

**Monitoring health care access and utilization
following implementation of the
Affordable Care Act
using the National Health Interview Survey**

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Outline

- ❑ **Using NHIS to monitor Affordable Care Act (ACA):**
 - Existing questions provide baseline and trend data
 - New questions address targeted issues
 - Larger sample allows for more state-level estimates

- ❑ **Highlighted topics**
 - Financial burden of medical care
 - Coverage for young adults aged 19-25
 - Emergency room use
 - State-level estimates of insurance coverage

FINANCIAL BURDEN OF MEDICAL CARE

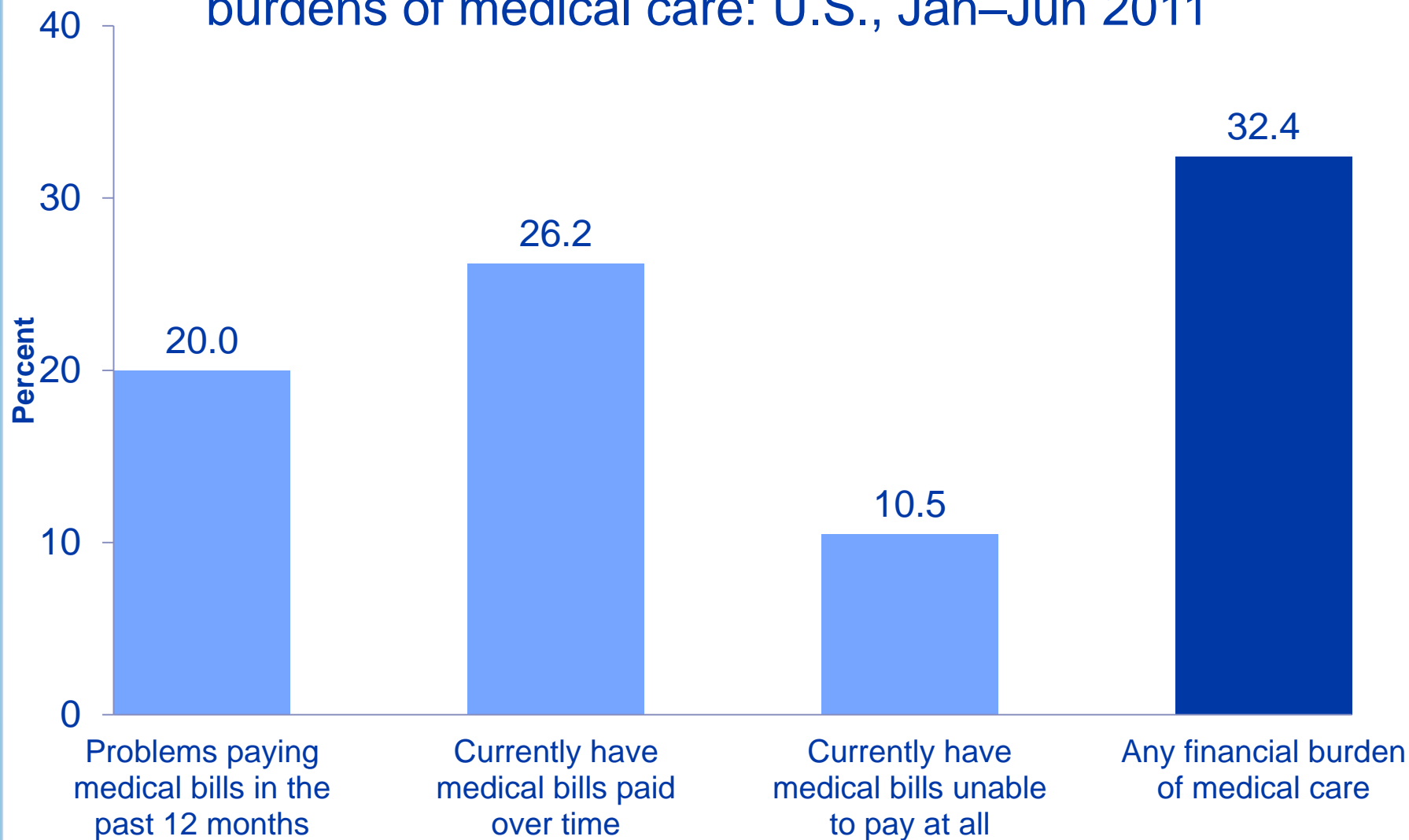
Financial Burden of Medical Care

New questions added to NHIS:

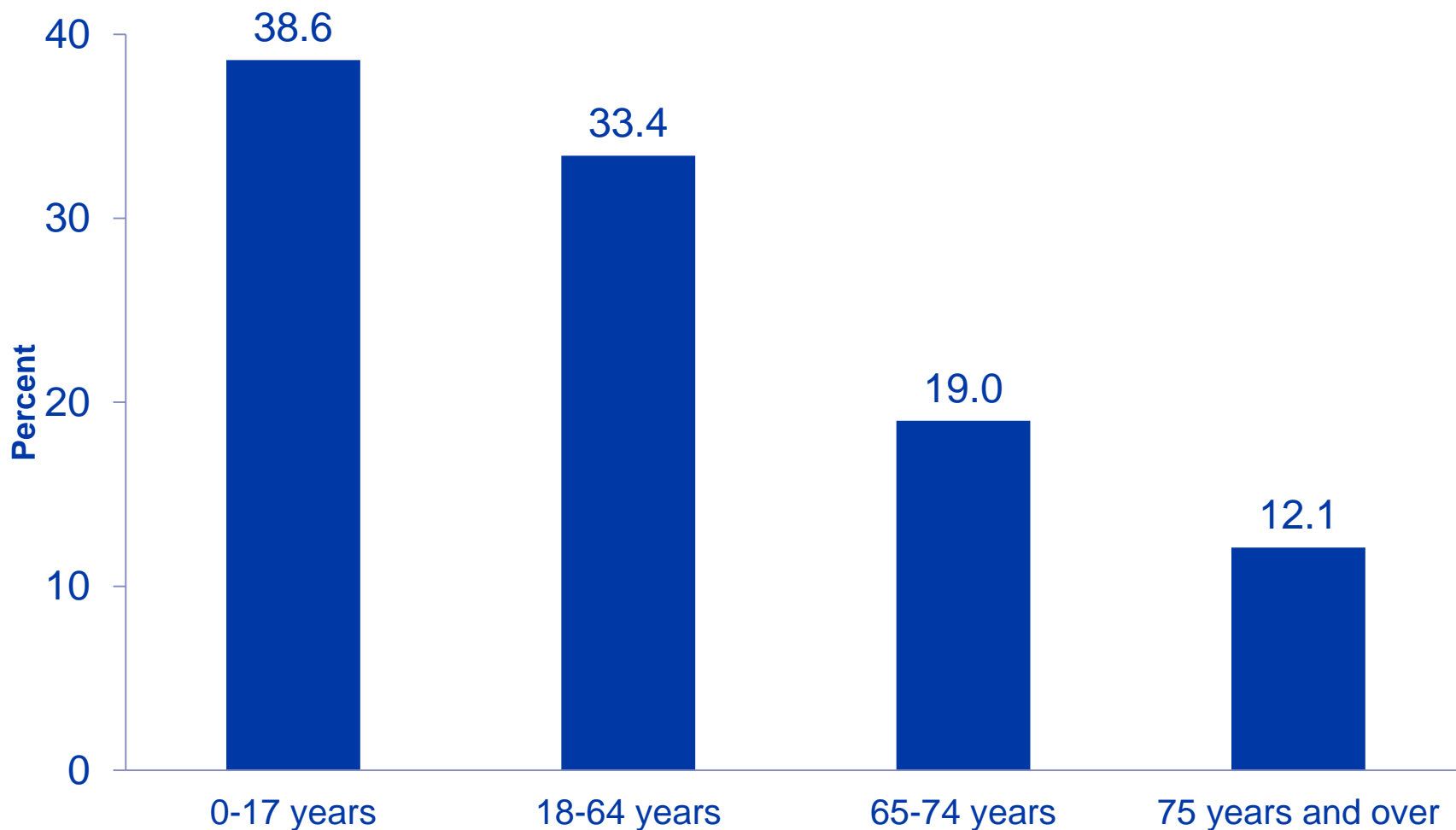
- ❑ Problems paying medical bills in past 12 months
- ❑ Currently have medical bills that are being paid over time
- ❑ Currently have medical bills that they are unable to pay at all

