

WHAT'S NEW WITH KIDS?

April 2011

Children's Health Insurance and Health in Nevada

A child's health care and health can be shaped by his or her health insurance. The 2007 National Survey of Children's Health (NSCH)*, which examines the physical and emotional health of children ages 17 and under, asks parents about their children's health-insurance coverage, access to health care, and health status.

For Nevada, the 2007 NSCH revealed that 80.6 percent of children were insured. This figure is lower than the 82.3 percent reported for Nevada by the 2003 NSCH. About 79 percent of the children had a preventive medical visit in the past year, and 73.1 had a preventive dental visit. Compared to the nation as a whole, Nevada children were less likely to be covered by health insurance and to have had a preventive medical visit in the previous year. (See table below.)

Table 1. A Comparison of Health-Insurance Coverage for Children and Their Preventative Health Care, Nevada and the United States: Findings from the 2007 National Survey of Children's Health

Child Health Indicator	Nevada (Percent)		Nationwide (Percent)	
	2007 Survey	2003 Survey	2007 Survey	2003 Survey
Percent of children insured	80.6	82.3	90.9	91.2
Percent of children with a preventive medical visit in the past year	79.1	67.3	88.5	77.8
Percent of children with a preventive dental visit in the past year	73.1	NC*	78.4	NC*

*NC = Not Comparable across survey years.

Note: In the 2007 NSCH survey, health-insurance type is determined by asking: "(1) Does the child currently have any kind of health care coverage and, if yes, (2) is the child currently covered by Medicaid or S-CHIP. Children whose response to the first question is 'no' are counted as 'uninsured.' Of the remaining children, those with a 'Yes' response to the second question are counted as publicly insured and children whose parents answered 'Yes' to the first and 'NO' to the second question are counted as having private insurance."

Source: Child and Adolescent Health Measurement Initiative. *2007 National Survey of Children's Health*, Data Resource Center for Child and Adolescent Health website, retrieved 4/27/2011 from www.nschdata.org.

*Sponsored by the Department of Health and Human Services, Maternal and Child Health Bureau of the Health Resources and Services Administration.

Table 2 shows the differences in health and health-care access for children ages 17 and under in Nevada by insurance type and insurance status. Children covered by private health insurance were more likely to be considered by their parents to be in excellent or very good health and to have teeth that were in excellent or very good condition than were children who were covered by public health insurance. Children with public coverage were more likely to have had preventive medical visits, although not as likely to have had preventive dental visits when compared to children with private coverage. Surprisingly, a similar percentage of children covered by public health insurance and those who were uninsured were perceived by their parents to be in excellent or very good health (61.6 percent and 63.5 percent, respectively) and to have teeth that are in excellent or very good condition (46.7 percent and 46.8 percent, respectively).

Table 2. Nevada Children’s Health and System Performance by Insurance Type and Status, 2007

Selected Child Health Indicators	Type of Insurance			
	Overall	Private	Public	Uninsured
	% (95% CI*) # of children estimate			
<i>Physical and Dental Health</i>				
Children age 0-17 whose overall health status is excellent or very good	79.8 (76.9 - 82.7) 530,170	89.2 (86.5 - 91.9) 375,559	61.6 (52.2- 70.9) 65,585	63.5 (55.3 - 71.8) 81,706
Children age 1-17 whose teeth are in excellent or very good condition	66.3 (62.8 - 69.8) 409,332	76.9 (73.0 - 80.8) 300,466	46.7 (36.4 - 56.9) 43,519	46.8 (37.9 - 55.7) 58,713
<i>Health-Care Access and Quality</i>				
Children age 0-17 who had one or more preventive medical visits in the past 12 months	79.1 (76.3 - 81.9) 520,276	79.5 (75.9 - 83.0) 332,870	87.6 (81.7 - 93.5) 89,600	71.6 (64.8 - 78.4) 91,770
Children age 1-17 who had one or more preventive dental visits in the past 12 months	73.1 (69.8 - 76.3) 450,794	79.6 (76.2 - 83.1) 311,237	67.9 (57.5 - 78.2) 62,435	56.2 (47.7 - 64.8) 70,841

