

Upcoming Releases from the National Health Interview Survey



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National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) Early Release (ER) Program

- ❑ **NHIS is conducted throughout the year based on monthly random samples.**
- ❑ **Annual files released six months after the completion of data collection.**
- ❑ **Data can be analyzed monthly or quarterly – estimates are an average over the time period covered.**
- ❑ **Change from Paper-and-Pencil Interview (PAPI) to Computer-Assisted Personal Interview (CAPI) data collection in 1997 changed how data were processed allowing for estimates to be released throughout the year – Early Release Program.**
- ❑ **Early Release Products are developed prior to final processing and weighting to provide early access to the most recent information.**


NHIS Early Release (ER) Program

- ❑ **Every three months, the ER Program produces:**
 - A report on 15 key health indicators - first release early 2001 (1997 through June 2000 data)
 - **A separate report on health insurance coverage estimates - first release in early 2002 (1997 – September 2001 data)**
 - **Web tables - quarterly health insurance estimates and special tabulations**
 - Preliminary microdata file used for these reports
- ❑ **In addition, the ER Program produces:**
 - Periodic reports on special health-related topics, e.g.,
 - Problems paying medical bills
 - Sources of coverage and health care access/utilization for young adults
 - Emergency Room Use Among Adults Aged 18–64
 - Bi-annual reports on wireless substitution for landline service

Accessing the NHIS Website

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

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National Health Interview Survey

National Health Interview Survey

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NHIS on Disability


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The National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) has monitored the health of the nation since 1957. NHIS data on a broad range of health topics are collected through personal household interviews. For over 50 years, the U.S. Census Bureau has been the data collection agent for the National Health Interview Survey. Survey results have been instrumental in providing data to track health status, health care access, and progress toward achieving national health objectives.


[New in 2014: Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander \(NHPI\) NHIS](#)

Print page



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[NHIS Early Release Program](#)

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[Integrated Version of Selected NHIS Variables](#)

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NHIS Brochure
[PDF - 715 KB]




Folleto de NHIS
[PDF - 536 KB]



Confidentiality Brochure
[PDF - 591 KB]



Folleto de Confidencial
[PDF - 785 KB]



Early Release Brochure
[PDF - 1.2 MB]

What's New

- Reasons for Emergency Room Use Among U.S. Children: National Health Interview Survey, 2012 (7/2014)
- Sexual Orientation and Health Among U.S. Adults: National Health Interview Survey, 2013 [PDF - 194 KB] (07/2014)
- Wireless Substitution: Estimates From the National Health Interview Survey, July –December 2013 [PDF - 324 KB] (07/2014)
- 2013 National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) - Data Release (06/2014)
- Selected Estimates Based on Data From the 2013 National Health Interview Survey (6/2014)
- Health Insurance Coverage: Estimates From the National Health Interview Survey, 2013 [PDF - 515 KB] (6/2014)
- Health Insurance Coverage: Early Release of Quarterly Estimates From the National Health Interview Survey, January 2010 –December 2013 [PDF - 259 KB] (6/2014)
- Marriage, Cohabitation, and Men's Use of Preventive Health Care Services (6/2014)

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Accessing the NHIS Early Release Program Website

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

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Publications and Information Products

Publications and Information Products

Early Release

Health E-Stats

Health, United States

Life Tables

National Health Statistics Reports

National Vital Statistics Reports

Vital and Health Statistics Series

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The National Health Interview Survey Early Release Program

The Early Release (ER) Program of the National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) provides analytic reports and preliminary microdata files on an expedited schedule. NHIS data users can have access to these very timely reports and microdata files without having to wait for the final annual NHIS microdata files to be released in late June following the end of each data collection year. ER reports and microdata files are produced prior to final data editing and final weighting to provide early access to the most recent information from NHIS. Some ER products are available as soon as nine months before the public use files are released. Below are descriptions of and links to each type of ER product.

