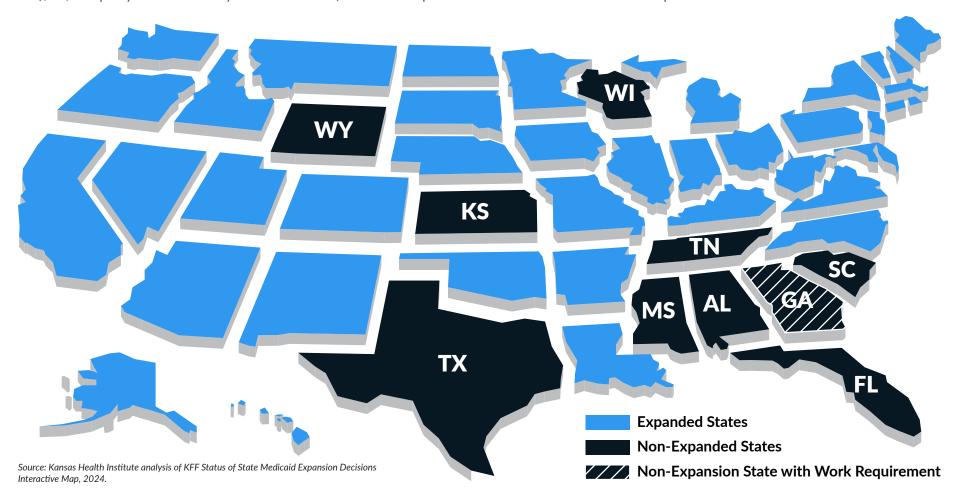


## **Status of State Medicaid Expansion Decisions**

Gov. Laura Kelly announced her proposal for Medicaid expansion, which would expand KanCare effective Jan. 1, 2025. Expanding KanCare to all adults age 19-64 with family income at or below 138 percent of the federal poverty level (FPL), or \$43,056 per year for a family of four in 2024, has been a perennial issue for the Kansas Legislature since the U.S. Supreme Court made Medicaid expansion optional for states in 2012. To date, 40 states and Washington, D.C., have adopted Medicaid expansion, and 10 states, including Kansas, have not adopted it. Currently, Kansas adults are eligible for Medicaid if they are age 65 or older, blind or have a disability and meet income and resource requirements, are pregnant and meet income limits, or if they are a parent or guardian with family income below 38 percent FPL (\$11,856 per year for a family of four in 2024). See the map for the status of state Medicaid expansion decisions.



## **Proposed Medicaid Expansion in Kansas:**

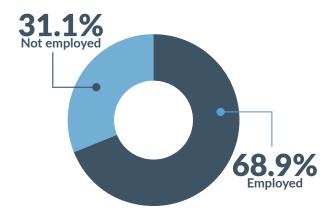
Gov. Kelly's proposed Medicaid expansion includes a work requirement with exemptions for full-time students, full-time caregivers, veterans and Kansans with medical conditions, among others. Medicaid applicants in the expansion population would be required to provide employment verification at the time of initial application or renewal application (completed at their renewal date). The proposal addresses coordinating with county jails to facilitate Medicaid eligibility for individuals who are incarcerated and allows people with household income between 100 and 138 percent of the federal poverty level to choose between enrolling in Medicaid or remaining on their employer-sponsored insurance, with premium assistance managed by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE).

## Exemptions to work requirement in Medicaid expansion proposal

- Full-time students in postsecondary educational institutions or technical colleges.
- Parents or guardians of dependent children under 18 or incapacitated adults.
- Individuals unfit for employment as determined by the KDHE secretary, or with pending applications for supplemental security income or social security disability insurance.
- Individuals with permanent partial disabilities.

- Volunteers working at least 20 hours per week at nonprofit organizations.
- Homeless individuals.
- Veterans.
- Former foster youth under age 22.
- Individuals experiencing hardship as determined by the KDHE secretary.

Figure 4. Adults Age 19-64 ≤ 138% FPL Likely Eligible for Medicaid if Expanded, by Employment Status, 2022



Note: Total adults age  $19-64 \le 138\%$  FPL likely eligible for Medicaid if expanded =244,467. Total does not include individuals already enrolled in Medicaid or Medicare. Total does not account for take-up rates.

Source: Kansas Health Institute Analysis of IPUMS USA 2022 American Community Survey Data and Estimates of poverty level use SHADAC's Health Insurance Unit (HIU) definition of family (https://www.shadac.org/publications/SHADAC-HIU).

## Characteristics of likely eligible adults in the expansion population

Analysis of all adults age 19-64 likely eligible for Medicaid if expanded (not discounting for take-up rates but excluding those already enrolled in Medicare or Medicaid) indicates:

- Adults between the ages of 19-25 comprise
  40.7 percent of those likely eligible.
- Male adults (52.2 percent) make up a slightly higher percentage than female adults (47.8 percent).
- While nearly 9 in 10 (87.9 percent) have at least a high school diploma or equivalent, only abut a quarter (26.2 percent) have attained at least an associate degree.
- Approximately 7 in 10 (68.9 percent) are working.

• 16.1 percent are current students.

• 3.8 percent are veterans.

Characteristics of likely eligible adults in the expansion population who are not employed Likely eligible Kansas adults age 19-64 who are not employed (31.1 percent) may meet some exemptions to the proposed work requirement. Analysis indicates that among individuals who are not employed in the expansion population:

- 38.5 percent have a child in their household and could potentially be eligible as parents or guardians for children under 18.
- 19.1 percent are individuals with disabilities.
- •

Note: Characteristics are not mutually exclusive.