



Medicaid Work Requirements Just Don't Work

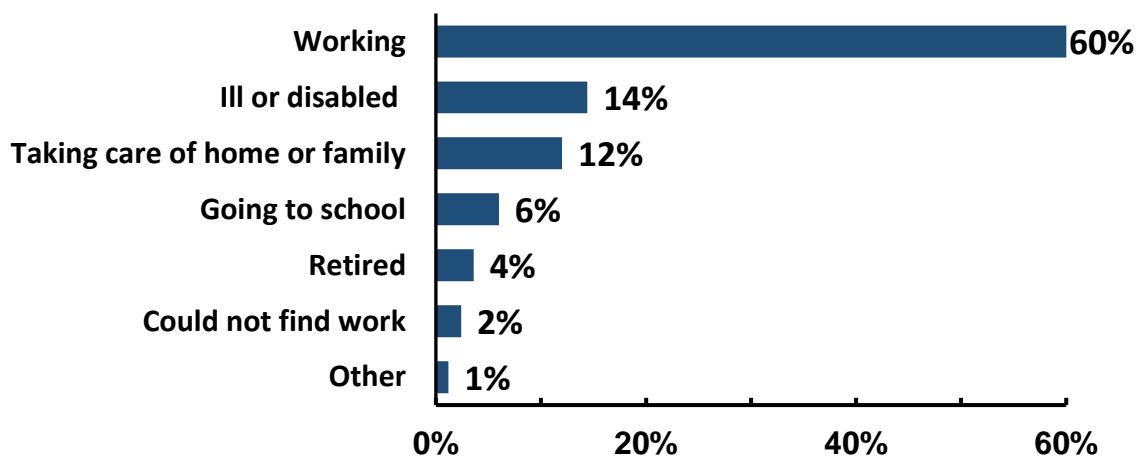
The Trump administration announced yesterday that it is giving states the green light to implement work requirements on Medicaid beneficiaries. More than 10 states have already proposed some form of Medicaid work requirements.¹ Not only do these work requirements fail to significantly boost long-term employment, they hurt the very people who Medicaid is designed to serve.

The evidence shows that work requirements do not increase employment among those already struggling to find work and have little overall effect on employment in the long term.² Most Medicaid recipients who can work already do, and work requirements will just kick out the people who need Medicaid most.³ Sixty percent of adults on Medicaid are working and nearly 80 percent are in working families.⁴ Many have jobs that are less likely to offer employer-sponsored insurance.⁵ Of those not working, more than half are family caregivers, in school, or already looking for work.⁶

The administration's new policy aligns with the work requirements in the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program, which have been shown to negatively impact people struggling with mental health and substance abuse.⁷ At a time when states are stepping up efforts to combat the opioid epidemic, this policy is a step in the wrong direction.

The evidence is clear: work requirements fail at their stated long-term goal of increasing employment, and are just another way to limit access to health care.

