NWX-US DEPT OF COMMERCE (US)

Census Bureau to Announce Findings for 2013 Income, Poverty and Health Insurance Coverage

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10 a.m. EDT

Coordinator: Welcome and thank you for standing by. Today's call is being recorded. If you have any objections you may disconnect at this time. All participants on the phone will be in a listen-only mode until the duration of the call. During the question and answer session if you would like to ask a question please press Star 1.

I would now like to turn the call over to your host, Mr. Michael Cook. And he will begin shortly. Thank you.

Michael Cook: Good morning, and welcome to this year's income poverty and health insurance release. This is Michael Cook from the Public Information Office at the U.S. Census Bureau. I'd like to thank those that have called in today to today's presentation.

We have with us Victoria Velkoff the Division Chief for our Social Economic and Health Statistics Division. She will be presenting today's information. After today's presentation we will have a Q&A. I'd like to ask for those that do have their questions to ready themselves by pressing Star 1. There's some additional information we'll be giving you after today's presentation.

So without further delay I introduce Ms. Victoria Velkoff.

Victoria Velkoff: Good morning and thank you for joining us. Today we are releasing national income, poverty and health insurance coverage estimates. We are releasing two

reports today, Income and Poverty in the United States 2013 and Health Insurance Coverage in the United States 2013.

The income and poverty report is based solely on data from the current population survey's annual, social and economic supplements or CPS ASEC. The CPS is the longest running survey conducted by the Census Bureau and is the official source of the national poverty estimates calculated in accordance with the Office of Management and Budget's Statistical Policy Directive 14.

The 2014 CPS ASEC introduced redesigned income questions using a split panel approach. The estimates in both reports used a portion of the sample which received the income questions consistent with the 2013 CPS ASEC approximately 68,000 addresses.

The health insurance report includes data from both the CPS and the American Community Survey. Let me begin by summarizing the main findings from each of the three subject areas.

Real median household income in 2013 was not statistically different from the 2012 median income. The official poverty rate decreased between 2012 and 2013 while the number in poverty in 2013 was not statistically different from 2012.

In 2013 the percentage of people without health insurance coverage for the entire calendar year was 13.4% or 42 million people. Let me start by giving more details about the changes we observed in income.

This chart shows median household income from 1967 to 2013 in real inflation-adjusted dollars. Recessions as defined by the National Bureau of Economic Research are depicted in this an all-time series chart in light blue shading.

The median represents the point on the distribution of household income at which of the households have income below it and half have income above it. Real median household income was $51,900 in 2013 not statistically different from the 2012 median of $51,800.

This is the second consecutive year that the annual change was not statistically significant following two consecutive years of annual declines in median household income. In 2013 real median household income was 8% lower than in 2007 the year before the most recent recession and was 8.7% lower than the median household income peaks that occurred in 1999.

Since 1967 the first year household data were collected real median household income has increased by 19.2%. Looking at a couple of household demographics this next chart shows household income by age of householder for 2012 and 2013. Notice the hump shaped pattern with householders age 15 to 24 and 65 and older having the lowest income and households maintained by householders aged 45 to 54 having the highest median income.

Households maintained by householders aged 15 to 24 and 65 and older experienced significant increases in real median income between 2012 and 2013. Median income increased by 10.5% for households maintained by householders aged 15 to 24.

The last time young households experienced an annual increase in income was in 2006. The median income of households maintained a householder aged 65 and older increased by 3.7%. This was their first increase since 2009. The other age group showed no statistically significant changes between 2012 and 2013.

Next we show household income by race and Hispanic origin. Among the race groups Asian households continue to have the highest median income at $67,100

in 2013. The median income for non-Hispanic white households was $58,300 and for black households it was $34,600.

Hispanic households had a median income of $41,000. The real median income of Hispanic households increased by 3.5% between 2012 and 2013. The apparent changes in real median income between 2012 and 2013 in non-Hispanic white, black and Asian households were not statistically different.

The real median household incomes for each of the race and Hispanic origin groups have not yet recovered to their pre-2001 recession peak. Household income in 2013 was 5.6% lower for non-Hispanic whites, 13.8% for blacks, 11.1% for Asians and 8.7% lower for Hispanics.

