

# Characteristics of Health Insurance and Access to Care across the United States and Minnesota

Elsa Carlson, Kylee LaPierre, Tarick Mehanna, and Logan Sell



# Introduction and Initial Questions



# Introduction

- Primary objective: identify trends and patterns of health insurance coverage so that resources can be best allocated to areas or groups where coverage is less common/accessible
- Definitions for our analysis:
  - Sufficient access to care: those who do not delay or avoid seeking healthcare services due to cost or location.
  - Uninsured: people who don't have any type of health insurance.
- 2019 is the primary year for our data
  - To interpret data from immediately pre-pandemic
- Our model used data from 2015 to 2019



# Initial Questions

1. How do uninsurance rates vary among demographics such as race, age, sex, population, income, and educational attainment level?
2. How does access to healthcare vary at a national level and by county?
3. How does access to healthcare vary among Minnesota counties?
4. Do rates of uninsurance vary based on offered coverage types?
5. Does the rate of uninsurance vary for individuals based on the number of hospitals in their county?
6. Can we predict the coverage level for a county based on demographics, income or other factors?
7. For those who are covered, is their coverage sufficient for their health needs?



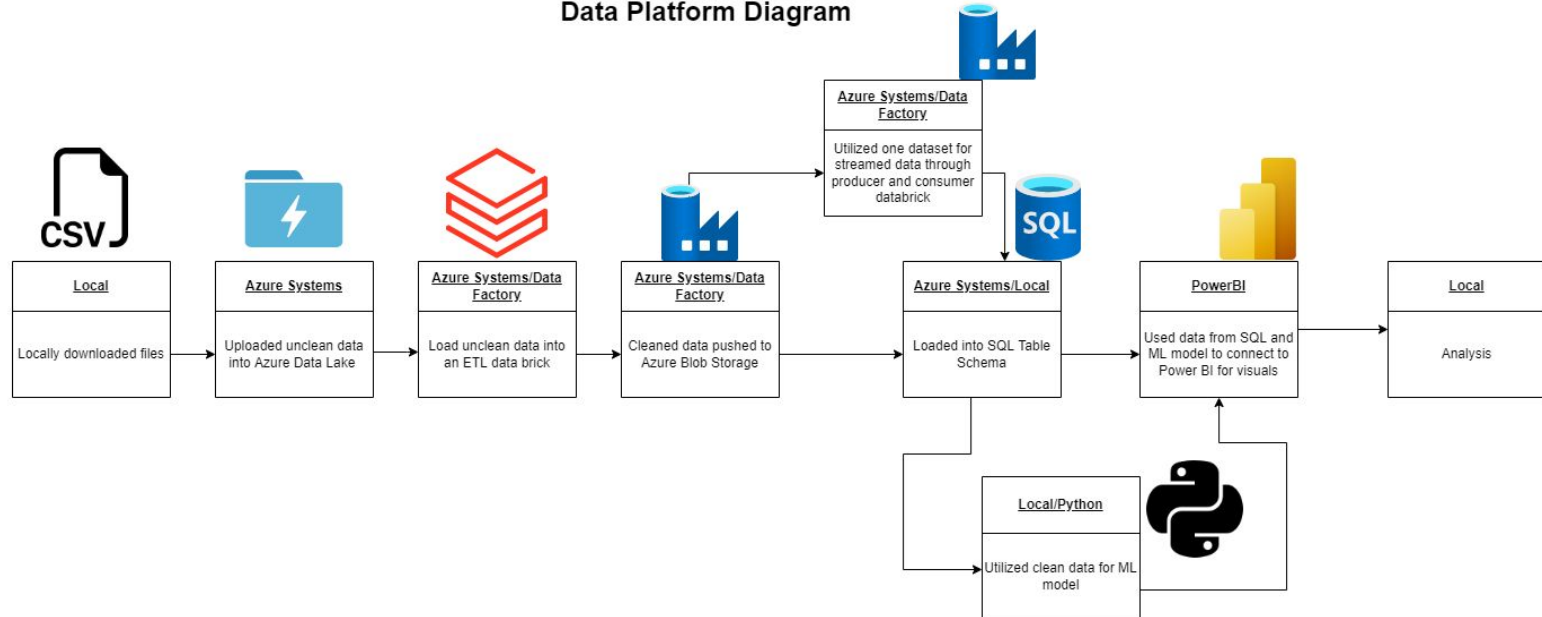
# Research Process



# Finding & Processing Data

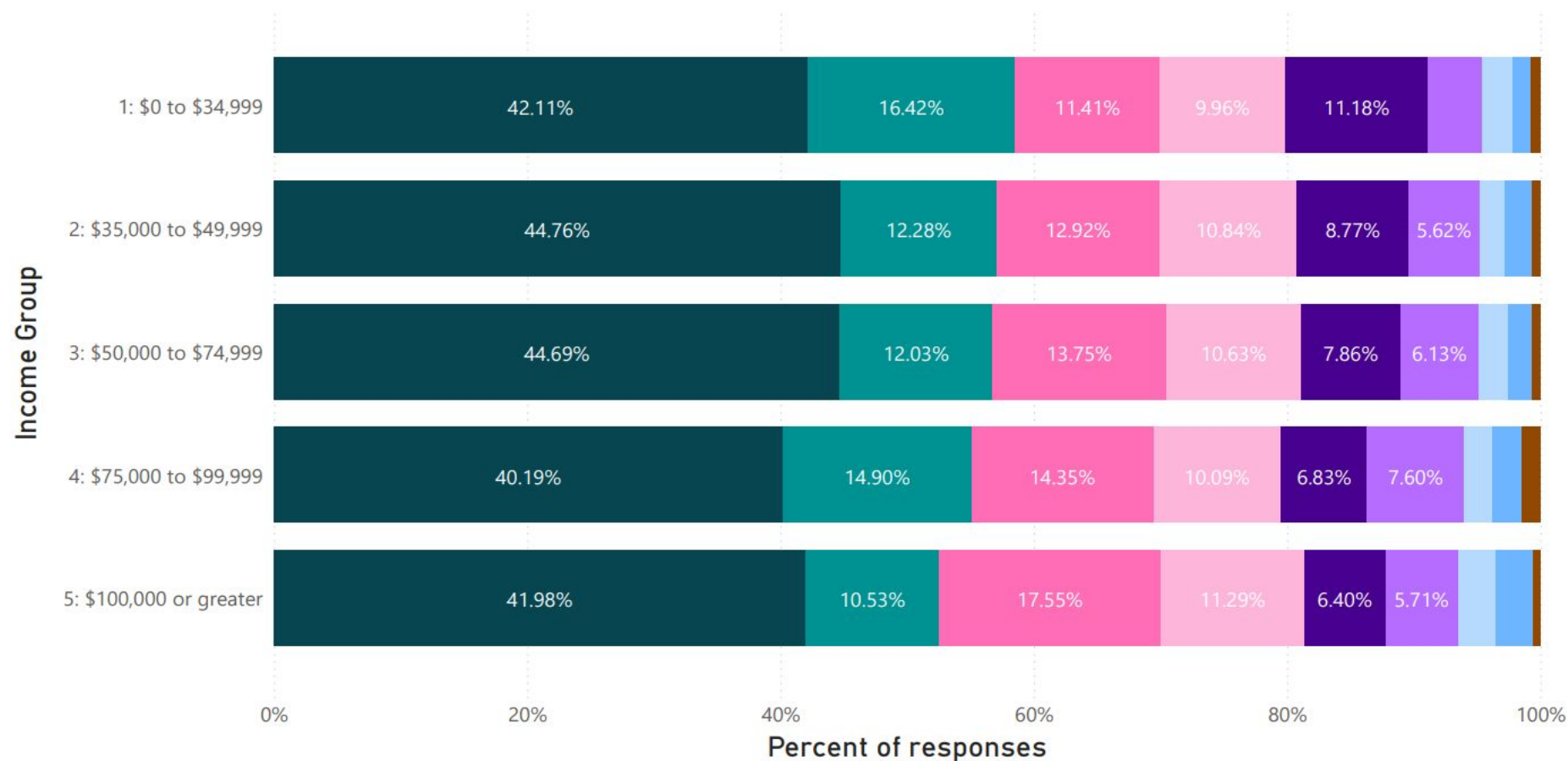
- Used data mainly from the US Census Bureau and the CDC
- Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS)
- Data process: extraction → cleaning & transformation → loading to SQL database

