



Georgetown University  
Health Policy Institute  
CENTER FOR CHILDREN  
AND FAMILIES

# Children's Health: A 360° Perspective

Families USA Health Action  
Conference

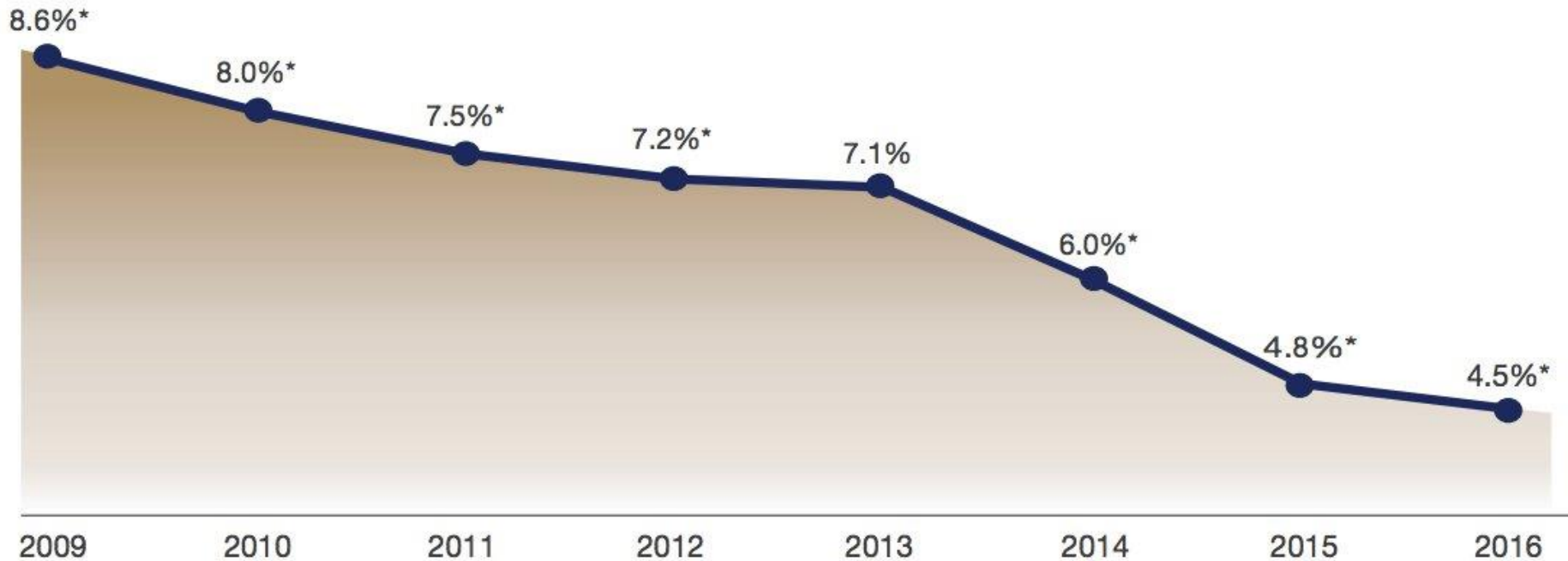
January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018

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Georgetown University Center for Children and Families

