



Don't Lose Your  
Medicaid Coverage

# Medicaid and the Public Health Emergency

# The Public Health Emergency



## March 2020

COVID-19 Public Health Emergency

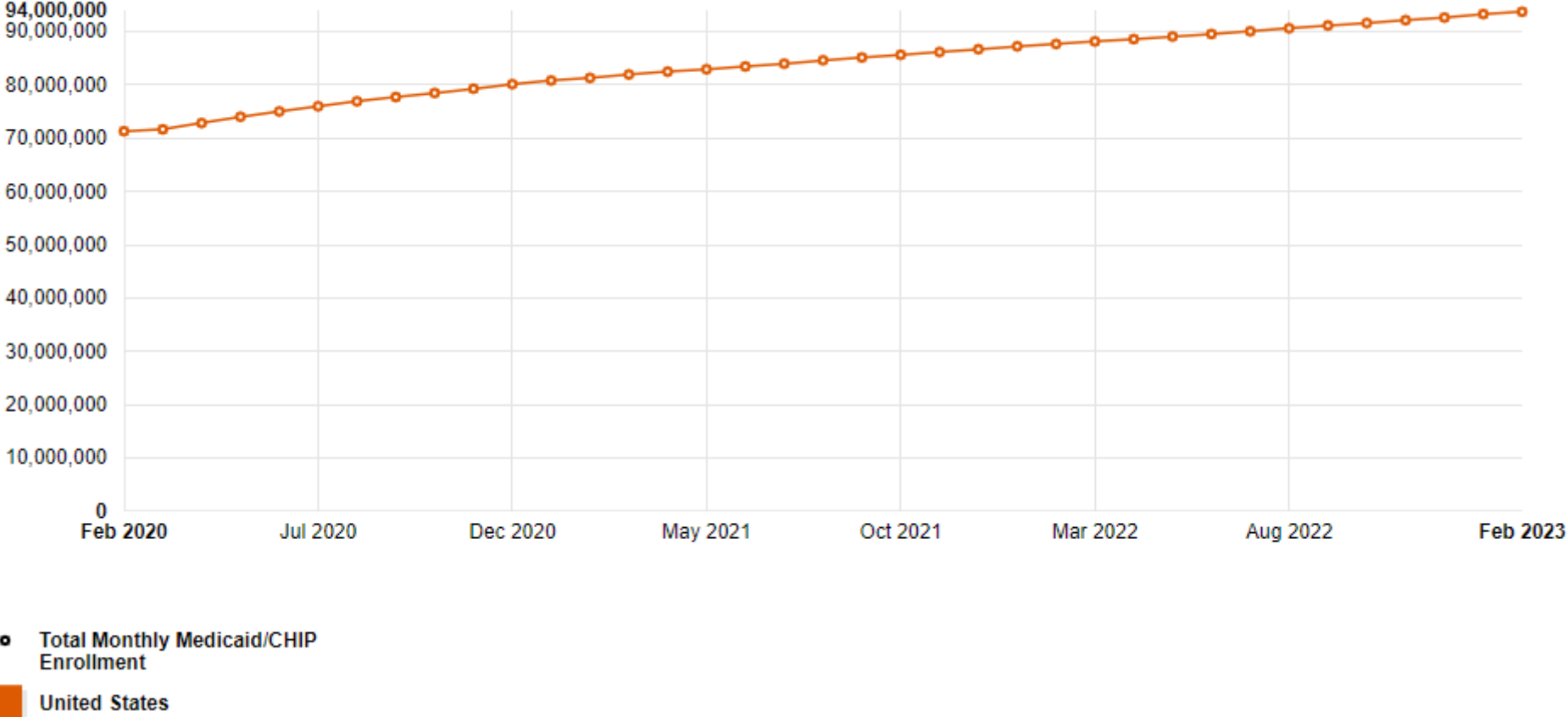
- Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA)
- Medicaid Continuous Enrollment

## December 2022

Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023

- End of Medicaid Continuous Enrollment effective March 31, 2023
- States given 12 months to return to normal eligibility and enrollment

