

With Hospitals in Jeopardy, Vulnerable Californians Face the Greatest Risk

Already, critical services including cancer treatments and rural health care are at risk throughout the state, serious behavioral health needs remain unmet, and access to primary care is spotty for millions.



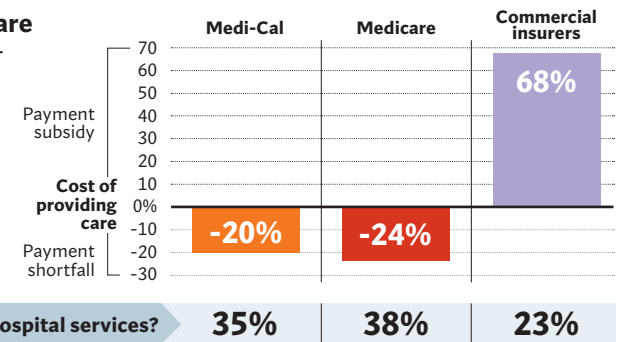
Medicare and Medi-Cal don't cover the cost of caring for seniors, children, people with disabilities, and low-income families.



Medi-Cal pays just 80 cents for every dollar it costs to care for patients.

The shortfall from Medi-Cal and Medicare affects every Californian, as resources for critical services like maternity care, behavioral health care, and rural health care are drained to cover the gap.

Government shortfalls mean that every day, more than half (53%) of California's hospitals lose money caring for patients.



Portrait of a population at risk — a closer look at Californians covered by Medi-Cal whose health care services are in jeopardy

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| 14.5 million enrollees | 59% working poor with a full-time job | 5.4 million under 20 years old | 2.3 million seniors and persons with disabilities | 2X as likely to have challenges finding a health care provider | 5 million non-English speakers | Covers 47% of the residents in California's 10 poorest counties |
| | | | | | | 600,000 adults and children who need specialty mental health services |

WHAT'S NEEDED

To strengthen communities and reduce health disparities, California must protect and enhance funding that supports health care for millions covered by Medi-Cal and Medicare.

- California must ensure that resources intended for Medi-Cal are used to care for Medi-Cal patients, nothing else.
- At the federal level, policymakers should prevent expansion of Medicare's site-neutral payment policy to hospital outpatient departments, extend a delay of or eliminate entirely planned Medicaid disproportionate share hospital payment reductions, and support legislation to prevent service reduction or closure among rural hospitals.