

Differences by Health Insurance Coverage

In 2003, children under the age of six without health insurance coverage were significantly less likely than children with health insurance coverage to have received a well-child check-up in the past year (67 percent versus 85 percent, respectively). [See Figure 1](#)

Differences by Race and Ethnicity

Minimal differences exist across racial and ethnic groups in the percentage of children under age six receiving a well-child check-up in the past year, with percentages ranging from 84 percent to 88 percent in 2003. [See Table 1](#)

Differences by Parental Education

In 2003, 89 percent of children whose parents have a bachelor's degree or more had received a well-child check-up in the past year, compared with 74 percent of children of parents with less than a high school degree. [See Figure 2](#)

Differences by Immigrant Status

Children under age six with at least one foreign-born resident parent were less likely than children with no foreign-born parent to have received a well-child check-up in the past year (78 percent versus 86 percent, respectively, in 2003). [See Table 1](#)

Differences by Age

Within the age groups reporting, younger children were more likely than older children to have received a well-child check-up in the past year. In 2003, 88 percent of children under the age of two had received a well-child check-up, compared with 81 percent of children ages four years to five years. [See Figure 3](#)

Differences by Region

Children under age six living in the Northeast are the most likely to have received a well-child check-up in the past year. [See Table 1](#) In 2003, 92 percent of children under age six living in the Northeast had received a well-child check-up in the past year, compared with 85 percent of children living in the Midwest, 83 percent of children living in the South, and 79 percent of children living in the West.

State and Local Estimates

None available

International Estimates

None available

National Goals

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommends that children should visit their pediatrician for a well-child check-up as a newborn, by one month, at two, four, six, nine, twelve, fifteen, eighteen, and twenty-four months, and once at year from ages three to twenty-one. The AAP has published "Guidelines for Health Supervision III," which contains recommendations for each well-child visit from birth to age twenty-one. This publication is available for purchase at <http://www.aap.org/bst/index.cfm?DID=15>

A one-page summary of recommendations from the AAP entitled "Recommendations for Preventative Pediatric Health Care" is available to download at:

<http://www.aap.org/healthtopics/compmed.cfm>

Definition

In the context of this indicator, a child received a well-child check-up in the past year if his or parent answered "yes" to the question, "During the past twelve months, did {sample child} receive a well-child checkup that is a general checkup when {he/she} was not sick or injured?"

Data Source

Child Trends' original analyses of data from the 2000-2003 National Health Interview Surveys

Raw Data Source

National Health Interview Survey
<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhis.htm>

Next Update

Winter 2005

¹ American Academy of Pediatrics, "Developmental Surveillance and Screening of Infants and Young Children," *Pediatrics* 108 (1,2001): 192-195.

<http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/cgi/content/full/113/6/S1/1899>

² American Academy of Pediatrics, "The New Morbidity Revisited: A Renewed Commitment of the Psychosocial Aspects of Pediatric Care," *Pediatrics* 108 (5,2001): 1227-1230. Available at <http://aappolicy.aappublications.org/cgi/content/full/pediatrics;108/5/1227>

³ M. Regalado and N. Halfon, "Primary Care Services Promoting Optimal Child Development from Birth to Age Three Years: Review of the Literature," *Archives of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine* 155 (12,2001): 1311-1312. Available at http://www.cmwf.org/usr_doc/regalado_optimalchild_531.pdf

⁴ See Young K.T., Davis K., Schoen C., Parker (1998). "Listening to parents. A national survey of parents with young children." *Archives of Pediatric and Adolescent Medicine*, 152:555-62.

<http://archpedi.ama-assn.org/cgi/content/abstract/152/3/555>
Schuster M.A., Duan N., Regalado M., and Klein D.J. " (2000). "Anticipatory guidance: what information do parents receive? What information do they want?" *Archives of Pediatric and Adolescent Medicine*, 154:1191-8. <http://archpedi.ama-assn.org/cgi/content/abstract/154/12/1191>

⁵ R.D. Sege, C. Perry, L. Stigol, et al., "Short-term Effectiveness of Anticipatory Guidance to Reduce Early Childhood Risks for Subsequent Violence," *Archives of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine* 156 (1,2002): 62-66.

⁶ Child Trends and Center for Child Health Research. 2004. "Early Childhood Development in Social Context: A Chartbook." http://www.cmwf.org/publications/publications_show.htm?doc_id=237483

⁷ Young K.T., Davis K., Schoen C., Parker (1998).

