

Breakfast and Keynote Address



Women in Government: Medicaid Policy Symposium

Hemi Tewarson, Executive Director

National Academy for State Health Policy

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About NASHP



The National Academy for State Health Policy (NASHP) is a nonpartisan organization committed to developing and advancing state health policy innovations and solutions.

NASHP provides a unique forum for the productive exchange of strategies across state government, including the executive and legislative branches.



- To improve the health and well-being of all people across every state.
- To be of, by, and for all state by providing nonpartisan support for the development of policies that promote and sustain healthy people and communities and advance high quality, affordable health care.

NASHP Engagement of State Leaders

Health and Human
Services Secretaries

State Legislators

Medicaid Directors

State Based
Marketplace
Directors

Insurance
Commissioners

Governor's Advisors

Behavioral Health
Directors

Rural Health
Directors

Title V & CYSHCN
Directors

Aging and Disability
Directors

Public Health
Directors

How NASHP Accomplishes Our Mission

Advance innovation by supporting states in the development of new policies and programs.

Surface and support the implementation and spread of best practices by engaging states to inform data driven policy making at the state and federal level.

Ensure states have the information, data, and tools to successfully design and implement policy.

Encourage sustainable cross sector solutions by strengthening partnerships across state agencies, executive and legislative branches, and the private sector.

Elevate the state perspective for a broad group of stakeholders, partners, and the public.

Who Medicaid Serves

Medicaid provides coverage for over 70 million low-income people, including:



Children



Pregnant
Women



Parents &
Caregivers



People with
Disabilities



Non-
disabled,
Non-elderly
Adults*



Older Adults



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* 40 states and Washington, DC provide Medicaid coverage for non-disabled, non-elderly adults

What Medicaid Does

Medicaid pays for
41% of all births

Medicaid and
CHIP cover 35M
children and
provide services
for children
with complex
health care needs

Medicaid covers
7M older adults
and is the primary
payer for nursing
home care and
other long-term
services and
supports

