

Children's Health Coverage in New York: Medicaid and CHIP Data March 2017



The Affordable Care Act, Medicaid, and CHIP Cover Children in New York

Over 97% of New York children have health coverage¹—the highest level in history. New York reached this historic achievement through coverage expansions driven by Affordable Care Act (ACA), Medicaid, and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). The Affordable Care Act (ACA) has improved coverage and benefits for children covered by all types of insurance by increasing the scope of benefits private plans must provide and increasing funding for Medicaid and CHIP (called Child Health Plus in New York).

Right now Congress is considering changes to the ACA and Medicaid. The changes would undo more than 50 years of progress made expanding comprehensive child-appropriate health coverage to millions of children.

An analysis of NYSDOH data from October 2016 reveals that 54% of New York children are covered by either Medicaid or Child Health Plus (CHP).² This means a majority of New York children have a significant stake in the policy proposals that impact Medicaid or CHP.

- Number of children in New York: 4,526,001
- Number of children on Medicaid: 2,121,689
- Percentage of children on Medicaid: 46.9%
- Number of children on CHP: 310,557
- Percentage of children on CHP: 6.9%

Proposed Changes to the ACA and a Radical Restructuring of Medicaid Will Reduce Coverage and Benefits for New York Children

Proposed Changes to the ACA will have a devastating impact in New York. The impact of proposed changes to the ACA has been widely documented.³ Depending on the specific details of the proposal, the expected impacts in New York could include:

- Loss of employer and individual tax credits, subsidies, and cost-sharing reductions which will drive families out of employer-sponsored insurance and non-group (individual plans purchased on the marketplace) plans.
- Increased pressure on New York's budget for Medicaid and Child Health Plus, which will threaten coverage and benefits for children in those programs.
- Loss of funding for the Medicaid expansion population plus the per capita cap will likely cost New York tens of billions of dollars.
- Increases in the amounts low-income families will have to pay for care.

Medicaid per capita caps will end Medicaid as we know it. The current congressional proposal includes imposing a per capita cap on federal spending. A per capita cap would cut the federal funding New York receives to provide care to children on Medicaid. The federal government would give New York a fixed

amount based on per person formula. This will end the current guarantee of a federal spending match for all eligible health care costs incurred by children on Medicaid. Per capita caps lock states into funding formulas that shift an ever-increasing burden of the growth in health care costs from the federal government to states, counties, local communities, providers and families.

Per capita cap proposals are particularly dangerous because they handcuff Medicaid's ability to respond to increased costs incurred due to epidemics and advances in health care technology. New York's per capita cost for covering children on Medicaid may increase due to:

- Children born with microcephaly caused by the Zika virus. The estimated lifetime cost of treating a child with microcephaly is more than \$10 million⁴
- Mental health services for children in families impacted by the opioid crisis
- New technologies to treat children with asthma, diabetes, or cancer

Covering Children and Families Is a Smart Investment

- Children enrolled in Medicaid perform better in school than their non-eligible peers from other states
- Children enrolled in Medicaid have higher lifetime earnings than their non-eligible peers from other states
- Every \$1 spent on prenatal care saves nearly \$8 in associated costs over a child's life—\$3.33 of which are saved immediately after birth⁵

¹ Georgetown University Center for Children and Families and the American Academy of Pediatrics (2017). New York: Snapshot of Children's Coverage. Retrieved from <http://ccf.georgetown.edu/2017/02/16/ccf-aap-state-snapshots/>.

² NYSDOH data from October 2016 reveals the percentage of children in New York covered by Medicaid and Child Health Plus is 53%—significantly larger than the percentage identified in American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Estimates. To compile ACS data, the U.S. Census Bureau asks survey respondents to identify what type of insurance coverage they have. The underreporting of children's coverage under Medicaid and Child Health Plus in ACS data is widely documented, including in Kenney et. al. (2016). Children's Coverage Climb Continues: Uninsurance and Medicaid/CHIP Eligibility and Participation under the ACA. Retrieved from <http://www.urban.org/sites/default/files/publication/80536/2000787-Childrens-Coverage-Climb-Continues-Uninsurance-and-Medicaid-CHIP-Eligibility-and-Participation-Under-the-ACA.pdf>.

³ Buettgens, M., et al. (2016). Partial repeal of the ACA through reconciliation: coverage implications for parents and children. Retrieved from <http://www.urban.org/research/publication/partial-repeal-aca-through-reconciliation-coverage-implications-parents-and-children>.

⁴ March of Dimes. (2016). March of Dimes Fact Sheet: Zika Virus. Retrieved from <http://www.marchofdimes.org/materials/MOD-Zika-fact-sheet-March-2016.pdf>.

