Lack of health insurance coverage and type of coverage

Figure 1.1. Percentage of persons of all ages without health insurance coverage at the time of interview: United States, 1997–June 2017

NOTES: Data are based on household interviews of a sample of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. A person was defined as uninsured if he or she did not have any private health insurance, Medicare, Medicaid, Children’s Health Insurance Program, state–sponsored or other government–sponsored health plan, or military plan at the time of interview. A person was also defined as uninsured if he or she had only Indian Health Service coverage or had only a private plan that paid for one type of service, such as accidents or dental care. The data on health insurance status were edited using an automated system based on logic checks. For comparability, the estimates for all years were created using these same procedures. The resulting estimates of persons without health insurance coverage are generally 0.1–0.3 percentage point lower than those based on the editing procedures used for the final data files. The analyses exclude persons with unknown health insurance status (about 1% of respondents each year). See Technical Notes for more details.


- For January–June 2017, the percentage of persons uninsured at the time of interview was 9.0% (95% confidence interval = 8.38%–9.65%), which was the same as the 2016 estimate of 9.0%.
- The percentage of persons uninsured at the time of interview decreased, from 16.0% in 2010 to 9.0% in January–June 2017.
### Table 1.1a. Number of persons without health insurance coverage at the time of interview, by age group: United States, 1997–June 2017

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See footnotes at end of table 1.1b.
### Table 1.1b. Percentage of persons without health insurance coverage at the time of the interview, by age group: United States, 1997–June 2017

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\(^1\) In the third quarter of 2004, two questions were added to the National Health Interview Survey insurance section to reduce potential errors in reporting Medicare and Medicaid status. Persons aged 65 and over not reporting Medicare coverage were asked explicitly about Medicaid coverage, and persons under age 65 with no reported coverage were asked explicitly about Medicaid coverage. Depending on responses to these two questions, respondents may have been reclassified. Estimates of uninsurance for 2004 are calculated both without the additional information from these new questions (Method 1) and with the responses to these new questions (Method 2). Beginning in 2005, all estimates are reported using Method 2. See Technical Notes for additional information.
NOTES: Data are based on household interviews of a sample of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. A person was defined as uninsured if he or she did not have any private health insurance, Medicare, Medicaid, Children’s Health Insurance Program, state–sponsored or other government–sponsored health plan, or military plan at the time of interview. A person was also defined as uninsured if he or she had only Indian Health Service coverage or had only a private plan that paid for one type of service, such as accidents or dental care. The data on health insurance status were edited using an automated system based on logic checks. For comparability, the estimates for all years were created using these same procedures. The resulting estimates of persons without health insurance coverage are generally 0.1–0.3 percentage point lower than those based on the editing procedures used for the final data files. In Table 1.1a, the number of uninsured persons is calculated as the percentage of uninsured persons multiplied by the total weighted population, including persons with unknown coverage. The age-specific numbers of uninsured may not add to their respective totals due to rounding. In Table 1.1b, age-adjusted estimates for persons under age 65 for this Healthy People 2020 Leading Health Indicator are adjusted using the projected 2000 U.S. population as the standard population and three age groups: under 18 years, 18–44, and 45–64. The analyses exclude persons with unknown health insurance status (about 1% of respondents each year). See Technical Notes for more details.


- For January–June 2017, the percentage of uninsured persons at the time of interview by age group was 10.5% (28.3 million) for those under age 65, 12.5% (24.7 million) for those aged 18–64, and 5.0% (3.6 million) for those under age 18 years (Tables 1.1a and 1.1b).

- For children under age 18 years, the percentage of those uninsured at the time of interview generally decreased, from 13.9% in 1997 to 5.0% in January–June 2017. The January–June 2017 estimate was higher than, but not significantly different from, the 2015 estimate of 4.5%, and not significantly different from the 2016 estimate of 5.1% (Table 1.1b).

