

WASHINGTON STATE  
POPULATION SURVEY

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Health Insurance by Work  
Characteristics: 2006

By Erica Gardner

According to the 2006 Washington State Population Survey, 87 percent of non-elderly adults (aged 19 to 64)<sup>1</sup> had some form of health insurance at the time of the survey (see Figure 1a). Most adults reported only one health insurance plan (75 percent). However, just under 13 percent reported more than one health insurance plan.

The majority of adults obtained their health insurance through their spouse's or their own employer or labor union (see Figure 1b). Nine percent of adults reported they purchased their own plan, seven percent reported they had coverage through Medicaid, two percent reported they had coverage through Washington State's Basic Health Care Plan, and 13 percent reported they were covered by Medicare, a military health plan, someone outside the household, or another type of plan.

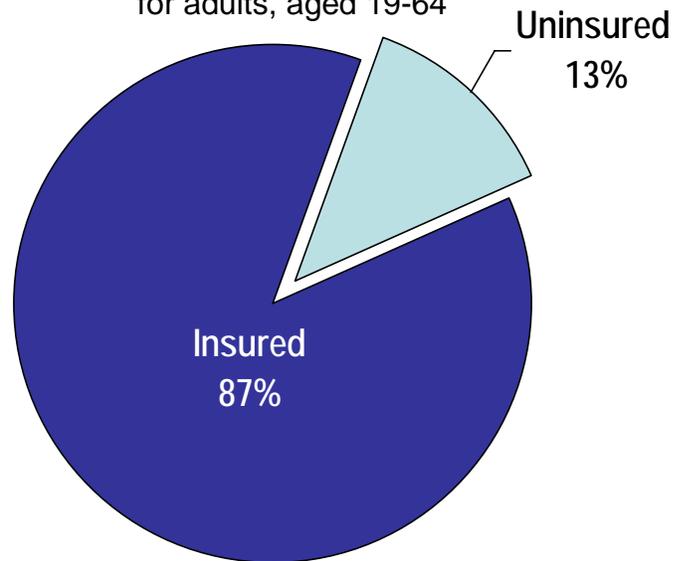
In order to better understand the factors associated with different types of health insurance, the relationship between health insurance status and employment characteristics is explored. The factors examined include labor force status, family income, hours, type of employer, size of employer, industry, and union status. Since married individuals can obtain employer based health insurance through their spouse's or their own work, the relationship between hours worked and health insurance will also be examined by marital status.

**Health Insurance Status By Labor Force Status and Family Income**

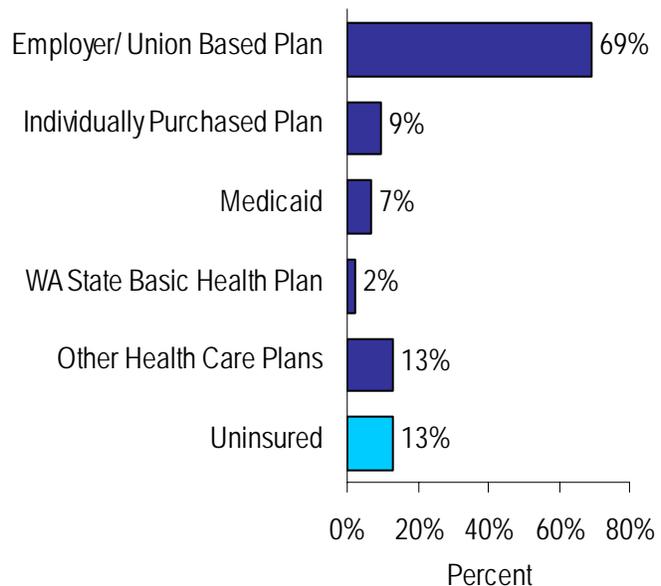
**Labor Force Status**

The largest source of health insurance was employer or union based health insurance so it is not surprising that labor force status was strongly related to both the presence and type of health insurance.

**Figure 1a: Health Insurance Status for adults, aged 19-64**



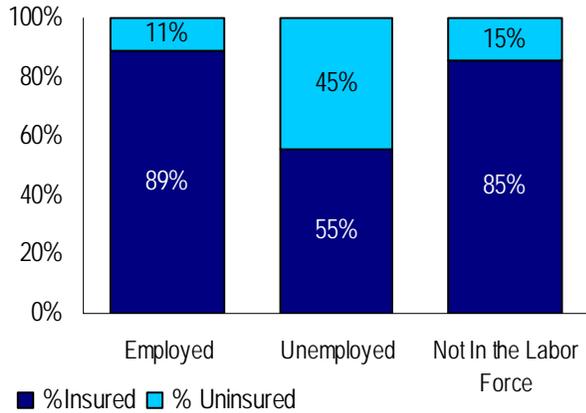
**Figure 1b: Health Insurance by Plan for adults, aged 19-64**



Note: Figure totals do not add up to 100 percent because 13 percent of survey respondents report more than one health insurance plan at the same time.

The Washington State Population Survey was conducted in the spring of 2006 to provide social, demographic, and economic information about Washington. Responses were obtained from telephone interviews of 7,082 households that represented the state as a whole. The survey was designed by the Office of Financial Management (OFM) and conducted by the Gilmore Research Institute. More information about the state survey is available at: <http://www.ofm.wa.gov/sps/default.asp>. Data version 2006v2 is used in this analysis.

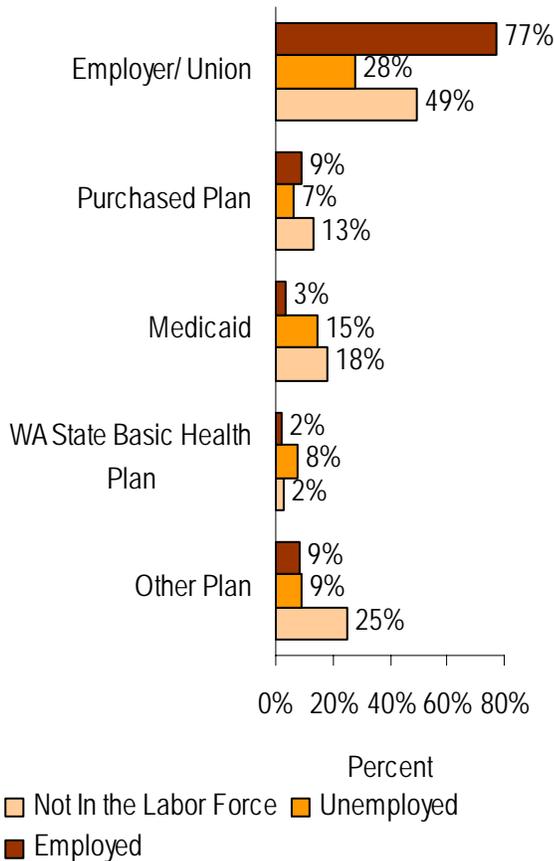
**Figure 2a: Health Insurance by Labor Force Status**  
for adults, aged 19-64



Labor force status has three possible categories: employed, unemployed, and not in the labor force. Adults who were working are “employed.” Those adults who were not working but looking for work are “unemployed.” The first two categories make up those in the labor force. Adults who were not working and not looking for work are “not in the labor force.”

The employed and those not in the labor force had relatively high rates of health insurance coverage compared to the unemployed (see Figure 2a). Eighty-nine percent of the employed and 85 percent of those not in the labor force had health insurance coverage at the time of the survey. Only 55 percent of the unemployed had health insurance coverage at the time of the survey, leaving 45 percent of the unemployed uninsured.

