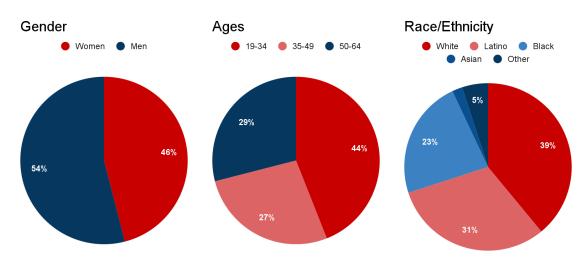


# Who Would Benefit from Medicaid Expansion

### **Overview**

The 2026 ballot initiative will amend the Florida Constitution to address the coverage gap (which consists of roughly 315K Floridians) and allow citizens who make up to \$20,782 to access the affordable and quality healthcare that they deserve and which is sadly currently out of reach due to the state's antiquated eligibility requirements and the high cost of paying out of pocket for life-saving and even preventative care.

### **Demographic Breakdown**



## **By The Numbers**

Medicaid Expansion is projected to benefit:

- 570,000 **low income uninsured adults**, leading to a 28% reduction in uninsured Floridians
- 91,350 uninsured parents with children at home, which will benefit the entire family as children are more likely to be insured and get preventative care when parents are covered
- 50,000 uninsured **adult Floridians with disabilities** who currently fall in the coverage gap.
- 393,000 adult Floridians with mental illness are currently uninsured; expansion would significantly increase treatment services for those with mental illness, substance abuse disorders, and victims of the opioid epidemic
- 144,000 **women**, including 100,800 of reproductive age, who currently fall in the coverage gap



- 382,000 Florida workers in essential or front-line industries who currently fall in the coverage gap including 35,000 in food service, 24,000 in construction, and 9,000 in landscaping; workers would account for 67% of those who would benefit
- 108,800 veterans in Florida who are below the poverty level, as those with or without VA benefits would be eligible
- Floridians in rural areas who currently benefit by a larger percentage from Medicaid (17% compared to 11% metro) and likewise would benefit by a a larger share from expansion; Medicaid Expansion decreases the likelihood a rural hospital will close by 62%

### **The Bottom Line**

Thousands of Floridians have died prematurely because of the lack of Medicaid Expansion. Florida is just 1 of 10 states that has not updated its Medicaid eligibility requirements since 2013; the time to expand Medicaid in Florida is now.

#### How To Get Involved

In order to get Medicaid Expansion on the ballot in 2026, we need 1 million petitions signed by Florida voters by the end of this year. Request your petition and get involved at <a href="https://linktr.ee/floridadecideshealthcare">https://linktr.ee/floridadecideshealthcare</a> or by scanning the QR code below.



Stats & figures courtesy of the Florida Policy Institute (10/24) and the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities (2024)