More Than 95 Percent of U.S. Children Had Health Insurance in 2015

Public Coverage Drives Gains in 2015, Although Private Insurance Increased for a Second Consecutive Year

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Enrolling all children in health insurance is a primary goal of health care advocates. Children who have health insurance have better access to health care and, as a result, experience gains in a variety of well-being measures, including health and school attainment.[1] Most children are covered by private insurance,[2] but public insurance available through the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), Medicaid, and the Affordable Care Act (ACA) has significantly contributed to gains in insurance rates among children.[3]

Providing access to health care for children living in poverty was central to Medicaid during the "The Great Society" project of the 1960s. CHIP was adopted in 1997, which aimed to enroll low-income children whose parents' income was too high to qualify for Medicaid, but too low to afford private coverage. Despite some debate regarding the income level at which children ought to qualify for public coverage, legislation to insure children has received bipartisan support.[4]

Policy and advocacy efforts to insure children have been effective: a higher share of children were enrolled in health insurance in 2015—95.2 percent—than at any time since these data started being collected in 2008.

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KEY FINDINGS

Over 95 percent of all U.S. children under age 18 were covered by some form of health insurance in 2015—the highest share since the American Community Survey began measuring insurance rates in 2008.

Rates of coverage increased between 2014 and 2015 in all four U.S. regions, but the greatest growth occurred in the South and West.

Growth in public insurance—Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program—remained a major driver of increases in children's coverage: over 375,000 more children were covered in 2015 than in the previous year (a one percentage point increase).

0.4% For the second consecutive year, rates of private health insurance coverage increased among children: in 2015, approximately 150,000 more children were covered by private insurance than in the previous year (a 0.4 percentage point increase).

Rates of coverage increased 1.2 percentage points between 2014 and 2015. By region, the largest gains occurred in the South (1.2 percentage points) and the West (1.9 percentage points). These two regions traditionally have had the lowest rates of coverage and therefore the most opportunity for growth. Yet even after marked improvements in children's coverage in both, they still lag behind the Northeast and Midwest.

