

Health Insurance Coverage in the United States: 2021

September 13, 2022

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Report Number P60-278

Introduction

This report presents statistics on health insurance coverage in the United States based on information collected in the Current Population Survey Annual Social and Economic Supplement (CPS ASEC).

Highlights

- More people were insured in 2021 than 2020. In 2021, 8.3 percent of people, or 27.2 million, did not have health insurance at any point during the year, representing a decrease in the uninsured rate and number of uninsured from 2020 (8.6 percent or 28.3 million).
- In 2021, private health insurance coverage continued to be more prevalent than public coverage, at 66.0 percent and 35.7 percent, respectively.
- Of the subtypes of health insurance coverage, employer-based insurance was the most common, covering 54.3 percent of the population for some or all of the calendar year, followed by Medicaid (18.9 percent), Medicare (18.4 percent), direct-purchase coverage (10.2 percent), TRICARE (2.5 percent), and VA and CHAMPVA coverage (1.0 percent).
- Overall, public coverage increased between 2020 and 2021. In 2021, 35.7 percent of people held public coverage for some or all of the year, marking a 1.2 percentage-point increase from 2020.
- Between 2020 and 2021, the rate of Medicaid coverage increased by 0.9 percentage points to cover 18.9 percent of people.
- The uninsured rate among children under the age of 19 decreased 0.6 percentage points to 5.0 percent between 2020 and 2021, driven in part by an increase in public coverage.
- In 2021, 7.9 percent of full-time, year-round workers had public health insurance, up 1.8 percentage points from 2020. Among less than full-time, year-round workers, the percentage with public coverage increased 1.6 percentage points to 22.6 percent during this period.

America Counts Stories

America Counts Story

Uninsured Rate of U.S. Children Fell to 5.0% in 2021

September 13, 2022

A 1.2 percentage point increase in Medicaid and CHIP coverage drove drop in children's uninsured rate between 2020 and 2021.

[\[library/stories/2022/09/uninsured-rate-of-children-declines.html\]](#)

America Counts Story

Full-Time, Year-Round Workers More Likely to be Uninsured in 2021

September 13, 2022

The uninsured rate of those who worked less than full time, year-round dropped 1.2 percentage points from 2020 to 2021 as public coverage increased.

[\[library/stories/2022/09/private-health-coverage-declines-for-full-time-workers.html\]](#)

America Counts Story

Uninsured Rate Declined in 28 States 2019-2021

September 15, 2022

Today's release of the 2021 American Community Survey 1-year estimates shows increase in public health coverage in 36 states.

Is this page helpful? ×

Yes No

PUBLICATION

Health Insurance Publications
 [/topics/health/health-insurance/library/publications.html]

