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ABSTRACT

This report presents statistics from the 1999 National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) on selected health measures for children under 18 years of age, classified by sex, age, race/ethnicity, family structure, parent education, family income, poverty status, health insurance coverage, place of residence, region, and current health status. The NHIS is an annual multistage probability sample survey conducted by interviewers of the Census Bureau and is representative of the civilian noninstitutionalized population of the United States. Information about one randomly selected child per family is collected in face-to-face interviews with an adult respondent familiar with the child's health. The topics covered are asthma, allergies, learning disability, attention deficit disorder, use of medication, respondent-assessed health status, school-loss days, usual place of medical care, time since last contact with a health care professional, selected health care risk factors, and time since last dental contact. Selected highlighted findings revealed that in 1999 most U.S. children under age 18 enjoyed excellent or very good health. Twelve percent of children had no health insurance coverage, with 6 percent having no usual place of medical care. Eleven percent had been diagnosed with asthma. An estimated 7 percent of children had a learning disability, and an estimated 6 percent had Attention Deficit Disorder. Nine percent of children in single-mother families had made two or more visits to an emergency room in the past year, compared with only 4 percent of children in two-parent families. The report's two appendices provide technical information on the methods used and

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hypothesis testing, and definitions of relevant terms. (Contains 30 references.) (Author/KB)

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
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Summary Health Statistics for U.S. Children: National Health Interview Survey, 1999

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
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National Center for Health Statistics

Hyattsville, Maryland
July 2003
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Objectives

This report presents statistics from the 1999 National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) on selected health measures for children under 18 years of age, classified by sex, age, race/ethnicity, family structure, parent's education, family income, poverty status, health insurance coverage, place of residence, region, and current health status. The topics covered are asthma, allergies, learning disability, attention deficit disorder, use of medication, respondent-assessed health status, school-loss days, usual place of medical care, time since last contact with a health care professional, selected health care risk factors, and time since last dental contact.

Source of Data

The NHIS is a multistage probability sample survey conducted annually by interviewers of the U. S. Census Bureau for the National Center for Health Statistics, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and is representative of the civilian noninstitutionalized population of the United States. Basic information is collected during face-to-face interviews with adults present at the time of interview. Information about children is collected about one randomly selected child per family in face-to-face interviews with an adult proxy respondent familiar with the child's health.

Selected Highlights

In 1999 most U.S. children under 18 years of age enjoyed excellent or very good health (83%). However, 12% of children had no health insurance coverage, and 6% of children had no usual place of medical care. Eleven percent of children had ever been diagnosed with asthma. An estimated 7% of children 3–17 years of age had a learning disability, and an estimated 6% of children had Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD). Lastly, 9% of children in single mother families had two or more visits to an emergency room in the past year, compared with 4% of children in two parent families.

Keywords: child health • health conditions • access to care • health provider contacts • unmet medical need • ADD

Summary Health Statistics for U.S. Children: National Health Interview Survey, 1999

by *Debra L. Blackwell, Ph.D., and Luong Tonthat, National Health Interview Survey Statistics*

Introduction

This report is one of a set of reports summarizing data from the 1999 National Health Interview Survey (NHIS), a multipurpose health survey conducted by the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The purpose of this report is to provide national estimates for a broad range of health measures for the U.S. civilian noninstitutionalized population of children under 18 years of age. Two other reports in this set provide data on health measures for the U.S. population and for adults (1,2). These three data reports are published for each year of the NHIS (3–8), and replace the annual, one-volume Current Estimates series (10, 12, 14–26).

Estimates are presented here for asthma, allergies, learning disability, attention deficit disorder, use of medication, respondent-assessed health status, school-loss days, usual place of medical care, time since last contact with a health care professional, selected health care risk factors, and time since last dental contact. (Information regarding injuries to children is contained in the U.S. population report.) They are derived from the Sample Child component of the annual NHIS Basic Module. These estimates are shown in tables 1–18 for various subgroups of the population, including those defined by sex, age, race/ethnicity, family structure, parent's education, family income, poverty status, health insurance coverage, place of residence, region, and

current health status. Estimates for other characteristics of special relevance are also included, where appropriate. Appendix I contains brief technical notes, and appendix II contains definitions of terms used in this report.

The NHIS has been an important source of information about health and health care in the United States since it was first conducted in 1957. Given the ever-changing nature of the U.S. population, the NHIS has been revised every 10–15 years, with the latest revision taking place in 1997. The first design changes were introduced in 1973 and the first procedural changes in 1975 (9). In 1982 the NHIS questionnaire and data preparation procedures of the survey were extensively revised. The basic concepts of NHIS changed in some cases, and in other cases the concepts were measured in a different way. A more complete explanation of these changes is in appendix IV of Series 10, No. 150 (10). In 1985 a new sample design for NHIS and a different method of presenting sampling errors were introduced (11,12). In 1995 another change in the sample design was introduced, including the oversampling of black and Hispanic persons (13).

The latest revision of the NHIS was implemented in 1997. The 1997 design of the NHIS features a substantially revised instrument (in terms of content) as well as a new means of administration (i.e., computer-assisted personal interviewing). This new design improves the ability of the NHIS to provide important health information. However, comparisons of the 1997 data to data from previous NHIS survey

years should not be undertaken without a careful examination of the changes across survey instruments (10, 12, 14–26).

In response to the changing demographics of the U.S. population, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) issued new standards for race and ethnicity data collection in 1997. Most notably, the new standards allow respondents to the Census and Federal surveys to indicate more than one group in answering questions on race. Additionally, the category “Asian or Pacific Islander” is now split into two distinct categories, “Asian” versus “Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander” (NHOPI), for data collection purposes. While the NHIS had allowed respondents to choose more than one race group for many years, the NHIS became completely compliant with all the new race and ethnicity standards with the fielding of the 1999 survey. The tables in this report reflect these new standards for reporting race and ethnicity data: breakdowns are shown for single and multiple race groups (where numerically appropriate), and for Asians and Native Hawaiians or Other Pacific Islanders separately.

Methods

Data Source

The main objective of the NHIS is to monitor the health of the U.S. population through the collection and analysis of data on a broad range of health topics. The target population for the NHIS is the civilian noninstitutionalized population of the United States. Persons excluded are patients in long-term care institutions (e.g., nursing homes for the elderly, hospitals for the chronically ill, disabled, or retarded, as well as wards for abused/neglected children), correctional facilities (e.g., prisons or jails, juvenile detention centers, and halfway houses), active duty Armed Forces personnel (although their dependents are included), and U.S. nationals living in foreign countries. Each year a representative sample of holds across the country is

selected for the NHIS using a multistage cluster sample design. Details on sample design can be found in *Design and Estimation for the National Health Interview Survey, 1995–2004* (13). Trained interviewers from the U.S. Census Bureau visit each selected household and administer the NHIS in person. Detailed interviewer instructions can be found in the NHIS Field Representative’s Manual (27).

The annual NHIS questionnaire, now called the Basic Module or Core, consists of three main components: the Family Core, the Sample Adult Core, and the Sample Child Core. The Family Core collects information for all family members regarding household composition and sociodemographic characteristics, along with basic indicators of health status, activity limitations, and utilization of health care services. All members of the household 17 years of age and over who are at home at the time of the interview are invited to participate and respond for themselves. For children and those adults not at home during the interview, information is provided by a knowledgeable adult family member (18 years of age or over) residing in the household. Although considerable effort is made to ensure accurate reporting, the information from proxy and self-respondents may be inaccurate because the respondent is unaware of relevant information, has forgotten it, does not wish to reveal it to an interviewer, or does not understand the intended meaning of the question.

The Sample Adult and Sample Child Cores obtain additional information on the health of one randomly selected adult and child in the family; the sample adult responds for himself/herself, while a knowledgeable adult in the family provides proxy responses for the sample child. The Sample Child Core is the primary source of data for this report, while information regarding demographic characteristics is derived from the Family Core.

The interviewed sample for 1999 consisted of 37,573 households, which yielded 97,059 persons in 38,171 families. There were 14,217 children aged 0–17 years eligible for the Sample

Child questionnaire. Data were collected for 12,910 children, a conditional response rate of 90.8%. The unconditional or final response rate for the Sample Child component was calculated by multiplying the conditional rate by the overall family response rate of 86.1%, yielding a rate of 78.2% (28).

Estimation Procedures

The data presented in this report are weighted to provide national health estimates. For each health measure, both weighted frequencies and percents for all children and for various subgroups of the child population are shown. All counts are expressed in thousands. Counts for persons of unknown status with respect to each health characteristic of interest are not shown separately in the tables, nor are they included in the calculation of percents, in order to make the presentation of the data more straightforward. For all health measures in this report, the overall percent unknown is typically small, in most cases less than 1%, and is shown in appendix I. These unknown cases are nevertheless included in the total population counts for each table. It should therefore be noted that the reader may obtain slightly different percentages than those shown in the tables if he or she elects to calculate percentages based on the frequencies and population counts presented in the tables.

Additionally, some of the sociodemographic variables that are used to delineate various subgroups of the population have unknown values. Again, for most of these variables, the percent unknown is small. However, in the case of family income, there is no income information for about 9% of respondents in the 1999 survey, while 15% of respondents stated that their combined family income was \$20,000 or more without providing additional detail. Poverty status, which is based on family income, has a high nonresponse rate as a result. Health estimates for persons with these unknown sociodemographic characteristics are not shown in the tables, but readers should refer to appendix I for more information on the quantities of cases in the

unknown income and poverty status categories.

Limitations of the Data

Although the data are presented for various age groups, estimates for other sociodemographic subgroups are not age adjusted, so differences between groups should be interpreted with caution. Also, as mentioned previously, the redesigned NHIS is quite different in content, format, and mode of data collection from earlier versions of the survey. These changes make it difficult to compare 1997–99 NHIS estimates with those of earlier years.

In addition it is important to note that frequencies are underestimates due to item nonresponse and unknowns, both of which are excluded from the tables (with the exception of the “All children” or total columns shown in each table). See appendix I for more information about the number of unknowns with respect to each health characteristic.

Variance Estimation and Significance Testing

The NHIS data are based on a sample of the population and are therefore subject to sampling error. Standard errors are reported in order to indicate the reliability of the estimates. Estimates and standard errors were calculated using SUDAAN software that takes into account the complex sampling design of the NHIS. The Taylor series linearization method was used for variance estimation in SUDAAN (29).

Standard errors are shown for all percents in the tables (but not for the frequencies). Estimates with relative standard errors of greater than 30% are considered unreliable and are indicated with an asterisk (*). The statistical significance of differences between point estimates was evaluated using two-sided *t* tests at the 0.05 level and assuming independence. Terms such as “greater than,” “less than,” “more likely,” “less likely,” “compared with,” or “opposed to” indicate a statistically

significant difference between estimates, whereas “similar,” “no difference,” or “comparable” indicate that the estimates are not statistically different. A lack of commentary about any two estimates should not be interpreted to mean that a *t*-test was performed and the difference was found to be not significant. Furthermore, these tests did not take multiple comparisons into account.

Further Information

Data users can obtain the latest information about the National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) by periodically checking our Web site:

www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhis.htm.

The Web site features downloadable public use data and documentation for recent surveys, as well as important information about any modifications or updates to the data and/or documentation.

Researchers may also wish to join the NHIS electronic mail list. To do so, go to:

www.cdc.gov/subscribe.html.

Fill in the appropriate information, and click the “NHIS researchers” box, followed by the “Subscribe” button at the bottom of the page. The listserv is made up of approximately 3,000 NHIS data users located around the world who receive e-news about NHIS surveys (e.g., new releases of data or modifications to existing data), publications, and conferences.

Highlights

In the following section, brief, bulleted summaries of the estimates shown in tables 1–18 are presented. All estimates were calculated using the appropriate weight variable, which is calibrated by NCHS staff to produce numbers consistent with the population estimates of the United States by age, sex, and race/ethnicity, based on projections from the 1990 U.S. Census.

Health Conditions (tables 1,2)

- Eleven percent of U.S. children under 18 years of age, or 7.8 million children, have ever been diagnosed with asthma. Boys were more likely than girls to have ever been diagnosed with asthma (13% and 9%, respectively).
- Nearly 4 million children, or 5% of all children, had an asthma attack in the past 12 months. Boys were more likely to have had an asthma attack in the past 12 months than girls.
- Twenty-four percent of single race American Indian or Alaska native children have ever been diagnosed with asthma, compared with 14% of single race black children and 10% of single race white children.
- Single race non-Hispanic black children (14%) were more likely than single race non-Hispanic white or Hispanic children (10% and 10%, respectively) to have ever been diagnosed with asthma.
- Children from single mother families (14%) were more likely to have ever been diagnosed with asthma than children from two-parent families (10%).
- Eleven percent of U.S. children under 18 years of age suffered from respiratory allergies, 10% from hay fever, and 9% from other allergies in the past 12 months.
- As the level of parent’s education increases, the proportion of children with all types of allergies increases. For example, 6% of children whose parents did not obtain a high school diploma had respiratory allergies, compared with 13% of children with a parent who continued education beyond high school.
- Children with private health insurance coverage were more likely to have had respiratory allergies (12%) than children with Medicaid or other public insurance (10%) or children who were uninsured (9%).

Learning Disabilities and Attention Deficit Disorder (table 3)

- An estimated 4.3 million children 3–17 years of age (7%) had been identified by a school representative or health care professional as having a learning disability, and an estimated 3.4 million children (6%) had been identified by a health care professional as having Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD).
- Ten percent of boys had a learning disability, compared with 5% of girls; 8% of boys had ADD, compared with 3% of girls.
- The percent of children with a learning disability in the lowest income group is more than double that of the highest income group.
- Six percent of children with private health insurance coverage and 6% of children lacking insurance coverage had a learning disability, compared with 14% of children with Medicaid or other public insurance coverage.
- Children with a fair or poor health status were more than four times as likely to have a learning disability and three times as likely to have ADD than children with an excellent, very good, or good health status.

Medication Use (table 4)

- Ten percent or 7.5 million children in the United States had a problem for which prescription medication had been taken regularly for at least 3 months.
- Children aged 12–17 years were more likely to have been on medication regularly for at least 3 months (13%) than children aged 5–11 years (11%) or children less than 5 years of age (6%).
- Twelve percent of boys were on prescription medication regularly for at least 3 months, compared with 9% of girls.
- Single race non-Hispanic white children and single race non-Hispanic black children were almost twice as likely to have been on prescription medication regularly for

- at least 3 months than Hispanic children (11% and 6%)
- Children from single mother families (12%) were more likely to have been on medication regularly for at least 3 months than children from two-parent families (10%).
- Thirteen percent of children with Medicaid or other public insurance coverage were on medication regularly for at least 3 months, compared with 10% of children with private insurance and 6% of children with no health insurance coverage.
- Eleven percent of children with a parent who continued education beyond high school were on medication regularly for at least 3 months, compared with 10% of children with parents who obtained a high school diploma and 7% of children whose parents did not obtain a high school diploma.

Respondent-Assessed Health Status (tables 5–8)

- In 1999 the overwhelming majority of children in the United States enjoyed excellent or very good health (60 million children or 83%). In addition, 11 million children (15%) were in good health. The remaining 2% of children were in fair or poor health.
- Children's health status was associated with race/ethnicity: Sixty-one percent of single race non-Hispanic white children had excellent health, while 46% of single race non-Hispanic black children and 46% of Hispanic children had excellent health.
- Parental educational attainment was positively associated with children's health: only 41% of children whose parent(s) did not obtain a high school diploma were in excellent health, compared with 48% of children whose more highly educated parent had graduated from high school or received a General Educational Development high school equivalency diploma (GED) and 63% of children whose more highly educated parent had

continued education beyond high school.

- Children living in two-parent families were more likely to be in excellent health (60%) than children living in single mother families (46%) or children living in single father families (50%).
- Poverty status was associated with children's health: 63% of children from not poor families were in excellent health, compared with 49% of children from near poor families and 43% of children from poor families.
- Children with Medicaid insurance coverage were less likely to be in excellent health (41%) than children with private health insurance (61%) or children with no health insurance coverage (47%).
- In general, a child's health status was much more likely to be the same as last year than to be better than last year, and much more likely to be better than last year than to be worse than last year.
- Among children with currently excellent or very good health status, the chance of the child's having experienced an improvement in health status since a year ago was greater for Hispanic children (28%) than for single race non-Hispanic white children (18%) or single race non-Hispanic black children (23%).

School-Loss Days Due to Illness or Injury (tables 9,10)

- Of the 52 million school-aged children (aged 5–17 years) in the United States, 13 million or 26% never missed a day of school in the past 12 months due to illness or injury, 28% missed 1–2 days, and 28% missed 3–5 days of school.
- Six percent of all school-aged children (aged 5–17 years) missed 11 or more days of school because of illness or injury in the past 12 months.
- Single race non-Hispanic black and Hispanic children were more likely than single race non-Hispanic white children to have missed no school in

the past 12 months due to illness or injury. Children who were poor or near poor were more likely than children who were not poor to have missed no school due to illness or injury.

- Children in single-parent families were absent from school for 11 or more days in the past year at about twice the rate of children in two-parent families.
- Parental education is associated with the number of school days missed. Seven percent of children whose parent(s) did not have a high school diploma and 8% whose more highly educated parent had a high school diploma or GED missed 11 or more days of school, compared with 5% of children whose more highly educated parent had continued education beyond high school.

Usual Place of Health Care (tables 11,12)

- In 1999, 6% of children in the United States did not have a usual place of health care.
- Five percent of single race non-Hispanic white children did not have a usual place of health care in 1999, compared with 6% of single race non-Hispanic black children and 14% of Hispanic children.
- Among children with a usual place of health care, 77% visited a doctor's office, 20% received care in a clinic, 2% used a hospital outpatient department, and 1% used a hospital emergency room (ER) as a usual place of health care.
- Among children with a usual place of health care, 83% of single race non-Hispanic white children visited a doctor's office for that care, compared with 69% of single race non-Hispanic black children and 64% of Hispanic children. Hispanic and single race non-Hispanic black children were more likely to have a clinic as their usual place of care (32% and 26%, respectively) than were single race non-Hispanic white children (16%).
- Children living with two parents were more likely to go to a doctor's

office for care (81%) than those living in a single mother family (68%), a single father family (72%), or with neither parent present (64%).

Time Since Last Contact With a Health Care Professional (tables 13,14)

- Most children had a contact with a doctor or other health professional at some time during the past 6 months, ranging from 66% of children aged 12–17 years to 86% of children 0–4 years of age.
- Sixty-three percent of children whose parent(s) did not have a high school diploma and 71% whose more highly educated parent had a high school diploma or GED had a contact with a doctor or other health professional at some time during the past 6 months, compared with 76% of children whose more highly educated parent had continued education beyond high school.
- Seventy-five percent of children with private health insurance coverage and 77% of those with Medicaid had a contact with a doctor or other health professional in the past 6 months, compared with 52% of children with no insurance coverage. Fifteen percent of uninsured children had not had a contact with a doctor or other health professional in more than 2 years (or had never had a contact), compared with 3% for both children with private coverage and children with Medicaid.

Selected Health Care Risk Factors (tables 15,16)

- In 1999, 8.3 million children (12%) had no health insurance coverage, ranging from 2% of children in families with an income of \$75,000 or more to 22% of children in families with an income of less than \$20,000.
- Nearly 2 million children (3%) were unable to get needed medical care because the family could not afford it, and medical care for 2.7 million

children (4%) was delayed because of worry about the cost.

- Four percent of children in single mother families and 3% of children in single father families were unable to get needed medical care because the family could not afford it, compared with 2% of children in two-parent families.
- Nine percent of children in single mother families had two or more visits to an emergency room in the past year, compared with 4% of children in two-parent families.
- Children in poor and near poor families were more likely to be uninsured, to have unmet medical need, delayed care, no usual place of medical care, and high use of ER service than children in not poor families.
- Regionally, 14% of children in the West and 16% of children in the South had no health insurance, compared with 7% of children in the Midwest and 7% of children in the Northeast.
- Regionally, 9% of children in the West and 8% of children in the South had no usual place of medical care, compared with 5% of children in the Midwest and 2% of children in the Northeast.
- When compared with children with an excellent, very good, or good health status, children with a fair or poor health status were:
 - four times as likely to have unmet need (8% versus 2%)
 - three times as likely to have delayed medical care (12% versus 4%)
 - almost five times as likely to have two or more ER visits (24% versus 5%)

Dental Care (tables 17,18)

- An estimated 4.2 million children had unmet dental need because their families could not afford dental care.
- Twenty-one percent of children lacking health insurance coverage experienced unmet dental need because their families could not afford dental care, compared with

- 4% of children with private health insurance coverage and 7% of children with Medicaid.
- Ten percent of children in single mother families had unmet dental needs, compared with 5% of children in two-parent families.
- Regionally, 4% of children in the Northeast experienced unmet dental needs, compared with 6% of children in the Midwest, 7% of children in the South, and 8% of children in the West.
- Single race white children were more likely to have had a dental contact in the past 6 months (59%) than single race black children (44%) and American Indian or Alaska native only children (40%).
- Single race non-Hispanic white children were more likely to have had a dental contact in the past 6 months (62%) than single race non-Hispanic black children (44%) and Hispanic children (43%).
- Hispanic children were nearly twice as likely as single race non-Hispanic white children to have had no dental contact for more than 2 years.

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Table 1. Frequencies and percents (with standard errors) of ever having asthma and having an asthma attack in the past 12 months, for children 17 years of age and under, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999

| Selected characteristic | All children 0–17 years | Ever told had asthma ¹ | Had asthma attack in past 12 months ¹ | Percent (standard error) ² | |
|---|----------------------------|---|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| | | | | Number in thousands ² | Percent (standard error) ² |
| Total | 72,080 | 7,761 | 3,799 | 10.8 (0.35) | 5.3 (0.24) |
| Sex | | | | | |
| Male | 36,871 | 4,759 | 2,262 | 12.9 (0.50) | 6.1 (0.36) |
| Female | 35,208 | 3,002 | 1,537 | 8.5 (0.43) | 4.4 (0.31) |
| Age | | | | | |
| 0–4 years | 19,601 | 1,368 | 825 | 7.0 (0.48) | 4.2 (0.38) |
| 5–17 years | 52,479 | 6,393 | 2,974 | 12.2 (0.43) | 5.7 (0.30) |
| 5–11 years | 28,882 | 3,420 | 1,605 | 11.9 (0.58) | 5.6 (0.39) |
| 12–17 years | 23,596 | 2,974 | 1,369 | 12.6 (0.62) | 5.8 (0.44) |
| Race | | | | | |
| Single race: ³ | | | | | |
| White | 54,499 | 5,380 | 2,630 | 9.9 (0.38) | 4.8 (0.27) |
| Black or African American | 10,578 | 1,445 | 780 | 13.7 (1.03) | 7.4 (0.72) |
| American Indian or Alaska Native | 625 | 147 | *46 | 23.8 (4.57) | 7.3 (2.14) |
| Asian | 1,987 | 172 | *84 | 8.7 (1.88) | *4.2 (1.51) |
| Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander | *66 | *13 | *13 | *19.4 (15.52) | *19.4 (15.52) |
| Multiple race: ⁴ | | | | | |
| 2 or more races | 1,579 | 300 | 122 | 19.1 (3.16) | 7.8 (1.50) |
| Black or African American; white | 525 | 94 | *37 | 18.0 (4.20) | *7.1 (2.26) |
| American Indian or Alaska Native; white | 288 | 66 | *15 | 23.0 (5.55) | *5.4 (2.97) |
| Hispanic origin and race⁵ | | | | | |
| Hispanic or Latino | 11,461 | 1,155 | 510 | 10.1 (0.69) | 4.4 (0.45) |
| Mexican or Mexican American | 7,782 | 575 | 282 | 7.4 (0.69) | 3.6 (0.54) |
| Not Hispanic or Latino | 60,567 | 6,606 | 3,289 | 10.9 (0.38) | 5.4 (0.28) |
| White, single race | 46,329 | 4,668 | 2,294 | 10.1 (0.43) | 5.0 (0.31) |
| Black or African American, single race | 10,404 | 1,432 | 779 | 13.8 (1.05) | 7.5 (0.73) |
| Family structure⁶ | | | | | |
| Mother and father | 50,872 | 4,900 | 2,448 | 9.6 (0.39) | 4.8 (0.29) |
| Mother, no father | 16,319 | 2,279 | 1,090 | 14.0 (0.74) | 6.7 (0.52) |
| Father, no mother | 2,942 | 301 | 133 | 10.2 (1.36) | 4.5 (0.96) |
| Neither mother nor father | 1,947 | 281 | 127 | 14.4 (2.16) | 6.5 (1.41) |
| Parent's education⁷ | | | | | |
| Less than high school diploma | 9,250 | 952 | 362 | 10.3 (0.89) | 3.9 (0.48) |
| High school diploma or GED ⁸ | 16,827 | 1,905 | 913 | 11.4 (0.66) | 5.4 (0.48) |
| More than high school | 43,556 | 4,593 | 2,370 | 10.6 (0.44) | 5.4 (0.32) |
| Family income⁹ | | | | | |
| Less than \$20,000 | 13,607 | 1,865 | 898 | 13.7 (0.81) | 6.6 (0.59) |
| \$20,000 or more | 55,560 | 5,631 | 2,763 | 10.1 (0.37) | 5.0 (0.27) |
| \$20,000–\$34,999 | 10,254 | 1,093 | 582 | 10.7 (0.89) | 5.7 (0.56) |
| \$35,000–\$54,999 | 13,107 | 1,450 | 728 | 11.1 (0.77) | 5.6 (0.58) |
| \$55,000–\$74,999 | 9,613 | 924 | 415 | 9.6 (0.87) | 4.3 (0.57) |
| \$75,000 or more | 13,697 | 1,420 | 715 | 10.4 (0.76) | 5.2 (0.57) |
| Poverty status¹⁰ | | | | | |
| Poor | 9,585 | 1,299 | 610 | 13.6 (1.03) | 6.4 (0.65) |
| Near poor | 12,134 | 1,358 | 660 | 11.2 (0.89) | 5.4 (0.60) |
| Not poor | 35,757 | 3,737 | 1,855 | 10.5 (0.47) | 5.2 (0.34) |
| Health insurance coverage¹¹ | | | | | |
| Private | 49,644 | 5,042 | 2,422 | 10.2 (0.39) | 4.9 (0.28) |
| Medicaid/other public | 12,345 | 1,839 | 990 | 14.9 (0.93) | 8.0 (0.70) |
| Other | 1,561 | 165 | *60 | 10.6 (2.13) | *3.8 (1.32) |
| Uninsured | 8,334 | 690 | 309 | 8.3 (0.83) | 3.7 (0.59) |

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Frequencies and percents (with standard errors) of ever having asthma and having an asthma attack in the past 12 months, for children 17 years of age and under, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999—Con.

| Selected characteristic | All children 0–17 years | Ever told had asthma ¹ | Had asthma attack in past 12 months ¹ | Ever told had asthma | Had asthma attack in past 12 months |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|---|--|---------------------------------------|---|
| Place of residence ¹² | | Number in thousands ² | | Percent (standard error) ² | |
| Large MSA | 34,327 | 3,654 | 1,830 | 10.7 (0.47) | 5.3 (0.34) |
| Small MSA | 22,591 | 2,445 | 1,159 | 10.8 (0.61) | 5.1 (0.44) |
| Not in MSA | 15,162 | 1,662 | 809 | 11.0 (0.85) | 5.3 (0.58) |
| Region | | | | | |
| Northeast | 13,283 | 1,489 | 700 | 11.2 (0.77) | 5.3 (0.51) |
| Midwest | 18,061 | 1,911 | 1,020 | 10.6 (0.70) | 5.7 (0.56) |
| South | 25,387 | 2,691 | 1,317 | 10.6 (0.58) | 5.2 (0.42) |
| West | 15,349 | 1,670 | 762 | 10.9 (0.77) | 5.0 (0.44) |
| Current health status | | | | | |
| Excellent/very good/good | 70,786 | 7,375 | 3,534 | 10.4 (0.35) | 5.0 (0.24) |
| Fair/poor | 1,228 | 386 | 265 | 31.4 (3.32) | 21.6 (2.84) |
| Sex and age | | | | | |
| Male: | | | | | |
| 0–4 years | 10,018 | 895 | 545 | 8.9 (0.78) | 5.4 (0.62) |
| 5–17 years | 26,853 | 3,864 | 1,717 | 14.4 (0.62) | 6.4 (0.42) |
| 5–11 years | 14,814 | 2,217 | 1,039 | 15.0 (0.85) | 7.0 (0.59) |
| 12–17 years | 12,040 | 1,648 | 678 | 13.7 (0.88) | 5.6 (0.59) |
| Female: | | | | | |
| 0–4 years | 9,583 | 473 | 280 | 5.0 (0.57) | 2.9 (0.42) |
| 5–17 years | 25,625 | 2,529 | 1,256 | 9.9 (0.55) | 4.9 (0.39) |
| 5–11 years | 14,069 | 1,203 | 565 | 8.6 (0.72) | 4.0 (0.48) |
| 12–17 years | 11,557 | 1,326 | 691 | 11.5 (0.80) | 6.0 (0.62) |

* Data preceded by an asterisk have a relative standard error of greater than 30%, and should be used with caution as they do not meet the standard of reliability or precision.

¹The data in this table are based on the following questions: "Has a doctor or other health professional ever told you that [child's name] had asthma?" and "During the past 12 months, has [child's name] had an episode of asthma or an asthma attack?" See appendix II for more detailed definitions of selected terms used in this report.

²Unknowns for the variable of interest are not included in the denominators when calculating percents. They are, however, included in the "All children" column.

³Starting with data year 1999, the categories "White" and "Black or African American" under "Single race" include persons who reported only one racial group. The category "American Indian or Alaska Native" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "American Indian" and "Alaska Native" racial groups. Also, the category "Asian" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated more than one Asian subgroup (such as Asian Indian, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean, or Vietnamese). Further, the racial group "Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "Native Hawaiian" or "other Pacific Islander" (such as Guamanian or Samoan) categories. Single race persons who indicated a race other than white, black or African American, American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, or Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander are not shown. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

⁴Although all persons who reported a multiple race combination are shown in "2 or more races," the only specific combinations shown are "Black or African American; white" and "American Indian or Alaska Native; white." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

⁵"Mexican or Mexican American" is a subset of Hispanics. Under the category "Not Hispanic or Latino," "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race" refer to non-Hispanic single race white persons and non-Hispanic single race black or African American persons, respectively. Although all non-Hispanic persons are shown in "Not Hispanic or Latino," the only specific categories shown are "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

⁶Mother and father can include biological, adoptive, step, in-law, or foster relationships. Legal guardians are classified in "Neither mother or father."

⁷Parent's education is the education level of the parent with the higher level of education, regardless of that parent's age.

⁸GED is General Educational Development high school equivalency diploma.

⁹"Less than \$20,000" and "\$20,000 or more" include both respondents reporting specific dollar amounts and respondents reporting that their incomes were within those categories (see appendix I). The indented categories include only those respondents who reported specific dollar amounts. Children with unknown family income are not shown.

¹⁰Poverty status is based on family income and family size using the Census Bureau's poverty thresholds. "Poor" children are in families defined as below the poverty threshold. "Near poor" children are in families with incomes that are 100% to less than 200% of the poverty threshold. "Not poor" children are in families with incomes that are 200% of the poverty threshold or greater.

¹¹Private health insurance may be obtained through the workplace or purchased directly. Among children under 18 years of age, "Medicaid/other public" includes those with Medicaid or other public health insurance coverage (e.g., most State-sponsored coverage). "Other coverage" includes Medicare, military health insurance coverage, and/or another form of government-sponsored health insurance coverage. Children with only Indian Health Service coverage are considered uninsured.

¹²"MSA" is metropolitan statistical area. Large MSAs have a population size of 1,000,000 or more; small MSAs have a population size of less than 1,000,000. "Not in MSA" consists of persons not living in a metropolitan statistical area.

