Coverage Rates Stabilize for Children's Health Insurance
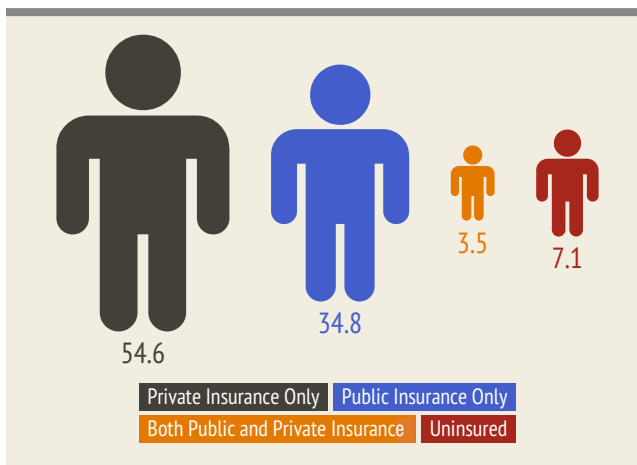
State Policy Change May Be Needed to Address Remaining Children Without Insurance

Michael J. Staley

Recognizing that adequate health care is key to childhood development and long-term health, policy makers expanded public programs to provide children with health insurance: first, Medicaid in 1965 and, in 1997, the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP). In April of 2015, Congress renewed SCHIP for two additional years. Therefore, providing children with health coverage has been recognized by lawmakers as key to childhood development and long-term health. This brief uses data from the American Community Survey to estimate children's health insurance coverage from 2008–2013 across the United States as well as by region, place type, and type of coverage.

Rates of coverage remained stable in 2013 relative to 2012 at 92.9 percent (see Figure 1). For the first time in five years, a decline (0.3 percentage point) occurred

FIGURE 1. PERCENT OF CHILDREN WITH PRIVATE, PUBLIC, OR NO INSURANCE, 2013

54.6 — Private Insurance Only
34.8 — Public Insurance Only
3.5 — Both Public and Private Insurance
7.1 — Uninsured

Source: American Community Survey, 1-year estimates, 2008–2013

KEY FINDINGS

92.9% Decreases in rates of private insurance coverage among children were offset by increases in rates of coverage by public insurance in 2013, keeping national coverage stable at 92.9 percent.

Rates rose in the West, continuing a trend since 2008. However, at 92 percent, rates among children there and in the South are still lower than in the Northeast and Midwest, where rates have stabilized above 94 percent.

Children in rural places are less likely to have insurance than children in central cities or suburbs. Since 2008, rates of coverage in central cities have increased more rapidly than rates in rural areas.

For the first time since 2008, coverage in rural places dropped by 0.4 percentage point nationally.

among children in the Northeast region, though this decrease was offset by a 0.6 percentage point increase in coverage in the West. Coverage in the Midwest and South remained stable from 2012 to 2013 (see Figure 2).

Nonetheless, all regions experienced some increase in insurance rates after 2008, the first full year of the Great Recession. The most significant gains were in the South and West (nearly 4 percentage points in each region), where rates have traditionally lagged behind the Northeast and Midwest. State-by-state coverage details by place type are provided in Table 1.

FIGURE 2. RATES OF INSURANCE COVERAGE AMONG CHILDREN BY REGION, 2008–2013
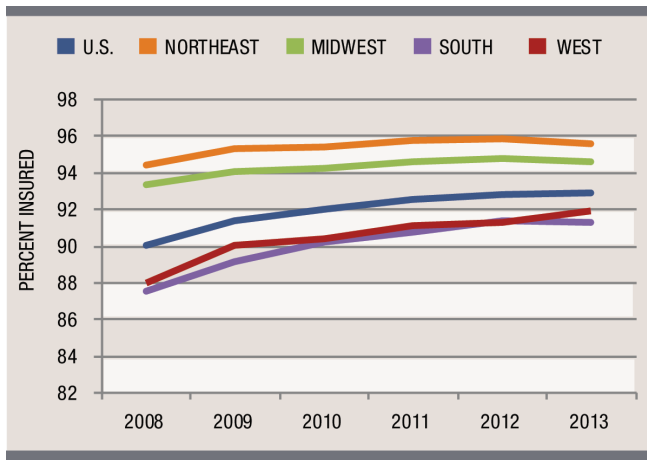
Source: American Community Survey, 1-year estimates, 2008–2013

The proportion of children with health insurance in rural areas grew between 2008 and 2012; between 2012 and 2013, however, rates fell slightly (see Figure 3). Modest declines in rates of coverage occurred in the rural Northeast and rural South as well as in suburban places in the Northeast and Midwest (see Table 1). Overall gains in coverage were evident only in Western suburbs and central cities. Rates of coverage among children in central cities have grown steadily since 2008. (See Box 1 on page 6 for definitions of place type.)

