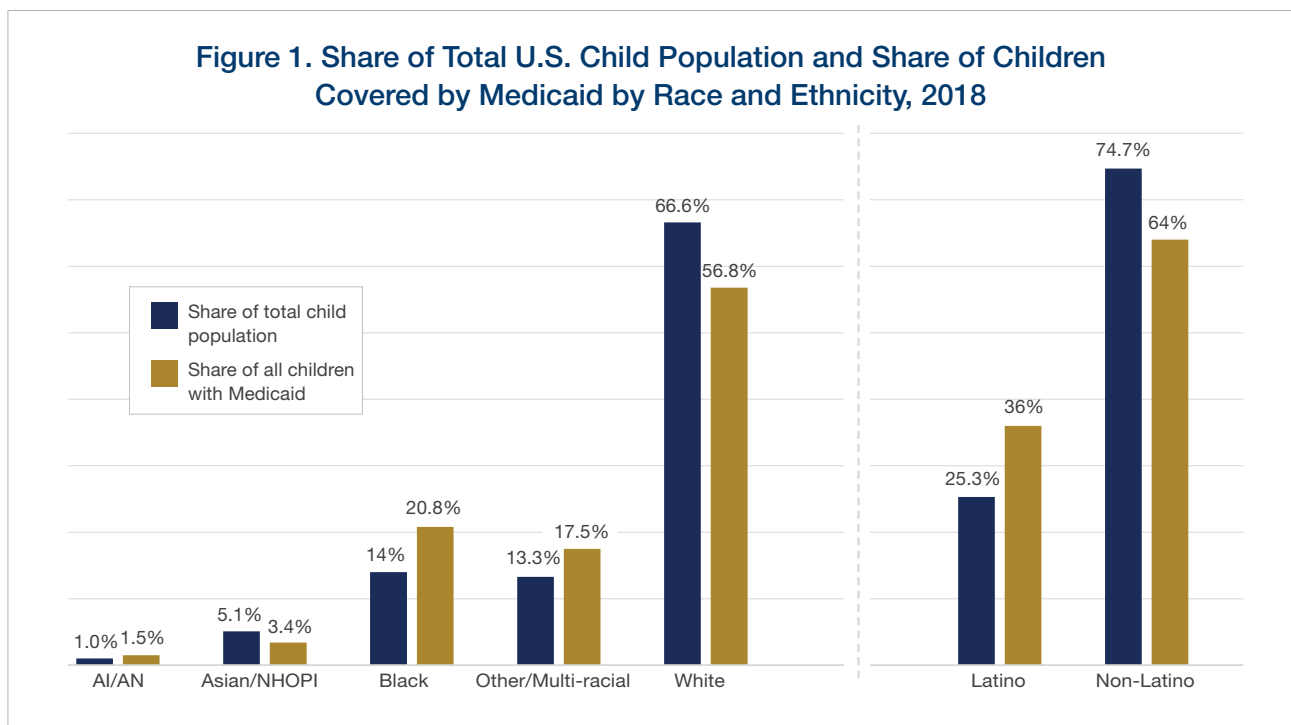


Snapshot of Children with Medicaid by Race and Ethnicity, 2018

by Tricia Brooks and Alexa Gardner

Medicaid and the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) are primary sources of health coverage for low-income children, especially for children of color because they are more likely to be economically disadvantaged. As such, these sources of health insurance offer an opportunity to assess and address existing health disparities. In this analysis, we use the U.S. Office of Management Budget (OMB) standards for reporting race separate from ethnicity. People of any race may be of any ethnic origin and vice versa.

