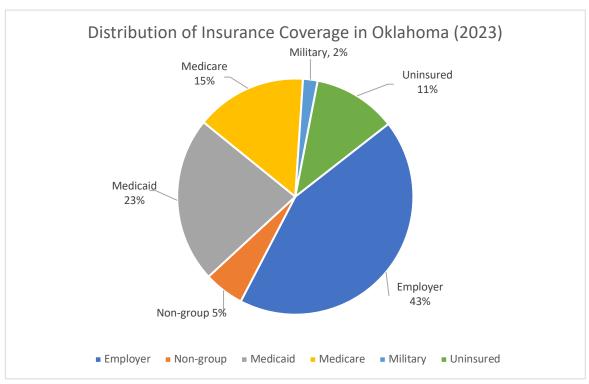
# Oklahoma



\*Source: KFF, Health Insurance Coverage of the Total Population, 2023

# Sources of Insurance Coverage

### Medicare

In Oklahoma, <u>596,500</u> residents are enrolled in Medicare, 15.2% of the population (2023 data). Of those, <u>43%</u> are enrolled in Medicare Advantage. For Oklahomans in the traditional Medicare program, the Oklahoma Insurance Department regulates Medicare Supplemental insurance policies and provides <u>consumer-facing</u> information about plan options.

# Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)

In Oklahoma, approximately <u>890,000</u> people are enrolled in Medicaid or CHIP, 2% of the state population. In Oklahoma, the Children's Health Insurance Program and Medicaid are collectively called <u>SoonerCare</u>. In 2021, Oklahoma adopted Medicaid expansion under the Affordable Care Act, which covers <u>371,000 low-income adults</u>.

In <u>Oklahoma</u>, Medicaid covers children and pregnant women up to <u>210%</u> of the federal poverty level (FPL), and the state offers a premium assistance program through <u>Insure Oklahoma</u> to children ages 0 through 18 with income up to 222% of FPL with access to employer sponsored

insurance. The Oklahoma Health Care Authority oversees the Medicaid Program. As of April 1, 2024, Oklahoma transitioned their Medicaid beneficiaries to <u>SoonerSelect</u>, a Managed Medicaid program.

### Employer-sponsored Insurance (ESI)

In Oklahoma, approximately <u>1.69 million</u> people are covered by employer-sponsored insurance (ESI), or 43.2% of Oklahoma's population (2023 data). In 2022, approximately <u>49.9%</u> of Oklahoma's private employers offer ESI. However, offer rates vary significantly by size of firm. In Oklahoma, <u>95.3%</u> of large firms (50 or more employees) offer ESI, while only <u>34.7%</u> of small employers offer ESI.

In Oklahoma, approximately <u>34.7%</u> of private sector businesses that offer health insurance self-fund at least one health plan. For large private firms (50 or more employees) that offer health insurance, 56.9% self-fund at least one health plan.

#### Individual Market Insurance

Approximately <u>5.5%</u> of Oklahoma residents are enrolled in the individual market (2023 data). In 2024, <u>277</u>, <u>436</u> Oklahomans selected a plan through the Affordable Care Act Marketplace, which in Oklahoma is run by the federal government. It is more challenging to ascertain enrollment numbers for off-Marketplace individual market enrollment.

Individual market health insurance (both on- and off-Marketplace) is regulated in Oklahoma by the Oklahoma Insurance Department, which conducts oversight to ensure compliance with state health insurance laws.

#### Military Coverage

Some Oklahoma residents are enrolled in other forms of insurance coverage, such as coverage for the military (TRICARE or U.S. Veterans Administration), which covers 2%, or 78,100 residents.

#### The Uninsured

Approximately <u>11.4%</u>, or 445,100 Oklahoma residents are uninsured (2023 data). Oklahoma has the 15th highest uninsured rate in the country. Among non-elderly populations, people of color in Oklahoma generally are <u>more likely to be uninsured</u> than White Oklahomans. Hispanic Oklahomans have the highest uninsured rates (24.2%), followed by American Indians/Alaska Native Oklahomans (24.2%), mixed race Oklahomans (12.9%), and Black Oklahomans (11.4%). White Oklahomans have an uninsured rate of 9.9%.