- ❑ Any financial burden of medical care (summary)

Percentages of persons in families with selected financial burdens of medical care: U.S., Jan–Jun 2011



Percentages of persons in families with any financial burden of medical care, by age group: U.S., Jan-Jun 2011



Financial Burden of Medical Care

Future research:

- ❑ Associations with use of health care services, prescription drug costs
- ❑ Unmet needs due to cost
- ❑ Trends

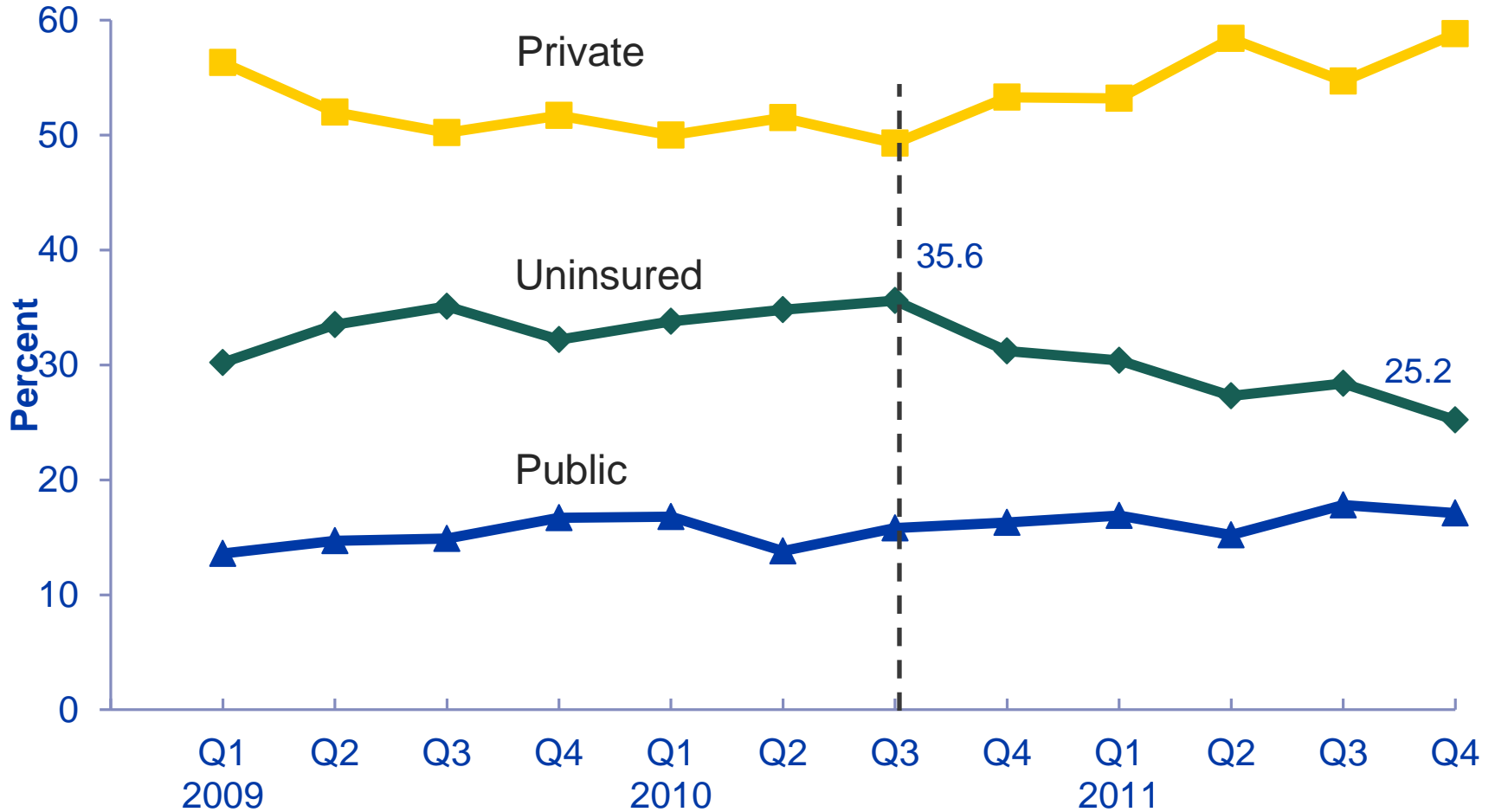
HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR ADULTS AGED 19-25