FIGURE 3. RATES OF INSURANCE COVERAGE AMONG CHILDREN BY PLACE TYPE, 2008–2013
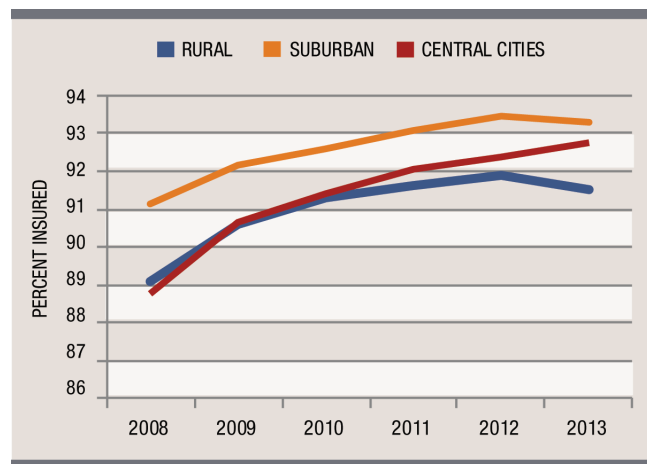
Source: American Community Survey, 1-year estimates, 2008–2013

Since the Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act (CHIPRA) in 2009, rates of public insurance have increased while rates of private coverage have declined. This trend continued in 2013, as increases in public insurance (0.3 percentage points) offset declines in private insurance (0.2 percentage points). In line with this trend, growth in overall rates of coverage have been driven by gains in public insurance; since 2008, rates of public coverage grew a full ten percentage points. Since the beginning of the postrecession period, rates of private insurance have stabilized, but not grown although rates of employment have rebounded. This new trend may indicate that the link between children's health insurance status and parental employment-benefits status was weakened after the recession (see Figure 4). For example, some parents may be forced to take jobs that do not offer benefits or they may be unable to pay for coverage. State-by-state coverage details for place types and insurance type are presented in Table 2. Note that a small percentage of children had both public and private insurance at the time the data were collected; thus, the percentages in these tables and figures do not sum to 100 percent.

FIGURE 4. RATES OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE AMONG CHILDREN AND ANNUAL UNEMPLOYMENT RATE, 2008–2013
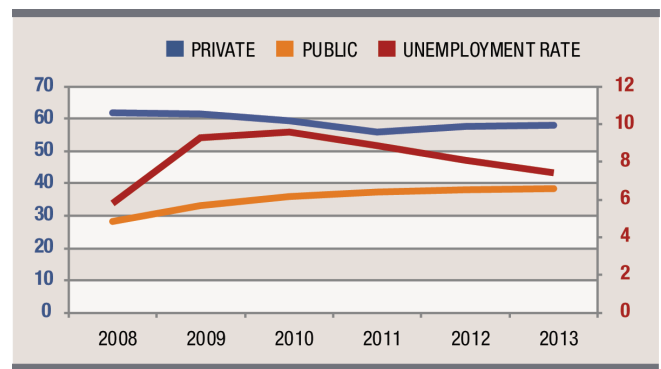
Source: American Community Survey, 1-year estimates, 2008–2013

Coverage among children is highly dependent on state policy: although Medicaid and CHIP are federally subsidized programs, states have a great deal of leeway in how these funds are used and who is eligible. (More data are available in the online version of the brief.) Nearly 28 percent of the nation's children live in just three states—California, Texas, and Florida—giving these states particular capacity to shape coverage rates at the national level.

