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CPPP Statement on New Census Data on Texas

More Texans in poverty and Texans lack health insurance

(AUSTIN, Texas) — Center for Public Policy Priorities (CPPP) Senior Research Associate and KIDS COUNT Director Frances Deviney, Ph.D. made the following comments today regarding the new Census Data for 2010 from the Current Population Survey on Texas.

“The new figures show Texas families are hurting. More of us are living in poverty (4.6 million, up 8.7 percent from 2009), and once again Texas leads the nation in the rate of uninsured, with 24.6 percent of our population lacking health insurance.

“To reduce poverty, Texas needs to create a highly skilled and educated workforce. Yet the new state budget, which went into effect two weeks ago, makes deep cuts to our public schools, community colleges, and state universities.

“With so many Texans without health insurance, Texas needs to move aggressively to successfully implement national health care reform, which will give millions more Texans a way to get quality, affordable health care.

“Because of our state’s antiquated revenue system, Texas will face another revenue crisis when the Legislature returns in 2013. Texas must find a way to reform its revenue system to fairly and adequately fund our priorities to create a prosperous state.”

— CPPP —

About the Census

This new data is from the Census Bureau’s Current Population Survey (CPS). It is the first round of health insurance and poverty data to be released from the Census Bureau for 2010. The Census Bureau recommends looking at the CPS poverty numbers as preliminary for states, and points users to Sept. 22 when they will release the 2010 American Community Survey data (ACS). The ACS includes more Texas households, which allows for a more comprehensive analysis for the state and local areas. For more on the differences between the CPS and ACS, see our [Fact Sheet: Understanding the New Census Data on Poverty and Uninsured](#).

About CPPP

The Center for Public Policy Priorities (CPPP) is a nonpartisan, nonprofit policy institute committed to improving public policies to better the economic and social conditions of low- and moderate-income Texans. You can learn more about CPPP at www.cphp.org.

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