

# Snapshot

## Remaining Uninsured in California



Revised and updated\*

April 25, 2018

Prior to the ACA, the uninsured rate for nonelderly Californians hovered between 16 and 19 percent.<sup>1</sup> Although California's implementation of the ACA dramatically reduced the number of uninsured, nearly three million uninsured Californians remain (7 percent of the population, or 8.1 percent<sup>2</sup> of those under age 65). This snapshot provides a quick profile of California's remaining uninsured.

For more detailed information about California's uninsured and methodologies used in this analysis, view the [ITUP Remaining Uninsured in California Fact Sheet](#).

### Who are California's Uninsured?

- Most uninsured Californians (1.8 million or 58 percent) are undocumented, and many are ineligible for existing programs because of immigration status.<sup>3</sup> (Figure 1)
- About 723,000 or 24 percent are eligible for either Medi-Cal or subsidies through Covered California, but not enrolled.<sup>4</sup> (Figure 1)
- Los Angeles County has the largest number of uninsured, 893,000, representing 30 percent of the state's uninsured.<sup>5</sup> (Figure 4)
- As of early 2017, approximately 266,000 California children, or 2.9 percent, were uninsured.<sup>6</sup>
- More than half of the uninsured, 55 percent, are Latino.<sup>7</sup> (Figure 2)
- The majority of the uninsured, 1.5 million or 53 percent, are under 200 percent of the federal poverty level (FPL). Another 800,500, or 27 percent, are between 200 and 399 percent FPL, making them income eligible for subsidies to purchase coverage through Covered California.<sup>8</sup> (Figure 3)

