

Health Insurance Coverage: Early Release of 2015 Estimates

Robin A. Cohen, PhD
National Center for Health Statistics

Board of Scientific Counselors
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Early Release of Estimates from the NHIS 2015-2016 Accelerated Schedule

- Release of estimates 4-6 weeks earlier
 - Began processing 2015 Q1 data while finishing 2014 Q4 report
 - Simultaneous review of report
 - Flow basis for editorial review

Health Insurance Coverage

Early Release of Estimates from the NHIS

- ❑ **Health Insurance Early Release Report**
 - August 12, 2015
 - New format
 - Estimates for the 1st quarter of 2015
- ❑ **Quarterly estimates**
 - Additional age groups, race/ethnicity, sex, poverty
 - Exchange plan enrollment
- ❑ **Preliminary microdata file**
 - Quarter 1, 2015
 - 4 times a year

In the first 3 months of 2015:

- 29.0 million persons of all ages (9.2%) were uninsured at the time of interview
- Seven million fewer persons lacked health insurance coverage in the first 3 months of 2015 when compared to 2014 (36 million, 11.5%)



NATIONAL HEALTH INTERVIEW SURVEY EARLY RELEASE PROGRAM

Health Insurance Coverage: Early Release of Estimates From the National Health Interview Survey, January–March 2015

by Robin A. Cohen, Ph.D., and Michael E. Martinez, M.P.H., M.H.S.A.
Division of Health Interview Statistics, National Center for Health Statistics

What's New?

- This report has a revised format. The text has been reduced and the number and content of the figures have been modified. All estimates that were reported in the old format are still presented either in the report itself or the tables.

Highlights

- The number of uninsured persons continued to decline from 2013. In the first 3 months of 2015, 29 million persons of all ages (9.2%) were uninsured at the time of interview, 7 million fewer persons than in 2014.
- Among adults aged 18–64, the percentage uninsured decreased from 16.3% in 2014 to 13.0% in the first 3 months of 2015. There was a corresponding increase in private coverage, from 67.3% to 70.4%.
- Among children under age 18 years, the percentage with private coverage increased from 52.6% in 2013 to 56.3% in the first 3 months of 2015, reversing a 14-year trend of declining rates of private coverage.
- Among those under age 65, the percentage with private coverage through the Health Insurance Marketplace or state-based coverage increased from 2.5% (6.7 million) in the first 3 months of 2014 to 3.5% (10.1 million) in the first 3 months of 2015.

Introduction

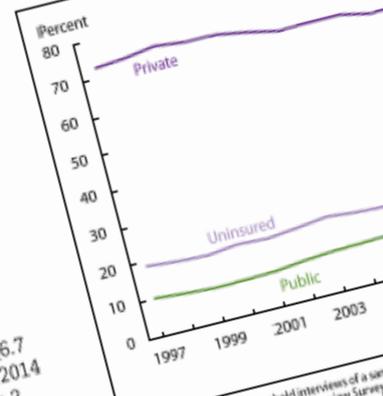
This report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) presents selected estimates of health insurance coverage for the civilian noninstitutionalized U.S. population based on data from the January–March 2015 National Health Interview Survey (NHIS), along with comparable estimates from the 2010–2014 NHIS. Estimates for 2015 are based on data for 26,121 persons.

Three estimates of lack of health insurance coverage are provided: (a) uninsured at the time of interview, (b) uninsured at least part of the year prior to interview (which includes

