

The Affordable Care Act: First Steps on the Path Towards Healthcare for All

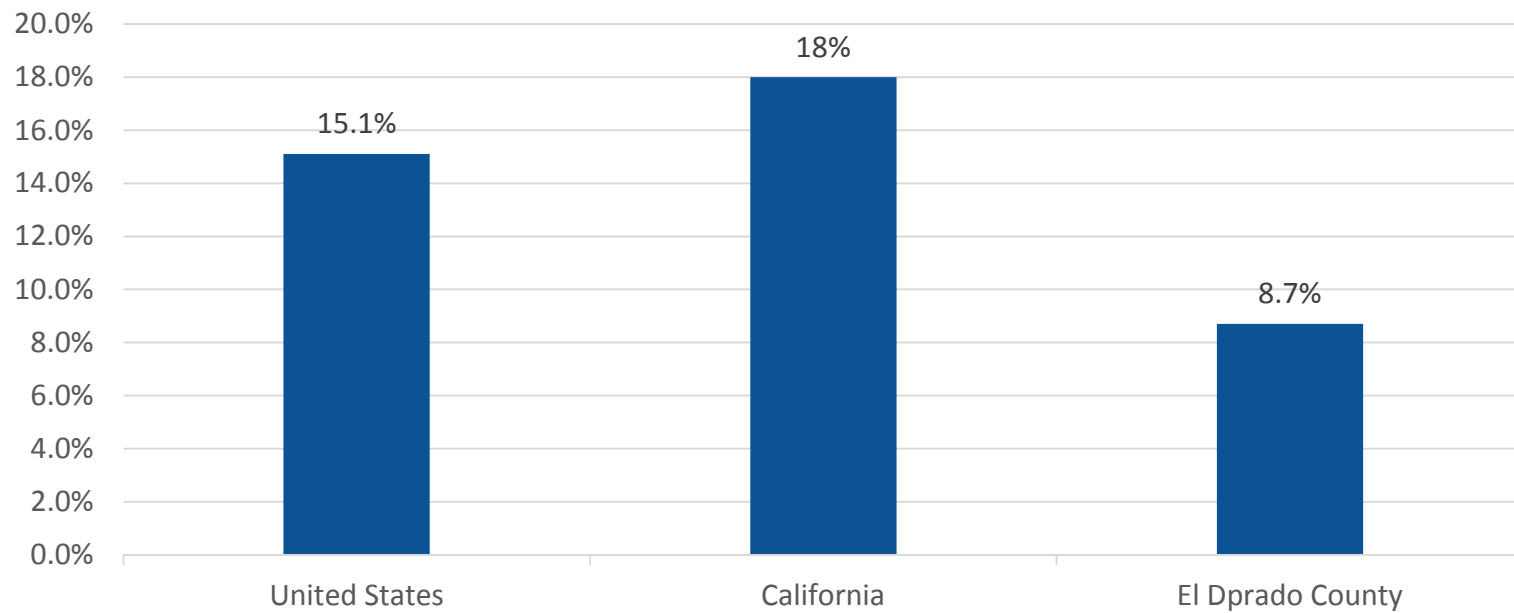
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Pre-ACA Uninsurance Rates (2009)

Population without Health Insurance



Why were people uninsured before the ACA?



Roots of the Patient Protection & Affordable Care Act

- * Individual mandate + tax subsidies to purchase health insurance
 - * Heritage Foundation – 1989
 - * Republican proposals in 1993 & 2007
 - * 2006 Massachusetts Health Reform (aka Romneycare)
- * Obama assumed bipartisan support with this model

How Did the ACA Attempt to Fix the Cost

1. Insurance Market Reforms
2. Medicaid Expansion (Medi-Cal)
3. Health Insurance Subsidies (Covered California)
4. Employer mandate & small employer pools
5. Medicare Improvements

1. Insurance Market Reforms

- * Banned Pre-Existing Condition Exclusions
- * Limits on Health Insurance Underwriting to Age & Geography
- * Banned Lifetime Limits & Annual Caps
- * Capped Maximum Out of Pocket Expenses (\$7,150)
- * Established “Essential Health Benefits” & Prioritized Preventive Care
- * Allowed Young Adults to Stay on Parents Policies

2. Medicaid Expansion

Pre-ACA

- * Persons with Disabilities, Children & Their Parents, Persons over 65
- * Complicated income counting & income exclusion rules and assets tests

Post-ACA

- * Added adults under age 65 without qualifying children
- * Simpler income counting for most, no assets test



3. Subsidized the Cost of Health Insurance

- * Premium subsidies to lower the cost of insurance premiums
- * Cost-sharing reductions to help with co-pays, deductibles, etc.



