



# News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Covered California’s “10 Years Strong” Campaign Focuses on Bakersfield to Celebrate a Decade of Historic Increases in Coverage and to Highlight Ongoing Efforts to Reach the Remaining Uninsured**

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — Covered California focused on Bakersfield on Friday as part of its “10 Years Strong” campaign, celebrating a decade of providing quality health insurance plans to people across the state. Over the past 10 years, Covered California has enabled millions of Californians to access health insurance and helped reduce the state’s uninsured rate to a historic low.

“Covered California is ‘10 Years Strong,’ and we’re celebrating a decade of expanding access to quality, affordable health care for millions of people throughout the state,” said Jessica Altman, executive director of Covered California. “Open enrollment is here, and now is the time to sign up for health coverage through Covered California that will protect you and your family.”

### **What You Need to Know**

Open enrollment is the time of year when eligible Californians can sign up for health insurance. The increased financial help now available through the Inflation Reduction Act can lower costs for people in nearly every income bracket.

Covered California’s “10 Years Strong” campaign will highlight the progress made in expanding health care access by increasing the number of people with health insurance in every region over the past decade. It will also showcase continuing efforts to reach every community in the state to make sure all Californians have access to quality health care.

**10 YEARS  
STRONG**

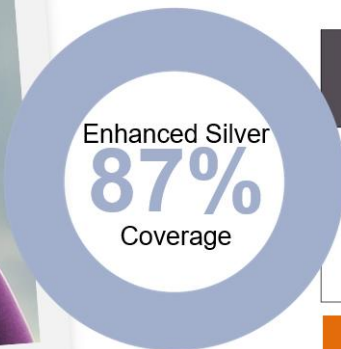
(more)

A record-high 1.7 million people are enrolled in Covered California, but many people remain uninsured. An estimated 1 million Californians do not have health insurance and are eligible to get covered at a low cost or at no cost through Covered California or Medi-Cal, including nearly 120,000 people in the region of Eastern Kern County and the San Joaquin and Central Valley.



- An estimated 1 million uninsured could get financial help through Covered California or Medi-Cal.
- At least 55 percent (568,000) people could get comprehensive coverage at no cost.
- The remaining uninsured could be eligible for significant amounts of financial help to greatly reduce the overall cost of their monthly premiums.

Under the increased and expanded financial help now available, a 21-year-old woman in Delano who earns \$27,000 a year could get a quality Silver 87 plan — which features low copays and deductibles — for just \$26 a month. She could also get a comprehensive Bronze plan at no cost.



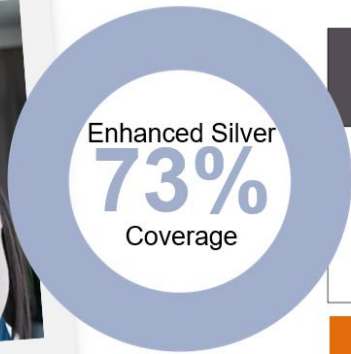
Gross Monthly Premium	Net Monthly Premium (Inflation Reduction Act)
\$314	\$26

Or a Bronze plan at no cost

**Sofia in Delano | Age: 21 | Income: \$27,000/year**

A couple in Bakersfield earning \$45,775 a year could save \$721 a month off the cost of their Silver 73 plan, which equals more than \$9,600 over the course of an entire year, or they could get a comprehensive Bronze plan at no cost.

(more)



Gross Monthly Premium	Net Monthly Premium (Inflation Reduction Act)
\$908	\$102

Or a Bronze plan at no cost

**Shao and Amy in Bakersfield | Ages: 45, 45 | Income: \$45,775/year**

Finally, a Visalia couple earning \$83,250 a year could save more than \$12,600 a year, on quality coverage for themselves and their two children, or they could get a comprehensive Bronze plan at no cost.



Gross Monthly Premium	Net Monthly Premium (Inflation Reduction Act)
\$1,389	\$338

Or a Bronze plan at no cost

**The Robinsons in Bakersfield | Ages: 45, 45, 12, 10 | Income: \$83,250/year**

Federal data shows that since Covered California’s first open-enrollment period in 2013, California’s uninsured rate fell from 17.2 percent to a record-low 7.0 percent in 2021, the largest percentage point drop in any state in the nation.

During that time, more than 5.2 million Californians received health coverage through Covered California for at least one month. Covered California has seen its overall enrollment grow by more than 40 percent, including a nearly 60 percent increase in the number of people signed up in Kern County.

(more)

Region	June 2014	June 2022	Percentage Increase
Kern County	14,860	23,390	57%
Overall Enrollment	1,172,960	1,690,520	44%

Right now, 90 percent of Covered California’s enrollees qualify for financial help, and two-thirds of Covered California’s consumers are eligible for comprehensive health insurance coverage at a cost of \$10 or less per month.

In addition, middle-income consumers — both uninsured and those who purchase coverage directly from a health insurance company — may save thousands of dollars a year if they sign up through Covered California.

“Covered California enters its 10<sup>th</sup> open enrollment with a proven history of being a critical resource for Californians,” Altman said. “We have opened the doors of quality health care to millions of Californians, but we still have more work to do — work that is happening now.”

### Signing Up for Coverage Is Easy

Consumers can discover their options by visiting [CoveredCA.com](https://CoveredCA.com), where they can easily find out if they qualify for financial help and see the coverage options in their area. All they need to do is enter their household income, ZIP code, household size, the number of people who need coverage and their ages into the [calculator](#) on Covered California’s homepage.

In addition, those interested in learning more about their coverage options can also:

- Get free and confidential assistance over the phone, in a variety of languages, from a certified enroller.
- Have a certified enroller [call them](#) and help them for free.
- Call Covered California at (800) 300-1506.

### About Covered California

Covered California is the state’s health insurance marketplace, where Californians can find affordable, high-quality insurance from top insurance companies. Covered California is the only place where individuals who qualify can get financial assistance on a sliding scale to reduce premium costs. Consumers can then compare health insurance plans and choose the plan that works best for their health needs and budget. Depending on their income, some consumers may qualify for the low-cost or no-cost Medi-Cal program.

Covered California is an independent part of the state government whose job is to make the health insurance marketplace work for California's consumers. It is overseen by a five-member board appointed by the governor and the legislature. For more information about Covered California, please visit [www.CoveredCA.com](http://www.CoveredCA.com).

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