

MEDICAID KEEPS AMERICA'S CHILDREN HEALTHY

The Modern Medicaid Alliance is committed to educating policymakers and the public about the essential safety net the Medicaid program provides to millions of Americans. Starting today the Alliance will release a series of resources focused on how Medicaid helps to improve maternal and children's health across the country.

Medicaid is the largest health care program in the country delivering high-quality health insurance for 1 in 5 Americans, and together with the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) covers more than 45 million children. Below are some facts about Medicaid coverage for children.

Covered Population



More than 45 million children are covered by Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) as of 2018.¹



Medicaid and CHIP cover **nearly half (6.1 million) of all children with special health care needs, 37% of school-age children, and 79% of children living in poverty.**²



43% of all births in the country were covered by Medicaid in 2018.³



Medicaid and CHIP cover **45% of children younger than 6 and 36% of children aged 6-18.**⁴



How Medicaid & CHIP Provide Better Health for Children



Children enrolled in CHIP receive the medical care they need, with **90% having a medical visit in the past year, and 87% having a preventive care visit** during the same time frame.⁵



Children covered by Medicaid or CHIP are **2-to-3 times more likely to receive certain preventive care services** than people with no health insurance.⁶



Children covered by Medicaid were **22% less likely to have high blood pressure as adults** than children without insurance coverage.⁷



Students covered by Medicaid are nearly **7% more likely to graduate high school** than uninsured students.⁸

Only 5.5% of American children are uninsured today thanks to Medicaid and CHIP, compared to 14% in 1997.⁹



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¹ <https://www.medicaid.gov/sites/default/files/2019-12/fy-2018-childrens-enrollment-report.pdf>

² <https://www.kff.org/medicaid/issue-brief/medicaids-role-for-children-with-special-health-care-needs-a-look-at-eligibility-services-and-spending/>

³ <https://www.macpac.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Medicaid%E2%80%99s-Role-in-Financing-Maternity-Care.pdf>

⁴ <https://ccf.georgetown.edu/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/MedicaidYoungChildren.pdf>

⁵ <https://www.macpac.gov/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/State-Children%E2%80%99s-Health-Insurance-Program-CHIP-Fact-Sheet.pdf>

⁶ <https://www.ahip.org/the-value-of-medicaid-access-to-care-and-preventive-care-services/>

⁷ <https://www.cbpp.org/research/health/medicaid-works-for-children>

⁸ http://www-personal.umich.edu/~mille/MillerWherry_Prenatal2015.pdf

⁹ <https://www.kff.org/medicaid/issue-brief/key-issues-in-childrens-health-coverage/> and <https://www.census.gov/content/dam/Census/library/publications/2019/demo/p60-267.pdf>