# Child Uninsurance Rate at All-time Low

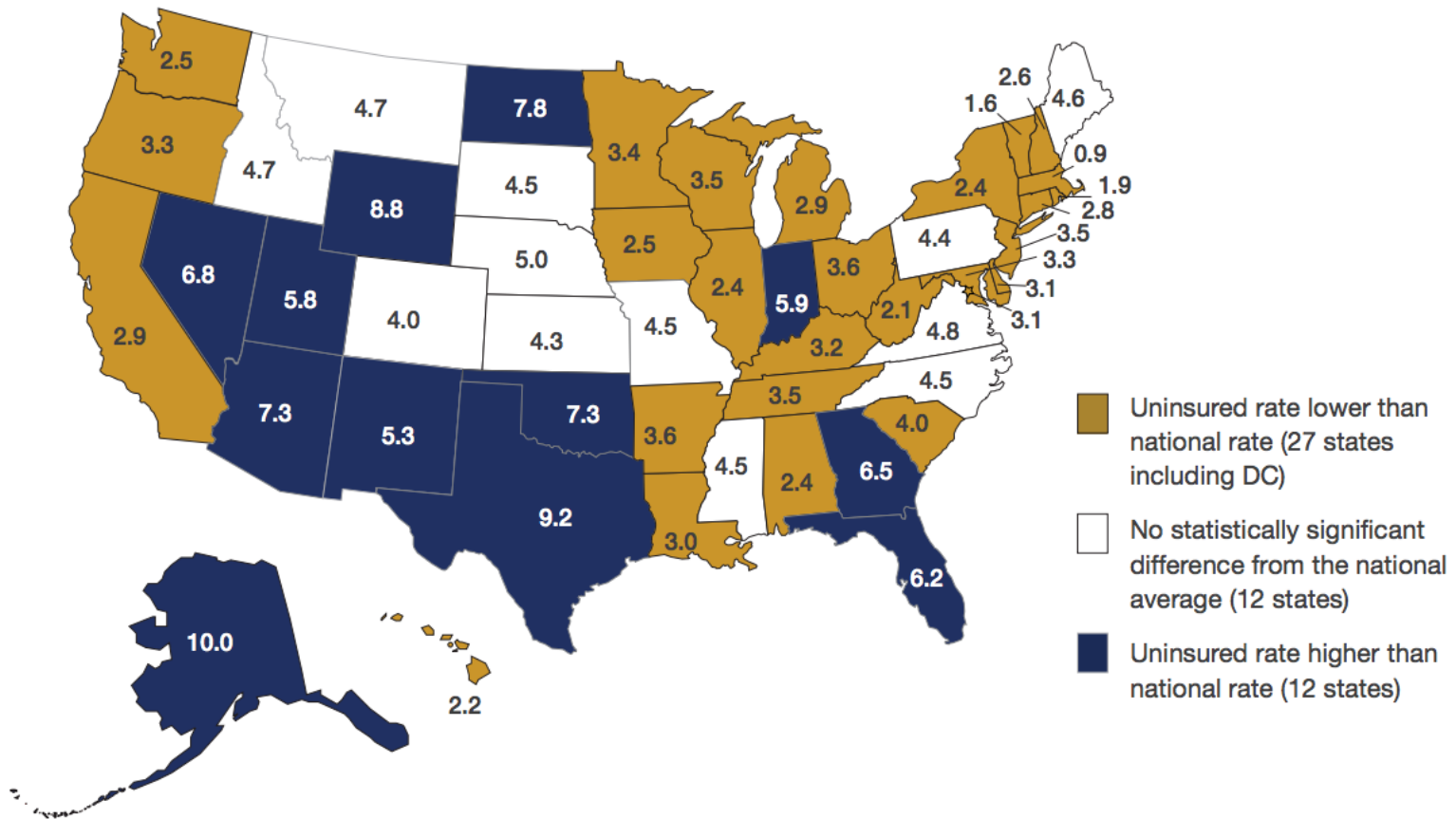
## Rate of Uninsured Children, 2009-2016



