

AFFORDABLE CARE ACT ENROLLMENT IN KING COUNTY: INCREASES IN HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE



Executive Summary

- After Medicaid expansion and the launch of the WA Healthplanfinder health exchange, uninsurance rates in working-age adults and children drop significantly.

- The percent of children without health insurance fell to 1.6%.

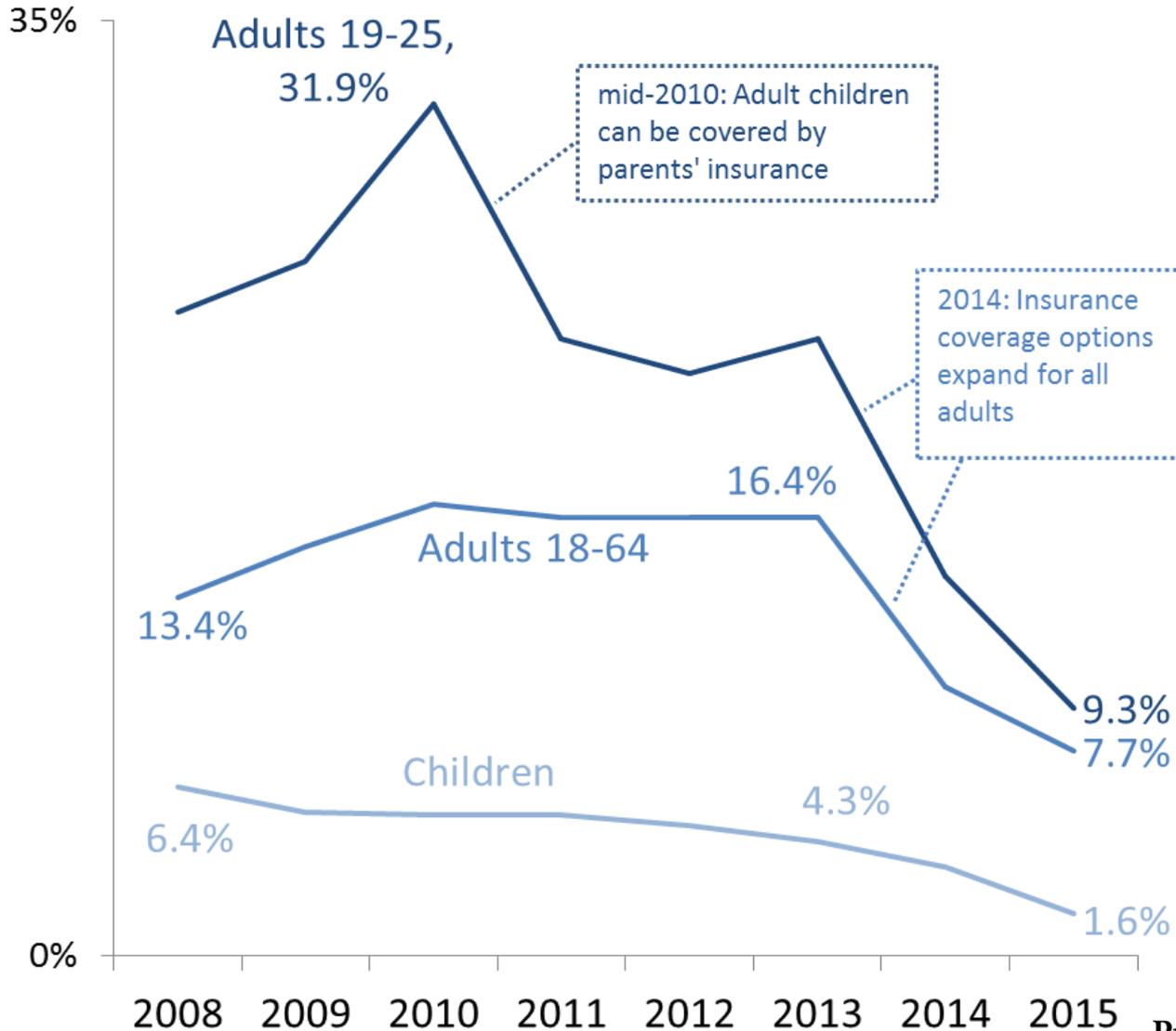
- In the general working-age adult population, lack of health insurance fell to 7.7%. Large reductions in uninsurance rates were experienced by
 - all age groups,
 - across all income levels,
 - for all race/ethnicities,
 - for adults that were employed and unemployed.