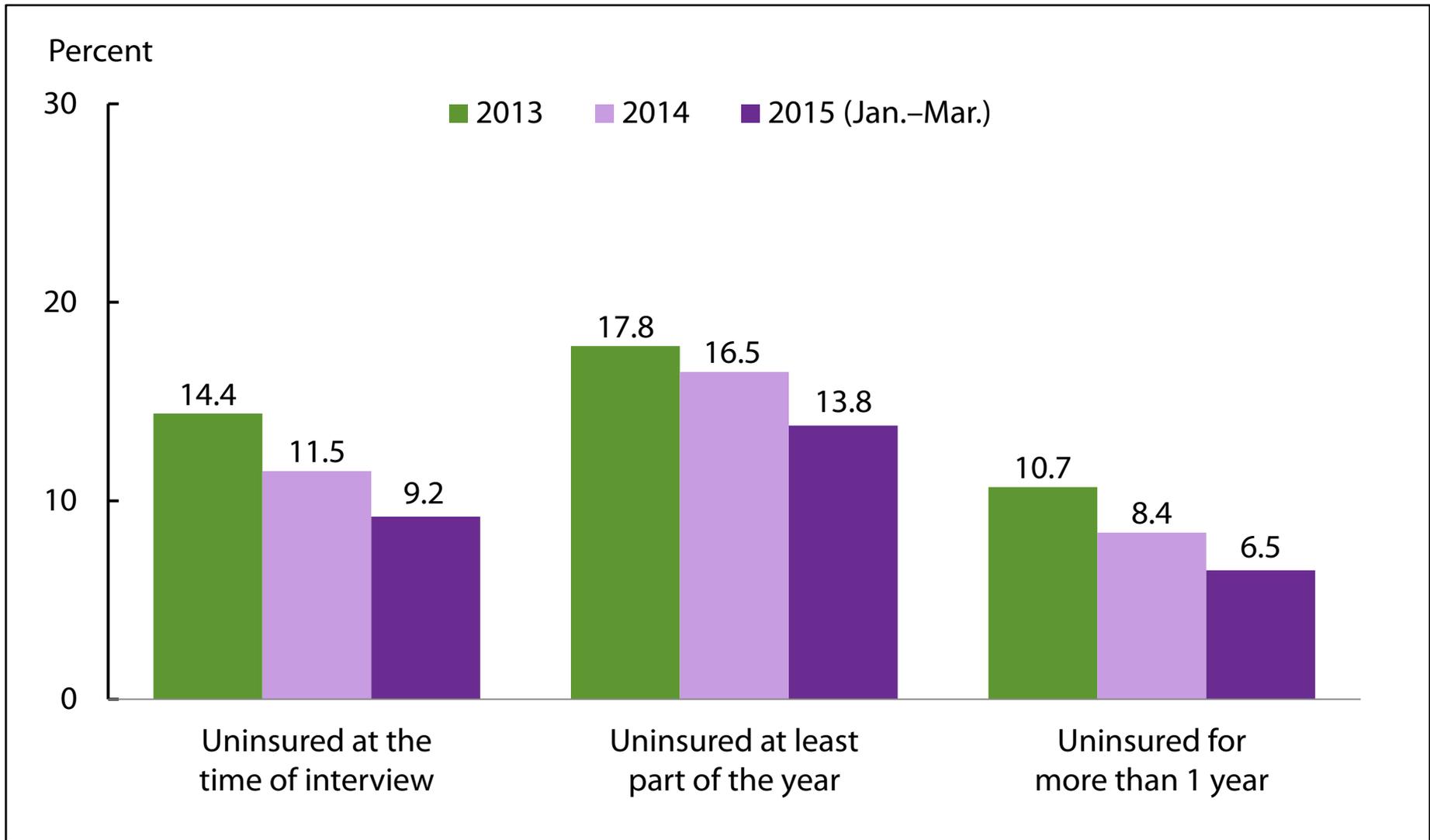
persons uninsured for and (c) uninsured for the time of interview and private coverage and exchanges, and deductible health consumer direct are also present showing estimates demographic are provided

This report is part of the Program, estimates NHIS website <http://www.nchsc.gov> Estima selecte