While the median represents one point on the distribution of household income other points provide additional information about the nation's household income distribution. For example at the tenth percentile 10% of households had incomes below $12,400.

At the 90th percentile 10% of households had incomes above $150,000. And at the 95th percentile 5% had incomes above $196,000. Changes in the relationship of these income measures and the share of income they possess can indicate how income inequality is changing.

Over the last 40 years since 1973 income at the 10th percentile was not statistically different while income at the 90th percentile increased by 37%. Using the information about the distribution of household income from the CPS we can produce a Gini index. This is the widely used measure of inequality.

The Gini index indicates higher inequality as the index approaches one. The money income Gini index was 0.476 in 2013 not statistically different from 2012.

Since 1993 the earliest year available for comparable measures of income inequality the Gini index was up 4.9%.

Based on the equivalence-adjusted income the Gini index was 0.459 in 2013 also not statistically different from 2012. These next slides switch from household income to earnings and work experience data for people aged 15 and older.

Here we see historical data on real median earnings and female to male earnings ratios of full time year round workers from 1960 to 2013. In 2013 the median earnings of men was $50,000 and for women $39,200 both not statistically different from their respective 2012 values.

Neither sex has experienced a significant annual increase in median earnings since 2009. The female to male earnings ratio was 78% in 2013 not statistically different from 2012. Over the long term this ratio is up from 61% in 1960.

This slide shows the number of workers historically by work experience and sex. The changes between 2012 and 2013 in the number of men and women with earnings regardless of work experience were not statistically significant.

However the number of men and women working full time year round with earnings increased by 1.8 million for men and one million for women between 2012 and 2013. This suggests a possible shift from part time part year work status to full time year round work status.

An estimated 72.7% of working men with earnings and 60.5% of working women with earnings worked full time year round in 2013. Both of these percentages were higher than the 2012 estimates of 71.1% and 59.4% respectively.

This slide plays the numbers of workers for both sexes combined for 2007, 2010 and 2013. Between 2010 the year following the most recent recession and the 2013 the number of workers with earnings regardless of work experience increased by 4.5 million to 158.1 million.

For those working full time year round the increase was 6.4 million to 105.8 million. While the number of all workers in 2013 was not statistically different from the peaks that occurred in 2007 the number of full time year round workers in 2013 was less than the 2007 peak of 108.6 million.

Now we'll take a look at poverty. This slide shows the poverty rate and the number of people in poverty. The poverty rate decreased from 15% in 2012 to 14.5% in 2013. At 45.3 million the number of people in poverty was not statistically different from the 2012 estimate.

In 2013 a family with two adults and two children was categorized as in poverty if their income was less than $23,624. Here we demonstrate the disparities in poverty trends across race and Hispanic origin groups.

Hispanics were the only group to experience a statistically significant change in their poverty rate at 23.5% in 2013 down from 25.6% in 2012. The 2013 poverty rates were 9.6% for non-Hispanic whites, 27.2% for blacks and 10.5% for Asians.

Poverty rates for blacks and Hispanics were more than double the poverty rates for non-Hispanic whites and Asians. This slide looks at poverty rates by age. The poverty rate in 2013 for children under age 18 was 19.9%. This is down from 21.8% in 2012.

This was the first time since 2000 that child poverty rate declined. The poverty for people aged 18 to 64 was 13.6% while the rate for people aged 65 and older was 9.5%. Neither rate was statistically different from its previous year estimate.

While the poverty rate for all people aged 65 and older was 9.5% there were differences by sex. The poverty rate for older women was 11.6% compared to 6.8% for older men. The income and poverty estimates in this report are based solely on money income before taxes and used the poverty thresholds developed 50 years ago.

In 2009 the Office of Management and Budget's Chief Statistician formed an interagency technical working group. This group provided the Census Bureau and the Bureau of Labor Statistics a set of observations to serve as a road map in the development of a supplemental poverty measure or SPM.

The SPM will not replace the official poverty measure and will not be used to determine eligibility for government programs. The SPM uses thresholds derived by BLS from the consumer expenditure survey data with separate thresholds for renters, homeowners with a mortgage and those who own their homes free and clear.

