

Health Insurance Coverage Status of Children Ages 0 to 17: 2005 to 2007

The Current Population Survey (CPS) Annual Social and Economic Supplement (ASEC), a joint project between the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Census Bureau, provides annual estimates of the number of people with and without health insurance by selected characteristics, including age. The Census Bureau recommends using 3-year averages to compare estimates across states and 2-year averages to evaluate change in state estimates over time.

North Dakota's 2005-07, 3-year average of uninsured children was 9.0 percent, with a 90-percent confidence interval ranging from 3.4 percent to 14.6 percent (Table 1). Nationally, the 2005-07, 3-year average uninsured rate for children was 11.2 percent. The 90-percent confidence interval for the nation ranged from 11.1 percent to 11.3 percent.

Comparing states using 3-year average uninsured rates for 2005-07 shows that Texas had the highest proportion of uninsured children in the nation (20.5 percent), while Massachusetts had the lowest (4.7 percent) (Table 1). However, when the 90-percent confidence intervals are taken into account, there is little statistical difference among states. For example, to be 90-percent confident in these estimates, the average for Texas could be as low as 18.6 percent or as high as 22.4 percent. Given this range, nine other states have averages with confidence intervals overlapping that of Texas.

When examining the 2-year averages between 2005-06 and 2006-07 to evaluate change in state estimates over time, three states had change that was statistically different from zero; California, Illinois, and Indiana showed a decrease in the proportion of uninsured youth (Table 1). Because the confidence intervals for the difference between these two time periods for every other state include zero, one cannot say with 90-percent confidence that there was any change between the 2005-06 and 2006-07 averages.

Though confidence intervals can be relatively large for states like North Dakota that have a small population base, CPS statistics are one way of estimating the number of children at risk throughout the nation. For information on the methodology, source, and accuracy of these data, visit the following websites at www.census.gov/hhes/www/hlthins/hlthin07.html and www.census.gov/apspd/techdoc/cps/cps-main.html.

Figure 2. Percent of Children Ages 0 to 17 without Health Insurance by State: 3-Year Average 2005-2007

Note: See Table 1 for 90-percent confidence intervals associated with state estimates.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 2006 to 2008 Annual Social and Economic Supplements, www.census.gov/hhes/www/hlthins/hlthin.html

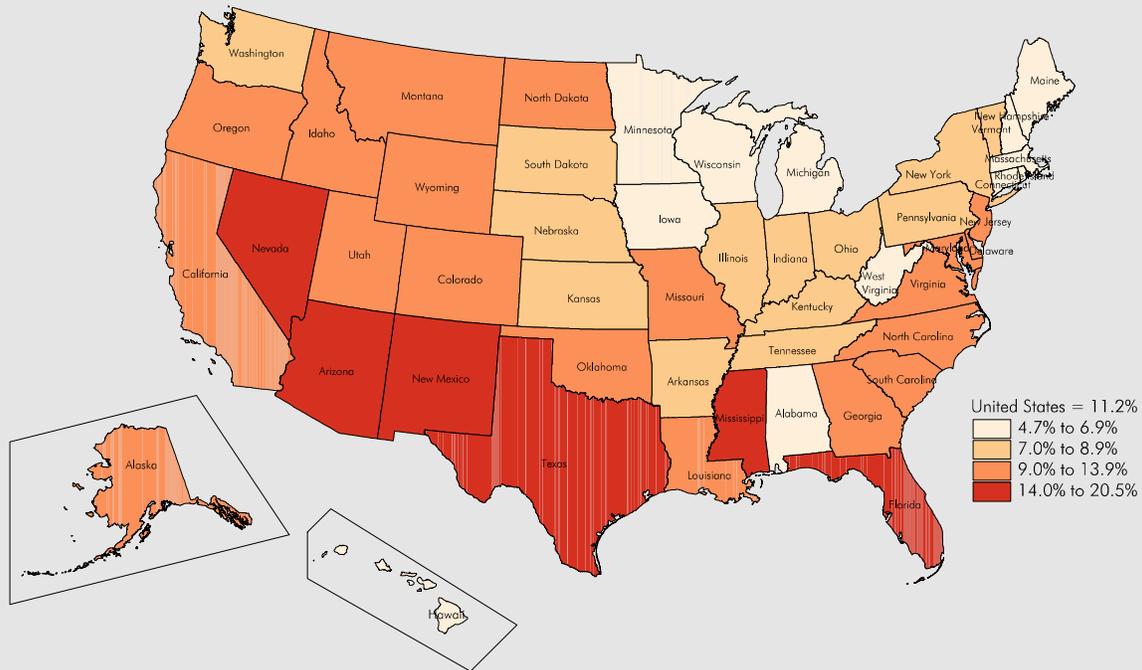


Table 1. Percent of Children Ages 0 to 17 without Health Insurance by State Using 2- and 3-Year Averages: 2005 to 2007

