

Factsheet:

Profile of Workers with Health Insurance through Medicaid

(March 2024)

Medicaid is –by a large margin– the most important stopgap for workers that don’t have employer-based coverage. Currently, one of every ten workers obtains their health coverage through Medicaid, which is fully one third of all workers that don’t have employer-based health insurance.

The table below breaks down the population of workers covered by Medicaid. Note that all the percentages in the table are the group’s share of all workers on Medicaid.

1. Over 11 million of the 15.9 million workers on Medicaid are in the bottom 40% of the wage distribution (workers making less than \$22 per hour).
2. 8.7 million workers – more than half of workers on Medicaid – work full-time (55%).
3. Almost all the workers on Medicaid are in the private sector (92%, a total of 14.6 million).
4. Over half of the workers on Medicaid have children at home (52%, a total of 8.3 million).
5. Workers with a high school degree and no further education, who make up about one-fourth of the overall workforce, rely most on Medicaid (40% of all workers on Medicaid).
6. Medicaid is important for workers of all races and ethnicities: 6.7 million white workers, 4.9 million Hispanic workers, 2.9 million Black workers, 1.1 million Asian workers, and 375,000 workers of other races.

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			Women		Men	
	Total	Share of all (%)	Total	Share of all (%)	Total	Share of all (%)
All	15,890,308	100.0%	8,101,176	51.0%	7,789,132	49.0%
White	6,657,976	41.9%	3,381,614	21.3%	3,276,362	20.6%
Black	2,918,916	18.4%	1,624,468	10.2%	1,294,448	8.1%
Hispanic	4,854,703	30.6%	2,382,481	15.0%	2,472,222	15.6%
Asian	1,083,987	6.8%	503,599	3.2%	580,388	3.7%
Other Races	374,726	2.4%	209,014	1.3%	165,712	1.0%
18–25	3,420,729	21.5%	1,729,451	10.9%	1,691,278	10.6%
26–50	9,664,426	60.8%	4,982,252	31.4%	4,682,174	29.5%
51–64	2,805,153	17.7%	1,389,473	8.7%	1,415,680	8.9%
Married	5,919,310	37.3%	2,413,170	15.2%	3,506,140	22.1%
Unmarried	9,970,998	62.7%	5,688,006	35.8%	4,282,992	27.0%
Children	8,252,026	51.9%	4,646,806	29.2%	3,605,220	22.7%
No children	7,638,282	48.1%	3,454,370	21.7%	4,183,912	26.3%
Less than HS	2,358,416	14.8%	1,045,542	6.6%	1,312,874	8.3%
HS degree	6,401,867	40.3%	3,032,172	19.1%	3,369,695	21.2%
Some college	4,497,308	28.3%	2,595,921	16.3%	1,901,387	12.0%
College	1,955,953	12.3%	1,037,630	6.5%	918,323	5.8%
Advanced	676,764	4.3%	389,911	2.5%	286,853	1.8%

CEPR analysis of the 2024 Current Population Survey Annual Social and Economic Supplement. Data refer to Medicaid status as of March 2024. For full details on data and methods, see Emma Curchin and John Schmitt, [“A Complicated Maze: How Workers Navigate the US Health Care System,”](#) May 13, 2025. | Some groupings do not sum to the overall total because of a small number of missing values in some categories. Wage quintile variables are drawn from a subset of the ASEC that also appears in the CPS Outgoing Rotation Group and are scaled to approximate total employment in the ASEC in March 2024.

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US born	11,694,876	73.6%	6,208,945	39.1%	5,485,931	34.5%
Foreign-born, citizen	1,637,513	10.3%	785,016	4.9%	852,497	5.4%
Foreign-born, non-citizen	2,557,919	16.1%	1,107,215	7.0%	1,450,704	9.1%
Veteran	278,839	1.8%	47,518	0.3%	231,321	1.5%
Not a veteran	15,611,469	98.2%	8,053,658	50.7%	7,557,811	47.6%
Full-time	8,721,247	54.9%	3,936,390	24.8%	4,784,857	30.1%
Part-time	5,410,276	34.0%	3,328,836	20.9%	2,081,440	13.1%
Unemployed	1,758,785	11.1%	835,950	5.3%	922,835	5.8%
Medicaid expansion						
Yes	13,755,521	86.6%	7,026,263	44.2%	6,729,258	30.1%
No	2,134,787	13.4%	1,074,913	6.8%	1,059,874	6.7%
Public sector	1,129,779	7.1%	742,338	4.7%	387,441	2.4%
Private sector	14,599,680	91.9%	7,308,064	46.0%	7,291,616	45.9%
Wage quintile						
Lowest	6,870,013	43.2%	3,709,671	23.3%	3,160,342	19.9%
Second	4,354,013	27.4%	2,586,915	16.3%	1,767,097	11.1%
Middle	2,864,714	18.0%	1,275,810	8.0%	1,588,904	10.0%
Fourth	1,207,913	7.6%	471,336	3.0%	736,576	4.6%
Top	593,655	3.7%	254,770	1.6%	338,885	2.1%

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