⁸ American Academy of Pediatrics (March 2000). "Recommendations for Preventative Pediatric Health Care." *Pediatrics*, 105(3), pp. 645-646. <http://www.aap.org/healthtopics/commped.cfm>

⁹ Other organizations have published guidelines as well. For other examples see Green, M. and Palfrey, J.S., eds. 2002. "Bright Futures: Guidelines for Health Supervisions of Infants, Children, and Adolescents." 2nd ed., rev. Arlington, VA: National Center for Education and Maternal Health. <http://www.brightfutures.org/bf2/about.html>

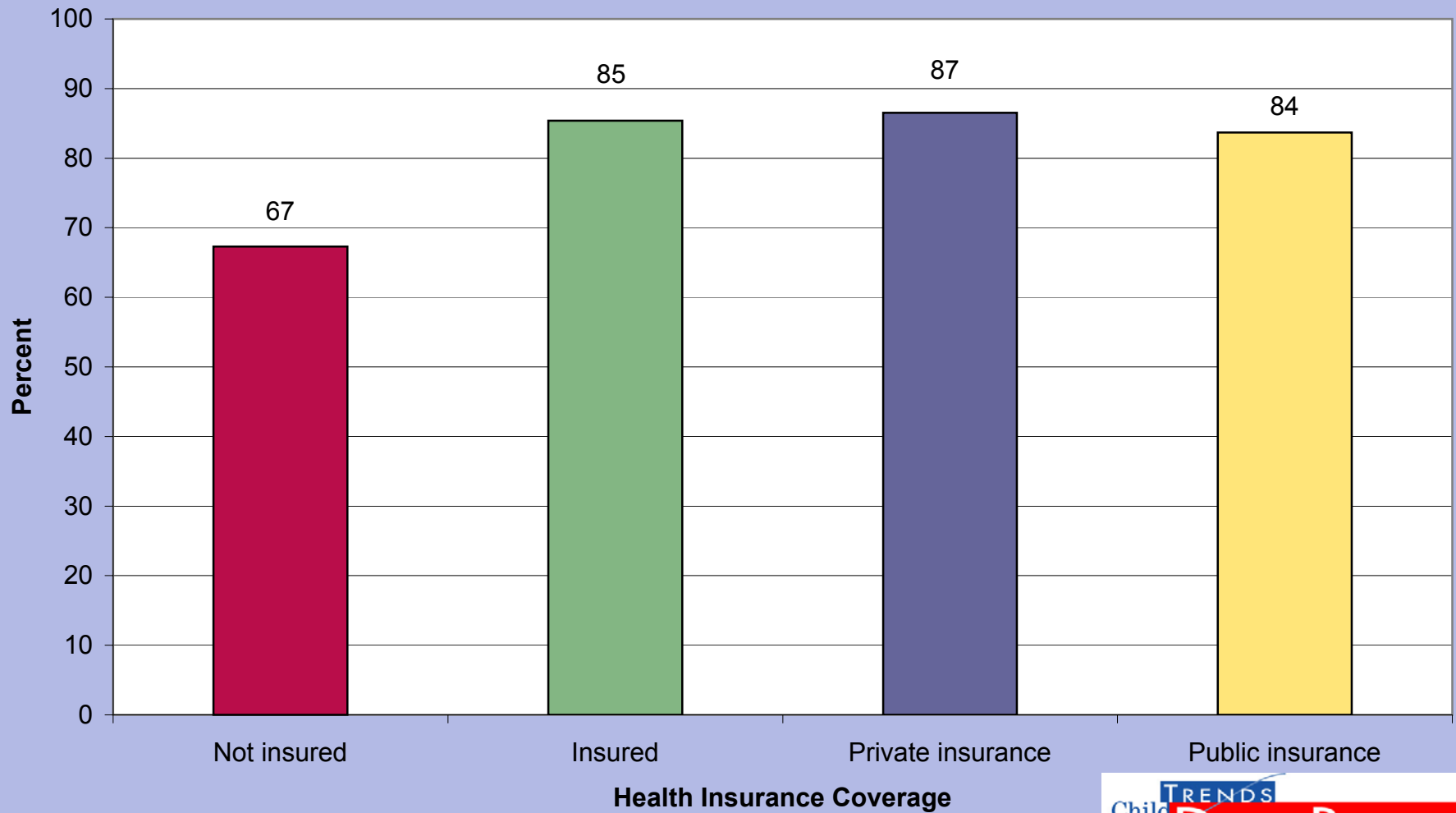
¹⁰ Blumberg, Stephen J., Halfon, Neal, and Olson, Lynn (2004). "National Survey of Early Childhood Health." *Pediatrics*, 113(6): 1899-1906.

