

Government study: Without Medicaid expansion, poor forgo medical care

By RICARDO ALONSO-ZALDIVAR
Associated Press



Sen. Ron Wyden, D-Ore., ranking member of the Senate Finance Committee, requested the Medicaid analysis.

WASHINGTON — Low-income people in states that haven't expanded Medicaid are much more likely to forgo needed medical care than the poor in other states, according to a government report released Monday amid election debates from Georgia to Utah over coverage for the needy.

The nonpartisan Government Accountability Office worked with the National Center for Health Statistics to analyze federal survey data from 2016. The research focused on low-income adults ages 19-64 in states that did not expand Medicaid under the Obama-era Affordable Care Act, compared to their peers in states that did.

Medicaid expansion is an issue in several high-profile gubernatorial contests and in states where supporters have gotten referendum questions on the ballot. Under the law, states may expand Medicaid for low-income people making up to roughly \$16,750 for an individual or \$34,640 for a family of four. Seventeen states have not adopted the expansion, opposed by many — but not all — Republicans.

Among the report's findings: —Nearly 20 percent of low-income people in states that did not expand Medicaid said they passed up needed medical care in the past 12 months because they couldn't afford it. That compared to 9.4 percent in states

that expanded the program. —About 8 percent of those in states that did not expand Medicaid reported they either skipped medication doses to save money or took less medication than prescribed. That compared to about 5 percent in states that expanded. For people with chronic conditions such as high blood pressure, diabetes and asthma, staying on a medication schedule is considered essential.

—About 22 percent of those in states not expanding Medicaid said they needed but could not afford dental care, as compared to 15 percent of similar low-income adults in expansion states. —About 11 percent of those in non-expansion states said they needed to see a specialist but weren't able to afford it, as compared to

about 6 percent of those in expansion states.

“States around the country have an opportunity to expand Medicaid to more people; these findings help show why it's a winning proposition for states and the millions of Americans currently left out,” said Sen. Ron Wyden, D-Ore., who requested the analysis.

Aides to Wyden said the 70-page report is the most detailed look yet at real-world differences that Medicaid expansion can make. In states that did not expand Medicaid, low-income adults are more likely to be uninsured.

Medicaid is a federal-state program that has grown to

cover about 1 in 5 U.S. residents, from many newborns to severely disabled people to elderly nursing home residents. Its total cost is about \$570 billion a year. Former President Barack Obama's health care law expanded Medicaid to allow states to cover low-income adults with no children living at home.

On Election Day, voters in Idaho, Nebraska and Utah will decide whether their states should expand the program. Montana voters will decide on maintaining that state's expansion.

Expansion also is an issue in gubernatorial races in Florida, Georgia and Wisconsin, which have not expanded Medicaid.

With the federal government covering at least 90 percent of the cost, expansion proponents argue states turning it down are leaving on the table tax dollars their own citizens send to Washington. Backers include hospital systems and health insurers, and many local business groups.

Opponents contend that the cost is still too high for states, which have other major financial responsibilities for health

care, education, infrastructure and law enforcement, and must balance their budgets.

President Donald Trump's administration is strongly opposed to Medicaid expansion and tried unsuccessfully to repeal it during Trump's first year.

Medicare and Medicaid administrator Seema Verma argues that Medicaid was originally intended as a safety-net program for the most vulnerable in society and covering able-bodied adults is beyond its scope. Verma is encouraging states to set work requirements for Medicaid, contending that will encourage people to earn their way out of poverty and dependence on government insurance.

Supporters of Medicaid expansion say the argument for the program is getting stronger.

“It's the same as we've seen more broadly with the ACA,” said Judy Solomon of the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, which advocates for low-income people. “It's here to stay, and states that haven't been able to get it over the finish line are questioning themselves.”

Chefs: Hope to defend title next year

Continued from Page 1A

said. “We put our heart into what we cook, and I think the judges saw that.”

The win comes after the crew recently earned a distinction as the best dining facility on a medium-sized Coast Guard cutter. The Alert is based at the 17th Street Dock.

“I wanted a crew I could cook for and make them happy and improve morale on the boat,” said Northrop, whose specialty is baking.

Northrop and Petty Officer First Class Michael Allen, another member of the team from the Alert, are not sure if they will be able to return to fleet week next year. But they'd prefer it.

“If we do go, I'd love to defend our championship,” Northrop said.

