Where Medicaid Stands

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The Des Moines Register
"My Medicaid book report"
Show who Medicaid expansion covers

• Working age adults making up to about $16,400 per year.
• Without expansion, most poor adults don’t qualify for Medicaid unless they’re declared disabled or have minor children on the program.
Hospitals ❤ Medicaid expansion

- Many hospitals in Medicaid expansion states have seen charity-care burdens plummet.
- Reporters can use readily available data to show readers how their local hospitals are faring.
Specific types of programs that benefit

• Many people with chronic mental illnesses or addiction issues qualify for the Medicaid expansion, because they struggle to hold steady jobs.

• The new money has given treatment programs a boost. What happens if it is phased back out?
Possible complications of block-grant system

• Medicaid programs already struggling to cover extremely expensive blockbuster drugs.

• What happens if feds cap states’ Medicaid payments, and a new, pricey cure comes along?
Private Medicaid management

- 55 million Americans are enrolled in privately managed Medicaid.
- The transition can be rocky.
- Trend likely to accelerate under Trump administration, and companies could have looser federal reins.