- The online report **Selected Estimates Based on Data from the National Health Interview Survey** is published quarterly and provides estimates of 15 selected key health indicators (one of which is health insurance). The first report for each data collection year (January through December) is released in about September and is based on NHIS data from the previous January through March. Each of the three subsequent quarterly reports is based, respectively, on an additional three months of data.
- The online report **Health Insurance Coverage: Estimates from the National Health Interview Survey** is published quarterly and provides additional detailed estimates of health insurance coverage by selected demographic characteristics. The first report for each data collection year (January through December) is released in about September and is based on NHIS data from the previous January through March. Each of the three subsequent quarterly reports is based, respectively, on an additional three months of data.
- The online report **Wireless Substitution: Estimates from the National Health Interview Survey** is published in about May and December of each year and provides updated estimates of trends in use of landline and wireless telephones by persons and in households.
- Other online ER reports and tabulations on special topics are released on an as-needed basis. Some of these also are found at [Responses to Recent Health Policy Data Requests](#).
- Preliminary Quarterly Microdata Files** [PDF - 114 KB] containing selected NHIS variables are made available via the NCHS Research Data Center (RDC). For each data collection year, these files are made available three times: in about September (with data from the first quarter), in about December (with data from the first two quarters), and in about March of the next year (with data from the first three quarters). Analysts wishing to use the files should follow standard procedures for using the RDC. Note that NCHS has RDC locations in Hyattsville, Maryland and Atlanta, Georgia, and NCHS data can also be accessed at Census Bureau RDCs and through remote access. See [NCHS Research Data Center](#).

On this Page

- Early Release Reports on Key Health Indicators
- Early Release Reports on Detailed Estimates of Health Insurance Coverage
- Early Release Reports on Wireless Substitution
- Early Release Reports and Tabulations on Special Topics
- Preliminary Quarterly Microdata Files

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Health Insurance ER Report Released Quarterly in September, December, March, and June



NATIONAL HEALTH INTERVIEW SURVEY EARLY RELEASE PROGRAM

Health Insurance Coverage: Early Release of Estimates From the National Health Interview Survey, 2013

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

Highlights

- In 2013, 44.8 million persons of all ages (14.4%) were uninsured at the time of interview, 55.4 million (17.8%) had been uninsured for at least part of the year prior to interview, and 33.4 million (10.7%) had been uninsured for more than a year at the time of interview.
- In 2013, among children aged 0–17, 6.5% were uninsured at the time of interview, 42.2% had public health plan coverage, and 52.6% had private health insurance coverage.
- In 2013, among persons aged 18–64, 20.4% were uninsured at the time of interview, 16.7% had public health plan coverage, and 64.2% had private health insurance coverage.
- Among children aged 0–17, the percentage who were uninsured at the time of interview decreased from 13.9% in 1997 to 6.5% in 2013.
- The percentage of adults aged 18–64 who were uninsured at the time of interview has generally increased since 1997 but decreased from 2010 to 2013.
- In 2013, the percentage of persons under age 65 who were uninsured at the time of interview varied by state. For example, 3.8% and 5.2% were uninsured in the District of Columbia and Massachusetts, respectively, whereas 24.8% were uninsured in Nevada and 24.7% were uninsured in Florida.

Introduction

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) is releasing selected estimates of health insurance coverage for the civilian noninstitutionalized U.S. population based on data from the 2013 National Health Interview Survey (NHIS), along with comparable estimates from the 2008–2012 NHIS. Estimates for 2013 were based on data for 104,203 persons.

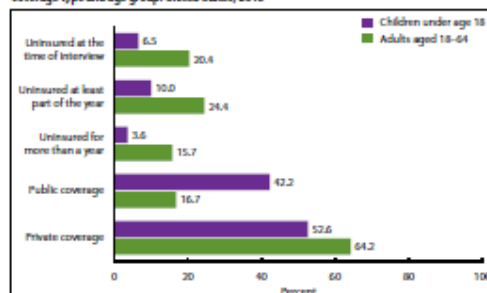
Three estimates of lack of health insurance coverage are provided: (a) uninsured at the time of interview, (b) uninsured at least part of the year prior to interview (which includes persons uninsured for more than a year), and (c) uninsured for more than a year at the time of interview (e.g., Tables 1 and 2). Estimates of public and private coverage

are also presented (e.g., Table 3). Table 3 also includes estimates for 1997 and 2005.

