

2019 Edition — Quality of Care: Children’s Health

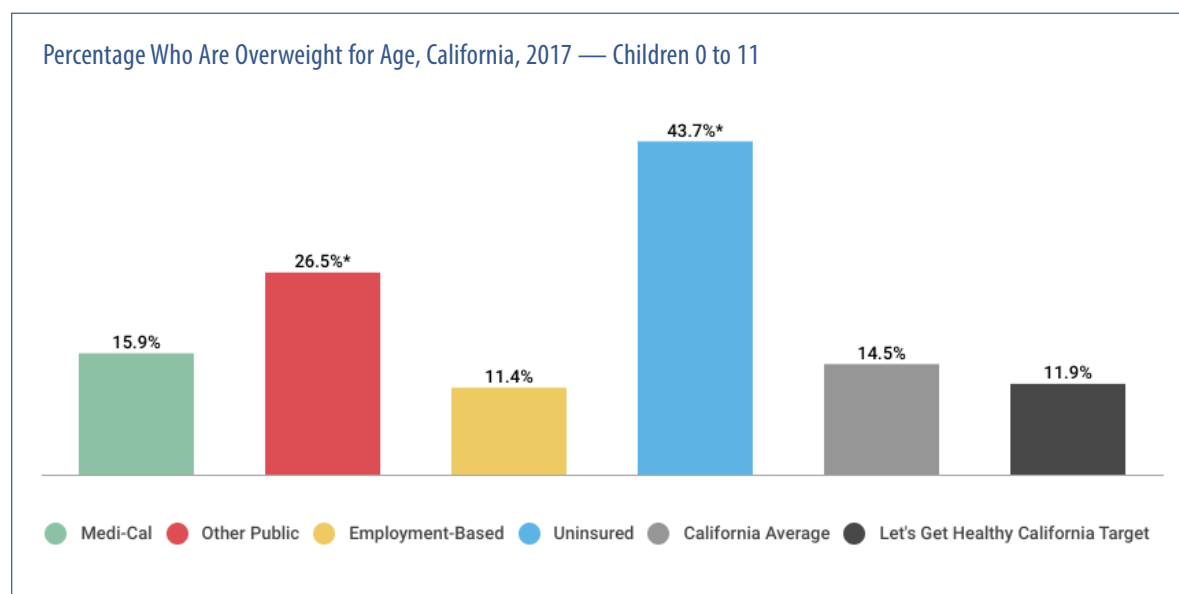
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Over the last few decades, there has been a significant growth in the measurement and reporting of health care quality outcomes. As health care evolves, it is important to continue to monitor and report on the quality of care delivered to patients in California and across the US. This is part of a series of measures CHCF is publishing on the quality of care in our state. Topics range from maternal to end-of-life care, and include measures on behavioral health, chronic conditions, and providers.

This set of quality measures focuses on children’s health and reports the most recently available data, including rates of vaccinations, being overweight, and potentially preventable hospital admissions.

The prevalence of overweight youth varies by payer.

A higher percentage of 0- to 11-year-old children with Medi-Cal were overweight compared to children of the same ages with employment-based coverage. Similarly, adolescents age 12–17 with Medi-Cal coverage were more likely to be overweight or obese than adolescents with employment-based coverage. Being overweight or obese¹ increases the risk of various health problems, including diabetes, high blood pressure, and asthma.