The thresholds are adjusted for geographic differences and housing costs. The resource measure begins with pre-cash income but adds estimates of the value of nutritional, housing and energy assistance and tax credits and subtracts estimates of child support paid, child care paid, other work expenses, payroll and income taxes and medical out of pocket expenditures.

The 2012 SPM estimates were released last November. Then new SPM estimates for 2013 will be released this October. This slide compares the SPM estimates for 2012 with the official poverty estimates for all people and by age group.

The 2012 SPM rate for the entire population was 16%, 0.9 percentage points higher than the 2012 official poverty rate. Looking at specific age categories the SPM rate was lower than the official poverty rate for children but higher than the official poverty rate for those aged 65 and older.

One important contribution that the SPM provides is allowing us to gage the effectiveness of tax credits and transfers in alleviating poverty. We can also examine the effects of the non-discretionary expenses such as work expenses and medical out of pocket spending.

This graph shows the incremental impact on the 2012 SPM rate of the addition or subtraction of a single resource element. Some of these elements such as social security and unemployment insurance are included in the money income measure used in the official poverty estimates.

Other elements such as the supplemental nutritional assistance program benefits or SNAP and refundable tax credits are included only in the SPM resource measure. Using this chart we can see that social security benefits reduced the SPM by 8.5 percentage points. Refundable tax credits reduced the SPM rate by 3 percentage points.

SNAP benefits or food stamps reduced the SPM rate by 1.6 percentage points however subtracting medical out of pocket expenses from income increased the SPM rate by 3.4 percentage points. Again these estimates are for 2012. The SPM estimates for 2013 will be released in October with the SPM report.

Now I would like to return to health insurance. This year the Census Bureau implemented a new set of questions in the CPS about health insurance coverage.

Now today we will begin releasing estimates from this new way of asking about health insurance coverage.

We expect these new questions will better reflect our changing health insurance environment. Research has suggested the CPS estimate needed improvement as the estimates were not in line with other sources.

For more than a decade the Census Bureau has explored better ways to measure health insurance coverage in the CPS. Our goal was to provide improved health insurance coverage estimates for calendar year 2013.

This is prior to the major changes from the Affordable Care Act and thus provides the baseline year for accurately measuring future year changes. The estimates we are releasing in the health insurance report today reflects this baseline year of 2013.

The improved questions measure coverage at the time of interview to obtain more accurate information on health insurance coverage during the previous calendar year. These estimates of current coverage collected in the CPS are being released today by the National Center for Health Statistics in collaboration with the Census Bureau.

In 2013 most people 86.6% had health insurance coverage at some point during the calendar year. As I mentioned earlier the uninsured rate for the US in 2013 was 13.4%. Overall 64.2% of the population had private health insurance coverage while 53.9% were covered by employment-based insurance and 11% covered by direct purchase insurance.

Government health programs provided coverage to 34.3% of the population in 2013. Between the two largest government healthcare programs Medicaid covered more people than did Medicare 17.3% compared with 16.6%.

This slide displays the uninsured rate using the American Community Survey or the ACS. Just a reminder that limited ACS data for health insurance are being released today. We are using ACS estimates to show changes in the uninsured rate as we recommend not comparing estimates from the redesigned CPS ASEC to the previous version of the health insurance question.

The ACS began collecting health insurance information in 2008. Based on the American Community Survey estimates the percentage of people without health insurance coverage declined between 2012 and 2013 by 0.2 percentage points.

Returning back to CPS health insurance estimates most people 68.5% were covered by a single type of health insurance in 2013. Another 18.1% had more than one coverage type over the course of the year. These individuals could have had more than one plan at a time to supplement their primary insurance or switched coverage types during the year.

People covered by direct purchase insurance, Medicare and military healthcare tended to have more than one plan type during the year. For example in 2013 61.4% of people with direct purchased health insurance also had another type of coverage.

Additionally 62.3% of those with Medicare had another type of coverage during the calendar year. This slide shows the uninsured population by age in 2013; 15.3% of people under 65 were uninsured. Among children under 19 7.6% did not have health insurance coverage.

However adults aged 19 to 64 were less likely to have health insurance than those aged 65 and older. Among young adults aged 19 to 25 the uninsured rate was 22.6%. For adults aged 26 to 34 the uninsured rate was 23.5%. After peaking for the young adult population the uninsured rate decreased with age.

