



Center for Epidemiological Research for Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

Using Data to Transform Lives

Snapshot: Ohioans with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Impacted by Federal Medicaid Reform

This snapshot of Ohioans with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) is intended to inform policymakers on the utilization and role of Medicaid-funded services. Medicaid-funded services allow Ohioans with IDD to access medically necessary services to live in their community. In fact, one of the primary goals of Medicaid-funded services for people with IDD is for them to be fully integrated into society. Once this is accomplished, they blend into the rest of the population and are often forgotten in the context of federal Medicaid reform. Any reforms to Medicaid, in general, need to consider the impact on the lives of individuals with IDD.

Who is Included in this Population?

Medicaid-funded services play a significant role in the ability for Ohioans with IDD to live successful lives. **74,742** Ohioans with IDD relied on Medicaid-funded services to live.

- Of these individuals, 30% were children, 64% were between 18 and 64 years of age, and 6% were 65 or older.
- The majority of individuals were male (61% male vs. 39% female).
- Most commonly reported diagnoses were autism, Down syndrome, and cerebral palsy.

Where Do Ohioans with IDD Live?

Ohioans with IDD live and receive Medicaid-funded services in various settings in **every county in Ohio**. Medicaid funding allows for individuals to live in settings that best meet their needs. For 86% of youth and 78% of adults, Medicaid-funded services allow individuals to **live with their family or in the community** of their choice.

Figure 1

Number of Individuals with IDD
receiving Medicaid

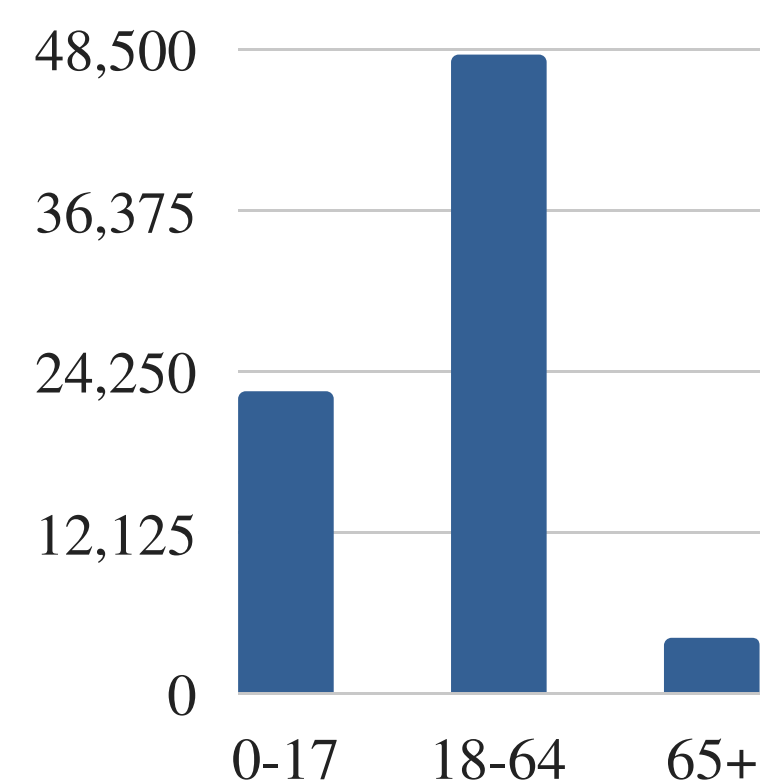
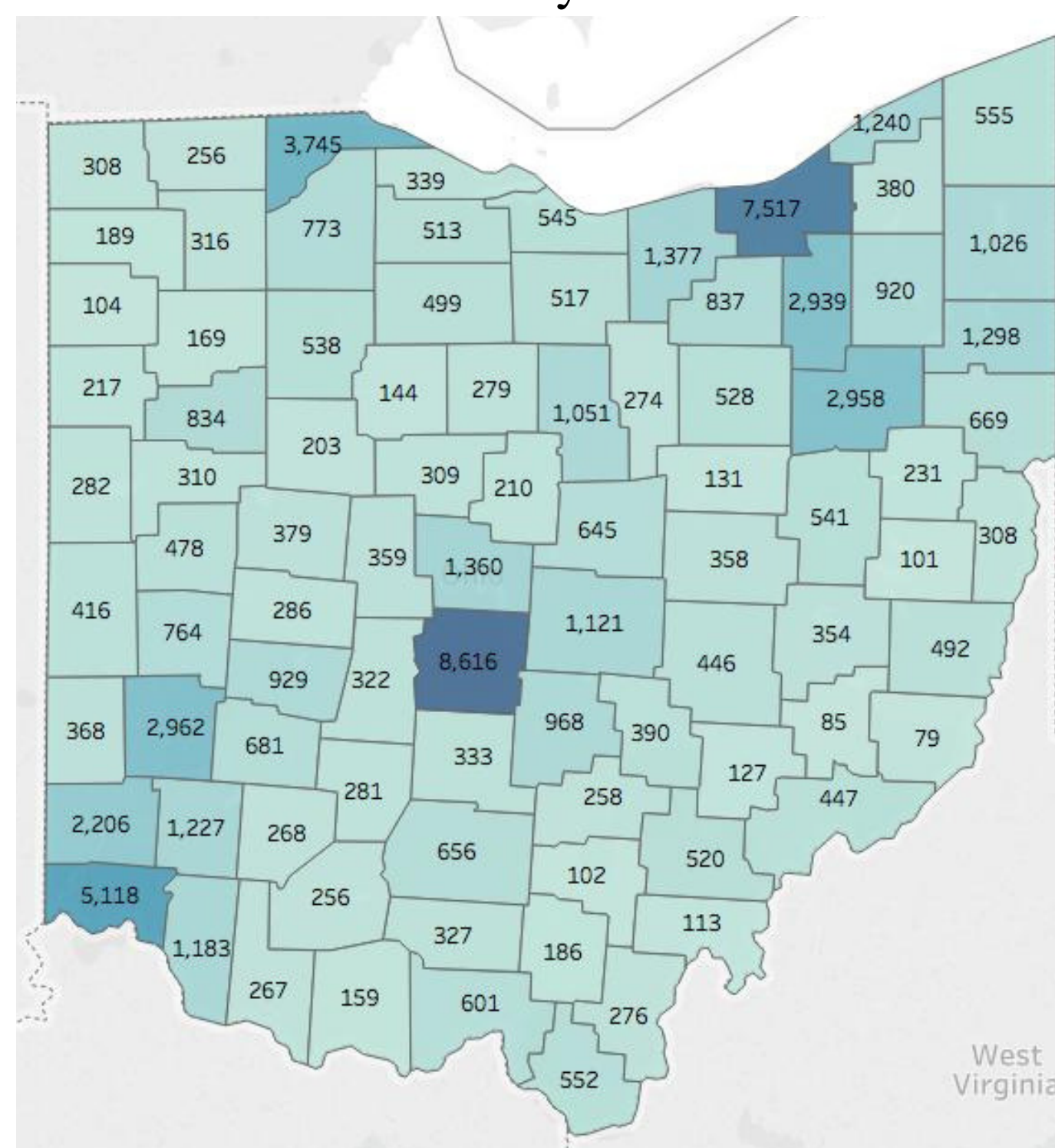


