

Rhode Island Health Insurance Survey (HIS): 2022 Executive Summary Report

Freedman HealthCare 2022

Table of Contents

SECTION

1.	Introduction	1
2.	Report Highlights	2
3.	Demographic Overview	3
4.	Coverage Trends	4
5.	The Uninsured Population	6
6.	State Mandate	14
7.	Underinsurance	15
8.	<u>Telehealth</u>	20
9.	Behavioral Health	22
10	. <u>Satisfaction with Care</u>	25
11	. <u>Glossary</u>	26
12	Appendix	28

The Rhode Island Health Information Survey (RI HIS)

- The RI HIS collects information on Rhode Islanders' insurance status, healthcare costs, experience of accessing care, use of medical services, and relevant demographic variables. HealthSource RI (HSRI) uses this information to inform policy and view the impacts of insurance on an individual level.
- Market Decisions Research conducted the surveys on behalf of HSRI. Freedman HealthCare provided project management and analytical support.
- Surveys were conducted via land-lines and cellphones between July and October 2012¹, March and June 2015, June and September 2016, June and December 2018, April and September 2020², and January and May 2022³.
- RI residents excluded from this survey included those in group homes of nine or more, such as institutional settings (e.g., jails, and hospitals), group quarters (e.g., dormitories, and military barracks), and non-permanent residences.
- In 2022, the survey interviewed 3,012 households and collected information on 6,990 residents.
- Results were weight adjusted and normalized to Rhode Island's state population distribution using demographic information and population counts from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey, as well as plan enrollment and benefits data from HSRI.⁴

This Report

1

- This report highlights key findings from the data regarding the uninsured population, the underinsured population, Medicaid and HSRI enrollment, and cost of care.
- Findings are based on the data from the 2012, 2015, 2016, 2018, 2020, and 2022 surveys.
- Select demographic analyses are limited by the relative size, diversity, and populations of the Rhode Island's counties. Some trend analyses are limited by the available years of data.
- The intent of this report is to guide dialogue on potential areas of future data and policy analyses. This report does not include operational and policy recommendations. See Glossary for acronyms and explained terms.

¹ The 2012 survey was conducted pre-ACA and Medicaid expansion. See 'Glossary' for additional information on the impact of the ACA in Rhode Island. All 2012 data points are a distinctly different color than the other years throughout the report.

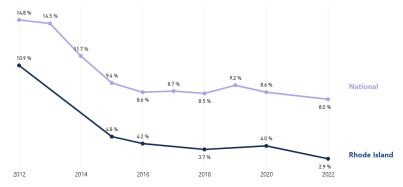
² The 2020 and 2022 surveys occurred during the COVID-19 pandemic. Where appropriate, as in prior years, respondents were explicitly asked to answer many questions based upon their experiences over the past 12 months, Despite these instructions, it is important to note that some responses may be unconsciously biased based on the pandemic which has had a profound impact upon most communities.

³ During the public health emergency, individuals have been able to retain Medicaid eligibility for an extended period.

⁴ Sample sizes are reduced when the data is sliced by additional variables; observed changes are not necessarily statistically significant. We present this data to show directional trends; it should not be over-interpreted.

SECTION 2. Report Highlights, 2022

• The **uninsured** rate in Rhode Island is 2.9%, compared to the 2020 reported rate of 4.0%. (*See Slide 5*)



- The 2022 uninsured rate decreased 1.1% from 2020, which is statistically significant from the prior survey year. After steady declines between 2012 and 2018, the rate increased slightly in 2020.
- The uninsured rate in RI remained highest among households with an annual income of 250% to 400% FPL. Compared to 2020, households with an annual income of 400%+ FPL experienced an increase in uninsurance.
- The uninsured population comprises primarily non-elderly, childless adults, and reported household income of 250% to 400% FPL, (approximately equal to a household income of \$20,000 to \$39,000).
- o Males, Hispanic/Latinos, racial minorities, and foreign-born residents are overrepresented among the uninsured.
- o RI's uninsured rate continued to be consistently below the national uninsurance rate.
- The underinsured rate increased from 25% in 2020 to 28% in 2022. (See Slide 15)
 - Nearly all incomes groups experienced an increased rate of underinsurance. The exception was individuals with household incomes below 139% FPL.
 - The underinsured rate decreased for work-based insurance and increased for direct purchase private coverage.
- Deductible costs, average monthly **premium** costs and **out-of-pocket** medical expenses increased.
 - o 72% of insured residents paid a monthly premium of \$500 or less, compared to 74% in 2020.
 - o 51% of insured individuals paid an annual deductible of \$2,000 or more, in comparison to 47% in 2020.
 - The average out-of-pocket spend for medical expense increased to \$2,569, likely in part due to the continued increase in all types of health care. This is an increase of 21% from the 2020 amount of \$2,124.

Report Highlights, 2022

- The percentage of residents who reported foregoing care because they could not afford it decreased by 0.5% for routine medical care.
 - 2.1% residents reported foregoing mental health care, up from 2020's reported 1.6%.
 - 6.3% of residents reported foregoing dental care, up from 5.6% in 2020.
 - 2.4% of residents reported foregoing diagnostic testing, up from 1.9% in 2020.
 - 3.8% of residents reported forgoing prescription medicine, up from 3.1% in 2020.
- From 2018 to 2020, reports of foregoing all types of care except mental health care decreased.
 - In 2022, increased reports of foregone care may be connected to lack of access during the COVID-19 pandemic. Many physicians and health care professionals were only seeing urgent patients. Patients also delayed care due risk of COVID exposure, allowing medical concerns to become worse.1
- In 2022, 3.3% of residents skipped or took smaller amounts of prescription drugs to make them last longer, an increase from 2.1% in 2020.
- In 2022, 12% of residents received at least one medical bill for more than \$500 out-of-pocket, an increase from 11% in 2020.
- RI residents who reported receiving mental health care more than doubled, from 7.1% in 2020 to 18.1% in 2022.
 - 14% paid more than \$250 out-of-pocket for mental health care in 2022, compared to 6% in 2015.
 - RI Residents ages 65 and up receiving mental health care increased to 9% in 2022, up from 3% in 2020.
- Over the past year, 35% of RI residents had at least one telehealth visit.
 - About 46% of RI residents ages 65 and up had at least one telehealth visit.
- Overall, compared to prior years, member satisfaction remained steady in 2022.

