

## Expanding Medicaid: Resources for HIV Medical Providers

*HIV medical providers can play an important role in making the case for expanding Medicaid in the 19 states that have not yet expanded. This brief compiles resources to assist providers with doing so.*

### Connect with Your State's Medicaid Expansion Coalition

Join forces with other individuals and organizations working to expand Medicaid in your state. Lend your voice and the perspective of your patients to their efforts.

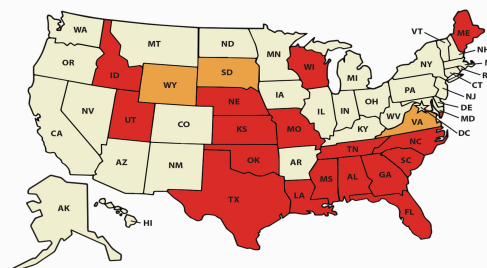
#### State-level Coalitions

- [Alabama: Saving Ourselves](#)
- [Florida: Healthcare for Florida-NOW](#)
- [Georgia: Cover Georgia](#)
- [Idaho: The Right Medicine for Idaho](#)
- [Kansas: Kansas Health Consumer Coalition](#)
- [Maine: Cover Maine Now](#)
- [Mississippi: Mississippi Healthcare Access](#)
- [Missouri: Missouri Medicaid Coalition](#)
- [Nebraska: Nebraska Hospital Association](#)
- [North Carolina:](#)
- [North Carolina Justice Center: Health Access Coalition](#)
- [Oklahoma: Oklahoma Policy Institute](#)
- [South Dakota: South Dakota State Medical Association](#)
- [Tennessee: Tennessee Plan Coalition](#)
- [Texas: Cover Texas Now](#)
- [Utah: Utahans for the Medicaid Expansion](#)
- [Virginia: Healthcare for All Virginians](#)
- [Wisconsin: Community Advocates Policy Institute](#)
- [Wyoming: Equality State Policy Center](#)

Map Source: AIDSvu - Medicaid Expansion Decisions alongside HIV Prevalence - <http://aidsvu.org/new-aidsvu-resource-displays-medicaid-expansion-decisions-alongside-hiv-prvalence/>

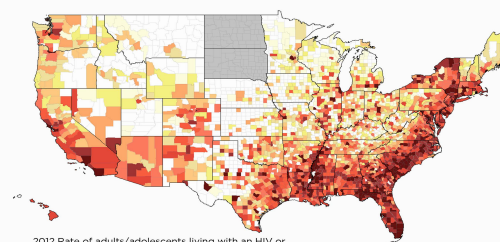
#### HIV PREVALENCE AMONG NON-MEDICAID EXPANSION STATES

CURRENT STATUS OF STATE MEDICAID EXPANSION DECISIONS



■ NOT ADOPTING AT THIS TIME (16 STATES)  
 ■ ADOPTION UNDER DISCUSSION (3 STATES)  
 □ ADOPTED (32 STATES INCLUDING DC)

PERSONS LIVING WITH AN HIV OR AIDS DIAGNOSIS, 2012



2012 Rate of adults/adolescents living with an HIV or AIDS diagnosis per 100,000 population

0 to 41	87 to 108	260 to 406
42 to 56	109 to 139	407+
57 to 70	140 to 186	Data not shown*
71 to 86	187 to 259	Data not released to AIDSvu**

“ Nearly 60,000 people living with HIV live in states not moving forward with Medicaid expansion...About 70 percent...earn too little to qualify for financial help to buy insurance in the marketplaces created by the health law. ”

SOURCE: "Status of State Action on the Medicaid Expansion Decision." KFF State Health Facts, updated January 12, 2016. <http://bit.ly/189fz8p>.  
 SOURCE: <http://healthaffairs.org/blog/2014/03/05/low-income-people-with-hiv-the-aca-impact-and-the-implications-of-state-choices/>



## Educate State Policymakers on the Importance of Expanding Medicaid for People with HIV

Policymakers may not be familiar with the advances in HIV treatment or the challenges that people with HIV face in accessing health coverage and health care services and treatment. Below are key points to consider sharing with policymakers to make the case for expanding Medicaid.

