	92.1 (0.52)	100.0	17.9 (0.95)	79.3 (1.01)	0.6 (0.13)	1.6 (0.24)	0.3 (0.09)	0.3 (0.07)
West	100.0	9.2 (0.61)	90.8 (0.61)	100.0	24.8 (1.16)	72.3 (1.18)	0.4 (0.13)	1.6 (0.31)	*0.6 (0.20)	*0.3 (0.09)
Current health status										
Excellent/very good/good	100.0	6.3 (0.26)	93.7 (0.26)	100.0	19.9 (0.56)	77.6 (0.58)	0.4 (0.06)	1.5 (0.13)	0.4 (0.07)	0.2 (0.06)
Fair/poor	100.0	*4.9 (1.81)	95.1 (1.81)	100.0	33.1 (4.15)	62.6 (4.23)	*1.7 (0.77)	*2.7 (1.20)	*–	*–
Sex and age										
Male:										
0–4 years	100.0	4.0 (0.55)	96.0 (0.55)	100.0	20.7 (1.16)	76.7 (1.21)	*0.4 (0.18)	1.7 (0.36)	*0.3 (0.15)	*0.2 (0.11)
5–17 years	100.0	7.2 (0.43)	92.8 (0.43)	100.0	19.4 (0.79)	78.2 (0.80)	0.6 (0.11)	1.3 (0.20)	0.4 (0.10)	0.2 (0.06)
5–11 years	100.0	6.1 (0.53)	93.9 (0.53)	100.0	19.8 (1.02)	78.0 (1.03)	0.5 (0.14)	1.3 (0.25)	*0.3 (0.12)	*0.1 (0.05)
12–17 years	100.0	8.7 (0.68)	91.3 (0.68)	100.0	19.0 (1.11)	78.3 (1.13)	0.7 (0.18)	1.2 (0.29)	*0.4 (0.17)	*0.3 (0.11)
Female:										
0–4 years	100.0	3.9 (0.53)	96.1 (0.53)	100.0	22.1 (1.26)	74.8 (1.32)	*0.2 (0.12)	2.2 (0.41)	*0.7 (0.26)	*–
5–17 years	100.0	7.1 (0.44)	92.9 (0.44)	100.0	20.0 (0.84)	77.5 (0.87)	0.5 (0.11)	1.4 (0.20)	*0.3 (0.10)	*0.4 (0.16)
5–11 years	100.0	5.8 (0.56)	94.2 (0.56)	100.0	19.9 (1.12)	78.0 (1.14)	*0.5 (0.17)	1.3 (0.30)	*0.2 (0.12)	*0.1 (0.06)
12–17 years	100.0	8.8 (0.70)	91.2 (0.70)	100.0	20.1 (1.14)	76.8 (1.19)	*0.4 (0.15)	1.5 (0.25)	*0.4 (0.16)	*0.7 (0.35)

* Data preceded by an asterisk have a relative standard error of greater than 30%, and should be used with caution as they do not meet the standard of reliability or precision.

– Quantity zero.

0.0 Quantity more than zero but less than 0.0.

[1]The data in this table are based on the following questions: "Is there a place that {child's name} USUALLY goes when {he/she} is sick or you need advice about {his/her} health?" and "What kind of place is it — a clinic or health center, doctor's office or HMO, hospital emergency room, hospital outpatient department or some other place?" See appendix II for more detailed definitions of selected terms used in this report.

[2]Unknowns for the variable of interest are not included in the denominators when calculating percents. Additionally, percents may not add to 100% because of rounding.

[3]Starting with data year 1999, the categories ''White'' and ''Black or African American'' under ''Single race'' include persons who reported only one racial group. The category ''American Indian or Alaska Native'' under ''Single race'' includes some persons who indicated both the ''American Indian'' and ''Alaska Native'' racial groups. Also, the category ''Asian'' under ''Single race'' includes some persons who indicated more than one Asian subgroup (such as Asian Indian, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean, or Vietnamese). Further, the racial group ''Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander'' under ''Single race'' includes some persons who indicated both the ''Native Hawaiian'' or ''other Pacific Islander'' (such as Guamanian or Samoan) categories. Single race persons who indicatd a race other than white, black or African American, American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, or Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander are not shown. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

[4]Although all persons who reported a multiple race combination are shown in ''2 or more races,'' the only specific combination shown are ''Black or African American; white'' and ''American Indian or Alaska Native; white.'' Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

[5]''Mexican or Mexican American'' is a subset of Hispanics. Under the catergory ''Not Hispanic or Latino,'' ''White, single race'' and ''Black or African American, single race'' refer to non-Hispanic single race white persons and non-Hispanic black or African American persons, respectively. Although all non-Hispanic persons are shown in ''Not Hispanic or Latino,'' the only specific categories shown are ''White, single race'' and ''Black or African American, single race.'' Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

[6]Mother and father can include biological, adoptive, step, in-law, or foster relationships. Legal guardians are classified in ''Neither mother nor father.''

[7]Parent's education is the education level of the parent with the higher level of education, regardless of that parent's age.

[8]GED is General Educational Development high school equivalency diploma.

[9]''Less than $20,000'' and ''$20,000 or more'' include both respondents reporting specific dollar amounts and respondents reporting that their incomes were within those categories (see appendix I). The indented categories include only those respondents who reported specific dollar amounts. Children with unknown family income are not shown.

[10]Poverty status is based on family income and family size using the Census Bureau's poverty thresholds. ''Poor'' children are in families defined as below the poverty threshold. ''Near poor'' children are in families with incomes that are 100% to less than 200% of the poverty threshold. ''Not poor'' children are in families with incomes that are 200% of the poverty threshold or greater.

[11]Private health insurance may be obtained through the workplace or purchased directly. Among children under 18 years of age, ''Medicaid/other public'' includes those with Medicaid or other public health insurance coverage (e.g., most State-sponsored coverage). ''Other coverage'' includes Medicare, military health insurance coverage, and/or another form of government-sponsored health insurance coverage. Children with only Indian Health Service coverage are considered uninsured.

[12]''MSA'' is metropolitan statistical area. Large MSAs have a population size of 1,000,000 or more; small MSAs have a population size of less than 1,000,000. ''Not in MSA'' consists of persons not living in a metropolitan statistical area.

Table 13. Frequency distributions of length of time since last contact with a health care professional, for children 17 years of age and under, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999

Selected characteristic	All children 0–17 years	Time since last contact with a health care professional[1]				
		6 months or less	More than 6 months but not more than 1 year	More than 1 year but not more than 2 years	More than 2 years but not more than 5 years	More than 5 years[2]
		Number in thousands[3]				
Total	72,080	51,892	10,935	5,292	1,699	1,262
Sex						
Male	36,871	26,134	5,547	3,024	1,005	630
Female	35,208	25,758	5,387	2,268	694	632
Age						
0–4 years	19,601	16,739	1,794	477	*93	286
5–17 years	52,479	35,152	9,140	4,815	1,606	977
5–11 years	28,882	19,921	5,029	2,532	656	381
12–17 years	23,596	15,231	4,112	2,283	950	596
Race						
Single race:[4]						
White	54,499	39,889	8,053	3,782	1,141	936
Black or African American	10,578	7,298	1,795	956	206	170
American Indian or Alaska Native	625	374	*113	*66	*61	*10
Asian	1,987	1,280	341	140	*129	*60
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	*66	*44	*18	*4	*–	*–
Multiple race:[5]						
2 or more races	1,579	1,151	237	145	*20	*6
Black or African American; white	525	362	*92	*44	*11	*3
American Indian or Alaska Native; white	288	209	*32	*41	*–	*1
Hispanic origin and race[6]						
Hispanic or Latino	11,461	7,457	1,752	1,066	503	460
Mexican or Mexican American	7,782	4,854	1,173	792	432	388
Not Hispanic or Latino	60,567	44,383	9,183	4,226	1,196	802
White, single race	46,329	34,673	6,757	2,988	783	562
Black or African American, single race	10,404	7,182	1,763	932	204	170
Family structure[7]						
Mother and father	50,872	37,083	7,619	3,565	1,073	881
Mother, no father	16,319	11,554	2,495	1,310	432	259
Father, no mother	2,942	1,982	495	266	118	*49
Neither mother nor father	1,947	1,273	326	152	*76	73
Parent's education[8]						
Less than high school diploma	9,250	5,657	1,539	995	499	364
High school diploma or GED[9]	16,827	11,772	2,608	1,459	387	308
More than high school	43,556	32,910	6,413	2,654	704	506
Family income[10]						
Less than $20,000	13,607	9,197	2,122	1,153	529	399
$20,000 or more	55,560	40,746	8,358	3,920	1,085	826
$20,000–$34,999	10,254	6,962	1,595	952	421	246
$35,000–$54,999	13,107	9,396	2,115	1,031	294	206
$55,000–$74,999	9,613	7,096	1,569	622	105	139
$75,000 or more	13,697	10,829	1,889	706	71	101
Poverty status[11]						
Poor	9,585	6,464	1,514	837	360	313
Near poor	12,134	8,306	1,837	1,081	523	305
Not poor	35,757	26,866	5,504	2,319	411	405

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 13. Frequency distributions of length of time since last contact with a health care professional, for children 17 years of age and under, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999—Con.

Selected characteristic	All children 0–17 years	Time since last contact with a health care professional[1]				
		6 months or less	More than 6 months but not more than 1 year	More than 1 year but not more than 2 years	More than 2 years but not more than 5 years	More than 5 years[2]
Health insurance coverage[12]						
Private	49,644	37,005	7,419	3,265	692	689
Medicaid/other public	12,345	9,355	1,617	813	187	164
Other	1,561	1,168	204	82	*48	*35
Uninsured	8,334	4,234	1,673	1,120	773	374
Place of residence[13]						
Large MSA	34,327	24,879	5,103	2,385	690	706
Small MSA	22,591	16,398	3,296	1,712	594	318
Not in MSA	15,162	10,615	2,535	1,195	415	238
Region						
Northeast	13,283	10,545	1,870	521	*61	87
Midwest	18,061	13,335	2,546	1,416	369	201
South	25,387	17,907	3,996	1,995	708	521
West	15,349	10,105	2,524	1,361	562	454
Current health status						
Excellent/very good/good	70,786	50,819	10,802	5,255	1,672	1,255
Fair/poor	1,228	1,061	*90	*37	*23	*8
Sex and age						
Male:						
0–4 years	10,018	8,560	922	250	*49	158
5–17 years	26,853	17,574	4,625	2,775	956	473
5–11 years	14,814	10,074	2,559	1,404	399	177
12–17 years	12,040	7,501	2,066	1,371	557	296
Female:						
0–4 years	9,583	8,180	872	227	*44	128
5–17 years	25,625	17,578	4,515	2,041	650	504
5–11 years	14,069	9,848	2,470	1,128	257	204
12–17 years	11,557	7,730	2,046	913	393	300

* Data preceded by an asterisk have a relative standard error of greater than 30%, and should be used with caution as they do not meet the standard of reliability or precision.

– Quantity zero.

