

Table UnmtNd. Delay or nonreceipt of needed medical care, nonreceipt of needed prescription drugs, and nonreceipt of needed dental care during the past 12 months due to cost, by selected characteristics: United States, selected years 1997–2019

Excel version (with more data years and standard errors when available): <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/hus/contents2020-2021.htm#Table-UnmtNd>

[Data are based on household interviews of a sample of the civilian noninstitutionalized population]

Characteristic	Delay or nonreceipt of needed medical care due to cost ¹				Nonreceipt of needed prescription drugs due to cost ²				Nonreceipt of needed dental care due to cost ³			
	1997	2005	2009	2019	1997	2005	2009	2019	1997	2005	2009	2019
	Percent											
Total ⁴	8.3	8.5	11.4	8.5	4.8	7.2	8.4	5.6	8.6	10.7	13.3	14.7
Age group												
Under 19 years.....	4.5	4.3	5.4	1.7	2.1	3.0	3.2	1.1	6.0	7.3	7.0	4.2
Under 18 years.....	4.4	4.2	5.2	1.6	2.2	2.9	3.2	1.1	6.0	7.3	7.1	4.1
Under 6 years.....	3.3	3.3	4.4	1.2	1.6	2.5	2.1	0.8	3.9	3.7	4.9	2.0
6–17 years.....	4.9	4.7	5.7	1.8	2.4	3.1	3.7	1.2	6.8	8.4	7.9	4.7
18–64 years.....	10.7	11.0	15.1	12.1	6.3	9.4	11.2	7.7	10.6	13.0	16.8	18.6
18–44 years.....	11.0	11.3	15.1	12.1	6.9	9.8	11.7	7.1	11.7	14.1	18.2	17.4
18–24 years.....	10.2	11.3	13.8	9.9	6.7	9.6	9.8	4.3	11.6	13.7	16.3	12.0
25–34 years.....	11.4	11.8	16.1	13.3	6.9	10.2	12.8	7.7	12.3	15.1	19.9	19.4
35–44 years.....	11.0	10.8	15.2	12.3	7.1	9.6	11.9	8.3	11.2	13.3	17.7	19.2
19–25 years.....	11.1	12.5	15.2	11.1	7.7	10.3	11.1	4.9	13.1	14.8	18.7	13.5
45–64 years.....	10.1	10.6	15.1	12.2	5.1	8.7	10.6	8.5	8.4	11.5	14.9	20.1
45–54 years.....	10.6	10.8	16.0	12.7	5.6	9.2	11.4	9.2	9.4	12.1	16.4	19.9
55–64 years.....	9.3	10.4	14.0	11.8	4.2	8.0	9.6	7.8	7.0	10.7	13.0	20.3
65 years and over.....	4.6	4.6	5.1	4.4	2.8	5.1	4.2	4.4	3.5	5.2	6.2	13.3
65–74 years.....	5.0	5.4	6.0	5.2	3.4	6.4	5.0	5.3	4.2	6.2	8.0	14.4
75 years and over.....	4.1	3.7	4.0	3.3	2.0	3.6	3.1	3.1	2.6	4.0	4.1	11.7
18–64 years												
Sex												
Male.....	9.3	10.0	14.1	10.3	5.1	7.2	9.4	5.8	8.8	10.8	14.6	16.5
Female.....	12.0	12.1	16.1	13.9	7.4	11.4	13.0	9.4	12.4	15.2	18.9	20.5
Race ⁵												
White only.....	10.8	11.1	15.2	11.9	5.9	9.1	10.9	7.5	10.6	12.8	16.7	17.4
Black or African American only.....	10.8	12.0	16.7	14.5	9.5	11.6	14.5	10.3	10.8	15.2	19.0	22.5
American Indian or Alaska Native only.....	14.5	13.2	17.3	13.6	*10.1	*14.1	*14.3	*	18.8	19.2	22.5	16.7
Asian only.....	...	5.0	7.5	5.1	...	*3.5	4.7	2.8	...	6.8	9.3	10.9
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander only.....	...	*	*	*	...	*	*	*	...	*	*	*
2 or more races.....	...	19.9	25.0	17.1	...	22.9	19.2	12.8	...	23.0	28.5	22.0
Hispanic origin and race ⁵												
Hispanic or Latino.....	10.5	11.5	16.4	15.6	6.7	11.2	14.3	8.2	11.5	15.5	22.2	26.1
Mexican.....	9.7	11.4	15.9	15.4	6.5	12.0	14.0	8.0	11.3	16.3	22.2	25.2
Not Hispanic or Latino.....	10.7	11.0	14.9	11.3	6.3	9.0	10.7	7.5	10.5	12.6	15.8	16.8
White only.....	10.9	11.1	14.9	11.2	5.9	8.7	10.2	7.4	10.5	12.3	15.5	16.2
Black or African American only.....	10.8	12.0	16.7	14.4	9.5	11.4	14.7	10.3	10.8	15.3	19.0	22.1

