

Wisconsin Family Health Survey, 2015 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 except for 2013. 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, 2015, 2014, and 2012 FHS data may be compared and/or combined for analysis because the same address-based design was used for sampling. However, comparisons with estimates from years of FHS data before 2012 should be made with caution because a landline telephone design was used for sampling prior to 2012. 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.
 - 91% of Wisconsin residents had insurance for all 12 months prior to the survey interview.
 - 5% had insurance for some of the 12 months prior to the interview.
 - 3% had no insurance coverage at all during the 12 months prior to the interview. This represents a statistically significant decrease from the 4% who had no insurance coverage at all during the 12 months prior to the interview in 2014.
- 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 (3%) than were either the full-time self-employed (16%) or those employed or self-employed part-time (6%).
- African Americans and Hispanics were less likely than Whites to have had health insurance for the entire past year (83% and 83%, vs. 92%, respectively).
- 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 (7% and 5%, vs. 2%, respectively).

Health Insurance Coverage (Point-in-Time)

- Adults ages 18 to 44 were the age group least likely to have health insurance coverage, with 8% reported as uninsured at the time of the interview.
- Over 99% of adults age 65 and older were estimated to have health insurance coverage at the time of the interview.
- Residents living in the city of Milwaukee and those living in non-metropolitan areas were less likely to have insurance at the time of the interview than residents living in other metropolitan areas (93% and 94%, vs. 96%, respectively).
- Among adults ages 18 to 64, those who were full-time self-employed were more likely to be uninsured than those who were not in the workforce at the time of the interview (18% vs. 8%, respectively).
- An estimated 3% of Wisconsin adults who were insured at the time of the interview purchased health insurance through the Health Insurance Marketplace.