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Ken Crow

TV SCHEDULE

THE DAILY ASTORIAN

Evening listings MONDAY

MONDAY EVENING					OCTOBER 15								
A	L	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30
2	KATU	(2) KATU News at 6 (N)		Jeopardy! (N)	Wheel Fortune (N)	Dancing With the Stars "Trios Night" (N)				The Good Doctor "Tough Titmouse" (N)		News (N)	(35) Jimmy Kimmel
3	KOMO	(4) KOMO 4 News (N)		Wheel Fortune (N)	Jeopardy! (N)	Dancing With the Stars "Trios Night" (N)				The Good Doctor "Tough Titmouse" (N)		KOMO 4 News (N)	(35) Jimmy Kimmel
4	KING	(5) NBC News (N)	KING 5 News	KING 5 News	Evening	The Voice "The Blind Auditions 7/ The Battles Premiere" (N)				Manifest "Unclaimed Baggage" (N)		KING 5 News (N)	(35) Tonight Show
6	KOIN	(6) KOIN Local 6 (N)	Evening News (N)	Extra	Ent. Tonight (N)	Neighborhood (N) H.Together (N)	Magnum "Six Paintings, One Frame" (N)			Bull "Justice for Cable" (N)		News (N)	(35) Colbert
7	KIRO	(7) KIRO 7 News (N)	Evening News (N)	KIRO 7 News (N)	Ent. Tonight (N)	Neighborhood (N) H.Together (N)	Magnum "Six Paintings, One Frame" (N)			Bull "Justice for Cable" (N)		KIRO 7 News (N)	(35) Colbert
8	KGW	(8) KGW News at 6:00 p.m. (N)		Tonight Cassidy	Inside Edition	The Voice "The Blind Auditions 7/ The Battles Premiere" (N)				Manifest "Unclaimed Baggage" (N)		News (N)	(35) Tonight Show
9	KRCW	(9) Modern Family	Modern Family	The Goldbergs	The Goldbergs	Arrow (SP) (N)	Constantine: Legend (N)			News (N) Friends		Two and a Half	
10	KOPB	(10) This Old House	Business (N)	PBS NewsHour (N)		Antiques Rd. "Santa Clara (Hour One)"	Ore. Experience	Ore. Experience		American Masters "Itzhak"		Two and a Half	Bright Lights
12	KPTV	(12) 6 O'Clock News (N)		Family Feud	Family Feud	The Resident "About Time" (N)	9-1-1 "Stuck" (N)			10 O'Clock News (N)		News (N)	Page Six TV
13	KPDx	(13) Mike & Molly	Mike & Molly	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Prime News (N)	Prime News (N)			Big Bang Theory Family Guy		American Dad!	The Game
14	KCPQ	(14) Modern Family	Modern Family	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	The Resident "About Time" (N)	9-1-1 "Stuck" (N)			Q13 NEWS AT 10 (N)		News (N)	The Simpsons
20	TBS	(20) Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Final Space	Brooklyn 99	Brooklyn 99		American Dad! American Dad!		American Dad!	American Dad!
22	KZJQ	(22) Black-ish	Black-ish	Mom	Modern Family	Mom	Modern Family	Q13 News at 9		Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Two and a Half	Two and a Half
29	ESPN	(29) NFL Football San Francisco 49ers at Green Bay Packers (L)				(15) SportsCenter With Scott Van Pelt (N)		NFL PrimeTime		Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Scott Van Pelt	NFL PrimeTime
30	ESPN2	(30) NFL Fútbol Americano San Francisco 49ers at Green Bay Packers (L)				(15) College Football Final		Baseball Tonight		SportsCenter With Scott Van Pelt	TrueSouth	TrueSouth	SportsCenter
31	NICK	(31) The Loud House	The Loud House	The Loud House	The Loud House	Double Dare	Double Dare	To Be Announced				Friends	(35) Friends
32	DISN	(32) Bunk'd	Bunk'd	Bunk'd	Raven's Home	Andi Mack (N)	Coop & Cami	Raven's Home	Stuck in Middle	Bunk'd	Bunk'd	Andi Mack	Raven's Home
34	FAM	(34) *** Hotel Transylvania (12, Ani) Kevin James, Andy Samberg, Adam Sandler.		*** The Parent Trap (1998, Family) Dennis Quaid, Natasha Richardson, Lindsay Lohan.		*** The Parent Trap (1998, Family) Dennis Quaid, Natasha Richardson, Lindsay Lohan.		*** Oblivion (2013, Sci-Fi) Morgan Freeman, Olga Kurylenko, Tom Cruise.				The 700 Club	
35	FMC	(35) (5:00) The Fantastic Four Miles Teller. (5:55) *** The Fantastic Four (15) Kate Mara, Miles Teller. (5:50) FXM Presents		*** The Parent Trap (1998, Family) Dennis Quaid, Natasha Richardson, Lindsay Lohan.		*** The Parent Trap (1998, Family) Dennis Quaid, Natasha Richardson, Lindsay Lohan.		*** Oblivion (2013, Sci-Fi) Morgan Freeman, Olga Kurylenko, Tom Cruise.					(35) FXM Presents
36	LIFE	(36) First 48 "Up in Smoke/ Shot in the Dark"		The First 48 "Double Time"		Live PD: Women	Live PD: Women	PD Women (N)	PD Women (N)	(05) 24 to Life "Fall From Grace" (N)		(05) 24 to Life "Shadow of Shame"	
