

MINUTES OF THE SENATE PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman James Barnett at 1:40 P.M. on January 11, 2007 in Room 231-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Pete Brungardt
Vicki Schmidt

Committee staff present:

Emalene Correll, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Terri Weber, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Jim Wilson, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Nabuko Folmsbee, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Morgan Dreyer, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Lawrence Buening - Executive Director, Kansas State Board of Healing Arts
Mary Blubaugh - Executive Administrator, Board of Nursing
Sheldon Weisgrau - Senior Policy Analyst, Kansas Health Institute
Barbara Langer - Associate Professor, KU Med.

Others attending:

See attached list.

Upon calling the meeting to order, Chairman Barnett asked that the Committee review the Minutes for January 10, 2007 for approval at the end of the meeting.

Chairman Barnett then asked for the introduction of bills. Lawrence Buening, Executive Director, Kansas Board of Healing Arts introduced a proposal concerning the state board of healing arts; fingerprinting and criminal history record checks. A handout of the bill draft was passed out to the Committee. A copy of his bill draft is (Attachment 1) attached hereto and incorporated into the Minutes as referenced.

Senator Palmer motioned to adopt the introduced bill. Senator Journey seconded the motion and the motion carried.

The Chair then called upon Mary Blubaugh, Executive Administration, Board of Nursing, who introduced four bills to the Committee. The four bills introduced present proposals concerning the following topics.

1. Fingerprints - no statute number
2. Composition of the Board of Nursing: 741106
3. Elimination of graduate status: 651124
4. Four statutes: RN/LPN :651116, 651132, 651155, 651205

The drafts of these bills were not available at the time of the meeting.

Senator Jordan motioned to adopt the introduced bill. Senator Palmer seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Presentation on Who are the Uninsured in Kansas

Chairman Barnett then called upon Sheldon Weisgrau, Senior Policy Analyst, Kansas Health Institute who presented information and statistics on the uninsured in Kansas. Highlights of his presentation included:

1. Why is Health Insurance Important?
2. Kansans with Health Insurance Have Better Access to Services and are Healthier than Uninsured Kansans
3. Sources of Health Insurance for Kansans, 2004-2005
4. The Cost of Health Insurance is Rising Rapidly

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee at 1:30 P.M. on January 11, 2007 in Room 231-N of the Capitol.

5. The percentage of Employers that Offer Health Insurance has Declined
6. The Uninsurance Rate in Kansas is Lower than the U.S. Rate
7. Problems Persist Despite the Low Uninsurance Rate in Kansas
8. Working Age Kansas Adults are Uninsured at a Higher Rate than Children
9. The Number and Percentage of Uninsured Kansas Children Increased in 2004-2005 After Several Years of Decline
10. Young Adult Kansans are Uninsured at a Higher Rate than Older Adults
11. Young Adults Comprise One-Third of Uninsured Working Age Kansans, 2004-2005
12. Racial/Ethnic Minority Kansans are More Likely to be Uninsured than Non-Hispanic Whites
13. Racial/Ethnic Minority Kansans are Uninsured at Rates Disproportionate to Their Presence in the Population, 2004-2005
14. The Uninsurance Rate is Higher at Lower Levels of Household Income
15. The Uninsurance Rate is Higher at Higher Poverty Levels
16. Percent of County Population Without Health Insurance Coverage, 2000

A copy of his presentation is (Attachment 2) attached hereto and incorporated into the Minutes as referenced.

The Chair asked for questions or comments from the Committee. Questions came from Senators Palmer, Barnett, Haley and Wagle regarding, definitions, criteria, why is such a large number of children uninsured, why young people choose to not be uninsured, rates of the Hispanic population uninsured, Healthwave, insurance coverage at the Emergency Room.

Presentation on Uninsured Kansans: A Demographic Profile

The Chairman then called upon Barbara Langer, Associate Professor, KU Med. Who presented graphs and statistics on the uninsured demographic profiles in Kansas. Highlights of his presentation included:

1. Research Grants Support
2. 2000 State Planning Grant Project Objectives
3. Sample Design
4. SPG Regions in Kansans
5. The Survey Process
6. Percentage of Kansans Residents Who Do Not Have Health Insurance
7. Uninsurance Kansans under Age 65 by Region
8. Uninsured Adults by Region
9. Uninsured Children by Region
10. Uninsured Kansans under Age 65, Statewide and by Region, Percent of Total # of Uninsured Kansans in Each Region
11. Uninsured Kansans Statewide and By Region, with Population Estimates
12. Length of Time Without Health Coverage, Uninsured Kansans under Age 65
13. Informant Counties
14. Primary Themes
15. The Uninsured Population
16. Uninsured Kansans under Age 65 by Specific Age Category
17. Uninsured Kansans under Age 65 by Race and Ethnicity, Distribution and Population Size
18. Uninsured Kansans under Age 65 by Income as a Percent of FPL, and Distribution of Uninsured
19. Uninsured Kansans Age 18-64 by Employment Status and Distribution of Uninsured
20. Uninsured Working Adults by Income Level
21. Uninsured Full-Time Employed Kansans Age 18-64 by size of Firm
22. Uninsured Working Adults by Industry Type
23. Uninsured Working Adults: Employer-Based Health Insurance Coverage Offers
24. Offers of Employment-Based Health Insurance Coverage: Family Coverage vs. Employee-Only Coverage
25. Health Insurance Offers by Firm Type
26. Percent of Employed Kansans Age 18-64 Who Report that Their Employer Offers Health Insurance

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee at 1:30 P.M. on January 11, 2007 in Room 231-N of the Capitol.

Coverage

27. Enrollment of Employed Kansans Age 18-64 Who Are Eligible for Employment-Based Insurance
28. Most Uninsured Kansans have a Linkage to the Workforce
29. Small Business Health Insurance Survey Findings
30. Rising Cost of Health Insurance
31. Impact on Small Employers
32. Firms Offering Health Insurance
33. Firms Not Offering Health Insurance

A copy of her presentation is (Attachment 3) attached hereto and incorporated into the Minutes as referenced.

The Chair asked for questions or comments from the Committee. Questions came from Senators Palmer and Barnett regarding, cost vs. coverage, less quality coverage, individual market study, small businesses, pre-tax dollars.

Introduction of Bills

Chairman Barnett thanked his guest speakers and proceeded to introduce a bill for Senator Vratil who was unable to attend the Committee meeting. The proposal concerns the Cleveland College of Chiropractic Medicine.

The draft of this bill was not available at the time of the meeting.

Senator Jordan motioned to adopt the introduced bill. Senator Palmer seconded the motion and the motion carried.

The Chair announced that the final item on the agenda was for the Minutes to be approved for the Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee for January 10, 2007.