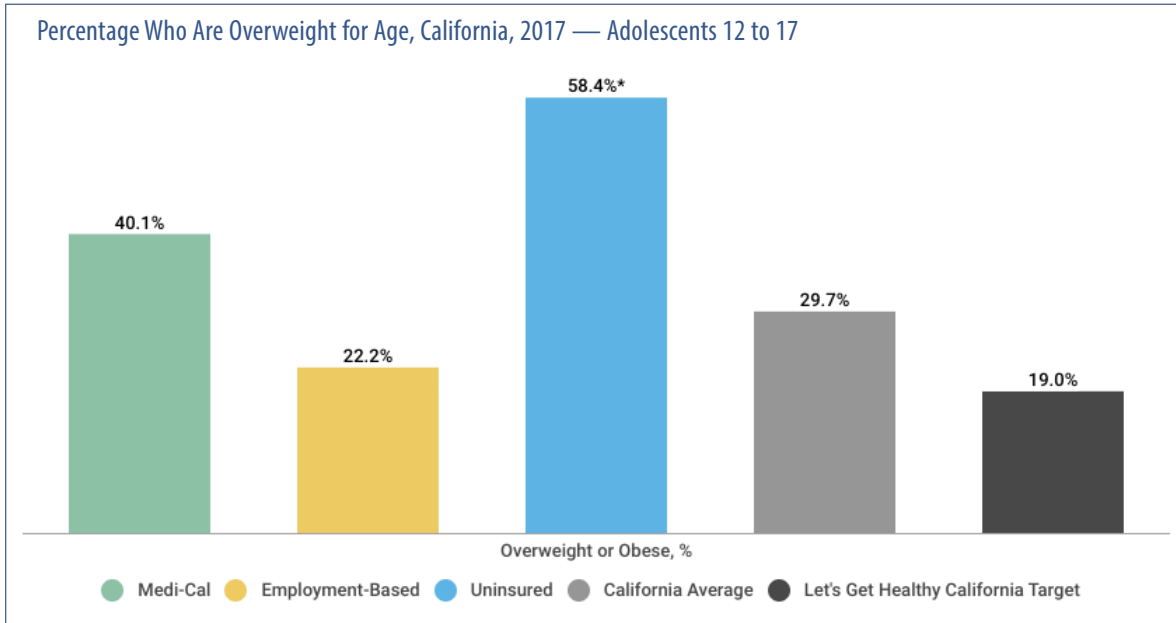


*Estimate is statistically unstable.

Notes: Let’s Get Healthy California, launched in 2012, aims to achieve the triple aim of better health, better care, and lower costs with 10-year improvement targets for 39 health care indicators.

Source: California Health Interview Survey.

¹Overweight for children is based on a child’s weight considering sex, age (in months), and height; for adolescents, overweight or obese is defined as having a body mass index (BMI) above the 85th percentile, based on age- and gender-specific BMI percentiles.



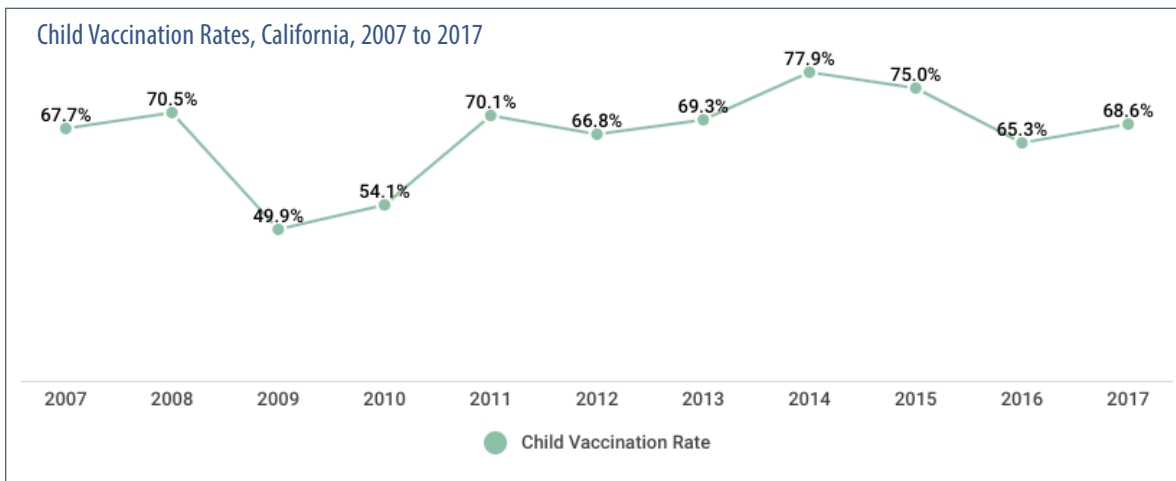
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Source: California Health Interview Survey.