Vast Majority of Medicaid Recipients are



Source: JEC calculations based on Kaiser Family Foundation analysis

Share of Medicaid Workers in a Given Industry by State

State	Industry 1	%	Industry 2	%	Industry 3	%	Industry 4	%	Industry 5	%
AL	Accommodation & Food Services	16.8	Admin and Support & Waste Management	10.4	Retail Trade	9.1	Other Services	7.9	Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	7.2
AK	Accommodation & Food Services	18.2	Wholesale Trade	17.3	Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	16.6	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	14.3	Retail Trade	13.5
AZ	Accommodation & Food Services	23.9	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	23.5	Admin and Support & Waste Management	21.9	Other Services	18.5	Retail Trade	16.8
AK	Accommodation & Food Services	27.2	Admin and Support & Waste Management	21.7	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	15.9	Retail Trade	15.4	Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	14.8
CA	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	28.1	Accommodation & Food Services	25.3	Admin and Support & Waste Management	24.4	Other Services	22.4	Retail Trade	20.7
CO	Accommodation & Food Services	21.4	Admin and Support & Waste Management	20	Retail Trade	16.1	Other Services	15.9	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	14.6
CT	Accommodation & Food Services	27.2	Retail Trade	22.6	Admin and Support & Waste Management	21.1	Other Services	19.5	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	19
DE	Accommodation & Food Services	24.8	Admin and Support & Waste Management	22	Other Services	19.1	Retail Trade	17.7	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	16.1
DC	Retail Trade	39.5	Admin and Support & Waste Management	37.7	Accommodation & Food Services	30.4	Construction	28.8	Transportation & Warehousing	27
FL	Accommodation & Food Services	13.8	Admin and Support & Waste Management	12	Retail Trade	10.4	Other Services	10.4	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	9.9
GA	Accommodation & Food Services	11.9	Admin and Support & Waste Management	9.8	Retail Trade	8.2	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	7.1	Other Services	6.8
HI	Admin and Support & Waste Management	20.1	Other Services	16.2	Accommodation & Food Services	13.9	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	13.4	Retail Trade	12.5
ID	Accommodation & Food Services	13.1	Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	10.5	Admin and Support & Waste Management	10	Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	8.8	Retail Trade	8.6
IL	Accommodation & Food Services	21.6	Admin and Support & Waste Management	19.5	Retail Trade	16.6	Health Care and Social Assistance	14.4	Other Services	13.7
IN	Accommodation & Food Services	18.4	Admin and Support & Waste Management	15.4	Retail Trade	11.8	Other Services	10.9	Health Care and Social Assistance	8.9
IA	Accommodation & Food Services	26.5	Admin and Support & Waste Management	24	Retail Trade	15.8	Other Services	13.9	Health Care and Social Assistance	13
KS	Accommodation & Food Services	13.9	Admin and Support & Waste Management	7.8	Other Services	7.5	Health Care and Social Assistance	7.3	Retail Trade	7.3
KY	Accommodation & Food Services	31.8	Admin and Support & Waste Management	27.1	Retail Trade	20.8	Mining, Quarrying, & Oil and Gas Extraction	20.6	Other Services	20
LA	Accommodation & Food Services	18.3	Retail Trade	14.2	Admin and Support & Waste Management	13.6	Other Services	10.8	Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	10.7
ME	Accommodation & Food Services	19.6	Admin and Support & Waste Management	17.9	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	16.7	Other Services	15.8	Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	15.4
MD	Accommodation & Food Services	20.4	Retail Trade	17.9	Admin and Support & Waste Management	17.6	Other Services	14.6	Transportation & Warehousing	12.9
MA	Accommodation & Food Services	34.6	Other Services	29.2	Admin and Support & Waste Management	28.3	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	23.9	Transportation & Warehousing	23.3
MI	Accommodation & Food Services	27.5	Admin and Support & Waste Management	24.7	Retail Trade	19	Other Services	17.2	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	16.7
MN	Accommodation & Food Services	26.9	Admin and Support & Waste Management	23.3	Other Services	17.4	Retail Trade	16.2	Health Care and Social Assistance	15.6

Source: JEC Democratic Staff analysis of American Community Survey 2014-2016 data

Share of Medicaid Workers in a Given Industry by State (cont.)