- After a period of general increase, the percentage of adults aged 18-64 uninsured at the time of interview decreased in recent years.
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See footnotes at end of table 1.2b.
Table 1.2b. Percentage of persons under age 65 with private health insurance coverage, by age group: United States, 1997–June 2017

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<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>68.2 (67.5–69.0)</td>
<td>70.6 (69.9–71.3)</td>
<td>62.6 (61.4–63.8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004 (Method 1)</td>
<td>68.6 (67.9–69.4)</td>
<td>70.9 (70.2–71.6)</td>
<td>63.1 (61.9–64.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004 (Method 2)</td>
<td>...</td>
<td>...</td>
<td>...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>68.4 (67.66–69.20)</td>
<td>70.9 (70.18–71.58)</td>
<td>62.4 (61.18–63.54)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>66.5 (65.54–67.41)</td>
<td>69.2 (68.33–70.02)</td>
<td>59.7 (58.32–61.14)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>66.8 (65.76–67.85)</td>
<td>69.6 (68.64–70.47)</td>
<td>59.9 (58.25–61.48)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>65.4 (64.21–66.49)</td>
<td>68.1 (67.10–69.20)</td>
<td>58.3 (56.61–59.91)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>62.9 (61.86–63.99)</td>
<td>65.8 (64.83–66.69)</td>
<td>55.7 (54.02–57.38)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>61.2 (60.20–62.17)</td>
<td>64.1 (63.19–64.98)</td>
<td>53.8 (52.31–55.26)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>61.2 (60.16–62.15)</td>
<td>64.2 (63.34–65.09)</td>
<td>53.3 (51.84–54.81)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>61.0 (60.04–61.87)</td>
<td>64.1 (63.26–64.89)</td>
<td>52.8 (51.40–54.25)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>61.0 (60.02–62.04)</td>
<td>64.2 (63.33–65.17)</td>
<td>52.6 (51.10–54.09)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>63.6 (62.66–64.47)</td>
<td>67.3 (66.47–68.15)</td>
<td>53.7 (52.34–55.00)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>65.6 (64.65–66.59)</td>
<td>69.7 (68.88–70.58)</td>
<td>54.7 (53.20–56.28)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>65.0 (64.06–65.92)</td>
<td>69.2 (68.37–69.99)</td>
<td>53.8 (52.44–55.25)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January–June 2017</td>
<td>65.4 (64.38–66.36)</td>
<td>69.6 (68.73–70.52)</td>
<td>54.0 (52.30–55.74)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

… Category not applicable; see footnote 1 for more information.

1In the third quarter of 2004, two questions were added to the National Health Interview Survey insurance section to reduce potential errors in reporting Medicare and Medicaid status. Persons aged 65 and over not reporting Medicare coverage were asked explicitly about Medicare coverage, and persons under age 65 with no reported coverage were asked explicitly about Medicaid coverage. Depending on responses to these two questions, respondents may have been reclassified. Estimates of uninsurance for 2004 are calculated both without the additional information.
from these new questions (Method 1) and with the responses to these new questions (Method 2). In Table 1.1b, estimates of private insurance are not affected by the two additional questions. Beginning in 2005, all estimates are reported using Method 2. See Technical Notes for additional information.

NOTES: Data are based on household interviews of a sample of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. In Table 1.2a, “public health plan coverage” includes Medicare (disability), Medicaid, Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP), state–sponsored or other government–sponsored health plan, and military plans. In Table 1.2b, “private health insurance” includes persons who had any comprehensive private insurance plan (including health maintenance and preferred provider organizations). These plans include those obtained through an employer, purchased directly, or purchased through local or community programs. Private coverage excludes plans that pay for only one type of service such as accidents or dental care. The data on type of coverage were edited using an automated system based on logic checks. For comparability, the estimates for all years were created using these same procedures. The resulting estimates of persons having public or private coverage are within 0.1–0.3 percentage point of those based on the editing procedures used for the final data files. The analyses exclude persons with unknown health insurance status (about 1% of respondents each year). See Technical Notes for more details.


- For January–June 2017, 25.6% of persons under age 65 were covered by public health plans (Table 1.2a) and 65.4% were covered by private health plans (Table 1.2b).

- For children under age 18 years, the percentage with public health insurance coverage generally increased over time but has more recently leveled off. The percentage of children under age 18 years with public insurance coverage in January–June 2017 was 42.6%, which was not significantly different from the 2016 estimate of 43.0% (Table 1.2a).

- For children under age 18 years, the percentage with private health insurance coverage generally decreased, over time but has more recently leveled off. From January to June 2017, 54.0% of children under age 18 years had private health insurance coverage, which was not significantly different from the 2016 estimate of 53.8% (Table 1.2b).

- The percentage of adults aged 18–64 with public health insurance coverage generally increased. The percentage of adults with public health insurance coverage in January–June 2017 (19.2%) was lower than, but not significantly different from, the 2016 estimate of 20.0% (Table 1.2a).

