Figure 3.1. Percent of persons of all ages who failed to obtain needed medical care due to cost at some time during the past 12 months: United States, 1997-2004


NOTES: The analyses excluded persons with unknown success in obtaining needed medical care (about $0.5 \%$ of respondents each year). Beginning with the 2003 data, the National Health Interview Survey transitioned to weights derived from the 2000 census. In this Early Release, estimates for 2000-02 were recalculated using weights derived from the 2000 census. See "About This Release" and table III in the appendix for more details.

DATA SOURCE: Family Core component of the 1997-2004 National Health Interview Surveys. The estimate for 2004 was based on data collected from January through September.

For the period J anuary through September 2004, $5.4 \%$ ( $95 \%$ confidence interval $=5.2 \%$ $5.7 \%$ ) of the population was unable to obtain needed medical care due to cost at some time during the past 12 months. The estimate is slightly higher than, but not significantly different from, the 2003 estimate of $5.3 \%$.

From 1998 through June 2004, an increasing trend has been observed in the percentage of persons who experienced this lack of access to medical care (4.2\% in 1998 to $5.4 \%$ for the period January through September 2004).

Figure 3.2. Percent of persons of all ages who failed to obtain needed medical care due to cost at some time during the past 12 months, by age group and sex: United States, J anuary-September 2004


NOTE: The analyses excluded 259 persons ( $0.4 \%$ ) with unknown success in obtaining needed medical care.
DATA SOURCE: Based on data collected from January through September in the Family Core component of the 2004 National Health Interview Survey.

For both sexes combined, the percentage of persons who were unable to obtain needed medical care due to cost at some time during the past 12 months was $2.2 \%$ for those aged under 18 years, 7.2\% for those aged 18-64 years, and $2.6 \%$ for those aged 65 years and over.

For adults 18-64 years, women were more likely than men to have experienced this lack of access to medical care during the past 12 months.

Figure 3.3. Age- sex-adjusted percent of persons of all ages who failed to obtain needed medical care due to cost at some time during the past 12 months, by race/ ethnicity: United States, J anuary-September 2004


NOTES: The analyses excluded 259 persons ( $0.4 \%$ ) with unknown success in obtaining needed medical care. Estimates are age- sexadjusted to the 2000 projected U.S. standard population using three age groups: under 18 years, $18-64$ years, and 65 years and over.

DATA SOURCE: Based on data collected from January through September in the Family Core component of the 2004 National Health Interview Survey.

After adjusting for age and sex, 6.2\% of Hispanic persons, $5.1 \%$ of non-Hispanic white persons, and $6.5 \%$ of non-Hispanic black persons were unable to obtain needed medical care due to cost at some time during the year preceding the interview.

Hispanic persons and non-Hispanic black persons were more likely than non-Hispanic white persons to experience this lack of access to medical care.

## Data tables for figures 3.1-3.3:

Data table for figure 3.1. Percent of persons of all ages who failed to obtain needed medical care due to cost at some time during the past 12 months: United States, 1997-2004

| Year | Percent | 95\% confidence interval |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathbf{1 9 9 7}$ | 4.5 | $4.3-4.7$ |
| $\mathbf{1 9 9 8}$ | 4.2 | $4.0-4.4$ |
| $\mathbf{1 9 9 9}$ | 4.3 | $4.1-4.5$ |
| $\mathbf{2 0 0 0}$ | 4.5 | $4.3-4.7$ |
| $\mathbf{2 0 0 1}$ | 4.7 | $4.5-4.9$ |
| $\mathbf{2 0 0 2}$ | 4.7 | $4.5-4.9$ |
| $\mathbf{2 0 0 3}$ | 5.3 | $5.1-5.5$ |
| January-September $\mathbf{2 0 0 4}$ | 5.4 | $5.2-5.7$ |

Data table for figure 3.2. Percent of persons of all ages who failed to obtain needed medical care due to cost at some time during the past 12 months, by age group and sex, United States, J anuary-September 2004

| Age and sex | Percent | 95\% confidence interval |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Total Under 18 years | 2.2 |  |
| Male | 2.2 | $1.9-2.6$ |
| Female | 2.3 | $1.8-2.6$ |
| Total $\mathbf{1 8 - 6 4}$ years | $7.9-2.7$ |  |
| Male | 6.2 | $6.9-7.6$ |
| Female | 7.9 | $6.1-7.0$ |
| 65 years and over | $7.5-8.4$ |  |
| Total | 2.6 | $2.2-2.9$ |
| Male | 2.2 | $1.8-2.8$ |
| Female | 2.8 | $2.4-3.3$ |
| All ages: crude ${ }^{\mathbf{1}}$ |  |  |
| Total | 5.4 | $5.2-5.7$ |
| Male | 4.9 | $4.6-5.2$ |
| Female | 5.8 | $5.5-6.2$ |
| All ages: age-adjusted ${ }^{\mathbf{2}}$ |  |  |
| Total | 5.4 | $5.1-5.6$ |
| Male | 4.9 | $4.6-5.2$ |
| Female | 5.8 | $5.5-6.1$ |

${ }^{1}$ Crude estimates are presented in the figure.
${ }^{2}$ Estimates for this Healthy People 2010 Leading Health Indicator are age-adjusted to the 2000 projected U.S. standard population using three age groups: under 18 years, $18-64$ years, and 65 years and over.

Data table for figure 3.3. Age- sex-adjusted percent of persons of all ages who failed to obtain needed medical care due to cost at some time during the past 12 months, by race/ ethnicity, United States, J anuary-September 2004

| Race/ ethnicity | Percent $^{\mathbf{1}}$ | 95\% confidence interval |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Hispanic or Latino | 6.2 | $5.7-6.8$ |
| Not Hispanic or Latino |  |  |
| White, single race | 5.1 | $4.8-5.5$ |
| Black, single race | 6.5 | $5.9-7.2$ |

${ }^{1}$ Estimates are age- sex-adjusted to the 2000 projected U.S. standard population using three age groups: under 18 years, 18-64 years, and 65 years and over.