¹¹ American Academy of Pediatrics, Committee on the Psychosocial Aspects of Child and Family Health. (2001). "The New Morbidity Revisited: A Renewed Commitment to the Psychosocial Aspects of Pediatric Care." *Pediatrics*, 108(5): 1227-1230.

<http://aappolicy.aappublications.org/cgi/content/full/pediatrics;108/5/1227>

Figure 1

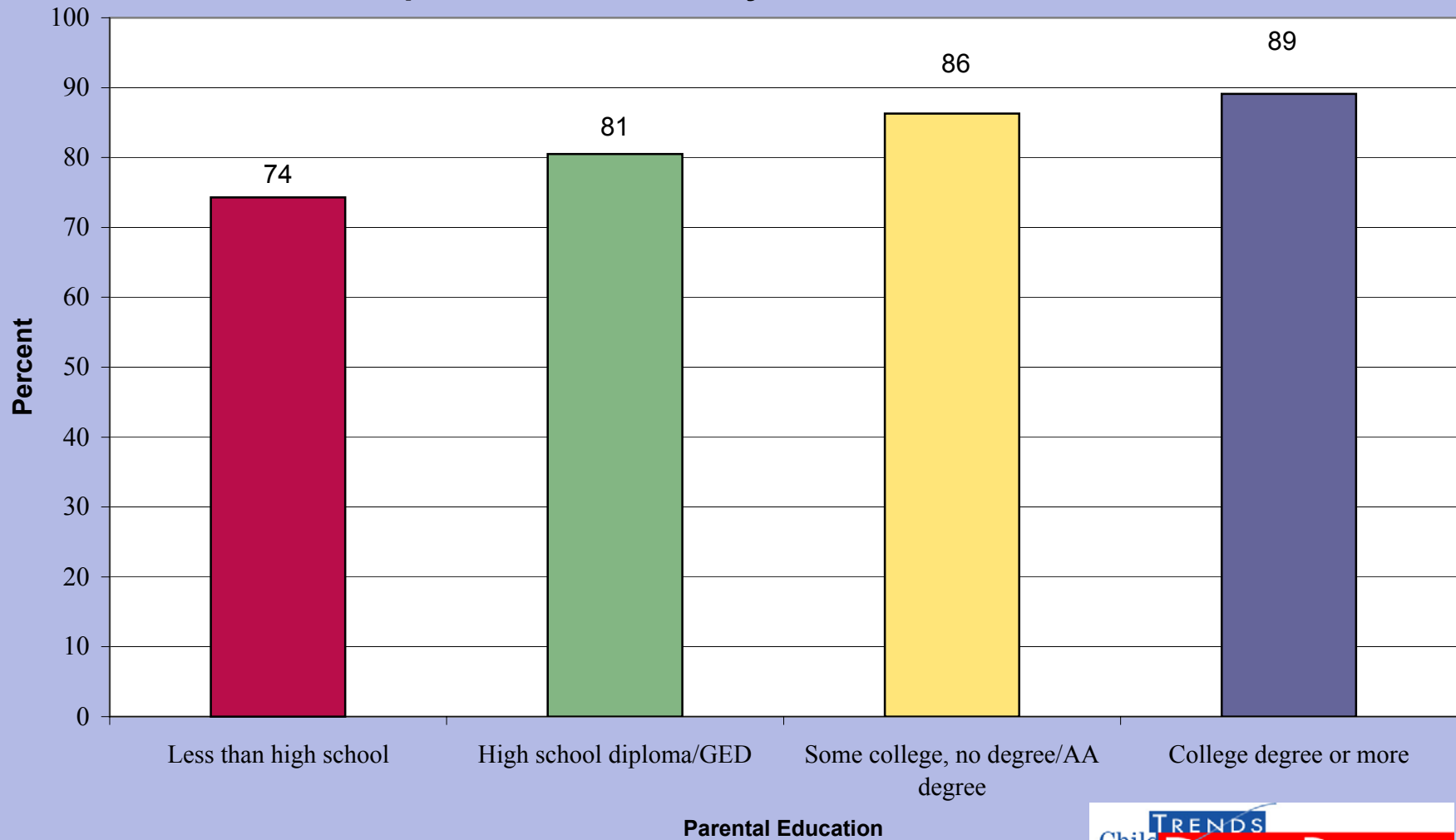
Percentage of Children Under the Age of Six Who Received a Well-Child Check-Up in the Past Year, By Health Insurance Coverage, 2003