Figure 1

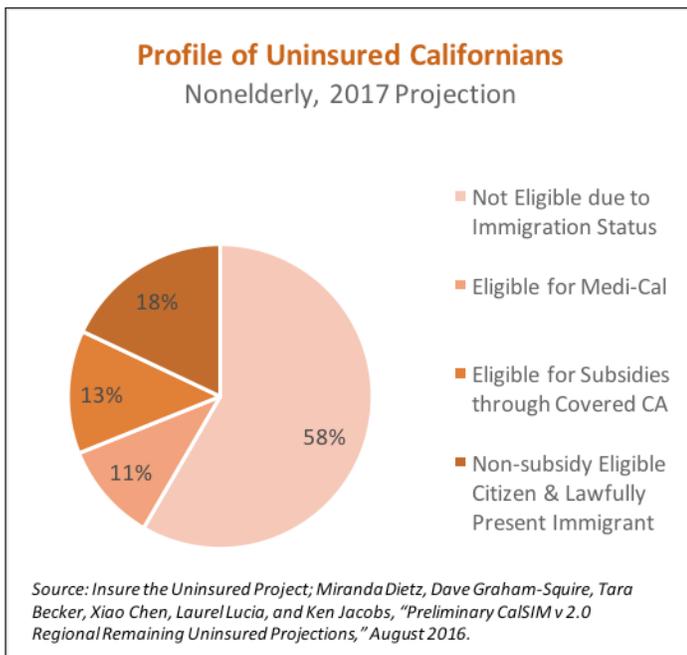


Figure 2

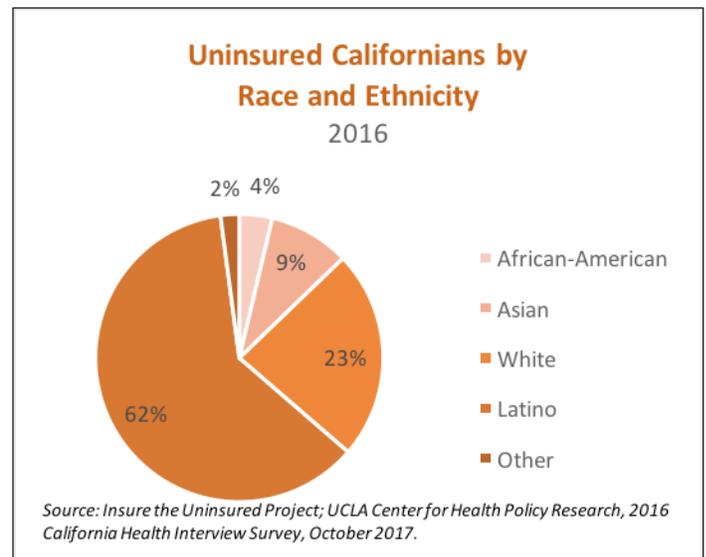


Figure 3

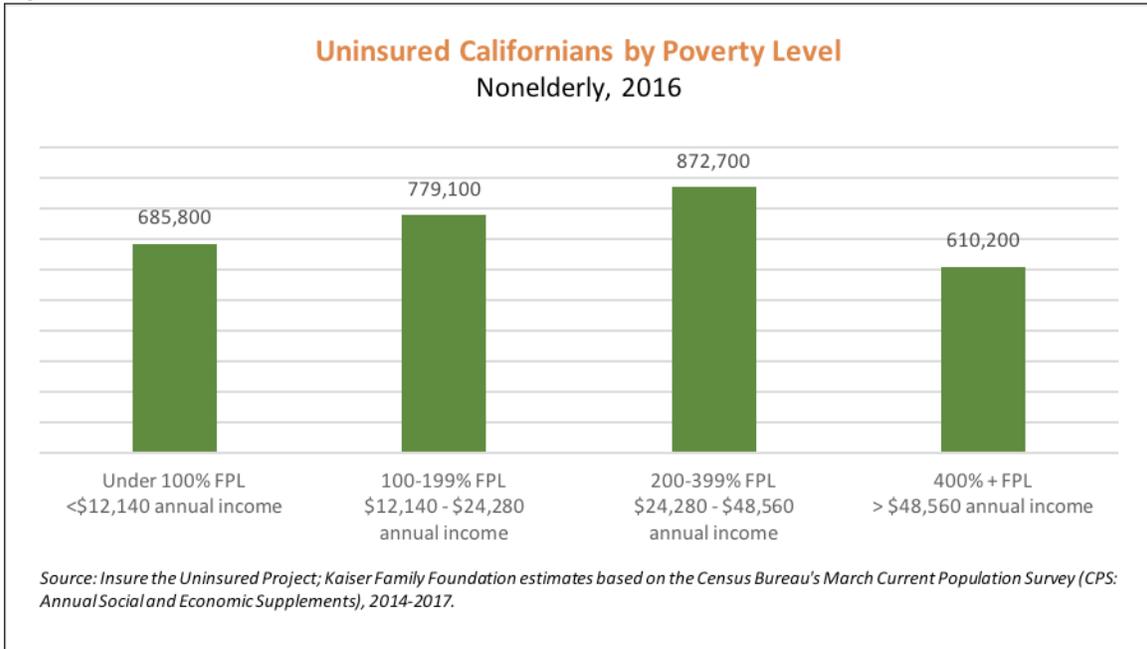
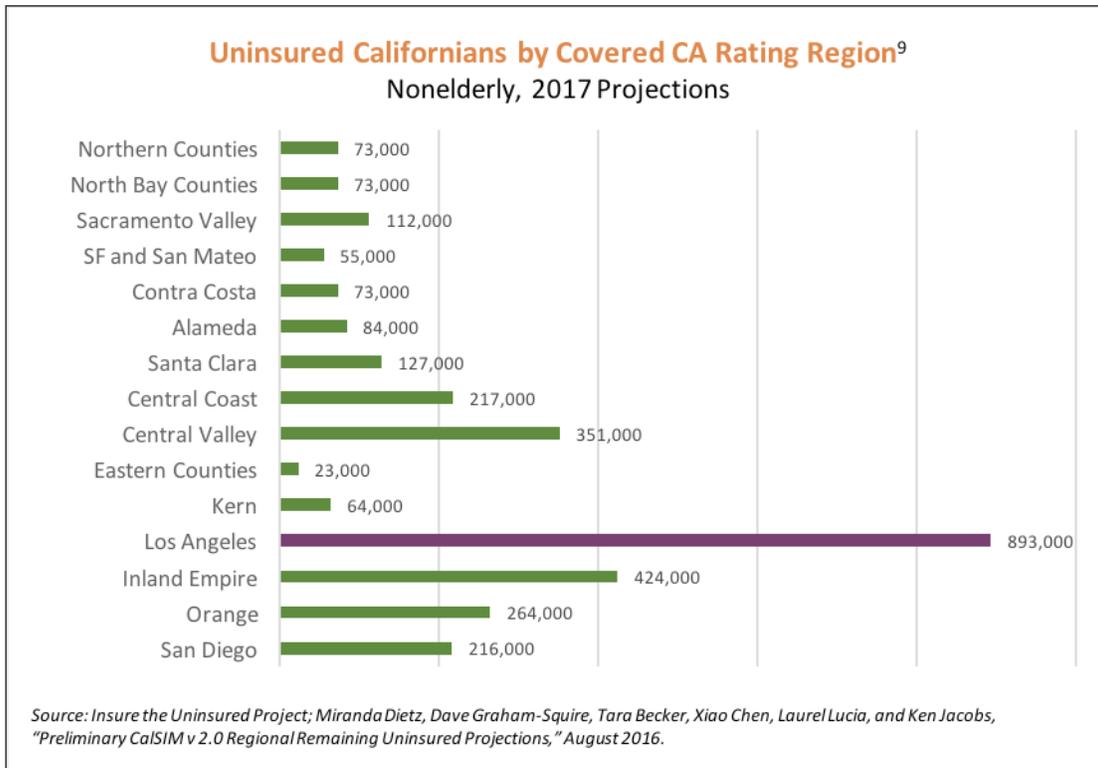


