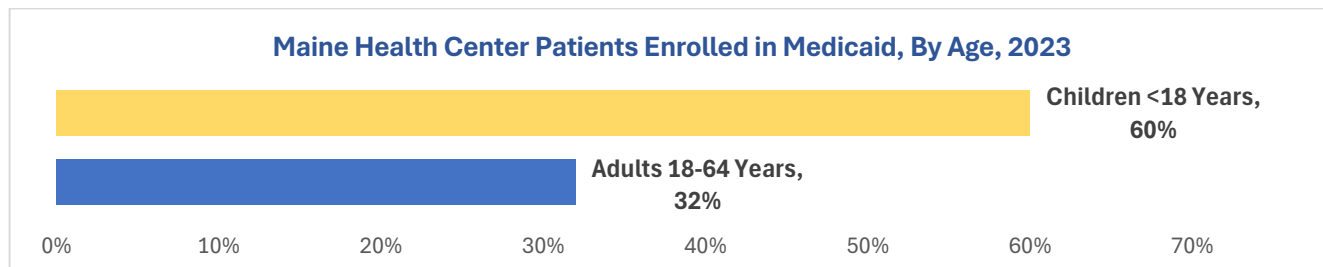


Medicaid and Maine Community Health Centers

Medicaid helps to keep people healthy, working, and living in their homes. Nationwide, Medicaid provides coverage for more than 40% of births, about half of all children, nearly all poor seniors as their Medicare supplement, the majority of nursing home residents, four in ten people with disabilities, more than 400,000 US military veterans, and millions of other low-income working adults.

Medicaid is Essential to Community Health Centers

Maine's 18 community health center grantees care for more than 205,500 patients at our 174 sites. Health centers depend on Medicaid to finance needed health services, with Medicaid accounting for 28 percent of community health centers' revenue and 30 percent of all patients statewide. We care for 1 in 6 Medicaid beneficiaries in our state. (Source: [Geiger Gibson Program in Community Health](#)).



With Big Medicaid Policy Changes, No State Will be Spared

Medicaid plays a key role in state and local economies by sustaining our community health centers, keeping rural hospitals open, supporting job growth, and saving taxpayer dollars by avoiding unnecessary health care costs. Recent estimates show that if Congress reduces federal Medicaid dollars by \$880 billion over 10 years, Maine would incur huge losses to employment, tax revenues, and the economy overall (Source: [Commonwealth Fund](#)). In 2026 alone, Maine could expect to lose:

- \$344.8 million in federal funding,
- \$38.5 million in state and local tax revenue,
- 2,200 health care jobs, and
- 2,000 other jobs.

Work Requirements Will Cause Big Coverage Losses

Nearly two-thirds of adults enrolled in Medicaid are working. Another 30% may be exempt from work requirements due to disability or illness, caregiving and parental responsibilities, or school attendance. If Congress mandates work requirements this year, more than 13 million adults ages 19 to 55 would be subject to federal work requirements in 2026, and an estimated 4.6 to 5.2 million would lose coverage, many because of paperwork issues, not eligibility concerns. (Sources: [KFF](#), and [Urban Institute](#)).

Many of our state's 35,000 adult health center patients ages 18-64 now covered by Medicaid would end up uninsured, further straining Maine health centers.

Fraud and Abuse Not a Problem

None of the proposed policy changes would help to reduce waste, fraud and abuse. Fraud against Medicaid is not common, and many types of improper payments are simply coding errors, not fraud. Together, state and federal governments already have multiple ways to prevent Medicaid fraud. (Source: [Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services](#)).

Big Reductions in Federal Funds for Medicaid Will Harm Health Centers

The bottom line is that reducing federal funding for Medicaid by hundreds of billions of dollars will be harmful—whether done through policies to impose work requirements, reduce federal Medicaid matching dollars, limit provider tax revenues, and/or set other limits on eligibility. Health centers and their patients and communities would feel the negative effects. Reducing federal Medicaid dollars would be bad for the state of Maine, bad for health centers, and bad for the patients that we serve.