State	Industry 1	%	Industry 2	%	Industry 3	%	Industry 4	%	Industry 5	%
MS	Accommodation & Food Services	17.4	Admin and Support & Waste Management	13.7	Retail Trade	11.1	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	9.4	Other Services	9.2
MO	Accommodation & Food Services	12.7	Admin and Support & Waste Management	11.4	Retail Trade	7.8	Health Care and Social Assistance	7.5	Other Services	6.8
MT	Accommodation & Food Services	17.2	Retail Trade	10.9	Admin and Support & Waste Management	10.9	Other Services	10.6	Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	10
NE	Accommodation & Food Services	12.2	Admin and Support & Waste Management	11	Retail Trade	7.4	Other Services	6.6	Health Care and Social Assistance	6.5
NV	Admin and Support & Waste Management	15.6	Other Services	14.1	Retail Trade	13.7	Accommodation & Food Services	11.8	Transportation & Warehousing	11.8
NH	Accommodation & Food Services	15.9	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	13.7	Admin and Support & Waste Management	13.3	Retail Trade	10.4	Other Services	10.2
NJ	Accommodation & Food Services	16.5	Admin and Support & Waste Management	13.7	Retail Trade	13.7	Other Services	13.4	Transportation & Warehousing	12.1
NM	Accommodation & Food Services	32.1	Admin and Support & Waste Management	26.5	Retail Trade	26.1	Other Services	25.5	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	24.2
NY	Accommodation & Food Services	28.4	Other Services	24.2	Admin and Support & Waste Management	24.1	Retail Trade	23.1	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	19.8
NC	Accommodation & Food Services	16.7	Admin and Support & Waste Management	11.4	Retail Trade	10.1	Other Services	8.8	Health Care and Social Assistance	7.9
ND	Admin and Support & Waste Management	14.8	Accommodation & Food Services	14.6	Retail Trade	8.6	Health Care and Social Assistance	8.4	Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	7.8
OH	Accommodation & Food Services	27.5	Admin and Support & Waste Management	25.1	Retail Trade	17.3	Other Services	16.1	Health Care and Social Assistance	14.8
OK	Accommodation & Food Services	15.2	Admin and Support & Waste Management	11.9	Retail Trade	9.3	Other Services	8.2	Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	7.9
OR	Accommodation & Food Services	30.8	Admin and Support & Waste Management	26.7	Other Services	22.4	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	21.3	Retail Trade	20.8
PA	Accommodation & Food Services	21	Admin and Support & Waste Management	16.6	Retail Trade	14.5	Other Services	11.6	Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	10.7
RI	Accommodation & Food Services	24.6	Admin and Support & Waste Management	21.8	Retail Trade	20.2	Other Services	20.1	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	19.2
SC	Accommodation & Food Services	17.3	Retail Trade	11.7	Admin and Support & Waste Management	11.5	Other Services	9.7	Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	8.7
SD	Accommodation & Food Services	15.2	Admin and Support & Waste Management	11.6	Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	10	Retail Trade	7.2	Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	6.5
TN	Accommodation & Food Services	21.4	Admin and Support & Waste Management	16.6	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	13.2	Retail Trade	13	Other Services	11.5
TX	Accommodation & Food Services	11.5	Admin and Support & Waste Management	8.3	Retail Trade	7.4	Other Services	7.2	Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	6.6
UT	Accommodation & Food Services	9.3	Other Services	7.9	Admin and Support & Waste Management	7.7	Retail Trade	7	Information	5.9
VT	Accommodation & Food Services	34.3	Admin and Support & Waste Management	29.7	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	29.6	Other Services	25.5	Retail Trade	24.4
VA	Accommodation & Food Services	10	Admin and Support & Waste Management	9.3	Retail Trade	7.5	Health Care and Social Assistance	5.7	Other Services	5.4
WA	Accommodation & Food Services	23.4	Admin and Support & Waste Management	21.5	Other Services	18.2	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	16.9	Retail Trade	16.1
WV	Accommodation & Food Services	35.8	Admin and Support & Waste Management	25.1	Retail Trade	22.5	Other Services	19.9	Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	19.3
WI	Accommodation & Food Services	20.3	Admin and Support & Waste Management	19.2	Retail Trade	13.7	Other Services	13.6	Health Care and Social Assistance	12.3

Source: JEC Democratic Staff analysis of American Community Survey 2014-2016 data

¹ <https://www.politico.com/story/2018/01/11/trump-medicare-work-requirements-280969>

² <https://www.cbpp.org/research/poverty-and-inequality/work-requirements-dont-cut-poverty-evidence-shows#finding1>

³ <https://www.cbpp.org/research/health/medicaid-work-requirement-would-limit-health-care-access-without-significantly>

⁴ <https://www.kff.org/medicaid/issue-brief/understanding-the-intersection-of-medicare-and-work/>; Adults refers to nonelderly adults not on Supplemental Security Income.

⁵ *Ibid.*

⁶ *Ibid.*

⁷ <http://www.nber.org/papers/w12480.pdf>, <https://www.medicare.gov/federal-policy-guidance/downloads/smd18002.pdf>