Health Insurance Coverage for Adults Aged 19-25

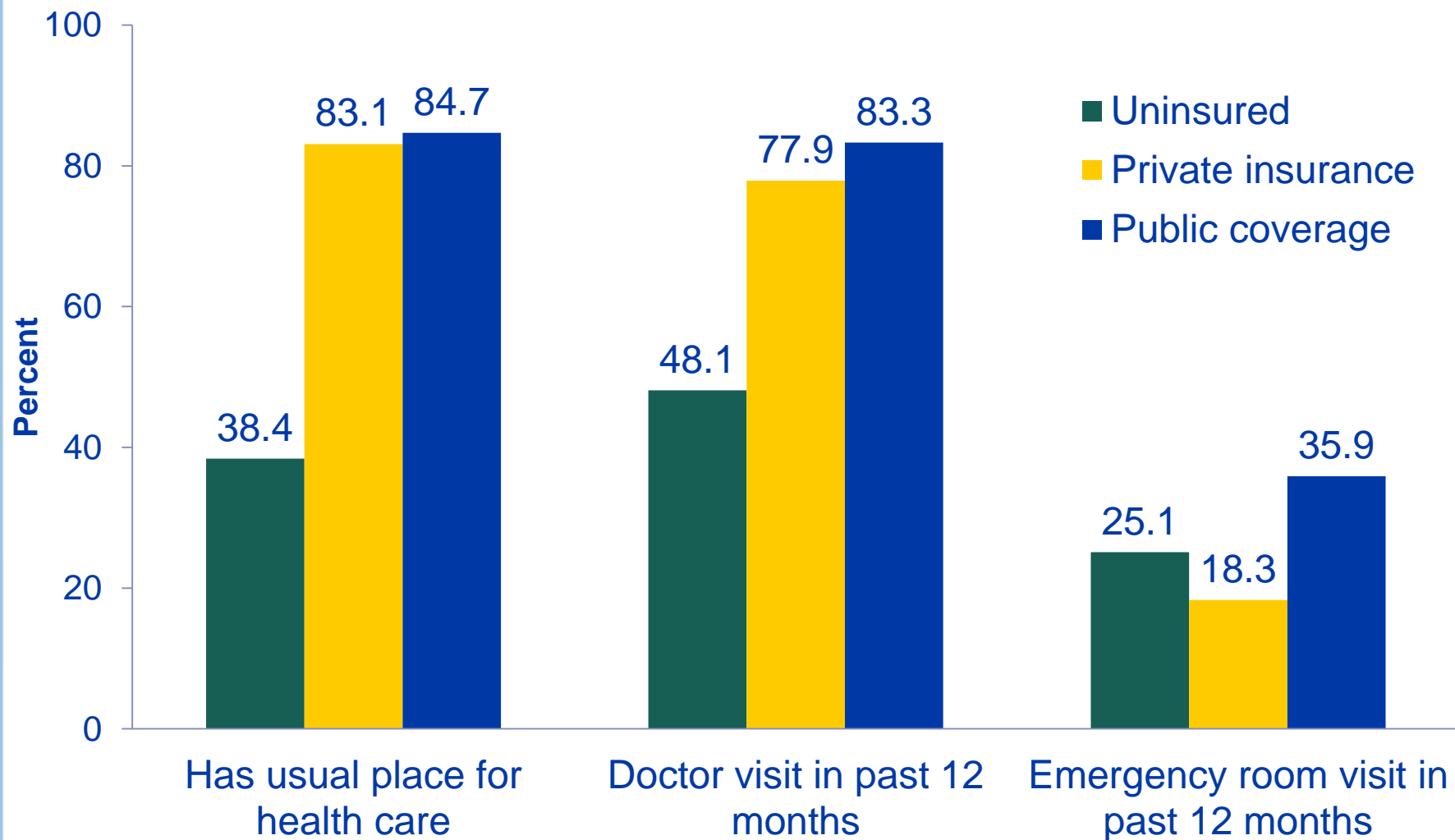
Using existing NHIS questions:

