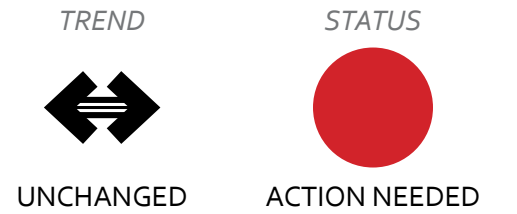


# Health Access



## CURRENT STATE

While Central Texas has a lower percentage of uninsured than Texas as a whole, disparities exist across the region.

## IDEAL STATE

Central Texans have access to quality health care.

## CONTEXT

As with many equity-related indicators, the consequences of not having health insurance fall disproportionately on lower income residents. Within a sustainability view, society struggles with whether to focus first on people or the environment; yet if people's basic personal needs, such as health, are not met, the needs of the environment may be quickly forgotten.

## ADDITIONAL MEASURES

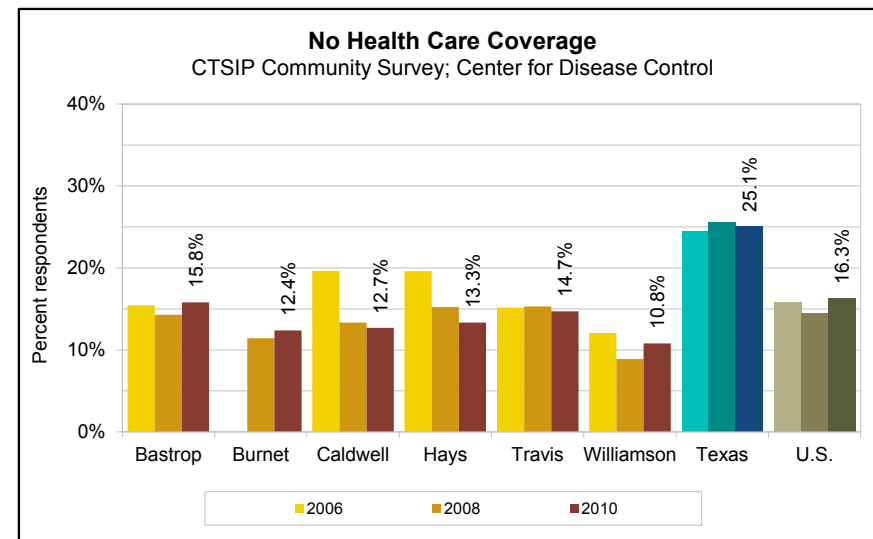
- Type of Medical Care Unable to Access
- First Choice of Medical Provider
- Medicaid Enrollment by Age
- Eligible Population in Children's Health Insurance Program
- Doctor-Patient Language Barriers

## SOURCES

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### Coverage By County

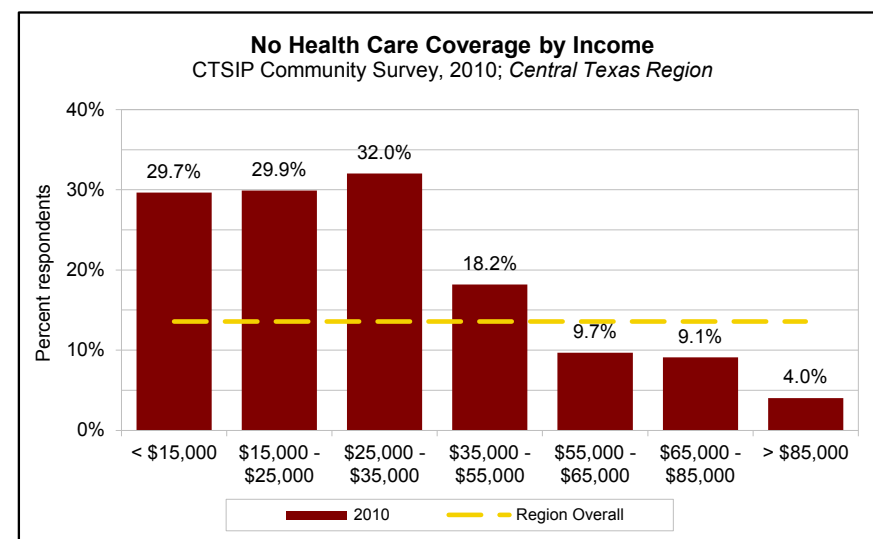
- The percentage of uninsured people within Texas has decreased slightly since 2008; results were mixed for Central Texas.
- Central Texas counties have a lower rate of uninsured people than the state as a whole. Bastrop and Travis counties are on relative par with the nation's rate of uninsured.