Visualizations

- ❏ **Figure 1. Percentage of People by Type of Health Insurance Coverage and Change From 2020 to 2021** [[<1.0 MB](#)] [/content/dam/Census/library/visualizations/2022/demo/p60-278/figure1.pdf]
- ❏ **Figure 2. Percentage of People Uninsured by Age Group: 2020 and 2021** [[<1.0 MB](#)] [/content/dam/Census/library/visualizations/2022/demo/p60-278/figure2.pdf]
- ❏ **Figure 3. Percentage of People With Selected Coverage Types and Uninsured by Age Group: 2020 and 2021** [[<1.0 MB](#)] [/content/dam/Census/library/visualizations/2022/demo/p60-278/figure3.pdf]
- ❏ **Figure 4. Percentage of Children Under the Age of 19 Without Health Insurance Coverage by Selected Characteristics: 2020 and 2021** [[<1.0 MB](#)] [/content/dam/Census/library/visualizations/2022/demo/p60-278/figure4.pdf]
- ❏ **Figure 5. Percentage of Working-Age Adults Without Health Insurance Coverage by Selected Characteristics: 2020 and 2021** [[<1.0 MB](#)] [/content/dam/Census/library/visualizations/2022/demo/p60-278/figure5.pdf]
- ❏ **Figure 6. Uninsured Rate by Poverty Status and Medicaid Expansion of State for Adults Aged 19 to 64: 2020 and 2021** [[<1.0 MB](#)] [/content/dam/Census/library/visualizations/2022/demo/p60-278/figure6.pdf]
- ❏ **Figure 7. Health Insurance by Type and Income-to-Poverty Ratio for Children Under the Age of 19 and Adults Aged 19 to 64: 2020 and 2021** [[<1.0 MB](#)] [/content/dam/Census/library/visualizations/2022/demo/p60-278/figure7.pdf]
- ❏ **Figure 8. Health Insurance Coverage by Characteristics: 2020 and 2021** [[<1.0 MB](#)] [/content/dam/Census/library/visualizations/2022/demo/p60-278/figure8.pdf]
- ❏ **Figure B-1. Percentage of People Without Health Insurance Coverage: 2013 to 2021** [[<1.0 MB](#)] [/content/dam/Census/library/visualizations/2022/demo/p60-278/figureB1.pdf]
- ❏ **Figure B-2. Percentage of People With Private Health Insurance Coverage: 2013 to 2021** [[<1.0 MB](#)] [/content/dam/Census/library/visualizations/2022/demo/p60-278/figureB2.pdf]
- ❏ **Figure B-3. Percentage of People With Public Coverage and Medicaid Coverage: 2013 to 2021** [[<1.0 MB](#)] [/content/dam/Census/library/visualizations/2022/demo/p60-278/figureB3.pdf]
- ❏ **Figure B-4. Percentage of People With Medicaid Coverage by Age Group: 2017 to 2021** [[<1.0 MB](#)] [/content/dam/Census/library/visualizations/2022/demo/p60-278/figureB4.pdf]

Visualization

Type of Health Insurance Coverage by State: 2019 and 2021

September 15, 2022

This interactive visualization allows you to view the different types of health insurance coverage by state in 2019 and 2021.



[/library/visualizations/interactive/health-insurance-coverage-type-2019-and-2021.html]

Visualization

Population Without Health Insurance Coverage by State: 2019 and 2021

September 15, 2022

This interactive visualization allows you to view the difference in population percentage without health insurance coverage in 2019 and 2021.

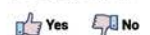


[/library/visualizations/interactive/population-without-health-insurance-coverage-2019-and-2021.html]

Tables

- ❏ **Table 1. Number and Percentage of People by Health Insurance Coverage Status and Type: 2020 to 2021** [[<1.0MB](#)] [/www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/demo/tables/p60/278/table1.xls]
- ❏ **Table 1. Number and Percentage of People by Health Insurance Coverage Status and Type: 2020 to 2021** [[<1.0 MB](#)] [/www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/demo/tables/p60/278/table1.pdf]
- ❏ **Appendix A Table 1. Health Insurance Coverage Status and Type: 2020 Estimates Using 2010 Census-Based Population Controls and 2020 Census-Based Population Controls** [[<1.0MB](#)] [/www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/demo/tables/p60/278/tableA1.xls]