# Total Monthly Medicaid and CHIP Enrollment



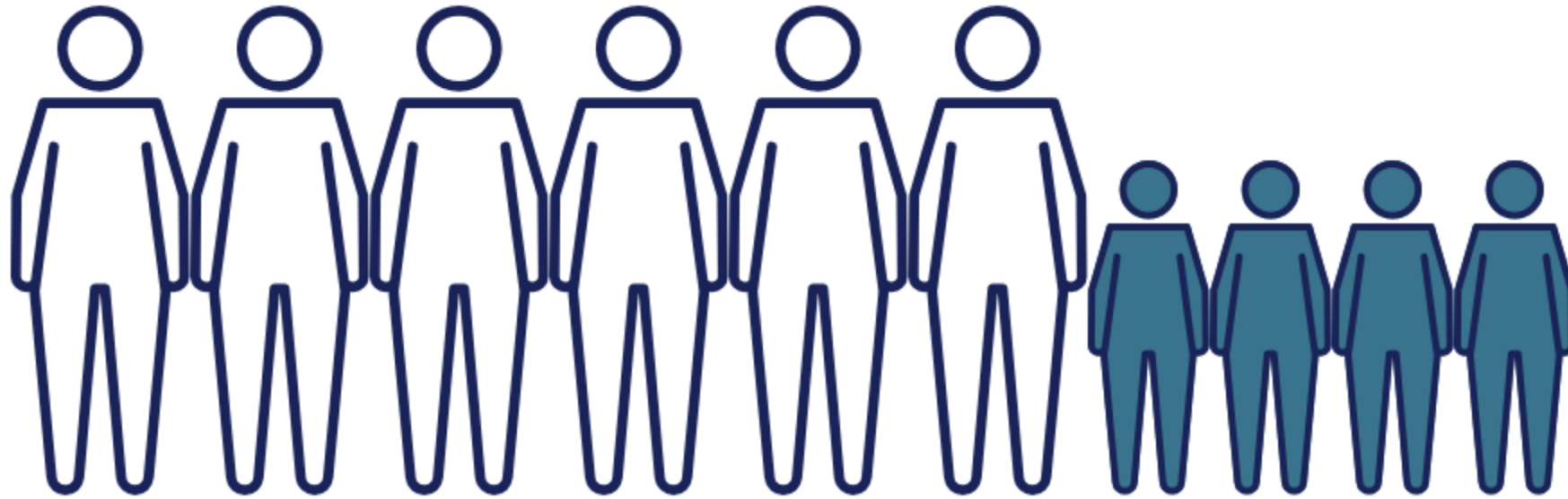
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation <https://kff.org>



# Disenrollments



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38% of disenrollments are children\*

\*Only 21 states are reporting on the age demographics of those being disenrolled.

Source: Kaiser Family Foundation <https://kff.org>



# Disenrollments



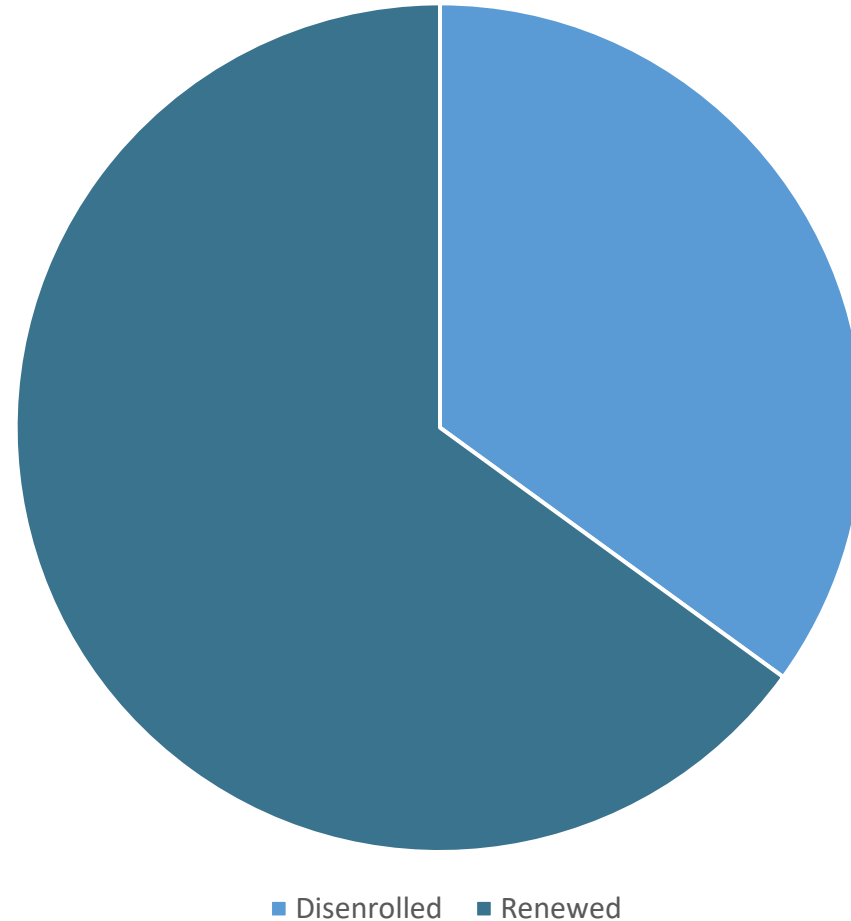
Between April 1, 2023, and November 8, 2023

**10,135,000**

people have been disenrolled from Medicaid.