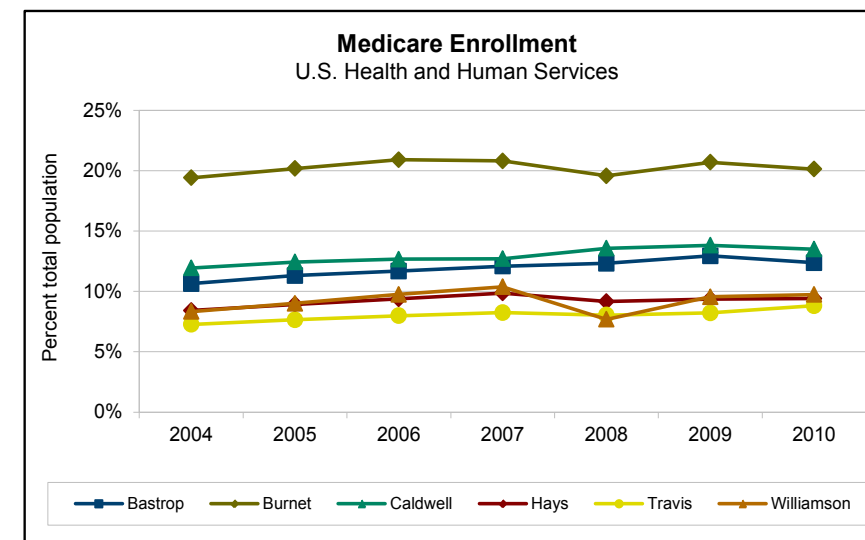
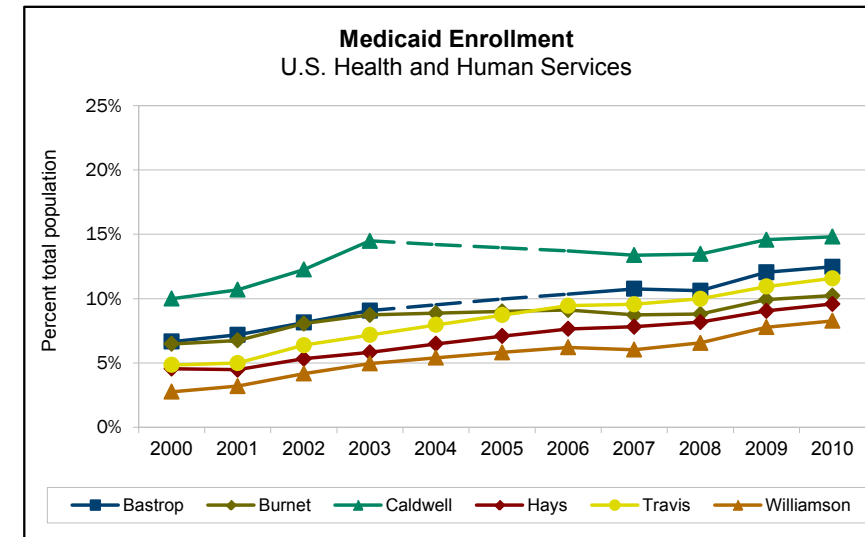
Survey Question: Do you currently have any kind of health care coverage, including health insurance, prepaid plans such as HMOs, or government plans such as Medicare?

### Coverage By Income

- The highest percentage of uninsured Central Texas residents are found in the lower-income groups, earning less than \$35,000 per year. Approximately 30% of those surveyed in this income group were uninsured.



Survey Question: Do you currently have any kind of health care coverage, including health insurance, prepaid plans such as HMOs, or government plans such as Medicare?



### Medicaid Enrollment

- State programs offer public assistance to those whose income and resources are insufficient to pay for health care, regardless of age. The federal government provides matching funds to state Medicaid programs.
- Between 2008 and 2010 there has been a continued increase in Medicaid enrollment across all counties, likely resulting from residual effects of the 2008 economic crisis.

### Medicare Enrollment

- Medicare is designed for senior citizens (people 65 years of age or older) and certain younger people with specific disabilities.
- According to U.S. Census data, despite a 52% growth in the eligible population from 2000 to 2010, Medicare enrollment in Central Texas has remained relatively flat.

### Reasons For No Coverage

- The most common reason for Central Texans having no health care coverage is the cost.
- The reasons "Employer doesn't offer coverage" and "Lost job/Changed employers" also suggest that the cost of individual or family coverage is prohibitively expensive.

Survey Question: What is the main reason you are or were without health care coverage?