1 Chen, J., & McGeorge, R. (Oct. 2020) Spillover effects of the COVID-19 pandemic could drive long-term health consequences for non-COVID-19 patients. *Health Affairs*. <u>https://www.healthaffairs.org/do/10.1377/forefront.20201020.566558</u>

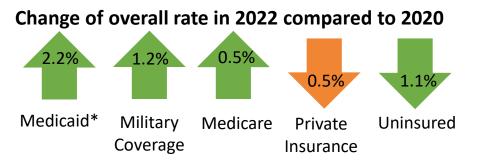
SECTION 3. Demographic Overview

Rhode Island Demographics, July 2021¹

- **Race:** White (83.1%), Black or African American (8.8%), Asian (3.7%), Two or More Races (3.0%), American Indian or Alaska Native (1.2%), Some Other Race (0.2%)
- Ethnicity: Hispanic or Latino (16.6%), Not Hispanic or Latino (83.4%)
- **Foreign Born:** 14.0% of Rhode Islanders were born outside the U.S., about 0.5% above the national rate.
- **Income:** The median household income among Rhode Islanders was \$70,305 compared to the U.S. median household income of \$64,994. Rl's poverty rate was 10.6% compared to the U.S. poverty rate of 11.4%.
- **Seniors:** 18.1% of RI is 65 years or older, higher than the national rate of 16.8%.
- **Children:** 19.1% of RI's population is under the age of 18, lower than the 22.2% national average.
- **Population Health:** RI's population grew at a slower rate from 2010 to 2020. Over this period, RI grew by 4.3% whereas the national population increased by 6.3%. In 2020, there were 1,097,379 residents in Rhode Island and that number was estimated to decrease 0.2% to 1,095,610 in 2021.

1 Data Source: US Census Bureau. (2020). Most current statistics, based on 2021 estimates available from this source.

The Covid-19 pandemic affected insurance coverage trends.

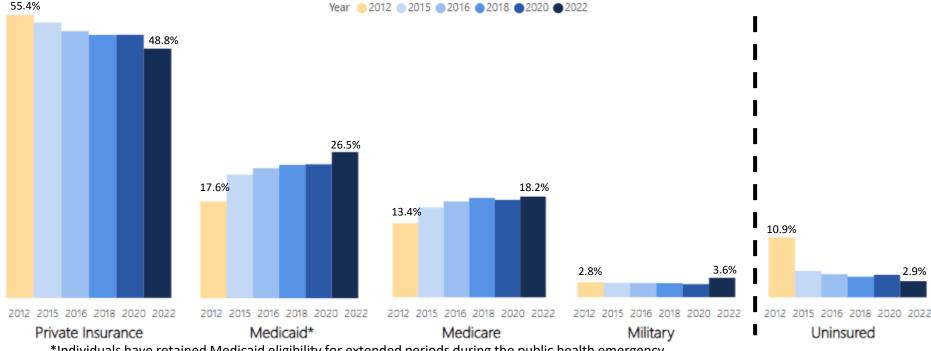


5

Enrollment by Insurance Type (count)

Insurance	2012	2015	2016	2018	2020	2022
Private	574,863	559,954	544,558	539,630	538,611	510,856
Medicaid**	182,394	233,017	246,100	253,353	254,206	277,613
Medicare	139,162	168,911	181,199	188,935	184,938	191,010
Military	29,177	27,458	27,288	27,035	25,463	37,896
Uninsured	112,774	49,591	43,609	38,887	42,305	30,282
State Total	1,038,370	1,038,930	1,042,754	1,047,840	1,045,523	1,047,657

Enrollment by Insurance Type



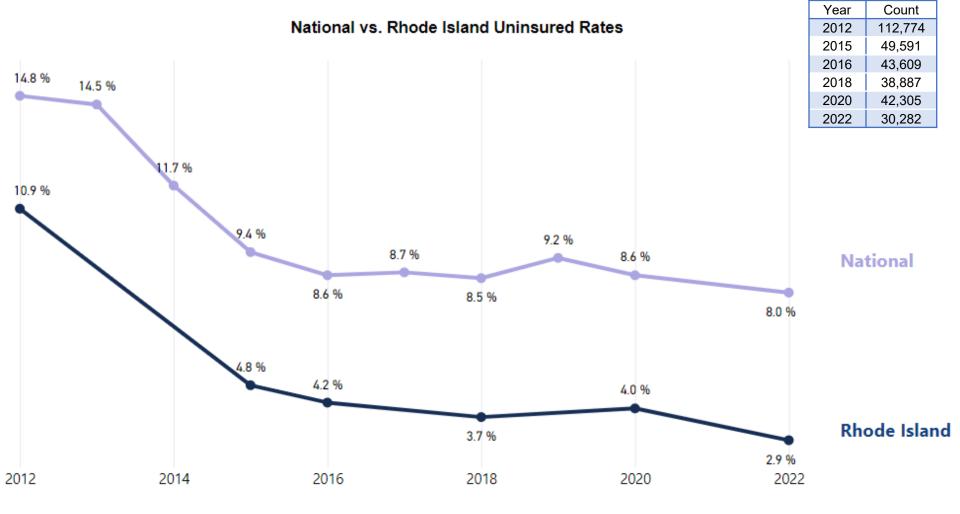
*Individuals have retained Medicaid eligibility for extended periods during the public health emergency.