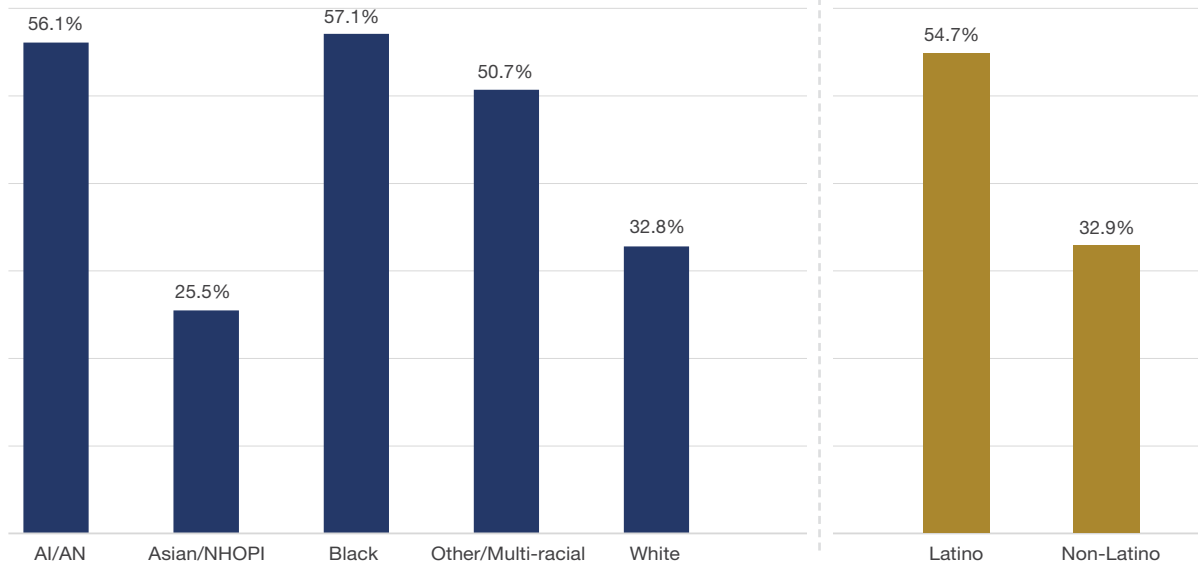
The majority of children with Medicaid (56.8 percent) identify as White although they comprise two-thirds of the child population (66.6 percent). Figure 1 shows the disproportionate reliance on Medicaid for Black, other or multi-racial, and Latino children, in particular. Black children make up 14 percent of the child population but represent 20.8 percent of children with Medicaid. Likewise, children who report “other” or “multiple races” represent 13.3 percent of the child population but 17.5 percent of children with Medicaid. With respect to ethnicity, 25.3 percent of children identify as Latino but make up 36 percent of children with Medicaid. Appendix tables 1 and 2 provide these data for all 50 states and Washington, D.C.





Another way of assessing the importance of Medicaid to children of color is to look at the share of children within a particular race or ethnicity with Medicaid or CHIP coverage as shown in Figure 2. More than half of children who identify as American Indian or Alaska Native (AI/AN), Black, other or multi-racial, or Latino rely on Medicaid as their source of health insurance. Appendix table 3 provides these data for all 50 states and D.C.

Figure 2. Share of Children by Race/Ethnicity with Medicaid, 2018



Methodology

Data Source: Georgetown University Center for Children and Families analysis of the 2018 American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Set.

Race and Ethnicity: The Census Bureau follows a two-question format for capturing race and ethnicity data according to U.S. Office of Management and Budget [guidelines](#). These data are based on self-identification. People may choose to report more than one race group. Race data is reported as American Indian or Native Alaskan (AI/AN), Asian, combined in this report with Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander (NHOPI), Black, other or multi-racial, and White. People of any race may be of any ethnic origin. Ethnicity is reported as Latino or non-Latino.

Health Insurance: The Census Bureau asks each respondent to indicate yes or no to eight sources of

coverage: employment-based insurance, insurance purchased directly, Medicare, Medicaid, TRICARE, VA health care, Indian Health Service, and any of type of health insurance. People may report more than one type of insurance. We include individuals reporting Medicaid only or in combination with another source as having Medicaid in this analysis. Previous [research](#) has shown that these surveys undercount Medicaid participation.

We suppressed data where the relative standard of error is greater than 30 percent but we did not conduct significance testing. Thus, the difference between the share of children in the total population and the share with Medicaid—particularly for small populations of AI/AN and Asian combined with NHOPI groups—may not be statistically significant.



Differences from Previous Reports: CCF published data on race and ethnicity from the 2015 and 2016 American Community Surveys. Those data were based on analysis conducted by the University of Minnesota State Health Access Data Assistance Center (SHADAC) and the Annie E. Casey Kids Count data. Both sources reported total Latino data but excluded any person identifying as Latino from the race data. For example, an individual self-identifying as Black and Latino would be included in the Latino data and excluded from the Black

data. Looking at race and ethnicity separately, according to OMB standards, provides a more complete picture of the importance of Medicaid as a source of coverage based on both race and ethnicity. Additionally, we have published specific reports on [AI/AN](#) and [Latino](#) children. In those reports, the data sources were the American Community Survey Factfinder tables and the Integrated Public Use Microdata Set (IPUMS), and may differ from the findings in this brief.