Data Platform Diagram



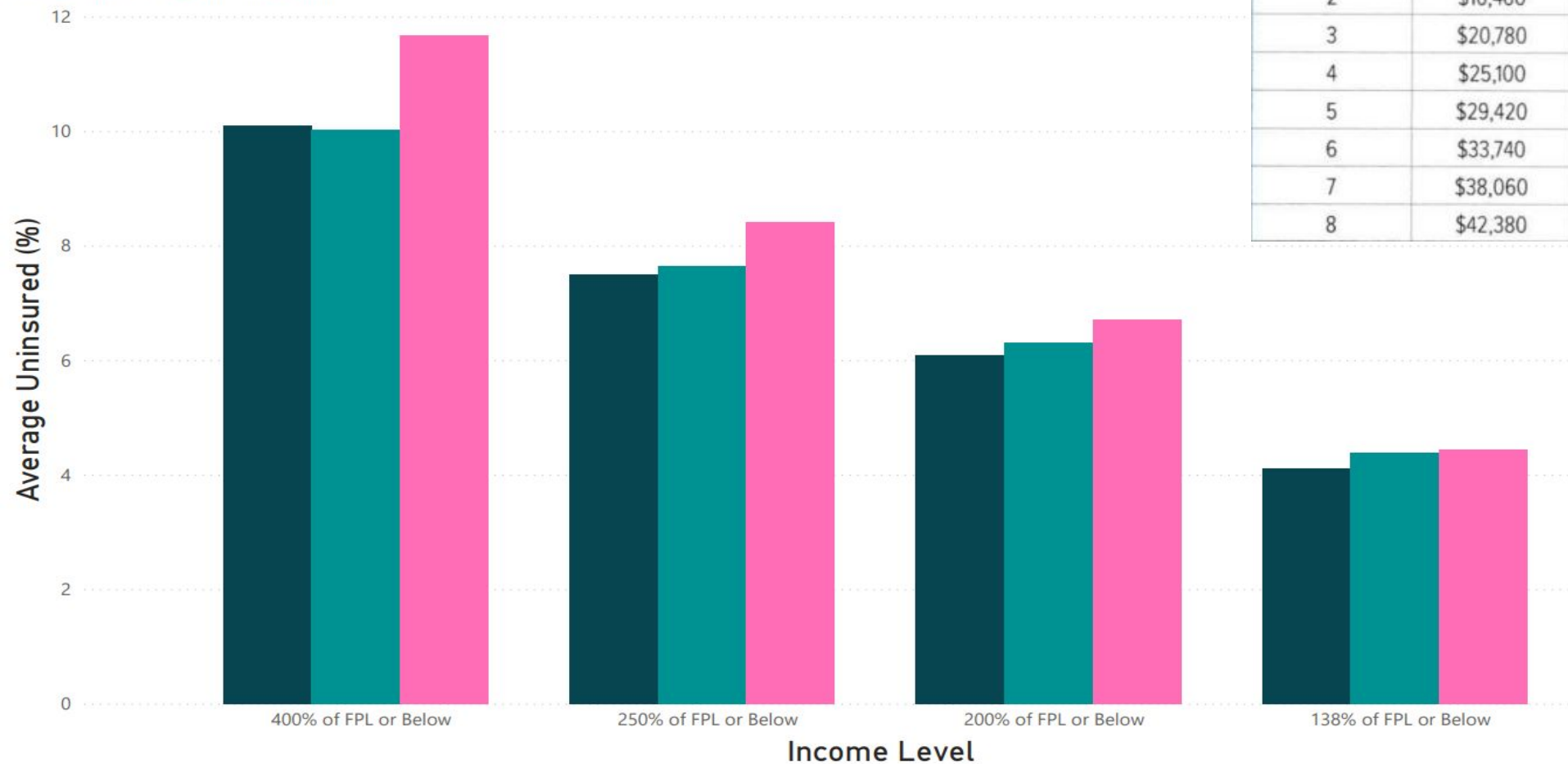
# Reasons Americans Lack Coverage

● Too expensive ● Not eligible ● Don't want coverage ● Can't find a plan ... ● Process too c... ● Coverage has ... ● Other reason ● Lost job ● Missed de...