TABLE 1. PERCENTAGE POINT CHANGE IN HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR PERSONS UNDER AGE 18, 2008, 2012, AND 2013

	TOTAL			RURAL			SUBURBAN			CENTRAL CITY		
	% INSURED IN 2013	CHANGE SINCE 2012	CHANGE SINCE 2008	% INSURED IN 2013	CHANGE SINCE 2012	CHANGE SINCE 2008	% INSURED IN 2013	CHANGE SINCE 2012	CHANGE SINCE 2008	% INSURED IN 2013	CHANGE SINCE 2012	CHANGE SINCE 2008
UNITED STATES	92.9	0.0	**2.8**	91.5	**-0.4**	**2.4**	93.3	-0.1	**2.2**	92.7	**0.4**	**4.0**
NORTHEAST	95.6	**-0.3**	**1.2**	92.8	**-1.0**	0.4	96.0	**-0.3**	**0.9**	95.6	-0.1	**1.9**
MIDWEST	94.6	-0.2	**1.3**	92.6	-0.1	**1.0**	95.5	**-0.4**	**0.8**	94.7	0.2	**2.4**
SOUTH	91.3	-0.1	**3.8**	91.1	**-0.5**	**2.9**	91.5	-0.1	**3.1**	91.1	0.3	**5.3**
WEST	91.9	**0.6**	**3.9**	89.5	-0.1	**4.9**	92.2	**0.5**	**3.2**	92.0	**0.9**	**4.6**
ALABAMA	95.7	-0.3	**3.7**	95.9	0.7	**4.7**	95.6	-0.7	**2.5**	95.5	-0.7	**4.7**
ALASKA	88.4	2.3	1.2									
ARIZONA	88.1	**1.3**	**4.3**	87.4	**6.0**	**8.3**	88.8	0.6	**2.4**	87.5	1.2	**5.3**
ARKANSAS	94.5	0.4	**3.2**	94.3	0.2	**3.3**	94.7	0.4	**1.1**	94.4	0.7	**5.4**
CALIFORNIA	92.6	**0.6**	**3.5**	90.0	-0.5	**4.7**	92.4	0.3	**2.8**	93.1	**1.0**	**4.2**
COLORADO	91.8	0.6	**6.1**				93.4	**1.8**	**4.2**	91.3	-0.1	**7.8**
CONNECTICUT	95.7	-0.5	0.6				96.5	-0.7	0.3	93.9	0.1	**1.3**
DELAWARE	95.5	**-1.0**	**3.3**									
DC	97.6	-0.7	**1.9**									
FLORIDA	88.9	-0.1	**6.5**	88.1	0.9	**7.5**	88.5	-0.6	**5.9**	90.3	0.8	**7.8**
GEORGIA	90.4	**-0.7**	**1.9**	89.4	**-2.6**	0.8	90.4	-0.4	**1.7**	91.7	-0.3	**3.9**
HAWAII	97.0	0.4	0.6									
IDAHO	91.1	-0.4	**4.7**				91.9	-0.7	**4.8**			
ILLINOIS	95.8	**-0.8**	**1.5**	95.0	-0.9	0.2	96.1	**-0.8**	**1.0**	95.7	**-1.0**	**2.7**
INDIANA	91.8	0.2	**1.9**	89.1	1.2	**3.5**	92.6	**-1.0**	0.3	92.6	**1.6**	**3.4**
IOWA	95.9	-0.1	**1.5**	94.1	**-1.2**	0.3				97.2	0.8	**3.9**
KANSAS	93.9	0.5	**2.1**	93.4	1.1	**3.5**	95.3	0.1	0.6	92.8	0.6	**2.2**
KENTUCKY	94.1	-0.3	**1.1**	92.8	**-1.6**	0.8	94.5	-0.2	**1.1**	95.9	**1.6**	**1.6**
LOUISIANA	94.3	-0.4	**2.0**	88.8	**-4.7**	-0.9	95.2	-0.2	**2.4**	95.8	**1.2**	**2.0**
MAINE	94.1	**-1.3**	**1.5**									