⁵ Children's Defense Fund. (2017). Keep Children's Health Coverage Strong: Protect Medicaid! Retrieved from http://www.childrensdefense.org/library/data/Medicaid-Primer_January-4-2017.pdf

Children Covered by Medicaid and CHIP in New York Regions and Counties

While the impact of changes to the ACA, Medicaid, and CHIP will vary with the details within the proposal, the number of children now covered by Medicaid and Child Health Plus in New York is known. The table below shows the number of children covered by Medicaid in October 2016 in each county and region in New York. All of these children are at risk of losing coverage or benefits under the current proposed changes to health coverage.

| REGIONS AND COUNTIES (BOROUGHES) | CHP ENROLLMENT | MEDICAID ENROLLMENT | POPULATION AGES 0-18 | % ON CHP | % ON MEDICAID | % ON CHP AND MEDICAID |
|----------------------------------|----------------|---------------------|----------------------|-------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| CAPITAL REGION | 16,686 | 81,036 | 236,869 | 7.0% | 34.2% | 41.3% |
| ALBANY | 3,664 | 22,526 | 65,542 | 5.6% | 34.4% | 40.0% |
| COLUMBIA | 1,010 | 4,908 | 12,476 | 8.1% | 39.3% | 47.4% |
| GREENE | 739 | 3,660 | 9,252 | 8.0% | 39.6% | 47.6% |
| RENSSELAER | 2,178 | 12,828 | 35,600 | 6.1% | 36.0% | 42.1% |
| SARATOGA | 3,566 | 10,490 | 50,935 | 7.0% | 20.6% | 27.6% |
| SCHENECTADY | 2,681 | 16,217 | 36,394 | 7.4% | 44.6% | 52.0% |
| WARREN | 1,340 | 4,697 | 13,399 | 10.0% | 35.1% | 45.1% |
| WASHINGTON | 1,508 | 5,710 | 13,271 | 11.4% | 43.0% | 54.4% |
| CENTRAL NEW YORK | 12,350 | 74,002 | 186,287 | 6.6% | 39.7% | 46.4% |
| CAYUGA | 1,381 | 6,580 | 17,308 | 8.0% | 38.0% | 46.0% |
| CORTLAND | 833 | 4,294 | 11,308 | 7.4% | 38.0% | 45.4% |
| MADISON | 1,089 | 5,043 | 16,776 | 6.5% | 30.1% | 36.6% |
| ONONDAGA | 6,894 | 45,582 | 111,855 | 6.2% | 40.8% | 47.0% |
| OSWEGO | 2,153 | 12,503 | 29,040 | 7.4% | 43.1% | 50.5% |
| FINGER LAKES | 18,995 | 107,504 | 280,727 | 6.8% | 38.3% | 45.1% |
| GENESEE | 874 | 4,375 | 13,210 | 6.6% | 33.1% | 39.7% |
| LIVINGSTON | 843 | 4,427 | 14,063 | 6.0% | 31.5% | 37.5% |
| MONROE | 10,743 | 71,805 | 174,938 | 6.1% | 41.0% | 47.1% |
| ONTARIO | 2,022 | 7,402 | 24,904 | 8.1% | 29.7% | 37.8% |
| ORLEANS | 720 | 4,023 | 9,262 | 7.8% | 43.4% | 51.2% |
| SENECA | 485 | 2,722 | 7,539 | 6.4% | 36.1% | 42.5% |
| WAYNE | 2,151 | 8,039 | 21,803 | 9.9% | 36.9% | 46.8% |
| WYOMING | 729 | 2,769 | 8,709 | 8.4% | 31.8% | 40.2% |
| YATES | 428 | 1,942 | 6,299 | 6.8% | 30.8% | 37.6% |
| HUDSON VALLEY | 41,251 | 212,239 | 579,580 | 7.1% | 36.6% | 43.7% |
| DUTCHESS | 4,460 | 18,369 | 66,682 | 6.7% | 27.5% | 34.2% |
| ORANGE | 7,457 | 43,984 | 104,436 | 7.1% | 42.1% | 49.2% |
| PUTNAM | 1,882 | 3,727 | 23,123 | 8.1% | 16.1% | 24.2% |
| ROCKLAND | 9,558 | 49,426 | 93,321 | 10.2% | 53.0% | 63.2% |
| SULLIVAN | 1,222 | 9,698 | 17,578 | 7.0% | 55.2% | 62.2% |
| ULSTER | 3,250 | 13,326 | 36,995 | 8.8% | 36.0% | 44.8% |
| WESTCHESTER | 13,422 | 73,709 | 237,445 | 5.7% | 31.0% | 36.7% |

