

HISPANIC CHILDREN'S HEALTH COVERAGE FACTSHEET

Covering Kids & Families is a national program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the nation's largest philanthropy devoted exclusively to improving the health and health care of all Americans.



Hispanic Children Disproportionately Lack Health Coverage

- 3 million Hispanic children in the United States are without any health coverage.ⁱ
- Twenty-one percent of Hispanic children are uninsured, compared to 13.4 percent of African-American children and 7.5 percent of white children.ⁱⁱ
- 36.5 percent of all uninsured children in America are Hispanic.ⁱⁱⁱ

The State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) is helping by covering more African-American children but there is more to be done

- Since SCHIP began in 1997, the percentage of Hispanic children without health insurance has dropped almost 27 percent (26.7%).^{iv}
- Experts say more than 7 in 10 uninsured Hispanic children are eligible for coverage through Medicaid or SCHIP, but are not enrolled.^v

Uninsured Hispanic Children Are Not Getting Medical Care

- Less than half (41%) of Hispanic families with uninsured children report that their kids have someone they think of as his/her personal doctor or nurse, compared with three-fourths (74.7%) of Hispanic families with insured children.^{vi}

Additional Facts about Hispanic Families and Health Care Coverage

- In 2004, 28.6 percent of Hispanic families with children under age 18 lived below the federal poverty level.^{vii}
- The vast majority of low-income Hispanic parents with uninsured children who have heard of Medicaid and/or SCHIP say they would enroll their children if they knew they were eligible.^{viii}
- Hispanics are the largest minority group in the United States according to the Census Bureau. In July 2004, the U.S. Hispanic population was 41 million, compared to 37 million African Americans. Hispanics make up 14% of the U.S. population, while African Americans make up 12.2%.^{ix}
- The proportion of Hispanics in America is expected to double in the next 50 years.^x

ⁱ Covering Kids & Families, "The State of Kids' Coverage," (August 2006).
<http://coveringkidsandfamilies.org/press/docs/2006BTSResearchReport.pdf>

ⁱⁱ Ibid.

ⁱⁱⁱ Employee Benefit Research Institute estimates from the March Current Population Survey, 2005 Supplement.

^{iv} Covering Kids & Families, "The State of Kids' Coverage," (August 2006).
<http://coveringkidsandfamilies.org/press/docs/2006BTSResearchReport.pdf>

^v Report uses data from an Urban Institute analysis of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's 2003 National Health Interview Survey.

^{vi} Ibid.

^{vii} U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 2005 Annual Social and Economic Supplement.
http://pubdb3.census.gov/macro/032005/pov/new02_100_16.htm

^{viii} Kenney, G.; Haley, J.; and Tebay, A. "Key Findings From the Urban Institute's 1999 and 2002 NSAF Surveys." <http://coveringkidsandfamilies.org/press/docs/UrbanKeyFindings2003.pdf>

^{ix} United States Bureau of the Census. Current Population Reports (issued June 2004).
http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/DTable?_bm=y&-geo_id=01000US&-ds_name=ACS_2004_EST_G00_&-lang=en&-redoLog=false&-mt_name=ACS_2004_EST_G2000_B02001&-mt_name=ACS_2004_EST_G2000_B03002&-format=&-CONTEXT=dt

^x Key Facts: Race, Ethnicity & Medical Care. Kaiser Family Foundation. (June 2003).
<http://www.kff.org/minorityhealth/upload/Key-Facts-Race-Ethnicity-Medical-Care-Chartbook.pdf>