MARYLAND	95.6	**-0.6**	**0.8**				95.5	**-0.8**	0.4	95.7	0.1	**2.4**
MASSACHUSETTS	98.5	-0.1	**0.6**				98.4	-0.3	**0.5**	98.7	0.7	0.8
MICHIGAN	96.0	0.0	**1.2**	94.1	-0.1	-0.7	96.6	-0.2	**1.2**	95.9	0.2	**2.2**
MINNESOTA	94.4	-0.3	**0.7**	92.3	0.1	0.6	95.5	-0.3	**0.7**	93.6	-0.8	0.3
MISSISSIPPI	92.4	-0.3	**5.0**	93.2	0.1	**6.2**	91.3	-0.4	**2.0**	91.6	-1.6	**8.4**
MISSOURI	93.0	0.0	0.1	92.2	1.2	0.5	93.7	-0.5	-0.2	92.1	-0.2	0.6
MONTANA	89.9	1.0	**4.4**	89.2	**2.5**	**6.9**						
NEBRASKA	94.5	0.5	**1.4**	92.9	0.0	1.5				94.5	0.8	**1.5**
NEVADA	85.1	**1.7**	**5.3**				85.7	1.8	**4.4**	84.3	1.3	**6.1**
NEW HAMPSHIRE	96.2	0.2	**1.3**									
NEW JERSEY	94.4	-0.5	**1.7**				94.6	-0.4	**1.4**	93.3	-0.6	**3.9**
NEW MEXICO	91.5	-0.5	**5.2**	88.9	**-2.8**	**3.4**	91.2	**-1.9**	**5.7**	94.2	**3.0**	**6.4**
NEW YORK	96.0	-0.1	**1.8**	92.0	-0.7	1.3	96.4	-0.3	**1.5**	96.1	0.1	**2.0**
NORTH CAROLINA	93.7	**1.3**	**3.5**	92.9	0.9	**2.8**	94.1	**2.0**	**3.7**	93.6	0.4	**3.6**
NORTH DAKOTA	92.1	-1.1	-0.2									
OHIO	94.7	-0.1	**1.9**	92.2	-0.2	**1.4**	95.6	-0.1	**1.3**	94.6	0.2	**3.9**
OKLAHOMA	90.0	0.0	**2.9**	88.7	0.1	**3.5**	90.7	-0.6	**2.1**	90.4	0.7	**3.0**
OREGON	94.2	0.5	**6.9**	92.3	-0.3	**8.1**	94.2	0.6	**6.8**	94.9	0.5	**6.0**
PENNSYLVANIA	94.6	-0.3	**0.7**	90.7	**-2.1**	**-2.1**	95.2	-0.2	**0.4**	94.4	-0.3	**2.6**
RHODE ISLAND	94.6	-0.9	0.2									
SOUTH CAROLINA	93.3	**1.5**	**5.8**	93.6	**4.0**	**6.0**	93.1	**1.1**	**5.7**	93.6	-0.2	**6.3**
SOUTH DAKOTA	93.7	-0.5	**2.1**	92.9	0.1	**4.9**						
TENNESSEE	94.3	-0.1	**1.5**	93.6	-0.2	0.6	95.5	0.1	**1.3**	93.2	-0.3	**2.2**
TEXAS	87.4	-0.3	**5.2**	85.2	-0.5	**4.2**	87.8	-0.6	**3.3**	87.4	0.1	**7.1**
UTAH	90.5	0.6	**3.6**				91.4	0.7	**2.8**	88.4	0.9	**7.8**
VERMONT	96.9	-0.3	0.9									
VIRGINIA	94.6	0.2	**2.2**	92.4	-1.1	1.7	94.8	0.5	**1.9**	95.0	-0.2	**2.9**
WASHINGTON	94.1	-0.2	**2.5**	92.2	**-2.1**	0.3	94.5	-0.1	**3.1**	93.8	0.1	**2.2**
WEST VIRGINIA	94.7	**-1.4**	**1.4**	94.7	**-1.7**	**3.1**	94.7	-0.8	-0.4			
WISCONSIN	95.3	0.0	**0.5**	92.9	-0.8	**1.0**	96.1	-0.3	-0.4	96.0	**1.1**	**1.4**
WYOMING	94.3	**3.6**	**3.0**									

