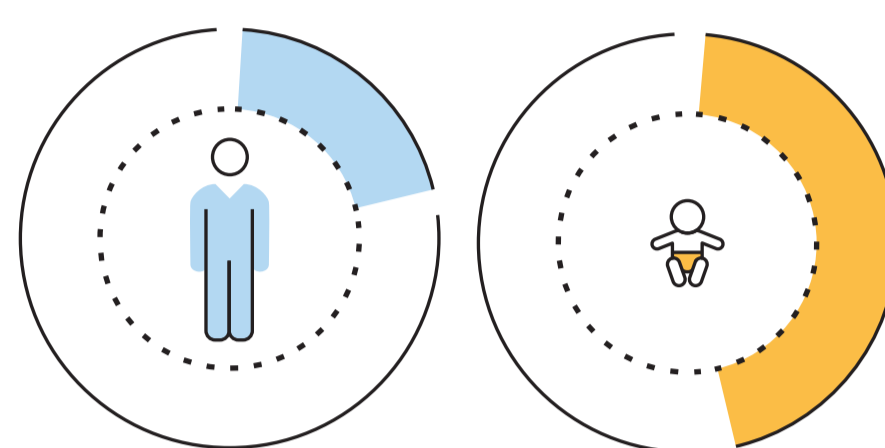


# FAST FACTS ON Medicaid in Rural Communities

Americans living in rural communities face challenges that can make it difficult to access health care. Medicaid serves an important role by providing coverage for high-quality health services in rural areas. Below are some fast facts about the program's impact on rural communities from the Modern Medicaid Alliance (MMA).

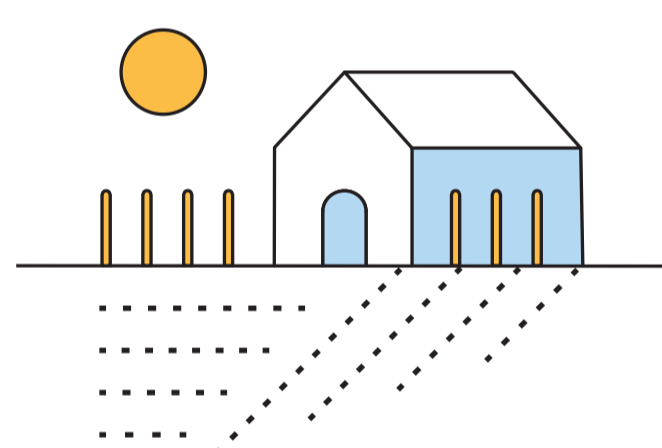


**Americans in rural areas face significant barriers to accessing care.** Health care provider shortages, closures of rural hospitals, and long distances to health care sites make it difficult to access care.



**Medicaid provides needed coverage for both adults and children.** About 23 percent of adults and 47 percent of children in rural areas are enrolled in Medicaid.

Medicaid helps support jobs and generate income. Hospitals and employment supported by Medicaid account for as much as **20 percent** of local economies in rural America.



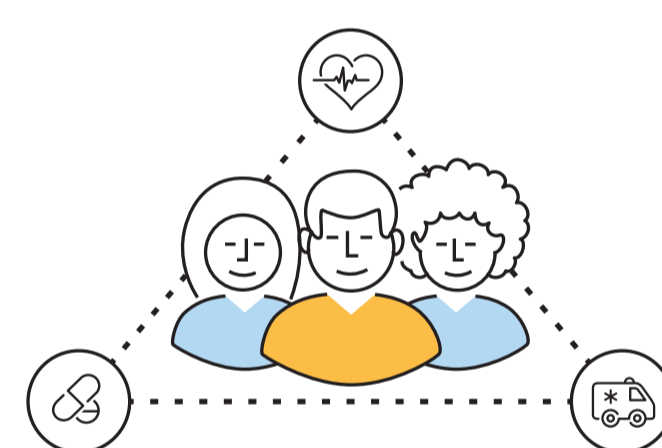
**Medicaid reduces the number of uninsured Americans in rural areas.**

Between 2013–2015 rural areas saw coverage rates increase five percent greatly reducing the number of uninsured Americans.



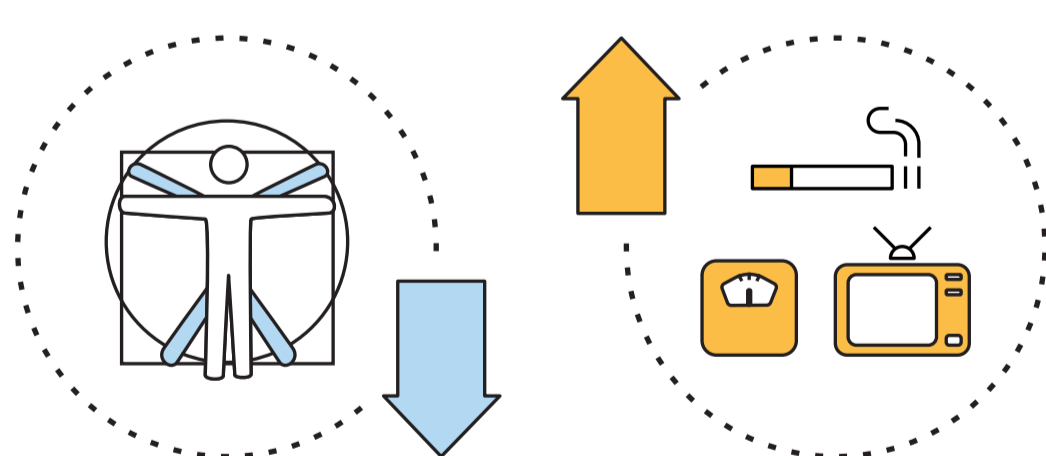
**Medicaid beneficiaries in rural areas experience less medical debt.**

Beneficiaries are less likely to have trouble paying for care and delay needed treatment because Medicaid does not generally charge premiums or deductibles.



**Medicaid delivers high-quality care.**

Medicaid beneficiaries in rural areas are more likely to report satisfaction with their coverage than the uninsured or those who have private coverage.



**Medicaid helps rural residents, who are more likely to report poorer physical and mental health conditions.**

People in rural areas have higher rates of cigarette smoking, obesity, and physical inactivity than urban residents.



**Medicaid helps finance rural hospitals and health care services.**

Medicaid and Medicare account for more than half of rural hospital revenues. Medicaid alone supports nearly half of publicly provided mental health services.



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