The motion was made by Senator Haley to approve the Minutes. It was seconded by Senator Palmer and the motion carried.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:25p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 16, 2007

Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee

Jan. 11, 2007

Please Sign In

Cynthia Smith

SCL Health System

Fred Lucky

KANSAS HOSP ASSN

Michael White

Senate President's office

Karl Wenger

Kearney + Associates

Corrie Edwards

KS Health Care Coalition

Karla Finnell

KAMLL

Cara M. Greve

KAMLL

Suzanne Winkle

Kansas Action for Children

CHRIS SHEPARD

DAMRON & ASSOCIATES

Luke Thompson

KHPA

Tom Bell

KHA

Michelle Peterson

Capital Strategies

Jimm Rose

KCSL

Orly Ellen Cortez

Via Christi Health System

Dail

Kansas

Dorde Hein

Hein Law Firm

Paul Jones

Vindict Healthcare

Dell Morrissey

KDAE

John Jones

KOMF

Alan Cottrell Jones

University of Kansas

SENATE BILL NO. _____

By

Lawrence Buening
exe. Dir.
KS State Board Healing
Arts

AN ACT concerning the state board of healing arts; fingerprinting and criminal history record checks.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1. (a) As part of an application for or reinstatement of any license, registration, permit or certificate or in connection with any investigation of any holder of a license, registration, permit or certificate, the state board of healing arts may require a person to be fingerprinted and submit to a state and national criminal history record check. The fingerprints shall be used to identify the person and to determine whether the person has a record of criminal history in this state or other jurisdiction. The state board of healing arts is authorized to submit the fingerprints to the Kansas bureau of investigation and the federal bureau of investigation for a state and national criminal history record check. The state board of healing arts may use the information obtained from fingerprinting and the criminal history for purposes of verifying the identification of the person and in the official determination of the qualifications and fitness of the person to be issued or to maintain a license, registration, permit or certificate.

(b) Local and state law enforcement officers and agencies shall assist the state board of healing arts in taking and processing of fingerprints of applicants for and holders of any license, registration, permit or certificate and shall release all records of adult and juvenile convictions, adjudications, expungements and nonconvictions to the state board of healing arts.

(c) The state board of healing arts may fix and collect a fee as may be required by the board in an amount necessary to reimburse the board for the cost of fingerprinting and the criminal history

Senate Public Health and Welfare
Attachment #1
January 11, 2007
Committee

record check. Any moneys collected under this subsection shall be deposited in the state treasury and credited to the healing arts fee fund.

Sec. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.



Health Insurance in Kansas: The Uninsured

Sheldon Weisgrau
Kansas Health Institute
January 11, 2007

Senate Public Health and Welfare
Attachment #2
January 11, 2007
Committee



Acknowledgements



Sunflower Foundation
HEALTH CARE FOR KANSAS





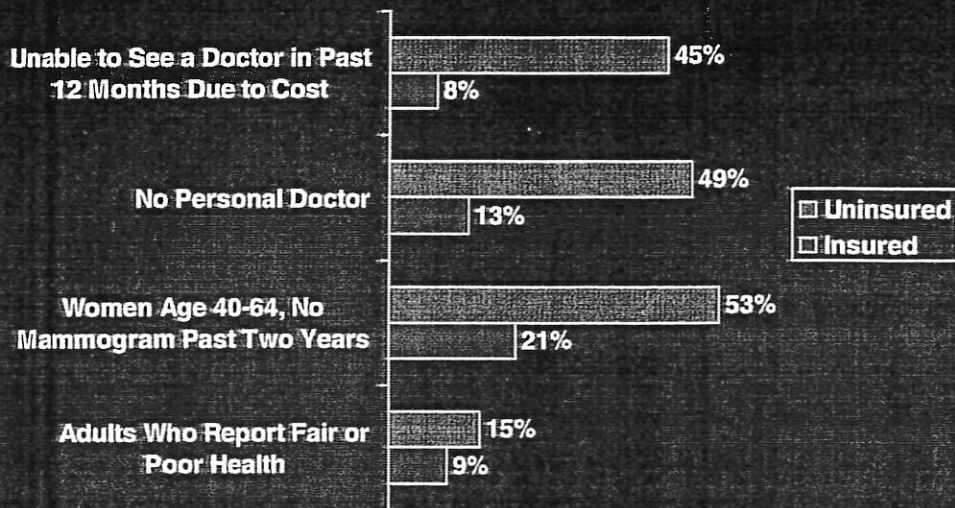
Why is Health Insurance Important?

- Health insurance provides protection from the financial burden of costly illness or injury
- Kansans with health insurance have better access to services and are healthier than uninsured Kansans



Kansans with Health Insurance Have Better Access to Services and are Healthier than Uninsured Kansans

Kansas Adults Reporting Barriers to Care, 2004

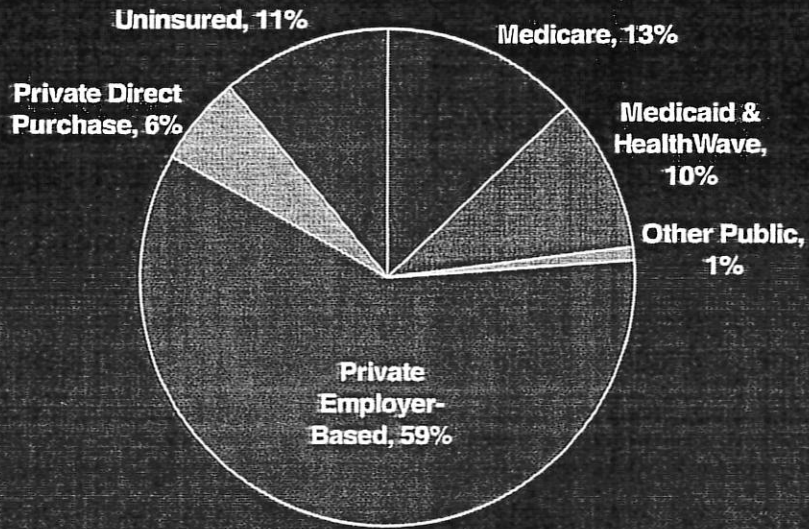


Source: State Health Access Data Assistance Center

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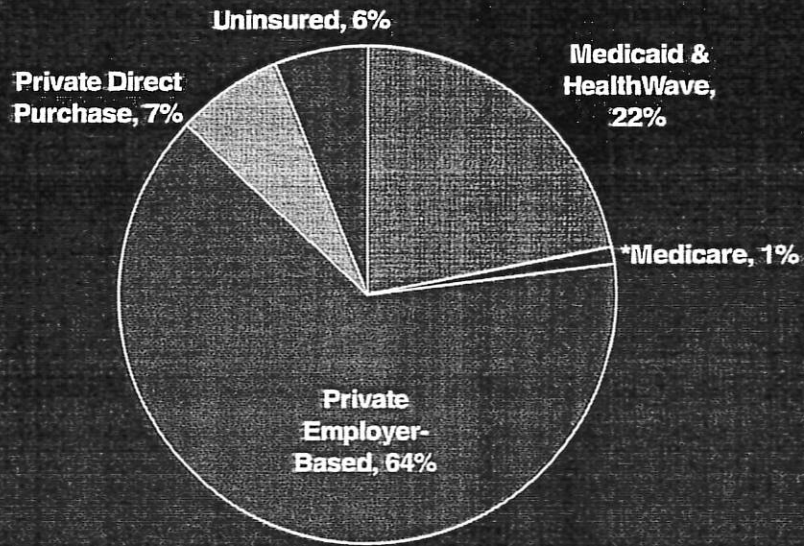
Sources of Health Insurance for Kansans, 2004-2005



