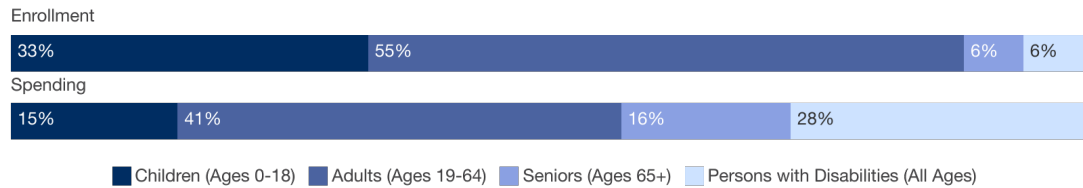# Medicaid is Vital to Colorado

Medicaid, or Health First Colorado, is a public health insurance program designed to help people who otherwise could not afford health coverage.

Medicaid is a state-federal partnership, which means that federal and state funds jointly finance Health First Colorado
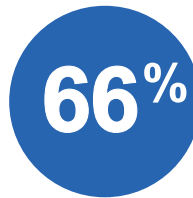
Medicaid Enrollment and Spending by Eligibility Group

Enrollment

33%	55%	6%	6%

Spending

15%	41%	16%	28%

■ Children (Ages 0-18) ■ Adults (Ages 19-64) ■ Seniors (Ages 65+) ■ Persons with Disabilities (All Ages)

HEALTH FIRST COLORADO (MEDICAID) IS VITAL TO COLORADO'S BUDGET

$ The federal government **contributes $1.00** to Medicaid **for every $1** Colorado invests.

66% 66% of federal funding sent to Colorado is for Medicaid, which is about $8.2 billion annually.

Federal funding for Medicaid is critical to health care in Colorado

Medicaid pays for 36% of births in Colorado
Helps ensure access to critical prenatal care, maternity care, and postpartum services.

Medicaid covers 34% of all Colorado children
Insures children in low-income families, children with special health care needs, and children in foster care.

Medicaid pays for the care of 62% of nursing home residents in Colorado
Provides critical nursing home and community-based services for seniors and people with disabilities.

Medicaid covers mental health services in Colorado
Nationally, Medicaid is the largest single source of funding for mental health and substance use care.

FEDERAL MEDICAID CUTS WOULD:

1 **Do nothing to lower health care costs** or improve quality and access to care.

2 **Devastate state budgets,** putting other priorities like K-12 funding at risk.

3 **Undermine financial stability of the health system,** especially rural hospitals and community clinics.

4 **Jeopardize health coverage** for millions of children and families, seniors, and people with disabilities.

◀ **Scan QR code for sources and more information.**
This 2025 fact sheet was created by the Georgetown University Center for Children and Families.

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