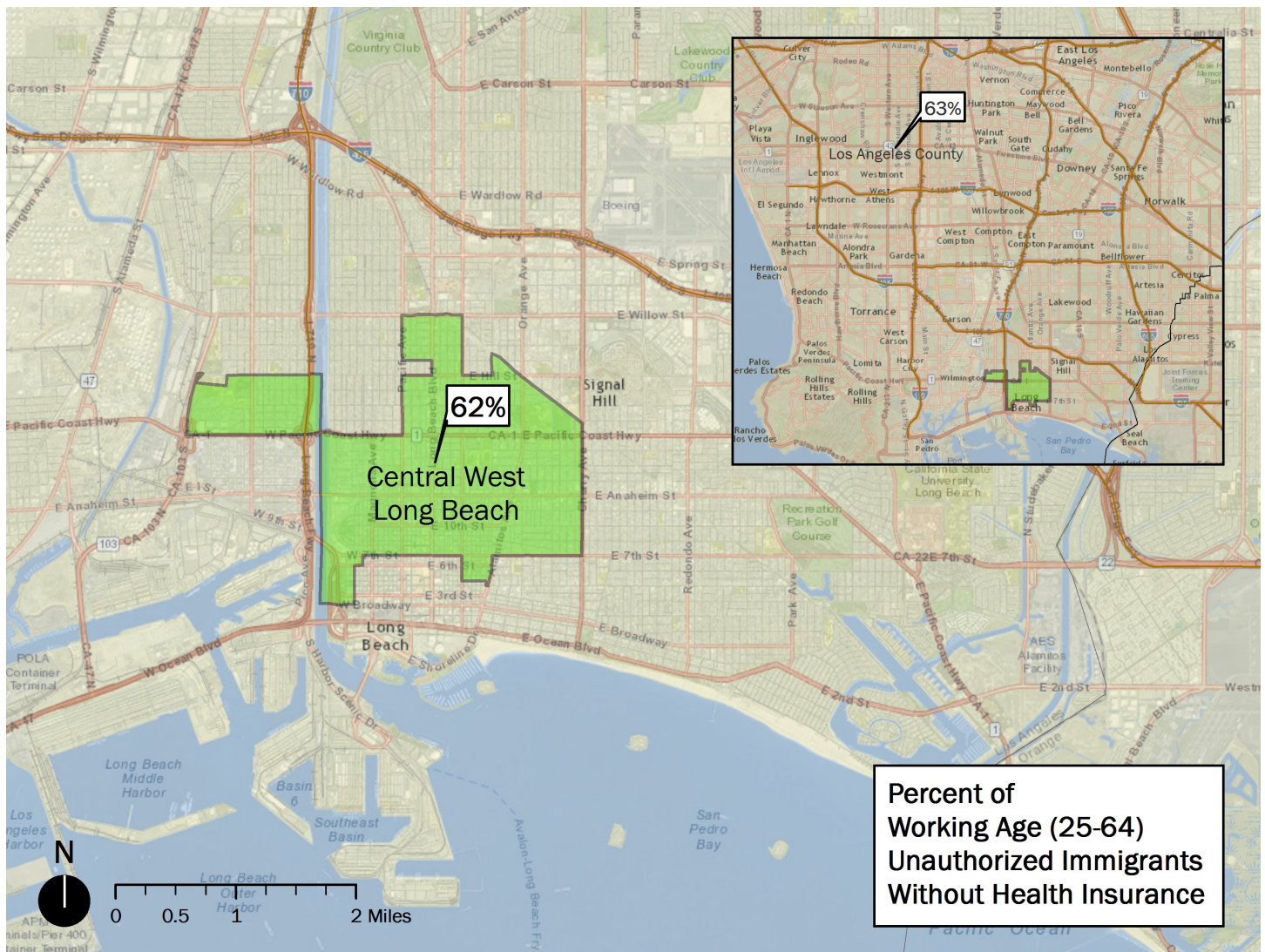


UNAUTHORIZED AND UNINSURED

CENTRAL WEST LONG BEACH 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?

Central West Long Beach 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 (13 percent) of Central West Long Beach's estimated 87,000 residents than they do among all residents of Los Angeles County (about nine percent of approximately 9.8 million residents). Furthermore, an estimated one-third of all children (83 percent of whom are U.S. citizens) residing in Central West Long Beach have at least one unauthorized parent. At the same time, unauthorized immigrants are often deeply rooted in their communities – in Central West Long Beach, about half are estimated to have resided more than a decade (11 years) in the USA.