Lack of insurance is also highly correlated with income. Of the nonelderly population, approximately  $\underline{18.3\%}$  of people under 100% FPL are uninsured, while only 7% of people at or above 400% are uninsured.

# State Regulators: Oklahoma

CMS is responsible for the oversight of Medicare Advantage plans. The CMS Regional Office for Oklahoma is based in Dallas, TX. Media inquiries may be submitted <a href="https://example.com/here">here</a>.

# Oklahoma Insurance Department (OID)

The Oklahoma Department of Insurance (OID) regulates the business of insurance in the state. However, OID has informed the federal government that it cannot or will not enforce either the Affordable Care Act (ACA) or No Surprises Act (NSA) and only partially enforces the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act (MHPAEA). CMS therefore enforces the ACA's insurance reform provisions and the NSA's balance billing protections in Oklahoma, and has a collaborative enforcement agreement with the state to enforce MHPAEA.

Under state insurance laws, the OID is responsible for:

- **Licensure**: Insurers operating in the state must demonstrate that they are financially solvent and capable of paying claims. After initial licensure, companies must file financial information with the Licensing and Education Division. A list of licensed insurance companies is available here.
- **Form review**: The OID reviews health insurers' contracts and covered benefits to ensure that they comport with state standards.
- Rate review: Oklahoma is one of two states that federal regulators have found does not have an "effective rate review" program. This means that the federal government (CMS) reviews proposed premium rates for health insurance plans sold to individuals and small businesses. Information about how CMS determines whether a state has an effective program is available here.
- Marketing: The Oklahoma Insurance Department is responsible for oversight of
  insurers' marketing tactics and discouraging unfair or deceptive tactics. The agency also
  licenses and conducts oversight of insurance agents and brokers. A searchable database
  of licensed agents and brokers is available <a href="here">here</a>.
- **Enforcement**: The Oklahoma Insurance Department has authority to enforce state insurance laws. Enforcement tools can range from requesting a corrective action, issuing a cease-and-desist order, imposing fines, or seeking an injunction. OID releases statements on market conduct examinations here.
- Appeals: Under the Affordable Care Act, health insurers must provide enrollees with an internal review of adverse benefit determination, and enrollees have the right to an external and independent appeal. OID operates the state's external review system and consumers can request an external review with this form.

## Oklahoma Health Care Authority (OHCA)

Oklahoma's Department of Health (OHCA) runs the state's Medicaid and CHIP programs, and manages the contracts with the managed care organizations (MCOs) that deliver Medicaid and CHIP benefits via SoonerSelect. A list of participating MCOs is available <a href="here">here</a> and enrollment reports by county are available <a href=here</a>.

OHCA can conduct an enforcement action against an MCO if it fails to meet its contract obligations. Enforcement actions can include requiring the MCO to pay damages or to implement a corrective action plan. The agency can also suspend all or part of new member enrollments or suspend or terminate the MCO's contract.

# Oklahoma Attorney General's Office

The Oklahoma Attorney General represents the state in court when there is an action against an insurance company, entity, or individuals engaged in potentially fraudulent activity. The Attorney General's office accepts complaints from consumers about deceptive or unlawful business practices. Information on agency contacts for consumer complaints can be found <a href="https://example.com/here">here</a>.

# Other Sources of Information

# Health Insurance Navigators, Agents and Brokers (collectively, "consumer assisters")

Although Oklahoma's health insurance Marketplace is run by the federal government, CMS provides grants to local organizations called "Navigators" that are tasked with assisting consumers determine eligibility for subsidized coverage programs and helping them with postenrollment questions. Oklahoma-based health insurance agents and brokers perform similar consumer assistance functions, and are generally paid on a commission basis. These consumer assisters can be helpful sources of information about health insurance and the challenges consumers face. They can be located through the "Find Local Help" search portal on HealthCare.gov.

The Oklahoma Insurance Department also provides an <u>FAQ</u> document for Oklahomans searching for consumer assistance.

