

## Key Health Insurance Findings from 2009 Census CPS Release

### Uninsured Numbers

***The number and percentage of uninsured Americans is at its highest level since comparable data have been collected (the CPS began collecting comparable health insurance data in 1987).***

- The number of uninsured Americans rose to 50.7 million (50,674,000) in 2009 from 46.3 million (46,340,000) in 2008, an increase of 4.3 million. **(NOTE: rounds DOWN to 4.3 million not UP to 4.4 million when you calculate using the numbers within the report. Please use caution with rounding on all data within the report.)**
- The percentage of people without health insurance rose to 16.7 percent in 2009, a 1.3 percentage point increase in the uninsured over 2008 when 15.4 percent were uninsured.

### Medicaid and Children's Coverage Key Findings

***Largest number and percentage of people with Medicaid coverage since comparable data have been collected.***

- The number of people covered by Medicaid increased from 42.6 million people in 2008 to 47.8 million people in 2009, an increase 5.1 million people.\*
  - More than half of this increase (54 percent) was among children.
- The percentage of people with Medicaid coverage increased from 14.1 percent in 2008 to 15.7 percent in 2009.

***The safety net is working, especially for children.***

- Children (under age 18) are the only non-elderly age group that did not experience a statistically significant increase in their uninsured rate between 2008 and 2009.
- Despite a 1.7 percentage point increase in the percentage of children living in poverty (from 19 percent in 2008 to 20.7 percent in 2009), the number and percentage of children who were uninsured remained statistically unchanged (at 7.5 million and 10 percent, respectively).
- There were 25.3 million children with Medicaid coverage in 2009, compared to 22.6 million in 2008, an increase of 2.8 million.\* This means that children account for over half of the 5.1 million increase in Medicaid coverage between 2008 and 2009.

\*Due to rounding, true differences are slightly different than the simple arithmetic.

### Private Coverage

***The proportion of Americans with private coverage and job-based coverage is at its lowest level since comparable data have been collected.***

- The proportion of Americans with private coverage dropped by 2.8 percentage points between 2008 and 2009, falling from 66.7 percent to 63.9 percent.
- The percentage of people with private coverage is at its lowest level since comparable data have been collected.

- The proportion of Americans with employer coverage dropped by 2.7 percentage points between 2008 and 2009, falling from 58.5 percent to 55.8 percent.
- The percentage of people with job-based coverage is at its lowest level since comparable data have been collected. As a point of reference, 64.2 percent of Americans had job-based coverage in 2000.
- The proportion of Americans with individual coverage remained constant at 8.9 percent in 2009.

## Age

### ***People between the ages of 18 and 24 are most likely to be uninsured.***

- Between 2008 and 2009, the proportion of 18 to 24 year-olds without insurance rose 1.9 percentage points from 28.6 percent to 30.4 percent.\*
- 25 to 34 year olds experienced the largest rate of increase in uninsurance between 2008 and 2009. The proportion of the age group uninsured rose by 2.6 percentage points between 2008 and 2009, rising from 26.5 percent to 29.1 percent.

\*Due to rounding, true differences are slightly different than the simple arithmetic.

## Race/Ethnicity

### ***While non-Hispanic whites comprise the largest NUMBER of uninsured, the RATE of uninsurance continues to be higher and is growing faster for racial and ethnic minorities than for non-Hispanic whites.***

- Between 2008 and 2009, the uninsured rate of white, non-Hispanics increased 1.2 percentage points from 10.8 percent to 12.0 percent. The number of uninsured non-Hispanic whites rose from 21.3 million to 23.7 million.
- The rate of uninsurance among African Americans increased by 1.8 percentage points between 2008 and 2009, rising from 19.1 percent to 21.0 percent.\* The number of uninsured African Americans rose from 7.3 million to 8.1 million.
- Hispanic Americans are the most likely to be uninsured. The proportion of uninsured Hispanic Americans rose from 30.7 percent in 2008 to 32.4 percent in 2009, a 1.7 percentage point increase. The number of uninsured Hispanic Americans rose from 14.6 million to 15.8 million.
- The change in the uninsured rate among Asian Americans was not statistically significant between 2008 and 2009, declining slightly from 17.6 percent to 17.2 percent; the number of uninsured Asian Americans rose from 2.3 million to 2.4 million.

\*Due to rounding, true differences are slightly different than the simple arithmetic.