

PROTECT OUR CARE

By The Numbers: How Medicaid Strengthens Nebraska

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

NEBRASKANS DEPEND ON MEDICAID

- **242,321 Nebraskans Are Covered Through Medicaid.** Over 242,321 Nebraskans [have medical coverage](#) through Medicaid - most of them children, seniors, and people with disabilities.
- **In Nebraska, Parents Up To 63 Percent Of The Federal Poverty Line May Enroll In Medicaid.** By not fully expanding Medicaid, Nebraska has restricted its Medicaid program such that only Parents earning up to 63 percent [of the federal poverty line](#) are eligible to enroll in Medicaid. If Nebraska expanded its program, 168,000 [more adults](#) could gain coverage through Medicaid.

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

30 Percent of Nebraska's Children Rely on Medicaid. 30 percent of Nebraska [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 52 Percent Of Nebraskans In Nursing Homes. 52 percent of Nebraskans living in nursing homes [have coverage](#) through Medicaid.

Medicaid Covers 15 Percent of Nebraska's Seniors and People with Disabilities. In Nebraska, 15 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 NEBRASKANS ACCESS TREATMENT FOR OPIOID ADDICTION

Medicaid Covers [One In Four](#) Americans With An Opioid Use Disorder. Medicaid pays for 10 percent of Nebraska's [buprenorphine](#) expenditure, a medication used to treat opioid addiction.

REPUBLICANS' WAR ON THE ACA AND MEDICAID JEOPARDIZES COVERAGE FOR MORE THAN 240,000 NEBRASKANS

242,321 Nebraskans 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 242,321 Nebraskans 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.

162,268 Nebraska Children's Care Is At Risk. 162,268 Nebraska kids are currently [enrolled](#) in Medicaid and CHIP, and their care could be at risk because of funding cuts in Graham-Cassidy.