

Medicaid Works: Cuts Would Harm Ohioans

Large cuts in federal funding for Ohio's Medicaid program would put health coverage at risk for many Ohioans. Ohio's Medicaid program enables low-income seniors, children, and people with disabilities to get needed health care. And it helps parents and other adults stay healthy, work, and avoid medical debt.

Medicaid Helps Ohio's Families

2.6 million

Ohioans get comprehensive, affordable health coverage through Medicaid.

Most are children, seniors, and people with disabilities.



1.1 million of Ohio's children get health care through Medicaid, including the primary care they need to stay healthy.

That's **2 of 5 kids** in Ohio who rely on Medicaid for their care. Ohio's kids are particularly vulnerable to cuts to Medicaid.

Medicaid helps **53,100** of Ohio's babies get a healthy start in life each year.

203,000 of Ohio's seniors get health care through Medicaid, including nursing home care and services that help them live at home.

Medicaid provides **417,000** people with disabilities in Ohio access to critical care that helps them live independently.



That's 38% of births in the state.



That's 12% of seniors in the state.



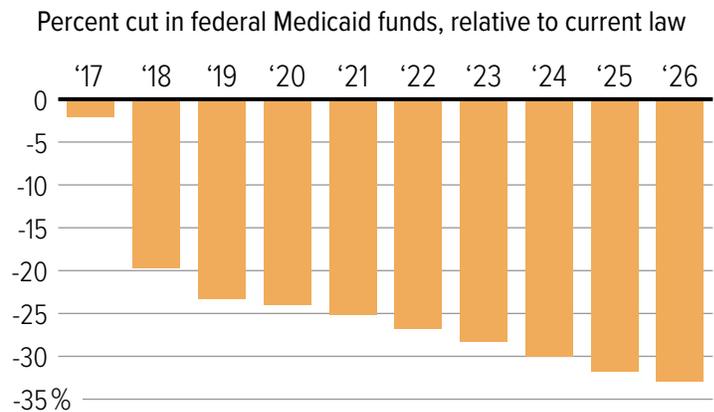
That's 27% of people with disabilities in the state.

...But Congress Is Considering Shifting Medicaid Costs to States

Congress is considering plans to "block grant" or "cap" Medicaid – which would cut federal Medicaid funding by large and growing amounts over time, leaving it well below what states will need to continue serving all beneficiaries. A proposal the House Budget Committee approved in 2016, for example, would cut \$1 trillion over ten years, with the cut growing to 33 percent by the tenth year, based on CBPP analysis (see graph).

These cuts would achieve federal savings by shifting Medicaid costs to Ohio and other states. The loss of federal support could make it harder for Ohio to respond to public health crises such as the current opioid epidemic.

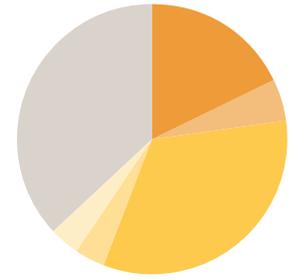
Given that states must balance their budgets, cutting Medicaid would force Ohio legislators either to make deep cuts to other state priorities like education or public safety, or to decide which people to cut from Medicaid and which



health services to stop covering. Given the magnitude of the cuts, there would be no way to protect the populations helped by Medicaid – including seniors, people with disabilities, and families with kids.

Distribution of Ohio's State Budget, 2015

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| Elementary and secondary education: 18% | Corrections: 4% |
| Higher education: 5% | Transportation: 4% |
| Medicaid: 33% | All other: 36% |



Cutting Federal Medicaid Funds Would Have a Big Impact on Ohio's Budget

The federal government covers **62%** of Ohio's Medicaid costs. That's a great deal for Ohio, especially when costs are higher than anticipated, such as when an effective but costly new medical treatment becomes available.

Ohio received **\$7.5 billion** in federal Medicaid funds in 2015, which made up **54%** of Ohio's federal funds.

Cuts Could Undermine Ohio's Innovative Programs

Improving Care

The federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation is investing up to \$75 million in Ohio's primary care network to test a model of care that helps Ohioans navigate the health care system. These "patient-centered medical homes" expand access to high-quality care for people who rely on Medicaid, Medicare, and private insurance. As part of this model, Ohio is testing a new way to pay for care that will reward providers for offering the right care at the right time.



The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation was established by the Affordable Care Act and could be repealed with the rest of the law.

Warning

Deeply cutting federal Medicaid funding through a block grant or cap could prevent Ohio from making upfront investments in innovative programs like this one.

Balancing Incentives

Ohio's Medicaid program is working to remove barriers and expand access to care for people who need it to stay healthy and independent in their homes. Ohio received more than \$169 million from the federal government as part of a program for states that are working to fund services for people who need long-term care to remain in their homes and communities, instead of nursing homes.



If Congress cuts Medicaid, Ohio may not be able to continue offering services that help seniors and people with disabilities to remain independent and in their homes.

Warning

Supporting Behavioral Health Treatment

Ohio has significantly increased access to care for people with behavioral health conditions by expanding Medicaid through the Affordable Care Act. Ohioans who enrolled in Medicaid through that expansion reported a decline in their rates of anxiety and depression, and those who continued to struggle reported an increase in their access to mental health treatment.



Deeply cutting federal Medicaid funding would prevent Ohio from making the upfront investments in care coordination needed to improve beneficiaries' health and reduce long-term costs.

Warning

Sources: CBPP, Census Bureau, Center for Health Care Strategies, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Kaiser Family Foundation, Medicaid and CHIP Payment and Access Commission, National Association of State Budget Officers, Ohio Department of Medicaid, Ohio Governor's Office of Health Transformation