

New Poll Shows Overwhelming Voter Support for Idaho Medicaid

In July 2023, Idaho Voices for Children commissioned a statewide poll of Idaho voters to gauge their opinions on the Medicaid program. Results revealed strong support for Medicaid across party lines and showed that positive public opinion has only grown since the implementation of Medicaid expansion in Idaho. Knowing the following about Medicaid, voters showed strong support for the program.

Covers **375,000** Idahoans (low-income adults, children, nursing home care patients, and Idahoans with disabilities).

Costs **\$4.6 billion** per year (with a majority from the federal government).

34% of Idaho's state budget covers Medicaid compared to 24% for Idaho schools.

Voters support Medicaid and believe we need to keep Idaho's program strong.

75%

of voters — and 69% of Republican voters — hold a favorable opinion of Medicaid.

87%

believe it is important for Idaho to have a strong and sustainable Medicaid program.

Voters understand that Medicaid is necessary for low-income and rural Idaho families.

81%

of voters believe the government should assist some individuals in obtaining and paying for health care.

68%

of voters believe Medicaid provides health care access to rural Idahoans and ensures small hospitals can stay open.

Medicaid expansion garners strong voter support.

67%

of voters support Medicaid expansion.

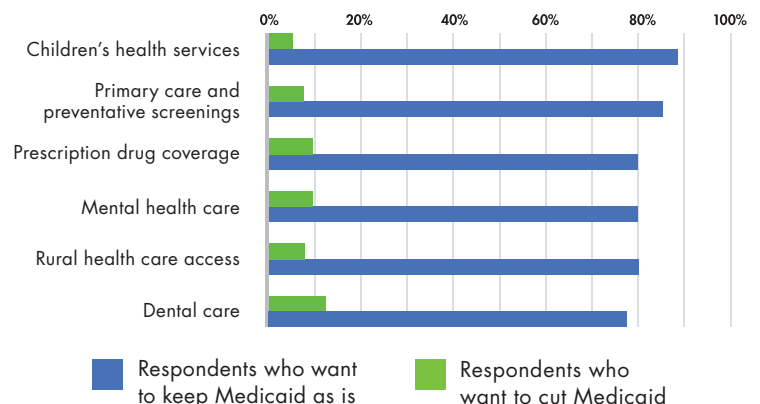
73%

believe that expansion should be kept as is because it was passed by voters and is helping those in need.

There is little appetite to cut Medicaid spending — even among Republicans.

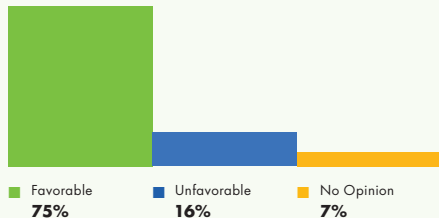
- **59% of voters believe Medicaid provides substantial economic benefits to the state and taxpayers and that Idaho would be foolish to turn down federal money for low-income health care.**
- **64% of voters believe we need to spend more on schools without cutting Medicaid.**

Voters do not support program cuts that would affect critical services for low-income Idahoans, children, and seniors:



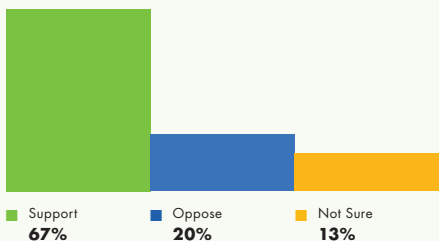
Top Poll Questions and Results

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of medicaid, a government health insurance program for certain low-income adults and children, nursing home care for adults 65 and older, and Idahoans with disabilities?



	Overall	Party		
		Dem	Ind	GOP
Favorable	75%	91	81	69
Unfavorable	16%	4	15	20
Net	+59%	+86	+66	+49

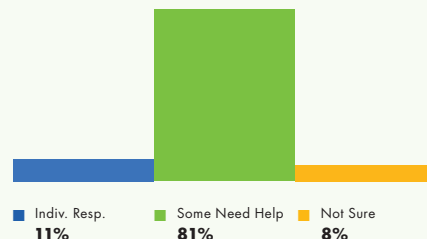
In 2018, 61% of Idahoans voted to expand Medicaid and provide health care to thousands more low-income Idahoans. Based on what you know, do you support or oppose the results of the expansion?



	Overall	Party		
		Dem	Ind	GOP
Support	67%	91	74	58
Oppose	20%	3	15	27
Not Sure	13%	6	12	15
Net	+47%	+87	+59	+31

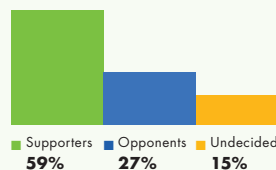
In general, which of the following comes closest to your opinion about health care?

- Health care should all be private and the responsibility for paying for care should be left to individuals. If they cannot afford health care, it should not be provided by the government.
- Some people, because of poverty or disabilities, need help obtaining and paying for health care, and the government should assist those individuals.



	Overall	Party		
		Dem	Ind	GOP
Indiv. Resp.	11%	3	5	15
Some Need Help	81%	92	86	75
Net	-70%	-89	-81	-60

- Supporters say Medicaid provides substantial economic benefits to the state and taxpayers, with most of the payment coming from the federal government. Idaho would be foolish to turn down this money for low-income health care.
- Opponents say there is no such thing as free government money. All Medicaid spending comes from Idaho taxpayers' money. We pay the taxes used to fund all levels of government and we are already spending too much.



	Overall	Party		
		Dem	Ind	GOP
Supporters	59%	84	70	48
Opponents	27%	3	21	33
Net	+32%	+80	+49	+14



For more information, please contact:

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FOR CHILDREN**
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Methodology: In July of 2023, GS Strategy Group conducted a statewide survey of 700 voters on their view of the Medicaid program. The survey included a sample of 600 voters across the state, plus an oversampling of an extra 100 GOP voters.