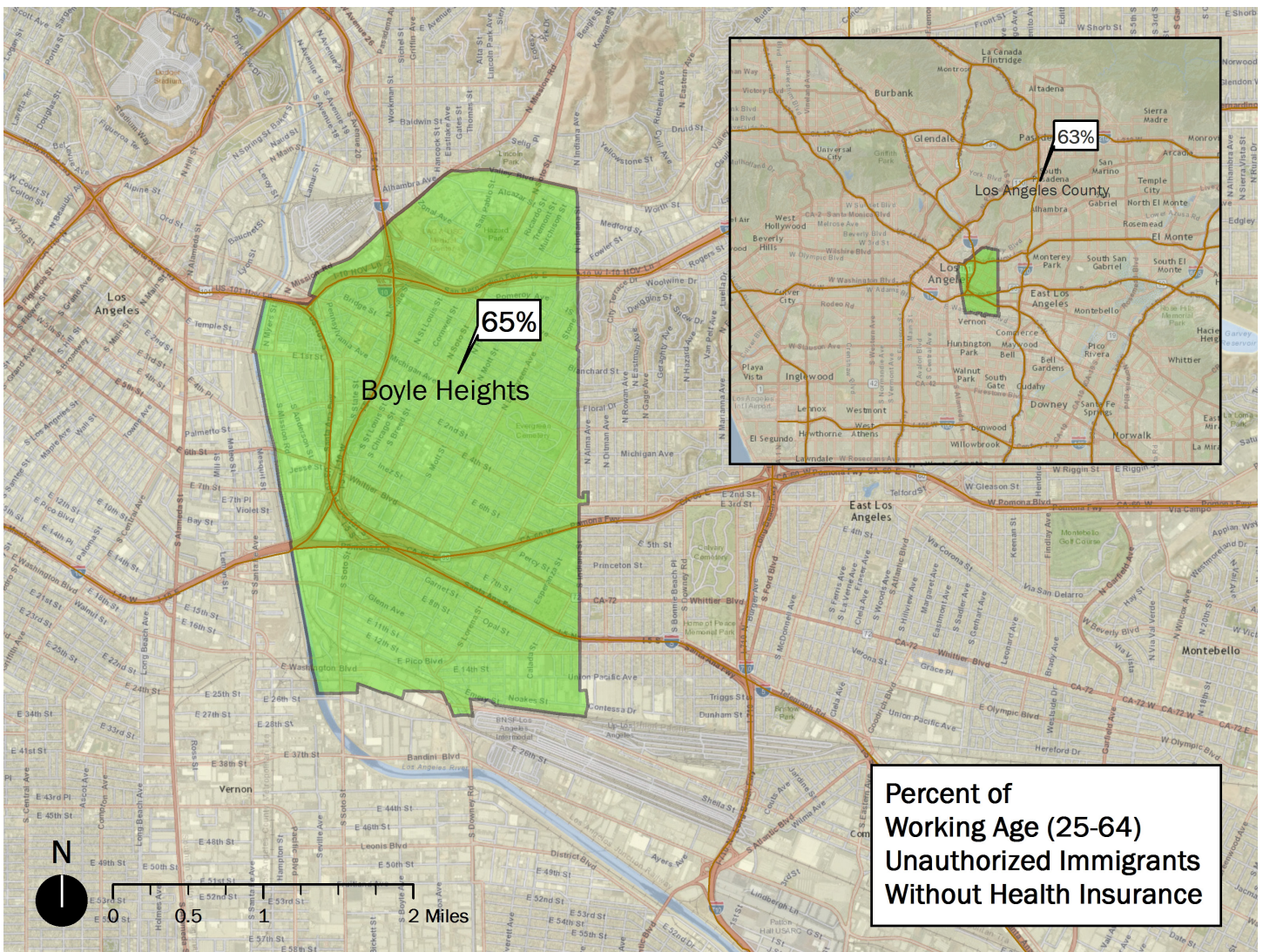


# UNAUTHORIZED AND UNINSURED

# BOYLE HEIGHTS AND LOS ANGELES COUNTY

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## Acknowledgements

Thanks to The California Endowment for funding this research and to Nexi Delgado, Louisa Holmes, Rhonda Ortiz, Genesis Reyes, Alejandro Sanchez-Lopez, and Jared Sanchez for their assistance in generating this fact sheet. Results were generated using 2001 and 2012 Los Angeles County Mexican Immigrant Health & Legal Status Survey (LAC-MIHLSS II & III) and 2008-2012 American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Sample (ACS PUMS) data. We would like to thank the Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles (CHIRLA) for their assistance with designing and implementing the 2001 and 2012 LAC-MIHLSS. The strategy to generate estimates of the unauthorized is explained in detail in Enrico A. Marcelli, Manuel Pastor, and Steven P. Wallace, *Who's In? Who's Out? Immigrant Access to Health Insurance in The California Endowment's 14 Building Healthy Communities and Surrounding Counties by Legal Status*. Los Angeles, CA: USC Center for the Study of Immigrant Integration (CSII), forthcoming 2015.

## Why is this fact sheet important?

Boyle Heights is one of 14 sites supported by The California Endowment under its Building Healthy Communities (BHC) initiative. While BHC is focused on the broad social determinants of health – including improved land use, access to healthy food, and youth development – one key challenge for many residents of the BHC communities is access to medical insurance. This is especially true for unauthorized immigrants who are explicitly excluded from the insurance exchanges and Medi-Cal insurance expansion of the 2010 Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA). While insurance coverage is a key issue for unauthorized immigrants, there is also evidence that maintaining a large population of uninsured residents harms others in terms of both economic and community health – thus, it matters for all Californians.

## How many unauthorized immigrants live here?

We estimate that unauthorized immigrants represent a larger part (17 percent) of Boyle Heights' estimated 88,000 residents than they do among all residents of Los Angeles County (about nine percent of approximately 9.8 million residents). Furthermore, almost 40 percent of all children residing in Boyle Heights (81 percent of whom are U.S. citizens) are estimated to have at least one unauthorized parent. At the same time, unauthorized immigrants are often deeply rooted in their communities – in Boyle Heights, about half have resided more than a decade (11 years) in the USA.