[1]The data in this table are based on the following question: "About how long has it been since anyone in the family last saw or talked to a doctor or other health care professional about {child's name}'s health? Include doctors seen while {he/she} was a patient in a hospital." See appendix II for more detailed definitions of selected terms used in this report.

[2]This category includes a small number of children who have never seen a doctor.

[3]Unknowns for the variable of interest are not included in the denominators when calculating percents. They are, however, included in the "All children" column.

[4]Starting with data year 1999, the categories "White" and "Black or African American" under "Single race" include persons who reported only one racial group. The category "American Indian or Alaska Native" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "American Indian" and "Alaska Native" racial groups. Also, the category "Asian" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated more than one Asian subgroup (such as Asian Indian, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean, or Vietnamese). Further, the racial group "Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "Native Hawaiian" or "other Pacific Islander" (such as Guamanian or Samoan) categories. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

[5]Although all persons who reported a multiple race combination are shown in "2 or more races," the only specific combination shown are "Black or Africian American; white" and "American Indian or Alaska Native; white." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

[6]"Mexican or Mexican American" is a subset of Hispanics. Under the category "Not Hispanic or Latino," "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race" refer to non-Hispanic single race white persons and non-Hispanic single race black or African American persons, respectively. Although all non-Hispanic persons are shown in "Not Hispanic or Latino," the only specific categories shown are "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

[7]Mother and father can include biological, adoptive, step, in-law, or foster relationships. Legal guardians are classified in "Neither mother nor father."

[8]Parent's education is the education level of the parent with the higher level of education, regardless of that parent's age.

[9]GED is General Educational Development high school equivalency diploma.

[10]"Less than $20,000" and "$20,000 or more" include both respondents reporting specific dollar amounts and respondents reporting that their incomes were within those categories (see appendix I). The indented categories include only those respondents who reported specific dollar amounts. Children with unknown family income are not shown.

[11]Poverty status is based on family income and family size using the Census Bureau's poverty thresholds. "Poor" children are in families defined as below the poverty threshold. "Near poor" children are in families with incomes that are 100% to less than 200% of the poverty threshold. "Not poor" children are in families with incomes that are 200% of the poverty threshold or greater.

[12]Private health insurance may be obtained through the workplace or purchased directly. Among children under 18 years of age, "Medicaid/other public" includes those with Medicaid or other public health insurance coverage (e.g., most State-sponsored coverage). "Other coverage" includes Medicare, military health insurance coverage, and/or another form of government-sponsored health insurance coverage. Children with only Indian Health Service coverage are considered uninsured.

[13]"MSA" is metropolitan statistical area. Large MSAs have a population size of 1,000,000 or more; small MSAs have a population size of less than 1,000,000. "Not in MSA" consists of persons not living in a metropolitan statistical area.

Table 14. Percent distributions (with standard errors) of length of time since last contact with a health care professional, for children 17 years of age and under, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999

Selected characteristic	All children 0–17 years	Time since last contact with a health care professional[1]				
		6 months or less	More than 6 months but not more than 1 year	More than 1 year but not more than 2 years	More than 2 years but not more than 5 years	More than 5 years[2]
		Percent distribution (standard error)[3]				
Total	100.0	73.0 (0.53)	15.4 (0.40)	7.4 (0.27)	2.4 (0.18)	1.8 (0.14)
Sex						
Male	100.0	71.9 (0.69)	15.3 (0.55)	8.3 (0.41)	2.8 (0.25)	1.7 (0.18)
Female	100.0	74.1 (0.72)	15.5 (0.56)	6.5 (0.39)	2.0 (0.23)	1.8 (0.22)
Age						
0–4 years	100.0	86.3 (0.72)	9.3 (0.62)	2.5 (0.34)	*0.5 (0.17)	1.5 (0.21)
5–17 years	100.0	68.0 (0.65)	17.7 (0.49)	9.3 (0.36)	3.1 (0.24)	1.9 (0.18)
5–11 years	100.0	69.9 (0.85)	17.6 (0.70)	8.9 (0.47)	2.3 (0.28)	1.3 (0.19)
12–17 years	100.0	65.7 (0.94)	17.7 (0.68)	9.9 (0.54)	4.1 (0.40)	2.6 (0.28)
Race						
Single race:[4]						
White	100.0	74.1 (0.61)	15.0 (0.47)	7.0 (0.31)	2.1 (0.20)	1.7 (0.17)
Black or African American	100.0	70.0 (1.22)	17.2 (1.04)	9.2 (0.82)	2.0 (0.34)	1.6 (0.30)
American Indian or Alaska Native	100.0	60.0 (7.53)	18.1 (5.23)	*10.6 (3.85)	*9.8 (4.21)	*1.6 (0.84)
Asian	100.0	65.7 (3.19)	17.5 (2.50)	7.2 (1.54)	*6.6 (2.07)	*3.1 (0.99)
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	100.0	66.3 (17.25)	*27.5 (17.19)	*6.2 (5.11)	*–	*–
Multiple race:[5]						
2 or more races	100.0	73.8 (2.84)	15.2 (2.40)	9.3 (1.84)	*1.3 (0.63)	*0.4 (0.25)
Black or African American; white	100.0	70.7 (5.40)	17.9 (4.93)	*8.7 (3.23)	*2.1 (1.48)	*0.6 (0.63)
American Indian or Alaska Native; white	100.0	73.7 (6.95)	*11.3 (4.27)	*14.5 (5.75)	*–	*0.5 (0.50)
Hispanic origin and race[6]						
Hispanic or Latino	100.0	66.4 (1.07)	15.6 (0.79)	9.5 (0.63)	4.5 (0.45)	4.1 (0.44)
Mexican or Mexican American	100.0	63.5 (1.31)	15.4 (0.98)	10.4 (0.78)	5.7 (0.61)	5.1 (0.58)
Not Hispanic or Latino	100.0	74.2 (0.60)	15.4 (0.46)	7.1 (0.30)	2.0 (0.20)	1.3 (0.15)
White, single race	100.0	75.8 (0.68)	14.8 (0.53)	6.5 (0.34)	1.7 (0.21)	1.2 (0.17)
Black or African American, single race	100.0	70.1 (1.23)	17.2 (1.05)	9.1 (0.83)	2.0 (0.35)	1.7 (0.30)
Family structure[7]						
Mother and father	100.0	73.8 (0.64)	15.2 (0.51)	7.1 (0.32)	2.1 (0.20)	1.8 (0.17)
Mother, no father	100.0	72.0 (1.00)	15.5 (0.78)	8.2 (0.61)	2.7 (0.39)	1.6 (0.26)
Father, no mother	100.0	68.1 (2.34)	17.0 (1.96)	9.1 (1.51)	4.0 (1.03)	*1.7 (0.52)
Neither mother nor father	100.0	67.0 (2.97)	17.2 (2.48)	8.0 (1.54)	*4.0 (1.29)	3.8 (0.87)
Parent's education[8]						
Less than high school diploma	100.0	62.5 (1.40)	17.0 (1.08)	11.0 (0.89)	5.5 (0.75)	4.0 (0.49)
High school diploma or GED[9]	100.0	71.2 (1.03)	15.8 (0.79)	8.8 (0.60)	2.3 (0.35)	1.9 (0.29)
More than high school	100.0	76.2 (0.65)	14.8 (0.53)	6.1 (0.33)	1.6 (0.19)	1.2 (0.15)
Family income[10]						
Less than $20,000	100.0	68.6 (1.12)	15.8 (0.88)	8.6 (0.65)	3.9 (0.50)	3.0 (0.36)
$20,000 or more	100.0	74.2 (0.60)	15.2 (0.45)	7.1 (0.31)	2.0 (0.18)	1.5 (0.16)
$20,000–$34,999	100.0	68.4 (1.40)	15.7 (0.98)	9.4 (0.76)	4.1 (0.63)	2.4 (0.39)
$35,000–$54,999	100.0	72.0 (1.20)	16.2 (1.01)	7.9 (0.66)	2.3 (0.40)	1.6 (0.34)
$55,000–$74,999	100.0	74.4 (1.37)	16.5 (1.16)	6.5 (0.74)	1.1 (0.32)	1.5 (0.36)
$75,000 or more	100.0	79.6 (1.06)	13.9 (0.90)	5.2 (0.58)	0.5 (0.15)	0.7 (0.22)
Poverty status[11]						
Poor	100.0	68.1 (1.40)	16.0 (1.08)	8.8 (0.86)	3.8 (0.61)	3.3 (0.47)
Near poor	100.0	68.9 (1.35)	15.2 (0.92)	9.0 (0.71)	4.3 (0.55)	2.5 (0.39)
Not poor	100.0	75.7 (0.69)	15.5 (0.58)	6.5 (0.36)	1.2 (0.16)	1.1 (0.16)
Health insurance coverage[12]						
Private	100.0	75.4 (0.62)	15.1 (0.47)	6.7 (0.32)	1.4 (0.16)	1.4 (0.17)
Medicaid/other public	100.0	77.1 (1.18)	13.3 (0.86)	6.7 (0.69)	1.5 (0.42)	1.4 (0.27)
Other	100.0	76.0 (3.10)	13.3 (2.59)	5.4 (1.24)	*3.1 (1.34)	*2.3 (1.04)
Uninsured	100.0	51.8 (1.59)	20.5 (1.33)	13.7 (0.96)	9.5 (0.93)	4.6 (0.53)

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 14. Percent distributions (with standard errors) of length of time since last contact with a health care professional, for children 17 years of age and under, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999—Con.

Selected characteristic	All children 0–17 years	Time since last contact with a health care professional[1]				
		6 months or less	More than 6 months but not more than 1 year	More than 1 year but not more than 2 years	More than 2 years but not more than 5 years	More than 5 years[2]
Place of residence[13]		Percent distribution (standard error)[3]				
Large MSA	100.0	73.7 (0.70)	15.1 (0.56)	7.1 (0.41)	2.0 (0.22)	2.1 (0.21)
Small MSA	100.0	73.5 (1.02)	14.8 (0.78)	7.7 (0.46)	2.7 (0.38)	1.4 (0.22)
Not in MSA	100.0	70.8 (1.26)	16.9 (0.85)	8.0 (0.61)	2.8 (0.40)	1.6 (0.35)
Region						
Northeast	100.0	80.6 (1.13)	14.3 (0.89)	4.0 (0.54)	*0.5 (0.16)	0.7 (0.17)
Midwest	100.0	74.6 (1.11)	14.3 (0.78)	7.9 (0.55)	2.1 (0.40)	1.1 (0.23)
South	100.0	71.3 (0.87)	15.9 (0.72)	7.9 (0.47)	2.8 (0.31)	2.1 (0.24)
West	100.0	67.3 (1.21)	16.8 (0.84)	9.1 (0.64)	3.7 (0.43)	3.0 (0.45)
Current health status						
Excellent/very good/good	100.0	72.8 (0.54)	15.5 (0.41)	7.5 (0.28)	2.4 (0.18)	1.8 (0.15)
Fair/poor	100.0	87.0 (2.76)	*7.4 (2.33)	*3.0 (1.34)	*1.9 (0.97)	*0.6 (0.38)
Sex and age						
Male:						
0–4 years	100.0	86.1 (0.97)	9.3 (0.83)	2.5 (0.44)	*0.5 (0.25)	1.6 (0.31)
5–17 years	100.0	66.6 (0.85)	17.5 (0.68)	10.5 (0.53)	3.6 (0.34)	1.8 (0.22)
5–11 years	100.0	68.9 (1.17)	17.5 (0.96)	9.6 (0.67)	2.7 (0.40)	1.2 (0.22)
12–17 years	100.0	63.6 (1.25)	17.5 (0.94)	11.6 (0.82)	4.7 (0.59)	2.5 (0.38)
Female:						
0–4 years	100.0	86.5 (1.03)	9.2 (0.87)	2.4 (0.51)	*0.5 (0.23)	1.4 (0.29)
5–17 years	100.0	69.5 (0.88)	17.9 (0.69)	8.1 (0.51)	2.6 (0.30)	2.0 (0.28)
5–11 years	100.0	70.8 (1.15)	17.8 (0.97)	8.1 (0.68)	1.9 (0.37)	1.5 (0.31)
12–17 years	100.0	67.9 (1.31)	18.0 (1.01)	8.0 (0.74)	3.5 (0.49)	2.6 (0.41)

* Data preceded by an asterisk have a relative standard error of greater than 30%, and should be used with caution as they do not meet the standard of reliability or precision.