Table 2. Frequencies and percents (with standard errors) of hay fever, respiratory allergies, and other allergies in the past 12 months, for children 17 years of age and under, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999

| Selected characteristic | All children 0–17 years | Hay fever ¹ | Respiratory allergies ¹ | Other allergies ¹ | Hay fever | Respiratory allergies | Other allergies |
|---|----------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| | Number in thousands ² | | | | Percent (standard error) ² | | |
| Total | 72,080 | 6,992 | 7,369 | 6,290 | 10.3 (0.35) | 10.8 (0.35) | 9.2 (0.33) |
| Sex | | | | | | | |
| Male | 36,871 | 3,824 | 4,177 | 3,303 | 11.0 (0.48) | 12.0 (0.53) | 9.5 (0.47) |
| Female | 35,208 | 3,168 | 3,192 | 2,987 | 9.5 (0.47) | 9.6 (0.46) | 9.0 (0.44) |
| Age | | | | | | | |
| 0–4 years | 19,601 | 683 | 1,090 | 1,603 | 4.3 (0.43) | 6.9 (0.54) | 10.2 (0.64) |
| 5–17 years | 52,479 | 6,309 | 6,279 | 4,687 | 12.1 (0.42) | 12.0 (0.43) | 8.9 (0.38) |
| 5–11 years | 28,882 | 3,080 | 3,206 | 2,550 | 10.7 (0.54) | 11.1 (0.55) | 8.8 (0.50) |
| 12–17 years | 23,596 | 3,229 | 3,074 | 2,137 | 13.7 (0.65) | 13.1 (0.66) | 9.1 (0.53) |
| Race | | | | | | | |
| Single race:³ | | | | | | | |
| White | 54,499 | 5,344 | 5,717 | 4,563 | 10.4 (0.40) | 11.1 (0.42) | 8.9 (0.37) |
| Black or African American | 10,578 | 993 | 1,009 | 1,021 | 9.9 (0.84) | 10.0 (0.85) | 10.1 (0.80) |
| American Indian or Alaska Native | 625 | *37 | 88 | *28 | *6.4 (2.65) | 15.3 (4.16) | 4.9 (2.14) |
| Asian | 1,987 | 145 | 154 | 196 | 7.6 (2.07) | 8.1 (2.08) | 10.3 (2.38) |
| Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander | *66 | *– | *13 | *13 | *– | *23.3 (18.2) | *24.0 (18.) |
| Multiple race:⁴ | | | | | | | |
| 2 or more races | 1,579 | 246 | 202 | 256 | 16.4 (2.42) | 13.5 (2.14) | 17.1 (2.76) |
| Black or African American; white | 525 | *53 | 69 | 94 | *10.7 (3.29) | 13.9 (3.25) | *19.1 (4.5) |
| American Indian or Alaska Native; white | 288 | *72 | *50 | *35 | 26.8 (7.86) | *18.6 (6.84) | 13.0 (4.99) |
| Hispanic origin and race⁵ | | | | | | | |
| Hispanic or Latino | 11,461 | 807 | 670 | 722 | 7.4 (0.54) | 6.2 (0.53) | 6.7 (0.58) |
| Mexican or Mexican American | 7,782 | 468 | 358 | 411 | 6.4 (0.61) | 4.9 (0.59) | 5.6 (0.66) |
| Not Hispanic or Latino | 60,567 | 6,185 | 6,687 | 5,558 | 10.8 (0.40) | 11.7 (0.40) | 9.7 (0.37) |
| White, single race | 46,329 | 4,851 | 5,270 | 4,102 | 11.1 (0.46) | 12.1 (0.48) | 9.4 (0.42) |
| Black or African American, single race | 10,404 | 984 | 1,002 | 1,009 | 9.9 (0.85) | 10.1 (0.87) | 10.2 (0.81) |
| Family structure⁶ | | | | | | | |
| Mother and father | 50,872 | 4,827 | 5,271 | 4,289 | 10.1 (0.40) | 11.0 (0.44) | 8.9 (0.38) |
| Mother, no father | 16,319 | 1,722 | 1,739 | 1,563 | 11.1 (0.68) | 11.2 (0.68) | 10.1 (0.63) |
| Father, no mother | 2,942 | 287 | 242 | 310 | 10.1 (1.40) | 8.5 (1.27) | 10.9 (1.56) |
| Neither mother nor father | 1,947 | 155 | 117 | 128 | 8.4 (1.55) | 6.3 (1.28) | 6.9 (1.56) |
| Parent's education⁷ | | | | | | | |
| Less than high school diploma | 9,250 | 480 | 550 | 520 | 5.5 (0.63) | 6.3 (0.68) | 5.9 (0.64) |
| High school diploma or GED ⁸ | 16,827 | 1,369 | 1,496 | 1,261 | 8.6 (0.62) | 9.4 (0.67) | 7.9 (0.64) |
| More than high school | 43,556 | 4,973 | 5,190 | 4,376 | 12.1 (0.49) | 12.6 (0.49) | 10.6 (0.45) |
| Family income⁹ | | | | | | | |
| Less than \$20,000 | 13,607 | 1,100 | 1,210 | 1,107 | 8.6 (0.71) | 9.5 (0.71) | 8.6 (0.69) |
| \$20,000 or more | 55,560 | 5,665 | 5,878 | 5,009 | 10.8 (0.39) | 11.2 (0.41) | 9.5 (0.38) |
| \$20,000–\$34,999 | 10,254 | 960 | 1,015 | 940 | 9.9 (0.91) | 10.5 (0.87) | 9.7 (0.84) |
| \$35,000–\$54,999 | 13,107 | 1,268 | 1,498 | 1,189 | 10.3 (0.81) | 12.1 (0.85) | 9.6 (0.76) |
| \$55,000–\$74,999 | 9,613 | 973 | 1,060 | 939 | 10.7 (0.87) | 11.7 (0.97) | 10.3 (0.96) |
| \$75,000 or more | 13,697 | 1,710 | 1,626 | 1,281 | 13.2 (0.88) | 12.6 (0.86) | 9.9 (0.76) |
| Poverty status¹⁰ | | | | | | | |
| Poor | 9,585 | 788 | 802 | 794 | 8.7 (0.86) | 8.8 (0.89) | 8.7 (0.87) |
| Near poor | 12,134 | 987 | 1,133 | 1,052 | 8.6 (0.82) | 9.9 (0.82) | 9.2 (0.78) |
| Not poor | 35,757 | 4,064 | 4,281 | 3,411 | 12.1 (0.51) | 12.7 (0.51) | 10.1 (0.50) |
| Health insurance coverage¹¹ | | | | | | | |
| Private | 49,644 | 5,247 | 5,423 | 4,507 | 11.2 (0.41) | 11.6 (0.42) | 9.6 (0.40) |
| Medicaid/other public | 12,345 | 958 | 1,095 | 1,181 | 8.3 (0.81) | 9.5 (0.77) | 10.2 (0.82) |
| Other | 1,561 | *116 | 169 | 161 | 7.9 (2.22) | 11.5 (2.68) | 11.0 (2.45) |
| Uninsured | 8,334 | 658 | 680 | 440 | 8.3 (0.94) | 8.6 (0.95) | 5.6 (0.64) |

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Frequencies and percents (with standard errors) of hay fever, respiratory allergies, and other allergies in the past 12 months, for children 17 years of age and under, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999—Con.

| Selected characteristic | All children 0–17 years | Hay fever ¹ | Respiratory allergies ¹ | Other allergies ¹ | Hay fever | Respiratory allergies | Other allergies |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Place of residence ¹² | | Number in thousands ² | | | Percent (standard error) ² | | |
| Large MSA | 34,327 | 3,393 | 3,141 | 2,991 | 10.5 (0.50) | 9.7 (0.50) | 9.2 (0.47) |
| Small MSA | 22,591 | 2,102 | 2,537 | 2,188 | 9.9 (0.59) | 11.9 (0.65) | 10.3 (0.68) |
| Not in MSA | 15,162 | 1,496 | 1,691 | 1,111 | 10.4 (0.82) | 11.7 (0.77) | 7.7 (0.62) |
| Region | | | | | | | |
| Northeast | 13,283 | 1,215 | 1,182 | 1,276 | 9.8 (0.76) | 9.5 (0.74) | 10.2 (0.84) |
| Midwest | 18,061 | 1,672 | 1,657 | 1,581 | 9.8 (0.64) | 9.7 (0.67) | 9.2 (0.66) |
| South | 25,387 | 2,440 | 3,313 | 1,972 | 10.2 (0.60) | 13.8 (0.69) | 8.2 (0.48) |
| West | 15,349 | 1,664 | 1,217 | 1,460 | 11.4 (0.82) | 8.4 (0.64) | 10.0 (0.79) |
| Current health status | | | | | | | |
| Excellent/very good/good | 70,786 | 6,796 | 7,088 | 6,145 | 10.2 (0.35) | 10.6 (0.35) | 9.2 (0.33) |
| Fair/poor | 1,228 | 195 | 281 | 145 | 17.3 (3.31) | 24.8 (3.53) | 12.7 (2.43) |
| Sex and age | | | | | | | |
| Male: | | | | | | | |
| 0–4 years | 10,018 | 449 | 677 | 893 | 5.6 (0.68) | 8.5 (0.80) | 11.1 (0.96) |
| 5–17 years | 26,853 | 3,375 | 3,501 | 2,410 | 12.6 (0.57) | 13.1 (0.64) | 9.0 (0.53) |
| 5–11 years | 14,814 | 1,715 | 1,854 | 1,364 | 11.6 (0.77) | 12.5 (0.86) | 9.2 (0.70) |
| 12–17 years | 12,040 | 1,660 | 1,647 | 1,046 | 13.8 (0.88) | 13.7 (0.93) | 8.7 (0.74) |
| Female: | | | | | | | |
| 0–4 years | 9,583 | 234 | 413 | 710 | 3.0 (0.53) | 5.4 (0.74) | 9.2 (0.87) |
| 5–17 years | 25,625 | 2,934 | 2,779 | 2,277 | 11.5 (0.58) | 10.9 (0.56) | 8.9 (0.50) |
| 5–11 years | 14,069 | 1,365 | 1,352 | 1,186 | 9.7 (0.78) | 9.7 (0.69) | 8.4 (0.67) |
| 12–17 years | 11,557 | 1,569 | 1,427 | 1,091 | 13.6 (0.91) | 12.4 (0.90) | 9.4 (0.74) |

* Data preceded by an asterisk have a relative standard error of greater than 30%, and should be used with caution as they do not meet the standard of reliability or precision.

– Quantity zero.

¹ The data in this table are based on the following questions: "During the past 12 months, has [child's name] had any of the following conditions? Hay fever? Any kind of respiratory allergy? Any kind of food or digestive allergy? Eczema or any kind of skin allergy?" See appendix II for more detailed definitions of selected terms used in this report. A child may be counted in more than one category.

² Unknowns for the variable of interest are not included in the denominators when calculating percents. They are, however, included in the "All children" column.

³ Starting with data year 1999, the categories "White" and "Black or African American" under "Single race" include persons who reported only one racial group. The category "American Indian or Alaska Native" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "American Indian" and "Alaska Native" racial groups. Also, the category "Asian" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated more than one Asian subgroup (such as Asian Indian, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean, or Vietnamese). Further, the racial group "Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "Native Hawaiian" or "other Pacific Islander" (such as Guamanian or Samoan) categories. Single race persons who indicated a race other than white, black or African American, American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, or Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander are not shown. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

⁴ Although all persons who reported a multiple race combination are shown in "2 or more races," the only specific combinations shown are "Black or African American; white" and "American Indian or Alaska Native; white." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

⁵ "Mexican or Mexican American" is a subset of Hispanics. Under the category "Not Hispanic or Latino," "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race" refer to non-Hispanic single race white persons and non-Hispanic single race black or African American persons, respectively. Although all non-Hispanic persons are shown in "Not Hispanic or Latino," the only specific categories shown are "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

⁶ Mother and father can include biological, adoptive, steps, in-law, or foster relationships. Legal guardians are classified in "Neither mother or father."

⁷ Parent's education is the education level of the parent with the higher level of education, regardless of that parent's age.

⁸ GED is General Educational Development high school equivalency diploma.

⁹ "Less than \$20,000" and "\$20,000 or more" include both respondents reporting specific dollar amounts and respondents reporting that their incomes were within those categories (see appendix I). The indented categories include only those respondents who reported specific dollar amounts. Children with unknown family income are not shown.

¹⁰ Poverty status is based on family income and family size using the Census Bureau's poverty thresholds. "Poor" children are in families defined as below the poverty threshold. "Near poor" children are in families with incomes that are 100% to less than 200% of the poverty threshold. "Not poor" children are in families with incomes that are 200% of the poverty threshold or greater.

¹¹ Private health insurance may be obtained through the workplace or purchased directly. Among children under 18 years of age, "Medicaid/other public" includes those with Medicaid or other public health insurance coverage (e.g., most State-sponsored coverage). "Other coverage" includes Medicare, military health insurance coverage, and/or another form of government-sponsored health insurance coverage. Children with only Indian Health Service coverage are considered uninsured.

¹² "MSA" is metropolitan statistical area. Large MSAs have a population size of 1,000,000 or more; small MSAs have a population size of less than 1,000,000. "Not in MSA" consists of persons not living in a metropolitan statistical area.

Table 3. Frequencies and percents (with standard errors) of ever having a learning disability or Attention Deficit Disorder, for children 3–17 years of age, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999

| Selected characteristic | All children aged 3–17 | Ever told had | | | |
|---|------------------------|----------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| | | Learning disability ¹ | Attention Deficit Disorder ¹ | Learning disability | Attention Deficit Disorder |
| | | Number in thousands ² | | Percent (standard error) ² | |
| Total | 60,362 | 4,323 | 3,382 | 7.2 (0.29) | 5.6 (0.27) |
| Sex | | | | | |
| Male | 30,881 | 3,005 | 2,603 | 9.8 (0.48) | 8.4 (0.45) |
| Female | 29,481 | 1,318 | 780 | 4.5 (0.33) | 2.6 (0.26) |
| Age | | | | | |
| 3–4 years | 7,884 | 87 | *47 | 1.1 (0.29) | *0.6 (0.21) |
| 5–17 years | 52,479 | 4,237 | 3,336 | 8.1 (0.33) | 6.4 (0.30) |
| 5–11 years | 28,882 | 1,977 | 1,520 | 6.9 (0.44) | 5.3 (0.36) |
| 12–17 years | 23,596 | 2,260 | 1,816 | 9.6 (0.54) | 7.7 (0.48) |
| Race | | | | | |
| Single race: ³ | | | | | |
| White | 45,694 | 3,264 | 2,787 | 7.2 (0.34) | 6.1 (0.32) |
| Black or African American | 9,009 | 714 | 395 | 7.9 (0.82) | 4.4 (0.55) |
| American Indian or Alaska Native | 512 | *78 | *54 | *15.2 (4.75) | *10.9 (4.06) |
| Asian | 1,629 | *15 | *27 | *0.9 (0.58) | *1.7 (0.87) |
| Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander | *46 | *1 | *– | *2.6 (2.83) | *– |
| Multiple race: ⁴ | | | | | |
| 2 or more races | 1,305 | 92 | *45 | 7.0 (1.56) | *3.4 (1.12) |
| Black or African American; white | 435 | *16 | *16 | *3.6 (2.17) | *3.8 (2.33) |
| American Indian or Alaska Native; white | 230 | *37 | *12 | *16.1 (5.52) | *5.3 (3.05) |
| Hispanic origin and race⁵ | | | | | |
| Hispanic or Latino | 9,280 | 505 | 248 | 5.4 (0.52) | 2.7 (0.36) |
| Mexican or Mexican American | 6,244 | 303 | 111 | 4.9 (0.64) | 1.8 (0.34) |
| Not Hispanic or Latino | 51,052 | 3,806 | 3,123 | 7.5 (0.34) | 6.1 (0.31) |
| White, single race | 39,015 | 2,940 | 2,623 | 7.6 (0.39) | 6.7 (0.37) |
| Black or African American, single race | 8,879 | 705 | 390 | 7.9 (0.83) | 4.4 (0.55) |
| Family structure⁶ | | | | | |
| Mother and father | 42,269 | 2,538 | 2,051 | 6.0 (0.34) | 4.9 (0.31) |
| Mother, no father | 13,874 | 1,409 | 960 | 10.2 (0.69) | 6.9 (0.57) |
| Father, no mother | 2,529 | 206 | 202 | 8.1 (1.41) | 8.0 (1.53) |
| Neither mother nor father | 1,690 | 170 | 169 | 10.1 (1.95) | 10.0 (2.05) |
| Parent's education⁷ | | | | | |
| Less than high school diploma | 7,638 | 694 | 438 | 9.1 (0.89) | 5.7 (0.74) |
| High school diploma or GED ⁸ | 14,109 | 1,121 | 811 | 8.0 (0.64) | 5.8 (0.52) |
| More than high school | 36,486 | 2,333 | 1,954 | 6.4 (0.37) | 5.4 (0.34) |
| Family income⁹ | | | | | |
| Less than \$20,000 | 11,099 | 1,252 | 803 | 11.3 (0.80) | 7.3 (0.67) |
| \$20,000 or more | 46,754 | 2,903 | 2,479 | 6.2 (0.32) | 5.3 (0.30) |
| \$20,000–\$34,999 | 8,462 | 684 | 501 | 8.1 (0.81) | 5.9 (0.69) |
| \$35,000–\$54,999 | 10,940 | 860 | 720 | 7.9 (0.75) | 6.6 (0.67) |
| \$55,000–\$74,999 | 8,213 | 464 | 420 | 5.6 (0.72) | 5.1 (0.65) |
| \$75,000 or more | 11,565 | 597 | 579 | 5.2 (0.59) | 5.0 (0.60) |
| Poverty status¹⁰ | | | | | |
| Poor | 7,919 | 937 | 610 | 11.9 (1.09) | 7.7 (0.86) |
| Near poor | 9,955 | 875 | 564 | 8.8 (0.85) | 5.7 (0.68) |
| Not poor | 30,140 | 1,853 | 1,756 | 6.2 (0.38) | 5.8 (0.39) |
| Health insurance coverage¹¹ | | | | | |
| Private | 42,104 | 2,483 | 2,134 | 5.9 (0.33) | 5.1 (0.31) |
| Medicaid/other public | 9,629 | 1,318 | 805 | 13.8 (1.00) | 8.4 (0.81) |
| Other | 1,288 | 103 | 76 | 8.1 (2.09) | 5.9 (1.57) |
| Uninsured | 7,167 | 415 | 368 | 5.8 (0.67) | 5.1 (0.70) |

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 3. Frequencies and percents (with standard errors) of ever having a learning disability or Attention Deficit Disorder, for children 3–17 years of age, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999—Con.

| Selected characteristic | All children aged 3–17 | Ever told had | | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| | | Learning disability ¹ | Attention Deficit Disorder ¹ | Learning disability | Attention Deficit Disorder |
| Place of residence ¹² | | Number in thousands ² | | Percent (standard error) ² | |
| Large MSA | 28,347 | 1,871 | 1,425 | 6.6 (0.42) | 5.0 (0.37) |
| Small MSA | 18,952 | 1,357 | 1,136 | 7.2 (0.50) | 6.0 (0.50) |
| Not in MSA | 13,064 | 1,096 | 822 | 8.4 (0.68) | 6.3 (0.57) |
| Region | | | | | |
| Northeast | 11,048 | 803 | 498 | 7.3 (0.68) | 4.5 (0.53) |
| Midwest | 15,252 | 1,059 | 928 | 7.0 (0.62) | 6.1 (0.53) |
| South | 21,229 | 1,642 | 1,424 | 7.7 (0.49) | 6.7 (0.51) |
| West | 12,834 | 820 | 532 | 6.4 (0.61) | 4.1 (0.47) |
| Current health status | | | | | |
| Excellent/very good/good | 59,279 | 4,030 | 3,217 | 6.8 (0.29) | 5.4 (0.26) |
| Fair/poor | 1,022 | 293 | 166 | 28.7 (4.08) | 16.3 (3.13) |
| Sex and age | | | | | |
| Male: | | | | | |
| 3–4 years | 4,028 | *50 | *29 | *1.2 (0.41) | *0.7 (0.34) |
| 5–17 years | 26,853 | 2,955 | 2,573 | 11.0 (0.54) | 9.6 (0.51) |
| 5–11 years | 14,814 | 1,388 | 1,198 | 9.4 (0.69) | 8.1 (0.62) |
| 12–17 years | 12,040 | 1,567 | 1,375 | 13.1 (0.86) | 11.5 (0.80) |
| Female: | | | | | |
| 3–4 years | 3,856 | *37 | *17 | *1.0 (0.41) | *0.4 (0.23) |
| 5–17 years | 25,625 | 1,282 | 762 | 5.0 (0.38) | 3.0 (0.29) |
| 5–11 years | 14,069 | 589 | 322 | 4.2 (0.49) | 2.3 (0.35) |
| 12–17 years | 11,557 | 693 | 440 | 6.0 (0.61) | 3.8 (0.49) |

* Data preceded by an asterisk have a relative standard error of greater than 30%, and should be used with caution as they do not meet the standard of reliability or precision.

– Quantity zero.

¹The data in this table are based on the following questions: "Has a representative from a school or a health professional ever told you that {child's name} had a learning disability?" and "Has a doctor or health professional ever told you that {child's name} had Attention Deficit Disorder?" See appendix II for more detailed definitions of selected terms used in this report.

²Unknowns for the variable of interest are not included in the denominators when calculating percents. They are, however, included in the "All children" column.

³Starting with data year 1999, the categories "White" and "Black or African American" under "Single race" include persons who reported only one racial group. The category "American Indian or Alaska Native" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "American Indian" and "Alaska Native" racial groups. Also, the category "Asian" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated more than one Asian subgroup (such as Asian Indian, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean, or Vietnamese). Further, the racial group "Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "Native Hawaiian" or "other Pacific Islander" (such as Guamanian or Samoan) categories. Single race persons who indicated a race other than white, black or African American, American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, or Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander are not shown. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

⁴Although all persons who reported a multiple race combination are shown in "2 or more races," the only specific combinations shown are "Black or African American; white" and "American Indian or Alaska Native; white." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

⁵"Mexican or Mexican American" is a subset of Hispanics. Under the category "Not Hispanic or Latino," "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race" refer to non-Hispanic single race white persons and non-Hispanic single race black or African American persons, respectively. Although all non-Hispanic persons are shown in "Not Hispanic or Latino," the only specific categories shown are "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

⁶Mother and father can include biological, adoptive, step, in-law, or foster relationships. Legal guardians are classified in "Neither mother nor father."

⁷Parent's education is the education level of the parent with the higher level of education, regardless of that parent's age.

⁸GED is General Educational Development high school equivalency diploma.

⁹Less than \$20,000" and "\$20,000 or more" include both respondents reporting specific dollar amounts and respondents reporting that their incomes were within those categories (see appendix I). The indented categories include only those respondents who reported specific dollar amounts. Children with unknown family income are not shown.

¹⁰Poverty status is based on family income and family size using the Census Bureau's poverty thresholds. "Poor" children are in families defined as below the poverty threshold. "Near poor" children are in families with incomes that are 100% to less than 200% of the poverty threshold. "Not poor" children are in families with incomes that are 200% of the poverty threshold or greater.

¹¹Private health insurance may be obtained through the workplace or purchased directly. Among children under 18 years of age, "Medicaid/other public" includes those with Medicaid or other public health insurance coverage (e.g., most State-sponsored coverage). "Other coverage" includes Medicare, military health insurance coverage, and/or another form of government-sponsored health insurance coverage. Children with only Indian Health Service coverage are considered uninsured.

¹²"MSA" is metropolitan statistical area. Large MSAs have a population size of 1,000,000 or more; small MSAs have a population size of less than 1,000,000. "Not in MSA" consists of persons not living in a metropolitan statistical area.

Table 4. Frequencies and percents (with standard errors) of having a problem for which prescription medication had been taken regularly for at least 3 months, for children 17 years of age and under, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999

| Selected characteristic | All children 0–17 years | Prescription medication taken regularly for at least 3 months ¹ | Prescription medication taken regularly for at least 3 months ¹ |
|---|----------------------------|---|---|
| | | Number in thousands ² | Percent (standard error) ² |
| Total | 72,080 | 7,455 | 10.3 (0.33) |
| Sex | | | |
| Male | 36,871 | 4,309 | 11.7 (0.50) |
| Female | 35,208 | 3,145 | 8.9 (0.43) |
| Age | | | |
| 0–4 years | 19,601 | 1,222 | 6.2 (0.49) |
| 5–17 years | 52,479 | 6,233 | 11.9 (0.41) |
| 5–11 years | 28,882 | 3,133 | 10.9 (0.54) |
| 12–17 years | 23,596 | 3,100 | 13.1 (0.65) |
| Race | | | |
| Single race: ³ | | | |
| White | 54,499 | 5,802 | 10.6 (0.39) |
| Black or African American | 10,578 | 1,167 | 11.0 (0.85) |
| American Indian or Alaska Native | 625 | *51 | *8.2 (3.08) |
| Asian | 1,987 | *89 | *4.5 (1.40) |
| Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander | *66 | *7 | *10.3 (8.61) |
| Multiple race: ⁴ | | | |
| 2 or more races | 1,579 | 172 | 10.9 (1.88) |
| Black or African American; white | 525 | *74 | 14.1 (3.92) |
| American Indian or Alaska Native; white | 288 | *30 | *10.5 (3.59) |
| Hispanic origin and race⁵ | | | |
| Hispanic or Latino | 11,461 | 711 | 6.2 (0.48) |
| Mexican or Mexican American | 7,782 | 386 | 5.0 (0.51) |
| Not Hispanic or Latino | 60,567 | 6,731 | 11.1 (0.39) |
| White, single race | 46,329 | 5,296 | 11.4 (0.45) |
| Black or African American, single race | 10,404 | 1,163 | 11.2 (0.86) |
| Family structure⁶ | | | |
| Mother and father | 50,872 | 4,948 | 9.7 (0.40) |
| Mother, no father | 16,319 | 1,994 | 12.2 (0.67) |
| Father, no mother | 2,942 | 286 | 9.7 (1.48) |
| Neither mother nor father | 1,947 | 227 | 11.7 (1.80) |
| Parent's education⁷ | | | |
| Less than high school diploma | 9,250 | 678 | 7.3 (0.69) |
| High school diploma or GED ⁸ | 16,827 | 1,611 | 9.6 (0.63) |
| More than high school | 43,556 | 4,915 | 11.3 (0.45) |
| Family income⁹ | | | |
| Less than \$20,000 | 13,607 | 1,466 | 10.8 (0.72) |
| \$20,000 or more | 55,560 | 5,761 | 10.4 (0.39) |
| \$20,000–\$34,999 | 10,254 | 1,041 | 10.2 (0.84) |
| \$35,000–\$54,999 | 13,107 | 1,372 | 10.5 (0.75) |
| \$55,000–\$74,999 | 9,613 | 854 | 8.9 (0.80) |
| \$75,000 or more | 13,697 | 1,744 | 12.7 (0.86) |
| Poverty status¹⁰ | | | |
| Poor | 9,585 | 1,021 | 10.7 (0.95) |
| Near poor | 12,134 | 1,202 | 9.9 (0.81) |
| Not poor | 35,757 | 3,989 | 11.2 (0.48) |
| Health insurance coverage¹¹ | | | |
| Private | 49,644 | 5,153 | 10.4 (0.40) |
| Medicaid/other public | 12,345 | 1,634 | 13.2 (0.85) |
| Other | 1,561 | 154 | 9.9 (2.33) |
| Uninsured | 8,334 | 484 | 5.8 (0.79) |

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 4. Frequencies and percents (with standard errors) of having a problem for which prescription medication had been taken regularly for at least 3 months, for children 17 years of age and under, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999—Con.

| Selected characteristic | All children 0–17 years | Prescription medication taken regularly for at least 3 months ¹ | Prescription medication taken regularly for at least 3 months ¹ |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|---|
| Place of residence ¹² | Number in thousands ² | | Percent (standard error) ² |
| Large MSA | 34,327 | 3,307 | 9.6 (0.47) |
| Small MSA | 22,591 | 2,324 | 10.3 (0.61) |
| Not in MSA | 15,162 | 1,824 | 12.0 (0.78) |
| Region | | | |
| Northeast | 13,283 | 1,337 | 10.1 (0.80) |
| Midwest | 18,061 | 1,894 | 10.5 (0.72) |
| South | 25,387 | 3,066 | 12.1 (0.58) |
| West | 15,349 | 1,158 | 7.5 (0.58) |
| Current health status | | | |
| Excellent/very good/good | 70,786 | 6,884 | 9.7 (0.33) |
| Fair/poor | 1,228 | 571 | 46.5 (3.98) |
| Sex and age | | | |
| Male: | | | |
| 0–4 years | 10,018 | 635 | 6.4 (0.65) |
| 5–17 years | 26,853 | 3,674 | 13.7 (0.63) |
| 5–11 years | 14,814 | 2,033 | 13.7 (0.85) |
| 12–17 years | 12,040 | 1,641 | 13.6 (0.88) |
| Female: | | | |
| 0–4 years | 9,583 | 586 | 6.1 (0.69) |
| 5–17 years | 25,625 | 2,559 | 10.0 (0.53) |
| 5–11 years | 14,069 | 1,100 | 7.8 (0.62) |
| 12–17 years | 11,557 | 1,459 | 12.6 (0.93) |

* Data preceded by an asterisk have a relative standard error of greater than 30%, and should be used with caution as they do not meet the standard of reliability or precision.

¹The data in this table are based on the following question: "Does (child's name) now have a problem for which (he/she) has regularly taken prescription medication for at least 3 months?" See appendix II for more detailed definitions of selected terms used in this report.

²Unknowns for the variable of interest are not included in the denominators when calculating percents. They are, however, included in the "All children" column.

³Starting with data year 1999, the categories "White" and "Black or African American" under "Single race" include persons who reported only one racial group. The category "American Indian or Alaska Native" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "American Indian" and "Alaska Native" race groups. Also, the category "Asian" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated more than one Asian subgroup (such as Asian Indian, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean, or Vietnamese). Further, the racial group "Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "Native Hawaiian" or "other Pacific Islander" (such as Guamanian or Samoan) categories. Single race persons who indicated a race other than white, black or African American, American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, or Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander are not shown. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

⁴Although all persons who reported a multiple race combination are shown in "2 or more races," the only specific combinations shown are "Black or African American; white" and "American Indian or Alaska Native; white." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

⁵"Mexican or Mexican American" is a subset of Hispanics. Under the category "Not Hispanic or Latino," "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race" refer to non-Hispanic single race white persons and non-Hispanic single race black or African American persons, respectively. Although all non-Hispanic persons are shown in "Not Hispanic or Latino," the only specific categories shown are "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

⁶Mother and father can include biological, adoptive, step, in-law, or foster relationships. Legal guardians are classified in "Neither mother nor father."

⁷Parent's education is the education level of the parent with the higher level of education, regardless of that parent's age.

⁸GED is General Educational Development high school equivalency diploma.

⁹"Less than \$20,000" and "\$20,000 or more" include both respondents reporting specific dollar amounts and respondents reporting that their incomes were within those categories (see appendix I). The indented categories include only those respondents who reported specific dollar amounts. Children with unknown family income are not shown.

¹⁰Poverty status is based on family income and family size using the Census Bureau's poverty thresholds. "Poor" children are in families defined as below the poverty threshold. "Near poor" children are in families with incomes that are 100% to less than 200% of the poverty threshold. "Not poor" children are in families with incomes that are 200% of the poverty threshold or greater.

¹¹Private health insurance may be obtained through the workplace or purchased directly. Among children under 18 years of age, "Medicaid/other public" includes those with Medicaid or other public health insurance coverage (e.g., most State-sponsored coverage). "Other coverage" includes Medicare, military health insurance coverage, and/or another form of government-sponsored health insurance coverage. Children with only Indian Health Service coverage are considered uninsured.

¹²"MSA" is metropolitan statistical area. Large MSAs have a population size of 1,000,000 or more; small MSAs have a population size of less than 1,000,000. "Not in MSA" consists of persons not living in a metropolitan statistical area.

Table 5. Frequency distributions of respondent-assessed health status, for children aged 17 years of age and under, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999

| Selected characteristic | All children 0–17 years | Respondent-assessed health status ¹ | | | | |
|---|----------------------------|--|-----------|--------|-------|------|
| | | Excellent | Very good | Good | Fair | Poor |
| Total | 72,080 | 40,128 | 19,935 | 10,724 | 1,110 | 118 |
| Sex | | | | | | |
| Male | 36,871 | 20,419 | 10,149 | 5,604 | 628 | *42 |
| Female | 35,208 | 19,709 | 9,786 | 5,119 | 482 | *76 |
| Age | | | | | | |
| 0–4 years | 19,601 | 11,313 | 5,447 | 2,501 | 297 | *32 |
| 5–17 years | 52,479 | 28,815 | 14,488 | 8,222 | 813 | *86 |
| 5–11 years | 28,882 | 16,133 | 8,070 | 4,194 | 407 | *39 |
| 12–17 years | 23,596 | 12,682 | 6,418 | 4,028 | 406 | *47 |
| Race | | | | | | |
| Single race: ³ | | | | | | |
| White | 54,499 | 31,909 | 14,963 | 6,839 | 691 | *45 |
| Black or African American | 10,578 | 4,801 | 3,063 | 2,395 | 257 | *63 |
| American Indian or Alaska Native | 625 | 278 | 153 | 174 | 17 | *3 |
| Asian | 1,987 | 943 | 600 | 415 | *16 | *– |
| Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander | *66 | *33 | *25 | *6 | *1 | *– |
| Multiple race: ⁴ | | | | | | |
| 2 or more races | 1,579 | 877 | 413 | 230 | *56 | *4 |
| Black or African American; white | 525 | 228 | 148 | 117 | *33 | *– |
| American Indian or Alaska Native; white | 288 | 151 | 95 | *21 | *17 | *4 |
| Hispanic origin and race ⁵ | | | | | | |
| Hispanic or Latino | 11,461 | 5,312 | 3,581 | 2,304 | 237 | *12 |
| Mexican or Mexican American | 7,782 | 3,442 | 2,457 | 1,696 | 163 | *8 |
| Not Hispanic or Latino | 60,567 | 34,774 | 16,354 | 8,410 | 873 | *106 |
| White, single race | 46,329 | 28,139 | 12,255 | 5,317 | 544 | *37 |
| Black or African American, single race | 10,404 | 4,742 | 3,002 | 2,343 | 255 | *63 |
| Family structure ⁶ | | | | | | |
| Mother and father | 50,872 | 30,395 | 13,626 | 6,193 | 568 | *24 |
| Mother, no father | 16,319 | 7,409 | 4,941 | 3,471 | 408 | *90 |
| Father, no mother | 2,942 | 1,482 | 899 | 489 | 72 | *– |
| Neither mother nor father | 1,947 | 842 | 469 | 570 | *62 | *4 |
| Parent's education ⁷ | | | | | | |
| Less than high school diploma | 9,250 | 3,767 | 2,819 | 2,367 | 262 | *27 |
| High school diploma or GED ⁸ | 16,827 | 8,017 | 5,147 | 3,210 | 402 | *36 |
| More than high school | 43,556 | 27,347 | 11,290 | 4,467 | 369 | *52 |
| Family income ⁹ | | | | | | |
| Less than \$20,000 | 13,607 | 5,788 | 4,071 | 3,203 | 464 | *67 |
| \$20,000 or more | 55,560 | 32,989 | 15,060 | 6,795 | 622 | *49 |
| \$20,000–\$34,999 | 10,254 | 5,143 | 2,840 | 2,025 | 231 | *15 |
| \$35,000–\$54,999 | 13,107 | 7,234 | 3,888 | 1,792 | 171 | *18 |
| \$55,000–\$74,999 | 9,613 | 5,985 | 2,654 | 902 | *61 | *5 |
| \$75,000 or more | 13,697 | 9,600 | 3,089 | 929 | *65 | *4 |
| Poverty status ¹⁰ | | | | | | |
| Poor | 9,585 | 4,065 | 2,792 | 2,259 | 407 | *53 |
| Near poor | 12,134 | 5,883 | 3,563 | 2,398 | 261 | *30 |
| Not poor | 35,757 | 22,643 | 9,340 | 3,483 | 257 | *13 |
| Health insurance coverage ¹¹ | | | | | | |
| Private | 49,644 | 30,192 | 13,464 | 5,411 | 487 | *53 |
| Medicaid/other public | 12,345 | 5,057 | 3,397 | 3,368 | 441 | *63 |
| Other | 1,561 | 864 | 458 | 205 | *34 | *– |
| Uninsured | 8,334 | 3,920 | 2,560 | 1,697 | 145 | *2 |

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 5. Frequency distributions of respondent-assessed health status, for children aged 17 years of age and under, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999—Con.

| Selected characteristic | All children 0–17 years | Respondent-assessed health status ¹ | | | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|--|-----------|-------|------|------|
| | | Excellent | Very good | Good | Fair | Poor |
| Place of residence ¹² | | Number in thousands ² | | | | |
| Large MSA | 34,327 | 19,427 | 9,419 | 4,918 | 457 | *75 |
| Small MSA | 22,591 | 12,805 | 6,302 | 3,108 | 335 | *29 |
| Not in MSA | 15,162 | 7,896 | 4,214 | 2,698 | 318 | *15 |
| Region | | | | | | |
| Northeast | 13,283 | 7,492 | 3,553 | 2,037 | 180 | *17 |
| Midwest | 18,061 | 10,118 | 5,129 | 2,508 | 242 | *33 |
| South | 25,387 | 14,086 | 6,998 | 3,812 | 444 | *41 |
| West | 15,349 | 8,431 | 4,255 | 2,368 | 244 | *27 |
| Sex and age | | | | | | |
| Male: | | | | | | |
| 0–4 years | 10,018 | 5,722 | 2,749 | 1,347 | 193 | *6 |
| 5–17 years | 26,853 | 14,697 | 7,400 | 4,257 | 435 | *36 |
| 5–11 years | 14,814 | 8,142 | 4,054 | 2,313 | 265 | *22 |
| 12–17 years | 12,040 | 6,554 | 3,346 | 1,945 | 171 | *14 |
| Female: | | | | | | |
| 0–4 years | 9,583 | 5,590 | 2,697 | 1,154 | 103 | *26 |
| 5–17 years | 25,625 | 14,119 | 7,089 | 3,965 | 378 | *50 |
| 5–11 years | 14,069 | 7,991 | 4,016 | 1,882 | 143 | *17 |
| 12–17 years | 11,557 | 6,128 | 3,072 | 2,083 | 236 | *33 |

* Data preceded by an asterisk have a relative standard error of greater than 30%, and should be used with caution as they do not meet the standard of reliability or precision.

– Quantity zero.

¹The data in this table are based on the following question in the Family Core section of the survey: "Would you say {subject's name} health in general was excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor?" See appendix II for more information about the source question.

²Unknowns for the variable of interest are not shown in the frequency distributions. They are, however, included in the "All children" column. Hence, row frequencies may not sum to the total number of children in column 1. Additionally, numbers may not add to their respective totals because of rounding.

³Starting with data year 1999, the categories "White" and "Black or African American" under "Single race" include persons who reported only one racial group. The category "American Indian or Alaska Native" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "American Indian" and "Alaska Native" racial groups. Also, the category "Asian" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated more than one Asian subgroup (such as Asian Indian, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean, or Vietnamese). Further, the racial group "Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "Native Hawaiian" or "other Pacific Islander" (such as Guamanian or Samoan) categories. Single race persons who indicated a race other than white, black or African American, American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, or Native Hawaiian, or other Pacific Islander are not shown. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

⁴Although all persons who reported a multiple race combination are shown in "2 or more races," the only specific combinations shown are "Black or African American; white" and "American Indian or Alaska Native; white." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

⁵"Mexican or Mexican American" is a subset of Hispanics. Under the category "Not Hispanic or Latino," "White, single race," and "Black or African American, single race" refer to non-Hispanic single race white persons and non-Hispanic single race black or African American persons, respectively. Although all non-Hispanic persons are shown in "Not Hispanic or Latino," the only specific categories shown are "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race."

⁶Mother and father can include biological, adoptive, step, in-law, or foster relationships. Legal guardians are classified in "Neither mother nor father."

⁷Parent's education is the education level of the parent with the higher level of education, regardless of that parent's age.

⁸GED is General Educational Development high school equivalency diploma.

⁹"Less than \$20,000" and "\$20,000 or more" include both respondents reporting specific dollar amounts and respondents reporting that their incomes were within those categories (see appendix I). The indented categories include only those respondents who reported specific dollar amounts. Children with unknown family income are not shown.

¹⁰Poverty status is based on family income and family size using the Census Bureau's poverty thresholds. "Poor" children are in families defined as below the poverty threshold. "Near poor" children are in families with incomes that are 100% to less than 200% of the poverty threshold. "Not poor" children are in families with incomes that are 200% of the poverty threshold or greater.

¹¹Private health insurance may be obtained through the workplace or purchased directly. Among children under 18 years of age, "Medicaid/other public" includes those with Medicaid or other public health insurance coverage (e.g., most State-sponsored coverage). "Other coverage" includes Medicare, military health insurance coverage, and/or another form of government-sponsored health insurance coverage. Children with only Indian Health Service coverage are considered uninsured.

¹²"MSA" is metropolitan statistical area. Large MSAs have a population size of 1,000,000 or more; small MSAs have a population size of less than 1,000,000. "Not in MSA" consists of persons not living in a metropolitan statistical area.

Table 6. Percent distributions (with standard errors) of respondent-assessed health status, for children 17 years of age and under, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999

| Selected characteristic | All children 0–17 years | Respondent-assessed health status ¹ | | | | |
|--|----------------------------|--|---------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | | Excellent | Very good | Good | Fair | Poor |
| Total | 100.0 | 55.7 (0.56) | 27.7 (0.49) | 14.9 (0.40) | 1.5 (0.13) | 0.2 (0.05) |
| Percent distribution (standard error) ² | | | | | | |
| Sex | | | | | | |
| Male | 100.0 | 55.4 (0.75) | 27.5 (0.67) | 15.2 (0.55) | 1.7 (0.19) | *0.1 (0.05) |
| Female | 100.0 | 56.0 (0.80) | 27.8 (0.69) | 14.6 (0.55) | 1.4 (0.19) | *0.2 (0.08) |
| Age | | | | | | |
| 0–4 years | 100.0 | 57.7 (1.00) | 27.8 (0.89) | 12.8 (0.67) | 1.5 (0.23) | *0.2 (0.11) |
| 5–17 years | 100.0 | 55.0 (0.66) | 27.6 (0.57) | 15.7 (0.48) | 1.6 (0.16) | *0.2 (0.05) |
| 5–11 years | 100.0 | 55.9 (0.87) | 28.0 (0.79) | 14.5 (0.61) | 1.4 (0.20) | *0.1 (0.06) |
| 12–17 years | 100.0 | 53.8 (0.99) | 27.2 (0.85) | 17.1 (0.71) | 1.7 (0.25) | *0.2 (0.08) |
| Race | | | | | | |
| Single race: ³ | | | | | | |
| White | 100.0 | 58.6 (0.64) | 27.5 (0.58) | 12.6 (0.42) | 1.3 (0.14) | *0.1 (0.03) |
| Black or African American | 100.0 | 45.4 (1.39) | 29.0 (1.22) | 22.6 (1.14) | 2.4 (0.45) | *0.6 (0.27) |
| American Indian or Alaska Native | 100.0 | 44.5 (5.52) | 24.5 (4.88) | 27.8 (6.19) | 2.8 (0.52) | *0.4 (0.45) |
| Asian | 100.0 | 47.8 (3.37) | 30.4 (3.10) | 21.0 (2.78) | *0.8 (0.46) | *– |
| Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander | 100.0 | *51.0 (17.89) | *38.6 (17.14) | *8.5 (8.34) | *1.8 (1.92) | *– |
| Multiple race: ⁴ | | | | | | |
| 2 or more races | 100.0 | 55.5 (3.17) | 26.2 (2.79) | 14.5 (2.21) | *3.5 (1.51) | *0.2 (0.25) |
| Black or African American; white | 100.0 | 43.4 (5.73) | 28.1 (5.27) | 22.2 (4.92) | *6.3 (3.09) | *– |
| American Indian or Alaska Native; white | 100.0 | 52.5 (6.85) | 33.0 (7.18) | *7.4 (3.49) | *5.8 (5.38) | *1.4 (1.33) |
| Hispanic origin and race ⁵ | | | | | | |
| Hispanic or Latino | 100.0 | 46.4 (1.09) | 31.3 (1.00) | 20.1 (0.89) | 2.1 (0.30) | *0.1 (0.04) |
| Mexican or Mexican American | 100.0 | 44.3 (1.30) | 31.6 (1.23) | 21.8 (1.15) | 2.1 (0.38) | *0.1 (0.05) |
| Not Hispanic or Latino | 100.0 | 57.5 (0.63) | 27.0 (0.54) | 13.9 (0.43) | 1.4 (0.14) | *0.2 (0.05) |
| White, single race | 100.0 | 60.8 (0.70) | 26.5 (0.63) | 11.5 (0.45) | 1.2 (0.15) | *0.1 (0.03) |
| Black or African American, single race | 100.0 | 45.6 (1.40) | 28.9 (1.23) | 22.5 (1.15) | 2.4 (0.46) | *0.6 (0.28) |
| Family structure ⁶ | | | | | | |
| Mother and father | 100.0 | 59.8 (0.67) | 26.8 (0.58) | 12.2 (0.43) | 1.1 (0.14) | *0.0 (0.02) |
| Mother, no father | 100.0 | 45.4 (1.09) | 30.3 (0.99) | 21.3 (0.91) | 2.5 (0.36) | *0.6 (0.18) |
| Father, no mother | 100.0 | 50.4 (2.42) | 30.6 (2.34) | 16.6 (1.79) | 2.4 (0.68) | *– |
| Neither mother nor father | 100.0 | 43.2 (3.00) | 24.1 (2.49) | 29.3 (3.01) | *3.2 (1.00) | *0.2 (0.20) |
| Parent's education ⁷ | | | | | | |
| Less than high school diploma | 100.0 | 40.8 (1.37) | 30.5 (1.29) | 25.6 (1.24) | 2.8 (0.44) | *0.3 (0.12) |
| High school diploma or GED ⁸ | 100.0 | 47.7 (1.11) | 30.6 (1.04) | 19.1 (0.90) | 2.4 (0.35) | *0.2 (0.10) |
| More than high school | 100.0 | 62.8 (0.69) | 25.9 (0.62) | 10.3 (0.42) | 0.8 (0.13) | *0.1 (0.06) |
| Family income ⁹ | | | | | | |
| Less than \$20,000 | 100.0 | 42.6 (1.11) | 30.0 (1.03) | 23.6 (0.99) | 3.4 (0.43) | *0.5 (0.19) |
| \$20,000 or more | 100.0 | 59.4 (0.62) | 27.1 (0.55) | 12.2 (0.41) | 1.1 (0.13) | *0.1 (0.03) |
| \$20,000–\$34,999 | 100.0 | 50.2 (1.33) | 27.7 (1.22) | 19.7 (1.10) | 2.2 (0.40) | *0.1 (0.09) |
| \$35,000–\$54,999 | 100.0 | 55.2 (1.30) | 29.7 (1.19) | 13.7 (0.90) | 1.3 (0.29) | *0.1 (0.10) |
| \$55,000–\$74,999 | 100.0 | 62.3 (1.49) | 27.6 (1.40) | 9.4 (0.85) | *0.6 (0.21) | *0.0 (0.05) |
| \$75,000 or more | 100.0 | 70.1 (1.16) | 22.6 (1.03) | 6.8 (0.63) | *0.5 (0.16) | *0.0 (0.03) |
| Poverty status ¹⁰ | | | | | | |
| Poor | 100.0 | 42.5 (1.42) | 29.2 (1.28) | 23.6 (1.24) | 4.2 (0.62) | *0.6 (0.26) |
| Near poor | 100.0 | 48.5 (1.28) | 29.4 (1.12) | 19.8 (1.07) | 2.2 (0.39) | *0.2 (0.13) |
| Not poor | 100.0 | 63.4 (0.73) | 26.1 (0.66) | 9.7 (0.44) | 0.7 (0.11) | *0.0 (0.02) |
| Health insurance coverage ¹¹ | | | | | | |
| Private | 100.0 | 60.9 (0.65) | 27.1 (0.58) | 10.9 (0.40) | 1.0 (0.13) | *0.1 (0.05) |
| Medicaid/other public | 100.0 | 41.0 (1.26) | 27.6 (1.10) | 27.3 (1.17) | 3.6 (0.45) | *0.5 (0.18) |
| Other | 100.0 | 55.4 (3.36) | 29.3 (3.05) | 13.2 (2.12) | *2.1 (1.61) | *– |
| Uninsured | 100.0 | 47.1 (1.46) | 30.8 (1.37) | 20.4 (1.12) | 1.7 (0.39) | *0.0 (0.02) |

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 6. Percent distributions (with standard errors) of respondent-assessed health status, for children 17 years of age and under, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999—Con.

| Selected characteristic | All children 0–17 years | Respondent-assessed health status ¹ | | | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|--|-------------|-------------|------------|-------------|
| | | Excellent | Very good | Good | Fair | Poor |
| Place of residence ¹² | | Percent distribution (standard error) ² | | | | |
| Large MSA | 100.0 | 56.6 (0.79) | 27.5 (0.70) | 14.3 (0.55) | 1.3 (0.16) | *0.2 (0.09) |
| Small MSA | 100.0 | 56.7 (1.09) | 27.9 (0.88) | 13.8 (0.66) | 1.5 (0.25) | *0.1 (0.06) |
| Not in MSA | 100.0 | 52.2 (1.19) | 27.8 (1.07) | 17.8 (0.96) | 2.1 (0.34) | *0.1 (0.06) |
| Region | | | | | | |
| Northeast | 100.0 | 56.4 (1.30) | 26.8 (1.13) | 15.3 (0.91) | 1.4 (0.27) | *0.1 (0.07) |
| Midwest | 100.0 | 56.1 (1.11) | 28.4 (1.04) | 13.9 (0.78) | 1.3 (0.24) | *0.2 (0.10) |
| South | 100.0 | 55.5 (1.00) | 27.6 (0.79) | 15.0 (0.68) | 1.7 (0.25) | *0.2 (0.09) |
| West | 100.0 | 55.0 (1.15) | 27.8 (1.02) | 15.5 (0.86) | 1.6 (0.26) | *0.2 (0.09) |
| Sex and age | | | | | | |
| Male: | | | | | | |
| 0–4 years | 100.0 | 57.1 (1.45) | 27.4 (1.23) | 13.4 (0.95) | 1.9 (0.37) | *0.1 (0.04) |
| 5–17 years | 100.0 | 54.8 (0.87) | 27.6 (0.80) | 15.9 (0.67) | 1.6 (0.22) | *0.1 (0.06) |
| 5–11 years | 100.0 | 55.0 (1.20) | 27.4 (1.11) | 15.6 (0.90) | 1.8 (0.33) | *0.2 (0.09) |
| 12–17 years | 100.0 | 54.5 (1.30) | 27.8 (1.16) | 16.2 (0.93) | 1.4 (0.27) | *0.1 (0.06) |
| Female: | | | | | | |
| 0–4 years | 100.0 | 58.4 (1.42) | 28.2 (1.28) | 12.1 (0.93) | 1.1 (0.25) | *0.3 (0.21) |
| 5–17 years | 100.0 | 55.1 (0.96) | 27.7 (0.81) | 15.5 (0.66) | 1.5 (0.24) | *0.2 (0.08) |
| 5–11 years | 100.0 | 56.9 (1.26) | 28.6 (1.13) | 13.4 (0.84) | 1.0 (0.23) | *0.1 (0.07) |
| 12–17 years | 100.0 | 53.0 (1.42) | 26.6 (1.20) | 18.0 (1.02) | 2.0 (0.43) | *0.3 (0.14) |

* Data preceded by an asterisk have a relative standard error of greater than 30%, and should be used with caution as they do not meet the standard of reliability or precision.

– Quantity zero.

¹The data in this table are based on the following question in the Family Core section of the survey: "Would you say (subject's name) health in general was excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor?" See appendix II for more information about the source question.

²Unknowns for the variable of interest are not included in the denominators when calculating percents. Additionally, percents may not add to 100% because of rounding.

³Starting with data year 1999, the categories "White" and "Black or African American" under "Single race" include persons who reported only one racial group. The category "American Indian or Alaska Native" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "American Indian" and "Alaska Native" racial groups. Also, the category "Asian" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated more than one Asian subgroup (such as Asian Indian, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean, or Vietnamese). Further, the racial group "Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "Native Hawaiian" or "other Pacific Islander" (such as Guamanian or Samoan) categories. Single race persons who indicated a race other than white, black or African American, American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, or Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander are not shown. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

⁴Although all persons who reported a multiple race combination are shown in "2 or more races," the only specific combinations shown are "Black or African American; white" and "American Indian or Alaska Native; white." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

⁵"Mexican or Mexican American" is a subset of Hispanics. Under the category "Not Hispanic or Latino," "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race" refer to non-Hispanic single race white persons and non-Hispanic single race black or African American persons, respectively. Although all non-Hispanic persons are shown in "Not Hispanic or Latino," the only specific categories shown are "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

⁶Mother and father can include biological, adoptive, step, in-law, or foster relationships. Legal guardians are classified in "Neither mother nor father."

⁷Parent's education is the education level of the parent with the higher level of education, regardless of that parent's age.

⁸GED is General Educational Development high school equivalency diploma.

⁹"Less than \$20,000" and "\$20,000 or more" include both respondents reporting specific dollar amounts and respondents reporting that their incomes were within those categories (see appendix I). The indented categories include only those respondents who reported specific dollar amounts. Children with unknown family income are not shown.

¹⁰Poverty status is based on family income and family size using the Census Bureau's poverty thresholds. "Poor" children are in families defined as below the poverty threshold. "Near poor" children are in families with incomes that are 100% to less than 200% of the poverty threshold. "Not poor" children are in families with incomes that are 200% of the poverty threshold or greater.

¹¹Private health insurance may be obtained through the workplace or purchased directly. Among children under 18 years of age, "Medicaid/other public" includes those with Medicaid or other public health insurance coverage (e.g., most State-sponsored coverage). "Other coverage" includes Medicare, military health insurance coverage, and/or another form of government-sponsored health insurance coverage. Children with only Indian Health Service coverage are considered uninsured.

¹²"MSA" is metropolitan statistical area. Large MSAs have a population size of 1,000,000 or more; small MSAs have a population size of less than 1,000,000. "Not in MSA" consists of persons not living in a metropolitan statistical area.

Table 7. Frequency distributions of health status compared with a year ago given current health status, for children 1–17 years of age, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999

| Selected characteristic | Current health status among persons 18 years of age and over ¹ | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|-----------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| | Excellent/very good | | | Good | | | Fair/poor | | |
| | Better than last year | About the same as last year | Worse than last year | Better than last year | About the same as last year | Worse than last year | Better than last year | About the same as last year | Worse than last year |
| Total | 11,474 | 44,244 | 765 | 2,643 | 7,363 | 274 | 363 | 714 | 139 |
| | Number in thousands ² | | | | | | | | |
| Sex | | | | | | | | | |
| Male | 6,289 | 21,971 | 426 | 1,591 | 3,678 | 138 | 199 | 365 | *94 |
| Female | 5,185 | 22,273 | 339 | 1,052 | 3,685 | 135 | 164 | 349 | *45 |
| Age | | | | | | | | | |
| 1–4 years | 3,659 | 9,382 | 167 | 678 | 1,314 | *71 | 124 | 140 | *52 |
| 5–17 years | 7,815 | 34,862 | 598 | 1,965 | 6,049 | 203 | 239 | 574 | *87 |
| 5–11 years | 4,584 | 19,207 | 397 | 1,119 | 2,983 | *93 | 123 | 289 | *35 |
| 12–17 years | 3,232 | 15,655 | 202 | 846 | 3,066 | 110 | 116 | 285 | *52 |
| Race | | | | | | | | | |
| Single race: ³ | | | | | | | | | |
| White | 8,407 | 35,160 | 589 | 1,561 | 4,816 | 177 | 230 | 413 | *81 |
| Black or African American | 1,730 | 5,575 | *89 | 637 | 1,612 | *41 | *86 | 196 | *38 |
| American Indian or Alaska Native | 119 | 271 | *21 | *54 | *97 | *21 | *3 | 17 | *– |
| Asian | 352 | 1,068 | *9 | 96 | 309 | *– | *2 | *13 | *– |
| Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander | *16 | *39 | *– | *– | *6 | *– | *– | *1 | *– |
| Multiple race: ⁴ | | | | | | | | | |
| 2 or more races | 292 | 893 | *22 | 85 | 120 | *7 | *20 | *23 | *17 |
| Black or African American; white | 106 | 239 | *9 | *43 | *63 | *7 | *20 | *13 | *– |
| American Indian or Alaska Native; white | 54 | 163 | *3 | *4 | *18 | *– | *– | *4 | *17 |
| Hispanic origin and race ⁵ | | | | | | | | | |
| Hispanic or Latino | 2,301 | 5,747 | 123 | 650 | 1,515 | *51 | 101 | 134 | *10 |
| Mexican or Mexican American | 1,541 | 3,788 | *58 | 469 | 1,118 | *45 | 76 | 89 | *2 |
| Not Hispanic or Latino | 9,173 | 38,468 | 633 | 1,993 | 5,838 | 222 | 262 | 580 | 129 |
| White, single race | 6,797 | 30,896 | 500 | 1,159 | 3,777 | 155 | 159 | 338 | *76 |
| Black or African American, single race | 1,687 | 5,525 | *89 | 636 | 1,563 | *39 | *86 | 194 | *37 |
| Family structure ⁶ | | | | | | | | | |
| Mother and father | 8,028 | 32,841 | 509 | 1,426 | 4,340 | 156 | 166 | 369 | *50 |
| Mother, no father | 2,673 | 8,742 | 233 | 965 | 2,245 | *112 | 155 | 280 | *64 |
| Father, no mother | 531 | 1,663 | *13 | 112 | 365 | *3 | *24 | *40 | *4 |
| Neither mother nor father | 242 | 998 | *10 | 140 | 413 | *3 | *18 | *25 | *22 |
| Parent's education ⁷ | | | | | | | | | |
| Less than high school diploma | 1,712 | 4,324 | *81 | 608 | 1,567 | *77 | 100 | 157 | *26 |
| High school diploma or GED ⁸ | 2,671 | 9,513 | 179 | 829 | 2,233 | *69 | 165 | 236 | *33 |
| More than high school | 6,810 | 29,107 | 495 | 1,062 | 3,046 | 125 | 79 | 279 | *58 |
| Family income ⁹ | | | | | | | | | |
| Less than \$20,000 | 2,219 | 6,769 | 159 | 944 | 2,040 | *86 | 141 | 336 | *46 |
| \$20,000 or more | 8,844 | 35,867 | 590 | 1,595 | 4,743 | 163 | 204 | 369 | *93 |
| \$20,000–\$34,999 | 1,858 | 5,524 | 98 | 522 | 1,386 | *20 | *64 | 128 | *49 |
| \$35,000–\$54,999 | 2,374 | 7,996 | 139 | 483 | 1,130 | *89 | *69 | *97 | *24 |
| \$55,000–\$74,999 | 1,504 | 6,515 | 137 | 190 | 648 | *21 | *16 | *41 | *8 |
| \$75,000 or more | 2,098 | 9,778 | 162 | 152 | 741 | *8 | *17 | *40 | *12 |
| Poverty status ¹⁰ | | | | | | | | | |
| Poor | 1,572 | 4,636 | 166 | 743 | 1,354 | *60 | 124 | 271 | *60 |
| Near poor | 2,158 | 6,623 | 93 | 630 | 1,629 | *36 | *80 | 165 | *39 |
| Not poor | 5,949 | 23,842 | 432 | 734 | 2,482 | *104 | 85 | 146 | *40 |
| Health insurance coverage ¹¹ | | | | | | | | | |
| Private | 7,763 | 33,082 | 505 | 1,122 | 3,935 | 143 | 148 | 331 | *56 |
| Medicaid/other public | 2,021 | 5,368 | 143 | 975 | 2,111 | *82 | 178 | 247 | *71 |
| Other | 277 | 955 | *11 | *48 | 155 | *– | *6 | *28 | *– |
| Uninsured | 1,373 | 4,740 | 106 | 481 | 1,136 | *49 | *31 | *105 | *11 |

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 7. Frequency distributions of health status compared with a year ago given current health status, for children 1–17 years of age, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999—Con.

| Selected characteristic | Current health status among persons 18 years of age and over ¹ | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| | Excellent/very good | | | Good | | | Fair/poor | | |
| | Better than last year | About the same as last year | Worse than last year | Better than last year | About the same as last year | Worse than last year | Better than last year | About the same as last year | Worse than last year |
| Place of residence ¹² | | | | | | | | | |
| | Number in thousands ² | | | | | | | | |
| Large MSA | 5,673 | 20,941 | 396 | 1,157 | 3,456 | 91 | 182 | 269 | *72 |
| Small MSA | 3,557 | 14,214 | 247 | 780 | 2,158 | *60 | 87 | 262 | *12 |
| Not in MSA | 2,244 | 9,090 | 122 | 705 | 1,749 | *122 | 95 | 183 | *54 |
| Region | | | | | | | | | |
| Northeast | 2,023 | 8,299 | 126 | 523 | 1,374 | *61 | *34 | 136 | *28 |
| Midwest | 2,506 | 11,735 | 171 | 475 | 1,831 | *73 | *79 | 154 | *39 |
| South | 4,150 | 15,221 | 285 | 980 | 2,576 | 98 | 115 | 297 | *68 |
| West | 2,795 | 8,990 | 183 | 665 | 1,582 | *41 | 135 | 127 | *4 |
| Sex and age | | | | | | | | | |
| Male: | | | | | | | | | |
| 1–4 years | 1,963 | 4,507 | 137 | 446 | 648 | *62 | 79 | *63 | *45 |
| 5–17 years | 4,327 | 17,464 | 289 | 1,145 | 3,030 | 76 | 120 | 303 | *49 |
| 5–11 years | 2,520 | 9,479 | 190 | 692 | 1,578 | *42 | 78 | 176 | *34 |
| 12–17 years | 1,806 | 7,985 | 99 | 453 | 1,452 | *34 | *42 | 127 | *15 |
| Female: | | | | | | | | | |
| 1–4 years | 1,696 | 4,875 | *29 | 233 | 666 | *9 | *45 | *77 | *7 |
| 5–17 years | 3,489 | 17,398 | 309 | 820 | 3,019 | 127 | 119 | 271 | *38 |
| 5–11 years | 2,064 | 9,729 | 207 | 427 | 1,405 | *50 | *45 | 113 | *1 |
| 12–17 years | 1,425 | 7,669 | 102 | 393 | 1,614 | *76 | *74 | 158 | *37 |

* Data preceded by an asterisk have a relative standard error of greater than 30%, and should be used with caution as they do not meet the standard of reliability or precision.

– Quantity zero.

¹The data in this table are based on the following questions: "Would you say (subject's name) health in general was excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor?" and "Compared with 12 months ago, would you say (child's name)'s health is better, worse, or about the same?" See appendix II for more information about the source question.

²Unknowns for the variable(s) of interest are not shown in the frequency distributions.

³Starting with data year 1999, the categories "White" and "Black or African American" under "Single race" include persons who reported only one racial group. The category "American Indian or Alaska Native" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "American Indian" and "Alaska Native" racial groups. Also, the category "Asian" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated more than one Asian subgroup (such as Asian Indian, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean, or Vietnamese). Further, the racial group "Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "Native Hawaiian" or "other Pacific Islander" (such as Guamanian or Samoan) categories. Single race persons who indicated a race other than white, black or African American, American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, or Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander are not shown. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

⁴Although all persons who reported a multiple race combination are shown in "2 or more races," the only specific combinations shown are "Black or African American; white" and "American Indian or Alaska Native; white." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

⁵"Mexican or Mexican American" is a subset of Hispanics. Under the category "Not Hispanic or Latino," "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race" refer to non-Hispanic single race white persons and non-Hispanic single race black or African American persons, respectively. Although all non-Hispanic persons are shown in "Not Hispanic or Latino," the only specific categories shown are "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

⁶Mother and father can include biological, adoptive, step, in-law, or foster relationships. Legal guardians are classified in "Neither mother nor father."

⁷Parent's education is the education level of the parent with the higher level of education, regardless of that parent's age.

⁸GED is General Educational Development high school equivalency diploma.

⁹"Less than \$20,000" and "\$20,000 or more" include both respondents reporting specific dollar amounts and respondents reporting that their incomes were within those categories (see appendix I). The indented categories include only those respondents who reported specific dollar amounts. Children with unknown family income are not shown.

¹⁰Poverty status is based on family income and family size using the Census Bureau's poverty thresholds. "Poor" children are in families defined as below the poverty threshold. "Near poor" children are in families with incomes that are 100% to less than 200% of the poverty threshold. "Not poor" children are in families with incomes that are 200% of the poverty threshold or greater.

¹¹Private health insurance may be obtained through the workplace or purchased directly. Among children under 18 years of age, "Medicaid/other public" includes those with Medicaid or other public health insurance coverage (e.g., most State-sponsored coverage). "Other coverage" includes Medicare, military health insurance coverage, and/or another form of government-sponsored health insurance coverage. Children with only Indian Health Service coverage are considered uninsured.

¹²"MSA" is metropolitan statistical area. Large MSAs have a population size of 1,000,000 or more; small MSAs have a population size of less than 1,000,000. "Not in MSA" consists of persons not living in a metropolitan statistical area.