**Figure 2b: Type of Health Insurance Plan by Labor Force Status**  
for adults, aged 19-64



Those who were employed were more likely to be enrolled in employer or union based health insurance compared to the unemployed and those who were not in the labor force (see Figure 2b). Seventy-seven percent of the employed were enrolled in employer or union based health insurance, compared to 28 percent of the unemployed and 49 percent of those who were not in the labor force.

Why was employer or union based health insurance coverage higher for those who were not in the labor force (49 percent) than it was for those who were unemployed (28 percent)? The higher employer or union based coverage among those not in the labor force can primarily be explained by working spouses covering non-working spouses.

The unemployed were less likely to be enrolled in other types of health insurance plans compared to adults who were not in the labor force.

**Family Income**

Health insurance and health insurance type varied significantly across different family income levels. Figure 3a shows those adults with family incomes that were 50,000 dollars or more had a much higher percentage of health insurance coverage than adults with family incomes less than 15,000 dollars (97 percent versus 66 percent respectively). (The federal poverty level (FPL) was defined as 16,090 dollars for a family of

Figure reads: Seventy-seven percent of employed adults were enrolled in an employer or union based health insurance plan.

Note: The percentages in this figure do not add up to the total health insurance coverage within each labor force status (see Figure 2a) because some survey respondents reported more than one form of coverage.

three in 2005.<sup>2</sup> Washington State’s median family income was 60,077 dollars in 2005.<sup>3</sup>)

Adults with higher family incomes were much more likely to be enrolled in employer or union based health insurance. Eighty-seven percent of adults whose family income was 50,000 dollars or more received health insurance through an employer or union, compared to 30 percent of adults with family incomes less than 15,000 dollars (see Figure 3b).

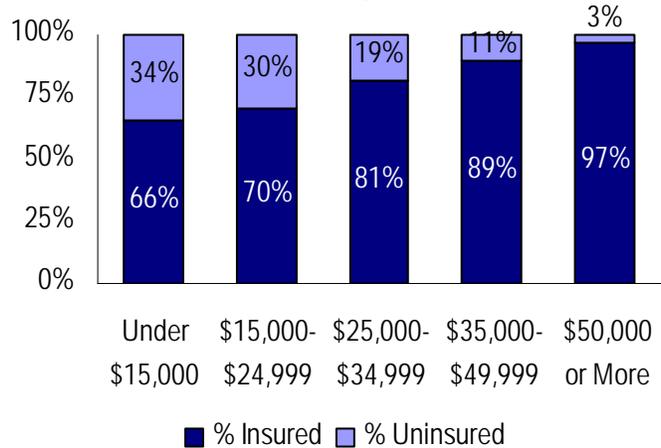
The percentage of adults who purchased their health insurance plans varied little across the income categories examined. Between five and 13 percent of individuals aged 19 to 64 had purchased their own plan. As family income increases to 50,000 dollars, so does the likelihood that an adult 19 to 64 purchased their own health insurance. At family incomes of 50,000 dollars or more, the rate of purchased plans declines slightly (the decline is not statistically significant), perhaps because there is less need for purchased coverage due to the high rate of employer or union based coverage experienced by this group.

Twenty-three percent of adults with family income under 15,000 dollars were covered by Medicaid compared to only one percent of those with income over 50,000 dollars. (Adults with higher family incomes can qualify for Medicaid under certain circumstances.<sup>4</sup>) The higher Medicaid enrollment among lower income adults is not surprising because adults qualifying for need-based Medicaid coverage have incomes in the lower income ranges.

The percentage of adults who reported being enrolled in the Washington State Basic Health Plan ranged from one percent at the highest family income category to six percent among adults with family incomes between 15,000 dollars and 24,999 dollars.<sup>5</sup>

Those adults with family income over 50,000 dollars were less likely to be enrolled in another plan, such as Medicare, military health insurance, or plans provided by someone outside the house, compared to those adults with family income under 25,000 dollars. Sixteen percent of adults with incomes under 15,000 dollars and 17

**Figure 3a: Health Insurance by Family Income**  
for adults, aged 19-64



**Figure 3b: Health Insurance by Family Income**  
For adults, aged 19-64

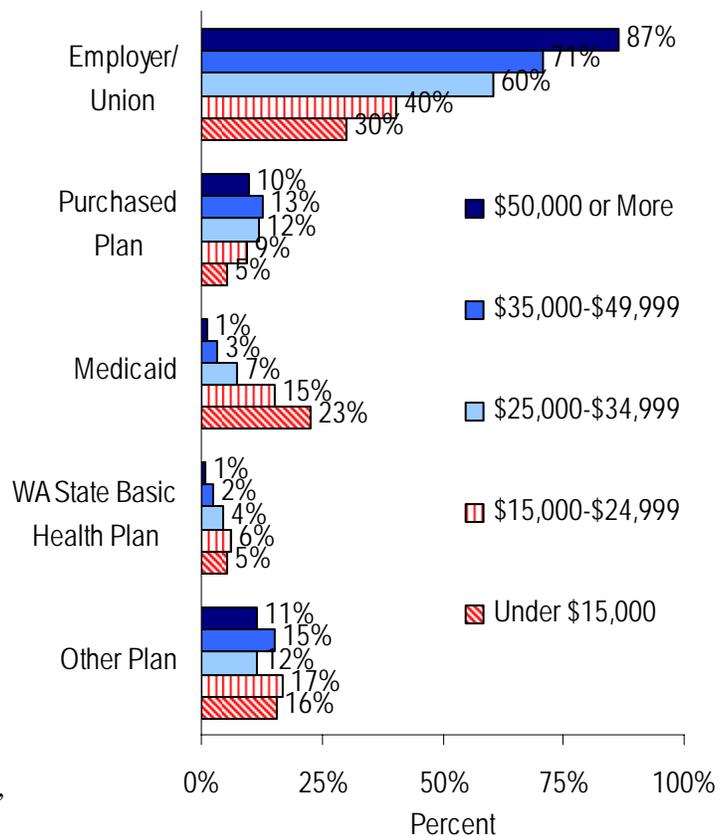


Figure reads: Eighty-six percent of adults with family incomes that were 50,000 dollars or more were enrolled in an employer or union based health insurance plan.

Note: The percentages in this figure do not add up to the total health insurance coverage within each income category (see Figure 3a) because some survey respondents reported more than one form of coverage.

percent of adults with income between 15,000 dollars and 24,999 reported other types of health care plans compared to 11 percent for adults earning 50,000 dollars or more.

## **Health Insurance Status by the Work Characteristics of the Employed**

In this next section the health insurance status of employed adults (including the self-employed) is examined by type of employer, hours worked, size of employer, industry, and union status. Each work characteristic has some missing information (i.e. the survey respondent did not answer the question) and the number of missing responses varied by work characteristic. Only non-missing responses are presented in Figures 4a-8a.<sup>6</sup>

Since individuals may obtain employer based health insurance through their own or spouse's employer, the policy holder of those with employer based health insurance was collected. While some respondents did not provide this information, policy holder information was available for about 96 percent of those with employer based health insurance. Figures 4b-8b show how type of employer, hours worked, size of employer, industry, and union status are related to whether an individual obtains employer based health insurance from their own employer or union or any employer or union.

### **Type of Employer**

Health insurance varied by the type of employer. Those adults who work for the government or a nonprofit organization had the highest percentages of health insurance (see Figure 4a). Ninety-eight percent of those employed by the government and 95 percent of those employed by a nonprofit organization had some type of insurance. Eighty-seven percent of those working for a private company, 84 percent of the self-employed, and 83 percent of those working for a family business reported some form of health insurance.