| REGIONS AND COUNTIES (BOROUGHES) | CHP ENROLLMENT | MEDICAID ENROLLMENT | POPULATION AGES 0-18 | % ON CHP | % ON MEDICAID | % ON CHP AND MEDICAID |
|----------------------------------|----------------|---------------------|----------------------|-------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| LONG ISLAND | 62,829 | 193,535 | 680,758 | 9.2% | 28.4% | 37.7% |
| NASSAU | 27,397 | 82,420 | 320,494 | 8.5% | 25.7% | 34.2% |
| SUFFOLK | 35,432 | 111,115 | 360,264 | 9.8% | 30.8% | 40.6% |
| MOHAWK VALLEY | 9,106 | 51,172 | 111,476 | 8.2% | 45.9% | 54.1% |
| FULTON | 1,067 | 5,652 | 12,139 | 8.8% | 46.6% | 55.4% |
| HERKIMER | 1,575 | 6,052 | 14,593 | 10.8% | 41.5% | 52.3% |
| MONTGOMERY | 1,004 | 6,252 | 11,923 | 8.4% | 52.4% | 60.8% |
| ONEIDA | 3,933 | 26,354 | 53,595 | 7.3% | 49.2% | 56.5% |
| OTSEGO | 1,093 | 4,393 | 12,490 | 8.8% | 35.2% | 44.0% |
| SCHOHARIE | 434 | 2,469 | 6,736 | 6.4% | 36.7% | 43.1% |
| NEW YORK CITY | 119,066 | 1,177,644 | 1,891,478 | 6.3% | 62.3% | 68.6% |
| BRONX (BRONX) | 16,235 | 302,034 | 389,333 | 4.2% | 77.6% | 81.8% |
| KINGS (BROOKLYN) | 43,235 | 423,595 | 636,895 | 6.8% | 66.5% | 73.3% |
| NEW YORK (MANHATTAN) | 8,477 | 110,496 | 257,152 | 3.3% | 43.0% | 46.3% |
| QUEENS (QUEENS) | 44,941 | 295,426 | 496,058 | 9.1% | 59.6% | 68.7% |
| RICHMOND (STATEN ISLAND) | 6,178 | 46,093 | 112,040 | 5.5% | 41.1% | 46.6% |
| NORTH COUNTRY | 6,685 | 35,733 | 100,126 | 6.7% | 35.7% | 42.4% |
| CLINTON | 1,344 | 6,421 | 16,837 | 8.0% | 38.1% | 46.1% |
| ESSEX | 712 | 2,596 | 7,275 | 9.8% | 35.7% | 45.5% |
| FRANKLIN | 660 | 4,311 | 11,102 | 5.9% | 38.8% | 44.7% |
| HAMILTON | 90 | 257 | 845 | 10.7% | 30.4% | 41.1% |
| JEFFERSON | 1,624 | 9,802 | 31,237 | 5.2% | 31.4% | 36.6% |
| LEWIS | 684 | 2,468 | 6,669 | 10.3% | 37.0% | 47.3% |
| ST. LAWRENCE | 1,571 | 9,878 | 26,161 | 6.0% | 37.8% | 43.8% |
| SOUTHERN TIER | 8,251 | 57,362 | 145,226 | 5.7% | 39.5% | 45.2% |
| BROOME | 2,495 | 19,129 | 43,438 | 5.7% | 44.0% | 49.7% |
| CHEMUNG | 789 | 9,065 | 20,549 | 3.8% | 44.1% | 47.9% |
| CHENANGO | 782 | 4,778 | 11,185 | 7.0% | 42.7% | 49.7% |
| DELAWARE | 577 | 3,848 | 9,631 | 6.0% | 40.0% | 46.0% |
| SCHUYLER | 262 | 1,626 | 3,861 | 6.8% | 42.1% | 48.9% |
| STEUBEN | 1,374 | 9,067 | 23,432 | 5.9% | 38.7% | 44.6% |
| TIOGA | 667 | 4,384 | 11,741 | 5.7% | 37.3% | 43.0% |
| TOMPKINS | 1,305 | 5,465 | 21,389 | 6.1% | 25.6% | 31.7% |
| WESTERN NEW YORK | 15,338 | 131,462 | 313,474 | 4.9% | 41.9% | 46.8% |
| ALLEGANY | 426 | 4,300 | 11,524 | 3.7% | 37.3% | 41.0% |
| CATTARAUGUS | 943 | 7,748 | 19,252 | 4.9% | 40.2% | 45.1% |
| CHAUTAUQUA | 1,637 | 14,286 | 30,208 | 5.4% | 47.3% | 52.7% |
| ERIE | 9,479 | 86,352 | 205,569 | 4.6% | 42.0% | 46.6% |
| NIAGARA | 2,853 | 18,776 | 46,921 | 6.1% | 40.0% | 46.1% |
| STATEWIDE TOTALS | 310,557 | 2,121,689 | 4,526,001 | 6.9% | 46.9% | 53.8% |