

Table 2 - MEPS
Characteristics of Uninsured: Adult Population (Age 19-64)
Calendar Year 2000: Uninsured Ever During the Year

Characteristic	Population (Millions)	Distribution of Population	Uninsured (Millions)	Distribution of Uninsured	Uninsured Rate
TOTAL	165.5	100.0%	44.6	100.0%	26.9%
GENDER					
Men	80.7	48.7%	23.4	52.4%	29.0%
Women	84.8	51.3%	21.2	47.6%	25.0%
AGE					
ADULTS age 19-64	165.5	100.0%	44.6	100.0%	26.9%
Age 19-24	22.6	13.6%	10.9	24.4%	48.1%
Age 25-34	37.4	22.6%	11.9	26.7%	31.8%
Age 35-54	81.8	49.4%	17.2	38.5%	21.0%
Age 55-64	23.7	14.3%	4.7	10.4%	19.6%
RACE					
White*	136.9	82.7%	34.9	78.2%	25.5%
Black*	21.1	12.7%	7.2	16.1%	34.0%
Asian/Pacific Islander	6.2	3.8%	1.9	4.2%	29.9%
American Indian/Alaskan Native	1.3	0.8%	0.7	1.5%	52.2%
HISPANIC ORIGIN					
Hispanic	19.0	11.5%	9.6	21.5%	50.4%
Not Hispanic	146.5	88.5%	35.0	78.5%	23.9%
EDUCATION					
Less than HS	23.0	13.9%	11.6	26.0%	50.4%
HS only	58.6	35.4%	18.4	41.4%	31.5%
Some post-HS	29.1	17.6%	6.7	15.1%	23.1%
4-year college degree or more	54.3	32.8%	7.6	17.0%	13.9%
Unknown	0.5	0.3%	0.2	0.5%	46.3%
INDIVIDUAL WORK STATUS (Annual)					
Full time	95.4	57.7%	19.3	43.3%	20.2%
Part time	18.4	11.1%	6.3	14.2%	34.4%
Self Employed	15.9	9.6%	5.7	12.7%	35.6%
Did Not Work	35.0	21.2%	12.8	28.8%	36.6%
Unknown	0.7	0.4%	0.4	1.0%	64.2%
FAMILY WORK STATUS					
2 or more full time	46.1	27.8%	8.0	17.9%	17.3%
Only 1 full time	80.1	48.4%	20.0	44.8%	24.9%
Only part time	12.4	7.5%	5.0	11.3%	40.4%
Only self employed	11.0	6.6%	5.3	11.8%	48.0%
No Workers	15.9	9.6%	6.3	14.2%	39.8%

*Includes both Hispanic and Non Hispanic

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Table 2 – MEPS (Cont'd)						
Characteristics of Uninsured: Adult Population (Age 19-64)						
Calendar Year 2000: Uninsured Ever During the Year						
WAGE/SALARY FOR PRIMARY EARNERS						
No wage earner	26.8	16.2%	11.5	25.9%	43.0%	
Under \$7/hour	11.8	7.1%	6.1	13.6%	51.3%	
\$7-\$15/hour	55.0	33.2%	19.0	42.6%	34.5%	
\$15-\$25/hour	41.7	25.2%	5.8	13.0%	13.9%	
More than \$25/hour	30.3	18.3%	2.2	4.9%	7.3%	
FAMILY COMPOSITION						
WITH CHILDREN						
	78.4	47.3%	21.1	47.4%	26.9%	
1 Adult	11.7	7.1%	4.4	10.0%	37.9%	
2 Married adults	54.9	33.2%	11.7	26.2%	21.3%	
Other	11.7	7.1%	5.0	11.1%	42.5%	
WITHOUT CHILDREN						
	87.1	52.7%	23.5	52.6%	26.9%	
1 Adult	30.8	18.6%	9.4	21.1%	30.5%	
2 Married adults	41.8	25.3%	7.3	16.4%	17.5%	
Other	14.5	8.8%	6.7	15.1%	46.5%	
INCOME (Poverty Level)						
0 - 100% FPL	15.5	9.3%	7.9	17.8%	51.1%	
100 - 200 % FPL	23.8	14.4%	12.2	27.4%	51.1%	
200 - 400% FPL	52.2	31.5%	15.3	34.4%	29.4%	
More than 400% FPL	74.0	44.7%	9.1	20.4%	12.3%	

These estimates are based on ERIU tabulations of 2000 Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS) data collected by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ). The MEPS employs an overlapping panel design and collects data on two calendar years for each respondent. The tabulations reported here are based on responses to interview Rounds 3, 4, and 5 of Panel 4 and Rounds 1, 2, and 3 of Panel 5, which cover calendar year 2000 for both panels. Coverage status is obtained at the initial interview. At each subsequent interview, respondents are asked about whether their coverage has changed since the last interview and, if so, how and when. Respondents report whether they were covered by any public or private source of health insurance (Medicare, Medicaid, SCHIP, TRICARE/CHAMPUS, other public coverage, employment-based private, other private health insurance). Respondents are considered uninsured if they respond “no” to all of the coverage options; they are not asked directly if they are uninsured. A person may gain or lose coverage during a year and these data permit estimates of the number lacking coverage at a particular point in time, at some time during the year, and throughout the entire year. We label those who are without health insurance for the entire year as “all-year uninsured,” and those without health insurance for at least one month and up to twelve months as “ever uninsured.” The “point-in-time uninsured” estimates include those without coverage in the first round of the calendar year (Round 3 for those who entered the survey in 1999, and Round 1 for those who entered the survey in 2000).

For further discussion of issues related to counting the uninsured see "Counting and Characterizing the Uninsured," by Pamela Farley Short, and ERIU Research Highlight 1: A Revolving Door: How Individuals Move In and Out of Health Insurance Coverage