Small Area Health Insurance Estimates (SAHIE)

2010 Highlights

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U.S. Census Bureau
Social, Economic and Housing Statistics Division (SEHSD)
Small Area Estimates Branch (SAEB)

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SAHIE Highlights Document

Overview

The Small Area Health Insurance Estimates (SAHIE) program of the U.S. Census Bureau recently released 2010 model-based estimates of people for all counties and states, regardless of population size, with and without health insurance for detailed demographic and income groups. This is the third year of data release from the SAHIE program that incorporates the estimates on health insurance coverage from the American Community Survey (ACS). This use of the ACS into the modeling procedures allows for more detailed income group data as well as a higher level of precision in the estimates.

The SAHIE program models health insurance coverage by combining survey data with population estimates and administrative records from the following sources: ACS; demographic population estimates; aggregated federal tax returns; participation records for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP); County Business Patterns; Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) participation records; and Census 2000. This methodological update has allowed the program to increase the precision of state and county level coverage for detailed demographic groups, and add additional income categories of relevance to the recent healthcare reform initiatives. Furthermore, for the 2010 estimates the SAHIE release includes county-level estimates of health-insurance coverage for the age 50-64 group.

For all states, estimates of people with and without health insurance coverage are provided by:

- ages 0-64, 18-64, 40-64 and 50-64;
- female, male, and both sexes;
- all races, White alone (non-Hispanic), Black alone (non- Hispanic), and Hispanic (any race);
- all incomes, less than or equal to 138, 200, 250 and 400 percent of the poverty;
- a special estimate for the 0-18 age group for 'both sexes,' and 'all incomes,' less than or equal to 138, 200, 250, 400 percent of the poverty threshold; and
- measures of uncertainty of the estimates.

For all counties, estimates of people with and without health insurance coverage are provided by:

- ages 0-64, 18-64, 40-64 and 50-64;
- female, male, and both sexes;
- all incomes and less than or equal to 138, 200, 250 or 400 percent of the poverty;
- a special estimate for the 0-18 age group for 'both sexes,' and 'all incomes,' less than or equal to 138, 200, 250, or 400 percent of the poverty threshold; and
- measures of uncertainty of the estimates.

The data for any of these categories can be displayed and downloaded at http://www.census.gov/did/www/sahie/data/index.html for 2010. More information on methodology and other documentation is accessible from the main SAHIE page, http://www.census.gov/did/www/sahie/index.html. Examples of the data available from SAHIE are displayed in Tables 1 and 2. Table 1 shows all 50 states and the District of Columbia with the SAHIE estimate for the percent of the population under age 65, at less than or equal to 138% of poverty, without health insurance coverage. Table 2 shows the same information for the population under age 65 who have a family income at less than or equal to 400% of poverty.

Accompanying the current SAHIE release is an interactive mapping tool that can be utilized for analysis of the estimates, available at the U.S. Census Bureau's website. Maps can be created for any currently produced SAHIE demographic and income combination in the 2010 estimates. To access this new interactive mapping tool, use the map icon on the main page, http://www.census.gov/did/www/sahie/index.html. Example maps highlighting the availability of data for all counties are included at the end of this document. The first map shows all counties color-coded by percent of the population under age 19, with family incomes less than or equal to 138% of the poverty, without health insurance coverage. The second map shows the same information for the population under age 19, with a family income less than or equal to 200% of poverty.

Explanation of Income Groups

The SAHIE program produces estimates of the population with and without health insurance for demographic groups at the state and county levels. At the county-level, estimates are available by age, sex, and income groups, and at the state-level, additional categories are defined by race and ethnicity. Income groups are defined in terms of the income-to-poverty ratio (IPR), which is the family income divided by the federal poverty level.

In addition to providing estimates of the population with and without health insurance coverage for the population within an income group that is less than or equal to 200 percent and 250 percent of the poverty threshold, the 2010 SAHIE estimates also include estimates for the population in income groups less than or equal to 138 percent and 400 percent of poverty. These newly added IPRs are reflective of the recent healthcare reform legislation. The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act expands Medicaid to cover families with incomes up to 138 percent of poverty. Families with incomes above 138 percent but less than 400 percent of poverty can receive tax credits to help pay for health care coverage in the new health insurance exchanges.

Prior to 2008, the SAHIE program estimates of uninsured were defined from the Annual Social and Economic Supplement to the Current Population Survey (CPS ASEC) as being covered *SOME TIME* during the past calendar year. For the 2008 through 2010 data, the CPS ASEC data were replaced with American Community Survey (ACS) data. The ACS health insurance question asks "Is this person *CURRENTLY* covered by [specifically stated] health insurance or health coverage plans?" The ACS publishes data on an annual basis for the nation, all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, every congressional district and all counties, places, and metropolitan areas with populations of 65,000 or more. Comparisons to previous-year SAHIE estimates, which utilized the CPS ASEC as an input, are not recommended. Comparisons between different geographical areas or different years are not recommended, as additional research is required to determine the correlations between areas or years.

