

Medicaid Expansion Could Cover at Least Half of Uninsured Adults 18 to 64 in Most Georgia Counties

By Tim Sweeney, Director of Health Policy

If you are an uninsured person who lives in Bibb County and earns less than \$16,100, or are in a family of that makes less than \$27,300 a year, you and about 52 percent of county residents like you could be eligible for Medicaid under new expansion guidelines. That's if Georgia leaders choose to expand Medicaid.

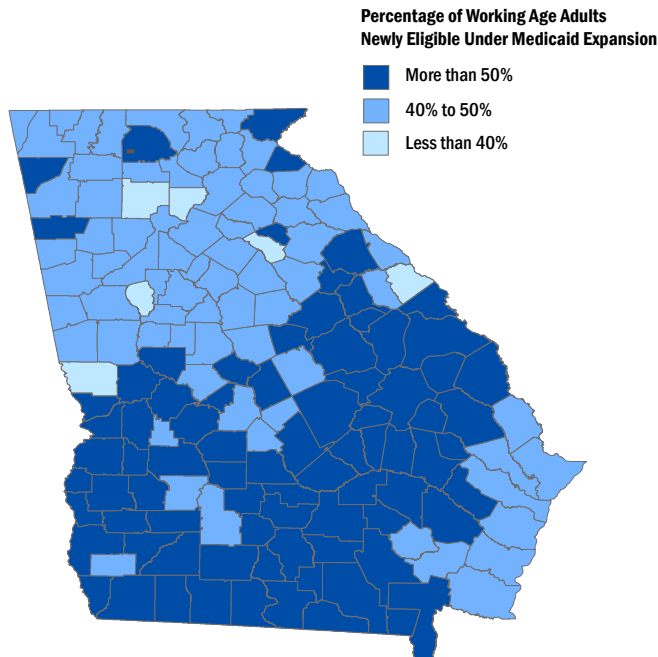
Statewide, 47 percent of all uninsured Georgians, ages 18 to 64, have income below 138 percent of the federal poverty level, which meets the new eligibility criteria. Expanding Medicaid to cover these adults could extend health coverage to more than 500,000 uninsured Georgians.

This would significantly improve access to health care services throughout Georgia, most dramatically in 81 counties where adults with income below the new eligibility threshold represent at least half of all uninsured adults. In another 72 counties, newly eligible adults account for at least 40 percent of uninsured adults. There is no county in the state where expansion would cover fewer than one-in-three working age, uninsured adults.

Adults with income under the new threshold are more than three-and-a-half times more likely to go without coverage than children from these same families. This is due in large part to more stringent eligibility rules for adults than for children in Georgia.

The map highlights the percentage of each county's uninsured adults ages 18 to 64 who earn income that would qualify them for Medicaid health coverage if Georgia expands eligibility.

At Least Half of Working Age Adults in Most Georgia Counties Could Gain Health Coverage Through Medicaid Expansion