TABLE 1. PERCENT OF CHILDREN WITH ANY HEALTH INSURANCE, 2015

	ALL PLACES				RURAL				SUBURBAN				CITY			
	PERCENT	+/-	CHANGE SINCE 2014	CHANGE SINCE 2008	PERCENT	+/-	CHANGE SINCE 2014	CHANGE SINCE 2008	PERCENT	+/-	CHANGE SINCE 2014	CHANGE SINCE 2008	PERCENT	+/-	CHANGE SINCE 2014	CHANGE SINCE 2008
United States	95.2	0.0	1.2	5.1	93.7	0.1	1.1	4.5	95.6	0.1	1.2	4.5	95.1	0.1	1.2	6.3
Northeast	97.0	0.1	0.8	2.6	94.8	0.4	1.0	2.5	97.2	0.1	0.7	2.2	97.1	0.1	0.9	3.3
Midwest	95.9	0.1	0.6	2.5	93.7	0.2	0.7	2.1	96.7	0.1	0.6	1.9	96.1	0.3	0.4	3.8
South	93.8	0.1	1.2	6.2	93.5	0.2	1.1	5.4	94.0	0.2	1.1	5.7	93.5	0.2	1.4	7.7
West	95.6	0.1	1.9	7.6	93.1	0.5	2.2	8.4	96.2	0.2	2.1	7.1	95.5	0.2	1.6	8.1
Alabama	96.9	0.3	0.8	5.0	96.8	0.5	1.4	5.6	97.5	0.6	1.5	4.4	96.1	0.9	-1.0	5.4
Alaska	89.4	1.5	0.8	2.3	86.0	2.2	-2.1	4.6	90.9	3.5	-0.7	-0.3	91.2	2.1	3.8	1.9
Arizona	91.7	0.5	1.7	7.9	88.7	1.9	2.0	9.5	93.1	0.7	1.5	6.7	90.8	0.9	1.9	8.5
Arkansas	95.1	0.6	-0.1	3.8	95.5	0.5	-0.8	4.5	94.6	1.0	-1.1	1.0	95.2	1.2	2.2	6.2
California	96.7	0.1	2.1	7.5	96.2	0.8	3.4	11.0	96.9	0.2	2.5	7.2	96.5	0.3	1.6	7.6
Colorado	95.8	0.4	1.4	10.2	92.7	1.5	4.6	15.4	96.4	0.5	0.8	7.2	96.0	0.6	1.3	12.5
Connecticut	96.7	0.5	0.4	1.6	98.6	1.5	4.5	3.3	97.9	0.1	0.3	1.7	93.8	1.3	0.0	1.2
Delaware	97.0	0.9	2.7	4.8	N/A				97.0	0.8	2.9	3.8	97.0	2.9	1.4	4.5
DC	98.5	0.8	0.5	2.7	N/A				N/A				98.5	0.8	0.5	2.7
Florida	93.1	0.4	2.4	10.6	92.2	1.8	3.8	11.6	93.0	0.4	2.4	10.4	93.5	0.6	2.1	11.0
Georgia	93.3	0.4	0.9	4.8	92.0	1.0	0.6	3.4	93.3	0.5	1.1	4.7	94.6	0.9	0.7	6.8
Hawaii	98.4	0.3	1.5	2.0	98.2	1.6	-0.1	5.6	98.8	0.5	1.7	0.9	97.5	1.4	2.1	-0.6
Idaho	94.2	0.7	2.1	7.9	92.9	1.7	3.3	9.5	94.6	1.2	2.3	7.6	95.4	0.9	0.0	6.7
Illinois	97.5	0.2	0.8	3.1	96.9	0.5	1.2	2.1	97.6	0.3	1.0	2.5	97.4	0.4	0.3	4.4
Indiana	93.3	0.5	0.4	3.4	89.0	0.9	-0.6	3.5	94.2	0.6	0.6	2.0	94.8	0.8	0.9	5.6
Iowa	96.5	0.5	-0.3	2.1	95.9	0.7	-0.2	2.2	97.8	4.1	0.0	1.4	95.8	1.2	-0.9	2.5
Kansas	94.9	0.6	0.4	3.2	94.5	1.0	1.1	4.6	96.7	0.7	0.3	2.0	93.4	1.5	-0.3	2.8
Kentucky	95.8	0.5	0.0	2.7	95.2	0.8	0.6	3.3	95.6	0.6	-0.3	2.2	96.9	1.1	-0.5	2.5
Louisiana	96.4	0.3	1.6	4.2	93.5	1.4	3.0	3.8	96.7	0.5	1.1	4.0	97.5	0.4	1.6	3.7
Maine	94.3	0.9	0.7	1.7	94.0	1.1	0.8	2.4	94.8	1.6	1.1	0.6	93.6	2.6	-1.2	3.5
Maryland	96.1	0.3	-0.7	1.4	96.0	2.6	1.7	2.7	96.2	0.3	-0.7	1.0	96.0	0.9	-1.1	2.7
Massachusetts	98.9	0.2	0.4	0.9	99.1	8.9	2.4	N/A	98.9	0.2	0.3	1.0	98.7	4.2	0.6	0.8
Michigan	96.9	0.2	0.7	2.1	94.8	0.6	0.8	0.0	97.4	0.3	0.5	2.1	97.2	0.5	0.9	3.5
Minnesota	96.9	0.3	0.8	3.2	95.9	0.4	1.6	4.2	97.4	0.4	0.7	2.5	96.8	0.8	0.1	3.5
Mississippi	96.0	0.6	1.3	8.6	96.6	0.8	1.9	9.6	94.7	1.2	0.3	5.4	96.7	1.6	1.2	13.4
Missouri	94.3	0.5	1.5	1.4	92.8	0.9	2.2	1.1	95.1	0.8	1.5	1.1	93.8	1.2	0.5	2.4
Montana	92.4	1.1	0.6	6.9	90.3	1.4	-1.0	8.0	95.3	2.4	1.9	1.7	96.7	2.3	4.6	6.7
Nebraska	94.7	0.6	0.0	1.6	93.1	0.9	-1.7	1.8	96.1	1.2	0.2	0.1	95.2	1.0	1.3	2.2
Nevada	92.4	0.7	2.1	12.7	92.1	2.1	4.3	13.1	92.4	0.8	2.3	11.2	92.5	1.1	1.5	14.3
New Hampshire	97.3	0.6	1.7	2.5	97.2	0.8	2.7	4.5	97.7	1.2	1.5	2.4	96.4	1.7	0.2	-1.7
New Jersey	96.3	0.4	0.8	3.5	N/A				96.4	0.4	0.8	3.2	94.9	0.6	1.0	5.5
New Mexico	95.5	0.7	2.8	9.2	95.7	1.2	5.2	10.2	95.3	1.1	1.7	9.8	95.5	1.2	1.4	7.6
New York	97.5	0.2	0.8	3.3	95.0	0.8	0.5	4.3	97.7	0.3	0.6	2.8	97.7	0.1	1.0	3.6
North Carolina	95.6	0.3	0.9	5.5	94.9	0.6	0.7	4.9	96.0	0.4	0.8	5.6	95.7	0.4	1.0	5.6
North Dakota	92.1	1.3	-1.0	-0.1	91.1	1.9	-2.6	-0.9	94.5	2.9	4.0	0.7	92.5	2.1	-1.0	1.0
Ohio	95.6	0.3	0.4	2.8	92.7	0.7	1.0	2.0	96.4	0.3	0.2	2.2	96.2	0.7	0.5	5.5
Oklahoma	92.6	0.5	1.2	5.5	90.7	0.9	2.2	5.5	94.1	0.6	1.5	5.5	92.8	1.0	-0.2	5.4
Oregon	96.4	0.4	0.9	9.1	94.5	1.4	-0.3	10.4	96.6	0.6	1.0	9.1	97.0	0.6	1.4	8.0
Pennsylvania	95.9	0.2	1.0	2.0	92.4	0.9	0.6	-0.4	96.2	0.3	1.0	1.4	96.5	0.5	1.4	4.6
Puerto Rico	97.3	0.4	0.7	2.8	98.5	2.0	2.0	3.6	97.2	0.6	0.4	2.3	97.4	0.9	1.2	4.3
Rhode Island	96.6	0.9	-0.1	2.2	N/A				96.9	0.5	0.1	1.8	95.6	2.8	-0.5	2.9
South Carolina	95.9	0.4	1.5	8.5	96.8	0.7	0.6	9.2	95.5	0.5	1.5	8.1	97.1	1.2	2.4	9.8
South Dakota	93.3	1.0	-1.0	1.7	92.6	1.2	-1.1	4.6	96.1	1.2	2.5	1.2	92.3	2.6	-3.7	-3.6
Tennessee	95.8	0.4	1.0	3.0	95.4	0.9	1.0	2.3	96.5	0.6	0.5	2.3	95.3	0.8	1.7	4.3
Texas	90.5	0.3	1.6	8.3	88.0	0.9	1.4	7.1	91.0	0.4	1.1	6.5	90.6	0.4	2.0	10.3
Utah	92.8	0.6	2.2	5.9	88.6	2.1	0.3	1.5	94.2	0.8	2.1	5.6	89.5	1.5	3.7	8.9
Vermont	99.0	0.5	1.1	3.0	98.9	0.7	0.5	4.1	99.2	7.9	1.8	1.4	N/A			
Virginia	95.1	0.4	0.9	2.8	94.1	1.0	-0.1	3.4	95.5	0.4	0.9	2.7	94.6	0.6	1.3	2.6
Washington	97.4	0.3	2.0	5.8	96.0	0.8	5.1	4.1	97.5	0.4	2.4	6.0	97.5	0.4	0.6	6.0
West Virginia	97.2	0.4	0.1	3.8	97.8	0.5	0.1	6.2	96.7	0.5	0.2	1.5	97.0	0.9	-0.1	4.2
Wisconsin	96.4	0.3	0.9	1.6	94.2	0.5	1.8	2.3	97.0	0.4	0.4	0.5	97.3	0.4	0.8	2.7
Wyoming	92.2	1.7	-1.9	0.9	92.0	2.1	-1.2	1.7	N/A				94.6	4.1	-1.2	0.6

