

Medicaid's Critical Role in Providing Long-term Services and Supports (LTSS)

Millions of Americans, including a significant number of individuals 65+, need long-term services and supports (LTSS) due to disability and/or chronic illness. Medicaid is the primary provider for LTSS across a wide range of care settings.

1. Medicaid is the primary source of coverage for LTSS, providing [nearly half](#) of all national spending on these vital services.
2. LTSS [consist](#) of a wide range of medical and daily living support such as personal care assistance for people dealing with long-term conditions, disabilities, or frailty, provided by both paid and unpaid caregivers. Examples include nursing facility care, adult daycare programs, home health aide services, personal care services, transportation, and family caregiving services.
3. Demographic trends indicate that LTSS will only become more critical moving forward. More than [half of Americans 65+](#) are expected to develop long-term disabilities requiring LTSS in the future. As of 2022, the average person turning 65 is expected to incur \$120,000 for LTSS in their lifetime.
4. LTSS are provided across [3 main settings](#): nursing homes, peoples' homes, and residential facilities. The Medicaid share of nursing home care is particularly high. Of the people residing in nursing homes, an estimated [62%](#) have Medicaid as a payer source.
5. Community-based LTSS programs help Americans receiving care at home live as [independently and safely](#) as possible when they are no longer able to perform daily activities on their own.
6. [Nearly two-thirds](#) of all Medicaid spending for LTSS is now for services provided in the home or community (known as "[home and community-based services](#)" or "HCBS") that enable Americans 65+ and people with disabilities to live independently rather than in facilities.
7. [25 states](#) currently provide some or all LTSS benefits through Medicaid managed care. Managed LTSS (or MLTSS) [help improve](#) care coordination and access to HCBS for beneficiaries, lower costs, and improve health outcomes.

