

July 2017 | Fact Sheet

## Medicaid's Role in Ohio

### Medicaid in Ohio

- Nearly **3 million** people in Ohio **are covered by Medicaid** (21% of the total population). While four in five (79%) of enrollees are children and adults, more than one-half (59%) of the state's Medicaid spending is for the elderly and people with disabilities.
- **345,300** (17%) of Ohio's **Medicare enrollees are also covered by Medicaid**, which accounts for over two-fifths (41%) of Medicaid spending.
- **40% of all children** in Ohio are **covered by Medicaid**, including **46% of children with special health care needs**.
- **59% of nursing home residents** in Ohio **are covered by Medicaid** and **39% of Medicaid long-term care spending** in Ohio **is for nursing home care**. Medicare beneficiaries rely on Medicaid for assistance with services not covered by Medicare, particularly long-term care.
- **88% of Medicaid enrollees** in Ohio **are in managed care**. Since Ohio has already transitioned most enrollees to managed care, it would not be able to recoup much of the one-time savings that some states experience during that transition.
- Ohio has a **below average per capita income** and therefore a **relatively high federal Medicaid matching assistance percentage (FMAP) at 62.3%**. For every \$1 spent by the state, the federal government matches \$1.65. **Almost three quarters (72%) of all federal funds Ohio receives are for Medicaid**. In Calendar Year 2017, the federal match rate for the Medicaid expansion population is 95%.

### What is at Risk under a Per Capita Cap?

- **Capping Medicaid funding would reduce the federal assistance for Ohio to maintain its current Medicaid program.**
  - Under the Better Care Reconciliation Act of 2017 (BCRA), to maintain its current Medicaid program, **Ohio would have to make up \$20.5 billion in loss of federal funds** between 2020-2029, including \$10.8 billion for the phase-out of the enhanced match for the ACA expansion and \$9.7 billion for the per enrollee cap on all groups.
  - If Ohio dropped the Medicaid expansion in response to the loss of enhanced federal financing, **the state would forgo an additional \$32.8 billion** over the 2020-2029 period, and by 2029, **858,000 Ohioans** estimated to be covered in the expansion group would **lose Medicaid coverage**.
- **Capping federal Medicaid funding could put Medicaid programs designed to improve quality of life and access to new therapies and long-term care for people with disabilities at risk.** 14% of Ohio's non-institutionalized population reported a disability, compared to a U.S. average of 13%.

- **Reducing federal funds through a per capita cap or block grant would limit Ohio's ability to respond to public health crises such as the opioid epidemic, HIV, or Zika.**
  - Ohio had the third highest opioid death rate in the country in 2015 (24.7 deaths per 100,000 population).
  - Two-thirds (66.5%) of people in Ohio are overweight or obese and more than one-third (35%) report poor mental health status. Ohio's population faces many health challenges, ranking 40<sup>th</sup> in overall health status.