

Health Status

When compared to adults on private insurance, Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) beneficiaries have a lower health status across many metrics including but not limited to the following:

	Medicaid	Private Insurance
Obesity	38%	29%
Current Smokers	28%	11%
Basic Activity Limitation	42%	20%

See CMS' [Medicaid Facts and Figures](#) for more health status information.

Sex

Of Medicaid enrollees, 58% report as female while 42% report as male (other gender identities were not included in the survey). While the distribution varies by state, all states have a larger female population, likely due in part to eligibility related to pregnancy.

See the sex distribution of Medicaid beneficiaries by state [here](#).

Race/Ethnicity

Medicaid plays a disproportionately large role in providing health insurance for many racial and ethnic minority groups. As of 2020, nearly one-third of all Black (28%), American Indian and Alaska Native (27%), and Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander (31%) adults were enrolled in Medicaid. Twenty-two percent of Hispanic adults were enrolled in Medicaid. This is compared to 17% of White adults, and 15% of Asian adults (source can be viewed [here](#)).

See the racial/ethnic distribution of Medicaid beneficiaries by state [here](#).

Eligibility Group

Approximately 60% of Medicaid beneficiaries are adults. Of these adults, 19.1% are individuals with disabilities, 16.2% are seniors, and 64.6% are other adults (36.4% newly eligible).

See the eligibility group distribution by state [here](#).

Medicaid Beneficiary Profile

SDOH and HRSNs

Medicaid enrollees face many socioeconomic challenges. Socioeconomic status is linked to essentially all established HRSNs. Thus, Medicaid beneficiaries are more likely to have lower educational attainment, more difficulty accessing health care, housing, transportation, nutritious foods, and social capital. Medicaid strategies to address HRSNs are described below.