– Quantity zero.

[1]The data in this table are based on the following question: "About how long has it been since anyone in the family last saw or talked to a doctor or other health care professional about {child's name}'s health? Include doctors seen while {he/she} was a patient in a hospital." See appendix II for more detailed definitions of selected terms used in this report.

[2]This category includes a small number of children who have never seen a doctor.

[3]Unknowns for the variable of interest are not included in the denominators when calculating percents. Additionally percents may not add to 100% because of rounding.

[4]Starting with data year 1999, the categories "White" and "Black or African American" under "Single race" include persons who reported only one racial group. The category "American Indian or Alaska Native" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "American Indian" and "Alaska Native" racial groups. Also, the category "Asian" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated more than one Asian subgroup (such as Asian Indian, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean, or Vietnamese). Further, the racial group "Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "Native Hawaiian" or "other Pacific Islander" (such as Guamanian or Samoan) categories. Single race persons who indicted a race other than white, black or African American, American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, or Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander are not shown. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

[5]Although all persons who reported a multiple race combination are shown in "2 or more races," the only specific combinations shown are "Black or Africian American; white" and "American Indian or Alaska Native; white." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

[6]"Mexican or Mexican American" is a subset of Hispanics. Under the catergory "Not Hispanic or Latino," "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race" refer to non-Hispanic single race white persons and non-Hispanic single race black or African American persons, respectively. Although all non-Hispanic persons are shown in "Not Hispanic or Latino," the only specific categories shown are "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

[7]Mother and father can include biological, adoptive, step, in-law, or foster relationships. Legal guardians are classified in "Neither mother nor father."

[8]Parent's education is the education level of the parent with the higher level of education, regardless of that parent's age.

[9]GED is General Educational Development high school equivalency diploma.

[10]"Less than $20,000" and "$20,000 or more" include both respondents reporting specific dollar amounts and respondents reporting that their incomes were within those categories (see appendix I). The indented categories include only those respondents who reported specific dollar amounts. Children with unknown family income are not shown.

[11]Poverty status is based on family income and family size using the Census Bureau's poverty thresholds. "Poor" children are in families defined as below the poverty threshold. "Near poor" children are in families with incomes that are 100% to less than 200% of the poverty threshold. "Not poor" children are in families with incomes that are 200% of the poverty threshold or greater.

[12]Private health insurance may be obtained through the workplace or purchased directly. Among children under 18 years of age, "Medicaid/other public" includes those with Medicaid or other public health insurance coverage (e.g., most State-sponsored coverage). "Other coverage" includes Medicare, military health insurance coverage, and/or another form of government-sponsored health insurance coverage. Children with only Indian Health Service coverage are considered uninsured.

[13]"MSA" is metropolitan statistical area. Large MSAs have a population size of 1,000,000 or more; small MSAs have a population size of less than 1,000,000. "Not in MSA" consists of persons not living in a metropolitan statistical area.

Table 15. Frequencies of selected health care risk factors, for children 17 years of age and under, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999

Selected characteristic	All children 0–17 years	Selected health care risk factors[1]				
		Uninsured for health care	Unmet medical need	Delayed care due to cost	No usual source of care	2 or more visits to the emergency room in the past year
		Number in thousands[2]				
Total	72,080	8,334	1,807	2,749	4,535	3,931
Sex						
Male	36,871	4,406	946	1,599	2,339	2,108
Female	35,208	3,928	861	1,151	2,196	1,822
Age						
0–4 years	19,601	1,991	458	743	773	1,782
5–17 years	52,479	6,343	1,349	2,006	3,762	2,148
5–11 years	28,882	3,347	624	1,064	1,711	1,142
12–17 years	23,596	2,996	724	942	2,052	1,006
Race						
Single race:[3]						
White	54,499	5,721	1,208	1,960	3,193	2,531
Black or African American	10,578	1,260	365	482	655	952
American Indian or Alaska Native	625	205	*35	*63	*83	*97
Asian	1,987	215	*28	*15	162	*31
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	*66	*5	*–	*6	*–	*6
Multiple race:[4]						
2 or more races	1,579	146	73	89	58	165
Black or African American; white	525	*58	*29	*35	*21	70
American Indian or Alaska Native; white	288	*47	*24	*24	*1	*44
Hispanic origin and race[5]						
Hispanic or Latino	11,461	3,030	367	497	1,553	596
Mexican or Mexican American	7,782	2,413	267	353	1,279	342
Not Hispanic or Latino	60,567	5,295	1,440	2,252	2,979	3,335
White, single race	46,329	3,575	968	1,629	2,076	2,149
Black or African American, single race	10,404	1,224	362	476	630	936
Family structure[6]						
Mother and father	50,872	5,078	966	1,527	2,698	2,123
Mother, no father	16,319	2,331	712	1,007	1,303	1,426
Father, no mother	2,942	556	*76	125	340	192
Neither mother nor father	1,947	370	*53	90	195	189
Parent's education[7]						
Less than high school diploma	9,250	2,519	411	476	1,366	626
High school diploma or GED[8]	16,827	2,490	626	829	1,285	1,181
More than high school	43,556	2,827	709	1,348	1,649	1,926
Family income[9]						
Less than $20,000	13,607	2,958	712	986	1,681	1,279
$20,000 or more	55,560	4,896	978	1,604	2,655	2,561
$20,000–$34,999	10,254	2,262	461	679	963	805
$35,000–$54,999	13,107	1,083	283	415	716	639
$55,000–$74,999	9,613	398	*108	201	281	295
$75,000 or more	13,697	309	*53	163	231	498
Poverty status[10]						
Poor	9,585	2,033	524	685	1,151	1,032
Near poor	12,134	2,674	544	820	1,185	916
Not poor	35,757	1,610	449	814	1,129	1,402
Health insurance coverage[11]						
Private	49,644	. . .	513	917	1,568	1,879
Medicaid/other public	12,345	. . .	320	502	655	1,542
Other	1,561	. . .	*24	*21	*92	103
Uninsured	8,334	8,334	941	1,300	2,204	407

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 15. Frequencies of selected health care risk factors, for children 17 years of age and under, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999—Con.

Selected characteristic	All children 0–17 years	Selected health care risk factors[1]				
		Uninsured for health care	Unmet medical need	Delayed care due to cost	No usual source of care	2 or more visits to the emergency room in the past year
Place of residence[12]		Number in thousands[2]				
Large MSA	34,327	3,836	786	1,199	2,099	1,726
Small MSA	22,591	2,497	583	880	1,419	1,082
Not in MSA	15,162	2,002	438	670	1,018	1,122
Region						
Northeast	13,283	912	243	406	279	640
Midwest	18,061	1,293	390	665	840	1,036
South	25,387	4,062	754	1,063	2,003	1,532
West	15,349	2,067	419	614	1,414	723
Current health status						
Excellent/very good/good	70,786	8,177	1,708	2,599	4,474	3,642
Fair/poor	1,228	147	99	151	*61	289
Sex and age						
Male:						
0–4 years	10,018	1,064	280	490	399	973
5–17 years	26,853	3,342	666	1,109	1,940	1,135
5–11 years	14,814	1,807	335	616	896	641
12–17 years	12,040	1,535	331	492	1,043	494
Female:						
0–4 years	9,583	927	178	253	374	809
5–17 years	25,625	3,001	683	898	1,823	1,013
5–11 years	14,069	1,540	289	448	815	501
12–17 years	11,557	1,461	394	450	1,008	512

* Data preceded by an asterisk have a relative standard error of greater than 30%, and should be used with caution as they do not meet the standard of reliability or precision.

– Quantity zero.

. . . Category not applicable.

[1]The data in this table are based on the following question: "{Are you/Is anyone} covered by health insurance or some other kind of health care plan?"; "DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, was there any time when {you/some in the family} needed medical care, but did not get it because {you/the family} couldn't afford it?"; "DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, {have/has} {you/anyone in the family} delayed seeking medical care because of worry about the cost?"; "DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, how many times has {child's name} gone to the hospital emergency room about {his/her} health? (This includes emergency room visits that resulted in a hospital admission.) See appendix II for more detailed definitions of selected terms used in this report.

[2]Unknowns for the variable of interest are not shown among the frequencies. They are, however, included in the "All children" column.

[3]Starting with data year 1999, the categories "White" and "Black or African American" under "Single race" include persons who reported only one racial group. The category "American Indian or Alaska Native" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "American Indian" and "Alaska Native" racial groups. Also, the category "Asian" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated more than one Asian subgroup (such as Asian Indian, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean, or Vietnamese). Further, the racial group "Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "Native Hawaiian" or "other Pacific Islander" (such as Guamanian or Samoan) categories. Single race persons who indicated a race other than white, black or African American, American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, or Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander are not shown. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

[4]Although all persons who reported a multiple race combination are shown in "2 or more races," the only specific combinations shown are "Black or African American; white" and "American Indian or Alaska Native; white." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

[5]"Mexican or Mexican American" is a subset of Hispanics. Under the category "Not Hispanic or Latino," "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race" refer to non-Hispanic single race white persons and non-Hispanic single race black or African American persons, respectively. Although all non-Hispanic persons are shown in "Not Hispanic or Latino," the only specific categories shown are "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

[6]Mother and father can include biological, adoptive, step, in-law, or foster relationships. Legal guardians are classified in "Neither mother nor father."

[7]Parent's education is the education level of the parent with the higher level of education, regardless of that parent's age.

[8]GED is General Educational Development high school equivalency diploma.

[9]"Less than $20,000" and "$20,000 or more" include both respondents reporting specific dollar amounts and respondents reporting that their incomes were within those categories (see appendix I). The indented categories include only those respondents who reported specific dollar amounts. Children with unknown family income are not shown.