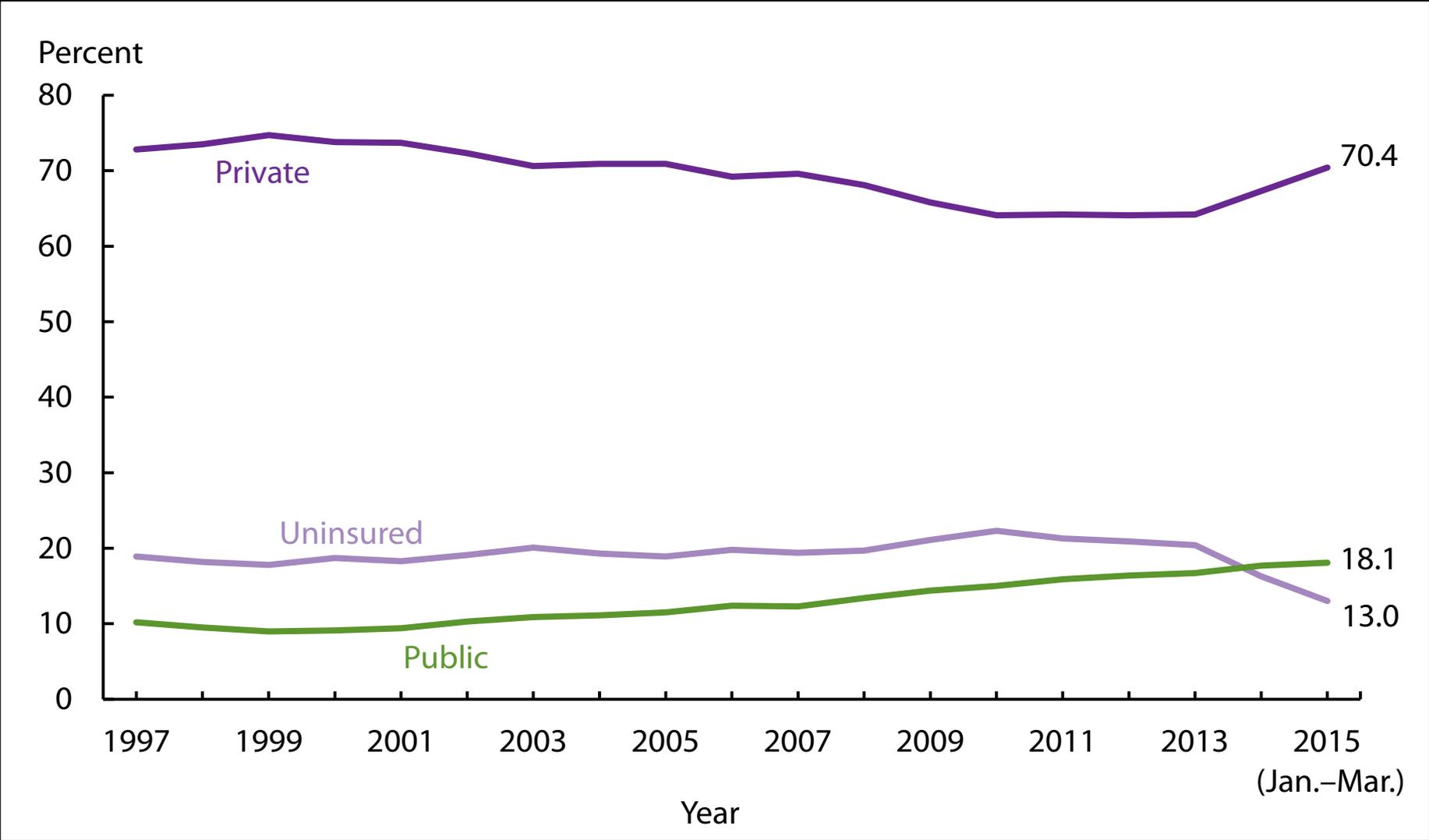
Figure 1. Percentage of adults aged 18–64 who were uninsured at the time of interview: United States, 1997–2015