Sources: Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured; U.S. Census Bureau



Sources of Health Insurance for Kansas Children, 2004-2005



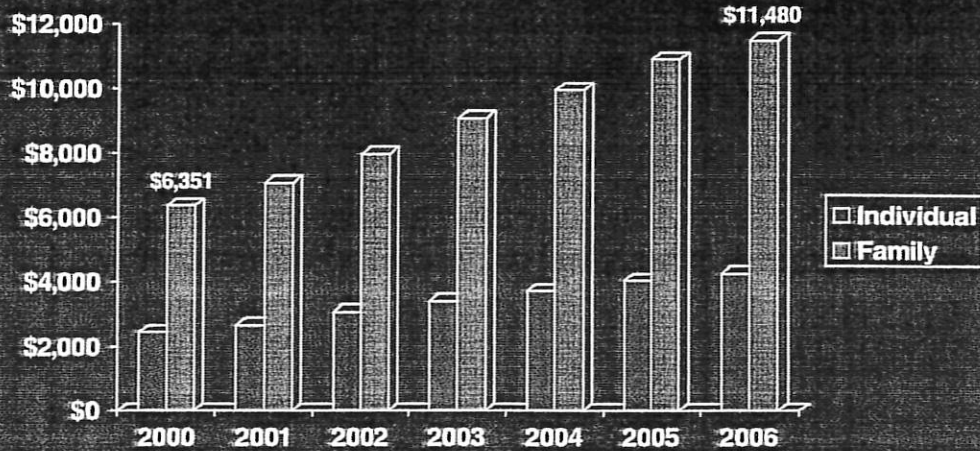
*Although primarily a program for the elderly, Medicare also covers a small number of children with chronic renal disease and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (i.e., ALS or Lou Gehrig's disease)

Source: Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured



The Cost of Health Insurance is Rising Rapidly

Average Annual Premiums for an Employer-Sponsored Health Insurance Policy

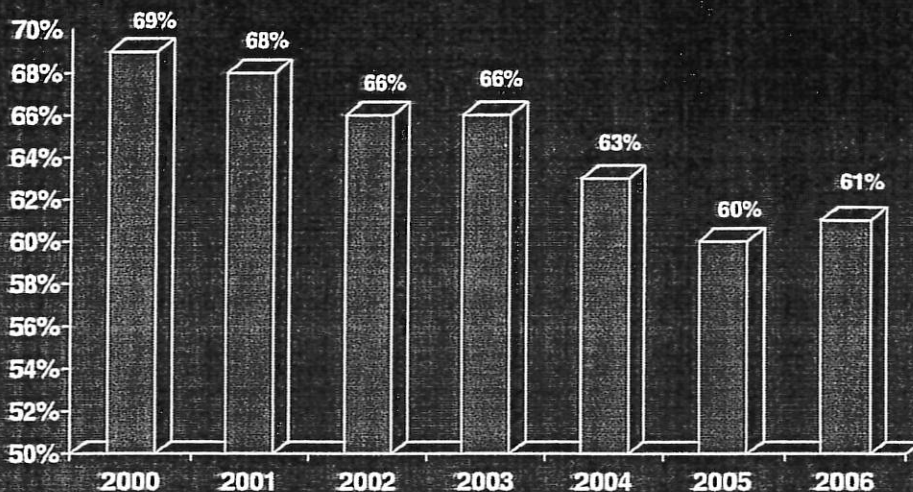


Source: Kaiser Family Foundation and Health Research and Education Trust



The Percentage of Employers that Offer Health Insurance has Declined

Percent of Employers Offering Health Benefits

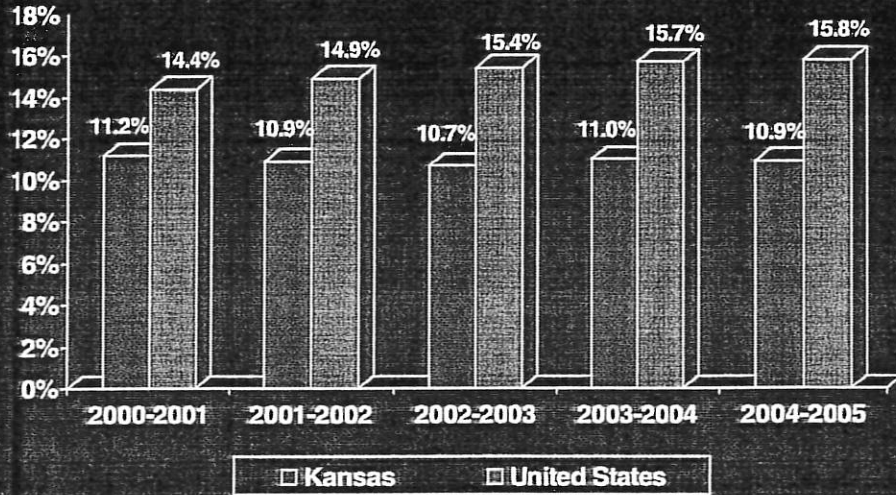


Source: Kaiser Family Foundation and Health Research and Education Trust



The Uninsurance Rate in Kansas is Lower than the U.S. Rate

Percent of Population that is Uninsured



Source: U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey



Problems Persist Despite the Low Uninsurance Rate in Kansas

- The number and rate of uninsured Kansas children increased in 2004-2005
 - 71% of uninsured children are eligible for Medicaid or HealthWave
- Young adult Kansans are uninsured at relatively high rates
- Racial/ethnic minorities are more likely to be uninsured than non-Hispanic White Kansans

