



PRESS RELEASE:

Oregon Office of Health Policy Research

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Progress Report: Health Insurance Coverage in Oregon Remains Flat

Today, the Office for Oregon Health Policy and Research released new health insurance data showing that the percentage of Oregonians without health insurance coverage over the past two years has remained statistically at the same levels.

The data, based on the 2006 Oregon Population Survey (OPS), shows that 15.6 percent of Oregonians (576,000) lacked health insurance last year, compared to 17 percent in 2004.

The rate of health insurance coverage for children also showed no statistical change between 2004 and 2006. The 2006 survey show 12.6 percent of children under the age of 19 (116,000) lacked health insurance coverage last year, compared to 13 percent in 2004.

The OPS is a statewide telephone survey of Oregon households conducted by the Oregon Progress Board. The first OPS occurred in 1990 and it has been repeated every two years since that time. The survey's primary objective is to track numerous health, social, and economic "benchmarks", including measures of Oregonian's health insurance status.

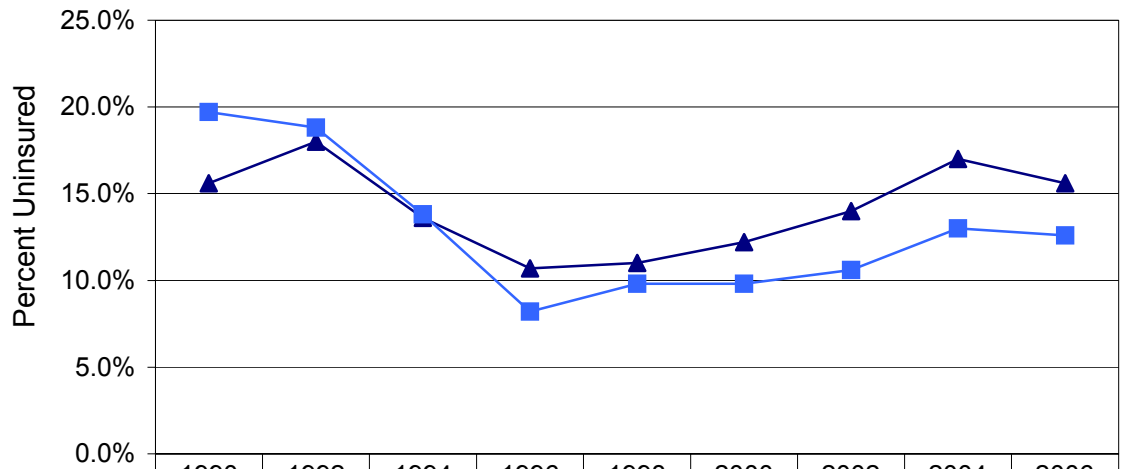
The 2006 survey was conducted in August and September of 2006 and included 4,332 households representing 10,120 individuals.

In addition, the survey also found that:

- Among uninsured Oregonians, 69.4 percent have incomes above the federal poverty level. The 2006 federal poverty level is an annual income of \$19,350 for a family of four.
- Statewide, about 15.9 percent of currently employed Oregonians report that they

lack health insurance coverage, compared to 18.2 percent in 2004.

Oregonians Without Health Insurance



	1990	1992	1994	1996	1998	2000	2002	2004	2006
▲ All Oregonians	15.6%	18.0%	13.6%	10.7%	11.0%	12.2%	14.0%	17.0%	15.6%
■ Children ages 0-18	19.7%	18.8%	13.8%	8.2%	9.8%	9.8%	10.6%	13.0%	12.6%