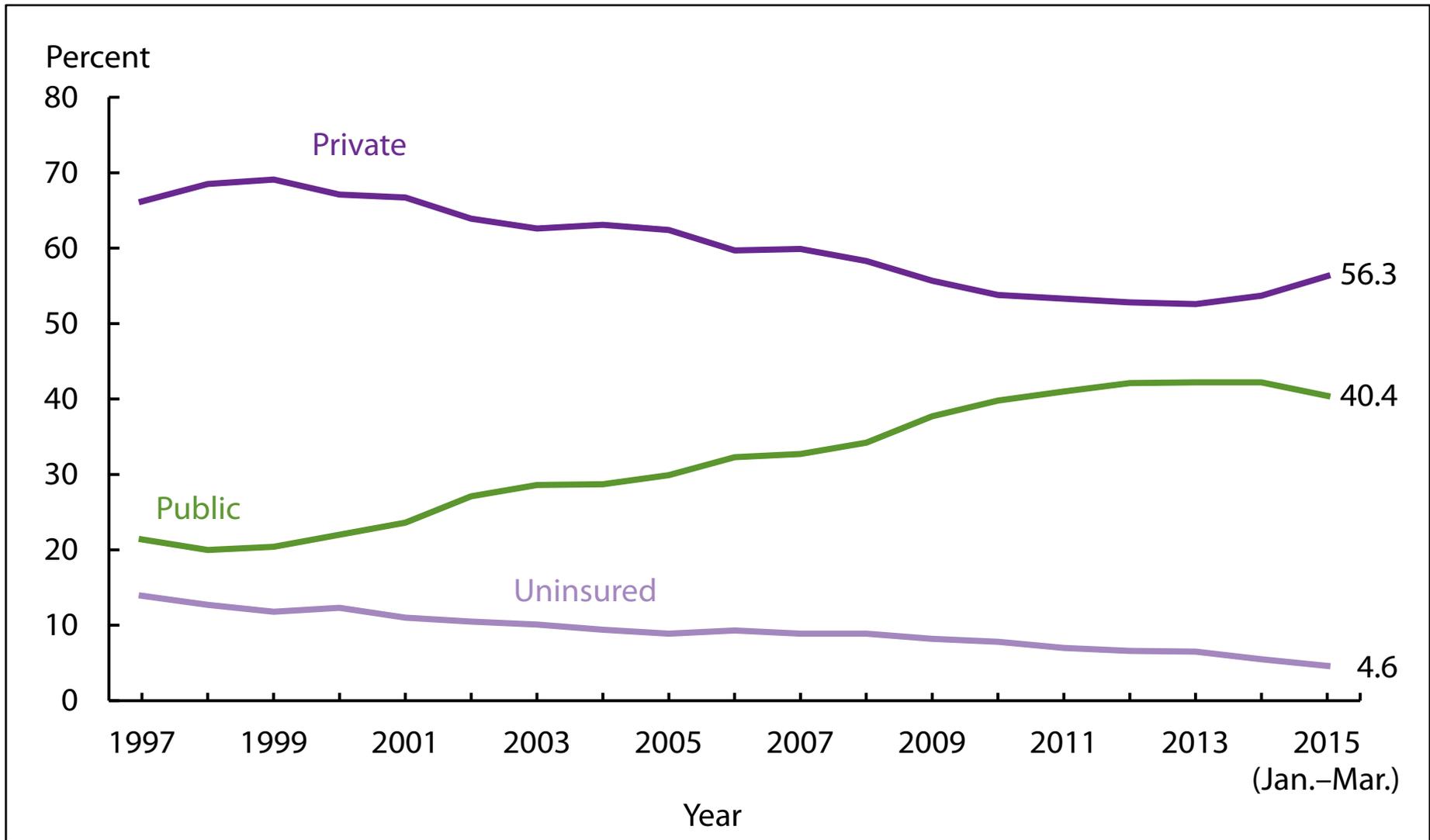
Percentages of persons of all ages without health insurance using three measures of uninsurance: United States, 2013–March 2015



Percentage of adults aged 18–64 who were uninsured or had private or public coverage at the time of interview: United States, 1997–March 2015



Percentage of children aged 0–17 who were uninsured or had private or public coverage at the time of interview: United States, 1997–March 2015