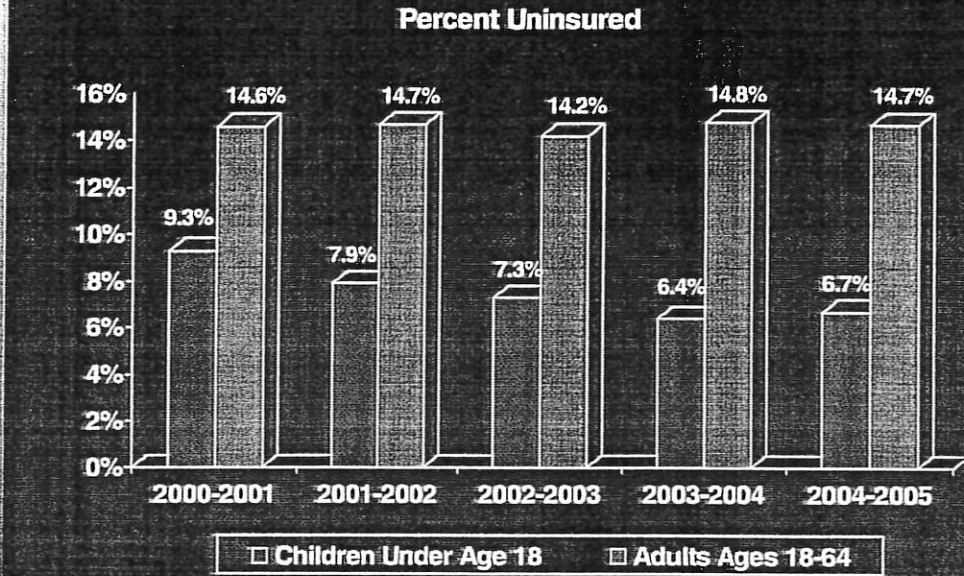


Problems Persist Despite the Low Uninsurance Rate in Kansas (continued)

- Low income Kansans and those who live in poverty are more likely to be uninsured than higher income Kansans
- Most of the counties with the highest uninsurance rates are located in southwest Kansas
- There are about 300,000 uninsured Kansans



Working Age Kansas Adults are Uninsured at a Higher Rate than Children



Source: U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey



The Number and Percentage of Uninsured Kansas Children Increased in 2004-2005 After Several Years of Decline

	2000-2001	2001-2002	2002-2003	2003-2004	2004-2005
Number of uninsured children	61,350	53,059	51,319	44,617	46,115
Percentage of children who are uninsured	9.3%	7.9%	7.3%	6.4%	6.7%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey



Young Adult Kansans are Uninsured at a Higher Rate than Older Adults

Percent of Age Group that is Uninsured

	Ages 18-25	Ages 26-34	Ages 35-44	Ages 45-54	Ages 55-64
2004-2005	24%	18%	14%	8%	9%
2003-2004	25%	17%	12%	10%	11%
2002-2003	22%	19%	11%	9%	11%
2001-2002	24%	21%	12%	9%	10%
2000-2001	23%	19%	12%	10%	10%

- Ages 18-25
- Ages 26-34
- Ages 35-44
- Ages 45-54
- Ages 55-64

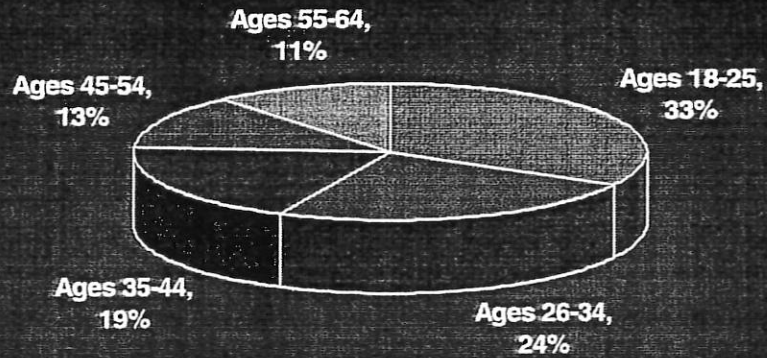
Source: U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey

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Young Adults Comprise One-Third of Uninsured Working Age Kansans, 2004-2005

Uninsured Kansas Adults by Age Group

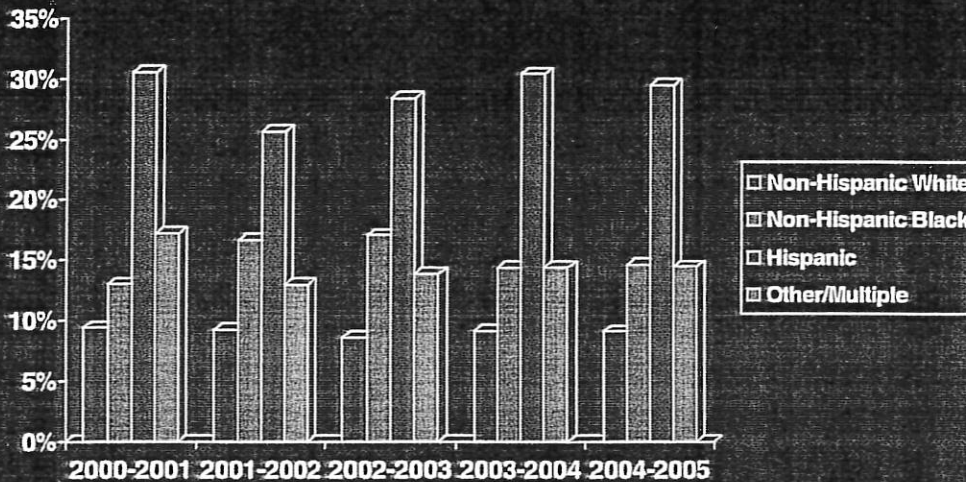


Source: U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey



Racial/Ethnic Minority Kansans are More Likely to be Uninsured than Non-Hispanic Whites

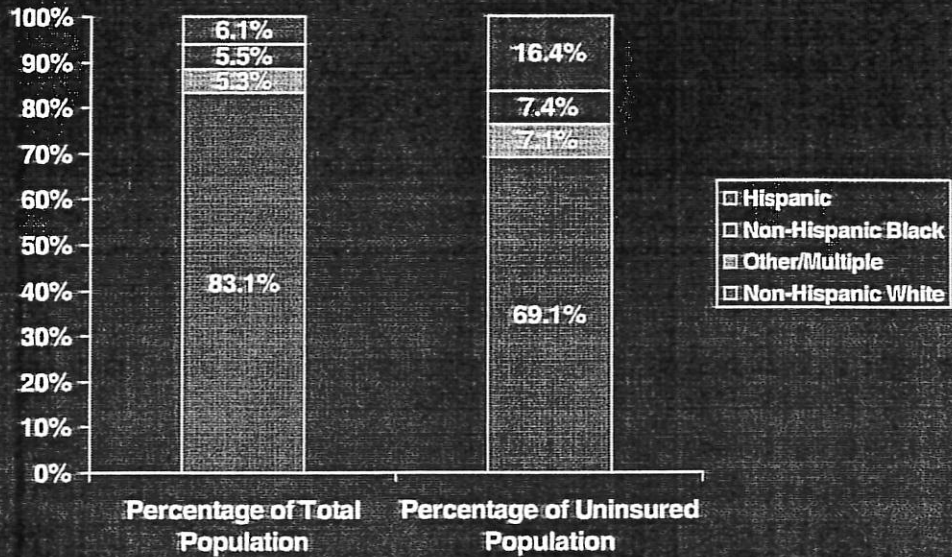
Percent of Racial/Ethnic Group that is Uninsured



