



COLLEGE OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
The University of Georgia



# Implementation of the *Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act* in Georgia

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## Factors Impacting Implementation Success

- Georgia Demographics
- Current HI Status of Georgians
- Political Environment
- Efficiencies of Medicaid and the New Exchange
- State Budget/Resources



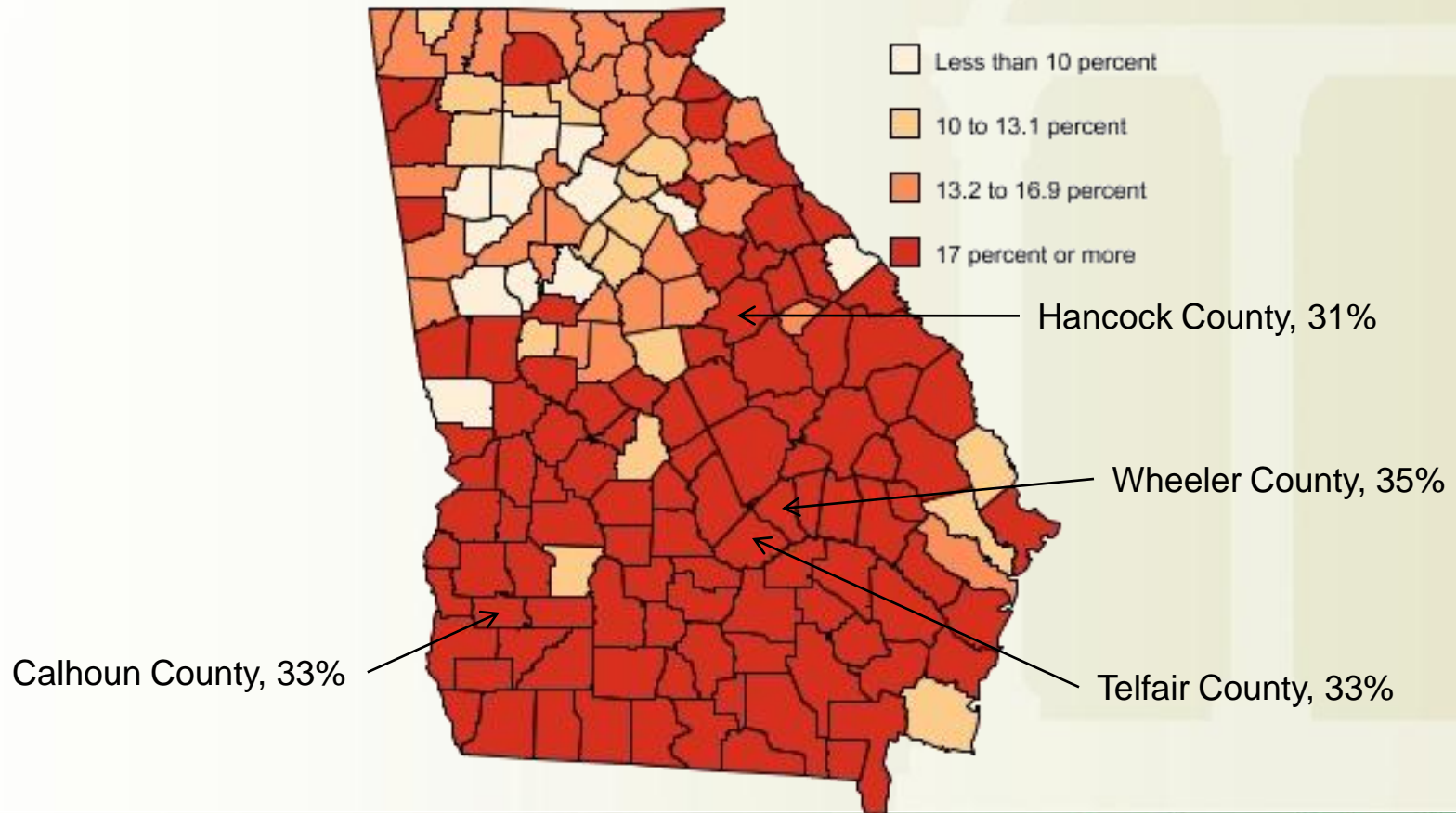
# Georgia Demographics

	Georgia	US
Race/Ethnicity		
White	57%	65%
Black	29%	12%
Hispanic	9%	16%
<b>Median Annual Income</b>	<b>\$46,570</b>	<b>\$49,945</b>
Poverty Rates		
Urban	13.5%	13%
<b>Rural</b>	<b>20.3%</b>	<b>15%</b>
Immigration		
<b>% Growth since 1990</b>	<b>372%</b>	<b>90%</b>

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# Rural Poverty in Georgia



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# Health Status in Georgia

- America's Health Ranking ranks Georgia's overall health 43<sup>rd</sup>
  - 33<sup>rd</sup> in obesity prevalence
  - 46<sup>th</sup> in infectious disease
  - 43<sup>rd</sup> in immunization coverage (children 3-19)
  - 41<sup>st</sup> in lack of insurance coverage
  - 37<sup>th</sup> in prenatal care
  - 42<sup>nd</sup> in infant mortality
  - 41<sup>st</sup> in diabetes
  - 35<sup>th</sup> in health status (% reporting poor or fair)





# Economic Implications of Poor Health

- Obesity
  - Obesity rate in GA is 27.2%
  - Expenditures attributable to obesity were \$2.1 billion in 1998-2000
    - Medicare: \$405 million
    - Medicaid: \$385 million
  - However, obesity rate is now twice as large as 2000
  - Rates particularly higher in rural areas



# Economic Implications of Poor Health

- Diabetes
  - Contributes to blindness, kidney failure, amputations, heart disease, stroke, hypertension, etc.
  - \$288 million in hospital charges attributable to diabetes
  - \$5.1 billion societal costs due to medical care, lost productivity, and premature death
  - Yearly health care costs for a person with diabetes is 2-3 times than without diabetes
  - Rates particularly higher in rural areas



# Aging Georgia

- Elderly population growth 5<sup>th</sup> fastest in country
- By 2020, expected to increase by 62% (compared to 48% nationally)
- The places where elderly are largest % of total population are in rural areas
- 11<sup>th</sup> highest proportion of elderly living below 200% FPL in US
- Georgia above national average in mortality rates, Alzheimer's and unintentional falls among the elderly.



