

Characteristics of the Uninsured in Texas, 2018

Spotlight: Travis County (Austin)

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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 **Travis County (Austin)** 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 17 percent of people below age 65 living in Travis County (Austin) were uninsured, compared with 19 percent of all Texans and 11 percent of the US population. Among the uninsured in Travis County (Austin), 55 percent had incomes below 138 percent of the federal poverty level, 29 percent were non-Hispanic white, 58 percent were Hispanic, and 5 percent were non-Hispanic black. 11 percent were eligible for Medicaid or the Children’s Health Insurance Program, and 21 percent were eligible for premium tax credits for private marketplace coverage. 39,000 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, 71 percent of the uninsured in Travis County (Austin) were in working families, 55 percent were in families consisting entirely of US citizens, and 59 percent of adults had a high school education or less.

FIGURE 1
The Uninsured Rate in Travis County (Austin) Compared with Other Texas Counties, Texas as a Whole, and the US

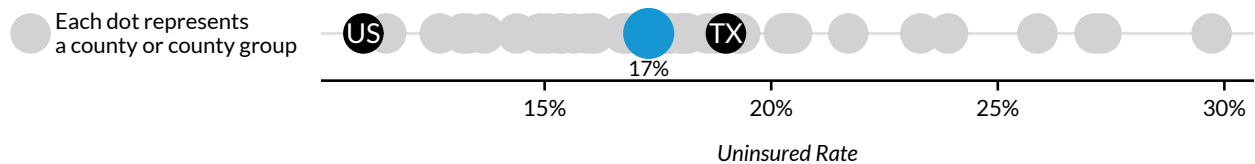
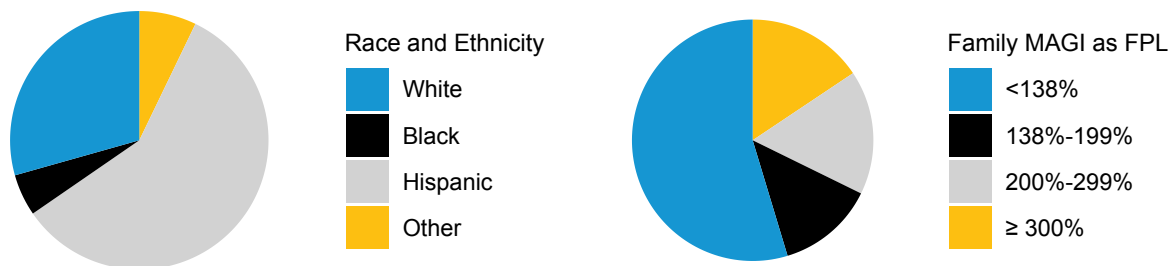


FIGURE 2
Characteristics of the Uninsured in Travis County (Austin)



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

Characteristics of Uninsured in Travis County, Austin

	Thousands of people	Percent of area uninsured
Family modified adjusted gross income (% of federal poverty level)		
<138%	101	55%
138%-199%	24	13%
200%-299%	31	17%
300%-399%	15	8%
≥400%	14	8%
Age		
0-18	22	12%
19-34	88	48%
35-54	60	33%
55-64	13	7%
Race and ethnicity		
Non-Hispanic white	54	29%
Non-Hispanic black	10	5%
Hispanic	107	58%
Asian/Pacific Islander	10	5%
American Indian/Alaska Native	2	1%
Other, non-Hispanic	2	1%
Education (ages 19-64)		
Less than a high school diploma	41	25%
High school diploma	55	34%
Some college	32	20%
College graduate	33	21%
<i>Total</i>	162	100%
Health status		
Excellent	45	24%
Very good	56	30%
Good	58	32%
Fair	20	11%
Poor	6	3%
Family structure (ages 19-64)		
Single without dependents	94	58%
Single with dependents	17	11%
Couple without dependents	19	12%
Couple with dependents	31	19%
<i>Total</i>	162	100%
Family work status		
No workers	53	29%
Only part-time worker(s)	25	13%
At least one full-time worker	106	58%
Public assistance receipt		
SNAP	41	22%
Not receiving SNAP	143	78%
Language spoken at home		
English	79	43%
Spanish	89	49%
Other	16	9%
English proficiency (ages 19-64)		
Speaks very well or better	135	84%
Does not speak very well or less proficient	26	16%
<i>Total</i>	162	100%
Family citizenship status		
All citizens	101	55%
At least one noncitizen	83	45%
Program eligibility		
Eligible for Medicaid/CHIP	20	11%
Eligible for marketplace premium tax credits	38	21%
Not currently eligible	126	68%
Would gain Medicaid eligibility if Texas expands Medicaid	39	21%
Would be ineligible even with Medicaid expansion	87	47%
Total	184	100.0%

Source: Urban Institute analysis, HIPSM 2018.

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

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