Louisiana's Uninsured Population: December 2021 Parish Estimates

A Report from the 2021 LHIS

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This report from the Louisiana Health Insurance Survey (LHIS) 2021 presents the uninsured rates for children and adults in all 64 parishes in Louisiana. These estimates use a small-area estimation model with micro-level data from the LHIS combined with administrative and census population data on key socioeconomic characteristics. This allows for a more robust estimate in low-population parishes where there may not be a large enough sample to provide a parish-level estimate. For the 2021 LHIS parish estimates, we use a hierarchical Bayes method with probit model. This model has been used in the most recent three LHIS studies to estimate parish level results and has proven especially useful in estimating the low uninsured rates (close to zero) for children.

Table 1 provides an overview of all the 2021 results. In its columns, Table 1 lists the total population, estimated uninsured rates, and estimated number of uninsured for both children under 19 and adults ages 19 to 64, by parish. As has been the case for many years, the uninsured rate for adults exceeds that of children reflecting to a large extent the greater eligibility and higher coverage rates for Medicaid/LaCHIP. There is substantial variation across parishes. Differences in economic conditions explain a portion of this variation, though not all.

Uninsured Population: Children under 19

Estimated parish-level uninsured rates for children are also displayed in the map in Figure 1 and the uninsured rate by parish in years 2015-2021 are displayed in Table 2. In the 2021 LHIS, the statewide uninsured rate for children was 2.6%. At the parish level, uninsured rates range from 2.4% in Ascension and East Baton Rouge parishes to 3.3% in East Carroll. Children continue to have very low uninsured rates in all parishes of Louisiana. This is overall a lower rate than in the last LHIS in 2019, and so most parishes saw a decrease in uninsured rates. Only 5 parishes had an increase in uninsured rates.

Uninsured Population: Adults ages 19-64

Parish level estimated uninsured rates for adults are displayed in Figure 2 and Table 3. Table 3 also contains the historical data for uninsured rates years 2015-2021. In the 2021 LHIS, the statewide uninsured rate for adults was 9.4%. For adults, uninsured rates ranged from 7.8% in Ascension to 12.7% in East Carroll. Although the statewide uninsured rate was down in 2021, 16 parishes saw an increase in rates.

There was a dramatic reduction in adult uninsured rates for all parishes in 2017 with the Medicaid expansion in Louisiana. Economic factors such as differences in per capita income have always explained more of the variation in adult uninsured rates. This pattern continues in 2021, though the deviation of uninsured rates between low and high income parishes declined following the Medicaid expansion.

Table 1: Estimated 2021 Uninsured Rates by Parish, Children (Under 19) and Adults (19-64)

Parish		Children			Adults		
	Region	Population	Estimated Uninsured Rate	Estimated Uninsured	Population	Estimated Uninsured Rate	Estimated Uninsured
Jefferson	1	99,527	2.6%	2,550	262,990	9.0%	23,552
Orleans	1	83,644	2.7%	2,288	251,920	9.4%	23,651
Plaquemines	1	6,396	2.8%	180	13,900	9.7%	1,346
St. Bernard	1	12,863	2.8%	358	28,290	10.8%	3,056
Ascension	2	34,591	2.4%	824	74,513	7.8%	5,798
East Baton Rouge	2	109,912	2.4%	2,639	272,949	8.2%	22,277
East Feliciana	2	3,758	2.9%	108	12,310	10.2%	1,254
Iberville	2	7,188	2.8%	199	20,661	9.8%	2,018
Pointe Coupee	2	5,060	2.5%	127	12,512	8.6%	1,080
West Baton Rouge	2	6,525	2.5%	160	16,097	9.0%	1,450
West Feliciana	2	2,829	3.1%	87	10,429	8.9%	927
Assumption	3	5,233	2.9%	150	13,343	10.2%	1,357
Lafourche	3	24,434	2.8%	683	58,917	10.0%	5,916
St. Charles	3	13,397	2.7%	357	32,496	8.5%	2,749
St. James	3	5,063	2.7%	137	12,687	9.0%	1,144
St. John the Baptist	3	11,107	2.7%	295	26,199	8.9%	2,325
St. Mary	3	12,905	2.9%	370	29,870	11.0%	3,294
Terrebonne	3	29,540	2.8%	816	66,987	9.8%	6,581
Acadia	4	16,964	2.8%	480	36,213	9.7%	3,498
Evangeline	4	9,010	2.8%	256	19,510	10.3%	2,007
Iberia	4	19,728	2.8%	550	41,759	9.7%	4,040
Lafayette	4	60,522	2.6%	1,558	150,719	8.3%	12,618
St. Landry	4	23,178	2.7%	624	46,887	9.8%	4,604
St. Martin	4	13,575	2.8%	376	32,246	9.9%	3,192
Vermilion	4	15,883	2.8%	438	34,974	9.2%	3,232
Allen	5	5,919	3.1%	184	15,924	11.0%	1,744
Beauregard	5	9,524	2.8%	262	21,819	9.5%	2,072
Calcasieu	5	52,360	2.5%	1,304	119,877	8.6%	10,324
Cameron	5	1,682	2.6%	45	4,140	9.8%	408
Jefferson Davis	5	8,347	2.7%	226	18,029	9.4%	1,703
Avoyelles	6	9,946	2.9%	284	23,926	10.2%	2,437
Catahoula	6	2,182	3.0%	65	5,945	11.3%	673