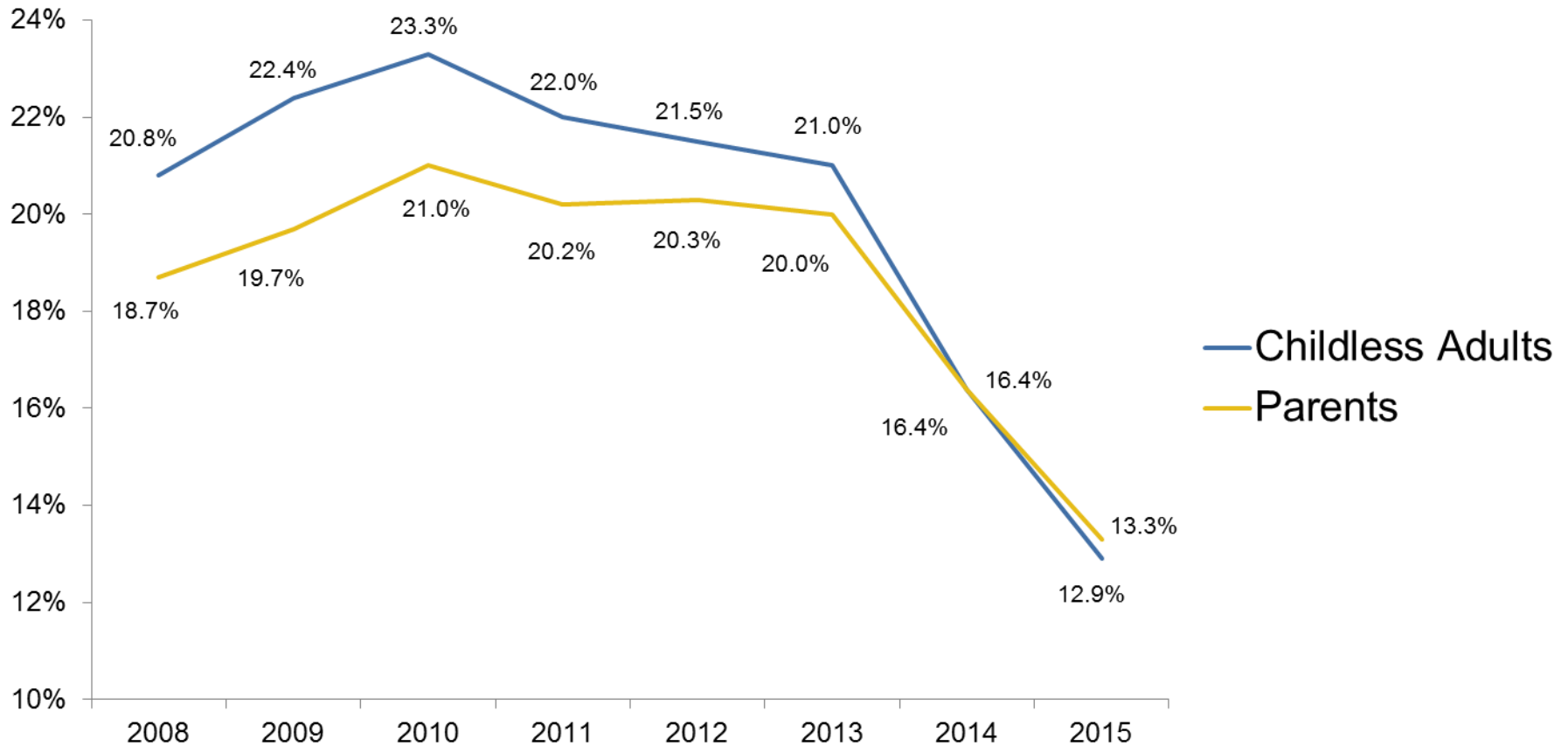
\* Change is significant at the 90% confidence level. 2013 was the only year that did not show a significant one-year decline in the national rate of uninsured children.

# Rate of Uninsured Children by State, 2016

12 States Had Higher Uninsured Rates for Children than the National Rate



# Parent Coverage Has Improved Too



# Children and Families Face a Perfect Storm... So far we are surviving!

- Medicaid is at risk like never before in federal debates.
- Federal Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) funding delayed 100+ days\*
- Affordable Care Act (ACA) Marketplace future uncertain.
- Administration approving state proposals that will depress Medicaid coverage.
- Medicaid waivers could restrict or undermine benefits protections.