Source: U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey



Racial/Ethnic Minority Kansans are Uninsured at Rates Disproportionate to Their Presence in the Population, 2004-2005

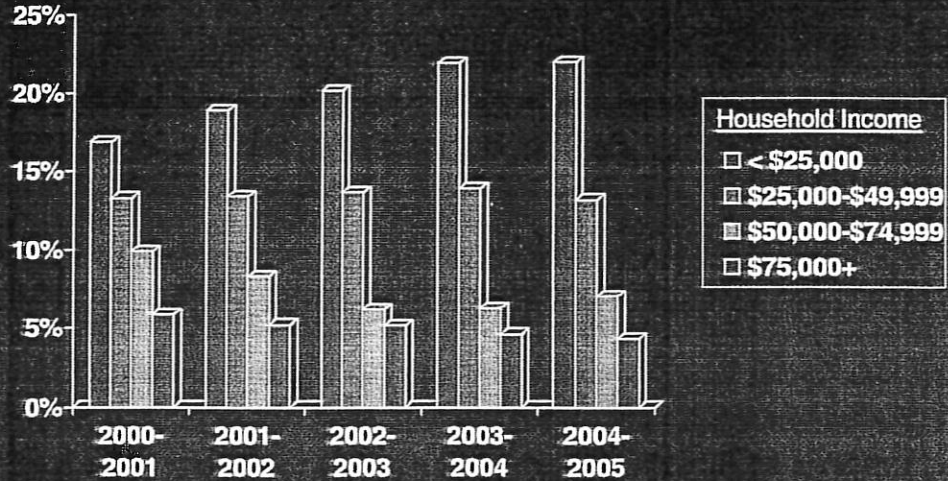


Source: U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey



The Uninsurance Rate is Higher at Lower Levels of Household Income

Percent Uninsured by Annual Household Income

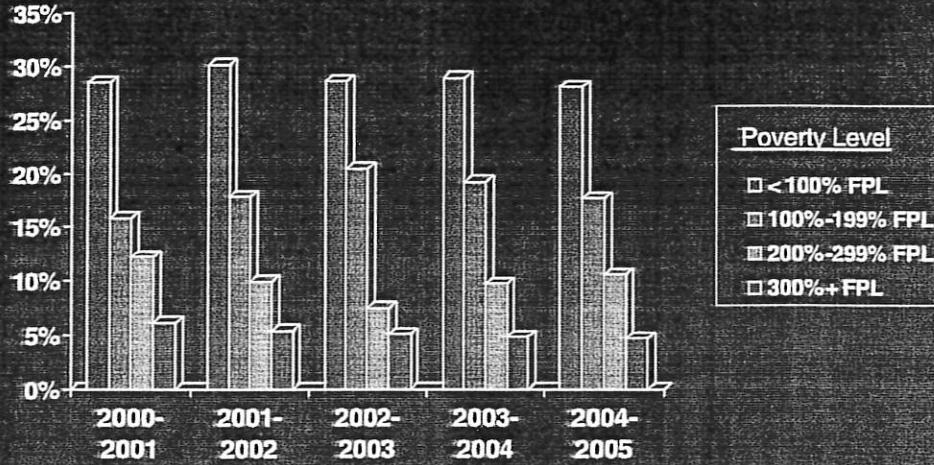


Source: U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey



The Uninsurance Rate is Higher at Higher Poverty Levels

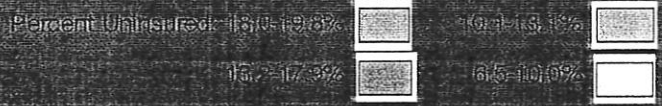
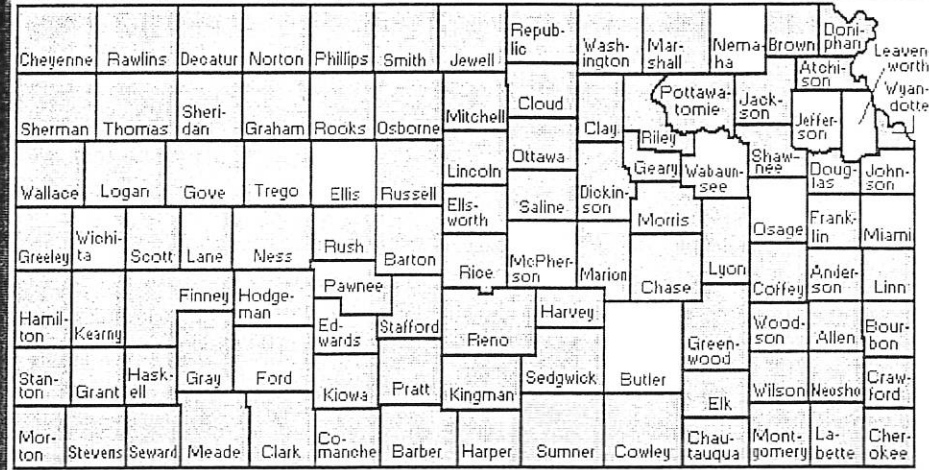
Percent Uninsured by Poverty Level



Source: U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey



Percent of County Population Without Health Insurance Coverage, 2000

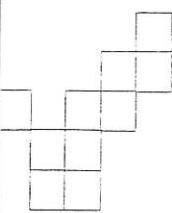


Source: U.S. Census Bureau Small Area Health Insurance Estimates



Kansas Health Institute

*Healthier Kansans through
informed decisions*



Uninsured Kansans: A Demographic Profile

Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee
January 11, 2007

Research Grants Support

- 2000 State Planning Grant awarded to the Kansas Insurance Department
- 2003 State Planning Grant Supplement to KID
- 2004 Commonwealth Fund/Sunflower Foundation/United Methodist Health Ministries Fund to KUMC
- 2004 State Planning Grant Pilot Project to KID
- 2005 State Planning Grant Supplement to KID

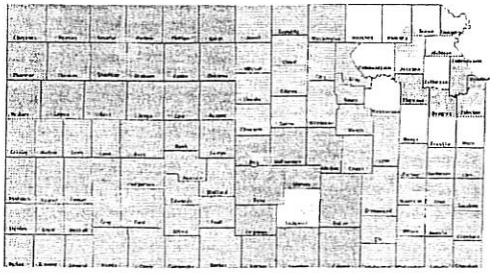
2000 STATE PLANNING GRANT PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- Identify policy-significant characteristics of uninsured Kansans
- Use this information to develop alternative strategies for access to affordable health coverage
- Assess which of these strategies are most likely to be effective among which subpopulations of the uninsured
- Estimate likely enrollment and public costs under alternative strategies