Source: American Community Survey, 1-year estimates, 2008–2013. Note: Bold typeface indicates a statistically significant change (p<0.05). "Change" columns are displayed in percentage points. Shaded cells indicate geographies for which small sample sizes result in unreliable estimates.

TABLE 2. PERCENTAGE POINT CHANGE IN PRIVATE AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR PERSONS UNDER AGE 18, 2008, 2012, AND 2013

	TOTAL						RURAL					
	PERCENT INSURED IN 2013	PRIVATE PERCENTAGE POINT CHANGE SINCE 2012	PERCENTAGE POINT CHANGE SINCE 2008	2013	PUBLIC PERCENTAGE POINT CHANGE SINCE 2012	PERCENTAGE POINT CHANGE SINCE 2008	2013	PRIVATE PERCENTAGE POINT CHANGE SINCE 2012	PERCENTAGE POINT CHANGE SINCE 2008	2013	PUBLIC PERCENTAGE POINT CHANGE SINCE 2012	PERCENTAGE POINT CHANGE SINCE 2008
UNITED STATES	58.1	**-0.2**	**-6.0**	38.3	**0.3**	**10.0**	51.5	**-0.8**	**-6.2**	44.4	0.2	**9.5**
NORTHEAST	63.9	**-0.7**	**-6.7**	36.1	0.4	**9.4**	58.9	-1.0	**-6.0**	39.4	-0.2	**7.7**
MIDWEST	63.1	-0.2	**-6.4**	35.6	0.0	**8.9**	60.2	-0.4	**-5.7**	37.6	-0.1	**7.9**
SOUTH	53.3	**-0.3**	**-5.8**	41.1	**0.4**	**10.5**	43.4	**-1.9**	**-7.5**	51.3	**1.2**	**11.0**
WEST	57.2	0.3	**-5.2**	38.0	0.2	**10.5**	51.2	-0.3	**-5.4**	42.4	-0.2	**11.1**
ALABAMA	54.8	-0.5	**-7.8**	44.5	0.0	**12.6**	45.9	**-3.6**	**-9.9**	54.5	**3.6**	**14.9**
ALASKA	59.2	1.6	**-7.1**	33.7	0.4	**8.1**						
ARIZONA	53.9	**2.0**	**-2.6**	37.8	0.1	**8.8**	36.0	-3.5	-11.3	54.4	**8.1**	**19.2**
ARKANSAS	45.8	-0.9	**-3.7**	52.5	**2.3**	**7.4**	37.0	-1.6	**-7.1**	60.8	2.2	**9.8**
CALIFORNIA	54.1	-0.4	**-5.8**	41.5	**0.8**	**10.5**	46.3	-2.8	-3.7	48.6	2.1	**11.2**
COLORADO	63.4	1.1	**-4.5**	31.5	0.0	**12.5**						
CONNECTICUT	65.7	**-2.0**	**-9.3**	33.3	1.3	**11.3**						
DELAWARE	61.9	-0.4	**-8.6**	38.4	-0.6	**13.2**						
DC	54.6	0.2	-0.9	51.3	0.1	**7.5**						
FLORIDA	49.9	-0.4	**-8.6**	41.6	0.2	**16.1**	38.8	-0.3	**-7.1**	52.3	1.6	**16.5**
GEORGIA	53.3	-0.5	**-5.3**	40.0	0.0	**8.1**	40.8	**-2.8**	**-7.6**	51.2	-0.4	**8.4**
HAWAII	69.9	1.4	**-7.9**	31.1	-0.9	**10.2**						
IDAHO	60.9	-0.1	**-3.7**	34.1	-1.1	**9.4**						
ILLINOIS	58.1	**-1.4**	**-7.8**	40.9	0.2	**10.1**	56.1	**-2.5**	**-6.6**	44.2	0.6	**7.6**
INDIANA	60.7	-0.3	**-5.7**	34.4	0.2	**8.4**	60.6	**2.3**	-1.7	32.5	-2.3	**6.0**
IOWA	67.3	**-2.4**	**-6.8**	34.2	**1.7**	**9.7**	63.7	-2.1	**-8.2**	36.8	0.2	**9.6**
KANSAS	65.7	0.7	**-5.8**	31.9	0.3	**9.4**	62.4	2.2	**-5.2**	34.9	-1.6	**10.0**
KENTUCKY	57.0	-0.8	**-4.8**	40.7	0.8	**7.1**	47.2	-0.2	-3.9	48.8	-1.6	**5.6**
LOUISIANA	49.4	0.9	**-1.9**	48.9	-1.5	**4.9**	38.9	**-6.5**	**-5.6**	55.1	1.5	**6.4**