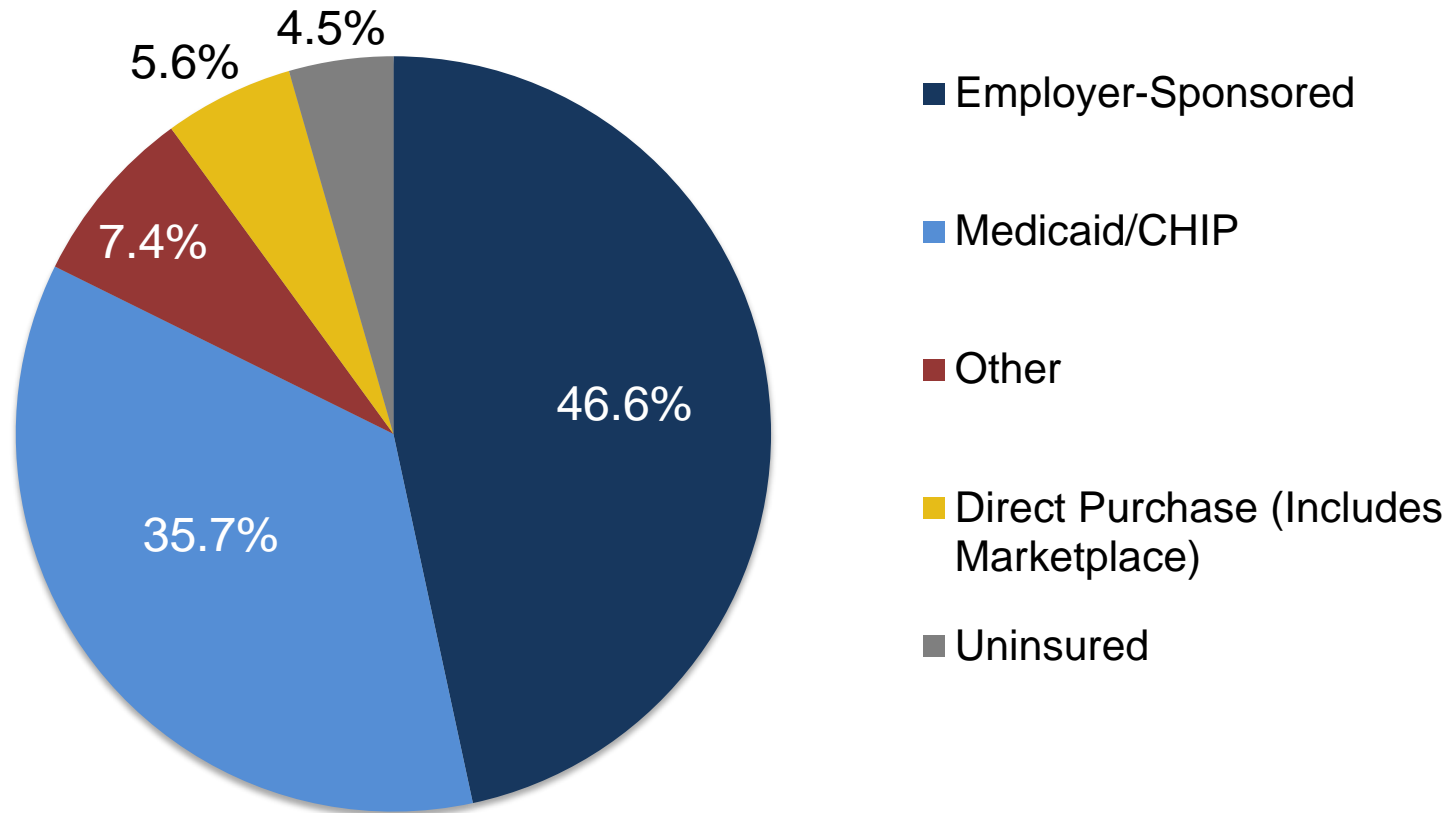


# CHIP Funding (FINALLY!) Extended

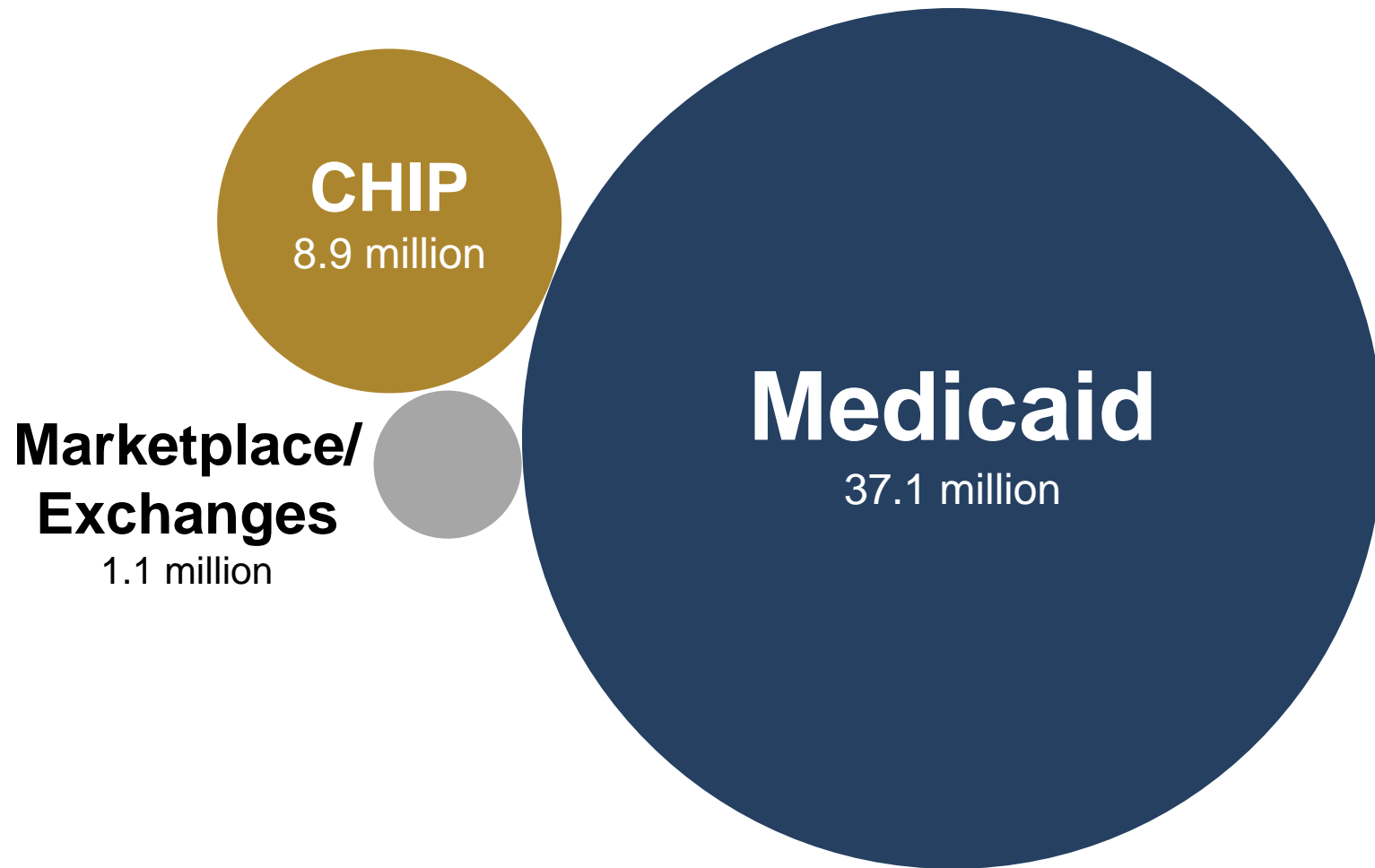
- 6 years of funding (*missed opportunity for 10+!*)
- 23%-point "bump" through 2019, phases down to regular CHIP match in 2021
- Keeps "maintenance of effort" for kids through 2019, continues through 2023 with flexibility to scale back for states > 300%FPL
- Express Lane
- Funds for Pediatric Quality Measures, Outreach/enrollment, childhood obesity demonstration
- CHIP Look-Alike Plans – New options for states