Sample Design

- Target: 8,000 interviews
- State divided into 10 regions
- Oversampled for Blacks, Hispanics, low-income households
- $\pm .6$ percentage points at the 95% confidence interval for statewide estimates

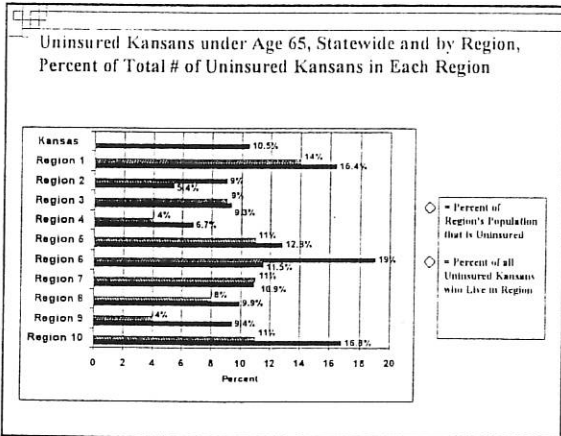
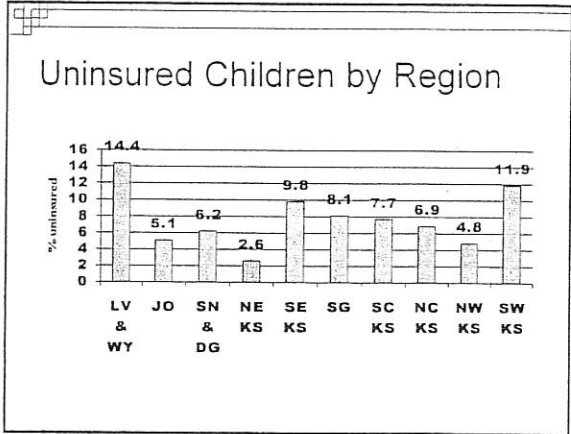
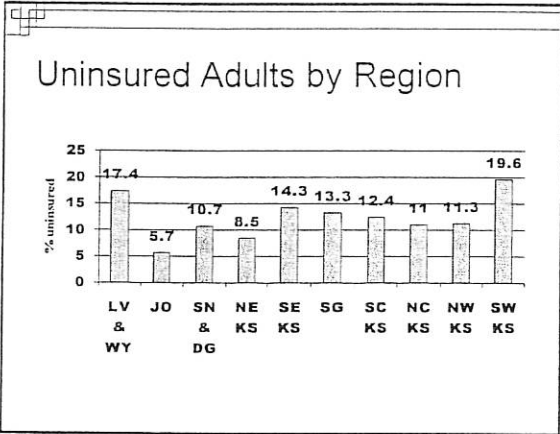
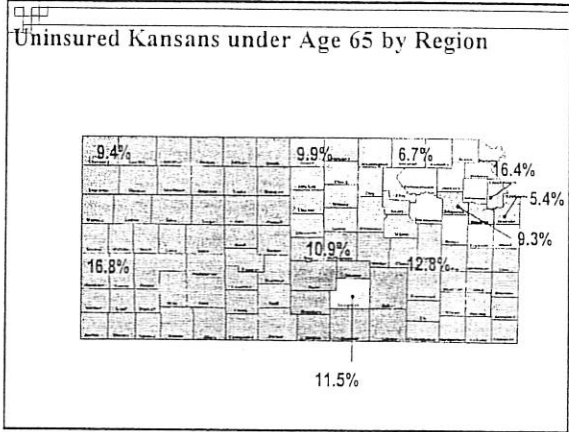
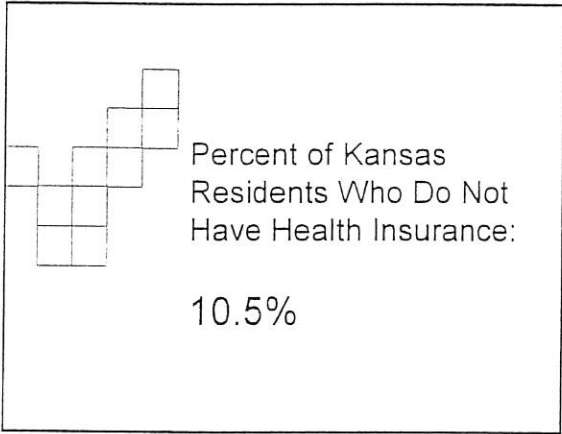
SPG Regions in Kansas



The Survey Process

- Conducted from March-June 2001
- Interviewed 8,004 households
- Data on 22,694 individuals
- Completed interviews in every county in the state
- Conducted in both English and Spanish

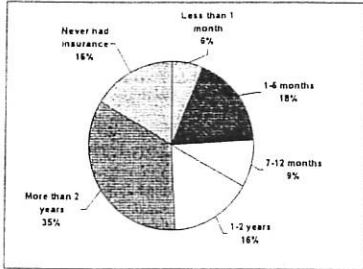
senate Public Health and Welfare
Attachment # 3
January 11, 2007
Committee



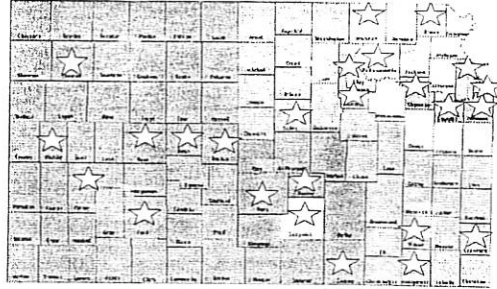
Uninsured Kansans Statewide and By Region, with Population Estimates

Region	Percent of Region's Population that is Uninsured	Number of Uninsured People in Region*	Percent of all Uninsured Kansans who Live in Region*
Kansas	10.5%	244,880	100%
Region 1	16.4%	33,011	14%
Region 2	5.4%	21,925	9%
Region 3	9.3%	22,186	9%
Region 4	6.7%	10,402	4%
Region 5	12.8%	27,790	11%
Region 6	11.5%	46,149	19%
Region 7	10.9%	26,334	11%
Region 8	9.9%	19,347	8%
Region 9	9.4%	10,437	4%
Region 10	16.8%	27,623	11%