Parish		Children			Adults		
	Region	Population	Estimated Uninsured Rate	Estimated Uninsured	Population	Estimated Uninsured Rate	Estimated Uninsured
Concordia	6	4,785	2.9%	141	11,653	11.2%	1,306
Grant	6	4,838	3.1%	148	14,220	11.6%	1,652
LaSalle	6	3,655	2.6%	96	8,787	9.8%	868
Rapides	6	33,952	2.6%	891	76,214	8.8%	6,732
Vernon	6	13,284	3.1%	410	30,539	10.4%	3,185
Winn	6	3,061	3.1%	95	8,636	11.1%	957
Bienville	7	3,105	2.7%	85	7,705	10.1%	775
Bossier	7	32,813	2.6%	844	76,210	8.7%	6,629
Caddo	7	61,398	2.6%	1,613	143,832	8.8%	12,693
Claiborne	7	3,020	3.0%	90	9,951	11.2%	1,117
DeSoto	7	6,889	2.7%	187	15,701	9.0%	1,416
Natchitoches	7	10,474	2.7%	281	22,071	10.6%	2,329
Red River	7	2,237	2.6%	58	4,723	10.7%	505
Sabine	7	5,977	2.8%	166	13,189	10.3%	1,361
Webster	7	9,244	2.8%	261	22,431	10.4%	2,334
Caldwell	8	2,395	2.9%	69	5,785	10.0%	578
East Carroll	8	1,385	3.3%	46	4,715	12.7%	597
Franklin	8	5,318	2.8%	147	11,347	9.8%	1,108
Jackson	8	3,535	2.6%	92	9,156	9.5%	871
Lincoln	8	11,652	2.7%	311	29,265	8.7%	2,549
Madison	8	2,930	3.0%	89	6,809	10.7%	727
Morehouse	8	6,534	2.7%	178	14,410	10.3%	1,491
Ouachita	8	41,254	2.6%	1,055	91,754	9.1%	8,327
Richland	8	5,011	2.8%	139	11,845	10.7%	1,266
Tensas	8	1,115	2.8%	31	2,362	9.4%	221
Union	8	5,398	2.8%	151	12,431	10.0%	1,241
West Carroll	8	2,665	3.1%	83	6,308	10.8%	681
Livingston	9	37,564	2.6%	960	83,423	9.5%	7,940
St. Helena	9	2,390	2.8%	66	5,966	10.6%	635
St. Tammany	9	63,871	2.6%	1,651	149,461	7.9%	11,875
Tangipahoa	9	34,896	2.8%	960	78,670	10.1%	7,931
Washington	9	11,618	2.9%	336	26,682	10.5%	2,808

Figure 1: Uninsured Children (Under 19)