# Disenrollments

**35% of those who have completed the process were disenrolled.**



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Source: Kaiser Family Foundation <https://kff.org>





# Medicaid – An Overview

# Eligibility for Medicaid

- Income
- Disability
- Qualified Pregnant Women and Children
- Home and Community Based Services
- Foster Care
- TEFRA Medicaid Disability Option
  - Katie Beckett Program



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# Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)



CHIP provides low-cost health coverage to children in families that earn too much money to qualify for Medicaid. In some states, CHIP also covers pregnant women. Each state offers CHIP coverage, which is administered by states, according to federal requirements. The program is funded jointly by states and the federal government.

In Wyoming, to be eligible for this benefit program you must be a resident of Wyoming and meet all of the following:

- **Either 18 years of age and under or a primary care giver with a child(ren) 18 years of age and under, and**
- **A U.S. Citizen, National, or a Non-Citizen legally admitted into the U.S, and**
- **Uninsured (and ineligible for Medicaid).**

Source: [Wyoming Kid Care Children's Health Insurance Program \(CHIP\) | Benefits.gov](https://www.benefits.gov/wyoming-kid-care-childrens-health-insurance-program-chip)





# The Challenges

# Redetermination and Renewal



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- Historically, about 17 million people lose their Medicaid or CHIP coverage each year at the point of renewal or redetermination.
- Each state has a different approach to their normal renewal process, and it has been left up to the states how to handle the process of redetermination at the end of the Public Health Emergency.

# Redetermination and Renewal



Based on historical numbers,  
it is estimated that across the country, more than  
**50 Million people will lose Medicaid coverage**  
this year, as the Public Health Emergency ends.

# The Challenges

- Three years' worth of renewals in one year
- Outdated systems
- Families have moved without notifying of the change in address
- Staffing



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# Unwinding Waivers



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Wyoming Medicaid offers three waiver programs with rules and practices that differ from traditional Medicaid:

- **Community Choices Waiver**– serves individuals aged 65 and older, or individuals aged 19 – 64 who have a verified, qualifying disability.
- **Supports Waiver** – provides supportive services to eligible individuals of all ages who have an intellectual or developmental disability, or an acquired brain injury.
- **Comprehensive Waiver** – provides comprehensive services to eligible individuals of all ages who have an intellectual or developmental disability, or an acquired brain injury. Individuals must meet emergency and eligibility criteria, to receive services.

# Impact on Families



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- Entire families lose may coverage.
- Some members of a family may lose coverage while others do not.
- Variations between states can cause confusion.
- Availability of programs for CYSHCN can be drastically different.
- Lost coverage can mean an impact to services.
- Lost coverage can come as a surprise.



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# What To Do



# What can families do?

- Keep contact information up to date with the Medicaid or CHIP agency.
- Watch the mail for communications about Medicaid coverage.
- Return requested paperwork as soon as possible.
- Save a copy of everything sent.
- Make sure to get receipts or proof of submission.



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# Don't wait!



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The Wyoming Department of Health has advised the following:

- You may receive text messages and mail from the Wyoming Department of Health if it is time to renew Medicaid or Kid Care CHIP for yourself or for a family member:
- **Do not ignore these important messages and forms!**
- If you received a text message from the Wyoming Department of Health asking you to renew, please watch your mail for a Medicaid renewal form. This form must be completed, signed and returned. You can return renewals by completing online at <https://www.wesystem.wyo.gov>, mailing or dropping off using the address on the renewal notice, faxing it to 1-855-329-5205, emailing it to [wesapplications@wyo.gov](mailto:wesapplications@wyo.gov) or calling to complete your renewal over the phone using the number on the notice.
- If your address has changed since March 2020 and you have not already reported that, your renewal may not get to you, which could affect eligibility. Please contact us as soon as possible with the correct address. To update contact information call 1-855-294-2127, email us at [wesapplications@wyo.gov](mailto:wesapplications@wyo.gov), or go online to make the update at <https://www.wesystem.wyo.gov>.

# What can we do?



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- Virtual Technical Assistance Office Hours
- Every other Wednesday from 2:00 – 3:00pm:
  - January 31
  - February 14
  - February 28
  - March 13
  - March 27
- <https://zoom.us/j/91332666226>
- Stay tuned for upcoming webinars this Spring!

# What are our partners doing?



- Enroll Wyoming: <https://enrollwyo.org/medicaid-unwinding/>
- The Wyoming Telehealth Network:  
<https://wyomingtelehealth.org>
- Wyoming Department of Health:
  - <https://health.wyo.gov/healthcarefin/medicaid/faqs/>
  - <https://health.wyo.gov/healthcarefin/medicaid/>

# Questions and Discussion



**THANK YOU!**

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