

California Health Interview Survey

What has CHIS done in 2017?

From soda taxes to People Magazine, CHIS data was used widely

Making
California's
Voices
Heard on
Health



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The [California Health Interview Survey \(CHIS\)](#) is the nation's largest state health survey and one of the largest health surveys in the United States.

Conducted by the [UCLA Center for Health Policy Research](#), CHIS interviews more than 20,000 households each year and collects health data on adults, teenagers and children to build a detailed picture of California's diverse population.

Current debate over health care reform makes the California Health Interview Survey even more critical in its mission to provide objective, evidence-based data to lawmakers, advocates, researchers, the media and many more.

Legislation: Diabetes, soda tax, immigrant health, elder housing subsidies, ACA and more

[AB447](#) (Amendment that allows Medi-Cal to cover the cost of continuous glucose monitors): [Susan Babey](#), co-director of the Center's [Chronic Disease Program](#), provided data on diabetes for the Medi-Cal population to Assemblyman Adam Gray's office. Gray is coauthor of the bill.

[AB1003](#) (California Community Health Fund): CHIS data on prediabetes were cited in analysis of the 2-cent-per-fluid-ounce tax on sugary beverages and soda proposed by Assemblyman Richard Bloom.

Health delivery hearing: In an Oct. 23 California Assembly Health Committee [hearing](#) that examined the state's current health care system, [California Health Interview Survey](#) (CHIS) data and estimates from the Center's [CalSIM](#) micro-simulation model were used during [testimony](#) by Ken Jacobs and Laurel Lucia of the UC Berkeley Center for Labor Research and Education.

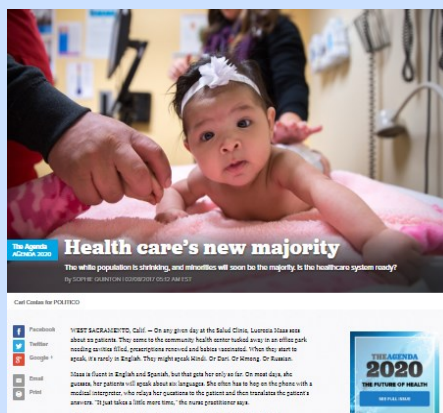
Sacramento briefing: Center Associate Director [Ninez Ponce](#) presented CHIS data at a [legislative briefing](#) to advance immigrant access to care. The briefing was hosted by the Asian & Pacific Islander Legislative

Caucus, Asian Health Services and others.

City of Santa Monica Elder subsidies: Santa Monica approved pilot project subsidies that will help 26 low-income elders stay in their homes. Subsidy amounts are based on the Center's [Elder Index](#), which uses CHIS data in its calculations.

"California policymakers have unusually detailed data at their fingertips thanks to the California Health Interview Survey"

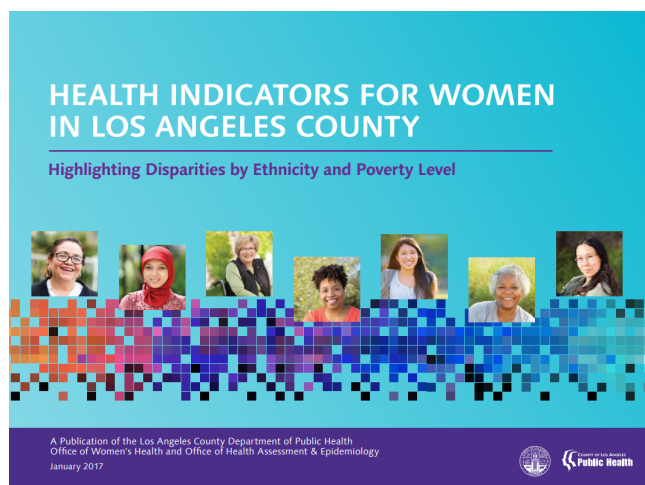
— Politico



ACA press conference: The Center provided pre- and post-ACA insurance data from CHIS to the offices of House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi and Congresswoman Jackie Speier for their Jan. 7 joint press conference protesting repeal of the ACA.