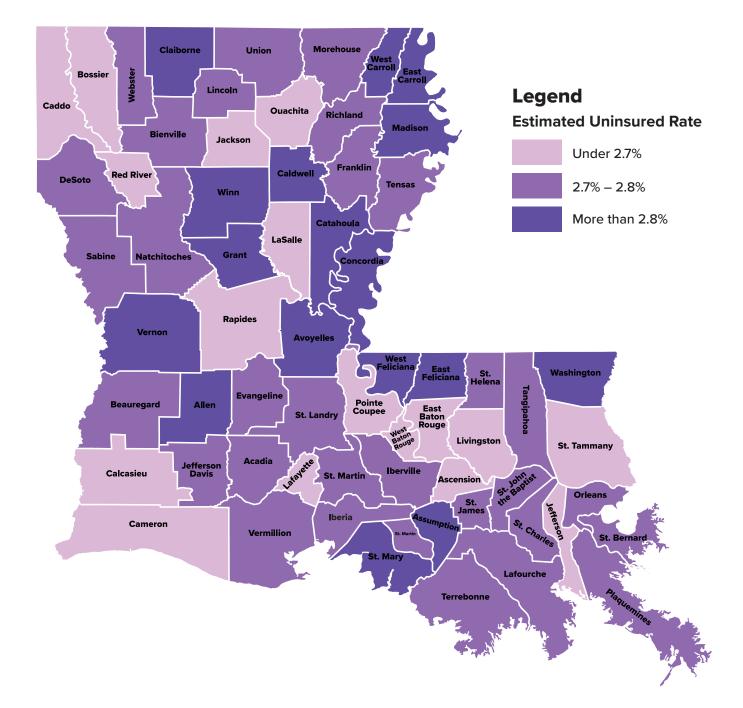
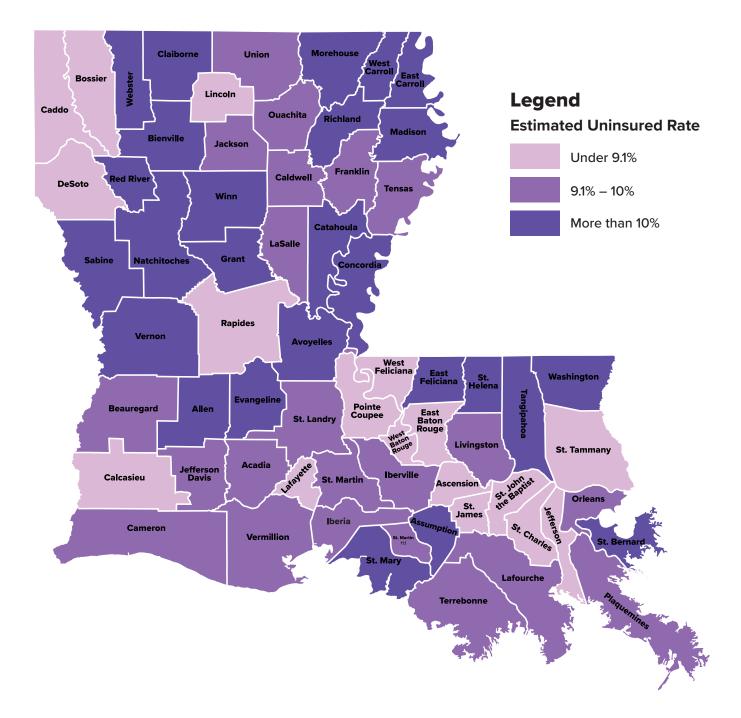


Figure 2: Uninsured Adults (19-64)



