Children's Defense Fund

Health Coverage for All Children: New Jersey

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All Children Need Health Coverage that is Affordable, Comprehensive, and Simple.

Health Coverage for New Jersey's Children:

- 244,000 children are uninsured (11.3% of all children).
- 581,677 children are enrolled in Medicaid.
- 187,211 children are enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). ***

How affordable is health coverage for New Jersey's children? †

- CHIP eligibility is up to 350 percent of poverty (\$78,225 for a family of four).
- Medicaid eligibility is 185 percent of poverty (\$41,348 for children 0-1, 133 percent of poverty (\$29,726) for children 1-5, and 100 percent of poverty (\$22,350) for children 6-19.

How simple are enrollment procedures in CHIP and Medicaid for New Jersey's children?

- Simplification procedures:
 - 12-month continuous eligibility
 - No face-to-face interview
 - No asset test
 - Presumptive eligibility—which allows children to see a doctor while their application is still being processed
 - Joint application
- Barriers that remain:
 - 3 month waiting period
 - No administrative verification of income—the state requires parents to provide proof of income before a child can get health coverage

U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau 2008, 2009, 2010 Annual Social and Economic Supplement (ASEC) to the Current Population Survey (CPS); Annual Estimates of the Resident Population by Single-Year of age Sex for the United States and States, April 1, 2000 to July 1, 2009, at http://www.census.gov/popest/states/asrh/files/SC-EST2009-AGESEX-RES.csv. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services: Medicaid Statistical Information System, at http://msis.cms.hhs.gov/, accessed January 19, 2011. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund, 1/11.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, CHIP Statistical Enrollment Data Systems (SEDS) forms CMS21E, CMS-64, 21E, CMS-21waiver, October 26, 2010. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund. † Georgetown Center for Children and Families; "State Snapshot—Medicaid and CHIP Eligibility Levels and Enrollment and Renewal Procedures."

http://ccf.georgetown.edu/index/cms-filesystem-action?file=statistics/snapshot.pdf, accessed January 1, 2011.