Source: Original analysis by Child Trends of 2003 National Health Interview Survey data

Figure 2

Percentage of Children Under Age Six Who Received a Well-Child Check-Up in the Past Year, By Parental Education, 2003

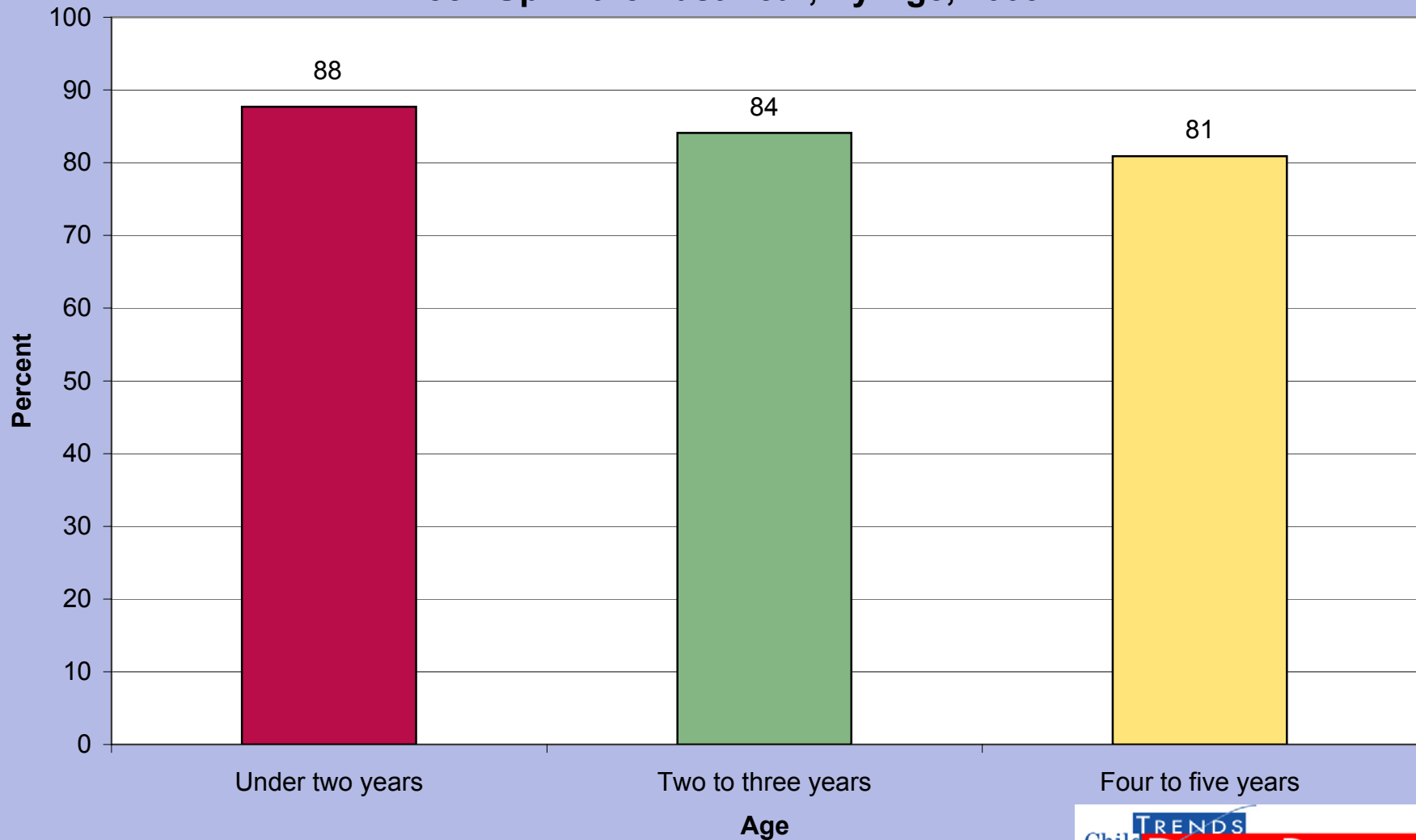


Source: Original analysis by Child Trends of 2003 National Health Interview Survey data



Figure 3

Percentage of Children Under Age Six Who Received a Well-Child Check-Up in the Past Year, By Age, 2003



Source: Original analysis by Child Trends of 2003 National Health Interview Survey data

