

# Georgia Left Me Out

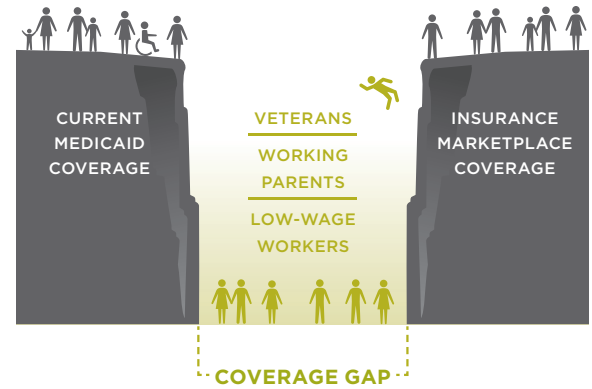


## What is Georgia's coverage gap?

Under the nation's health law, every person was supposed to have a way to get health care coverage. People with low incomes would get Medicaid as long as their state leaders agreed. However, the state of Georgia has declined federal funds to expand Medicaid to low income Georgians. Now many Georgians are left in a coverage gap, and there is no way for them to get health insurance.

## Who is in the gap?

About 300,000 hard-working Georgians fall into the coverage gap. These Georgians are veterans and their spouses, parents, young adults, and low-wage workers. They work in food service, construction, education and child care, and retail.



## Who can fix the coverage gap?

Our elected officials have the power to solve this problem. Governor Deal and the state legislature have so far rejected the money that is set aside to provide health coverage for Georgians in the gap. But they can still bring Georgia's tax dollars back to our state and close the coverage gap.

## Do you know someone in the coverage gap?

How big is your family?	Monthly Income If your monthly income is in this range, you fall in the coverage gap.*	Annual Income If your annual income is in this range, you fall in the coverage gap.*
<b>NON-PARENTS</b>		
1 person (just you)	\$0 to \$979	\$0 to \$11,769
2 people (you and your spouse)	\$0 to \$1,176	\$0 to \$15,929
<b>PARENTS</b>		
2 people (you & a child)	\$458 to \$1,176	\$5,485 to \$15,929
3 people	\$552 to \$1,673	\$6,613 to \$20,089
4 people	\$654 to \$2,019	\$7,837 to \$24,249
5 people	\$753 to \$2,366	\$9,025 to \$28,409
6 people	\$827 to \$2,713	\$9,913 to \$32,569

\*All ranges are based on the federal 2015 FPL guidelines.

## How does closing the coverage gap help Georgia?

Closing the coverage gap is good for

- **Georgia's workforce**

More than 50,000 new jobs will be created in industries like health care, real estate, hospitality, and transportation.

- **Georgia's economy**

Georgia would receive about \$3 billion per year from the federal government by closing its coverage gap. That extra investment in the state would generate \$276 million a year in new state and local tax revenue.

- **Georgians**



Georgia has the **second** highest uninsured rate in the U.S. Closing the coverage gap will help cover more than 300,000 Georgians. These Georgians will be able to get preventive health care to stay healthy, see a doctor when they get sick, and have protection from high medical bills.

## Can Georgia afford to close its coverage gap?

- Other states that have closed their coverage gap have seen big savings in their state budgets. Kentucky saved more than \$100 million in the first year and a half of its program.
- There is no risk. Georgia can back out at any time. If it is not working or costing the state too much money, Georgia can opt out.

## How can you get involved?

- **Share your coverage gap story.**

Cover Georgia wants to hear from you! Your voice is a powerful tool to help others understand the need for Georgia to close its coverage gap. Share your story by calling Whitney at 404-567-5016, ext. 5 or emailing [wgriggs@healthyfuturega.org](mailto:wgriggs@healthyfuturega.org).

- **Tell your state legislators to close the coverage gap.**

Go to [coverga.org](http://coverga.org) to sign a petition and tell your elected officials to close Georgia's coverage gap.

- **Invite Cover Georgia to talk to your faith, community, civic or professional group.**

Cover Georgia is available to talk with you and your community about this issue. If you would like us to attend a meeting or event at your organization, contact us at 404-567-5016, ext. 2 or [coverga@healthyfuturega.org](mailto:coverga@healthyfuturega.org).

**For more information about how Georgia can close the coverage gap visit [coverga.org](http://coverga.org). Also engage with us on social media by using [#coverga](https://twitter.com/coverga) and [#closethegap](https://twitter.com/closethegap).**