

# WHAT MEDICAID BRINGS TO Utah



The  
Commonwealth  
Fund



**338,122**  
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>**

**18%**

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

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

**8%**

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



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

This accounted for 75% of total Medicaid spending in the state.<sup>3</sup>



**Medicaid enrollment by the numbers**

**175,607**

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

**78,443**

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

**39,435**

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 Utah**

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

Metro 18%

Rural 21%

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

Metro 9%

Rural 11%



**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.