Ninety percent of those who worked for the government and 88 percent of those who worked for a nonprofit employer had employer or union based health insurance. Among those working for private companies, 78 percent were enrolled in employer or union based health insurance. Between four and six percent of those working for the government, private companies, or non-profit organizations purchased their own health insurance.

Those in family business and the self-employed had relatively low levels of employer or union based health insurance. Only 60 percent of those working for a family business reported enrollment in employer or union based health insurance. Fifty-two percent of those self-employed were enrolled in employer or union based insurance. The self-employed and those in family business largely made up the gap between overall health insurance coverage and employer or union based coverage by purchasing their own health insurance. Fifteen percent of those working for a family business and 27 percent of those self employed purchased their own health insurance.

Not every worker with employer based health insurance acquires it through their own job, many receive it through a spouse's employment. The rates of receiving health insurance through their own employer vary. Government workers were the most likely to report own employer based health insurance (72 percent), followed by nonprofit workers (63 percent), private company workers (57 percent), those working for a family business (31 percent), and the self employed (16 percent).

**Figure 4a: Health Insurance and Health Insurance Type by Type of Employer**

employed adults, aged 19-64

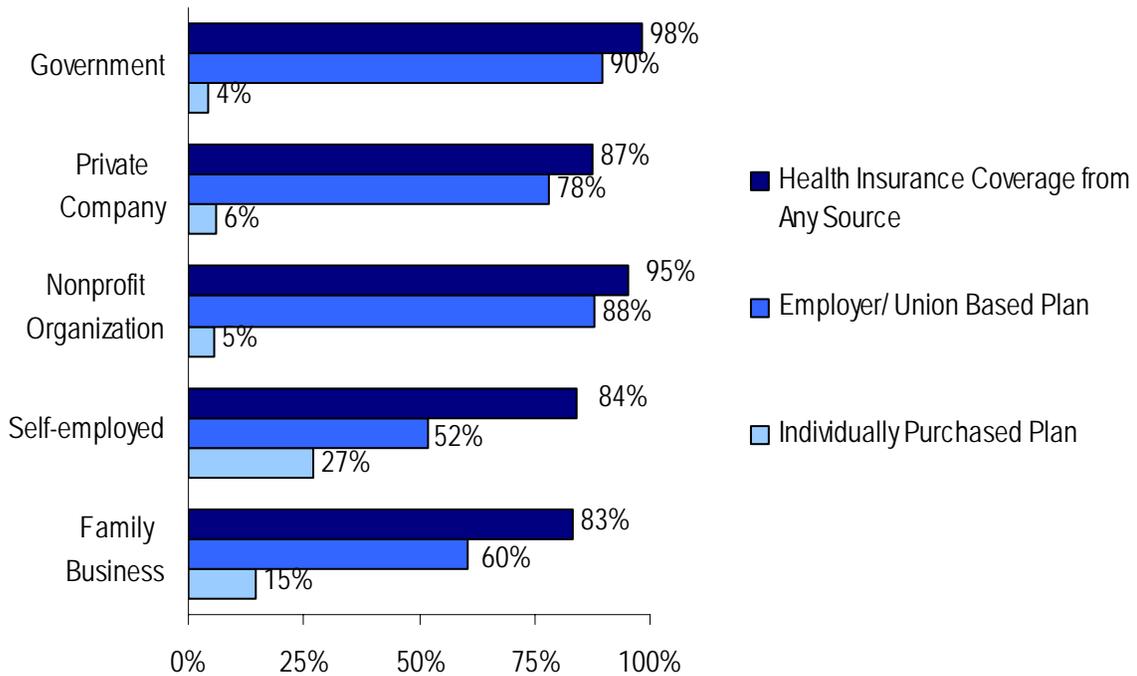


Figure reads: Of those employed by the government, 98 percent had health insurance, 90 percent had employer or union based health insurance, and four percent were enrolled in a health insurance plan they purchased themselves.

Note: Workers may have multiple forms of insurance (i.e. employer and purchased) or have insurance other than employer/union or purchased insurance.

**Figure 4b: Employer Based Health Insurance by Type of Employer: Overall Rate and Own Employer Rate**

employed adults, aged 19-64

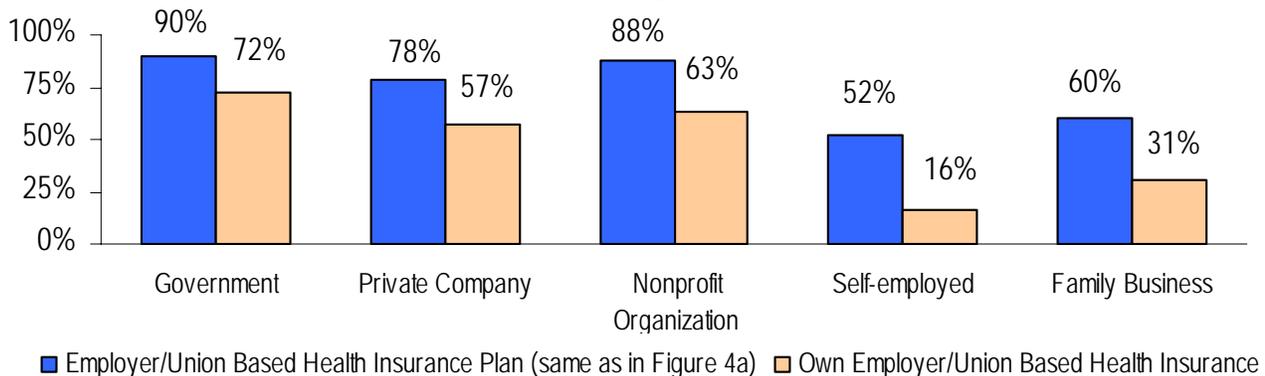


Figure reads: Of those workers who worked for the government, 90 percent had employer or union based health insurance from any source, but only 72 percent had health insurance through their own employer or union.

## Hours Worked

The number of hours worked was also related to health insurance coverage and coverage type. Full time workers (defined as working 35 hours or more a week) were significantly more likely to have any type of health insurance than part time workers (defined as working less than 35 hours a week). Eighty-four percent of part time workers had any type of health insurance coverage compared to 91 percent of full time workers (see Figure 5a). Sixty-five percent of part time workers were enrolled in any type of employer or union based health insurance, but only 22 percent of part time workers were enrolled by their own employer or union based insurance (see Figure 5b). In contrast, 82 percent of full time workers were covered by any type of employer or union based health insurance and 63 percent were covered by their own employer or union based health insurance (see Figure 5b). More part time workers purchased health insurance than full time workers. Ten percent of part time workers purchased their own health insurance compared to seven percent of full time workers (see Figure 5a).

## Size of Employer<sup>7</sup>

According to Washington State's Department of Employment Security, just over one quarter of all jobs in Washington State in 2006 were for employers with less than 20 workers.<sup>8</sup> Adults who worked for employers with less than 20 employees were much less likely to have health insurance than those who worked for larger employers. As size of employer increases, so does the percentage of employer or union based health insurance and health insurance coverage from any source. Only 77 percent of those who worked for an employer with less than 20 workers had any type of health insurance compared to 97 percent of those with 1,000 or more workers.

Those working for small employers were less likely to be enrolled in employer or union based health insurance and more likely to have to purchase their own health insurance than those who worked for larger employers. Sixty percent of those who worked for an employer with less than 20 workers were enrolled in employer or union based health insurance compared to 94 percent of those who worked for an employer with 1,000 workers or more. Eleven percent of those who worked for employers with less than 20 workers purchased their own health insurance compared to four percent of adults who worked for employers with more than 1,000 workers.