Note: Change is displayed in percentage points and based on unrounded percentages. Results may differ slightly from those that would be obtained using rounded figures. Bold font indicates a statistically significant change (p<0.05). Margins of error ("+/-") refer to the 95 percent confidence interval around the 2015 estimated percent insured.
Source: American Community Survey, 1-Year Estimates, 2008, 2014, and 2015.

Box 1: Definitions of Place Type: Rural, Suburb, and City

Definitions of rural and urban vary among researchers and the sources of data they use. Data for this brief are derived from the American Community Survey, which identifies each household as being within one of several geographic components. In this publication, "city" designates households in the principal city of a given metropolitan statistical area, and "suburban" includes those in metropolitan areas but not within the principal city of that area. "Rural" consists of the households that are not within a metropolitan area.

Rates of coverage also grew across all place types (cities, suburbs, and rural places) between 2014 and 2015 except in Midwestern cities, where the measured gain was not statistically significant. The most substantial gains occurred in Western and Southern suburban and rural places.

Just under 30 percent of all U.S. children live in California, Texas, and Florida, and so fluctuations in these states can substantially influence rates within their regions and even nationally. California and Florida experienced gains in coverage of over 2 percentage points, and Texas by 1.6 percentage points.

Gains Driven by Public Coverage

Though the trend in children's coverage was up overall, growth in public and private coverage varied.

Private Coverage

Rates of private insurance among children decreased every year between 2008 and 2013, but rose in 2014, and again in 2015. In the wake of the job loss associated with the Great Recession, public insurance covered many children whose parents became unemployed and uninsured. Even though the Great Recession officially ended in 2009 and many people are back at work, the landscape of employer-based insurance has changed: fewer jobs offer insurance as a benefit of employment.[6] Despite the erosion of employer-sponsored insurance, however, rates of private coverage for children modestly increased between 2014 and 2015 for the second consecutive year (0.4 percentage point). These gains were driven by changes in the Midwest and South; no significant changes occurred in the Northeast or the West.

Private to Public Transitions in Coverage

During the same period that private rates were declining (2008 to 2013), rates of public coverage rose, driving overall growth in coverage nationally. The renewal and expansion of CHIP in 2009 allowed children who likely never had coverage previously to become insured.[7] Further, thirty-one states and Washington DC[8] expanded Medicaid under ACA, a move that extended coverage to children whose parents experienced job loss during and after the Great Recession.

Public Coverage

Increases in rates of public coverage in 2015 underscore the importance of Medicaid and CHIP when it comes to enrolling children in insurance. Public rates of coverage grew by one percentage point nationally between 2014 and 2015—the second largest single-year increase since 2008. As a result, more than 375,000 children were added to insurance rolls. All regions except for the Midwest (where the measured increase was not statistically significant) witnessed gains in public rates of coverage between 2014 and 2015, although these gains were the most dramatic in the West (2.1 percentage points). Further, rates of public coverage grew in all place types (rural, suburban, and cities); rural places experienced the largest one-year increase (1.3 percentage points).

The largest attempt to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act failed in Congress in March 2017, but congressional Republicans have vowed to take up health care reform again. In this event, it is important that any proposals be scrutinized for the impact they will have on children's health insurance.

Ensuring Continued Coverage for Children

Employer-sponsored health insurance coverage for dependents, non-group private insurance purchased via state and federal health insurance exchanges, Medicaid, and CHIP have all worked synergistically to cover an increasing share of children, even amid economic recession and recovery. And while a proportion of children in the United States remained uninsured in 2015, the effort to insure children has largely been a successful one.

The largest attempt to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act failed in Congress in March 2017, but congressional Republicans have vowed to take up health care reform again.[9] In this event, it is important that any proposals be scrutinized for the impact they will have on children's health insurance. For example, many parents became covered through state or federal marketplaces put in place under ACA. Consequently, parents may have chosen to insure their children using marketplaces, in part because of the subsidies available to low-income participants but also because of the ease of access to insurance that exchanges provide. Yet insurers are leaving marketplaces in states where exchanges are not profitable. According to one report, 21 percent of insurance exchange participants will have only one insurer to choose from in 2017.[10] These markets remain unchecked, which could result in large premium increases for consumers. In order for exchanges to remain robust in these markets, Congress will need to act to ensure that they can be profitable, and are accountable to consumers.