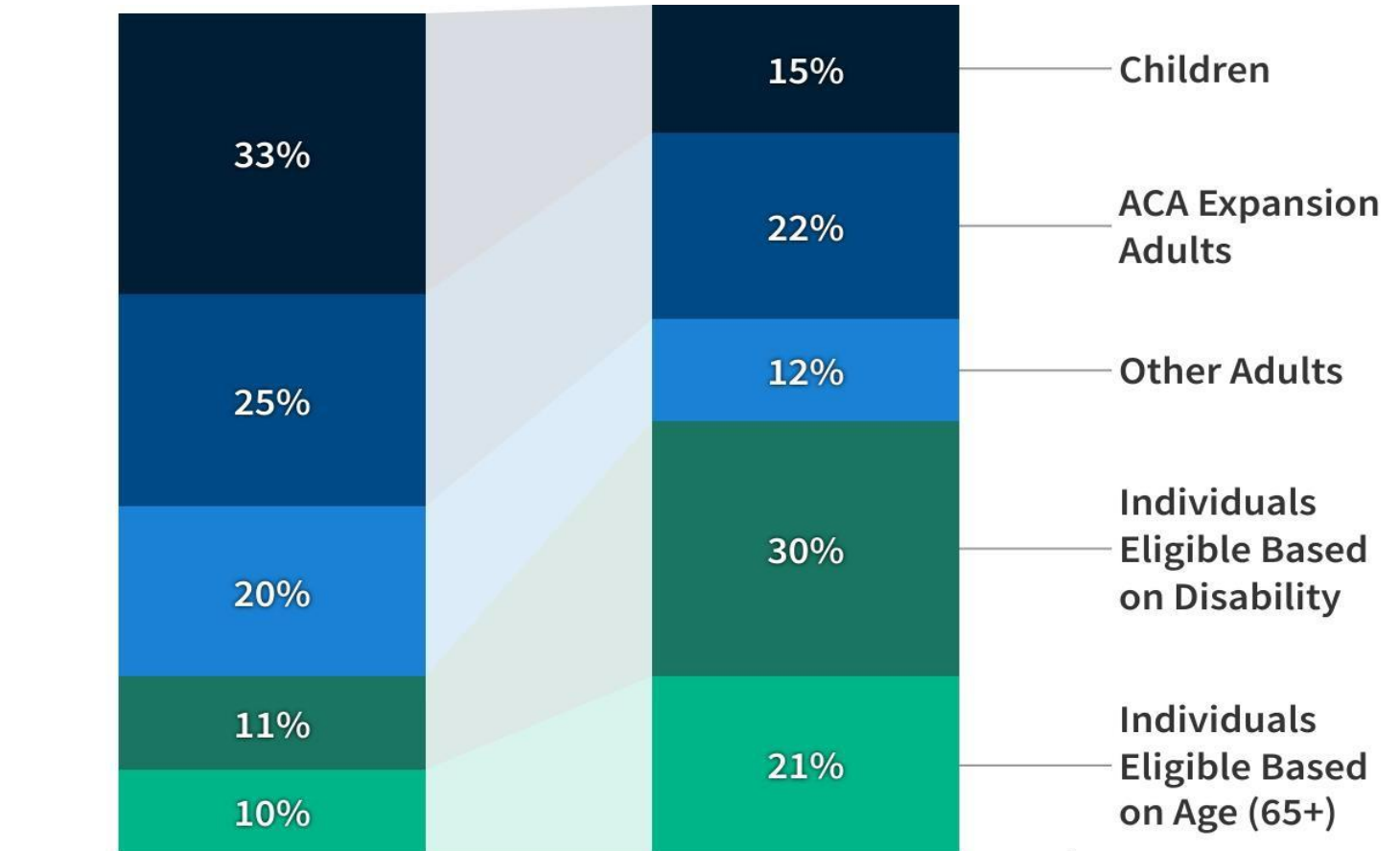
Medicaid is the
largest payer of
mental health and
substance use
services coverage

78% of Medicaid
enrollees are
enrolled in
managed care



Medicaid Enrollment & Expenditures by Population (CY 2023)

More than half of total Medicaid spending is on elderly and disabled populations



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Source: [KFF](#) analysis of the T-MSIS Research Identifiable Files, CY 2023

