

WHAT'S NEW WITH KIDS?

June 2005

Site of the Month

Characteristics of the Uninsured: A View from the States is a report prepared for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation by the University of Minnesota's State Health Access Data Assistance Center (SHADAC), using data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's 2003 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System. Data for Nevada are presented below.

Uninsured Adults in Nevada

Nevada Adults	Number or Percent
Number of uninsured adults, 18-64	335,756
Percent of uninsured adults, 18-64	23.90%
Number of uninsured adults with child in household	182,681
Percent of uninsured adults with child in household	54.40%
Number of uninsured white adults	130,532
Percent of uninsured white adult population	15.70%
Number of uninsured Hispanic adults	157,340
Percent of Hispanic adult population	45.30%
Number of uninsured working adults	208,697
Percent of working adults who are uninsured	20.00%
Number of uninsured adults unable to get care due to cost	109,870
Percent of uninsured adults	32.70%
Number of uninsured adults without personal provider	226,123
Percent of uninsured adults without personal provider	67.40%
Number of uninsured adults in poor or fair health status	83,267
Percent of uninsured adults in poor or fair health status	24.80%

Note: The Black adult population was not reported due to small sample size.

Nevada ranked poorly on several indicators. Compared to other states and the District of Columbia:

- ◆ Nevada ranked 51st on the percentage of uninsured adults ages 18 to 64 without a personal doctor or health-care provider.
- ◆ Nevada ranked 50th on the percentage of uninsured adults ages 18 to 64 who reported poor or fair health status.
- ◆ Nevada ranked 48th on the rate of uninsured adults ages 18 to 64.
- ◆ Nevada ranked 45th on the percentage of working adults (ages 18 to 64, employed or self-employed) who were uninsured.
- ◆ Nevada ranked 44th on the percentage of uninsured adults ages 18 to 64 who live in households with at least one child.

Nevada ranked better on the following indicator:

- ◆ Nevada ranked 7th on the percentage of uninsured adults (ages 18 to 64) who were unable to see a doctor when needed in the past 12 months due to cost.

The data suggest that too many adults in Nevada, including working adults, are not covered by health insurance. Being uninsured is more than likely a contributing factor in adults not having a personal doctor and being in poor health. The consequences of being uninsured can be severe, not only for adults, but also for children. Among the states, Nevada ranked low on uninsured adults who live in households with at least one child. Although the report did not present data on uninsured children, it is likely households with uninsured adults also have uninsured children. Unless uninsured households use public-health programs medical expenses would place a burden on households. Children in uninsured households would be less likely to receive health care than those in households covered by health insurance.

Comparisons of the uninsured and insured adults on the health-care indicators by state are also presented in the report, which may be accessed at: <http://covertheuninsuredweek.org/media/research/SHADAC2005.pdf>.

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Nevada KIDS COUNT