



Medicaid Matters to Ohio's 14th Congressional District (OH-14)

Ohio's Medicaid program is a lifeline for Northeast Ohio

Medicaid provides health coverage for children, working families, veterans, vulnerable seniors, people with disabilities, and many more people in Ohio.¹

Medicaid also serves as the core financial backbone of Northeast Ohio's health care system, paying for care and services at local clinics and hospitals and serving as a critical engine for the local economy.

In OH-14, Medicaid Serves:



A total of 175,400 people — **14% of all residents** in the district.² A total of 56,700 — **36% of all children** in the district.³



A total of **39,000 seniors** and **adults with disabilities**.⁴

Millions of Ohioans will lose health coverage and care if Congress cuts or caps Medicaid funding, forcing the state to offset budget holes by throwing people off coverage, cutting provider reimbursement and/or eliminating essential health services. Any cut to federal Medicaid is a direct attack on the health and financial security for people living in northeast Ohio. The majority of the public want Congress to continue to guarantee coverage for low-income people through Medicaid.⁵



A total of **87% of Ohio voters** reported that a candidate's stance on health care is important to them.⁶



A total of **75% of Ohio voters** said ensuring everyone has affordable, comprehensive health coverage should be a high priority.⁷

Protecting Medicaid Means:

CHILDREN IN OH-14

Have access to newborn care, checkups, care for diabetes and asthma, and more.

Stay healthier and ready to learn, miss fewer school days, are more likely to graduate, and earn more as adults.⁸



FAMILIES IN OH-14

Have access to cancer screenings, mental health and substance use disorder treatment, and diabetes and blood pressure medications.

Have less risk of medical debt and eviction and can better afford to buy groceries or pay rent.⁹



SENIORS IN OH-14

Have access to nursing home care, transportation to medical appointments, and home health services.

Stay healthy and receive needed care in their homes and communities.



Medicaid keeps families in Northeast Ohio healthy and working

Many low-wage jobs either do not offer health coverage or offer coverage that is unaffordable. Medicaid provides health coverage for workers at these jobs so they can remain healthy and earn income for their families.

- At least 49,400 low-wage workers in the 14th District are covered by Ohio's Medicaid program.¹⁰
- Nationwide, **92% of adults** covered by Medicaid either work, care for a family member, have an illness or disability, or attend school.¹¹

Cutting Medicaid would make our country's affordability crisis much worse for families in Northeast Ohio who already face significant health care costs.

Medicaid is the bedrock of the health care system in Northeast Ohio

Medicaid keeps nursing homes and hospitals open in Northeast Ohio. It **covers 3 in 5 nursing** home residents in Ohio¹² and pays for:

- 24% of hospital services at St. Joseph Warren Hospital.
- 22% of hospital services at University Hospitals Geneva Medical Center.
- 19% of hospital services at Ashtabula Regional Medical Center.¹³

If Medicaid is cut, these hospitals will treat more uninsured people and the amount of uncompensated care will increase. More than 6% of residents are already uninsured in OH-14¹⁴ — increased losses in patient revenue would put all hospitals in OH-14 at risk.

Medicaid stabilizes Ohio's state and local economies

Medicaid is the largest source of federal funding for Ohio, accounting for 69% of the federal funds received by the state.¹⁵ Medicaid dollars ensure Ohio can deliver Medicaid-eligible services without depleting resources reserved for other essential services, including public safety, transportation, housing and education.

Cutting Medicaid would make our country's affordability crisis much worse. Americans from all backgrounds just voted for economic security, imploring their representatives to lower costs on everyday needs including health care. Cutting Medicaid would be a direct betrayal of constituents by making health care more unaffordable. **Families in Northeast Ohio already face significant health care costs:**

- **68% of Ohio voters** report that they or someone in their immediate family has experienced medical debt.¹⁶
- 1 in 5 Ohioans spend more than 10% of their household income on health care.¹⁷

Congress has the responsibility to stand with families in Northeast Ohio and across the country by protecting Medicaid and opposing any attempts to weaken this essential program.

Endnotes

¹Rhiannon Euhus, Alice Burns, and Robin Rudowitz, "Congressional District Interactive Map: Medicaid Enrollment by Eligibility Group," March 11, 2025, <u>https://www.kff.org/medicaid/issue-brief/congressional-district-interactive-map-medicaid-enrollment-by-eligibility-group/</u>.

² Euhus, Burns, and Rudowitz, "Congressional District Interactive Map."