**This table was developed based on statistical analysis of reported coverage in this survey. Actual Medicaid enrollment amounts may differ.

SECTION 5. The Uninsured Population

RI's uninsured rate is 2.9%, compared to the national rate of 8.0%.

- RI's uninsured rate is consistently below the national rate.
- The Uninsured population decreased before the COVID-19 pandemic, rose at the beginning of the pandemic and decreased in 2022.
 Rhode Island

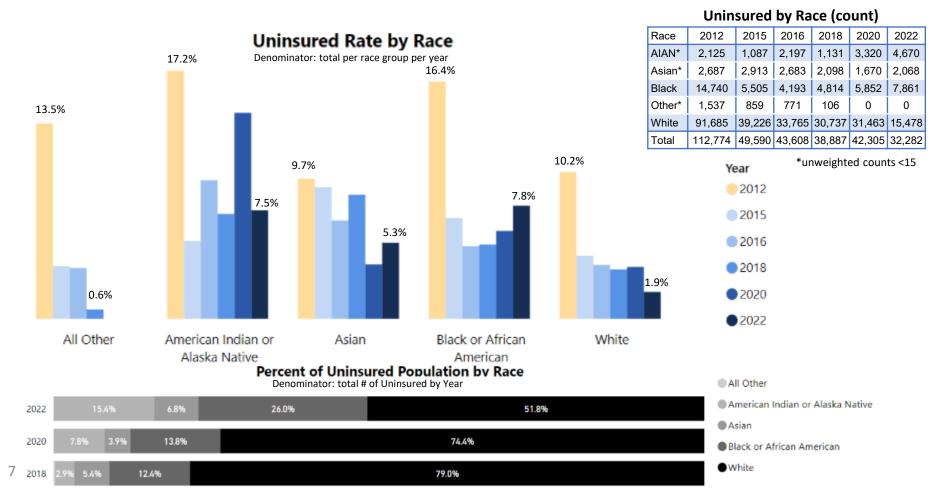


6 **National Statistic Source:** U.S. Census Bureau; HHS; 2022 National Rate as of Q1 2022.

Uninsured Rate By Race

Minority populations have been disproportionately affected by uninsurance in RI.

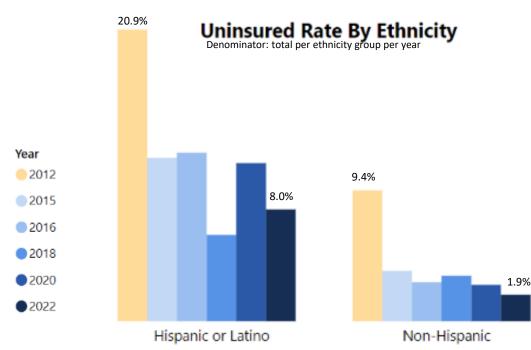
- The RI uninsured rate for minorities is about triple that of white individuals.
- The RI uninsured rate for individuals who are Asian residents increased from 6.1 % to 7.8% between 2020 and 2022.
- The RI uninsured rate for Black or African American residents increased from 3.8% % to 5.3% between 2020 and 2022.
- The RI uninsured rate for American Indian or Alaskan Native residents decreased from 14.3% to 7.5% between 2020 and 2022.
- The RI uninsured rate for White residents decreased from 3.6% to 1.9% between 2020 and 2022.



Uninsured Rate By Ethnicity

Across all years, Hispanic/Latino residents were more likely to be uninsured than non-Hispanic/Latino residents.

- In 2022, 45% of the uninsured population identified as Hispanic/Latino, but only 17% of all Rhode Islanders identified as a member of this ethnic group.
- From 2020 to 2022, the uninsured rate decreased 3.3% among Hispanic/Latino while it decreased by 0.7% among Non-Hispanic/Latino.



Uninsured by Ethnicity (count)

Hispanic/Latino	2012	2015	2016	2018	2020	2022
Yes	27,607	16,626	18,335	10,085	19,672	13,748
No	85,167	32,964	25,274	28,802	22,633	16,534
Total	112,774	49,590	43,608	38,887	42,305	30,282

Percent of Uninsured Population by Ethnicity

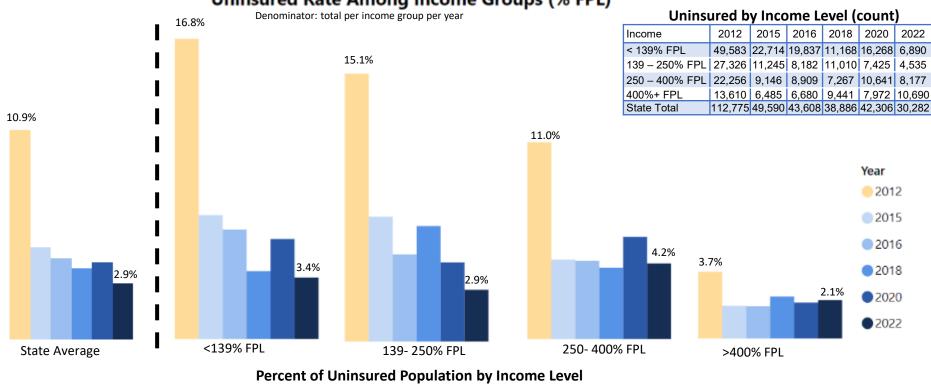
Denominator: total # uninsured per year



Uninsured Rate Among Different Income Groups

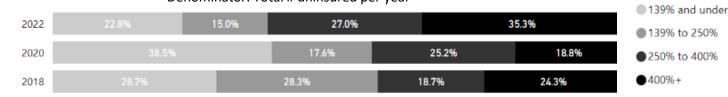
In 2022, the uninsured rate in RI decreased to under 3%, the lowest rate since 2012.

- In 2020, those households with 250-400% FPL* experienced the highest uninsured rate. .
- In 2022, those with household incomes of 139-250% FPL experienced the highest uninsured rate. .
- Those with household incomes of >400% FPL experienced the lowest uninsured rates across all years. .