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- Appendix A Table 1. Health Insurance Coverage Status and Type: 2020 Estimates Using 2010 Census-Based Population Controls and 2020 Census-Based Population Controls [<1.0MB] [\[//www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/demo/tables/p60/278/tableA1.pdf\]](https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/demo/tables/p60/278/tableA1.pdf)
- Appendix A Table 2. Percentage of People Uninsured by Selected Characteristics: 2020 Estimates Using 2010 Census-Based Population Controls and 2020 Census-Based Population Controls [<1.0MB] [\[//www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/demo/tables/p60/278/tableA2.xls\]](https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/demo/tables/p60/278/tableA2.xls)
- Appendix A Table 2. Percentage of People Uninsured by Selected Characteristics: 2020 Estimates Using 2010 Census-Based Population Controls and 2020 Census-Based Population Controls [<1.0MB] [\[//www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/demo/tables/p60/278/tableA2.pdf\]](https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/demo/tables/p60/278/tableA2.pdf)
- Appendix C Table 1. Percentage of People by Health Insurance Coverage Status and Type by Selected Characteristics: 2020 and 2021 [<1.0MB] [\[//www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/demo/tables/p60/278/tableC1.xls\]](https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/demo/tables/p60/278/tableC1.xls)
- Appendix C Table 1. Percentage of People by Health Insurance Coverage Status and Type by Selected Characteristics: 2020 and 2021 [<1.0MB] [\[//www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/demo/tables/p60/278/tableC1.pdf\]](https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/demo/tables/p60/278/tableC1.pdf)
- Appendix C Table 2. Health Insurance Coverage Status and Type by Age and Selected Characteristics: 2020 and 2021 [<1.0MB] [\[//www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/demo/tables/p60/278/tableC2.xls\]](https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/demo/tables/p60/278/tableC2.xls)
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- Appendix C Table 3. Health Insurance Coverage Status and Type by Household Relationship and Family Income-to-Poverty Ratio: 2020 and 2021 [<1.0MB] [\[//www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/demo/tables/p60/278/tableC3.xls\]](https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/demo/tables/p60/278/tableC3.xls)
- Appendix C Table 3. Health Insurance Coverage Status and Type by Household Relationship and Family Income-to-Poverty Ratio: 2020 and 2021 [<1.0MB] [\[//www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/demo/tables/p60/278/tableC3.pdf\]](https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/demo/tables/p60/278/tableC3.pdf)

Health Insurance Historical Tables - HHI CPS (2017-2021)

- HHI-01. Health Insurance Coverage Status and Type of Coverage--All Persons by Sex, Race and Hispanic Origin: 2017 to 2021 [<1.0 MB] [\[//www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/demo/tables/health-insurance/time-series/hic/hhi01.xlsx\]](https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/demo/tables/health-insurance/time-series/hic/hhi01.xlsx)
- HHI-02. Health Insurance Coverage Status and Type of Coverage--All Persons by Age and Sex: 2017 to 2021 [<1.0 MB] [\[//www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/demo/tables/health-insurance/time-series/hic/hhi02.xlsx\]](https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/demo/tables/health-insurance/time-series/hic/hhi02.xlsx)
- HHI-03. Health Insurance Coverage Status and Type of Coverage--Children Under 19 by Age: 2017 to 2021 [<1.0 MB] [\[//www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/demo/tables/health-insurance/time-series/hic/hhi03.xlsx\]](https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/demo/tables/health-insurance/time-series/hic/hhi03.xlsx)
- HHI-04. Health Insurance Coverage Status and Type of Coverage by Nativity: 2017 to 2021 [<1.0 MB] [\[//www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/demo/tables/health-insurance/time-series/hic/hhi04.xlsx\]](https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/demo/tables/health-insurance/time-series/hic/hhi04.xlsx)
- HHI-05. Health Insurance Coverage Status for Children Under 19 in Poverty: 2017 to 2021 [<1.0 MB] [\[//www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/demo/tables/health-insurance/time-series/hic/hhi05.xlsx\]](https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/demo/tables/health-insurance/time-series/hic/hhi05.xlsx)

Health Insurance Historical Tables - HIC ACS (2008-2021)

- HIC-4_ACS. Health Insurance Coverage Status and Type of Coverage by State--All Persons: 2008 to 2021 [<1.0 MB] [\[//www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/demo/tables/health-insurance/time-series/acs/hic04_acs.xlsx\]](https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/demo/tables/health-insurance/time-series/acs/hic04_acs.xlsx)
- HIC-5_ACS. Health Insurance Coverage Status and Type of Coverage by State--Children Under 19: 2008 to 2021 [<1.0 MB] [\[//www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/demo/tables/health-insurance/time-series/acs/hic05_acs.xlsx\]](https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/demo/tables/health-insurance/time-series/acs/hic05_acs.xlsx)
- HIC-6_ACS. Health Insurance Coverage Status and Type of Coverage by State--Persons Under 65: 2008 to 2021 [<1.0 MB] [\[//www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/demo/tables/health-insurance/time-series/acs/hic06_acs.xlsx\]](https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/demo/tables/health-insurance/time-series/acs/hic06_acs.xlsx)
- HIC-9_ACS. Population Without Health Insurance Coverage by Race and Hispanic Origin: 2008 to 2021 [<1.0 MB] [\[//www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/demo/tables/health-insurance/time-series/acs/hic09_acs.xlsx\]](https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/demo/tables/health-insurance/time-series/acs/hic09_acs.xlsx)

