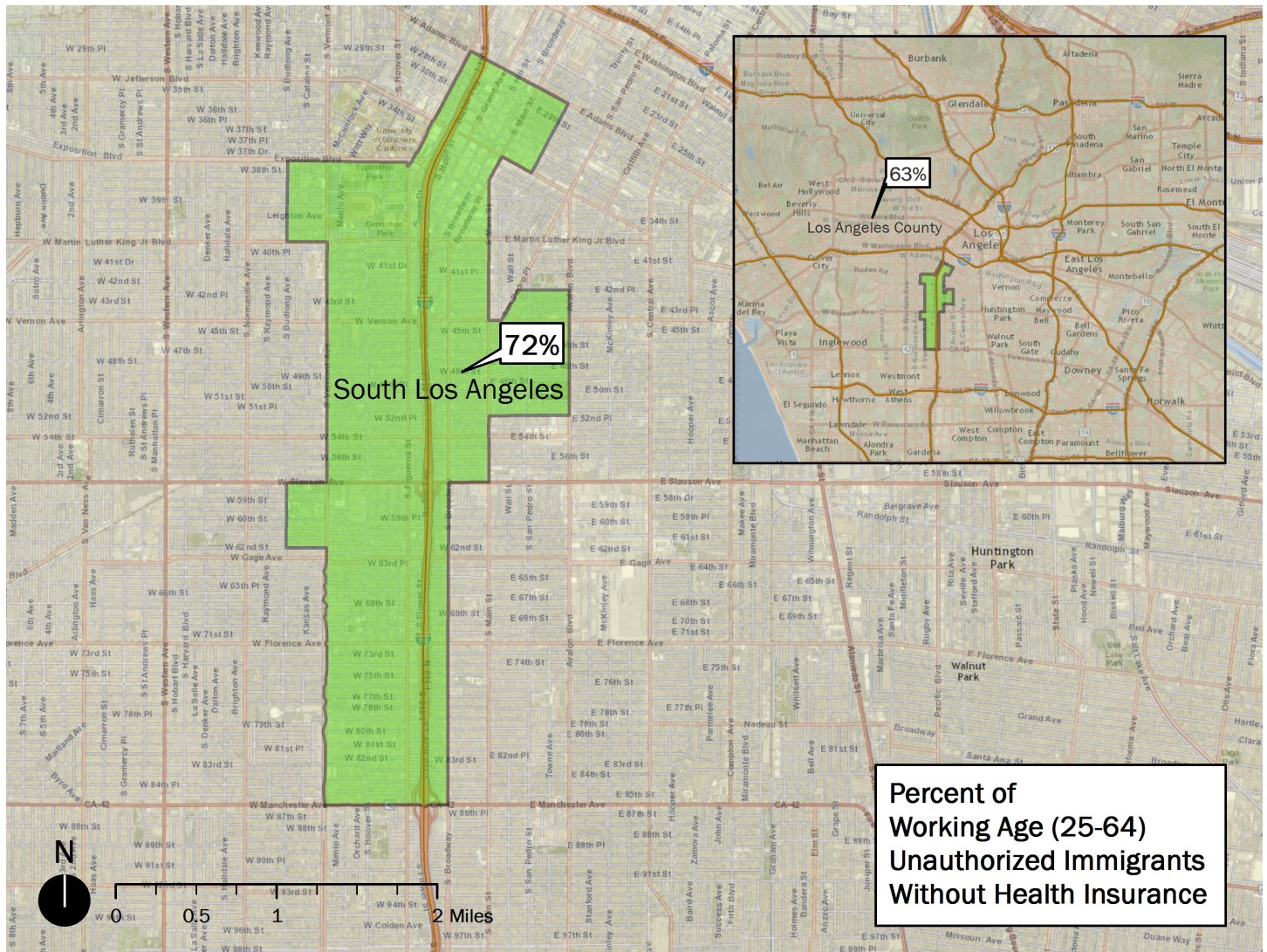


# UNAUTHORIZED AND UNINSURED

# SOUTH LOS ANGELES AND LOS ANGELES COUNTY

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Percent of  
Working Age (25-64)  
Unauthorized Immigrants  
Without Health Insurance

# SOUTH LOS ANGELES AND LOS ANGELES COUNTY

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## Why is this fact sheet important?

This area of South Los Angeles 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 (19 percent) of the South Los Angeles BHC site's estimated 90,000 residents than they do among all residents of Los Angeles County (about nine percent of approximately 9.8 million residents). Furthermore, an estimated 40 percent of all children (89 percent of whom are U.S. citizens) residing in the South Los Angeles BHC site have at least one unauthorized parent. At the same time, unauthorized immigrants are often deeply rooted in their communities - in the South Los Angeles BHC site, about half have resided more than a decade (11 years) in the USA.