Just as the overall rate of employer based health insurance increases with number of employees, the rate of own employer based health insurance also increases. Among those working for firms with less than 20 workers the rate of own employer based health insurance was 31 percent. The own employer based health insurance coverage was 55 percent for those working for employers with 20 to 99 workers, 70 percent for those working for employers with 100 to 999 workers, and 77 percent for those working for employers with 1000+ workers. For those working for small employers (less than 20 employees) just over half of those with employer based health insurance had employer based health insurance through their employer.

**Figure 5a: Health Insurance and Health Insurance Type by Hours Worked**  
employed adults, aged 19-64

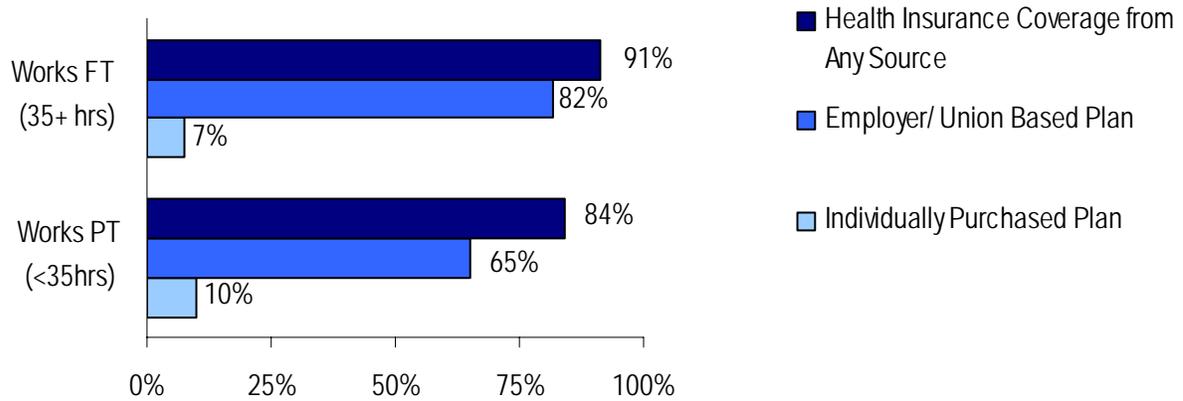


Figure reads: Of those workers who worked full time, 91 percent had health insurance, 82 percent had employer or union based health insurance, and seven percent were enrolled in a health insurance plan they purchased themselves.

Note: Workers may have multiple forms of insurance (i.e. employer and purchased) or have insurance other than employer/union or purchased insurance.

**Figure 5b: Employer Based Health Insurance by Hours Worked: Overall Rate and Own Employer Rate**  
employed adults, aged 19-64

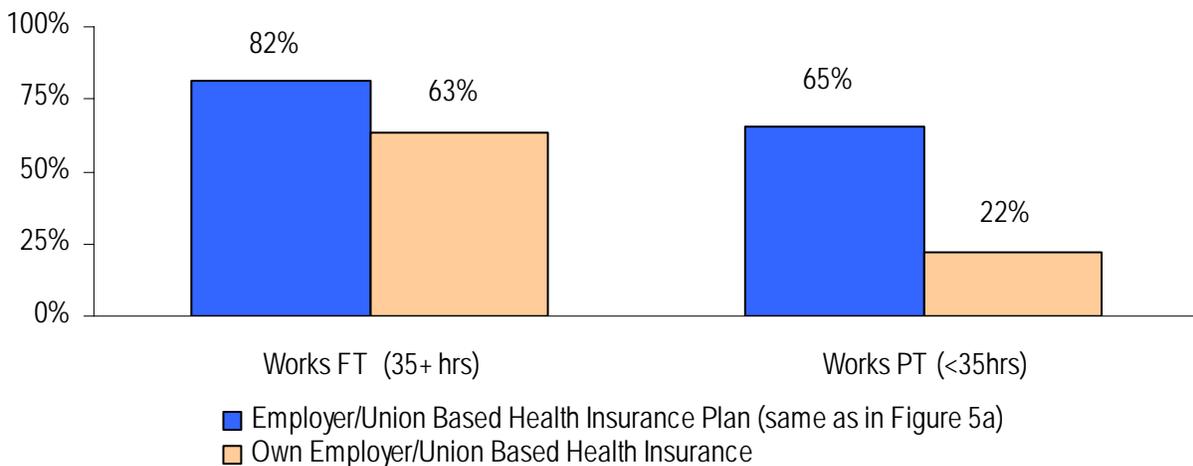


Figure reads: Of those working full time, 82 percent had employer or union based health insurance from any source, but only 63 percent had health insurance through their own employer or union.

**Figure 6a: Health Insurance and Health Insurance Type by Size of Employer**  
employed adults, aged 19-64

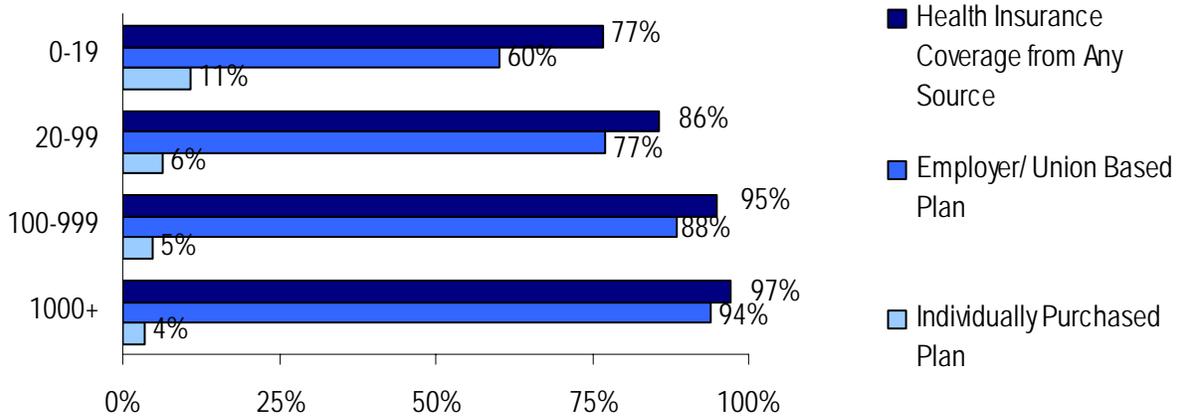


Figure reads: Of those employed by employers with less than 20 workers, 77 percent had health insurance, 60 percent had employer or union based health insurance, and 11 percent were enrolled in a health insurance plan they purchased themselves.

Note: Workers may have multiple forms of insurance (i.e. employer and purchased) or have insurance other than employer/union or purchased insurance.