- ❑ Insurance coverage at time of interview, by age
- ❑ Access and utilization:
 - Usual place for health care, doctor's visit in past 12 months, emergency room use

Percentage of adults aged 19-25 with health insurance, by coverage type, and percentage uninsured at time of interview: U.S., 2009-2011



Percentages of adults aged 19-25 with selected access measures, by insurance coverage status: U.S., Jan-Sep 2011



Health Insurance Coverage for Adults Aged 19-25

Future research:

- ❑ **Obtain more detail on insured young adults:**
 - Source of coverage (policyholder)
 - Employment
 - Previous coverage / gaps in coverage

REASONS FOR EMERGENCY ROOM USE

Reasons for Emergency Room Use

Using existing and new questions:

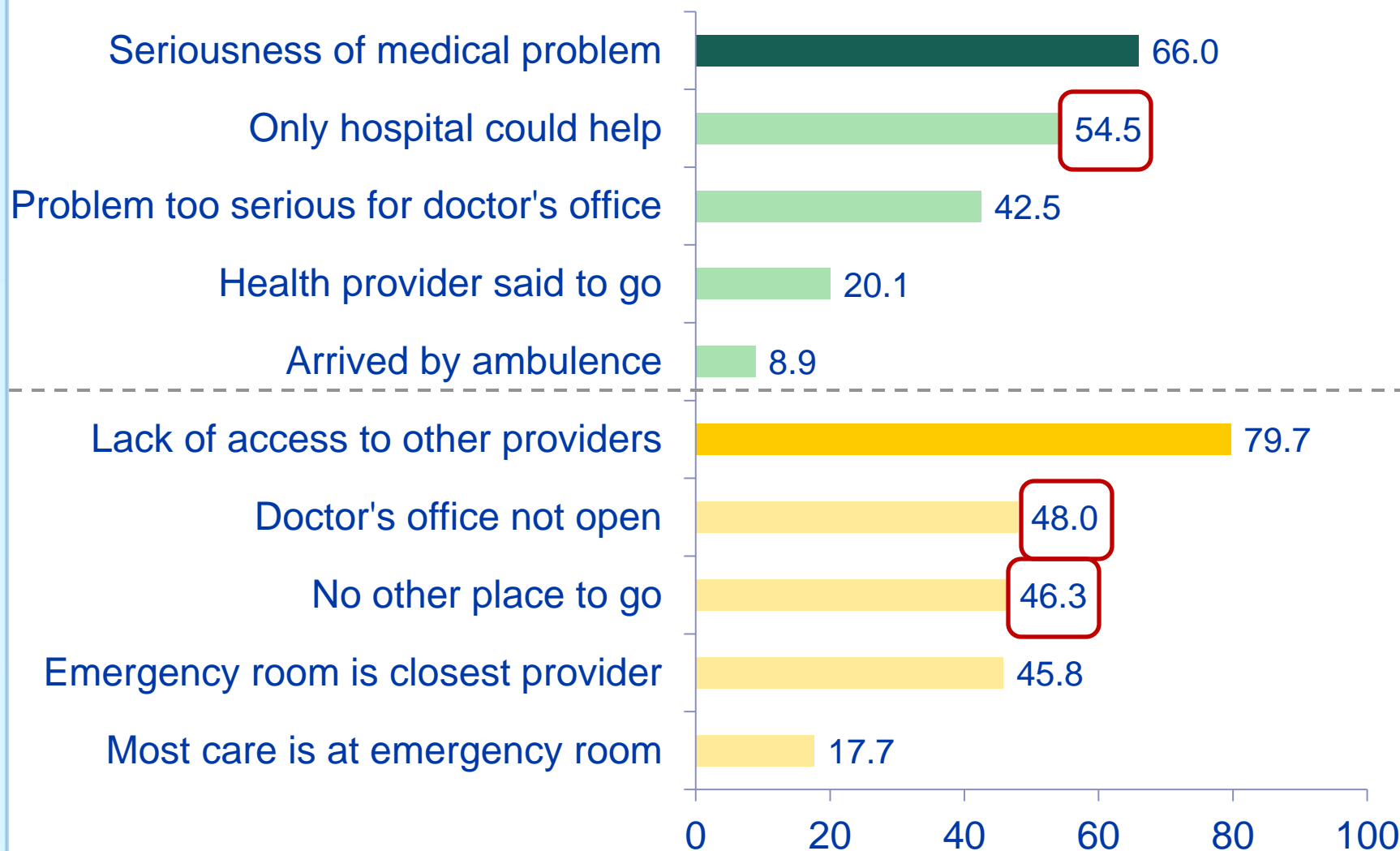
- ❑ Number of ER visits in the past 12 months
- ❑ Hospital admission for last ER visit
- ❑ *If not admitted, reason for last ER visit*
 - Can select more than one

ADULTS AGED 18-64:

