

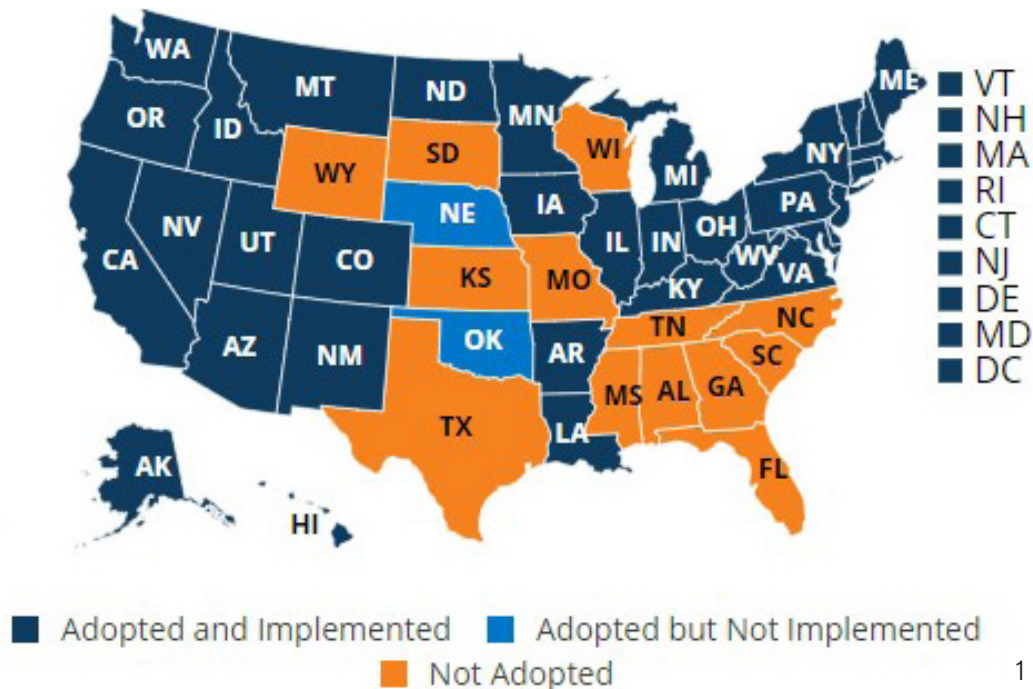
MEDICAID: THE 2019-2020 YEAR IN REVIEW



Medicaid's 55th Birthday

Medicaid Expansion Highlights

- [Virginia](#), [Idaho](#) and Utah have officially implemented Medicaid expansion, bringing coverage to an estimated 520,000+ individuals.
- [Nebraska](#) and [Oklahoma](#) both had successful ballot measures to expand Medicaid and are pending implementation.



1

Medicaid and COVID-19

Medicaid has emerged as a critical tool to fight the COVID-19 pandemic. In states without Medicaid expansion, where Black and Latinx people are disproportionately represented among the uninsured, we have seen the devastating effects of these inequities on COVID-19 infection and mortality rates – as well as the economic effects of the pandemic on frontline and essential workers, many of whom are people of color.

State Responses and Strategies

- Due to COVID-19, [Utah](#) voluntarily suspended work requirements and other barriers to coverage in their expansion waiver, enabling more newly eligible Utahns to be eligible for health coverage
- A number of states have taken direct action to make Medicaid easier for individuals to enroll and access, in light of the pandemic.