Figure 2

Number of Individuals with IDD Served per
County



Healthcare Needs

Medicaid-funded services not only allow individuals with IDD to stay in the community, they also assist individuals to manage chronic conditions they might not otherwise have the necessary resources to manage.

- **97%** of individuals with IDD have at least **one chronic condition**.
- **5%** of individuals with IDD have **ten or more** chronic conditions they need help managing.
- **16,827** Ohioans with IDD had a Medicaid claim associated with a psychiatric illness.
- **One out of three** Ohioans with IDD utilized the emergency room (ER) with an average of **2.8 visits per person per year**.

Medicaid Program Costs

Medicaid funding for Ohioans with IDD primarily covers **IDD-specific services**. This spending includes funding for long-term care on an IDD waiver and care in an intermediate care facility for individuals with intellectual disabilities. The remaining funding is spent on acute medical care and other Medicaid services.

Conclusion

Individuals with IDD represent a diverse group of people that live in every county in Ohio. They have significant personal care needs and co-existing chronic conditions that need managing. The majority of Medicaid funding is used to provide services specifically designed to support individuals with IDD. This population is often forgotten in discussions around Medicaid reform. They are members of all of our communities, and their needs deserve due consideration in conversations on federal Medicaid reform.

Information in this snapshot is based on 2016 data supplied by the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities.