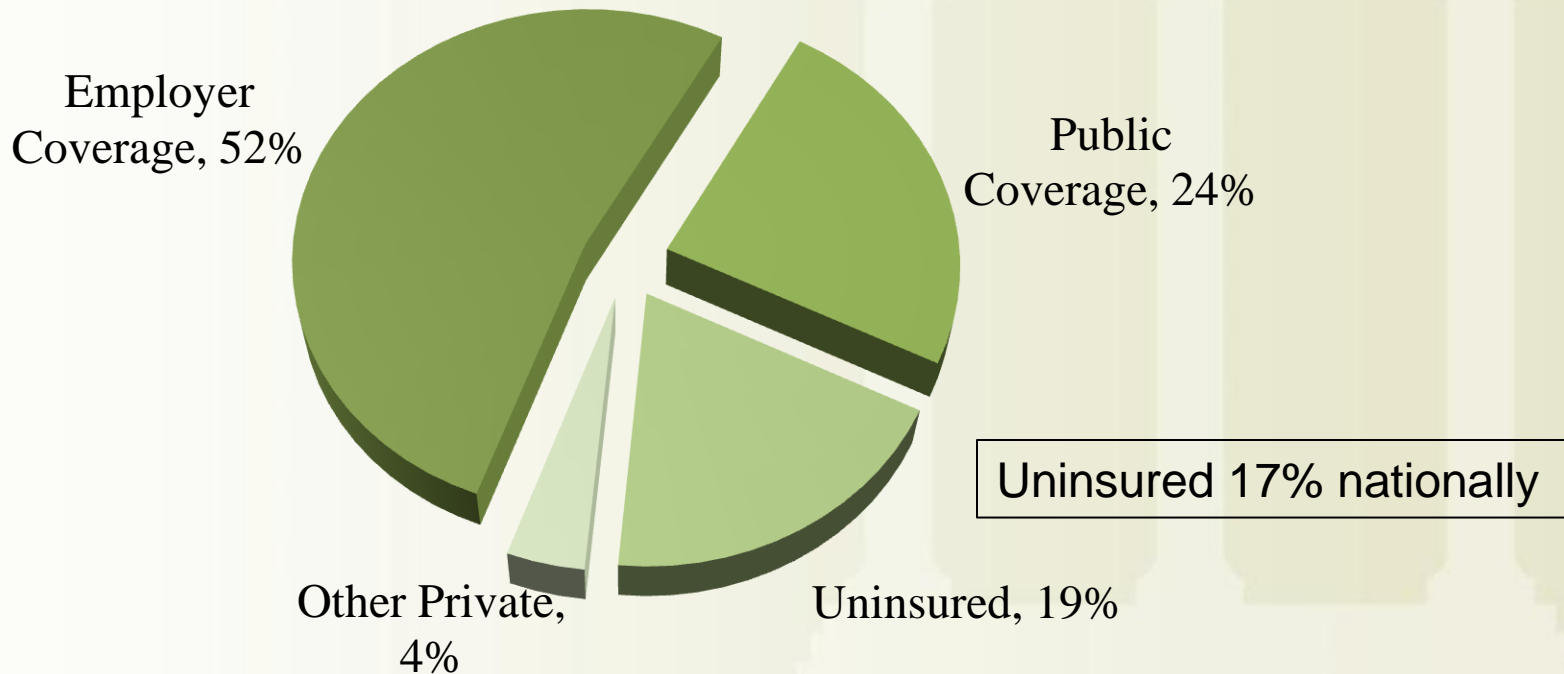
# Aging Georgia

- The rapidly growing aging population will increase the need for doctors
  - However, the growth in physician workforce is stagnant
- There are a relatively small number of geriatricians in Georgia compared to other states
- Rural areas are especially short of physicians but have particularly high proportions of elderly



