

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES**

Public Health Service  
Centers for Disease Control  
and Prevention

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National Center for Health  
Statistics  
3311 Toledo Road  
Hyattsville, Maryland 20782

Dear [NAME of SA],

Thank you for your help! You recently participated in the National Health Interview Survey that we conduct with the U.S. Census Bureau. Your answers along with those of other survey participants gave the public health community, policy makers and researchers very important information about the health status of Americans.

Now I'd like to ask for your help once again, this time to focus on the health care you may have received over the past year. As explained on the back of this letter, information you provide will help the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services understand how health care is changing in this country.

In the next few weeks a Census Bureau staff member will call you on the phone and, at my request, ask you to participate in this short survey. The interviewer will ask you questions on your health care, including about how much you spend on health insurance and medical care, changes in your insurance coverage you might have had over the past year, how satisfied you are with the care you receive, and related topics. The survey will take about 15 minutes to complete and all your answers are confidential and protected by law.

**In appreciation for your continued time and effort, we will send you \$10 once the survey is complete.**

We hope you will share this important information when the interviewer calls to ask you to take part in the survey. Participation is voluntary, and you can choose not to answer any questions you do not wish to answer. The back of this letter provides answers to some questions you may have.

To learn more about the survey or to take part right away, call **1-800-XXX-XXXX**, toll-free. You can also visit the survey's website for additional information – [www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhis.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhis.htm).

Thank you again for your help!

Sincerely,



Edward J. Sondik, Ph.D.  
Director, National Center for Health Statistics  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

**If you prefer to use TTY**



Please call the AT&T Relay Service at 1-800-XXX-XXXX and request that 1-877-XXX-XXXX be called. The call is toll-free.

## **National Health Care Interview Survey Frequently Asked Questions**

### **What is the purpose of this survey?**

The purpose of this survey is to better understand how health care is changing in this country. This survey is authorized by Section 306 of the Public Health Service Act and funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation.

### **Why do I qualify for this survey?**

Your household participated in a survey about health and health care. At the time, you were selected to answer questions about your health-related behaviors, any health conditions you may have, your insurance coverage, and your use of medical care. We are following up with you to find out whether or how any of those things have changed since you took that survey.

### **How will you protect my privacy?**

We are bound by law to maintain strict confidentiality standards. Your information will never be associated with any published information from this survey.

If you would like more information about the confidentiality of the research or the federal laws that ensure the protection of your information, including the Public Health Service Act and the Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act, these are described in detail at:

<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/about/policy/confidentiality.htm>.

If you want to know more about your rights as a survey participant you may call 1-800-223-8118, toll-free. This is the number for the Research Ethics Review Board at NCHS. You will be asked to leave a message and say you are calling about Protocol 2009-16.

### **How will this information be used?**

Information you provide will help the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services monitor how changes in health care policy affect the population. You may visit [www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhis.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhis.htm) to find general information about the survey.

### **Is there a toll-free number to learn more?**

To learn more about the survey or to take part right away, call **1-800-XXX-XXXX**. The National Center for Health Statistics is collaborating with the U.S. Census Bureau to conduct the survey. You can call the Census Bureau's toll-free number listed above to take part in the survey right away, learn more about the survey, and hear what you will be asked.

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For your convenience, you can complete the short survey online by visiting [www.NHCISURL.gov](http://www.NHCISURL.gov). You will need your unique username and password to log in. It is printed in the bottom-right corner of this letter. After you log in, you will be asked questions on your health care, including about how much you spend on health insurance and medical care, changes in your insurance coverage you might have had over the past year, how satisfied you are with the care you receive, and related topics. The survey will take about 15 minutes to complete and all your answers are confidential and protected by law.

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We hope you will share this important information with us by telephone when an interviewer calls to ask you to participate in the survey. If you would like to participate immediately, please call the toll-free telephone number 1-XXX-XXX-XXXX.

You are very important to the survey because you have been scientifically selected and cannot be replaced. All information collected for this survey is confidential and protected by federal law. The back of this letter provides answers to some questions you might have and ways to get additional information about the survey.

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Dear [NAME of SA]:

Thank you for your participation in the National Health Care Interview Survey. The information that you provided about your health care will help the Department of Health and Human Services and CDC's National Center for Health Statistics understand how health care is changing throughout the United States.

In appreciation for the time and effort you spent answering our questions, we are enclosing \$10.

If you would like more information about the National Health Care Interview Survey, you can visit the survey's web site at [www.NHCISURL.gov](http://www.NHCISURL.gov) or call the toll-free telephone number for the survey at 1-800-XXX-XXXX.

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