Table 8. Percent distributions (with standard errors) of health status compared with a year ago given current health status, for children 1–17 years of age, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999

| Selected characteristic | Current health status among persons 18 years of age and over ¹ | | | | | | | | |
|--|---|-----------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|
| | Excellent/very good | | | Good | | | Fair/poor | | |
| | Better than last year | About the same as last year | Worse than last year | Better than last year | About the same as last year | Worse than last year | Better than last year | About the same as last year | |
| Total | 20.3 (0.48) | 78.3 (0.49) | 1.4 (0.14) | 25.7 (1.15) | 71.6 (1.20) | 2.7 (0.48) | 29.9 (3.62) | 58.7 (3.96) | 11.4 (2.76) |
| Percent distribution (standard error) ² | | | | | | | | | |
| Sex | | | | | | | | | |
| Male | 21.9 (0.69) | 76.6 (0.71) | 1.5 (0.21) | 29.4 (1.74) | 68.0 (1.78) | 2.6 (0.63) | 30.2 (4.72) | 55.5 (5.26) | 14.3 (4.12) |
| Female | 18.7 (0.66) | 80.1 (0.68) | 1.2 (0.19) | 21.8 (1.60) | 75.6 (1.70) | 2.8 (0.77) | 29.4 (5.54) | 62.5 (6.08) | *8.1 (3.55) |
| Age | | | | | | | | | |
| 1–4 years | 27.7 (1.06) | 71.0 (1.07) | 1.3 (0.27) | 32.9 (2.79) | 63.7 (2.90) | *3.4 (1.32) | 39.3 (7.33) | 44.2 (7.85) | *16.5 (6.55) |
| 5–17 years | 18.1 (0.54) | 80.6 (0.55) | 1.4 (0.16) | 23.9 (1.23) | 73.6 (1.31) | 2.5 (0.52) | 26.5 (4.12) | 63.8 (4.57) | *9.7 (2.92) |
| 5–11 years | 19.0 (0.72) | 79.4 (0.76) | 1.6 (0.26) | 26.7 (1.83) | 71.1 (1.95) | *2.2 (0.77) | 27.5 (5.86) | 64.8 (6.47) | *7.7 (3.74) |
| 12–17 years | 16.9 (0.76) | 82.0 (0.77) | 1.1 (0.20) | 21.0 (1.71) | 76.2 (1.80) | 2.7 (0.71) | 25.5 (5.88) | 62.9 (6.63) | *11.5 (4.49) |
| Race | | | | | | | | | |
| Single race: ³ | | | | | | | | | |
| White | 19.0 (0.53) | 79.6 (0.55) | 1.3 (0.16) | 23.8 (1.42) | 73.5 (1.49) | 2.7 (0.56) | 31.8 (4.70) | 57.0 (5.17) | *11.3 (3.45) |
| Black or African American | 23.4 (1.38) | 75.4 (1.40) | *1.2 (0.42) | 27.8 (2.57) | 70.4 (2.56) | *1.8 (0.78) | 26.9 (7.72) | 61.2 (6.42) | *11.9 (5.33) |
| American Indian or Alaska Native | 29.0 (5.19) | 65.8 (5.38) | *5.2 (2.75) | *31.4 (10.61) | 56.5 (10.50) | *12.0 (10.38) | *13.9 (12.08) | 86.1 (12.08) | *– |
| Asian | 24.7 (3.57) | 74.7 (3.59) | *0.6 (0.45) | 23.7 (6.09) | 76.3 (6.09) | *– | *15.0 (15.28) | 85.0 (15.28) | *– |
| Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander | *29.2 (18.40) | 70.8 (18.40) | *– | *– | 100.0 (0.00) | *– | *– | 100.0 | *– |
| Multiple race: ⁴ | | | | | | | | | |
| 2 or more races | 24.2 (3.11) | 74.0 (3.16) | *1.8 (0.75) | 40.2 (8.28) | 56.4 (8.38) | *3.5 (3.39) | *33.7 (16.89) | *38.6 (19.02) | *27.7 (21.78) |
| Black or African American, white | 29.9 (7.12) | 67.5 (7.15) | *2.5 (1.89) | *38.1 (11.83) | 55.5 (12.02) | *6.4 (6.23) | *61.2 (27.03) | *38.8 (27.03) | *– |
| American Indian or Alaska Native, white | 24.8 (6.48) | 74.0 (6.53) | *1.3 (1.18) | *17.5 (16.48) | 82.5 (16.48) | *– | *– | *19.2 (21.92) | 80.8 (21.92) |
| Hispanic origin and race ⁵ | | | | | | | | | |
| Hispanic or Latino | 28.2 (1.19) | 70.3 (1.23) | 1.5 (0.32) | 29.3 (2.15) | 68.4 (2.34) | *2.3 (0.89) | 41.3 (7.06) | 54.8 (7.10) | *3.9 (1.99) |
| Mexican or Mexican American | 28.6 (1.50) | 70.3 (1.55) | *1.1 (0.32) | 28.7 (2.62) | 68.5 (2.89) | *2.8 (1.19) | 45.6 (8.92) | 53.2 (8.90) | *1.2 (1.21) |
| Not Hispanic or Latino | 19.0 (0.52) | 79.7 (0.54) | 1.3 (0.15) | 24.7 (1.35) | 72.5 (1.39) | 2.8 (0.56) | 27.0 (4.08) | 59.7 (4.68) | 13.3 (3.41) |
| White, single race | 17.8 (0.57) | 80.9 (0.59) | 1.3 (0.17) | 22.8 (1.63) | 74.2 (1.71) | 3.0 (0.69) | 27.8 (5.21) | 59.0 (5.99) | *13.2 (4.27) |
| Black or African American, single race | 23.1 (1.38) | 75.7 (1.40) | *1.2 (0.43) | 28.4 (2.62) | 69.8 (2.61) | *1.8 (0.79) | 27.1 (7.78) | 61.2 (8.48) | *11.7 (5.36) |
| Family structure ⁶ | | | | | | | | | |
| Mother and father | 19.4 (0.55) | 79.4 (0.57) | 1.2 (0.16) | 24.1 (1.55) | 73.3 (1.61) | 2.6 (0.59) | 28.4 (4.88) | 63.1 (5.49) | *8.5 (3.45) |
| Mother, no father | 23.0 (1.04) | 75.0 (1.07) | 2.0 (0.36) | 29.0 (2.11) | 67.6 (2.19) | *3.4 (1.02) | 31.1 (6.09) | 56.1 (6.69) | *12.8 (4.66) |
| Father, no mother | 24.1 (2.42) | 75.4 (2.44) | *0.6 (0.41) | 23.4 (4.84) | 76.0 (4.87) | *0.7 (0.67) | *35.7 (14.39) | 58.9 (14.49) | *5.4 (5.29) |
| Neither mother nor father | 19.3 (2.69) | 79.9 (2.77) | *0.8 (0.69) | 25.1 (5.48) | 74.3 (5.49) | *0.6 (0.57) | *28.0 (14.18) | *38.6 (14.10) | *33.4 (15.71) |
| Parent's education ⁷ | | | | | | | | | |
| Less than high school diploma | 28.0 (1.49) | 70.7 (1.53) | *1.3 (0.41) | 27.0 (2.45) | 69.6 (2.60) | *3.4 (1.25) | 35.3 (7.22) | 55.4 (7.50) | *9.3 (4.76) |
| High school diploma or GED ⁸ | 21.6 (1.02) | 76.9 (1.06) | 1.5 (0.33) | 26.5 (2.23) | 71.3 (2.37) | *2.2 (0.91) | 38.1 (6.70) | 54.4 (7.06) | *7.5 (3.45) |
| More than high school | 18.7 (0.59) | 79.9 (0.61) | 1.4 (0.18) | 25.1 (1.78) | 72.0 (1.86) | 3.0 (0.74) | 19.0 (5.15) | 67.0 (6.86) | *13.9 (5.54) |

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 8. Percent distributions (with standard errors) of health status compared with a year ago given current health status, for children 1–17 years of age, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999—Con.

| Selected characteristic | Current health status among persons 18 years of age and over ¹ | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|-----------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|--|
| | Excellent/very good | | | | Good | | | | Fair/poor | |
| | Better than last year | About the same as last year | Worse than last year | Better than last year | About the same as last year | Worse than last year | Better than last year | About the same as last year | Worse than last year | |
| | Percent distribution (standard error) ² | | | | | | | | | |
| Family income³ | | | | | | | | | | |
| Less than \$20,000 | 24.3 (1.17) | 74.0 (1.22) | 1.7 (0.40) | 30.7 (2.35) | 66.5 (2.39) | *2.8 (0.94) | 26.9 (5.26) | 64.3 (5.85) | *8.8 (3.39) | |
| \$20,000 or more | 19.5 (0.53) | 79.2 (0.55) | 1.3 (0.15) | 24.5 (1.44) | 73.0 (1.50) | 2.5 (0.55) | 30.6 (4.89) | 55.4 (5.36) | *14.0 (4.23) | |
| \$20,000–\$34,999 | 24.8 (1.34) | 73.9 (1.36) | 1.3 (0.36) | 27.1 (2.59) | 71.9 (2.60) | *1.1 (0.41) | 26.4 (7.73) | 53.1 (8.96) | *20.5 (6.65) | |
| \$35,000–\$54,999 | 22.6 (1.14) | 76.1 (1.16) | 1.3 (0.28) | 28.4 (3.48) | 66.4 (3.71) | *5.2 (1.88) | 36.3 (10.24) | 51.1 (10.81) | *12.6 (7.01) | |
| \$55,000–\$74,999 | 18.4 (1.27) | 79.9 (1.33) | 1.7 (0.42) | 22.1 (3.79) | 75.4 (3.93) | *2.4 (1.27) | *24.6 (12.15) | 62.8 (14.17) | *12.6 (8.74) | |
| \$75,000 or more | 17.4 (1.02) | 81.2 (1.06) | 1.3 (0.32) | 16.8 (3.18) | 82.2 (3.24) | *0.9 (0.65) | *25.0 (12.38) | 58.0 (15.17) | *17.1 (11.42) | |
| Poverty status¹⁰ | | | | | | | | | | |
| Poor | 24.7 (1.47) | 72.7 (1.55) | 2.6 (0.61) | 34.4 (3.06) | 62.8 (3.08) | *2.8 (1.14) | 27.3 (6.10) | 59.6 (7.14) | *13.1 (5.05) | |
| Near poor | 24.3 (1.25) | 74.6 (1.28) | 1.0 (0.28) | 27.4 (2.74) | 71.0 (2.76) | *1.6 (0.68) | 28.1 (7.59) | 58.2 (8.42) | *13.7 (6.55) | |
| Not poor | 19.7 (0.66) | 78.9 (0.68) | 1.4 (0.19) | 22.1 (1.91) | 74.8 (2.07) | *3.1 (0.97) | 31.2 (6.78) | 54.1 (7.62) | *14.7 (5.32) | |
| Health insurance coverage¹¹ | | | | | | | | | | |
| Private | 18.8 (0.55) | 80.0 (0.57) | 1.2 (0.16) | 21.6 (1.55) | 75.7 (1.63) | 2.8 (0.58) | 27.7 (5.67) | 61.8 (6.21) | *10.5 (3.80) | |
| Medicaid/other public | 26.8 (1.31) | 71.3 (1.37) | 1.9 (0.47) | 30.8 (2.42) | 66.6 (2.50) | *2.6 (0.97) | 35.9 (5.67) | 49.7 (6.13) | *14.4 (5.05) | |
| Other | 22.3 (3.57) | 76.8 (3.60) | *0.9 (0.65) | *23.6 (9.15) | 76.4 (9.15) | 0.0 (0.0) | *17.5 (19.38) | 82.5 (19.38) | 0.0 (0.0) | |
| Uninsured | 22.1 (1.45) | 76.2 (1.48) | 1.7 (0.45) | 28.9 (2.94) | 68.2 (3.18) | *2.9 (1.71) | *20.9 (8.90) | 71.4 (9.86) | *7.7 (4.10) | |
| Place of residence¹² | | | | | | | | | | |
| Large MSA | 21.0 (0.71) | 77.5 (0.73) | 1.5 (0.21) | 24.6 (1.65) | 73.5 (1.68) | 1.9 (0.52) | 34.7 (5.65) | 51.4 (5.92) | *13.9 (4.39) | |
| Small MSA | 19.7 (0.83) | 78.9 (0.87) | 1.4 (0.25) | 26.0 (2.20) | 72.0 (2.24) | *2.0 (0.68) | 24.0 (5.68) | 72.6 (6.05) | *3.4 (2.41) | |
| Not in MSA | 19.6 (1.05) | 79.3 (1.06) | 1.1 (0.26) | 27.4 (2.32) | 67.9 (2.55) | *4.7 (1.43) | 28.6 (7.38) | 55.0 (7.96) | *16.4 (6.48) | |
| Region | | | | | | | | | | |
| Northeast | 19.4 (1.11) | 79.4 (1.13) | 1.2 (0.34) | 26.7 (2.56) | 70.2 (2.81) | *3.1 (1.30) | *17.2 (6.65) | 68.8 (9.27) | *14.0 (8.26) | |
| Midwest | 17.4 (0.92) | 81.4 (0.95) | 1.2 (0.27) | 20.0 (2.24) | 77.0 (2.27) | *3.1 (1.15) | 29.0 (8.00) | 56.6 (7.97) | *14.3 (5.69) | |
| South | 21.1 (0.82) | 77.4 (0.85) | 1.5 (0.24) | 26.8 (1.93) | 70.5 (2.02) | 2.7 (0.77) | 24.0 (5.52) | 61.8 (6.79) | *14.2 (4.97) | |
| West | 23.4 (1.06) | 75.1 (1.06) | 1.5 (0.30) | 29.1 (2.60) | 69.1 (2.63) | *1.8 (0.63) | 50.7 (7.64) | 47.7 (7.57) | *1.6 (1.15) | |
| Sex and age | | | | | | | | | | |
| Male: | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1–4 years | 29.7 (1.52) | 68.2 (1.55) | 2.1 (0.50) | 38.6 (3.89) | 56.0 (3.97) | *5.4 (2.28) | 42.4 (9.84) | 33.5 (9.40) | *24.1 (9.81) | |
| 5–17 years | 19.6 (0.76) | 79.1 (0.78) | 1.3 (0.22) | 26.9 (1.95) | 71.3 (1.99) | 1.8 (0.50) | 25.4 (5.29) | 64.2 (5.97) | *10.4 (3.97) | |
| 5–11 years | 20.7 (1.07) | 77.8 (1.12) | 1.6 (0.36) | 29.9 (2.76) | 68.2 (2.84) | *1.8 (0.70) | 27.0 (6.94) | 61.2 (8.29) | *11.7 (5.70) | |
| 12–17 years | 18.3 (1.05) | 80.7 (1.06) | 1.0 (0.26) | 23.4 (2.57) | 74.9 (2.60) | *1.7 (0.72) | *22.8 (8.18) | 68.8 (8.74) | *8.4 (5.06) | |
| Female: | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1–4 years | 25.7 (1.52) | 73.9 (1.52) | *0.4 (0.18) | 25.6 (3.73) | 73.4 (3.76) | *0.9 (0.58) | *34.8 (10.71) | 59.7 (11.42) | *5.5 (5.38) | |
| 5–17 years | 16.5 (0.72) | 82.1 (0.75) | 1.5 (0.25) | 20.7 (1.78) | 76.1 (1.92) | 3.2 (0.93) | 27.8 (6.41) | 63.4 (7.15) | *8.8 (4.32) | |
| 5–11 years | 17.2 (0.93) | 81.1 (0.98) | 1.7 (0.37) | 22.7 (2.66) | 74.6 (2.89) | *2.7 (1.47) | *28.3 (9.88) | 71.1 (9.90) | *0.6 (0.57) | |
| 12–17 years | 15.5 (1.11) | 83.4 (1.14) | 1.1 (0.31) | 18.8 (2.43) | 77.5 (2.64) | *3.7 (1.19) | 27.5 (8.25) | 58.8 (9.54) | *13.7 (6.71) | |

* Data preceded by an asterisk have a relative standard error of greater than 30%, and should be used with caution as they do not meet the standard of reliability or precision.

– Quantity zero.

¹The data in this table are based on the following questions: "Would you say (subject's name) health in general was excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor?" and "Compared with 12 months ago, would you say (child's name)'s health is better, worse, or about the same?" See appendix II for more information about the source question.

²Unknowns for the variable(s) of interest are not included in the denominators when calculating parents. This table consists of conditional percents; the total number of children in excellent or very good health (shown in table 7) serves as the denominator.

the percents in columns 1–3 above. Likewise, the number of children in good health is the denominator for the percents in columns 4–6, while the total number of children in fair or poor health is the denominator for the percents in columns 7–9. Starting with data year 1999, the categories “White” and “Black or African American” under “Single race” include persons who reported only one racial group. The category “American Indian or Alaska Native” under “Single race” includes some persons who indicated both the “American Indian” and “Alaska Native” racial groups. Also, the category “Asian” under “Single race” includes some persons who indicated more than one Asian subgroup (such as Asian Indian, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean, or Vietnamese). Further, the racial group “Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander” under “Single race” includes some persons who indicated both the “Native Hawaiian” or “other Pacific Islander” (such as Guamanian or Samoan) categories. Single race persons who indicated a race other than white, black or African American, American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, or Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander are not shown. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

4 Although all persons who reported a multiple race combination are shown in “2 or more races,” the only specific combinations shown are “Black or African American; white” and “American Indian or Alaska Native; white.” Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

5 Mexican or Mexican American” is a subset of Hispanics. Under the category “Not Hispanic or Latino,” “White, single race” and “Black or African American, single race” refer to non-Hispanic single race white persons and non-Hispanic single race black or African American persons, respectively. Although all non-Hispanic persons are shown in “Not Hispanic or Latino,” the only specific categories shown are “White, single race” and “Black or African American, single race.” Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

6 Mother and father can include biological, adoptive, step, in-law, or foster relationships. Legal guardians are classified in “Neither mother nor father.”

7 Parent’s education is the education level of the parent with the higher level of education, regardless of that parent’s age.

8 GED is General Educational Development high school equivalency diploma.

9 “Less than \$20,000” and “\$20,000 or more” include both respondents reporting specific dollar amounts and respondents reporting that their incomes were within those categories (see appendix I). The indented categories include only those respondents who reported specific dollar amounts. Children with unknown family income are not shown.

10 Poverty status is based on family income and family size using the Census Bureau’s poverty thresholds. “Poor” children are in families defined as below the poverty threshold or greater. “Near poor” children are in families with incomes that are 100% to less than 200% of the poverty threshold. “Not poor” children are in families with incomes that are 200% of the poverty threshold or greater.

11 Private health insurance may be obtained through the workplace or purchased directly. Among children under 18 years of age, “Medicaid/other public” includes those with Medicaid or other public health insurance coverage (e.g., most State-sponsored coverage). “Other coverage” includes Medicare, military health insurance coverage, and/or another form of government-sponsored health insurance coverage. Children with only Indian Health Service coverage are considered uninsured.

12 “MSA” is metropolitan statistical area. Large MSAs have a population size of 1,000,000 or more; small MSAs have a population size of less than 1,000,000. “Not in MSA” consists of persons not living in a metropolitan statistical area.

Table 9. Frequency distributions of number of school days missed because of illness or injury in the past 12 months, for children 5–17 years of age, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999

| Selected characteristic | All children 5–17 years | Number of school days missed in past 12 months ¹ | | | | | |
|---|-------------------------|---|----------|----------|-----------|-----------------|----------------------|
| | | None | 1–2 days | 3–5 days | 6–10 days | 11 or more days | Did not go to school |
| | | Number in thousands ² | | | | | |
| Total | 52,479 | 13,490 | 14,184 | 14,381 | 5,771 | 2,989 | 604 |
| Sex | | | | | | | |
| Male | 26,853 | 6,971 | 7,284 | 7,042 | 3,036 | 1,518 | 361 |
| Female | 25,625 | 6,519 | 6,900 | 7,339 | 2,735 | 1,471 | 243 |
| Age | | | | | | | |
| 5–17 years | 52,479 | 13,490 | 14,184 | 14,381 | 5,771 | 2,989 | 604 |
| 5–11 years | 28,882 | 7,348 | 8,165 | 7,846 | 3,088 | 1,415 | 498 |
| 12–17 years | 23,596 | 6,142 | 6,019 | 6,535 | 2,683 | 1,574 | 106 |
| Race | | | | | | | |
| Single race: ³ | | | | | | | |
| White | 39,882 | 8,883 | 11,175 | 11,766 | 4,510 | 2,271 | 500 |
| Black or African American | 7,874 | 2,991 | 1,893 | 1,628 | 751 | 430 | *53 |
| American Indian or Alaska Native | 417 | *152 | *77 | *88 | *46 | *43 | *10 |
| Asian | 1,375 | 579 | 386 | 213 | *74 | *28 | *3 |
| Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander | *31 | *– | *6 | *14 | *– | *11 | *– |
| Multiple race: ⁴ | | | | | | | |
| 2 or more races | 1,053 | 274 | 205 | 255 | 197 | 107 | *14 |
| Black or African American; white | 333 | 100 | *42 | 69 | *85 | *29 | *7 |
| American Indian or Alaska Native; white | 203 | *22 | *64 | *47 | *20 | *45 | *5 |
| Hispanic origin and race ⁵ | | | | | | | |
| Hispanic or Latino | 7,853 | 2,641 | 1,829 | 1,930 | 765 | 402 | 68 |
| Mexican or Mexican American | 5,235 | 1,855 | 1,216 | 1,289 | 466 | 221 | *53 |
| Not Hispanic or Latino | 44,601 | 10,847 | 12,351 | 12,439 | 5,006 | 2,588 | 537 |
| White, single race | 34,244 | 6,955 | 9,877 | 10,317 | 4,023 | 1,990 | 462 |
| Black or African American, single race | 7,753 | 2,944 | 1,867 | 1,612 | 727 | 428 | *53 |
| Family structure ⁶ | | | | | | | |
| Mother and father | 36,846 | 9,279 | 10,717 | 10,095 | 3,907 | 1,760 | 430 |
| Mother, no father | 11,838 | 3,140 | 2,594 | 3,182 | 1,489 | 1,018 | 136 |
| Father, no mother | 2,277 | 558 | 541 | 710 | 264 | 117 | *25 |
| Neither mother nor father | 1,518 | 512 | 332 | 393 | 111 | *95 | *14 |
| Parent's education ⁷ | | | | | | | |
| Less than high school diploma | 6,446 | 2,083 | 1,306 | 1,615 | 712 | 441 | 106 |
| High school diploma or GED ⁸ | 12,471 | 3,383 | 2,865 | 3,347 | 1,466 | 909 | 196 |
| More than high school | 31,670 | 7,424 | 9,632 | 8,962 | 3,467 | 1,537 | 288 |
| Family income ⁹ | | | | | | | |
| Less than \$20,000 | 9,356 | 2,992 | 1,903 | 2,187 | 1,106 | 795 | 153 |
| \$20,000 or more | 41,009 | 9,857 | 11,801 | 11,745 | 4,448 | 2,063 | 429 |
| \$20,000–\$34,999 | 7,290 | 1,904 | 1,871 | 1,934 | 823 | 523 | 111 |
| \$35,000–\$54,999 | 9,588 | 2,358 | 2,544 | 2,809 | 1,150 | 580 | 93 |
| \$55,000–\$74,999 | 7,172 | 1,510 | 2,308 | 2,078 | 758 | 312 | *75 |
| \$75,000 or more | 10,242 | 2,084 | 3,278 | 3,160 | 1,179 | 425 | *86 |
| Poverty status ¹⁰ | | | | | | | |
| Poor | 6,712 | 2,136 | 1,258 | 1,662 | 815 | 631 | 85 |
| Near poor | 8,650 | 2,361 | 2,174 | 2,161 | 1,018 | 674 | 113 |
| Not poor | 26,345 | 5,632 | 8,067 | 7,948 | 3,038 | 1,199 | 261 |
| Health insurance coverage ¹¹ | | | | | | | |
| Private | 36,852 | 8,645 | 10,943 | 10,501 | 4,069 | 1,758 | 352 |
| Medicaid/other public | 7,982 | 2,467 | 1,482 | 1,861 | 1,012 | 768 | 120 |
| Other | 1,140 | 354 | 302 | 284 | 112 | *62 | *3 |
| Uninsured | 6,343 | 1,969 | 1,428 | 1,702 | 576 | 388 | 117 |

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 9. Frequency distributions of number of school days missed because of illness or injury in the past 12 months, for children 5–17 years of age, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999—Con.

| Selected characteristic | All children 5–17 years | Number of school days missed in past 12 months ¹ | | | | | 11 or more days | Did not go to school |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|---|----------|----------|-----------|-------|-----------------|----------------------|
| | | None | 1–2 days | 3–5 days | 6–10 days | | | |
| Place of residence ¹² | | Number in thousands ² | | | | | | |
| Large MSA | 24,470 | 6,755 | 6,777 | 6,278 | 2,600 | 1,289 | 249 | |
| Small MSA | 16,512 | 4,159 | 4,342 | 4,799 | 1,778 | 908 | 198 | |
| Not in MSA | 11,497 | 2,576 | 3,064 | 3,303 | 1,393 | 791 | 158 | |
| Region | | | | | | | | |
| Northeast | 9,501 | 2,160 | 2,587 | 2,816 | 1,084 | 466 | *75 | |
| Midwest | 13,429 | 2,986 | 3,861 | 3,880 | 1,441 | 777 | 208 | |
| South | 18,479 | 5,196 | 5,019 | 4,879 | 1,948 | 974 | 226 | |
| West | 11,069 | 3,148 | 2,717 | 2,805 | 1,298 | 772 | 95 | |
| Current health status | | | | | | | | |
| Excellent/very good/good | 51,526 | 13,339 | 14,075 | 14,148 | 5,641 | 2,711 | 583 | |
| Fair/poor | 899 | 138 | 98 | 226 | 130 | 273 | *21 | |
| Sex and age | | | | | | | | |
| Male: | | | | | | | | |
| 5–17 years | 26,853 | 6,971 | 7,284 | 7,042 | 3,036 | 1,518 | 361 | |
| 5–11 years | 14,814 | 3,705 | 4,154 | 3,886 | 1,627 | 821 | 312 | |
| 12–17 years | 12,040 | 3,267 | 3,130 | 3,156 | 1,409 | 697 | *49 | |
| Female: | | | | | | | | |
| 5–17 years | 25,625 | 6,519 | 6,900 | 7,339 | 2,735 | 1,471 | 243 | |
| 5–11 years | 14,069 | 3,643 | 4,011 | 3,959 | 1,462 | 595 | 186 | |
| 12–17 years | 11,557 | 2,875 | 2,889 | 3,379 | 1,273 | 877 | *58 | |

* Data preceded by an asterisk have a relative standard error of greater than 30%, and should be used with caution as they do not meet the standard of reliability or precision.

– Quantity zero.

¹The data in this table are based on the following question: "During the past 12 months, that is since [12-month ref. date], about how many days did [child's name] miss school because of illness or injury?" See appendix II for more detailed definitions of selected terms used in this report.

²Unknowns for the variable of interest are not shown in the frequency distributions. They are, however, included in the "All children 5–17 years" column. Hence, frequencies may not sum to their respective totals. Additionally, numbers may not add to totals because of rounding.

³Starting with data year 1999, the categories "White" and "Black or African American" under "Single race" include persons who reported only one racial group. The category "American Indian or Alaska Native" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "American Indian" and "Alaska Native" racial groups. Also, the category "Asian" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated more than one Asian subgroup (such as Asian Indian, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean, or Vietnamese). Further, the racial group "Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "Native Hawaiian" or "other Pacific Islander" (such as Guamanian or Samoan) categories. Single race persons who indicated a race other than white, black or African American, American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, or Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander are not shown. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

⁴Although all persons who reported a multiple race combination are shown in "2 or more races," the only specific combinations shown are "Black or African American; white" and "American Indian or Alaska Native; white." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

⁵"Mexican or Mexican American" is a subset of Hispanics. Under the category "Not Hispanic or Latino," "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race" refer to non-Hispanic single race white persons and non-Hispanic single race black African American persons, respectively. Although all non-Hispanic persons are shown in "Not Hispanic or Latino," the only specific categories shown are "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

⁶Mother and father can include biological, adoptive, step, in-law, or foster relationships. Legal guardians are classified in "Neither mother nor father."

⁷Parent's education is the education level of the parent with the higher level of education, regardless of that parent's age.

⁸GED is General Educational Development high school equivalency diploma.

⁹Less than \$20,000" and "\$20,000 or more" include both respondents reporting specific dollar amounts and respondents reporting that their incomes were within those categories (see appendix I). The indented categories include only those respondents who reported specific dollar amounts. Children with unknown family income are not shown.

¹⁰Poverty status is based on family income and family size using the Census Bureau's poverty thresholds. "Poor" children are in families defined as below the poverty threshold. "Near poor" children are in families with incomes that are 100% to less than 200% of the poverty threshold. "Not poor" children are in families with incomes that are 200% of the poverty threshold or greater.

¹¹Private health insurance may be obtained through the workplace or purchased directly. Among children under 18 years of age, "Medicaid/other public" includes those with Medicaid or other public health insurance coverage (e.g., most State-sponsored coverage). "Other coverage" includes Medicare, military health insurance coverage, and/or another form of government-sponsored health insurance coverage. Children with only Indian Health Service coverage are considered uninsured.

¹²"MSA" is metropolitan statistical area. Large MSAs have a population size of 1,000,000 or more; small MSAs have a population size of less than 1,000,000. "Not in MSA" consists of persons not living in a metropolitan statistical area.

Table 10. Percent distributions (with standard errors) of number of school days missed because of illness or injury in the past 12 months, for children 5–17 years of age, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999

| Selected characteristic | All children 5–17 years | Number of school days missed in past 12 months ¹ | | | | | |
|---|-------------------------|---|---------------|---------------|--------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| | | None | 1–2 days | 3–5 days | 6–10 days | 11 or more days | Did not go to school |
| | | Percent distribution (standard errors) ² | | | | | |
| Total | 100.0 | 26.2 (0.58) | 27.6 (0.60) | 28.0 (0.62) | 11.2 (0.41) | 5.8 (0.30) | 1.2 (0.14) |
| Sex | | | | | | | |
| Male | 100.0 | 26.6 (0.78) | 27.8 (0.82) | 26.9 (0.83) | 11.6 (0.59) | 5.8 (0.41) | 1.4 (0.22) |
| Female | 100.0 | 25.9 (0.79) | 27.4 (0.83) | 29.1 (0.87) | 10.9 (0.56) | 5.8 (0.45) | 1.0 (0.16) |
| Age | | | | | | | |
| 5–17 years | 100.0 | 26.2 (0.58) | 27.6 (0.60) | 28.0 (0.62) | 11.2 (0.41) | 5.8 (0.30) | 1.2 (0.14) |
| 5–11 years | 100.0 | 25.9 (0.78) | 28.8 (0.83) | 27.7 (0.83) | 10.9 (0.54) | 5.0 (0.37) | 1.8 (0.25) |
| 12–17 years | 100.0 | 26.6 (0.82) | 26.1 (0.80) | 28.3 (0.89) | 11.6 (0.60) | 6.8 (0.51) | 0.5 (0.11) |
| Race | | | | | | | |
| Single race: ³ | | | | | | | |
| White | 100.0 | 22.7 (0.64) | 28.6 (0.72) | 30.1 (0.73) | 11.5 (0.49) | 5.8 (0.34) | 1.3 (0.16) |
| Black or African American | 100.0 | 38.6 (1.64) | 24.4 (1.39) | 21.0 (1.32) | 9.7 (0.96) | 5.6 (0.76) | *0.7 (0.21) |
| American Indian or Alaska Native | 100.0 | 36.6 (9.64) | *18.4 (5.57) | *21.2 (6.43) | *11.1 (5.67) | *10.4 (3.60) | *2.3 (2.18) |
| Asian | 100.0 | 45.1 (4.17) | 30.1 (3.73) | 16.6 (3.06) | *5.8 (2.00) | *2.2 (1.19) | *0.2 (0.25) |
| Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander | 100.0 | – | *20.2 (15.45) | *44.5 (26.95) | – | *35.3 (26.93) | – |
| Multiple race: ⁴ | | | | | | | |
| 2 or more races | 100.0 | 26.1 (3.52) | 19.5 (3.14) | 24.3 (3.16) | 18.7 (2.99) | 10.2 (2.82) | *1.3 (0.84) |
| Black or African American; white | 100.0 | 30.0 (6.86) | *12.7 (4.43) | 20.8 (5.10) | 25.6 (6.54) | *8.8 (4.29) | *2.2 (2.18) |
| American Indian or Alaska Native; white | 100.0 | *11.1 (4.14) | 31.6 (8.79) | *23.0 (7.20) | *9.9 (5.16) | *22.1 (10.30) | *2.2 (2.23) |
| Hispanic origin and race⁵ | | | | | | | |
| Hispanic or Latino | 100.0 | 34.6 (1.21) | 24.0 (1.08) | 25.3 (1.25) | 10.0 (0.74) | 5.3 (0.64) | 0.9 (0.26) |
| Mexican or Mexican American | 100.0 | 36.4 (1.49) | 23.8 (1.29) | 25.3 (1.59) | 9.1 (0.87) | 4.3 (0.73) | *1.0 (0.36) |
| Not Hispanic or Latino | 100.0 | 24.8 (0.64) | 28.2 (0.68) | 28.4 (0.70) | 11.4 (0.47) | 5.9 (0.34) | 1.2 (0.15) |
| White, single race | 100.0 | 20.7 (0.70) | 29.4 (0.80) | 30.7 (0.81) | 12.0 (0.55) | 5.9 (0.39) | 1.4 (0.19) |
| Black or African American, single race | 100.0 | 38.6 (1.66) | 24.5 (1.40) | 21.1 (1.33) | 9.5 (0.96) | 5.6 (0.77) | *0.7 (0.21) |
| Family structure⁶ | | | | | | | |
| Mother and father | 100.0 | 25.6 (0.67) | 29.6 (0.73) | 27.9 (0.75) | 10.8 (0.50) | 4.9 (0.35) | 1.2 (0.17) |
| Mother, no father | 100.0 | 27.2 (1.15) | 22.4 (1.01) | 27.5 (1.20) | 12.9 (0.87) | 8.8 (0.75) | 1.2 (0.28) |
| Father, no mother | 100.0 | 25.2 (2.56) | 24.4 (2.46) | 32.0 (2.85) | 11.9 (1.91) | 5.3 (1.35) | *1.1 (0.47) |
| Neither mother nor father | 100.0 | 35.2 (3.46) | 22.8 (2.86) | 27.0 (3.29) | 7.6 (1.62) | 6.5 (1.89) | *0.9 (0.44) |
| Parent's education⁷ | | | | | | | |
| Less than high school diploma | 100.0 | 33.3 (1.52) | 20.9 (1.33) | 25.8 (1.55) | 11.4 (1.14) | 7.0 (0.84) | 1.7 (0.40) |
| High school diploma or GED ⁸ | 100.0 | 27.8 (1.13) | 23.6 (1.09) | 27.5 (1.16) | 12.0 (0.84) | 7.5 (0.67) | 1.6 (0.35) |
| More than high school | 100.0 | 23.7 (0.72) | 30.8 (0.81) | 28.6 (0.80) | 11.1 (0.55) | 4.9 (0.37) | 0.9 (0.17) |
| Family income⁹ | | | | | | | |
| Less than \$20,000 | 100.0 | 32.7 (1.39) | 20.8 (1.21) | 23.9 (1.30) | 12.1 (0.97) | 8.7 (0.81) | 1.7 (0.38) |
| \$20,000 or more | 100.0 | 24.4 (0.63) | 29.3 (0.67) | 29.1 (0.71) | 11.0 (0.47) | 5.1 (0.32) | 1.1 (0.15) |
| \$20,000–\$34,999 | 100.0 | 26.6 (1.42) | 26.1 (1.40) | 27.0 (1.48) | 11.5 (1.10) | 7.3 (0.91) | 1.5 (0.44) |
| \$35,000–\$54,999 | 100.0 | 24.7 (1.22) | 26.7 (1.40) | 29.5 (1.42) | 12.1 (0.98) | 6.1 (0.71) | 1.0 (0.28) |
| \$55,000–\$74,999 | 100.0 | 21.4 (1.54) | 32.8 (1.71) | 29.5 (1.63) | 10.8 (1.11) | 4.4 (0.75) | *1.1 (0.36) |
| \$75,000 or more | 100.0 | 20.4 (1.15) | 32.1 (1.39) | 30.9 (1.41) | 11.5 (0.93) | 4.2 (0.59) | *0.8 (0.27) |
| Poverty status¹⁰ | | | | | | | |
| Poor | 100.0 | 32.4 (1.75) | 19.1 (1.47) | 25.2 (1.51) | 12.4 (1.24) | 9.6 (1.04) | 1.3 (0.36) |
| Near poor | 100.0 | 27.8 (1.39) | 25.6 (1.43) | 25.4 (1.38) | 12.0 (1.06) | 7.9 (0.92) | 1.3 (0.37) |
| Not poor | 100.0 | 21.5 (0.75) | 30.9 (0.84) | 30.4 (0.86) | 11.6 (0.60) | 4.6 (0.36) | 1.0 (0.18) |
| Health insurance coverage¹¹ | | | | | | | |
| Private | 100.0 | 23.8 (0.66) | 30.2 (0.72) | 29.0 (0.73) | 11.2 (0.51) | 4.8 (0.33) | 1.0 (0.15) |
| Medicaid/other public | 100.0 | 32.0 (1.52) | 19.2 (1.31) | 24.1 (1.43) | 13.1 (1.21) | 0.0 (1.04) | 1.6 (0.36) |
| Other | 100.0 | 31.7 (4.05) | 27.0 (3.76) | 25.4 (4.33) | 10.1 (2.45) | *5.5 (1.80) | *0.3 (0.29) |
| Uninsured | 100.0 | 31.9 (1.66) | 23.1 (1.38) | 27.5 (1.71) | 9.3 (0.97) | 6.3 (0.87) | 1.9 (0.49) |