- These are still early findings and we will continue to monitor these trends.

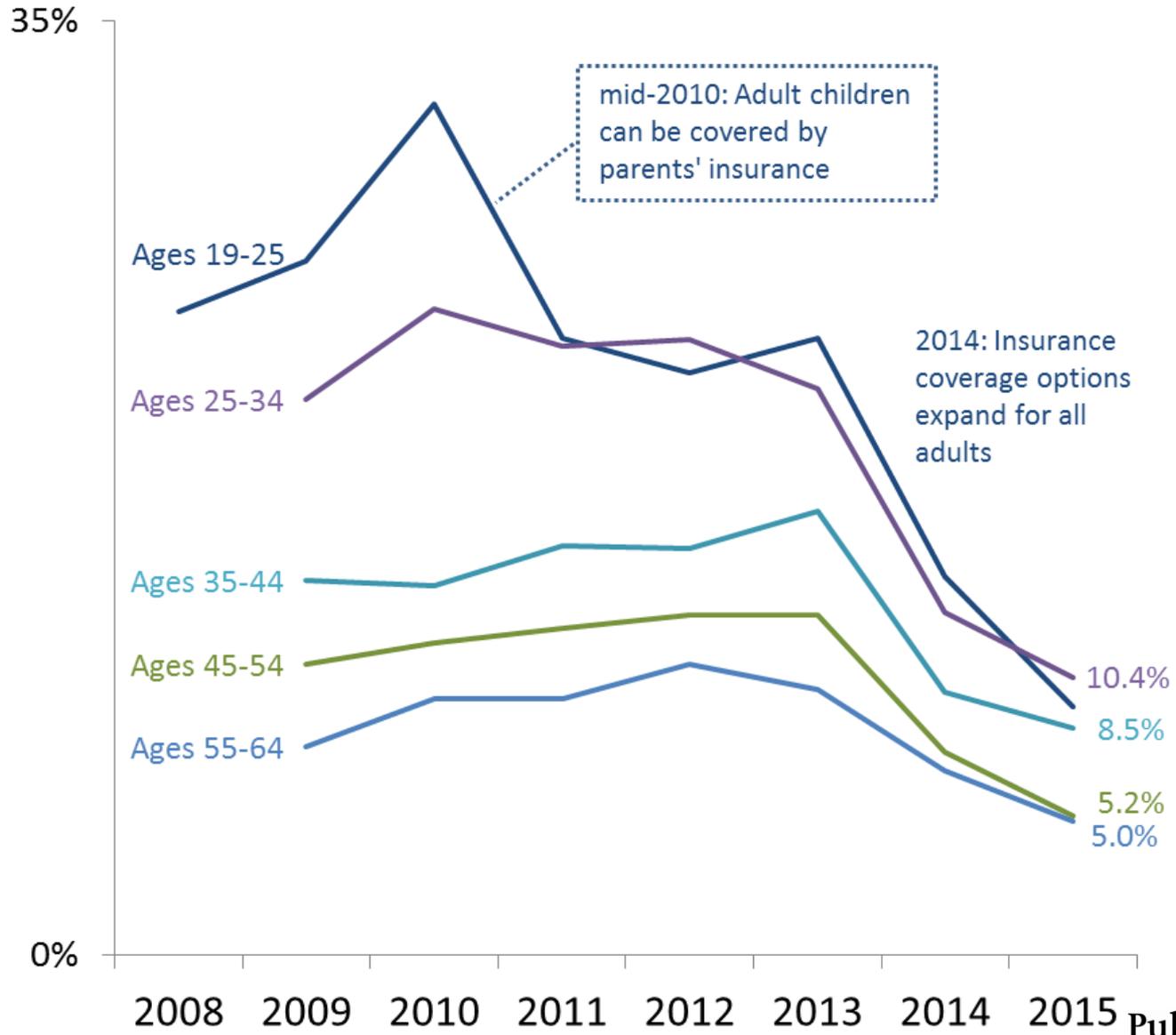
The **Affordable Care Act** was designed to promote health equity, better health overall, and lower costs.

The first step for King County was to ensure that adults and children have health insurance.

