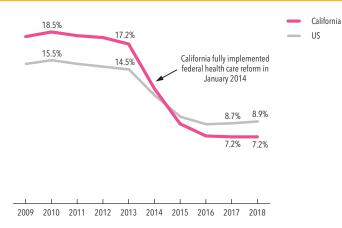
Data Hit

California Budget & Policy Center

SEPTEMBER 2019 | BY SCOTT GRAVES

California's Uninsured Rate Stalled Out in 2018

Percentage of People Without Health Coverage, 2009 to 2018



Note: Estimates are based on survey respondents' health care coverage status at the time of the interview. The change in the US rate from 2017 to 2018 is statistically different from zero at the 90% confidence level. Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey

• After dropping for several years, California's uninsured rate stalled out in 2018. The share of Californians who lacked health coverage last year – 7.2% – was unchanged from 2017. Meanwhile, the uninsured rate increased for the US as a whole.

• These trends reflect the impact of federal efforts to undermine the Affordable Care Act (ACA).

Congress attempted to repeal the ACA and then eliminated the federal penalty for people who forgo health insurance. In addition, President Trump has used his executive authority to chip away at the foundation of the ACA.

• New state policies set to take effect in 2020 could lead to further reductions in California's uninsured rate. These policies include state subsidies to lower the cost of health insurance purchased in the individual market and a requirement for Californians to have health coverage or pay a state penalty.

CALIFORNIA BUDGET & POLICY CENTER calbudgetcenter.org