Acknowledgements

The author would like to thank Joan Alker and Phyllis Jordan for their contributions to this brief. Design and layout provided by Nancy Magill.

The Georgetown University Center for Children and Families (CCF) is an independent, nonpartisan policy and research center founded in 2005 with a mission to expand and improve high-quality, affordable health coverage for America's children and families. CCF is based in the McCourt School of Public Policy's Health Policy Institute.



Appendix Table 1: Share of Total Child Population and Share of Children Covered by Medicaid by Race, 2018

	Total Child Population	Children with Medicaid	American Indian or Alaska Native		Asian, Hawaiian Native, or Other Pacific Islander		Black		Other or Multi-Race		White	
			Share of Population	Share of Children with Medicaid	Share of Population	Share of Children with Medicaid	Share of Population	Share of Children with Medicaid	Share of Population	Share of Children with Medicaid	Share of Population	Share of Children with Medicaid
United States	77,702,449	29,851,459	1.0%	1.5%	5.1%	3.4%	14.0%	20.8%	13.3%	17.5%	66.6%	56.8%
Alabama	1,157,588	505,112	0.3%	0.4%	1.3%	0.6%	30.1%	42.6%	6.7%	9.7%	61.6%	46.7%
Alaska	193,607	63,873	21.4%	38.2%	6.8%	9.2%	3.6%	NA	14.8%	13.6%	53.4%	35.8%
Arizona	1,740,510	690,348	6.1%	9.1%	2.8%	1.5%	5.4%	6.2%	13.3%	14.1%	72.4%	69.0%
Arkansas	746,302	391,162	0.8%	.5%	1.8%	1.2%	17.9%	25.4%	9.9%	12.2%	69.6%	60.6%
California	9,500,106	4,070,732	0.7%	0.9%	11.9%	7.1%	5.5%	6.5%	26.4%	31.7%	55.5%	53.9%
Colorado	1,346,994	448,277	1.0%	1.8%	3.1%	2.4%	4.4%	6.4%	11.9%	17.6%	79.5%	71.8%
Connecticut	785,285	277,749	NA	NA	4.7%	3.1%	12.7%	19.3%	14.9%	25.5%	67.3%	51.4%
Delaware	214,695	84,350	NA	NA	4.1%	NA	27.0%	34.9%	9.2%	13.3%	59.6%	47.8%
District of Columbia	138,139	66,531	NA	NA	1.9%	NA	54.1%	80.1%	13.5%	14.1%	30.4%	4.9%
Florida	4,484,648	1,859,484	0.3%	0.3%	2.6%	1.5%	20.5%	28.1%	10.4%	11.4%	66.2%	58.7%
Georgia	2,668,570	1,031,341	0.5%	0.7%	4.1%	2.1%	33.5%	45.6%	9.5%	12.2%	52.5%	39.4%
Hawaii	317,916	101,752	NA	NA	38.0%	37.8%	1.5%	NA	43.3%	51.7%	17.1%	9.6%
Idaho	471,732	171,003	1.3%	2.3%	1.5%	NA	0.9%	2.2%	8.8%	13.7%	87.4%	81.3%
Illinois	3,024,169	1,102,449	0.2%	0.3%	5.0%	3.3%	15.1%	24.7%	13.1%	19.5%	66.6%	52.1%
Indiana	1,659,069	566,589	0.2%	NA	2.4%	2.0%	11.3%	18.5%	9.1%	13.2%	77.0%	66.2%
Iowa	777,009	281,512	0.4%	0.7%	2.8%	2.6%	5.0%	9.6%	5.8%	10.0%	86.0%	77.0%
Kansas	746,588	223,412	0.9%	1.9%	2.6%	1.8%	6.2%	12.3%	10.8%	17.8%	79.4%	66.2%
Kentucky	1,062,595	461,926	NA	NA	1.6%	1.5%	8.6%	12.1%	7.6%	8.6%	82.1%	77.5%
Louisiana	1,160,628	616,639	0.5%	0.5%	1.4%	1.0%	36.1%	51.5%	7.3%	8.2%	54.8%	38.8%
