



Office of Government Affairs
1146 19th Street, NW, Sixth Floor
Washington, DC 20036
Telephone (202) 659-1800
Fax (202) 296-2964

Census Data on Uninsured Women and Children November 2004

The March of Dimes each year commissions the U.S. Census Bureau to prepare the most recent data nationally and by state on the health insurance status of women of childbearing age (15-44) and children under age 19.

HIGHLIGHTS OF NATIONAL DATA FOR 2003

Women of Childbearing Age (15-44):

- The number of uninsured women of childbearing age continued to rise in 2003, increasing by more than 470,000 to 12.6 million.
- One in five women of childbearing age was uninsured in 2003.
 - At 20.5%, the 2003 rate is both higher than it was in 2002 (19.6%), and greater than the 2003 rate for all Americans under age 65 (17.6%).
 - These women accounted for 28% of all uninsured Americans.
- Hispanic women in this age group were more than 2.5 times as likely as non-Hispanic whites to be uninsured—39% compared with 15%. Native American (34%), African-American (23%) and Asian women (22%) were also more likely than whites to be uninsured.
- Among Hispanics, Mexican (44%) and Central/South American (39%) women were uninsured at the highest rates, compared with 17% of Puerto Ricans and 29% for all other Hispanic women.

Children Under Age 19:

- In 2003, 9.1 million (11.8%) of the nation's 77.6 million children under 19 were uninsured—showing essentially no improvement from 2002.
- Medicaid and the State Children's Health Insurance Program remain critical sources of health insurance for children—covering nearly 26% of those under age 19 in 2003, up from 24% in 2002 according to the Census data. At the same time, the proportion of children covered by employer-based insurance declined from nearly 63% to 61%.

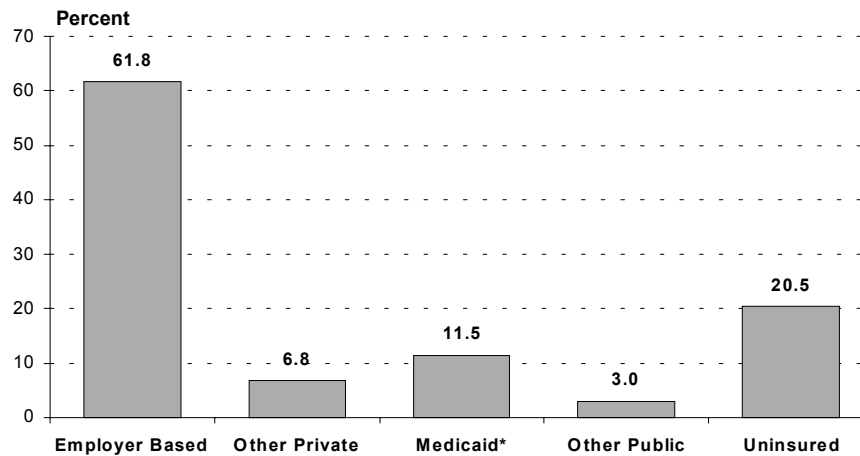
- Hispanic children were nearly three times as likely as non-Hispanic whites to be uninsured—22% compared with nearly 8%. Native American (19%), African-American (15%) and Asian children (13%) were also more likely than whites to be uninsured.
- Among Hispanic children, Mexicans (24%) and Central/South Americans (22%) were uninsured at the highest rates, compared with 10% of Puerto Ricans and 16% for all other Hispanic children.

HIGHLIGHTS OF STATE DATA

- The rates of uninsured vary by state. (See table attached.) For example, Texas (32.2%) and New Mexico (31.5%) had the highest average rates of uninsured for women of childbearing age over the 2001-2003 period, while at 10%, Wisconsin and Minnesota had the lowest.
- For children under 19, Texas (21.6%) and Nevada (17.7%) had the highest rates, and Vermont (4.9%) and Rhode Island (5.3%) had the lowest.
- The attached state data are the best and latest available Census Bureau estimates. Census presents these state data using a three-year average (2001-2003) because small sample sizes make single-year state data less reliable. While the March of Dimes has computed state rankings based on the percentage of uninsured, differences among states are often small and may not be significant.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, March 2004 Current Population Survey. Data prepared for the March of Dimes.