- Early and continuous access to HIV treatment allows patients with HIV to stay healthy and enjoy near normal life expectancies.<sup>i</sup> Effective HIV treatment also significantly reduces patients' risk of transmitting HIV to others.<sup>ii</sup> Treatment guidelines now recommend that patients diagnosed with HIV be offered HIV treatment upon diagnosis.<sup>iii</sup>
- Only around 40% of people with HIV are in regular medical care and just 30% of patients with HIV nationally are estimated to be virally suppression – the clinical goal of HIV treatment.<sup>iv</sup>
- The rate of poverty among people with HIV is much higher than the general population. An estimated 44% of people with HIV have incomes below the federal poverty level.<sup>v</sup>
- The Medicaid program plays a critical role in supporting HIV care with 50% of people living with HIV in care relying on Medicaid coverage even before states started expanding Medicaid in 2014. Unless a state expands Medicaid, most patients with HIV will not qualify for Medicaid coverage until they become sick enough to be considered disabled.<sup>vi</sup>
- Medicaid coverage offers patients with HIV access to comprehensive benefits without any or with only nominal co-payments for medications and services. Affordable access to health care services and treatment is important to ensure patients with HIV can maintain access to the medications, services and providers they need to stay healthy.<sup>vii</sup>
- The Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program is critical to improving outcomes for patients with HIV and to public health, but it is not a health insurance program. Funding for the Ryan White Program is limited, and it does not support access to non-HIV specialty care and treatment.

### Additional Resources

*The links below include additional resources to help educate policymakers on the importance of expanding Medicaid as well as information on connecting with other stakeholders, such as your state hospital association.*

- [Kaiser Family Foundation: Status of State Action on the Medicaid Expansion Decision](#)
- [KFF: The Coverage Gap: Uninsured Poor Adults in States that Do Not Expand Medicaid – An Update](#)
- [Center on Budget and Policy Priorities: Health Reform's Medicaid Expansion: A Tool Kit for State Advocates](#)
- [Families USA: Medicaid Expansion Waivers in the States](#)
- [State Hospital Associations](#)
- [American Medical Association: Reforming Medicaid](#)
- [AIDSvu.org - HIV Prevalence among Non-Medicaid Expansion States](#)

*Questions? Please contact HIVMA staff at [policy@hivma.org](mailto:policy@hivma.org) for assistance with Medicaid advocacy.*

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<sup>i</sup> AIDSinfo.gov. HIV Treatment: The Basics. Available online at: <https://aidsinfo.nih.gov/education-materials/fact-sheets/21/51/hiv-treatment--the-basics>.

<sup>ii</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Prevention Benefits of HIV Treatment. Available online at: <http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/prevention/research/tap/>.

<sup>iii</sup> U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Guidelines for the Use of Antiretroviral Agents in HIV-1-Infected Adults and Adolescents. Available online at: <https://aidsinfo.nih.gov/guidelines/html/1/adult-and-adolescent-treatment-guidelines/0>.

<sup>iv</sup> HIV Care Continuum. Available online at: <https://www.aids.gov/federal-resources/policies/care-continuum/>.

<sup>v</sup> Kates J et al. Assessing the impact of the Affordable Care Act on health insurance coverage of people with HIV. January 2014. Available online at <http://kff.org/report-section/assessing-the-impact-of-the-affordable-care-act-on-health-insurance-coverage-of-people-with-hiv-issue-brief/>.

<sup>vi</sup> Kaiser Family Foundation. Medicaid and HIV/AIDS. March 2013. Available at: <http://kff.org/hiv/aids/fact-sheet/medicaid-and-hiv/aids>.

<sup>vii</sup> IBID.