Notes: ¹Details may not sum to totals because of rounding. *Statistically different from zero at the 90-percent confidence level. Since the confidence interval for these estimates does not include zero, we can conclude with 90-percent confidence that the 2006-07 average is different from the 2005-06 average. For methodology, source, and accuracy of these data, visit www.census.gov/apsd/techdoc/cps/cps-main.html.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 2006 to 2008 Annual Social and Economic Supplements, www.census.gov/hhes/www/hlthins/hlthins.html

| State | 3-year average: 2005-2007 | | 2-year average | | | | Change in percentage points (2006-2007 average less 2005-2006 average) ¹ | |
|----------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|----------------------------|------------|----------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| | Percent | 90% Confidence Interval | 2005-2006 | | 2006-2007 | | Percent | 90% Confidence Interval |
| | | | Percent | 90% Confidence Interval | Percent | 90% Confidence Interval | | |
| United States | 11.2 | 11.1 to 11.3 | 11.3 | 11.2 to 11.4 | 11.4 | 11.3 to 11.4 | 0.0 | 0.0 to 0.1 |
| Alabama | 6.4 | 2.9 to 9.9 | 6.0 | 3.0 to 8.9 | 7.4 | 3.7 to 11.0 | 1.4 | -1.0 to 3.8 |
| Alaska | 10.0 | 4.6 to 15.4 | 9.4 | 4.7 to 14.0 | 10.9 | 5.5 to 16.2 | 1.5 | -2.1 to 5.1 |
| Arizona | 15.7 | 9.7 to 21.7 | 16.7 | 10.8 to 22.6 | 15.4 | 10.0 to 20.8 | -1.3 | -5.3 to 2.7 |
| Arkansas | 8.7 | 4.0 to 13.5 | 10.0 | 4.9 to 15.1 | 7.8 | 3.9 to 11.6 | -2.3 | -5.4 to 0.9 |
| California | 12.3 | 11.4 to 13.2 | 13.1 | 12.3 to 13.9 | 11.8 | 11.0 to 12.5 | *-1.4 | -1.9 to -0.8 |
| Colorado | 13.8 | 6.5 to 21.0 | 14.2 | 7.3 to 21.0 | 13.8 | 7.1 to 20.5 | -0.3 | -5.2 to 4.5 |
| Connecticut | 6.3 | 2.5 to 10.1 | 6.9 | 3.0 to 10.7 | 5.6 | 2.4 to 8.8 | -1.3 | -3.8 to 1.3 |
| Delaware | 10.4 | 4.2 to 16.5 | 11.8 | 5.4 to 18.2 | 9.6 | 4.4 to 14.8 | -2.2 | -6.3 to 1.9 |
| District of Columbia | 7.1 | 0.6 to 13.5 | 7.5 | 1.3 to 13.7 | 7.5 | 1.3 to 13.6 | -0.1 | -4.4 to 4.3 |
| Florida | 18.7 | 16.2 to 21.3 | 18.5 | 16.1 to 20.9 | 19.1 | 16.6 to 21.5 | 0.5 | -1.1 to 2.2 |
| Georgia | 11.8 | 9.0 to 14.6 | 11.9 | 9.2 to 14.6 | 12.2 | 9.5 to 14.8 | 0.3 | -1.6 to 2.1 |
| Hawaii | 5.5 | 2.4 to 8.6 | 5.8 | 2.8 to 8.8 | 5.6 | 2.6 to 8.5 | -0.3 | -2.3 to 1.8 |
| Idaho | 11.8 | 6.1 to 17.5 | 12.2 | 6.7 to 17.7 | 12.0 | 6.7 to 17.3 | -0.2 | -4.0 to 3.6 |
| Illinois | 8.7 | 7.0 to 10.4 | 9.8 | 8.0 to 11.6 | 8.1 | 6.6 to 9.5 | *-1.8 | -2.9 to -0.6 |
| Indiana | 7.6 | 4.7 to 10.5 | 8.8 | 5.7 to 11.9 | 6.5 | 4.2 to 8.8 | *-2.3 | -4.2 to -0.4 |
| Iowa | 5.4 | 1.9 to 8.8 | 5.7 | 2.3 to 9.0 | 5.6 | 2.3 to 8.8 | -0.1 | -2.4 to 2.2 |
| Kansas | 7.1 | 2.9 to 11.3 | 6.8 | 3.0 to 10.5 | 7.5 | 3.4 to 11.6 | 0.8 | -2.0 to 3.5 |
| Kentucky | 8.1 | 3.3 to 12.9 | 8.2 | 3.7 to 12.7 | 8.9 | 4.1 to 13.6 | 0.7 | -2.6 to 3.9 |
| Louisiana | 12.3 | 5.8 to 18.7 | 12.2 | 6.3 to 18.0 | 14.2 | 7.5 to 20.9 | 2.1 | -2.4 to 6.5 |
