Profile of the Low-Income Uninsured in South Carolina

Among SC’s non-elderly (age 64 and under) (NE) in 2020, slightly more than 1 in 10 (13%) had no health insurance.

Low-income uninsured (LIU) are defined as those without health insurance coverage and with an annual income less than 138% of the federal poverty level (FPL). <138% FPL is also the amount used as the income limit to qualify for Medicaid insurance in some states. The equivalent income dollar amounts—as SC examples in 2022—are $18,754 for an individual and $38,295 for a family of four.

Among SC’s more than 900,000 NE LIU, the rate of uninsurance was more than 2 in 10 (22%).

BY THE NUMBERS

People who identified as “Hispanic/Latino” are estimated to be 18.8% of the NE LIU in South Carolina as of 2020.

36.5% had a high school degree
35.8% had less than a high school diploma

More than 28,000 of the NE LIU individuals in SC had a disability.

About 11% of the NE LIU were unemployed.

There was an approximately equal distribution in the NE LIU, by sex.

SC NE LIU by Household/Family Type

Married couple 29.1%
Male or Female householder, no spouse present 41.9%
Male or Female householder, living alone (NFH) 13.6%
Male or Female householder, not living alone (NFH) 13.6%

Population Characteristics

At 54.2%, White was the largest group by race.
Black 35.7%

Notes:
Sample dollar amounts calculated from aspe.hhs.gov/topics/poverty-economic-mobility/poverty-guidelines.
Data Source: American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Estimates Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS) – 2020

©2022 The University of South Carolina Institute for Families in Society, All Rights Reserved Developed under contract to the South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services