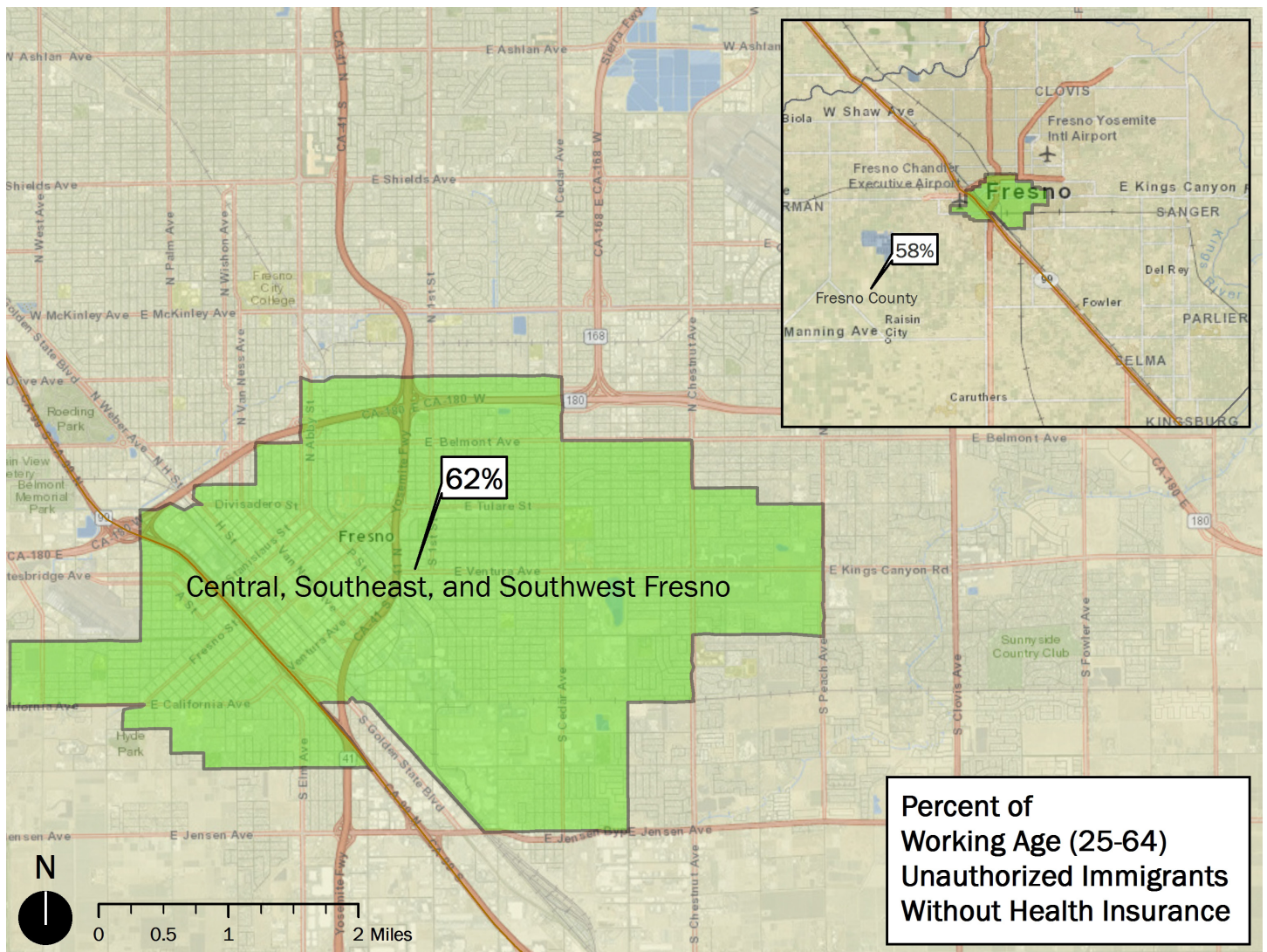


UNAUTHORIZED AND UNINSURED

CENTRAL, SOUTHEAST, AND SOUTHWEST FRESNO AND FRESNO COUNTY

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Why is this fact sheet important?

