

Working Without Coverage

Key Sectors Stand to Benefit from Covering the Uninsured

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Virginia lawmakers have a significant opportunity to invest in the state's workforce. More and more Virginians are working but not getting the health insurance they need through their jobs. By providing coverage to the uninsured and closing the coverage gap, tens of thousands of workers in the most important parts of Virginia's economy could get the health care they need to remain healthy and productive members of the state's workforce.

Working Virginians would get health coverage

About 161,000 working Virginians who do not have insurance could get it if Virginia lawmakers extend health coverage to more Virginians. Getting these workers coverage would not only help them get the care they need, it would boost the economy too.

This report takes a close look at the workers who could gain coverage. Workers in five of the state's largest employment sectors have the most to gain:

- Tourism;
- Retail Trade;
- Educational, Health, and Social Services;
- Construction;
- Professional and Business Services.

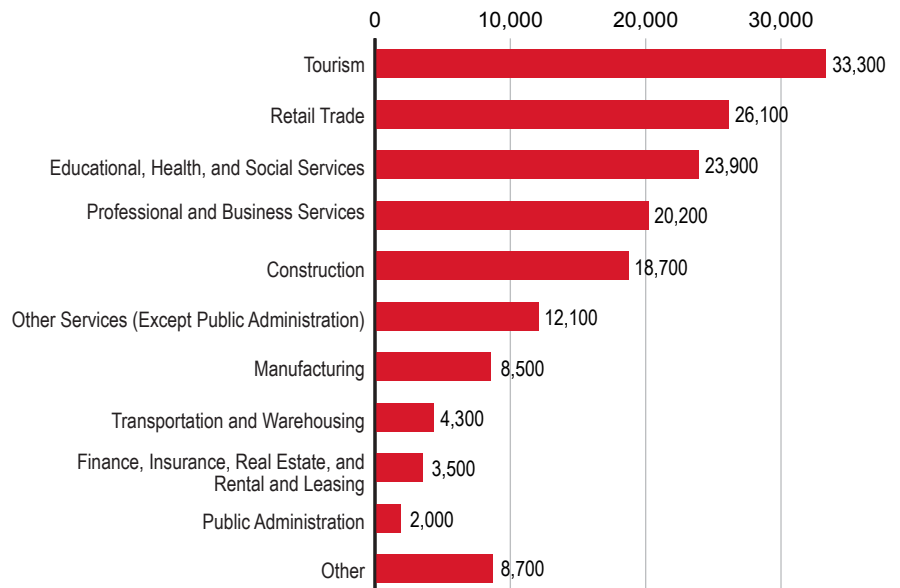
Roughly 76 percent of all the working adults who would be newly eligible for coverage – about 122,000 people – work in those five industries.

They work in diverse and key sectors of Virginia's economy

The workers who could get coverage are employed in dozens of industries and

Coverage for Workers in Key Sectors

Thousands of uninsured Virginians working in sectors vital to the state's economy could qualify for coverage through expansion.



Note: Other includes Wholesale Trade, Information and Communications, Agriculture/Forestry/Fishing/Hunting, Mining, Utilities, and Armed Forces

Source: TCI analysis of 2012 ACS data retrieved from IPUMS

occupations crucial to the commonwealth's economy. They are the cashiers and clerks you see every day.

The greatest gains from providing coverage to the uninsured and closing the coverage gap would be in industries that include professions that take care of others, such as childcare workers, home health aides, janitors, and secretaries. Within each sector, newly eligible workers are concentrated in certain subsectors, with a large chunk in the state's critical tourism sector.

Sector: Tourism

- Restaurants and other food services: 26,600
- Traveler accommodation, such as hotels, inns, and motels: 3,700

Sector: Retail Trade

- Grocery stores: 8,100
- Department and discount stores: 4,100
- Gasoline stations: 2,000
- Clothing stores: 1,400

Covering Virginia's uninsured is a smart investment in the hard working people who make their home in Virginia.

Sector: Educational, Health, and Social Services

- Elementary and secondary schools: 5,500
- Child day care service establishments: 3,300
- Nursing care facilities: 2,600
- Home health care service establishments: 2,400

Coverage for Workers in Vital Occupations

Occupation	TOTAL
Cashiers	12,000
Cooks	7,800
Waiters and waitresses	6,000
Janitors and building cleaners	6,000
Maids and housekeeping cleaners	5,600
Nursing, psychiatric, and home health aides	5,100
Grounds maintenance workers	4,900
Laborers and manual freight, stock, and material movers	4,600
Construction laborers	4,500
First-line supervisors of retail sales workers	4,000
Customer service representatives	4,000
Stock clerks and order fillers	3,600
Carpenters	3,500
Driver/sales workers and truck drivers	3,200
Childcare workers	2,800
Retail salespersons	2,700
Painters, construction and maintenance	2,600
Personal care aides	2,100
Food service managers	2,000
Dishwashers	1,800

Source: TCI analysis of 2012 ACS 1-Year Estimates

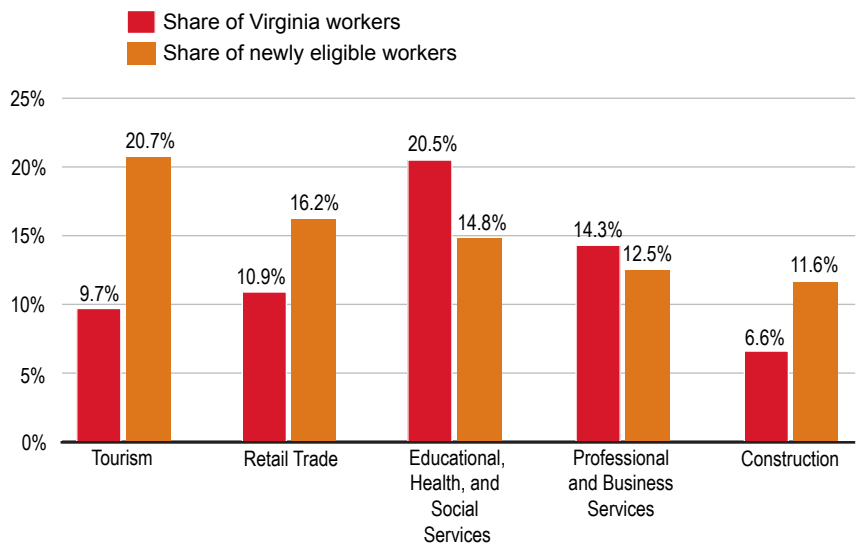
Sector: Professional and Business Services

- Landscaping service establishments: 5,000
- Janitorial, custodial services, cleaning, housekeeping, pest control services : 4,500
- Employment placement and temporary employment agencies: 3,800
- Business support service establishments, such as call centers or collection agencies: 1,600

Conclusion

Covering Virginia’s uninsured is a smart investment in the hard working people who make their home in Virginia, raise their families here, and make the economy run. The 161,000 working Virginians who stand to gain coverage under expansion are employed in the state’s largest and most important sectors of the economy. If Virginia aims to rank among the best places to live, work, and raise a family, expanding health care coverage is a smart investment.

Five of Virginia’s Largest Job Sectors Stand to Benefit From Expanding Coverage



Source: TCI analysis of 2012 ACS data retrieved from IPUMS

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