# Georgians Have Insufficient Access to Coverage

**All Georgians in 2008-9**



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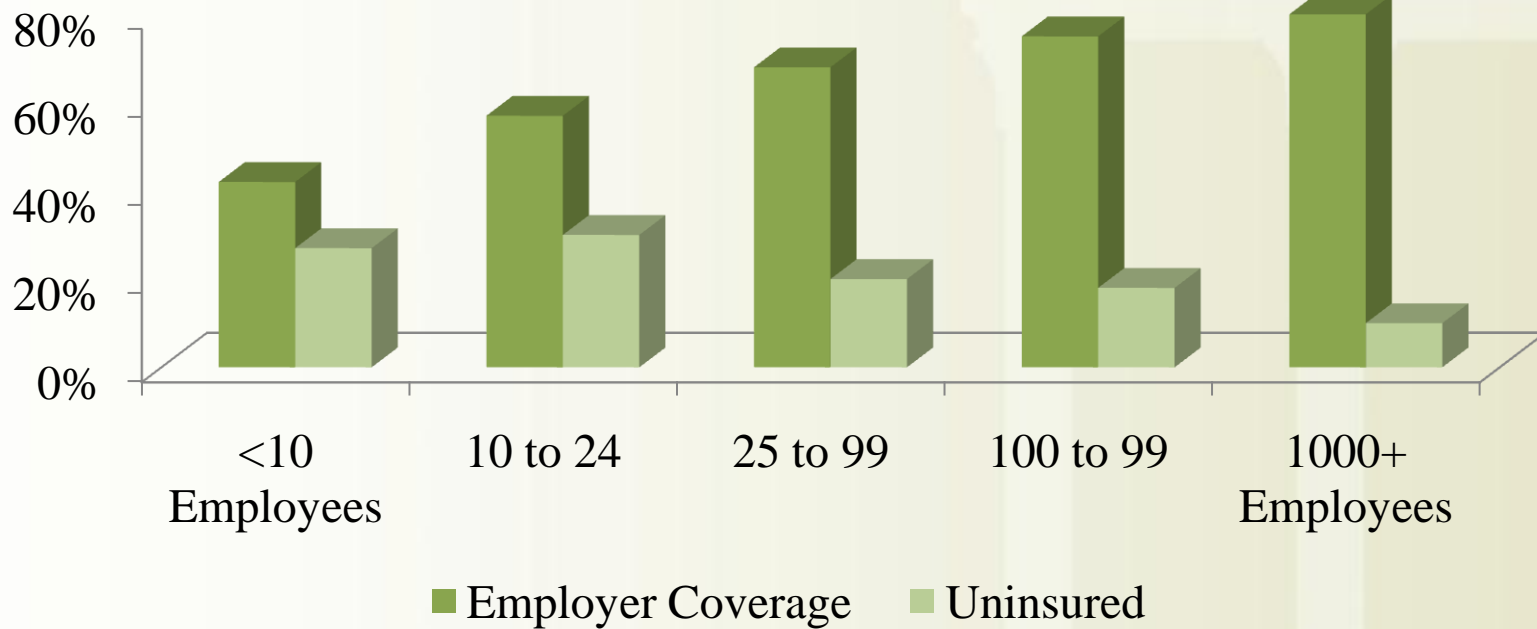
# Small Businesses in Georgia

- % of employees by firm size
  - 17% work in a firm with <20 employees (18% nationally)
  - 33% work in a firm with <100 employees (36% nationally)
  - 67% work in a firm with 100+ employees (64% nationally)
- % of firms by firm size
  - 87% of firms have <20 employees (89% nationally)
  - 97% of firms have <100 employees (98% nationally)
  - 3% of firms 100+ employees (2% nationally)





## Most Americans Covered Through Employer

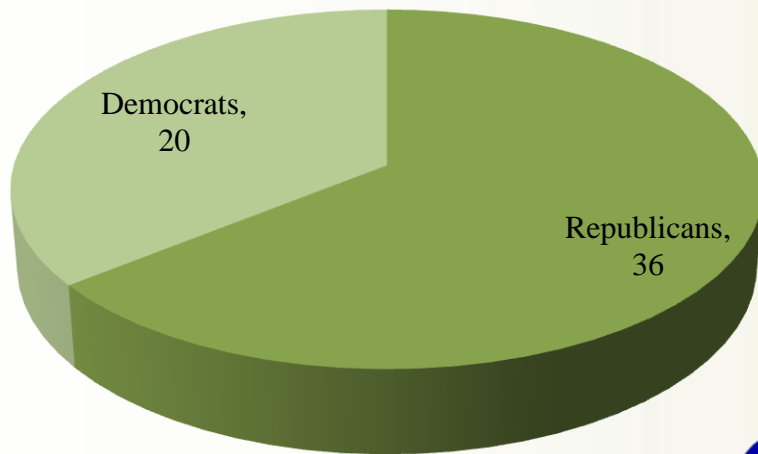


- Availability is lacking for small businesses
- Few opportunities for workers without employer coverage
- Increasing costs a major burden for employers/workers