Central, Southeast, and Southwest Fresno 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 10 percent of Central, Southeast, and Southwest Fresno's estimated almost 100,000 residents. Furthermore, an estimated one-fifth of all children (82 percent of whom are U.S. citizens) residing in Central, Southeast, and Southwest Fresno have at least one unauthorized parent. At the same time, unauthorized immigrants are often deeply rooted in their communities – in Central, Southeast, and Southwest Fresno, about half are estimated to have, on average, resided just shy of a decade (9 years) in the United States.

How do the unauthorized fare economically and socially?

Although Central, Southeast, and Southwest Fresno is one of the most economically disadvantaged areas in Fresno County, the difference in poverty rates between unauthorized immigrants and the native born is actually smaller in the area than at the county level. While the area has a 20 percent difference in poverty between the two groups, the gap is actually 33 percent at the county level. Also, more than 70 percent of the unauthorized who are at least five-years old 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 such as the agricultural and service sectors – with limited chances of economic mobility and limited access to employer-based health insurance.

How does this unauthorized population compare to the surrounding county?

Central, Southeast, and Southwest Fresno County has the highest poverty rate (70 percent) among the unauthorized across all 14 BHC sites. It is also the case that the poverty rate for the undocumented is the highest in Fresno County (68 percent) as compared to the other counties hosting BHC sites. Combined with the low-wage agriculture industry and little opportunity for wealth creation – as seen in very low homeownership rates – both this BHC site and its surrounding county are part of a larger system of inequality operating in the Central Valley. However, the high number of children born to immigrants, including the unauthorized, creates a broader network of new alliances that tie U.S. citizens to the causes and concerns of the immigrant community.

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 age 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 38 percent of this working age population is covered in Central, Southeast, and Southwest Fresno – rates far below the native born (78 percent) and lower than the average rate for unauthorized adults in the county (42 percent). One of the most common types of medical insurance coverage is employer sponsored, but only slightly more than one in ten of unauthorized migrants residing in this BHC site (13 percent) or in the county (14 percent) have coverage through an employer.