Uninsured Rate Among Income Groups (% FPL)

Denominator: Total # uninsured per year

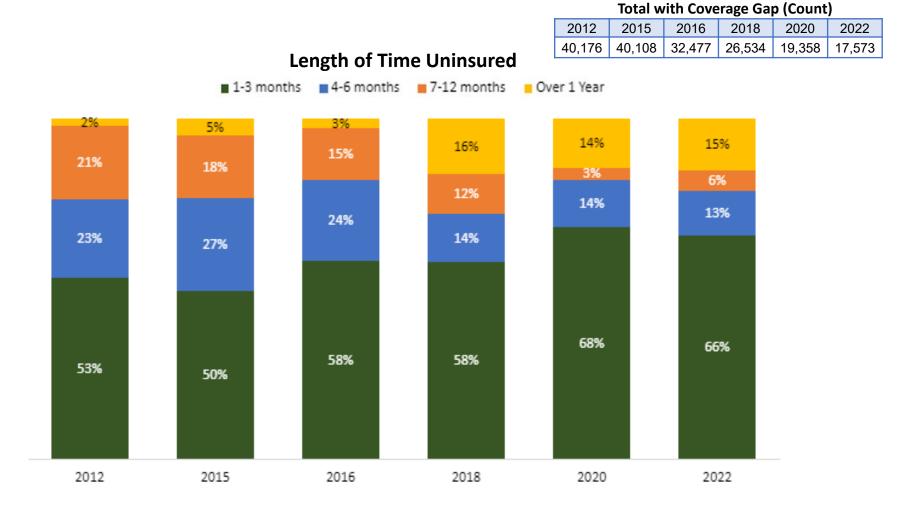


* See Glossary for FPL Breakouts

Coverage Gap

Between 2012 and 2022, the number of residents who reported a coverage gap steadily declined.

- From 2018 to 2022, the rate of individuals experiencing longer-term gaps decreased for all lengths of time.
- In 2022, 66% of individuals with a coverage gap were uninsured for 3 months or less.

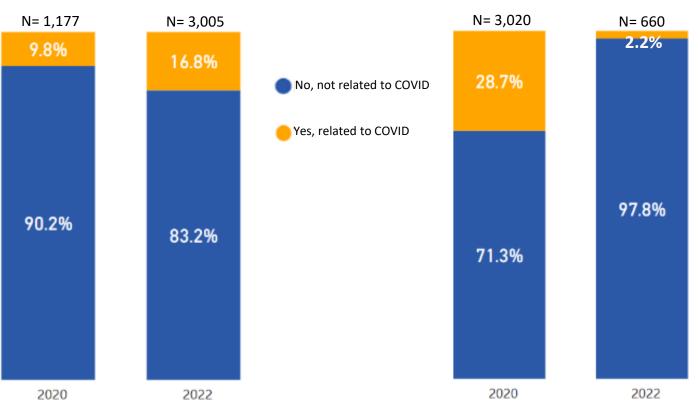


Impact of COVID on Insurance Coverage

Gap in Coverage

Short-term gaps in insurance or recent losses of insurance were mostly unrelated to the COVID-19 pandemic.

- 16.8% of people who experienced a short-term gap in coverage in the past year attributed the gap to COVID.
- 2.2% of those who experienced a recent loss of insurance attributed the loss to COVID.



Loss of Insurance

*Gap in Coverage: question was asked of all respondents <u>currently with</u> coverage, but without coverage at some time in the past 12 months for 2 months or less

**Loss of coverage: question was asked of all respondents <u>currently without</u> coverage and who have been uninsured for 2 months or less.

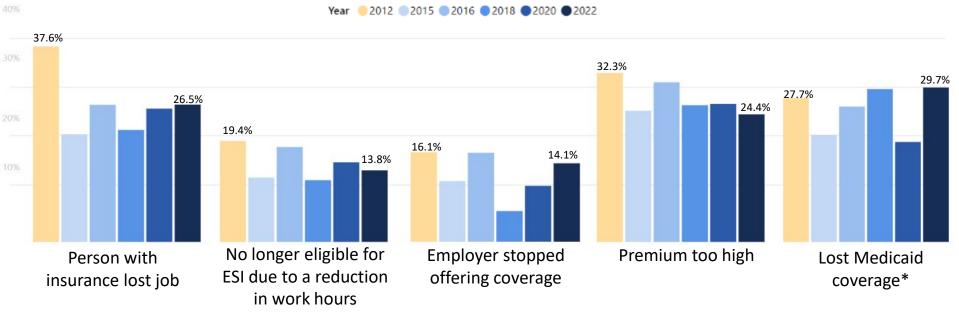
High premium costs and job loss were the most common reasons for uninsurance.

- In 2022, the most frequently reported reasons for being uninsured were unaffordable premiums, loss of a job, and ٠ loss of Medicaid coverage. This is on par with the top three reasons reported in 2020.
- Compared to prior years, 2022 had an increased number of respondents reporting that their employer stopped offering coverage.
- Fewer people cited a reduction in work hours as the reason for loss of employer-sponsored insurance.

Total Uninsured (Count)

2012	2015	2016	2018	2020	2022
112,774	49,591	43,609	38,887	42,305	30,282

Reported Reasons for Uninsurance



*Please note, that due to the COVID-19 emergency, all Medicaid coverage in effect or beginning after March 18th, 2020 has remained active throughout the emergency unless enrollee died, moved out of state or requested to end their coverage. As such, "Lost Medicaid" reason listed above is based on respondent answers but does not match known enrollment trends for RI Medicaid.

