

Comparison of Data Sources Providing Health Insurance Rates

Data Source	Uninsurance 2017- 2019	Pros Cons	Sample Size (Oregon)	Reporting period	Time frame of health coverage	Who is surveyed	Focus	Health insurance question style
Oregon Health Insurance Survey (OHIS) <i>Oregon Survey</i>	6.0%¹ 2019 rate in OREGON	Broad context, rich Oregon specific data Not annual	About 20,000 people every other year	One year data; 2019 data gathered February – August 2019	Health insurance status at the time of the survey . Other available measures: coverage for the past year, if there was a gap in coverage, and more	Only non-institutionalized populations; new in 2017: full information for all household members	In depth survey of health insurance coverage and access to explore what characteristics are associated with uninsurance, as well as the health needs of Oregonians in different circumstances.	Asks about state specific types for public coverage – i.e. OHP; Has a health insurance coverage confirmation question (confirms if previous response of uninsurance is correct)
American Community Survey (ACS) <i>National Survey – Census Bureau</i>	7.1%² 2018 rate in OREGON	Annual Detailed geography Not state specific insurance	About 26,000 per year	One year data; data gathered throughout year; evenly sampled across all months	Health insurance status at the time of the survey	Includes people living in group quarters (dormitories, nursing homes, and military bases); all members of the household	Focus is on income, poverty, and health insurance coverage; ACS only has health insurance questions since 2008	Asks generally using the terms Medicare, Medicaid, or “any kind of government-assistance plan for those with low incomes or disabilities”
Current Population Survey (CPS ASEC) <i>National Survey – Census Bureau and Bureau of Labor Statistics</i>	5.9%³ 2017 rate in OREGON	Annual Rich data Redesign of survey in 2014 Very small sample	About 2,900 per 2-year file	Census recommends using two year average; data collected February to April each year	Health insurance status for the entire past year	Only non-institutionalized populations; all members of the household	Focus is on income, poverty, and health insurance coverage; ACS only has health insurance questions since 2008	Asks about state specific types for public coverage – i.e. OHP; Has a health insurance coverage confirmation question; redesigned insurance coverage sequence in 2014
National Health Information Survey (NHIS) <i>National Survey - CDC</i>	7.4%⁴ 2018 rate Pacific Region (AK, CA, HI, OR, WA)	Rich data Health and well-being Very small sample Available at multi-state regions only	About 1,600 per year	One year data; data gathered throughout year; evenly sampled across each week	Health insurance status at the time of the survey . Other available measures: for the past year, if there was a gap in coverage	Civilian non-institutionalized population (includes college dormitories); Core survey with sections for one randomly selected adult, one child, and the entire household; Annual supplement with current topics of interest	Some version of the survey has been continuously fielded for nearly 50 years; Includes data on health conditions, injuries, utilization, insurance coverage, access to health care, and health behaviors	Asks generally using the terms Medicare or Medicaid; other revisions to insurance coverage sequence ⁵

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Data sources:

¹ Information on OHIS <http://www.oregon.gov/oha/HPA/ANALYTICS/Pages/Insurance-Data.aspx>

² [Health Insurance Coverage in the United States: 2018](#) or factfinder.census.gov

³ [CPS Table Creator](#) – SETTINGS to GENERATE STATISTIC: all persons in 2018, row 1 is state, column 1 is health insurance coverage, percentages by health insurance coverage, display sums in whole numbers.

⁴ <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nhis/earlyrelease/insur201905.pdf> [updated 5/19], page 24.

⁵ https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhis/2019_quest_redesign.htm