How do the unauthorized fare economically and socially?

Although Central West Long Beach is already one of the poorest neighborhoods in the county, the poverty rate for unauthorized immigrants in this site is almost 20 percentage points higher than that of the native born. Also, about 60 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 among the 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?

One reason that poverty among unauthorized immigrants may be much higher and concentrated in Central West Long Beach is that a higher share work in the food and recreational services industry compared to those residing throughout the county. Often, this industry provides relatively low wages and offers fewer benefits. Additionally, full-time unauthorized female workers earn very low wages in Central West Long Beach and thus contribute less to household income.

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 West Long Beach – rates far below the native born (79 percent) but similar to 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 over one-half of the native born and almost one-fifth of the unauthorized in the region.

TOTAL POPULATION	86,657	CHILD POPULATION (< 18 YEARS OLD)	24,182
Nativity and Legal Status		Nativity and Legal Status	
U.S.-born (U.S. Citizen)	55,702 64%	U.S.-born	22,199 92%
Foreign-born ("Immigrant")	30,955 36%	Immigrant	1,983 8%
Naturalized Immigrant (U.S. Citizen)	9,543 11%	Unauthorized Immigrant	1,273 5%
Authorized Immigrant (Non-U.S. Citizen)	9,931 11%	Resides with at Least One Immigrant Parent⁴	16,055 69%
Unauthorized Immigrant (Non-U.S. Citizen)	11,481 13%	of those children, share U.S.-born	14,184 88%
Female (For Each Nativity Group)	42,608 49%	Resides with at Least One Unauthorized Immigrant Parent⁴	7,829 34%
U.S.-born	27,253 49%	of those children, share U.S.-born	6,529 83%
Immigrant	15,355 50%	Child Poverty (Family Income < 150% of Poverty Line)⁴	14,925 65%
Naturalized Immigrant	5,439 57%	Resides with ≥ 1 U.S.-born Parent	5,424 60%
Authorized Immigrant	4,814 48%	Resides with ≥ 1 Immigrant Parent	10,476 66%
Unauthorized Immigrant	5,102 44%	Resides with ≥ 1 Naturalized Parent	2,143 48%
Ethno-Racial Group		Resides with ≥ 1 Authorized Immigrant Parent	3,621 60%
White, Non-Latino	12,833 15%	Resides with ≥ 1 Unauthorized Immigrant Parent	6,167 79%
Latino (Any Race)	45,906 53%	UNAUTHORIZED IMMIGRANT POPULATION	11,481 13%
Asian, Non-Latino	12,174 14%	Top Five Countries of Origin	11,008 96%
Black, Non-Latino	11,871 14%	Mexico	9,371 82%
Other, Non-Latino	3,873 4%	Honduras	658 6%
Speaks English Well (Among Those Age ≥ 5 Years Old)¹	64,898 82%	Guatemala	451 4%
Immigrant	16,868 55%	El Salvador	276 2%
Naturalized Immigrant	6,716 71%	Philippines	252 2%
Authorized Immigrant	5,460 55%	Female	5,102 44%
Unauthorized Immigrant	4,692 41%	Ethno-Racial Group	
Homeownership	6,648 22%	Latino (Any Race)	10,768 94%
U.S.-born	3,843 22%	Asian, Non-Latino	516 4%
Immigrant	2,805 22%	Other (White, Black, Other Non-Latino)	197 2%
Naturalized Immigrant	1,800 36%	Age and Time in Country (Medians)	
Authorized Immigrant	826 20%	Age	32 yrs.
Unauthorized Immigrant	179 5%	Age First Arrived in Country	21 yrs.
Poverty (Family Income < 150% of Poverty Line)²	40,907 47%	Years Residing in the USA	11 yrs.
U.S.-born	25,730 46%	Labor Force Participation (Age 18-64 Years Old)	7,518 76%
Immigrant	15,177 49%	Male Participation	5,262 95%
Naturalized Immigrant	3,506 37%	of which, share employed	4,646 88%
Authorized Immigrant	4,462 45%	of employed, share full-time	3,763 81%
Unauthorized Immigrant	7,209 63%	Female Participation	2,256 52%
INSURANCE/COVERAGE FOR WORKING AGE POPULATION (25-64)		of which, share employed	1,680 74%
Has Medical Insurance Coverage (Among 25-64 Year Olds)	30,755 67%	of employed, share full-time	870 52%
U.S.-born	18,305 79%	Top 5 Industries	4,521 71%
Immigrant	12,450 54%	Food & Recreational Services	1,623 26%
Naturalized Immigrant	4,993 73%	Manufacturing	864 14%
Authorized Immigrant	4,279 54%	Business Services	748 12%
Unauthorized Immigrant	3,178 38%	Construction	686 11%
Has Employer-Sponsored Medical Insurance Coverage	18,106 39%	"Other" Services	600 9%
U.S.-born	11,706 51%	Top 5 Occupations	5,548 88%
Immigrant	6,400 28%	Food, Health, Protective & Other Service	2,242 35%
Naturalized Immigrant	3,103 45%	Precision, Craft & Repair	1,218 19%
Authorized Immigrant	2,228 28%	Transportation & Material Moving	951 15%
Unauthorized Immigrant	1,069 13%	Construction	708 11%
Has Low-Income Government Insurance or Assistance (e.g., Medi-Cal)³	7,019 15%	Sales	429 7%
U.S.-born	2,784 12%	Annual Earnings among Full-Time Workers (Median)	\$18,000
Immigrant	4,235 18%	Male	\$19,200
Naturalized Immigrant	962 14%	Female	\$12,000
Authorized Immigrant	1,378 18%	Annual Earnings among Part-Time Workers (Median)	\$8,400
Unauthorized Immigrant	1,895 23%	Male	\$10,000
		Female	\$8,000