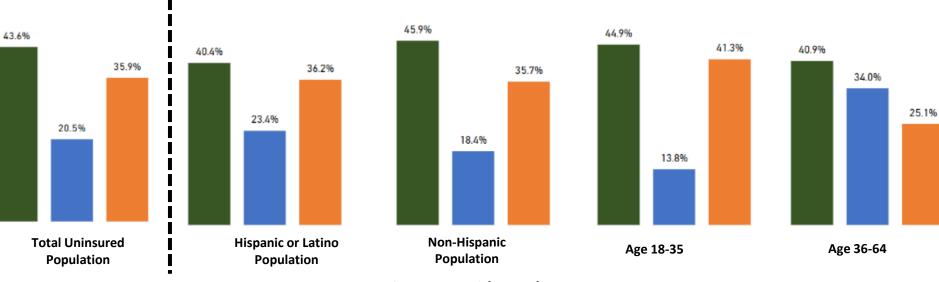
Eligibility for Medicaid and HSRI Coverage

Potentially Eligible for Subsidy on Exchange

Potentially Eligible for Medicaid

Of those who were uninsured in 2022, 44% were potentially eligible for a subsidy on the Exchange and 21% were potentially eligible for Medicaid.

- 45% of those aged 18-35 were potentially eligible for a subsidy on the Exchange compared to 41% of those aged 36-64.
- Among Hispanics/Latino residents, 40% were potentially eligible for a subsidy and 23% were potentially eligible for Medicaid. Among non-Hispanics, 46% were potentially eligible for a subsidy and 18% were potentially eligible for Medicaid.
- Potential eligibility is based on reported household income.



Potential Eligibility for Medicaid or Exchange Subsidies Among the Uninsured

FPL 400%+ *

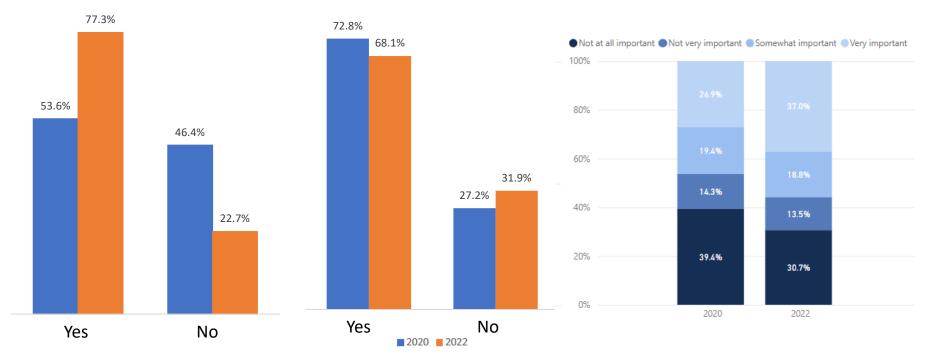
Total Uninsured (count): 27,309

Respondents are aware of the 2020 Rhode Island state coverage mandate

- In 2022, 77% of those who are currently uninsured were aware of the mandate, and 68% said it would influence their decision to obtain health insurance in the future.
- Most of the uninsured population was aware of the state mandate.

Questions asked of those currently uninsured...

Are you aware of the new state mandate that all residents must have health insurance coverage or pay a penalty? Will the mandate influence your decision to obtain health insurance in the future? How important was the penalty in your decision to buy (or not buy) health insurance for uninsured family members?



SECTION 7. Underinsurance

What is Underinsurance?

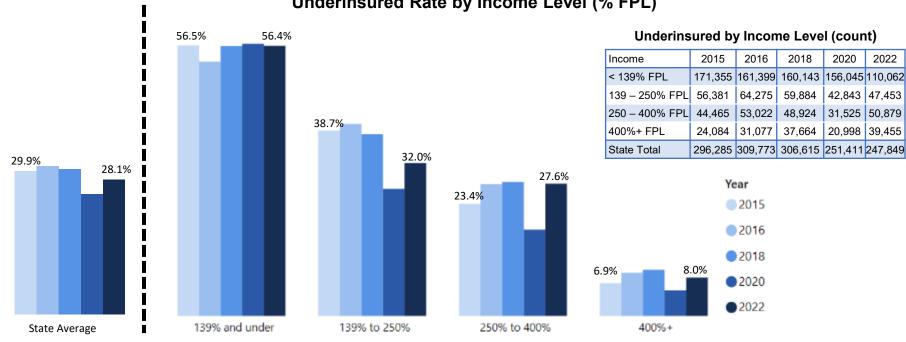
- The <u>Commonwealth Fund</u> defines underinsurance as those who have health insurance coverage and experience high out of pocket costs for copays and deductibles:
 - For Families with incomes of 200% FPL or greater, out-of-pocket costs over the past 12 months, excluding premiums, were equal to at least 10% of household income; OR
 - For families with incomes of less than 200% FPL, out-of-pocket costs, excluding premiums, were equal to 5% of household income; OR
 - $\circ~$ The deductible was at least 5% of household income.
- Underinsurance was calculated from survey responses for income, out-of-pocket cost, and deductible cost.
- Underinsurance calculation for 2012 differs from the methodology used for 2015-2022; only more recent years are shown.

Household Income for a Rhode Island Family of Four, 2022					
	% of FPL				
	100%	200%	300%	400%	
Total Household Income	\$26,500	\$53,000	\$79,500	\$106,000	
5% of Total Household Income	\$1,325	\$2,650	\$3,975	\$5,300	
10% of Total Household Income	\$2,650	\$5,300	\$7,950	\$10,600	
*Source: EOHHS					

Underinsurance

In 2022, the underinsurance rate in RI increased to 28%, up from 25% in 2020.