[10]Poverty status is based on family income and family size using the Census Bureau's poverty thresholds. "Poor" children are in families defined as below the poverty threshold. "Near poor" children are in families with incomes that are 100% to less than 200% of the poverty threshold. "Not poor" children are in families with incomes that are 200% of the poverty threshold or greater.

[11]Private health insurance may be obtained through the workplace or purchased directly. Among children under 18 years of age, "Medicaid/other public" includes those with Medicaid or other public health insurance coverage (e.g., most State-sponsored coverage). "Other coverage" includes Medicare, military health insurance coverage, and/or another form of government-sponsored health insurance coverage. Children with only Indian Health Service coverage are considered uninsured.

[12]"MSA" is metropolitan statistical area. Large MSAs have a population size of 1,000,000 or more; small MSAs have a population size of less than 1,000,000. "Not in MSA" consists of persons not living in a metropolitan statistical area.

Table 16. Percents (with standard errors) of selected health care risk factors, for children 17 years of age and under, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999

Selected characteristic	Selected health care risk factors[1]				
	Uninsured for health care	Unmet medical need	Delayed care due to cost	No usual source of care	2 or more visits to the emergency room in the past year
	Percent (standard error)[2]				
Total	11.6 (0.36)	2.5 (0.19)	3.8 (0.22)	6.3 (0.26)	5.5 (0.25)
Sex					
Male	12.0 (0.46)	2.6 (0.27)	4.3 (0.33)	6.3 (0.36)	5.7 (0.35)
Female	11.2 (0.50)	2.4 (0.26)	3.3 (0.28)	6.2 (0.35)	5.2 (0.33)
Age					
0–4 years	10.2 (0.59)	2.3 (0.33)	3.8 (0.39)	3.9 (0.40)	9.1 (0.55)
5–17 years	12.1 (0.44)	2.6 (0.22)	3.8 (0.25)	7.2 (0.32)	4.1 (0.26)
5–11 years	11.6 (0.52)	2.2 (0.23)	3.7 (0.31)	5.9 (0.39)	4.0 (0.35)
12–17 years	12.7 (0.66)	3.1 (0.39)	4.0 (0.42)	8.7 (0.49)	4.3 (0.37)
Race					
Single race:[3]					
White	10.5 (0.38)	2.2 (0.20)	3.6 (0.23)	5.9 (0.29)	4.6 (0.26)
Black or African American	11.9 (1.00)	3.5 (0.63)	4.6 (0.71)	6.2 (0.61)	9.0 (0.77)
American Indian or Alaska Native	32.8 (4.97)	*5.5 (2.58)	*10.0 (3.93)	13.2 (3.67)	*15.5 (5.22)
Asian	10.8 (1.71)	*1.4 (0.90)	*0.8 (0.46)	8.2 (1.57)	*1.6 (0.65)
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	*7.8 (7.70)	*–	*8.5 (8.34)	*–	*8.5 (8.34)
Multiple race:[4]					
2 or more races	9.2 (1.76)	4.6 (1.10)	5.7 (1.29)	3.7 (1.08)	10.5 (1.99)
Black or African American; white	*11.0 (3.75)	*5.5 (2.05)	*6.6 (2.37)	*4.1 (1.96)	13.3 (3.55)
American Indian or Alaska Native; white	*16.4 (5.86)	*8.4 (3.34)	*8.4 (4.44)	*0.5 (0.49)	*15.3 (5.83)
Hispanic origin and race[5]					
Hispanic or Latino	26.4 (1.06)	3.2 (0.36)	4.3 (0.42)	13.5 (0.76)	5.2 (0.52)
Mexican or Mexican American	31.0 (1.37)	3.4 (0.47)	4.5 (0.53)	16.4 (1.00)	4.4 (0.60)
Not Hispanic or Latino	8.7 (0.38)	2.4 (0.21)	3.7 (0.25)	4.9 (0.27)	5.5 (0.27)
White, single race	7.7 (0.40)	2.1 (0.22)	3.5 (0.26)	4.5 (0.30)	4.6 (0.28)
Black or African American, single race	11.8 (1.01)	3.5 (0.64)	4.6 (0.72)	6.1 (0.60)	9.0 (0.78)
Family structure[6]					
Mother and father	10.0 (0.38)	1.9 (0.20)	3.0 (0.23)	5.3 (0.29)	4.2 (0.26)
Mother, no father	14.3 (0.85)	4.4 (0.50)	6.2 (0.58)	8.0 (0.57)	8.7 (0.60)
Father, no mother	18.9 (2.00)	2.6 (0.77)	4.2 (0.97)	11.5 (1.67)	6.5 (1.29)
Neither mother nor father	19.0 (2.06)	*2.7 (1.02)	4.6 (1.21)	10.0 (1.52)	9.7 (1.90)
Parent's education[7]					
Less than high school diploma	27.2 (1.24)	4.4 (0.64)	5.1 (0.69)	14.8 (1.02)	6.8 (0.60)
High school diploma or GED[8]	14.8 (0.83)	3.7 (0.46)	4.9 (0.53)	7.6 (0.54)	7.0 (0.57)
More than high school	6.5 (0.34)	1.6 (0.19)	3.1 (0.25)	3.8 (0.27)	4.4 (0.29)
Family income[9]					
Less than $20,000	21.7 (1.02)	5.2 (0.57)	7.2 (0.66)	12.4 (0.76)	9.4 (0.71)
$20,000 or more	8.8 (0.34)	1.8 (0.18)	2.9 (0.22)	4.8 (0.27)	4.6 (0.25)
$20,000–$34,999	22.1 (1.12)	4.5 (0.64)	6.6 (0.70)	9.4 (0.79)	7.8 (0.72)
$35,000–$54,999	8.3 (0.69)	2.2 (0.41)	3.2 (0.45)	5.5 (0.54)	4.9 (0.52)
$55,000–$74,999	4.1 (0.69)	*1.1 (0.38)	2.1 (0.49)	2.9 (0.49)	3.1 (0.48)
$75,000 or more	2.3 (0.41)	*0.4 (0.15)	1.2 (0.26)	1.7 (0.29)	3.6 (0.46)
Poverty status[10]					
Poor	21.2 (1.29)	5.5 (0.72)	7.1 (0.79)	12.0 (0.92)	10.8 (0.94)
Near poor	22.0 (1.05)	4.5 (0.61)	6.8 (0.71)	9.8 (0.76)	7.6 (0.69)
Not poor	4.5 (0.30)	1.3 (0.18)	2.3 (0.23)	3.2 (0.24)	3.9 (0.27)

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 16. Percents (with standard errors) of selected health care risk factors, for children 17 years of age and under, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999—Con.

Selected characteristic	Selected health care risk factors[1]				
	Uninsured for health care	Unmet medical need	Delayed care due to cost	No usual source of care	2 or more visits to the emergency room in the past year
	Percent (standard error)[2]				
Health insurance coverage[11]					
Private	. . .	1.0 (0.15)	1.8 (0.19)	3.2 (0.23)	3.8 (0.24)
Medicaid/other public	. . .	2.6 (0.45)	4.1 (0.52)	5.3 (0.51)	12.5 (0.86)
Other	. . .	*1.6 (0.78)	*1.3 (0.65)	*5.9 (1.77)	6.6 (1.65)
Uninsured	100.0	11.3 (1.06)	15.6 (1.14)	26.4 (1.36)	4.9 (0.64)
Place of residence[12]					
Large MSA	11.2 (0.47)	2.3 (0.27)	3.5 (0.31)	6.1 (0.35)	5.0 (0.32)
Small MSA	11.1 (0.68)	2.6 (0.31)	3.9 (0.36)	6.3 (0.47)	4.8 (0.40)
Not in MSA	13.2 (0.89)	2.9 (0.45)	4.4 (0.58)	6.7 (0.66)	7.4 (0.70)
Region					
Northeast	6.9 (0.65)	1.8 (0.41)	3.1 (0.54)	2.1 (0.33)	4.8 (0.50)
Midwest	7.2 (0.55)	2.2 (0.36)	3.7 (0.46)	4.6 (0.46)	5.7 (0.49)
South	16.0 (0.73)	3.0 (0.33)	4.2 (0.37)	7.9 (0.52)	6.0 (0.47)
West	13.5 (0.72)	2.7 (0.40)	4.0 (0.44)	9.2 (0.60)	4.7 (0.47)
Current health status					
Excellent/very good/good	11.6 (0.36)	2.4 (0.18)	3.7 (0.22)	6.3 (0.26)	5.1 (0.25)
Fair/poor	12.0 (2.57)	8.0 (2.25)	12.3 (2.57)	*4.9 (1.81)	23.5 (3.41)
Sex and age					
Male:					
0–4 years	10.6 (0.79)	2.8 (0.50)	4.9 (0.62)	4.0 (0.54)	9.7 (0.78)
5–17 years	12.4 (0.56)	2.5 (0.30)	4.1 (0.36)	7.2 (0.43)	4.2 (0.36)
5–11 years	12.2 (0.73)	2.3 (0.34)	4.2 (0.47)	6.1 (0.53)	4.3 (0.50)
12–17 years	12.7 (0.84)	2.7 (0.49)	4.1 (0.57)	8.7 (0.68)	4.1 (0.50)
Female:					
0–4 years	9.7 (0.85)	1.9 (0.43)	2.6 (0.48)	3.9 (0.53)	8.4 (0.76)
5–17 years	11.7 (0.59)	2.7 (0.32)	3.5 (0.35)	7.1 (0.44)	4.0 (0.34)
5–11 years	10.9 (0.74)	2.1 (0.34)	3.2 (0.40)	5.8 (0.56)	3.6 (0.46)
12–17 years	12.6 (0.95)	3.4 (0.57)	3.9 (0.61)	8.7 (0.69)	4.4 (0.54)

* Data preceded by an asterisk have a relative standard error of greater than 30%, and should be used with caution as they do not meet the standard of reliability or precision.

– Quantity zero.

. . . Category not applicable.

[1]The data in this table are based on the following question: "{Are you/Is anyone} covered by health insurance or some other kind of health care plan?"; "DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, was there any time when {you/some in the family} needed medical care, but did not get it because {you/the family} couldn't afford it?"; "DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, {have/has} {you/anyone in the family} delayed seeking medical care because of worry about the cost?"; "DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, how many times has {child's name} gone to the hospital emergency room about {his/her} health? (This includes emergency room visits that resulted in a hospital admission.) See appendix II for more detailed definitions of selected terms used in this report.

[2]Unknowns for the variable of interest are not included in the denominators when calculating percents.

[3]Starting with data year 1999, the categories "White" and "Black or African American" under "Single race" include persons who reported only one racial group. The category "American Indian or Alaska Native" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "American Indian" and "Alaska Native" racial groups. Also, the category "Asian" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated more than one Asian subgroup (such as Asian Indian, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean, or Vietnamese). Further, the racial group "Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "Native Hawaiian" or "other Pacific Islander" (such as Guamanian or Samoan) categories. Single race persons who indicated a race other than white, black or African American, American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, or Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander are not shown. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

[4]Although all persons who reported a multiple race combination are shown in "2 or more races," the only specific combinations shown are "Black or African American; white" and "American Indian or Alaska Native; white." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

[5]"Mexican or Mexican American" is a subset of Hispanics. Under the category "Not Hispanic or Latino," "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race" refer to non-Hispanic single race white persons and non-Hispanic single race black or African American persons, respectively. Although all non-Hispanic persons are shown in "Not Hispanic or Latino," the only specific categories shown are "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

[6]Mother and father can include biological, adoptive, step, in-law, or foster relationships. Legal guardians are classified in "Neither mother nor father."