Maine	263,619	86,708	0.7%	1.4%	1.3%	NA	2.4%	5.5%	4.8%	7.7%	90.8%	85.1%
Maryland	1,416,646	474,770	0.2%	NA	6.1%	3.8%	30.5%	41.9%	14.9%	20.1%	48.4%	34.0%
Massachusetts	1,467,006	505,061	NA	NA	6.9%	4.9%	9.9%	17.2%	12.7%	21.4%	70.2%	56.0%
Michigan	2,290,863	874,009	0.6%	0.8%	3.2%	1.7%	16.1%	27.1%	7.9%	10.9%	72.3%	59.6%
Minnesota	1,368,812	425,616	1.4%	2.9%	5.4%	5.8%	9.8%	22.6%	9.7%	14.0%	73.7%	54.7%
Mississippi	754,065	369,366	0.5%	0.7%	0.8%	NA	42.5%	58.1%	4.8%	4.7%	51.4%	36.1%
Missouri	1,442,081	485,340	0.3%	NA	2.1%	1.1%	13.2%	21.5%	7.1%	11.3%	77.3%	65.8%
Montana	239,654	100,301	9.5%	14.7%	NA	NA	NA	NA	6.9%	8.4%	82.8%	76.1%
Nebraska	502,707	141,157	1.3%	3.1%	2.2%	2.6%	4.7%	8.2%	11.0%	18.3%	80.7%	67.7%
Nevada	720,446	256,311	1.6%	2.2%	6.2%	3.9%	10.2%	16.4%	26.0%	32.3%	55.9%	45.2%
New Hampshire	278,625	82,972	NA	NA	3.5%	3.5%	1.9%	2.9%	5.6%	9.3%	88.9%	83.7%
New Jersey	2,055,154	632,282	0.3%	NA	9.4%	4.4%	14.5%	22.9%	14.6%	24.7%	61.2%	47.5%
New Mexico	511,221	285,060	11.8%	16.6%	1.7%	1.0%	1.6%	1.1%	12.4%	13.3%	72.6%	68.1%
New York	4,305,171	1,792,797	0.5%	0.6%	7.6%	7.4%	16.6%	21.2%	17.4%	25.4%	57.8%	45.3%
North Carolina	2,449,931	1,018,526	1.2%	1.7%	3.2%	2.2%	22.7%	32.3%	11.8%	16.3%	61.0%	47.5%
North Dakota	182,402	39,153	7.9%	21.7%	2.4%	NA	3.4%	11.2%	5.6%	NA	80.6%	57.7%
Ohio	2,742,922	1,011,657	0.2%	0.3%	2.4%	1.4%	14.2%	25.6%	8.2%	12.5%	75.0%	60.1%
Oklahoma	1,012,358	420,071	9.6%	10.8%	1.8%	0.9%	7.7%	11.1%	17.7%	19.3%	63.2%	57.8%
Oregon	922,650	370,252	1.3%	1.8%	4.7%	3.0%	2.4%	3.6%	13.8%	16.6%	77.9%	75.0%
Pennsylvania	2,810,842	1,045,110	0.2%	NA	3.7%	3.5%	13.2%	22.8%	9.4%	14.4%	73.4%	59.2%
Rhode Island	216,781	83,552	NA	NA	3.9%	NA	9.6%	14.6%	14.1%	21.5%	72.3%	61.2%
South Carolina	1,179,401	509,955	0.5%	0.7%	1.5%	0.5%	29.7%	45.3%	8.2%	10.0%	60.1%	43.5%
South Dakota	227,197	65,526	13.3%	32.6%	0.9%	NA	3.2%	6.6%	6.8%	12.6%	75.8%	48.1%
Tennessee	1,598,043	686,471	0.2%	NA	1.8%	1.0%	19.0%	25.5%	7.2%	9.2%	71.7%	64.1%
Texas	7,829,922	3,005,365	.5%	0.6%	4.4%	2.2%	12.4%	15.9%	11.3%	13.0%	71.4%	68.4%
Utah	981,756	166,027	1.1%	1.9%	2.2%	2.3%	1.6%	3.1%	11.9%	19.7%	83.2%	73.1%
Vermont	122,839	50,197	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	4.6%	NA	91.8%	93.4%
Virginia	1,989,361	535,175	0.2%	NA	6.1%	3.2%	20.1%	32.9%	11.8%	14.1%	61.7%	49.6%
Washington	1,747,807	692,570	1.6%	2.4%	7.9%	5.7%	4.3%	6.2%	19.0%	25.6%	67.2%	60.0%
West Virginia	386,971	182,216	NA	NA	0.7%	NA	3.9%	4.1%	5.4%	8.5%	89.9%	87.1%
Wisconsin	1,349,063	415,732	0.8%	1.3%	3.0%	3.3%	9.2%	18.8%	9.4%	13.7%	77.7%	62.9%
Wyoming	139,983	27,913	4.0%	9.1%	NA	NA	NA	NA	6.7%	13.0%	88.7%	76.6%