- Most income groups experienced a meaningful increase in underinsurance in 2022. ٠
- 44% of households with incomes of <139% FPL were underinsured in 2022, down from 62% in 2020. •
- Underinsured rates increased, from 2020 to 2022, for households with incomes over 139%FPL. ٠



Underinsured Rate by Income Level (% FPL)

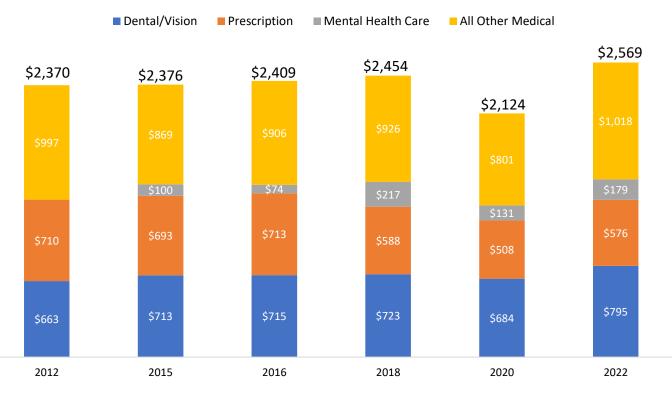
Income Level of All Respondent Insurance Statuses (%FPL)



Out-of-Pocket Costs

Out-of-pocket costs rose to \$2,569 in 2022, increasing 21% from 2020.

- After a drop in medical spending between 2018 and 2020, out-of-pocket costs rose by over \$400 in 2022, for a total average out-of-pocket cost of \$2,569. This is the highest reported out-of-pocket spending since the survey began in 2012.
- Out-of-pocket costs for all categories increased between 2020 to 2022. The highest increase (\$217) was for "All Other Medical," which includes doctors, hospitals, tests, and common medical expenses like over the counter medications, first aid materials, etc.



Average Out-of-Pocket Spending

Cost Burden

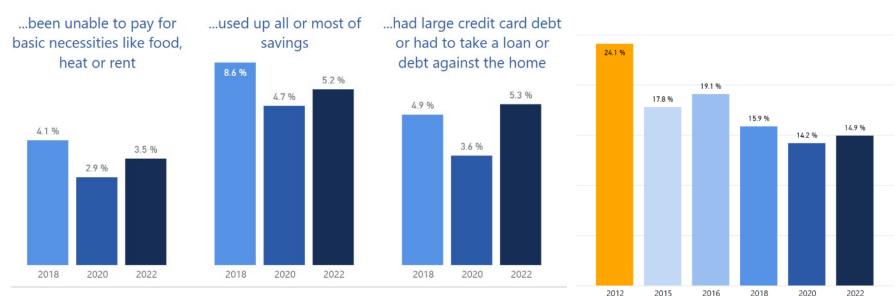
The number of residents with high medical bills increased in 2022.

- 12% of RI residents reported receiving a medical bill over \$500, compared to 11% in 2020.
- Residents who reported difficulties paying medical bills increased from 14% in 2020 to 15% in 2022.

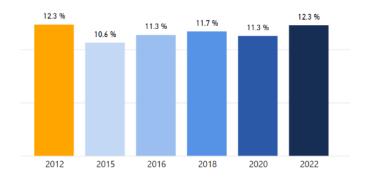
More families with catastrophic medical bills were forced to forego necessities, use savings or increase debt.

 In 2022, those with catastrophic medical bills who were unable to pay for necessities increased 0.6% to 3.5%. Those who used up all or most of their savings increased 0.5% to 5.2%, and those who had large credit card debt or had to take out a loan or debt against their home increased from 3.6% in 2020 to 5.3% in 2022.

Because of medical bills, in the last 12 months our family has...



Received a Single Medical Bill over \$500 Out-of-Pocket



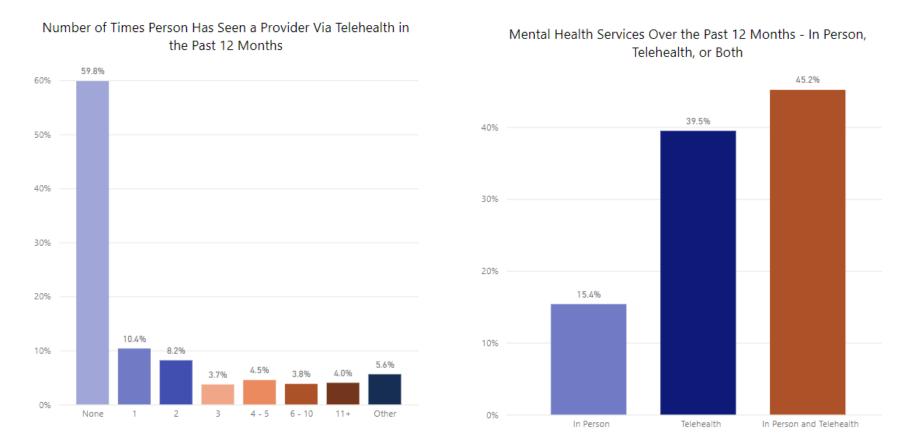
Had Problems Paying Medical Bills

Telehealth

Over the past year, 35% of RI residents had at least one telehealth visit.

- Coverage for telehealth visits expanded during COVID-19. ٠
- Telehealth visits expanded access to mental health services, comprising 40% of reported telehealth-only ٠ mental health visits.
- Of those who used telehealth, most had at least two telehealth visits during the past 12 months. ٠

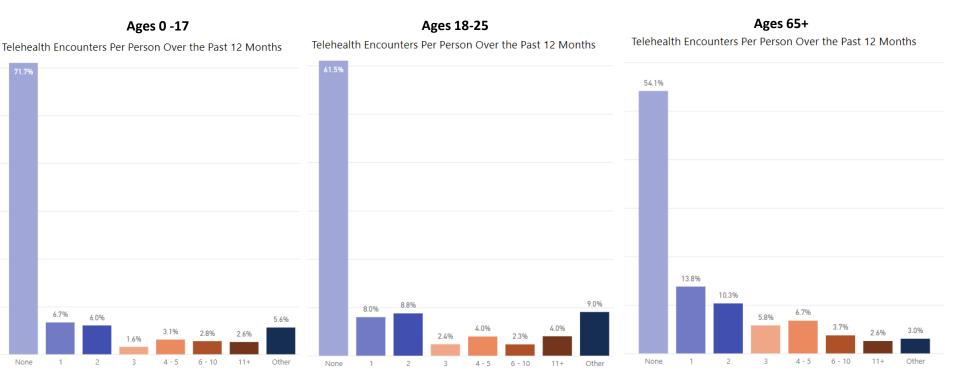
Telehealth Services for 2022



Telehealth care by Age Groups

46% of RI residents ages 65 and up participated in telehealth over the past 12 months.

