



July 2006

National Survey Key Findings

Survey Commissioned by The Catholic Health Association of the United States

Priority: Providing quality, affordable health insurance to all children

- 70% of likely voters agree that providing affordable, quality health insurance to all children in the U.S. should be one of the top priorities of Congress and the President.
- 65% of likely voters said the federal government should take financial responsibility to cover uninsured children.
- 72% of likely voters said the federal government should provide health insurance to uninsured children whose parents work.

Most willing to help pay to cover children

- Of the 65% of likely voters who said the federal government should take financial responsibility to cover uninsured children, 80% would be willing to pay more in taxes to help pay for it.
- 29% of likely voters said the federal government should not take financial responsibility to cover uninsured children; of those, 28% said the federal government already provides enough assistance to children.

Public perception vs. reality

Survey Question: “If you were going to describe uninsured Americans, which one or two of the following groups would come to your mind first?”

| Category | Respondents' First Choice | Reality ¹ |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| People with low incomes | 22% | 65%, or 2/3, of the uninsured (approximately 29.6 million individuals) are low income, earning less than 200% of the federal poverty level. |
| Elderly | 15% | < 1% of the elderly are uninsured; almost every person over the age of 65 is covered by Medicare. |
| Working Families | 14% | 82%, or more than 8 of 10 uninsured, are in working families (approximately 37 million individuals). |
| Children | 13% | 20%, or 1 out of 5, uninsured individuals are children under the age of 19 (approximately 9 million children). |

¹ Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured, January 2006. *The Uninsured: A Primer – Key Facts About Americans Without Health Insurance.*

Survey Methodology: Randomized telephone poll of 800 likely voters on July 6 & 8-9, 2006. Conducted by Public Opinion Strategies, Alexandria, Va. Margin of error is +/- 3.46%.