Large declines in percent without health insurance, particularly for young adults; percent of children without health insurance decline

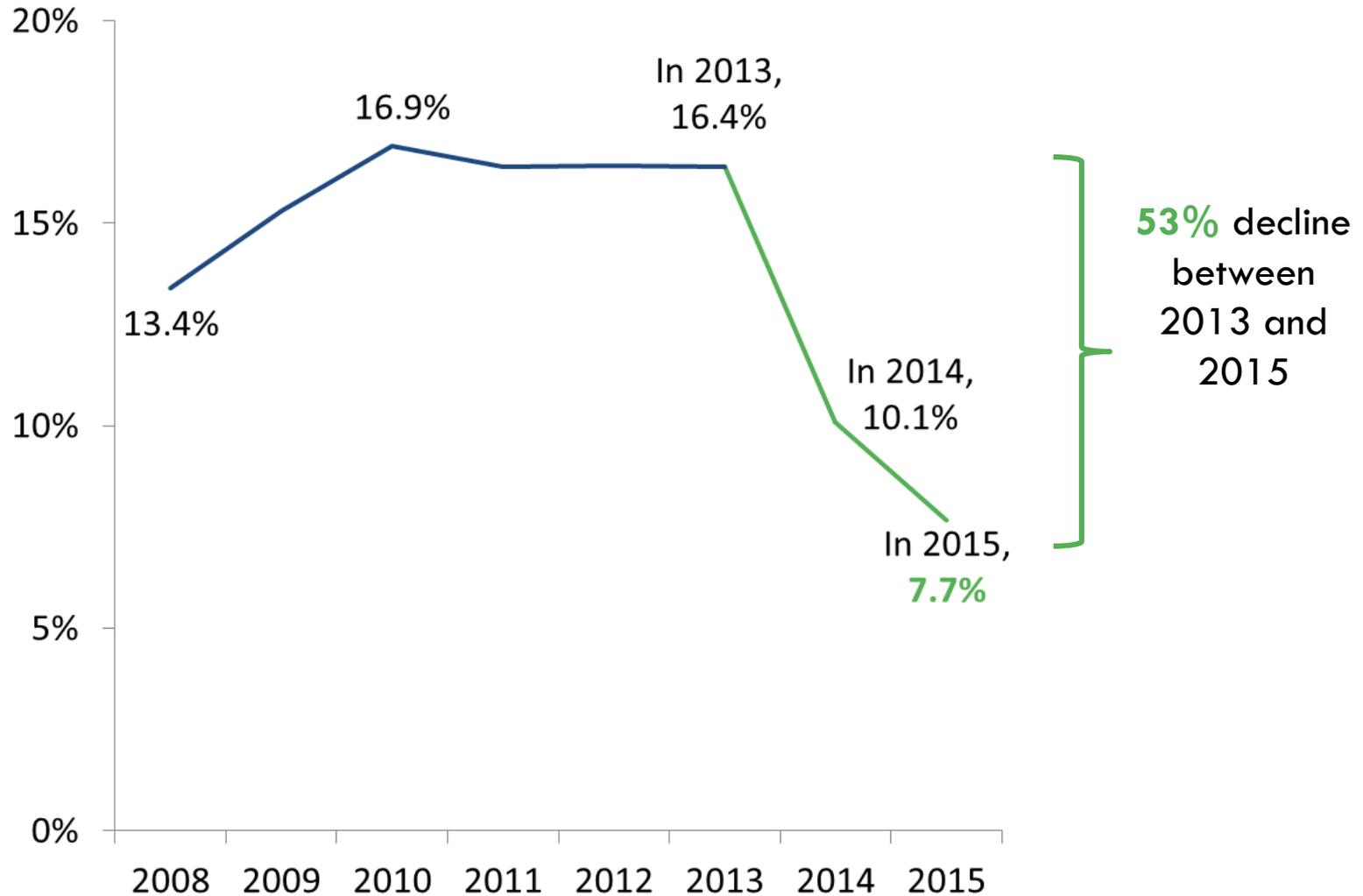


Large declines in percent without health insurance for adults of all ages



Uninsurance declines for King County working-age adults...