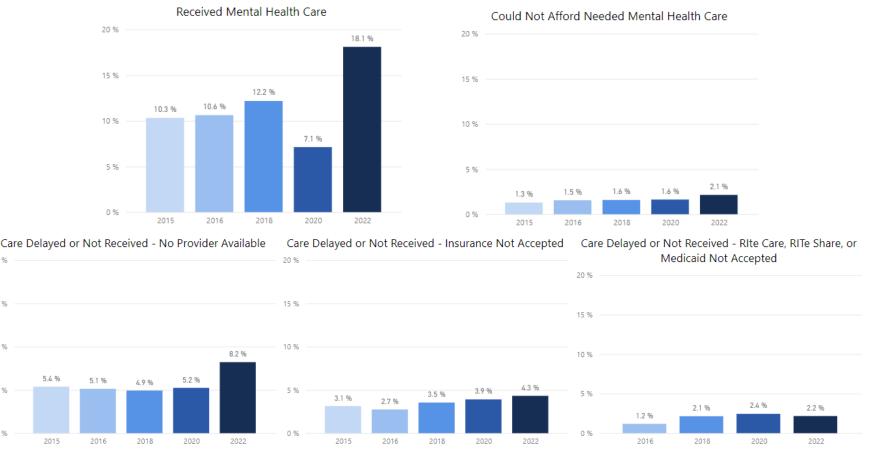
- 29% of RI residents ages 65 and up had two or more telehealth visits in the past 12 months.
- 39% of RI residents ages 18 to 25 and 28% of RI residents ages 0 to 18 participated in telehealth over the past 12 months.
- 22% of RI residents ages 18 to 25 and 16% of RI residents ages 0 to 18 had two or more telehealth visits in the past 12 months.



Behavioral Health

RI residents receiving mental health care more than doubled, from 7.1% in 2020 to 18.1% in 2022.

- Barriers and delays in care were attributed to lack of provider availability, insurance was not accepted, or could not afford mental ٠ health care.
- Care delayed or not received due to insurance not being accepted increased from 3.9% in 2020 to 4.3% in 2022. ٠
- For Rite Care, Rite Share, or Medicaid members, care was delayed or not received because their insurance was not accepted ٠ decreased from 2.4% in 2020 to 2.2% in 2022.



Mental Health Services in the Past 12 Months

20 %

15 %

10 %

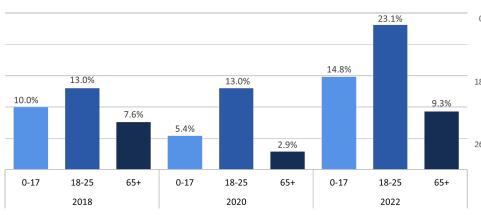
5 %

0.96

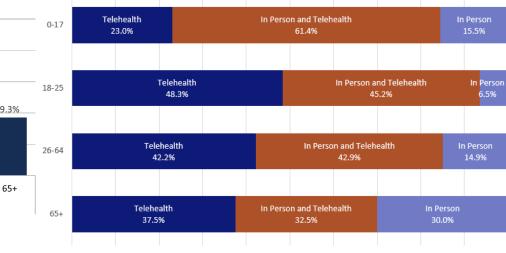
Mental Health Service Locations by Age

RI Residents ages 65 and up who reported receiving mental health care increased from 3% in 2020 to 9% in 2022

- 23.1% of RI residents ages 18 to 25 received mental health care in 2022, an increase from 13% in 2020.
- RI residents under the age of 26 used telehealth or a combination of In Person and Telehealth for Mental Health Services more than other age groups.
- About 70% of RI residents aged 65 and up used telehealth or a combination of In Person and Telehealth for Mental Health Services.
- About 93% of RI residents ages 18 to 25 use telehealth or a combination of In Person and Telehealth for Mental Health Services.



Received Mental Health Care



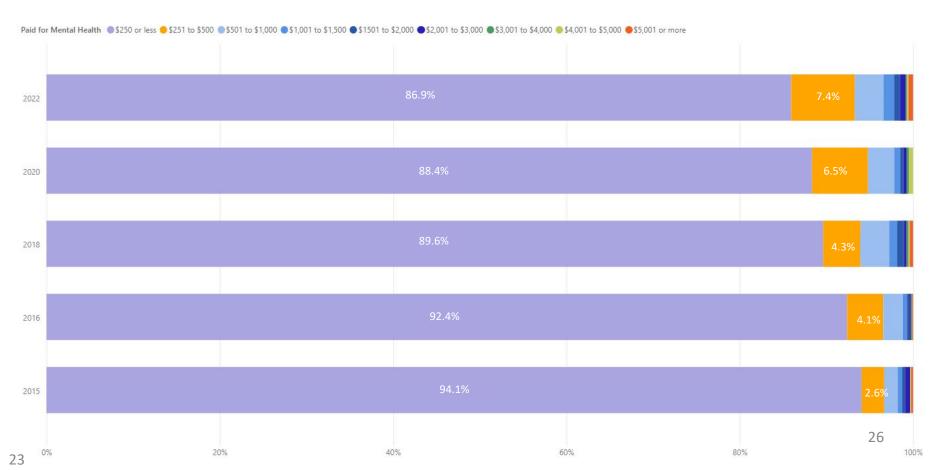
Encounter Location for Mental Health Services

Patient Cost of Mental Health Care

Out-of-pocket mental health care costs have risen since 2014.

