



Supporting NC Veterans and Their Families Means Closing the Coverage Gap

14,000 North Carolina veterans are under the age of 65, have incomes less than \$16,753 for a family of one or \$29,676 for a family of three, and are currently uninsured.

North Carolina has one of the **highest** rates of uninsured veterans in the nation, with **more than 7%** of its veterans lacking health coverage.

Not all veterans qualify to receive health insurance through the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). According to the Veterans Administration in 2017, **only 46%** of veterans in North Carolina were enrolled in the VA health care system and **only 32%** of veterans in North Carolina were reported as patients treated in the VA healthcare system.

Military service **increases the risk** of serious health conditions, and low-income veterans are more likely to have post-traumatic stress, substance abuse, and mental health disorders.

Please Close the Health Insurance Coverage Gap.

Care4Carolina

Erica Palmer Smith | care4carolina@gmail.com | (919) 710-0220

Data Sources

1. Medicaid Expansion could help approximately 14,000 additional North Carolina Veterans gain health coverage. NC Department of Health and Human Services, Current Medicaid Eligibility and Financing, (NC Department of Health and Human Services, 2022), available online at https://www.ncleg.gov/documentsites/committees/BCCI-6770/Meetings/2022.03.01/Item%203a%20-%20Medicaid%20Expansion%20101_NCDHHS_3-1-2022.pdf.
2. There were an estimated 27,000 uninsured veterans in North Carolina in 2015. Jennifer Haley, Genevieve M. Kenney, and Jason Gates, Veterans Saw Broad Coverage Gains Between 2013 and 2015, (Urban Institute and Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, April 2017), available online at <https://www.rwjf.org/content/dam/farm/reports/issue-briefs/2017/rwjf436635>.
3. Haley, Gates, Buettgens and Kenney, op cit. available online at <https://www.urban.org/sites/default/files/publication/84441/2000947-Veterans-and-Their-Family-Members-Gain-Coverage-under-the-ACA-but-Opportunities-for-More-Progress-Remain.pdf>.
- 4 Haley, Gates, Buettgens and Kenney, op cit. available online at <https://www.urban.org/sites/default/files/publication/84441/2000947-Veterans-and-Their-Family-Members-Gain-Coverage-under-the-ACA-but-Opportunities-for-More-Progress-Remain.pdf>.
5. Sidath Viranga Panangala, Health Care for Veterans: Answers to Frequently Asked Questions (Congressional Research Service, April 21, 2016), available online at <https://fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/R42747.pdf>.
6. Number of Veterans in North Carolina: 730,357. Number of Enrollees in VA Healthcare System in North Carolina: 338,505. Number of Unique Patients Treated in North Carolina: 235,308. State Summaries: North Carolina (US. Department of Veterans Affairs, National Center for Veterans Analysis and Statistics, September 30, 2016) available online at https://www.va.gov/vetdata/docs/SpecialReports/State_Summaries_North_Carolina.pdf
7. Andrea Callow, Cutting Medicaid Would Hurt Beneficiaries, (Families USA, May 2017), available online at <https://familiesusa.org/product/cutting-medicaid-would-hurt-veterans>.
6. Number of Veterans in North Carolina: 730,357. Number of Enrollees in VA Healthcare System in North Carolina: 338,505. Number of Unique Patients Treated in North Carolina: 235,308. State Summaries: North Carolina (US. Department of Veterans Affairs, National Center for Veterans Analysis and Statistics, September 30, 2016) available online at https://www.va.gov/vetdata/docs/SpecialReports/State_Summaries_North_Carolina.pdf
7. Andrea Callow, Cutting Medicaid Would Hurt Beneficiaries, (Families USA, May 2017), available online at <https://familiesusa.org/product/cutting-medicaid-would-hurt-veterans>.
8. Priority Groups in the VA system range from PG1 to PG8. Veterans in PG7 and PG8 are subject to higher cost sharing. Veterans who are Medicaid eligible qualify for PG5 or higher and are subject to lower cost sharing. VA Health Care Enrollment and Eligibility, (U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Last updated: April 2, 2018) available online at https://www.va.gov/healthbenefits/resources/publications/hbco/hbco_enrollment_eligibility.asp and Health Benefits Copays, (U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Last updated: December 21, 2018) available online at <https://www.va.gov/HEALTHBENEFITS/cost/copays.asp>
9. Health of Those Who Have Served Report, (America's Health Rankings, 2016) available online at https://assets.americashealthrankings.org/app/uploads/htwhs_report_r3.pdf
10. Andrea Callow and Nygel Williams, States Can Give Back to Veterans by Expanding Medicaid, (Families USA, November 10, 2018), available online at <https://familiesusa.org/blog/2015/11/states-can-give-back-veterans-expanding-medicaid>
11. Callow and Williams, op cit. available online at <https://familiesusa.org/blog/2015/11/states-can-give-back-veterans-expanding-medicaid>