Contact

For questions related to the contents of this document, including the SAHIE program's estimates and methodology, contact the Small Area Estimates Branch at: (301) 763-3193. For questions related to income and health insurance definitions, the American Community Survey, or other Census Bureau surveys, contact the U.S. Census Bureau call center at 1-800-923-8282 (toll free) or visit ask.census.gov for further information.

Table 1. Percent Uninsured for the Population Under Age 65
Less than or equal to 138% of Poverty, **2010**

State	Percent Uninsured	Margin of Error
Alabama	29.6	0.8
Alaska	35.9	1.7
Arizona	30.8	0.8
Arkansas	32.8	0.9
California	33.1	0.4
Colorado	34.0	0.9
Connecticut	20.9	1.0
Delaware	21.0	1.4
District of Columbia	13.1	1.3
Florida	40.2	0.6
Georgia	37.3	0.7
Hawaii	16.5	1.2
Idaho	34.7	1.3
Illinois	28.1	0.6
Indiana	30.6	0.8
Iowa	22.7	0.9
Kansas	31.0	1.0
Kentucky	30.0	0.8
Louisiana	31.2	0.8
Maine	19.8	1.1
Maryland	24.9	0.9
Massachusetts	10.1	0.6
Michigan	24.7	0.5
Minnesota	20.9	0.7
Mississippi	31.4	0.9
Missouri	28.2	0.7
Montana	36.0	1.6
Nebraska	26.5	1.1
Nevada	42.1	1.2
New Hampshire	28.1	1.7
New Jersey	29.2	0.8
New Mexico	34.8	1.1
New York	21.3	0.5
North Carolina	33.2	0.6
North Dakota	22.9	1.5
Ohio	25.7	0.6
Oklahoma	35.2	0.9
Oregon	34.7	1.0
Pennsylvania	22.3	0.5
Rhode Island	25.8	1.5
South Carolina	33.1	0.9
South Dakota	27.6	1.5
Tennessee	27.8	0.7
Texas	41.4	0.5
Utah	31.2	1.1
Vermont	15.5	1.3
Virginia	30.4	0.8
Washington	30.1	0.8
West Virginia	29.4	1.2
Wisconsin	21.5	0.7
Wyoming	32.0	2.0

Note: The data shown are estimates containing uncertainty. Apparent differences among the estimates may not be statistically significant. MOE's are at the 90 % significance level.

Table 2. Percent Uninsured for the Population Under Age 65
Less than or equal to 400% of Poverty, **2010**

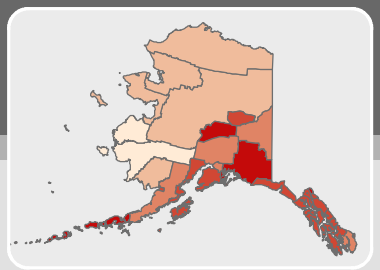
State	Percent Uninsured	Margin of Error
Alabama	21.8	0.5
Alaska	30.3	1.2
Arizona	24.8	0.5
Arkansas	25.3	0.6
California	28.1	0.2
Colorado	25.6	0.5
Connecticut	17.3	0.6
Delaware	16.4	0.9
District of Columbia	12.6	1.1
Florida	32.3	0.3
Georgia	28.5	0.4
Hawaii	12.4	0.8
Idaho	25.3	0.8
Illinois	22.1	0.3
Indiana	22.2	0.4
Iowa	14.8	0.4
Kansas	21.6	0.6
Kentucky	22.4	0.5
Louisiana	25.8	0.5
Maine	15.9	0.7
Maryland	20.3	0.5
Massachusetts	8.3	0.3
Michigan	18.9	0.3
Minnesota	15.3	0.4
Mississippi	25.1	0.6
Missouri	20.3	0.4
Montana	26.6	0.9
Nebraska	18.3	0.6
Nevada	32.8	0.8
New Hampshire	20.2	0.9
New Jersey	24.4	0.4
New Mexico	28.1	0.8
New York	18.9	0.3
North Carolina	25.0	0.4
North Dakota	15.9	0.8
Ohio	19.1	0.3
Oklahoma	27.4	0.5
Oregon	26.2	0.6
Pennsylvania	16.8	0.3
Rhode Island	20.3	1.0
South Carolina	25.6	0.5
South Dakota	18.5	0.8
Tennessee	21.0	0.4
Texas	34.2	0.3
Utah	21.4	0.6
Vermont	12.9	0.8
Virginia	22.6	0.4
Washington	23.1	0.4
West Virginia	21.8	0.7
Wisconsin	15.1	0.3
Wyoming	24.3	1.3

