

GETTING GEORGIA'S CHILDREN COVERED – AND KEEPING THEM COVERED

Georgia has **214,000** uninsured children.¹

This is the **4th highest** number of uninsured children in the nation.²

Georgia's highest number in almost a decade.

WHAT IS DRIVING THE INCREASE?

- Incomplete/missing paperwork during the mandatory Medicaid eligibility redeterminations following the end of the COVID-19 disenrollment pause
- Gaps in state-level enrollment systems (e.g., complicated notices, limited real-time enrollment support)
- Misinformation and administrative barriers



Medicaid cuts and marketplace changes are coming soon, which could result in even more kids losing coverage in the months ahead.

MOST EFFECTIVE WAYS TO GET (AND KEEP) KIDS COVERED

Federal Action: 12 Months Continuous Coverage³

- Protects kids from losing coverage due to temporary income fluctuations
- Required nationally starting January 2024 in the Consolidated Appropriations Act (2023)

State Action: Express Lane Eligibility (ELE)

- 2021: ELE adopted using SNAP/TANF data (implementation began October 2022)
- 2023: ELE expanded to include data from CAPS, Refugee Cash Assistance, and WIC (began in March 2024)

Under ELE, the state can use eligibility data from these programs to automatically enroll or renew eligible children in Medicaid or PeachCare for Kids.

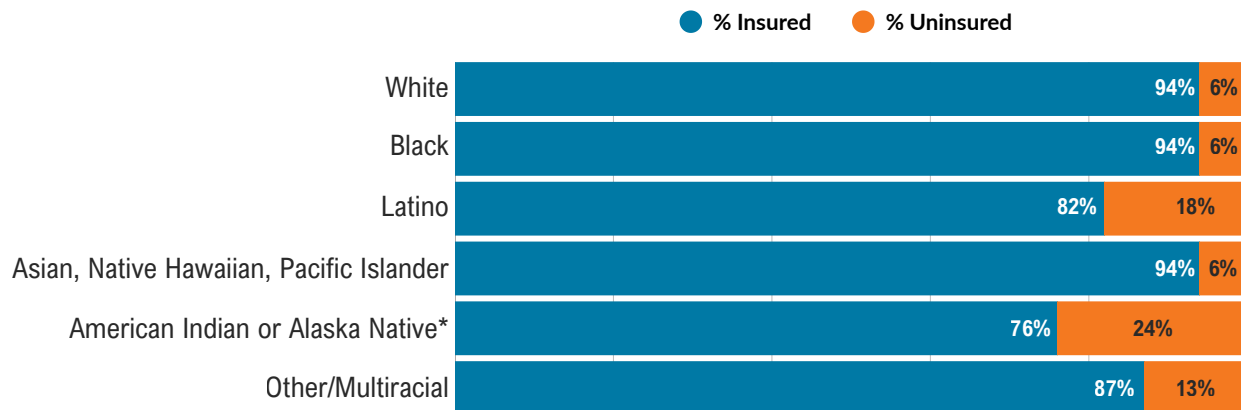
In addition to ELE, using existing state data to confirm eligibility (known as “ex parte” renewals) can greatly cut paperwork for families and the state. The state can use verified data (e.g., from the Georgia Department of Labor, Department of Driver Services, Internal Revenue Service) it already has to process renewals. This would help keep eligible children on Medicaid/PeachCare instead of losing coverage due to a burdensome renewal process.

SCAN BELOW TO SEE
FACTSHEET CITATIONS



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 Ethnicity, 2024³

*2024 data is not available due to insufficient sampling

Note: Georgia Medicaid and PeachCare for Kids eligibility rules currently do not include a coverage option for undocumented children.

HOW GEORGIA'S CHILDREN ARE COVERED

PUBLIC COVERAGE (as of July 2025)⁴

Medicaid: 1,698,030

PeachCare (CHIP): 195,370

Medicaid and PeachCare provide comprehensive coverage for children in families with low and moderate incomes. Benefits include primary care, preventive services, behavioral health, dental and vision, prescriptions, and more.

PRIVATE COVERAGE (as of 2023)⁵

Employer-Sponsored: 1,154,100

Marketplace/Individual Plans: 134,600

Coverage through a parent's job or purchased on the marketplace

UNINSURED (as of 2025)⁶

214,000 children in Georgia do not have health insurance

This is Georgia's highest number of uninsured children in almost a decade.

WHY COVERAGE MATTERS

- ✓ Children receive timely check-ups and developmental screenings.
- ✓ Chronic conditions (asthma, ADHD) are treated, reducing ER visits and school absences
- ✓ Families avoid costly medical bills
- ✓ Providers are reimbursed, keeping clinics stable

POTENTIAL IMPACTS OF THE ONE BIG BEAUTIFUL BILL ACT⁷

- Fails to extend the the enhanced premium tax credits – **currently relied on by 95% of Georgia's using Georgia Access**
- Eliminates automatic re-enrollment, **making families manually reapply each year**
- Shortens the overall enrollment period, **reducing the time families have to secure coverage**

[Learn more:](#)

[Voices' Healthcare Coverage for Parents and Caregivers factsheet](#)



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- 1 Georgetown University Center for Children and Families. (2025) Analysis of the U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey (ACS) Table HIC-5, Health insurance Coverage status and Type of Coverage by state - Children Under 19: 2008 to 2024, Health insurance Historical Tables.
- 2 Georgetown University Center for Children and Families (2025). Analysis of the U.S. Census Bureau 2017-2024 American Community Survey (ACS), Tables C27001A-I: Health Insurance Coverage Status by Age.
- 3 Medicaid.gov. (2025) Continuous Eligibility for Medicaid and CHIP Coverage. Accessed November 2025 from <https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/enrollment-strategies/continuous-eligibility-medicaid-and-chip-coverage>.
- 4 Medicaid.gov. 2025. June 2025 Medicaid & CHIP Enrollment. Accessed November 2025 from <https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/program-information/medicaid-and-chip-enrollment-data/report-highlights>.
- 5 Kaiser Family Foundation (2023). Health Insurance Coverage of Children 0-18 (Current Population Survey). Accessed November 2025 from <https://www.kff.org/state-health-policy-data/state-indicator/children-0-18/?currentTimeframe=0&sortModel=%7B%22colId%22:%22Location%22,%22sort%22:%22asc%22%7D>.
- 6 Georgetown University Center for Children and Families (2025). Analysis of the U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey (ACS) Table HIC-5, Health insurance Coverage status and Type of Coverage by state - Children Under 19: 2008 to 2024, Health insurance Historical Tables.
- 7 119th Congress (2025-2026). H.R. 1 - One Big Beautiful Bill Act. Accessed November 2025 from <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/house-bill/1?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%22hr1%22%7D&s=4&r=1>; Georgians for a Healthy Future. 2025. Why ACA Premiums May Soon Become Less Affordable and What an Expiring Tax Credit Could Mean for Georgia Families. Accessed November 2025 from <https://healthyfuturega.org/2025/08/13/expiring-aca-premium-tax-credits-georgia-families/#:~:text=Right%20now%2C%2095%25%20of%20Georgians,has%20made%20a%20big%20difference>.