At 19% for people aged 35 to 44, 14.5% for people aged 45 to 64 and 1.6% for people aged 65 and older. The next slide displays the uninsured rates for children under the age of 19 and adults aged 19 to 64. While the overall percentage of children under the age of 19 without health insurance was 7.6% in 2013 the uninsured rate varied by poverty status and race and Hispanic origins.

Children in poverty were more likely to be uninsured 9.8% than children not in poverty 7%. In 2013 the uninsured rates were 5.4% for non-Hispanic white children, 7.5% for black children, 8.4% for Asian children and 12.1% for Hispanic children.

The percentage of adults aged 19 to 64 without health insurance coverage also varied by these characteristics. For most characteristics the uninsured rates for adults were at least double those for children. That concludes my part of the presentation.

Next Michael will open the phone lines for questions from the media.

Michael Cook: Thank you Tori. Let me for the record restate that Tori is the Division Chief of the Social Economic Housing Statistics Division here at the Census Bureau. I may have misspoken earlier.

I wanted to point out before we start out Q&A that on our homepage since it's .gov you will see in the slider at the top of the homepage an image in which you can connect directly to our electronic press kit. In that electronic press kit you'll find

today's event materials, data tables, blogs, infographics as well as fact sheets and Tori's bio. So at this point we'll begin our Q&A.

Coordinator: Thank you. At this time if you would like to ask a question please press Star 1 from your phone and record your first and last name clearly when prompted. Your name is needed in order to ask a question along with your affiliation. Once more if you would like to ask a question please state your name and affiliation by pressing Star 1 when prompted. One moment as we wait for our first questions.

Michael Cook: And also I'd like to reiterate that we want everyone to get an opportunity to ask a question so we'll allow one question and one follow-up question. And again please as a reminder please state your name and your media affiliation when you're ready to ask your question.

Coordinator: Thank you. Our first question comes from Tami Luhby from CNNMoney. Your line is open.

Michael Cook: Hi Tami.

Tami Luhby: Hi. Thank you. Sorry this is not my main question but just tell us again where is the press kit with the sliders?

Michael Cook: If you go to...

Tami Luhby: With all the slides?

Michael Cook: If you go to census...

Tami Luhby: Census.gov.

Michael Cook: Census.gov that's C-E-N-S-U-S dot G-O-V and on the homepage at the top of the page there's a slider. And the slider position Number 1 is where the information from today's news conferences are located.

Tami Luhby: Got it. Okay, now my real question is what do you think accounted for the change in the poverty rate and why was the number of people in poverty not affected? Is it because of population growth?

Michael Cook: And I just want to note also for the record that we have other subject matter experts in the room today that have expertise in specific areas. And so for this question I'm going to go ahead and ask our Assistant Division Chief Chuck Nelson in our Social Economic and Housing Statistics Division to respond.

Chuck Nelson: Hi, can you hear me?

Tami Luhby: Not that well.

Chuck Nelson: Change in poverty...Oh yes, in terms of the change in poverty this year yes it does take a larger change to affect both the poverty rate and the number in poverty because of the population growth that occurs from one year to the next.

I think the main reason we're looking at for the drop in the poverty rate is the growth in year round full time employment. There's a net change of around 2.8 million year round full time workers between this year and last year. And that seems to be the main thing that changed.

Tami Luhby: And is that statistically significant the change in the rate?

Chuck Nelson: Right, the change in the rate is statistically significant from 15.0 to 14.5.

Tami Luhby: Okay, but the change in the population - the number of impoverished of 43.5 is not statistically significant because of the population growth.

Chuck Nelson: Well partially yes. It would have taken a bigger change in the rate for us to also show a change in the number of people in poverty because there is a growth in the population from one year to the next.

Tami Luhby: Okay, thank you very much.

Chuck Nelson: Sure.

Coordinator: Thank you. Our next question comes from Jeffrey Hess from MS Public Broadcasting. Your line is open.

Michael Cook: Hi Jeffrey.

Jeffrey Hess: Hi, thanks for your time. Is there state specific data? I'm wondering if you can compare Mississippi to some of the national trends both with poverty and with health insurance.

Victoria Velkoff: For poverty there are not state specific data with this release. We will be releasing the American Community Survey data on Thursday where there are states' data. For health insurance we are putting out some state data with this release.

