

The 2016 National Survey of Children's Health reports several variables that include information on the child's health insurance status and insurance type. We strongly recommend that data users interested in current health insurance status and insurance type consider using the derived variables **CURRINS** (Currently Insured), **INSGAP** (Gaps in Coverage), and **INSTYPE** (Insurance Type) in their analyses.

CURRINS is derived primarily from the respondent reported values in K3Q04_R (Health Insurance Coverage – Past 12 Months) and CURRCOV (Health Insurance Coverage – Currently Covered). We indicate that the child is currently insured (CURRINS = 1) if the respondent reported that the child has had coverage for all of the last 12 months (K3Q04_R = 1) or reported that the child is currently covered (CURRCOV = 1), but with an important caveat. If the respondent reported that the child is currently insured but reported only Indian Health Service or health care sharing ministry as the type of coverage, we indicate that the child does not have current insurance coverage (CURRINS = 2). Consequently, a respondent may report that a child is insured, but we consider that the child is not insured.

INSGAP is derived primarily from the respondent reported values in K3Q04_R (Health Insurance Coverage – Past 12 Months) and CURRCOV (Health Insurance Coverage – Currently Covered). We indicate that the child had consistent coverage (INSGAP=1) if the respondent reported that the child has had coverage for all of the last 12 months (K3Q04_R = 1) but with an important caveat. If the respondent reported that the child is currently insured but reported only Indian Health Service or health care sharing ministry as the type of coverage, we indicate that information as to the consistency of the child's coverage was missing (INSGAP = .M).

INSTYPE is derived from CURRINS (Currently Insured) and respondent answers to questions on the coverage type: K12Q03 (Current/Former Employer or Union), K12Q04 (Directly Purchased), K12Q12 (Government Assistance Plan), TRICARE (TRICARE or other military health care), K11Q03 (Indian Health Service) and HCCOVOTH_WRITEIN (Other Type, Write-in). Any insurance reported as coming from an employer or union, directly purchased, TRICARE or other military health care, or the Affordable Care Act is considered private. Coverage from any government assistance plan is considered public. Both the private and public coverage categories reflect a single reported source of coverage; a combined category for children with both public and private coverage is also included.

HCCOVOTH_WRITEIN write-in responses were back-coded to flag public and private insurance types, religious health care sharing ministry, and Indian Health Service coverage. These flags were used in the derivation of CURRINS and INSTYPE. To protect respondent confidentiality, answers to HCCOVOTH_WRITEIN are not reported in the Public Use File.