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 10. Percent distributions (with standard errors) of number of school days missed because of illness or injury in the past 12 months, for children 5–17 years of age, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999—Con.

| Selected characteristic | All children 5–17 years | Number of school days missed in past 12 months ¹ | | | | | Did not go to school |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| | | None | 1–2 days | 3–5 days | 6–10 days | 11 or more days | |
| Place of residence ¹² | | Percent distribution (standard errors) | | | | | |
| Large MSA | 100.0 | 28.2 (0.85) | 28.3 (0.84) | 26.2 (0.83) | 10.9 (0.59) | 5.4 (0.44) | 1.0 (0.18) |
| Small MSA | 100.0 | 25.7 (0.99) | 26.8 (1.07) | 29.7 (1.19) | 11.0 (0.70) | 5.6 (0.50) | 1.2 (0.24) |
| Not in MSA | 100.0 | 22.8 (1.28) | 27.2 (1.37) | 29.3 (1.39) | 12.3 (0.99) | 7.0 (0.74) | 1.4 (0.36) |
| Region | | | | | | | |
| Northeast | 100.0 | 23.5 (1.34) | 28.2 (1.34) | 30.6 (1.46) | 11.8 (0.99) | 5.1 (0.71) | *0.8 (0.28) |
| Midwest | 100.0 | 22.7 (1.06) | 29.4 (1.21) | 29.5 (1.26) | 11.0 (0.84) | 5.9 (0.60) | 1.6 (0.36) |
| South | 100.0 | 28.5 (1.02) | 27.5 (0.98) | 26.7 (1.04) | 10.7 (0.62) | 5.3 (0.45) | 1.2 (0.21) |
| West | 100.0 | 29.1 (1.27) | 25.1 (1.33) | 25.9 (1.32) | 12.0 (1.00) | 7.1 (0.79) | 0.9 (0.25) |
| Current health status | | | | | | | |
| Excellent/very good/good | 100.0 | 26.4 (0.59) | 27.9 (0.60) | 28.0 (0.63) | 11.2 (0.42) | 5.4 (0.29) | 1.2 (0.14) |
| Fair/poor | 100.0 | 15.5 (3.24) | 11.0 (2.77) | 25.5 (5.02) | 14.7 (2.67) | 30.8 (4.74) | *2.4 (1.32) |
| Sex and age | | | | | | | |
| Male: | | | | | | | |
| 5–17 years | 100.0 | 26.6 (0.78) | 27.8 (0.82) | 26.9 (0.83) | 11.6 (0.59) | 5.8 (0.41) | 1.4 (0.22) |
| 5–11 years | 100.0 | 25.5 (1.04) | 28.6 (1.10) | 26.8 (1.08) | 11.2 (0.75) | 5.7 (0.56) | 2.2 (0.38) |
| 12–17 years | 100.0 | 27.9 (1.15) | 26.7 (1.15) | 27.0 (1.24) | 12.0 (0.88) | 6.0 (0.61) | *0.4 (0.13) |
| Female: | | | | | | | |
| 5–17 years | 100.0 | 25.9 (0.79) | 27.4 (0.83) | 29.1 (0.87) | 10.9 (0.56) | 5.8 (0.45) | 1.0 (0.16) |
| 5–11 years | 100.0 | 26.3 (1.12) | 28.9 (1.18) | 28.6 (1.19) | 10.5 (0.80) | 4.3 (0.50) | 1.3 (0.28) |
| 12–17 years | 100.0 | 25.3 (1.11) | 25.5 (1.14) | 29.8 (1.24) | 11.2 (0.79) | 7.7 (0.77) | *0.5 (0.18) |

* Data preceded by an asterisk have a relative standard error of greater than 30%, and should be used with caution as they do not meet the standard of reliability or precision.

– Quantity zero.

¹The data in this table are based on the following question: "During the past 12 months, that is since [12-month ref. date], about how many days did (child's name) miss school because of illness or injury?" See appendix II for more detailed definitions of selected terms used in this report.

²Unknowns for the variable of interest are not included in the denominators when calculating percents. Additionally, percents may not add to 100% because of rounding.

³Starting with data year 1999, the categories "White" and "Black or African American" under "Single race" includes persons who reported only one racial group. The category "American Indian or Alaska Native" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "American Indian" and "Alaska Native" racial groups. Also, the category "Asian" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated more than one Asian subgroup (such as Asian Indian, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean, or Vietnamese). Further, the racial group "Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "Native Hawaiian" or "other Pacific Islander" (such as Guamanian or Samoan) categories. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

⁴Although all persons who reported a multiple race combination are shown in "2 or more races," the only specific combination shown are "Black or African American; white" and "American Indian or Alaska Native; white." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

⁵"Mexican or Mexican American" is a subset of Hispanics. Under the category "Not Hispanic or Latino," "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race" refer to non-Hispanic single race white persons and non-Hispanic single race black or African American persons, respectively. Although all non-Hispanic persons are shown in "Not Hispanic or Latino," the only specific categories shown are "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

⁶Mother and father can include biological, adoptive, step, in-law, or foster relationships. Legal guardians are classified in "Neither mother nor father."

⁷Parent's education is the education level of the parent with the higher level of education, regardless of that parent's age.

⁸GED is General Educational Development high school equivalency diploma.

⁹"Less than \$20,000" and "\$20,000 or more" include both respondents reporting specific dollar amounts and respondents reporting that their incomes were within those categories (see appendix I). The indented categories include only those respondents who reported specific dollar amounts. Children with unknown family income are not shown.

¹⁰Poverty status is based on family income and family size using the Census Bureau's poverty thresholds. "Poor" children are in families defined as below the poverty threshold. "Near poor" children are in families with incomes that are 100% to less than 200% of the poverty threshold. "Not poor" children are in families with incomes that are 200% of the poverty threshold or greater.

¹¹Private health insurance may be obtained through the workplace or purchased directly. Among children under 18 years of age, "Medicaid/other public" includes those with Medicaid or other public health insurance coverage (e.g., most State-sponsored coverage). "Other coverage" includes Medicare, military health insurance coverage, and/or another form of government-sponsored health insurance coverage. Children with only Indian Health Service coverage are considered uninsured.

¹²"MSA" is metropolitan statistical area. Large MSAs have a population size of 1,000,000 or more; small MSAs have a population size of less than 1,000,000. "Not in MSA" consists of persons not living in a metropolitan statistical area.

Table 11. Frequency distributions of having a usual place of health care for children 17 years of age and under, and frequency distributions of usual place of health care for children 17 years of age and under with a usual place of care, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999

| Selected characteristic | All children 0–17 years | Has no usual place of health care | Has usual place of health care | Usual place of care ¹ | | | | | |
|---|----------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|------------------------|---------------------|---|
| | | | | Clinic | Doctor's office | Emergency room | Hospital outpatient | Some other place | Does not go to one place most often |
| Number in thousands ² | | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 72,080 | 4,535 | 67,429 | 13,576 | 52,027 | 304 | 1,012 | 260 | 162 |
| Sex | | | | | | | | | |
| Male | 36,871 | 2,339 | 34,479 | 6,810 | 26,775 | 176 | 476 | 125 | 72 |
| Female | 35,208 | 2,196 | 32,950 | 6,766 | 25,252 | 128 | 537 | 135 | *91 |
| Age | | | | | | | | | |
| 0–4 years | 19,601 | 773 | 18,809 | 4,017 | 14,250 | *55 | 361 | *93 | *20 |
| 5–17 years | 52,479 | 3,762 | 48,621 | 9,559 | 37,778 | 249 | 651 | 167 | 143 |
| 5–11 years | 28,882 | 1,711 | 27,145 | 5,374 | 21,155 | 127 | 361 | *73 | *30 |
| 12–17 years | 23,596 | 2,052 | 21,475 | 4,185 | 16,623 | 122 | 290 | 95 | *112 |
| Race | | | | | | | | | |
| Single race: ³ | | | | | | | | | |
| White | 54,499 | 3,193 | 51,227 | 9,288 | 40,892 | 163 | 493 | 199 | *125 |
| Black or African American | 10,578 | 655 | 9,916 | 2,590 | 6,853 | 87 | 320 | *24 | *23 |
| American Indian or Alaska Native | 625 | *83 | 540 | 292 | 202 | 0 | *46 | 0 | 0 |
| Asian | 1,987 | 162 | 1,806 | 322 | 1,422 | *9 | *40 | *9 | *3 |
| Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander | *66 | *– | *66 | *12 | *53 | *– | *– | *– | *– |
| Multiple race: ⁴ | | | | | | | | | |
| 2 or more races | 1,579 | 58 | 1,519 | 353 | 1,114 | *15 | *18 | *14 | *3 |
| Black or African American; white | 525 | *21 | 502 | 117 | 376 | *– | *6 | *– | *– |
| American Indian or Alaska Native; white | 288 | *1 | 286 | 90 | 171 | *15 | *4 | *7 | *– |
| Hispanic origin and race ⁵ | | | | | | | | | |
| Hispanic or Latino | 11,461 | 1,553 | 9,882 | 3,141 | 6,287 | 107 | 245 | *20 | 49 |
| Mexican or Mexican American | 7,782 | 1,279 | 6,485 | 2,140 | 4,069 | 75 | 136 | *9 | 43 |
| Not Hispanic or Latino | 60,567 | 2,979 | 57,499 | 10,436 | 45,692 | 197 | 768 | 240 | *113 |
| White, single race | 46,329 | 2,076 | 44,192 | 7,023 | 36,419 | 89 | 342 | 193 | *84 |
| Black or African American, single race | 10,404 | 630 | 9,766 | 2,561 | 6,745 | 84 | 319 | *24 | *23 |
| Family structure ⁶ | | | | | | | | | |
| Mother and father | 50,872 | 2,698 | 48,086 | 8,200 | 38,856 | 148 | 576 | 173 | *103 |
| Mother, no father | 16,319 | 1,303 | 14,996 | 4,222 | 10,190 | 92 | 328 | *80 | *35 |
| Father, no mother | 2,942 | 340 | 2,600 | 626 | 1,868 | *46 | *49 | *4 | *4 |
| Neither mother nor father | 1,947 | 195 | 1,747 | 529 | 1,113 | *18 | *60 | *4 | *21 |
| Parent's education ⁷ | | | | | | | | | |
| Less than high school diploma | 9,250 | 1,366 | 7,873 | 2,986 | 4,507 | 119 | 181 | *10 | *50 |
| High school diploma or GED ⁸ | 16,827 | 1,285 | 15,497 | 3,719 | 11,197 | 94 | 356 | *40 | *65 |
| More than high school | 43,556 | 1,649 | 41,875 | 6,254 | 34,882 | 68 | 410 | 206 | *26 |
| Family income ⁹ | | | | | | | | | |
| Less than \$20,000 | 13,607 | 1,681 | 11,902 | 4,347 | 6,910 | 170 | 346 | *36 | 66 |
| \$20,000 or more | 55,560 | 2,655 | 52,833 | 8,577 | 43,167 | 131 | 630 | 215 | *84 |
| \$20,000–\$34,999 | 10,254 | 963 | 9,285 | 2,521 | 6,404 | *36 | 256 | *25 | *44 |
| \$35,000–\$54,999 | 13,107 | 716 | 12,380 | 2,316 | 9,836 | *48 | 95 | *67 | *18 |
| \$55,000–\$74,999 | 9,613 | 281 | 9,333 | 1,400 | 7,756 | *25 | *89 | *35 | *11 |
| \$75,000 or more | 13,697 | 231 | 13,434 | 1,366 | 11,947 | *6 | *64 | *40 | *4 |
| Poverty status ¹⁰ | | | | | | | | | |
| Poor | 9,585 | 1,151 | 8,428 | 3,130 | 4,835 | 121 | 262 | *33 | *41 |
| Near poor | 12,134 | 1,185 | 10,937 | 3,156 | 7,393 | 55 | 250 | *28 | *56 |
| Not poor | 35,757 | 1,129 | 34,585 | 4,805 | 29,253 | 80 | 252 | 142 | *32 |

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 11. Frequency distributions of having a usual place of health care for children 17 years of age and under, and frequency distributions of usual place of health care for children 17 years of age and under with a usual place of care, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999—Con.

| Selected characteristic | All children 0–17 years | Has no usual place of health care | Has usual place of health care | Usual place of care ¹ | | | | | Does not go to one place most often |
|---|----------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------|-------------------|------------------------|---------------------|---|
| | | | | Clinic | Doctor's office | Emergency room | Hospital outpatient | Some other place | |
| Health insurance coverage¹¹ | | | | Number in thousands² | | | | | |
| Private | 49,644 | 1,568 | 47,988 | 6,330 | 41,157 | 60 | 271 | 107 | *30 |
| Medicaid/other public | 12,345 | 655 | 11,674 | 4,142 | 7,013 | *68 | 347 | *32 | *33 |
| Other | 1,561 | *92 | 1,470 | 652 | 547 | *12 | 205 | *55 | *– |
| Uninsured | 8,334 | 2,204 | 6,118 | 2,406 | 3,191 | 165 | 190 | *62 | *100 |
| Place of residence¹² | | | | | | | | | |
| Large MSA | 34,327 | 2,099 | 32,192 | 5,724 | 25,533 | 139 | 558 | 87 | *107 |
| Small MSA | 22,591 | 1,419 | 21,107 | 4,171 | 16,391 | 88 | 256 | 138 | *36 |
| Not in MSA | 15,162 | 1,018 | 14,130 | 3,681 | 10,103 | 77 | 199 | *36 | *19 |
| Region | | | | | | | | | |
| Northeast | 13,283 | 279 | 12,998 | 1,514 | 11,168 | *40 | 190 | *13 | *46 |
| Midwest | 18,061 | 840 | 17,193 | 4,451 | 12,337 | *58 | 229 | *86 | *16 |
| South | 25,387 | 2,003 | 23,352 | 4,177 | 18,497 | 146 | 375 | 80 | 60 |
| West | 15,349 | 1,414 | 13,886 | 3,434 | 10,026 | 60 | 219 | *81 | *41 |
| Current health status | | | | | | | | | |
| Excellent/very good/good | 70,786 | 4,474 | 66,196 | 13,159 | 51,271 | 276 | 981 | 260 | 162 |
| Fair/poor | 1,228 | *61 | 1,168 | 387 | 730 | *19 | *31 | *– | *– |
| Sex and age | | | | | | | | | |
| Male: | | | | | | | | | |
| 0–4 years | 10,018 | 399 | 9,611 | 1,989 | 7,368 | *35 | 159 | *31 | *20 |
| 5–17 years | 26,853 | 1,940 | 24,869 | 4,821 | 19,407 | 141 | 317 | 94 | 52 |
| 5–11 years | 14,814 | 896 | 13,904 | 2,747 | 10,834 | 64 | 184 | *46 | *14 |
| 12–17 years | 12,040 | 1,043 | 10,964 | 2,074 | 8,572 | 77 | 133 | *48 | *38 |
| Female: | | | | | | | | | |
| 0–4 years | 9,583 | 374 | 9,198 | 2,028 | 6,881 | *20 | 202 | *62 | *– |
| 5–17 years | 25,625 | 1,823 | 23,752 | 4,738 | 18,371 | 108 | 334 | *74 | *91 |
| 5–11 years | 14,069 | 815 | 13,241 | 2,627 | 10,320 | *63 | 177 | *27 | *16 |
| 12–17 years | 11,557 | 1,008 | 10,511 | 2,111 | 8,050 | *44 | 157 | *47 | *75 |

* Data preceded by an asterisk have a relative standard error of greater than 30%, and should be used with caution as they do not meet the standard of reliability or precision.

– Quantity zero.

¹The data in this table are based on the following questions: "Is there a place that (child's name) USUALLY goes who (he/she) is sick or you need advice about (his/her) health?" and "What kind of place is it — a clinic or health center, doctor's office or HMO, hospital emergency room, hospital outpatient department or some other place?" See appendix II for more detailed definitions of selected terms used in this report.

²Unknowns for the variable of interest are not shown among the frequencies. They are, however, included in the "All children" column. Hence, frequencies may not sum to their respective totals. Additionally, numbers may not add to totals because of rounding.

³Starting with data year 1999, the categories "White" and "Black or African American" under "Single race" include persons who reported only one racial group. The category "American Indian or Alaska Native" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "American Indian" and "Alaska Native" racial groups. Also, the category "Asian" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated more than one Asian subgroup (such as Asian Indian, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean, or Vietnamese). Further, the racial group "Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "Native Hawaiian" or "other Pacific Islander" (such as Guamanian or Samoan) categories. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

⁴Although all persons who reported a multiple race combination are shown in "2 or more races," the only specific combinations shown are "Black or African American; white" and "American Indian or Alaska Native; white." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

⁵"Mexican or Mexican American" is a subset of Hispanics. Under the category "Not Hispanic or Latino," "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race" refer to non-Hispanic single race white persons and non-Hispanic single race black or African American persons, respectively. Although all non-Hispanic persons are shown in "Not Hispanic or Latino," the only specific categories shown are "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

⁶Mother and father can include biological, adoptive, step, in-law, or foster relationships. Legal guardians are classified in "Neither mother nor father."

⁷Parent's education is the education level of the parent with the higher level of education, regardless of that parent's age.

⁸GED is General Educational Development high school equivalency diploma.

⁹"Less than \$20,000" and "\$20,000 or more" include both respondents reporting specific dollar amounts and respondents reporting that their incomes were within those categories (see appendix I). The indented categories include only those respondents who reported specific dollar amounts. Children with unknown family income are not shown.

¹⁰Poverty status is based on family income and family size using the Census Bureau's poverty thresholds. "Poor" children are in families defined as below the poverty threshold. "Near poor" children are in families with incomes that are 100% to less than 200% of the poverty threshold. "Not poor" children are in families with incomes that are 200% of the poverty threshold or greater.

¹¹Private health insurance may be obtained through the workplace or purchased directly. Among children under 18 years of age, "Medicaid/other public" includes those with Medicaid or other public health insurance coverage (e.g., most State-sponsored coverage). "Other coverage" includes Medicare, military health insurance coverage, and/or another form of government-sponsored health insurance coverage. Children with only Indian Health Service coverage are considered uninsured.

¹²"MSA" is metropolitan statistical area. Large MSAs have a population size of 1,000,000 or more; small MSAs have a population size of less than 1,000,000. "Not in MSA" consists of persons not living in a metropolitan statistical area.

Table 12. Percent distributions (with standard errors) of having a usual place of health care for children 17 years of age and under, and percent distributions (with standard errors) of usual place of health care, for children 17 years of age and under with a usual place of care, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999

| Selected characteristic | Usual place of care ¹ | | | | | | | Percent distribution (standard error) ² | Does not go to one place most often | |
|---|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|---------------|-----------------|----------------|--|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| | All children 0-17 years | Has no usual place of health care | Has usual place of health care | All children 0-17 years with a usual place of health care | Clinic | Doctor's office | Emergency room | | | Hospital outpatient |
| Total | 100.0 | 6.3 (0.26) | 93.7 (0.26) | 100.0 | 20.2 (0.55) | 77.3 (0.57) | 0.5 (0.06) | 1.5 (0.13) | 0.4 (0.07) | 0.2 (0.06) |
| Sex | | | | | | | | | | |
| Male | 100.0 | 6.4 (0.36) | 93.6 (0.36) | 100.0 | 19.8 (0.70) | 77.8 (0.73) | 0.5 (0.09) | 1.4 (0.17) | 0.4 (0.08) | 0.2 (0.05) |
| Female | 100.0 | 6.2 (0.36) | 93.8 (0.36) | 100.0 | 20.6 (0.74) | 76.7 (0.76) | 0.4 (0.09) | 1.6 (0.19) | 0.4 (0.10) | *0.3 (0.12) |
| Age | | | | | | | | | | |
| 0-4 years | 100.0 | 3.9 (0.40) | 96.1 (0.40) | 100.0 | 21.4 (0.89) | 75.8 (0.93) | *0.3 (0.11) | 1.9 (0.28) | *0.5 (0.15) | *0.1 (0.05) |
| 5-17 years | 100.0 | 7.2 (0.32) | 92.8 (0.32) | 100.0 | 19.7 (0.62) | 77.8 (0.64) | 0.5 (0.08) | 1.3 (0.14) | 0.3 (0.07) | 0.3 (0.08) |
| 5-11 years | 100.0 | 5.9 (0.39) | 94.1 (0.39) | 100.0 | 19.8 (0.78) | 78.0 (0.80) | 0.5 (0.11) | 1.3 (0.19) | *0.3 (0.08) | *0.1 (0.04) |
| 12-17 years | 100.0 | 8.7 (0.49) | 91.3 (0.49) | 100.0 | 19.5 (0.83) | 77.6 (0.86) | 0.6 (0.12) | 1.4 (0.20) | 0.4 (0.12) | *0.5 (0.18) |
| Race | | | | | | | | | | |
| Single race: ³ | | | | | | | | | | |
| White | 100.0 | 5.9 (0.29) | 94.1 (0.29) | 100.0 | 18.2 (0.59) | 79.9 (0.60) | 0.3 (0.06) | 1.0 (0.12) | 0.4 (0.08) | *0.2 (0.08) |
| Black or African American | 100.0 | 6.2 (0.61) | 93.8 (0.61) | 100.0 | 26.2 (1.48) | 69.2 (1.57) | 0.9 (0.24) | 3.2 (0.44) | *0.2 (0.13) | *0.2 (0.11) |
| American Indian or Alaska Native | 100.0 | 13.3 (3.68) | 86.7 (3.68) | 100.0 | 54.0 (6.40) | 37.5 (6.93) | — | *8.5 (4.07) | — | — |
| Asian | 100.0 | 8.2 (1.59) | 91.8 (1.59) | 100.0 | 17.8 (2.95) | 78.7 (3.11) | *0.5 (0.50) | *2.2 (1.02) | *0.5 (0.38) | *0.2 (0.17) |
| Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander | 100.0 | — | 100.0 | 100.0 | *18.9 (10.59) | 81.1 (10.59) | — | — | — | — |
| Multiple race: ⁴ | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2 or more races | 100.0 | 3.7 (1.08) | 96.3 (1.08) | 100.0 | 23.3 (2.75) | 73.5 (2.94) | *1.0 (0.78) | *1.2 (0.59) | *1.0 (0.67) | *0.2 (0.17) |
| Black or African American; white | 100.0 | *4.1 (1.97) | 95.9 (1.97) | 100.0 | 23.5 (5.20) | 75.4 (5.26) | 0.0 (0.0) | *1.1 (1.12) | 0.0 (0.0) | — |
| American Indian or Alaska Native; white | 100.0 | *0.5 (0.49) | 99.5 (0.49) | 100.0 | 31.5 (7.12) | 59.6 (8.57) | *5.2 (4.03) | *1.4 (1.40) | *2.3 (2.19) | — |
| Hispanic origin and race ⁵ | | | | | | | | | | |
| Hispanic or Latino | 100.0 | 13.6 (0.76) | 86.4 (0.76) | 100.0 | 31.9 (1.40) | 63.8 (1.41) | 1.1 (0.25) | 2.5 (0.37) | *0.2 (0.10) | 0.5 (0.14) |
| Mexican or Mexican American | 100.0 | 16.5 (1.00) | 83.5 (1.00) | 100.0 | 33.1 (1.84) | 62.9 (1.84) | *1.2 (0.35) | 2.1 (0.44) | *0.1 (0.08) | 0.7 (0.20) |
| Not Hispanic or Latino | 100.0 | 4.9 (0.27) | 95.1 (0.27) | 100.0 | 18.2 (0.60) | 79.5 (0.62) | 0.3 (0.06) | 1.3 (0.14) | 0.4 (0.08) | *0.2 (0.07) |
| White, single race | 100.0 | 4.5 (0.30) | 95.5 (0.30) | 100.0 | 15.9 (0.62) | 82.5 (0.63) | 0.2 (0.06) | 0.8 (0.12) | 0.4 (0.10) | *0.2 (0.08) |
| Black or African American, single race | 100.0 | 6.1 (0.60) | 93.9 (0.60) | 100.0 | 26.3 (1.50) | 69.1 (1.58) | 0.9 (0.24) | 3.3 (0.45) | *0.2 (0.13) | *0.2 (0.11) |
| Family structure ⁶ | | | | | | | | | | |
| Mother and father | 100.0 | 5.3 (0.29) | 94.7 (0.29) | 100.0 | 17.1 (0.56) | 80.9 (0.60) | 0.3 (0.06) | 1.2 (0.15) | 0.4 (0.08) | *0.2 (0.08) |
| Mother, no father | 100.0 | 8.0 (0.57) | 92.0 (0.57) | 100.0 | 28.2 (1.14) | 68.2 (1.16) | 0.6 (0.16) | 2.2 (0.30) | *0.5 (0.16) | *0.2 (0.09) |
| Father, no mother | 100.0 | 11.6 (1.67) | 88.4 (1.67) | 100.0 | 24.1 (2.32) | 71.9 (2.38) | *1.8 (0.69) | *1.9 (0.77) | *0.1 (0.15) | *0.2 (0.15) |
| Neither mother nor father | 100.0 | 10.0 (1.53) | 90.0 (1.53) | 100.0 | 30.3 (3.10) | 63.8 (3.12) | *1.0 (0.51) | *3.4 (1.12) | *0.2 (0.17) | *1.2 (0.46) |
| Parent's education ⁷ | | | | | | | | | | |
| Less than high school diploma | 100.0 | 14.8 (1.02) | 85.2 (1.02) | 100.0 | 38.0 (1.54) | 57.4 (1.56) | 1.5 (0.38) | 2.3 (0.40) | *0.1 (0.08) | *0.6 (0.20) |
| High school diploma or GED ⁸ | 100.0 | 7.7 (0.54) | 92.3 (0.54) | 100.0 | 24.0 (1.07) | 72.4 (1.12) | 0.6 (0.15) | 2.3 (0.34) | *0.3 (0.10) | *0.4 (0.24) |
| More than high school | 100.0 | 3.8 (0.27) | 96.2 (0.27) | 100.0 | 14.9 (0.59) | 83.4 (0.62) | 0.2 (0.05) | 1.0 (0.14) | 0.5 (0.10) | *0.1 (0.02) |

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 12. Percent distributions (with standard errors) of having a usual place of health care for children 17 years of age and under, and percent distributions (with standard errors) of usual place of health care, for children 17 years of age and under with a usual place of care, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999—Con.

| Selected characteristic | All children | | | | | Usual place of care ¹ | | | | | Does not go to one place most often |
|---|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|--|----------------------------------|---------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| | All children 0-17 years | Has no usual place of health care | Has usual place of health care | All children 0-17 years with a usual place of health care | Percent distribution (standard error) ² | Emergency room | Hospital outpatient | Some other place | Does not go to one place most often | | |
| Family income⁹ | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Less than \$20,000 | 100.0 | 12.4 (0.76) | 87.6 (0.76) | 100.0 | 36.6 (1.34) | 1.4 (0.30) | 2.9 (0.40) | *0.3 (0.12) | 0.6 (0.15) | | |
| \$20,000 or more | 100.0 | 4.8 (0.27) | 95.2 (0.27) | 100.0 | 16.2 (0.55) | 0.2 (0.05) | 1.2 (0.13) | 0.4 (0.08) | *0.2 (0.07) | | |
| \$20,000-\$34,999 | 100.0 | 9.4 (0.79) | 90.6 (0.79) | 100.0 | 27.1 (1.42) | *0.4 (0.13) | 2.8 (0.44) | *0.3 (0.11) | *0.5 (0.38) | | |
| \$35,000-\$54,999 | 100.0 | 5.5 (0.54) | 94.5 (0.54) | 100.0 | 18.7 (1.10) | *0.4 (0.14) | 0.8 (0.20) | *0.5 (0.18) | *0.1 (0.07) | | |
| \$55,000-\$74,999 | 100.0 | 2.9 (0.49) | 97.1 (0.49) | 100.0 | 15.0 (1.16) | *0.3 (0.13) | *1.0 (0.32) | *0.4 (0.18) | *0.1 (0.07) | | |
| \$75,000 or more | 100.0 | 1.7 (0.29) | 98.3 (0.29) | 100.0 | 10.2 (0.83) | *0.0 (0.04) | *0.5 (0.16) | *0.3 (0.12) | *0.0 (0.03) | | |
| Poverty status¹⁰ | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Poor | 100.0 | 12.0 (0.93) | 88.0 (0.93) | 100.0 | 37.2 (1.66) | 1.4 (0.38) | 3.1 (0.55) | *0.4 (0.17) | *0.5 (0.18) | | |
| Near poor | 100.0 | 9.8 (0.76) | 90.2 (0.76) | 100.0 | 28.9 (1.32) | 0.5 (0.14) | 2.3 (0.45) | *0.3 (0.10) | *0.5 (0.32) | | |
| Not poor | 100.0 | 3.2 (0.24) | 96.8 (0.24) | 100.0 | 13.9 (0.60) | 0.2 (0.06) | 0.7 (0.13) | 0.4 (0.10) | *0.1 (0.03) | | |
| Health insurance coverage¹¹ | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Private | 100.0 | 3.2 (0.23) | 96.8 (0.23) | 100.0 | 13.2 (0.54) | *0.1 (0.0) | 0.6 (0.10) | 0.2 (0.06) | *0.1 (0.03) | | |
| Medicaid/other public | 100.0 | 5.3 (0.51) | 94.7 (0.51) | 100.0 | 35.6 (1.35) | *0.6 (0.18) | 3.0 (0.39) | *0.3 (0.11) | *0.3 (0.11) | | |
| Other | 100.0 | *5.9 (1.77) | 94.1 (1.77) | 100.0 | 44.3 (4.56) | *0.8 (0.56) | 13.9 (2.58) | *3.8 (1.64) | — | | |
| Uninsured | 100.0 | 26.5 (1.36) | 73.5 (1.36) | 100.0 | 39.4 (1.87) | 2.7 (0.57) | 3.1 (0.57) | *1.0 (0.37) | *1.6 (0.61) | | |
| Place of residence¹² | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Large MSA | 100.0 | 6.1 (0.35) | 93.9 (0.35) | 100.0 | 17.8 (0.68) | 0.4 (0.09) | 1.7 (0.19) | 0.3 (0.07) | *0.3 (0.12) | | |
| Small MSA | 100.0 | 6.3 (0.47) | 93.7 (0.47) | 100.0 | 19.8 (1.16) | 0.4 (0.11) | 1.2 (0.23) | 0.7 (0.18) | *0.2 (0.06) | | |
| Not in MSA | 100.0 | 6.7 (0.66) | 93.3 (0.66) | 100.0 | 26.1 (1.39) | 0.5 (0.16) | 1.4 (0.30) | *0.3 (0.11) | *0.1 (0.07) | | |
| Region | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Northeast | 100.0 | 2.1 (0.33) | 97.9 (0.33) | 100.0 | 11.7 (0.93) | *0.3 (0.10) | 1.5 (0.26) | *0.1 (0.09) | *0.4 (0.27) | | |
| Midwest | 100.0 | 4.7 (0.46) | 95.3 (0.46) | 100.0 | 25.9 (1.23) | *0.3 (0.12) | 1.3 (0.25) | *0.5 (0.16) | *0.1 (0.06) | | |
| South | 100.0 | 7.9 (0.52) | 92.1 (0.52) | 100.0 | 17.9 (0.95) | 0.6 (0.13) | 1.6 (0.24) | 0.3 (0.09) | 0.3 (0.07) | | |
| West | 100.0 | 9.2 (0.61) | 90.8 (0.61) | 100.0 | 24.8 (1.16) | 0.4 (0.13) | 1.6 (0.31) | *0.6 (0.20) | *0.3 (0.09) | | |
| Current health status | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Excellent/very good/good | 100.0 | 6.3 (0.26) | 93.7 (0.26) | 100.0 | 19.9 (0.56) | 0.4 (0.06) | 1.5 (0.13) | 0.4 (0.07) | 0.2 (0.06) | | |
| Fair/poor | 100.0 | *4.9 (1.81) | 95.1 (1.81) | 100.0 | 33.1 (4.15) | *1.7 (0.77) | *2.7 (1.20) | — | — | | |
| Sex and age | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Male: | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 0-4 years | 100.0 | 4.0 (0.55) | 96.0 (0.55) | 100.0 | 20.7 (1.16) | *0.4 (0.18) | 1.7 (0.36) | *0.3 (0.15) | *0.2 (0.11) | | |
| 5-17 years | 100.0 | 7.2 (0.43) | 92.8 (0.43) | 100.0 | 19.4 (0.79) | 0.6 (0.11) | 1.3 (0.20) | 0.4 (0.10) | 0.2 (0.06) | | |
| 5-11 years | 100.0 | 6.1 (0.53) | 93.9 (0.53) | 100.0 | 19.8 (1.02) | 0.5 (0.14) | 1.3 (0.25) | *0.3 (0.12) | *0.1 (0.05) | | |
| 12-17 years | 100.0 | 8.7 (0.68) | 91.3 (0.68) | 100.0 | 19.0 (1.11) | 0.7 (0.18) | 1.2 (0.29) | *0.4 (0.17) | *0.3 (0.11) | | |
| Female: | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 0-4 years | 100.0 | 3.9 (0.53) | 96.1 (0.53) | 100.0 | 22.1 (1.26) | *0.2 (0.12) | 2.2 (0.41) | *0.7 (0.26) | — | | |
| 5-17 years | 100.0 | 7.1 (0.44) | 92.9 (0.44) | 100.0 | 20.0 (0.84) | 0.5 (0.11) | 1.4 (0.20) | *0.3 (0.10) | *0.4 (0.16) | | |
| 5-11 years | 100.0 | 5.8 (0.56) | 94.2 (0.56) | 100.0 | 19.9 (1.12) | *0.5 (0.17) | 1.3 (0.30) | *0.2 (0.12) | *0.1 (0.06) | | |
| 12-17 years | 100.0 | 8.8 (0.70) | 91.2 (0.70) | 100.0 | 20.1 (1.14) | *0.4 (0.15) | 1.5 (0.25) | *0.4 (0.16) | *0.7 (0.35) | | |

* Data preceded by an asterisk have a relative standard error of greater than 30%, and should be used with caution as they do not meet the standard of reliability or precision.