| Maine | 6.4 | 1.4 to 11.4 | 7.1 | 1.9 to 12.2 | 5.8 | 1.5 to 10.0 | -1.3 | -4.6 to 2.0 |
| Maryland | 9.6 | 5.2 to 13.9 | 9.1 | 5.3 to 12.9 | 10.2 | 6.0 to 14.4 | 1.1 | -1.8 to 4.0 |
| Massachusetts | 4.7 | 2.7 to 6.7 | 5.6 | 3.5 to 7.7 | 5.0 | 3.1 to 6.9 | -0.6 | -2.0 to 0.8 |
| Michigan | 5.3 | 4.0 to 6.6 | 4.9 | 3.7 to 6.0 | 5.5 | 4.1 to 6.8 | 0.6 | -0.3 to 1.5 |
| Minnesota | 6.9 | 3.5 to 10.3 | 7.1 | 3.9 to 10.3 | 7.4 | 4.1 to 10.6 | 0.3 | -2.0 to 2.5 |
| Mississippi | 14.1 | 7.2 to 21.0 | 15.1 | 8.5 to 21.7 | 15.5 | 8.8 to 22.2 | 0.4 | -4.3 to 5.1 |
| Missouri | 9.0 | 5.1 to 12.9 | 8.3 | 4.9 to 11.7 | 9.8 | 5.9 to 13.6 | 1.5 | -1.1 to 4.0 |
| Montana | 13.8 | 5.7 to 21.9 | 14.4 | 6.5 to 22.2 | 13.6 | 6.2 to 20.9 | -0.8 | -6.2 to 4.6 |
| Nebraska | 8.5 | 3.6 to 13.4 | 7.7 | 3.6 to 11.8 | 10.1 | 4.8 to 15.3 | 2.4 | -1.0 to 5.7 |
| Nevada | 15.8 | 7.4 to 24.2 | 16.6 | 8.5 to 24.6 | 16.6 | 8.6 to 24.5 | 0.0 | -5.7 to 5.7 |
| New Hampshire | 6.4 | 2.2 to 10.7 | 6.4 | 2.6 to 10.2 | 7.0 | 2.8 to 11.2 | 0.6 | -2.2 to 3.4 |
| New Jersey | 12.2 | 8.7 to 15.7 | 11.9 | 8.8 to 15.0 | 13.1 | 9.6 to 16.6 | 1.2 | -1.1 to 3.5 |
| New Mexico | 17.8 | 7.5 to 28.1 | 19.0 | 9.0 to 28.9 | 16.7 | 7.7 to 25.7 | -2.3 | -9.0 to 4.5 |
| New York | 8.3 | 7.1 to 9.5 | 8.1 | 7.0 to 9.1 | 8.7 | 7.5 to 9.8 | 0.6 | -0.2 to 1.4 |
| North Carolina | 12.6 | 9.2 to 16.0 | 12.9 | 9.7 to 16.0 | 13.1 | 9.8 to 16.3 | 0.2 | -2.1 to 2.5 |
| North Dakota | 9.0 | 3.4 to 14.6 | 9.6 | 4.1 to 15.1 | 9.1 | 3.9 to 14.3 | -0.5 | -4.3 to 3.3 |
| Ohio | 7.3 | 5.7 to 8.9 | 6.7 | 5.3 to 8.0 | 7.2 | 5.7 to 8.6 | 0.5 | -0.5 to 1.5 |
| Oklahoma | 12.0 | 5.5 to 18.6 | 11.8 | 5.7 to 17.8 | 12.6 | 6.4 to 18.7 | 0.8 | -3.5 to 5.1 |
| Oregon | 11.4 | 4.2 to 18.5 | 11.8 | 5.0 to 18.5 | 11.9 | 5.0 to 18.7 | 0.1 | -4.7 to 4.9 |
| Pennsylvania | 7.4 | 5.7 to 9.0 | 7.4 | 5.8 to 8.9 | 7.4 | 5.8 to 8.9 | 0.0 | -1.1 to 1.1 |
| Rhode Island | 6.8 | 2.2 to 11.4 | 5.9 | 2.1 to 9.6 | 6.5 | 2.2 to 10.7 | 0.6 | -2.2 to 3.4 |
| South Carolina | 11.7 | 5.4 to 18.0 | 10.5 | 5.0 to 15.9 | 12.5 | 6.3 to 18.6 | 2.0 | -2.1 to 6.1 |
| South Dakota | 8.4 | 4.3 to 12.6 | 8.7 | 4.7 to 12.6 | 8.6 | 4.7 to 12.5 | 0.0 | -2.8 to 2.7 |
| Tennessee | 8.2 | 4.8 to 11.6 | 7.8 | 4.7 to 10.8 | 7.8 | 4.8 to 10.7 | 0.0 | -2.1 to 2.1 |
| Texas | 20.5 | 18.6 to 22.4 | 20.1 | 18.3 to 21.8 | 21.3 | 19.5 to 23.1 | 1.3 | 0.0 to 2.5 |
| Utah | 12.6 | 8.0 to 17.1 | 13.7 | 9.0 to 18.3 | 12.7 | 8.6 to 16.8 | -1.0 | -4.0 to 2.1 |
| Vermont | 7.6 | 1.7 to 13.4 | 6.7 | 1.9 to 11.4 | 8.7 | 2.5 to 14.9 | 2.1 | -1.8 to 5.9 |
| Virginia | 9.6 | 6.5 to 12.7 | 9.3 | 6.5 to 12.1 | 10.2 | 7.1 to 13.2 | 0.8 | -1.2 to 2.9 |
| Washington | 7.5 | 4.3 to 10.6 | 7.8 | 4.7 to 10.9 | 6.9 | 4.1 to 9.6 | -1.0 | -3.0 to 1.1 |
| West Virginia | 6.6 | 2.8 to 10.3 | 7.6 | 3.6 to 11.5 | 6.6 | 3.2 to 9.9 | -1.0 | -3.6 to 1.6 |
| Wisconsin | 5.9 | 3.1 to 8.7 | 5.9 | 3.2 to 8.6 | 5.4 | 2.9 to 7.8 | -0.6 | -2.3 to 1.2 |
| Wyoming | 9.5 | 3.2 to 15.9 | 9.5 | 3.4 to 15.6 | 8.9 | 3.4 to 14.4 | -0.6 | -4.7 to 3.5 |

