



# FACT SHEET: *Updated: Sept. 17, 2010*

## Over 500,000 Mississippians Go Without Health Insurance In 2009

### KEY TAKEAWAY:

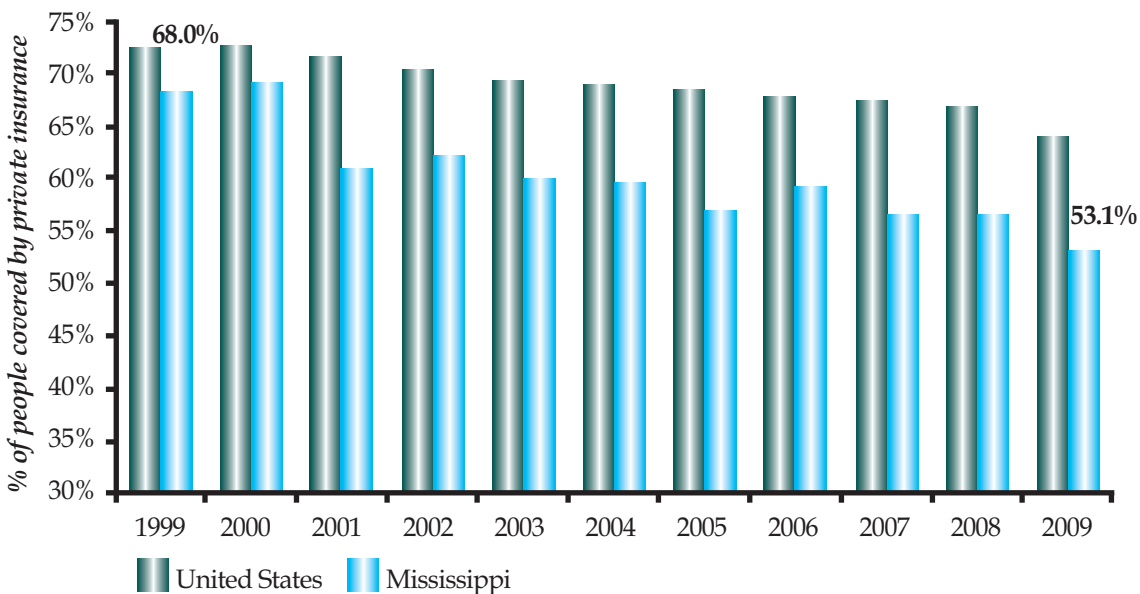
The Census Bureau estimates that 502,000 people in Mississippi were without health insurance in 2009. Of this number, 85,000 children were without health insurance. Over the past decade, the percent of Mississippians covered by private insurance declined substantially. The large number of

uninsured combined with the erosion of private market coverage underscores the importance of health care reform for improving the quality of life for hundreds of thousands of Mississippians.

### Insurance Coverage Trends and Characteristics

The percentage of Mississippians covered by private insurance dropped to the lowest levels of the decade - 53.1 percent. In contrast, 68 percent of Mississippi's residents were covered by private insurance ten years earlier.

### Percent of Mississippians covered by private insurance declines to 53.1% in 2009



Additionally, the recently released health insurance data estimate that over 500,000 Mississippians are still without health insurance. Overall, 17.6 percent of Mississippians lacked health insurance coverage in 2009.

The persistently large number of Mississippians without coverage, and the continual erosion of private coverage illustrates the importance of national health reform. The new health insurance exchanges and expanded Medicaid will enable many Mississippi families to secure health coverage and move closer to self-sufficiency.