Areas of Recent Growth & State Investment

Behavioral
Health

Home and
Community-
Based Services

Prescription
Drugs

Continuous
Eligibility

Maternal
Health

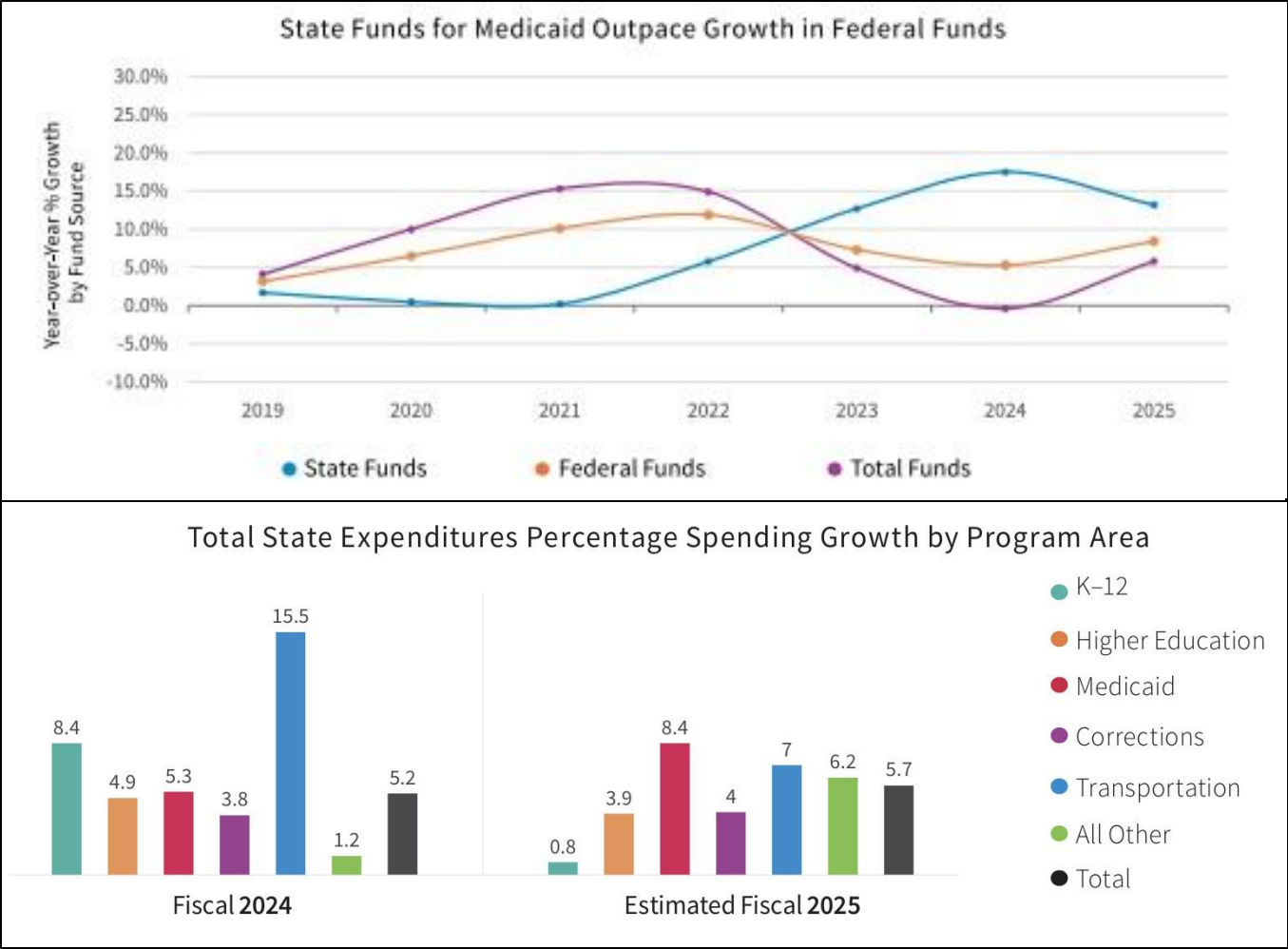
Health-Related
Social Needs

Medicaid
Expansion

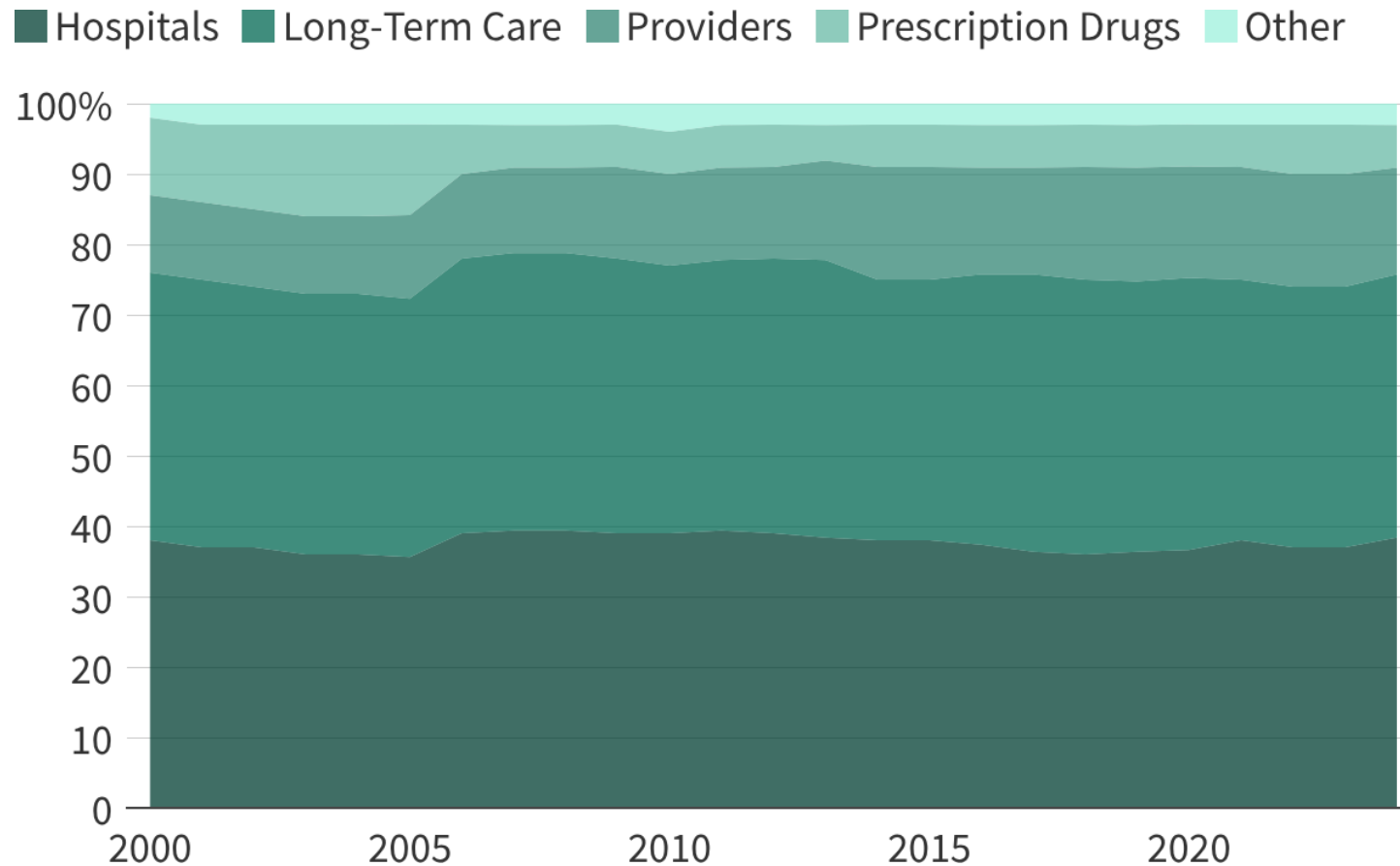


Medicaid Fiscal Environment

- State revenues have begun to weaken over the last three years, compared with the 2021-2022 boon
- State spending on Medicaid is outpacing overall state spending growth and federal Medicaid spending growth
- For most states, Medicaid is the largest share of the budget, representing 30.7% of total state expenditures
- Medicaid costs continue to rise due in part to rate increases, higher utilization by current enrollees, and expanded benefits