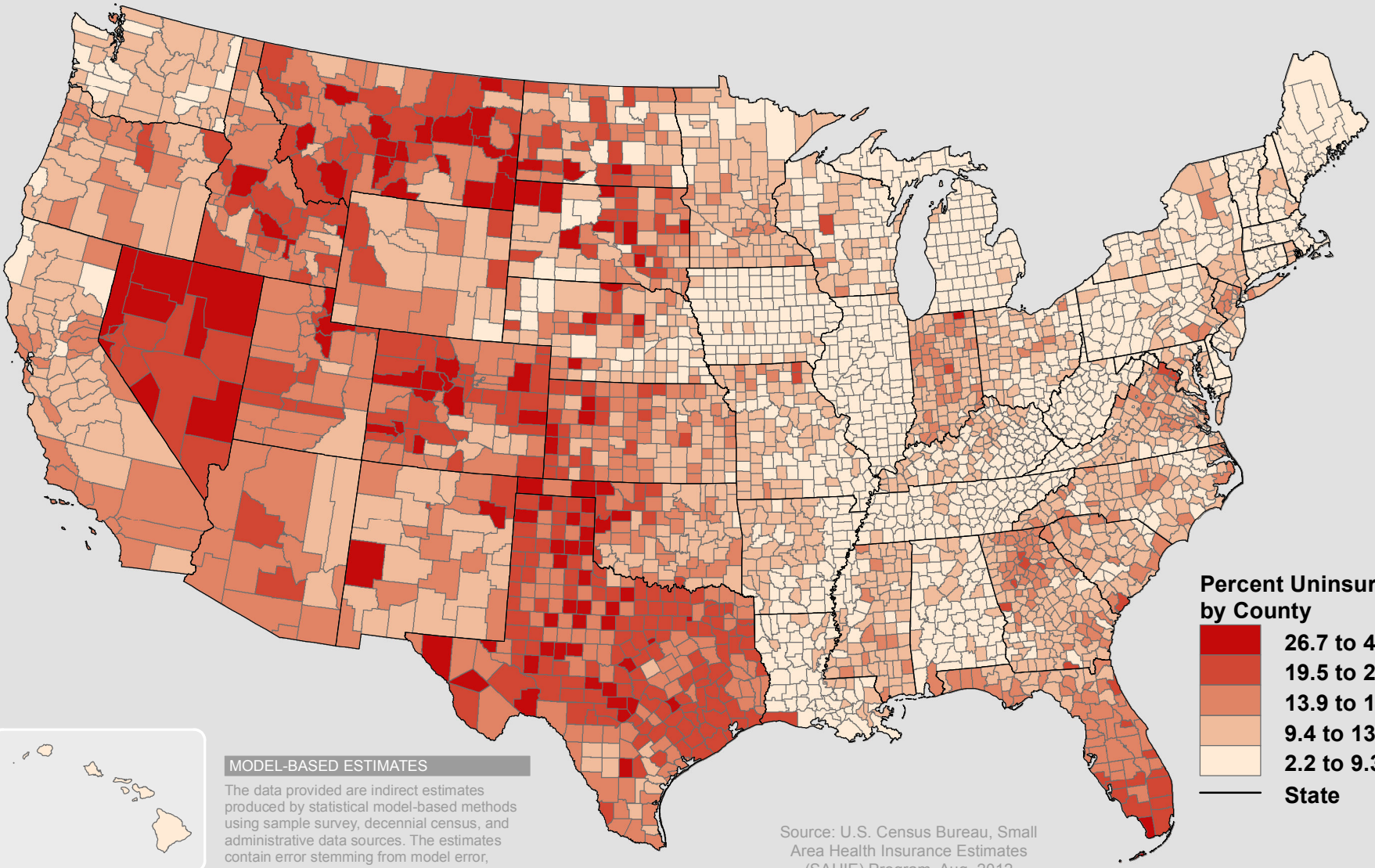
Note: The data shown are estimates containing uncertainty. Apparent differences among the estimates may not be statistically significant. MOE's are at the 90 % significance level.

HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE ESTIMATES

Percent Uninsured, 2010

All Races, At or Below 200% of Poverty, Under Age 19





MODEL-BASED ESTIMATES

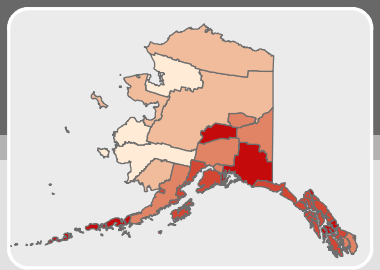
The data provided are indirect estimates produced by statistical model-based methods using sample survey, decennial census, and administrative data sources. The estimates contain error stemming from model error, sampling error, and nonsampling error.

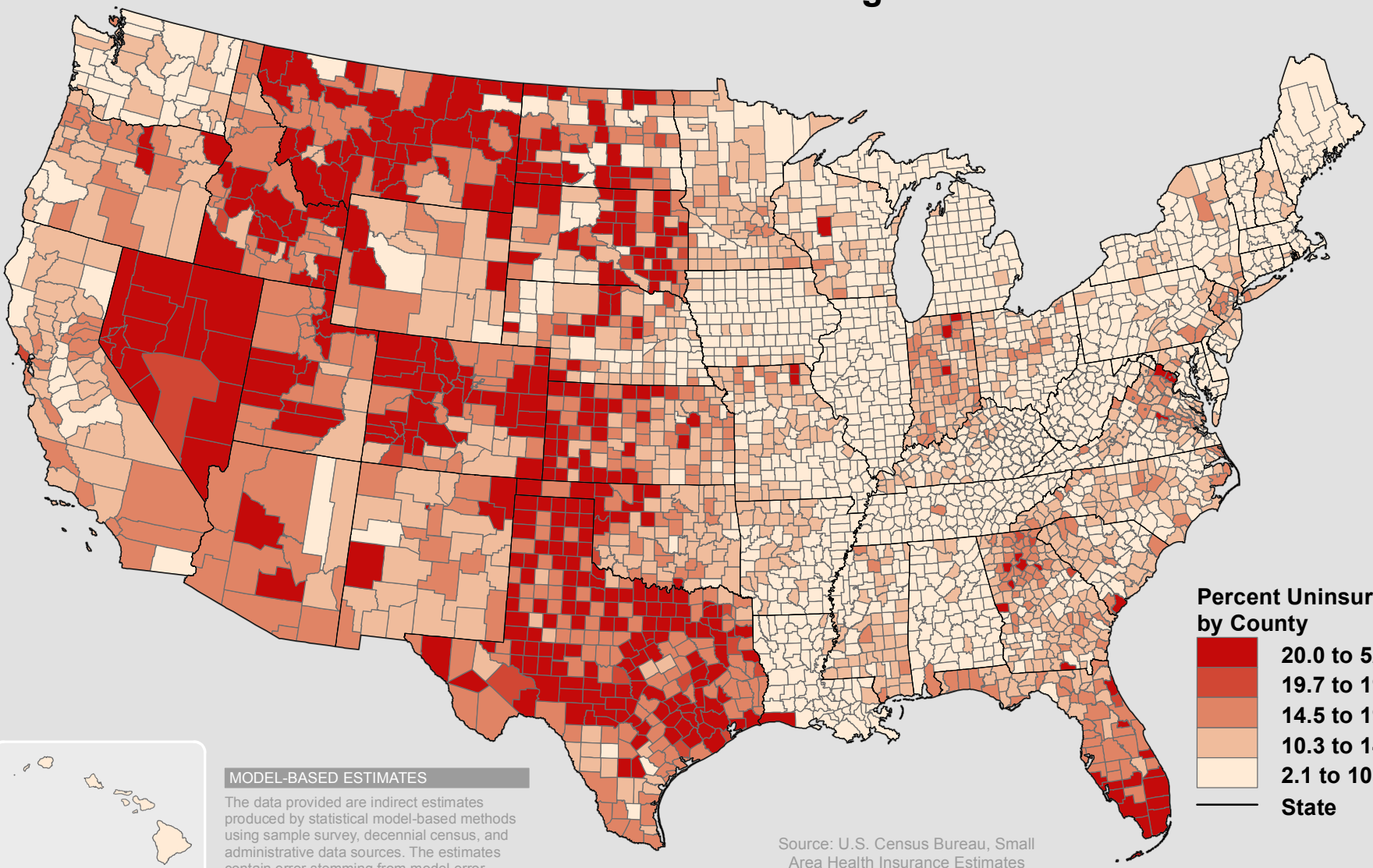
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Health Insurance Estimates (SAHIE) Program, Aug. 2012

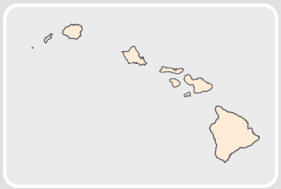
HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE ESTIMATES

Percent Uninsured, 2010

All Races, At or Below 138% of Poverty, Under Age 19







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