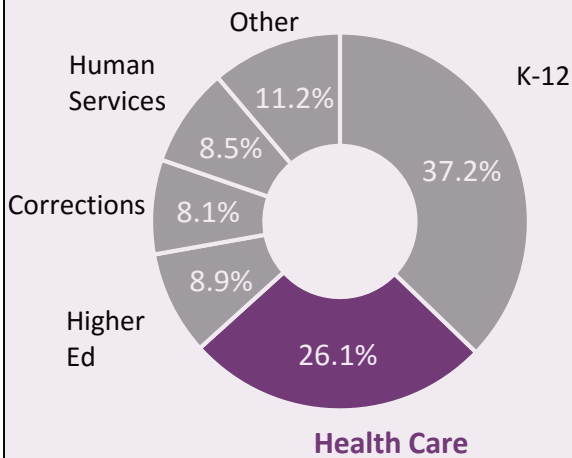


Budget Briefing: Medicaid

Quick Facts

FY 2015-16 GF Appropriations: \$2.5 billion
Federal Match Rate for Non-Expansion Populations: 50.02%
Federal Match Rate for Expansion Populations: 100% (2015)

Share of General Fund



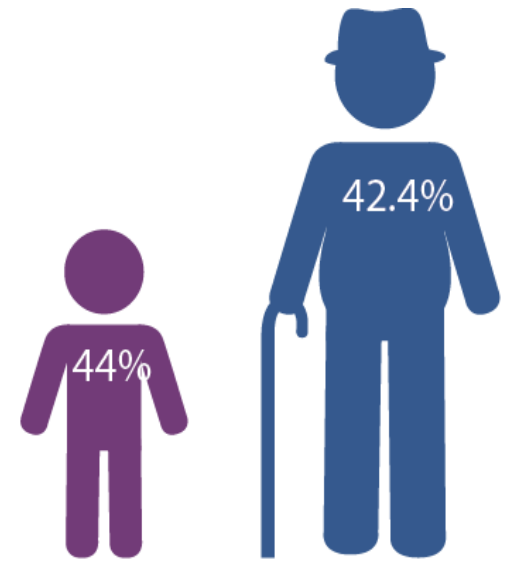
Medicaid is a public health program that is jointly funded by the federal and state government. The program provides health insurance to children, parents, low-income adults without children, elderly individuals and individuals with disabilities.

Colorado expanded its Medicaid program in 2013, offering coverage to nearly all adults with family incomes at or below 138 percent of the federal poverty level. As a result of this expansion, Colorado’s uninsured rate has been cut in half, from 15.8 percent to 6.7 percent.

Medicaid services include hospital and physician care, lab services, rural health clinics, nursing facilities, transportation to medical care, home and community-based services, hospice care, alcohol and drug abuse treatment for pregnant women and a myriad of other services.

Who uses Medicaid?

In 2015, one in five Coloradans was enrolled in Medicaid, with those numbers expected to grow by 11 percent in the coming year. Children make up the largest portion of Medicaid enrollees at 44 percent, but



Kids Account for the Biggest Group of Medicaid Enrollees
 Seniors Account for the Most Costs

are less than 20 percent of the expenditures for the program. In contrast, seniors make up only 13 percent of total Medicaid enrollment but account for 42 percent of the expenditures.

Colorado’s population is rapidly aging and the number of elderly Medicaid enrollees will only continue to grow. By 2030, Coloradans who are 60 and older will make up 23.5 percent of the state’s population, up from 18.6 percent today. This impending “silver tsunami” will present serious challenges for the state budget.

How is Medicaid paid for?

Medicaid is funded with state and federal dollars. The federal match rate for non-expansion populations in Colorado is 50.02 percent, and the match rate for the populations covered by the Affordable Care Act Medicaid Expansion is 100 percent up till 2016. That federal match rate tapers to 90 percent by 2020.

This investment in a healthier population leads in turn to a healthier economy. Estimates place the economic benefit of expanding health care coverage at \$100 billion to the national economy.