Acadia Allen Ascension Assumption	4.1% 3.9%	2.7%	3.3%	2.8%
Ascension	3.9%			2.0/0
		2.8%	3.5%	3.1%
Assumption	2.7%	2.3%	3.4%	2.4%
Assumption	3.3%	2.8%	5.8%	2.9%
Avoyelles	5.9%	2.8%	4.9%	2.9%
Beauregard	4.4%	2.5%	3.2%	2.8%
Bienville	4.1%	2.9%	5.3%	2.7%
Bossier	3.9%	2.3%	4.6%	2.6%
Caddo	3.8%	2.4%	5.0%	2.6%
Calcasieu	4.1%	2.2%	2.5%	2.5%
Caldwell	5.5%	2.8%	3.9%	2.9%
Cameron	2.7%	2.0%	2.5%	2.6%
Catahoula	4.0%	3.1%	5.3%	3.0%
Claiborne	5.2%	3.1%	5.9%	3.0%
Concordia	4.2%	2.9%	5.3%	2.9%
De Soto	4.0%	2.6%	5.0%	2.7%
East Baton Rouge	3.7%	2.2%	3.6%	2.4%
East Carroll	5.2%	3.2%	4.5%	3.3%
East Feliciana	3.8%	3.0%	4.6%	2.9%
Evangeline	4.2%	2.8%	3.5%	2.8%
Franklin	4.1%	2.8%	3.9%	2.8%
Grant	4.5%	2.9%	5.2%	3.1%
Iberia	3.9%	2.8%	3.3%	2.8%
lberville	4.8%	2.8%	4.4%	2.8%
Jackson	5.4%	2.6%	3.7%	2.6%
Jefferson	3.2%	2.1%	2.4%	2.6%
Jefferson Davis	3.2%	2.6%	3.0%	2.7%
Lafayette	3.6%	2.3%	2.9%	2.6%
Lafourche	3.2%	2.7%	5.5%	2.8%
LaSalle	3.6%	2.7%	4.5%	2.6%
Lincoln	4.1%	2.5%	3.7%	2.7%
Livingston	3.7%	2.7%	3.9%	2.6%
Madison	5.4%	3.1%	4.5%	3.0%
Morehouse	3.9%	2.9%	4.0%	2.7%
Natchitoches	4.0%	2.7%	5.4%	2.7%
Orleans	4.6%	2.4%	2.6%	2.7%
Ouachita	5.0%	2.5%	3.5%	2.6%
Plaquemines	4.1%	2.3%	2.6%	2.8%
Pointe Coupee	4.4%	2.6%	4.0%	2.5%
Rapides	3.9%	2.6%	4.6%	2.6%
Red River	3.8%	2.8%	5.1%	2.6%
Richland	4.4%	3.0%	4.0%	2.8%
Sabine	3.8%	2.8%	5.5%	2.8%
St. Bernard	3.6%	2.8%	2.7%	2.8%

Parish	2015	2017	2019	2021
St. Charles	3.1%	2.2%	4.8%	2.7%
St. Helena	6.3%	2.9%	4.8%	2.8%
St. James	4.2%	2.5%	5.1%	2.7%
St. John the Baptist	4.5%	2.5%	5.0%	2.7%
St. Landry	4.0%	2.8%	3.3%	2.7%
St. Martin	3.2%	2.9%	3.3%	2.8%
St. Mary	3.6%	2.9%	6.0%	2.9%
St. Tammany	2.8%	2.1%	3.8%	2.6%
Tangipahoa	4.6%	2.9%	4.7%	2.8%
Tensas	6.2%	2.8%	4.1%	2.8%
Terrebonne	2.9%	2.6%	5.4%	2.8%
Union	4.7%	2.7%	3.9%	2.8%
Vermilion	4.7%	2.6%	3.1%	2.8%
Vernon	3.4%	2.5%	5.2%	3.1%
Washington	4.2%	3.0%	5.1%	2.9%
Webster	3.5%	2.8%	5.5%	2.8%
West Baton Rouge	3.3%	2.4%	3.8%	2.5%
West Carroll	5.2%	3.0%	4.2%	3.1%
West Feliciana	4.1%	2.6%	4.5%	3.1%
Winn	5.0%	3.0%	5.4%	3.1%

