Reduced Access to Medical Care Due to Cost

September 2009

Reduced access to medical care during the past 12 months due to cost among adults 18-64 years of age, by selected characteristics: United States, 1997-2007

(Data are based on household interviews of a sample of the civilian noninstitutionalized population)

	Did not get medical care due to cost1/			Delayed medical care due to cost2/			Did not get prescription drug due to cost3/		
Characteristic	1997	2006	2007	1997	2006	2007	1997	2006	2007
			Pe	rcent					
Total, crude4/	6.0	7.8	7.8	9.5	10.2	10.3	6.3	9.3	9.6
Age									
18-64 years	6.0	7.8	7.8	9.5	10.2	10.3	6.3	9.3	9.6
18-44 years	6.1	7.8	7.9	9.7	10.0	10.4	6.9	9.6	10.0
18-24 years	5.8	7.4	7.1	8.8	9.4	9.3	6.7	9.9	9.0
25-34 years	6.2	8.6	8.6	10.2	11.3	11.0	6.9	9.6	10.9
35-44 years	6.0	7.4	7.9	9.8	9.2	10.5	7.1	9.4	9.8
45-64 years	5.8	7.7	7.7	9.0	10.4	10.3	5.1	8.7	9.1
45-54 years	6.0	8.5	8.3	9.6	10.9	10.8	5.6	9.5	10.0
55-64 years	5.4	6.5	6.9	8.2	9.7	9.6	4.2	7.6	7.9
Sex									
Male	5.1	7.2	7.0	8.3	9.3	8.9	5.1	7.1	7.8
Female	6.8	8.3	8.7	10.7	11.0	11.7	7.4	11.4	11.4
Race5/									
White only	5.8	7.8	7.8	9.7	10.5	10.5	5.9	8.9	9.5
Black or African American only	7.4	8.8	8.8	8.8	9.9	10.4	9.5	12.6	11.9
American Indian or Alaska Native only	9.1	*9.5	11.6	13.1	*11.2	12.0	*10.1	*19.9	*12.9
Asian only	3.3	3.3	4.0	5.2	4.6	5.3	*2.8	4.2	4.5
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific									
Islander only		*	*		*	*		*	*
2 or more races		12.7	12.3		15.8	18.7		14.1	15.1
Hispanic origin and race5/									
Hispanic or Latino	7.5	8.6	8.5	8.5	10.3	9.7	6.7	10.9	12.1
Mexican	7.1	8.2	8.5	7.9	9.8	10.1	6.5	11.5	12.3
Not Hispanic or Latino	5.8	7.6	7.7	9.6	10.1	10.4	6.3	9.0	9.2
White only	5.6	7.7	7.7	9.9	10.6	10.7	5.9	8.4	9.0
Black or African American only	7.4	8.8	8.9	8.8	9.8	10.4	9.5	12.8	11.7