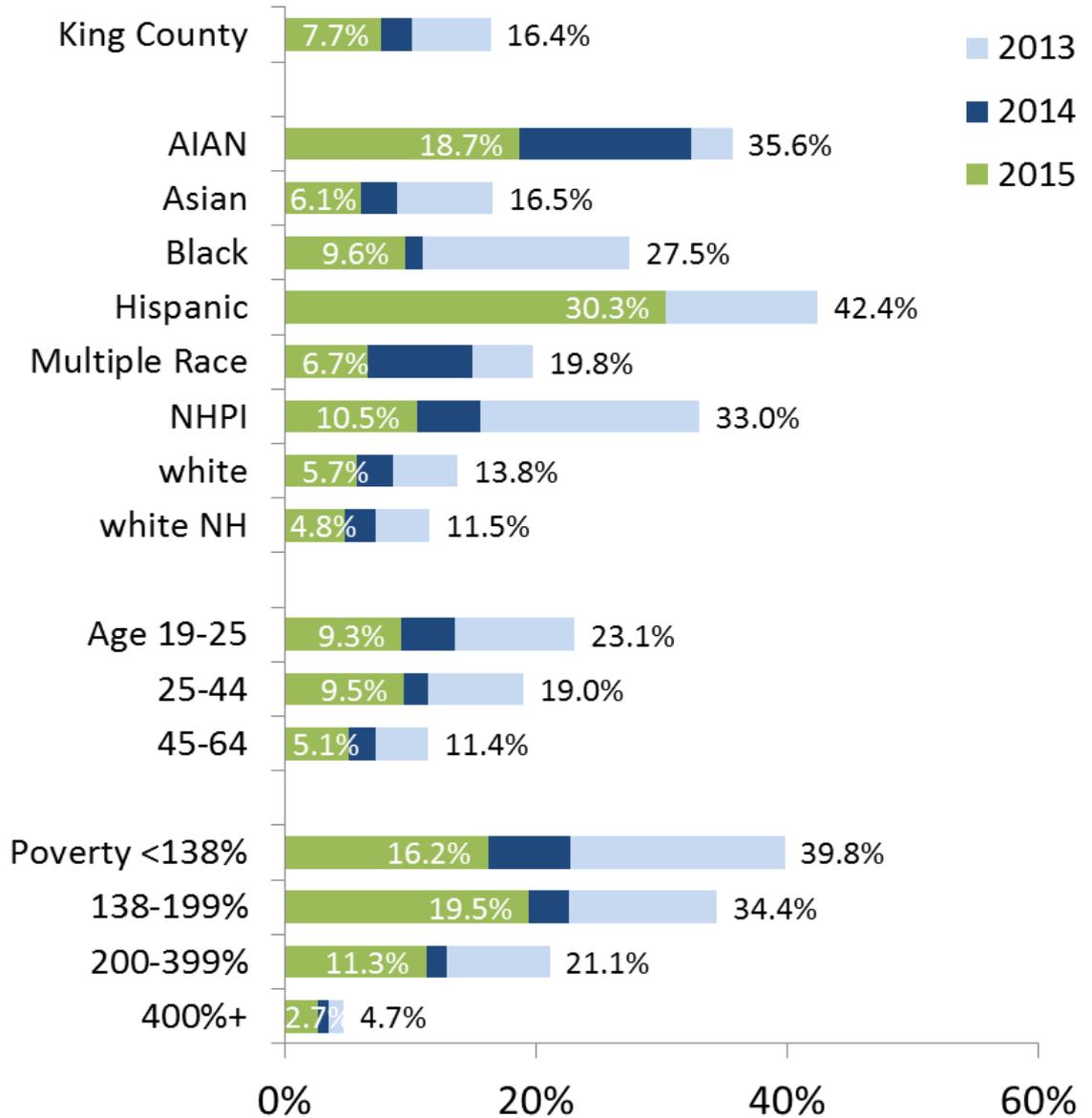
King County adults (ages 18-64) without insurance continues to fall



Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey. See wording of question in Appendix.

