



Spotlight: Health Insurance Coverage

46.3 million Americans were without health insurance coverage in 2011, a lower total than in 2010 but higher than reported in 1997 (41 million).

An estimated 5.2 million Americans under the age of 18 were without health insurance in 2011, lower than reported in 2010 (5.8 million) and significantly lower than in 1997 (9.9 million).



Contents

[Alcohol Consumption](#)

- ◆ After increasing between 2004 and 2010, the percentage of adults who reported having five or more drinks in one day over the past year was lower but not significantly different in 2011 (22.1%).

[Diagnosed Diabetes](#)

- ◆ Diabetes prevalence is significantly more prevalent among older Americans—more than one in five people age 65 and over have diabetes vs. less than one in ten ages 45-54.

[General Health Status](#)

- ◆ Only 2.4% of the population say their health is poor.

[Asthma](#)

- ◆ An estimated 16.6% of non-Hispanic Black children under age 15 have asthma vs. 10% of Latino children and 7.5% of non-Hispanic White children.

[HIV Testing](#)

- ◆ One half of people aged 25-44 say they have been tested for HIV .

[Leisure Time Physical Activity](#)

- ◆ In 2011, the percentage of adults age 18 and older who met the federal guidelines for aerobic exercise was the highest level reported (48.4%).

[Obesity \(Self-Reported\)](#)

- ◆ The prevalence of self-reported obesity among adults age 20 and over has steadily increased from 19.4% in 1997 to 28.7% in 2011.

[Obtaining Needed Medical Care](#)

- ◆ An estimated 6.5% of the population failed to obtain needed medical care due to cost at some time during 2011, a lower estimate from the year before and the same percentage reported in 2008.

[Personal Care Needs](#)

- ◆ An estimated 7.3% of adults aged 65 and over reported needing help with personal care from other persons in 2011 - not a major change from 6.4% in 2000 .

[Serious Psychological Distress](#)

- ◆ A larger proportion of adults (3.4%) reported serious psychological distress in the past 30 days during 2011 than in 1999 (2.4%).

[Smoking](#)

- ◆ Smoking among U.S. adults has declined from 24.7% in 1997 to 18.9% in 2011 .

[Usual Place to Go for Medical Care](#)

- ◆ Nearly 87% of the population had a usual place to go for medical care in 2011, slightly higher than the 2010 estimate of 85.4%.

[Immunization](#)

- ◆ In 2011, nearly 67% of Americans age 65 and over have ever received a pneumonia vaccination, a sharp increase from nearly 43% in 1997.