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:

- 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
Accessing the NHIS Early Release Program Website
http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhis/releases.htm
Health Insurance ER Report Released Quarterly in September, December, March, and June

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

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, 35.4 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 52.8% 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 104,263 persons. Three estimates of lack of health insurance coverage were 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 9). 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 percentage 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) and 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
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

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March 2015: Estimates from NHIS Jan – Sept 2014

September 2015: Estimates from NHIS Jan – Mar 2015

December 2015: Estimates from NHIS Jan – June 2015
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

- 2013 Q4
- 2014 Q1
- 2014 Q2

Uninsured
- 2013 Q4
- 2014 Q1
- 2014 Q2

Public
- 2013 Q4
- 2014 Q1
- 2014 Q2

Private
- 2013 Q4
- 2014 Q1
- 2014 Q2
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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age group (years)</th>
<th>Quarter 1 (Jan. - Mar.)</th>
<th>Quarter 2 (April - Jun.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Under 65</td>
<td>1.4</td>
<td>2.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under 18</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18–29</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>2.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30–64</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>3.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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 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.


### 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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Selected characteristic</th>
<th>NHIS, January–March 2014</th>
<th>CPS, February–April 2014</th>
<th>2014 difference (percentage points)</th>
<th>NHIS, January–March 2015</th>
<th>CPS, February–April 2015</th>
<th>2015 difference (percentage points)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All ages</td>
<td>13.1 (0.41)</td>
<td>13.8 (0.14)</td>
<td>−0.7</td>
<td>13.1 (0.14)</td>
<td>13.8 (0.14)</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under 65</td>
<td>15.2 (0.47)</td>
<td>15.8 (0.16)</td>
<td>−0.6</td>
<td>15.2 (0.47)</td>
<td>15.8 (0.16)</td>
<td>−0.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under 18</td>
<td>6.6 (0.55)</td>
<td>8.5 (0.21)</td>
<td>−1.9</td>
<td>6.6 (0.55)</td>
<td>8.5 (0.21)</td>
<td>−1.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18–64</td>
<td>18.4 (0.55)</td>
<td>18.5 (0.19)</td>
<td>−0.1</td>
<td>18.4 (0.55)</td>
<td>18.5 (0.19)</td>
<td>−0.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18–24</td>
<td>18.9 (1.10)</td>
<td>21.3 (0.55)</td>
<td>−2.4</td>
<td>18.9 (1.10)</td>
<td>21.3 (0.55)</td>
<td>−2.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19–25</td>
<td>20.9 (1.12)</td>
<td>23.0 (0.53)</td>
<td>−2.1</td>
<td>20.9 (1.12)</td>
<td>23.0 (0.53)</td>
<td>−2.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25–34</td>
<td>24.9 (0.99)</td>
<td>23.8 (0.42)</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>24.9 (0.99)</td>
<td>23.8 (0.42)</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35–44</td>
<td>20.3 (0.97)</td>
<td>19.1 (0.39)</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>20.3 (0.97)</td>
<td>19.1 (0.39)</td>
<td>1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45–64</td>
<td>14.0 (0.63)</td>
<td>14.5 (0.24)</td>
<td>−0.5</td>
<td>14.0 (0.63)</td>
<td>14.5 (0.24)</td>
<td>−0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65 and over</td>
<td>0.9 (0.19)</td>
<td>1.7 (0.15)</td>
<td>−0.8</td>
<td>0.9 (0.19)</td>
<td>1.7 (0.15)</td>
<td>−0.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Race/ethnicity&lt;sup&gt;3&lt;/sup&gt; Aged 18–64:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic or Latino</td>
<td>35.7 (1.43)</td>
<td>33.2 (0.53)</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>35.7 (1.43)</td>
<td>33.2 (0.53)</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Hispanic or Latino:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White, single race</td>
<td>13.5 (0.58)</td>
<td>14.1 (0.27)</td>
<td>−0.6</td>
<td>13.5 (0.58)</td>
<td>14.1 (0.27)</td>
<td>−0.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black, single race</td>
<td>20.2 (1.16)</td>
<td>21.3 (0.58)</td>
<td>−1.1</td>
<td>20.2 (1.16)</td>
<td>21.3 (0.58)</td>
<td>−1.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<sup>3</sup>Significant 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).

<sup>1</sup>A 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 privately sponsored health insurance.

<sup>2</sup>CPS estimates of the percentage who lacked health insurance coverage at the time of interview were calculated using the Current Population Survey’s March Supplement on Health Insurance.
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