



July 2006

## National Survey Key Findings

Survey Commissioned by The Catholic Health Association of the United States

### Priority: Providing quality, affordable health insurance to all children

- 70% of likely voters agree that providing affordable, quality health insurance to all children in the U.S. should be one of the top priorities of Congress and the President.
- 65% of likely voters said the federal government should take financial responsibility to cover uninsured children.
- 72% of likely voters said the federal government should provide health insurance to uninsured children whose parents work.

### Most willing to help pay to cover children

- Of the 65% of likely voters who said the federal government should take financial responsibility to cover uninsured children, 80% would be willing to pay more in taxes to help pay for it.
- 29% of likely voters said the federal government should not take financial responsibility to cover uninsured children; of those, 28% said the federal government already provides enough assistance to children.

### Public perception vs. reality

**Survey Question:** “If you were going to describe uninsured Americans, which one or two of the following groups would come to your mind first?”

Category	Respondents' First Choice	Reality <sup>1</sup>
People with low incomes	22%	65%, or 2/3, of the uninsured (approximately 29.6 million individuals) are low income, earning less than 200% of the federal poverty level.
Elderly	15%	< 1% of the elderly are uninsured; almost every person over the age of 65 is covered by Medicare.
Working Families	14%	82%, or more than 8 of 10 uninsured, are in working families (approximately 37 million individuals).
Children	13%	20%, or 1 out of 5, uninsured individuals are children under the age of 19 (approximately 9 million children).

<sup>1</sup> Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured, January 2006. *The Uninsured: A Primer – Key Facts About Americans Without Health Insurance*.

**Survey Methodology:** Randomized telephone poll of 800 likely voters on July 6 & 8-9, 2006. Conducted by Public Opinion Strategies, Alexandria, Va. Margin of error is +/- 3.46%.