[7]Parent's education is the education level of the parent with the higher level of education, regardless of that parent's age.

[8]GED is General Educational Development high school equivalency diploma.

[9]"Less than $20,000" and "$20,000 or more" include both respondents reporting specific dollar amounts and respondents reporting that their incomes were within those categories (see appendix I). The indented categories include only those respondents who reported specific dollar amounts. Children with unknown family income are not shown.

[10]Poverty status is based on family income and family size using the Census Bureau's poverty thresholds. "Poor" children are in families defined as below the poverty threshold. "Near poor" children are in families with incomes that are 100% to less than 200% of the poverty threshold. "Not poor" children are in families with incomes that are 200% of the poverty threshold or greater.

[11]Private health insurance may be obtained through the workplace or purchased directly. Among children under 18 years of age, "Medicaid/other public" includes those with Medicaid or other public health insurance coverage (e.g., most State-sponsored coverage). "Other coverage" includes Medicare, military health insurance coverage, and/or another form of government-sponsored health insurance coverage. Children with only Indian Health Service coverage are considered uninsured.

[12]"MSA" is metropolitan statistical area. Large MSAs have a population size of 1,000,000 or more; small MSAs have a population size of less than 1,000,000. "Not in MSA" consists of persons not living in a metropolitan statistical area.

Table 17. Frequency distributions of unmet dental need in the past 12 months, and frequency distributions of length of time since last dental contact, for children 2–17 years of age, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999

Selected characteristic	All children 2–17 years	Unmet dental need	Met dental need	Time since last dental contact[1]				
				6 months or less	More than 6 months but not more than 1 year	More than 1 year but not more than 2 years	More than 2 years but not more than 5 years	More than 5 years[2]
	Number in thousands[3]							
Total	64,167	4,176	59,587	35,212	10,597	5,184	2,464	9,683
Sex								
Male	32,835	2,103	30,520	17,782	5,581	2,770	1,290	4,870
Female	31,332	2,073	29,066	17,430	5,016	2,414	1,173	4,813
Age								
2–4 years	11,688	571	11,055	3,576	1,015	312	105	6,512
5–17 years	52,479	3,605	48,531	31,636	9,582	4,872	2,359	3,171
5–11 years	28,882	1,874	26,845	17,769	5,236	2,339	1,002	2,114
12–17 years	23,596	1,731	21,687	13,867	4,346	2,533	1,357	1,056
Race								
Single race:[4]								
White	48,645	2,920	45,419	28,240	7,506	3,401	1,618	7,211
Black or African American	9,483	676	8,759	4,083	2,160	1,136	500	1,358
American Indian or Alaska Native	561	*96	465	223	*102	*91	*47	*95
Asian	1,722	*87	1,612	942	223	*122	*84	302
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	*57	*–	*57	*39	*–	*1	*3	*13
Multiple race:[5]								
2 or more races	1,382	128	1,253	752	247	125	*57	187
Black or African American; white	467	*50	416	200	115	*53	*17	*74
American Indian or Alaska Native; white	248	*44	204	130	*43	*27	*16	*30
Hispanic origin and race[6]								
Hispanic or Latino	9,886	800	8,971	4,132	1,591	1,048	608	2,269
Mexican or Mexican American	6,663	610	5,984	2,546	1,048	748	486	1,685
Not Hispanic or Latino	54,250	3,376	50,585	31,056	9,006	4,136	1,856	7,407
White, single race	41,544	2,432	38,886	25,249	6,375	2,724	1,204	5,504
Black or African American, single race	9,348	669	8,640	4,027	2,138	1,108	494	1,344
Family structure[7]								
Mother and father	45,118	2,331	42,519	26,757	6,799	3,055	1,414	6,527
Mother, no father	14,650	1,443	13,100	6,544	2,838	1,580	815	2,525
Father, no mother	2,621	243	2,371	1,240	578	307	126	324
Neither mother nor father	1,778	159	1,597	670	381	241	109	306
Parent's education[8]								
Less than high school diploma	8,130	887	7,172	2,836	1,427	1,066	657	1,999
High school diploma or GED[9]	14,998	1,206	13,663	7,434	2,673	1,465	721	2,393
More than high school	38,804	1,918	36,763	24,106	6,086	2,393	961	4,942
Family income[10]								
Less than $20,000	11,904	1,410	10,403	4,491	2,296	1,360	820	2,708
$20,000 or more	49,618	2,601	46,762	29,461	7,864	3,594	1,498	6,581
$20,000–$34,999	9,018	1,150	7,832	3,636	1,749	1,155	584	1,780
$35,000–$54,999	11,671	821	10,823	6,436	1,986	1,064	392	1,729
$55,000–$74,999	8,714	308	8,374	5,791	1,301	470	169	922
$75,000 or more	12,293	98	12,135	8,922	1,510	445	140	1,159
Poverty status[11]								
Poor	8,436	1,160	7,246	3,275	1,608	1,020	627	1,822
Near poor	10,612	1,319	9,249	4,424	2,049	1,299	671	2,059
Not poor	32,083	1,213	30,758	20,727	4,716	1,912	682	3,789
Health insurance coverage[12]								
Private	44,628	1,776	42,633	27,540	7,028	2,796	1,165	5,544
Medicaid/other public	10,386	746	9,563	4,690	1,936	1,056	519	1,951
Other	1,379	53	1,316	806	233	91	*53	161
Uninsured	7,594	1,585	5,921	2,113	1,372	1,218	727	2,000

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 17. Frequency distributions of unmet dental need in the past 12 months, and frequency distributions of length of time since last dental contact, for children 2–17 years of age, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999—Con.

Selected characteristic	All children 2–17 years	Unmet dental need	Met dental need	Time since last dental contact[1]				
				6 months or less	More than 6 months but not more than 1 year	More than 1 year but not more than 2 years	More than 2 years but not more than 5 years	More than 5 years[2]
Place of residence[13]	Number in thousands[3]							
Large MSA	30,198	1,658	28,307	16,493	5,038	2,504	1,001	4,567
Small MSA	20,225	1,415	18,691	11,424	3,248	1,582	769	2,921
Not in MSA	13,743	1,103	12,589	7,296	2,311	1,098	694	2,195
Region								
Northeast	11,825	486	11,273	7,152	1,957	747	203	1,546
Midwest	16,135	977	15,091	9,425	2,829	1,140	440	2,125
South	22,614	1,647	20,859	11,393	3,761	2,135	1,108	3,878
West	13,593	1,066	12,363	7,242	2,050	1,161	712	2,133
Current health status								
Excellent/very good/good	62,991	4,034	58,565	34,735	10,373	5,014	2,384	9,475
Fair/poor	1,114	142	969	449	208	170	*71	208
Dental care affordability								
Cannot afford dental care	4,176	4,176	. . .	1,102	594	1,034	560	858
Can afford dental care	59,587	. . .	59,587	34,096	9,994	4,150	1,895	8,798
Sex and age								
Male:								
2–4 years	5,981	292	5,666	1,926	544	137	*62	3,245
5–17 years	26,853	1,811	24,854	15,856	5,037	2,633	1,229	1,625
5–11 years	14,814	922	13,806	9,079	2,683	1,282	486	1,050
12–17 years	12,040	888	11,048	6,777	2,354	1,352	743	576
Female:								
2–4 years	5,707	278	5,389	1,650	471	175	*44	3,268
5–17 years	25,625	1,795	23,678	15,780	4,546	2,239	1,130	1,545
5–11 years	14,069	952	13,038	8,690	2,553	1,058	516	1,065
12–17 years	11,557	843	10,639	7,090	1,993	1,181	614	481

* Data preceded by an asterisk have a relative standard error of greater than 30%, and should be used with caution as they do not meet the standard of reliability or precision.

– Quantity zero.

. . . Category not applicable.

[1]The data in this table are based on the following questions: During the past 12 months, was there any time when {child's name} needed any of the following, but didn't get it because you couldn't afford it: dental care (including check-ups)?" and "About how long has it been since {child's name} last saw or talked to a dentist? Include all types of dentists, such as orthodontists, oral surgeons, and all other dental specialists, as well as dental hygenists." See appendix II for more detailed definitions of selected terms used in this report.

[2]Unknowns for the variable of interest are not included in the denominators when calculating percents.

[3]Unknowns for the variable of interest are not shown among the frequencies. They are, however, included in the "All children 2–17 years' column. Hence, frequencies may not sum to their respective totals. Additionally, numbers may not add to totals because of rounding.

[4]Starting with data year 1999, the categories "White" and "Black or African American" under "Single race" include persons who reported only one racial group. The category "American Indian or Alaska Native" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "American Indian" and "Alaska Native" racial groups. Also, the category "Asian" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated more than one Asian subgroup (such as Asian Indian, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean, or Vietnamese). Further, the racial group "Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "Native Hawaiian" or "other Pacific Islander" (such as Guamanian or Samoan) categories. Single race persons who indicated a race other than white, black or African American, American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, or Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander are not shown. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

[5]Although all persons who reported a multiple race combination are shown in "2 or more races," the only specific combinations shown are "Black or African American; white" and "American Indian or Alaska Native; white." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

[6]"Mexican or Mexican American" is a subset of Hispanics. Under the catergory "Not Hispanic or Latino," "White, single race" and Black or African American, single race" refer to non-Hispanic single race white persons and non-Hispanc single race black or African American persons, respectively. Although all non-Hispanic persons are shown in "Not Hispanic or Latino," the only specific categories shown are "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

[7]Mother and father can include biological, adoptive, step, in-law, or foster relationships. Legal guardians are classified in "Neither mother nor father."

[8]Parent's education is the education level of the parent with the higher level of education, regardless of that parent's age.

[9]GED is General Educational Development high school equivalency diploma.

[10]"Less than $20,000" and "$20,000 or more" include both respondents reporting specific dollar amounts and respondents reporting that their incomes were within those categories (see appendix I). The indented categories include only those respondents who reported specific dollar amounts. Children with unknown family income are not shown.

[11]Poverty status is based on family income and family size using the Census Bureau's poverty thresholds. "Poor" children are in families defined as below the poverty threshold. "Near poor" children are in families with incomes that are 100% to less than 200% of the poverty threshold. "Not poor" children are in families with incomes that are 200% of the poverty threshold or greater.

[12]Private health insurance may be obtained through the workplace or purchased directly. Among children under 18 years of age, "Medicaid/other public" includes those with Medicaid or other public health insurance coverage (e.g., most State-sponsored coverage). "Other coverage" includes Medicare, military health insurance coverage, and/or another form of government-sponsored health insurance coverage. Children with only Indian Health Service coverage are considered uninsured.

[13]"MSA" is metropolitan statistical area. Large MSAs have a population size of 1,000,000 or more; small MSAs have a population size of less than 1,000,000. "Not in MSA" consists of persons not living in a metropolitan statistical area.