Additional tables present estimates of uninsured, public coverage, and private coverage by poverty status for persons under age 65 (Table 4), adults aged 18–64 (Table 5), and children aged 0–17 (Table 6). Table 7 shows the percentages of persons who were uninsured, had public coverage, and had private coverage, by age and sex. Estimates for persons under age 65, by race and ethnicity, are shown in Table 8. Table 9 presents estimates for adults aged 18–64 by other selected demographic characteristics that are relevant to adults only.

For individuals with private health insurance, estimates are presented in Tables 10 and 11 for enrollment in high-deductible health plans (HDHPs), enrollment in consumer-directed health

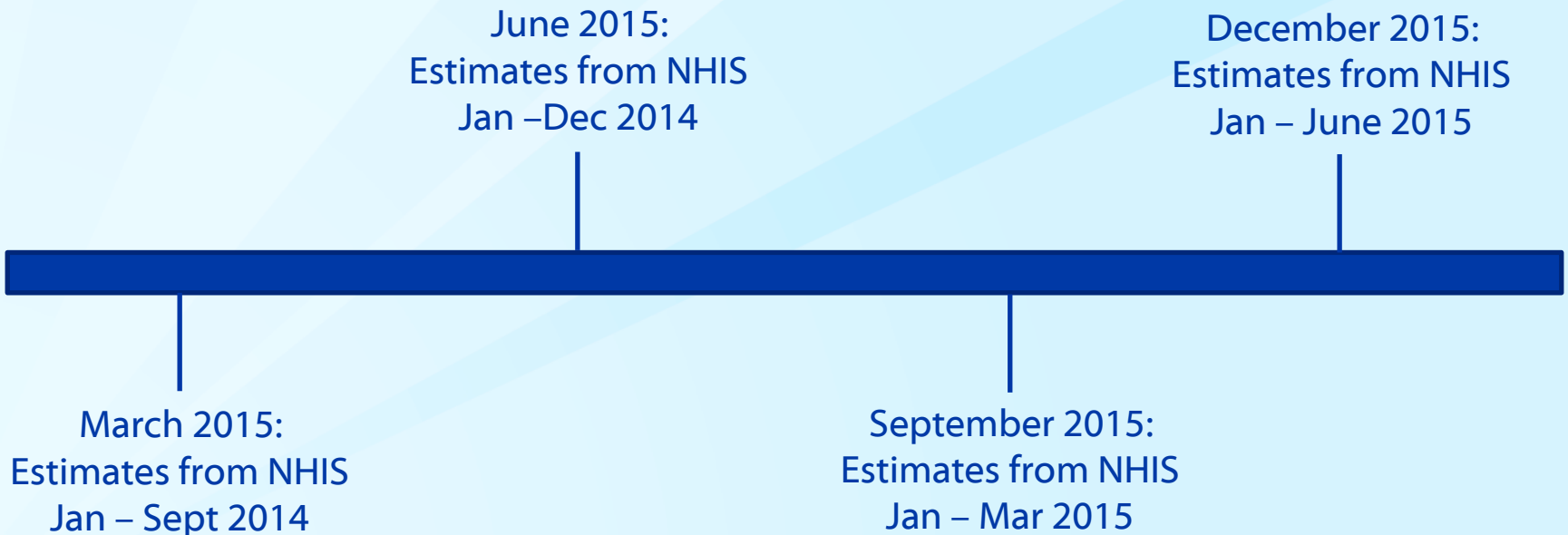
Figure 1. Percentage of persons without health insurance, using three measures of noncoverage and age group, and percentage of persons with health insurance at the time of interview, by coverage type and age group: United States, 2013



NCHS data are based on household interviews of a sample of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. DATA SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Health Interview Survey, 2013, Family Core Component.

Early Release Health Insurance Estimates Represent an Average Over the Number of Months Included

- ❑ September release is based on answers collected between January through March**
- ❑ December release is based on January–June**
- ❑ March release is based on January–September**
- ❑ June release is based on January–December**



Core Content of Health Insurance Early Release Report

❑ Percentages and counts of persons

- Uninsured at time of interview
- Uninsured at least part of the year
- Uninsured for more than a year



By age group,
over time

❑ Percentages of persons

- Uninsured at the time of interview
- With public health plan coverage
- With private health plan coverage