Jeffrey Hess: Can you - do you have any details on what those numbers look like for my state?

Victoria Velkoff: For the number of uninsured?

Jeffrey Hess: Yes.

Victoria Velkoff: For Mississippi it was 17.1% in 2013.

Jeffrey Hess: And so that's higher than the national average by quite a bit.

Victoria Velkoff: It's about - it is higher by about 3 percentage points.

Jeffrey Hess: Do you have any idea why?

Victoria Velkoff: It's - I don't have any idea why. It's consistent with last year's rate.

Michael Cook: Do you have any other questions Jeffrey?

Jeffrey Hess: I mean if - I don't know - if you can just expound on that in any way as far as, you know, the direction of Mississippi's rate, what we can expect going into the new numbers as far as ACA impact or anything like that.

Michael Cook: Jeffrey, I know that often times when people ask us questions specifically about the story behind the numbers, you know, the Census Bureau we always talk about how we collect the data, produce the data and then release it.

There are others out there that can talk about the implications but feel free to give the Public Information Office a call at 301-763-3030. Again that's 301-763-3030. We can work to connect you with some of the people that are part of our network that are out there that are in your state that can give you an on the ground explanation as to what they're seeing.

Jeffrey Hess: Okay.

Michael Cook: Thank you. Our next caller.

Coordinator: Yes, our next question comes from Jim Angle from Fox News. Your line is open.

Jim Angle: Thank you. I was just wondering about the income inequality figures versus the poverty level. So you don't get a statistically significant change in income inequality but you do have an improvement in those in poverty. I was trying to figure out how to square that circle.

Chuck Nelson: Yes hi, this is Chuck Nelson again. And the income inequality measures they rarely change based on one year's worth of data. Certainly the time trend is continuing toward increased income inequality in the US over the longer term but we didn't see a statistically significant change this year.

                 But it's still true that over the last ten years and 20 years those income inequality - the Gini index and the 90 to 10 ratio those sort of common inequality measures are rising over time.

Jim Angle: Okay, thank you.

Coordinator: Thank you. Our next question comes from Josh Eidelson from Bloomberg Businessweek. Your line is open.

Michael Cook: Hi Josh.

Josh Eidelson: Thank you, hi. Hoping you could just talk a bit more about the relationship between this threshold and the cutoff that OMD uses for benefits eligibility.

Chuck Nelson: Yes, it's quite a difference. Usually the benefits are based on current income generally. And they have other - there are asset tests sometimes. There are - it's really kind of complicated the relationship between our annual poverty numbers and eligibility thresholds for programs. So they're kind of hard to compare. But

obviously when poverty is rising rapidly you're also seeing more people eligible for programs but it's not a one to one relationship.

Josh Eidelson: Thank you.

Michael Cook: Our next caller.

Coordinator: Thank you. Our next question comes from John Sutter from CNN. Your line is open.

John Sutter: Hi, I'm curious about the child poverty numbers. You know, you said that was the first decrease I think since 2000. I'm wondering what accounts for that? If you see that as a significant change. And I'm assuming like the context is that, you know, the US still has one of the highest child poverty rates in the developed world from my understanding. So I was just wondering if you could put that shift in some context.

Chuck Nelson: Yes, well certainly one thing we noticed this year was that the number of year round full time workers in families with children increased by about a million, by almost a million between this year and last year.

So we are seeing that there is a rise in year round full time employment among parents with children. And that obviously that's having an impact on both the median household income of families of households with children as well as the poverty rate.

So the poverty rate is down this year. And the median household income of families with children or households with children is up. So we are certainly seeing that the economy is having an impact on that group.

John Sutter: Thank you.

Michael Cook: Next caller.

Coordinator: Next question comes from Andy Metzger from Statehouse News. Your line is
                    open.

Andy Metzger: What are the reasons that you changed the measurement for how many people
                    have health insurance and will you continue to use the old measurement going
                    forward as well?

Victoria Velkoff: The recent changes to the current population survey's question related to health
                    insurance coverage is due to over a decade of research. We did two national field
                    tests and we determined that the new questions did a better job of collecting
                    information on health insurance coverage. And we will continue to use them in the
                    future.

Andy Metzger: And will you continue to use the older measure in addition to the new measure?

