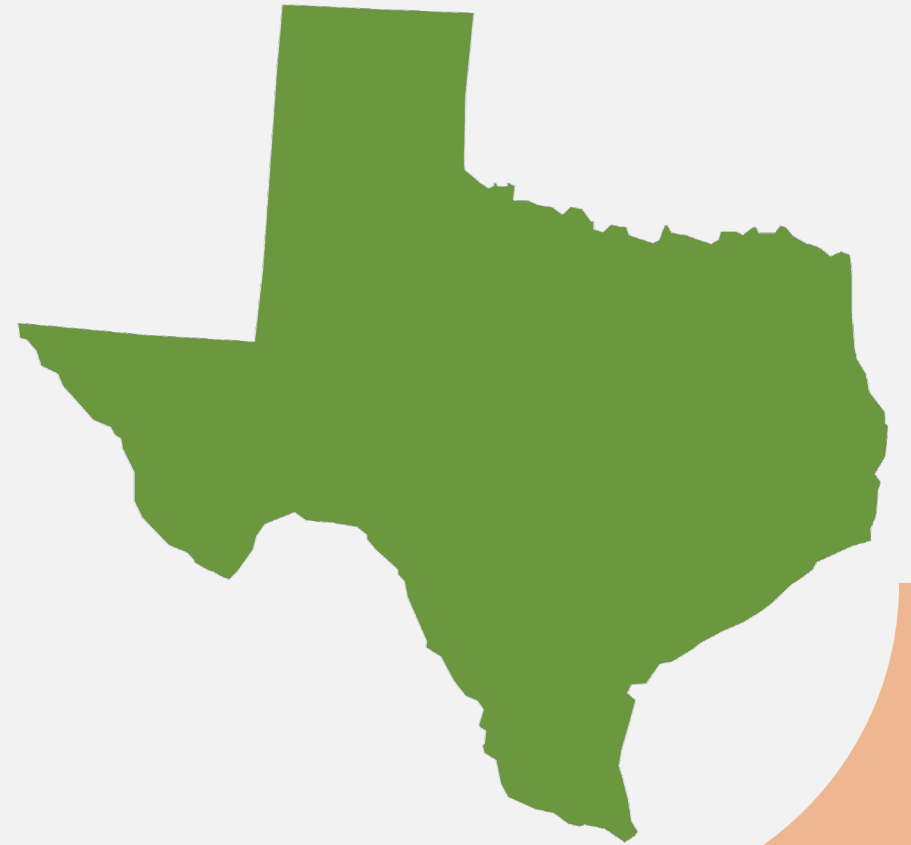


**HEALTH AND JUSTICE
ADVOCACY NETWORK
MEDICAID EXPANSION 101**

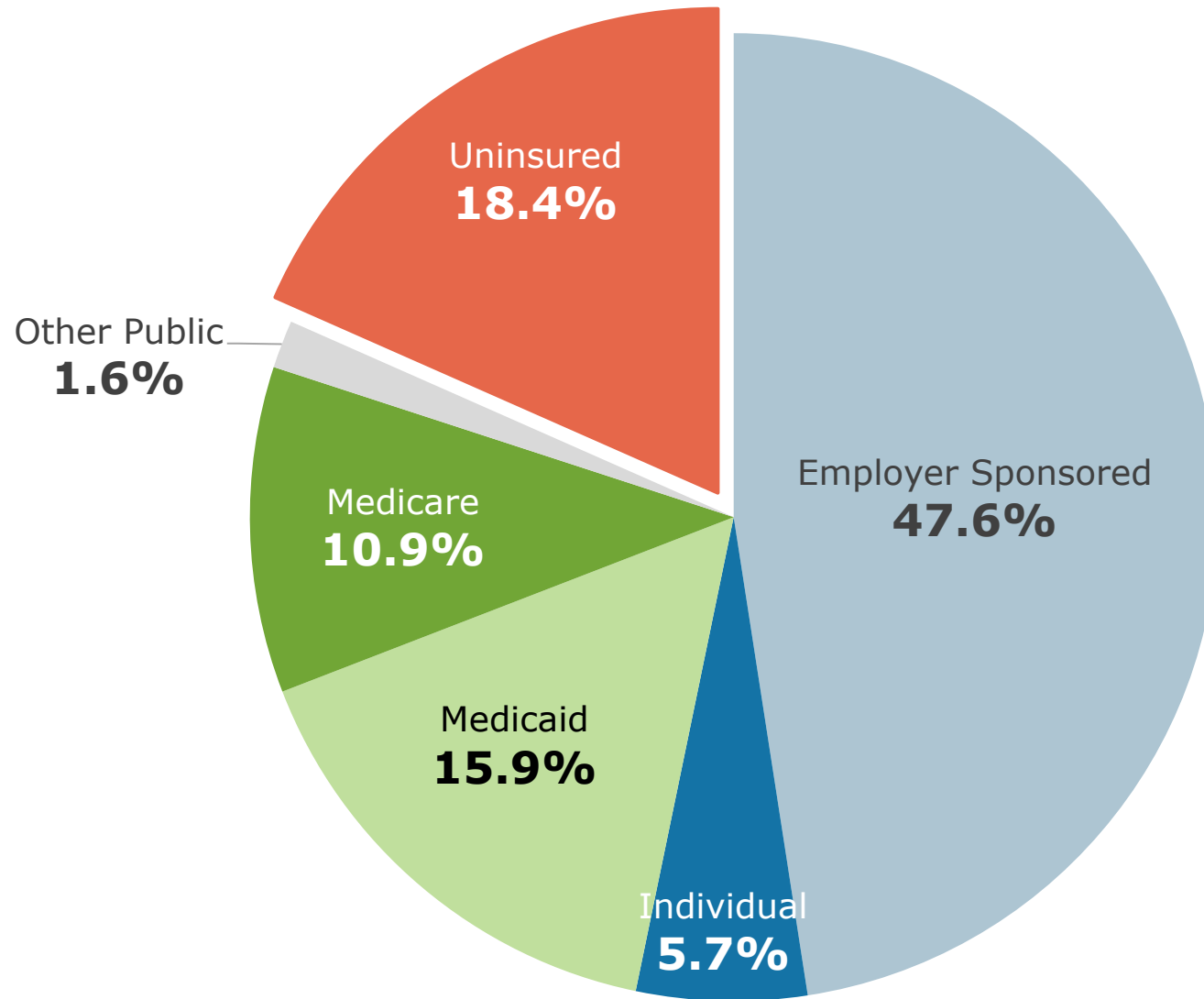
NOVEMBER 19TH, 2020



AGENDA

- 1 WHAT IS MEDICAID?**
- 2 WHY IS MEDICAID EXPANSION IMPORTANT?**
- 3 HOW DOES MEDICAID EXPANSION IMPACT ME?**
- 4 WHAT'S NEXT FOR MEDICAID EXPANSION?**
- 5 Q & A**

Nearly **1 in 5** people in Texas is **uninsured**



Source: [KFF estimates based on the American Community Survey 2008-2019, 1-Year Estimates](#)

WHAT IS MEDICAID?

Medicare vs. Medicaid

Similar Names, Different Programs

Who funds the program?

The Federal Government

Who manages the program?

The Federal Government

Who is eligible?

Americans 65 and older and permanently disabled Americans regardless of income

Who funds the program?

The Federal *and* State governments share the cost

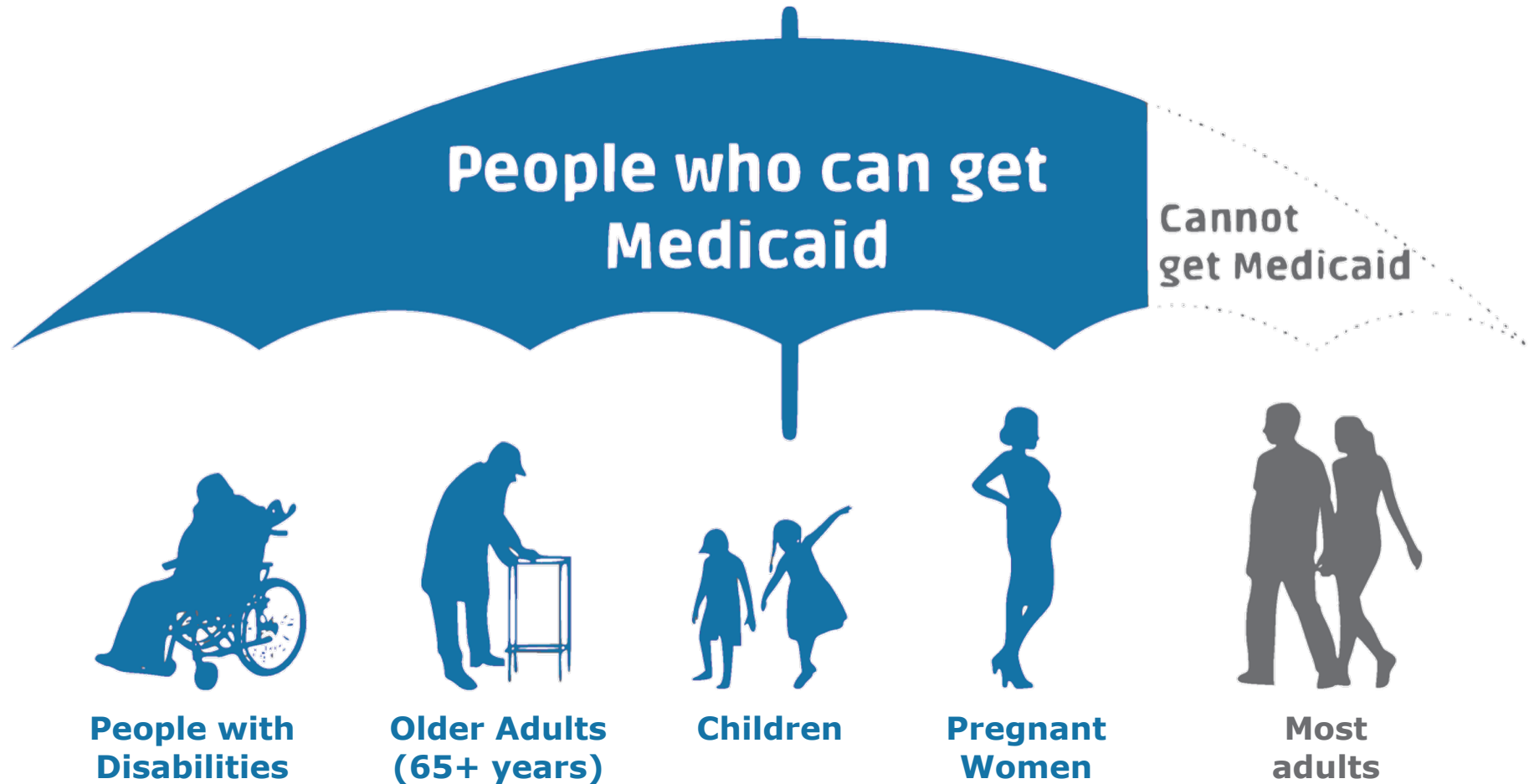
Who manages the program?

Managed by state governments but with federal guidelines

Who is eligible?

Varies by state but mostly low-income populations in certain categories

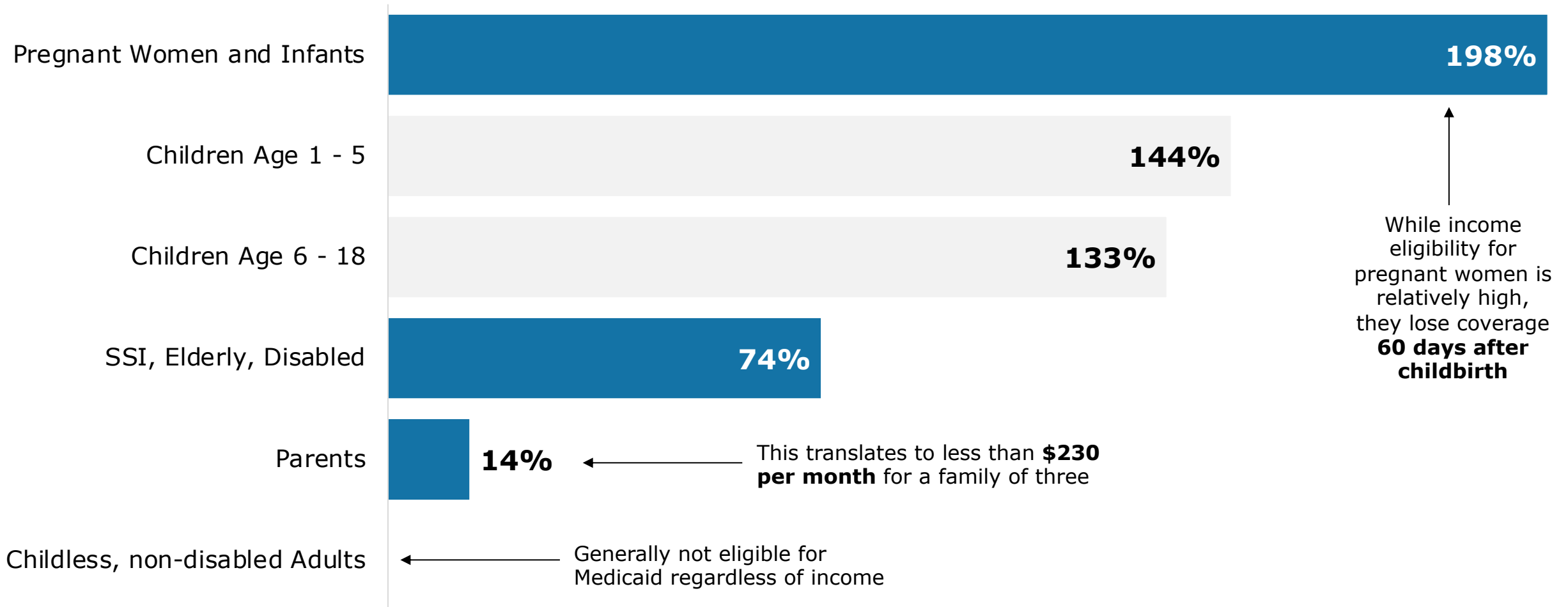
Historically, **Medicaid** only covered specific groups of low-income Americans



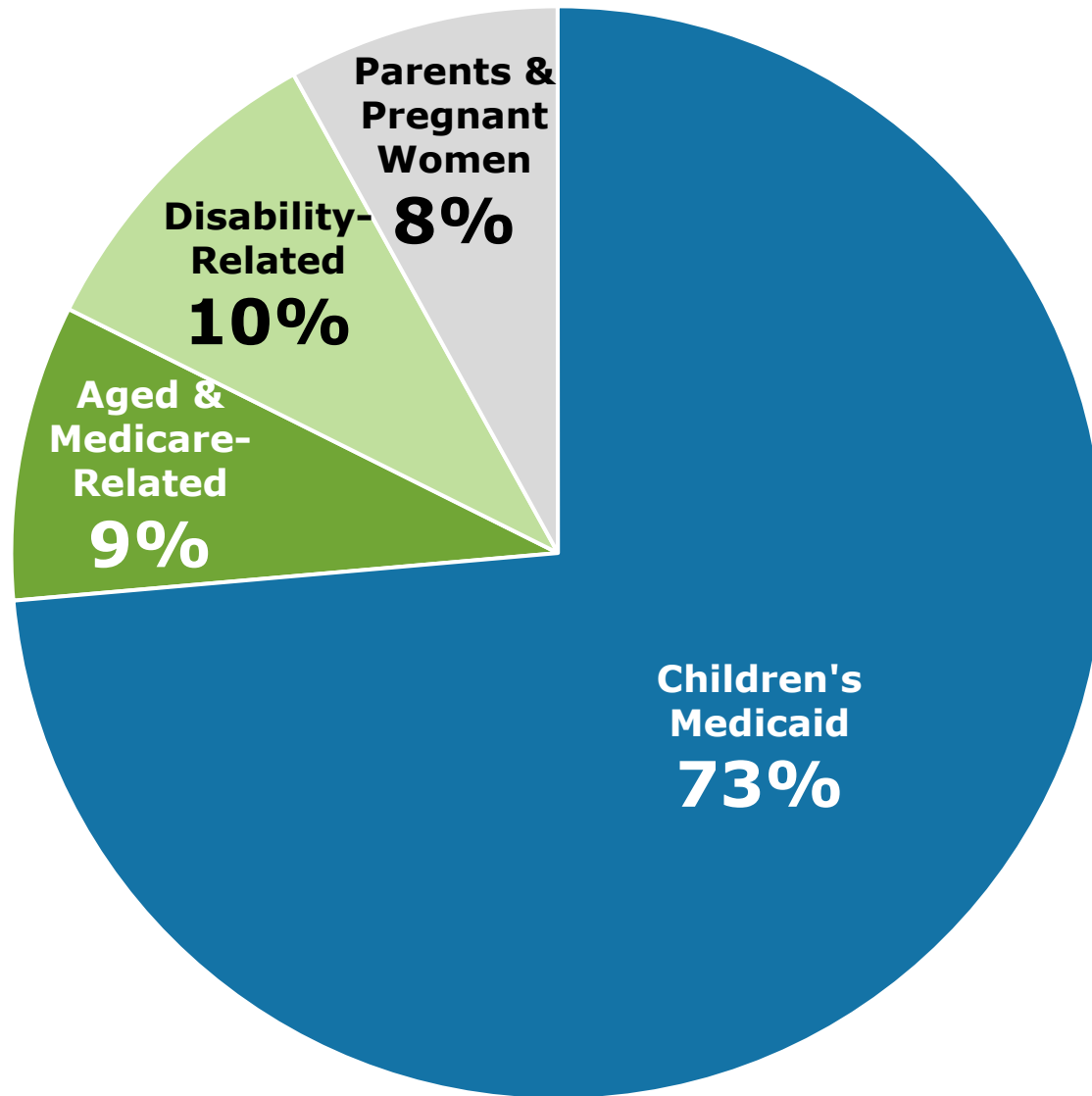
Source: Modified version of graphic developed by [Kaiser Family Foundation](#)

Texas' Medicaid eligibility excludes most **adults**

Texas Medicaid maximum income eligibility based on Federal Poverty Level (FPL)



Source: [Texas Medicaid and CHIP Reference Guide, 12th Edition \(2018\)](#)

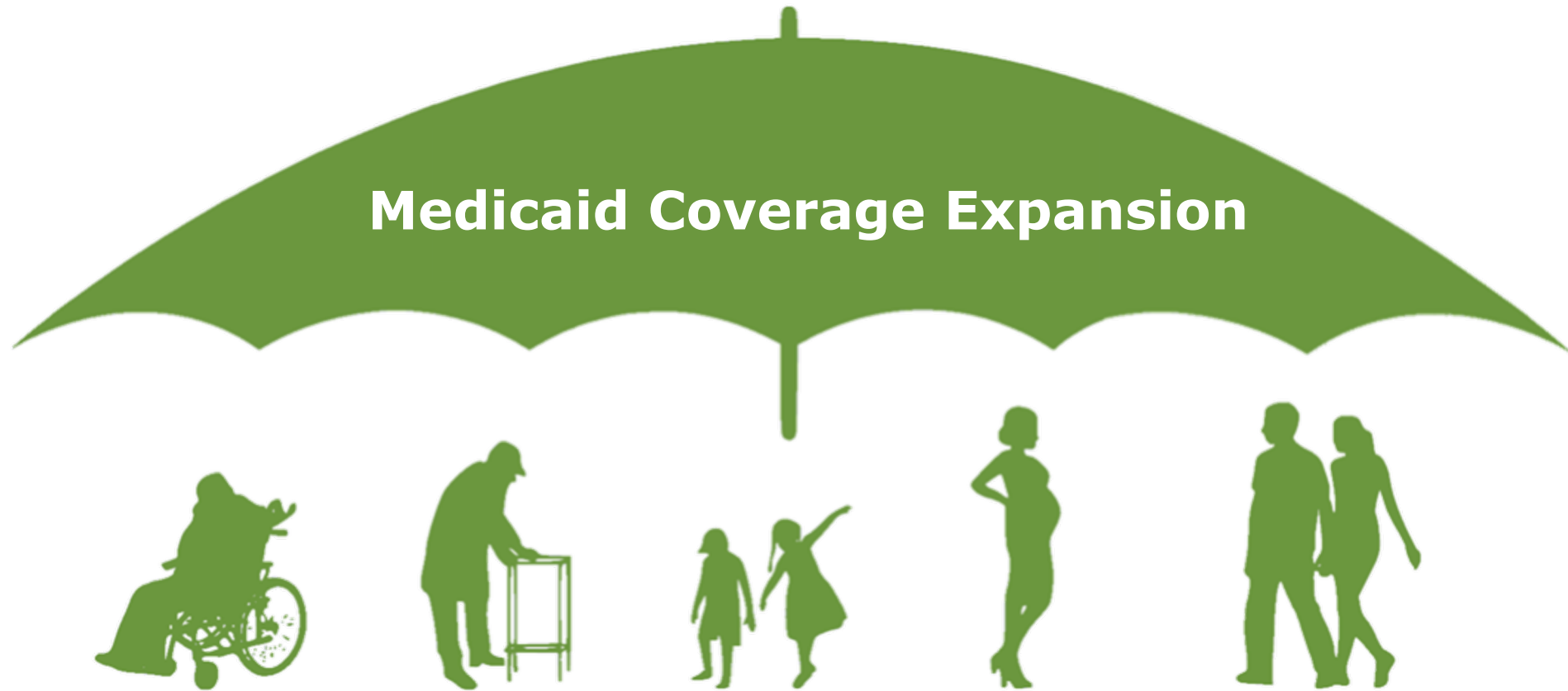


As a result,
over **7 in 10**
Texans enrolled
in Medicaid are
children

Texans enrolled in Medicaid in August 2020: **4,318,573**

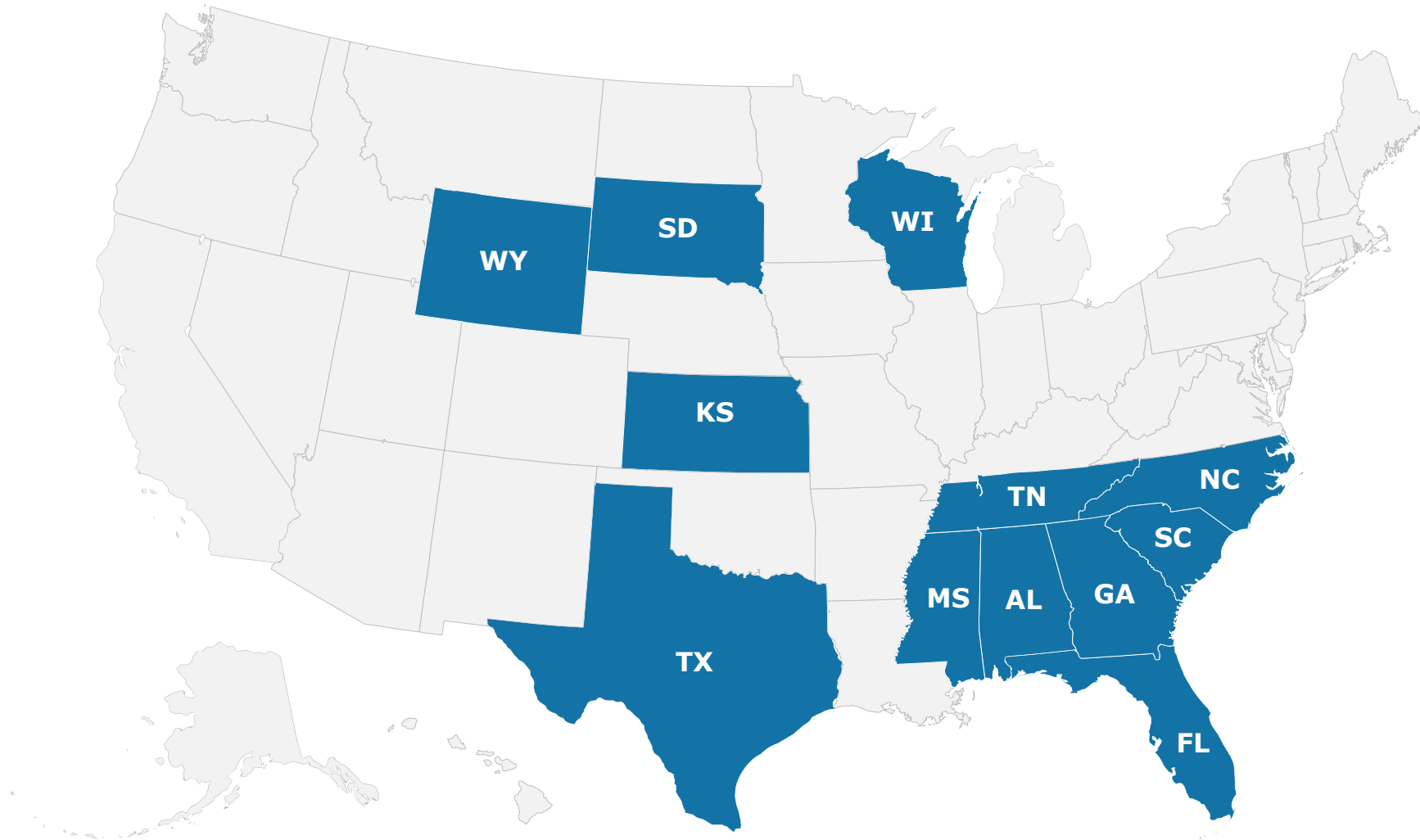
WHY IS MEDICAID EXPANSION IMPORTANT?

The **Affordable Care Act (ACA)** sought to close this gap in coverage by expanding Medicaid



Expanded coverage to all U.S. citizens and lawful permanent residents with incomes below 133% of the poverty line

As of Nov. 2020, **Texas and 11 other states** have decided not to expand Medicaid coverage

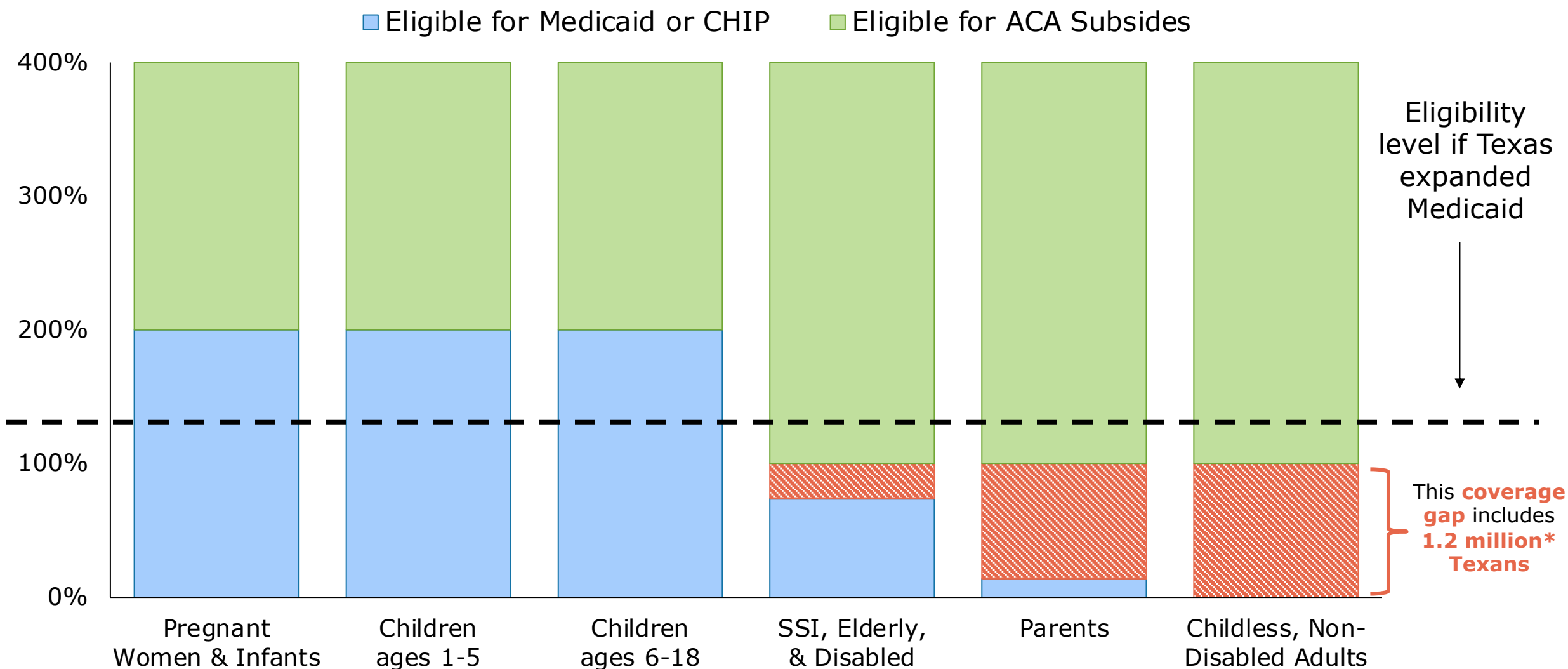


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Source: Kaiser Family Foundation "[Status of State Medicaid Expansion Decisions](#)"

Coverage gap for adult Texans living in poverty

Public insurance eligibility levels in Texas with ACA



Source: HealthCare.gov "[Premium Tax Credit](#)" | [Texas Medicaid and CHIP Reference Guide](#)

*Source: Laura Dague & Constance Hughes. "[County-Level Projections of Medicaid Expansion's Impact in Texas](#)"

WHO IS IMPACTED BY NON-EXPANSION?

ROGER



Single father in East Texas



Furloughed in mid-March due to pandemic; laid off permanently in May and loses employer-sponsored health insurance



As a result of job loss, receives \$600 per week in unemployment benefits and qualifies for a special 60-day ACA Marketplace enrollment period



Once unemployment benefits end, he will have an income below the poverty line, putting him in the coverage gap

WHO IS IMPACTED BY NON-EXPANSION?

JACKIE



Chronic asthmatic who lives in Dallas with teenage daughter and disabled mother



Before the pandemic, worked 35 hours/week at a day care center with no health benefits and an income below the poverty level



After being furloughed in March, receives unemployment benefits that double her income and qualifying her for subsidized ACA Marketplace health insurance



If she is called back from furlough, her income will drop, and she will be back in the coverage gap unless she finds a better-paying job elsewhere

WHO IS IMPACTED BY NON-EXPANSION?

ELIZABETH



Widow and empty-nester residing in rural West Texas



Works as a part-time home health aide



Her low-paying job puts her income at 125% of the federal poverty level and can get subsidized ACA Marketplace health insurance



Following her son's move back home, neither Elizabeth nor her son qualify for subsidized ACA Marketplace insurance since their income falls below the poverty level

WHO IS IMPACTED BY NON-EXPANSION?

BRITTANY



28-year-old Houston resident and new mother



Qualified for Medicaid for Pregnant Women while pregnant and for 60 days following birth of her child



Suffered a postpartum heart attack a few weeks after delivery; her stent and medications were covered by Medicaid

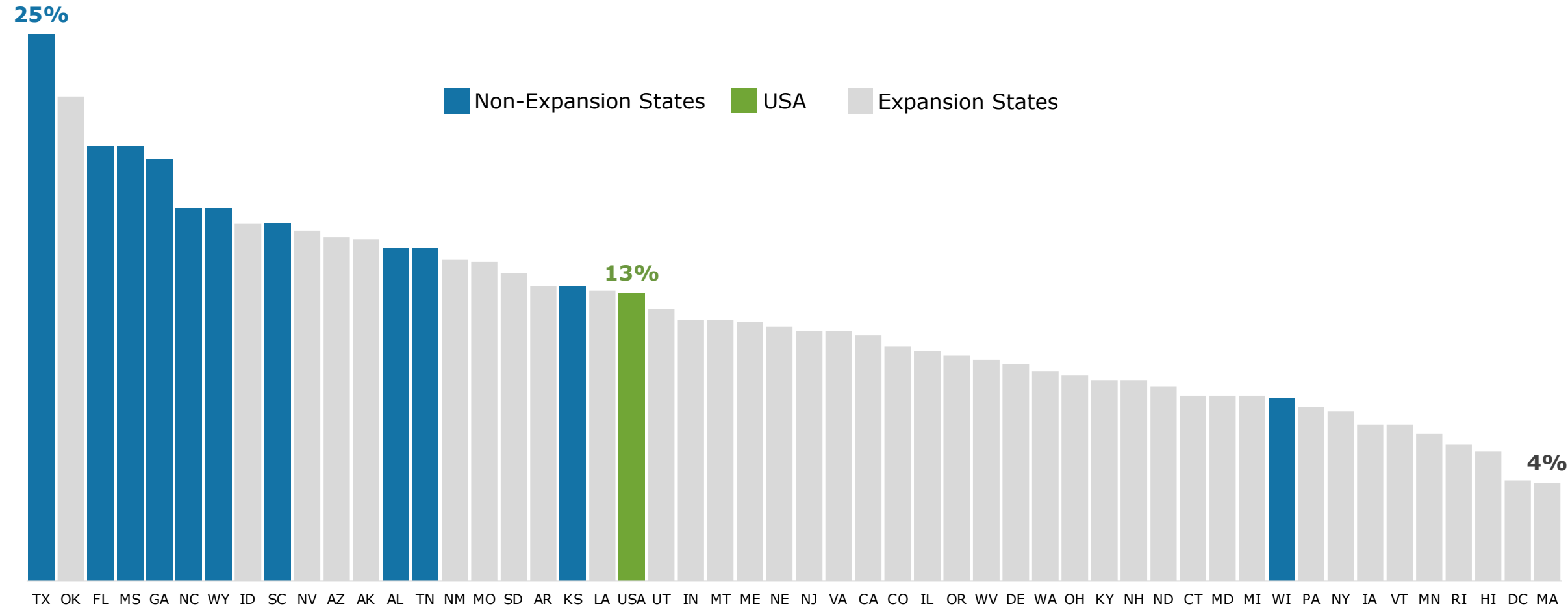


After her Medicaid benefits lapsed, she struggled to get her necessary medications; at five months postpartum, she collapsed outside her home and ultimately died

WHAT IS THE IMPACT OF MEDICAID EXPANSION?

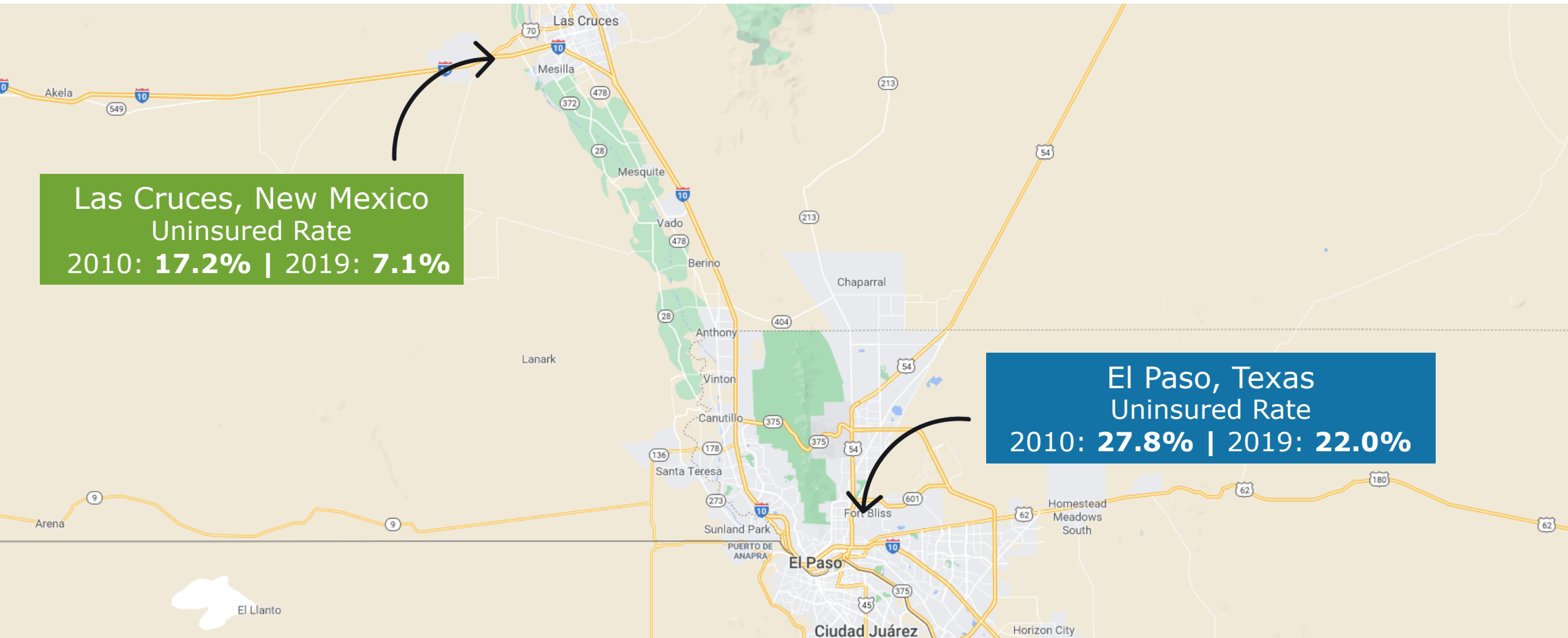
Texas and non-expansion states have higher uninsured rates

Percent of adults ages 19-64 without health insurance coverage (2019)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, "[Health Insurance Coverage in the United States: 2019](#)"

Impact of Medicaid Expansion on two neighboring communities: **New Mexico** and **Texas**



Source: US Census Bureau, ACS 1-Year Estimates

EPISCOPAL HEALTH FOUNDATION

1,274,000

Estimated number of Texans who
could potentially gain coverage if
Texas expanded Medicaid

Source: Laura Dague & Constance Hughes.
Texas A&M University. "[County-Level Projections
of Medicaid Expansion's Impact in Texas](#)"

What is the **impact** of Medicaid expansion on **individuals who gain coverage**?



Insurance

Medicaid expansion enables low-income adults to become insured.



Access to Care

People who are insured have access to more healthcare options, particularly preventive care, more than people who are uninsured.



Affordability

Expanding Medicaid has been associated with reductions in medical debt, out-of-pocket spending, and unmet need due to cost.



Health Outcomes

Studies show improved self-reported health following expansion and an association between expansion and certain positive health outcomes.

Source: Kaiser Family Foundation. "[The Effects of Medicaid Expansion under the ACA: Updated Findings from a Literature Review.](#)"

What is the **impact** of Medicaid expansion on **my community**?

Sources: Commonwealth Fund. "[The Impact of Medicaid Expansion on States' Budgets](#)."
American Hospital Association. "[Rural Report](#)." |
Families USA. "[Hidden Health Tax: Americans Pay a Premium](#)." | Billy Hamilton Consulting.
"[Smart, Affordable & Fair: Why Texas Should Extend Medicaid to Low-Income Adults](#)."



Economic Growth

Studies show that Medicaid expansion is associated with state budget savings, revenue gains, and overall economic growth.



Rural Hospital Closures

Research has found fewer rural hospital closures in states where Medicaid is expanded; today, 80% of closures occur in non-expansion states.



Hidden Health Tax

Research shows the costs of uncompensated care are shifted to those who have insurance, ultimately resulting in higher insurance premiums for businesses and families.



Property Tax Relief

Expanding Medicaid would reduce the burden on county property taxpayers who currently cover the costs of indigent residents.

What is the **impact** of Medicaid expansion on **business**?

Sources: Health Affairs. "[The Effects of Medicaid Expansion Under the ACA: A Systematic Review](#)." | JAMA Network Open. "[Association of Medicaid Expansion With Enrollee Employment and Student Status in MI](#)." | Texas Medical Association. "[Health Care Coverage Letter to Governor Abbot](#)."



Providers & Hospitals

Expanding Medicaid reduces uncompensated care and improves finances of hospitals.



Labor Market

A growing number of studies show an association between expansion and gains in employment as well as growth in the labor market.



Healthcare Jobs

Texas' rapidly rising number of uninsured could result in the potential loss of 362,000 jobs within the state's healthcare industry. Increasing health care coverage is inextricably intertwined with ensuring the viability of Texas' healthcare system.



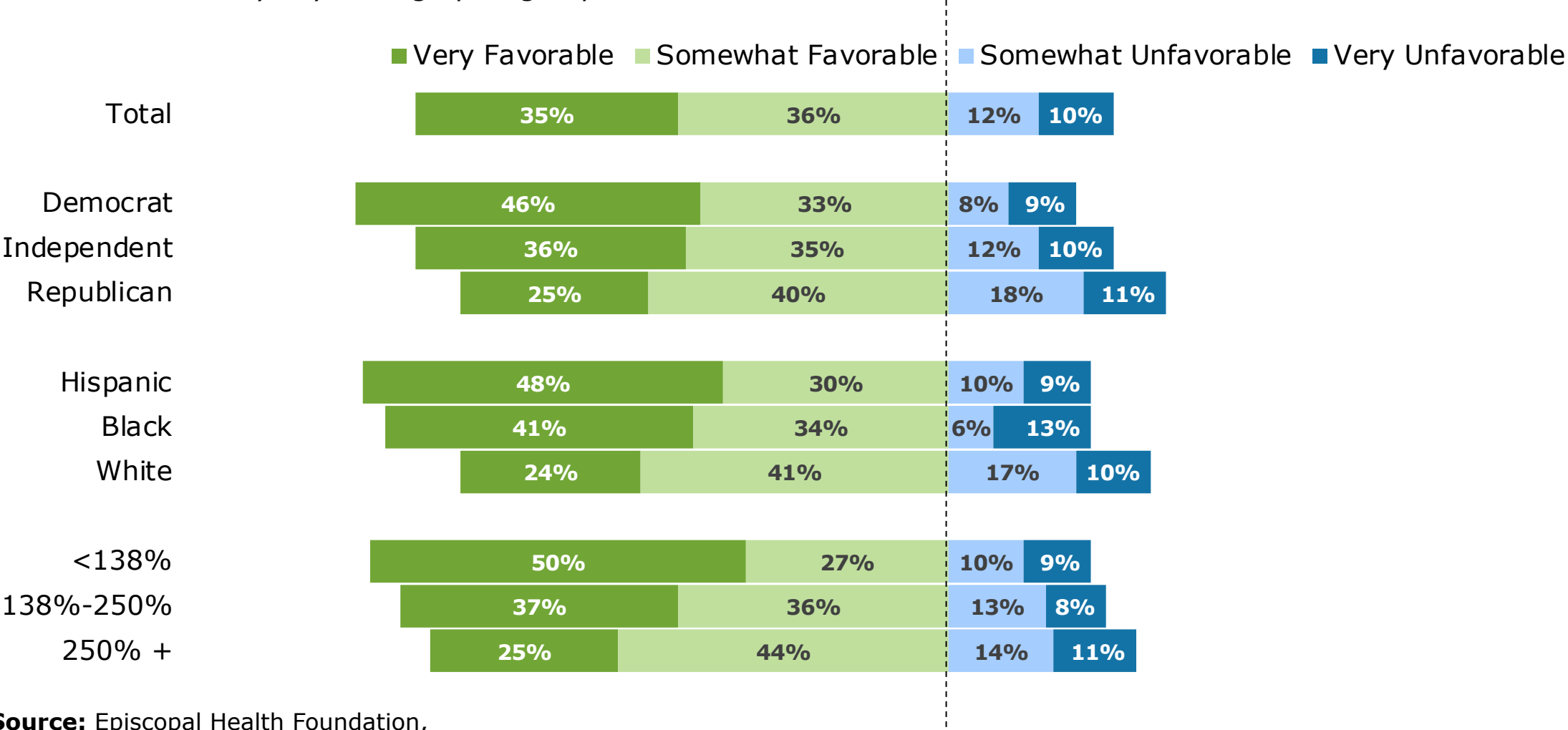
WHAT'S NEXT FOR MEDICAID EXPANSION?

At the **FEDERAL** level, a Biden administration might be expected to offer more **carrots and sticks** to states on **Medicaid expansion**.

At the **STATE** level, **bill pre-filing** confirms health coverage is on the legislative agenda, however, questions remain as to whether **full or partial expansion** will be under consideration.

Seven in 10 Texans today have a **favorable** **opinion** of the Medicaid program

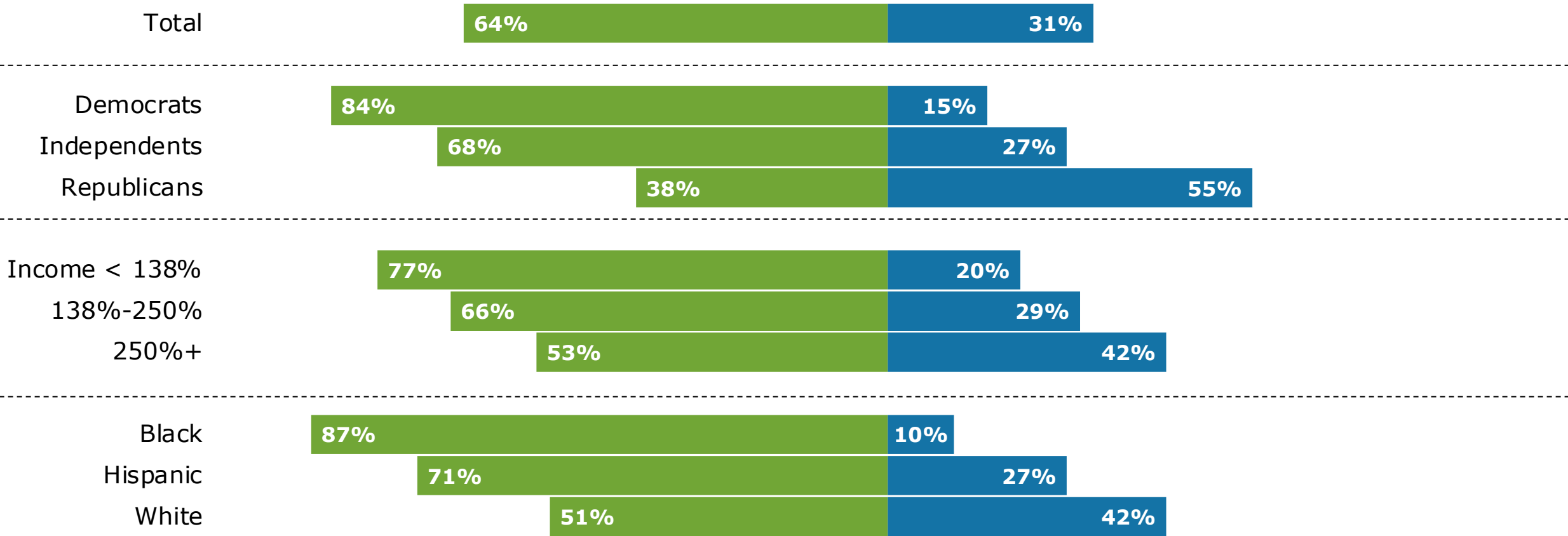
Views on Medicaid by key demographic groups



Source: Episcopal Health Foundation,
[2019 Texas Health Policy Survey](#)

While 64% of Texans support **expanding Medicaid**, key partisan differences exist

Views on Medicaid Expansion by Key Demographic Groups in Texas



Source: Episcopal Health Foundation,
[2019 Texas Health Policy Survey](#)

Why hasn't Texas expanded **Medicaid**?

Some common arguments include:



Expanding Medicaid is **too expensive**, even if Texas only pays 10% of the cost



Low-income Texans **don't need coverage** to be healthy or get care



The uninsured **can get care when they need it** through the **safety net system** in Texas



There **aren't enough providers** to handle more Medicaid beneficiaries



Expanding coverage **discourages work** and **encourages dependency**

ANY QUESTIONS?