Length of Time Without Health Coverage, Uninsured Kansans under Age 65



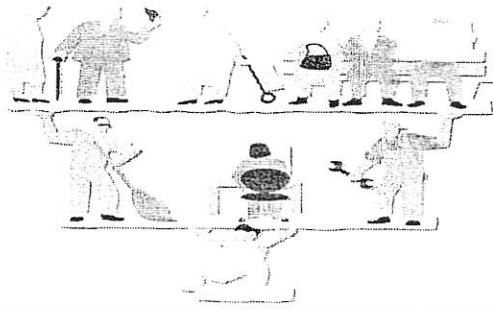
Informant Counties



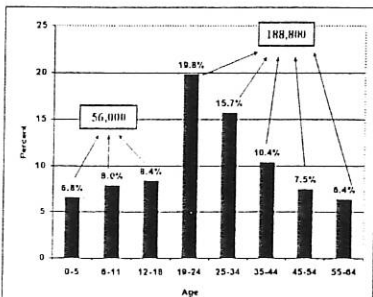
Primary Themes

- Holes in the safety net
- Downward spiral into disaster
- Gamble with their health
- Bargain for healthcare
- Value health insurance

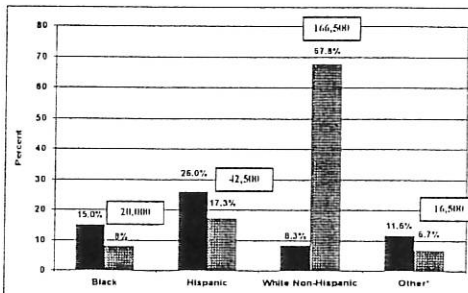
THE UNINSURED POPULATION



Uninsured Kansans under Age 65 by Specific Age Category

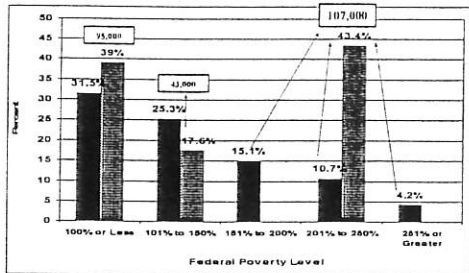


Uninsured Kansans under Age 65 by Race and Ethnicity, Distribution and Population Size

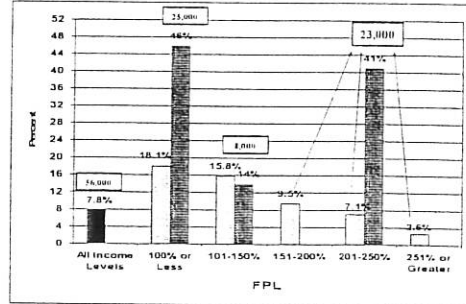


* Includes American Indians, Asians, and mixed race

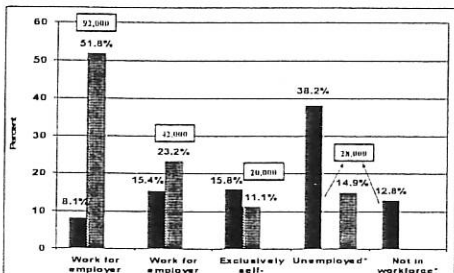
Uninsured Kansans under Age 65 by Income as a Percent of FPL, and Distribution of Uninsured



Uninsured Kansas Children 65 by Income as a Percent of FPL, and Distribution of Uninsured

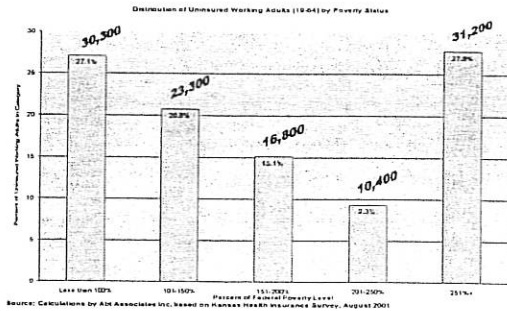


Uninsured Kansans Age 18-64 by Employment Status and Distribution of Uninsured



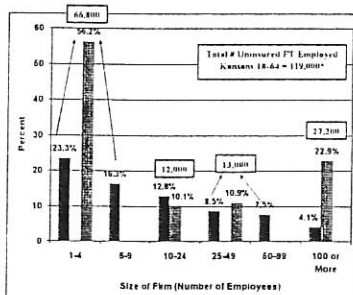
* Unemployed people are actively seeking for a job. Those not in the workforce include retirees, students, parents at home and others who are not presently seeking for employment. Full-time employment is 35 or more hours a week.

Uninsured Working Adults by Income Level

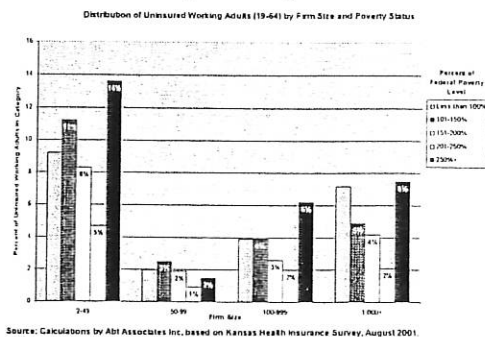


Source: Calculations by ABI Associates Inc. based on Kansas Health Insurance Survey, August 2001