Health Insurance Detailed Tables

Table

Health Insurance: Tables 2018-forward

Health Insurance Coverage, Current Coverage, and Subannual Coverage by Selected Characteristics

[\[//data/tables/time-series/demo/income-poverty/cps-hi/hi.html\]](https://data/tables/time-series/demo/income-poverty/cps-hi/hi.html)

Table

Is this page helpful? ✕

Yes No

American Community Survey Tables for Health Insurance Coverage

Additional health insurance tables using the American Community Survey (ACS).

[\[/data/tables/time-series/demo/health-insurance/acs-hi.html\]](#)

Information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions is available at

<https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps/techdocs/cpsmar22.pdf>

[<https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps/techdocs/cpsmar22.pdf>] [PDF - <1.0 MB].

The Census Bureau reviewed this data product for unauthorized disclosure of confidential information and approved the disclosure avoidance practices applied to this release. CBDRB-FY22-355.

Related Briefs

Publication

Health Insurance Coverage by Race and Hispanic Origin: 2021

November 22, 2022

This brief uses the 2021 American Community Survey (ACS) 1-year estimates to examine differences in health insurance coverage by race and Hispanic origin.

[\[/library/publications/2022/acs/acsbr-012.html\]](#)

Publication

Health Insurance Coverage Status and Type by Geography: 2019 and 2021

September 15, 2022

This brief uses the 2019 and 2021 American Community Survey (ACS) 1-year estimates to examine state differences in health insurance coverage status and type.

[\[/library/publications/2022/acs/acsbr-013.html\]](#)

Press Release

Press Release

Income, Poverty and Health Insurance Coverage in the United States: 2021

September 13, 2022

The U.S. Census Bureau announced that real median household income in 2021 was not statistically different than 2020.



[\[/newsroom/press-releases/2022/income-poverty-health-insurance-coverage.html\]](#)

Related Information

Research Matters Blog

How Has the Pandemic Continued to Affect Survey Response? Using Administrative Data to Evaluate Nonresponse in the 2022 Current

Is this page helpful? 

 Yes  No

Population Survey Annual Social and Economic Supplement

September 13, 2022

The U.S. Census Bureau tabulates the national income distribution using survey responses collected during February through April 2022.



[\[newsroom/blogs/research-matters/2022/09/how-did-the-pandemic-affect-survey-response.html\]](#)

Working Paper

Effects of 2020 Census-Based Population Controls on 2020 Estimates

August 2022

This paper demonstrates the effect of using the 2020 Census-based population controls on the 2020 data by presenting key estimates using both the 2010 and 2020



[\[library/working-papers/2022/demo/SEHSD-wp2022-14.html\]](#)

Research Matters Blog

How Did the Pandemic Affect Survey Response

September 14, 2021

This blog discusses whether response rates have rebounded to prepandemic levels and the extent of nonresponse bias in 2021.



[\[newsroom/blogs/research-matters/2021/09/pandemic-affect-survey-response.html\]](#)

Others in Series

Visualization

Income in the United States: 2021

September 13, 2022

This report presents data on income, earnings, & income inequality in the United States based on information collected in the 2022 and earlier CPS ASEC.



[\[library/visualizations/2022/demo/p60-276.html\]](#)

Visualization

Poverty in the United States: 2021

September 13, 2022

This report presents data on income, earnings, income inequality & poverty in the United States based on information collected in the 2022 and earlier CPS ASEC.



[\[library/visualizations/2022/demo/p60-277.html\]](#)

Publication

Average Income Rose Slightly in 1957 (Advance data)

May 1958

Advance March 1958 data showing distribution of persons 14 years of age and over by total money income, by sex, for the United States, farm and nonfarm.



[\[library/publications/1958/demo/p60-028.html\]](#)

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