— Quantity zero.

0.0 Quantity more than zero but less than 0.0.

¹The data in this table are based on the following questions: "Is there a place that (child's name) USUALLY goes when (he/she) is sick or you need advice about (his/her) health?" and "What kind of place is it — a clinic or health center, doctor's office or HMO, hospital emergency room, hospital outpatient department or some other place?" See appendix II for more detailed definitions of selected terms used in this report.

known for the variable of interest are not included in the denominators when calculating percents. Additionally, percents may not add to 100% because of rounding.

Starting with data year 1999, the categories "White" and "Black or African American" under "Single race" include persons who reported only one racial group. The category "American Indian or Alaska Native" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "American Indian" and "Alaska Native" racial groups. Also, the category "Asian" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated more than one Asian subgroup (such as Asian Indian, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean, or Vietnamese). Further, the racial group "Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "Native Hawaiian" or "other Pacific Islander" (such as Guamanian or Samoan) categories. Single race persons who indicated a race other than white, black or African American, American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, or Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander are not shown. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

⁴ Although all persons who reported a multiple race combination are shown in "2 or more races," the only specific combination shown are "Black or African American; white" and "American Indian or Alaska Native; white." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

⁵ "Mexican or Mexican American" is a subset of Hispanics. Under the category "Not Hispanic or Latino," "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race" refer to non-Hispanic single race white persons and non-Hispanic black or African American persons, respectively. Although all non-Hispanic persons are shown in "Not Hispanic or Latino," the only specific categories shown are "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

⁶ Mother and father can include biological, adoptive, step, in-law, or foster relationships. Legal guardians are classified in "Neither mother nor father."

⁷ Parent's education is the education level of the parent with the higher level of education, regardless of that parent's age.

⁸ GED is General Educational Development high school equivalency diploma.

⁹ "Less than \$20,000" and "\$20,000 or more" include both respondents reporting specific dollar amounts and respondents reporting that their incomes were within those categories (see appendix I). The indented categories include only those respondents who reported specific dollar amounts. Children with unknown family income are not shown.

¹⁰ Poverty status is based on family income and family size using the Census Bureau's poverty thresholds. "Poor" children are in families defined as below the poverty threshold. "Near poor" children are in families with incomes that are 100% to less than 200% of the poverty threshold. "Not poor" children are in families with incomes that are 200% of the poverty threshold or greater.

¹¹ Private health insurance may be obtained through the workplace or purchased directly. Among children under 18 years of age, "Medicaid/other public" includes those with Medicaid or other public health insurance coverage (e.g., most State-sponsored coverage). "Other coverage" includes Medicare, military health insurance coverage, and/or another form of government-sponsored health insurance coverage. Children with only Indian Health Service coverage are considered uninsured.

¹² "MSA" is metropolitan statistical area. Large MSAs have a population size of 1,000,000 or more; small MSAs have a population size of less than 1,000,000. "Not in MSA" consists of persons not living in a metropolitan statistical area.

Table 13. Frequency distributions of length of time since last contact with a health care professional, for children 17 years of age and under, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999

| Selected characteristic | All children 0–17 years | Time since last contact with a health care professional ¹ | | | | |
|---|----------------------------|--|---|--|---|--------------------------------------|
| | | 6 months or less | More than 6 months but not more than 1 year | More than 1 year but not more than 2 years | More than 2 years but not more than 5 years | More than 5 years ² |
| Total | 72,080 | 51,892 | 10,935 | 5,292 | 1,699 | 1,262 |
| Number in thousands ³ | | | | | | |
| Sex | | | | | | |
| Male | 36,871 | 26,134 | 5,547 | 3,024 | 1,005 | 630 |
| Female | 35,208 | 25,758 | 5,387 | 2,268 | 694 | 632 |
| Age | | | | | | |
| 0–4 years | 19,601 | 16,739 | 1,794 | 477 | *93 | 286 |
| 5–17 years | 52,479 | 35,152 | 9,140 | 4,815 | 1,606 | 977 |
| 5–11 years | 28,882 | 19,921 | 5,029 | 2,532 | 656 | 381 |
| 12–17 years | 23,596 | 15,231 | 4,112 | 2,283 | 950 | 596 |
| Race | | | | | | |
| Single race: ⁴ | | | | | | |
| White | 54,499 | 39,889 | 8,053 | 3,782 | 1,141 | 936 |
| Black or African American | 10,578 | 7,298 | 1,795 | 956 | 206 | 170 |
| American Indian or Alaska Native | 625 | 374 | *113 | *66 | *61 | *10 |
| Asian | 1,987 | 1,280 | 341 | 140 | *129 | *60 |
| Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander | *66 | *44 | *18 | *4 | *– | *– |
| Multiple race: ⁵ | | | | | | |
| 2 or more races | 1,579 | 1,151 | 237 | 145 | *20 | *6 |
| Black or African American; white | 525 | 362 | *92 | *44 | *11 | *3 |
| American Indian or Alaska Native; white | 288 | 209 | *32 | *41 | *– | *1 |
| Hispanic origin and race ⁶ | | | | | | |
| Hispanic or Latino | 11,461 | 7,457 | 1,752 | 1,066 | 503 | 460 |
| Mexican or Mexican American | 7,782 | 4,854 | 1,173 | 792 | 432 | 388 |
| Not Hispanic or Latino | 60,567 | 44,383 | 9,183 | 4,226 | 1,196 | 802 |
| White, single race | 46,329 | 34,673 | 6,757 | 2,988 | 783 | 562 |
| Black or African American, single race | 10,404 | 7,182 | 1,763 | 932 | 204 | 170 |
| Family structure ⁷ | | | | | | |
| Mother and father | 50,872 | 37,083 | 7,619 | 3,565 | 1,073 | 881 |
| Mother, no father | 16,319 | 11,554 | 2,495 | 1,310 | 432 | 259 |
| Father, no mother | 2,942 | 1,982 | 495 | 266 | 118 | *49 |
| Neither mother nor father | 1,947 | 1,273 | 326 | 152 | *76 | 73 |
| Parent's education ⁸ | | | | | | |
| Less than high school diploma | 9,250 | 5,657 | 1,539 | 995 | 499 | 364 |
| High school diploma or GED ⁹ | 16,827 | 11,772 | 2,608 | 1,459 | 387 | 308 |
| More than high school | 43,556 | 32,910 | 6,413 | 2,654 | 704 | 506 |
| Family income ¹⁰ | | | | | | |
| Less than \$20,000 | 13,607 | 9,197 | 2,122 | 1,153 | 529 | 399 |
| \$20,000 or more | 55,560 | 40,746 | 8,358 | 3,920 | 1,085 | 826 |
| \$20,000–\$34,999 | 10,254 | 6,962 | 1,595 | 952 | 421 | 246 |
| \$35,000–\$54,999 | 13,107 | 9,396 | 2,115 | 1,031 | 294 | 206 |
| \$55,000–\$74,999 | 9,613 | 7,096 | 1,569 | 622 | 105 | 139 |
| \$75,000 or more | 13,697 | 10,829 | 1,889 | 706 | 71 | 101 |
| Poverty status ¹¹ | | | | | | |
| Poor | 9,585 | 6,464 | 1,514 | 837 | 360 | 313 |
| Near poor | 12,134 | 8,306 | 1,837 | 1,081 | 523 | 305 |
| Not poor | 35,757 | 26,866 | 5,504 | 2,319 | 411 | 405 |

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 13. Frequency distributions of length of time since last contact with a health care professional, for children 17 years of age and under, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999—Con.

| Selected characteristic | All children 0–17 years | Time since last contact with a health care professional ¹ | | | | |
|---|----------------------------|--|---|--|---|-----------------------------------|
| | | 6 months or less | More than 6 months but not more than 1 year | More than 1 year but not more than 2 years | More than 2 years but not more than 5 years | More than 5 years ² |
| Health insurance coverage¹² | | | | | | |
| Private | 49,644 | 37,005 | 7,419 | 3,265 | 692 | 689 |
| Medicaid/other public | 12,345 | 9,355 | 1,617 | 813 | 187 | 164 |
| Other | 1,561 | 1,168 | 204 | 82 | *48 | *35 |
| Uninsured | 8,334 | 4,234 | 1,673 | 1,120 | 773 | 374 |
| Place of residence¹³ | | | | | | |
| Large MSA | 34,327 | 24,879 | 5,103 | 2,385 | 690 | 706 |
| Small MSA | 22,591 | 16,398 | 3,296 | 1,712 | 594 | 318 |
| Not in MSA | 15,162 | 10,615 | 2,535 | 1,195 | 415 | 238 |
| Region | | | | | | |
| Northeast | 13,283 | 10,545 | 1,870 | 521 | *61 | 87 |
| Midwest | 18,061 | 13,335 | 2,546 | 1,416 | 369 | 201 |
| South | 25,387 | 17,907 | 3,996 | 1,995 | 708 | 521 |
| West | 15,349 | 10,105 | 2,524 | 1,361 | 562 | 454 |
| Current health status | | | | | | |
| Excellent/very good/good | 70,786 | 50,819 | 10,802 | 5,255 | 1,672 | 1,255 |
| Fair/poor | 1,228 | 1,061 | *90 | *37 | *23 | *8 |
| Sex and age | | | | | | |
| Male: | | | | | | |
| 0–4 years | 10,018 | 8,560 | 922 | 250 | *49 | 158 |
| 5–17 years | 26,853 | 17,574 | 4,625 | 2,775 | 956 | 473 |
| 5–11 years | 14,814 | 10,074 | 2,559 | 1,404 | 399 | 177 |
| 12–17 years | 12,040 | 7,501 | 2,066 | 1,371 | 557 | 296 |
| Female: | | | | | | |
| 0–4 years | 9,583 | 8,180 | 872 | 227 | *44 | 128 |
| 5–17 years | 25,625 | 17,578 | 4,515 | 2,041 | 650 | 504 |
| 5–11 years | 14,069 | 9,848 | 2,470 | 1,128 | 257 | 204 |
| 12–17 years | 11,557 | 7,730 | 2,046 | 913 | 393 | 300 |

* Data preceded by an asterisk have a relative standard error of greater than 30%, and should be used with caution as they do not meet the standard of reliability or precision.

– Quantity zero.

¹The data in this table are based on the following question: "About how long has it been since anyone in the family last saw or talked to a doctor or other health care professional about (child's name)'s health? Include doctors seen while (he/she) was a patient in a hospital." See appendix II for more detailed definitions of selected terms used in this report.

²This category includes a small number of children who have never seen a doctor.

³Unknowns for the variable of interest are not included in the denominators when calculating percents. They are, however, included in the "All children" column.

⁴Starting with data year 1999, the categories "White" and "Black or African American" under "Single race" include persons who reported only one racial group. The category "American Indian or Alaska Native" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "American Indian" and "Alaska Native" racial groups. Also, the category "Asian" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated more than one Asian subgroup (such as Asian Indian, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean, or Vietnamese). Further, the racial group "Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "Native Hawaiian" or "other Pacific Islander" (such as Guamanian or Samoan) categories. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

⁵Although all persons who reported a multiple race combination are shown in "2 or more races," the only specific combination shown are "Black or African American; white" and "American Indian or Alaska Native; white." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

⁶"Mexican or Mexican American" is a subset of Hispanics. Under the category "Not Hispanic or Latino," "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race" refer to non-Hispanic single race white persons and non-Hispanic single race black or African American persons, respectively. Although all non-Hispanic persons are shown in "Not Hispanic or Latino," the only specific categories shown are "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

⁷Mother and father can include biological, adoptive, step, in-law, or foster relationships. Legal guardians are classified in "Neither mother nor father."

⁸Parent's education is the education level of the parent with the higher level of education, regardless of that parent's age.

⁹GED is General Educational Development high school equivalency diploma.

¹⁰"Less than \$20,000" and "\$20,000 or more" include both respondents reporting specific dollar amounts and respondents reporting that their incomes were within those categories (see appendix I). The indented categories include only those respondents who reported specific dollar amounts. Children with unknown family income are not shown.

¹¹Poverty status is based on family income and family size using the Census Bureau's poverty thresholds. "Poor" children are in families defined as below the poverty threshold. "Near poor" children are in families with incomes that are 100% to less than 200% of the poverty threshold. "Not poor" children are in families with incomes that are 200% of the poverty threshold or greater.

¹²Private health insurance may be obtained through the workplace or purchased directly. Among children under 18 years of age, "Medicaid/other public" includes those with Medicaid or other public health insurance coverage (e.g., most State-sponsored coverage). "Other coverage" includes Medicare, military health insurance coverage, and/or another form of government-sponsored health insurance coverage. Children with only Indian Health Service coverage are considered uninsured.

¹³"MSA" is metropolitan statistical area. Large MSAs have a population size of 1,000,000 or more; small MSAs have a population size of less than 1,000,000. "Not in MSA" consists of persons not living in a metropolitan statistical area.

Table 14. Percent distributions (with standard errors) of length of time since last contact with a health care professional, for children 17 years of age and under, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999

| Selected characteristic | All children 0–17 years | Time since last contact with a health care professional ¹ | | | | |
|--|----------------------------|--|---|--|---|--------------------------------------|
| | | 6 months or less | More than 6 months but not more than 1 year | More than 1 year but not more than 2 years | More than 2 years but not more than 5 years | More than 5 years ² |
| Percent distribution (standard error) ³ | | | | | | |
| Total | 100.0 | 73.0 (0.53) | 15.4 (0.40) | 7.4 (0.27) | 2.4 (0.18) | 1.8 (0.14) |
| Sex | | | | | | |
| Male | 100.0 | 71.9 (0.69) | 15.3 (0.55) | 8.3 (0.41) | 2.8 (0.25) | 1.7 (0.18) |
| Female | 100.0 | 74.1 (0.72) | 15.5 (0.56) | 6.5 (0.39) | 2.0 (0.23) | 1.8 (0.22) |
| Age | | | | | | |
| 0–4 years | 100.0 | 86.3 (0.72) | 9.3 (0.62) | 2.5 (0.34) | *0.5 (0.17) | 1.5 (0.21) |
| 5–17 years | 100.0 | 68.0 (0.65) | 17.7 (0.49) | 9.3 (0.36) | 3.1 (0.24) | 1.9 (0.18) |
| 5–11 years | 100.0 | 69.9 (0.85) | 17.6 (0.70) | 8.9 (0.47) | 2.3 (0.28) | 1.3 (0.19) |
| 12–17 years | 100.0 | 65.7 (0.94) | 17.7 (0.68) | 9.9 (0.54) | 4.1 (0.40) | 2.6 (0.28) |
| Race | | | | | | |
| Single race: ⁴ | | | | | | |
| White | 100.0 | 74.1 (0.61) | 15.0 (0.47) | 7.0 (0.31) | 2.1 (0.20) | 1.7 (0.17) |
| Black or African American | 100.0 | 70.0 (1.22) | 17.2 (1.04) | 9.2 (0.82) | 2.0 (0.34) | 1.6 (0.30) |
| American Indian or Alaska Native | 100.0 | 60.0 (7.53) | 18.1 (5.23) | *10.6 (3.85) | *9.8 (4.21) | *1.6 (0.84) |
| Asian | 100.0 | 65.7 (3.19) | 17.5 (2.50) | 7.2 (1.54) | *6.6 (2.07) | *3.1 (0.99) |
| Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander | 100.0 | 66.3 (17.25) | *27.5 (17.19) | *6.2 (5.11) | – | – |
| Multiple race: ⁵ | | | | | | |
| 2 or more races | 100.0 | 73.8 (2.84) | 15.2 (2.40) | 9.3 (1.84) | *1.3 (0.63) | *0.4 (0.25) |
| Black or African American; white | 100.0 | 70.7 (5.40) | 17.9 (4.93) | *8.7 (3.23) | *2.1 (1.48) | *0.6 (0.63) |
| American Indian or Alaska Native; white | 100.0 | 73.7 (6.95) | *11.3 (4.27) | *14.5 (5.75) | – | *0.5 (0.50) |
| Hispanic origin and race ⁶ | | | | | | |
| Hispanic or Latino | 100.0 | 66.4 (1.07) | 15.6 (0.79) | 9.5 (0.63) | 4.5 (0.45) | 4.1 (0.44) |
| Mexican or Mexican American | 100.0 | 63.5 (1.31) | 15.4 (0.98) | 10.4 (0.78) | 5.7 (0.61) | 5.1 (0.58) |
| Not Hispanic or Latino | 100.0 | 74.2 (0.60) | 15.4 (0.46) | 7.1 (0.30) | 2.0 (0.20) | 1.3 (0.15) |
| White, single race | 100.0 | 75.8 (0.68) | 14.8 (0.53) | 6.5 (0.34) | 1.7 (0.21) | 1.2 (0.17) |
| Black or African American, single race | 100.0 | 70.1 (1.23) | 17.2 (1.05) | 9.1 (0.83) | 2.0 (0.35) | 1.7 (0.30) |
| Family structure ⁷ | | | | | | |
| Mother and father | 100.0 | 73.8 (0.64) | 15.2 (0.51) | 7.1 (0.32) | 2.1 (0.20) | 1.8 (0.17) |
| Mother, no father | 100.0 | 72.0 (1.00) | 15.5 (0.78) | 8.2 (0.61) | 2.7 (0.39) | 1.6 (0.26) |
| Father, no mother | 100.0 | 68.1 (2.34) | 17.0 (1.96) | 9.1 (1.51) | 4.0 (1.03) | *1.7 (0.52) |
| Neither mother nor father | 100.0 | 67.0 (2.97) | 17.2 (2.48) | 8.0 (1.54) | *4.0 (1.29) | 3.8 (0.87) |
| Parent's education ⁸ | | | | | | |
| Less than high school diploma | 100.0 | 62.5 (1.40) | 17.0 (1.08) | 11.0 (0.89) | 5.5 (0.75) | 4.0 (0.49) |
| High school diploma or GED ⁹ | 100.0 | 71.2 (1.03) | 15.8 (0.79) | 8.8 (0.60) | 2.3 (0.35) | 1.9 (0.29) |
| More than high school | 100.0 | 76.2 (0.65) | 14.8 (0.53) | 6.1 (0.33) | 1.6 (0.19) | 1.2 (0.15) |
| Family income ¹⁰ | | | | | | |
| Less than \$20,000 | 100.0 | 68.6 (1.12) | 15.8 (0.88) | 8.6 (0.65) | 3.9 (0.50) | 3.0 (0.36) |
| \$20,000 or more | 100.0 | 74.2 (0.60) | 15.2 (0.45) | 7.1 (0.31) | 2.0 (0.18) | 1.5 (0.16) |
| \$20,000–\$34,999 | 100.0 | 68.4 (1.40) | 15.7 (0.98) | 9.4 (0.76) | 4.1 (0.63) | 2.4 (0.39) |
| \$35,000–\$54,999 | 100.0 | 72.0 (1.20) | 16.2 (1.01) | 7.9 (0.66) | 2.3 (0.40) | 1.6 (0.34) |
| \$55,000–\$74,999 | 100.0 | 74.4 (1.37) | 16.5 (1.16) | 6.5 (0.74) | 1.1 (0.32) | 1.5 (0.36) |
| \$75,000 or more | 100.0 | 79.6 (1.06) | 13.9 (0.90) | 5.2 (0.58) | 0.5 (0.15) | 0.7 (0.22) |
| Poverty status ¹¹ | | | | | | |
| Poor | 100.0 | 68.1 (1.40) | 16.0 (1.08) | 8.8 (0.86) | 3.8 (0.61) | 3.3 (0.47) |
| Near poor | 100.0 | 68.9 (1.35) | 15.2 (0.92) | 9.0 (0.71) | 4.3 (0.55) | 2.5 (0.39) |
| Not poor | 100.0 | 75.7 (0.69) | 15.5 (0.58) | 6.5 (0.36) | 1.2 (0.16) | 1.1 (0.16) |
| Health insurance coverage ¹² | | | | | | |
| Private | 100.0 | 75.4 (0.62) | 15.1 (0.47) | 6.7 (0.32) | 1.4 (0.16) | 1.4 (0.17) |
| Medicaid/other public | 100.0 | 77.1 (1.18) | 13.3 (0.86) | 6.7 (0.69) | 1.5 (0.42) | 1.4 (0.27) |
| Other | 100.0 | 76.0 (3.10) | 13.3 (2.59) | 5.4 (1.24) | *3.1 (1.34) | *2.3 (1.04) |
| Uninsured | 100.0 | 51.8 (1.59) | 20.5 (1.33) | 13.7 (0.96) | 9.5 (0.93) | 4.6 (0.53) |

Notes at end of table.

Table 14. Percent distributions (with standard errors) of length of time since last contact with a health care professional, for children 17 years of age and under, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999—Con.

| Selected characteristic | All children 0–17 years | Time since last contact with a health care professional ¹ | | | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|--|---|--|---|--------------------------------------|
| | | 6 months or less | More than 6 months but not more than 1 year | More than 1 year but not more than 2 years | More than 2 years but not more than 5 years | More than 5 years ² |
| Place of residence ¹³ | | Percent distribution (standard error) ³ | | | | |
| Large MSA | 100.0 | 73.7 (0.70) | 15.1 (0.56) | 7.1 (0.41) | 2.0 (0.22) | 2.1 (0.21) |
| Small MSA | 100.0 | 73.5 (1.02) | 14.8 (0.78) | 7.7 (0.46) | 2.7 (0.38) | 1.4 (0.22) |
| Not in MSA | 100.0 | 70.8 (1.26) | 16.9 (0.85) | 8.0 (0.61) | 2.8 (0.40) | 1.6 (0.35) |
| Region | | | | | | |
| Northeast | 100.0 | 80.6 (1.13) | 14.3 (0.89) | 4.0 (0.54) | *0.5 (0.16) | 0.7 (0.17) |
| Midwest | 100.0 | 74.6 (1.11) | 14.3 (0.78) | 7.9 (0.55) | 2.1 (0.40) | 1.1 (0.23) |
| South | 100.0 | 71.3 (0.87) | 15.9 (0.72) | 7.9 (0.47) | 2.8 (0.31) | 2.1 (0.24) |
| West | 100.0 | 67.3 (1.21) | 16.8 (0.84) | 9.1 (0.64) | 3.7 (0.43) | 3.0 (0.45) |
| Current health status | | | | | | |
| Excellent/very good/good | 100.0 | 72.8 (0.54) | 15.5 (0.41) | 7.5 (0.28) | 2.4 (0.18) | 1.8 (0.15) |
| Fair/poor | 100.0 | 87.0 (2.76) | *7.4 (2.33) | *3.0 (1.34) | *1.9 (0.97) | *0.6 (0.38) |
| Sex and age | | | | | | |
| Male: | | | | | | |
| 0–4 years | 100.0 | 86.1 (0.97) | 9.3 (0.83) | 2.5 (0.44) | *0.5 (0.25) | 1.6 (0.31) |
| 5–17 years | 100.0 | 66.6 (0.85) | 17.5 (0.68) | 10.5 (0.53) | 3.6 (0.34) | 1.8 (0.22) |
| 5–11 years | 100.0 | 68.9 (1.17) | 17.5 (0.96) | 9.6 (0.67) | 2.7 (0.40) | 1.2 (0.22) |
| 12–17 years | 100.0 | 63.6 (1.25) | 17.5 (0.94) | 11.6 (0.82) | 4.7 (0.59) | 2.5 (0.38) |
| Female: | | | | | | |
| 0–4 years | 100.0 | 86.5 (1.03) | 9.2 (0.87) | 2.4 (0.51) | *0.5 (0.23) | 1.4 (0.29) |
| 5–17 years | 100.0 | 69.5 (0.88) | 17.9 (0.69) | 8.1 (0.51) | 2.6 (0.30) | 2.0 (0.28) |
| 5–11 years | 100.0 | 70.8 (1.15) | 17.8 (0.97) | 8.1 (0.68) | 1.9 (0.37) | 1.5 (0.31) |
| 12–17 years | 100.0 | 67.9 (1.31) | 18.0 (1.01) | 8.0 (0.74) | 3.5 (0.49) | 2.6 (0.41) |

* Data preceded by an asterisk have a relative standard error of greater than 30%, and should be used with caution as they do not meet the standard of reliability or precision.

– Quantity zero.

¹The data in this table are based on the following question: "About how long has it been since anyone in the family last saw or talked to a doctor or other health care professional about (child's name)'s health? Include doctors seen while (he/she) was a patient in a hospital." See appendix II for more detailed definitions of selected terms used in this report.

²This category includes a small number of children who have never seen a doctor.

³Unknowns for the variable of interest are not included in the denominators when calculating percents. Additionally percents may not add to 100% because of rounding.

⁴Starting with data year 1999, the categories "White" and "Black or African American" under "Single race" include persons who reported only one racial group. The category "American Indian or Alaska Native" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "American Indian" and "Alaska Native" racial groups. Also, the category "Asian" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated more than one Asian subgroup (such as Asian Indian, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean, or Vietnamese). Further, the racial group "Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "Native Hawaiian" or "other Pacific Islander" (such as Guamanian or Samoan) categories. Single race persons who indicated a race other than white, black or African American, American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, or Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander are not shown. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

⁵Although all persons who reported a multiple race combination are shown in "2 or more races," the only specific combinations shown are "Black or African American; white" and "American Indian or Alaska Native; white." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

⁶"Mexican or Mexican American" is a subset of Hispanics. Under the category "Not Hispanic or Latino," "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race" refer to non-Hispanic single race white persons and non-Hispanic single race black or African American persons, respectively. Although all non-Hispanic persons are shown in "Not Hispanic or Latino," the only specific categories shown are "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

⁷Mother and father can include biological, adoptive, step, in-law, or foster relationships. Legal guardians are classified in "Neither mother nor father."

⁸Parent's education is the education level of the parent with the higher level of education, regardless of that parent's age.

⁹GED is General Educational Development high school equivalency diploma.

¹⁰"Less than \$20,000" and "\$20,000 or more" include both respondents reporting specific dollar amounts and respondents reporting that their incomes were within those categories (see appendix I). The indented categories include only those respondents who reported specific dollar amounts. Children with unknown family income are not shown.

¹¹Poverty status is based on family income and family size using the Census Bureau's poverty thresholds. "Poor" children are in families defined as below the poverty threshold. "Near poor" children are in families with incomes that are 100% to less than 200% of the poverty threshold. "Not poor" children are in families with incomes that are 200% of the poverty threshold or greater.

¹²Private health insurance may be obtained through the workplace or purchased directly. Among children under 18 years of age, "Medicaid/other public" includes those with Medicaid or other public health insurance coverage (e.g., most State-sponsored coverage). "Other coverage" includes Medicare, military health insurance coverage, and/or another form of government-sponsored health insurance coverage. Children with only Indian Health Service coverage are considered uninsured.

¹³"MSA" is metropolitan statistical area. Large MSAs have a population size of 1,000,000 or more; small MSAs have a population size of less than 1,000,000. "Not in MSA" consists of persons not living in a metropolitan statistical area.

Table 15. Frequencies of selected health care risk factors, for children 17 years of age and under, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999

| Selected characteristic | Selected health care risk factors ¹ | | | | | |
|---|--|---------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| | All children 0–17 years | Uninsured for health care | Unmet medical need | Delayed care due to cost | No usual source of care | 2 or more visits to the emergency room in the past year |
| | Number in thousands ² | | | | | |
| Total | 72,080 | 8,334 | 1,807 | 2,749 | 4,535 | 3,931 |
| Sex | | | | | | |
| Male | 36,871 | 4,406 | 946 | 1,599 | 2,339 | 2,108 |
| Female | 35,208 | 3,928 | 861 | 1,151 | 2,196 | 1,822 |
| Age | | | | | | |
| 0–4 years | 19,601 | 1,991 | 458 | 743 | 773 | 1,782 |
| 5–17 years | 52,479 | 6,343 | 1,349 | 2,006 | 3,762 | 2,148 |
| 5–11 years | 28,882 | 3,347 | 624 | 1,064 | 1,711 | 1,142 |
| 12–17 years | 23,596 | 2,996 | 724 | 942 | 2,052 | 1,006 |
| Race | | | | | | |
| Single race: ³ | | | | | | |
| White | 54,499 | 5,721 | 1,208 | 1,960 | 3,193 | 2,531 |
| Black or African American | 10,578 | 1,260 | 365 | 482 | 655 | 952 |
| American Indian or Alaska Native | 625 | 205 | *35 | *63 | *83 | *97 |
| Asian | 1,987 | 215 | *28 | *15 | 162 | *31 |
| Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander | *66 | *5 | *– | *6 | *– | *6 |
| Multiple race: ⁴ | | | | | | |
| 2 or more races | 1,579 | 146 | 73 | 89 | 58 | 165 |
| Black or African American; white | 525 | *58 | *29 | *35 | *21 | 70 |
| American Indian or Alaska Native; white | 288 | *47 | *24 | *24 | *1 | *44 |
| Hispanic origin and race ⁵ | | | | | | |
| Hispanic or Latino | 11,461 | 3,030 | 367 | 497 | 1,553 | 596 |
| Mexican or Mexican American | 7,782 | 2,413 | 267 | 353 | 1,279 | 342 |
| Not Hispanic or Latino | 60,567 | 5,295 | 1,440 | 2,252 | 2,979 | 3,335 |
| White, single race | 46,329 | 3,575 | 968 | 1,629 | 2,076 | 2,149 |
| Black or African American, single race | 10,404 | 1,224 | 362 | 476 | 630 | 936 |
| Family structure ⁶ | | | | | | |
| Mother and father | 50,872 | 5,078 | 966 | 1,527 | 2,698 | 2,123 |
| Mother, no father | 16,319 | 2,331 | 712 | 1,007 | 1,303 | 1,426 |
| Father, no mother | 2,942 | 556 | *76 | 125 | 340 | 192 |
| Neither mother nor father | 1,947 | 370 | *53 | 90 | 195 | 189 |
| Parent's education ⁷ | | | | | | |
| Less than high school diploma | 9,250 | 2,519 | 411 | 476 | 1,366 | 626 |
| High school diploma or GED ⁸ | 16,827 | 2,490 | 626 | 829 | 1,285 | 1,181 |
| More than high school | 43,556 | 2,827 | 709 | 1,348 | 1,649 | 1,926 |
| Family income ⁹ | | | | | | |
| Less than \$20,000 | 13,607 | 2,958 | 712 | 986 | 1,681 | 1,279 |
| \$20,000 or more | 55,560 | 4,896 | 978 | 1,604 | 2,655 | 2,561 |
| \$20,000–\$34,999 | 10,254 | 2,262 | 461 | 679 | 963 | 805 |
| \$35,000–\$54,999 | 13,107 | 1,083 | 283 | 415 | 716 | 639 |
| \$55,000–\$74,999 | 9,613 | 398 | *108 | 201 | 281 | 295 |
| \$75,000 or more | 13,697 | 309 | *53 | 163 | 231 | 498 |
| Poverty status ¹⁰ | | | | | | |
| Poor | 9,585 | 2,033 | 524 | 685 | 1,151 | 1,032 |
| Near poor | 12,134 | 2,674 | 544 | 820 | 1,185 | 916 |
| Not poor | 35,757 | 1,610 | 449 | 814 | 1,129 | 1,402 |
| Health insurance coverage ¹¹ | | | | | | |
| Private | 49,644 | ... | 513 | 917 | 1,568 | 1,879 |
| Medicaid/other public | 12,345 | ... | 320 | 502 | 655 | 1,542 |
| Other | 1,561 | ... | *24 | *21 | *92 | 103 |
| Uninsured | 8,334 | 8,334 | 941 | 1,300 | 2,204 | 407 |

notes at end of table.