Government publications: Dental, AI/AN, county data, food insecurity

California Department of Public Health Chronic Disease Control Branch, Oral Health Program used CHIS to focus on Californians' preventive dental care in [*Status of Oral Health in California: Oral Disease Burden and Prevention 2017*](#)



Los Angeles County Department of Public Health published [*Health Indicators for Women in Los Angeles County: Highlighting Disparities by Ethnicity and Poverty Level*](#) which included a section that heavily relied on CHIS to spotlight the precarious health of the county's American Indian/Alaskan Native women.

[Southern California Association of Governments \(SCAG\)](#) released in early May Local Profiles for their 200+ member cities, counties and unincorporated areas. Included were CHIS data on health indicators such as obesity, physical activity, and chronic disease rates.

[*2015 San Diego County Food Insecurity Analysis*](#), published in 2017, estimates nearly half a million people in the county (almost 1 in 6) don't always have enough food for an active and healthy life. Of these people, 1 in 5 — more than 164,000 — are children.

Hospital needs assessments

Many health systems use CHIS data to compile their community health needs reports. The reports help them uncover health care needs in their communities and develop the most beneficial programs. These health systems in 2016 included St. Joseph Health (a CHIS Application Programming Interface charter member), Children's Hospital of Los Angeles, Hospital Association of San Diego and Imperial Counties, Keck Hospital of USC, MemorialCare Health System, and Saint Louise Hospital (San Jose).

Advocate web tools

[ACA 411](#): The California Health Care Foundation uses CHIS data to help track the Affordable Care Act's impact on insurance coverage, access to health care services, and affordability in California.

[Kidsdata.org](#): The children's advocacy group run by the Lucile Packard Foundation has an interactive dashboard that uses many CHIS indicators to raise the visibility of children's health and welfare issues.

[Healthy City](#): The group's web resource tool includes numerous CHIS indicators for California cities and counties. Healthy City is a CHIS API charter member.

Training for legislators and more

Legislative staff training: Staff members from 20 California delegation representatives attended a CHIS training in Sacramento on how to find health data for their legislative districts.



AskCHIS video training: The Center website has a new [AskCHIS on-demand training page](#) with a series of short, pre-recorded videos on how to quickly and easily use the web tool.

Building Healthy Communities trainings: The California Endowment's 10-year initiative, [Building Healthy Communities](#) (BHC), focuses on 14 California commu-

nities that face deep health inequities, such as Boyle Heights and South Sacramento, and gives each the tools to improve and thrive. Tailored AskCHIS® training sessions and [CHIS Health Profiles](#) help BHC participants measure health challenges and guide actions to improve community health.

Online trainings: Center trainers led 6 AskCHIS and AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition® (AskCHIS NE) webinar trainings in 2017, as well as in-person Building Healthy Communities trainings. Online sessions average 75 attendees for AskCHIS and 100 for AskCHIS NE.

Scholarly articles, reports and products

As of October 1, academic journals ranging from Child and Maternal Health to Anthrozoös have published 50 articles that feature CHIS data. Topics range from identifying ethnic differences in adolescent bullying to analyzing whether pet owners are healthier than non-pet owners. Selected samples by topic area:

Affordable Care Act

- [California's Projected Economic Losses under ACA Repeal](#) (UC Berkeley Center for Labor Research and Education)
- [California's Self-Employed and Small Business Employees Experienced Large Health Coverage Gains Under ACA](#) (UC Berkeley Center for Labor Research and Education)
- [The Affordable Care Act Reduces Hypertension Treatment Disparities for Mexican-heritage Latinos](#) (Medical Care)
- [Enrollment in California's Medicaid Program After the Affordable Care Act Expansion](#) (American Journal of Public Health)

Insurance and access

- [The State of Health Insurance in California: Findings from the 2014 California Health Interview Survey](#) set the baseline for the impact of the ACA, as well as

subsequent Trump administration policies. (UCLA Center for Health Policy Research)

- [Medi-Cal Matters](#) compiles key facts and figures, including many from CHIS, that illustrate the scope of Medi-Cal health insurance which covers 1 in 3 Californians. (California Health Care Foundation).
- [Persistent Digital Divide in Access to and Use of the Internet as a Resource for Health Information: Results from a California Population-Based Study](#) (International Journal of Medical Informatics)