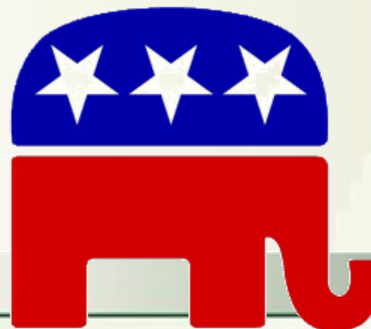
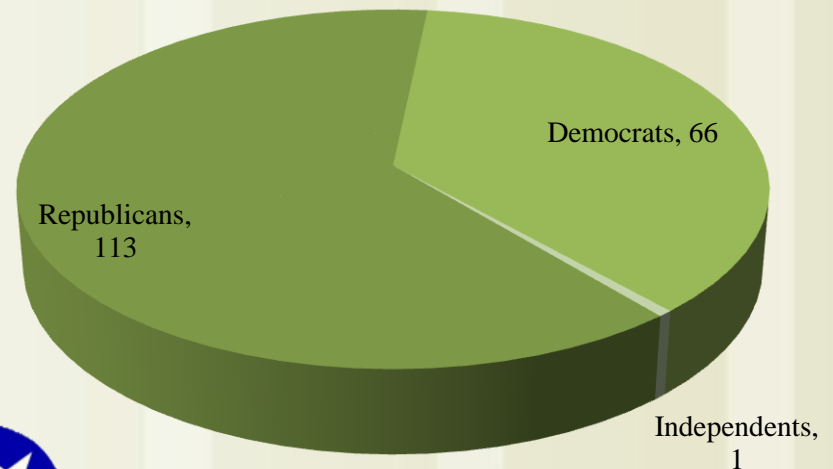


# Political Climate in Georgia

**Georgia State Senate 2011**



**Georgia State House 2011**





# Political Climate in Georgia

- Governor Nathan Deal  
(R)



- Lieutenant Governor  
Casey Cagle (R)\*



- Secretary of State  
Brian Kemp (R)



- Attorney General†  
Samuel S. Olens (R)



- Insurance  
Commissioner  
Ralph Hudgens (R)