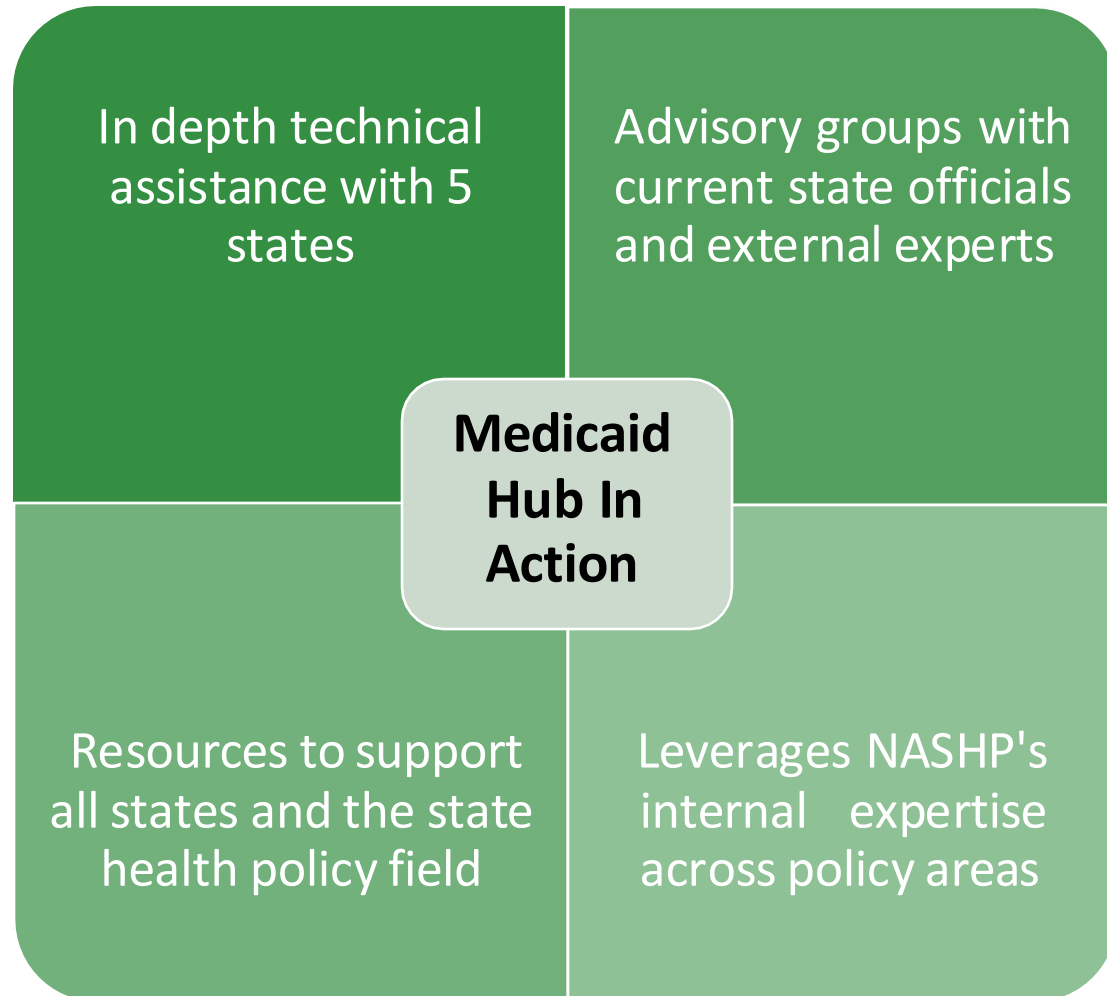
Annual Medicaid Expenditures by Category



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Source: KFF estimates based on 2024 National Health Expenditure Accounts data from CMS, Office of the Actuary. See Methods of [5 Key Facts about Medicaid's Share of National Health Spending](#) for more information

NASHP's Medicaid Policy & Strategy Hub



State Priorities

Forecast the fiscal impacts of federal and state policy changes

Maintain goals for the Medicaid program while ensuring sustainable financing

Consider impacts on providers, beneficiaries, and the broader ecosystem

Determine potential policy and programmatic options

Medicaid Sustainability Strategies



Takeaways

Data & Evidence: understand what data are available and reliable; prioritize strategy and investments based on evidence

Fiscal Sustainability and Policy Goals: identify goals for the Medicaid program over a multi-year timeframe, including short-term budget priorities and longer-term strategies

Impact on Communities: assess how proposed policy and program changes will affect outcomes, access, and quality for beneficiaries and broader communities

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- Attend our [Annual Conference](#): September 28-30th, 2026 (NYC)
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Thank you!

Hemi Tewarson

htewarson@nashp.org



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