See footnotes at end of table.

Table UnmtNd. Delay or nonreceipt of needed medical care, nonreceipt of needed prescription drugs, and nonreceipt of needed dental care during the past 12 months due to cost, by selected characteristics: United States, selected years 1997–2019—Con.

Excel version (with more data years and standard errors when available): <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/hus/contents2020-2021.htm#Table-UnmtNd>

[Data are based on household interviews of a sample of the civilian noninstitutionalized population]

Characteristic	Delay or nonreceipt of needed medical care due to cost ¹				Nonreceipt of needed prescription drugs due to cost ²				Nonreceipt of needed dental care due to cost ³			
	1997	2005	2009	2019	1997	2005	2009	2019	1997	2005	2009	2019
Education ⁶												
Percent												
No high school diploma or GED	16.2	16.2	21.2	20.6	11.5	16.4	19.3	13.4	14.5	20.3	26.6	32.8
High school diploma or GED	11.1	11.7	17.0	14.5	7.0	10.5	14.0	9.1	11.4	14.6	19.7	24.2
Some college or more	9.2	9.8	13.7	10.3	4.3	7.1	8.8	6.9	8.8	10.4	13.7	15.4
Percent of poverty level ⁷												
Below 100%	19.6	20.0	24.8	20.4	14.8	19.5	20.5	14.1	19.4	24.4	30.0	30.7
100%–199%	17.9	18.9	24.0	20.2	11.6	16.3	18.8	12.3	18.3	21.0	27.8	30.6
200%–399%	10.5	11.8	16.8	13.5	5.5	9.5	12.2	8.3	10.2	13.7	17.9	20.3
400% or more	4.6	5.0	7.2	5.0	1.7	3.3	4.1	3.2	4.5	5.9	6.8	8.2
Hispanic origin and race and percent of poverty level ^{5,7}												
Hispanic or Latino:												
Below 100%	14.6	14.8	23.2	22.9	10.6	17.3	21.0	12.6	16.1	23.5	28.8	35.9
100%–199%	12.2	14.5	18.1	20.4	8.1	13.0	15.1	9.8	13.5	18.2	26.3	33.4
200%–399%	8.0	9.6	14.7	12.6	4.4	9.1	14.6	6.6	9.2	12.5	22.1	22.7
400% or more	5.1	6.2	8.3	6.6	*	*4.2	*4.0	4.4	4.5	5.8	7.4	12.0
Not Hispanic or Latino:												
White only:												
Below 100%	24.3	23.6	27.2	21.3	17.3	20.5	20.9	15.4	23.4	25.1	32.0	29.8
100%–199%	20.9	21.8	27.8	22.0	12.4	18.2	21.0	15.4	20.6	22.9	30.2	30.9
200%–399%	11.4	13.1	18.1	14.0	5.4	10.0	11.9	8.6	10.6	14.4	17.8	20.0
400% or more	4.6	5.0	7.1	4.9	1.7	3.2	3.8	3.1	4.5	5.9	6.6	7.8
Black or African American only:												
Below 100%	16.1	20.1	23.2	20.3	14.9	21.7	20.9	17.4	14.8	25.5	28.5	28.7
100%–199%	14.3	16.2	22.5	18.3	13.9	14.3	19.4	9.7	16.4	19.0	25.2	30.0
200%–399%	8.8	9.2	14.1	14.0	7.0	7.9	12.7	10.3	8.6	12.0	15.5	20.7
400% or more	4.6	5.5	9.0	6.3	*2.9	*4.1	6.9	5.1	4.3	*7.0	8.6	10.6
Health insurance status at time of interview ⁸												
Insured	6.8	6.8	9.5	8.0	3.7	6.0	7.0	5.9	7.2	8.7	10.8	15.2
Private	6.0	5.9	8.6	7.3	2.9	4.7	5.7	4.9	6.2	6.7	8.6	12.5
Medicaid	11.9	12.0	13.6	10.3	11.1	14.0	13.5	9.3	14.8	21.8	22.1	25.4
Uninsured	27.6	29.5	36.5	36.3	18.0	23.1	26.7	18.3	26.1	30.7	39.0	38.3