Table 15. Frequencies of selected health care risk factors, for children 17 years of age and under, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999—Con.

| Selected characteristic | Selected health care risk factors ¹ | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| | All children 0–17 years | Uninsured for health care | Unmet medical need | Delayed care due to cost | No usual source of care | 2 or more visits to the emergency room in the past year |
| Place of residence ¹² | | | | | | |
| | Number in thousands ² | | | | | |
| Large MSA | 34,327 | 3,836 | 786 | 1,199 | 2,099 | 1,726 |
| Small MSA | 22,591 | 2,497 | 583 | 880 | 1,419 | 1,082 |
| Not in MSA | 15,162 | 2,002 | 438 | 670 | 1,018 | 1,122 |
| Region | | | | | | |
| Northeast | 13,283 | 912 | 243 | 406 | 279 | 640 |
| Midwest | 18,061 | 1,293 | 390 | 665 | 840 | 1,036 |
| South | 25,387 | 4,062 | 754 | 1,063 | 2,003 | 1,532 |
| West | 15,349 | 2,067 | 419 | 614 | 1,414 | 723 |
| Current health status | | | | | | |
| Excellent/very good/good | 70,786 | 8,177 | 1,708 | 2,599 | 4,474 | 3,642 |
| Fair/poor | 1,228 | 147 | 99 | 151 | *61 | 289 |
| Sex and age | | | | | | |
| Male: | | | | | | |
| 0–4 years | 10,018 | 1,064 | 280 | 490 | 399 | 973 |
| 5–17 years | 26,853 | 3,342 | 666 | 1,109 | 1,940 | 1,135 |
| 5–11 years | 14,814 | 1,807 | 335 | 616 | 896 | 641 |
| 12–17 years | 12,040 | 1,535 | 331 | 492 | 1,043 | 494 |
| Female: | | | | | | |
| 0–4 years | 9,583 | 927 | 178 | 253 | 374 | 809 |
| 5–17 years | 25,625 | 3,001 | 683 | 898 | 1,823 | 1,013 |
| 5–11 years | 14,069 | 1,540 | 289 | 448 | 815 | 501 |
| 12–17 years | 11,557 | 1,461 | 394 | 450 | 1,008 | 512 |

* Data preceded by an asterisk have a relative standard error of greater than 30%, and should be used with caution as they do not meet the standard of reliability or precision.

– Quantity zero.

. . . Category not applicable.

¹The data in this table are based on the following question: "(Are you/Is anyone) covered by health insurance or some other kind of health care plan?"; "DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, was there any time when (you/some in the family) needed medical care, but did not get it because (you/the family) couldn't afford it?"; "DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, (have/has) (you/anyone in the family) delayed seeking medical care because of worry about the cost?"; "DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, how many times has (child's name) gone to the hospital emergency room about (his/her) health? (This includes emergency room visits that resulted in a hospital admission.) See appendix II for more detailed definitions of selected terms used in this report.

²Unknowns for the variable of interest are not shown among the frequencies. They are, however, included in the "All children" column.

³Starting with data year 1999, the categories "White" and "Black or African American" under "Single race" include persons who reported only one racial group. The category "American Indian or Alaska Native" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "American Indian" and "Alaska Native" racial groups. Also, the category "Asian" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated more than one Asian subgroup (such as Asian Indian, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean, or Vietnamese). Further, the racial group "Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "Native Hawaiian" or "other Pacific Islander" (such as Guamanian or Samoan) categories. Single race persons who indicated a race other than white, black or African American, American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, or Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander are not shown. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

⁴Although all persons who reported a multiple race combination are shown in "2 or more races," the only specific combinations shown are "Black or African American; white" and "American Indian or Alaska Native; white." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

⁵"Mexican or Mexican American" is a subset of Hispanics. Under the category "Not Hispanic or Latino," "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race" refer to non-Hispanic single race white persons and non-Hispanic single race black or African American persons, respectively. Although all non-Hispanic persons are shown in "Not Hispanic or Latino," the only specific categories shown are "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

⁶Mother and father can include biological, adoptive, step, in-law, or foster relationships. Legal guardians are classified in "Neither mother nor father."

⁷Parent's education is the education level of the parent with the higher level of education, regardless of that parent's age.

⁸GED is General Educational Development high school equivalency diploma.

⁹"Less than \$20,000" and "\$20,000 or more" include both respondents reporting specific dollar amounts and respondents reporting that their incomes were within those categories (see appendix I). The indented categories include only those respondents who reported specific dollar amounts. Children with unknown family income are not shown.

¹⁰Poverty status is based on family income and family size using the Census Bureau's poverty thresholds. "Poor" children are in families defined as below the poverty threshold. "Near poor" children are in families with incomes that are 100% to less than 200% of the poverty threshold. "Not poor" children are in families with incomes that are 200% of the poverty threshold or greater.

¹¹Private health insurance may be obtained through the workplace or purchased directly. Among children under 18 years of age, "Medicaid/other public" includes those with Medicaid or other public health insurance coverage (e.g., most State-sponsored coverage). "Other coverage" includes Medicare, military health insurance coverage, and/or another form of government-sponsored health insurance coverage. Children with only Indian Health Service coverage are considered uninsured.

¹²"MSA" is metropolitan statistical area. Large MSAs have a population size of 1,000,000 or more; small MSAs have a population size of less than 1,000,000. "Not in MSA" consists of persons not living in a metropolitan statistical area.

Table 16. Percents (with standard errors) of selected health care risk factors, for children 17 years of age and under, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999

| Selected characteristic | Selected health care risk factors ¹ | | | | |
|---|--|--------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| | Uninsured for health care | Unmet medical need | Delayed care due to cost | No usual source of care | 2 or more visits to the emergency room in the past year |
| | Percent (standard error) ² | | | | |
| Total | 11.6 (0.36) | 2.5 (0.19) | 3.8 (0.22) | 6.3 (0.26) | 5.5 (0.25) |
| Sex | | | | | |
| Male | 12.0 (0.46) | 2.6 (0.27) | 4.3 (0.33) | 6.3 (0.36) | 5.7 (0.35) |
| Female | 11.2 (0.50) | 2.4 (0.26) | 3.3 (0.28) | 6.2 (0.35) | 5.2 (0.33) |
| Age | | | | | |
| 0–4 years | 10.2 (0.59) | 2.3 (0.33) | 3.8 (0.39) | 3.9 (0.40) | 9.1 (0.55) |
| 5–17 years | 12.1 (0.44) | 2.6 (0.22) | 3.8 (0.25) | 7.2 (0.32) | 4.1 (0.26) |
| 5–11 years | 11.6 (0.52) | 2.2 (0.23) | 3.7 (0.31) | 5.9 (0.39) | 4.0 (0.35) |
| 12–17 years | 12.7 (0.66) | 3.1 (0.39) | 4.0 (0.42) | 8.7 (0.49) | 4.3 (0.37) |
| Race | | | | | |
| Single race: ³ | | | | | |
| White | 10.5 (0.38) | 2.2 (0.20) | 3.6 (0.23) | 5.9 (0.29) | 4.6 (0.26) |
| Black or African American | 11.9 (1.00) | 3.5 (0.63) | 4.6 (0.71) | 6.2 (0.61) | 9.0 (0.77) |
| American Indian or Alaska Native | 32.8 (4.97) | *5.5 (2.58) | *10.0 (3.93) | 13.2 (3.67) | *15.5 (5.22) |
| Asian | 10.8 (1.71) | *1.4 (0.90) | *0.8 (0.46) | 8.2 (1.57) | *1.6 (0.65) |
| Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander | *7.8 (7.70) | *– | *8.5 (8.34) | *– | *8.5 (8.34) |
| Multiple race: ⁴ | | | | | |
| 2 or more races | 9.2 (1.76) | 4.6 (1.10) | 5.7 (1.29) | 3.7 (1.08) | 10.5 (1.99) |
| Black or African American; white | *11.0 (3.75) | *5.5 (2.05) | *6.6 (2.37) | *4.1 (1.96) | 13.3 (3.55) |
| American Indian or Alaska Native; white | *16.4 (5.86) | *8.4 (3.34) | *8.4 (4.44) | *0.5 (0.49) | *15.3 (5.83) |
| Hispanic origin and race⁵ | | | | | |
| Hispanic or Latino | 26.4 (1.06) | 3.2 (0.36) | 4.3 (0.42) | 13.5 (0.76) | 5.2 (0.52) |
| Mexican or Mexican American | 31.0 (1.37) | 3.4 (0.47) | 4.5 (0.53) | 16.4 (1.00) | 4.4 (0.60) |
| Not Hispanic or Latino | 8.7 (0.38) | 2.4 (0.21) | 3.7 (0.25) | 4.9 (0.27) | 5.5 (0.27) |
| White, single race | 7.7 (0.40) | 2.1 (0.22) | 3.5 (0.26) | 4.5 (0.30) | 4.6 (0.28) |
| Black or African American, single race | 11.8 (1.01) | 3.5 (0.64) | 4.6 (0.72) | 6.1 (0.60) | 9.0 (0.78) |
| Family structure⁶ | | | | | |
| Mother and father | 10.0 (0.38) | 1.9 (0.20) | 3.0 (0.23) | 5.3 (0.29) | 4.2 (0.26) |
| Mother, no father | 14.3 (0.85) | 4.4 (0.50) | 6.2 (0.58) | 8.0 (0.57) | 8.7 (0.60) |
| Father, no mother | 18.9 (2.00) | 2.6 (0.77) | 4.2 (0.97) | 11.5 (1.67) | 6.5 (1.29) |
| Neither mother nor father | 19.0 (2.06) | *2.7 (1.02) | 4.6 (1.21) | 10.0 (1.52) | 9.7 (1.90) |
| Parent's education⁷ | | | | | |
| Less than high school diploma | 27.2 (1.24) | 4.4 (0.64) | 5.1 (0.69) | 14.8 (1.02) | 6.8 (0.60) |
| High school diploma or GED ⁸ | 14.8 (0.83) | 3.7 (0.46) | 4.9 (0.53) | 7.6 (0.54) | 7.0 (0.57) |
| More than high school | 6.5 (0.34) | 1.6 (0.19) | 3.1 (0.25) | 3.8 (0.27) | 4.4 (0.29) |
| Family income⁹ | | | | | |
| Less than \$20,000 | 21.7 (1.02) | 5.2 (0.57) | 7.2 (0.66) | 12.4 (0.76) | 9.4 (0.71) |
| \$20,000 or more | 8.8 (0.34) | 1.8 (0.18) | 2.9 (0.22) | 4.8 (0.27) | 4.6 (0.25) |
| \$20,000–\$34,999 | 22.1 (1.12) | 4.5 (0.64) | 6.6 (0.70) | 9.4 (0.79) | 7.8 (0.72) |
| \$35,000–\$54,999 | 8.3 (0.69) | 2.2 (0.41) | 3.2 (0.45) | 5.5 (0.54) | 4.9 (0.52) |
| \$55,000–\$74,999 | 4.1 (0.69) | *1.1 (0.38) | 2.1 (0.49) | 2.9 (0.49) | 3.1 (0.48) |
| \$75,000 or more | 2.3 (0.41) | *0.4 (0.15) | 1.2 (0.26) | 1.7 (0.29) | 3.6 (0.46) |
| Poverty status¹⁰ | | | | | |
| Poor | 21.2 (1.29) | 5.5 (0.72) | 7.1 (0.79) | 12.0 (0.92) | 10.8 (0.94) |
| Near poor | 22.0 (1.05) | 4.5 (0.61) | 6.8 (0.71) | 9.8 (0.76) | 7.6 (0.69) |
| Not poor | 4.5 (0.30) | 1.3 (0.18) | 2.3 (0.23) | 3.2 (0.24) | 3.9 (0.27) |

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 16. Percents (with standard errors) of selected health care risk factors, for children 17 years of age and under, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999—Con.

| Selected characteristic | Selected health care risk factors ¹ | | | | |
|---|--|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| | Uninsured for health care | Unmet medical need | Delayed care due to cost | No usual source of care | 2 or more visits to the emergency room in the past year |
| Health insurance coverage¹¹ | | | | | |
| | | Percent (standard error) ² | | | |
| Private | ... | 1.0 (0.15) | 1.8 (0.19) | 3.2 (0.23) | 3.8 (0.24) |
| Medicaid/other public | ... | 2.6 (0.45) | 4.1 (0.52) | 5.3 (0.51) | 12.5 (0.86) |
| Other | ... | *1.6 (0.78) | *1.3 (0.65) | *5.9 (1.77) | 6.6 (1.65) |
| Uninsured | 100.0 | 11.3 (1.06) | 15.6 (1.14) | 26.4 (1.36) | 4.9 (0.64) |
| Place of residence¹² | | | | | |
| Large MSA | 11.2 (0.47) | 2.3 (0.27) | 3.5 (0.31) | 6.1 (0.35) | 5.0 (0.32) |
| Small MSA | 11.1 (0.68) | 2.6 (0.31) | 3.9 (0.36) | 6.3 (0.47) | 4.8 (0.40) |
| Not in MSA | 13.2 (0.89) | 2.9 (0.45) | 4.4 (0.58) | 6.7 (0.66) | 7.4 (0.70) |
| Region | | | | | |
| Northeast | 6.9 (0.65) | 1.8 (0.41) | 3.1 (0.54) | 2.1 (0.33) | 4.8 (0.50) |
| Midwest | 7.2 (0.55) | 2.2 (0.36) | 3.7 (0.46) | 4.6 (0.46) | 5.7 (0.49) |
| South | 16.0 (0.73) | 3.0 (0.33) | 4.2 (0.37) | 7.9 (0.52) | 6.0 (0.47) |
| West | 13.5 (0.72) | 2.7 (0.40) | 4.0 (0.44) | 9.2 (0.60) | 4.7 (0.47) |
| Current health status | | | | | |
| Excellent/very good/good | 11.6 (0.36) | 2.4 (0.18) | 3.7 (0.22) | 6.3 (0.26) | 5.1 (0.25) |
| Fair/poor | 12.0 (2.57) | 8.0 (2.25) | 12.3 (2.57) | *4.9 (1.81) | 23.5 (3.41) |
| Sex and age | | | | | |
| Male: | | | | | |
| 0–4 years | 10.6 (0.79) | 2.8 (0.50) | 4.9 (0.62) | 4.0 (0.54) | 9.7 (0.78) |
| 5–17 years | 12.4 (0.56) | 2.5 (0.30) | 4.1 (0.36) | 7.2 (0.43) | 4.2 (0.36) |
| 5–11 years | 12.2 (0.73) | 2.3 (0.34) | 4.2 (0.47) | 6.1 (0.53) | 4.3 (0.50) |
| 12–17 years | 12.7 (0.84) | 2.7 (0.49) | 4.1 (0.57) | 8.7 (0.68) | 4.1 (0.50) |
| Female: | | | | | |
| 0–4 years | 9.7 (0.85) | 1.9 (0.43) | 2.6 (0.48) | 3.9 (0.53) | 8.4 (0.76) |
| 5–17 years | 11.7 (0.59) | 2.7 (0.32) | 3.5 (0.35) | 7.1 (0.44) | 4.0 (0.34) |
| 5–11 years | 10.9 (0.74) | 2.1 (0.34) | 3.2 (0.40) | 5.8 (0.56) | 3.6 (0.46) |
| 12–17 years | 12.6 (0.95) | 3.4 (0.57) | 3.9 (0.61) | 8.7 (0.69) | 4.4 (0.54) |

* Data preceded by an asterisk have a relative standard error of greater than 30%, and should be used with caution as they do not meet the standard of reliability or precision.

– Quantity zero.

... Category not applicable.

¹The data in this table are based on the following question: "(Are you/ls anyone) covered by health insurance or some other kind of health care plan?"; "DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, was there any time when (you/some in the family) needed medical care, but did not get it because (you/the family) couldn't afford it?"; "DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, (have/has) (you/anyone in the family) delayed seeking medical care because of worry about the cost?"; "DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, how many times has (child's name) gone to the hospital emergency room about (his/her) health? (This includes emergency room visits that resulted in a hospital admission.) See appendix II for more detailed definitions of selected terms used in this report.

²Unknowns for the variable of interest are not included in the denominators when calculating percents.

³Starting with data year 1999, the categories "White" and "Black or African American" under "Single race" include persons who reported only one racial group. The category "American Indian or Alaska Native" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "American Indian" and "Alaska Native" racial groups. Also, the category "Asian" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated more than one Asian subgroup (such as Asian Indian, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean, or Vietnamese). Further, the racial group "Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "Native Hawaiian" or "other Pacific Islander" (such as Guamanian or Samoan) categories. Single race persons who indicated a race other than white, black or African American, American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, or Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander are not shown. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

⁴Although all persons who reported a multiple race combination are shown in "2 or more races," the only specific combinations shown are "Black or African American; white" and "American Indian or Alaska Native; white." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

⁵"Mexican or Mexican American" is a subset of Hispanics. Under the category "Not Hispanic or Latino," "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race" refer to non-Hispanic single race white persons and non-Hispanic single race black or African American persons, respectively. Although all non-Hispanic persons are shown in "Not Hispanic or Latino," the only specific categories shown are "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

⁶Mother and father can include biological, adoptive, step, in-law, or foster relationships. Legal guardians are classified in "Neither mother nor father."

⁷Parent's education is the education level of the parent with the higher level of education, regardless of that parent's age.

⁸GED is General Educational Development high school equivalency diploma.

⁹"Less than \$20,000" and "\$20,000 or more" include both respondents reporting specific dollar amounts and respondents reporting that their incomes were within those categories (see appendix I). The indented categories include only those respondents who reported specific dollar amounts. Children with unknown family income are not shown.

¹⁰Poverty status is based on family income and family size using the Census Bureau's poverty thresholds. "Poor" children are in families defined as below the poverty threshold. "Near poor" children are in families with incomes that are 100% to less than 200% of the poverty threshold. "Not poor" children are in families with incomes that are 200% of the poverty threshold or greater.

¹¹Private health insurance may be obtained through the workplace or purchased directly. Among children under 18 years of age, "Medicaid/other public" includes those with Medicaid or other public health insurance coverage (e.g., most State-sponsored coverage). "Other coverage" includes Medicare, military health insurance coverage, and/or another form of government-sponsored health insurance coverage. Children with only Indian Health Service coverage are considered uninsured.

¹²"MSA" is metropolitan statistical area. Large MSAs have a population size of 1,000,000 or more; small MSAs have a population size of less than 1,000,000. "Not in MSA" consists of persons not living in a metropolitan statistical area.

Table 17. Frequency distributions of unmet dental need in the past 12 months, and frequency distributions of length of time since last dental contact, for children 2–17 years of age, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999

| Selected characteristic | All children 2–17 years | Unmet dental need | Met dental need | Time since last dental contact ¹ | | | | |
|---|----------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|---|--|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| | | | | 6 months or less | More than 6 months but not more than 1 year | More than 1 year but not more than 2 years | More than 2 years but not more than 5 years | More than 5 years ² |
| Number in thousands ³ | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 64,167 | 4,176 | 59,587 | 35,212 | 10,597 | 5,184 | 2,464 | 9,683 |
| Sex | | | | | | | | |
| Male | 32,835 | 2,103 | 30,520 | 17,782 | 5,581 | 2,770 | 1,290 | 4,870 |
| Female | 31,332 | 2,073 | 29,066 | 17,430 | 5,016 | 2,414 | 1,173 | 4,813 |
| Age | | | | | | | | |
| 2–4 years | 11,688 | 571 | 11,055 | 3,576 | 1,015 | 312 | 105 | 6,512 |
| 5–17 years | 52,479 | 3,605 | 48,531 | 31,636 | 9,582 | 4,872 | 2,359 | 3,171 |
| 5–11 years | 28,882 | 1,874 | 26,845 | 17,769 | 5,236 | 2,339 | 1,002 | 2,114 |
| 12–17 years | 23,596 | 1,731 | 21,687 | 13,867 | 4,346 | 2,533 | 1,357 | 1,056 |
| Race | | | | | | | | |
| Single race: ⁴ | | | | | | | | |
| White | 48,645 | 2,920 | 45,419 | 28,240 | 7,506 | 3,401 | 1,618 | 7,211 |
| Black or African American | 9,483 | 676 | 8,759 | 4,083 | 2,160 | 1,136 | 500 | 1,358 |
| American Indian or Alaska Native | 561 | *96 | 465 | 223 | *102 | *91 | *47 | *95 |
| Asian | 1,722 | *87 | 1,612 | 942 | 223 | *122 | *84 | 302 |
| Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander | *57 | *– | *57 | *39 | *– | *1 | *3 | *13 |
| Multiple race: ⁵ | | | | | | | | |
| 2 or more races | 1,382 | 128 | 1,253 | 752 | 247 | 125 | *57 | 187 |
| Black or African American; white | 467 | *50 | 416 | 200 | 115 | *53 | *17 | *74 |
| American Indian or Alaska Native; white | 248 | *44 | 204 | 130 | *43 | *27 | *16 | *30 |
| Hispanic origin and race ⁶ | | | | | | | | |
| Hispanic or Latino | 9,886 | 800 | 8,971 | 4,132 | 1,591 | 1,048 | 608 | 2,269 |
| Mexican or Mexican American | 6,663 | 610 | 5,984 | 2,546 | 1,048 | 748 | 486 | 1,685 |
| Not Hispanic or Latino | 54,250 | 3,376 | 50,585 | 31,056 | 9,006 | 4,136 | 1,856 | 7,407 |
| White, single race | 41,544 | 2,432 | 38,886 | 25,249 | 6,375 | 2,724 | 1,204 | 5,504 |
| Black or African American, single race | 9,348 | 669 | 8,640 | 4,027 | 2,138 | 1,108 | 494 | 1,344 |
| Family structure ⁷ | | | | | | | | |
| Mother and father | 45,118 | 2,331 | 42,519 | 26,757 | 6,799 | 3,055 | 1,414 | 6,527 |
| Mother, no father | 14,650 | 1,443 | 13,100 | 6,544 | 2,838 | 1,580 | 815 | 2,525 |
| Father, no mother | 2,621 | 243 | 2,371 | 1,240 | 578 | 307 | 126 | 324 |
| Neither mother nor father | 1,778 | 159 | 1,597 | 670 | 381 | 241 | 109 | 306 |
| Parent's education ⁸ | | | | | | | | |
| Less than high school diploma | 8,130 | 887 | 7,172 | 2,836 | 1,427 | 1,066 | 657 | 1,999 |
| High school diploma or GED ⁹ | 14,998 | 1,206 | 13,663 | 7,434 | 2,673 | 1,465 | 721 | 2,393 |
| More than high school | 38,804 | 1,918 | 36,763 | 24,106 | 6,086 | 2,393 | 961 | 4,942 |
| Family income ¹⁰ | | | | | | | | |
| Less than \$20,000 | 11,904 | 1,410 | 10,403 | 4,491 | 2,296 | 1,360 | 820 | 2,708 |
| \$20,000 or more | 49,618 | 2,601 | 46,762 | 29,461 | 7,864 | 3,594 | 1,498 | 6,581 |
| \$20,000–\$34,999 | 9,018 | 1,150 | 7,832 | 3,636 | 1,749 | 1,155 | 584 | 1,780 |
| \$35,000–\$54,999 | 11,671 | 821 | 10,823 | 6,436 | 1,986 | 1,064 | 392 | 1,729 |
| \$55,000–\$74,999 | 8,714 | 308 | 8,374 | 5,791 | 1,301 | 470 | 169 | 922 |
| \$75,000 or more | 12,293 | 98 | 12,135 | 8,922 | 1,510 | 445 | 140 | 1,159 |
| Poverty status ¹¹ | | | | | | | | |
| Poor | 8,436 | 1,160 | 7,246 | 3,275 | 1,608 | 1,020 | 627 | 1,822 |
| Near poor | 10,612 | 1,319 | 9,249 | 4,424 | 2,049 | 1,299 | 671 | 2,059 |
| Not poor | 32,083 | 1,213 | 30,758 | 20,727 | 4,716 | 1,912 | 682 | 3,789 |
| Health insurance coverage ¹² | | | | | | | | |
| Private | 44,628 | 1,776 | 42,633 | 27,540 | 7,028 | 2,796 | 1,165 | 5,544 |
| Medicaid/other public | 10,386 | 746 | 9,563 | 4,690 | 1,936 | 1,056 | 519 | 1,951 |
| Other | 1,379 | 53 | 1,316 | 806 | 233 | 91 | *53 | 161 |
| Uninsured | 7,594 | 1,585 | 5,921 | 2,113 | 1,372 | 1,218 | 727 | 2,000 |

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 17. Frequency distributions of unmet dental need in the past 12 months, and frequency distributions of length of time since last dental contact, for children 2–17 years of age, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999—Con.

| Selected characteristic | All children 2–17 years | Unmet dental need | Met dental need | Time since last dental contact ¹ | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|---|--|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| | | | | 6 months or less | More than 6 months but not more than 1 year | More than 1 year but not more than 2 years | More than 2 years but not more than 5 years | More than 5 years ² |
| Place of residence ¹³ | | | | Number in thousands ³ | | | | |
| Large MSA | 30,198 | 1,658 | 28,307 | 16,493 | 5,038 | 2,504 | 1,001 | 4,567 |
| Small MSA | 20,225 | 1,415 | 18,691 | 11,424 | 3,248 | 1,582 | 769 | 2,921 |
| Not in MSA | 13,743 | 1,103 | 12,589 | 7,296 | 2,311 | 1,098 | 694 | 2,195 |
| Region | | | | | | | | |
| Northeast | 11,825 | 486 | 11,273 | 7,152 | 1,957 | 747 | 203 | 1,546 |
| Midwest | 16,135 | 977 | 15,091 | 9,425 | 2,829 | 1,140 | 440 | 2,125 |
| South | 22,614 | 1,647 | 20,859 | 11,393 | 3,761 | 2,135 | 1,108 | 3,878 |
| West | 13,593 | 1,066 | 12,363 | 7,242 | 2,050 | 1,161 | 712 | 2,133 |
| Current health status | | | | | | | | |
| Excellent/very good/good | 62,991 | 4,034 | 58,565 | 34,735 | 10,373 | 5,014 | 2,384 | 9,475 |
| Fair/poor | 1,114 | 142 | 969 | 449 | 208 | 170 | *71 | 208 |
| Dental care affordability | | | | | | | | |
| Cannot afford dental care | 4,176 | 4,176 | ... | 1,102 | 594 | 1,034 | 560 | 858 |
| Can afford dental care | 59,587 | ... | 59,587 | 34,096 | 9,994 | 4,150 | 1,895 | 8,798 |
| Sex and age | | | | | | | | |
| Male: | | | | | | | | |
| 2–4 years | 5,981 | 292 | 5,666 | 1,926 | 544 | 137 | *62 | 3,245 |
| 5–17 years | 26,853 | 1,811 | 24,854 | 15,856 | 5,037 | 2,633 | 1,229 | 1,625 |
| 5–11 years | 14,814 | 922 | 13,806 | 9,079 | 2,683 | 1,282 | 486 | 1,050 |
| 12–17 years | 12,040 | 888 | 11,048 | 6,777 | 2,354 | 1,352 | 743 | 576 |
| Female: | | | | | | | | |
| 2–4 years | 5,707 | 278 | 5,389 | 1,650 | 471 | 175 | *44 | 3,268 |
| 5–17 years | 25,625 | 1,795 | 23,678 | 15,780 | 4,546 | 2,239 | 1,130 | 1,545 |
| 5–11 years | 14,069 | 952 | 13,038 | 8,690 | 2,553 | 1,058 | 516 | 1,065 |
| 12–17 years | 11,557 | 843 | 10,639 | 7,090 | 1,993 | 1,181 | 614 | 481 |

* Data preceded by an asterisk have a relative standard error of greater than 30%, and should be used with caution as they do not meet the standard of reliability or precision.

– Quantity zero.

... Category not applicable.

¹The data in this table are based on the following questions: During the past 12 months, was there any time when {child's name} needed any of the following, but didn't get it because you couldn't afford it: dental care (including check-ups)? and "About how long has it been since {child's name} last saw or talked to a dentist? Include all types of dentists, such as orthodontists, oral surgeons, and all other dental specialists, as well as dental hygienists." See appendix II for more detailed definitions of selected terms used in this report.

²Unknowns for the variable of interest are not included in the denominators when calculating percents.

³Unknowns for the variable of interest are not shown among the frequencies. They are, however, included in the "All children 2–17 years" column. Hence, frequencies may not sum to their respective totals. Additionally, numbers may not add to totals because of rounding.

⁴Starting with data year 1999, the categories "White" and "Black or African American" under "Single race" include persons who reported only one racial group. The category "American Indian or Alaska Native" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "American Indian" and "Alaska Native" racial groups. Also, the category "Asian" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated more than one Asian subgroup (such as Asian Indian, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean, or Vietnamese). Further, the racial group "Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "Native Hawaiian" or "other Pacific Islander" (such as Guamanian or Samoan) categories. Single race persons who indicated a race other than white, black or African American, American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, or Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander are not shown. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

⁵Although all persons who reported a multiple race combination are shown in "2 or more races," the only specific combinations shown are "Black or African American; white" and "American Indian or Alaska Native; white." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

⁶"Mexican or Mexican American" is a subset of Hispanics. Under the category "Not Hispanic or Latino," "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race" refer to non-Hispanic single race white persons and non-Hispanic single race black or African American persons, respectively. Although all non-Hispanic persons are shown in "Not Hispanic or Latino," the only specific categories shown are "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

⁷Mother and father can include biological, adoptive, step, in-law, or foster relationships. Legal guardians are classified in "Neither mother nor father."

⁸Parent's education is the education level of the parent with the higher level of education, regardless of that parent's age.

⁹GED is General Educational Development high school equivalency diploma.

¹⁰"Less than \$20,000" and "\$20,000 or more" include both respondents reporting specific dollar amounts and respondents reporting that their incomes were within those categories (see appendix I). The indented categories include only those respondents who reported specific dollar amounts. Children with unknown family income are not shown.

¹¹Poverty status is based on family income and family size using the Census Bureau's poverty thresholds. "Poor" children are in families defined as below the poverty threshold. "Near poor" children are in families with incomes that are 100% to less than 200% of the poverty threshold. "Not poor" children are in families with incomes that are 200% of the poverty threshold or greater.

¹²Private health insurance may be obtained through the workplace or purchased directly. Among children under 18 years of age, "Medicaid/other public" includes those with Medicaid or other public health insurance coverage (e.g., most State-sponsored coverage). "Other coverage" includes Medicare, military health insurance coverage, and/or another form of government-sponsored health insurance coverage. Children with only Indian Health Service coverage are considered uninsured.

¹³"MSA" is metropolitan statistical area. Large MSAs have a population size of 1,000,000 or more; small MSAs have a population size of less than 1,000,000. "Not in MSA" consists of persons not living in a metropolitan statistical area.

