

PROTECT OUR CARE

By The Numbers: How Medicaid Strengthens The District of Columbia

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

WASHINGTONIANS DEPEND ON MEDICAID

- **264,016 Washingtonians Are Covered Through Medicaid.** 264,016 Washingtonians [have medical coverage](#) through Medicaid - most of them children, seniors, and people with disabilities.
- **In The District of Columbia, Adults Up To 215 Percent Of The Federal Poverty Line May Enroll In Medicaid.** After expanding Medicaid, District of Columbia residents earning up to 215 percent [of the federal poverty line](#) are now eligible to enroll in Medicaid.
- **122,200 Washingtonians Have Gained Coverage Through Medicaid Expansion.** Thanks to Medicaid expansion, 122,200 District of Columbia residents [are enrolled](#) in the program.

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

41 Percent of the District of Columbia's Children Rely on Medicaid. 41 percent of District of Columbia [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 60 Percent Of Washingtonians In Nursing Homes. 60 percent of Washingtonians living in nursing homes [have coverage](#) through Medicaid.

Medicaid Covers 46 Percent of the District of Columbia's Seniors and People with Disabilities. In District of Columbia, 46 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 WASHINGTONIANS ACCESS TREATMENT FOR OPIOID ADDICTION

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

REPUBLICANS' WAR ON THE ACA AND MEDICAID JEOPARDIZES COVERAGE FOR MORE THAN 260,000 WASHINGTONIANS

122,200 Washingtonians Enrolled Through Medicaid Expansion Now At Risk. The Graham-Cassidy bill would eliminate [Medicaid expansion](#), which has helped 122,200 Washingtonians 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.

264,016 Washingtonians 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 264,016 Washingtonians 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.

District of Columbia Children's Care Is At Risk. [41 percent](#) of D.C. kids have coverage through Medicaid or CHIP, and their care could be at risk because of funding cuts in Graham-Cassidy.