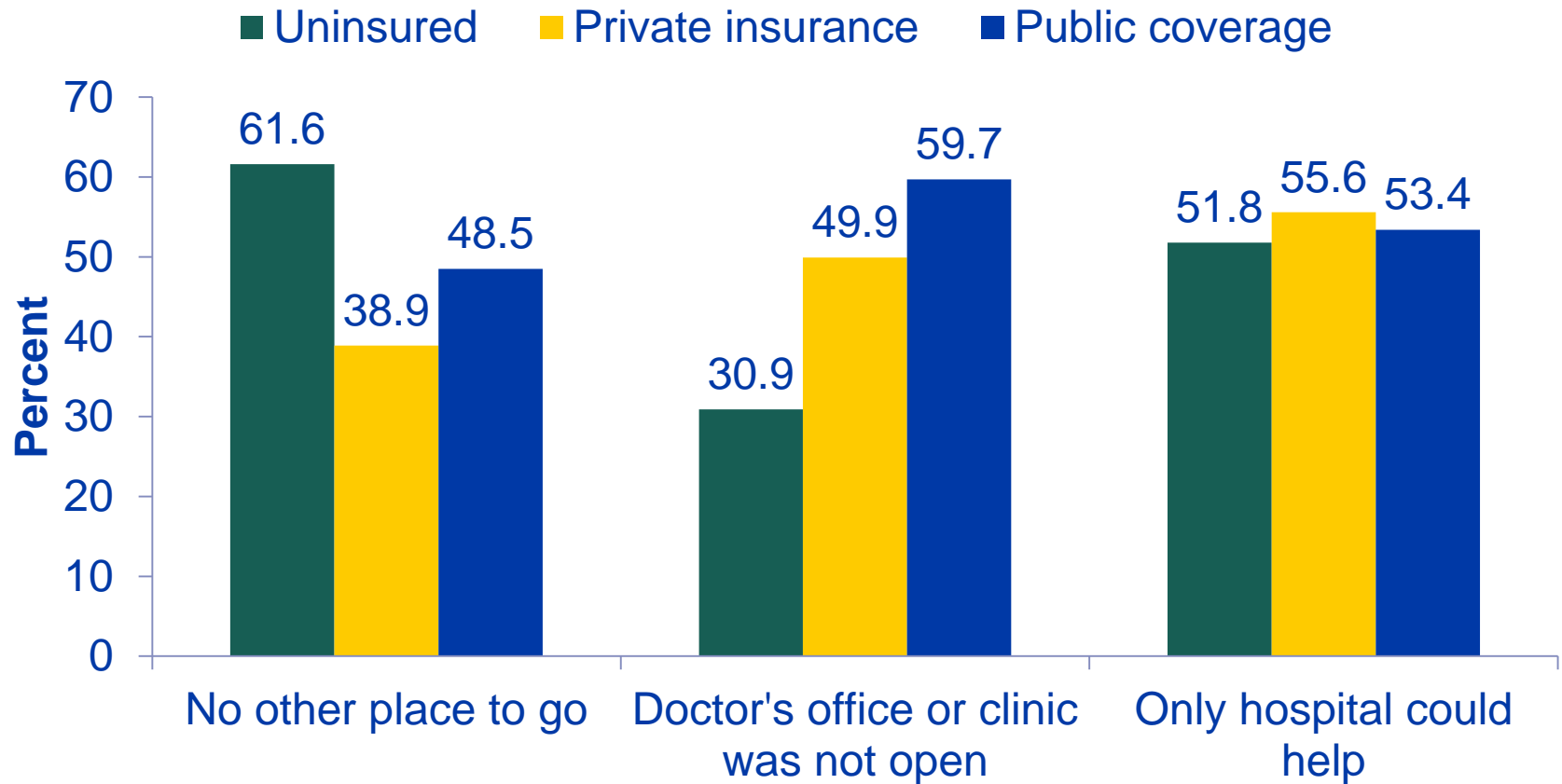
**20% VISITED
ER**

**73% NOT
ADMITTED**

Percentage with reason for last ER visit, among adults aged 18–64 whose last visit in past 12 months did not result in hospital admission: U.S., Jan–Jun 2011



Percentage with reason for last ER visit, among adults aged 18–64 whose last visit in past 12 months did not result in hospital admission, by insurance coverage status: U.S., Jan–Jun 2011



Reasons for Emergency Room Use

Future research:

- ❑ Reasons for ER visits among children, older adults
- ❑ Timing of use (nights / weekends)
- ❑ State-level estimates of ER use