**Figure 6b: Employer Based Health Insurance by Size of Employer:**  
**Overall Rate and Own Employer Rate**  
employed adults, aged 19-64

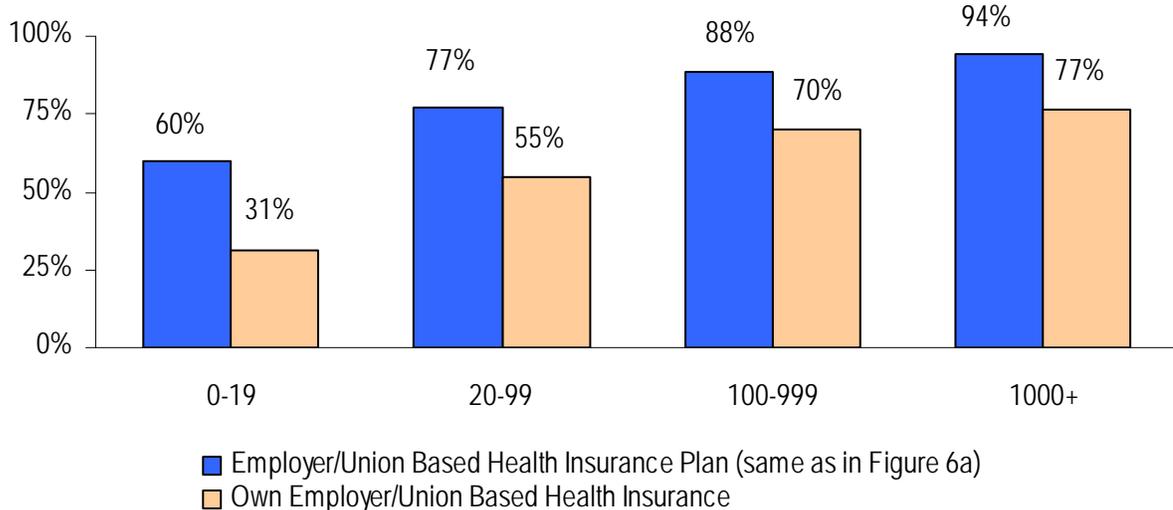


Figure reads: Of those working for employers with fewer than 20 employees, 60 percent had employer or union based health insurance from any source, but only 31percent had health insurance through their own employer or union.

## Industry<sup>9</sup>

The rate of employer or union based health insurance coverage varied by industry. Just over one quarter of employed adults work for industries such as manufacturing, transportation, communication, and utilities, and finance, insurance, and real estate<sup>10</sup> where over 90 percent have some form of health insurance (See Figure 7a).

Employment in the service and wholesale and retail trade industries made up over three fifths of all non government jobs in the first quarter of 2006.<sup>10</sup> Eighty-seven percent of those in service industries and 88 percent of those in the wholesale and retail trade industries had some form of health insurance coverage.

On average just over ten percent of all Washington jobs are in the agriculture, forestry, fishing, mining, and construction industries in the first quarter of 2006.<sup>10</sup> Seventy percent of those in the agriculture, forestry, and fishing industries had some form of health insurance. Seventy-seven percent of those in the mining or construction industries had some form of health insurance.

The percentage of employer or union based health insurance fell short of health insurance from any source by five percentage points among adults in the transportation, communication, and utility industries and eight percentage points among adults in the manufacturing industry. In all other industries, employer or union based health insurance fell short of health insurance from all sources by 13 to 21 percentage points.

Of those workers who have employer based coverage, most obtain it from their own employer, but the rates vary quite a bit across industries.<sup>11</sup> In the manufacturing industry and transportation, communication, and utility industries 84 percent of the workers are covered by employer based health insurance, however, only 72 percent of the manufacturing industry workers and 71 percent of the transportation, communication, and utility workers obtain their employer based health insurance through their own employer (see Figure 7b).

While those workers in the agriculture, forestry, and fishing industries and the construction and mining industries have relatively low overall rates of employer based health insurance (49 percent and 63 percent respectively) and own employer based health insurance (36 percent and 46 percent respectively), the percentage of employer based health insurance that is own employer based health insurance is 73 percent (see Figure 7b, computation not shown). While this percentage is lower than that for the manufacturing, transportation, communication, and utility industries, it is much higher than that for the wholesale and retail industries, finance, insurance, and real estate industries, and service industries.

## Union

Union status was a very good predictor of health insurance status and origin. Those who were in a union were much more likely to have health insurance. Indeed, 95 percent of those who reported being a union member reported enrollment in an employer or union based health insurance plan and 98 percent reported enrollment in any type of health insurance (see Figure 8a). In comparison, only 77 percent of those who reported that they were not union members were enrolled in employer or union based health insurance and only 88 percent reported any type of health insurance. Seventy-eight percent of union workers obtained their employer based coverage through their own employer compared to 55 percent of non-union workers (see Figure 8b).

**Figure 7a: Health Insurance and Health Insurance Type by Industry Sector**  
employed adults, aged 19-64

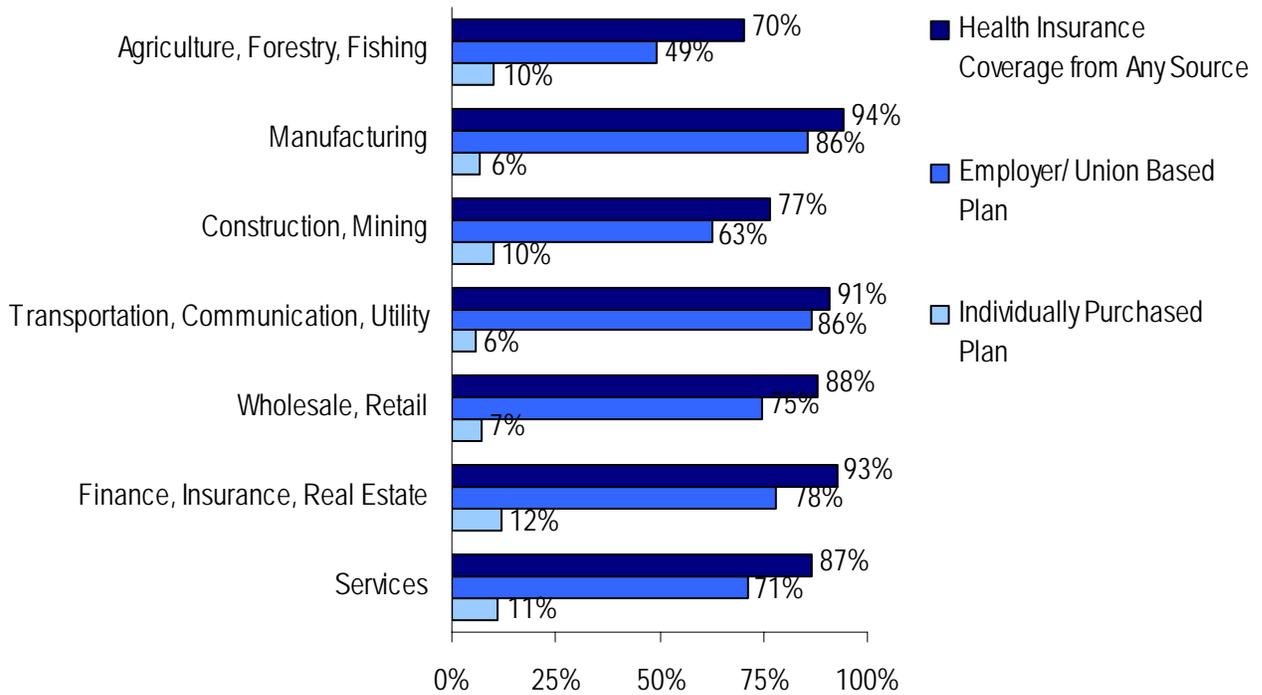


Figure reads: Of those employed in agriculture, forestry, or fishing industries, 70 percent had health insurance, 49 percent had employer or union based health insurance, and 10 percent were enrolled in a health insurance plan they purchased themselves.

Note: Workers may have multiple forms of insurance (i.e. employer and purchased) or have insurance other than employer/union or purchased insurance.