Women Ages 15-44, by Type of Health Insurance Coverage, 2003



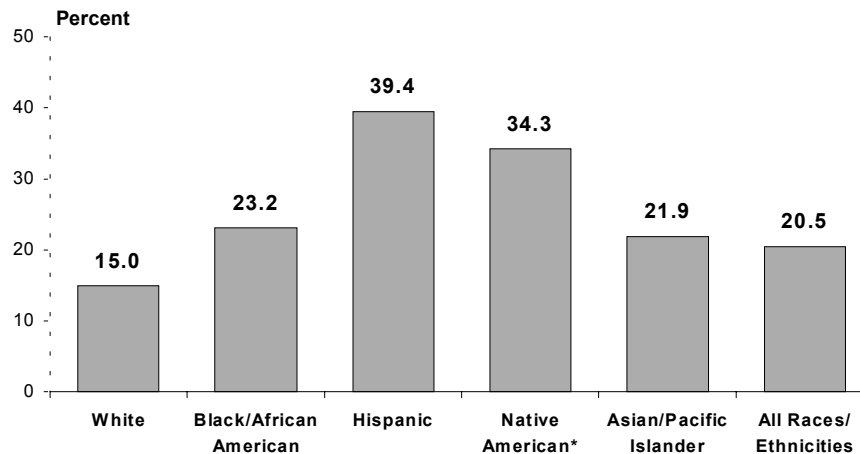
* Includes State Children's Health Insurance Program.

Note: Categories may sum to more than 100 percent because individuals can have more than one source of coverage.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, March 2004.



Percent of Women Ages 15-44 Who Are Uninsured, by Race/Ethnicity, 2003



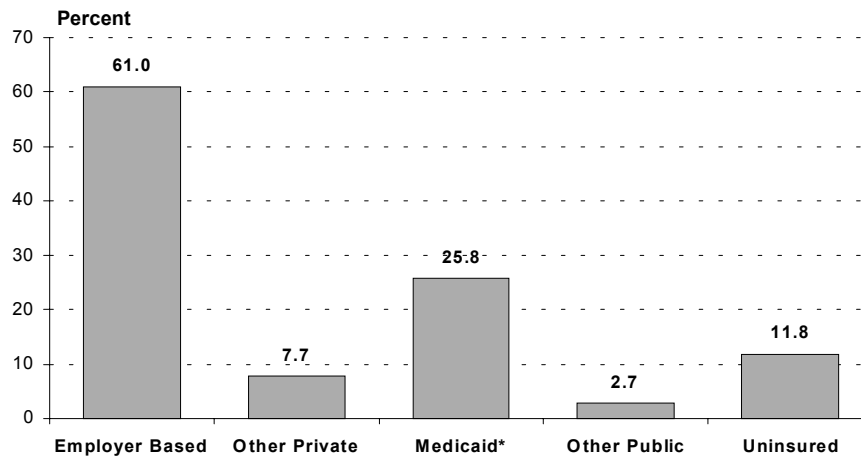
All race categories exclude Hispanics.

*Includes American Indian and Alaska Native.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, March 2004.



Children Under Age 19, by Type of Health Insurance Coverage, 2003



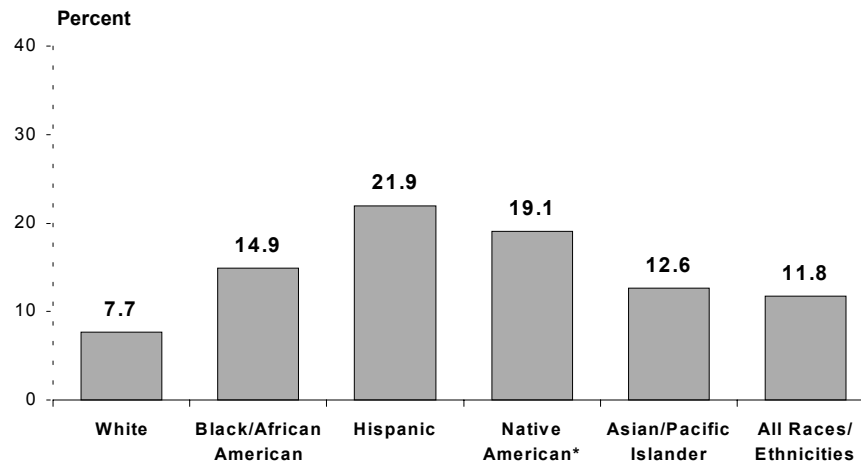
* Includes State Children's Health Insurance Program.

