
***Surgery News* reports rise in number of uninsured in 2009**

The number of uninsured Americans rose last year, with 21 percent of all adults aged 18–64 years reporting that they were uninsured at the time that they were interviewed for the National Health Interview Survey, according to staff of *Surgery News*, the official newspaper of the American College of Surgeons.

That figure is up from

19.7 percent the previous year, and reflects a trend over the past decade of an increasing lack of health insurance, at least among adults, according to a survey by the National Center for Health Statistics, a part of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Rates of coverage for children, on the other hand, have mostly improved.

Overall, 46.3 million people—

or 15.4 percent of the population—were uninsured at the time they were interviewed in 2009. A greater proportion of children than adults were covered by public health plans, which could explain the children's higher rate of coverage, according to the survey.

To learn more, visit <http://www.facs.org/surgerynews/>.