See footnotes at end of table.

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Characteristic	Delay or nonreceipt of needed medical care due to cost ¹				Nonreceipt of needed prescription drugs due to cost ²				Nonreceipt of needed dental care due to cost ³			
	1997	2005	2009	2019	1997	2005	2009	2019	1997	2005	2009	2019
Level of difficulty ⁹												
Percent												
A lot of difficulty or cannot do at all	---	---	---	24.8	---	---	---	21.4	---	---	---	36.6
Some difficulty	---	---	---	17.1	---	---	---	11.8	---	---	---	24.6
No difficulty	---	---	---	8.8	---	---	---	4.6	---	---	---	14.2
Geographic region												
Northeast	8.8	8.7	10.7	8.3	4.9	7.2	8.7	5.2	8.9	10.6	12.4	15.2
Midwest	10.5	10.6	16.4	11.6	5.9	9.0	11.4	8.0	9.7	11.9	15.5	15.3
South	11.8	12.6	16.2	15.0	7.3	11.3	13.0	9.8	10.9	14.7	18.6	22.1
West	10.8	11.1	15.6	10.8	6.3	8.2	10.2	5.8	13.1	13.6	18.8	18.2
Location of residence ¹⁰												
Within MSA	10.2	10.6	14.8	11.8	5.9	8.8	10.8	7.4	10.0	12.7	16.4	18.3
Outside MSA	12.5	12.8	17.1	14.4	7.9	11.8	13.6	9.2	12.9	14.6	19.2	20.3

* Estimates are considered unreliable. Starting with 2016 data, the reliability of survey percentage estimates is assessed using new multistep National Center for Health Statistics data presentation standards for proportions. Before 2016 data, the reliability of estimates was evaluated based on relative standard errors (RSEs). Data preceded by an asterisk have an RSE of 20%–30%. Data not shown have an RSE greater than 30%. For more information, see Sources and Definitions, Relative standard error (RSE); Statistical reliability of estimates.

... Category not applicable.

--- Data not available.

¹Starting in 2019, this measure is based on responses to the questions, “During the past 12 months, was there any time when [you/your child] needed medical care, but did not get it because of the cost?” and “During the past 12 months, [have you delayed getting medical care/has medical care been delayed for your child] because of the cost?” From 1997 to 2018, questions about delay or nonreceipt of needed medical care due to cost were slightly different. See Sources and Definitions, Unmet need.

²Starting in 2019, this measure is based on responses to the question, “During the past 12 months, was there any time when [you/your child] needed prescription medication, but did not get it because of the cost?” From 1997 to 2018, the question about nonreceipt of needed prescription drugs due to cost was slightly different. See Sources and Definitions, Unmet need.