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Education6/									
No high school diploma or GED	11.1	12.8	12.2	13.6	14.1	13.6	11.5	16.2	15.7
High school diploma or GED	6.1	8.6	9.1	9.9	11.0	11.5	7.0	9.7	12.1
Some college or more	4.5	6.5	6.8	8.5	9.4	9.7	4.3	7.1	7.3
Percent of poverty level7/									
Below 100%	14.1	16.1	16.1	16.5	17.9	17.9	14.8	19.7	18.8
100%-less than 200%	11.1	14.0	14.3	15.8	16.3	17.0	11.6	16.4	17.2
200%-less than 400%	5.2	7.4	8.3	9.5	10.6	11.4	5.5	8.7	10.6
400% or more	1.6	2.8	2.7	4.2	4.8	4.7	1.7	3.0	3.0
Age and percent of poverty level7/									
18-44 years:									
Below 100%	12.7	14.2	14.3	14.8	16.0	15.8	13.8	17.2	16.3
100%-less than 200%	10.1	12.6	12.9	14.9	14.7	15.2	11.6	15.4	16.4
200%-less than 400%	4.9	7.3	7.6	9.4	10.0	10.6	5.7	9.0	10.0
400% or more	1.9	2.8	3.0	4.8	4.7	5.3	2.3	3.3	3.5
45-64 years:	10.2	01 1	20.0	01 0	00.7	02.0	10.0	06.0	05 1
Below 100%	18.3	21.1	20.8	21.9	22.7	23.2	17.7	26.2	25.1
100%-less than 200%	13.8	16.9	17.3	18.5	19.4	20.9	11.7	18.5	19.0
200%-less than 400%	5.7 1.2	7.5 2.7	9.3 2.4	10.0 3.5	11.5 5.0	12.8 4.2	4.8 1.0	8.2 2.7	11.7 2.5
400% or more	1.2	2.1	2.4	3.5	5.0	4.2	1.0	2.1	2.5
Percent of poverty level and health insurance status prior to interview for persons 18-64 years of age7/									
Insured continuously all 12 months	2.3	3.2	3.2	4.9	5.1	5.1	2.8	4.6	4.8
Below 100%	5.7	5.8	5.6	7.5	7.6	7.2	8.1	9.6	9.2
100%-less than 200%	4.8	6.9	6.7	8.4	8.3	8.8	6.0	10.3	10.7
200%-less than 400%	2.4	3.8	3.9	5.6	6.3	6.3	2.9	5.4	5.9
400% or more	0.8	1.4	1.5	2.9	3.0	3.1	0.8	1.6	1.8
Uninsured for any period									
up to 12 months	16.4	21.9	23.0	25.9	28.5	27.9	17.7	25.3	25.0
Below 100%	22.1	29.6	30.3	27.8	31.6	32.4	25.5	33.5	27.7
100%-less than 200%	19.6	24.8	25.7	30.5	30.5	28.1	20.5	27.4	28.9
200%-less than 400%	13.9	19.7	21.8	24.8	27.6	29.3	14.0	23.0	25.4
400% or more	9.7	14.4	14.8	19.2	24.4	21.1	10.7	17.2	16.8
Uninsured more than 12 months	21.4	24.5	24.8	26.7	27.3	28.9	18.9	23.1	25.8
Below 100%	25.3	29.1	30.6	27.4	30.8	32.6	21.6	30.6	33.7
100%-less than 200%	21.5	24.6	25.3	26.1	26.8	29.2	19.5	23.0	24.6
200%-less than 400%	19.6	21.3	22.0	27.9	25.6	26.5	17.3	17.3	23.4
400% or more	14.0	20.1	18.8	23.6	24.2	26.3	13.5	18.8	18.0

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Geographic region

Northeast	4.8	5.5	5.1	7.6	7.0	7.0	4.9	6.6	7.2
Midwest	5.3	7.3	7.4	9.4	11.0	11.0	5.9	9.2	9.3
South	6.8	9.4	9.6	10.5	11.3	11.4	7.3	11.0	11.4
West	6.4	7.4	7.6	9.6	10.0	10.5	6.3	8.4	8.9
Location of residence									
Within MSA8/	5.7	7.3	7.5	9.0	9.8	9.9	5.9	8.9	9.2
Outside MSA8/	6.9	10.1	9.9	11.3	12.2	12.9	7.9	11.0	11.7

^{*}Estimates are considered unreliable. Data preceded by an asterisk have a relative standard error (RSE) of 20%-30%. Data not shown have an RSE of greater than 30%.

1/Based on persons responding yes to the question, "During the past 12 months was there any time when person needed medical care but did not get it because person couldn't afford it?"

2/Based on persons responding yes to the question, "During the past 12 months has medical care been delayed because of worry about the cost?"

3/Based on persons responding yes to the question, "During the past 12 months was there any time when you needed prescription medicine but didn't get it because you couldn't afford it?"

4/Includes all other races not shown separately, unknown health insurance status, and unknown education level.

5/The race groups, white, black, American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, and 2 or more races, include persons of Hispanic and non-Hispanic origin. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race. Starting with 1999 data, race-specific estimates are tabulated according to the 1997 Revisions to the Standards for the Classification of Federal Data on Race and Ethnicity and are not strictly comparable with estimates for earlier years. The five single-race categories plus multiple-race categories shown in the table conform to the 1997 Standards. Starting with 1999 data, race-specific estimates are for persons who reported only one racial group; the category 2 or more races includes persons who reported more than one racial group. Prior to 1999, data were tabulated according to the 1977 Standards with four racial groups and the Asian only category included Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander. Estimates for single-race categories prior to 1999 included persons who reported one race or, if they reported more than one race, identified one race as best representing their race. Starting with 2003 data, race responses of other race and unspecified multiple race were treated as missing, and then race was imputed if these were the only race responses. Almost all persons with a race response of other race were of Hispanic origin.

6/Estimates are for persons 25 years of age and over. GED stands for General Educational Development high school equivalency diploma.

7/Percent of poverty level is based on family income and family size and composition using U.S. Census Bureau poverty thresholds.

Missing family income data were imputed for 24% of persons in 1997 and 33%-34% in 2006-2007.

8/MSA is metropolitan statistical area.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Health Interview Survey, family core, sample child, and sample adult questionnaires.

⁻⁻⁻Data not available.