

## Impacts of Closing the Gap on Provider Capacity

## When states close their health insurance coverage gap, more providers accept Medicaid patients.

- After closing its coverage gap, Ohio saw a 20% increase in primary care providers accepting Medicaid.[1]
- In Michigan, 78% of primary care providers accepted new Medicaid patients after the state closed its coverage gap.[2]
- Over 70% of Medicaid managed care organizations report expanding their provider networks because their states closed their coverage gaps.[3]

## This increase in provider capacity improves access to care for Medicaid beneficiaries.

- Soon after Michigan closed its coverage gap, the availability of primary care appointments for new Medicaid beneficiaries increased by 12%.[4]
  - 94% of new enrollees in Michigan reported having equal or better access to primary care.[5]
  - 85% of new enrollees reported equal or better access to prescriptions.[5]
- Across all states that closed their coverage gaps, appointment availability for Medicaid beneficiaries increased by 5.4 percentage points. Wait times for certain types of providers decreased by 6.7 percentage points.[6]
  - There was no change in availability for people with private insurance.[6]

## **Sources**

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