TOTAL POPULATION	98,754		CHILD POPULATION (< 18 YEARS OLD)	31,123	
Nativity and Legal Status			Nativity and Legal Status		
U.S.-born (U.S. Citizen)	72,176	73%	U.S.-born	28,905	93%
Foreign-born ("Immigrant")	26,578	27%	Immigrant	2,218	7%
Naturalized Immigrant (U.S. Citizen)	8,094	8%	Unauthorized Immigrant	1,032	3%
Authorized Immigrant (Non-U.S. Citizen)	8,557	9%	Resides with at Least One Immigrant Parent⁴	15,173	51%
Unauthorized Immigrant (Non-U.S. Citizen)	9,927	10%	of those children, share US-born	13,233	87%
Female (For Each Nativity Group)	49,123	50%	Resides with at Least One Unauthorized Immigrant Parent⁴	6,059	20%
U.S.-born	36,820	51%	of those children, share US-born	4,997	82%
Immigrant	12,303	46%	Child Poverty (Family Income < 150% of Poverty Line)⁴	18,304	62%
Naturalized Immigrant	3,740	46%	Resides with ≥ 1 U.S.-born Parent	9,268	56%
Authorized Immigrant	3,717	43%	Resides with ≥ 1 Immigrant Parent	9,863	65%
Unauthorized Immigrant	4,846	49%	Resides with ≥ 1 Naturalized Parent	3,381	52%
Ethno-Racial Group			Resides with ≥ 1 Authorized Immigrant Parent	4,002	69%
White, Non-Latino	19,829	20%	Resides with ≥ 1 Unauthorized Immigrant Parent	4,671	77%
Latino (Any Race)	55,352	56%			
Asian, Non-Latino	13,153	13%	UNAUTHORIZED IMMIGRANT POPULATION	9,927	10%
Black, Non-Latino	7,795	8%	Top Five Countries of Origin	9,410	95%
Other, Non-Latino	2,625	3%	Mexico	8,572	86%
Speaks English Well (Among Those Age ≥ 5 Years Old)¹	73,994	83%	El Salvador	276	3%
Immigrant	12,028	46%	Guatemala	219	2%
Naturalized Immigrant	5,433	68%	Philippines	179	2%
Authorized Immigrant	3,922	46%	Laos	164	2%
Unauthorized Immigrant	2,673	27%	Female	4,846	49%
Homeownership	13,254	43%	Ethno-Racial Group		
U.S.-born	9,328	44%	Latino (Any Race)	9,204	93%
Immigrant	3,926	41%	Asian, Non-Latino	689	7%
Naturalized Immigrant	2,244	60%	Other (White, Black, Other Non-Latino)	34	0%
Authorized Immigrant	1,159	36%	Age and Time in Country (Medians)		
Unauthorized Immigrant	523	20%	Age	32 yrs.	
Poverty (Family Income < 150% of Poverty Line)²	48,883	50%	Age First Arrived in Country	21 yrs.	
U.S.-born	34,089	47%	Years Residing in the USA	9 yrs.	
Immigrant	14,794	56%	Labor Force Participation (Age 18-64 Years Old)	6,233	71%
Naturalized Immigrant	3,388	42%	Male Participation	4,219	0%
Authorized Immigrant	4,462	52%	of which, share employed	3,670	87%
Unauthorized Immigrant	6,944	70%	of employed, share full-time	2,913	79%
			Female Participation	2,014	0%
INSURANCE/COVERAGE FOR WORKING AGE POPULATION (25-64)			of which, share employed	1,576	78%
Has Medical Insurance Coverage	32,370	67%	of employed, share full-time	1,110	70%
U.S.-born	22,194	78%	Top 5 Industries	3,985	76%
Immigrant	10,176	52%	Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing	1,773	34%
Naturalized Immigrant	4,296	76%	Construction	670	13%
Authorized Immigrant	2,999	48%	Business Services	572	11%
Unauthorized Immigrant	2,881	38%	Food & Recreational Services	522	10%
Has Employer-Sponsored Medical Insurance Coverage	16,137	34%	"Other" Services	448	9%
U.S.-born	11,898	42%	Top 5 Occupations	4,743	90%
Immigrant	4,239	22%	Farming, Forestry & Fishing	1,750	33%
Naturalized Immigrant	2,165	38%	Food, Health, Protective & Other Service	1,299	25%
Authorized Immigrant	1,080	17%	Precision, Craft & Repair	738	14%
Unauthorized Immigrant	994	13%	Construction	564	11%
Has Low-Income Government Insurance or Assistance (e.g., Medi-Cal)³	10,164	21%	Transportation & Material Moving	392	7%
U.S.-born	5,521	19%	Annual Earnings among Full-Time Workers (Median)	\$14,000	
Immigrant	4,643	24%	Male	\$15,000	
Naturalized Immigrant	1,478	26%	Female	\$12,000	
Authorized Immigrant	1,478	24%	Annual Earnings among Part-Time Workers (Median)	\$10,000	
Unauthorized Immigrant	1,687	23%	Male	\$10,000	
			Female	\$5,000	

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.

