

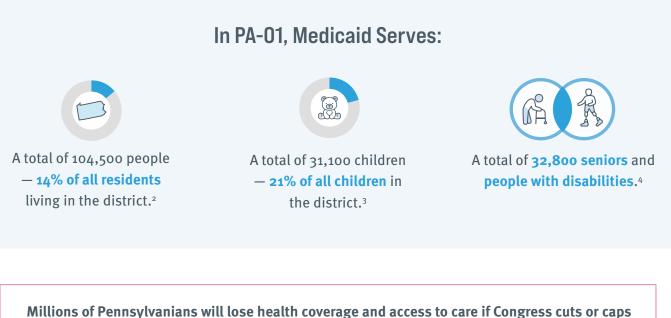


Medicaid Matters to Pennsylvania's 1st Congressional District (PA-01)

Pennsylvania's Medicaid program is a lifeline in Bucks and Montgomery Counties

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

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



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 Medicaid is a direct attack on the health and financial security of people living in the 1st Congressional District and runs counter to the will of the vast majority of voters from across political parties who want Congress to continue to guarantee coverage for low-income people through Medicaid.⁵



A total of **71% of voters** want Congress to continue to guarantee coverage for low-income people through Medicaid.⁶

Protecting Medicaid Means:

CHILDREN IN PA-01

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

Stay healthy and ready to learn, miss fewer school days, are more likely to graduate, and earn more as adults.⁷



FAMILIES IN PA-01

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.⁸



SENIORS IN PA-01

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.

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Medicaid keeps families in Bucks and Montgomery Counties 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 29,000 low-wage workers in the district are covered by Medicaid.9
- Nationwide, **92% of adults** covered by Medicaid either work, care for a family member, have an illness or disability, or attend school.¹⁰

Cutting Medicaid would make our country's affordability crisis much worse for families in Bucks and Montgomery Counties who already face significant health care costs.

Medicaid is the bedrock of health care systems in Bucks and Montgomery Counties

Medicaid keeps hospitals in Bucks and Montgomery counties open. It pays for over one-fourth of all hospital services provided at Lower Bucks Hospital.¹¹ Any cut to Medicaid funding means Lower Bucks Hospital would treat more uninsured people. Increased losses in patient revenue would put access to care for the whole community at risk.

Medicaid is one of the most important tools in combatting the behavioral health crisis in the Keystone State, where one-quarter of adults with mental illness do not have access to mental health services¹² and over 4,700 residents died of an overdose in 2023.¹³ Medicaid is the largest payer for mental health care, substance use disorder treatment, and other community services to curb the opioid epidemic and care for people with mental illness.¹⁴ Medicaid also covers nearly two-thirds of all nursing home residents in Pennsylvania.¹⁵

Medicaid stabilizes Pennsylvania's state and local economies

Medicaid is the largest source of federal funding for Pennsylvania, accounting for 63% of the federal funds received by the state.¹⁶ Medicaid dollars directly ensure counties across Pennsylvania can deliver essential health care 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 Pennsylvania already face significant health care costs:**

- **1 million residents** face medical debt.
- **11% of Pennsylvanians** carry medical debt in collections.¹⁷

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

Endnotes

¹ Rhiannon Euhus, Alice Burns, and Robin Rudowitz, "Congressional District Interactive Map: Medicaid Enrollment by Eligibility Group," KFF, 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 Euhus, Burns, and Rudowitz, "Congressional District Interactive Map" and U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce, "Age and Sex," American Community Survey, ACS 1-Year Estimates Subject Tables, Table S0101, 2023, <u>https://data.census.gov/table/ACSST1Y2023.S0101?g=500XX00US4201</u>.

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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/</u> <u>public-opinion-on-the-future-of-medicaid-kff-medicaid-unwinding-kff-health-tracking-poll/</u>.

⁶ ibid.

⁷ "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>.

⁸ 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>.

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¹⁰ Jennifer Tolbert et al., "Understanding the Intersection of Medicaid and Work: An Update," KFF, February 4, 2025, <u>https://www.kff.org/medicaid/issue-brief/understanding-the-intersection-of-medicaid-and-work-an-update/</u>.

¹¹ "Hospital Cost Tool," National Academy for State Health Policy, last updated February 7, 2025, <u>https://tool.nashp.org/</u>.

¹² Meera Pal, "The Worst States for Mental Health Care 2025," Forbes, January 2, 2025, <u>https://www.forbes.com/advisor/health-insurance/worst-states-for-mental-health-care/</u>.

¹³ "Opioid Use Disorder: Individuals and Families," Pennsylvania Department of Health, n.d., <u>https://www.pa.gov/agencies/</u> <u>health/programs/opioids/individuals-families.html</u>.

¹⁴ "Behavioral Health Services," <u>Medicaid.gov</u>, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, n.d., <u>https://www.medicaid.gov/</u> <u>medicaid/benefits/behavioral-health-services/index.html;</u> "How Medicaid Helps People with Substance Use Disorders," Georgetown University McCourt School of Public Policy, Center for Children and Families, February, 29, 2025, <u>https://ccf.</u> <u>georgetown.edu/2025/02/19/how-medicaid-helps-people-with-substance-use-disorders</u>.

¹⁵ "How Medicaid Cares for Pennsylvanians," The Hospital and Healthsystem Association of Pennsylvania, February 2025, <u>https://haponlinecontent.azureedge.net/resourcelibrary/how-medicaid-cares-for-pennsylvanians-february2025.pdf;</u> "Medicaid in Pennsylvania," KFF, August 2024, <u>https://files.kff.org/attachment/fact-sheet-medicaid-state-PA</u>.

¹⁶ "Medicaid Is Vital to Pennsylvania," Georgetown University Center for Children and Families, n.d., <u>https://ccf.georgetown.</u> <u>edu/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/Medicaid-is-Vital-to-Pennsylvania-2025-Fact-Sheet.pdf</u>.

¹⁷ Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, "Governor Shapiro and Rep. Venkat Highlight Plan to Erase Medical Debt for Many Families Across Pennsylvania During Visit to Mifflin County Community Health Center," news release, April 2, 2024, <u>https://www.pa.gov/governor/newsroom/2024-press-releases/governor-shapiro-and-rep--venkat-highlight-plan-to-erase-medical.</u> <u>html</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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