

Characteristics of the Uninsured in Texas, 2018

Spotlight: El Paso County, El Paso

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The share and characteristics of the uninsured population vary substantially across geographic areas within Texas. This fact sheet shows the number and characteristics of nonelderly people in **El Paso County, El Paso** who were uninsured in 2018. These estimates are produced using the Urban Institute’s Health Insurance Policy Simulation Model (HIPSM) and are part of a statewide analysis available here http://bit.ly/TX_Uninsured.

In 2018, an estimated 26 percent of people below age 65 living in El Paso County, El Paso were uninsured, compared with 19 percent of all Texans and 11 percent of the US population. Among the uninsured in El Paso County, El Paso, 65 percent had incomes below 138 percent of the federal poverty level, 8 percent were non-Hispanic white, 87 percent were Hispanic, and 2 percent were non-Hispanic black. 15 percent were eligible for Medicaid or the Children’s Health Insurance Program, and 17 percent were eligible for premium tax credits for private marketplace coverage. 59,000 people would become eligible for Medicaid if Texas were to expand eligibility to those with income below 138 percent of the federal poverty level, as permitted under the Affordable Care Act. Also, 64 percent of the uninsured in El Paso County, El Paso were in working families, 51 percent were in families consisting entirely of US citizens, and 64 percent of adults had a high school education or less.

FIGURE 1

The Uninsured Rate in El Paso County, El Paso Compared with Other Texas Counties, Texas as a Whole, and the US

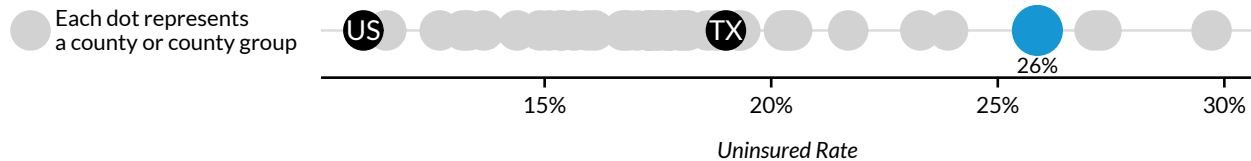
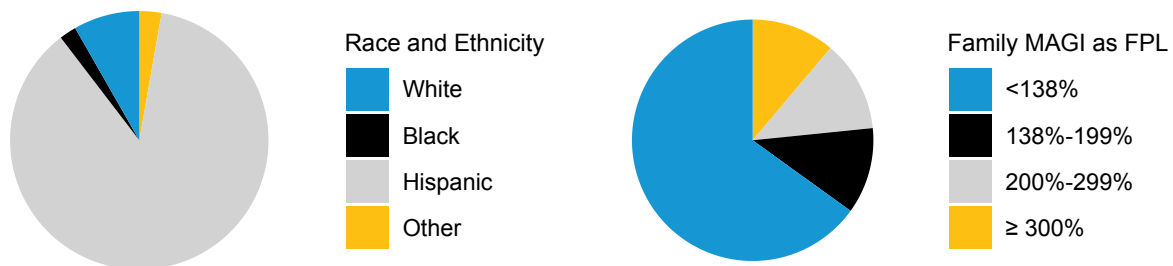


FIGURE 2

Characteristics of the Uninsured in El Paso County, El Paso



MAGI = Modified adjusted gross income; FPL = federal poverty level

Characteristics of Uninsured in El Paso County, El Paso

	Thousands of people	Percent of area uninsured
Family modified adjusted gross income (% of federal poverty level)		
<138%	137	65%
138%-199%	24	12%
200%-299%	26	12%
300%-399%	11	5%
≥400%	12	6%
Age		
0-18	27	13%
19-34	90	43%
35-54	70	33%
55-64	23	11%
Race and ethnicity		
Non-Hispanic white	17	8%
Non-Hispanic black	4	2%
Hispanic	183	87%
Asian/Pacific Islander	2	1%
American Indian/Alaska Native	2	1%
Other, non-Hispanic	1	1%
Education (ages 19-64)		
Less than a high school diploma	43	23%
High school diploma	74	40%
Some college	49	27%
College graduate	18	10%
<i>Total</i>	183	100%
Health status		
Excellent	51	24%
Very good	62	29%
Good	64	30%
Fair	26	12%
Poor	8	4%
Family structure (ages 19-64)		
Single without dependents	68	37%
Single with dependents	34	18%
Couple without dependents	29	16%
Couple with dependents	53	29%
<i>Total</i>	183	100%
Family work status		
No workers	76	36%
Only part-time worker(s)	29	14%
At least one full-time worker	106	50%
Public assistance receipt		
SNAP	78	37%
Not receiving SNAP	132	63%
Language spoken at home		
English	37	17%
Spanish	167	79%
Other	7	3%
English proficiency (ages 19-64)		
Speaks very well or better	158	86%
Does not speak very well or less proficient	25	14%
<i>Total</i>	183	100%
Family citizenship status		
All citizens	107	51%
At least one noncitizen	104	49%
Program eligibility		
Eligible for Medicaid/CHIP	32	15%
Eligible for marketplace premium tax credits	36	17%
Not currently eligible	142	67%
Would gain Medicaid eligibility if Texas expands Medicaid	59	28%
Would be ineligible even with Medicaid expansion	83	39%
Total	211	100.0%

Source: Urban Institute analysis, HIPSIM 2018.

Notes: Sample sizes smaller than 100 are not shown. SNAP recipients are undercounted in the HIPSIM.

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