Table 18. Percent distributions (with standard errors) of unmet dental need in the past 12 months, and percent distributions (with standard errors) of length of time since last dental contact, for children 2–17 years of age, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999

Selected characteristic	All children 2–17 years	Unmet dental need	Met dental need	All children 2–17 years	Time since last dental contact[1]: 6 months or less	More than 6 months but not more than than 1 year	More than 1 year but not more than 2 years	More than 2 years, but not more than 5 years	More than 5 years[2]
					Percent distribution (standard error)[3]				
Total	100.0	6.5 (0.32)	93.5 (0.32)	100.0	55.8 (0.60)	16.8 (0.43)	8.2 (0.32)	3.9 (0.21)	15.3 (0.41)
Sex									
Male	100.0	6.4 (0.40)	93.6 (0.40)	100.0	55.1 (0.79)	17.3 (0.57)	8.6 (0.43)	4.0 (0.31)	15.1 (0.55)
Female	100.0	6.7 (0.45)	93.3 (0.45)	100.0	56.5 (0.84)	16.3 (0.60)	7.8 (0.46)	3.8 (0.30)	15.6 (0.59)
Age									
2–4 years	100.0	4.9 (0.59)	95.1 (0.59)	100.0	31.0 (1.21)	8.8 (0.73)	2.7 (0.39)	0.9 (0.23)	56.5 (1.30)
5–17 years	100.0	6.9 (0.36)	93.1 (0.36)	100.0	61.3 (0.64)	18.6 (0.50)	9.4 (0.38)	4.6 (0.25)	6.1 (0.31)
5–11 years	100.0	6.5 (0.43)	93.5 (0.43)	100.0	62.4 (0.85)	18.4 (0.65)	8.2 (0.47)	3.5 (0.31)	7.4 (0.45)
12–17 years	100.0	7.4 (0.57)	92.6 (0.57)	100.0	59.9 (0.93)	18.8 (0.79)	10.9 (0.62)	5.9 (0.45)	4.6 (0.38)
Race									
Single race:[4]									
White	100.0	6.0 (0.33)	94.0 (0.33)	100.0	58.9 (0.69)	15.6 (0.50)	7.1 (0.35)	3.4 (0.22)	15.0 (0.47)
Black or African American	100.0	7.2 (0.95)	92.8 (0.95)	100.0	44.2 (1.52)	23.4 (1.27)	12.3 (0.98)	5.4 (0.70)	14.7 (1.00)
American Indian or Alaska Native	100.0	*17.1 (5.48)	82.9 (5.48)	100.0	39.9 (5.64)	18.3 (4.54)	16.3 (4.79)	*8.5 (3.35)	*17.0 (5.34)
Asian	100.0	*5.1 (1.68)	94.9 (1.68)	100.0	56.3 (3.58)	13.3 (2.40)	7.3 (2.09)	5.0 (1.46)	18.1 (2.53)
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	100.0	*–	100.0	100.0	69.4 (19.38)	*–	*1.7 (1.85)	*5.4 (5.56)	*23.5 (19.50)
Multiple race:[5]									
2 or more races	100.0	9.3 (1.79)	90.7 (1.79)	100.0	55.0 (3.53)	18.0 (2.62)	9.2 (1.89)	*4.2 (1.42)	13.7 (2.36)
Black or African American; white	100.0	*10.8 (3.43)	89.2 (3.43)	100.0	43.6 (6.25)	25.1 (5.64)	*11.6 (4.37)	*3.6 (2.16)	16.0 (4.55)
American Indian or Alaska Native; white	100.0	*17.9 (6.18)	82.1 (6.18)	100.0	52.9 (8.33)	*17.4 (6.13)	*11.0 (4.44)	*6.4 (4.65)	*12.3 (4.77)
Hispanic origin and race[6]									
Hispanic or Latino	100.0	8.2 (0.59)	91.8 (0.59)	100.0	42.8 (1.22)	16.5 (0.77)	10.9 (0.75)	6.3 (0.51)	23.5 (1.01)
Mexican or Mexican American	100.0	9.2 (0.79)	90.8 (0.79)	100.0	39.1 (1.53)	16.1 (0.95)	11.5 (0.95)	7.5 (0.69)	25.9 (1.30)
Not Hispanic or Latino	100.0	6.3 (0.36)	93.7 (0.36)	100.0	58.1 (0.66)	16.8 (0.49)	7.7 (0.35)	3.5 (0.23)	13.9 (0.44)
White, single race	100.0	5.9 (0.37)	94.1 (0.37)	100.0	61.5 (0.74)	15.5 (0.56)	6.6 (0.38)	2.9 (0.24)	13.4 (0.50)
Black or African American, single race	100.0	7.2 (0.97)	92.8 (0.97)	100.0	44.2 (1.54)	23.5 (1.28)	12.2 (0.98)	5.4 (0.71)	14.8 (1.01)
Family structure[7]									
Mother and father	100.0	5.2 (0.32)	94.8 (0.32)	100.0	60.1 (0.70)	15.3 (0.52)	6.9 (0.36)	3.2 (0.23)	14.6 (0.47)
Mother, no father	100.0	9.9 (0.79)	90.1 (0.79)	100.0	45.8 (1.14)	19.8 (0.92)	11.0 (0.71)	5.7 (0.50)	17.7 (0.88)
Father, no mother	100.0	9.3 (1.74)	90.7 (1.74)	100.0	48.2 (2.77)	22.4 (2.40)	11.9 (1.89)	4.9 (1.24)	12.6 (1.64)
Neither mother nor father	100.0	9.0 (2.08)	91.0 (2.08)	100.0	39.2 (3.19)	22.3 (2.79)	14.1 (2.49)	6.4 (1.57)	17.9 (2.38)
Parent's education[8]									
Less than high school diploma	100.0	11.0 (1.00)	89.0 (1.00)	100.0	35.5 (1.46)	17.9 (1.14)	13.4 (1.02)	8.2 (0.83)	25.0 (1.29)
High school diploma or GED[9]	100.0	8.1 (0.73)	91.9 (0.73)	100.0	50.6 (1.20)	18.2 (0.90)	10.0 (0.73)	4.9 (0.49)	16.3 (0.87)
More than high school	100.0	5.0 (0.32)	95.0 (0.32)	100.0	62.6 (0.74)	15.8 (0.55)	6.2 (0.37)	2.5 (0.22)	12.8 (0.47)
Family income[10]									
Less than $20,000	100.0	11.9 (0.94)	88.1 (0.94)	100.0	38.5 (1.25)	19.7 (1.03)	11.6 (0.84)	7.0 (0.70)	23.2 (1.05)
$20,000 or more	100.0	5.3 (0.31)	94.7 (0.31)	100.0	60.1 (0.66)	16.0 (0.48)	7.3 (0.35)	3.1 (0.21)	13.4 (0.43)
$20,000–$34,999	100.0	12.8 (1.07)	87.2 (1.07)	100.0	40.8 (1.49)	19.6 (1.19)	13.0 (1.06)	6.6 (0.72)	20.0 (1.08)
$35,000–$54,999	100.0	7.1 (0.70)	92.9 (0.70)	100.0	55.4 (1.38)	17.1 (0.98)	9.2 (0.80)	3.4 (0.45)	14.9 (0.89)
$55,000–$74,999	100.0	3.5 (0.62)	96.5 (0.62)	100.0	66.9 (1.53)	15.0 (1.14)	5.4 (0.69)	2.0 (0.42)	10.7 (1.01)
$75,000 or more	100.0	0.8 (0.20)	99.2 (0.20)	100.0	73.3 (1.15)	12.4 (0.88)	3.7 (0.48)	1.1 (0.28)	9.5 (0.75)
Poverty status[11]									
Poor	100.0	13.8 (1.27)	86.2 (1.27)	100.0	39.2 (1.65)	19.2 (1.24)	12.2 (1.15)	7.5 (0.89)	21.8 (1.31)
Near poor	100.0	12.5 (1.00)	87.5 (1.00)	100.0	42.1 (1.43)	19.5 (1.08)	12.4 (0.96)	6.4 (0.62)	19.6 (1.10)
Not poor	100.0	3.8 (0.31)	96.2 (0.31)	100.0	65.1 (0.76)	14.8 (0.56)	6.0 (0.38)	2.1 (0.22)	11.9 (0.48)
Health insurance coverage[12]									
Private	100.0	4.0 (0.28)	96.0 (0.28)	100.0	62.5 (0.69)	15.9 (0.52)	6.3 (0.35)	2.6 (0.21)	12.6 (0.44)
Medicaid/other public	100.0	7.2 (0.74)	92.8 (0.74)	100.0	46.2 (1.51)	19.1 (1.22)	10.4 (0.92)	5.1 (0.67)	19.2 (1.07)
Other	100.0	3.9 (1.10)	96.1 (1.10)	100.0	60.0 (4.25)	17.3 (3.10)	6.7 (1.74)	*3.9 (1.58)	12.0 (2.16)
Uninsured	100.0	21.1 (1.48)	78.9 (1.48)	100.0	28.4 (1.56)	18.5 (1.20)	16.4 (1.21)	9.8 (0.88)	26.9 (1.50)

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 18. Percent distributions (with standard errors) of unmet dental need in the past 12 months, and percent distributions (with standard errors) of length of time since last dental contact, for children 2–17 years of age, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999—Con.