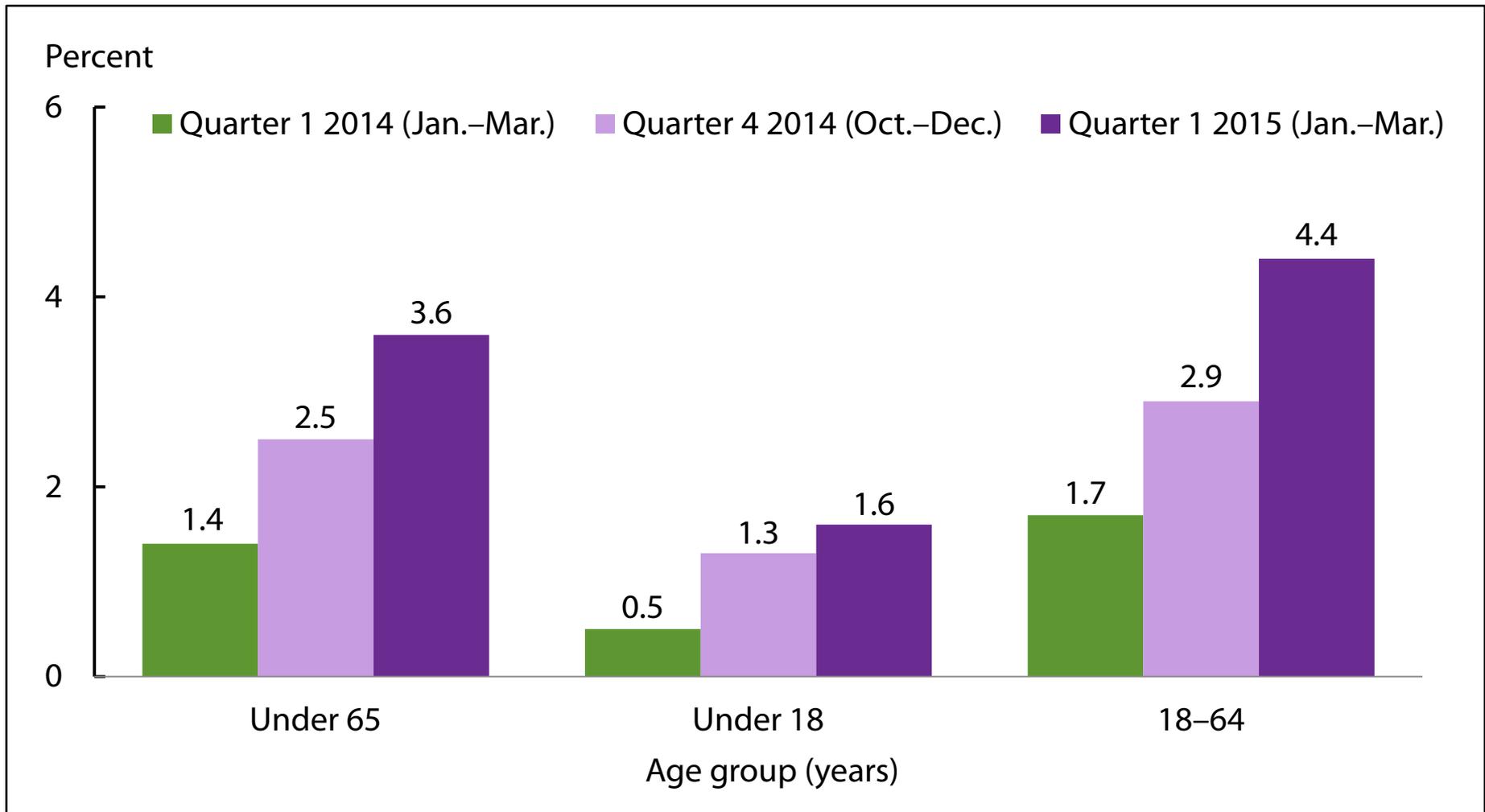


Private Coverage

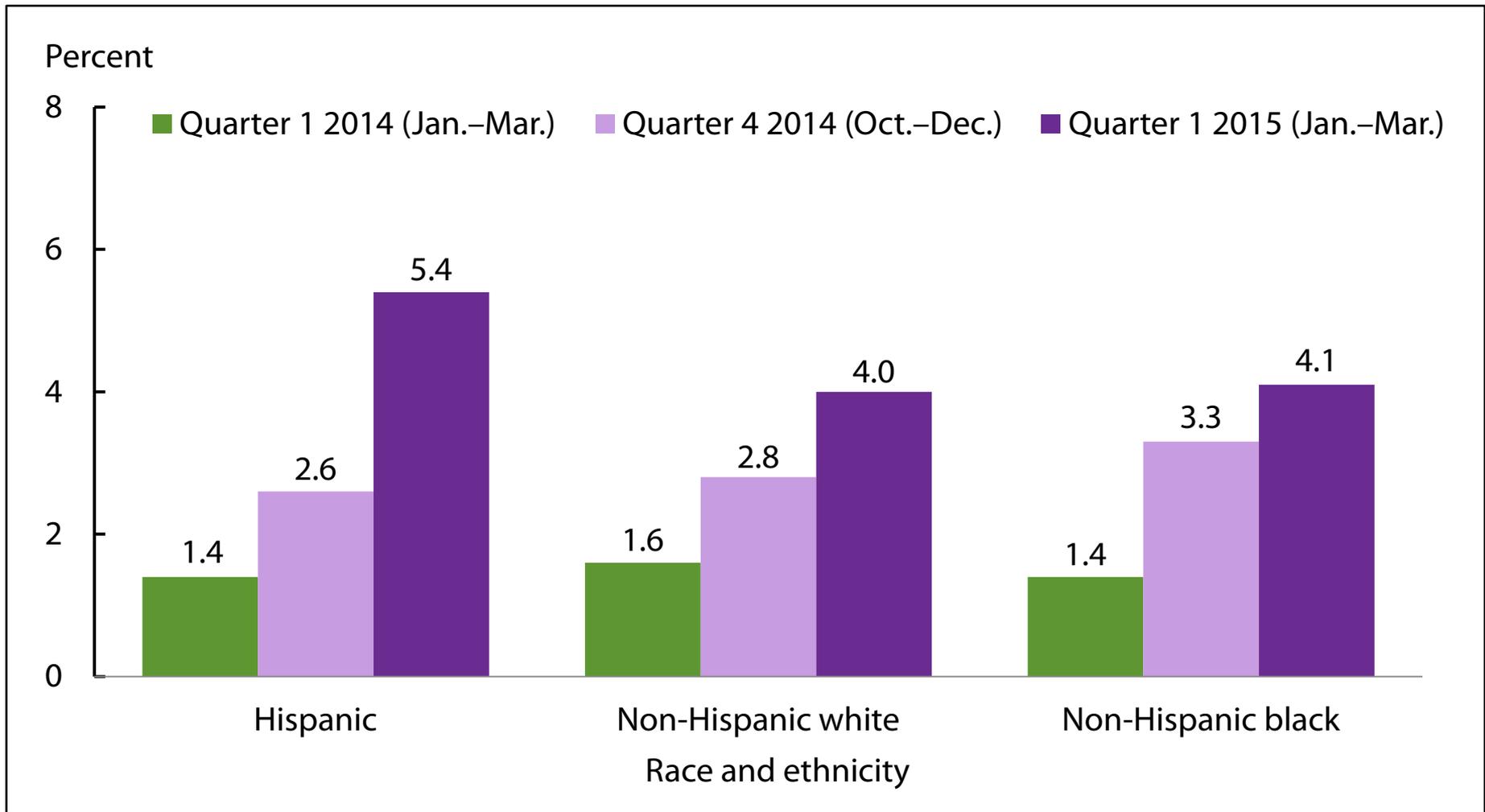
– Among persons under age 65:

- In the first 3 months of 2015, 66.5% (179.1 million) were covered by private health insurance at the time of interview.
- This includes 3.6% (9.7 million) covered by private plans through the Health Insurance