MAINE	59.9	2.5	**-4.5**	40.9	-2.6	**8.3**						
MARYLAND	66.7	-0.4	**-7.4**	32.1	0.4	**9.4**						
MASSACHUSETTS	70.0	-1.1	**-7.1**	33.2	0.8	**9.2**						
MICHIGAN	61.3	0.6	**-6.3**	39.9	-0.4	**9.0**	56.0	-1.8	**-8.8**	45.1	**2.2**	**8.6**
MINNESOTA	72.6	-0.2	**-5.3**	25.9	0.2	**7.7**	68.0	1.1	**-4.4**	29.4	-1.1	**6.8**
MISSISSIPPI	44.0	-0.5	**-5.2**	51.9	0.3	**10.8**	37.7	-1.0	**-5.6**	59.0	1.6	**11.9**
MISSOURI	62.6	**1.6**	**-4.1**	33.8	-1.0	**5.2**	51.4	-0.4	**-4.9**	44.4	0.9	**6.3**
MONTANA	56.1	2.3	**-9.6**	37.8	-0.3	**16.0**	53.6	2.9	-7.7	39.9	1.2	**16.8**
NEBRASKA	67.5	0.1	**-6.7**	30.3	0.9	**9.1**	66.4	0.8	-3.6	30.2	-0.9	**6.5**
NEVADA	59.5	1.6	**-7.9**	28.5	-0.6	**14.1**						
NEW HAMPSHIRE	69.7	0.3	**-7.5**	29.7	0.0	**9.5**						
NEW JERSEY	66.9	**-1.1**	**-7.1**	30.0	0.6	**9.7**						
NEW MEXICO	42.1	**-2.5**	**-5.3**	53.7	1.6	**11.3**	40.7	1.2	2.8	53.1	**-4.1**	-0.5
NEW YORK	60.2	-0.7	**-6.2**	40.6	0.5	**9.9**	57.7	**-3.0**	**-5.8**	39.3	0.9	**9.2**
NORTH CAROLINA	53.9	0.2	**-6.2**	42.7	1.0	**10.5**	42.4	**-3.1**	**-10.0**	53.8	**3.6**	**13.4**
NORTH DAKOTA	75.1	-1.6	-0.6	21.7	1.8	2.7						
OHIO	62.6	0.2	**-6.9**	36.2	**-1.0**	**9.9**	59.3	-0.3	**-6.1**	38.8	-1.1	**8.9**
OKLAHOMA	50.8	-0.9	**-4.4**	43.4	1.1	**8.6**	45.1	0.2	-3.2	48.7	0.7	**8.4**
OREGON	60.3	1.0	**-7.6**	37.6	-1.3	**16.6**	49.5	-3.8	**-10.2**	47.5	1.1	**20.8**
PENNSYLVANIA	64.3	0.2	**-6.2**	35.5	-0.2	**8.0**	59.5	**-2.2**	**-6.3**	37.3	0.8	**5.4**
RHODE ISLAND	63.2	-3.1	**-9.7**	36.8	2.8	**10.9**						
SOUTH CAROLINA	53.0	0.3	**-7.4**	43.7	1.6	**14.4**	36.6	**-5.3**	**-18.2**	60.8	**10.2**	**26.0**
SOUTH DAKOTA	64.5	-1.6	**-3.2**	34.4	1.8	**4.9**	59.6	-0.1	-2.5	39.1	2.0	**7.8**
TENNESSEE	55.8	**-2.9**	**-7.9**	42.4	**2.9**	**10.8**	48.5	**-3.9**	**-8.6**	50.2	**4.0**	**11.2**
TEXAS	49.1	0.3	**-4.3**	40.7	-0.6	**10.3**	43.6	1.5	**-5.5**	44.1	-2.5	**10.3**
UTAH	73.7	1.3	-1.0	20.0	-0.5	**6.3**						
VERMONT	56.0	-1.3	**-7.3**	46.3	0.2	**8.4**						
VIRGINIA	70.2	-0.6	**-4.9**	27.1	0.8	**7.8**	55.5	-0.6	**-8.6**	40.0	-1.1	**9.5**
WASHINGTON	62.0	-0.2	**-5.9**	36.4	-0.2	**9.9**	47.7	-0.5	**-11.6**	48.4	-3.0	**10.3**
WEST VIRGINIA	54.0	**-3.3**	**-5.6**	45.0	2.4	**7.1**	48.6	-3.1	-4.4	50.7	1.5	6.9
WISCONSIN	65.7	-0.9	**-9.3**	34.6	1.1	**11.7**	62.7	-1.1	**-7.8**	36.3	0.5	**11.0**
WYOMING	71.2	**9.0**	0.6	27.8	-3.9	2.8						

Source: American Community Survey, 1-year estimates, 2008–2013. Note: Bold typeface indicates a statistically significant change (p<0.05). "Change" columns are displayed in percentage points. Shaded cells indicate geographies for which small sample sizes result in unreliable estimates.