- After a period of general decline, the percentage of adults aged 18–64 with private health insurance coverage increased in recent years. The percentage of adults with private insurance coverage in January–June 2017 (69.6%) was not significantly different from the 2016 estimate of 69.2% (Table 1.2b).
Figure 1.2. Percentage of persons under age 65 without health insurance coverage at the time of interview, by age group and sex: United States, January–June 2017

NOTES: Data are based on household interviews of a sample of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. A person was defined as uninsured if he or she did not have any private health insurance, Medicare, Medicaid, Children’s Health Insurance Program, state–sponsored or other government–sponsored health plan, or military plan at the time of interview. A person was also defined as uninsured if he or she had only Indian Health Service coverage or had only a private plan that paid for one type of service, such as accidents or dental care. The data on health insurance status were edited using an automated system based on logic checks. The resulting estimates of persons not having health insurance coverage are generally 0.1–0.3 percentage point lower than those based on the editing procedures used for the final data files. The analyses excluded the 1.1% of persons with unknown health insurance status. See Technical Notes for more details.

DATA SOURCE: NCHS, National Health Interview Survey, January–June 2017, Family Core component.

- For both sexes combined under age 65, the percentage of those uninsured at the time of interview by age group was highest among persons aged 25–34 (17.4%) and lowest among those under age 18 years (5.0%). This pattern held for males and females.
- Adults aged 45–64 were less likely than adults aged 18–24, 25–34, and 35–44 to lack health insurance coverage.
- For all persons under age 65 and for adults in age groups 25–34, 35–44, and 45–64, males were more likely than females to lack health insurance coverage at the time of interview.
Figure 1.3. Age-sex-adjusted percentage of persons of all ages without health insurance coverage at the time of interview, by race and ethnicity: United States, January–June 2017

NOTES: Data are based on household interviews of a sample of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. A person was defined as uninsured if he or she did not have any private health insurance, Medicare, Medicaid, Children’s Health Insurance Program, state-sponsored or other government-sponsored health plan, or military plan at the time of interview. A person was also defined as uninsured if he or she had only Indian Health Service coverage or had only a private plan that paid for one type of service, such as accidents or dental care. The data on health insurance status were edited using an automated system based on logic checks. The resulting estimates of persons not having health insurance coverage are generally 0.1–0.3 percentage point lower than those based on the editing procedures used for the final data files. The analyses exclude the 1.0% of persons with unknown health insurance status. Estimates are age-sex-adjusted using the projected 2000 U.S. population as the standard population and three age groups: under 18 years, 18–64, and 65 and over. See Technical Notes for more details.

DATA SOURCE: NCHS, National Health Interview Survey, January–June 2017, Family Core component.

- After adjustment for age and sex, the percentage of those uninsured at the time of interview by race and ethnicity was 18.5% for Hispanic persons, 6.4% for non-Hispanic white persons, and 9.2% for non-Hispanic black persons.
- Hispanic persons were the most likely to be uninsured at the time of interview, compared with non-Hispanic black persons and non-Hispanic white persons. Non-Hispanic black persons were more likely to be uninsured at the time of interview than non-Hispanic white persons.
## Data tables for Figures 1.1–1.3:

### Data table for Figure 1.1. Percentage of persons of all ages without health insurance coverage at the time of interview: United States, 1997–June 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Percent</th>
<th>95% confidence interval</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>15.4</td>
<td>15.0–15.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>14.6</td>
<td>14.1–15.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>14.2</td>
<td>13.8–14.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>14.9</td>
<td>14.5–15.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>14.3</td>
<td>13.8–14.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>14.7</td>
<td>14.3–15.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>15.2</td>
<td>14.8–15.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004 (Method 1)</td>
<td>14.7</td>
<td>14.3–15.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004 (Method 2)</td>
<td>14.6</td>
<td>14.2–15.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>14.2</td>
<td>13.75–14.58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>14.8</td>
<td>14.34–15.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>14.5</td>
<td>13.93–15.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>14.7</td>
<td>14.04–15.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>15.4</td>
<td>14.79–15.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>16.0</td>
<td>15.46–16.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>15.1</td>
<td>14.66–15.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>14.7</td>
<td>14.29–15.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>14.4</td>
<td>13.89–14.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>11.5</td>
<td>11.06–11.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>9.1</td>
<td>8.70–9.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>9.0</td>
<td>8.43–9.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January–June 2017</td>
<td>9.0</td>
<td>8.38–9.65</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1In the third quarter of 2004, two questions were added to the National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) insurance section to reduce potential errors in reporting Medicare and Medicaid status. Persons aged 65 and over not reporting Medicare coverage were asked explicitly about Medicare coverage, and persons under age 65 with no reported coverage were asked explicitly about Medicaid coverage. Depending on responses to these two questions, respondents may have been reclassified. Estimates of uninsurance for 2004 are calculated both without the additional information from these new questions (Method 1) and with the responses to these new questions (Method 2). Beginning in 2005, all estimates are reported using Method 2. See Technical Notes for additional information.