Marketplace or state-based exchanges at the time of interview between January and March 2015.

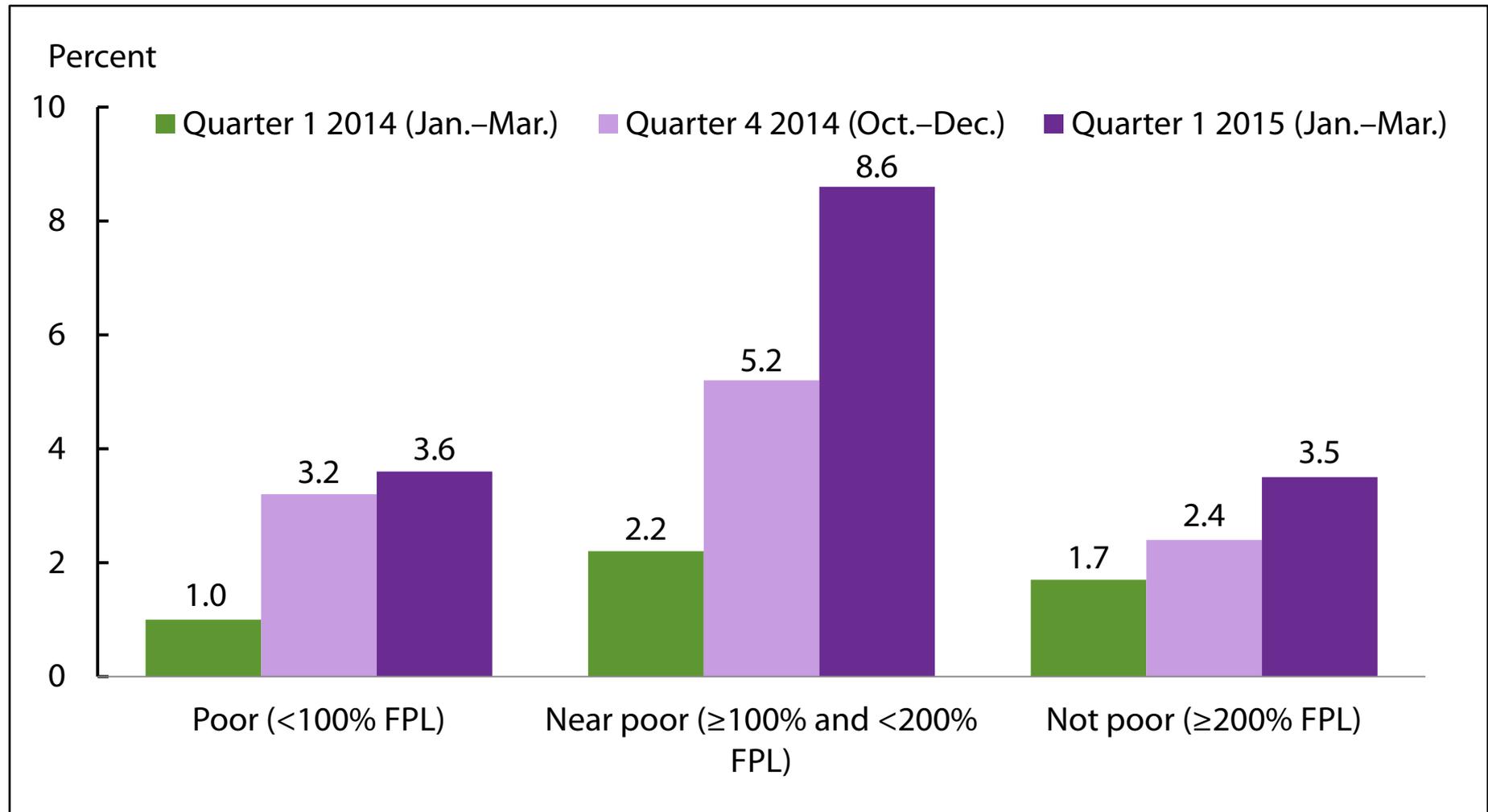
Percentage of persons under age 65 with private health insurance obtained through the Health Insurance Marketplace or state-based exchanges, by age group and selected quarters: United States, January 2014–March 2015



