



COUNTY PENETRATION RATES FOR MEDI-CAL CERTIFIED ELIGIBLES

by Age Group, January 2026

Medi-Cal, California’s Medicaid program, plays a significant role in providing health care coverage to the state’s population. Based on recent figures, roughly one-third of the state’s population is enrolled in Medi-Cal. While much discussion has centered on one-third of the state’s population enrolled in Medi-Cal, little examination has focused on the significant variability seen among California’s unique counties. In some California counties, Medi-Cal plays an even greater role in providing health care coverage to the population. Medi-Cal is the primary health care system for more than one half of the state’s population between the ages of 0 and 18 but provides coverage to roughly 30% of California residents 19 or older. According to the California Department of Finance (CDOF) population projections from 2024 and 2025, the population decreased year over year. Thus, the Medi-Cal populations within each county decreased. The table below reflects the CDOF population projections for 2025 compared to Medi-Cal certified eligible counts for January 2026.

County	Ages 0-18			Ages 19 and Older			Total		
	Medi-Cal Certified Eligibles	Projected Population	Rate	Medi-Cal Certified Eligibles	Projected Population	Rate	Medi-Cal Certified Eligibles	Projected Population	Rate
Alameda	133,450	355,738	37.5%	342,623	1,293,461	26.5%	476,073	1,649,199	28.9%
Alpine	101	180	56.1%	209	991	21.1%	310	1,171	26.5%
Amador	3,118	6,803	45.8%	5,959	33,039	18.0%	9,077	39,842	22.8%
Butte	26,326	44,822	58.7%	57,302	161,864	35.4%	83,628	206,686	40.5%

County	Ages 0-18			Ages 19 and Older			Total		
	Medi-Cal Certified Eligibles	Projected Population	Rate	Medi-Cal Certified Eligibles	Projected Population	Rate	Medi-Cal Certified Eligibles	Projected Population	Rate
Calaveras	4,473	8,141	54.9%	8,996	36,105	24.9%	13,469	44,246	30.4%
Colusa	4,137	5,952	69.5%	5,991	16,079	37.3%	10,128	22,031	46.0%
Contra Costa	103,167	261,760	39.4%	220,084	889,663	24.7%	323,251	1,151,423	28.1%
Del Norte	4,092	6,183	66.2%	8,179	20,833	39.3%	12,271	27,016	45.4%
El Dorado	12,618	38,505	32.8%	26,150	150,498	17.4%	38,768	189,003	20.5%
Fresno	203,054	305,407	66.5%	305,402	721,930	42.3%	508,456	1,027,337	49.5%
Glenn	5,096	7,910	64.4%	8,089	20,911	38.7%	13,185	28,821	45.7%
Humboldt	16,822	28,882	58.2%	39,406	103,872	37.9%	56,228	132,754	42.4%
Imperial	35,366	53,302	66.4%	61,850	133,849	46.2%	97,216	187,151	51.9%
Inyo	1,739	3,867	45.0%	3,365	14,717	22.9%	5,104	18,584	27.5%
Kern	194,657	276,753	70.3%	283,602	638,377	44.4%	478,259	915,130	52.3%
Kings	27,246	45,044	60.5%	38,866	108,853	35.7%	66,112	153,897	43.0%
Lake	11,114	15,997	69.5%	22,081	51,015	43.3%	33,195	67,012	49.5%
Lassen	3,124	5,002	62.5%	5,409	22,983	23.5%	8,533	27,985	30.5%
Los Angeles	1,151,635	2,094,727	55.0%	2,725,915	7,759,115	35.1%	3,877,550	9,853,842	39.4%

County	Ages 0-18			Ages 19 and Older			Total		
	Medi-Cal Certified Eligibles	Projected Population	Rate	Medi-Cal Certified Eligibles	Projected Population	Rate	Medi-Cal Certified Eligibles	Projected Population	Rate
Madera	33,380	45,919	72.7%	47,420	116,464	40.7%	80,800	162,383	49.8%
Marin	15,684	49,601	31.6%	37,738	202,473	18.6%	53,422	252,074	21.2%
Mariposa	1,796	3,114	57.7%	3,793	13,723	27.6%	5,589	16,837	33.2%
Mendocino	13,304	20,177	65.9%	27,025	69,143	39.1%	40,329	89,320	45.2%
Merced	60,394	87,546	69.0%	84,484	204,902	41.2%	144,878	292,448	49.5%
Modoc	1,216	1,837	66.2%	2,281	6,604	34.5%	3,497	8,441	41.4%
Mono	1,190	2,605	45.7%	2,306	10,226	22.6%	3,496	12,831	27.2%
Monterey	74,156	118,318	62.7%	112,069	319,234	35.1%	186,225	437,552	42.6%
Napa	12,276	26,518	46.3%	23,245	108,723	21.4%	35,521	135,241	26.3%
Nevada	8,923	17,953	49.7%	20,066	82,150	24.4%	28,989	100,103	29.0%
Orange	281,469	695,145	40.5%	641,133	2,460,968	26.1%	922,602	3,156,113	29.2%
Placer	28,686	95,365	30.1%	50,179	323,995	15.5%	78,865	419,360	18.8%
Plumas	1,744	3,465	50.3%	3,676	15,180	24.2%	5,420	18,645	29.1%
Riverside	364,791	620,876	58.8%	605,266	1,841,905	32.9%	970,057	2,462,781	39.4%
Sacramento	217,312	395,066	55.0%	397,892	1,197,073	33.2%	615,204	1,592,139	38.6%