³ Families USA analysis of data from Euhus, Burns, and Rudowitz, "Congressional District Interactive Map"; U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce, "Age and Sex," American Community Survey, ACS 1-Year Estimates Subject Tables, Table S0101, 2023, accessed February 10, 2025, <u>https://data.census.gov/table/ACSST1Y2023.S0101?g=500XX00US3617</u>; and U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce, "Selected Characteristics of Health Insurance Coverage in the United States," American Community Survey, ACS 1-Year Estimates Subject Tables, Table S2701, 2023, accessed February 10, 2025, <u>https://data.census.gov/table/ACSST1Y2023.S2701?g=500XX00US3617</u>; and U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce, "Selected Characteristics of Health Insurance Coverage in the United States," American Community Survey, ACS 1-Year Estimates Subject Tables, Table S2701, 2023, accessed February 10, 2025, <u>https://data.census.gov/table/ACSST1Y2023.S2701?g=s27018g=500XX00US0803,0808,3912,5304</u>.

⁴ Euhus, Burns, and Rudowitz, "Congressional District Interactive Map."

⁵ Grace Sparks, Robin Rudowitz, and Ashley Kirzinger, "Public Opinion on the Future of Medicaid: Results From the KFF Medicaid Unwinding Survey and KFF Health Tracking Poll," KFF, June 4, 2024, <u>https://www.kff.org/medicaid/poll-finding/public-opinion-on-the-future-of-medicaid-kff-medicaid-unwinding-kff-health-tracking-poll/</u>.

⁶ Elizabeth Harrington, Public Opinion Strategies, and Jeff Horwitt, Hart Research, to American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, "Key Findings – Ohio Statewide Survey," August 9, 2024, <u>https://www.fightcancer.org/sites/default/files/docs/ohio_cancer_votes_poll.pdf</u>.

⁷ Harrington and Horwitt, "Key Findings."

⁸ "How Medicaid Supports Student Success," Georgetown University McCourt School of Public Policy, Center for Children and Families, January 9, 2025, <u>https://ccf.georgetown.edu/2025/01/09/how-medicaid-supports-student-success/</u>.

⁹ David U. Himmelstein et al., "Prevalence and Risk Factors for Medical Debt and Subsequent Changes in Social Determinants of Health in the US," *JAMA Network Open* 5, no. 9 (2022): e2231898, <u>https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamanetworkopen/fullarticle/2796358</u>; Raymond Kluender et al., "Medical Debt in the US, 2009-2020," *JAMA* 326, no. 3 (2021): 250–256, <u>https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/fullarticle/2782187</u>.

¹⁰ U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce, "Public Health Insurance by Work Experience by Sex," American Community Survey, ACS 1-Year Estimates Detailed Tables, Table B27014, 2023, accessed on February 11, 2025, <u>https://data.census.gov/table/ACSDT1Y2023.B27014?q=B27014&g=500XX00US3914</u>.

¹¹ Jennifer Tolbert et al., "Understanding the Intersection of Medicaid and Work: An Update," KFF, February 4, 2025, <u>https://</u>www.kff.org/medicaid/issue-brief/understanding-the-intersection-of-medicaid-and-work-an-update/.

¹²"Medicaid in Ohio," KFF, August 2024, <u>https://files.kff.org/attachment/fact-sheet-medicaid-state-OH</u>.

¹³ "Hospital Cost Tool," National Academy for State Health Policy, last updated February 7, 2025, https://tool.nashp.org/.

¹⁴ U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce, "Selected Characteristics of Health Insurance Coverage in the United States," American Community Survey, ACS 1-Year Estimates Subject Tables, Table S2701, 2023, accessed February 10, 2025, <u>https://data.census.gov/table/ACSST1Y2023.S2701?q=s2701&g=500XX00US0803,0808,3912,5304</u>.

¹⁵ "Medicaid Is Vital to Ohio," Georgetown University Center for Children and Families, n.d., <u>https://ccf.georgetown.edu/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/Medicaid-is-Vital-to-Ohio-2025-Fact-Sheet.pdf</u>.

¹⁶ Harrington and Horwitt, "Key Findings."

¹⁷ Becky Carroll et al., Health Value Dashboard: 2024 (Health Policy Institute of Ohio, April 2024), <u>https://www.</u> <u>healthpolicyohio.org/our-work/publications/2024-health-value-dashboard</u>. This publication was written by the following Families USA staff: Mary-Beth Malcarney, Senior Advisor on Medicaid Policy Ben Anderson, Deputy Senior Director, Health Policy Mackenzie Marshall, Government Relations Manager

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