Selected characteristic	All children 2–17 years	Unmet dental need	Met dental need	All children 2–17 years	Time since last dental contact[1]: 6 months or less	More than 6 months but not more than than 1 year	More than 1 year but not more than 2 years	More than 2 years, but not more than 5 years	More than 5 years[2]
Place of residence[13]				Percent distribution (standard error)[3]					
Large MSA	100.0	5.5 (0.39)	94.5 (0.39)	100.0	55.7 (0.85)	17.0 (0.62)	8.5 (0.48)	3.4 (0.28)	15.4 (0.58)
Small MSA	100.0	7.0 (0.52)	93.0 (0.52)	100.0	57.3 (1.06)	16.3 (0.68)	7.9 (0.54)	3.9 (0.41)	14.6 (0.72)
Not in MSA	100.0	8.1 (0.91)	91.9 (0.91)	100.0	53.7 (1.45)	17.0 (1.09)	8.1 (0.68)	5.1 (0.48)	16.1 (0.97)
Region									
Northeast	100.0	4.1 (0.58)	95.9 (0.58)	100.0	61.6 (1.39)	16.9 (1.04)	6.4 (0.69)	1.8 (0.31)	13.3 (0.95)
Midwest	100.0	6.1 (0.58)	93.9 (0.58)	100.0	59.1 (1.13)	17.7 (0.94)	7.1 (0.58)	2.8 (0.41)	13.3 (0.76)
South	100.0	7.3 (0.63)	92.7 (0.63)	100.0	51.1 (1.07)	16.9 (0.69)	9.6 (0.56)	5.0 (0.41)	17.4 (0.76)
West	100.0	7.9 (0.61)	92.1 (0.61)	100.0	54.5 (1.27)	15.4 (0.85)	8.7 (0.73)	5.4 (0.47)	16.0 (0.82)
Current health status									
Excellent/very good/good	100.0	6.4 (0.31)	93.6 (0.31)	100.0	56.0 (0.61)	16.7 (0.43)	8.1 (0.32)	3.8 (0.21)	15.3 (0.41)
Fair/poor	100.0	12.8 (2.92)	87.2 (2.92)	100.0	40.6 (4.28)	18.8 (3.86)	15.4 (3.00)	6.4 (1.92)	18.8 (3.66)
Dental care affordability									
Cannot afford dental care	100.0	100.0	. . .	100.0	26.6 (2.00)	14.3 (1.72)	24.9 (2.07)	13.5 (1.57)	20.7 (1.87)
Can afford dental care	100.0	. . .	100.0	100.0	57.9 (0.62)	17.0 (0.44)	7.0 (0.31)	3.2 (0.20)	14.9 (0.41)
Sex and age									
Male:									
2–4 years	100.0	4.9 (0.85)	95.1 (0.85)	100.0	32.6 (1.68)	9.2 (0.99)	2.3 (0.47)	*1.0 (0.35)	54.9 (1.78)
5–17 years	100.0	6.8 (0.45)	93.2 (0.45)	100.0	60.1 (0.85)	19.1 (0.65)	10.0 (0.51)	4.7 (0.37)	6.2 (0.41)
5–11 years	100.0	6.3 (0.54)	93.7 (0.54)	100.0	62.3 (1.10)	18.4 (0.87)	8.8 (0.65)	3.3 (0.46)	7.2 (0.59)
12–17 years	100.0	7.4 (0.74)	92.6 (0.74)	100.0	57.4 (1.30)	19.9 (1.03)	11.5 (0.83)	6.3 (0.59)	4.9 (0.48)
Female:									
2–4 years	100.0	4.9 (0.84)	95.1 (0.84)	100.0	29.4 (1.77)	8.4 (1.04)	3.1 (0.61)	*0.8 (0.29)	58.3 (1.89)
5–17 years	100.0	7.0 (0.52)	93.0 (0.52)	100.0	62.5 (0.90)	18.0 (0.71)	8.9 (0.54)	4.5 (0.37)	6.1 (0.44)
5–11 years	100.0	6.8 (0.64)	93.2 (0.64)	100.0	62.6 (1.21)	18.4 (0.92)	7.6 (0.67)	3.7 (0.47)	7.7 (0.64)
12–17 years	100.0	7.3 (0.80)	92.7 (0.80)	100.0	62.4 (1.28)	17.5 (1.06)	10.4 (0.88)	5.4 (0.59)	4.2 (0.56)

* Data preceded by an asterisk have a relative standard error of greater than 30%, and should be used with caution as they do not meet the standard of reliability or precision.

– Quantity zero.

. . . Category not applicable.

[1]The data in this table are based on the following questions: "During the past 12 months, was there any time when {child's name} needed any of the following, but didn't get it because you couldn't afford it: dental care (including check-ups)?" and "About how long has it been since {child's name} last saw or talked to a dentist? Include all types of dentists, such as orthodontists, oral surgeons, and all other dental specialists, as well as dental hygenists." See appendix II for more detailed definitions of selected terms used in this report.

[2]This category includes children who have never seen a dentist.

[3]Unknowns for the variable of interest are not included in the denominators when calculating percents. Additionally, percents may not add to 100% because of rounding.

[4]Starting with data year 1999, the categories "White" and "Black or African American" under "Single race" include persons who reported only one racial group. The category "American Indian or Alaska Native" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "American Indian" and "Alaska Native" racial groups. Also, the category "Asian" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated more than one Asian subgroup (such as Asian Indian, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean, or Vietnamese). Further, the racial group "Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "Native Hawaiian" or "other Pacific Islander" (such as Guamanian or Samoan) categories. Single race persons who indicated a race other than white, black or African American, American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, or Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander are not shown. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

[5]Although all persons who reported a multiple race combination are shown in "2 or more races," the only specific combination shown are "Black or African American; white" and "American Indian or Alaska Native; white." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

[6]"Mexican or Mexican American" is a subset of Hispanics. Under the category "Not Hispanic or Latino," "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race" refer to non-Hispanic single race white persons and non-Hispanic single race black or African American persons, respectively. Although all non-Hispanic persons are shown in "Not Hispanic of Latino," the only specific categories shown are "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

[7]Mother and father can include biological, adoptive, step, in-law, or foster relationships. Legal guardians are classified in "Neither mother nor father."

[8]Parent's education is the education level of the parent with the higher level of education, regardless of that parent's age.

[9]GED is General Educational Development high school equivalency diploma.

[10]"Less than $20,000" and "$20,000 or more" include both respondents reporting specific dollar amounts and respondents reporting that their incomes were within those categories (see appendix I). The indented categories include only those respondents who reported specific dollar amounts. Children with unknown family income are not shown.

[11]Poverty status is based on family income and family size using the Census Bureau's poverty thresholds. "Poor" children are in families defined as below the poverty threshold. "Near poor" children are in families with incomes that are 100% to less than 200% of the poverty threshold. "Not poor" children are in families with incomes that are 200% of the poverty threshold or greater.

[12]Private health insurance may be obtained through the workplace or purchased directly. Among children under 18 years of age, "Medicaid/other public" includes those with Medicaid or other public health insurance coverage (e.g., most State-sponsored coverage). "Other coverage" includes Medicare, military health insurance coverage, and/or another form of government-sponsored health insurance coverage. Children with only Indian Health Service coverage are considered uninsured.

[13]"MSA" is metropolitan statistical area. Large MSAs have a population size of 1,000,000 or more; small MSAs have a population size of less than 1,000,000. "Not in MSA" consists of persons not living in a metropolitan statistical area.

Appendix I

Technical Notes on Methods

This report is one of a set of statistical reports published by the staff of the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS). It is based on data contained in the 1999 public use Sample Child and Person files, which are derived from the Sample Child and Family Core components of the National Health Interview Survey (NHIS). All analyses were appropriately weighted and carried out using the SUDAAN statistical package. Standard errors are shown for all percents in the tables (but not for the frequencies). Frequencies or percents with relative standard errors greater than 30% are considered unreliable and are indicated with an asterisk. The relative standard errors are calculated as follows:

Relative standard error = (SE/EST)100

where SE is the standard error of the estimate and EST is the estimate (percent or frequency). The reliability of frequencies and their percents are determined independently, so that it is possible for a particular frequency to be reliable and its associated percent unreliable, and vice versa. In most instances, however, both estimates were reliable (or unreliable) simultaneously.

In the tables, all unknown values (respondents coded as ''refused,'' ''don't know,'' or ''not ascertained'') with respect to each table's variables of interest were removed from the denominators when calculating row percents. In most instances the overall number of unknowns is quite small, and would not have supported disaggregation by the demographic characteristics included in the table. Because these unknowns are not shown separately, users calculating their own percentages based on the frequencies and population counts presented in the tables may obtain slightly different results. To aid users' understanding of the data, weighted counts and percents of unknowns (with respect to the variables of interest in each table) are shown in table I.

Table I . Weighted counts and percents of children with unknown information: National Health Interview Survey 1999

Variable	Weighted count in thousands	Percent of children
Ever had asthma (children aged 0–17 years) (table 1)	115	0.00
Had asthma in past 12 months (children aged 0–17 years) (table 1)	14	0.02
Hay fever (children aged 0–17 years) (table 2)	4,058	5.60
Respiratory allergies (children aged 0–17 years) (table 2)	4,065	5.60
Other allergies (children aged 0–17 years) (table 2)	3,847	5.30
Learning disability (children aged 3–17 years) (table 3)	99	0.16
Attention Deficit Disorder (children aged 3–17 years) (table 3)	93	0.15
Taken prescription medicine for at least 3 months (children aged 0–17 years) (table 4)	35	0.05
Current health status (children aged 0–17 years) (tables 5,6)	65	0.09
Health status compared with a year ago (children aged 1–17 years) (tables 7,8)	293	0.41
School days missed in the past 12 months (children aged 5–17 years) (tables 9–10)	1,060	2.02
Has usual source of care (children aged 0–17 years) (tables 11,12, and 15,16)	116	0.16
Location of usual source of care (children aged 0–17 years) (tables 11–12)	86	0.13
Interval since last contact with health care professional (children aged 0–17 years) (tables 13,14)	999	1.39
Health insurance coverage (children aged 0–17 years) (tables 15,16)	195	0.27
Unmet medical need (children aged 0–17 years) (tables 15,16)	44	0.06
Delayed medical care due to cost (children aged 0–17 years) (tables 15,16)	24	0.03
Emergency room visits (children aged 0–17 years) (tables 15,16)	467	0.65
Unmet dental need (children aged 2–17 years) (tables 17,18)	404	0.63
Time since last dental contact (children aged 2–17 years) (tables 17,18)	1,027	1.72

Unknowns with respect to the demographic characteristics used in each table are not shown, due to small cell counts. However, unknowns with respect to both family income and poverty status typically include a sizable number of persons regardless of the health outcome shown in the table. Because it is difficult to interpret the relationship between ''unknown'' income (or poverty status) and the health outcomes displayed in the tables, counts of persons in these unknown categories are not shown in the tables. Table II shows weighted counts of children in the U.S. population with unknown values with respect to poverty status and family income, as well as family structure, parent's education, health insurance coverage, and current health status.

The ''Income and Assets'' section in the Family Core of the NHIS instrument allows respondents to report their family income in several ways. Respondents are first asked to provide their family's total combined income before taxes from all sources for the previous calendar year in a dollar amount (from $0 up to $999,995). Those respondents who did not know or refused to state an amount are then asked if their family's combined income in the previous calendar year was $20,000 or more, or less than $20,000. If they again refused to answer, or said that they did not know, they were not asked any more questions about their family income. Those respondents who did reply to the ''above-below $20,000'' question were then handed one of two cards with a list of detailed income categories on it (top-coded at $75,000), and asked to pick the interval containing their best estimate of their family's combined income. The NHIS respondents thus fall in one of four categories with respect to income information: those willing to supply a dollar amount (69% of the 1999 sample), those who indicated their income from a fairly detailed set of intervals (3% of the sample), those who said that their family's income was either $20,000 or more or less than $20,000 (20% of the sample), and those

Table II. Weighted counts and percent of children 0–17 years of age with unknown information on selected sociodemographic characteristics: National Health Interview Survey, 1999

Variable	Weighted count in thousands	Percent of children
Parent's education[1]	2,447	3.39
Family income	2,913	4.04
Poverty status	14,603	20.26
Health insurance coverage	195	0.27
Current health status	65	0.09

[1]All parents not in the household were counted in the unknown category for parent's education; this was in addition to parents in the household with unknown education level.

unwilling to provide any information whatsoever (8% of the sample). Respondents who stated that their family income was below $20,000 are included in the "Less than $20,000" category under "Family Income" in the tables in this report, along with respondents who gave a dollar amount or an interval estimate that was less than $20,000. Likewise, respondents who stated that their family income was at or above $20,000 are included in the "$20,000 or more" category under Family Income, along with those respondents who gave a dollar amount or an interval estimate that was $20,000 or more. Users will note that the counts for the detailed (indented) amounts do not sum to the count shown for "$20,000 or more" for this reason.