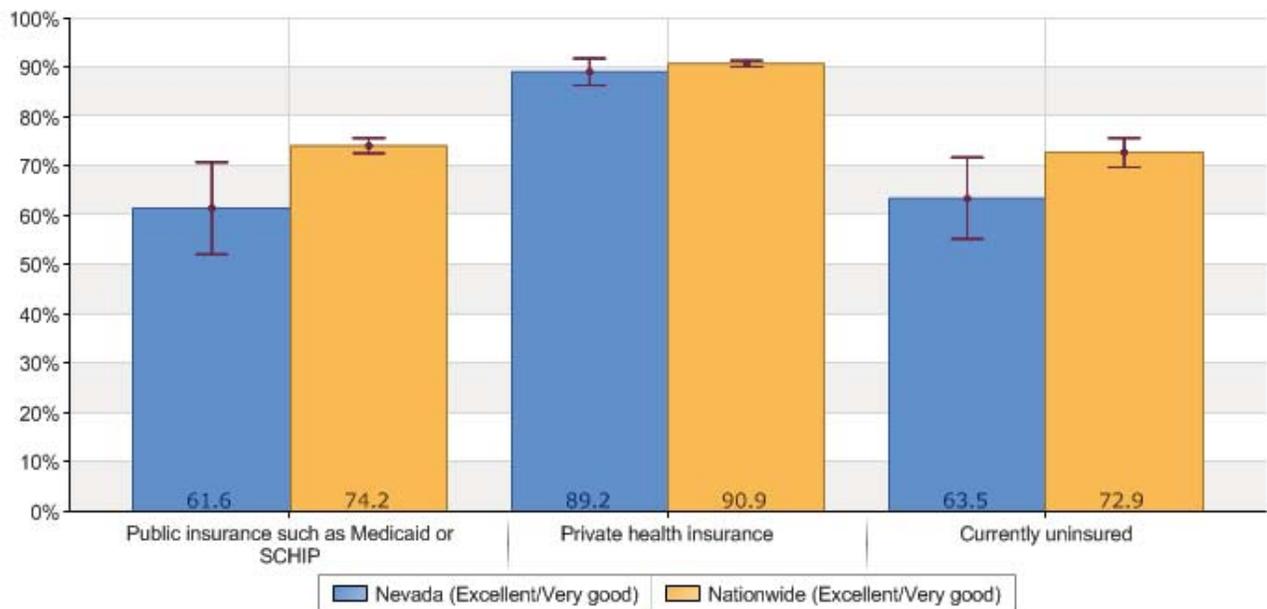
*CI = Confidence Interval. Measures the probability that a population parameter will fall between two set values, the most common are 95 percent and 99 percent.

Source: Child and Adolescent Health Measurement Initiative. 2007 National Survey of Children’s Health, Data Resource Center for Child and Adolescent Health website, retrieved 4/27/2011 from www.nschdata.org.

Data Source: 2007 National Survey of Children’s Health, National Center for Health Statistics, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, May 2008.

The figure below compares Nevada to the nation on children's overall health status by type of insurance. The percentage of children whose parents considered them to be in excellent or very good health in Nevada is less than for the nation as a whole. The differences are greater for children on public health insurance programs or who are uninsured. In Nevada, only 61.6 percent of the children on public health insurance were reported as in excellent or very good health. The comparable figure was 74.2 percent nationwide. Similar differences are found for uninsured children.

**Children's Overall Health Status
Children Age 0-17 Years
Nevada vs. Nationwide
Excellent/Very Good by Type of Insurance**



National Survey of Children's Health. NSCH 2007. Child and Adolescent Health Measurement Initiative, Data Resource Center for Child and Adolescent Health website. Retrieved May 2, 2011, from www.nschdata.org.

Data from the 2003 and 2007 NSCH are available on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website, www.nschdata.org. Data collection for the 2011 NSCH began in February 2011 and will continue to March 2012.

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