# How are Children Covered?

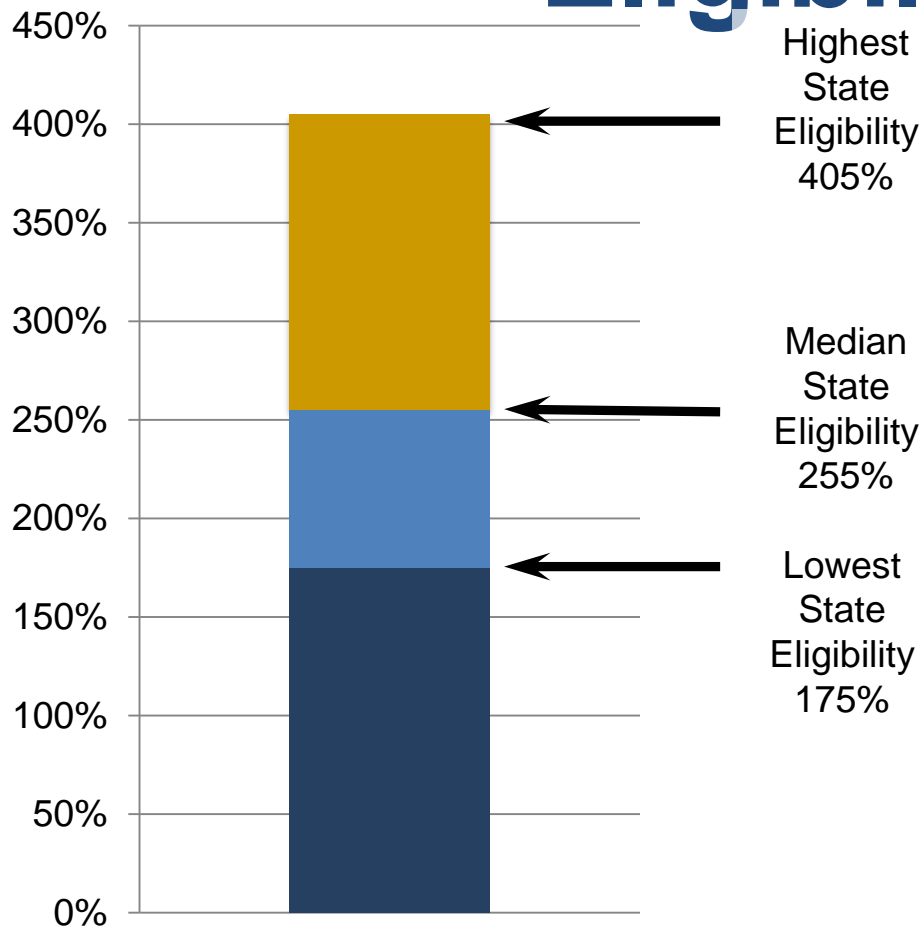


# Public Coverage for Children, 2016





# Children's Upper Income Eligibility



Breakdown of State Eligibility	
FPL	# of States
< 200%	2
200% – 250%	21
250% - 300%	9
> 300%	19

# Medicaid/CHIP: Coverage for the Nation's Most Vulnerable Children

79% 

Children living in or near poverty.

