National Health Interview Survey

Long-term Trends in Health Insurance Coverage 1968–2025

Table 1. Percentages (and standard errors) of people younger than age 65 with health insurance coverage, by coverage type, and without health insurance: United States, selected years 1968–2025

Year	Sample size	Private coverage (any)*	Private coverage (employer)†	Private coverage (other)§	Medicaid	Medicare	Other public coverage	Uninsured¶
1968	120,670	79.3 (0.39)	---	---	---	---	---	---
1970	44,373	78.7 (0.53)	68.6 (0.60)	10.0 (0.37)	---	---	---	---
1972	119,939	77.3 (0.39)	69.4 (0.43)	7.8 (0.18)	3.5 (0.14)	---	2.6 (0.18)	16.7 (0.32)
1974	104,727	79.7 (0.31)	70.5 (0.35)	9.6 (0.18)	4.7 (0.16)	---	2.5 (0.20)	13.1 (0.24)
1976	101,594	78.9 (0.31)	68.5 (0.32)	10.3 (0.19)	4.9 (0.16)	0.2 (0.02)	2.6 (0.19)	14.1 (0.24)
1978	98,465	79.3 (0.34)	70.2 (0.35)	9.2 (0.19)	6.7 (0.19)	1.2 (0.04)	2.3 (0.16)	12.0 (0.22)
1980	91,425	79.4 (0.38)	71.4 (0.40)	8.0 (0.20)	7.1 (0.19)	1.4 (0.05)	2.0 (0.16)	12.0 (0.26)
1982	92,489	78.1 (0.53)	70.3 (0.55)	7.9 (0.21)	6.1 (0.29)	1.2 (0.04)	3.7 (0.21)	13.9 (0.36)
1984	46,729	76.9 (0.64)	68.4 (0.67)	8.7 (0.27)	6.8 (0.34)	1.1 (0.06)	3.6 (0.26)	14.6 (0.46)
1986	93,396	76.7 (0.62)	69.1 (0.62)	7.7 (0.21)	6.8 (0.33)	1.2 (0.04)	3.7 (0.23)	14.5 (0.39)
1989	54,860	76.8 (0.71)	69.3 (0.76)	7.6 (0.33)	6.4 (0.35)	1.2 (0.05)	3.3 (0.29)	15.0 (0.43)
1990	102,684	75.9 (0.51)	68.3 (0.51)	7.6 (0.19)	7.2 (0.26)	1.4 (0.05)	2.9 (0.24)	15.6 (0.35)
1991	105,053	74.2 (0.43)	66.4 (0.47)	7.8 (0.28)	7.1 (0.21)	1.3 (0.04)	3.0 (0.25)	17.2 (0.30)
1992	105,316	73.6 (0.48)	62.8 (0.52)	10.8 (0.31)	8.5 (0.27)	1.4 (0.06)	2.9 (0.25)	16.4 (0.29)
1993	113,042	72.0 (0.46)	64.9 (0.45)	7.1 (0.18)	9.8 (0.29)	1.4 (0.05)	2.9 (0.25)	16.8 (0.28)
1994	101,608	69.9 (0.50)	64.0 (0.48)	5.9 (0.17)	11.2 (0.34)	1.4 (0.05)	2.8 (0.23)	17.8 (0.32)
1995	90,512	71.3 (0.42)	65.6 (0.43)	5.7 (0.16)	11.5 (0.27)	1.6 (0.06)	2.6 (0.17)	16.3 (0.25)
1996	56,268	71.2 (0.55)	65.1 (0.57)	6.1 (0.22)	11.1 (0.33)	1.6 (0.07)	2.6 (0.19)	16.7 (0.36)
1997	91,275	70.7 (0.36)	66.4 (0.36)	4.2 (0.13)	9.7 (0.23)	1.6 (0.05)	2.7 (0.13)	17.5 (0.24)
1998	87,020	72.1 (0.36)	67.5 (0.37)	4.6 (0.14)	8.9 (0.22)	1.7 (0.06)	2.7 (0.15)	16.6 (0.25)
1999	85,732	72.8 (0.36)	68.3 (0.37)	4.4 (0.14)	9.1 (0.21)	1.7 (0.06)	2.2 (0.12)	16.1 (0.25)
2000	89,149	71.7 (0.35)	67.3 (0.37)	4.2 (0.14)	9.5 (0.22)	1.7 (0.06)	2.2 (0.13)	16.8 (0.25)
2001	89,478	71.5 (0.37)	67.2 (0.35)	4.1 (0.12)	10.4 (0.21)	1.8 (0.06)	2.1 (0.12)	16.1 (0.25)
2002	82,533	69.7 (0.37)	65.6 (0.37)	3.9 (0.13)	11.8 (0.23)	1.7 (0.06)	2.3 (0.14)	16.5 (0.24)
2003	81,596	68.9 (0.40)	64.4 (0.41)	4.0 (0.15)	12.3 (0.25)	1.8 (0.06)	2.4 (0.17)	16.5 (0.26)

