

PROTECT OUR CARE

By The Numbers: How Medicaid Strengthens Arkansas

Medicaid is not only a lifeline for millions of Arkansans, it strengthens our communities in countless ways. These are reasons why the program is overwhelmingly popular: [74 percent](#) of Americans support Medicaid.

ARKANSANS DEPEND ON MEDICAID

- **902,279 Arkansans Are Covered Through Medicaid.** 902,279 Arkansans [have medical coverage](#) through Medicaid - most of them children, seniors, and people with disabilities.
- **In Arkansas, Adults Up To 138 Percent Of The Federal Poverty Line May Enroll In Medicaid.** After expanding Medicaid, Arkansas residents earning up to 138 percent [of the federal poverty line](#) are now eligible to enroll in Medicaid.
- **321,000 Arkansans Have Gained Coverage Through Medicaid Expansion.** Thanks to Medicaid expansion, 321,000 Arkansas residents [are enrolled](#) in the program.

MEDICAID IS A LIFELINE FOR CHILDREN, SENIORS, AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

45 Percent of Arkansas's Children Rely on Medicaid. 45 percent of Arkansas [children rely](#) on Medicaid for coverage. Medicaid pays almost \$4 billion annually in school-based health services. Schools depend on these funds connect students with vital health resources — [68 percent](#) of school superintendents said that they used these funds to keep nurses, counselors, and speech therapists on staff.

Medicaid Supports 66 Percent Of Arkansans In Nursing Homes. 66 percent of Arkansans living in nursing homes [have coverage](#) through Medicaid.

Medicaid Covers 25 Percent of Arkansas's Seniors and People with Disabilities. In Arkansas, 25 percent of seniors and people with disabilities [have health coverage through Medicaid](#), including for nursing home care. Nationally, approximately [one in four people](#) on Medicaid are seniors (9 percent) or people with disabilities (15 percent). However, their care represents about [two-thirds](#) of all Medicaid spending. In other words, funding cuts to Medicaid will disproportionately affect the most vulnerable.

MEDICAID HELPS ARKANSANS ACCESS TREATMENT FOR OPIOID ADDICTION

Medicaid Covers [One In Four](#) Americans With An Opioid Use Disorder. Medicaid pays for 8 percent of Arkansas's [buprenorphine](#) expenditure, a medication used to treat opioid addiction.

REPUBLICANS' WAR ON THE ACA AND MEDICAID JEOPARDIZES COVERAGE FOR 900,000 ARKANSANS

321,000 Arkansans Enrolled Through Medicaid Expansion Now At Risk. The Graham-Cassidy bill would eliminate [Medicaid expansion](#), which has helped 321,000 Arkansans receive quality, affordable coverage, and put part of its funding into inadequate block grants. The bill would further punish states that expanded Medicaid by [redistributing](#) funds to states that did not expand Medicaid.

902,279 Arkansans With Traditional Medicaid Coverage, Including Seniors, People With Disabilities, And Children, Are At Risk. The Graham-Cassidy bill that President Trump revived in his FY19 budget proposal would turn traditional Medicaid into a per capita cap, meaning the 902,279 Arkansans who are [enrolled](#) on Medicaid would have their care jeopardized. Medicaid disproportionately helps children, seniors in nursing home care and people with disabilities. A study by [Avalere](#) found that Graham-Cassidy would cut funding for people with disabilities by 15 percent and 31 percent for children by 2036.

429,176 Arkansas Children's Care Is At Risk. 429,176 Arkansas kids are currently [enrolled](#) in Medicaid and CHIP, and their care could be at risk because of funding cuts in Graham-Cassidy.