Percentage of persons aged 18-64 years with private health insurance obtained through the Health Insurance Marketplace or state-based exchanges, by race and ethnicity and selected quarters: United States, January 2014–March 2015



Percentage of persons aged 18-64 years with private health insurance obtained through the Health Insurance Marketplace or state-based exchanges, by poverty status and selected quarters: United States, January 2014–March 2015



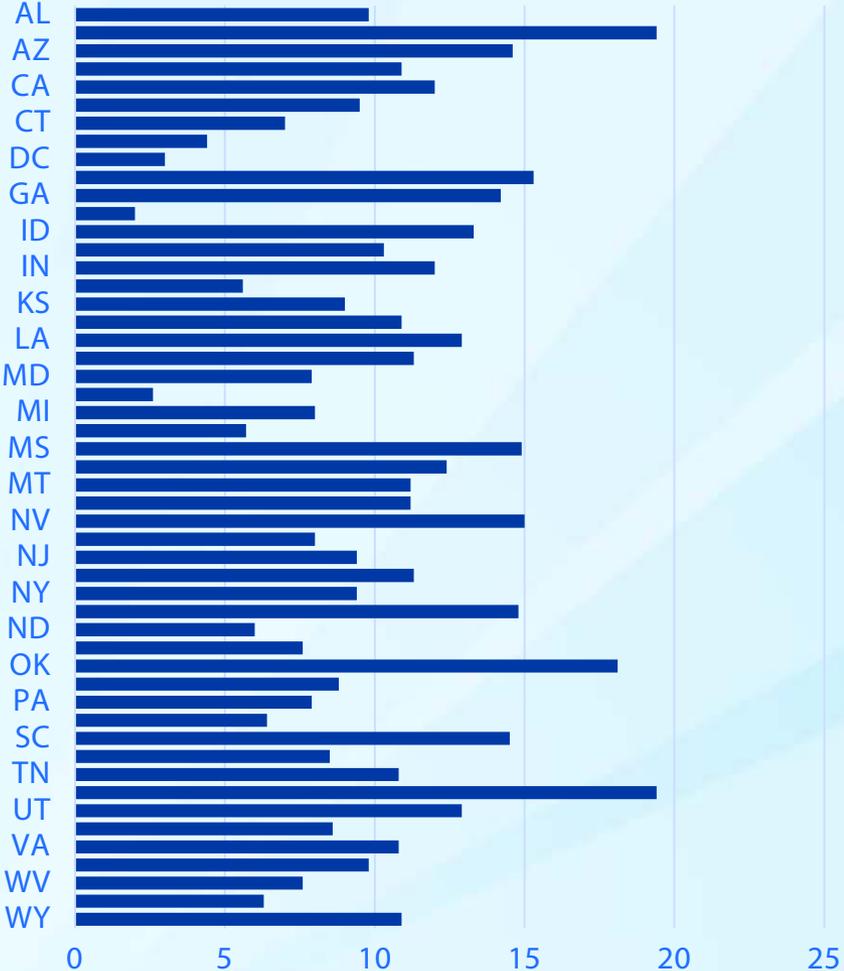
Comparison of point-in-time estimates of the uninsured from 3 federal surveys