NOTES: Data are based on household interviews of a sample of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. Beginning with 2012 data, NHIS transitioned to weights derived from the 2010 census. For 2003–2011 data, weights were derived from the 2000 census. In this Early Release, estimates for 2000–2002 were recalculated using weights derived from the 2000 census. For 1997–1999 data, weights were derived from the 1990 census. See Technical Notes for more details.

### Data table for Figure 1.2. Percentage of persons under age 65 without health insurance coverage at the time of interview, by age group and sex: United States, January–June 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age (years) and sex</th>
<th>Percent</th>
<th>95% confidence interval</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Under 18, total</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>3.99–6.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under 18, male</td>
<td>5.1</td>
<td>3.90–6.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under 18, female</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>3.93–5.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18–24, total</td>
<td>13.6</td>
<td>12.09–15.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18–24, male</td>
<td>14.9</td>
<td>13.11–16.81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18–24, female</td>
<td>12.3</td>
<td>10.17–14.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25–34, total</td>
<td>17.4</td>
<td>16.07–18.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25–34, male</td>
<td>20.0</td>
<td>18.13–21.91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25–34, female</td>
<td>14.9</td>
<td>13.45–16.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35–44, total</td>
<td>13.9</td>
<td>12.81–14.97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35–44, male</td>
<td>15.9</td>
<td>14.21–17.61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35–44, female</td>
<td>12.0</td>
<td>10.58–13.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45–64, total</td>
<td>9.0</td>
<td>8.23–9.86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45–64, male</td>
<td>9.8</td>
<td>8.72–11.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45–64, female</td>
<td>8.3</td>
<td>7.50–9.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under 65 (crude(^1)), total</td>
<td>10.5</td>
<td>9.78–11.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under 65 (crude(^1)), male</td>
<td>11.6</td>
<td>10.75–12.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under 65 (crude(^1)), female</td>
<td>9.4</td>
<td>8.74–10.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under 65 (age-adjusted(^2)), total</td>
<td>10.6</td>
<td>9.88–11.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under 65 (age-adjusted(^2)), male</td>
<td>11.7</td>
<td>10.91–12.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under 65 (age-adjusted(^2)), female</td>
<td>9.5</td>
<td>8.77–10.20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1Crude estimates are presented in the figure and are similar to those used to monitor the related Healthy People 2020 Leading Health Indicator, Proportion of persons with health insurance.

2Estimates are age-adjusted using the projected 2000 U.S. population as the standard population and three age groups: under 18 years, 18–44, and 45–64.

NOTE: Data are based on household interviews of a sample of the civilian noninstitutionalized population.

DATA SOURCE: NCHS, National Health Interview Survey, January–June 2017, Family Core component.

### Data table for Figure 1.3. Age-sex-adjusted percentage of persons of all ages without health insurance coverage at the time of interview, by race and ethnicity: United States, January–June 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race and ethnicity</th>
<th>Age-sex-adjusted(^1) percent (95% confidence interval)</th>
<th>Age-adjusted(^2) percent (95% confidence interval)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic or Latino</td>
<td>18.5 (16.96–20.12)</td>
<td>18.4 (16.93–20.02)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Hispanic or Latino, single race, white</td>
<td>6.4 (5.78–7.08)</td>
<td>6.7 (6.04–7.37)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Hispanic or Latino, single race, black</td>
<td>9.2 (8.05–10.51)</td>
<td>9.3 (8.12–10.61)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1Estimates are age-sex-adjusted using the projected 2000 U.S. population as the standard population and three age groups: under 18 years, 18–64, and 65 and over.

2Estimates for this Healthy People 2020 Leading Health Indicator are age-adjusted using the projected 2000 U.S. population as the standard population and four age groups: under 18 years, 18–44, 45–64, and 65 and over.

NOTE: Data are based on household interviews of a sample of the civilian noninstitutionalized population.

DATA SOURCE: NCHS, National Health Interview Survey, January–June 2017, Family Core component.