

Health Insurance - 2005

Each year the Census Bureau issues a report on health insurance coverage. The results of the 2005 report (issued in August 2006) are reported below. In this report, health insurance refers to any private or government insurance, including programs such as Medicare and Medicaid.

Health Insurance Stats at a Glance

	2005	2001	Change
Number of uninsured	46.6 million	41.2 million	+5.4 million
Percent without insurance	15.9 %	14.6 %	+1.3 percentage points
Percent with employer sponsored insurance	59.5 %	62.6 %	-3.1 percentage points
Number of uninsured children	8.3 million	8.5 million	-200,000
Percent of children without insurance	11.2 %	11.7%	-.5 percentage points

- The increase in the number of uninsured Americans is due to the decrease in employer sponsored health insurance.
- 27.3 million workers (18.7%) have no health insurance.
- Low-income households are most likely to be uninsured.
 - 24% of households with annual income under \$25,000 have no health insurance.
 - 21% of households with annual income between \$25,000 and \$49,000 have no health insurance.
- Uninsured by race/ethnicity
 - African-American: 19.6 %
 - Asian: 17.9 %
 - Hispanic: 32.7 %
 - White (non-Hispanic): 11.3 %
- Health insurance coverage of children has improved since 2001, largely because an increase in poverty has increased eligibility for public programs like Medicaid. However, even that “progress” stalled last year. An additional 400,000 children became uninsured, and the percentage of uninsured children rose to 11.2% in 2005 from 10.8% in 2004.
- Nearly one in five (19%) children in poverty are uninsured.

The Census Bureau's report can be found at:
<http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/income/income05.html>

Next release: 2006 figures will be available in late summer/early fall 2007.

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