³Estimates are for people aged 2 and over. Starting in 2019, this measure is based on responses to the question, “During the past 12 months, was there any time when [you/your child] needed dental care, but did not get it because of the cost?” From 1997 to 2018, the question about nonreceipt of needed dental care due to cost was slightly different. See Sources and Definitions, Unmet need.

⁴Includes all other races not shown separately and those with unknown health insurance status, unknown education level, unknown sex, and unknown disability (functional limitation) status.

⁵The race groups White, Black, American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, and 2 or more races include people of Hispanic and non-Hispanic origin. People of Hispanic origin may be of any race. Starting with 1999 data, race-specific estimates are tabulated according to the 1997 “Revisions to the Standards for the Classification of Federal Data on Race and Ethnicity” and are not strictly comparable with estimates for earlier years. The five single- and multiple-race categories shown follow the 1997 standards. The race-specific estimates are for people who reported only one racial group; the category 2 or more races includes people who reported more than one racial group. Starting with 2003 data, race responses of other race and unspecified multiple race are treated as missing, and then race is imputed if these were the only race responses. Almost all people with a race response of other race are of Hispanic origin. See Sources and Definitions, Hispanic origin; Race.

⁶Estimates are for people aged 25–64. GED is high school equivalency diploma. See Sources and Definitions, Education.

⁷Percent of poverty level is based on family income and family size and composition using U.S. Census Bureau poverty thresholds. Missing family income data are imputed for 1997 and beyond. See Sources and Definitions, Family income; Poverty.

⁸Health insurance categories are mutually exclusive. People who reported both Medicaid and private coverage are classified as having private coverage. Starting with 1997 data, state-sponsored health plan coverage is included as Medicaid coverage. Starting with 1999 data, coverage by the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) is included as Medicaid coverage. In addition to private and Medicaid, the insured category includes military plans, other government-sponsored health plans, and Medicare. People not covered by private insurance, Medicaid, CHIP, state-sponsored or other government-sponsored health plans (starting in 1997), Medicare, or military plans are considered to have no health insurance coverage. People with only Indian Health Service coverage are considered to have no health insurance coverage. See Sources and Definitions, Health insurance coverage.

⁹Functional limitation is defined by the reported level of difficulty in six domains of functioning: seeing (even if wearing glasses), hearing (even if wearing hearing aids), mobility (walking or climbing stairs), communication (understanding or being understood by others), cognition (remembering or concentrating), and self-care (such as washing all over or dressing). Respondents with answers to one or more of the six questions are included in one of three mutually exclusive categories. Adults who respond “a lot of difficulty” or “cannot do at all/unable to do” to at least one question are classified in the “a lot of difficulty or cannot do at all” category. Of the remaining respondents, adults who respond “some difficulty” to at least one question are classified in the “some difficulty” category, and adults who respond “no difficulty” to all questions are classified in the “no difficulty” category. Adults who respond “don’t know” or “refused” to all six questions are excluded. During 2010–2019, 0%–8% of respondents were missing data and excluded. See Sources and Definitions, Functional limitation.

¹⁰MSA is metropolitan statistical area. Starting with 2016 data, MSA status is determined using 2010 census data and the 2010 standards for defining MSAs. For more information, including the definition applied before 2016, see Sources and Definitions, Metropolitan statistical area (MSA).

NOTES: In 2019, the National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) questionnaire was redesigned and other changes were made to weighting and design methodology. Data for 2019 have not been fully evaluated for comparability with earlier years. For more information on the 2019 NHIS redesign and evaluation of the redesign on selected indicators, see: https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhis/2019_quest_redesign.htm. Data have been revised and differ from previous editions of *Health, United States*. Standard errors and data for additional years are available in the Excel spreadsheet version of this table on the *Health, United States* website at: <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/hus/index.htm>.

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Health Interview Survey. See Sources and Definitions, National Health Interview Survey (NHIS).