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Insurance Coverage among Women of Reproductive Age in Louisiana

The Affordable Care Act established several provisions aimed at reducing the uninsurance rate, and the number of uninsured women of reproductive age (15–44) in the United States fell from 12.7 million in 2013 to 7.5 million in 2017.

In Louisiana, which expanded Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act after 2017, the uninsurance rate fell from 0.2438236 percent in 2013 to 0.1003527 percent in 2017. Despite these gains, approximately 93962 Louisiana women of reproductive age remained uninsured in 2017.

Uninsurance Rate among Subgroups of Women in Louisiana and the US, 2017

Uninsured women are vulnerable to well-documented access, affordability, and health problems associated with lacking insurance coverage, including potentially limited access to family planning and other reproductive health services.

- Women of reproductive age in California had a lower uninsurance rate (8.8 percent) than similar women nationwide (11.7 percent) in 2017 (figure 1).
- Within California, Hispanic women, single mothers, women with incomes below 250 percent of the federal poverty level, women in nonmetropolitan areas, and women who were unemployed or not in the labor force had higher uninsurance rates than the state average for all women of reproductive age in 2017.
- Reducing the uninsurance rate among women of reproductive age in California may require further expanding access to Medicaid or other highly subsidized insurance, as well as targeted outreach and enrollment efforts to subgroups of already eligible women with the highest uninsurance rates.

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FIGURE 1
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¹Don't worry about numbering!

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TABLE 1

An Informative Table Title in Title Case

An informative table subtitle in sentence case

	Thousands of variable 1	Variable 2 (\$)
Industry		
Retail trade	1000	10
Accommodation and food services	989	10
Manufacturing	54	10
Health care	54	10
Administrative services	10	10
Construction	12	10
Sex and marital status		
Male, unmarried or spouse not present	145	10
Female, unmarried or spouse not present	88	10
Married couple	89	10

Source: Urban Institute Analysis of invented data.

²Footnotes on the second page appear below the funder statement