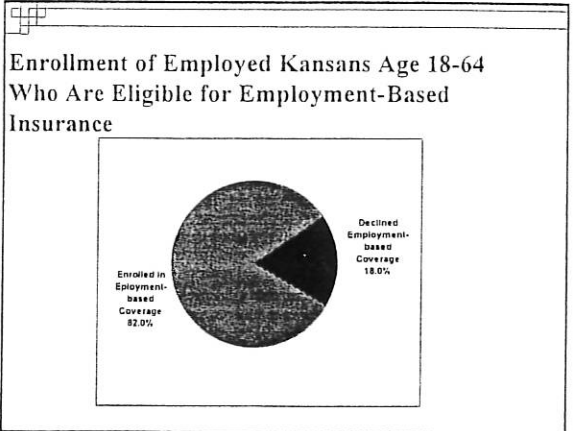
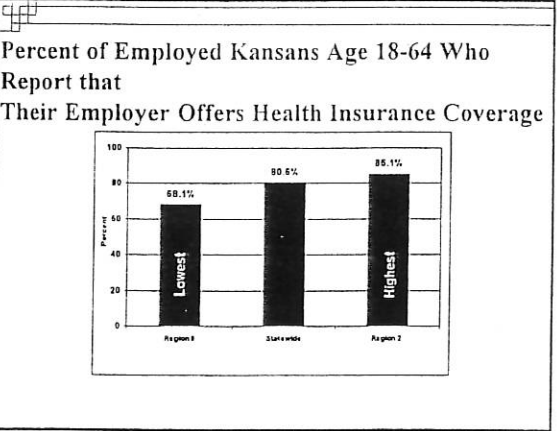
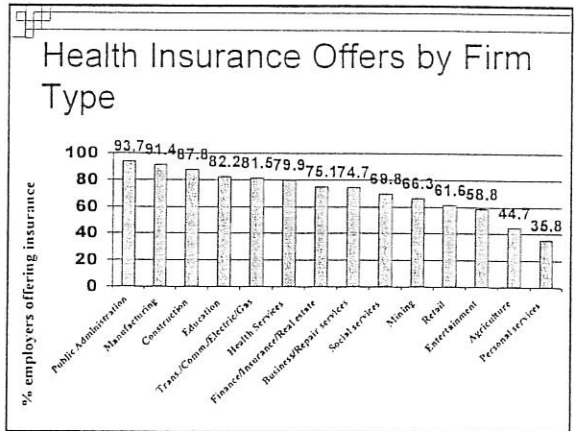
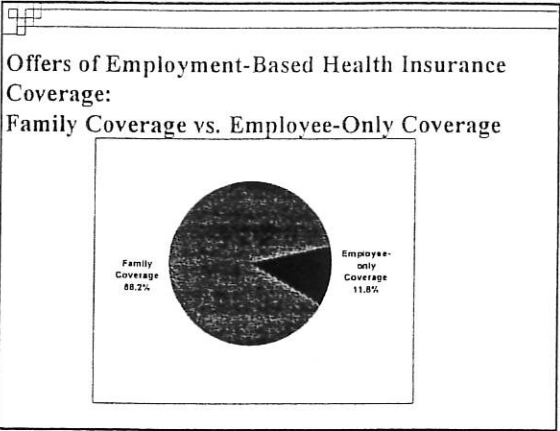
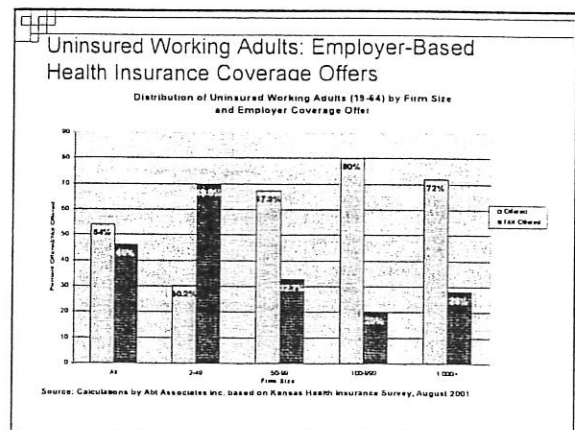
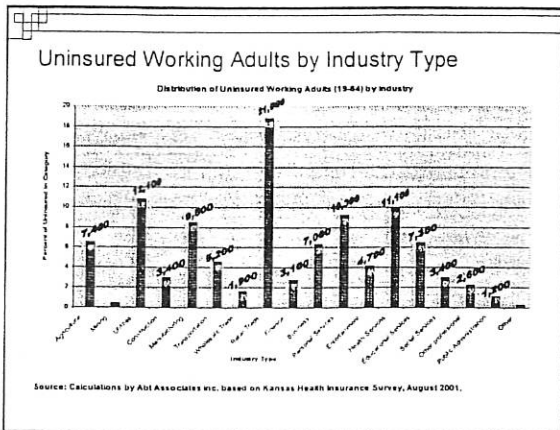
Uninsured Full-Time Employed Kansans Age 18-64 by Size of Firm

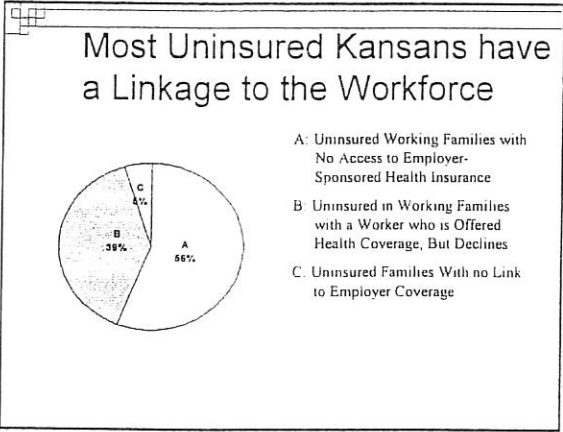


Uninsured Working Adults by Firm Size



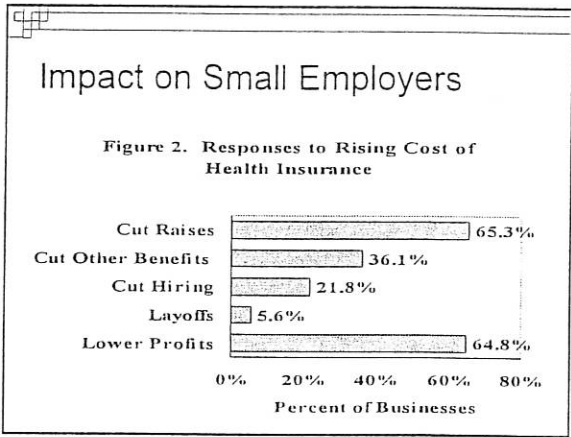
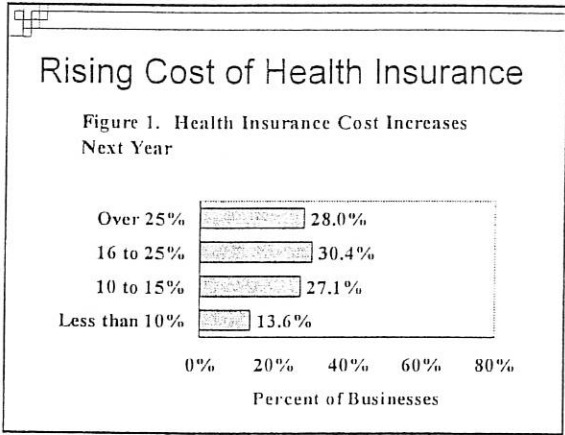
Source: Calculations by ABI Associates Inc. based on Kansas Health Insurance Survey, August 2001.





Small Business Health Insurance Survey Findings

	Offered	Did Not Offer
# Employees *	15.3	7.8
Avg FT Salary *	\$26,788	\$22,549
Avg Age Employee	41.1	41.2
Female %	45.3	44.1
Hispanic %	4.5	7.3
African-American %	2.4	2.5
Short-term %	25.0	31.2
College Req. % *	27.4	9.4
HS not Req. % *	9.2	20.6



- ### Firms Offering Health Insurance
- 51.4% of small employers pay full premium for employee
 - 95% of small employers pay more than \$100/employee/month
 - 75% of employers indicate that the employee premium share is \$100 or less per month

- ### Firms Not Offering Health Insurance
- 68% said that employers should offer
 - 66% indicated that cost was the main reason they did not offer
 - 36% would pay up to \$100/month/employee for health insurance