

Two Ways to Get (and Keep) Kids Covered

Georgia has 176,000 kids who lack health insurance. That makes us **4th highest** in the number of uninsured kids in the nation.¹ As of the drafting of this factsheet, the Public Health Emergency is slated to end January 2023, ending the continuous coverage requirement and potentially putting hundreds of thousands of children and families at risk of losing health care coverage.²

Coverage Win for Georgia's Kids

In 2021, the Georgia General Assembly passed legislation requiring the state to implement Express Lane Eligibility (ELE) for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF). This allows the state to use SNAP and TANF eligibility data to automatically enroll or renew eligible children in Medicaid or PeachCare for Kids® (PeachCare). **This should allow close to 70,000 of Georgia's previously uninsured children to gain coverage.** ELE implementation began in October 2022.

Ways Georgia Can Insure More Kids and Keep Them Covered



In addition to Express Lane Eligibility for SNAP/TANF, use all other available data to renew coverage for children on Medicaid/PeachCare (known as "ex parte" renewals). This markedly reduces the paperwork burden on families and the state, by having the state use already verified data in its possession (e.g., Georgia Department of Labor, Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Georgia Department of Driver Services), to process renewals before requiring families to submit any additional data. This could significantly reduce the number of children who are eligible for Medicaid, but unnecessarily lose coverage due to the burden of complicated Medicaid renewals.



Guarantee Medicaid/PeachCare for children for 12 continuous month. This prevents kids from losing coverage due to temporary surges in family income, such as seasonal overtime.

BENEFITS TO CHILDREN'S HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE



Children receive the check-ups needed to identify developmental delays or conditions that can become life-threatening when left untreated



Children with chronic conditions, such as asthma or ADHD, have the medications they need



Children receive routine health care, which can prevent a health care crisis

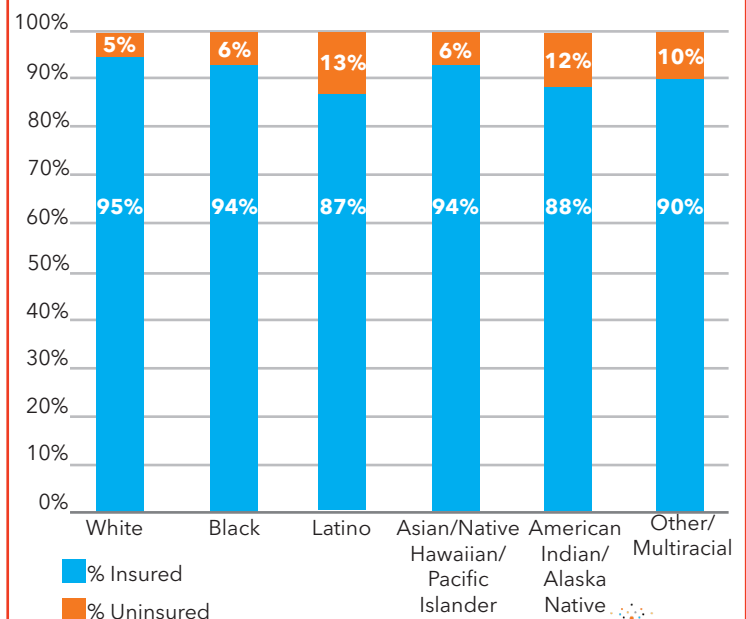


Doctors receive reimbursement for services provided, supporting financial stability

WHO DOESN'T HAVE HEALTH INSURANCE IN GEORGIA?

Latino children are **almost 3x as likely to lack health insurance** as White children in Georgia.

Insurance Status Among Children in Georgia, by Race and Ethnicity³



How are Georgia's Children Covered?

Most children in Georgia who have health insurance are covered through their parent's employer-sponsored insurance or through Medicaid or PeachCare, public coverage offered by the state.

Public Insurance

Medicaid



1,509,485 children

average enrollment of children in Medicaid in 2021⁴

PeachCare for Kids^{®*}



217,398 children

average enrollment of children in PeachCare in 2021⁵

*Created in 1998, PeachCare for Kids[®] is the name of Georgia's State Children's Health Insurance Program.

Private Insurance

Employer-Sponsored Insurance



1,220,300 children⁶

Individual / Small Group Marketplace



107,500⁷

Uninsured



176,000

Georgia children do not have health insurance⁸



= approximately 50,000 kids

Sources for Two Ways to Get (and Keep) Kids Covered

- 1 Georgetown University, Center for Children and Families. (2022). Analysis of the 2021 U.S. Census American Community Survey (ACS) Table HIC-5, Health Insurance Status and Type of Coverage by State - Children Under 19, Health Insurance Historical Tables.
- 2 Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation. (2022). Unwinding the Medicaid continuous enrollment provision projected enrollment effects and policy approaches. Retrieved from <https://aspe.hhs.gov/reports/unwinding-medicaid-continuous-enrollment-provision>.
- 3 U.S. Census 2021 American Community Survey (ACS), Tables C27001A-I.
- 4 Department of Community Health. (2022). CY2021 Medicaid Enrollment data request.
- 5 Ibid.
- 6 Kaiser Family Foundation (2021). Health Insurance Coverage of Children 0-18 (Current Population Survey). Retrieved from <https://www.kff.org/other/state-indicator/children-0-18/?dataView=1¤tTimeframe=0&selectedRows=%7B%22states%22:%7B%22georgia%22:%7B%7D%7D%7D&sortModel=%7B%22colId%22:%22Location%22,%22sort%22:%22asc%22%7D>.
- 7 Ibid.
- 8 Georgetown University, Center for Children and Families. (2022). Analysis of the 2021 U.S. Census American Community Survey (ACS) Table HIC-5, Health Insurance Status and Type of Coverage by State - Children Under 19, Health Insurance Historical Tables.