Eligibility for Medi-Cal & Covered California

Program	FPL %	Individual	2 people	Family of 4
Medi-Cal (Adults)	138%	\$16,443	\$22,412	\$33,948
Medi-Cal (Children)	266%	\$32,080	\$43,200	\$65,437
Covered CA tax subsidies & help with costs	250%	\$29,700	\$40,050	\$60,750
Covered CA tax subsidies only	400%	\$47,520	\$64,080	\$97,200

5. Employer Mandate & Small Employer Pools

- * Required employers with >50 employees to offer coverage
- * Allowed small employers to purchase small group plans through state Exchange (Covered California for Small Business)

5. Medicare Improvements

- * Added money to the Medicare Trust Fund
- * Added free preventive services to Medicare Part B
- * Closed the “donut hole” for Medicare Part D prescription drugs

How Did We Pay for This?

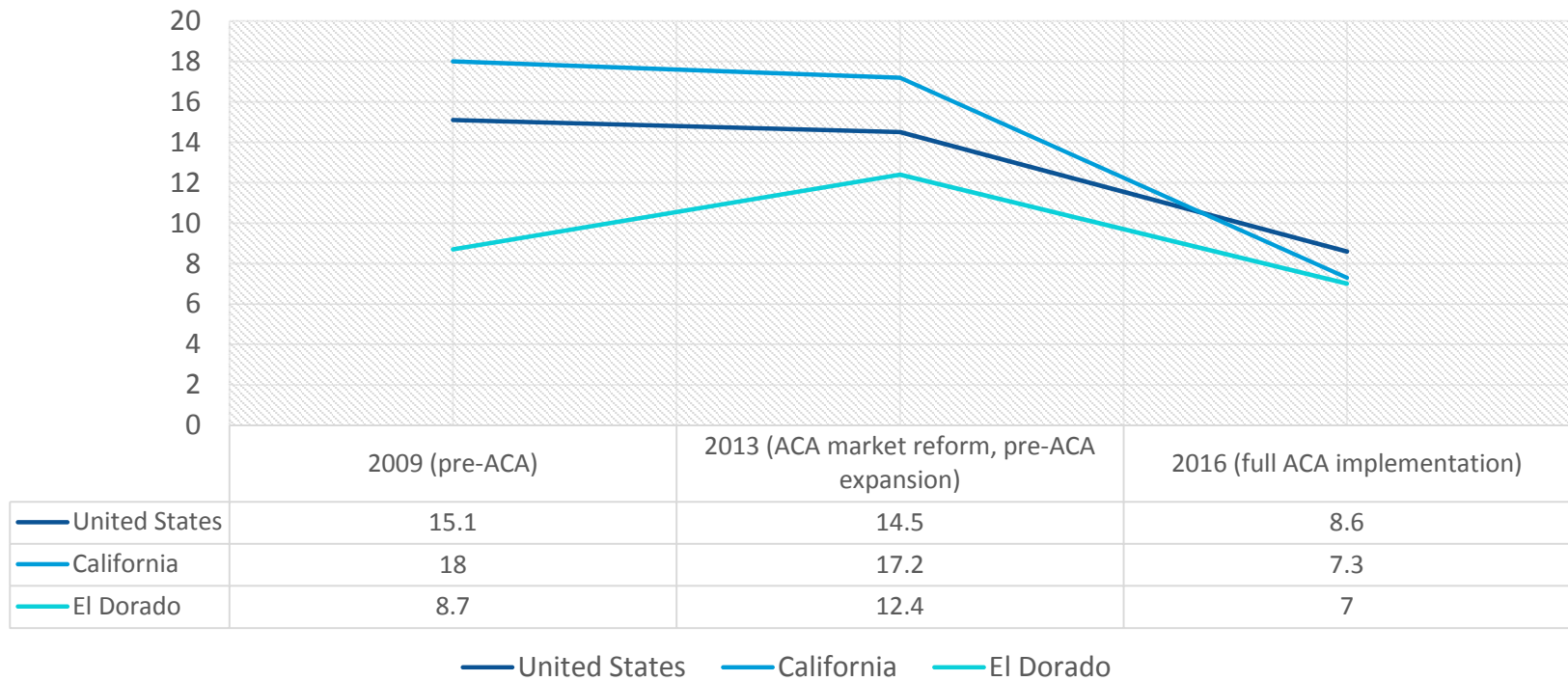
- * Individual Mandate
- * Cuts in Medicare rates and hospital funds
- * Excise taxes on certain products & services (medical devices, tanning beds)
- * Taxes on hospitals
- * Employer penalties
- * Taxes on high income earners & Cadillac health plans
- * Fewer uninsured