# Average Percent Uninsured by Income Level

Sex ● Both Sexes ● Female ● Male

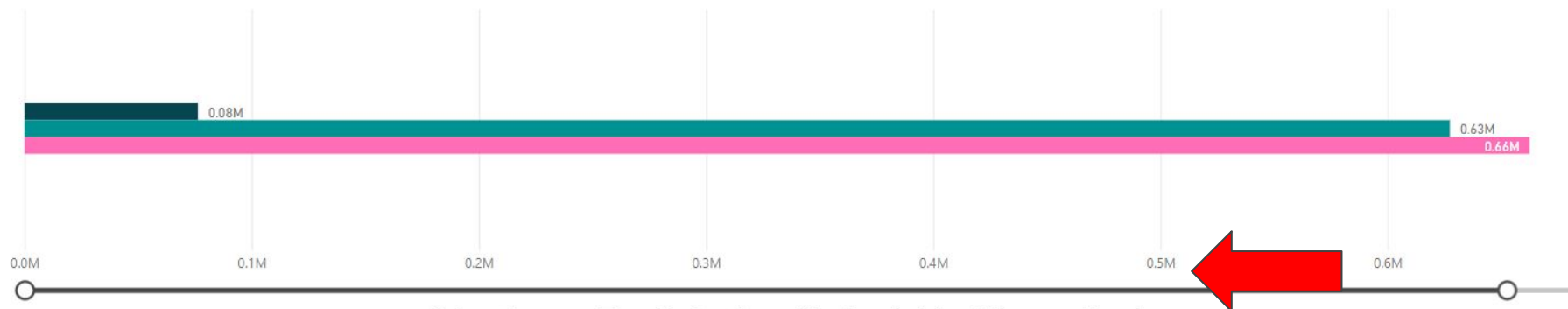


# in Household	100% FPL
1	\$12,140
2	\$16,460
3	\$20,780
4	\$25,100
5	\$29,420
6	\$33,740
7	\$38,060
8	\$42,380



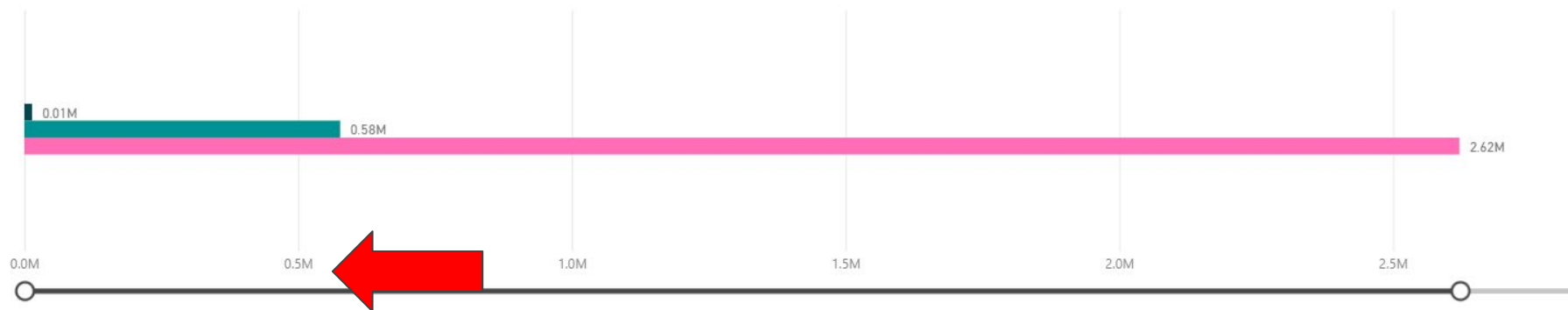
### Public Insurance Types by Enrollment Numbers in Select Minnesota Counties