Source: Georgia Budget & Policy Institute, U.S. Census

	<u>Uninsured Adults 18 to</u>	<u>Percent of total 18</u>		<u>Uninsured Adults 18 to</u>	<u>Percent of total 18</u>		<u>Uninsured Adults 18 to</u>	<u>Percent of total 18</u>
	<u>64 w/ Income < 138 %</u>	<u>to 64 uninsured</u>		<u>64 w/ Income < 138 %</u>	<u>to 64 uninsured</u>		<u>64 w/ Income < 138 %</u>	<u>to 64 uninsured</u>
	<u>Poverty</u>	<u>adults</u>		<u>Poverty</u>	<u>adults</u>		<u>Poverty</u>	<u>adults</u>
Georgia	750,100	46.5%	Evans County	1,084	52.4%	Newton County	7,337	45.1%
Appling County	1,682	50.6%	Fannin County	1,905	47.2%	Oconee County	1,246	34.3%
Atkinson County	1,192	56.6%	Fayette County	3,525	35.7%	Oglethorpe County	1,162	44.1%
Bacon County	1,113	51.0%	Floyd County	7,756	49.1%	Paulding County	8,200	40.2%
Baker County	265	56.3%	Forsyth County	6,885	33.5%	Peach County	2,187	50.6%
Baldwin County	3,293	54.0%	Franklin County	1,761	49.5%	Pickens County	1,956	43.7%
Banks County	1,606	47.9%	Fulton County	74,430	44.7%	Pierce County	1,481	46.6%
Barrow County	5,314	43.7%	Gilmer County	2,894	51.5%	Pike County	1,066	40.7%
Bartow County	7,909	43.3%	Glascock County	218	50.7%	Polk County	3,786	50.7%
Ben Hill County	1,805	57.9%	Glynn County	5,851	45.4%	Pulaski County	777	49.1%
Berrien County	2,032	54.4%	Gordon County	5,185	48.9%	Putnam County	1,596	46.4%
Bibb County	11,941	51.9%	Grady County	2,691	52.4%	Quitman County	227	54.6%
Bleckley County	747	48.0%	Greene County	1,168	46.9%	Rabun County	1,592	50.5%
Brantley County	1,670	48.0%	Gwinnett County	68,091	44.1%	Randolph County	667	56.1%
Brooks County	1,495	51.4%	Habersham County	3,649	48.5%	Richmond County	15,602	50.1%
Bryan County	1,786	42.2%	Hall County	15,565	45.4%	Rockdale County	6,605	44.2%
Bulloch County	8,642	59.8%	Hancock County	732	59.3%	Schley County	380	47.8%
Burke County	2,026	54.4%	Haralson County	2,095	47.5%	Screven County	1,132	51.4%
Butts County	1,595	46.5%	Harris County	1,339	39.9%	Seminole County	789	56.1%
Calhoun County	488	57.3%	Hart County	2,041	49.7%	Spalding County	5,067	49.3%
Camden County	2,809	43.2%	Heard County	887	49.1%	Stephens County	2,169	53.1%
Candler County	1,155	54.9%	Henry County	12,030	42.6%	Stewart County	382	55.9%
Carroll County	9,049	48.7%	Houston County	8,722	44.5%	Sumter County	2,797	53.6%
Catoosa County	3,966	44.4%	Irwin County	850	52.7%	Talbot County	579	54.4%
Charlton County	863	51.9%	Jackson County	4,383	45.5%	Taliaferro County	174	53.4%
Chatham County	20,979	46.2%	Jasper County	1,229	49.4%	Tattnall County	2,218	53.8%
Chattahoochee County	607	57.4%	Jeff Davis County	1,521	53.3%	Taylor County	739	53.2%
Chattooga County	2,082	51.7%	Jefferson County	1,533	55.3%	Telfair County	1,333	59.3%
Cherokee County	11,130	37.1%	Jenkins County	860	56.1%	Terrell County	795	55.4%
Clarke County	13,587	62.3%	Johnson County	660	50.3%	Thomas County	3,604	51.5%
Clay County	280	60.3%	Jones County	1,743	45.1%	Tift County	4,194	50.6%
Clayton County	25,979	49.1%	Lamar County	1,346	49.3%	Toombs County	2,637	54.9%
Clinch County	616	53.7%	Lanier County	1,195	54.7%	Towns County	578	44.8%
Cobb County	44,990	41.1%	Laurens County	3,414	50.4%	Treutlen County	572	54.4%
Coffee County	3,923	50.4%	Lee County	1,428	41.5%	Troup County	5,181	48.6%
Colquitt County	4,876	52.0%	Liberty County	4,946	48.8%	Turner County	936	55.8%
Columbia County	5,781	38.4%	Lincoln County	628	47.2%	Twiggs County	682	50.4%
Cook County	1,797	52.2%	Long County	1,643	53.3%	Union County	1,416	45.3%
Coweta County	7,243	43.3%	Lowndes County	10,695	52.1%	Upson County	2,132	50.7%
Crawford County	1,043	46.5%	Lumpkin County	2,441	46.9%	Walker County	4,767	46.6%
Crisp County	2,092	55.7%	McDuffie County	1,516	47.1%	Walton County	5,246	40.8%
Dade County	1,062	47.5%	McIntosh County	1,126	49.0%	Ware County	2,914	51.2%
Dawson County	1,478	41.1%	Macon County	1,276	54.3%	Warren County	493	55.5%
Decatur County	2,332	52.1%	Madison County	2,151	45.6%	Washington County	1,673	54.4%
DeKalb County	60,605	46.0%	Marion County	826	54.0%	Wayne County	2,598	51.2%
Dodge County	1,645	52.8%	Meriwether County	1,661	48.4%	Webster County	267	54.6%
Dooly County	1,229	55.6%	Miller County	454	49.5%	Wheeler County	471	52.5%
Dougherty County	8,307	54.7%	Mitchell County	1,865	53.0%	White County	2,131	47.4%
Douglas County	9,594	45.1%	Monroe County	1,499	44.1%	Whitfield County	10,365	47.2%
Early County	819	53.8%	Montgomery County	763	52.4%	Wilcox County	632	51.8%
Echols County	612	55.2%	Morgan County	1,265	47.3%	Wilkes County	791	51.1%
Effingham County	3,034	40.2%	Murray County	3,690	49.3%	Wilkinson County	684	49.6%
Elbert County	1,713	48.4%	Muscogee County	14,014	50.6%	Worth County	1,918	49.8%
Emanuel County	2,165	53.3%						