Children, teens, adults, elders

- [Families with Young Children in California: Findings from the California Health Interview Survey, 2011-2014, by Geography and Home Language](#) (UCLA Center for Health Policy Research)
- [Ethnic Differences in Bullying Victimization and Psychological Distress: A Test of an Ecological Model](#) (Journal of Adolescence)
- [Adult Health Profiles](#) (UCLA Center for Health Policy Research)
- [Helpfulness, Trust, and Safety of Neighborhoods: Social Capital, Household Income, and Self-Reported Health of Older Adults](#) (Gerontologist)

"Data and the data work that CHIS does and the reputation that it has established is really a sacred trust."



— Diana Dooley, secretary of the California Health and Human Services Agency

LGBT

- [Advancing the LGBT Health Research Agenda: Differential Health Trends Within the Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Populations](#) (American Journal of Public Health)
- [Exploring International Priorities and Best Practices for the Collection of Data About Gender Minorities](#) (The Williams Institute)
- [Measuring the Influence of Legally Recognized Partnerships on the Health and Well-Being of Same-Sex Couples: Utility of the California Health Interview Survey](#) (LGBT Health)

Race, ethnicity, immigration status

- [Associations Between Food Insecurity and the Se-](#)

[verity of Psychological Distress Among African-Americans](#) (Ethnicity & Health)

- [Racial and Ethnic Difference in Falls Among Older Adults: Results from the California Health Interview Survey](#) (Journal of Racial & Ethnic Health Disparities)

Chronic disease and cancer

- [Ethnic Differences in Risk Factors for Obesity Among Adults in California, the United States](#) (Journal of Obesity)
- [Breast Cancer in Asian Americans in California, 1988–2013: Increasing Incidence Trends and Recent Data on Breast Cancer Subtypes](#) (Breast Cancer Research and Treatment)

Food and nutrition

- [Going Flat: Examining Heterogeneity in the Soda-Obesity Relationship by Subgroup and Place of Birth Among Asian Americans](#) (Public Health Nutrition)

Mental health

- [Who Gets Needed Medical Care? Use of Mental Health Services among Adults with Mental Health Need in California](#) (Californian Journal of Health Promotion)
- [Psychological Distress of Ethnically Diverse Adult Caregivers in the California Health Interview Survey](#) (Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health)

Oral health

- [Statewide Policy Change in Pediatric Dental Care, and the Impact on Pediatric Dental and Physician Visits](#) (Maternal and Child Health Journal)
- [How Does Legal Status Matter for Oral Health Care Among Mexican-Origin Children in California?](#) (SSM—Population Health)

Wide applicability

- [A Propensity-Score-Weighted Population-Based Study of the Health Benefits of Dogs and Cats for Children](#) (Anthrozoös)

Media

CHIS was in the media hundreds of times, including:

- After actress Julia Louis-Dreyfus's breast cancer diagnosis, [People Maga-](#)



AskCHIS in 2017

AskCHIS:

1.25 million
lifetime queries

123,742

total indicators queried (12 months)*

Top indicators: Insurance, gender, asthma, race, poverty level (all for child/adult/teen)

AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition:

68,386

lifetime queries

19,845

total indicators queried (12 months)*

68,962

total geographies queried

Top indicators: Adult obesity, child/teen/adult asthma, adult diabetes, adult asthma, adult food security

**12-month figures are for Nov. 2016 through Nov. 2017*

[zine](#) used CHIS insurance data in a story about women who lack health coverage.

- [U.S. News & World Report](#) and other media published a Kaiser Health News story which included CHIS estimates on children's asthma about high rates of asthma among residents who lived in West Oakland, adjacent to the Oakland port.
- The [Sacramento Bee](#) based analyzed CHIS data on sex to reveal that 1 in 10 Californians, ages 25 to 45, hadn't had sex in the last year.
- [Nichi Bei](#) and the [Compton Herald](#) ran a story that cited CHIS research on how people of color will be most hurt by ACA repeal.
- [La Prensa Excelsior](#) and other media published a story about a CHIS study that reported parents who spoke a mix of English and Spanish were less likely than exclusively English-speaking Latinos to feel they were being listened to by their children's providers.

(December 2017)