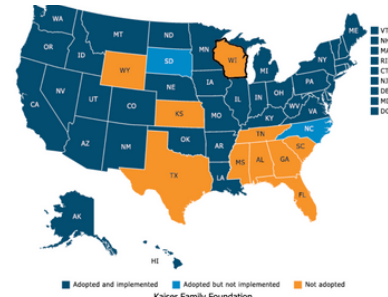


The ACP Wisconsin Chapter Health and Public Policy Committee has prepared issue guides on ACP health policy positions

What is Medicaid and who does it cover?

In Wisconsin, BadgerCare Plus refers to Medicaid coverage for low-income children, pregnant women, and adults under 65. In Wisconsin, these populations can qualify for coverage if their income is at or below the federal poverty level. For older adults and people with disabilities, the coverage is simply called Medicaid.



As of 2024, 40 states and the District of Columbia have adopted Medicaid expansion

What is Medicaid expansion?

As part of the Affordable Care Act of 2010, states were offered the opportunity to receive federal funding to support expanding Medicaid coverage by raising the income limit on who is eligible. This funding covered the entire cost of this Medicaid expansion from 2014 through 2020, at which point federal funding began to decrease (though still remains at 90%).

Wisconsin	has not	accepted federal Medicaid expansion
1,316,114		Number of Wisconsin residents covered by Medicaid/CHIP as of January 2024
89,700		Number of additional Wisconsin residents who would be covered if the state accepted expansion
342,391		Number of WI residents disenrolled from Medicaid as of March 2024
\$4.8 million		Federal money Wisconsin is leaving on the table by not expanding Medicaid in 2023 (plus additional American Rescue Plan funding)

How does Medicaid expansion impact health outcomes?

A literature review of almost 200 studies* found that Medicaid expansion is associated with improvements in many health indicators, including:

- mortality
- cancer
- diabetes
- maternal and infant health
- substance use disorders
- racial, ethnic and socioeconomic disparities including rural access
- access to contraception
- mental health conditions

*<https://www.kff.org/medicaid/report/building-on-the-evidence-base-studies-on-the-effects-of-medicaid-expansion-february-2020-to-march-2021/>

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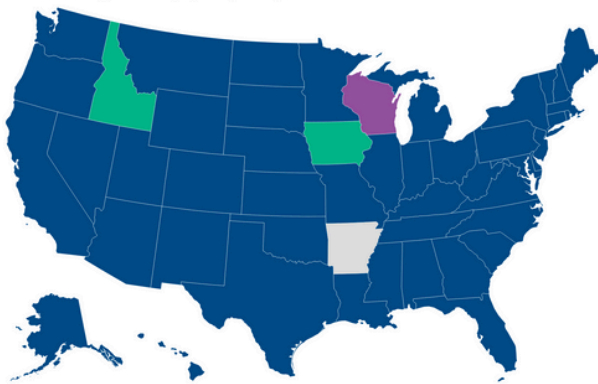
Postpartum Medicaid Expansion

The Medicaid program finances about 4 in 10 births in the U.S. Federal law requires states to provide pregnancy-related Medicaid coverage through 60 days postpartum. To help improve maternal health and coverage stability and to help address racial disparities in maternal health, in 2021 federal law gave states a new option to extend Medicaid postpartum coverage to 12 months via a state plan amendment (SPA).

As of August 2024, Wisconsin is one of two states that has not adopted (or has plans to adopt) extended postpartum Medicaid coverage to 12 months.

Postpartum Coverage Tracker Map

- 12-month extension implemented (47 states including DC)
- Planning to implement a 12-month extension (2 states)
- Limited coverage extension proposed (1 states)



Note: CMS approved the U.S. Virgin Islands' state plan amendment on 6/23/2023.

Source: KFF analysis of approved and pending 1115 waivers, state plan amendments, and state legislation, as of August 1, 2024.

KFF

In Wisconsin, expansion of Medicaid to 12 months post-partum would provide coverage to more than 6,000 people

<https://doa.wi.gov/budget/SBO/2023-25%20Budget%20in%20Brief%20ASE.pdf>

Health Impacts of postpartum care

Postpartum care includes follow-up on pregnancy complications, management of chronic health conditions, access to family planning, and addressing mental health conditions. One third of pregnancy-related deaths occur in the post-partum period, with disproportionately higher rates among women of color.

<https://www.kff.org/womens-health-policy/issue-brief/expanding-postpartum-medicaid-coverage/>

At least one in ten women experience perinatal depression. Suicidality among pregnant and postpartum people has risen over the past decade. Screening and treatment for perinatal depression can require time beyond 60 days of delivery.

<https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamapsychiatry/article-abstract/2772882>

ACP-Wisconsin supported bipartisan legislation in the 2023-24 Wisconsin session to extend post-partum Medicaid coverage to 12 months. This passed the Wisconsin State Senate but was not advanced in the Wisconsin Assembly.

ACP supports expansion of Medicaid coverage post-partum to 12 months for those eligible