

# WHAT MEDICAID BRINGS TO Nebraska



The  
Commonwealth  
Fund



**342,546**  
children and adults<sup>1</sup>

are insured by Medicaid or CHIP.  
Those covered include parents,  
pregnant women, and people with  
disabilities.

**CHILDREN  
COVERED<sup>2</sup>**

**32%**

Children ages 0–18 in Nebraska who were  
covered by Medicaid in 2023

**ADULTS  
COVERED<sup>2</sup>**

**12%**

Adults ages 19–64 in Nebraska who were  
covered by Medicaid in 2023



Nebraska received \$3 billion in  
federal support for Medicaid in 2023.

This accounted for 70% of total  
Medicaid spending in the state.<sup>3</sup>



**Medicaid enrollment  
by the numbers**

**176,286**

Children enrolled in Medicaid or  
CHIP<sup>1</sup>

**72,113**

Adults enrolled because of ACA  
expansion<sup>4</sup>

**42,979**

Dually eligible for Medicare and  
Medicaid<sup>5</sup>



**Adults insured with Medicaid are least  
likely to report having medical debt**

Adults ages 19–64 who were continuously insured and **reported  
having medical debt**, by insurance type, 2024<sup>7</sup>

21%  
Medicaid

29%  
Medicare

29%  
Employer

32%  
Individual /  
Marketplace



**Medicaid and CHIP are a critical  
source of coverage in rural parts  
of Nebraska**

Percent of **children** (ages 0–18) living in rural or  
metro areas covered by Medicaid or CHIP, 2023<sup>6</sup>

Metro 32%

Rural 33%

Percent of **adults** (ages 19–64) living in rural or  
metro areas covered by Medicaid, 2023<sup>6</sup>

Metro 12%

Rural 12%



**Medicaid helps youth with mental and  
behavioral health needs access care**

Youth ages 12–17 with a **mental health condition** whose  
insurance covered mental health services, 2022<sup>8</sup>

Public  
Insurance

60%

27%

13%

Private  
Insurance

46%

30%

24%

**ALWAYS**

**USUALLY**

**SOMETIMES /  
NEVER**

Public insurance = Medicaid, medical assistance, or any kind of government  
assistance plan for those with low incomes or a disability

Sources: 1. CMS, Medicaid and CHIP Enrollment Data Highlights, Sept. 2024. 2. Authors' analysis of 2023 ACS-PUMS. 3. KFF, Federal and State Share of Medicaid Spending, 2023. 4. CMS, Medicaid Enrollment Data Collected Through MBES, June 2024. 5. CMS, Medicare Monthly Enrollment, Sept. 2024. 6. Georgetown CCF, Medicaid's Role in Small Towns and Rural Areas, 2025. 7. Commonwealth Fund, Biennial Health Insurance Survey, 2024. 8. Authors' analysis of 2022 NSCH.