45% 

Infants, toddlers, and pre-schoolers during the early years that are key to their healthy development and school readiness.

43% 

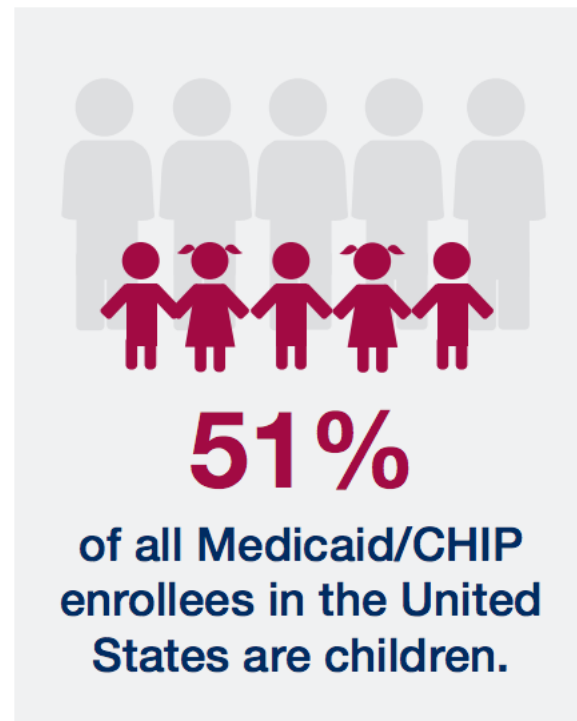
Children with disabilities or other special health care needs such as juvenile diabetes, congenital heart conditions, or asthma.

100% 

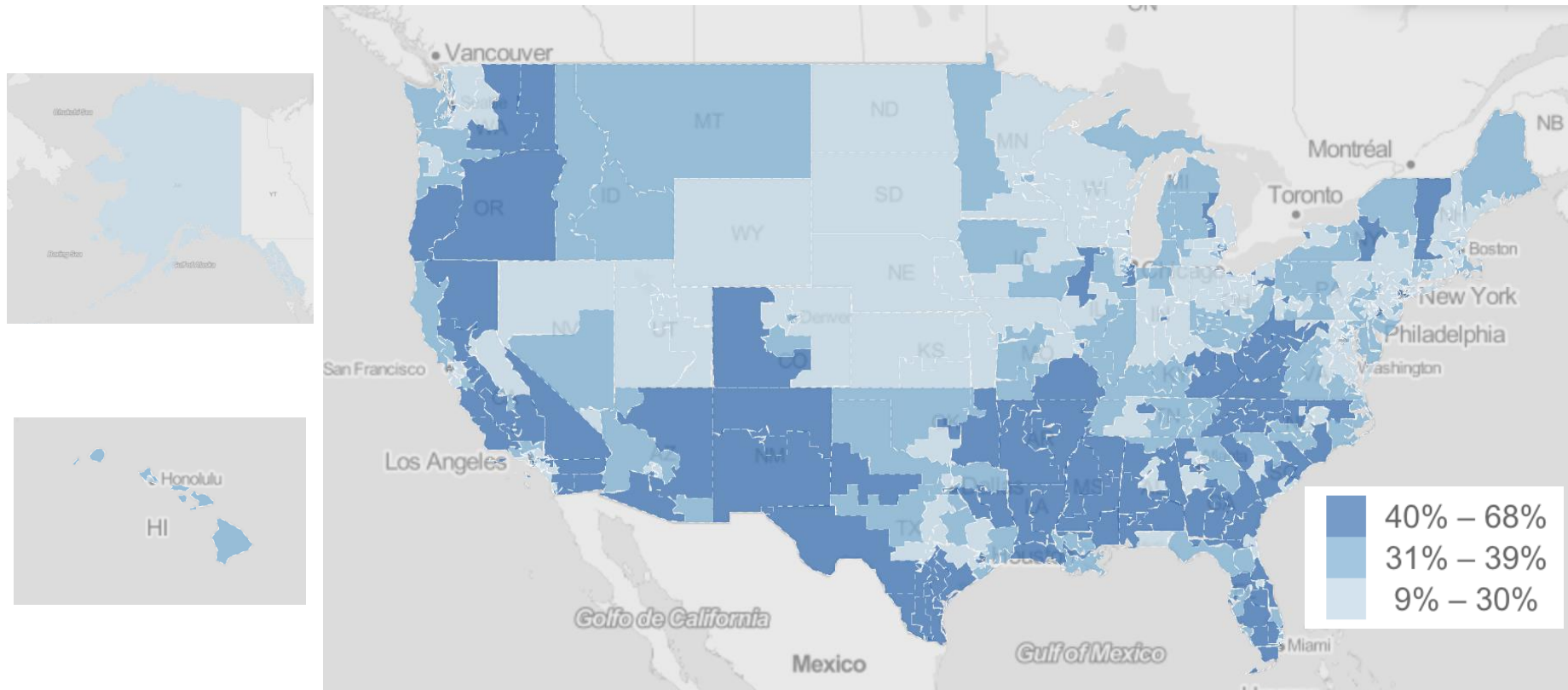
Children in foster care who face poverty, family dysfunction, neglect, and abuse that result in high rates of chronic health, emotional, and developmental problems.

