

Medicaid & CHIP Provide Quality Health Insurance for Half of Pennsylvania Kids

In every community across Pennsylvania, Medicaid and CHIP play a big role in keeping kids covered and healthy. Through these public health insurance options, nearly half of all children have access to check-ups, doctor-recommended screenings, vaccinations and much more.



47% of Pennsylvania children rely on Medicaid or CHIP to meet their health care needs

As policymakers, we urge you to commit to ensuring that Medicaid remains strong and can do its core job of providing critical health insurance to Pennsylvania families.

As families grapple with the rising costs of everyday expenses, it's more important than ever that they have access to high-quality, affordable health care for both physical and mental health.

Any cuts to Medicaid, *including block grants and per capita caps*, would jeopardize coverage for nearly 1.2 million Pennsylvania children, including children with special health care needs, children living in families with lower incomes, and children living in or aging out of foster care.

Just the Facts:

- ✓ Children in PA's rural areas and small towns rely on Medicaid just as much as children in urban areas.ⁱ
- ✓ Medicaid coverage in childhood is associated with better overall health and improves education outcomes, like graduating from high school.ⁱⁱ
- ✓ CHIP fills the gap for families who don't qualify for Medicaid yet can't afford private health insurance. No family earns too much for CHIP, and affordable monthly premiums are income-based.
- ✓ There is no open enrollment period. Medicaid and CHIP are open for enrollment 365 days of the year.

Federal cuts to Medicaid would shift the burden onto Pennsylvania's budget and lead to higher uninsured rates among our kids, seniors, pregnant women and people with disabilities.

Enroll in Medicaid:

Visit dhs.pa.gov/Compass or call the Customer Service Center at 1-877-385-8930 or 1-215-560-7226 (Philadelphia).

Enroll in CHIP:

Visit chipcoverspakids.com or call the CHIP Helpline at 1-800-986-KIDS (5437).

ⁱ Georgetown University Center for Children and Families. Share of Children Covered by Medicaid/CHIP in Metro Areas and Small Towns/Rural Areas by State, 2023. https://www.datawrapper.de/_JQHCze/

ⁱⁱ Research compiled by the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, 2018. <https://www.cbpp.org/research/medicaid-works-for-children>

Pennsylvania Children Enrolled in Medicaid and CHIP by Congressional District

Party Affiliation	District	Member of Congress	MA Eligibility <19 Years (Sep 2024)	CHIP Eligibility <19 Years (Sep 2024)	Total Child Eligibility (Sep 2024)	Estimated Percent of Child Population	Estimated Percent of the Total Population
R	1	Fitzpatrick	42,598	10,112	52,710	32%	6.9%
D	2	Boyle	129,536	12,394	141,930	78%	18.6%
D	3	Evans	100,273	8,547	108,820	75%	14.2%
D	4	Dean	41,765	8,902	50,667	30%	6.6%
D	5	Scanlon	75,991	10,752	86,743	48%	11.3%
D	6	Houlahan	57,509	10,183	67,692	36%	8.9%
R	7	Mackenzie	68,376	12,230	80,606	48%	10.5%
R	8	Bresnahan	82,187	11,351	93,538	59%	12.2%
R	9	Meuser	68,913	11,029	79,942	49%	10.5%
R	10	Perry	75,496	11,885	87,381	50%	11.4%
R	11	Smucker	56,122	12,984	69,106	38%	9.0%
D	12	Lee	63,743	8,240	71,983	50%	9.4%
R	13	Joyce	65,190	11,831	77,021	46%	10.1%
R	14	Reschenthaler	63,607	9,750	73,357	49%	9.6%
R	15	Thompson	54,117	8,783	62,900	41%	8.2%
R	16	Kelly	69,345	8,908	78,253	47%	10.2%
D	17	Deluzio	46,243	7,814	54,057	34%	7.1%
D	Statewide	Sen. John Fetterman	1,161,011	175,695	1,336,706	47%	10.3%
R	Statewide	Sen. Dave McCormick					

Note: The totals above will not match the counts provided monthly by the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services due to report timing differences and the inability to assign legislative districts to 1,167 CHIP enrollees. Monthly Medicaid child enrollment includes youth ages 19-20: an additional 101,205 youth ages 19-20 were served in September 2024. CHIP data does not reflect the 3,197 youth who turned 19 in September 2024.



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Source: Pennsylvania Partnerships for Children analysis of data provided by the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services and the US Census Bureau.