● VA Coverage ● Medicare Coverage ● Medicaid/Mean-Based Coverage



### Private Insurance Types by Enrollment Numbers in Select Minnesota Counties

● Military Coverage ● Direct Purchase Coverage ● Employer-Based Coverage

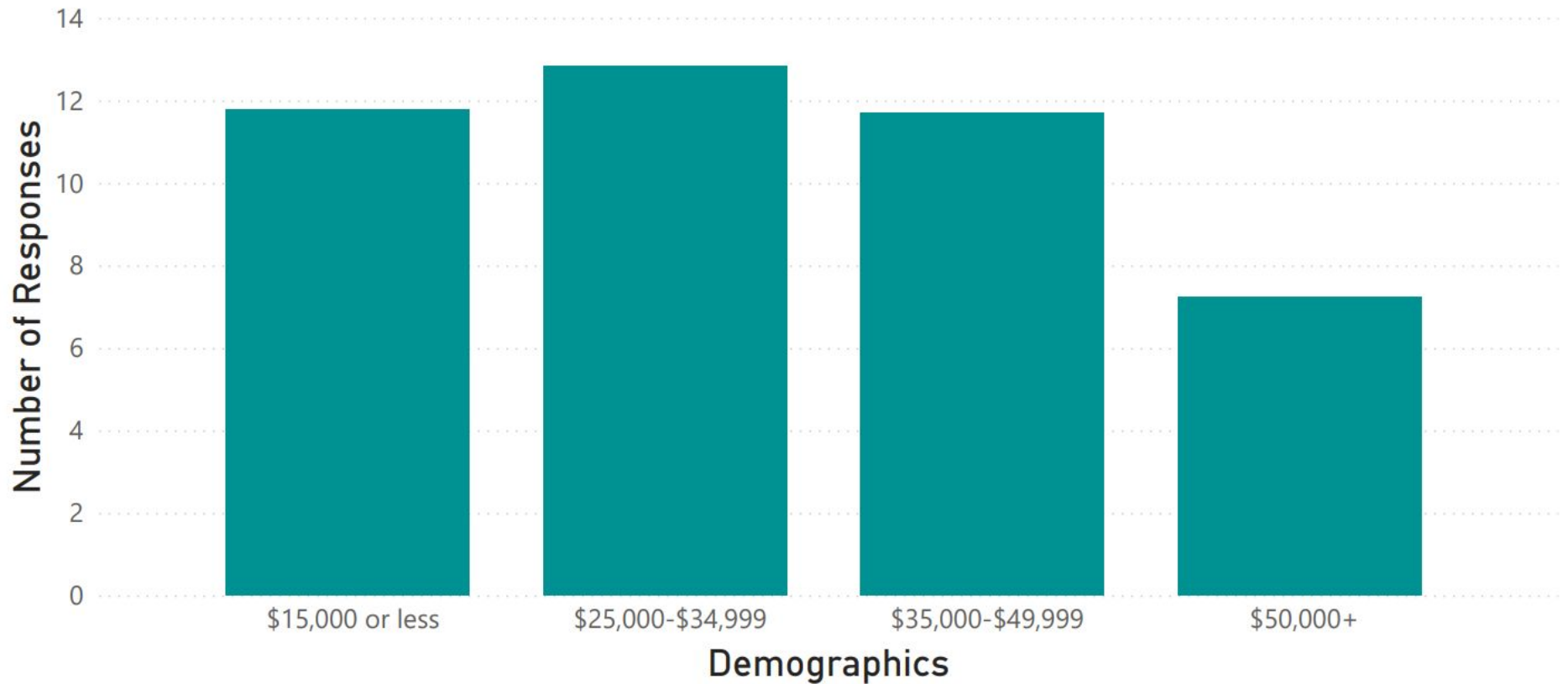


Note: These measures include people with more than one type of coverage.