## How do the unauthorized fare economically and socially?

Boyle Heights is one of the poorest neighborhoods in the county, and the poverty rate among unauthorized immigrants is 61 percent – a figure that is higher than that of the native born (51 percent). Also, almost one-half of the unauthorized five years of age or older do not speak English well, often limiting their social and economic status. For example, the unauthorized are often working and poor – those who work full-time but toil in low-wage industries and occupations with limited chances of economic mobility and limited access to employer-based health insurance.

## How does this unauthorized population compare to the surrounding county?

The unauthorized are more disadvantaged economically and socially in Boyle Heights than in all of Los Angeles County. For example, obtaining assets or wealth is a larger problem for many residents of Boyle Heights. Only six percent of unauthorized Boyle Heights householders own their home, compared to 12 percent in the county. Furthermore, both immigrants and U.S.-born residents have very low homeownership rates in Boyle Heights. This is suggestive of an inequality in wealth accumulation not only between this BHC site and the county in which it is located, but also among most residents within Boyle Heights itself.

## What is the state of health insurance coverage among unauthorized immigrants in the community?

To profile the relative access to medical insurance of the unauthorized, we estimate the percentage of residents 25-64 years old with any type of insurance (for example, employer-sponsored, Medi-Cal, military) by nativity and legal status. This age range is chosen for comparison because it is conventional – specifically, those under 25 years of age are more likely to be covered by their parents and those older than 64 qualify for Medicare. Consistent with previous studies, unauthorized immigrants have very low medical insurance coverage: only around 35 percent of this working age population is covered in Boyle Heights – rates far below the native born (71 percent) and lower than the average rate for unauthorized adults in the county (37 percent). The most prevalent type of medical insurance coverage is employer sponsored, but still, only 13 percent of the unauthorized have coverage through employers, compared to almost one-half of the native-born and one-fifth of the unauthorized in the region.