By age and poverty status,
over time
By race/ethnicity over time
By age and sex

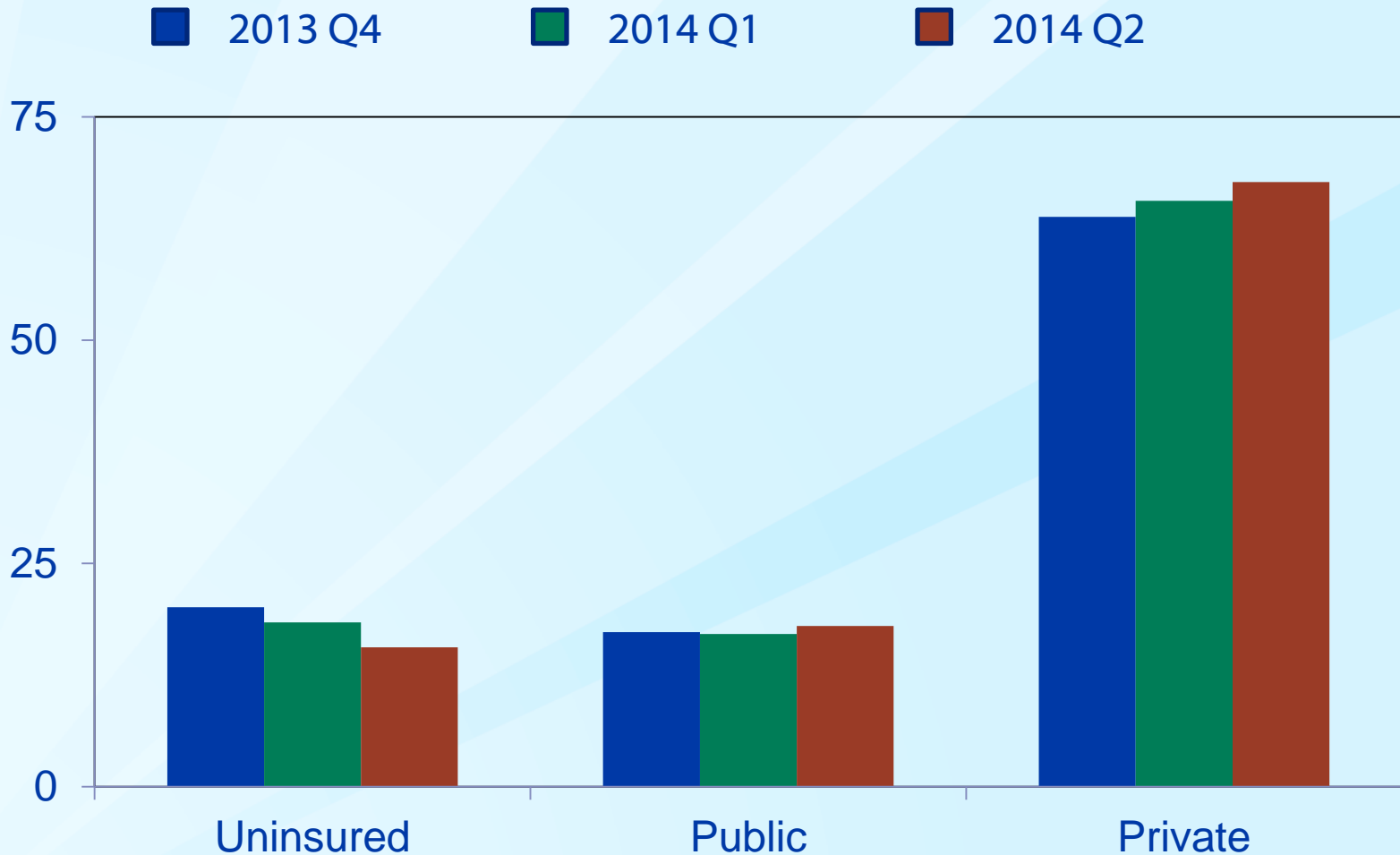
❑ Percentages of adults

- Uninsured at the time of interview
- With public health plan coverage
- With private health plan coverage

