



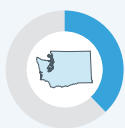
Medicaid Matters to Washington's 4th Congressional District (WA-04)

Washington's Medicaid program (Apple Health) is a lifeline for Central Washington

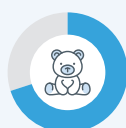
Apple Health provides health coverage for children, agricultural workers, veterans, vulnerable seniors, people with disabilities, and many more people in Central Washington.

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

In WA-04, Apple Health Serves:



Nearly 300,000 people — **38% of all residents living in the district**; WA-04 has the highest Medicaid enrollment in the state.¹

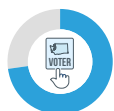


Nearly 150,000 children — **70% of all children** in the district.²



At least **37,100 seniors and adults with disabilities**.³

Almost 2 million Washingtonians 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 Medicaid is a direct attack on the health and financial security of people living in Central Washington 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.⁴



A total of **71% of voters** want Congress to continue to guarantee coverage for low-income people through Medicaid.⁵

Protecting Medicaid Means:

CHILDREN IN WA-04

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.⁶



FAMILIES IN WA-04

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

Have less risk of medical debt and eviction and can better afford to buy groceries or pay rent.⁷



SENIORS IN WA-04

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 WA-04 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 60,000 low-wage workers** in WA-04 are covered by Apple Health.⁸
- Medicaid is an **essential source of care** to farmworkers in WA-04.⁹
- Nationwide, **92% of adults** covered by Medicaid nationwide 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 Central Washington who already face significant health care costs.

Medicaid is the bedrock of health systems in Central Washington

Apple Health keeps nursing homes and hospitals in Central Washington open. It covers three in five nursing home residents in Washington¹¹ and pays for:

- 63% of all hospital services provided at Othello Community Hospital.
- 36% of all hospital services provided at Astria Toppenish Hospital.
- 31% of all hospital services provided at Samaritan Healthcare in Moses Lake.¹²

If Medicaid is cut, these hospitals will treat more uninsured people and the amount of uncompensated care will increase. A total of 11.5% of residents are already uninsured in WA-04¹³ — increased losses in patient revenue would put all rural hospitals in WA-04 at risk.

Medicaid stabilizes Washington's state and local economies

Medicaid is the largest source of federal funding for Washington, accounting for 70% of the federal funds received by the state.¹⁴ Medicaid dollars ensure Washington 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 to constituents by making health care more unaffordable. **Families in Washington already face significant health care costs:**

- **57% report** avoiding needed medical treatment or filling prescriptions due to cost.
- **63% report** being unable to pay an unexpected \$500 medical bill.
- **One in three** have medical debt.¹⁵

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

Endnotes

- ¹ Families USA analysis of United States Census Bureau, “Age and Sex,” Table S0101, ACS 1-Year Estimates Subject Tables, 2023, accessed March 6, 2025, <https://data.census.gov/table/ACSST1Y2023.S0101?g=500XX00US5304> and Washington State Department of Health data reported in “February 2025 Snapshot: Medicaid Cuts Threaten WA Health Care, Especially in Rural Areas” accessed March 11, 2025 <https://www.cantwell.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/02252025medicaidsnapshotreport.pdf>.
- ² Ibid.
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- ⁴ 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,” Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation (KFF), June 4, 2024, <https://www.kff.org/medicaid/poll-finding/public-opinion-on-the-future-of-medicaid-kff-medicaid-unwinding-kff-health-tracking-poll/>; Shannon Schumacher, Audrey Kearney, Marley Presiado, et al., “KFF Health Tracking Poll February 2025: The Public’s Views on Potential Changes to Medicaid,” KFF, March 7, 2025, https://www.kff.org/medicaid/poll-finding/kff-health-tracking-poll-public-views-on-potential-changes-to-medicaid/?utm_campaign=KFF-Polling-Surveys&utm_medium=email&hsenc=p2ANqtz-8iNmxiRg_gtnbWKy1kvLR_3dqUj8mA--j6CjS84vvlfiW3AzwGtdMq_ajiem7psqyowvFZw-j9r7ybektDj7dmsdMK9_wS0GGrcZ5NStozHi_enFM&hsmi=350586980&utm_content=350586980&utm_source=hs_email.
- ⁵ Ibid.
- ⁶ “How Medicaid Supports Student Success,” Georgetown University McCourt School of Public Policy, Center for Children and Families, January 9, 2025, <https://ccf.georgetown.edu/2025/01/09/how-medicaid-supports-student-success/>.
- ⁷ David U. Himmelstein, Samuel L. Dickman, Danny McCormick, 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, [doi:10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2022.31898](https://doi.org/10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2022.31898); Raymond Kluender, Neale Mahoney, Francis Wong, et al., “Medical Debt in the US, 2009–2020,” *JAMA* 326, no. 3 (2021):250–256, [doi:10.1001/jama.2021.8694](https://doi.org/10.1001/jama.2021.8694).
- ⁸ U.S. Census Bureau, “Health Insurance Coverage Status and Type by Work Experience by Sex,” Table B27012, ACS 1-Year Estimates Detailed Tables, 2023, accessed February 13, 2025, <https://data.census.gov/table/ACSDT1Y2023.B27012?q=B27012&g=500XX00US5304>.
- ⁹ “Supporting Health for Agricultural Workers,” Washington Association of Community Health, July 20, 2023, <https://www.wacommunityhealth.org/post/supporting-health-for-agricultural-workers>.
- ¹⁰ Jennifer Tolbert, Sammy Cervantes, Robin Rudowitz, et al., “Understanding the Intersection of Medicaid and Work: An Update,” KFF, February 4, 2025, <https://www.kff.org/medicaid/issue-brief/understanding-the-intersection-of-medicaid-and-work-an-update/>.
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