Table 18. Percent distributions (with standard errors) of unmet dental need in the past 12 months, and percent distributions (with standard errors) of length of time since last dental contact, for children 2–17 years of age, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999

| Selected characteristic | All children 2–17 years | Unmet dental need | Met dental need | All children 2–17 years | Time since last dental contact ¹ | | | | |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|---|---|--|--|--------------------------------|
| | | | | | 6 months or less | More than 6 months but not more than 1 year | More than 1 year but not more than 2 years | More than 2 years, but not more than 5 years | More than 5 years ² |
| Percent distribution (standard error) ³ | | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 100.0 | 6.5 (0.32) | 93.5 (0.32) | 100.0 | 55.8 (0.60) | 16.8 (0.43) | 8.2 (0.32) | 3.9 (0.21) | 15.3 (0.41) |
| Sex | | | | | | | | | |
| Male | 100.0 | 6.4 (0.40) | 93.6 (0.40) | 100.0 | 55.1 (0.79) | 17.3 (0.57) | 8.6 (0.43) | 4.0 (0.31) | 15.1 (0.55) |
| Female | 100.0 | 6.7 (0.45) | 93.3 (0.45) | 100.0 | 56.5 (0.84) | 16.3 (0.60) | 7.8 (0.46) | 3.8 (0.30) | 15.6 (0.59) |
| Age | | | | | | | | | |
| 2–4 years | 100.0 | 4.9 (0.59) | 95.1 (0.59) | 100.0 | 31.0 (1.21) | 8.8 (0.73) | 2.7 (0.39) | 0.9 (0.23) | 56.5 (1.30) |
| 5–17 years | 100.0 | 6.9 (0.36) | 93.1 (0.36) | 100.0 | 61.3 (0.64) | 18.6 (0.50) | 9.4 (0.38) | 4.6 (0.25) | 6.1 (0.31) |
| 5–11 years | 100.0 | 6.5 (0.43) | 93.5 (0.43) | 100.0 | 62.4 (0.85) | 18.4 (0.65) | 8.2 (0.47) | 3.5 (0.31) | 7.4 (0.45) |
| 12–17 years | 100.0 | 7.4 (0.57) | 92.6 (0.57) | 100.0 | 59.9 (0.93) | 18.8 (0.79) | 10.9 (0.62) | 5.9 (0.45) | 4.6 (0.38) |
| Race | | | | | | | | | |
| Single race: ⁴ | | | | | | | | | |
| White | 100.0 | 6.0 (0.33) | 94.0 (0.33) | 100.0 | 58.9 (0.69) | 15.6 (0.50) | 7.1 (0.35) | 3.4 (0.22) | 15.0 (0.47) |
| Black or African American | 100.0 | 7.2 (0.95) | 92.8 (0.95) | 100.0 | 44.2 (1.52) | 23.4 (1.27) | 12.3 (0.98) | 5.4 (0.70) | 14.7 (1.00) |
| American Indian or Alaska Native | 100.0 | *17.1 (5.48) | 82.9 (5.48) | 100.0 | 39.9 (5.64) | 18.3 (4.54) | 16.3 (4.79) | *8.5 (3.35) | *17.0 (5.34) |
| Asian | 100.0 | *5.1 (1.68) | 94.9 (1.68) | 100.0 | 56.3 (3.58) | 13.3 (2.40) | 7.3 (2.09) | 5.0 (1.46) | 18.1 (2.53) |
| Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander | 100.0 | *– | 100.0 | 100.0 | 69.4 (19.38) | *– | *1.7 (1.85) | *5.4 (5.56) | *23.5 (19.50) |
| Multiple race: ⁵ | | | | | | | | | |
| 2 or more races | 100.0 | 9.3 (1.79) | 90.7 (1.79) | 100.0 | 55.0 (3.53) | 18.0 (2.62) | 9.2 (1.89) | *4.2 (1.42) | 13.7 (2.36) |
| Black or African American; white | 100.0 | *10.8 (3.43) | 89.2 (3.43) | 100.0 | 43.6 (6.25) | 25.1 (5.64) | *11.6 (4.37) | *3.6 (2.16) | 16.0 (4.55) |
| American Indian or Alaska Native; white | 100.0 | *17.9 (6.18) | 82.1 (6.18) | 100.0 | 52.9 (8.33) | *17.4 (6.13) | *11.0 (4.44) | *6.4 (4.65) | *12.3 (4.77) |
| Hispanic origin and race ⁶ | | | | | | | | | |
| Hispanic or Latino | 100.0 | 8.2 (0.59) | 91.8 (0.59) | 100.0 | 42.8 (1.22) | 16.5 (0.77) | 10.9 (0.75) | 6.3 (0.51) | 23.5 (1.01) |
| Mexican or Mexican American | 100.0 | 9.2 (0.79) | 90.8 (0.79) | 100.0 | 39.1 (1.53) | 16.1 (0.95) | 11.5 (0.95) | 7.5 (0.69) | 25.9 (1.30) |
| Not Hispanic or Latino | 100.0 | 6.3 (0.36) | 93.7 (0.36) | 100.0 | 58.1 (0.66) | 16.8 (0.49) | 7.7 (0.35) | 3.5 (0.23) | 13.9 (0.44) |
| White, single race | 100.0 | 5.9 (0.37) | 94.1 (0.37) | 100.0 | 61.5 (0.74) | 15.5 (0.56) | 6.6 (0.38) | 2.9 (0.24) | 13.4 (0.50) |
| Black or African American, single race | 100.0 | 7.2 (0.97) | 92.8 (0.97) | 100.0 | 44.2 (1.54) | 23.5 (1.28) | 12.2 (0.98) | 5.4 (0.71) | 14.8 (1.01) |
| Family structure ⁷ | | | | | | | | | |
| Mother and father | 100.0 | 5.2 (0.32) | 94.8 (0.32) | 100.0 | 60.1 (0.70) | 15.3 (0.52) | 6.9 (0.36) | 3.2 (0.23) | 14.6 (0.47) |
| Mother, no father | 100.0 | 9.9 (0.79) | 90.1 (0.79) | 100.0 | 45.8 (1.14) | 19.8 (0.92) | 11.0 (0.71) | 5.7 (0.50) | 17.7 (0.88) |
| Father, no mother | 100.0 | 9.3 (1.74) | 90.7 (1.74) | 100.0 | 48.2 (2.77) | 22.4 (2.40) | 11.9 (1.89) | 4.9 (1.24) | 12.6 (1.64) |
| Neither mother nor father | 100.0 | 9.0 (2.08) | 91.0 (2.08) | 100.0 | 39.2 (3.19) | 22.3 (2.79) | 14.1 (2.49) | 6.4 (1.57) | 17.9 (2.38) |
| Parent's education ⁸ | | | | | | | | | |
| Less than high school diploma | 100.0 | 11.0 (1.00) | 89.0 (1.00) | 100.0 | 35.5 (1.46) | 17.9 (1.14) | 13.4 (1.02) | 8.2 (0.83) | 25.0 (1.29) |
| High school diploma or GED ⁹ | 100.0 | 8.1 (0.73) | 91.9 (0.73) | 100.0 | 50.6 (1.20) | 18.2 (0.90) | 10.0 (0.73) | 4.9 (0.49) | 16.3 (0.87) |
| More than high school | 100.0 | 5.0 (0.32) | 95.0 (0.32) | 100.0 | 62.6 (0.74) | 15.8 (0.55) | 6.2 (0.37) | 2.5 (0.22) | 12.8 (0.47) |
| Family income ¹⁰ | | | | | | | | | |
| Less than \$20,000 | 100.0 | 11.9 (0.94) | 88.1 (0.94) | 100.0 | 38.5 (1.25) | 19.7 (1.03) | 11.6 (0.84) | 7.0 (0.70) | 23.2 (1.05) |
| \$20,000 or more | 100.0 | 5.3 (0.31) | 94.7 (0.31) | 100.0 | 60.1 (0.66) | 16.0 (0.48) | 7.3 (0.35) | 3.1 (0.21) | 13.4 (0.43) |
| \$20,000–\$34,999 | 100.0 | 12.8 (1.07) | 87.2 (1.07) | 100.0 | 40.8 (1.49) | 19.6 (1.19) | 13.0 (1.06) | 6.6 (0.72) | 20.0 (1.08) |
| \$35,000–\$54,999 | 100.0 | 7.1 (0.70) | 92.9 (0.70) | 100.0 | 55.4 (1.38) | 17.1 (0.98) | 9.2 (0.80) | 3.4 (0.45) | 14.9 (0.89) |
| \$55,000–\$74,999 | 100.0 | 3.5 (0.62) | 96.5 (0.62) | 100.0 | 66.9 (1.53) | 15.0 (1.14) | 5.4 (0.69) | 2.0 (0.42) | 10.7 (1.01) |
| \$75,000 or more | 100.0 | 0.8 (0.20) | 99.2 (0.20) | 100.0 | 73.3 (1.15) | 12.4 (0.88) | 3.7 (0.48) | 1.1 (0.28) | 9.5 (0.75) |
| Poverty status ¹¹ | | | | | | | | | |
| Poor | 100.0 | 13.8 (1.27) | 86.2 (1.27) | 100.0 | 39.2 (1.65) | 19.2 (1.24) | 12.2 (1.15) | 7.5 (0.89) | 21.8 (1.31) |
| Near poor | 100.0 | 12.5 (1.00) | 87.5 (1.00) | 100.0 | 42.1 (1.43) | 19.5 (1.08) | 12.4 (0.96) | 6.4 (0.62) | 19.6 (1.10) |
| Not poor | 100.0 | 3.8 (0.31) | 96.2 (0.31) | 100.0 | 65.1 (0.76) | 14.8 (0.56) | 6.0 (0.38) | 2.1 (0.22) | 11.9 (0.48) |
| Health insurance coverage ¹² | | | | | | | | | |
| Private | 100.0 | 4.0 (0.28) | 96.0 (0.28) | 100.0 | 62.5 (0.69) | 15.9 (0.52) | 6.3 (0.35) | 2.6 (0.21) | 12.6 (0.44) |
| Medicaid/other public | 100.0 | 7.2 (0.74) | 92.8 (0.74) | 100.0 | 46.2 (1.51) | 19.1 (1.22) | 10.4 (0.92) | 5.1 (0.67) | 19.2 (1.07) |
| Other | 100.0 | 3.9 (1.10) | 96.1 (1.10) | 100.0 | 60.0 (4.25) | 17.3 (3.10) | 6.7 (1.74) | *3.9 (1.58) | 12.0 (2.16) |
| Uninsured | 100.0 | 21.1 (1.48) | 78.9 (1.48) | 100.0 | 28.4 (1.56) | 18.5 (1.20) | 16.4 (1.21) | 9.8 (0.88) | 26.9 (1.50) |

*notes at end of table.

Table 18. Percent distributions (with standard errors) of unmet dental need in the past 12 months, and percent distributions (with standard errors) of length of time since last dental contact, for children 2–17 years of age, by selected characteristics: United States, 1999—Con.

| Selected characteristic | All children 2–17 years | Unmet dental need | Met dental need | All children 2–17 years | Time since last dental contact ¹ | | | | |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|--|---|--|--|--------------------------------|
| | | | | | 6 months or less | More than 6 months but not more than 1 year | More than 1 year but not more than 2 years | More than 2 years, but not more than 5 years | More than 5 years ² |
| Place of residence¹³ | | | | | Percent distribution (standard error) ³ | | | | |
| Large MSA | 100.0 | 5.5 (0.39) | 94.5 (0.39) | 100.0 | 55.7 (0.85) | 17.0 (0.62) | 8.5 (0.48) | 3.4 (0.28) | 15.4 (0.58) |
| Small MSA | 100.0 | 7.0 (0.52) | 93.0 (0.52) | 100.0 | 57.3 (1.06) | 16.3 (0.68) | 7.9 (0.54) | 3.9 (0.41) | 14.6 (0.72) |
| Not in MSA | 100.0 | 8.1 (0.91) | 91.9 (0.91) | 100.0 | 53.7 (1.45) | 17.0 (1.09) | 8.1 (0.68) | 5.1 (0.48) | 16.1 (0.97) |
| Region | | | | | | | | | |
| Northeast | 100.0 | 4.1 (0.58) | 95.9 (0.58) | 100.0 | 61.6 (1.39) | 16.9 (1.04) | 6.4 (0.69) | 1.8 (0.31) | 13.3 (0.95) |
| Midwest | 100.0 | 6.1 (0.58) | 93.9 (0.58) | 100.0 | 59.1 (1.13) | 17.7 (0.94) | 7.1 (0.58) | 2.8 (0.41) | 13.3 (0.76) |
| South | 100.0 | 7.3 (0.63) | 92.7 (0.63) | 100.0 | 51.1 (1.07) | 16.9 (0.69) | 9.6 (0.56) | 5.0 (0.41) | 17.4 (0.76) |
| West | 100.0 | 7.9 (0.61) | 92.1 (0.61) | 100.0 | 54.5 (1.27) | 15.4 (0.85) | 8.7 (0.73) | 5.4 (0.47) | 16.0 (0.82) |
| Current health status | | | | | | | | | |
| Excellent/very good/good | 100.0 | 6.4 (0.31) | 93.6 (0.31) | 100.0 | 56.0 (0.61) | 16.7 (0.43) | 8.1 (0.32) | 3.8 (0.21) | 15.3 (0.41) |
| Fair/poor | 100.0 | 12.8 (2.92) | 87.2 (2.92) | 100.0 | 40.6 (4.28) | 18.8 (3.86) | 15.4 (3.00) | 6.4 (1.92) | 18.8 (3.66) |
| Dental care affordability | | | | | | | | | |
| Cannot afford dental care | 100.0 | 100.0 | ... | 100.0 | 26.6 (2.00) | 14.3 (1.72) | 24.9 (2.07) | 13.5 (1.57) | 20.7 (1.87) |
| Can afford dental care | 100.0 | ... | 100.0 | 100.0 | 57.9 (0.62) | 17.0 (0.44) | 7.0 (0.31) | 3.2 (0.20) | 14.9 (0.41) |
| Sex and age | | | | | | | | | |
| Male: | | | | | | | | | |
| 2–4 years | 100.0 | 4.9 (0.85) | 95.1 (0.85) | 100.0 | 32.6 (1.68) | 9.2 (0.99) | 2.3 (0.47) | *1.0 (0.35) | 54.9 (1.78) |
| 5–17 years | 100.0 | 6.8 (0.45) | 93.2 (0.45) | 100.0 | 60.1 (0.85) | 19.1 (0.65) | 10.0 (0.51) | 4.7 (0.37) | 6.2 (0.41) |
| 5–11 years | 100.0 | 6.3 (0.54) | 93.7 (0.54) | 100.0 | 62.3 (1.10) | 18.4 (0.87) | 8.8 (0.65) | 3.3 (0.46) | 7.2 (0.59) |
| 12–17 years | 100.0 | 7.4 (0.74) | 92.6 (0.74) | 100.0 | 57.4 (1.30) | 19.9 (1.03) | 11.5 (0.83) | 6.3 (0.59) | 4.9 (0.48) |
| Female: | | | | | | | | | |
| 2–4 years | 100.0 | 4.9 (0.84) | 95.1 (0.84) | 100.0 | 29.4 (1.77) | 8.4 (1.04) | 3.1 (0.61) | *0.8 (0.29) | 58.3 (1.89) |
| 5–17 years | 100.0 | 7.0 (0.52) | 93.0 (0.52) | 100.0 | 62.5 (0.90) | 18.0 (0.71) | 8.9 (0.54) | 4.5 (0.37) | 6.1 (0.44) |
| 5–11 years | 100.0 | 6.8 (0.64) | 93.2 (0.64) | 100.0 | 62.6 (1.21) | 18.4 (0.92) | 7.6 (0.67) | 3.7 (0.47) | 7.7 (0.64) |
| 12–17 years | 100.0 | 7.3 (0.80) | 92.7 (0.80) | 100.0 | 62.4 (1.28) | 17.5 (1.06) | 10.4 (0.88) | 5.4 (0.59) | 4.2 (0.56) |

* Data preceded by an asterisk have a relative standard error of greater than 30%, and should be used with caution as they do not meet the standard of reliability or precision.

– Quantity zero.

... Category not applicable.

¹The data in this table are based on the following questions: "During the past 12 months, was there any time when (child's name) needed any of the following, but didn't get it because you couldn't afford it: dental care (including check-ups)?" and "About how long has it been since (child's name) last saw or talked to a dentist? Include all types of dentists, such as orthodontists, oral surgeons, and all other dental specialists, as well as dental hygienists." See appendix II for more detailed definitions of selected terms used in this report.

²This category includes children who have never seen a dentist.

³Unknowns for the variable of interest are not included in the denominators when calculating percents. Additionally, percents may not add to 100% because of rounding.

⁴Starting with data year 1999, the categories "White" and "Black or African American" under "Single race" include persons who reported only one racial group. The category "American Indian or Alaska Native" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "American Indian" and "Alaska Native" racial groups. Also, the category "Asian" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated more than one Asian subgroup (such as Asian Indian, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean, or Vietnamese). Further, the racial group "Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander" under "Single race" includes some persons who indicated both the "Native Hawaiian" or "other Pacific Islander" (such as Guamanian or Samoan) categories. Single race persons who indicated a race other than white, black or African American, American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, or Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander are not shown. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

⁵Although all persons who reported a multiple race combination are shown in "2 or more races," the only specific combination shown are "Black or African American; white" and "American Indian or Alaska Native; white." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

⁶"Mexican or Mexican American" is a subset of Hispanics. Under the category "Not Hispanic or Latino," "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race" refer to non-Hispanic single race white persons and non-Hispanic single race black or African American persons, respectively. Although all non-Hispanic persons are shown in "Not Hispanic of Latino," the only specific categories shown are "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race." Persons of Hispanic origin may be of one or more racial groups.

⁷Mother and father can include biological, adoptive, step, in-law, or foster relationships. Legal guardians are classified in "Neither mother nor father."

⁸Parent's education is the education level of the parent with the higher level of education, regardless of that parent's age.

⁹GED is General Educational Development high school equivalency diploma.

¹⁰"Less than \$20,000" and "\$20,000 or more" include both respondents reporting specific dollar amounts and respondents reporting that their incomes were within those categories (see appendix I). The indented categories include only those respondents who reported specific dollar amounts. Children with unknown family income are not shown.

¹¹Poverty status is based on family income and family size using the Census Bureau's poverty thresholds. "Poor" children are in families defined as below the poverty threshold. "Near poor" children are in families with incomes that are 100% to less than 200% of the poverty threshold. "Not poor" children are in families with incomes that are 200% of the poverty threshold or greater.

¹²Private health insurance may be obtained through the workplace or purchased directly. Among children under 18 years of age, "Medicaid/other public" includes those with Medicaid or other public health insurance coverage (e.g., most State-sponsored coverage). "Other coverage" includes Medicare, military health insurance coverage, and/or another form of government-sponsored health insurance coverage. Children with only Indian Health Service coverage are considered uninsured.

¹³"MSA" is metropolitan statistical area. Large MSAs have a population size of 1,000,000 or more; small MSAs have a population size of less than 1,000,000. "Not in MSA" consists of persons not living in a metropolitan statistical area.

Appendix I

Technical Notes on Methods

This report is one of a set of statistical reports published by the staff of the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS). It is based on data contained in the 1999 public use Sample Child and Person files, which are derived from the Sample Child and Family Core components of the National Health Interview Survey (NHIS). All analyses were appropriately weighted and carried out using the SUDAAN statistical package. Standard errors are shown for all percents in the tables (but not for the frequencies). Frequencies or percents with relative standard errors greater than 30% are considered unreliable and are indicated with an asterisk. The relative standard errors are calculated as follows:

$$\text{Relative standard error} = (\text{SE}/\text{EST})100$$

where SE is the standard error of the estimate and EST is the estimate (percent or frequency). The reliability of frequencies and their percents are determined independently, so that it is possible for a particular frequency to be reliable and its associated percent unreliable, and vice versa. In most instances, however, both estimates were reliable (or unreliable) simultaneously.

In the tables, all unknown values (respondents coded as “refused,” “don’t know,” or “not ascertained”) with respect to each table’s variables of interest were removed from the denominators when calculating row percents. In most instances the overall number of unknowns is quite small, and would not have supported disaggregation by the demographic characteristics included in the table. Because these unknowns are not shown separately, users calculating their own percentages based on the frequencies and population counts presented in the tables may obtain slightly different results. To aid users’ understanding of the data, weighted counts and percents of unknowns (with respect to the

Table I . Weighted counts and percents of children with unknown information: National Health Interview Survey 1999

| Variable | Weighted count in thousands | Percent of children |
|---|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| Ever had asthma (children aged 0–17 years) (table 1) | 115 | 0.00 |
| Had asthma in past 12 months (children aged 0–17 years) (table 1) | 14 | 0.02 |
| Hay fever (children aged 0–17 years) (table 2) | 4,058 | 5.60 |
| Respiratory allergies (children aged 0–17 years) (table 2) | 4,065 | 5.60 |
| Other allergies (children aged 0–17 years) (table 2) | 3,847 | 5.30 |
| Learning disability (children aged 3–17 years) (table 3) | 99 | 0.16 |
| Attention Deficit Disorder (children aged 3–17 years) (table 3) | 93 | 0.15 |
| Taken prescription medicine for at least 3 months (children aged 0–17 years) (table 4) | 35 | 0.05 |
| Current health status (children aged 0–17 years) (tables 5,6) | 65 | 0.09 |
| Health status compared with a year ago (children aged 1–17 years) (tables 7,8) | 293 | 0.41 |
| School days missed in the past 12 months (children aged 5–17 years) (tables 9–10) | 1,060 | 2.02 |
| Has usual source of care (children aged 0–17 years) (tables 11,12, and 15,16) | 116 | 0.16 |
| Location of usual source of care (children aged 0–17 years) (tables 11–12) | 86 | 0.13 |
| Interval since last contact with health care professional (children aged 0–17 years) (tables 13,14) | 999 | 1.39 |
| Health insurance coverage (children aged 0–17 years) (tables 15,16) | 195 | 0.27 |
| Unmet medical need (children aged 0–17 years) (tables 15,16) | 44 | 0.06 |
| Delayed medical care due to cost (children aged 0–17 years) (tables 15,16) | 24 | 0.03 |
| Emergency room visits (children aged 0–17 years) (tables 15,16) | 467 | 0.65 |
| Unmet dental need (children aged 2–17 years) (tables 17,18) | 404 | 0.63 |
| Time since last dental contact (children aged 2–17 years) (tables 17,18) | 1,027 | 1.72 |

variables of interest in each table) are shown in table I.

Unknowns with respect to the demographic characteristics used in each table are not shown, due to small cell counts. However, unknowns with respect to both family income and poverty status typically include a sizable number of persons regardless of the health outcome shown in the table. Because it is difficult to interpret the relationship between “unknown” income (or poverty status) and the health outcomes displayed in the tables, counts of persons in these unknown categories are not shown in the tables. Table II shows weighted counts of children in the U.S. population with unknown values with respect to poverty status and family income, as well as family structure, parent’s education, health insurance coverage, and current health status.

The “Income and Assets” section in the Family Core of the NHIS instrument allows respondents to report their family income in several ways. Respondents are first asked to provide their family’s total combined income before taxes

from all sources for the previous calendar year in a dollar amount (from \$0 up to \$999,995). Those respondents who did not know or refused to state an amount are then asked if their family’s combined income in the previous calendar year was \$20,000 or more, or less than \$20,000. If they again refused to answer, or said that they did not know, they were not asked any more questions about their family income. Those respondents who did reply to the “above-below \$20,000” question were then handed one of two cards with a list of detailed income categories on it (top-coded at \$75,000), and asked to pick the interval containing their best estimate of their family’s combined income. The NHIS respondents thus fall in one of four categories with respect to income information: those willing to supply a dollar amount (69% of the 1999 sample), those who indicated their income from a fairly detailed set of intervals (3% of the sample), those who said that their family’s income was either \$20,000 or more or less than \$20,000 (20% of the sample), and those

Table II. Weighted counts and percent of children 0–17 years of age with unknown information on selected sociodemographic characteristics: National Health Interview Survey, 1999

| Variable | Weighted count in thousands | Percent of children |
|---|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| Parent's education ¹ | 2,447 | 3.39 |
| Family income | 2,913 | 4.04 |
| Poverty status | 14,603 | 20.26 |
| Health insurance coverage | 195 | 0.27 |
| Current health status | 65 | 0.09 |

¹All parents not in the household were counted in the unknown category for parent's education; this was in addition to parents in the household with unknown education level.

unwilling to provide any information whatsoever (8% of the sample).

Respondents who stated that their family income was below \$20,000 are included in the "Less than \$20,000" category under "Family Income" in the tables in this report, along with respondents who gave a dollar amount or an interval estimate that was less than \$20,000.

Likewise, respondents who stated that their family income was at or above \$20,000 are included in the "\$20,000 or more" category under Family Income, along with those respondents who gave a dollar amount or an interval estimate that was \$20,000 or more. Users will note that the counts for the detailed (indented) amounts do not sum to the count shown for "\$20,000 or more" for this reason.

A recoded poverty status variable is formed for those respondents who supplied either a dollar amount or an interval estimate for their family's income. This variable is the ratio of the family's income in the previous calendar year to the appropriate 1998 poverty threshold (given the family's size and number of children), defined by the U.S. Census Bureau (30). Children who are categorized as "poor" had a ratio less than 1.0, that is, their family income was strictly below the poverty threshold. The "near poor" category includes those children with family incomes of 100% to less than 200% of the poverty threshold. Lastly, "not poor" children have family incomes that are 200% of the poverty threshold or greater. The remaining groups of respondents—those who would only indicate that they were at/above \$20,000 versus below \$20,000, as well as those who refused to provide any income information — are, by necessity, coded as "unknown" with

respect to poverty status. Income information is missing for 4.1% of the U.S. child population, and poverty status information is missing for 20.3% of the U.S. child population (weighted results). Five percent of the child sample is missing information on income, while 22% of the child sample is missing information on poverty status (unweighted results).

Hypothesis Tests

Two-tailed tests of significance were performed on all the comparisons mentioned in the "Highlights" section of this report (no adjustments were made for multiple comparisons). The test statistic used to determine statistical significance of the difference between two percents was

$$Z = \frac{|X_a - X_b|}{\sqrt{S_a^2 + S_b^2}}$$

where X_a and X_b are the two percents being compared, and S_a and S_b are the SUDAAN-calculated standard errors of those percents. The critical value used for two-sided tests at the 0.05 level of significance was 1.96.

Appendix II

Definitions of Terms

Sociodemographic Terms

Age—The age recorded for each child is the age at the last birthday. Age is recorded in single years and grouped using a variety of age categories depending on the purpose of the table.

Family income—Each member of a family is classified according to the total income of the family of which he or she is a member. Within the household, all persons related to each other by blood, marriage or cohabitation, or adoption constitute a family. Unrelated individuals living in the same household (e.g., roommates) are considered to be separate families and are classified according to their own incomes. The income recorded is the total of all income received by members of the family (or by an unrelated individual) in the previous calendar year. Income from all sources—including wages, salaries, pensions, government payments, child support/alimony, dividends, help from relatives, etc.—is included.

Family structure—Family structure describes the parent(s) present in the household with the sample child. Mother and father can include biological, adoptive, step, in-law, or foster parents. Legal guardians are not classified as parents.

Geographic region of residence—For the purpose of classifying the U.S. population by geographic area, the States are grouped into four regions. These regions, which correspond to those used by the U.S. Census Bureau, are as follows:

| Region | States included |
|-----------|---|
| Northeast | Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania |
| Midwest | Ohio, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, |

North Dakota, South Dakota, Kansas, and Nebraska

South Delaware, Maryland, District of Columbia, West Virginia, Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Texas

West Washington, Oregon, California, Nevada, New Mexico, Arizona, Idaho, Utah, Colorado, Montana, Wyoming, Alaska, and Hawaii

Health insurance coverage—NHIS respondents were asked about their health insurance coverage at the time of the interview. Respondents could also state whether they were covered by private insurance obtained from their employer or workplace, private insurance that they had purchased directly, Medicare, Medi-Gap (supplemental Medicare coverage), Medicaid, Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), military or VA health care (as well as CHAMPUS/TRICARE/CHAMP-VA), a State-sponsored health plan, or a government program (other than those already mentioned). This information is used to form a health insurance hierarchy of four mutually exclusive categories for persons under age 65 (private, Medicaid/other public, other coverage, or uninsured). Private coverage includes persons who have any comprehensive private health insurance plan (including health maintenance organizations and preferred provider organizations) and persons who have a hospitalization plan only; these may be either obtained from one's employer or workplace or purchased directly. Among persons younger than age 65, those with Medicaid and/or another form of public insurance coverage (e.g., most State-sponsored coverage) are distinguished from those with "other coverage," which includes Medicare, military health insurance coverage, and/or another form of government-sponsored health insurance coverage. Given this hierarchy, an individual with

more than one type of health insurance, such as private and military coverage, would be assigned to the first appropriate category in the hierarchy, i.e., private.

If respondents do not report coverage under one of the above types of plans then they are considered to have "unknown" coverage. Weighted frequencies indicate that 1.2% of the population under age 65 fell in this "unknown" category. All remaining respondents are considered uninsured. The uninsured are persons who do not have coverage under private health insurance, Medicare, Medicaid, public assistance, a State-sponsored health plan, other government-sponsored programs, or a military health plan. In addition, persons with only Indian Health Service coverage are considered uninsured. Weighted frequencies indicate that 16.6% of the population under age 65 was uninsured.

Hispanic origin and race—Hispanic origin and race are two separate and distinct concepts. Thus, Hispanics may be of any race. Hispanic origin includes persons of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central and South American or Spanish origins. All tables show Mexicans or Mexican Americans as a subset of Hispanics. Other groups are not shown for reasons of confidentiality or statistical reliability.

In the 1997 and 1998 Summary Health Statistics reports, Hispanic ethnicity was shown as a part of race/ethnicity, which also included categories for non-Hispanic white, non-Hispanic black, and non-Hispanic other (some tables showed Mexican Americans as a subset of Hispanics). Beginning in 1999, the categories for race were expanded to be consistent with the 1997 Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Federal guidelines, and a distinction was made between the characteristics of Race and of Hispanic origin and race. The latter characteristic includes sub-categories for "Hispanic or Latino" and "Not Hispanic or Latino." "Not Hispanic or Latino" includes "White, single race" and "Black or African American, single race." Persons in these categories indicated only a single race group. (See

the definition of **Race** in this appendix for more information.) Data are not shown separately for other Not Hispanic or Latino single race persons due to statistical unreliability as measured by the relative standard errors of the estimates (but are included in the total for “Not Hispanic or Latino”).

Parent’s education—This reflects the highest grade in school completed by the sample child’s mother or father, regardless of that parent’s age. (Note that in the U.S. Population and U.S. Adult reports, education is reported only for persons 25 years of age and over.) Only years completed in regular school, where persons are given a formal education, are included. A “regular” school is one that advances a person toward an elementary or high school diploma (or a GED, a General Educational Development high school equivalency diploma), or a college, university, or professional degree. Thus, education in vocational, trade, or business school outside the regular school system is not counted in determining the highest grade of school completed. Likewise, participation in “adult education” classes not taken for credit in a regular school system is not included. For example, a person who took “conversational Spanish” through an adult education program at a local university would not be counted as having “some college.” Schooling in other than regular schools (e.g., home schooling) is counted only if the credits obtained are acceptable in a regular school system.

Place of residence—An individual’s place of residence is classified as inside a metropolitan statistical area (MSA) or outside a MSA. Generally, a MSA consists of a county or group of counties containing at least one city (or twin cities) having a population of 50,000 or more, plus adjacent counties that are metropolitan in character and are economically and socially integrated with the central city. In New England, towns and cities rather than counties are the units used in defining MSAs. There is neither a limit to the number of adjacent counties included in the MSA if they are integrated with the central city, nor is a MSA limited to a single undaries may cross State lines.

The metropolitan populations in this report are based on MSAs as defined in the 1990 census. In the tables for this report, place of residence is based on a variable in the 1999 Person data file indicating MSA size. This variable is collapsed into three categories: MSAs with a population of 1,000,000 or more; MSAs with a population of less than 1,000,000; and non-MSA areas.

Poverty status—Poverty status is based on family income and family size using the U.S. Census Bureau’s poverty thresholds. “poor” persons are defined as below the poverty threshold. “near poor” persons have incomes of 100% to less than 200% of the poverty threshold. “not poor” persons have incomes that are 200% of the poverty threshold or greater. Please refer to appendix I in this report for more information on the measurement of family income and poverty status.

Race—In the 1997 and 1998 Summary Health Statistics reports, race/ethnicity consisted of four categories: non-Hispanic white, non-Hispanic black, non-Hispanic other, and Hispanic (some tables showed Mexican Americans as a subset of Hispanics). Beginning in 1999, the categories for race were expanded to be consistent with the 1997 Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Federal guidelines, which now distinguish persons of single race from persons of multiple race. Single race refers to persons who indicated only a single race group, and includes sub-categories for white; black or African American; American Indian or Alaska Native; Asian; and Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander. Multiple race refers to persons who indicated more than one race group. Data for multiple race combinations can only be reported to the extent that the estimates meet the requirements for confidentiality and statistical reliability. In this report, three categories are shown for multiple race individuals (a summary category and two multiple race categories: black or African American and white; American Indian or Alaska Native and white). Other combinations are not shown separately due to statistical unreliability as measured by the relative standard errors of the

estimates (but are included in the total for “2 or more races”).

Description of Health Terms

Asthma—Asthma includes smoker’s asthma, bronchial asthma, allergic asthma, etc. Asthma is indicated when a doctor or other health professional reported to the family that the sample child has asthma.

Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD)—ADD is indicated when a doctor or other health professional reported to the family that the sample child has Attention Deficit Disorder or ADD.

Contacts with health care professionals—A contact with a health care professional is defined as a visit to or conversation with a doctor or other health care professional by anyone in the family about the health of the sample child. Contacts may include visits by a health care professional to the patient’s home, a telephone call to the office of a health care professional (for medical advice, prescriptions, or test results, but not to make an appointment), or an appointment with a health care professional in a doctor’s office, clinic, emergency room, or some other place (excluding overnight hospital stays). Health care professionals are defined as all types of medical doctors, including dermatologists, psychiatrists, ophthalmologists, and general practitioners, as well as nurses, physical therapists, and chiropractors. The NHIS focuses on contacts that occurred during the 2-week period before the interview took place.

Delays in receiving needed medical care—Data pertaining to delays in receiving needed medical care due to cost are derived from a question in the 1999 NHIS that asked respondents whether anyone in the family had delayed seeking medical care in the past 12 months because of worry about the cost.

Doctor or other health care professional—This refers to medical doctors (MDs) and osteopathic physicians (DOs), including general practitioners as well as specialists, psychologists, nurses, physical therapists, chiropractors, etc.

Health status—Respondent-assessed health status is obtained from a question in the survey that asked respondents “Would you say your health in general was excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor?” Information was obtained from all respondents, with proxy responses allowed for adults not taking part in the interview and all children under 18 years of age.

Hospital emergency room or ER visits—This includes visits to a hospital emergency room only. Visits for emergency care received at a health maintenance organization (HMO), outpatient clinic, or urgent care center are not included.

Prescription medicine—Medication that can only be obtained with the approval of a licensed health care provider.

Unmet medical need—Unmet medical need was based on a question that asked respondents whether someone in the family had needed medical care during the past 12 months, but did not get it because the family could not afford it.

Usual place of care—Usual place of care was based on a question that asked whether respondents had a place that they usually went to when they were sick or needed advice about their health. The places include a walk-in clinic, doctor’s office, clinic, health center, HMO, hospital emergency room or outpatient clinic, or a military or VA health care facility.

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For answers to questions about this report or for a list of reports published in these series, contact:

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