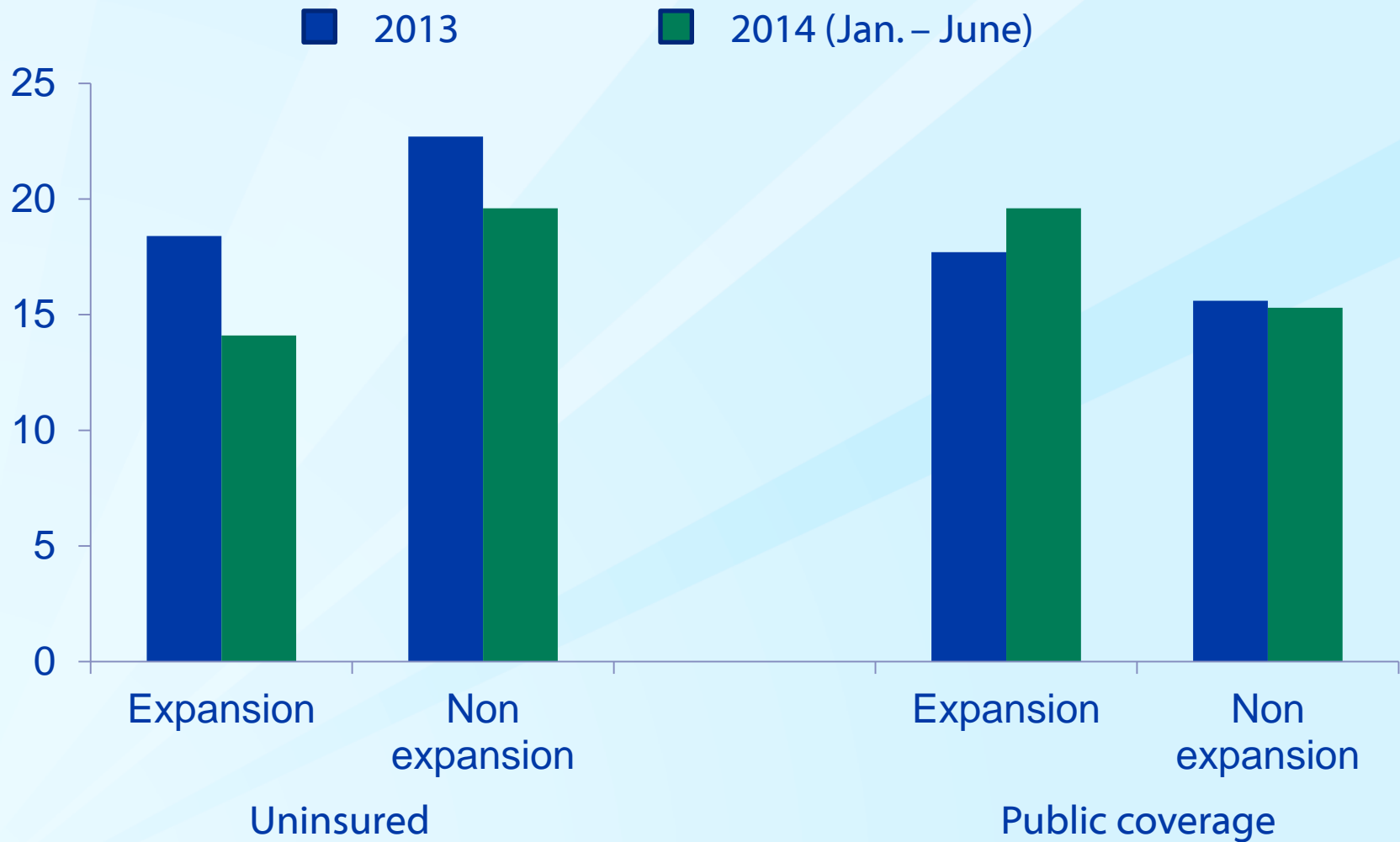


By education;
By employment status;
By marital status

Percentages of adults aged 18-64 who were uninsured, had private health insurance, and had public coverage at the time of interview by year and quarter



Percentages of adults aged 18-64 who were uninsured and had public coverage at the time of interview by state Medicaid expansion status