48% 

Newborns in families to assure a healthy delivery and strong start during their critical first year of life.

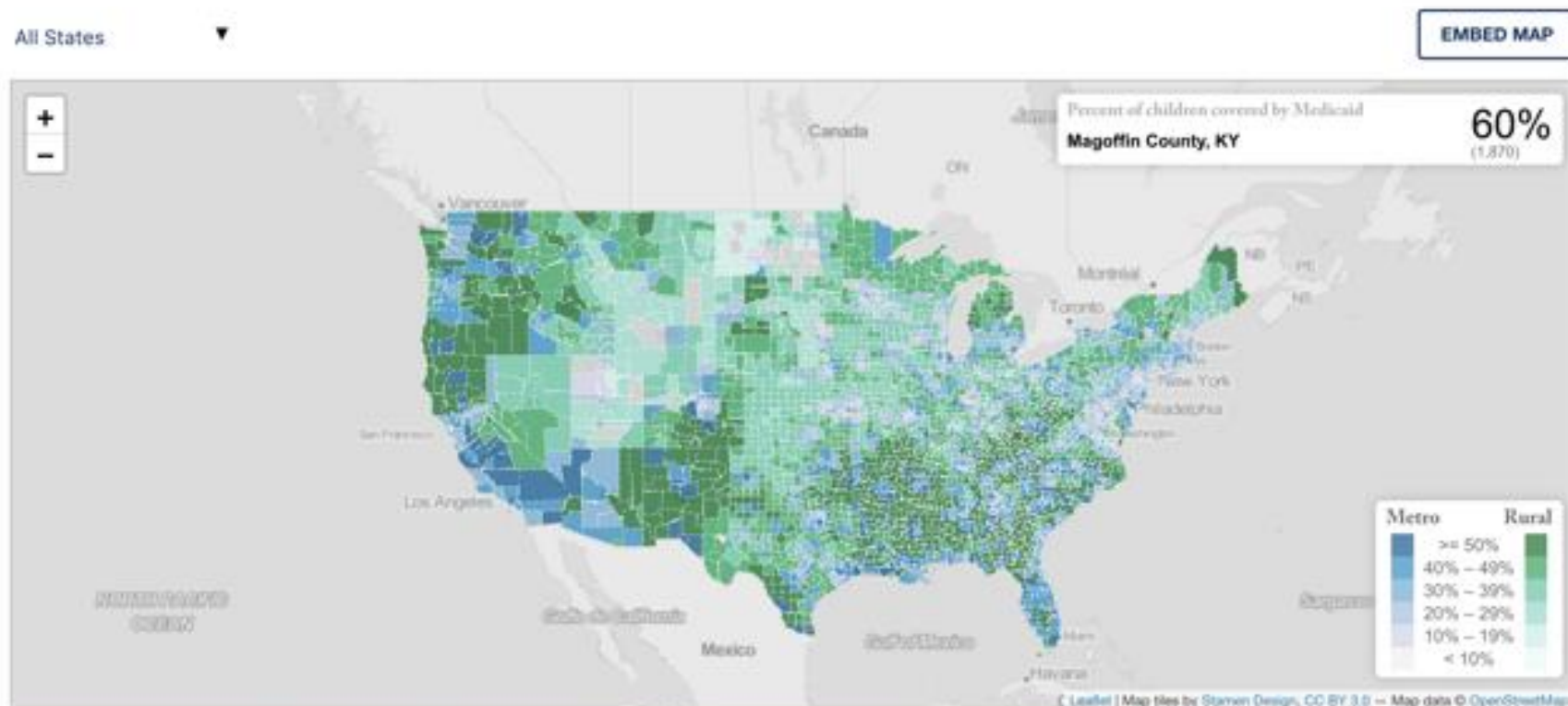


# Medicaid/CHIP Coverage by Congressional District, 2016



# Medicaid/CHIP Covers Larger Share of Kids in Rural Areas

Interactive Map: The Percent of Children in Small Towns and Rural Areas Covered by Medicaid, 2014/15



