



## State Health Access Data Assistance Center *Electronic Newsletter – February 1, 2008*

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### **Announcements**

#### **SHADAC Article in the Top Ten RWJF Articles of 2007**

"Estimates of Health Insurance Coverage: Comparing State Surveys with the Current Population Survey," Kathleen Call, Mike Davern and Lynn Blewett (*Health Affairs* 26(1): 269-278, January/February 2007) was selected as one of the top ten articles of 2007 by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF). The top-ten list highlights research that has had an impact in the policy arena or has helped shape the Foundation's thinking and work.

More information is available at: <http://www.rwjf.org/pr/product.jsp?id=24498&parentid=24491>

#### **SHADAC's State Health Access Profile Updated**

SHADAC has released an update of its State Health Access Profile. The State Health Access Profile features indicators of access to health care that goes beyond the more traditional measure of health insurance coverage. SHADAC researchers assembled 14 indicators that measure state resources that enable access to health care for residents. This update provides new data along with comparisons to the previous edition (released in 2004), the nation, and for all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

The Access Profile is available at: <http://www.shadac.umn.edu/shadac/pubs/profile.html>

#### **SHADAC Reports on Idaho's Health Care Costs**

SHADAC Researchers Lynn Blewett, Donna Spencer and Nitika Malik compiled three reports as part of a study on "Idaho's Health Care Costs and Options to Improve Health Care Access," a study requested by the Idaho Health Care Task Force. The three reports examined health care costs and trends in Idaho.

The report on Cataloging Public Health Expenditures in Idaho is available at:

<http://www.legislature.idaho.gov/ope/publications/reports/r0712.pdf>

The report on Estimating Private Health Expenditures in Idaho is available at:

<http://www.legislature.idaho.gov/ope/publications/reports/r0713.pdf>

The report on Trends in and Drivers of Health Expenditures in Idaho is available at:

<http://www.legislature.idaho.gov/ope/publications/reports/r0714.pdf>

### **News from the States**

#### **State Surveys: Minnesota Health Access Survey, 2007**

Preliminary results from the 2007 Minnesota Health Access Survey are now available and indicate that the rate of uninsurance among Minnesota residents in 2007 (7.2 percent) remained statistically unchanged from 2004 (7.7 percent). Data on the rates of coverage, sources of insurance, rates of employer-based coverage, and disparities in coverage by race and ethnicities are available. The survey was conducted by Kathleen Call, senior faculty at SHADAC and the Minnesota Department of Health, and included 9,700 Minnesota households. A summary of the results is available at: <http://www.shadac.umn.edu/img/assets/18528/MNAccess2007FactSheet.pdf>

#### **State Surveys: Wisconsin Family Health Survey, 2006**

A full report from the 2006 Wisconsin Family Health Survey are now available. The report includes rates of current health insurance coverage, sources of insurance and comparisons between 2005 and 2006 insurance trends. Comparing 2005 with 2006 estimates, there is no statistically significant difference between the percent of residents without health insurance for all of the past year (5 percent uninsured each year). The survey interviewed respondents in 2,440 households which included 6,523 individuals. The report was compiled by the Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services, Division of Public Health, Bureau of Health Information and Policy.

The report is available at: <http://dhfs.wisconsin.gov/stats/pdf/fhs06ins.pdf>

## **Other News**

### **Lynn Blewett Participates in University of Michigan's Integrated Policy Exercise**

Lynn Blewett was invited to participate in an Integrated Policy Exercise held at the University of Michigan's Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy moderated by Genevieve M. Kenney of the Urban Institute. The topic of this year's policy simulation was "Insuring the Uninsured: Options for Expanding Access to Affordable Health Care." More information on the policy exercise is available at: <http://sitemaker.umich.edu/ipe2008/home>

### **Kelli Johnson Presents at the American Evaluation Association**

SHADAC Center Director, Kelli Johnson along with co-presenters Frances Lawrenz and Lija Greenseid of the University of Minnesota presented "A Case Study of Involvement and Influence: Multi-year Cross-site Evaluation of the National Science Foundation's Collaboratives for Excellence in Teacher Preparation" at the annual meeting of the American Evaluation Association in Baltimore, Maryland on November 8, 2007. More information is available at: <http://cehd.umn.edu/projects/beu/default.html>

### **SHADAC Doctoral Students Win Scholarship**

SHADAC research assistants, Jeanette Ziegenfuss and Peter Graven were awarded student scholarships to attend the 20<sup>th</sup> annual policy conference of the National Academy of Social Insurance (NASI). The conference, "Getting to Universal Health Insurance Coverage" was held January 31/February 1 in Washington, DC.

### **Brian Quinn of RWJF Moderates NASI Panel**

Brian Quinn, SHADAC project officer at the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, moderated a panel at the National Academy of Social Insurance in Washington, DC. The panel titled, "The Role of States in Financing and Implementation of Universal Coverage," included Genevieve Kenney of the Urban Institute, Helen Halpin of the University of California Berkley, and Judith Moore of the National Health Policy Forum.