- In 2022, 14% paid more than \$250 out-of-pocket for mental health care, compared to 6% in 2015.
- Those who pay more than \$250 out-of-pocket for mental health care has increased every year since 2015.

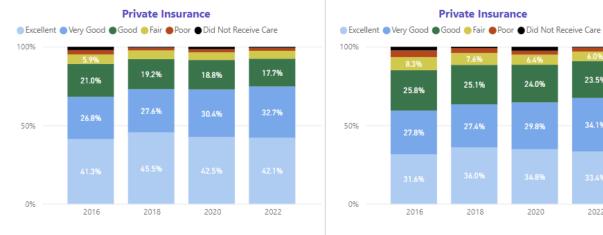
Yearly Out-of-Pocket Costs for Mental Health Care



Satisfaction with Care

Overall, member satisfaction remained steady in 2022 compared to prior years.

- The majority of privately insured and RIte Care members gave "Good," "Very Good," or "Excellent" ratings for choice of providers, range of services and quality of care.
- 85.5% of Rite Care members gave "Good," "Very Good," or "Excellent" ratings for quality of care, compared to ٠ 86.5% in 2016.



Choice of Providers Available

Range of Services Available

23.5%

2022

24.0%

2020

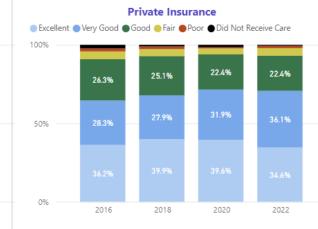
Private Insurance

25.1%

25.8%

2016

Quality of Care



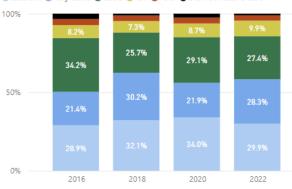


Rite Care



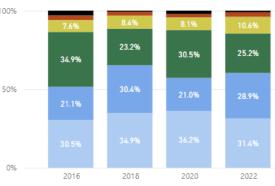
Rite Care ● Excellent ● Very Good ● Good ● Fair ● Poor ● Did Not Receive Care

2018



Rite Care

● Excellent ● Very Good ● Good ● Fair ● Poor ● Did Not Receive Care



SECTION 10. Glossary

Term	Definition				
ACA		The Affordable Care Act. Enacted in 2010, the ACA expanded coverage to millions of previously uninsured people through the expansion of Medicaid (implemented in RI in 2014) and the establishment of State Health Insurance Exchanges (implemented in 2013).			
All Other (Race)	A racial category that includes responses from those categories are combined into on category called 'Oth			der or Other. Th	ne responses fo
COVID-19	Coronavirus. An infectious disease first identified in D beginning in March 2020 with significant ongoing hea				andemic, direct
Deductible	The amount of money an insured individual must pay	out-of-pocket	before an ins	surance provide	er will pay any e
DHS	Rhode Island Department of Human Services				
EOHHS	Rhode Island Executive Office of Health and Human S	ervices			
ESI	Employer-Sponsored Insurance				
FPL	Federal Poverty Level. The incomes are set by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services: https://aspe.hhs.gov/topics/poverty-economic-mobility/poverty-guidelines .				
	Household Income for a Rhode Island Family of Four, 2022				
	% of FPL				
		100%	200%	300%	400%
	Total Household Income	\$26,500	\$53,000	\$79,500	\$106,000
	5% of Total Household Income 10% of Total Household Income	\$1,325 \$2,650	\$2,650 \$5,300	\$3,975 \$7,950	\$5,300 \$10,600
	*Source: EOHHS	ş2,030	<i>,</i> ,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	٥, ١	\$10,000
HIS	Health Insurance Survey				
HSA	Health Savings Account				

Glossary (Continued)

Term	Definition
HSRI	Health Source Rhode Island is the state-run exchange. The exchange negotiates directly with payors to establish health and dental insurance plans and enables RI residents to purchase coverage via a marketplace.
Medicaid	A joint federal and state program that provide healthcare coverage to some low-income people, families and children, pregnant women, the elderly, and people with disabilities. Rhode Island began its expansion of Medicaid in 2014.
Medicare	A federally funded, national health insurance program that provides coverage to American aged 65 or older.
Other (race)	A racial category that includes responses from those who identify as Pacific Islander or Other.
Out-of-Pocket Expenses (Cost)	The amount of money an individual pays for healthcare services which are NOT covered by any insurance or special assistance programs. This DOES NOT include the premium that an individual pays for their insurance coverage.
Premium	The amount of money an individual pays for an insurance policy.
Private Insurance	Any health insurance plan or program that is sponsored by an employer or a company like Blue Cross. This DOES NOT include plans or programs that are state or federally sponsored, such as Medicare or Medicaid.
Underinsured	 This term applies to individuals covered by insurance that fulfill one of the three criteria below, as defined by the Commonwealth Fund: The out-of-pocket costs over the past 12 months, excluding premiums, for families with incomes of 200% FPL or greater, was equal to at least 10% of their household income. The out-of-pocket costs over the past 12 months, excluding premiums, for families with incomes less that 200% FPL, was equal to at least 5% of their household income. The deductible was at least 5% of their household income.
Uninsured	The term refers to residents who did not have health insurance coverage at the time of the survey administration.
"Unwinding" from Medicaid	This term describes those individuals who have stayed eligible for Medicaid during the public health emergency and will lose eligibility when it ends.

SECTION 11. Appendix

For additional data resources, visit <u>https://healthsourceri.com/surveys-and-reports/</u>

- Interactive Data Dashboards
- Data Compendiums
- Compendium FAQs
- Technical Documents

Additional areas of data exploration include:

- Preventive/Routine Care, ED, and Mental Health Service Utilization
- Quality of Care
- Dental Coverage
- Prescription Medication Coverage
- Medicaid Coverage and Enrollee Experience