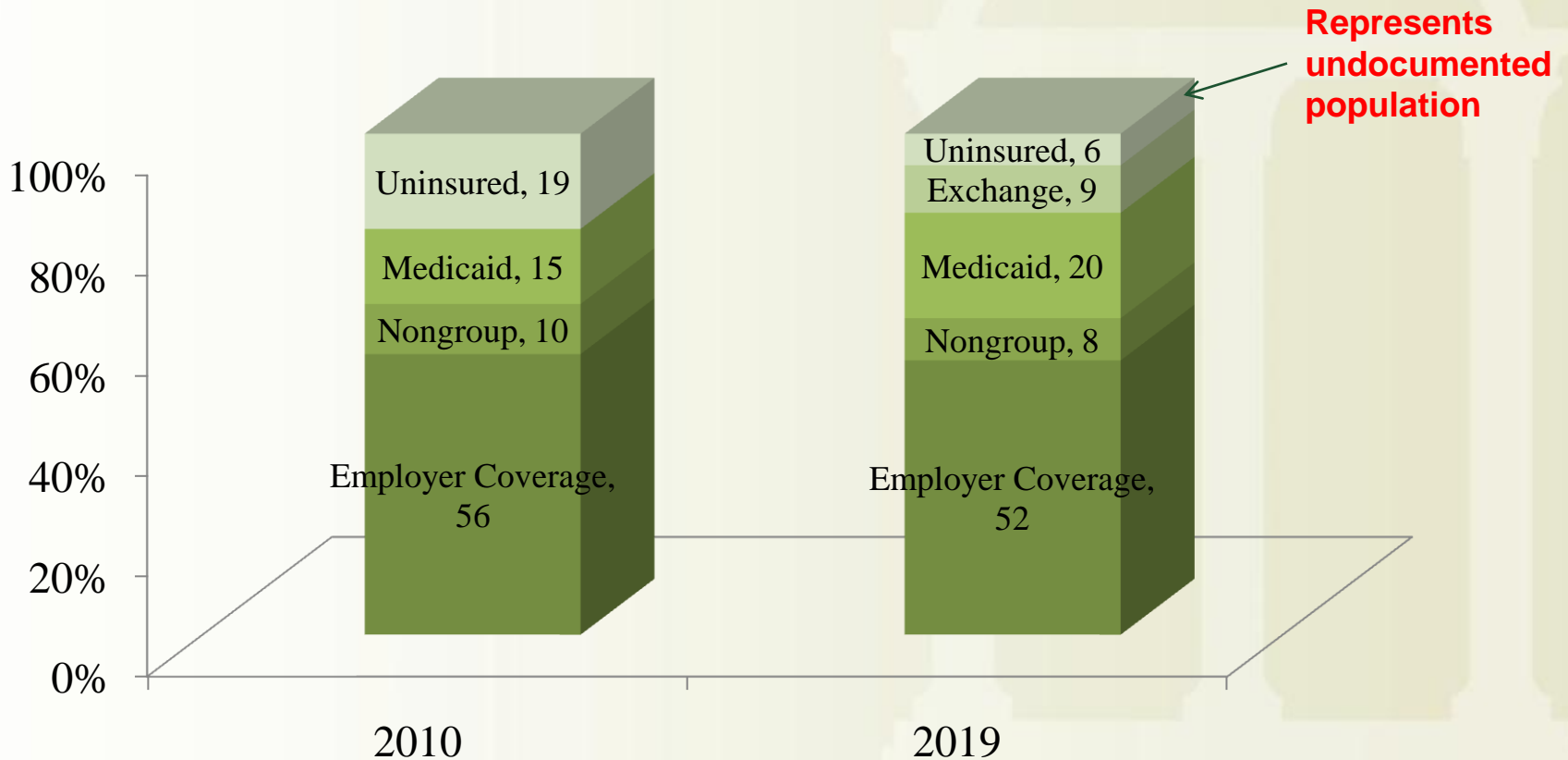


\* Incumbent

† Change of Party



# Projected US Coverage Before/After Reform





# The Undocumented in Georgia