Uninsurance continues to fall across King County in 2015

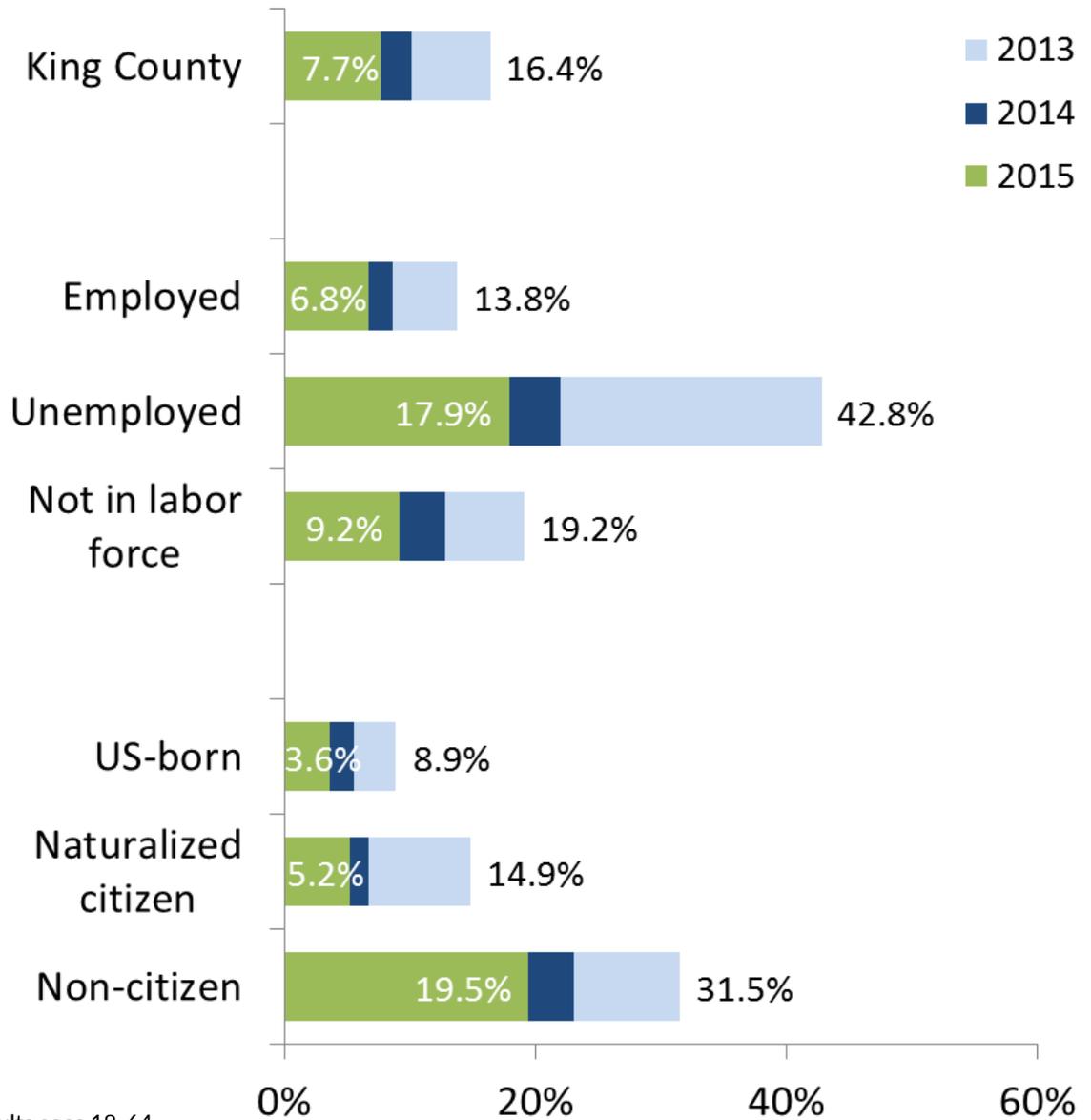
- Compared to 2013, a decline in uninsurance for all age, race/ethnicity, and poverty groups in 2015. Uninsurance declined by 65% for Blacks.
- Improvements in disparities by age and poverty levels, but relative disparities increase by race/ethnicity. Barriers to coverage such as length of residency requirements and documentation status remain.



Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey. Coverage for adult children ages 19-25 expanded in mid-2010.