**Figure 7b: Employer Based Health Insurance by Industry Sector: Overall Rate and Own Employer Rate**  
employed adults, aged 19-64

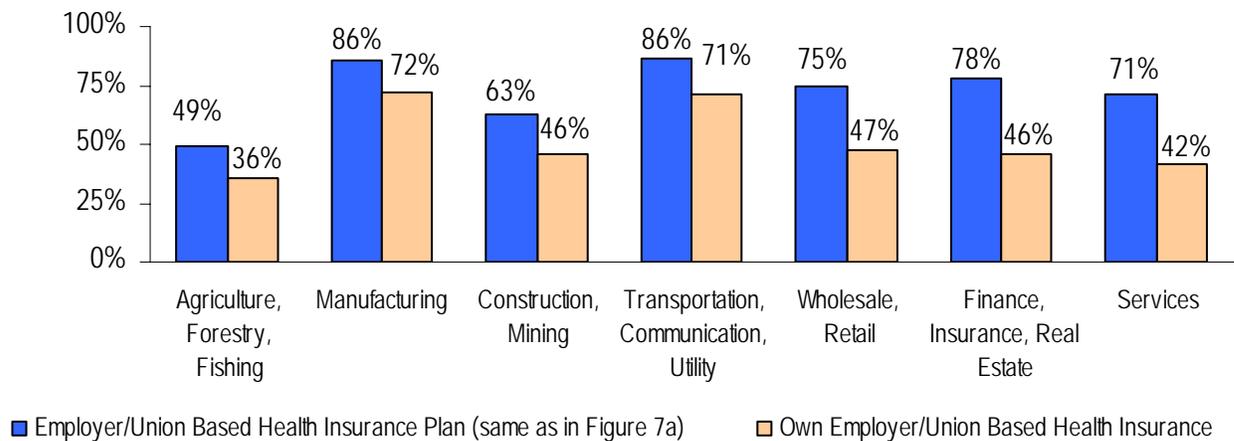


Figure reads: Of those employed in agriculture, forestry, or fishing industries, 49 percent had employer or union based health insurance from any source, but only 36 percent had health insurance through their own employer or union.

**Figure 8a: Health Insurance and Health Insurance Type by Union Status**  
 employed adults, aged 19-64

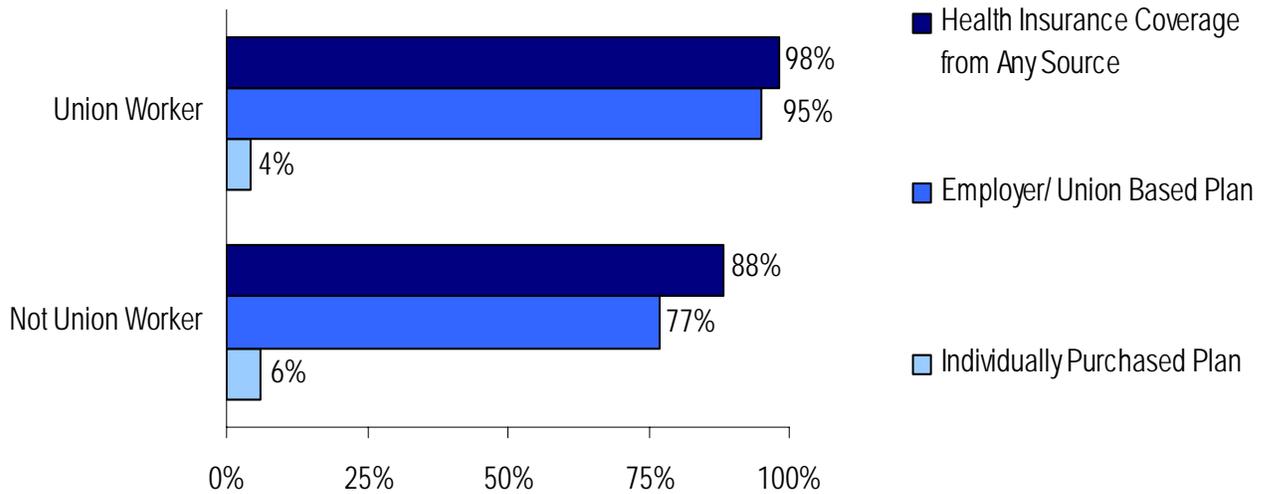


Figure reads: Of those workers represented by a union, 98 percent had health insurance, 95 percent had employer or union based health insurance, and four percent were enrolled in a health insurance plan they purchased themselves.

Note: Workers may have multiple forms of insurance (i.e. employer and purchased) or have insurance other than employer/union or purchased insurance.

**Figure 8b: Employer Based Health Insurance by Union Status: Overall Rate and Own Employer Rate**  
 employed adults, aged 19-64

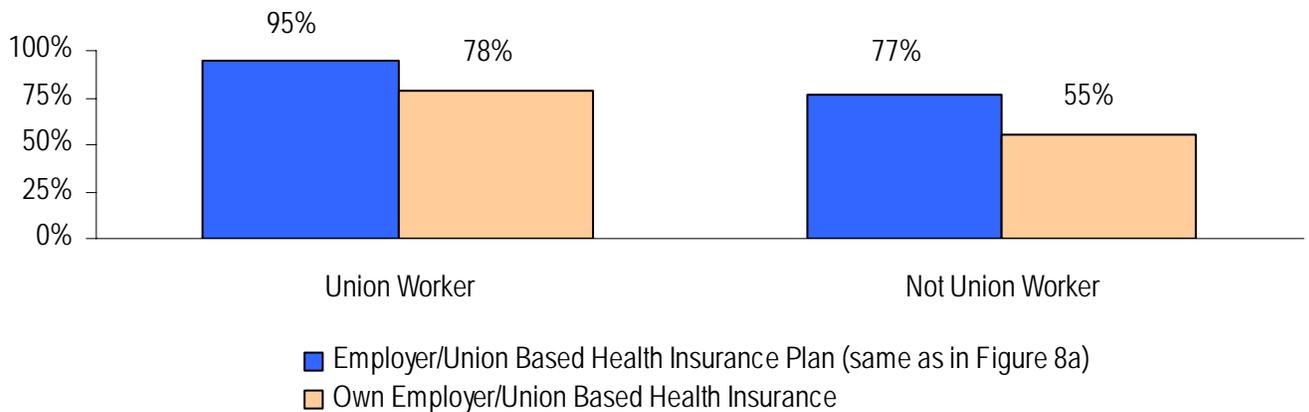
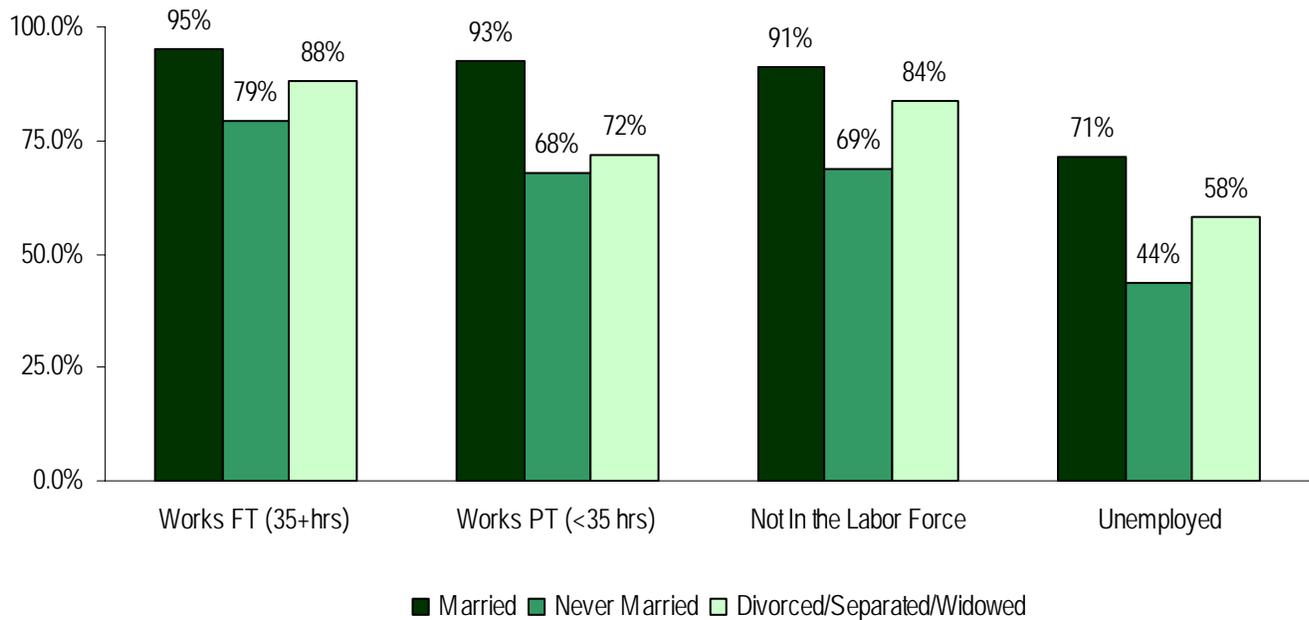


