

Wisconsin Family Health Survey, 2012 Key Findings on Health Insurance and Health Care

The Wisconsin Family Health Survey (FHS) is a statewide, random-sample, scientific telephone survey of Wisconsin household residents that has been conducted annually since 1989. Once results are weighted, the survey represents all adults and children living in Wisconsin households. The survey is designed to provide estimates of health care coverage, various health conditions and use of health care services among Wisconsin residents.

Note: Due to changes in sampling design, 2012 FHS data should not be combined with earlier years of data. Comparisons between 2012 FHS estimates and estimates from previous years of FHS data should be made with caution. See Technical Notes for more information.

Health Insurance Coverage Over the Past Year

- The majority of Wisconsin residents were covered by health insurance for an entire year.
 - 89.1 percent of Wisconsin residents had insurance for all 12 months prior to the survey interview.
 - 4.8 percent had insurance for some of the 12 months prior to the interview.
 - 5.8 percent had no insurance coverage at all during the 12 months prior to the interview.
- Among working-age adults, ages 18 to 64, those working full-time for an employer were without health insurance for the entire past year at a lower rate (5.6%) than were either the full-time self-employed (12.7%) or those employed or self-employed part-time (10.3%).
- African Americans were less likely than Whites to have had health insurance for the entire past year (83.5% vs. 90.2%).
- Residents living in poor and near-poor households were more likely to be without health insurance for the entire past year than residents living in non-poor households (11.3% and 11.5%, vs. 2.8%).

Health Insurance Coverage (Point-in-Time)

- Adults ages 18 to 44 were the age group least likely to have health insurance coverage, with 12.1 percent reported as uninsured at the time of the interview.
- Over 99 percent of adults age 65 and older were reported to have health insurance coverage at the time of the interview.
- The majority of children had health insurance coverage at the time of the interview (97.6%).
- Females ages 18 to 44 were more likely to have health insurance coverage than their male counterparts (93.1% vs. 82.6%).
- Residents living in the city of Milwaukee were less likely to have insurance at the time of the interview than residents living in other metropolitan areas or those living in non-metropolitan areas (88.4% vs. 93.7% and 92.0%).
- Among adults ages 18 to 64, those who were full-time self-employed were as likely to be uninsured as those employed part-time (13.2% vs. 13.7%).