<b>TOTAL POPULATION</b>	87,892		<b>CHILD POPULATION (&lt; 18 YEARS OLD)</b>	21,811	
<b>Nativity and Legal Status</b>			<b>Nativity and Legal Status</b>		
U.S.-born (U.S. Citizen)	43,989	50%	U.S.-born	19,327	89%
Foreign-born ("Immigrant")	43,903	50%	Immigrant	2,484	11%
Naturalized Immigrant (U.S. Citizen)	15,804	18%	Unauthorized Immigrant	1,537	7%
Authorized Immigrant (Non-U.S. Citizen)	13,029	15%	<b>Resides with at Least One Immigrant Parent<sup>4</sup></b>	17,668	84%
Unauthorized Immigrant (Non-U.S. Citizen)	15,070	17%	of those children, share U.S.-born	15,331	87%
<b>Female (For Each Nativity Group)</b>	44,132	50%	<b>Resides with at Least One Unauthorized Immigrant Parent<sup>4</sup></b>	8,217	39%
U.S.-born	21,700	49%	of those children, share U.S.-born	6,688	81%
Immigrant	22,432	51%	<b>Child Poverty (Family Income &lt; 150% of Poverty Line)<sup>4</sup></b>	13,925	67%
Naturalized Immigrant	8,722	55%	Resides with ≥ 1 U.S.-born Parent	2,456	53%
Authorized Immigrant	6,552	50%	Resides with ≥ 1 Immigrant Parent	12,257	70%
Unauthorized Immigrant	7,158	47%	Resides with ≥ 1 Naturalized Parent	2,791	52%
<b>Ethno-Racial Group</b>			Resides with ≥ 1 Authorized Immigrant Parent	4,631	69%
White, Non-Latino	7,273	8%	Resides with ≥ 1 Unauthorized Immigrant Parent	6,471	79%
Latino (Any Race)	64,339	73%			
Asian, Non-Latino	12,211	14%	<b>UNAUTHORIZED IMMIGRANT POPULATION</b>	15,070	17%
Black, Non-Latino	2,927	3%	<b>Top Five Countries of Origin</b>	14,242	95%
Other, Non-Latino	1,142	1%	Mexico	12,217	81%
<b>Speaks English Well (Among Those Age ≥ 5 Years Old)<sup>1</sup></b>	55,521	68%	El Salvador	700	5%
Immigrant	18,671	43%	China	582	4%
Naturalized Immigrant	7,486	48%	Guatemala	481	3%
Authorized Immigrant	6,110	47%	Korea	262	2%
Unauthorized Immigrant	5,075	34%	<b>Female</b>	7,158	47%
<b>Homeownership</b>	5,665	18%	<b>Ethno-Racial Group</b>		
U.S.-born	2,268	20%	Latino (Any Race)	13,759	91%
Immigrant	3,397	17%	Asian, Non-Latino	1,232	8%
Naturalized Immigrant	2,372	26%	Other (White, Black, Other Non-Latino)	79	1%
Authorized Immigrant	734	12%	<b>Age and Time in Country (Medians)</b>		
Unauthorized Immigrant	291	6%	Age	33 yrs.	
<b>Poverty (Family Income &lt; 150% of Poverty Line)<sup>2</sup></b>	46,155	53%	Age First Arrived in Country	21 yrs.	
U.S.-born	22,380	51%	Years Residing in the USA	11 yrs.	
Immigrant	23,775	54%	<b>Labor Force Participation (Age 18-64 Years Old)</b>	9,426	73%
Naturalized Immigrant	7,251	46%	Male Participation	6,440	93%
Authorized Immigrant	7,283	56%	of which, share employed	6,033	94%
Unauthorized Immigrant	9,241	61%	of employed, share full-time	4,726	78%
			Female Participation	2,986	50%
			of which, share employed	2,363	79%
			of employed, share full-time	1,523	64%
<b>INSURANCE/COVERAGE FOR WORKING AGE POPULATION (25-64)</b>			<b>Top 5 Industries</b>	5,677	68%
<b>Has Medical Insurance Coverage (Among 25-64 Year Olds)</b>	25,520	55%	Manufacturing	1,871	22%
U.S.-born	11,142	71%	Food & Recreational Services	1,156	14%
Immigrant	14,378	47%	Retail Trade	1,085	13%
Naturalized Immigrant	6,416	64%	Construction	805	10%
Authorized Immigrant	3,954	43%	"Other" Services	760	9%
Unauthorized Immigrant	4,008	35%	<b>Top 5 Occupations</b>	7,239	86%
<b>Has Employer-Sponsored Medical Insurance Coverage</b>	12,448	27%	Precision, Craft & Repair	2,160	26%
U.S.-born	5,949	38%	Food, Health, Protective & Other Service	2,038	24%
Immigrant	6,499	21%	Transportation & Material Moving	1,219	15%
Naturalized Immigrant	3,353	34%	Sales	1,013	12%
Authorized Immigrant	1,656	18%	Construction	809	10%
Unauthorized Immigrant	1,490	13%	<b>Annual Earnings among Full-Time Workers (Median)</b>	\$18,000	
<b>Has Low-Income Government Insurance or Assistance (e.g., Medi-Cal)<sup>3</sup></b>	6,807	15%	Male	\$18,000	
U.S.-born	1,988	13%	Female	\$16,500	
Immigrant	4,819	16%	<b>Annual Earnings among Part-Time Workers (Median)</b>	\$8,000	
Naturalized Immigrant	1,621	16%	Male	\$8,000	
Authorized Immigrant	1,163	13%	Female	\$6,000	
Unauthorized Immigrant	2,035	18%			