Uninsurance continues to fall in King County, unemployed see big declines

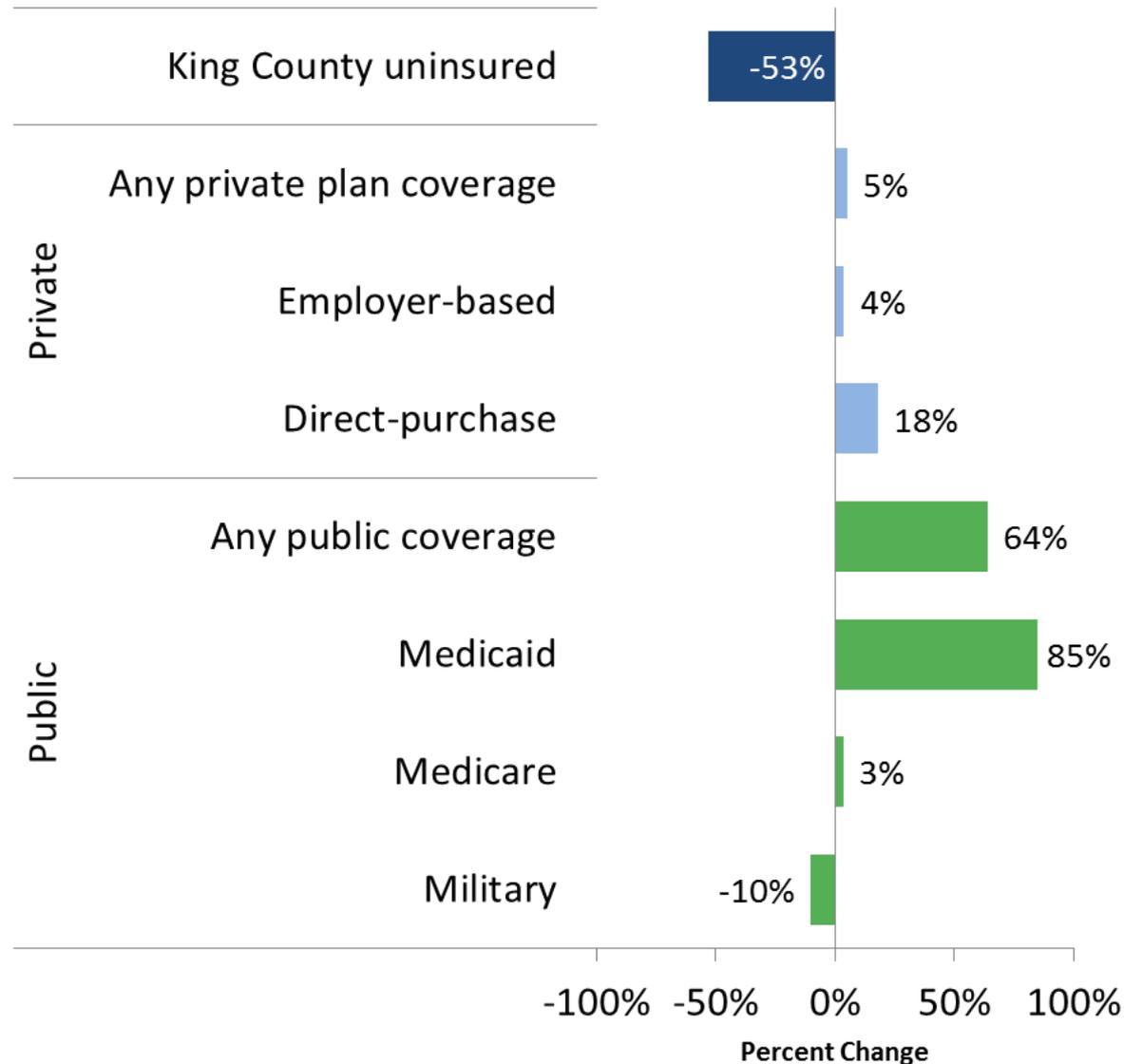
- Compared to 2013, uninsurance declined for all employment status and citizenship status groups in 2015.
- The unemployed saw a 58% decline in uninsurance. This decline was 51% among the employed.
- Citizens born in the US saw a 59% decline in uninsurance. Among naturalized citizens, the decline was 65%.



Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey; Adults ages 18-64

Adult Medicaid coverage continues to increase in 2015

- King County overall saw a 53% decline in uninsurance, compared to 2013.
- Gains in insurance coverage were mainly among public coverage, specifically Medicaid (Apple Health).



Private plan includes employer-based or direct-purchase. Public coverage includes Medicaid, Medicare, or military. Military includes TRICARE and Veteran's Administration care.
Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey; Adults ages 18-64.

APPENDIX

See 2013-14 [report](#) for complete description of ACA QA/Evaluation framework and methodology

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

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- The US Census Bureau’s American Community Survey data are considered the best available data on health insurance coverage of the King County population because of the large number of people who are asked to participate in the survey, and the high percentage people who are asked who do participate.
 - In 2015, this survey had 30,458 King County respondents
 - In 2015, 96.3% of those in King County who were asked, answered the survey
- The question on health insurance is (asked for each person in a household):

Is this person CURRENTLY covered by any of the following types of health insurance or health coverage plans? Mark “Yes” or “No” for EACH type of coverage in items a – h.

	Yes	No
a. Insurance through a current or former employer or union (of this person or another family member)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Insurance purchased directly from an insurance company (by this person or another family member)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Medicare, for people 65 and older, or people with certain disabilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Medicaid, Medical Assistance, or any kind of government-assistance plan for those with low incomes or a disability	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. TRICARE or other military health care	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. VA (including those who have ever used or enrolled for VA health care)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. Indian Health Service	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h. Any other type of health insurance or health coverage plan – Specify _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>