

Record Number Of Persons Have Health Insurance

New York — A record 132 million Americans were protected by some form of health insurance at the end of 1960, the Health Insurance Institute reported today.

During the past year record benefits of \$5.6 billion were paid out to persons covered by health insurance, the institute said.

In a review of the past year, the institute estimated the number of persons having hospital insurance had increased by 4 million to 132 million as of Dec. 31, 1960. Some 120 million had surgical insurance, an increase of 3 million over the 1959 year-end count.

Regular medical insurance, which helps pay for the cost of doctor calls, protected 86 million persons at the end of 1960; 25 million had major medical insurance, and 43 million had loss-of-income insurance.

1959 Figures

The 1959 figures showed 83 million with regular medical insurance, some 22 million with major medical coverage, and 43 million with loss-of-income insurance.

The institute said that 73 per cent of the U.S. population had some form of health insurance by the end of 1960. An interim report on health insurance issued last month by the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW) had estimated that "at least two-thirds of the people now living in the United States have some kind of protection." The HEW estimate was derived from an interview survey of approximately 19,000 households during the period July-December, 1959.

Persons Covered

The institute's figures were based on an actual count of persons covered by policies and contracts issued by insurance companies and other insuring organizations, including Blue Cross-Blue Shield. Allowance was made for duplication of coverage.

The benefit payments of \$5.6 billion in 1960 represented an increase of about 9 per cent over the \$5,175,000,000 paid out in 1959, the institute said. Insurance companies paid out an estimated \$3 billion of the 1960 benefits, and all other insuring organizations paid out the remaining \$2.6 billion. In 1959, insurance companies paid out \$2,840,000,000 in health benefits and other organizations paid out \$2,335,000,000, said the institute.

A recent study by the institute listed more than 1,200 insuring organizations in the health insurance field, including 737 insurance companies.

Raw Materials to Be Scarce by 1980

Washington — (Science Service) — By 1980 the United States and Canada will need twice as much industrial raw material as they now use. Because of this high rate of consumption, these countries can no longer be classified as surplus materials areas, stated Wilbert G. Fritz of the U.S. Office of Civil and Defense Mobilization in a special report prepared for the Canadian-American committee.

During the next 20 years, the United States and Canada will become more dependent upon each other for sources of industrial raw materials. The United States will import more iron ore, natural gas and nickel from Canada, and Canada will depend upon the United States for more coal, molybdenum and phosphate.

In addition to the transfer of raw materials across the border, both countries will also rely more heavily on overseas sources of supply.

Credit Union Sets Meeting in Medford

The annual meeting of the Jackson county federal employees' credit union will be held at Kim's restaurant at 7 p.m. Friday, Sidney Ross, president, has announced. All federal employees in Jackson county, and credit union members are invited to attend.

Dr. E. Dean Anderson, Portland, director of Credit Union National association, will speak. Officers will be elected during a short business meeting. Questions or suggestions on the credit union operation can be brought up at this time, Ross said.

Those planning to attend should call Ross at TAibot 6-2281, Millicent Pestka at TAibot 6-9381, or Lee Hubler at SPring 3-4515.

Two-thirds of South Carolina — 10,732,000 acres — are planted with trees. Most are pine and cypress.

There are four times as many night traffic fatalities as in the day.



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