



America's Uninsured Children

There are 77,561,000 children under the age of 19 in the United States.
Of these children, about one in eight has no health insurance.
That's 9,157,000 children.

What Do We Know about America's Uninsured Children?

Most uninsured children, by far, are members of working families

- 78 percent of uninsured children live in working families.

Younger children without insurance can miss out on a healthy start in life

- 2,489,000 children under the age of 6 are uninsured.

Insurance is also important for older children, who are at greater risk for accidents and sports injuries

- 3,138,000 children between the ages of 6 and 12 are uninsured; 3,530,000 children between the ages of 13 and 18 are uninsured.

Children in low-income families are significantly more likely to be uninsured than those in higher-income families

- 72 percent of uninsured children live in families with incomes at or below two times the federal poverty level (\$33,200 for a family of three in 2006).

How many is that?

America's uninsured children could . . .

. . . stretch

6,936

miles if they held hands—
nearly three times the
distance from San Francisco
to Washington, DC



. . . fill



166,491
school buses

. . . form

1,017,444

little league teams



Lack of health coverage affects children of all races and ethnicities. The 9,157,000 uninsured children include:

- 3,622,000 white children,
- 3,243,000 Hispanic children,
- 1,641,000 African American children, and
- 651,000 children of other races or ethnicities.

Although more white children are uninsured, minority children are at greater risk of being uninsured.

- 22.4 percent of Hispanic children are uninsured.
- 14.2 percent of African American children are uninsured.
- 11.9 percent of children of other races or ethnicities are uninsured.
- 7.9 percent of white children are uninsured

A Note about Terms

The Census Bureau collects information about race and ethnicity using the following designations: 1) white, non-Hispanic; 2) black, non-Hispanic; 3) Hispanic; and 4) other. The category of “other” is composed of individuals who identify themselves as American Indian or Alaskan Native; Asian; Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander; or who identify themselves as a member of more than one group (e.g., white-black, white-Asian, black-Asian).

Source information for this fact sheet is on file at Families USA.

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July 2006



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