Translating percentages into estimated numbers of children/youth

**EXAMPLE**

Using information from the data query table on page 2

**STEP 1:** State your question.  
**Example:** In Texas, how many Hispanic children ages 0-17 were without health insurance at the time of the survey?

**STEP 2:** Determine the estimated number of children in the group you want to focus on. This is your “population of interest.”

**Example:** The 2003 National Survey of Children’s Health estimates the number of Hispanic children ages 0-17 living in TEXAS to be about 2,499,063 (see attached data table).

**STEP 3:** Select the specific characteristic you want to report about your population of interest. This is the “characteristic of interest.”

**Example:** Hispanic children without health insurance is our “characteristic of interest.” In TEXAS, about **28.1%** of Hispanic children ages 0-17 did not have health insurance at the time of the survey (see attached data table).

**STEP 3a:** What is the Lower 95% Confidence Limit of percent reported for the group having the characteristic of interest? (see attached data table)

**24.5%** (B)

**STEP 3b:** What is the Upper 95% Confidence Limit of percent reported for the group having the characteristic of interest? (see attached data table)

**31.6%** (C)

**STEP 4:** Calculate the numbers of children represented by the Lower and Upper Confidence Limits for the percent of children in your population of interest with the characteristic you are reporting:

Formula to calculate number for **Lower Confidence Limit:** \(( \frac{B}{100} ) \times A\)

Example using the figures for Texas listed in right column:

\[ \frac{24.5}{100} \times 2,499,063 = 612,270 \]

Formula to calculate number for **Upper Confidence Limit:** \(( \frac{C}{100} ) \times A\)

Example using the figures for Texas listed in right column:

\[ \frac{31.6}{100} \times 2,499,063 = 789,704 \]

**STEP 5:** Put your findings into words:

Using Upper and Lower 95% Confidence Limits results from above we can now say:

“According to the 2003 National Survey of Children’s Health, about **28%** of Hispanic children ages 0-17 living in TEXAS were uninsured at the time of the survey. Taking sampling error into account, it is estimated that between **612,270** and **789,704** Hispanic children in TEXAS were without health insurance at the time of survey.”

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Data Resource Center (DRC) is a project of the Child and Adolescent Health Measurement Initiative at Oregon Health & Science University.

DRC is sponsored by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau, Health Resources and Services Administration.
## Data Query Results Table Used in Example on Page 1

### Your Search Criteria

**Survey:** NSCH-2003  
**Starting Point:** Child Health Measures  
**State/Region:** Texas  
**Topic:** Health Insurance Coverage  
**Question:** 3.1: Health insurance status  
**Sub Group:** Race/ethnicity of child

Indicator 3.1: Does (child's name) have any kind of health care coverage, including health insurance, prepaid plans such as HMOs, or government plans such as Medicaid? (details...)

### Actions

- **Compare States:** Select a State/Region
- **Compare Subgroups:** Race/ethnicity of child

### Characteristic of Interest

"Uninsured Hispanic children"

### Population of Interest

"Hispanic children"

### Upper and Lower 95% Confidence Limits for group with Characteristics of Interest

24.5% - 31.6%

### Estimated Number of Children in Population of Interest

"2,499,063 Hispanic children ages 0-17 in TX"

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristic</th>
<th>No (%)</th>
<th>Yes (%)</th>
<th>Total %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>%</td>
<td>28.1</td>
<td>71.9</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C.I.</td>
<td>(24.5 - 31.6)</td>
<td>(68.4 - 75.5)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>n</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>885</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pop. Est.</td>
<td>701,255</td>
<td>1,797,808</td>
<td>2,499,063</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>%</td>
<td>8.1</td>
<td>91.9</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C.I.</td>
<td>(6.1 - 10.1)</td>
<td>(89.9 - 93.9)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>n</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>854</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pop. Est.</td>
<td>209,295</td>
<td>2,370,565</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi-racial</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>%</td>
<td>9.9</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C.I.</td>
<td>(0.0 - 20.2)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>n</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>11,615</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pop. Est.</td>
<td>33,181</td>
<td>134,428</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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### Translating percentages into estimated numbers of children/youth

**WORKSHEET**

**STEP 1:** State your question:

**STEP 2:** Identify your “population of interest.”

Enter the number of children estimated to be in the population of interest on Line (A) in the column on the right.

**STEP 3:** Determine the specific characteristic you will report for the population of interest. What percent of children in your population of interest have this characteristic? Enter the % in the column at the right.

**STEP 3a:** Enter the **Lower 95% Confidence Limit for the** percent reported for the group having the characteristic of interest on the Line B in the column on the right.

**STEP 3b:** Enter the **Upper 95% Confidence Limit for the** percent reported for the group having the characteristic of interest on the Line C in the column on the right.

**STEP 4:** Calculate the numbers of children in your population of interest that are represented by the Lower and Upper Confidence Limits of the percent with the specific characteristic you are reporting.

Insert the figures from the column on the right above into the corresponding spaces below.

Calculate number for **Lower Confidence Limit:**

\[
\left( \frac{\text{B}}{100} \right) \times \text{A} = \]

# of children represented by Lower Conf. Limit %

Calculate number for **Upper Confidence Limit:**

\[
\left( \frac{\text{C}}{100} \right) \times \text{A} = \]

# of children represented by Upper Conf. Limit %

**STEP 5:** Put your findings into words:

**EXAMPLE:** “In [country, state, region], between [number of children calculated for Lower Confidence Limit] and [number of children calculated for Upper Confidence Limit] in [population of interest] experience / have / report, etc. [characteristic of interest].”

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