

Facts & Figures

Medicaid expansion & Cancer in Tennessee



40,000+ Tennessee will be diagnosed with cancer in 2024. Access to affordable, comprehensive care is essential to detecting, treating, and surviving the disease. The burden of cancer is heavy and made even more so when you do not have insurance coverage. Research shows that living without health coverage means that you are more likely than those with health insurance to be diagnosed with cancer at a later stage, when it is more costly to treat, and patients are less likely to survive.

If Tennessee Expanded Medicaid

179,000

People could gain health care coverage

15,000

Jobs would be created

1.4 billion

In Federal Funding would come in to the state

Closing the Medicaid Coverage Gap will benefit Tennessee's economy. The 40 states (plus the District of Columbia) that have fully expanded Medicaid eligibility have benefited from:

- A decrease in number of people in the state uninsured, which has decreased hospitals' losses for uncompensated care
- More hospitals in a stable environment and not on the verge of having to close the door
- Marketplace insurance premiums that are 7% lower than non-expansion states
- An increase in jobs in the state which has grown personal wealth and the state income tax

78% of Tennesseans are worried about affording health care

- A poll conducted by Vanderbilt found that 63% of Tennessee voters support Medicaid expansion
- Tennessee is first in the nation for hospital closures per capita, and Medicaid expansion helps keep hospitals open
- 87% of respondents across party lines agreed with the statement: "The government should expand health insurance options so that everyone can afford quality coverage."
- 3 in 4 (78%) Tennessean adults are worried about affording health care in the future. Health care affordability worries are highest for lower income families (at 84%), but 66% of households earning more than \$100,000 per year report being "somewhat" or "very" worried.

"Closing the Medicaid coverage gap is one of the most tangible ways lawmakers can clearly demonstrate their commitment to their constituents and to improved access to health care."

- Lisa Lacasse, president of ACS CAN

For more information contact Maddie Bushnell, Government Relations Director, Tennessee, at Maddie.Bushnell@cancer.org