Notes: Data include the Children's Health Insurance Program. The number with Medicaid coverage in each county is rounded to the nearest ten. A dash indicates that the data in the county are unreported because there are fewer than 10 children residing in the county.

# Medicaid Helps Kids Succeed in Life

Medicaid helps children grow up to reach their full potential.  
Children enrolled in Medicaid:



Miss fewer school days due to illness or injury



Do better in school



Are more likely to graduate high school and attend college



Grow up to be healthier as adults



Earn higher wages



Pay more in taxes

# Covering Parents Helps Kids

- Welcome Mat effect:  
When parents gain coverage, their children get enrolled
- Kids more likely to access preventive care
- Healthy parents, healthy kids
- Greater financial stability



# Medicaid's Benefit for Children:

## Early Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT)

- Comprehensive array of preventive and ameliorative care for children
- Covers all appropriate and medically necessary services needed to correct and ameliorate health conditions, even if such services are not included in the Medicaid state plan
- States are required to inform all Medicaid-eligible individuals under age 21 that EPSDT services are available and of the need for age-appropriate immunizations



# Early and Periodic Screening

## Medical Screens

- Health and developmental history
- Unclothed physical exam
- Immunizations
- Lab test, including blood lead levels
- Health education

## Other Screens

- Vision, including eyeglasses
- Hearing, including hearing aids
- Dental, including relief of pain, restoration of teeth, and maintenance of oral health



# Diagnosis and Treatment

- If a screening examination indicates that further evaluation is needed, states must provide diagnostic services
- All physical and mental illnesses or conditions discovered by any screening or diagnostic procedure must be treated, regardless of whether the health services for such treatment are otherwise covered under the Medicaid state plan

**EPSDT - A Guide for States:**  
Coverage in the Medicaid Benefit  
for Children and Adolescents



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# Threats to Medicaid's Guaranteed Pediatric Benefit (EPSDT)

- Funding cuts make it harder for states to meet requirement
- New state flexibilities added in legislation or **state waivers** could undermine or remove this protection
- Medicaid helps pay for services as part of other key interventions for children –K12 special education, early intervention/Part C, home visiting. Scaling back funding or benefits would have a domino effect on these programs

# What to Watch

- Legislative proposals: Cuts, caps or requirements that add barriers coverage (e.g. work requirements, lockouts)
- Administrative guidance
- Medicaid 1115 waiver proposals – red tape, benefits flexibility (EPSDT???) - note state and federal comment periods

# What's at Stake for Kids in Current Health Debates?

1. Historic gains in coverage for children.
2. Medicaid's coverage guarantee.
3. Medicaid's guaranteed children's benefit (EPSDT).
4. Pressure on other programs that serve kids and families.
5. Children's long-term education and economic success.



# Additional Resources

- Website/newsletter sign up: [ccf.georgetown.edu](http://ccf.georgetown.edu)
- State Coverage Data: <https://ccf.georgetown.edu/state-childrens-health-facts/>
- Twitter:  
@GeorgetownCCF  
@ewburak
- [Elisabeth.burak@georgetown.edu](mailto:Elisabeth.burak@georgetown.edu)

The screenshot shows the website header with the logo and navigation menu. The main content area features several articles:

- What's at Stake if Essential Health Benefits are Scrapped? Pediatric Benefits, Protection from Lifetime Limits** by Tricia Brooks. The image shows a baby in a hospital bed.
- Efforts to Repeal ACA and Cap Federal Medicaid Funding Fail** by Cathy Hope. The image shows three young girls sitting together.
- How the AHCA Yanks Welcome Mat Out From Under Children Eligible for Medicaid and CHIP** by Tricia Brooks. The image shows a pair of sneakers on a "WELCOME" mat.
- MEDICAID FACT SHEETS** with a sub-image of four children.
- Congress Must Act Quickly on CHIP** by Joan Alker.

A search bar is located in the top right corner. At the bottom, there is a dark blue banner with the text "Subscribe to Updates from our Team" and a "Sign Up" button.