See footnotes at end of table

Table 1. Percentages (and standard errors) of people younger than age 65 with health insurance coverage, by coverage type, and without health insurance: United States, selected years 1968–2025—*continued*

Year	Sample size	Private coverage (any)*	Private coverage (employer)†	Private coverage (other)§	Medicaid	Medicare	Other public coverage	Uninsured¶
2004	83,357	68.8 (0.39)	64.0 (0.39)	4.6 (0.14)	12.5 (0.24)	1.8 (0.06)	2.4 (0.12)	16.4 (0.23)
2005	87,077	68.2 (0.40)	63.6 (0.40)	4.4 (0.14)	12.9 (0.25)	1.8 (0.06)	2.5 (0.13)	16.4 (0.24)
2006	67,066	66.3 (0.48)	61.5 (0.48)	4.6 (0.17)	14.0 (0.32)	2.1 (0.08)	2.5 (0.14)	17.0 (0.29)
2007	67,065	66.8 (0.45)	61.6 (0.46)	4.9 (0.17)	13.9 (0.30)	2.1 (0.08)	2.7 (0.17)	16.6 (0.29)
2008	65,495	65.6 (0.46)	60.5 (0.46)	4.8 (0.19)	14.7 (0.32)	2.3 (0.08)	2.7 (0.16)	16.8 (0.29)
2009	78,011	63.3 (0.49)	58.0 (0.48)	5.0 (0.17)	16.1 (0.33)	2.3 (0.08)	2.9 (0.18)	17.5 (0.28)
2010	79,336	61.7 (0.47)	56.6 (0.45)	4.8 (0.15)	16.9 (0.29)	2.3 (0.07)	3.1 (0.15)	18.2 (0.29)
2011	89,060	61.8 (0.45)	56.4 (0.44)	4.8 (0.15)	17.8 (0.31)	2.4 (0.07)	3.0 (0.11)	17.2 (0.24)
2012	94,247	61.8 (0.41)	56.9 (0.42)	4.4 (0.14)	18.0 (0.28)	2.4 (0.07)	3.0 (0.14)	16.9 (0.24)
2013	90,225	61.8 (0.42)	56.6 (0.42)	4.7 (0.15)	18.1 (0.28)	2.6 (0.07)	3.0 (0.13)	16.7 (0.25)
2014	96,079	63.7 (0.41)	56.4 (0.42)	6.4 (0.17)	19.6 (0.30)	2.5 (0.08)	3.1 (0.17)	13.3 (0.22)
2015	88,199	65.5 (0.42)	57.4 (0.43)	7.7 (0.18)	20.6 (0.35)	2.6 (0.08)	3.0 (0.16)	10.6 (0.19)
2016	80,590	65.7 (0.44)	57.4 (0.43)	7.8 (0.18)	21.1 (0.35)	2.8 (0.08)	2.8 (0.14)	10.3 (0.23)
2017	64.457	65.7 (0.47)	58.2 (0.48)	7.1 (0.17)	20.2 (0.36)	2.7 (0.08)	3.1 (0.16)	10.7 (0.25)
2018	59,659	65.3 (0.47)	58.1 (0.49)	6.9 (0.19)	20.2 (0.37)	2.9 (0.09)	3.7 (0.18)	11.0 (0.24)
2019	31,863	64.3 (0.50)	56.5 (0.51)	7.8 (0.21)	20.5 (0.40)	3.0 (0.12)	3.7 (0.19)	12.0 (0.29)
2020	27,299	64.3(0.56)	56.6 (0.56)	7.7 (0.22)	20.7 (0.48)	3.3 (0.13)	3.9 (0.22)	11.5 (0.33)
2021	28,832	65.4 (0.48)	56.9 (0.47)	8.5 (0.22)	21.4 (0.38)	2.9 (0.12)	3.4 (0.17)	10.3 (0.28)
2022	26,312	64.0 (0.50)	56.0 (0.50)	8.0 (0.20)	22.6 (0.42)	3.1 (0.13)	3.9 (0.20)	10.2 (0.28)
2023	27,505	65.1 (0.48)	56.2 (0.48)	8.8 (0.23)	23.3 (0.42)	2.9 (0.12)	3.6 (0.16)	8.9 (0.23)
2024	30,039	65.7 (0.47)	56.1 (0.49)	9.6 (0.23)	21.6 (0.39)	2.6 (0.12)	3.8 (0.19)	9.9 (0.25)
2025	30,139	66.5 (0.57)	56.5 (0.58)	10.0 (0.27)	20.9 (0.48)	2.6 (0.13)	3.8 (0.19)	9.9 (0.36)