Year	NHIS	ACS	CPS	NHIS ACS Difference	NHIS CPS Difference
2013	14.4	14.5		-0.1	
2014 Q1	13.1		13.6		-0.5
2014	11.5	11.7		-0.2	
2015 Q1	9.2		10.6		*-1.4

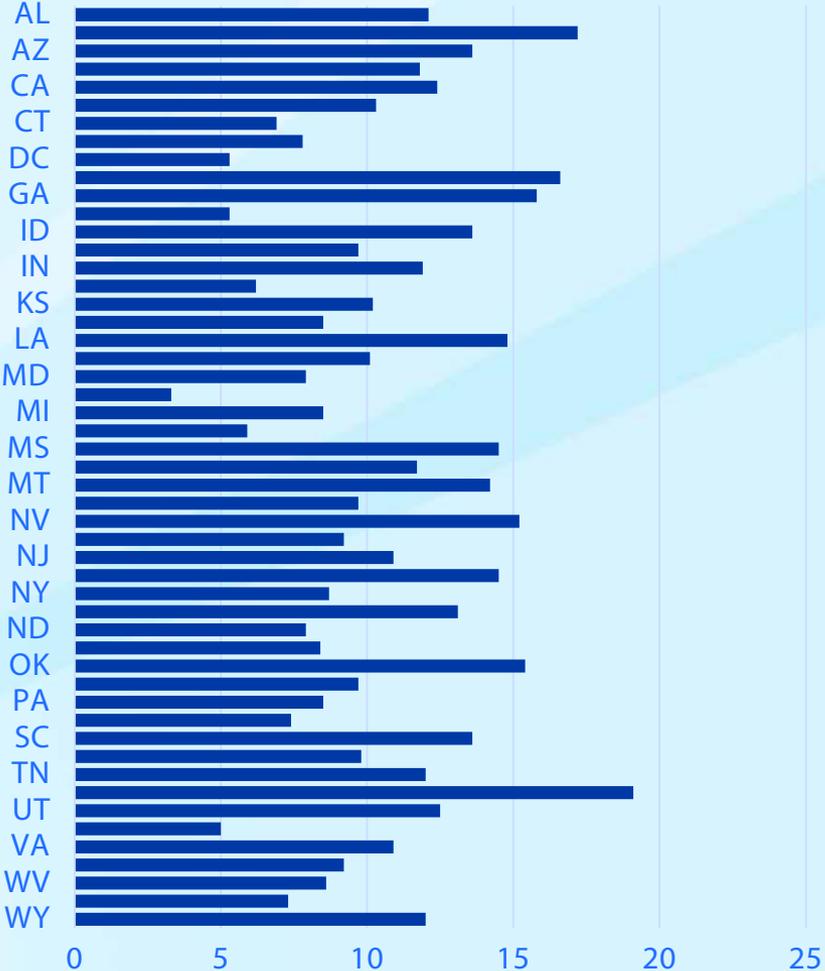
*Significant at $p < 0.05$

Comparison of state-level estimates of persons uninsured at the time of interview, NHIS and ACS

2014 NHIS



2014 ACS



Comparison of point-in-time uninsured state-level estimates: NHIS and ACS

Difference	Number of states
States where the ACS and NHIS are statistically different at $p < 0.05$	5
≤ 0.5 percentage points	11
> 0.5 to ≤ 1.0 percentage points	17
> 1.0 to ≤ 2.0 percentage points	13
> 2.0 percentage points	10

Robin A. Cohen
RCohen@cdc.gov

**For more information about the NHIS
and the Early Release Program**

<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhis.htm>