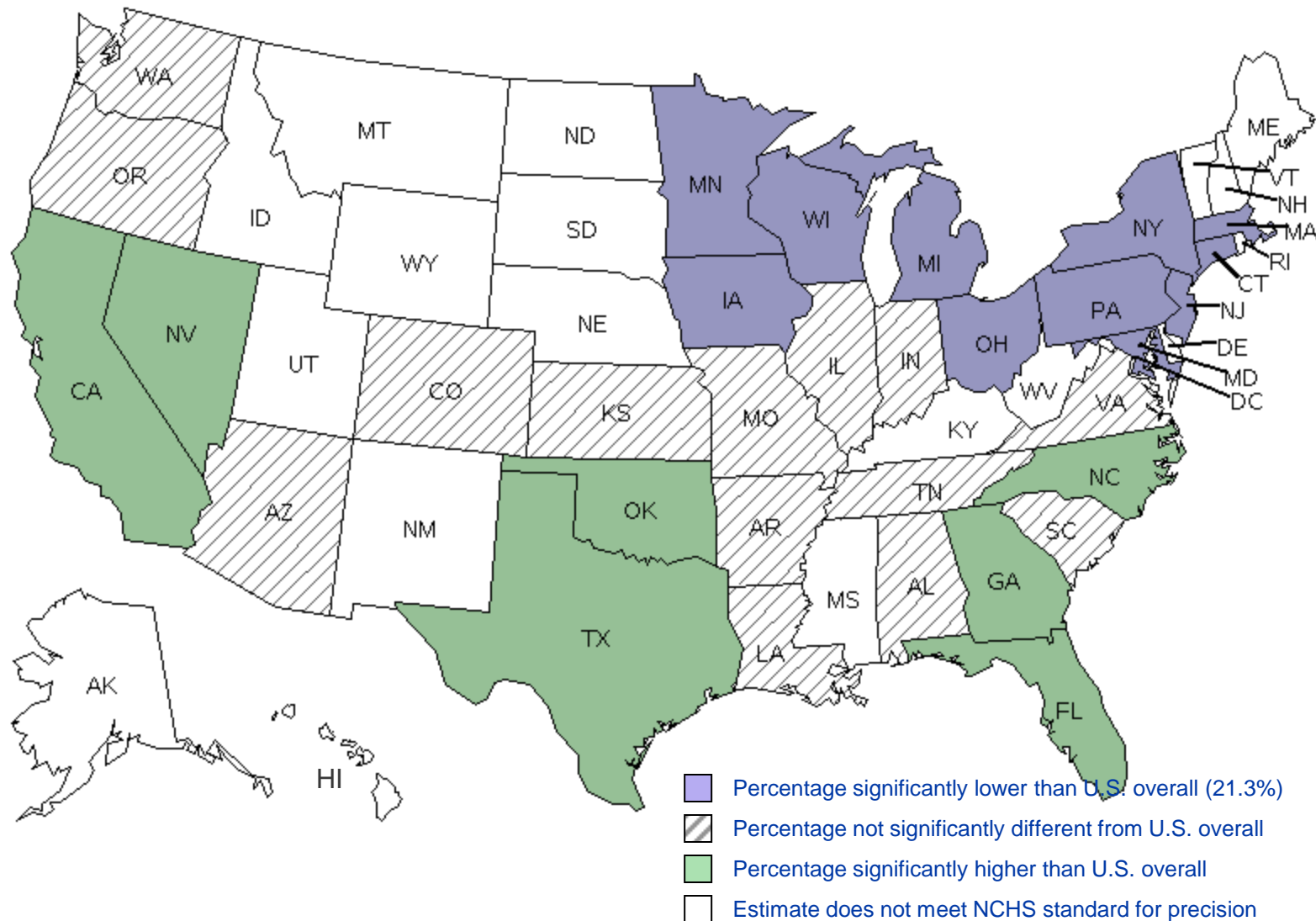
STATE-LEVEL HEALTH INSURANCE ESTIMATES

State-Level Health Insurance Estimates

Using existing NHIS questions:

- ❑ Insurance coverage at time of interview, by state of residence and age

Percentage of persons aged 18-64 who were uninsured at the time of interview, by state: U.S., 2011



State-Level Health Insurance Estimates

Future research:

- ❑ **Covariates for state-level health insurance estimation**
- ❑ **Additional topics for state-level estimation**

Conclusions

- ❑ **NHIS data can be used to monitor outcomes related to ACA provisions and important health correlates**
- ❑ **Useful for national, subgroup, state estimates**
- ❑ **Can establish baselines and indicate trends**

For more information please contact National Center for Health Statistics

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