Figure 4



## Notes

- 1 National Health Interview Survey, [“Early Release Reports on Detailed Estimates of Health Insurance Coverage,”](#) Reports from 2007-2017.
- 2 Michael E. Martinez, Emily P. Zammitti, and Robin A. Cohen, [“Health Insurance Coverage: Early Release of Estimates From the National Health Interview Survey, January – September 2017.”](#) National Center for Health Statistics, February 2018.
- 3 Miranda Dietz, Dave Graham-Squire, Tara Becker, Xiao Chen, Laurel Lucia, and Ken Jacobs, [“Preliminary CalSIM v 2.0 Regional Remaining Uninsured Projections,”](#) UCLA Center for Health Policy Research and UC Berkeley Labor Center, August 2016.
- 4 Dietz, [“Regional Remaining Uninsured Projections.”](#)
- 5 Dietz, [“Regional Remaining Uninsured Projections.”](#)
- 6 Martinez, [“Health Insurance Coverage: Early Release Estimates.”](#)
- 7 UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, [2016 California Health Interview Survey](#), Public Use File, October 2017.
- 8 Kaiser Family Foundation, [“Uninsured Rates for the Nonelderly by Federal Poverty Level \(FPL\),”](#) 2016. Based on the Census Bureau’s March Current Population Survey (CPS: Annual Social and Economic Supplements), 2014-2017.
- 9 Covered California regions by CalSIM grouping as in Figure 5: Northern California (1) Alpine, Amador, Butte, Calaveras, Colusa, Del Norte, Glenn, Humboldt, Lake, Lassen, Mendocino, Modoc, Nevada, Plumas, Shasta, Sierra, Siskiyou, Sutter, Tehama, Trinity, Tuolumne, and Yuba; North Bay (2) Marin, Napa, Solano, and Sonoma; Sacramento Valley (3) Sacramento, Placer, El Dorado and Yolo; San Francisco and San Mateo (4 and 8); Contra Costa (5); Alameda (6); Santa Clara (7); Central Coast (9 and 12) Monterey, San Benito, and Santa Cruz; San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara and Ventura; Central Valley (10 and 11) San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Merced, Mariposa and Tulare; Fresno, Kings and Madera; Santa Clara (7); Eastern Counties (13) Mono, Inyo and Imperial; Kern (14); and Los Angeles (15 and 16).

## About ITUP

Insure the Uninsured Project (ITUP) is a Sacramento-based nonprofit health policy institute that for more than two decades has provided expert analysis and facilitated convenings for California policymakers and decisionmakers focused on health reform.

***The mission of ITUP is to promote innovative and workable policy solutions that expand health care access and improve the health of Californians, through policy-focused research and broad-based stakeholder engagement.***

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