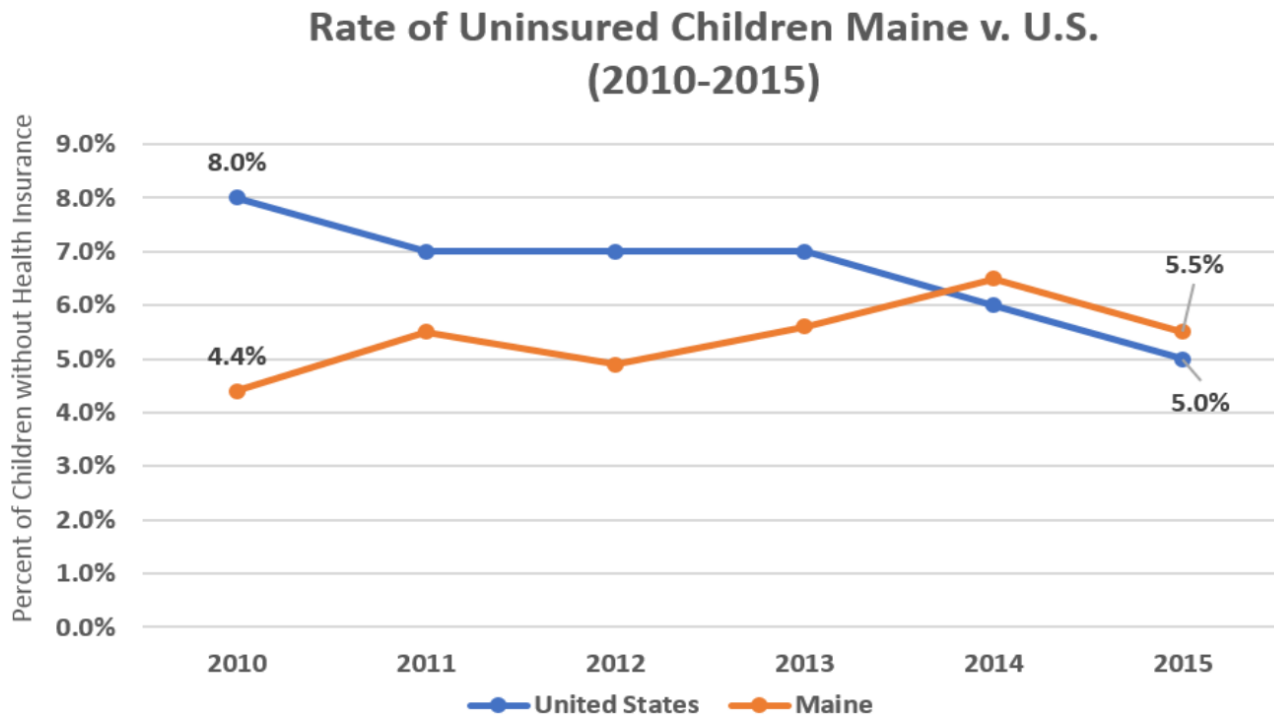




# Connecting Kids to Coverage:

How You Can Help Maine Children Get Health Care

## The Problem



While the percentage of uninsured children is declining nationally, the percentage of uninsured children in Maine is on the rise. The Connecting Kids to Coverage project seeks to make sure all eligible children get the health care coverage they deserve.

# Did You Know?



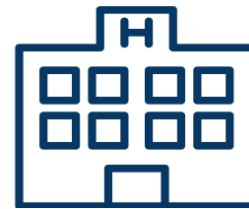
Only six years ago Maine had one of the lowest rates of uninsured children in the nation behind Massachusetts, Connecticut and Vermont. Now, Maine trails 35 other states in rate of children without health insurance.



14,635 Maine children are uninsured. 55 percent - about 8,097 - of these uninsured children are eligible for coverage through MaineCare.



## Bonus Fact



Since 2012, a total of 12,000 Mainers have lost health care coverage.



Research tells us that parent and child health care coverage is linked. When parents go without coverage, too often their kids do too, despite being eligible for coverage through MaineCare or CHIP.



Getting children covered ensures that they are receiving preventive care during important developmental years, and that they can see a doctor when they are sick or hurt.



Healthy children miss less school. When children have access to care, they are less likely to experience chronic illness, have high rates of absenteeism and fall behind their peers.

## How You Can Help

As trusted leaders and members of your community, you can play an important role in getting eligible Maine children and families covered! Learn more about Connecting Kids to Coverage by contacting Julia Underwood at [junderwood@mainecahc.org](mailto:junderwood@mainecahc.org).



### SOURCES:

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Jessica C. Smith and Carla Medalia, U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Reports, P80-250, Health Insurance Coverage in the United States: 2013, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC, 2014.