Reforming Medicaid may also have substantial impacts on rates of coverage among children. If federal funding were transitioned to a block grant, the direct cost to the federal government would be significantly reduced, but the burden would be shifted to the states, many of which would not be able to shoulder it. Consequently, states would look for ways to reduce the cost of insuring poor and low-income families by tightening enrollment eligibility. Children account for a large share of the publicly insured and would certainly see reductions in rates of coverage as health care became unaffordable for their parents in the private market.[11]

Preserving CHIP, which must be reauthorized in September 2017, is critical to insuring the nearly 8.4 million children[12] who are currently on its rosters. Forty percent of U.S. children—over 29.5 million—rely on government-subsidized insurance to access health care. Furthermore, as the effects of the Great Recession demonstrate, public insurance is key to preserving high rates of coverage amid economic turmoil: rates of public insurance increased by 11.8 percentage points since 2008 (see Table 2 on pages 6 and 7). When considering health care legislation, lawmakers may want to look at the potential impact of reduced coverage on children's health and well-being and the ensuing economic and social costs.[13]

Data

This analysis is based on U.S. Census Bureau estimates from the American Community Survey for years 2008–2015. Tables were produced by aggregating information from detailed tables available at the Census Bureau's American FactFinder (http://factfinder2.census.gov). 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 (see the Census Bureau's published tables for detailed margins of error, available at http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/handbooks/ACSResearch.pdf). All differences highlighted in this brief are statistically significant ($p < 0.05$).

Endnotes

1. For a recent list of references on the effects of children's health insurance coverage, see Sarah R. Cohodes et al., "The Effect of Child Health Insurance Access on Schooling," *Journal of Human Resources* 51, no. 3 (August 2016): 727–59.

2. Private health insurance has typically been sponsored by employers for their employees and their dependents. However, the ACA ushered in a new group of private insurance holders who purchased coverage outside of an employer-sponsored group.

3. Medicaid, reformed by ACA, and CHIP work together to cover children living in poverty and children in low-income families. Medicaid covers children who live at or below 138 percent of the federal poverty line (FPL); CHIP covers low-income children generally, but eligibility varies greatly by state. For example, North Dakota, the state with the narrowest eligibility margins, covers children between 139 and 170 FPL, whereas, New York, which has the widest eligibility margins, covers children between 139 and 400 FPL. ACA also included other provisions, such as Medicaid expansion for adults and the individual mandate, that also likely played a role in bolstering rates of insurance among children.

4. Lawmakers in Congress attempted to reauthorize and expand CHIP in 2007. After two different pieces of legislation were vetoed by President George W. Bush, who claimed that the CHIP expansions were attempts to further federalize health care, CHIP funding was extended to 2009 with no changes in eligibility guidelines. CHIP reauthorization, including an expansion of the program, was among the first major pieces of legislation signed into law by President Obama in 2009 (see Children's Health Insurance Reauthorization Act 2009).

5. The American Community Survey (ACS) first started tracking children's health insurance in 2008 (see the Data box for more information); rates of children's health insurance were measured using other surveys before that time.

6. C. Planalp, J. Sonier, and B. Fried, "State-Level Trends in Employer-Sponsored Health Insurance: A State-by-State Analysis" (Princeton, NJ: Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, 2015), http://www.rwjf.org/en/library/research/2015/01/state-level-trends-in-employer-sponsored-health-insurance.html.

7. The Children's Health Insurance Reauthorization Act of 2009 (CHIPRA 2009) expanded coverage by providing additional funding to states and by expanding outreach to families who were eligible for Medicaid and CHIP but not enrolled. For more details, see the CHIPRA page at https://www.medicaid.gov/chip/chipra/chipra.html and H.R. 2, Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015, 114th Congress, https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/2.

8. "Current Status of State Medicaid Expansions," Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation, January 1, 2017, http://kff.org/health-reform/slide/current-status-of-the-medicaid-expansion-decision/.

9. Robert Pear, Thomas Kaplan, and Maggie Haberman, "In Major Defeat for Trump, Push to Repeal Health Law Fails," *New York Times.* March 24, 2017, https://www.nytimes.com/2017/03/24/us/politics/health-care-affordable-care-act.html.

10. Cynthia Cox et al., "2017 Premium Changes and Insurer Participation in the Affordable Care Act's Health Insurance Marketplaces," Kaiser Family Foundation, November 1, 2016, http://kff.org/health-reform/issue-brief/2017-premium-changes-and-insurer-participation-in-the-affordable-care-acts-health-insurance-marketplaces/.

11. Edwin Park, "Medicaid Block Grant Would Slash Federal Funding, Shift Costs to States, and Leave Millions More Uninsured" (Washington, DC: Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, 2016), http://www.cbpp.org/research/health/medicaid-block-grant-would-slash-federal-funding-shift-costs-to-states-and-leave.

12. Kaiser Family Foundation, "Total Number of Children Ever Enrolled in CHIP Annually" (Kaiser Family Foundation, n.d.), http://kff.org/other/state-indicator/annual-chip-enrollment/?currentTimeframe=0.

13. Cohodes et al., 2016.

TABLE 2. PRIVATE AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE AMONG CHILDREN, 2015