Childhood vaccination rates are well below the Let’s Get Healthy California target of 80%.

Less than 70% of California children age 19 to 35 months had received recommended routine vaccinations to protect against 14 potentially serious illnesses in 2017.

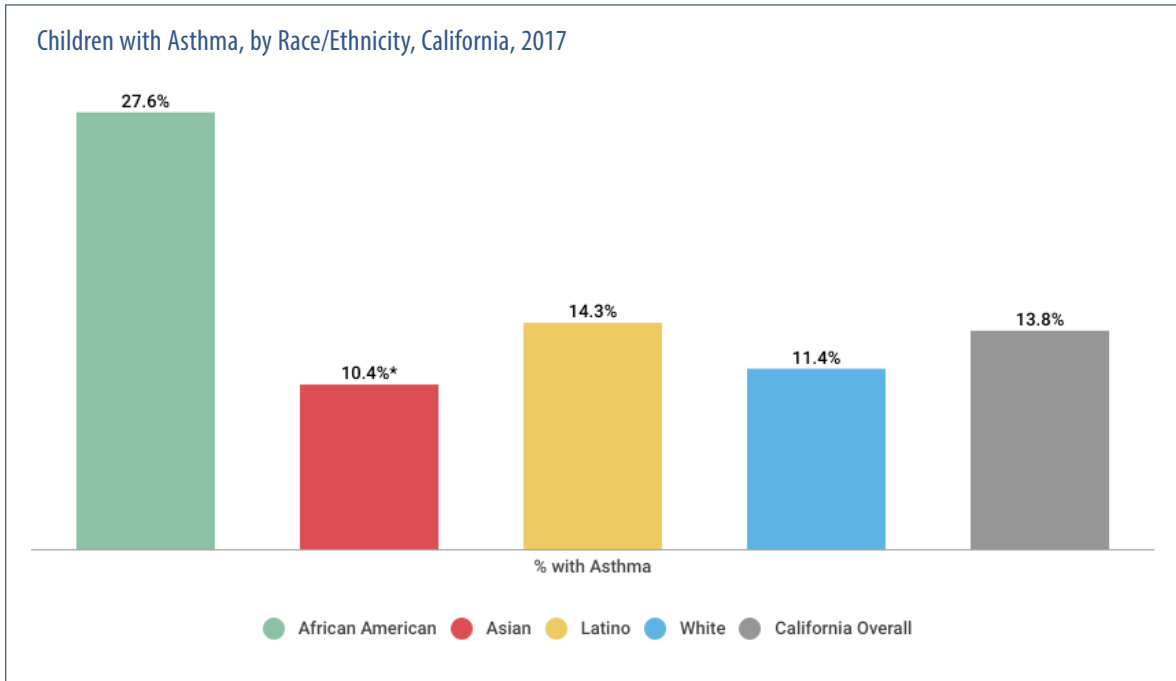


Notes: Percentage of children (age 19 to 35 months) receiving combined seven-vaccine series (4:3:1:3*:3:1): four or more doses of diphtheria and tetanus toxoids and acellular pertussis vaccine, three or more doses of polio, one or more doses of measles-mumps-rubella, haemophilus influenzae type b full series (three or four doses, depending on product type received), three or more doses of hepatitis B, one or more doses of varicella, and four or more doses of pneumococcal conjugate vaccine. A shortage of the Hib vaccine in 2009 impacted seven-vaccine series coverage.

Source: National Immunization Survey.

African American children are more likely to have asthma than children of other races/ethnicities.

In 2017, 28% of African American children had been told by a doctor that they had asthma, compared to 14% of Latino children, and 11% of white children. Asthma can have many negative impacts on a child’s health and well-being, including making it difficult to exercise, play, and attend school.



Notes: Data for Asians are not statistically stable.
Source: California Health Interview Survey.

The companion Excel data is available for download www.chcf.org/publication/2019-edition-quality-care-childrens-health. These materials are part of CHCF’s California Health Care Almanac, an online clearinghouse for key data and analyses describing the state’s health care landscape. See our entire collection of current and past editions of Quality of Care at www.chcf.org/collection/quality-care-almanac.