Source: Georgetown University Center for Children and Families analysis of the 2018 American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Set.

Notes: We did not conduct significance testing. In states with small child populations by race, the difference between the share of children in the total population and the share with Medicaid may not be statistically significant.

NA: Estimate not reported because relative standard error is greater than 30 percent. As a result, totals may not equal 100 percent.



Appendix Table 2: Share of Child Population and Share of Children with Medicaid by Ethnicity, 2018

	Total Child Population	Children with Medicaid	Latino		Non-Latino	
			Share of Population	Share of Children with Medicaid	Share of Population	Share of Children with Medicaid
United States	77,702,449	29,851,459	25.3%	36.0%	74.7%	64.0%
Alabama	1,157,588	505,112	7.5%	11.1%	92.5%	88.9%
Alaska	193,607	63,873	9.5%	7.0%	90.5%	93.0%
Arizona	1,740,510	690,348	44.6%	59.2%	55.4%	40.8%
Arkansas	746,302	391,162	12.2%	14.6%	87.8%	85.4%
California	9,500,106	4,070,732	52.0%	69.9%	48.0%	30.1%
Colorado	1,346,994	448,277	31.4%	49.5%	68.6%	50.5%
Connecticut	785,285	277,749	24.5%	45.6%	75.5%	54.4%
Delaware	214,695	84,350	15.6%	22.7%	84.4%	77.3%
District of Columbia	138,139	66,531	17.3%	18.4%	82.7%	81.6%
Florida	4,484,648	1,859,484	31.8%	38.4%	68.2%	61.6%
Georgia	2,668,570	1,031,341	14.8%	20.3%	85.2%	79.7%
Hawaii	317,916	101,752	18.5%	22.3%	81.5%	77.7%
Idaho	471,732	171,003	18.2%	28.8%	81.8%	71.2%
Illinois	3,024,169	1,102,449	24.9%	37.2%	75.1%	62.8%
Indiana	1,659,069	566,589	11.0%	16.6%	89.0%	83.4%
Iowa	777,009	281,512	10.0%	17.0%	90.0%	83.0%
Kansas	746,588	223,412	18.1%	29.8%	81.9%	70.2%
Kentucky	1,062,595	461,926	6.0%	7.7%	94.0%	92.3%
Louisiana	1,160,628	616,639	6.8%	7.9%	93.2%	92.1%
Maine	263,619	86,708	2.5%	1.3%	97.5%	98.7%
Maryland	1,416,646	474,770	15.8%	23.2%	84.2%	76.8%
Massachusetts	1,467,006	505,061	18.7%	36.0%	81.3%	64.0%
Michigan	2,290,863	874,009	8.3%	11.8%	91.7%	88.2%
Minnesota	1,368,812	425,616	8.6%	15.2%	91.4%	84.8%
Mississippi	754,065	369,366	4.4%	4.5%	95.6%	95.5%
Missouri	1,442,081	485,340	6.4%	7.8%	93.6%	92.2%
Montana	239,654	100,301	5.4%	6.7%	94.6%	93.3%
Nebraska	502,707	141,157	17.8%	29.1%	82.2%	70.9%
Nevada	720,446	256,311	41.1%	52.3%	58.9%	47.7%
New Hampshire	278,625	82,972	6.2%	10.0%	93.8%	90.0%
New Jersey	2,055,154	632,282	27.3%	46.7%	72.7%	53.3%
New Mexico	511,221	285,060	60.6%	66.3%	39.4%	33.7%
New York	4,305,171	1,792,797	25.0%	37.0%	75.0%	63.0%
North Carolina	2,449,931	1,018,526	16.2%	24.6%	83.8%	75.4%
North Dakota	182,402	39,153	4.7%	7.0%	95.3%	93.0%
Ohio	2,742,922	1,011,657	6.1%	8.8%	93.9%	91.2%
Oklahoma	1,012,358	420,071	17.4%	25.6%	82.6%	74.4%
Oregon	922,650	370,252	22.0%	35.6%	78.0%	64.4%
Pennsylvania	2,810,842	1,045,110	12.5%	20.4%	87.5%	79.6%
Rhode Island	216,781	83,552	25.6%	45.3%	74.4%	54.7%
South Carolina	1,179,401	509,955	9.3%	11.6%	90.7%	88.4%
South Dakota	227,197	65,526	5.5%	9.6%	94.5%	90.4%
Tennessee	1,598,043	686,471	9.7%	13.7%	90.3%	86.3%
Texas	7,829,922	3,005,365	49.5%	64.8%	50.5%	35.2%
Utah	981,756	166,027	17.8%	30.1%	82.2%	69.9%
Vermont	122,839	50,197	2.5%	1.5%	97.5%	98.5%
Virginia	1,989,361	535,175	13.8%	20.2%	86.2%	79.8%
Washington	1,747,807	692,570	21.2%	36.3%	78.8%	63.7%
West Virginia	386,971	182,216	1.8%	2.3%	98.2%	97.7%
Wisconsin	1,349,063	415,732	11.8%	20.4%	88.2%	79.6%
Wyoming	139,983	27,913	14.6%	27.7%	85.4%	72.3%