| | ALL PLACES | | | | | | | | RURAL | | | | | | | |
| | PRIVATE | | | | PUBLIC | | | | PRIVATE | | | | PUBLIC | | | |
	PERCENT	+/-	CHANGE SINCE 2014	CHANGE SINCE 2008	PERCENT	+/-	CHANGE SINCE 2014	CHANGE SINCE 2008	PERCENT	+/-	CHANGE SINCE 2014	CHANGE SINCE 2008	PERCENT	+/-	CHANGE SINCE 2014	CHANGE SINCE 2008
United States	58.9	0.1	**0.4**	**-5.2**	40.1	0.1	**1.0**	**11.8**	52.6	0.3	-0.1	**-5.1**	45.8	0.4	**1.3**	**10.9**
Northeast	63.8	0.3	-0.2	**-6.9**	37.9	0.3	**1.2**	**11.2**	59.3	0.9	-0.3	**-5.6**	41.3	1.0	1.1	**9.7**
Midwest	64.2	0.3	**0.8**	**-5.3**	36.1	0.3	0.1	**9.4**	61.2	0.5	0.2	**-4.7**	38.1	0.5	0.6	**8.4**
South	54.5	0.2	**0.6**	**-4.6**	42.5	0.2	**0.8**	**11.9**	44.9	0.5	-0.2	**-5.9**	52.5	0.5	**1.3**	**12.2**
West	58.2	0.3	0.3	**-4.3**	41.5	0.3	**2.1**	**14.0**	51.7	0.9	-0.3	**-5.0**	46.1	0.8	**2.9**	**14.8**
Alabama	55.3	1.0	0.7	**-7.3**	45.8	1.0	0.4	**13.8**	45.9	1.9	-0.1	**-9.9**	55.1	2.2	1.1	**15.5**
Alaska	58.7	2.2	-0.6	**-7.6**	35.9	2.2	2.7	**10.3**	46.7	3.2	**-4.6**	**-6.5**	46.1	2.7	**4.0**	**13.4**
Arizona	57.1	0.9	**1.8**	0.6	38.9	0.9	0.8	**9.8**	40.3	3.2	1.6	**-7.1**	54.7	2.9	1.8	**19.5**
Arkansas	46.7	1.4	0.1	**-2.8**	52.5	1.4	0.5	**7.4**	40.2	1.9	-0.2	**-4.0**	60.1	2.1	0.0	**9.1**
California	55.0	0.3	-0.2	**-4.9**	45.5	0.4	**2.9**	**14.5**	47.5	2.7	-1.3	-2.5	54.8	2.5	**6.3**	**17.4**
Colorado	63.5	0.9	0.6	**-4.4**	36.0	0.9	1.0	**17.0**	52.7	3.0	1.7	-3.7	44.4	2.6	**4.1**	**21.3**
Connecticut	66.9	1.1	1.6	**-8.1**	33.5	1.2	-0.8	**11.5**	73.0	4.2	6.2	-2.3	28.0	5.3	-1.8	4.5
Delaware	63.8	2.4	0.9	**-6.7**	38.9	2.7	3.1	**13.7**			N/A				N/A	
DC	52.4	3.0	0.8	-3.1	49.0	3.0	-1.7	**5.2**			N/A				N/A	
Florida	51.1	0.6	**1.1**	**-7.3**	44.9	0.6	**1.5**	**19.4**	37.1	2.8	0.3	**-8.8**	58.3	3.3	2.6	**22.5**
Georgia	53.8	0.7	0.6	**-4.8**	42.5	0.8	0.8	**10.5**	40.0	1.6	**-2.4**	**-8.4**	56.0	1.9	**4.5**	**13.2**
Hawaii	69.4	1.8	**2.8**	**-8.5**	33.2	1.8	-0.7	**12.3**	52.4	5.2	-4.1	**-16.7**	49.8	5.1	5.2	**23.9**
Idaho	60.9	1.6	0.2	**-3.7**	37.9	1.6	1.7	**13.2**	55.7	2.6	0.3	-2.6	42.0	3.0	3.7	**13.0**
Illinois	60.6	0.6	**1.0**	**-5.3**	39.9	0.6	-0.3	**9.1**	56.5	1.3	**-2.5**	**-6.2**	45.5	1.5	**2.8**	**8.9**
Indiana	61.4	0.9	0.7	**-5.0**	35.2	0.8	-0.1	**9.2**	59.1	1.5	-1.1	**-3.2**	34.0	1.6	1.0	**7.5**
Iowa	68.0	1.0	0.9	**-6.1**	35.7	1.2	0.1	**11.2**	65.4	1.3	-0.7	**-6.5**	38.9	1.6	**2.7**	**11.8**
Kansas	66.8	1.0	**1.5**	**-4.6**	32.0	1.1	-1.0	**9.6**	61.7	1.8	1.1	**-5.9**	36.9	2.1	-0.9	**12.0**
Kentucky	56.9	1.0	0.2	**-4.9**	43.4	1.1	-0.1	**9.8**	49.2	1.6	-0.5	-1.9	50.7	1.7	0.8	**7.5**
Louisiana	50.9	1.0	**2.0**	-0.4	49.7	1.1	0.5	**5.6**	43.9	2.0	2.6	-0.6	53.5	2.5	0.7	**4.8**
Maine	62.7	2.0	**3.4**	-1.6	37.2	1.9	-2.4	**4.6**	56.1	3.0	2.4	0.4	43.7	3.0	-2.8	2.8
Maryland	65.1	0.8	-0.7	**-9.1**	34.2	0.9	0.0	**11.5**	56.5	5.1	**8.8**	**-13.8**	43.4	5.9	-8.2	**16.8**
Massachusetts	68.8	0.9	**-1.3**	**-8.2**	35.2	0.9	**1.7**	**11.2**	74.0	6.4	6.3	N/A	29.7	6.2	-6.3	N/A