TOTAL POPULATION	924,012		CHILD POPULATION (< 18 YEARS OLD)	277,136	
Nativity and Legal Status			Nativity and Legal Status		
U.S.-born (U.S. Citizen)	703,389	76%	U.S.-born	259,764	94%
Foreign-born ("Immigrant")	220,623	24%	Immigrant	17,372	6%
Naturalized Immigrant (U.S. Citizen)	76,848	8%	Unauthorized Immigrant	9,277	3%
Authorized Immigrant (Non-U.S. Citizen)	67,242	7%	Resides with at Least One Immigrant Parent⁴	127,212	48%
Unauthorized Immigrant (Non-U.S. Citizen)	76,533	8%	of those children, share U.S.-born	111,371	88%
Female (For Each Nativity Group)	465,653	50%	Resides with at Least One Unauthorized Immigrant Parent⁴	55,471	21%
U.S.-born	359,890	51%	of those children, share U.S.-born	45,101	81%
Immigrant	105,763	48%	Child Poverty (Family Income < 150% of Poverty Line)⁴	137,187	52%
Naturalized Immigrant	38,663	50%	Resides with ≥ 1 U.S.-born Parent	66,588	41%
Authorized Immigrant	32,398	48%	Resides with ≥ 1 Immigrant Parent	78,621	62%
Unauthorized Immigrant	34,702	45%	Resides with ≥ 1 Naturalized Parent	20,165	42%
Ethno-Racial Group			Resides with ≥ 1 Authorized Immigrant Parent	29,347	65%
White, Non-Latino	298,697	32%	Resides with ≥ 1 Unauthorized Immigrant Parent	43,284	78%
Latino (Any Race)	467,790	51%			
Asian, Non-Latino	88,230	10%	UNAUTHORIZED IMMIGRANT POPULATION	76,533	8%
Black, Non-Latino	42,248	5%	Top Five Countries of Origin	72,715	95%
Other, Non-Latino	27,047	3%	Mexico	67,594	88%
Speaks English Well (Among Those Age ≥ 5 Years Old)¹	730,331	86%	El Salvador	2,335	3%
Immigrant	112,060	51%	India	1,201	2%
Naturalized Immigrant	56,197	74%	Philippines	905	1%
Authorized Immigrant	30,814	46%	Thailand	680	1%
Unauthorized Immigrant	25,049	33%	Female	34,702	45%
Homeownership	156,503	54%	Ethno-Racial Group		
U.S.-born	118,496	57%	Latino (Any Race)	71,740	94%
Immigrant	38,007	46%	Asian, Non-Latino	3,905	5%
Naturalized Immigrant	23,332	66%	Other (White, Black, Other Non-Latino)	888	1%
Authorized Immigrant	9,628	39%	Age and Time in Country (Medians)		
Unauthorized Immigrant	5,047	23%	Age	31 yrs.	
Poverty (Family Income < 150% of Poverty Line)²	355,777	39%	Age First Arrived in Country	20 yrs.	
U.S.-born	246,780	35%	Years Residing in the USA	10 yrs.	
Immigrant	108,997	49%	Labor Force Participation (Age 18-64 Years Old)	49,089	75%
Naturalized Immigrant	23,459	31%	Male Participation	33,680	93%
Authorized Immigrant	33,516	50%	of which, share employed	29,693	88%
Unauthorized Immigrant	52,022	68%	of employed, share full-time	25,417	86%
			Female Participation	15,409	53%
			of which, share employed	12,188	79%
			of employed, share full-time	8,816	72%
INSURANCE/COVERAGE FOR WORKING AGE POPULATION (25-64)			Top 5 Industries	31,283	75%
Has Medical Insurance Coverage	328,411	73%	Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing	18,424	44%
U.S.-born	237,238	81%	Food & Recreational Services	3,464	8%
Immigrant	91,173	58%	Business Services	3,411	8%
Naturalized Immigrant	42,197	76%	Construction	3,234	8%
Authorized Immigrant	25,991	55%	Manufacturing	2,750	7%
Unauthorized Immigrant	22,985	42%	Top 5 Occupations	36,820	88%
Has Employer-Sponsored Medical Insurance Coverage	197,594	44%	Farming, Forestry & Fishing	17,475	42%
U.S.-born	153,650	53%	Food, Health, Protective & Other Service	7,966	19%
Immigrant	43,944	28%	Transportation & Material Moving	4,658	11%
Naturalized Immigrant	24,622	44%	Precision, Craft & Repair	3,656	9%
Authorized Immigrant	11,629	24%	Construction	3,065	7%
Unauthorized Immigrant	7,693	14%	Annual Earnings among Full-Time Workers (Median)	\$15,000	
Has Low-Income Government Insurance or Assistance (e.g., Medi-Cal)³	67,232	15%	Male	\$16,000	
U.S.-born	35,078	12%	Female	\$14,000	
Immigrant	32,154	20%	Annual Earnings among Part-Time Workers (Median)	\$7,000	
Naturalized Immigrant	7,818	14%	Male	\$8,000	
Authorized Immigrant	10,686	22%	Female	\$5,300	
Unauthorized Immigrant	13,650	25%			

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.