38	ROOT	(38) Footvolley		Footvolley		Poker Heartland Tour		Press Pass (N)	UFC UFC 212 Site: Jeunesse Arena				
39	FS1	(39) (5:00) To Be Announced				To Be Announced		CFB: Inside Slant	TMZ Sports (N)	Skip and Shannon: Undisputed Opinions on the biggest sports topics of the day.			
43	SPIKE	(43) Mom	Mom	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops
44	COM	(44) Trick'r Treat (2008, Adult) Dylan Baker, Brian Cox, Anna Paquin.		(25) The Office		The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Daily Show (N) The Office	
45	HIST	(45) Amer. Pickers "Tunnels and Treasures"		American Pickers "Catch-32"		American Pickers "Bubba Gump Picks"		A. Pickers "Pickin' for the Fences" (N)		(05) American Pickers: Bonus Buys (N)		(05) A. Pickers "Robbie to the Rescue"	
46	A&E	(46) Jeff Dunham: Birth of a Dummy		Inside Story "Animal House" Celebrating the 30th anniversary of Animal House.		Inside Story "Animal House" Celebrating the 30th anniversary of Animal House.		Culture "Chris Rock's Bring the Pain" (N)		Culture "Chris Rock's Bring the Pain" (N)		(15) Biography	
47	TLC	(47) Say Yes Dress	Say Yes Dress	Long Island Medium: Beyond the Read (N)		Family "A Mysterious Disappearance"		To Be Announced				Long Island Medium	
48	DISC	(48) Shifting Gears "Rally Time"		Shifting Gears "Cage Match"		Shifting Gears "The Olympus Rally"		Shifting Gears "Model A-K"		Rat Rods "Gassed Up Bootleggers"		Brake Room	Brake Room
49	NGEO	(49) Wicked Tuna "Purple Rain"		Drain the Oceans "Deadly Pacific"		Drain the Oceans "Sunken Cities" (N)		Drain the Oceans "Sunken Cities" (N)		Drain the Oceans "Sunken Cities" (N)		Drain Alcatraz	
50	TNT	(50) (15) Hercules (2014, Adventure) John Hurt, Irina Shayk, Dwayne Johnson.				The Legend of Tarzan (2016, Action) Margot Robbie, Samuel L. Jackson, Alexander Skarsgård.						The Alienist "These Bloody Thoughts"	
51	AMC	(51) Trick'r Treat (2008, Adult) Dylan Baker, Brian Cox, Anna Paquin.				*** The Exorcist (1973, Horror) Ellen Burstyn, Max Von Sydow, Linda Blair.				(50) * Exorcist II: The Heretic (77) Linda Blair.			
52	USA	(52) Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	WWE Monday Night Raw						(05) Modern Fam	(35) Modern Fam
53	FOOD	(53) Halloween Wars "Mausoleum Mayhem"		Halloween Wars "Demonic Wedding"		Trisha's Halloween Spooktacular (N)		Halloween Baking "Hallowedding" (N)		Halloween "Witch Gets A New Ride"		Haunted Gingerbread Showdown	
54	HGTV	(54) Love It/List It "Too Close for Comfort"		Love It or List It "Separate Spaces"		Love It or List It "Family and Future"		Love It or List It (N)		House Hunters (N) House Hunters (N)		House Hunters	House Hunters
56	FX	(56) *** Neighbors 2: Sorority Rising (16) Rose Byrne, Seth Rogen.				*** Pitch Perfect 2 (2015, Comedy) Rebel Wilson, Elizabeth Banks, Anna Kendrick.				*** Pitch Perfect 2 (15) Rebel Wilson, Anna Kendrick.			
57	CNN	(57) Cuomo Prime Time		CNN Tonight With Don Lemon		CNN Tonight With Don Lemon		Anderson Cooper 360		Cuomo Prime Time		CNN Tonight With Don Lemon	
58	FNC	(58) Hannity		The Ingraham Angle		Fox News @ Night		Tucker Carlson Tonight		Hannity		The Ingraham Angle	
61	CNBC	(61) American Greed "Red Carpet Rip-Off"		American Greed: Scam (N)		Amer. Greed "Capturing the Fugitives"		Amer. Greed "Psychic Fiend's Network"		American Greed: Scam		Paid Program	Paid Program
63	BRAV	(63) The Real Housewives "Bling Bling"		Housewives "8 1/2 Minutes of Success"		H.Wives "Nice to Meet You ... Again"		The Real Housewives (N)		The Real Housewives		Watch What (N) Real Housewives	
64	TCM	(64) (5:00) Bedknobs and Broomsticks		(15) *** Flight of the Navigator (86) Veronica Cartwright, Joey Cramer.		(15) Blackhole (1994, Drama)						The Cat From Outer Space Ken Berry.	
65	SYFY	(65) (3:30) Harry Potter & the Goblet of Fi...		No Escape Room (2018, Horror) Denis Andres.				*** Wrong Turn (03, Hor) Eliza Dushku, Emmanuelle Chriqui, Desmond Harrington.				Futurama	Futurama
162	RFD	(162) American Rancher	Red Steagall	Horse Master 1/2	Horse of the West	Craig Cameron 2/2	Rural Eve. News	Rural America "Live" "Can-Am"		American Rancher Red Steagall		Product Showcase	

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