Victoria Velkoff: No, we are not planning to do that.

Andy Metzger: So next year there will be no data from the old measure.

Victoria Velkoff: This year there's no data from the old measure. This year is the first year that we
                    used the new question in CPS on health insurance so the 2013 data that we're
                    releasing today will be the baseline for future years.

Andy Metzger: So that 0.2% decrease is using the new data.

Victoria Velkoff: That's actually from the American Community Survey. We recommend using the American Community Survey when we're looking at time trends.

Andy Metzger: I see. And you will continue to use the American Community Survey as well.

Victoria Velkoff: We'll use the American Community Survey as well next year but we will also have 2014 data that will be consistent with this year's 2013 health insurance data.

Andy Metzger: Got it. Thank you.

Coordinator: Once more if you would like to ask a question please press Star 1 from your phone and record your name and affiliation clearly when prompted. Again that is Star 1. Please record your name and affiliation when prompted.

   Our next question comes from Jeanna Smialek from Bloomberg News. Your line is open.

Michael Cook: Hi Jeanna.

Jeanna Smialek: Hi there. I'm was just hoping that you might be able to talk a little bit more about the work experience component of the poverty index. You know, what did we see happen there this year? And I know you mentioned this in the call but what did we see happen there this year and how is that playing into the picture?

Chuck Nelson: Well yes, we're certainly seeing - this is Chuck Nelson again. We're certainly seeing an increase in year round full time employment. The average unemployment rate went down in 2013. And we're seeing a shift from part year part time employment to full year full year employment.

And actually it's been going on since 2010. I think since 2010 there's been an increase in - a net increase of about 6.4 million in year round full time workers. So it's been continuing although it seems to have accelerated a little bit in 2013 which is why we think we see this drop in poverty. So that's I mean it seems like there's a direct connection between rising year round full time employment and more help the economy with a drop in poverty.

Jeanna Smialek: Okay, definitely. Great, thank you.

Coordinator: Thank you. Our next question comes from Jim from the LA Times. Your line is open.

Michael Cook: Hi Jim.

Jim Puzzanghera: Thanks. On - this is Jim Puzzanghera. On the health insurance, so we should not compare the figure this year to the figure the 15.4% coverage in 2012. We should not make that comparison.

Victoria Velkoff: That is correct.

Jim Puzzanghera: Okay, so this is a standalone baseline as you said using a different methodology.

Victoria Velkoff: Yes.

Jim Puzzanghera: Okay.

Coordinator: Thank you. Our next question comes from Evan Horowitz from Boston Globe. Your line is open.

Michael Cook: Hi Evan.

Evan Horowitz: Hi, how are you guys? Incredible stuff as every year so first that's - that should be said. Second I just had a question about poverty rates for children under 18. You noted I think it dropped from 21.8 to 19.9 that's I think for all people. Do you have the number for related children and families?

Chuck Nelson: Yes we do.

Victoria Velkoff: We're looking for that right now.

Evan Horowitz: Thank you.

Victoria Velkoff: Nineteen point five percent.

Evan Horowitz: Nineteen point five. Thank you very much. That was my only question.

Michael Cook: Thank you. Next caller.

Coordinator: Thank you. Our next question comes from Rachel from SiriusXM. Your line is open.

Rachel Kurzius: Hi, thank you. This is Rachel Kurzius. I wanted to ask you about the real median earnings in women's to men's earnings ratio. I wanted to know do the earnings include benefits in the number is my first question?

Chuck Nelson: No - it's strictly earnings is up - Chuck Nelson again. It's strictly earnings. It would include bonuses but no non-cash benefits, no ENCON benefits.

Rachel Kurzius: And do you have any information about whether benefits are included in work based on gender?

Chuck Nelson: I'm not sure what the...No, they strictly include what you earn from the job and not things like health benefits or health - paid up health insurance or life insurance or anything like that.

Rachel Kurzius: Okay great. And then so then for the women's to men's earnings ratio that would be kind of to the common parlay of 78 cents of what women make to the dollar of what a man would make?

Chuck Nelson: Yes, yes. That's the ratio of year round full time earnings of women versus men, yes.

Rachel Kurzius: Okay great. Thank you so much.