Source: Georgetown University Center for Children and Families analysis of the 2018 American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Set.



Appendix Table 3: Share of Children by Race and Ethnicity with Medicaid, 2018

	Total Child Population	Children with Medicaid	By Race					By Ethnicity	
			Alaska Native American Indian (AI/AN)	Asian, Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander (NHOPI)	Black	Other or Multiple Races	White	Latino	Non-Latino
United States	77,702,449	29,851,459	56.1%	25.5%	57.1%	50.7%	32.8%	54.7%	32.9%
Alabama	1,157,588	505,112	50.5%	19.3%	61.8%	63.4%	33.1%	65.2%	41.9%
Alaska	193,607	63,873	58.9%	44.9%	NA	30.3%	22.1%	24.2%	33.9%
Arizona	1,740,510	690,348	59.6%	20.8%	45.5%	42.2%	37.8%	52.7%	29.2%
Arkansas	746,302	391,162	35.6%	35.6%	74.3%	64.3%	45.7%	62.6%	51.0%
California	9,500,106	4,070,732	58.1%	25.4%	50.8%	51.4%	41.6%	57.6%	26.9%
Colorado	1,346,994	448,277	59.1%	25.3%	48.2%	49.1%	30.0%	52.5%	24.5%
Connecticut	785,285	277,749	NA	23.3%	53.8%	60.5%	27.0%	65.9%	25.5%
Delaware	214,695	84,350	NA	NA	50.8%	57.1%	31.5%	57.4%	36.0%
District of Columbia	138,139	66,531	NA	NA	71.3%	50.2%	7.8%	51.4%	47.5%
Florida	4,484,648	1,859,484	47.4%	23.7%	56.8%	45.6%	36.7%	50.1%	37.4%
Georgia	2,668,570	1,031,341	56.6%	20.3%	52.6%	49.9%	29.0%	53.0%	36.2%
Hawaii	317,916	101,752	NA	31.9%	NA	38.2%	18.0%	38.6%	30.5%
Idaho	471,732	171,003	62.8%	NA	87.5%	56.1%	33.7%	57.3%	31.6%
Illinois	3,024,169	1,102,449	48.2%	24.1%	59.8%	54.2%	28.5%	54.6%	30.4%
Indiana	1,659,069	566,589	NA	27.8%	55.7%	49.9%	29.3%	51.6%	32.0%
Iowa	777,009	281,512	61.1%	34.4%	69.9%	62.4%	32.4%	61.7%	33.4%
Kansas	746,588	223,412	61.7%	20.0%	59.4%	49.3%	24.9%	49.3%	25.6%
Kentucky	1,062,595	461,926	NA	41.1%	61.6%	49.3%	41.1%	55.8%	42.7%
Louisiana	1,160,628	616,639	50.9%	40.1%	75.9%	59.4%	37.6%	61.4%	52.5%
Maine	263,619	86,708	68.4%	NA	76.6%	52.2%	30.8%	17.6%	33.3%
Maryland	1,416,646	474,770	NA	20.8%	46.0%	45.4%	23.6%	49.3%	30.6%
Massachusetts	1,467,006	505,061	NA	24.7%	59.9%	57.8%	27.5%	66.4%	27.1%
Michigan	2,290,863	874,009	48.2%	20.3%	64.1%	53.0%	31.4%	54.5%	36.7%
Minnesota	1,368,812	425,616	63.8%	33.7%	71.6%	44.8%	23.1%	55.2%	28.8%
Mississippi	754,065	369,366	59.2%	NA	67.0%	47.9%	34.4%	49.6%	49.0%