**Notes**

- 1 Virtually all U.S.-born respondents in the ACS either report speaking English very well or speak no other language but English at home.
- 2 These are computed at the individual level using the ACS variable indicating the ratio of family income to the poverty line by family type.
- 3 Employer and low-income insurance coverage do not add up to total coverage which also includes private purchased insurance, veteran coverage, etc.
- 4 The denominator for these computations is the number of children residing with at least one parent.

<b>TOTAL POPULATION</b>	9,841,410		<b>CHILD POPULATION (&lt; 18 YEARS OLD)</b>	2,402,066	
<b>Nativity and Legal Status</b>			<b>Nativity and Legal Status</b>		
U.S.-born (U.S. Citizen)	6,132,236	62%	U.S.-born	2,221,225	92%
Foreign-born ("Immigrant")	3,709,174	38%	Immigrant	180,841	8%
Naturalized Immigrant (U.S. Citizen)	1,739,145	18%	Unauthorized Immigrant	81,841	3%
Authorized Immigrant (Non-U.S. Citizen)	1,061,982	11%	<b>Resides with at Least One Immigrant Parent<sup>4</sup></b>	1,489,878	65%
Unauthorized Immigrant (Non-U.S. Citizen)	908,047	9%	of those children, share U.S.-born	1,326,028	89%
<b>Female (For Each Nativity Group)</b>	4,998,328	51%	<b>Resides with at Least One Unauthorized Immigrant Parent<sup>4</sup></b>	520,146	23%
U.S.-born	3,081,238	50%	of those children, share U.S.-born	434,670	84%
Immigrant	1,917,090	52%	<b>Child Poverty (Family Income &lt; 150% of Poverty Line)<sup>4</sup></b>	890,480	39%
Naturalized Immigrant	946,984	54%	Resides with ≥ 1 U.S.-born Parent	276,332	26%
Authorized Immigrant	533,812	50%	Resides with ≥ 1 Immigrant Parent	662,819	45%
Unauthorized Immigrant	436,294	48%	Resides with ≥ 1 Naturalized Parent	186,945	27%
<b>Ethno-Racial Group</b>			Resides with ≥ 1 Authorized Immigrant Parent	251,223	48%
White, Non-Latino	2,693,069	27%	Resides with ≥ 1 Unauthorized Immigrant Parent	337,774	65%
Latino (Any Race)	4,722,373	48%	<b>UNAUTHORIZED IMMIGRANT POPULATION</b>	908,047	9%
Asian, Non-Latino	1,362,801	14%	<b>Top Five Countries of Origin</b>	799,285	88%
Black, Non-Latino	780,936	8%	Mexico	576,703	64%
Other, Non-Latino	282,231	3%	El Salvador	88,196	10%
<b>Speaks English Well (Among Those Age ≥ 5 Years Old)<sup>1</sup></b>	3,844,356	72%	Guatemala	77,585	9%
Immigrant	1,977,604	58%	Philippines	28,711	3%
Naturalized Immigrant	1,105,457	72%	Korea	28,090	3%
Authorized Immigrant	512,560	52%	<b>Female</b>	436,294	48%
Unauthorized Immigrant	359,587	41%	<b>Ethno-Racial Group</b>		
<b>Homeownership</b>	1,536,436	47%	Latino (Any Race)	772,570	85%
U.S.-born	875,637	49%	Asian, Non-Latino	101,405	11%
Immigrant	618,197	41%	Other (White, Black, Other Non-Latino)	34,072	4%
