Medicaid Works in Rhode Island

Center on Budget and Policy Priorities

Medicaid provides health coverage that helps low-income seniors, children, and people with disabilities get needed health care. It provides parents and other adults economic security through health coverage that protects them from medical debt and allows them to stay healthy and work. It is jointly run by the federal and state governments.

Medicaid Helps Rhode Island's Kids, Seniors, People with Disabilities, and Families.

212,100

Rhode Islanders get quality health coverage through Medicaid.

Most are children, seniors, and people with disabilities.

95,400 of Rhode Island's children get health care through Medicaid.

That's **1 of 3** kids in our state who can see a doctor when they are sick, and get the vaccinations and screenings they need to stay healthy, thanks to Medicaid.

Medicaid helps **5,100** of Rhode Island's babies get a healthy start in life each year.

That's **46%** of births in our state.

26,600 of Rhode Island's seniors get health care through Medicaid, including nursing home care and services that help them live at home.

That's **17%** of seniors in our state.

Medicaid provides **43,000** people with disabilities in Rhode Island access to critical care that helps them live independently.

That's **35%** of people with disabilities in our state.

Medicaid Is Effective.

Medicaid Improves Health.

- Medicaid beneficiaries are more likely than the uninsured to access preventive care, such as mammograms for women and vaccinations for kids.
- They also are more likely to have a regular office or clinic where they can go to get primary care.
- A key study found that expansion of Medicaid coverage for low-income adults reduced mortality by 6 percent on average in the states that were studied.

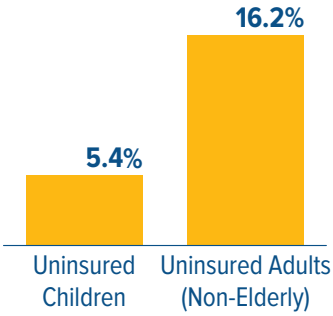
Medicaid Provides Vital Support to Seniors and People With Disabilities.

Medicaid allows millions of seniors and people with disabilities to get the support and care they need to live at home, as well as nursing home care for those who need it. In fact, Medicaid pays for half of all long-term services and supports provided across the country.

For more information about Medicaid visit: http://www.cbpp.org/topics/medicaid-and-chip

Fewer Kids Go Without Health Insurance Thanks to Medicaid...

Medicaid, along with the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), has significantly reduced the ranks of uninsured children. In Rhode Island, just 5.4% of children are uninsured, compared to 16.2% of non-elderly adults.



...And Coverage Is Now Improving for Adults Because Rhode Island Expanded Medicaid.

Since 2013, the uninsured rate for adults here has fallen by **-29.0%**

Medicaid Has Long-Term Benefits for Kids.

Children who are eligible for Medicaid health coverage:

- do better in school,
- miss fewer school days due to illness or injury,
- are more likely to finish high school, attend college, and graduate from college,
- have fewer emergency-room visits and hospitalizations as adults, and
- earn more as adults.

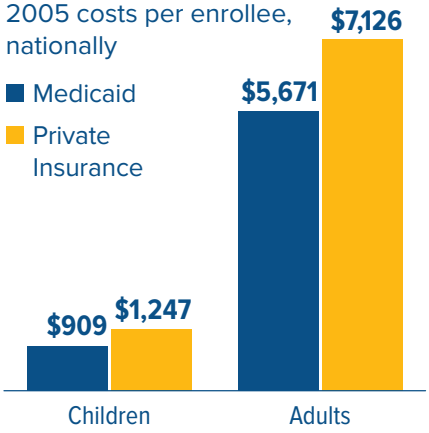
Medicaid Improves Financial Security.

People with Medicaid are less likely than people without insurance to go into medical debt or to leave other bills unpaid to cover their medical expenses.

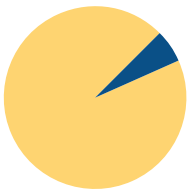
Medicaid Is Efficient.

Medicaid costs less than private insurance.

2005 costs per enrollee, nationally



Medicaid's administrative costs are low.



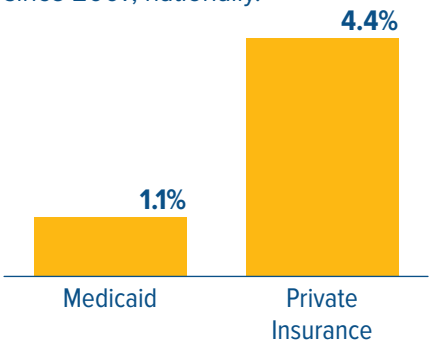
Administrative costs: **6%**

Health care services: 94%

Nationally, Medicaid's administrative costs are less than half the administrative costs of private insurers.

Medicaid spending has grown more slowly than private insurance.

Growth in per-enrollee spending since 2007, nationally.



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