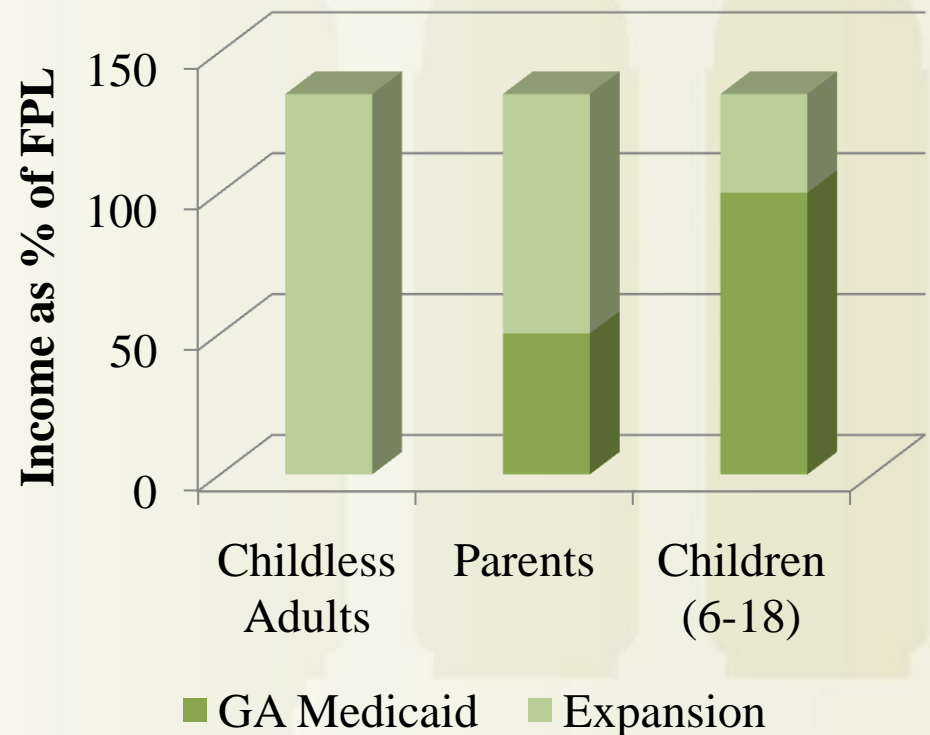
- Represent 6.3% of the workforce in Georgia
- Account for 2.6% of school-aged children
- Do not have access to HI in Georgia