## How do the unauthorized fare economically and socially?

The South Los Angeles BHC site is one of the poorest neighborhoods in the county, with a poverty rate for unauthorized immigrants of 66 percent. Also, 70 percent 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 at a greater disadvantage in the South Los Angeles BHC site than in the larger county. This, however, is true for most of the population in the community, primarily a Black and Latino neighborhood that is emblematic of a neighborhood in transition. Given a community with scarce resources and generations of structural disadvantage, it is particularly difficult for the unauthorized to obtain social and economic mobility.

## 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 28 percent of this working age population is covered in the South Los Angeles BHC site - rates far below the native-born (70 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 12 percent of the unauthorized have coverage through employers, compared to almost 40 percent of the native born and one-fifth of the unauthorized in the region.

<b>TOTAL POPULATION</b>	89,787		<b>CHILD POPULATION (&lt; 18 YEARS OLD)</b>	27,380	
<b>Nativity and Legal Status</b>			<b>Nativity and Legal Status</b>		
U.S.-born (U.S. Citizen)	52,356	58%	U.S.-born	25,615	94%
Foreign-born ("Immigrant")	37,431	42%	Immigrant	1,765	6%
Naturalized Immigrant (U.S. Citizen)	8,185	9%	Unauthorized Immigrant	1,355	5%
Authorized Immigrant (Non-U.S. Citizen)	12,083	13%	<b>Resides with at Least One Immigrant Parent<sup>4</sup></b>	19,583	75%
Unauthorized Immigrant (Non-U.S. Citizen)	17,163	19%	of those children, share U.S.-born	17,935	92%
<b>Female (For Each Nativity Group)</b>	45,210	50%	<b>Resides with at Least One Unauthorized Immigrant Parent<sup>4</sup></b>	10,521	40%
U.S.-born	28,020	54%	of those children, share U.S.-born	9,318	89%
Immigrant	17,190	46%	<b>Child Poverty (Family Income &lt; 150% of Poverty Line)<sup>4</sup></b>	18,372	71%
Naturalized Immigrant	4,238	52%	Resides with ≥ 1 U.S.-born Parent	4,803	63%
Authorized Immigrant	5,089	42%	Resides with ≥ 1 Immigrant Parent	14,212	73%
Unauthorized Immigrant	7,863	46%	Resides with ≥ 1 Naturalized Parent	2,680	55%
<b>Ethno-Racial Group</b>			Resides with ≥ 1 Authorized Immigrant Parent	4,855	67%
White, Non-Latino	829	1%	Resides with ≥ 1 Unauthorized Immigrant Parent	8,644	82%
Latino (Any Race)	62,806	70%	<b>UNAUTHORIZED IMMIGRANT POPULATION</b>	17,163	19%
Asian, Non-Latino	1,103	1%	<b>Top Five Countries of Origin</b>	16,883	98%
Black, Non-Latino	23,720	26%	Mexico	10,513	61%
Other, Non-Latino	1,329	1%	El Salvador	3,643	21%
<b>Speaks English Well (Among Those Age ≥ 5 Years Old)<sup>1</sup></b>	59,481	72%	Guatemala	2,354	14%
Immigrant	15,425	41%	Honduras	296	2%
Naturalized Immigrant	5,111	63%	Nicaragua	77	0%
Authorized Immigrant	4,765	40%	<b>Female</b>	7,863	46%
Unauthorized Immigrant	5,549	32%	<b>Ethno-Racial Group</b>		
<b>Homeownership</b>	8,911	36%	Latino (Any Race)	16,889	98%
U.S.-born	4,530	39%	Asian, Non-Latino	164	1%
Immigrant	4,381	33%	Other (White, Black, Other Non-Latino)	110	1%
Naturalized Immigrant	2,401	58%	<b>Age and Time in Country (Medians)</b>		
Authorized Immigrant	1,502	35%	Age	32 yrs.	
Unauthorized Immigrant	478	10%	Age First Arrived in Country	21 yrs.	
<b>Poverty (Family Income &lt; 150% of Poverty Line)<sup>2</sup></b>	49,064	55%	Years Residing in the USA	11 yrs.	
U.S.-born	28,468	55%	<b>Labor Force Participation (Age 18-64 Years Old)</b>	11,447	74%
Immigrant	20,596	55%	Male Participation	7,881	93%
Naturalized Immigrant	3,169	39%	of which, share employed	7,073	90%
Authorized Immigrant	6,174	51%	of employed, share full-time	5,996	85%
Unauthorized Immigrant	11,253	66%	Female Participation	3,566	51%
<b>INSURANCE/COVERAGE FOR WORKING AGE POPULATION (25-64)</b>			of which, share employed	3,122	88%
<b>Has Medical Insurance Coverage (Among 25-64 Year Olds)</b>	22,313	49%	of employed, share full-time	2,150	69%
U.S.-born	10,813	70%	<b>Top 5 Industries</b>	7,315	72%
Immigrant	11,500	38%	Manufacturing	2,489	24%
Naturalized Immigrant	4,380	67%	Construction	1,481	15%
Authorized Immigrant	3,275	33%	Retail Trade	1,235	12%
Unauthorized Immigrant	3,845	28%	"Other" Services	1,147	11%
<b>Has Employer-Sponsored Medical Insurance Coverage</b>	12,135	27%	Food & Recreational Services	963	9%
U.S.-born	5,938	38%	<b>Top 5 Occupations</b>	9,117	89%
Immigrant	6,197	21%	Precision, Craft & Repair	2,974	29%
Naturalized Immigrant	2,944	45%	Food, Health, Protective & Other Service	2,140	21%
Authorized Immigrant	1,677	17%	Construction	1,587	16%
Unauthorized Immigrant	1,576	12%	Transportation & Material Moving	1,265	12%
<b>Has Low-Income Government Insurance or Assistance (e.g., Medi-Cal)<sup>3</sup></b>	6,633	15%	Sales	1,151	11%
U.S.-born	2,627	17%	<b>Annual Earnings among Full-Time Workers (Median)</b>	\$15,000	
Immigrant	4,006	13%	Male	\$15,000	
Naturalized Immigrant	844	13%	Female	\$15,000	
Authorized Immigrant	1,149	12%	<b>Annual Earnings among Part-Time Workers (Median)</b>	\$8,000	
Unauthorized Immigrant	2,013	15%	Male	\$12,000	
			Female	\$7,000	