Table 3: Estimated Uninsured Rates for Adults (19-64) by Parish, 2015-2021

Parish	2015	2017	2019	2021		
Acadia	24.4%	11.7%	10.1%	9.7%		
Allen	25.6%	12.4%	13.5%	11.0%		
Ascension	18.2%	10.9%	6.7%	7.8%		
Assumption	21.0%	12.9%	12.0%	10.2%		
Avoyelles	23.4%	12.5%	9.6%	10.2%		
Beauregard	23.5%	10.9%	12.1%	9.5%		
Bienville	26.1%	12.9%	14.2%	10.1%		
Bossier	21.8%	9.9%	10.9%	8.7%		
Caddo	25.2%	11.7%	12.6%	8.8%		
Calcasieu	23.7%	11.0%	12.3%	8.6%		
Caldwell	25.5%	11.6%	13.1%	10.0%		
Cameron	18.2%	8.7%	10.5%	9.8%		
Catahoula	29.3%	13.7%	10.3%	11.3%		
Claiborne	27.1%	13.9%	15.3%	11.2%		
Concordia	27.6%	13.5%	11.0%	11.2%		
De Soto	23.2%	11.5%	12.1%	9.0%		
East Baton Rouge	21.2%	11.3%	7.9%	8.2%		
East Carroll	34.6%	17.7%	17.4%	12.7%		
East Feliciana	23.8%	14.6%	9.2%	10.2%		
Evangeline	24.2%	12.7%	11.6%	10.3%		
Franklin	28.0%	11.9%	13.1%	9.8%		
Grant	24.7%	12.5%	10.2%	11.6%		

Parish	2015	2017	2019	2021
Iberia	23.2%	13.2%	10.7%	9.7%
Iberville	23.1%	13.8%	9.2%	9.8%
Jackson	24.0%	11.9%	13.7%	9.5%
Jefferson	21.8%	9.9%	8.9%	9.0%
Jefferson Davis	22.0%	11.4%	12.4%	9.4%
Lafayette	20.4%	11.4%	8.9%	8.3%
Lafourche	19.6%	10.7%	11.0%	10.0%
LaSalle	22.5%	11.5%	8.9%	9.8%
Lincoln	27.2%	10.9%	11.9%	8.7%
Livingston	21.9%	12.2%	11.4%	9.5%
Madison	29.1%	14.7%	15.9%	10.7%
Morehouse	27.1%	14.0%	15.1%	10.3%
Natchitoches	25.2%	12.5%	14.2%	10.6%
Orleans	23.8%	12.5%	10.5%	9.4%
Ouachita	25.1%	11.9%	13.0%	9.1%
Plaquemines	21.4%	10.1%	9.5%	9.7%
Pointe Coupee	20.0%	11.8%	8.2%	8.6%
Rapides	20.5%	11.4%	8.9%	8.8%
Red River	23.9%	14.2%	15.2%	10.7%
Richland	26.6%	14.1%	15.5%	10.7%
Sabine	22.0%	11.5%	13.7%	10.3%
St. Bernard	26.0%	13.3%	11.0%	10.8%
St. Charles	20.5%	10.0%	9.3%	8.5%
St. Helena	27.8%	15.5%	16.6%	10.6%
St. James	21.5%	12.3%	11.0%	9.0%
St. John the Baptist	23.8%	12.1%	10.8%	8.9%
St. Landry	24.4%	13.7%	11.8%	9.8%
St. Martin	23.2%	13.7%	11.1%	9.9%
St. Mary	24.5%	13.6%	13.6%	11.0%
St. Tammany	17.9%	8.9%	10.0%	7.9%
Tangipahoa	25.3%	13.6%	14.4%	10.1%
Tensas	25.4%	12.3%	13.8%	9.4%
Terrebonne	22.2%	11.5%	11.0%	9.8%
Union	25.1%	11.9%	13.2%	10.0%
Vermilion	22.9%	11.4%	9.7%	9.2%
Vernon	22.4%	10.2%	9.1%	10.4%
Washington	24.6%	13.4%	15.5%	10.5%
Webster	24.4%	12.4%	14.0%	10.4%
West Baton Rouge	20.8%	11.8%	8.2%	9.0%
West Carroll	28.1%	12.4%	13.1%	10.8%
West Feliciana	20.5%	11.5%	7.2%	8.9%
Winn	26.2%	13.3%	10.2%	11.1%