# Medicaid Expansion in Georgia

- Coverage Forecasts
  - **645,000 to 900,000** new Medicaid enrollees (by 2019)
  - 75% to 80% previously uninsured, newly enrolled
- Reduces low-income uninsured by 50% to 75%

GA Medicaid After Expansion



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# Eligibility Changes in Georgia

Selected Populations	Current Eligibility	New Eligibility
Children (6-18 years-old) 100-133% FPL	Peachcare for Kids with a premium	Medicaid with no premium
Adults with Children	Medicaid available for those at or below 29% FPL	Medicaid available for those at or below 133% FPL
Adults with no children	None	Medicaid available for those at or below 133% FPL



**~700,000 newly eligible for public insurance.**

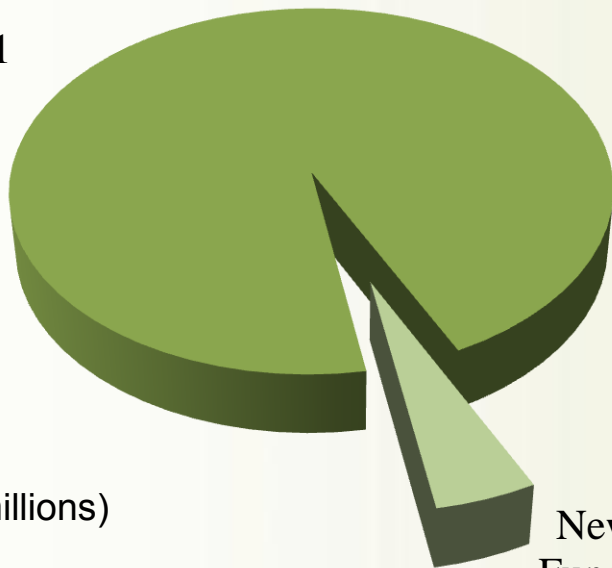
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# Medicaid Expansion Costs for GA

## Cumulative Spending from 2014 to 2019

New Federal  
Funds,  
\$14,551



(\$'s in millions)

New State  
Funds, \$714

- New state funds average \$120 million for the first six years
- New state funds  $\approx$  2.7% increase above baseline without reform
- Current budget shortfall: **\$4.5 billion in Georgia**

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# Exchanges in Georgia

- Exchanges will...
  - Organize the market for individuals
  - Ensure premiums meet regulations
  - Administer federal tax credits for individuals <400% FPL
- Georgia is currently conducting a study to determine how to offer the exchanges (findings and recommendations scheduled Sep. 2011)
  - State has the opportunity to control the Exchange market
  - Otherwise, the state may create a non-profit entity to control the Exchange market



# Opportunities and Challenges

- Opportunities
  - Improving access to HC for vulnerable, rural populations
  - New market-based HI solutions for small employers and individuals
  - Training for PH workforce
- Challenges
  - Infrastructure changes needed for Medicaid and the Exchanges
  - State resources



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**The College of Public Health at the University of Georgia** promotes health in human populations through innovative research, exemplary research, exemplary education, and engaged service dedicated to preventing disease and injury within the state and around the world.

**Thank You!**  
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