Michigan	62.3	0.7	0.4	**-5.4**	40.0	0.7	0.2	**9.1**	57.8	1.3	-0.4	**-7.0**	43.8	1.4	1.2	**7.3**
Minnesota	70.8	0.7	**-1.4**	**-7.1**	31.2	0.8	**2.3**	**13.1**	64.9	1.2	-1.3	**-7.4**	37.4	1.4	**2.6**	**14.8**
Mississippi	43.9	1.2	**-3.4**	**-5.3**	55.1	1.3	**4.4**	**14.1**	38.8	1.8	-1.9	**-4.5**	60.9	1.7	**3.1**	**13.8**
Missouri	64.1	0.8	0.8	**-2.6**	33.6	0.9	**1.4**	**5.0**	53.0	1.6	-1.1	**-3.3**	43.4	1.7	**3.2**	**5.4**
Montana	60.2	2.0	**3.1**	**-5.5**	36.1	2.0	-1.2	**14.2**	58.1	2.4	3.4	-3.3	35.9	2.5	-3.5	**12.8**
Nebraska	69.3	1.2	0.9	**-4.9**	29.0	1.2	-0.8	**7.9**	68.8	1.7	0.8	-1.2	27.9	1.9	-2.7	**4.2**
Nevada	59.9	1.4	-0.4	**-7.5**	36.1	1.4	**2.2**	**21.7**	65.7	4.4	5.9	-0.7	30.7	4.4	-1.4	**16.4**
New Hampshire	71.0	1.8	1.7	**-6.2**	29.1	1.8	0.5	**8.9**	62.2	2.8	-0.5	**-10.2**	38.1	3.1	3.7	**14.7**
New Jersey	66.7	0.7	0.1	**-7.2**	32.5	0.7	**1.3**	**12.2**			N/A				N/A	
New Mexico	43.9	1.6	**3.2**	**-3.5**	56.1	1.7	0.0	**13.7**	38.4	2.7	1.1	0.5	61.1	2.6	3.1	**7.4**
New York	59.6	0.5	-0.7	**-6.8**	43.0	0.5	**1.6**	**12.3**	57.3	1.7	**-3.4**	**-6.2**	43.1	1.8	**3.4**	**12.9**
North Carolina	54.9	0.7	0.4	**-5.2**	43.6	0.8	0.4	**11.4**	42.9	1.5	0.7	**-9.6**	55.7	1.8	0.3	**15.2**
North Dakota	77.7	2.0	**3.3**	2.1	17.7	1.8	**-6.5**	-1.3	75.1	2.6	-1.0	2.2	19.0	2.2	**-3.5**	-2.9
Ohio	62.9	0.6	**1.3**	**-6.6**	37.8	0.6	-0.2	**11.6**	61.1	1.4	**3.1**	**-4.3**	38.1	1.3	**-2.1**	**8.3**
Oklahoma	53.3	0.9	0.7	**-1.8**	43.5	1.0	0.7	**8.7**	48.3	1.4	0.2	0.0	47.3	1.5	1.6	**7.0**
Oregon	58.5	1.2	-0.5	**-9.5**	43.7	1.2	1.6	**22.6**	45.1	2.6	**-8.8**	**-14.6**	56.3	2.8	**6.9**	**29.5**
Pennsylvania	64.2	0.6	-0.6	**-6.4**	37.1	0.7	**1.5**	**9.6**	59.9	1.5	-0.4	**-5.8**	39.5	1.5	0.8	**7.6**
Puerto Rico	35.6	1.3	-0.2	**-8.9**	64.7	1.4	0.8	**13.6**	29.3	6.1	6.0	-1.7	72.6	6.0	-2.6	6.5
Rhode Island	65.8	1.9	2.3	**-7.1**	36.9	2.3	-2.0	**11.0**			N/A				N/A	
South Carolina	55.4	1.1	**3.1**	**-5.0**	44.5	1.1	**-1.7**	**15.1**	41.4	2.5	-1.2	**-13.4**	59.9	2.9	1.2	**25.1**
South Dakota	64.5	1.6	**-2.6**	-3.1	33.9	2.2	2.4	**4.4**	58.7	1.9	-2.7	**-3.5**	39.2	2.4	**3.4**	**7.9**
Tennessee	57.5	0.9	0.4	**-6.2**	42.3	0.9	0.5	**10.7**	50.1	1.7	-0.7	**-7.0**	49.5	1.9	1.4	**10.5**
Texas	51.6	0.4	0.6	**-1.8**	41.2	0.4	**1.0**	**10.9**	46.2	1.2	-0.8	**-2.9**	44.5	1.3	**2.0**	**10.7**
Utah	75.7	1.0	**2.0**	1.0	20.4	1.0	0.7	**6.6**	68.9	2.7	0.2	0.4	22.9	2.5	-0.5	1.9
Vermont	58.4	2.7	3.3	**-4.9**	48.0	2.8	-0.5	**10.1**	55.3	3.0	3.0	-3.9	51.6	2.9	-1.0	**10.0**
Virginia	69.8	0.7	0.9	**-5.3**	28.4	0.8	0.5	**9.1**	52.7	2.2	**3.2**	**-11.4**	45.3	2.7	-3.2	**14.7**
Washington	62.6	0.8	-0.5	**-5.3**	39.6	0.9	**2.6**	**13.1**	47.9	2.2	0.2	**-11.4**	52.8	2.7	**5.0**	**14.8**
West Virginia	54.0	1.7	0.1	**-5.6**	47.8	1.9	-0.4	**10.0**	50.7	2.8	0.6	-2.3	52.1	2.9	-1.4	**8.3**
Wisconsin	68.0	0.7	**1.9**	**-7.0**	33.5	0.7	-0.7	**10.5**	66.6	1.2	**4.2**	**-3.9**	34.2	1.3	-1.8	**8.9**
Wyoming	68.7	2.6	-1.9	-1.9	27.0	3.0	-0.7	2.0	70.4	3.0	0.7	0.0	25.0	3.2	-2.3	1.5