Did It Work?

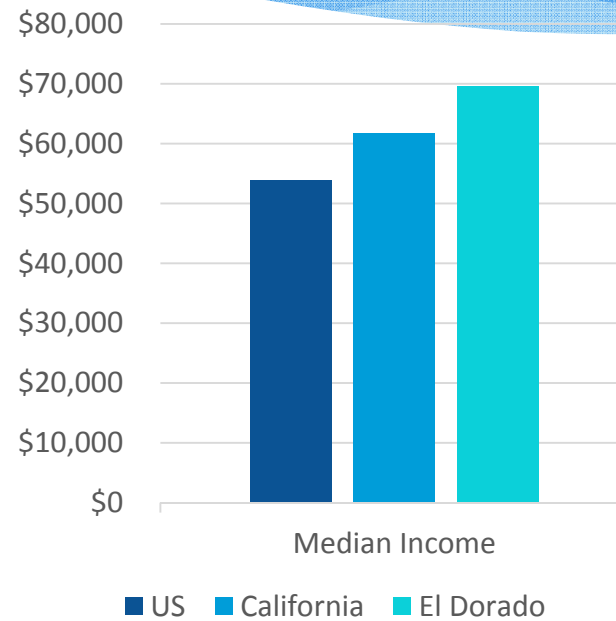
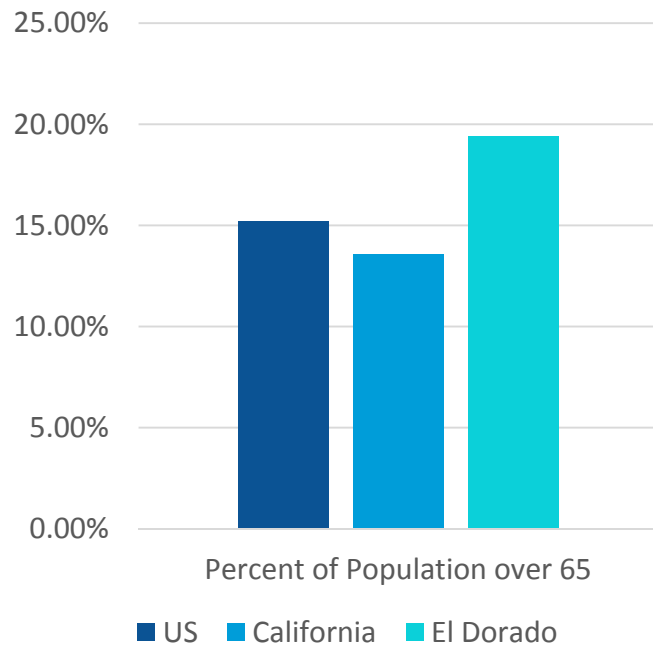
- * Medi-Cal added 4.5 million people to its rolls in 2014-2015
- * Covered California insures roughly 1.5 million people
- * Overall insurance rate in California has gone up
- * Employer-based coverage in California decreased 6-7%
- * Insurance covers more

Percentage of uninsured residents, 2009-2016

Source: US Census Data & UCLA California Health Information Survey



Why is El Dorado County so Different?



Who Was Left Out

- * Undocumented immigrants
- * Those who still can't afford even with subsidies
- * Those who don't qualify for subsidies

What's left

- * Remaining uninsured – 7%
- * Bring down costs – make care affordable

Need Help?

- * Free consumer assistance
- * Health Consumer Alliance hotline: 888-804-3536
www.healthconsumer.org

HCA
Health Consumer Alliance