- - - Data not available

*Includes persons covered by private insurance obtained through an employer, purchased directly, or obtained through any other means. Beginning in 2014, this category also includes plans purchased through the Health Insurance Marketplace or a state-based exchange. This category excludes plans that paid for only one type of service such as accidents or dental care.

†Includes persons covered by private insurance originally obtained through a present or former employer or union; this includes private insurance obtained through the workplace, self-employment, or a professional association.

§Includes persons covered by private insurance purchased directly as well as plans obtained through school or other means. Beginning in 2014, this category also includes plans purchased through the Health Insurance Marketplace or a state-based exchange.

¶Includes persons who do not have any private health insurance, Medicare (1976+), Medicaid, State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) (1999+), state-sponsored (1982-1989, 1992+) or other government-sponsored health plan (1997+), or military-related coverage. This category includes persons who only have Indian Health Service coverage or a private plan that paid for one type of service such as accidents or dental care.

NOTES: Percentages do not add to 100 because a small percentage of persons reported more than one type of coverage. Estimates are based on household interviews of a sample of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. In this table, unknown values (responses coded as "refused," "not ascertained," or "don't know") were not counted in the denominators when calculating estimates. For private health insurance coverage, this may result in the percentage with "private coverage (employer)" and the percentage with "private coverage (other)" not adding up to the percentage with "private coverage (any)." For a full description of the methodology used for these tables, see the report entitled "Health Insurance Coverage Trends, 1959–2007: Estimates from the National Health Interview Survey" (https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nhsr/nhsr017.pdf). Over the years the National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) questionnaire design has changed. These changes may contribute to breaks in trends. Changes prior to 2007 are noted in the above referenced report. In 2019 a redesigned NHIS questionnaire with new content and structure was implemented. The flow and content of the questions pertaining to health insurance programs covered are similar to questions covered in the 1997-2018 NHIS Family Core. The main difference is that instead of asking health insurance for all family or household members, one adult and one child (if present) are selected from each household to receive these questions. The sample adult and sample child receive a similar set of questions with a few exceptions.

SOURCE: NCHS, National Health Interview Survey, health insurance supplements (prior to 1997), family core questionnaire (1997-2018) and the Sample Child and Sample Adult questionnaires (beginning with 2019).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: This table is an update of Table 1 from the report entitled "Health Insurance Coverage Trends, 1959–2007: Estimates from the National Health Interview Survey" which was released in July 2009 (https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nhsr/nhsr017.pdf). This table was produced by Robin A. Cohen of the National Center for Health Statistics, Division of Health Interview Statistics, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Suggested citation

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Table 2. Number (in millions) of people younger than age 65 with health insurance coverage, by coverage type, and without health insurance: United States, selected years 1968–2025

Year	Population younger than age 65	Private coverage (any)*	Private coverage (employer)†	Private coverage (other)§	Medicaid	Medicare	Other public coverage	Uninsured¶
1968	177.1	140.5	---	---	---	---	---	---
1970	180.9	142.3	124.1	18.0	---	---	---	---
1972	184.2	142.3	127.9	14.4	6.5	---	4.7	30.7
1974	186.6	148.7	131.5	17.9	8.7	---	4.6	24.4
1976	188.8	148.9	129.4	19.5	9.3	0.5	4.9	26.6
1978	191.0	151.6	134.0	17.5	12.8	2.4	4.3	23.0
1980	194.0	154.1	138.5	15.6	13.8	2.7	3.9	23.3
1982	201.7	157.5	141.8	16.0	12.2	2.5	7.5	28.0
1984	203.8	156.7	139.4	17.7	13.9	2.3	7.3	29.7
1986	205.2	157.5	141.7	15.7	13.9	2.4	7.6	29.8
1989	208.8	160.4	144.6	15.8	13.4	2.5	6.9	31.3
1990	214.3	162.7	146.3	16.3	15.4	3.0	6.1	33.4
1991	216.3	160.5	143.7	16.8	15.4	2.8	6.5	37.2
1992	218.4	160.8	137.1	23.7	18.6	3.0	6.4	35.8
1993	220.7	158.9	143.2	15.8	21.6	3.2	6.4	37.1
1994	223.6	158.8	145.9	12.9	23.9	3.0	6.1	38.8
1995	228.6	159.8	146.2	13.5	25.6	3.1	6.4	40.6
1996	230.4	164.4	151.3	13.1	26.6	3.7	5.9	37.7
1997	232.5	165.5	151.4	14.2	25.8	3.7	6.0	38.9
1998	234.6	165.8	155.9	9.8	22.9	3.8	6.4	41.0
1999	236.8	170.8	159.8	10.8	21.1	4.1	6.3	39.2
2000	239.2	174.2	163.4	10.5	21.9	4.1	5.2	38.5
2001	241.3	173.0	162.5	10.1	22.9	4.0	5.4	40.5
2002	243.6	174.1	163.8	10.0	25.2	4.3	5.1	39.2
2003	251.8	173.6	162.1	10.1	30.9	4.5	6.1	41.6
2004	253.7	174.5	162.3	11.6	31.6	4.5	6.1	41.6
2005	256.1	174.7	162.9	11.1	33.2	4.5	6.4	42.1
2006	258.2	171.2	158.8	11.8	36.2	5.4	6.5	43.9
2007	260.7	174.1	160.7	12.7	36.2	5.4	7.0	43.3