Figure 3
Number of Chronic Conditions

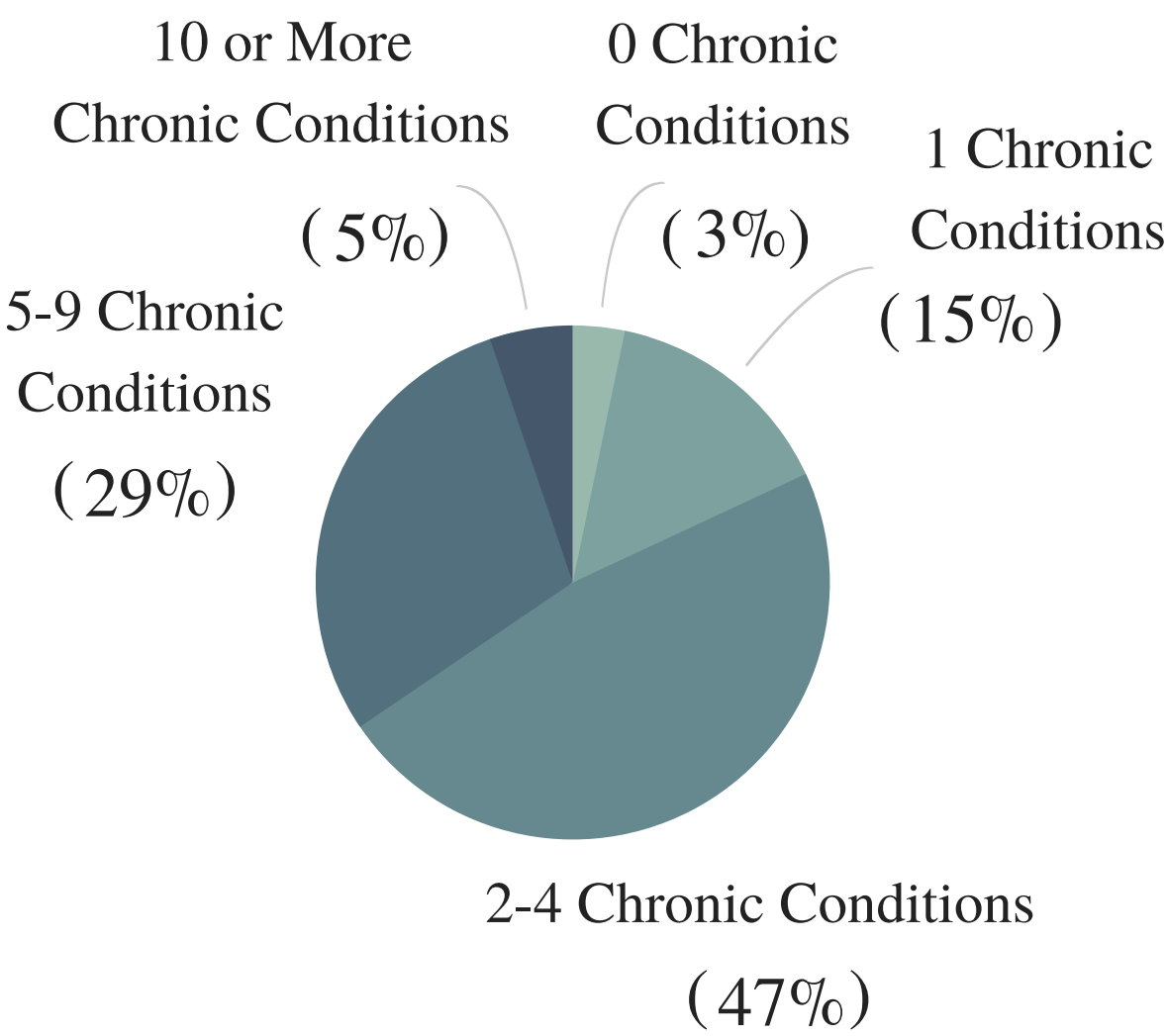
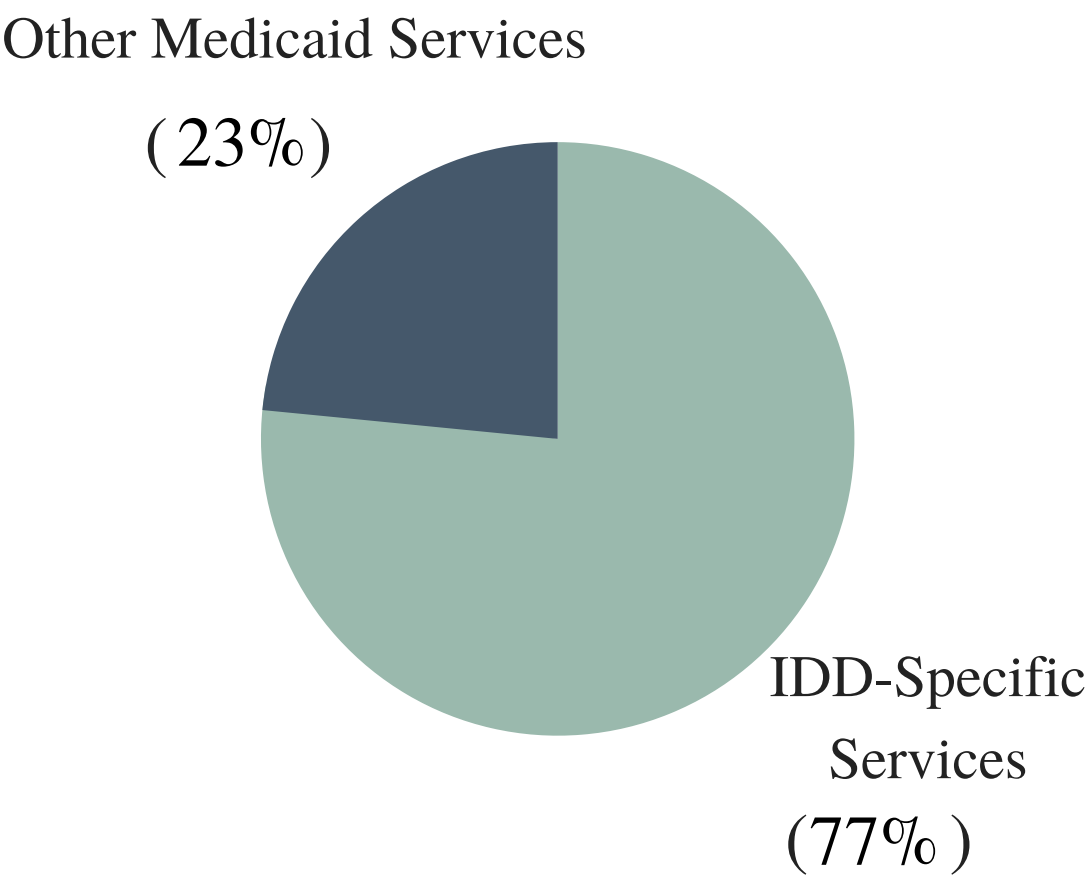


