

Shea Hartley

Honors Thesis

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**The Effects of Employment & Income on Healthcare Coverage in a Pre and Post  
Affordable Care Act Era**

**Abstract**

Given the current political climate in regards to healthcare changes in the United States, it is imperative to research the effects occurring since the enactment of the Patient-Protection and Affordable Care Act. Implemented in 2010, the law has brought with it much debate and opposition leading many to advocate for its repeal, which leads to an interesting research question. It is commonly believed that income and employment are positively related to an individual's likelihood of obtaining health insurance. Has the ACA reduced the strong association between being employed and having health insurance, and the association between income and having health insurance? Results suggest that there was no substantial change from 2008 to 2012, in regards to an individual being able to obtain health insurance with a lower income or when unemployed. More time may be needed to see concrete changes.