Figure reads: Of those workers who were in a union, 95 percent had employer or union based health insurance from any source, but only 78 percent had health insurance through their own employer or union.

**Figure 9a: Health Insurance by Marital Status, Labor Force Status, and Work Hours**  
for adults, aged 19-64



### Health Insurance and the Importance of Marital Status<sup>12</sup>

Married adults were more likely to have health insurance than the previously married (i.e. divorced, separated, or widowed) and the never married. Ninety-three percent of married adults had health insurance compared to 83 percent of the previously married and 71 percent of the never married (figure not shown).

Individuals can receive employer or union based health insurance from their own employer or their spouses' employer. Husbands and wives pool their work benefits, so many married individuals' work characteristics are often irrelevant to their health insurance status. By looking at health insurance status by both hours worked and marital status, one gets a clearer picture of how individuals' work characteristics were related to their health insurance status and how marriage was related to better access to health insurance.<sup>13</sup> Figure 9a illustrates the clear advantage married individuals had over the never married, and the previously married when it came to health insurance coverage. This was particularly true for those who worked part time, were unemployed, and those individuals who were not in the labor force.

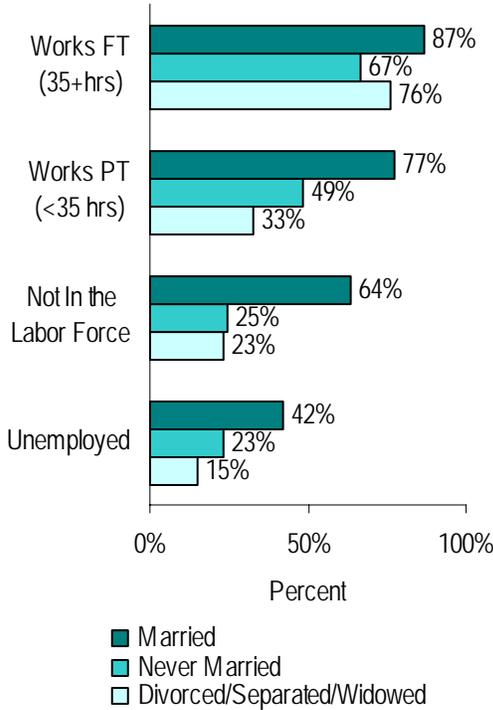
Those adults who worked full time had relatively high percentages of health insurance coverage across all three marital statuses compared to other work statuses. However, married adults still held an advantage. Ninety-five percent of married adults had health insurance compared to 79 percent of the never married and 88 percent of the previously married.

Ninety-three percent of married individuals who worked part time had health insurance coverage. Only 68 percent of the never married and 72 percent of the previously married that worked part time had health insurance.

Those never married and previously married who were not in the labor force also had a much lower rate of health insurance coverage compared to the married. Of those who were not in the labor force, only 69 percent of the never married and 84 percent of the previously married had health insurance, compared to 91 percent of the married.

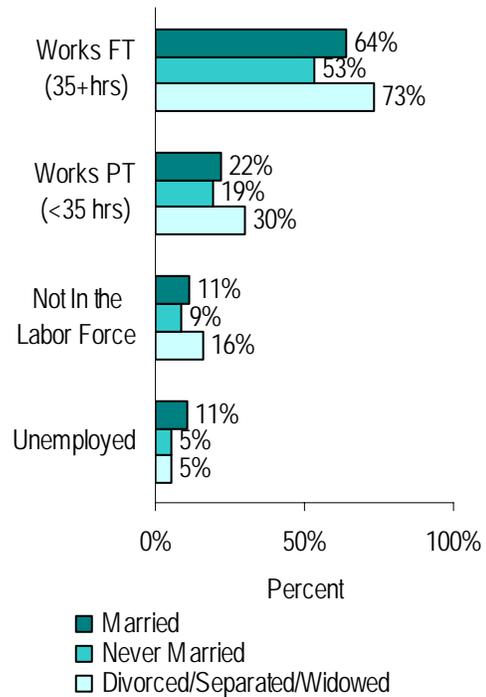
**Figure 9b: Employer or Union Based Health Insurance by Marital Status, Labor Force Status, and Work Hours**

for adults, aged 19-64



**Figure 9c: Own Employer or Union Based Health Insurance by Marital Status, Labor Force Status, and Work Hours**

for adults, aged 19-64



The unemployed were the least likely to have health insurance compared to the employed and those not in the labor force. Only 71 percent of married adults who were unemployed had health insurance. However, the never married and previously married did far worse. Only 44 percent of the never married and 58 percent of the previously married unemployed had health insurance.

Differences in enrollment in employer or union based health insurance among the three marital statuses are shown in Figure 9b for full and part time work, unemployed, and not in the labor force. The differences among the marital statuses were generally smallest among full time workers. Among those who work full time, 87 percent of married individuals were enrolled in employer or union based health insurance compared to 67 percent of the never married and 76 percent of the previously married.

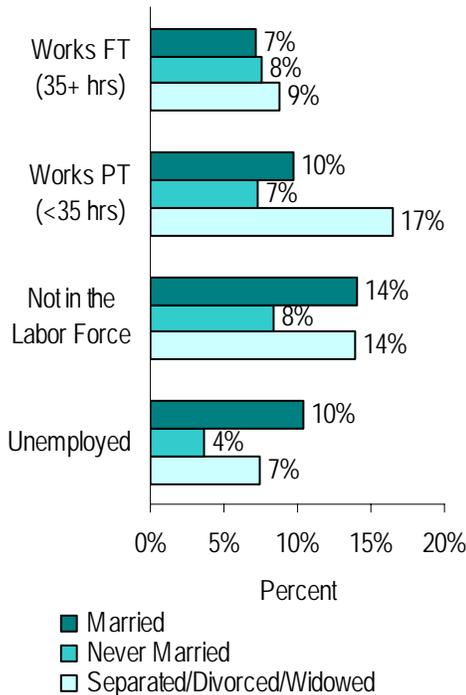
For part time workers, the unemployed, and those who were not in the labor force, the difference between the percentage of married individuals enrolled in employer based health insurance and the percentage of previously married or never married individuals enrolled in employer or union based health insurance was dramatic. Among those who were working part time, 77 percent of the married individuals were enrolled in employer or union based health insurance compared to only 49 percent of the never married and 33 percent of the previously married individuals. Sixty-four percent of the married who were not in the labor force were enrolled in employer or union based health insurance compared to only 25 percent of the never married and 23 percent of the previously married. Among the unemployed, 42 percent of the married were enrolled in

employer-based health insurance, compared to 23 percent of the never married and 15 percent of the previously married.