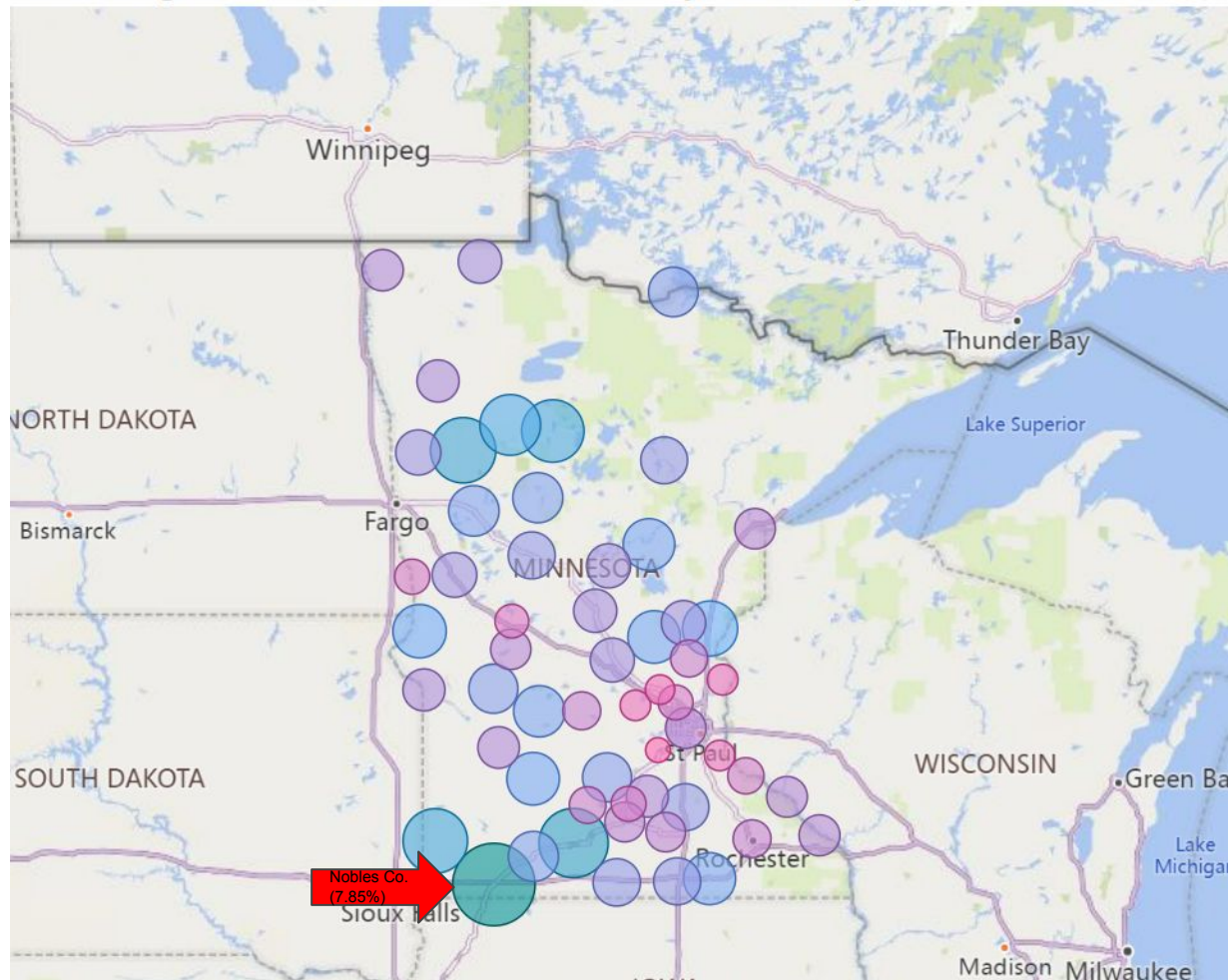
The select counties consist of Anoka, Blue Earth, Carver, Crow Wing, Dakota, Hennepin, Olmsted, Ramsey, Rice, Scott, Sherburne, St. Louis, Stearns, Washington, and Wright Counties.