See footnotes at end of table

Table 2. Number (in millions) of people younger than age 65 with health insurance coverage, by coverage type, and without health insurance: United States, selected years 1968–2025—*continued*

Year	Population younger than age 65	Private coverage (any)*	Private coverage (employer)†	Private coverage (other)§	Medicaid	Medicare	Other public coverage	Uninsured¶
2008	262.0	171.9	158.6	12.6	38.4	5.9	7.0	44.1
2009	263.4	166.7	152.8	13.1	42.4	6.2	7.7	46.2
2010	265.4	163.9	150.2	12.7	44.8	6.0	8.1	48.3
2011	266.2	164.5	150.1	12.7	47.4	6.4	7.9	45.8
2012	266.7	164.9	151.8	11.8	48.1	6.5	8.1	45.2
2013	267.5	165.3	151.5	12.5	48.5	7.1	8.1	44.6
2014	268.2	170.7	151.3	17.2	52.6	6.7	8.4	35.7
2015	269.4	176.6	154.7	20.8	55.4	7.0	8.1	28.7
2016	270.7	177.7	155.5	21.2	57.0	7.5	7.6	27.9
2017	270.7	177.7	157.5	19.2	54.6	7.3	8.5	28.9
2018	271.7	177.5	157.8	18.9	54.7	7.8	10.2	30.0
2019	271.1	174.4	153.2	21.2	55.5	8.1	10.1	32.5
2020	270.2	173.8	153.0	20.8	55.9	8.9	10.4	31.2
2021	269.2	176.1	153.2	22.9	57.5	7.8	9.2	27.8
2022	271.4	173.6	152.0	21.6	61.2	8.5	10.6	27.7
2023	271.9	176.9	152.9	24.0	63.4	7.8	9.8	24.3
2024	272.2	178.7	152.6	26.1	58.8	7.2	10.3	26.9
2025	275.6	183.4	155.8	27.7	57.5	7.3	10.5	27.2

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*Includes persons covered by private insurance obtained through an employer, purchased directly, or obtained through any other means. Beginning in 2014, this category also includes plans purchased through the Health Insurance Marketplace or a state-based exchange. This category excludes plans that paid for only one type of service such as accidents or dental care.

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NOTES: A person may have more than one type of coverage, therefore, individual coverage types may not add up to the population total. Estimates are based on household interviews of a sample of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. In this table, unknown values (responses coded as "refused," "not ascertained," or "don't know") were not counted in the denominators when calculating estimates. For private health insurance, coverage this may result in the number with "private coverage (employer)" and the number with "private coverage (other)" not adding up to the number with "private coverage (any)." For a full description of the methodology used for these tables, see the report entitled "Health Insurance Coverage Trends, 1959–2007: Estimates from the National Health Interview Survey" (https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nhsr/nhsr017.pdf). Over the years the National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) questionnaire design has changed. These changes may contribute to breaks in trends. Changes prior to 2007 are noted in the above referenced report. In 2019 a redesigned NHIS questionnaire with new content and structure was implemented. The flow and content of the questions pertaining to health insurance programs covered are similar to questions covered in the 1997-2018 NHIS Family Core. The main difference is that instead of asking health insurance for all family or household members, one adult and one child (if present) are selected from each household to receive these questions. The sample adult and sample child receive a similar set of questions with a few exceptions.

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