Missouri	1,442,081	485,340	NA	17.9%	55.0%	53.2%	28.7%	41.1%	33.1%
Montana	239,654	100,301	64.5%	NA	NA	50.6%	38.5%	51.2%	41.3%
Nebraska	502,707	141,157	64.8%	33.7%	49.1%	46.6%	23.6%	45.8%	24.2%
Nevada	720,446	256,311	47.2%	22.4%	57.3%	44.1%	28.8%	45.3%	28.8%
New Hampshire	278,625	82,972	NA	30.5%	46.3%	49.0%	28.0%	48.2%	28.6%
New Jersey	2,055,154	632,282	NA	14.4%	48.6%	52.1%	23.9%	52.6%	22.6%
New Mexico	511,221	285,060	78.5%	33.2%	38.6%	59.6%	52.3%	61.0%	47.7%
New York	4,305,171	1,792,797	52.7%	40.7%	53.1%	60.7%	32.6%	61.7%	35.0%
North Carolina	2,449,931	1,018,526	59.2%	28.0%	59.2%	57.3%	32.4%	63.2%	37.4%
North Dakota	182,402	39,153	58.5%	NA	70.7%	NA	15.4%	31.9%	20.9%
Ohio	2,742,922	1,011,657	69.8%	21.7%	66.3%	56.4%	29.6%	53.2%	35.8%
Oklahoma	1,012,358	420,071	46.6%	20.3%	60.4%	45.4%	37.9%	61.2%	37.3%
Oregon	922,650	370,252	57.2%	25.8%	60.2%	48.4%	38.6%	65.1%	33.1%
Pennsylvania	2,810,842	1,045,110	NA	34.6%	64.1%	56.8%	29.9%	60.8%	33.8%
Rhode Island	216,781	83,552	NA	NA	58.7%	59.0%	32.6%	68.3%	28.3%
South Carolina	1,179,401	509,955	56.6%	15.1%	66.0%	52.8%	31.3%	54.1%	42.1%
South Dakota	227,197	65,526	70.8%	NA	59.7%	53.2%	18.3%	50.3%	27.6%
Tennessee	1,598,043	686,471	NA	24.4%	57.5%	55.0%	38.4%	60.9%	41.0%
Texas	7,829,922	3,005,365	40.2%	18.9%	49.1%	44.2%	36.8%	50.3%	26.8%
Utah	981,756	166,027	29.4%	17.1%	32.1%	28.1%	14.9%	28.7%	14.4%
Vermont	122,839	50,197	NA	NA	NA	NA	41.6%	25.3%	41.3%
Virginia	1,989,361	535,175	NA	14.1%	44.0%	32.2%	21.6%	39.5%	24.9%
Washington	1,747,807	692,570	60.2%	28.3%	57.1%	53.5%	35.4%	67.9%	32.0%
West Virginia	386,971	182,216	NA	NA	49.0%	73.5%	45.7%	59.0%	46.9%
Wisconsin	1,349,063	415,732	50.9%	34.6%	63.1%	45.0%	24.9%	53.5%	27.8%
Wyoming	139,983	27,913	45.6%	NA	NA	38.6%	17.2%	37.8%	16.9%

Source: Georgetown University Center for Children and Families analysis of the 2018 American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Set.

Notes: We did not conduct significance testing. In states with small child populations by race, the difference between the share of children in the total population and the share with Medicaid may not be statistically significant.

NA: Estimate not reported because relative standard error is greater than 30 percent. As a result, totals may not equal 100 percent.