TABLE 2, CONTINUED. PERCENTAGE POINT CHANGE IN PRIVATE AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR PERSONS UNDER AGE 18, 2008, 2012, AND 2013

SUBURBAN						CENTRAL CITY					
2013	PRIVATE PERCENTAGE POINT CHANGE SINCE 2012	PERCENTAGE POINT CHANGE SINCE 2008	2013	PUBLIC PERCENTAGE POINT CHANGE SINCE 2012	PERCENTAGE POINT CHANGE SINCE 2008	2013	PRIVATE PERCENTAGE POINT CHANGE SINCE 2012	PERCENTAGE POINT CHANGE SINCE 2008	2013	PUBLIC PERCENTAGE POINT CHANGE SINCE 2012	PERCENTAGE POINT CHANGE SINCE 2008
64.8	-0.6	-6.3	31.8	0.7	9.9	49.4	-0.1	-6.2	46.8	0.4	11.3
73.4	-0.9	-6.2	26.5	0.7	8.7	45.0	-0.9	-9.5	55.7	0.7	12.6
71.7	-0.3	-6.3	27.6	0.1	8.4	49.4	-0.3	-7.6	49.0	0.4	10.9
59.3	-0.6	-6.3	35.1	0.8	10.7	47.6	-0.2	-5.3	46.5	0.5	11.3
60.9	-0.3	-5.9	34.6	0.8	10.4	53.8	0.7	-4.7	41.6	0.1	10.8
61.7	-0.5	-8.1	37.6	-0.4	12.7	49.9	0.3	-6.9	48.6	-0.7	12.2
61.6	-0.1	-2.3	31.2	1.8	7.3	48.4	2.9	-2.9	42.3	-1.1	9.6
52.5	-4.6	-5.4	46.6	7.0	7.6	49.2	4.0	2.4	48.6	-2.7	4.2
55.9	-0.7	-6.9	39.4	0.8	10.7	52.2	-0.3	-4.9	43.9	1.1	10.5
73.1	3.5	-3.9	23.0	-1.2	9.8	56.0	0.4	-3.3	39.2	0.6	13.7
74.0	-2.6	-8.0	25.9	1.9	10.2	44.9	-3.6	-13.9	52.3	2.9	16.0
51.6	-0.6	-8.6	39.4	-0.1	15.7	46.5	-0.9	-9.7	46.2	2.0	18.0
57.4	-1.4	-6.4	36.1	1.6	9.2	49.8	5.6	1.8	44.7	-6.2	2.6
60.7	-7.1	-10.2	34.7	4.2	15.3						
65.5	-1.4	-8.5	33.6	0.4	10.5	45.2	-2.3	-8.6	53.1	1.2	11.7
70.0	-0.5	-6.3	26.2	-0.1	7.8	47.3	-1.3	-7.3	47.8	2.0	10.8
						60.4	-4.2	-4.9	41.7	3.0	10.0
77.4	0.8	-4.7	20.5	-0.8	6.4	56.6	0.3	-7.9	40.8	2.0	12.4
67.0	-2.6	-4.7	31.0	2.5	6.7	59.1	1.5	-6.1	41.2	1.5	9.9
54.9	0.9	-3.6	44.9	-0.7	8.2	45.0	2.5	-1.4	53.2	-2.4	2.0
70.4	-0.9	-8.2	27.7	0.4	9.4	54.4	5.3	-0.5	46.8	-3.3	5.1
73.9	-2.5	-7.4	29.0	1.7	9.5	52.2	-1.4	-10.2	51.7	2.5	11.9
70.3	0.5	-5.6	31.4	-0.5	9.1	45.2	2.2	-7.0	55.1	-1.9	9.8
78.6	-1.1	-4.7	20.6	1.2	7.1	62.0	-0.6	-8.7	35.6	0.4	11.0
57.8	1.0	-5.4	37.3	-2.0	8.6	31.4	-3.2	-6.4	63.6	1.3	15.5
71.8	2.5	-3.5	25.3	-1.9	4.9	51.7	1.3	-4.7	43.7	-0.6	5.0
						59.8	0.1	-10.8	38.0	1.7	13.0
60.3	1.6	-9.0	28.5	0.1	13.8	58.8	1.8	-6.6	28.2	-2.0	14.1
71.5	-0.1	-5.5	25.5	-0.4	7.9	32.9	2.9	-16.9	63.0	-3.6	21.0
37.4	-8.2	-12.2	57.8	6.3	19.0	47.3	-1.1	-7.7	50.8	3.0	16.4
75.1	-1.6	-6.5	25.5	1.6	10.4	46.9	-0.1	-7.1	54.5	-0.1	10.5
60.4	1.7	-5.0	36.8	0.7	10.0	51.9	-2.9	-8.3	44.1	3.1	12.2
72.0	-0.3	-7.1	27.1	-0.6	9.3	41.4	0.7	-7.8	57.4	-0.9	13.2
60.5	-2.0	-2.6	34.2	1.2	6.0	44.8	-1.3	-8.3	48.9	1.8	12.4
65.0	3.3	-5.2	32.9	-2.7	14.2	58.6	-1.3	-11.4	39.7	1.2	19.1
73.6	0.4	-5.1	26.5	-0.5	6.8	39.2	-0.2	-10.9	61.3	0.7	14.4
57.1	0.6	-5.1	39.4	0.6	12.3	50.8	-2.1	-10.7	46.3	3.0	16.3
65.6	-3.8	-7.8	33.5	4.5	10.8	48.1	-2.5	-9.2	48.5	1.6	12.1
56.0	0.0	-5.5	34.1	-0.3	9.9	43.3	-0.1	-3.4	46.7	0.1	11.3
76.9	0.4	-2.2	17.6	0.7	6.6	63.3	6.2	0.9	29.1	-5.7	9.4
76.1	0.5	-3.5	21.1	0.5	6.6	60.6	-4.5	-9.2	37.4	3.7	12.5
66.9	-1.3	-5.5	32.0	1.4	10.4	57.6	1.2	-4.3	40.6	-1.6	8.2
60.2	-3.3	-7.8	38.7	3.3	7.9						
78.1	-0.8	-6.5	22.8	1.5	7.9	49.3	-0.6	-13.8	51.2	0.9	17.1

