



BY SCOTT GRAVES

# Federal Health Care Reform Generated Broad Coverage Gains Through 2016, but They Remain in Jeopardy

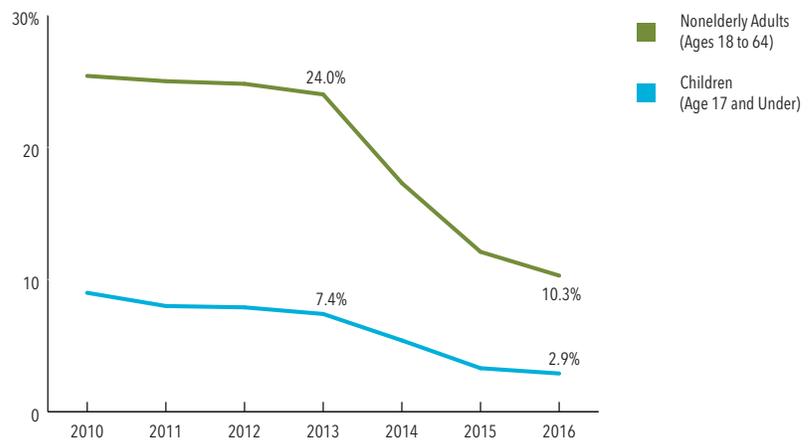
The federal Affordable Care Act (ACA), signed into law by President Obama in 2010, has helped to substantially reduce uninsured rates in California. US Census Bureau figures released last week show that:

- 3 out of every 100 children (2.9%) lacked health care coverage in 2016. This is down by over two-thirds since 2010 and by more than half since 2013, the year before California fully implemented the ACA.
- The uninsured rate for adults ages 18 to 64 also has fallen, but remained at a relatively high 10.3% in 2016.
- Uninsured rates for Asian, black, and white Californians declined by over 60% from 2013 to 2016 (see bottom chart).
- The share of Latinos without coverage also has dropped, though Latinos' uninsured rate remained in double digits in 2016 (12.1%).

Further reducing uninsured rates would require improving the ACA. Yet, the President and some congressional leaders continue trying to roll back health care reform. A new US Senate plan to dismantle the ACA and deeply cut federal funding for Medicaid – the Graham-Cassidy proposal – would likely cause millions of Californians to lose coverage.

## Uninsured Rates for Children and Nonelderly Adults Have Dropped by More Than Half Since 2013

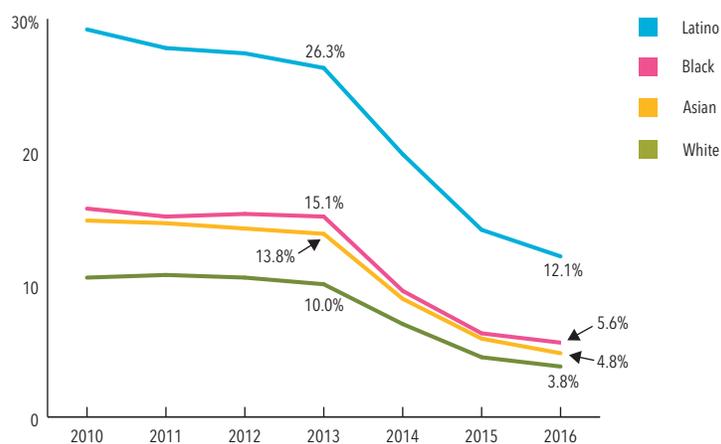
California Fully Implemented Federal Health Care Reform in January 2014



Note: Estimates are based on survey respondents' coverage status at the time of the interview. Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey

## Uninsured Rates Have Dropped Since 2013, Though the Share of Latinos Without Coverage Remains High

California Fully Implemented Federal Health Care Reform in January 2014



Note: Estimates are based on survey respondents' coverage status at the time of the interview. "Latino" includes people of any race. "Black" and "Asian" may include people who also identify as Latino. "White" excludes people who also identify as Latino. Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey