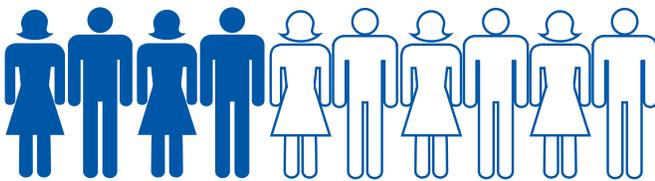


Medicaid Expansion for **Rural Communities** in North Carolina



4 out of 10

North Carolinians live in one of the state's 80 rural counties



Rural areas of NC have higher rates of drug and alcohol use, suicide, injury, teen births, and preventable hospitalizations¹



Rural residents are more likely to be uninsured than urban residents³

BACKGROUND:

The General Assembly's 2013 decision to REJECT Medicaid Expansion has jeopardized rural hospitals and denied coverage to over 600,000 North Carolinians, leading

to thousands of preventable deaths.

Thirty-three states including conservative ones like Virginia, Arkansas, and Indiana, expanded Medicaid to get more people coverage.



40% of rural NC hospitals are in the red.²

Five rural hospitals closed and two have lost critical services like **maternity** and **labor wards**⁴

ECONOMIC IMPACT AND ACCESS TO HEALTH

- Rural hospitals are 84% less likely to close if located in a state that expanded Medicaid⁵
- More than **13,000** jobs could be added to the 80 rural counties in NC if the General Assembly expanded Medicaid⁶
- Rural residents benefit more from Medicaid expansion than urban residents⁵
- More jobs mean more economic activity which helps increase tax revenue and strengthen rural economies⁶

To get involved in the advocacy efforts for Medicaid Expansion, contact:

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