

# Medicaid & CHIP Provide Quality Health Insurance for Half of Pennsylvania Kids

Over the past year, much has happened in Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) that has changed how families apply for or renew public health insurance for their children.

## Medicaid Unwinding

Last spring, Pennsylvania began the process of unwinding from the Medicaid continuous coverage provision, which prohibited states from disenrolling individuals during the COVID-19 public health emergency. Once the provision expired, states resumed the process of Medicaid renewals to determine whether enrollees still qualify for coverage.

## CHIP Eligibility System Transition

Coming on the heels of the Medicaid unwinding, DHS moved forward with an IT eligibility systems transition that shifted the process of applications and renewals from CHIP MCOs to DHS County Assistance Offices (CAOs). CHIP families and all new enrollees must go through DHS to determine who qualifies for CHIP instead of their health insurance plans.

What hasn't changed is that Medicaid and CHIP continue to offer comprehensive health coverage, including access to medications, well-child visits, vaccinations, and more for children in every community across the Commonwealth.



**51% of Pennsylvania children rely on Medicaid or CHIP to meet their health care needs.**

## Have you lost Medicaid? Here's what to do next.

\*Some kids may have lost health coverage by mistake. Almost half of the PA children who lost coverage during the Medicaid unwinding process were due to procedural or paperwork reasons, not eligibility. Check to see if your child is still eligible. Visit [dhs.pa.gov/Compass](https://dhs.pa.gov/Compass) or call the Customer Service Center at 1-877-385-8930 or 1-215-560-7226 (Philadelphia).

\*Children no longer eligible for Medicaid can transition their health coverage to CHIP for free or at a low cost

based on household income. CHIP fills the gap for families who don't qualify for Medicaid yet can't afford private health insurance. Visit [chipcoverspakids.com](https://chipcoverspakids.com) or call the CHIP Helpline at 1-800-986-KIDS (5437).

**Losing health coverage and access to care can result in poorer health outcomes early on and later in life.**

**Medicaid and CHIP are open for enrollment 365 days of the year. Sign up TODAY for free or low-cost coverage through [dhs.pa.gov/Compass](https://dhs.pa.gov/Compass)**

## Policy Spotlight: 12-month continuous eligibility

Federal law required states to implement 12 months of continuous coverage for children in Medicaid and CHIP beginning January 2024. While PA already had this policy in CHIP and for children under 4 in Medicaid, the new requirement will expand to include all children in Medicaid. A 12-month continuous eligibility policy creates a more efficient system, reduces administrative burden, protects children from harmful gaps in care, and provides peace of mind for low-income parents.

# Pennsylvania Children Enrolled in Medicaid and CHIP by State Senate District

Party Affiliation	District	Senator	MA Eligibility <19 Years (Sep 2023)	CHIP Eligibility <19 Years (Sep 2023)	Total Child Eligibility (Sep 2023)	Estimated Percent of Child Population	Estimated Percent of the Total Population
D	1	Saval	18,218	1,303	19,521	58%	8%
D	2	Tartaglione	60,946	3,662	64,608	88%	25%
D	3	Street	52,767	2,547	55,314	89%	21%
D	4	Haywood	28,938	2,901	31,839	55%	12%
D	5	Dillon	39,002	3,905	42,907	73%	16%
R	6	Farry	17,638	3,669	21,307	37%	8%
D	7	Hughes	34,254	2,316	36,570	72%	14%
D	8	Williams, A.	44,135	3,278	47,413	81%	19%
D	9	Kane	22,355	2,596	24,951	42%	10%
D	10	Santarsiero	17,099	2,917	20,016	34%	7%
D	11	Schwank	36,704	4,737	41,441	64%	16%
D	12	Collett	14,946	3,050	17,996	31%	7%
R	13	Martin	24,835	4,098	28,933	43%	11%
D	14	Miller	35,759	4,720	40,479	65%	15%
R	15	DiSanto	33,238	3,385	36,623	62%	14%
R	16	Coleman	16,561	3,273	19,834	34%	7%
D	17	Cappelletti	17,101	2,211	19,312	32%	7%
D	18	Boscola	22,721	3,545	26,266	47%	10%
D	19	Comitta	15,124	2,325	17,449	29%	7%
R	20	Baker	28,209	3,335	31,544	58%	12%
R	21	Hutchinson	22,235	2,824	25,059	48%	10%
D	22	Flynn	32,325	2,949	35,274	69%	14%
R	23	Yaw	25,030	3,091	28,121	49%	11%
R	24	Pennycuick	17,777	2,903	20,680	34%	8%
R	25	Dush	19,386	2,230	21,616	43%	8%
D	26	Kearney	25,016	3,450	28,466	49%	11%

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R	27	Culver	22,967	2,855	25,822	47%	10%
R	28	Phillips-Hill	21,072	3,630	24,702	42%	9%
R	29	Argall	33,900	3,548	37,448	67%	14%
R	30	Ward, J.	24,979	3,136	28,115	52%	11%
R	31	Regan	29,547	3,535	33,082	55%	13%
R	32	Stefano	25,889	3,284	29,173	58%	11%
R	33	Mastriano	22,842	4,429	27,271	46%	10%
R	34	Rothman	21,461	3,414	24,875	42%	9%
R	35	Langerholc	22,924	2,465	25,389	50%	10%
R	36	Aument	19,690	4,087	23,777	39%	9%
R	37	Robinson	11,676	2,116	13,792	25%	6%
D	38	Williams, L.	14,290	2,104	16,394	32%	7%
R	39	Ward, K.	19,052	2,968	22,020	43%	8%
R	40	Brown	25,246	3,310	28,556	53%	11%
R	41	Pittman	23,332	2,935	26,267	51%	10%
D	42	Fontana	22,856	1,919	24,775	54%	10%
D	43	Costa	21,369	1,837	23,206	56%	9%
D	44	Muth	13,960	2,322	16,282	26%	6%
D	45	Brewster	27,707	2,957	30,664	61%	12%
R	46	Bartolotta	21,842	2,759	24,601	48%	10%
R	47	Vogel	19,620	2,618	22,238	41%	9%
R	48	Gebhard	22,437	4,013	26,450	42%	10%
R	49	Laughlin	32,139	2,575	34,714	60%	13%
R	50	Brooks	26,903	2,706	29,609	53%	11%
<b>Statewide</b>			<b>1,270,019</b>	<b>152,742</b>	<b>1,422,761</b>	<b>51%</b>	<b>11%</b>

Note: The totals above will not match the counts provided monthly by the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services due to report timing differences. Monthly Medicaid child enrollment includes youth ages 19-20: an additional 118,571 youth ages 19-20 were served in September 2023. CHIP data is based on eligibility and does not reflect the 1,979 youth who turned 19 in September 2023.



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Source: Pennsylvania Partnerships for Children analysis of data provided by the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services and the U.S. Census Bureau.