



BY SCOTT GRAVES

Republican Plans to End Medicaid as We Know It Would Threaten Medi-Cal Coverage and Benefits for Millions of Californians

Medi-Cal, our state’s Medicaid program, is the cornerstone of California’s health care system. Funded with both state and federal dollars, Medi-Cal provides health care services to more than 13 million low-income Californians who live in all 58 counties. Of the 10 counties with the highest shares of residents enrolled in Medi-Cal, six are in the San Joaquin Valley: Tulare (54.8%), Merced (50.9%), Fresno (49.9%), Kern (45.9%), Stanislaus (45.1%), and Madera (45.1%). However, millions of Californians – including children, older adults, and people with disabilities – would be at risk of losing Medi-Cal coverage or benefits if the US Senate agrees to the deep cuts that were recently approved by House Republicans (H.R. 1628) with President Trump’s support. These cuts include 1) phasing out the Medicaid expansion, through which California has extended coverage to nearly 4 million nonelderly adults, and 2) shifting massive – and unaffordable – costs to states by capping federal Medicaid funding. In California, this cost-shift would amount to nearly \$6 billion in 2020, rising to an annual shift of \$24.3 billion by 2027, according to a Department of Health Care Services analysis.

Medi-Cal Enrollees Comprise More Than One-Quarter of the Population in 49 of California’s 58 Counties

County	Medi-Cal Enrollees (December 2016)*				Enrollees as a Share of Population	Rank (Highest to Lowest Percentage)
	Age 18 or Under	Ages 19 to 64	Age 65 or Older	Total		
California	5,223,848	7,154,877	1,124,296	13,503,021	34.2%	N/A
Alameda	148,157	241,195	49,960	439,312	26.7%	42
Alpine	123	192	33	348	30.2%	33
Amador	2,986	4,747	543	8,276	21.6%	54
Butte	28,004	48,991	5,629	82,624	36.5%	25
Calaveras	4,232	7,393	774	12,399	27.5%	39
Colusa	4,626	3,948	561	9,135	41.4%	17
Contra Costa	104,725	148,585	23,221	276,531	24.3%	50
Del Norte	4,387	6,851	784	12,022	44.3%	10
El Dorado	14,069	22,619	2,328	39,016	21.1%	55
Fresno	213,058	253,451	30,492	497,001	49.9%	4
Glenn	5,590	5,989	826	12,405	43.2%	13
Humboldt	18,470	34,335	2,730	55,535	40.6%	19
Imperial	38,039	45,755	10,757	94,551	50.2%	3
Inyo	2,184	2,994	472	5,650	30.3%	32
Kern	183,419	207,074	20,457	410,950	45.9%	6
Kings	26,150	27,610	3,192	56,952	38.1%	22

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Lake	10,984	18,746	2,430	32,160	49.5%	5
Lassen	2,908	4,500	473	7,881	25.5%	47
Los Angeles	1,421,091	2,194,259	398,201	4,013,551	39.2%	21
Madera	33,019	33,824	3,659	70,502	45.1%	9
Marin	16,151	26,859	3,698	46,708	17.7%	57
Mariposa	1,605	2,819	360	4,784	26.4%	43
Mendocino	14,900	23,303	2,673	40,876	45.9%	7
Merced	62,436	69,469	7,914	139,819	50.9%	2
Modoc	1,182	1,783	246	3,211	33.5%	28
Mono	1,582	2,098	135	3,815	27.8%	38
Monterey	86,158	88,875	9,388	184,421	41.7%	16
Napa	14,123	16,238	2,586	32,947	23.1%	51
Nevada	8,705	14,663	1,545	24,913	25.2%	49
Orange	358,419	470,747	87,059	916,225	28.7%	35
Placer	24,841	34,057	4,669	63,567	16.6%	58
Plumas	2,048	3,814	438	6,300	31.8%	31
Riverside	374,190	421,735	49,164	845,089	35.4%	27
Sacramento	218,399	302,929	40,399	561,727	37.1%	23
San Benito	8,397	9,435	1,120	18,952	33.3%	29
San Bernardino	379,557	453,555	49,972	883,084	40.9%	18
San Diego	355,199	484,638	70,045	909,882	27.4%	40
San Francisco	52,628	129,633	43,309	225,570	25.8%	46
San Joaquin	129,059	153,224	19,332	301,615	40.4%	20
San Luis Obispo	24,461	34,036	3,685	62,182	22.2%	53
San Mateo	54,100	83,927	16,977	155,004	20.1%	56
Santa Barbara	67,010	72,471	8,132	147,613	32.8%	30
Santa Clara	153,409	234,324	57,241	444,974	23.0%	52
Santa Cruz	30,837	43,439	5,320	79,596	28.8%	34
Shasta	23,442	36,558	4,368	64,368	36.0%	26
Sierra	241	490	100	831	25.9%	45
Siskiyou	6,475	11,097	1,275	18,847	42.2%	15
Solano	47,756	67,936	8,727	124,419	28.5%	36
Sonoma	51,381	67,962	8,691	128,034	25.3%	48
Stanislaus	100,260	131,885	14,869	247,014	45.1%	8
Sutter	17,300	21,611	3,294	42,205	43.5%	11
Tehama	11,372	14,102	1,711	27,185	42.5%	14
Trinity	1,578	3,071	331	4,980	36.5%	24
Tulare	116,475	127,356	14,553	258,384	54.8%	1
Tuolumne	4,901	8,282	1,012	14,195	25.9%	44
Ventura	100,720	124,022	16,304	241,046	28.1%	37
Yolo	23,071	32,006	4,372	59,449	27.2%	41
Yuba	13,259	17,370	1,760	32,389	43.4%	12

* As of March 2017.

Note: Figures are estimates.

Source: Department of Finance and Department of Health Care Services