Figure 4
2016 Medicaid Program Costs



The CERIIDD Mission:

Using health care and LTSS data to improve the quality of lives and health care of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities while reducing cost.



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Healthcare: Political Reporting and Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

Individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) represent a diverse group of people with significant personal care and medical needs, often relying on Medicaid and other federal healthcare services to survive. Changes to Medicaid could have serious implications on the lives of this population. Because of these high stakes, it is crucial individuals with IDD are represented in federal health care reform discussions. Media representation may be an indicator of the level of inclusion of individuals with IDD are receiving in the federal health care reform discussions. The Center for Epidemiological Research for Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (CERIIDD) analyzed three major political news outlets reporting on the topic was conducted to understand this population's inclusion in health care reform discussions.

Methods

CERIIDD chose three popular political reporting news outlets, *Politico*, *The Hill*, and *Roll Call* to conduct the analysis. For each of the news outlet, researchers ran a query for articles relating to "Obamacare" from President Trump's Inauguration date of January 20th, 2017 to June 30th, 2017. These articles represent the total sample number (n=7213) (see Figure 1). Additional queries for "Obamacare opioid" and "Obamacare developmental disabilities" were conducted as subsamples to determine the frequency of political media representation. These two populations were selected for the analysis because they may be significantly impacted by federal Medicaid reform.

Results

Figure 1

Political Publication	Obamacare	IDD	% IDD	Opioid	% Opioid
Politico	2979	38	1%	443	15%
The Hill	3986	7	0.18%	148	4%
Roll Call	248	1	0.40%	10	4%
Total	7213	46	1%	601	8%

Discussion

This study represents data from three federally-focused and highly-read political publications. Results seem to indicate that individuals with IDD are often left underrepresented in health care reporting. Without their inclusion in the federal health care discussion, the current and future needs of individuals with IDD may unintentionally go unmet.

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