# Has cost prevented you from seeking medical care anytime in the last 12 months?

Response ● Yes

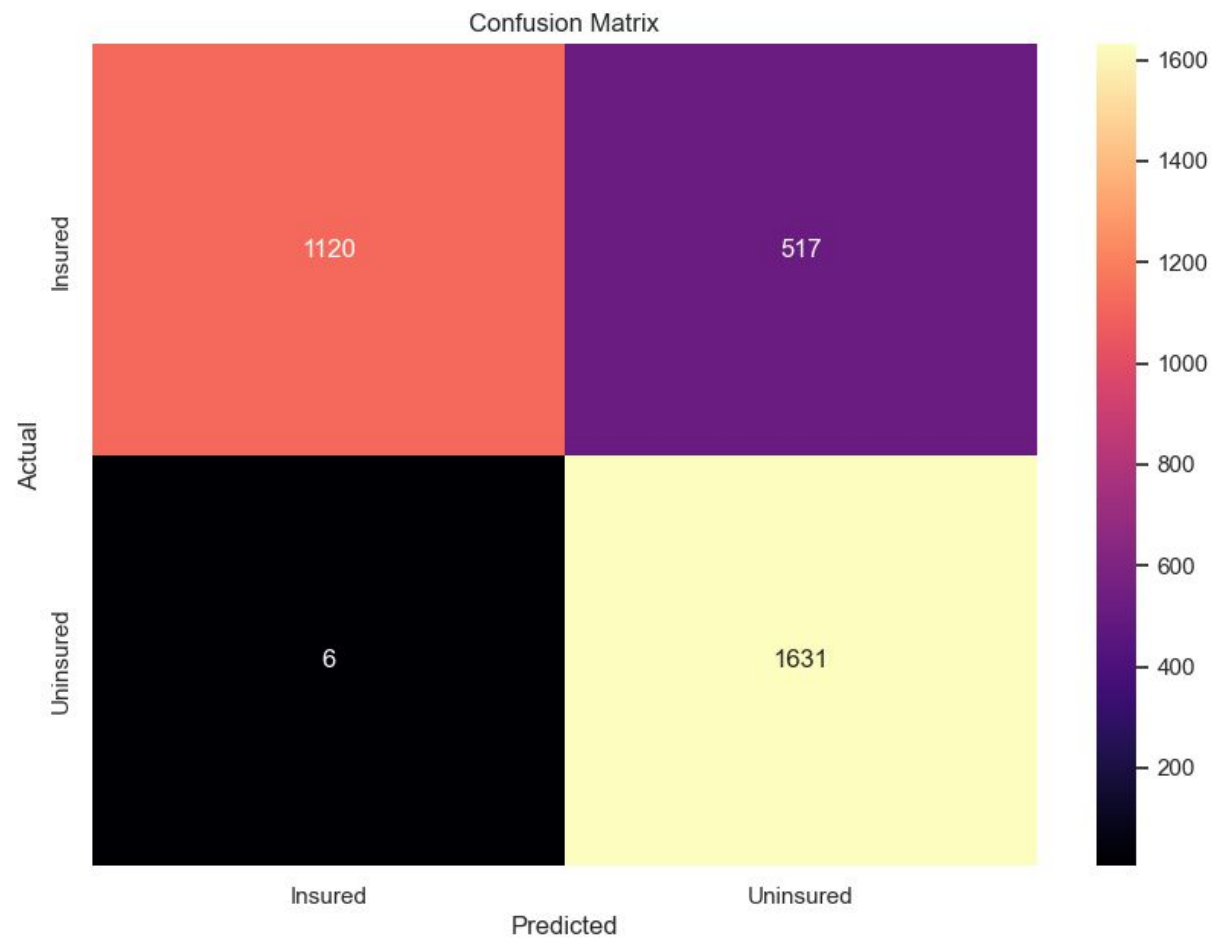


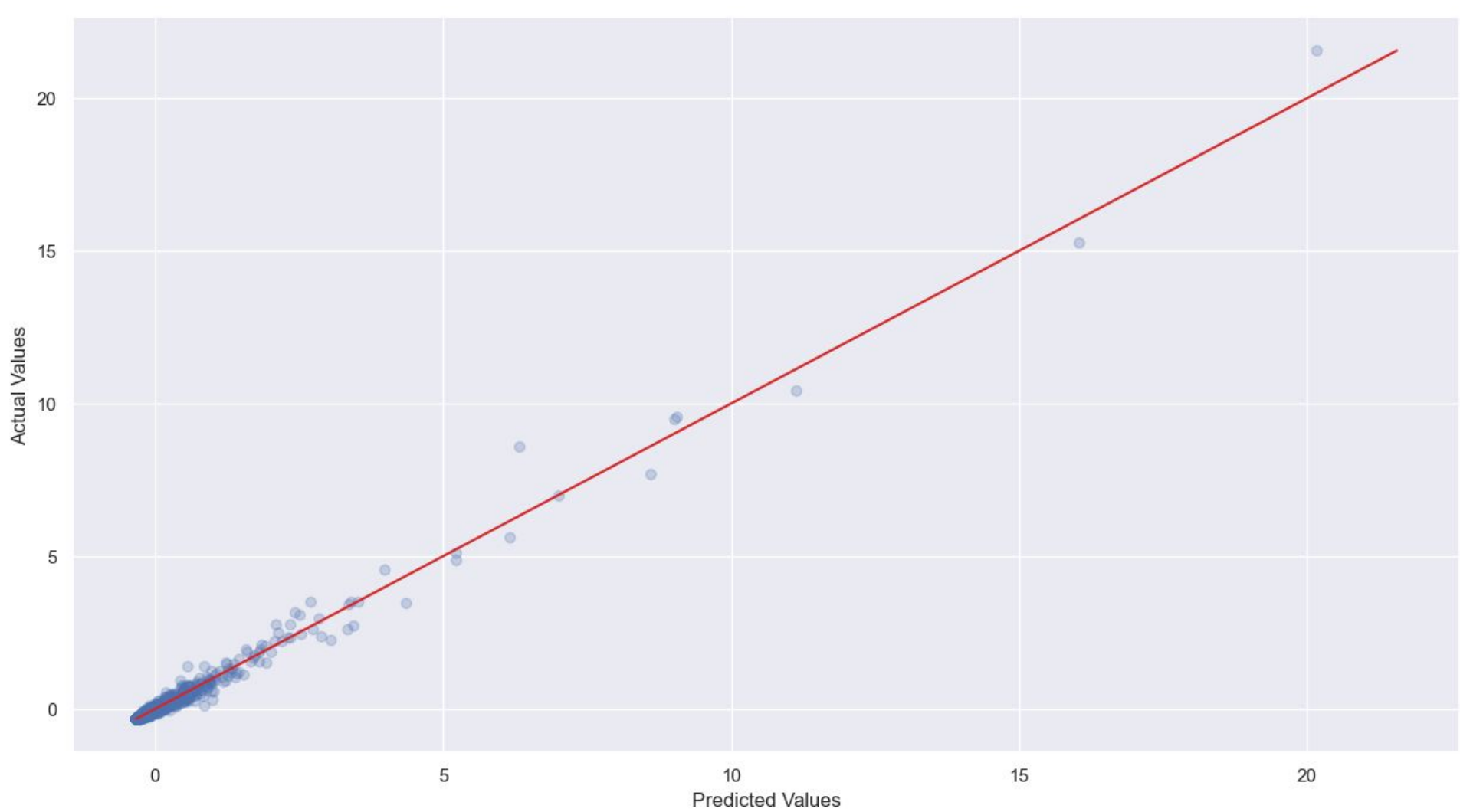
# Average Percent Uninsured by County in Minnesota





# Machine Learning







# Recommendations





## Recommendations for Future Data Collection & Research

- Increase data collection in rural and lower-population counties
- Track reasons for lacking insurance by demographics other than income level
- Study intersection of demographics in relation to avoidance of medical care & access to coverage (including location, race/ethnicity, income, etc)
- Classify public insurance enrollees who work full-time by whether or not their employers offer employer-based insurance
- Track tobacco usage in relation to insurance affordability
- Investigate strategies to increase insurance affordability





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