

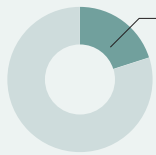


Medicaid Matters for Georgia

Medicaid and PeachCare for Kids provide health insurance for almost 2 million Georgians, facilitating access to needed health care services that would otherwise be unaffordable. Medicaid has provided health coverage to low-income Georgia residents since 1967 through a partnership between the state and federal governments. Similarly, PeachCare for Kids provides health insurance to children whose families earn too much to qualify for Medicaid.



Above: Hannah and her husband adopted Anthony and Nicholas. Both use Medicaid to cover needed behavioral and physical health services.



Almost 20% of Georgians are insured through Medicaid

Medicaid covers 1.9 million low-income Georgians including:

- 1.3 million children
- Seniors and people with disabilities
- Pregnant women
- Parents (but only those who make less than \$7,060 per year for a family of 3)

All Medicaid beneficiaries must meet strict eligibility standards, primarily based on income, to qualify for coverage.

Adults without dependent children are not eligible for Medicaid in Georgia regardless of their income.

Medicaid covers vital health services in Georgia



50% +
of all births

Medicaid covers more than half of all births statewide.



75%
nursing home stays

For 75% of all nursing home stays in Georgia, Medicaid is the primary payer.

168,000
low-income Georgia Seniors

Medicaid pays the premiums and other costs of Medicare for 168,000 low-income Georgia seniors.



50%
Georgia children

Half of all Georgia children, including all current and former foster children, are covered by Medicaid and PeachCare for Kids.

Medicaid improves health

- ✔ Children with Medicaid coverage are just as likely as those with private insurance to have a usual source of care (a doctor that they go to regularly), and they are less likely to put off needed health care, prescriptions, mental health care, vision care, or dental care because it is unaffordable.¹
- ✔ Children who have Medicaid coverage become healthier adolescents, with lower rates of eating disorders, substance use disorders, and death. They also grow up to have lower rates of hospitalizations and emergency room visits in adulthood.²
- ✔ Adults with Medicaid coverage are just as likely to have primary care as those with private insurance and much more likely than people who are uninsured. They are also more likely to report visiting a doctor or a specialist in the last year.³
- ✔ Adults who newly gain access to Medicaid report improvements in their physical and mental health.³



Above: Travis lives with a disability and works at DisabilityLink. He is able to maintain his employment due to medical support from the Medicaid program. His work is meaningful because he is able to give back to his community.

Medicaid enables success

- ✓ Children who have Medicaid coverage are less likely to drop out of high school and are more likely to graduate from college. Children covered by Medicaid earn higher wages and pay more taxes than those who remain uninsured.²
- ✓ Medicaid enables people with disabilities to live and work independently in their communities. Medicaid's home- and community-based services include personal care services that help people complete daily living activities such as bathing and dressing.
- ✓ Medicaid helps seniors age at home, rather than in hospitals or nursing homes, by covering wheelchairs, lifts, and other supportive housing services.

Medicaid is a good investment for Georgia

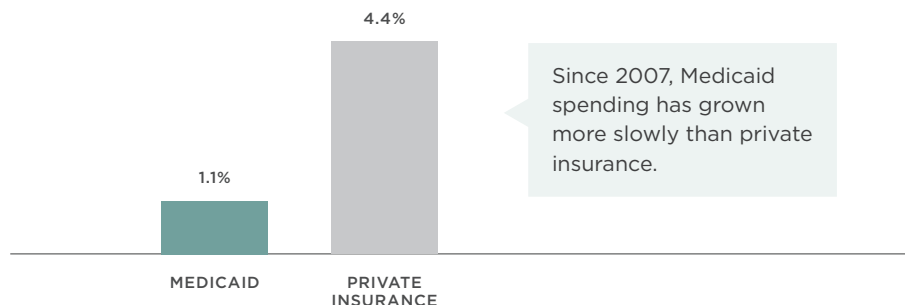
- ✓ The federal government provides the bulk of Medicaid's funding. For every \$1 Georgia spends on Medicaid benefits, the state receives more than \$2 in federal funds.³
- ✓ Medicaid uses these funds very efficiently. Ninety-four cents of every dollar provided to Medicaid goes directly to health services. In contrast, private insurance companies pay as little as 80 cents of every dollar for health services.³

For every dollar spent on Medicaid:



\$0.94 is spent directly on health services | \$0.06 is spent on administrative costs

- ✓ Medicaid costs have increased at about one-fourth the rate of private insurance.³



¹ Georgetown University, Center on Children and Families, March 2017. Medicaid Provides Needed Access to Care for Children and Families. <https://ccf.georgetown.edu/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/Medicaid-provides-needed-access-to-care.pdf>

² Georgetown University, Center on Children and Families, July 2015. Medicaid at 50: A Look at the Long-term Benefits of Childhood Medicaid. https://ccf.georgetown.edu/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/Medicaid-at-50_final.pdf

³ Kaiser Family Foundation, March 2018. <https://www.kff.org/medicaid/issue-brief/the-effects-of-medicaid-expansion-under-the-aca-updated-findings-from-a-literature-review-march-2018/view/footnotes/#footnote-253313-286>