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While the Majority of North Dakota Children Have Health Insurance, Many are Without

The vast majority of North Dakota children ages 0 to 17 are covered by some form of health insurance. Current estimates indicate that the 2005-2007, 3-year average of uninsured children in North Dakota is 9.0 percent (approximately 13,000 children), roughly equivalent to the state's 9th largest city, Williston.

This month's "Economic Brief," a monthly publication from the North Dakota State Data Center at North Dakota State University, focuses on those children ages 0 to 17 without health insurance in North Dakota. The Current Population Survey's (CPS) Annual Social and Economic Supplement (ASEC), a joint project between the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Census Bureau, provides annual estimates of the number of people with and without health insurance by selected characteristics. The CPS ASEC is designed to collect statistically reliable estimates primarily at the national level. Because state estimates are less reliable (due to relatively small sample sizes which can cause state estimates to fluctuate widely year-to-year), the Census Bureau recommends using 3-year averages to compare estimates across states and 2-year averages to evaluate changes in state estimates over time. Though confidence intervals around the estimates can be relatively large for states like North Dakota, CPS statistics are one way of estimating the number of children at risk.

Three-year averages from the 2005-2007 CPS ASEC indicate that while the majority of North Dakota children have health insurance coverage, 9.0 percent of the state's children had no form of health insurance. Nationally, 11.2 percent of children were without health insurance coverage. "It is good news to know that North Dakota is doing better than the national average with regard to providing health insurance for our children. However, it is troubling to know that 13,000 children in our state are left uninsured," said Richard Rathge, Director of the State Data Center.

Comparing all states using 3-year average uninsured rates for 2005-07 shows that Texas had the highest proportion of uninsured children in the nation (20.5 percent), while Massachusetts had the lowest (4.7 percent). When examining the 2-year averages between 2005-06 and 2006-07, three states had a statistically significant change in the proportion of uninsured children; California, Illinois, and Indiana showed a decrease in the proportion of uninsured youth.
