

PROTECT OUR CARE

By The Numbers: How Medicaid Strengthens West Virginia

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

WEST VIRGINIANS DEPEND ON MEDICAID

- **549,678 West Virginians Are Covered Through Medicaid.** 549,678 West Virginians [have medical coverage](#) through Medicaid - most of them children, seniors, and people with disabilities.
- **In West Virginia, Adults Up To 138 Percent Of The Federal Poverty Line May Enroll In Medicaid.** After expanding Medicaid, West Virginia residents earning up to 138 percent [of the federal poverty line](#) are now eligible to enroll in Medicaid.
- **180,500 West Virginians Have Gained Coverage Through Medicaid Expansion.** Thanks to Medicaid expansion, 180,500 West Virginia residents [are enrolled](#) in the program.

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

50 Percent of West Virginia's Children Rely on Medicaid. 50 percent of West Virginia [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 76 Percent Of West Virginians In Nursing Homes. 76 percent of West Virginians living in nursing homes [have coverage](#) through Medicaid.

Medicaid Covers 25 Percent of West Virginia's Seniors and People with Disabilities. In West Virginia, 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 WEST VIRGINIANS ACCESS TREATMENT FOR OPIOID ADDICTION

Medicaid Covers [One In Four](#) Americans With An Opioid Use Disorder. Medicaid pays for 45 percent of West Virginia's [buprenorphine](#) expenditure, a medication used to treat opioid addiction.

REPUBLICANS' WAR ON THE ACA AND MEDICAID JEOPARDIZES COVERAGE FOR 550,000 WEST VIRGINIANS

180,500 West Virginians Enrolled Through Medicaid Expansion Now At Risk. The Graham-Cassidy bill would eliminate [Medicaid expansion](#), which has helped 180,500 West Virginians 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.

549,678 West Virginians 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 549,678 West Virginians 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.

220,591 West Virginia Children's Care Is At Risk. 220,591 West Virginia kids are currently [enrolled](#) in Medicaid and CHIP, and their care could be at risk because of funding cuts in Graham-Cassidy.