Small Area Health Insurance Estimates (SAHIE) Tracking Trends and Differences

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Disclaimer

This report is released to inform interested parties of ongoing research and to encourage discussion of work in progress. The views expressed on statistical issues are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the U.S. Census Bureau.
SAHIE Overview

- Model-based area-level model.

- Combines indirect estimate with the direct estimate from the ACS.

- Allows increased precision and single-year coverage for detailed domains and areas.

- ACS is a vital input – 40% improvement in precision from prior CPS-based estimates.
ACS and SAHIE

• American Community Survey
  – Health insurance question added for 2008.
  – Five-year period estimates will be available for every county, starting in Fall 2013.

• Small Area Health Insurance Estimates
  – Combines ACS 1-year sample, with other single-year sources.
  – Single-year estimates for 65 income and demographic domains per county.
  – 245 domains per state.
What is ‘Uninsured’

• The ACS insurance question asks "Is this person currently covered by <specifically stated> health insurance or health coverage plans?"

• The CPS insurance question asks “Has this person been covered at any time during the past calendar year?”
Data Inputs

- The American Community Survey (ACS)
- Demographic population estimates;
- Aggregated federal tax returns;
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program;
- County Business Patterns;
- Medicaid & Children’s Health Insurance Program participation records; and
- Decennial Census (2000 and 2010)
State-Level Estimates

- Ages 0-18, 0-64, 18-64, 40-64, and 50-64;
- Female, male, and both sexes;
- All incomes and less than or equal to 138, 200, 250, or 400 percent of poverty;
- All races, White alone, Black alone, and Hispanic;
- Measures of uncertainty.
County-Level Estimates

- Ages 0-18, 0-64, 18-64, 40-64 and 50-64;
- Female, male, and both sexes;
- All incomes and less than or equal to 138, 200, 250, or 400 percent of poverty;
- Measures of uncertainty.
SAHIE and ACS Comparison

- Washington DC-MD-VA-WV Metro
- Margin of Error for Un-insured Rates for Ages 0-18, < 138% of poverty
- Average SAHIE Un-insured Rate = 13.6%

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pop Size</th>
<th># of counties</th>
<th>Domain Size Average</th>
<th>SAHIE MOE Average</th>
<th>ACS MOE Average</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&gt; 200k</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>22,550</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65 – 200k</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4,117</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
<td>14.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt; 65k</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1,505</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
<td>17.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Data Uses

• Comparison across counties or states.
• Comparisons across time.
• Comparisons across demographic groups.
• Benchmark for program evaluations and outreach efforts.
• Linkage to other data sources.
Data Uses: CDC

• The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program.
• Sponsors the inclusion of low-income women in the SAHIE program.
• Uses counts of un-insured women as a denominator for state screening rates.
• Many state grantees of the program also utilize for county evaluation and outreach.
Data Uses: State and County Reports

- State Health Access Data Assistance Center (SHADAC) advertises the usefulness of SAHIE program estimates.

- Over 45 federal, state and other institutional reports and web-sites have been identified as including SAHIE data.
For more information

- Small Area Health Insurance Estimates
  http://www.census.gov/did/www/sahie/

  If you have further questions, please contact us at 301-763-3193 or sehsd.sahie@census.gov