Note: Change is displayed in percentage points and based on unrounded percentages. Results may differ slightly from those that would be obtained using rounded figures. Bold font indicates a statistically significant change (p<0.05). Margins of error ("+/-") refer to the 95 percent confidence interval around the 2015 estimated percent insured.
Source: American Community Survey, 1-Year Estimates, 2008, 2014, and 2015.

TABLE 2, CONTINUED. PRIVATE AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE AMONG CHILDREN, 2015

		SUBURBAN								CITY					
	PRIVATE					PUBLIC			PRIVATE					PUBLIC	
PERCENT	+/-	CHANGE SINCE 2014	CHANGE SINCE 2008	PERCENT	+/-	CHANGE SINCE 2014	CHANGE SINCE 2008	PERCENT	+/-	CHANGE SINCE 2014	CHANGE SINCE 2008	PERCENT	+/-	CHANGE SINCE 2014	CHANGE SINCE 2008
65.5	0.2	**0.4**	**-5.7**	33.8	0.2	**1.1**	**11.9**	50.5	0.2	**0.6**	**-5.1**	48.4	0.2	**0.8**	**12.9**
73.0	0.4	-0.2	**-6.6**	28.5	0.4	**1.3**	**10.8**	45.6	0.6	-0.2	**-8.8**	56.8	0.6	**0.9**	**13.7**
72.5	0.3	0.4	**-5.5**	28.1	0.4	0.4	**9.0**	51.1	0.5	**1.6**	**-5.9**	49.4	0.5	-0.7	**11.3**
60.3	0.3	**0.5**	**-5.4**	36.8	0.3	**0.8**	**12.5**	49.0	0.4	**1.1**	**-3.9**	47.4	0.4	0.5	**12.3**
62.2	0.3	**0.8**	**-4.6**	38.0	0.4	**1.9**	**13.9**	54.4	0.4	-0.2	**-4.1**	45.0	0.4	**2.1**	**14.2**
61.7	1.5	0.1	**-8.1**	39.9	1.6	1.6	**15.0**	51.7	2.3	2.6	**-5.1**	48.4	2.0	-2.3	**11.9**
67.5	4.9	0.9	-6.4	27.1	4.5	-2.7	5.0	63.0	3.4	1.6	**-8.9**	33.1	3.8	4.7	**10.7**
65.1	1.3	**1.6**	1.1	32.3	1.3	0.4	**8.4**	51.2	1.3	**2.0**	-0.2	43.4	1.3	1.0	**10.7**
54.0	2.3	0.6	**-3.9**	44.8	2.5	-0.7	**5.8**	46.5	2.7	0.1	-0.3	51.8	2.8	2.7	**7.4**
56.9	0.5	0.1	**-5.9**	43.9	0.5	**3.1**	**15.2**	53.0	0.6	-0.5	**-4.1**	47.1	0.6	**2.5**	**13.7**
72.7	1.1	1.0	**-4.4**	27.4	1.3	0.4	**14.2**	55.3	1.5	-0.3	**-4.0**	44.1	1.5	0.9	**18.6**
75.7	1.3	1.2	**-6.3**	26.0	1.5	-0.6	**10.3**	46.1	2.2	1.6	**-12.7**	51.4	2.4	-1.0	**15.1**
66.8	2.5	2.3	**-9.5**	35.8	3.0	1.8	**16.0**	43.0	7.4	-7.0	**-16.7**	59.9	8.4	10.3	**22.0**
N/A				N/A				52.4	3.0	0.8	-3.1	49.0	3.0	-1.7	**5.2**
52.6	0.8	0.8	**-7.6**	43.3	0.7	**1.8**	**19.6**	48.9	1.1	**1.7**	**-7.3**	47.4	1.4	0.3	**19.2**
58.7	1.0	**1.5**	**-5.0**	37.3	0.9	-0.1	**10.5**	48.1	1.7	-0.4	0.1	49.4	1.9	0.9	**7.3**
75.7	2.3	**5.8**	**-4.4**	26.9	2.2	**-3.8**	**7.2**	67.5	3.6	1.2	**-17.2**	35.1	4.1	2.2	**18.5**
64.1	2.8	1.3	**-6.8**	36.0	2.4	1.9	**16.6**	62.2	4.2	-1.9	-1.6	35.8	4.2	-1.4	**9.5**
67.9	0.8	1.1	**-6.1**	32.7	0.9	-0.2	**9.5**	48.3	1.0	**1.8**	**-5.5**	51.6	1.1	-1.4	**10.2**
71.3	1.1	0.1	**-5.0**	26.0	1.3	0.6	**7.6**	49.1	1.5	**2.5**	**-5.5**	49.0	1.6	-1.6	**12.0**
79.1	1.6	1.5	**-6.8**	24.2	2.1	-1.4	**10.7**	59.5	2.4	1.9	**-5.8**	43.6	2.1	-1.4	**11.9**
76.9	1.7	-0.5	**-5.2**	23.3	1.9	1.1	**9.2**	61.2	2.3	**3.7**	-3.3	36.5	2.1	**-3.1**	**8.1**
65.2	1.7	-0.4	**-6.4**	34.7	1.8	0.4	**10.4**	57.9	2.0	2.2	**-7.2**	43.6	2.1	-2.4	**12.4**
56.0	1.5	1.8	**-2.5**	45.4	1.4	0.7	**8.7**	44.7	2.0	1.9	-1.7	56.0	1.8	-0.1	**4.8**
69.7	3.1	3.1	-4.0	30.8	3.2	-0.1	**6.8**	57.7	5.0	7.1	-0.3	40.2	6.2	**-8.5**	3.5
68.6	0.9	-1.3	**-10.1**	30.7	0.9	0.7	**12.4**	52.9	2.1	0.9	-2.1	46.5	2.1	-2.2	**4.8**
72.3	0.8	**-1.8**	**-9.1**	31.5	1.0	**2.3**	**12.1**	53.5	2.0	-0.2	**-8.9**	51.6	2.2	0.7	**11.8**