A recoded poverty status variable is formed for those respondents who supplied either a dollar amount or an interval estimate for their family's income. This variable is the ratio of the family's income in the previous calendar year to the appropriate 1998 poverty threshold (given the family's size and number of children), defined by the U.S. Census Bureau (30). Children who are categorized as "poor" had a ratio less than 1.0, that is, their family income was strictly below the poverty threshold. The "near poor" category includes those children with family incomes of 100% to less than 200% of the poverty threshold. Lastly, "not poor" children have family incomes that are 200% of the poverty threshold or greater. The remaining groups of respondents—those who would only indicate that they were at/above $20,000 versus below $20,000, as well as those who refused to provide any income information — are, by necessity, coded as "unknown" with respect to poverty status. Income information is missing for 4.1% of the U.S. child population, and poverty status information is missing for 20.3% of the U.S. child population (weighted results). Five percent of the child sample is missing information on income, while 22% of the child sample is missing information on poverty status (unweighted results).

Hypothesis Tests

Two-tailed tests of significance were performed on all the comparisons mentioned in the "Highlights" section of this report (no adjustments were made for multiple comparisons). The test statistic used to determine statistical significance of the difference between two percents was

$$Z = \frac{|X_a - X_b|}{\sqrt{S_a^2 + S_b^2}}$$

where X_a and X_b are the two percents being compared, and S_a and S_b are the SUDAAN-calculated standard errors of those percents. The critical value used for two-sided tests at the 0.05 level of significance was 1.96.

Appendix II

Definitions of Terms

Sociodemographic Terms

Age—The age recorded for each child is the age at the last birthday. Age is recorded in single years and grouped using a variety of age categories depending on the purpose of the table.

Family income—Each member of a family is classified according to the total income of the family of which he or she is a member. Within the household, all persons related to each other by blood, marriage or cohabitation, or adoption constitute a family. Unrelated individuals living in the same household (e.g., roommates) are considered to be separate families and are classified according to their own incomes. The income recorded is the total of all income received by members of the family (or by an unrelated individual) in the previous calendar year. Income from all sources—including wages, salaries, pensions, government payments, child support/alimony, dividends, help from relatives, etc.—is included.

Family structure—Family structure describes the parent(s) present in the household with the sample child. Mother and father can include biological, adoptive, step, in-law, or foster parents. Legal guardians are not classified as parents.

Geographic region of residence—For the purpose of classifying the U.S. population by geographic area, the States are grouped into four regions. These regions, which correspond to those used by the U.S. Census Bureau, are as follows:

Region	*States included*
Northeast	Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania
Midwest	Ohio, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, North Dakota, South Dakota, Kansas, and Nebraska
South	Delaware, Maryland, District of Columbia, West Virginia, Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Texas
West	Washington, Oregon, California, Nevada, New Mexico, Arizona, Idaho, Utah, Colorado, Montana, Wyoming, Alaska, and Hawaii

Health insurance coverage—NHIS respondents were asked about their health insurance coverage at the time of the interview. Respondents could also state whether they were covered by private insurance obtained from their employer or workplace, private insurance that they had purchased directly, Medicare, Medi-Gap (supplemental Medicare coverage), Medicaid, Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), military or VA health care (as well as CHAMPUS/TRICARE/CHAMP-VA), a State-sponsored health plan, or a government program (other than those already mentioned). This information is used to form a health insurance hierarchy of four mutually exclusive categories for persons under age 65 (private, Medicaid/other public, other coverage, or uninsured). Private coverage includes persons who have any comprehensive private health insurance plan (including health maintenance organizations and preferred provider organizations) and persons who have a hospitalization plan only; these may be either obtained from one's employer or workplace or purchased directly. Among persons younger than age 65, those with Medicaid and/or another form of public insurance coverage (e.g., most State-sponsored coverage) are distinguished from those with "other coverage," which includes Medicare, military health insurance coverage, and/or another form of government-sponsored health insurance coverage. Given this hierarchy, an individual with more than one type of health insurance, such as private and military coverage, would be assigned to the first appropriate category in the hierarchy, i.e., private.

If respondents do not report coverage under one of the above types of plans then they are considered to have "unknown" coverage. Weighted frequencies indicate that 1.2% of the population under age 65 fell in this "unknown" category. All remaining respondents are considered uninsured. The uninsured are persons who do not have coverage under private health insurance, Medicare, Medicaid, public assistance, a State-sponsored health plan, other government-sponsored programs, or a military health plan. In addition, persons with only Indian Health Service coverage are considered uninsured. Weighted frequencies indicate that 16.6% of the population under age 65 was uninsured.

Hispanic origin and race—Hispanic origin and race are two separate and distinct concepts. Thus, Hispanics may be of any race. Hispanic origin includes persons of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central and South American or Spanish origins. All tables show Mexicans or Mexican Americans as a subset of Hispanics. Other groups are not shown for reasons of confidentiality or statistical reliability.

In the 1997 and 1998 Summary Health Statistics reports, Hispanic ethnicity was shown as a part of race/ethnicity, which also included categories for non-Hispanic white, non-Hispanic black, and non-Hispanic other (some tables showed Mexican Americans as a subset of Hispanics). Beginning in 1999, the categories for race were expanded to be consistent with the 1997 Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Federal guidelines, and a distinction was made between the characteristics of Race and of Hispanic origin and race. The latter characteristic includes sub-categories for "Hispanic or Latino" and "Not Hispanic or Latino." "Not Hispanic or Latino" includes "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race." Persons in these categories indicated only a single race group. (See

the definition of **Race** in this appendix for more information.) Data are not shown separately for other Not Hispanic or Latino single race persons due to statistical unreliability as measured by the relative standard errors of the estimates (but are included in the total for ''Not Hispanic or Latino'').

Parent's education—This reflects the highest grade in school completed by the sample child's mother or father, regardless of that parent's age. (Note that in the U.S. Population and U.S. Adult reports, education is reported only for persons 25 years of age and over.) Only years completed in regular school, where persons are given a formal education, are included. A ''regular'' school is one that advances a person toward an elementary or high school diploma (or a GED, a General Educational Development high school equivalency diploma), or a college, university, or professional degree. Thus, education in vocational, trade, or business school outside the regular school system is not counted in determining the highest grade of school completed. Likewise, participation in ''adult education'' classes not taken for credit in a regular school system is not included. For example, a person who took ''conversational Spanish'' through an adult education program at a local university would not be counted as having ''some college.'' Schooling in other than regular schools (e.g., home schooling) is counted only if the credits obtained are acceptable in a regular school system.

Place of residence—An individual's place of residence is classified as inside a metropolitan statistical area (MSA) or outside a MSA. Generally, a MSA consists of a county or group of counties containing at least one city (or twin cities) having a population of 50,000 or more, plus adjacent counties that are metropolitan in character and are economically and socially integrated with the central city. In New England, towns and cities rather than counties are the units used in defining MSAs. There is neither a limit to the number of adjacent counties included in the MSA if they are integrated with the central city, nor is a MSA limited to a single State; boundaries may cross State lines. The metropolitan populations in this report are based on MSAs as defined in the 1990 census. In the tables for this report, place of residence is based on a variable in the 1999 Person data file indicating MSA size. This variable is collapsed into three categories: MSAs with a population of 1,000,000 or more; MSAs with a population of less than 1,000,000; and non-MSA areas.

Poverty status—Poverty status is based on family income and family size using the U.S. Census Bureau's poverty thresholds. ''poor'' persons are defined as below the poverty threshold. ''near poor'' persons have incomes of 100% to less than 200% of the poverty threshold. ''not poor'' persons have incomes that are 200% of the poverty threshold or greater. Please refer to appendix I in this report for more information on the measurement of family income and poverty status.

Race—In the 1997 and 1998 Summary Health Statistics reports, race/ethnicity consisted of four categories: non-Hispanic white, non-Hispanic black, non-Hispanic other, and Hispanic (some tables showed Mexican Americans as a subset of Hispanics). Beginning in 1999, the categories for race were expanded to be consistent with the 1997 Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Federal guidelines, which now distinguish persons of single race from persons of multiple race. Single race refers to persons who indicated only a single race group, and includes sub-categories for white; black or African American; American Indian or Alaska Native; Asian; and Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander. Multiple race refers to persons who indicated more than one race group. Data for multiple race combinations can only be reported to the extent that the estimates meet the requirements for confidentiality and statistical reliability. In this report, three categories are shown for multiple race individuals (a summary category and two multiple race categories: black or African American and white; American Indian or Alaska Native and white). Other combinations are not shown separately due to statistical unreliability as measured by the relative standard errors of the estimates (but are included in the total for ''2 or more races'').

Description of Health Terms

Asthma—Asthma includes smoker's asthma, bronchial asthma, allergic asthma, etc. Asthma is indicated when a doctor or other health professional reported to the family that the sample child has asthma.

Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD)—ADD is indicated when a doctor or other health professional reported to the family that the sample child has Attention Deficit Disorder or ADD.

Contacts with health care professionals—A contact with a health care professional is defined as a visit to or conversation with a doctor or other health care professional by anyone in the family about the health of the sample child. Contacts may include visits by a health care professional to the patient's home, a telephone call to the office of a health care professional (for medical advice, prescriptions, or test results, but not to make an appointment), or an appointment with a health care professional in a doctor's office, clinic, emergency room, or some other place (excluding overnight hospital stays). Health care professionals are defined as all types of medical doctors, including dermatologists, psychiatrists, ophthalmologists, and general practitioners, as well as nurses, physical therapists, and chiropractors. The NHIS focuses on contacts that occurred during the 2-week period before the interview took place.

Delays in receiving needed medical care—Data pertaining to delays in receiving needed medical care due to cost are derived from a question in the 1999 NHIS that asked respondents whether anyone in the family had delayed seeking medical care in the past 12 months because of worry about the cost.

Doctor or other health care professional —This refers to medical doctors (MDs) and osteopathic physicians (DOs), including general practitioners as well as specialists, psychologists, nurses, physical therapists, chiropractors, etc.

Health status—Respondent-assessed health status is obtained from a question in the survey that asked respondents ''Would you say your health in general was excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor?'' Information was obtained from all respondents, with proxy responses allowed for adults not taking part in the interview and all children under 18 years of age.

Hospital emergency room or ER visits—This includes visits to a hospital emergency room only. Visits for emergency care received at a health maintenance organization (HMO), outpatient clinic, or urgent care center are not included.

Prescription medicine—Medication that can only be obtained with the approval of a licensed health care provider.

Unmet medical need—Unmet medical need was based on a question that asked respondents whether someone in the family had needed medical care during the past 12 months, but did not get it because the family could not afford it.

Usual place of care—Usual place of care was based on a question that asked whether respondents had a place that they usually went to when they were sick or needed advice about their health. The places include a walk-in clinic, doctor's office, clinic, health center, HMO, hospital emergency room or outpatient clinic, or a military or VA health care facility.

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