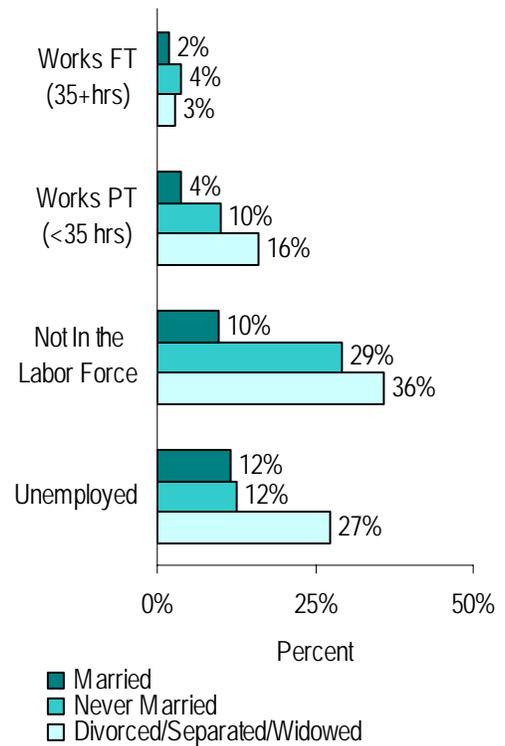
Among those workers covered by employer based health insurance, married workers were less likely to be covered through their own employer based health insurance than the previously married and never married (see Figures 9b and 9c, computation not shown). Eighty seven percent of married full time workers have any kind of employer or union based health insurance, but only 64 percent were covered by their own employer or union based plan. While 77 percent of married part time workers were covered by employer based health insurance, only 22 percent of married part time workers were enrolled in their own employer based health insurance. Sixty four percent of the married who were not in the labor force were covered by union or employer based plans, but only 11 percent were covered by their own union or employer based health insurance plan. Only 11 percent of unemployed married workers were covered through their own union or employer, while 42 percent of unemployed married workers were covered by any employer or union based health insurance plan.

Figure 9d shows the percentages of purchased health insurance across the different marital and work statuses. While the never married and previously married had much lower levels of employer based health insurance compared to the married, this did not result in significantly higher rates of purchased health insurance among the never married and previously married.

**Figure 9d: Individually Purchased Health Insurance by Marital Status, Labor Force Status, and Work Hours**  
for adults, aged 19-64



**Figure 9e: Medicaid by Marital Status, Labor Force Status, and Work Hours**  
for adults, aged 19-64



Among those who were not in the labor force and part time workers, there were dramatic differences in rates of Medicaid enrollment for married compared to the never married and previously married (see Figure 9e). Among those not in the labor force, 36 percent of the previously married and 29 percent of the never married were enrolled in Medicaid compared to only 10 percent of the married. Only four percent of married part time workers were enrolled in Medicaid compared to 10 percent of the never married and 16 percent of the previously married. Differences in Medicaid enrollment by marital status among unemployed workers were not statistically significant. Enrollment in Medicaid for full time workers varied little by marital status.

### Summary

The 2006 Washington State Population Survey shows that most non-elderly adults obtained their health insurance through an employer (their spouses' or their own). Employed adults were more likely to have health insurance if they were union members, worked full time, worked for a large employer, and/or worked for government, nonprofit, or private sector employers. Married adults and those with high family incomes were also more likely to have health insurance.

The adults least likely to have health insurance were those with low family incomes, the unemployed, the self-employed, part time workers, those employed by small employers, the never married and the previously married (i.e. divorced, separated, and widowed), and/or those employed in the agriculture, forestry, or fishing, or construction or mining industries.

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### Notes:

1. Unmarried full time students aged 19 to 22 were excluded from this analysis because they can be covered by their parents' health insurance plan. Their health insurance status was determined more by their parents' employment characteristics than their own.
2. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. (2005) "The 2005 HHS Poverty Guidelines" (see <http://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty/05poverty.shtml>)
3. U.S. Census Bureau. (2005) "R2002. Median Family Income (In 2005 Inflation-adjusted Dollars):2005" (see [http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/GRTSelectServlet?ds\\_name=ACS\\_2005\\_EST\\_G00\\_&\\_lang=en&\\_ts=185826120703](http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/GRTSelectServlet?ds_name=ACS_2005_EST_G00_&_lang=en&_ts=185826120703))
4. Individuals with higher family incomes may qualify for Medicaid if they have certain kinds of disabilities, or if their family meets "medically needy" guidelines generally achieved by large medical expenses bringing the family income down to a level where they qualify for Medicaid (for more information go to: <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/home/medicaid.asp>). In addition, some individuals may report Medicaid coverage across an employment transition. For example, individuals who are not employed and then get a high paying job may have Medicaid before getting the job and for a short time after they are employed before they become ineligible. Finally, the measures used in the analysis are 2005 income and 2006 health insurance status. It is possible that a family with a relatively high income in 2005 might have a much lower income in 2006, making its members eligible for Medicaid.
5. For more information on Washington's Basic Health Plan go to: <http://www.hca.wa.gov/basichealth/index.shtml>.
6. In general, respondents with missing work characteristics (not shown in Figures 4a-8a) had lower levels of health insurance compared to all employed adults. Employed adults with missing work characteristics were also generally less likely to be enrolled in employer or union based health insurance, and more likely to purchase their own insurance.
7. Those who work for the government are not included in this figure.
8. Washington State Department of Employment Security (2006) "Size of Firm by County Distribution for all Ownerships, including Multiple Establishments, First Quarter 2006."(see <http://www.workforceexplorer.com/cgi/dataanalysis/?PAGEID=94&SUBID=149>)

9. Those adults who worked for the government are not included in this figure.
10. The data presented in Figure 7a includes self-employed adults, but the percentages cited for the distribution of employment by industry do not include self-employed workers. For data source see: Washington State Employment Security Department (2006). "State Of Washington: Covered Employment Classified by Industry, First Quarter 2006 (revised)." ([http://www.workforceexplorer.com/admin/uploadedPublications/7291\\_2006-1\\_pub\\_revised.xls](http://www.workforceexplorer.com/admin/uploadedPublications/7291_2006-1_pub_revised.xls)).
11. The own employer based health insurance estimates vary from those reported in "Washington State Employer Health Insurance Data Book" (see: <http://www.ofm.wa.gov/economy/healthins/2005/ehidb2005.pdf>). Two of the major reasons that the estimates differ are that some of the industry categories are defined differently and the source of the data is different (this brief uses the 2006 Washington State Population Survey and the "Washington State Employer Health Insurance Data Book" uses the ESD Benefit Survey and the MEPS IC).
12. Those adults who are missing marital or hour of work information are not included in this analysis.
13. The higher percentages of health insurance found among married adults are likely due to a combination of two factors. First, individuals who have better access to health insurance are probably more likely to select into marriage and less likely to select out of marriage compared to the previously married and the never married. Second, married individuals have two chances to obtain health insurance via employment compared to previously married and never married individuals' single chance. As a result of these two factors married individuals' health insurance status is seemingly less affected by individual work characteristics compared to a single person's health insurance status. Other factors such as age may play a role in the differences found between married and never married. Married individuals tend to be older than never married individuals and younger adults are less likely to be insured than older adults.

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