County	Ages 0-18			Ages 19 and Older			Total		
	Medi-Cal Certified Eligibles	Projected Population	Rate	Medi-Cal Certified Eligibles	Projected Population	Rate	Medi-Cal Certified Eligibles	Projected Population	Rate
San Benito	8,170	17,180	47.6%	12,446	48,745	25.5%	20,616	65,925	31.3%
San Bernardino	349,552	584,075	59.8%	573,623	1,606,725	35.7%	923,175	2,190,800	42.1%
San Diego	299,712	771,510	38.8%	609,258	2,535,256	24.0%	908,970	3,306,766	27.5%
San Francisco	50,266	133,864	37.6%	194,860	704,163	27.7%	245,126	838,027	29.3%
San Joaquin	120,478	219,945	54.8%	187,531	583,141	32.2%	308,009	803,086	38.4%
San Luis Obispo	22,733	56,747	40.1%	41,865	220,864	19.0%	64,598	277,611	23.3%
San Mateo	46,694	154,833	30.2%	112,466	587,578	19.1%	159,160	742,411	21.4%
Santa Barbara	67,461	112,203	60.1%	104,862	331,622	31.6%	172,323	443,825	38.8%
Santa Clara	127,939	408,896	31.3%	310,344	1,503,523	20.6%	438,283	1,912,419	22.9%
Santa Cruz	23,712	53,721	44.1%	52,741	208,472	25.3%	76,453	262,193	29.2%
Shasta	23,351	42,751	54.6%	41,638	137,608	30.3%	64,989	180,359	36.0%
Sierra	238	519	45.9%	513	2,603	19.7%	751	3,122	24.1%
Siskiyou	5,865	8,787	66.7%	12,490	33,892	36.9%	18,355	42,679	43.0%
Solano	47,889	104,862	45.7%	93,129	343,666	27.1%	141,018	448,528	31.4%
Sonoma	45,654	97,889	46.6%	89,926	381,476	23.6%	135,580	479,365	28.3%

County	Ages 0-18			Ages 19 and Older			Total		
	Medi-Cal Certified Eligibles	Projected Population	Rate	Medi-Cal Certified Eligibles	Projected Population	Rate	Medi-Cal Certified Eligibles	Projected Population	Rate
Stanislaus	92,540	156,817	59.0%	153,066	396,168	38.6%	245,606	552,985	44.4%
Sutter	16,556	26,316	62.9%	28,258	74,367	38.0%	44,814	100,683	44.5%
Tehama	11,125	16,617	66.9%	18,197	47,982	37.9%	29,322	64,599	45.4%
Trinity	1,584	2,630	60.2%	3,571	13,136	27.2%	5,155	15,766	32.7%
Tulare	110,528	149,432	74.0%	172,701	334,788	51.6%	283,229	484,220	58.5%
Tuolumne	4,634	9,891	46.9%	10,062	43,000	23.4%	14,696	52,891	27.8%
Ventura	88,417	190,140	46.5%	159,668	633,540	25.2%	248,085	823,680	30.1%
Yolo	19,770	50,790	38.9%	38,161	172,929	22.1%	57,931	223,719	25.9%
Yuba	14,843	24,977	59.4%	23,465	59,674	39.3%	38,308	84,651	45.3%
State Total	4,657,367	9,143,872	50.9%	9,272,892	30,155,836	30.7%	13,930,259	39,299,708	35.4%

Source: Medi-Cal certified eligible counts were extracted in January 2026 from the DHCS MIS/DSS data warehouse.

The presented eligible counts for January 2026 are considered preliminary and are subject to change. Eligibility counts for a specific month are considered complete for statistical reporting purposes 12 months after the month's end.

County population projections by age group are from [P2A County Total.xlsx](#)

Report date: Jan 29, 2026