

# Value of Medicaid Expansion

To date, 38 states and Washington D.C. have expanded Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act.<sup>1</sup> In the 12 non-expansion states, the choice not to expand Medicaid has left many people without affordable access to coverage and has exacerbated health disparities. In addition to decreasing the uninsured rate, Medicaid expansion has been proven to result in the following health and economic benefits.

## Expansion improves state's economics and reach

States saved up to **\$422 million** and were able to support up to an additional **31,000 jobs** in their first year of expansion.<sup>2</sup>



Allowed health centers to serve **40% more patients**, which equated to **70,000 patients** in Connecticut.<sup>3</sup>

## Enhances health outcomes for vulnerable populations

**60%** of those without health care coverage are **people of color**, more than **30% have children in their care**, and **15%** have at least one **disability**.<sup>4</sup>

In expansion states, maternal mortality was reduced by 200 deaths and infant mortality fell by 50% more than in non-expansion states.<sup>5</sup>



Reduces patients' financial burden, which has led to a **decrease in bankruptcies by \$50,000** and **\$3.4 billion less** sent to **collection agencies**, resulting in **increased credit scores** and **decreased evictions**.<sup>4</sup>

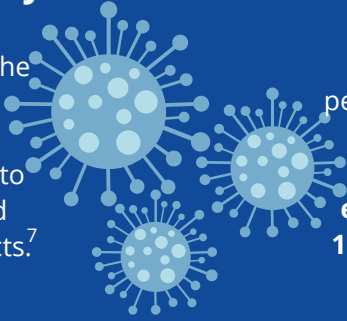
Over 19,000 lives were saved among adults 55-64 because of Medicaid expansion between 2014 and 2017.<sup>5</sup>



**Expansion has increased access to behavioral and mental health services.**<sup>6</sup>

# COVID-19 Greatly Affected Those in the Coverage Gap

The 4 million people in the coverage gap across all non-expansion states were more likely to contract COVID-19 and suffer more severe effects.<sup>7</sup>



In 2019, over half a million people in the coverage gap were essential workers. Their **uninsured rate in expansion states was about 16%**, compared to **30% in non-expansion states**.<sup>4,7</sup>



## References

1. Kaiser Family Foundation: [Status of State Medicaid Expansion Decisions: Interactive Map](#).
2. Health Management Associates: [Medicaid Expansion in Missouri - Economic Implications for Missouri and Interviews Reflecting Arkansas, Indiana, and Ohio Experience](#).
3. Kaiser Family Foundation: [Community Health Centers: Recent Growth and the Role of the ACA](#); Connecticut Health I-Team: [Community Health Centers Face Uncertain Financial Future](#).
4. Center on Budget and Policy Priorities: [Closing Medicaid Coverage Gap Would Help Diverse Group and Narrow Racial Disparities](#).
5. U.S Government Accountability Office: [Medicaid Expansion - Behavioral Health Treatment Use in Selected States in 2014 - June 2017](#).
6. American Medical Association: [Michigan's Medicaid Expansion Doubles Access to Primary Care](#).
7. The Commonwealth Fund: [The COVID-19 Crisis Is Giving States That Haven't Expanded Medicaid New Reasons to Reconsider](#).