

CHIA Standard Statistics: Insurance Rate of Massachusetts Residents



Time Period/Data Year(s): 2008-2011, 2014, 2015, 2017, and 2019
Governing Legislation: M.G.L. c. 12C, section 21

Description	Population insurance coverage rate is calculated using data from CHIA’s Massachusetts Health Insurance Survey (MHIS). CHIA reports rate of insurance coverage at the time of the survey as well as rates during other time frames (e.g., insured at any time during the past 12 months, always insured in the past 12 months). Health Safety Net or Medical Hardship is not included as coverage in this survey.
Frequency	The survey was conducted annually through 2015; biennially after 2015.
Statutory Definition	CHIA is directed to “establish a continuing program of investigation and study of the <i>uninsured and underinsured in the commonwealth, including the health insurance needs of the residents of the geographically isolated or rural areas of the commonwealth</i> . Said continuing investigation and study shall examine the overall impact of programs developed by the center and the division of medical assistance on the uninsured, the underinsured and the role of employers in assisting their employees in affording health insurance (emphasis added).”
Data Submitters	CHIA collects data from a random sample of residents in Massachusetts using the MHIS survey instruments.
Data Included	Health insurance coverage, health care access, utilization and affordability
Quality Assurance Process	CHIA’s survey vendor follows industrial best practices during the data collection phase to ensure respondent cooperation. During the analytic phase, CHIA’s vendor uses a rigorous internal quality assurance (QA) process for post-survey data processing, weighting, and analysis. CHIA conducts an independent QA review to check consistency and to evaluate/validate results during the publication phase.
Reports	Findings from the 2019 Massachusetts Health Insurance Survey (April 2020)
Data Notes	CHIA uses a multi-item approach to assess insurance coverage since 2008. This approach was recommended by the Urban Institute.

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How to Obtain Data	Current and historical MHIS survey databooks are available on CHIA's website .
Related CHIA Measures	None
Questions?	Questions may be directed to Christine Loveridge, Associate Manager of Strategy and Research, Strategy and Research Unit, at christine.loveridge@state.ma.us .