

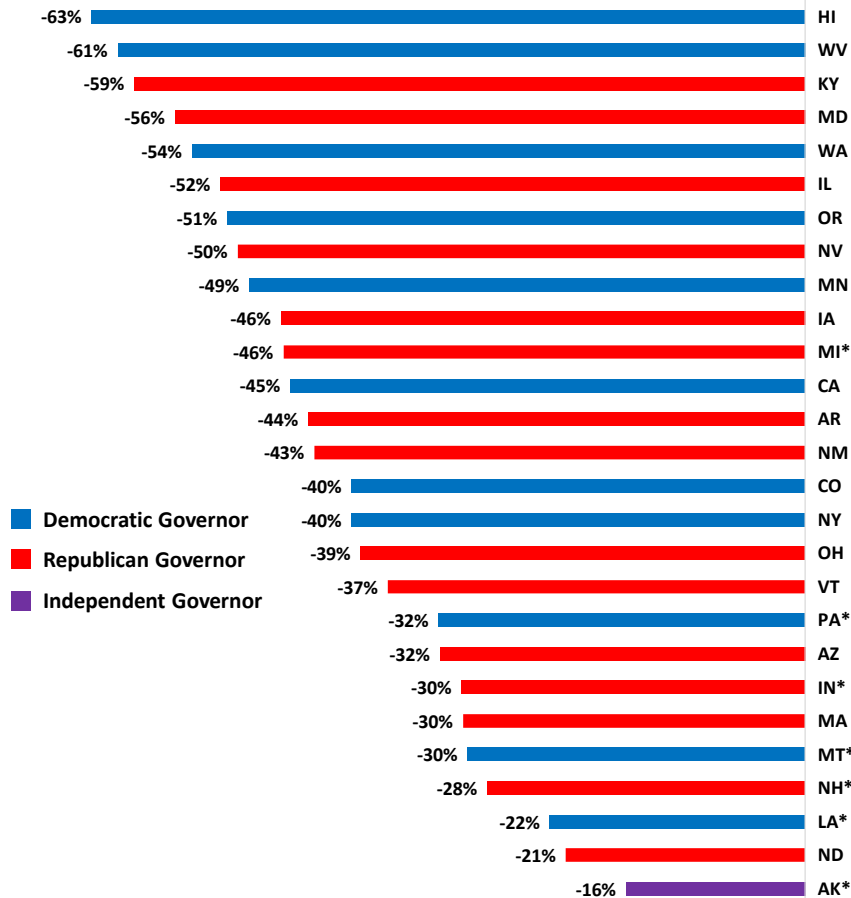
May 2017 | Fact Sheet

Changes in Insurance Coverage in Rural Areas under the ACA: A Focus on Medicaid Expansion States

As shown in a recent [brief](#), people in rural areas face particular challenges in health insurance and access, including limited access to employer-sponsored coverage and low incomes. Following implementation of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) Medicaid expansion in 2014, there were increases in insurance coverage for people in states that expanded their programs, including those in rural areas. Nationwide, nearly two million people in rural areas in Medicaid expansion states gained insurance coverage between 2013 and 2015. These coverage gains in rural areas occurred in expansion states across the political spectrum.

The uninsured rate fell in rural areas of states that implemented the ACA Medicaid expansion.

Percent Change in Uninsured Rate among the Rural Nonelderly Population in Medicaid Expansion States, 2013-2015



NOTES: Excludes CT, DE, DC, NJ, and RI because they do not contain rural areas according to this analysis. See <http://kff.org/medicaid/issue-brief/the-role-of-medicaid-in-rural-america/> for more details.

* AK, IN, LA, MI, MT, NH, and PA adopted Medicaid expansion after January 1, 2014; thus, data does not reflect total coverage gains due to the expansion.

SOURCE: Kaiser Family Foundation analysis of 2013 and 2015 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates.

Health Coverage among the Rural Nonelderly Population in Medicaid Expansion States, 2013–2015

Expansion State	Rural Uninsured Rate, 2013	Rural Uninsured Rate, 2015	Percent Change in Rural Uninsured Rate, 2013-2015	Change in Number of Rural Uninsured, 2013-2015
Median	16%	9%	-44%	-1,900,400
Alaska*	22%	19%	-16%	-13,600
Arizona	22%	15%	-32%	-68,500
Arkansas	20%	11%	-44%	-111,000
California	21%	11%	-45%	-111,400
Colorado	21%	12%	-40%	-73,000
Hawaii	13%	5%	-63%	-17,600
Illinois	12%	6%	-52%	-103,800
Indiana*	16%	11%	-30%	-85,300
Iowa	11%	6%	-46%	-68,700
Kentucky	19%	8%	-59%	-202,200
Louisiana*	20%	16%	-22%	-61,800
Maryland	14%	6%	-56%	-17,400
Massachusetts	5%	4%	-30%	-1,200
Michigan*	15%	8%	-46%	-125,100
Minnesota	10%	5%	-49%	-81,800
Montana*	20%	14%	-30%	-48,700
Nevada	22%	11%	-50%	-25,100
New Hampshire*	15%	11%	-28%	-12,200
New Mexico	23%	13%	-43%	-121,400
New York	11%	7%	-40%	-81,200
North Dakota	12%	9%	-21%	-12,700
Ohio	14%	8%	-39%	-106,100
Oregon	19%	9%	-51%	-102,500
Pennsylvania*	13%	8%	-32%	-52,000
Vermont	9%	6%	-37%	-12,700
Washington	21%	10%	-54%	-108,800
West Virginia	17%	7%	-61%	-74,400

NOTES: Includes nonelderly individuals ages 0-64. Totals may not sum due to rounding.

Excludes CT, DE, DC, NJ, and RI because they do not contain rural areas according to this analysis. See <http://kff.org/medicaid/issue-brief/the-role-of-medicaid-in-rural-america/> for more details.

* AK, IN, LA, MI, MT, NH, and PA adopted Medicaid expansion after January 1, 2014; thus, data does not reflect full coverage gains due to the expansion.

SOURCE: Kaiser Family Foundation analysis of 2013 and 2015 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates.