

Remaining Uninsured in California

Prior to the ACA, the uninsured rate for nonelderly Californians persisted around **20 percent**.¹ Although California’s implementation of the ACA dramatically reduced the number of uninsured, nearly **three million** uninsured Californians remain (**6.8 percent**² of the population, or **7.8 percent**³ of those under 65 years old). 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 [Remaining Uninsured in California Fact Sheet](#).

WHO ARE CALIFORNIA’S UNINSURED?

- According to projections for 2017, most uninsured Californians (**1.8 million** or **58 percent**) will not be eligible for coverage due to immigration status.⁴ (Figure 1)
- About **723,000** or **24 percent** are eligible for either Medi-Cal or subsidies through Covered California, but not enrolled.⁵ (Figure 1)
- Los Angeles County has the largest number of uninsured residents, **893,000**, representing **30 percent** of the state’s uninsured.⁶
- As of early 2017, approximately **290,000** California children, or **3.2 percent**, were uninsured.⁷
- More than half, **55 percent**, are Latino.⁸ (Figure 2)
- The majority, **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.⁹

Figure 1

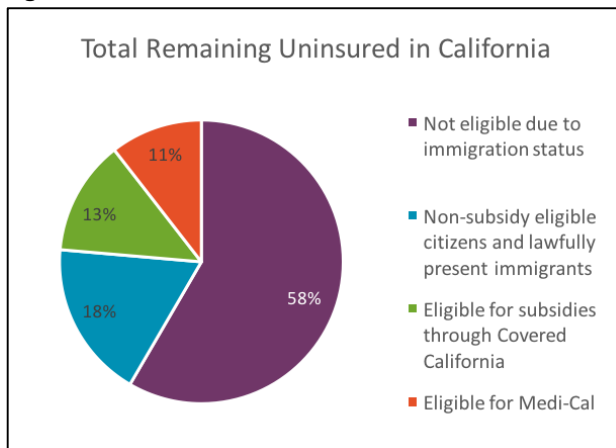
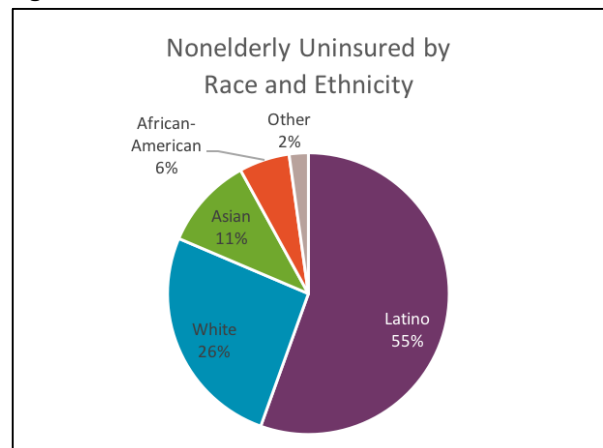


Figure 2



Insure the Uninsured Project (ITUP) is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) organization, founded in 1996 to focus attention on California’s uninsured. Based in Sacramento, California, ITUP’s mission is to promote innovative and workable policy solutions that expand health care access and improve the health of Californians. ITUP conducts policy-focused research and convenes broad-based stakeholders on health policy topics, acting as an honest broker to find common ground among diverse health care leaders in the state. To assist with implementation of health reform in California, ITUP hosts an annual statewide conference in Sacramento and facilitates regional and statewide workgroups on topics affecting health and health care in the state.

For more information on this fact sheet, contact ITUP Executive Director Deborah Kelch, at 916-226-3899.

ITUP is generously supported by the following funders:

Blue Shield of California Foundation
Kaiser Permanente
The California Wellness Foundation

California Community Foundation
L.A. Care Health Plan

California Health Care Foundation
The California Endowment

ITUP NOTES

¹ U.S. Census Bureau, 1-Year American Community Surveys, “HIC-6. Health Insurance Coverage Status and Type of Coverage by State – Persons Under 65: 2008 to 2015,” 2015, <https://www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/demo/health-insurance/historical-series/hic.html>.

² Emily P. Zammitti, Robin A. Cohen, and Michael E. Martinez, “Health Insurance Coverage: Early Release of Estimates From the National Health Interview Survey, January – June 2017,” November 2017, <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nhis/earlyrelease/insur201711.pdf>.

³ Zammitti et al.

⁴ Miranda Dietz, Dave Graham-Squire, Tara Becker, Xiao Chen, Laurel Lucia, and Ken Jacobs, “Preliminary CalSIM v 2.0 Regional Remaining Uninsured Projections,” August 2016, <http://laborcenter.berkeley.edu/pdf/2016/Preliminary-CalSIM-20-Regional-Remaining-Uninsured-2017.pdf>.

⁵ Dietz et al.

⁶ Dietz et al.

⁷ Zammitti et al.

⁸ Employee Benefit Research Institute, “CPS Data December 2016,” California Health Care Foundation, December 2016, <http://www.chcf.org/publications/2016/12/californias-uninsured>, (Based on estimates from the Current Population Survey, March 2016 Supplement.)

⁹ Kaiser Family Foundation, “Uninsured Rates for the Nonelderly by Federal Poverty Level (FPL),” 2015, <http://www.kff.org/uninsured/state-indicator/rate-by-fpl/?dataView=1¤tTimeframe=0&selectedRows=%7B%22states%22:%7B%22california%22:%7B%7D%7D%7D&sortModel=%7B%22colId%22:%22Location%22,%22sort%22:%22asc%22%7D>. (Based on analysis of the U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, March Supplement.)