

EXHIBIT 40. Use of Care among Non-Institutionalized Individuals Age 0–18 by Primary Source of Health Coverage, 2018, NHIS Data[^]

Characteristics	Primary coverage source at time of interview ¹			
	Total	Private ²	Medicaid or CHIP ³	Uninsured ⁴
Total (percent distribution across coverage sources)⁵	100.0%	55.6%	34.6%	5.1%
Contact with health care professionals (past 12 months)				
Number of times saw a doctor or other health professional, excluding dental visits and inpatient hospital stays				
None	8.5	7.1	8.0	26.2*
At least 1	91.5	92.9	92.0	73.8*
1	24.2	22.9	25.3	31.3
2–3	37.7	38.8	37.2	27.5*
4 or more	29.6	31.2	29.5	15.0*
Saw selected health professional				
General doctor	84.2	87.5*	82.1	64.5*
General doctor, nurse practitioner, physician assistant, midwife, or obstetrician-gynecologist	86.3	89.7*	84.1	67.5*
Medical specialist	16.0*	18.3*	13.5	6.2*
Eye doctor	27.7	30.0*	25.6	20.5*
Mental health professional ⁶	9.8	9.4	10.5	†
Doctor, for emotional or behavioral problem ⁷	5.6*	4.6*	7.2	5.0
Dentist ⁸	82.6	85.6*	81.2	60.1*
Any health professional, excluding dental ⁹	89.9	92.6*	88.3	74.4*
Any health professional, including dental ⁹	96.7	98.3*	95.9	85.1*
Had at least 1 overnight hospital stay ¹⁰	4.8	5.0	4.8	†
Received care at home	1.1	0.9	1.4	†
Receipt of appropriate care (past 12 months)				
Had well-child checkup ⁷	86.5	88.7*	86.6	61.1*
Had more than 15 office or clinic visits	2.2	2.5	1.9	†
Number of emergency room visits				
None	80.7*	84.8*	73.9	81.6*
At least 1	19.3*	15.2*	26.1	18.4*
1	11.9*	10.1*	14.7	10.3*
2–3	6.0*	4.2*	8.9	7.5
4 or more	1.5*	0.9*	2.5	†

EXHIBIT 40. (continued)

Notes: NHIS is National Health Interview Survey. Percentage calculations for each item in the exhibit exclude individuals with missing and unknown values. The individual components listed under the subcategories are not always mutually exclusive and may not sum to 100 percent. Standard errors are available in the Excel version of this exhibit at <https://www.macpac.gov/publication/use-of-care-among-non-institutionalized-individuals-age-0-18-by-primary-source-of-health-coverage-data-from-national-health-interview-survey/>. Due to differences in methodology (such as the wording of questions, length of recall periods, and prompts or probes used to elicit responses), estimates obtained from different survey data sources will vary. For example, the NHIS is known to produce higher estimates of service use than the Medical Expenditures Panel Survey (MEPS). For purposes of comparing groups of individuals (as in this exhibit), the NHIS provides the most recent information available. For other purposes, such as measuring levels of use relative to a particular benchmark or goal, it may be appropriate to consult estimates from MEPS or another source.

[^] Values have not been updated from those published in the December 2019 data book due to a delay in the release of the NHIS after a redesign in 2019.

^{*} Difference from Medicaid or CHIP is statistically significant at the 0.05 level.

[†] Estimate is unreliable because it has a relative standard error greater than or equal to 30 percent.

¹ Total includes all non-institutionalized children under age 19, regardless of coverage source. In this exhibit, the following hierarchy was used to assign individuals with multiple coverage sources to a primary source: Medicare, private, Medicaid or CHIP, other, uninsured. Not separately shown are the estimates for those covered by Medicare (generally children with end-stage renal disease), any type of military health plan, or other federal government-sponsored programs. Coverage source is defined as of the time of the survey interview. Because an individual may have multiple coverage sources or changes over time, responses to survey questions may reflect characteristics or experiences associated with a coverage source other than the one assigned in this exhibit.

² Private health insurance coverage excludes plans that paid for only one type of service, such as accidents or dental care.

³ Medicaid or CHIP also includes persons covered by other state-sponsored health plans.

⁴ Individuals were defined as uninsured if they did not have any private health insurance, Medicaid, CHIP, Medicare, state- or other government-sponsored health plan, or military plan. Individuals were also defined as uninsured if they had only Indian Health Service coverage or had only a private plan that paid for one type of service, such as accidents or dental care.

⁵ Due to the fact that a hierarchy was used in this exhibit to assign individuals with multiple coverage sources to a primary source (see note 1), the Medicaid and CHIP percentages shown in this row exclude individuals who also have Medicare (which is rare for children) or private coverage. Components do not sum to 100 percent because not all coverage sources are shown.

⁶ Survey information is limited to children age two or older.

⁷ Survey information is limited to children age 0–17.

⁸ Survey information is limited to children age one or older.

⁹ Any health professional includes general doctor, nurse practitioner, physician assistant, midwife, obstetrician-gynecologist, medical specialist, eye doctor, mental health professional, doctor for emotional or behavioral problem, therapist, chiropractor, or podiatrist.

¹⁰ Includes stays for newborns.

Source: MACPAC, 2019, analysis of NHIS data.