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	9,841,410		CHILD POPULATION (< 18 YEARS OLD)	2,402,066	
Nativity and Legal Status			Nativity and Legal Status		
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%	Resides with at Least One Immigrant Parent⁴	1,489,878	65%
Unauthorized Immigrant (Non-U.S. Citizen)	908,047	9%	of those children, share U.S.-born	1,326,028	89%
Female (For Each Nativity Group)	4,998,328	51%	Resides with at Least One Unauthorized Immigrant Parent⁴	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%	Child Poverty (Family Income < 150% of Poverty Line)⁴	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%
Ethno-Racial Group			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%	UNAUTHORIZED IMMIGRANT POPULATION	908,047	9%
Asian, Non-Latino	1,362,801	14%	Top Five Countries of Origin	799,285	88%
Black, Non-Latino	780,936	8%	Mexico	576,703	64%
Other, Non-Latino	282,231	3%	El Salvador	88,196	10%
Speaks English Well (Among Those Age ≥ 5 Years Old)¹	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%	Female	436,294	48%
Unauthorized Immigrant	359,587	41%	Ethno-Racial Group		
Homeownership	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%	Age and Time in Country (Medians)		
Authorized Immigrant	116,085	29%	Age	33 yrs.	
Unauthorized Immigrant	32,307	12%	Age First Arrived in Country	21 yrs.	
Poverty (Family Income < 150% of Poverty Line)²	2,832,656	29%	Years Residing in the USA	10 yrs.	
U.S.-born	1,596,222	26%	Labor Force Participation (Age 18-64 Years Old)	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%
INSURANCE/COVERAGE FOR WORKING AGE POPULATION (25-64)			of which, share employed	178,654	85%
Has Medical Insurance Coverage (Among 25-64 Year Olds)	3,787,959	71%	of employed, share full-time	105,290	59%
U.S.-born	2,132,283	82%	Top 5 Industries	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%
Has Employer-Sponsored Medical Insurance Coverage	2,560,195	48%	"Other" Services	54,272	10%
U.S.-born	1,513,311	58%	Top 5 Occupations	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%
Has Low-Income Government Insurance or Assistance (e.g., Medi-Cal)³	442,837	8%	Sales	44,657	8%
U.S.-born	162,373	6%	Annual Earnings among Full-Time Workers (Median)	\$18,000	
Immigrant	280,464	10%	Male	\$19,050	
Naturalized Immigrant	102,719	8%	Female	\$17,000	
Authorized Immigrant	85,164	11%	Annual Earnings among Part-Time Workers (Median)	\$8,000	
Unauthorized Immigrant	92,581	13%	Male	\$9,800	
			Female	\$7,000	

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.