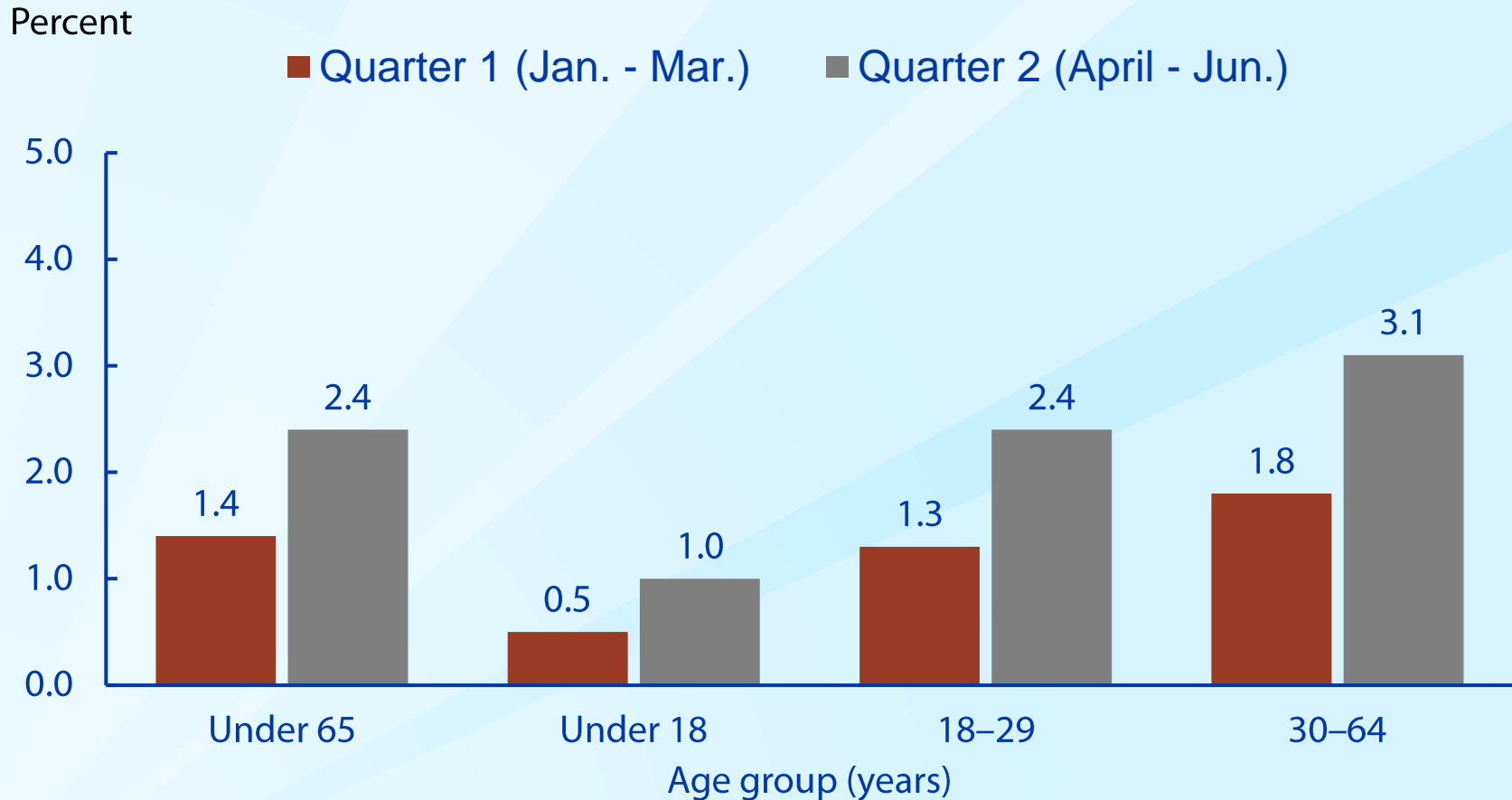
Additional Content of Health Insurance Early Release Report

- ❑ **Percentages of persons in high-deductible health plans**
 - Without a health savings account
 - In a consumer directed health plan

- ❑ **Subnational coverage estimates**
 - By expanded region (9--similar to Census division)
 - By state Medicaid expansion status
 - By state Health Insurance Marketplace type
 - By selected states (in December, March, and June reports)

- ❑ **Percentage and count of persons under age 65 classified as having exchange-based coverage**
 - Estimates for population subgroups are released online as quarterly tables

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



Early Release Health Insurance Estimates are Preliminary

- ❑ **Based on a streamlined version of final processing procedures.**
 - More automated.
 - Based on the prior year's list of health insurance plan names (list was updated with latest exchange plans for September release).
 - Does not distinguish between individual types of public programs.
- ❑ **Preliminary estimates are generally close to the final estimates.**
 - Within 0.1 percentage points for the proportion uninsured.
 - Within 0.2 or 0.3 percentage points for estimates of private and public coverage.