Source: American Community Survey, 1-year estimates, 2008–2013. Note: Bold typeface indicates a statistically significant change (p<0.05). "Change" columns are displayed in percentage points. Shaded cells indicate geographies for which small sample sizes result in unreliable estimates.

For example, rates of coverage are relatively high in California, where Medicaid expansion and continued efforts to enroll children have been a policy priority. In Texas and Florida, where no Medicaid expansion has taken place, rates fall short of the national average. Moreover, many immigrant children and children living in immigrant families call these three states home—immigration reform at the federal level that aims to extend coverage to immigrant children could significantly increase coverage rates. State-level policy changes that are aimed at increasing the number of insured children may be the most effective at increasing the overall number of children insured nationally.

Data

This analysis is based on U.S. Census Bureau estimates from the 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, and 2013 American Community Survey. Tables were produced by aggregating information from detailed tables available on American FactFinder.[1] Because estimates are based on survey data, caution must be used when comparing data from different years or place types, because the margin of error may indicate that seemingly disparate numbers fall within sampling error.[2] All differences highlighted in this brief are statistically significant ($p < 0.05$).

Box 1: Defining Place Types Using the American Community Survey

The American Community Survey designates each sampled household or address as being located within one of several possible geographic components. In this analysis, *central city* designates households in the principal city of a metropolitan statistical area, *suburban* includes those in metropolitan areas but not within the principal city of that area, and *rural* consists of those households that are not within a metropolitan area at all.

Endnotes

1. See http://factfinder2.census.gov.

2. Refer to the Census Bureau's published tables for detailed margins of error, available at www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/handbooks/ACSResearch.pdf.

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