71.6	0.9	0.8	**-4.3**	30.8	0.9	-0.5	**8.5**	44.5	1.3	-0.3	**-7.8**	58.2	1.5	1.4	**12.9**
77.3	0.8	**-1.5**	**-6.1**	24.7	1.0	**2.6**	**11.2**	60.2	1.8	-1.7	**-10.6**	41.7	2.1	1.5	**17.1**
55.5	2.0	**-5.0**	**-7.6**	42.0	2.6	**5.3**	**13.3**	32.6	3.3	**-6.2**	-5.1	68.3	4.1	**8.5**	**20.2**
71.4	1.2	0.1	**-4.0**	26.9	1.2	**2.1**	**6.5**	57.7	2.1	**4.4**	1.3	39.9	2.0	-2.0	1.2
62.2	4.9	-1.0	**-15.3**	35.6	7.0	1.4	**16.8**	65.2	4.8	4.6	-6.1	36.8	4.7	3.7	**16.6**
80.1	1.8	**-3.1**	**-5.4**	18.8	2.2	**3.9**	**6.8**	62.6	2.2	**3.4**	**-8.0**	36.7	2.2	-1.9	**11.7**
60.6	2.3	-1.0	**-8.7**	35.0	2.4	2.8	**20.3**	58.2	2.0	-1.1	**-7.3**	38.2	1.9	2.4	**24.0**
81.1	2.7	**3.8**	-2.3	19.0	2.3	-1.8	**4.5**	58.7	5.9	1.7	**-8.6**	41.3	4.9	-0.5	**9.3**
71.4	0.7	-0.2	**-5.6**	28.0	0.8	**1.6**	**10.4**	33.5	2.0	2.0	**-16.3**	65.0	2.2	-0.7	**23.0**
44.0	3.1	**5.6**	**-5.5**	56.0	2.8	-3.7	**17.2**	49.1	2.8	3.0	**-5.9**	51.4	3.3	0.1	**17.0**
74.1	0.7	-0.4	**-7.4**	28.0	0.8	**1.5**	**13.0**	47.0	0.8	-0.4	**-7.0**	56.4	0.7	**1.2**	**12.4**
61.3	1.0	0.9	**-4.1**	37.3	1.2	-0.7	**10.6**	53.2	1.5	-0.8	**-7.1**	45.2	1.4	**2.3**	**13.3**
85.3	4.7	**9.0**	3.3	11.1	3.2	**-9.2**	-2.5	77.6	4.2	**7.0**	1.6	19.5	4.0	**-9.9**	1.9
72.2	0.7	0.6	**-6.9**	28.7	0.9	0.4	**10.9**	40.4	1.3	1.1	**-8.9**	61.3	1.3	0.4	**17.2**
61.3	1.4	0.2	-1.8	36.7	1.6	1.4	**8.5**	49.1	2.0	2.0	**-4.1**	47.6	1.7	-1.5	**11.1**
63.1	1.6	**2.6**	**-7.0**	39.0	1.8	-0.6	**20.3**	58.0	2.1	-0.9	**-12.1**	44.4	2.3	2.3	**23.9**
72.9	0.7	-0.4	**-5.8**	28.5	0.7	**1.5**	**8.8**	40.2	1.6	-1.8	**-9.8**	61.6	1.4	**2.2**	**14.8**
35.9	1.6	N/A		64.2	1.7	N/A		35.8	2.5	N/A		64.8	2.6	N/A	
72.9	2.1	**4.6**	**-6.0**	30.4	2.7	-3.4	**9.5**	46.3	4.8	-2.3	**-13.7**	54.6	4.9	0.4	**17.9**
58.1	1.3	**2.6**	**-4.2**	41.2	1.3	-1.2	**14.1**	56.8	2.7	**9.3**	**-4.7**	44.0	3.0	**-6.6**	**14.0**
76.0	3.1	-2.3	**-5.4**	22.7	4.6	2.1	3.4	66.7	3.6	-3.1	-0.5	32.4	5.3	1.2	-1.9
66.8	1.4	-0.1	**-6.5**	33.9	1.5	0.8	**11.1**	50.3	1.6	1.5	**-7.0**	48.4	1.6	-0.3	**11.9**
58.9	0.6	0.2	**-2.7**	34.3	0.7	0.9	**10.1**	45.3	0.7	**1.2**	-1.4	47.6	0.7	**1.0**	**12.2**
80.4	1.1	**2.4**	1.3	17.0	1.1	0.3	**5.9**	60.0	2.4	1.0	-2.4	33.5	2.8	3.4	**13.8**
63.8	5.6	1.0	**-8.4**	41.7	5.7	2.0	**12.1**	N/A				N/A			
75.9	0.8	1.1	**-3.7**	22.6	0.9	0.6	**8.0**	61.3	1.4	-1.0	**-8.6**	36.2	1.5	2.0	**11.3**
67.7	1.0	0.2	**-4.7**	34.9	1.2	**2.7**	**13.3**	57.8	1.4	**-1.9**	**-4.1**	44.1	1.6	1.9	**11.7**
57.1	2.5	-1.6	**-11.0**	43.4	2.8	0.8	**12.5**	52.2	3.8	5.1	-0.8	52.1	5.2	-2.2	**10.0**
78.8	0.9	0.6	**-5.8**	22.3	1.1	-0.2	**7.4**	52.6	1.7	1.4	**-10.4**	49.9	1.4	-0.1	**15.8**
N/A				N/A				67.5	5.8	-4.1	-5.2	30.9	7.5	2.2	3.9

Note: Change is displayed in percentage points and based on unrounded percentages. Results may differ slightly from those that would be obtained using rounded figures. Bold font indicates a statistically significant change (p<0.05). Margins of error ("+/-") refer to the 95 percent confidence interval around the 2015 estimated percent insured. **Source:** American Community Survey, 1-Year Estimates, 2008, 2014, and 2015.

About the Author

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