Preliminary Quarterly Microdata Files

- ❑ Data are available in the NCHS Research Data Center (RDC).
- ❑ The RDC provides a mechanism for researchers to access data not released to the public because of nondisclosure or confidentiality reasons.
- ❑ Access is provided either on site (Hyattsville, Atlanta, and the 12 Census RDCs) or via a remote system.



<http://www.cdc.gov/rdc/>

Comparison of NHIS and CPS Point-In-Time Estimates Will Be Updated September 2015

NATIONAL HEALTH INTERVIEW SURVEY EARLY RELEASE PROGRAM

In Collaboration with the U.S. Census Bureau's Social, Economic, and Housing Statistics Division

Comparison of the Prevalence of Uninsured Persons From the National Health Interview Survey and the Current Population Survey, 2014 and 2015

The table below provides a side-by-side comparison of recent estimates of uninsurance from the National Center for Health Statistics' National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) and the U.S. Census Bureau's Current Population Survey (CPS). These two surveys are pillars of the federal statistical community's measurement approach to health insurance coverage. However, the 2014 CPS was the first time that the Census Bureau had been able to use that survey to produce estimates of the percentage of persons who lacked health insurance coverage at the time of survey interview. In previous years, CPS produced estimates only of the percentage of persons who lacked health insurance coverage for the entire preceding calendar year. The table below includes the recently released estimates based on 2015 data as well as the previously released estimates based on 2014 data.

Although both NHIS and CPS now measure similar concepts, differences in survey data collection methods and time periods, sampling error, nonresponse, and data processing lead to minor differences in estimates. Detailed technical information about NHIS estimates is available from: <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nhis/earlyrelease/insur201409.pdf>. Detailed information about CPS is available from: <http://www.census.gov/content/dam/Census/library/publications/2014/demo/p60-250.pdf>.

Percentage (and standard error) of persons who lacked health insurance coverage at the time of interview, by age group, race/ethnicity (among persons aged 18–64), and survey data source: United States, 2014 and 2015

Selected characteristic	NHIS, January–March 2014 ¹	CPS, February–April 2014 ²	2014 difference (percentage points)	NHIS, January–March 2015 ¹	CPS, February–April 2015 ²	2015 difference (percentage points)
Age (years)						
All ages	13.1 (0.41)	13.8 (0.14)	–0.7			
Under 65	15.2 (0.47)	15.8 (0.16)	–0.6			
Under 18	6.6 (0.55)	8.5 (0.21)	*–1.9			
18–64	18.4 (0.55)	18.5 (0.19)	–0.1			
18–24	18.9 (1.10)	21.3 (0.55)	–2.4			
19–25	20.9 (1.12)	23.0 (0.53)	–2.1			
25–34	24.9 (0.99)	23.8 (0.42)	1.1			
35–44	20.3 (0.97)	19.1 (0.39)	1.2			
45–64	14.0 (0.63)	14.5 (0.24)	–0.5			
65 and over	0.9 (0.19)	1.7 (0.15)	*–0.8			
Race/ethnicity ³						
Aged 18–64:						
Hispanic or Latino	35.7 (1.43)	33.2 (0.53)	2.5			
Not Hispanic or Latino:						
White, single race	13.5 (0.58)	14.1 (0.27)	–0.6			
Black, single race	20.2 (1.16)	21.3 (0.58)	–1.1			

¹Significant difference between National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) and Current Population Survey (CPS) estimates of the percentage who lacked health insurance coverage at the time of interview ($p < 0.05$).

²A person was defined as uninsured in NHIS if he or she did not have any private health insurance, Medicare, Medicaid, Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), state-sponsored or

**To receive announcements about Early Releases
and other NHIS data releases and publications,
visit the NCHS website at:**

http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhis/nhis_listserv.htm