**Notes**

<sup>1</sup> Virtually all U.S.-born respondents in the ACS either report speaking English very well or speak no other language but English at home.

<sup>2</sup> These are computed at the individual level using the ACS variable indicating the ratio of family income to the poverty line by family type.

<sup>3</sup> Employer and low-income insurance coverage do not add up to total coverage which also includes private purchased insurance, veteran coverage, etc.

<sup>4</sup> 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%
<b>INSURANCE/COVERAGE FOR WORKING AGE POPULATION (25-64)</b>			of which, share employed	178,654	85%
<b>Has Medical Insurance Coverage (Among 25-64 Year Olds)</b>	3,787,959	71%	of employed, share full-time	105,290	59%
U.S.-born	2,132,283	82%	<b>Top 5 Industries</b>	366,190	69%
Immigrant	1,655,676	60%	Manufacturing	91,900	17%
Naturalized Immigrant	976,450	76%	Food & Recreational Services	84,547	16%
Authorized Immigrant	423,731	53%	Construction	73,476	14%
Unauthorized Immigrant	255,495	37%	Business Services	61,995	12%
<b>Has Employer-Sponsored Medical Insurance Coverage</b>	2,560,195	48%	"Other" Services	54,272	10%
U.S.-born	1,513,311	58%	<b>Top 5 Occupations</b>	438,153	82%
Immigrant	1,046,884	38%	Food, Health, Protective & Other Service	162,606	31%
Naturalized Immigrant	657,729	51%	Precision, Craft & Repair	103,641	19%
Authorized Immigrant	256,835	32%	Construction	71,123	13%
Unauthorized Immigrant	132,320	19%	Transportation & Material Moving	56,126	11%
<b>Has Low-Income Government Insurance or Assistance (e.g., Medi-Cal)<sup>3</sup></b>	442,837	8%	Sales	44,657	8%
U.S.-born	162,373	6%	<b>Annual Earnings among Full-Time Workers (Median)</b>	\$18,000	
Immigrant	280,464	10%	Male	\$19,050	
Naturalized Immigrant	102,719	8%	Female	\$17,000	
Authorized Immigrant	85,164	11%	<b>Annual Earnings among Part-Time Workers (Median)</b>	\$8,000	
Unauthorized Immigrant	92,581	13%	Male	\$9,800	
			Female	\$7,000	

**Notes**

<sup>1</sup> Virtually all U.S.-born respondents in the ACS either report speaking English very well or speak no other language but English at home.

<sup>2</sup> These are computed at the individual level using the ACS variable indicating the ratio of family income to the poverty line by family type.

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