Note: Categories may sum to more than 100 percent because individuals can have more than one source of coverage.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, March 2004.



Percent of Children Under Age 19 Who Are Uninsured, by Race/Ethnicity, 2003



All race categories exclude Hispanics.

*Includes American Indian and Alaska Native.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, March 2004.



Uninsured Women of Childbearing Age (15-44) and Children, by State (2001-2003 Average)						
	Women Ages 15-44			Children Under Age 19		
	Number (in thousands)	Percent	Rank	Number (in thousands)	Percent	Rank
Alabama	172	17.9	30	116	9.8	24
Alaska	28	20.1	35	25	12.4	37
Arizona	243	21.6	38	260	16.4	49
Arkansas	138	25.3	48	82	11.4	34
California	1803	23.2	45	1469	14.4	44
Colorado	193	19.6	33	171	14.1	43
Connecticut	98	13.7	12	72	8.1	14
Delaware	21	11.8	5	19	9.2	21
District of Columbia	20	14.9	19	12	9.9	26
Florida	799	24.2	46	656	15.8	48
Georgia	426	21.8	40	331	13.9	42
Hawaii	31	12.4	8	27	8.2	16
Idaho	62	21.9	41	53	13.4	40
Illinois	485	17.8	29	367	10.9	31
Indiana	217	16.7	25	167	10.2	29
Iowa	77	12.7	9	49	6.5	7
Kansas	90	16.0	24	53	7.3	12
Kentucky	150	17.4	27	117	11.2	33
Louisiana	274	28.2	49	174	13.7	41
Maine	34	12.7	11	20	6.8	9
Maryland	181	15.4	21	139	9.4	23
Massachusetts	154	11.0	3	104	6.8	8
Michigan	323	15.1	20	191	7.3	11
Minnesota	111	10.0	2	77	6.0	4
Mississippi	137	21.6	37	95	11.7	35
Missouri	176	14.7	17	90	6.1	6
Montana	39	21.5	36	35	15.0	45
Nebraska	45	12.3	7	32	6.9	10
Nevada	105	23.1	43	108	17.7	50
New Hampshire	38	13.9	14	19	5.9	3
New Jersey	310	17.0	26	240	11.0	32
New Mexico	119	31.5	50	80	15.2	46
New York	816	19.6	32	487	10.0	28
North Carolina	390	21.8	39	270	12.4	38
North Dakota	15	11.4	4	12	7.8	13
Ohio	355	14.8	18	247	8.3	18
Oklahoma	182	25.0	47	144	15.6	47
Oregon	148	19.9	34	110	12.3	36
Pennsylvania	358	14.3	15	269	9.0	19
Rhode Island	28	12.1	6	14	5.3	2
South Carolina	152	17.8	28	98	9.1	20
South Dakota	22	14.4	16	17	8.2	17
Tennessee	175	13.8	13	121	8.2	15
Texas	1531	32.2	51	1402	21.6	51
Utah	85	15.6	22	79	9.9	27
Vermont	17	12.7	10	7	4.9	1
Virginia	249	15.7	23	187	9.8	25
Washington	238	18.3	31	170	10.6	30
West Virginia	79	22.1	42	39	9.3	22
Wisconsin	114	10.0	1	85	6.1	5
Wyoming	23	23.2	44	17	13.1	39
United States (3-yr avg)	12077	19.6	--	9224	12.0	--

Source: Data prepared for the March of Dimes by the Bureau of the Census using Current Population Surveys from March 2002, March 2003, and March 2004, except rankings computed by the March of Dimes. Notes: State data are compiled using three-year averages because small sample sizes make single-year state data less reliable. Rankings are based on more than one decimal place; differences among states may not be significant.