Coordinator: Thank you. Our next question comes from Jessica McDonald from WHYY-FM. Your line is open.

Jessica McDonald: Hi, yes thanks for taking my question. My main question is about, you know, the effects of the Affordable Care Act. How's it going to change things and was the fact that the Affordable Care Act happened did that drive any of the changes in the question?

Victoria Velkoff: No, we redesigned the income questions - health insurance questions excuse me because we were out of line with other data sources in the CPS. We did this work starting before the Affordable Care Act went into effect. And of course this year 2013 we do not have any impact yet of the Affordable Care Act. We will see that in the 2014 data.

Jessica McDonald: Right. Am I - I had a second question. I don't know if you can answer this. I think it's the ACS data. I noticed that New Jersey was just one of two states the

other one being Maine that had an increase in the uninsured rate, a statistically significant increase. Can you talk about that at all?

Michael Cook: Again if you could give the Public Information Office a call 301-763-3030 we would definitely work to get you connected to some of the people that are part of our network that can talk about the implications and give you some on the ground assessment of what's happening in your area.

Jessica McDonald: Okay, thanks.

Michael Cook: You're welcome. Next caller.

Coordinator: Last question comes from Olivia Winslow from Newsday. Your line is open.

Michael Cook: Hi Olivia.

Olivia Winslow: Hi. Thank you for taking my call. I'm seeking some clarification regarding the health insurance coverage data. I understand that it's the current population survey where the redesigned health insurance questions were asked and so that's the one you cannot use to compare to 2012. But it was my understanding that you could make a timeframe comparison using the ACS data. Is that correct?

Victoria Velkoff: That is correct.

Olivia Winslow: And can you use that at the national and state levels or just at the state level?

Victoria Velkoff: You can use the American Community Survey both at the national and the state level.

Olivia Winslow: All right. And I can find the ACS data in the report because I don't see it on the release.

Victoria Velkoff: Yes, it's in the report. It's in Table A1 of the report.

Olivia Winslow: All right, thank you very much.

Victoria Velkoff: No problem.

Coordinator: Thank you. We have no more questions in queue.

Michael Cook: That wraps up today's news conference. But finally I'd like to direct your attention to several key points coming up in the next several weeks. Starting at 1 pm Eastern Time today results from the 2013 American Community Survey will be made available under embargo for publication on Thursday, September 18.

                   This data set will provide single year estimates of median household income, poverty, and health insurance coverage for all states and counties, places and other geography units with populations of 65,000 or more along with estimates for numerous social economic and housing characteristics including language, education, the commute to work, employment, mortgage status and rent.

                   Furthermore a set of news releases will be available including highlights from 25 selected metro areas. As already noted the 2013 American Community Survey health insurance statistics for states have just been released.

                   Additionally American Community Survey estimates will be released this fall. On October 23 we'll publish three year estimates a compilation of statistics for 2011 to 2013 for geographic areas with populations of 20,000 or more. On December 4 we

will release estimates aggregating statistics over a five year period from 2009 to 2013.

These estimates will be available for all areas regardless of population size down to the block group level. Let me also mention two more upcoming releases. Later this fall we will release estimates from the 2013 supplemental poverty measure.

These complement but not replace the official poverty estimates we've released today. They will also intended - they were also regularly - they are intended to better reflect contemporary social and economic realities in government policy effects and thus provide a further understanding of economic conditions and trends.

Finally in December we will publish our small area income poverty estimates for 2013 which will represent income of poverty estimates for all counties and school districts using only one year of data. And I'd like to mention as well with that 2013 supplemental poverty measure that release will be on October 16.

With that let me thank everyone who tuned in today. And for all of our subject matter experts that are participating in today's event if you have additional questions or wish to arrange interviews on the topics covered in today's new conference please do not hesitate to call the Census Bureau's Public Information Office by dialing 301-763-3030.

General public you can call our customer service center by dialing 1-800-923-8282. And lastly I'd like to urge you to visit Random Samplings the official Census Bureau blog. We have posted three separate entries that dig deeper into income, poverty, and health insurance. You will find a link to the blogs in the upper right hand corner of our homepage. Thanks again everyone. That concludes today's news conference.

Coordinator: Thank you for your participation in today's conference. All participants may

disconnect at this time.

END