MEDICAID: THE 2019-2020 YEAR IN REVIEW



Exhibit 1: Strategies deployed by states to support Medicaid enrollment during COVID-19, 2020

Strategy	Total N=51 ^a	Medicaid Expansion States ^{**} N=36	Non-Expansion States N=15
Dedicated phone for enrollment assistance. ^{**}	100%	100%	100%
Ability to enroll online or over-the-phone. ^{**}	100%	100%	100%
Phone number for assistance on state Medicaid website.	92%	97%	80%
Real-time eligibility determinations (<24 hours).	92%	97%	81%
Interview not required (in-person or telephone).	82%	81%	87%
Requirements waived for timely processing of applications and/or expanded immigration status verification period.	60% ^a	66% ^a	47%
Additional entities allowed to determine presumptive eligibility.	55% ^d	59% ^d	47%
Information on state department of health's website on Medicaid enrollment during COVID-19.	45%	64%	0%
State has a hospital presumptive eligibility program.	48% ^c	55% ^c	33%
Medicaid agency allowed to determine presumptive eligibility; excluding pregnancy.	44% ^d	46% ^d	40%
State accepts self-attestation of information for criteria besides citizenship/immigration.	29% ^a	35% ^a	13%
State adopted a simplified application form.	6%	8%	0%

2

Other Notable Medicaid Resources

- Kaiser Family Foundation's [10 Things to Know about Medicaid: Setting the Facts Straight](#)
- Georgetown Center for Children and Families released a blog: [Recent Medicaid Expansion Activity in Eight States during the COVID-19 Crisis](#)
- Georgetown Center for Children and Families released a blog: [Expanding Medicaid Would Help Keep Rural Hospitals Open in 14 Non-Expansion States](#)

MEDICAID: THE 2019-2020 YEAR IN REVIEW

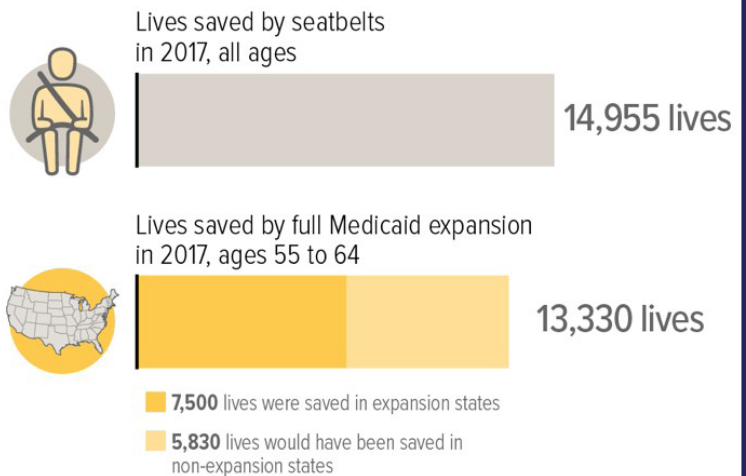


The Ever-Growing Discoveries in the Benefits of Medicaid Coverage:

- Studies show expanding Medicaid has both health and economic benefits – including better access to care and less bad debt for enrollees and health care systems
- Provides high-quality health insurance to over 65 million children and adults
- Increases housing stability by decreasing evictions
- Lifts low-income Americans out of poverty especially children, seniors, people of color and those living with disabilities
- Eliminates catastrophic out-of-pocket medical expenditures
- Mitigated health disparities between white and Black infants
- Supports community health systems, particularly for rural communities, nationwide
- Promotes access to cost-effective primary and preventive care services
- Earlier breast, colorectal and cervical cancer screening and detection
- Improved access to family planning services
- Reduced food insecurity
- Fewer substance use deaths
- Increased employment of people with disabilities

Medicaid Expansion Could Save as Many Lives as Seatbelts

If all states expanded Medicaid, the lives saved each year among older adults would nearly equal those of all ages saved by seatbelts.



Note: Older people are those aged 55 to 64 at the onset of the study period, 2014.
Source: National Highway and Transportation Safety Administration and Miller et al., "Medicaid and Mortality," 2019

CENTER ON BUDGET AND POLICY PRIORITIES | CBPP.ORG 3

Footnotes

1. <https://www.kff.org/medicaid/issue-brief/status-of-state-medicaid-expansion-decisions-interactive-map/>
2. <https://www.healthaffairs.org/doi/10.1377/hblog20200612.887360/full/>
3. <https://www.cbpp.org/blog/new-research-medicaid-expansion-saves-lives>