Naturalized Immigrant	469,805	56%	<b>Age and Time in Country (Medians)</b>		
Authorized Immigrant	116,085	29%	Age	33 yrs.	
Unauthorized Immigrant	32,307	12%	Age First Arrived in Country	21 yrs.	
<b>Poverty (Family Income &lt; 150% of Poverty Line)<sup>2</sup></b>	2,832,656	29%	Years Residing in the USA	10 yrs.	
U.S.-born	1,596,222	26%	<b>Labor Force Participation (Age 18-64 Years Old)</b>	594,777	74%
Immigrant	1,236,434	33%	Male Participation	384,279	91%
Naturalized Immigrant	379,340	22%	of which, share employed	354,433	92%
Authorized Immigrant	384,709	36%	of employed, share full-time	275,452	78%
Unauthorized Immigrant	472,385	52%	Female Participation	210,498	55%
			of which, share employed	178,654	85%
			of employed, share full-time	105,290	59%
<b>INSURANCE/COVERAGE FOR WORKING AGE POPULATION (25-64)</b>			<b>Top 5 Industries</b>	366,190	69%
<b>Has Medical Insurance Coverage (Among 25-64 Year Olds)</b>	3,787,959	71%	Manufacturing	91,900	17%
U.S.-born	2,132,283	82%	Food & Recreational Services	84,547	16%
Immigrant	1,655,676	60%	Construction	73,476	14%
Naturalized Immigrant	976,450	76%	Business Services	61,995	12%
Authorized Immigrant	423,731	53%	"Other" Services	54,272	10%
Unauthorized Immigrant	255,495	37%	<b>Top 5 Occupations</b>	438,153	82%
<b>Has Employer-Sponsored Medical Insurance Coverage</b>	2,560,195	48%	Food, Health, Protective & Other Service	162,606	31%
U.S.-born	1,513,311	58%	Precision, Craft & Repair	103,641	19%
Immigrant	1,046,884	38%	Construction	71,123	13%
Naturalized Immigrant	657,729	51%	Transportation & Material Moving	56,126	11%
Authorized Immigrant	256,835	32%	Sales	44,657	8%
Unauthorized Immigrant	132,320	19%	<b>Annual Earnings among Full-Time Workers (Median)</b>	\$18,000	
<b>Has Low-Income Government Insurance or Assistance (e.g., Medi-Cal)<sup>3</sup></b>	442,837	8%	Male	\$19,050	
U.S.-born	162,373	6%	Female	\$17,000	
Immigrant	280,464	10%	<b>Annual Earnings among Part-Time Workers (Median)</b>	\$8,000	
Naturalized Immigrant	102,719	8%	Male	\$9,800	
Authorized Immigrant	85,164	11%	Female	\$7,000	
Unauthorized Immigrant	92,581	13%			

**Notes**

- 1 Virtually all U.S.-born respondents in the ACS either report speaking English very well or speak no other language but English at home.
- 2 These are computed at the individual level using the ACS variable indicating the ratio of family income to the poverty line by family type.
- 3 Employer and low-income insurance coverage do not add up to total coverage which also includes private purchased insurance, veteran coverage, etc.
- 4 The denominator for these computations is the number of children residing with at least one parent.