

South Dakotans Are Sick of Rising Costs and Losing Coverage Thanks to the GOP Health Care Disaster

Protect Our Care's Nationwide Grassroots Campaign, "Sick of It! Fix Health Care Now," is Giving Voice to South Dakotans Sick of President Trump and Republicans in Congress Gutting Our Health Care System

People across South Dakota are sick of choosing between affording health care and putting food on the table. Donald Trump and Republicans, including Senators John Thune and Mike Rounds, have cut over \$1 trillion from health care to fund tax breaks for billionaires and big corporations, causing nearly 8 million Americans to lose their Affordable Care Act (ACA) or Medicaid/CHIP coverage — including around 7,000 South Dakotans. [Premiums](#) have doubled for 50,340 South Dakotans and nearly [22 million families](#) nationwide. and cuts to Medicaid are putting seniors, sick kids, moms, and disabled Americans at risk of losing access to lifesaving medical treatments. South Dakotans are dropping coverage they can no longer afford, delaying care, rationing medications, and living with the constant fear that an emergency could push them deeper into debt.

Meanwhile, 4 hospitals, clinics, and nursing homes in South Dakota have been forced to shut down, cut services, or are at risk of doing so following the GOP health care cuts. Entire communities are being stranded without essential care. For too many South Dakotans, getting the care they need now means traveling farther, waiting longer, paying more, or going without it altogether. [Health care leaders](#) are sounding the alarm as they are forced to close maternity wards, scale back critical care units, and lay off team members to balance their budgets.

As the full impact of these cuts continues to unfold, more families are expected to lose coverage, more providers will face difficult financial decisions, and more communities will be left without the care they depend on.

BY THE NUMBERS: South Dakotans Choose Between Paying More Or Foregoing Health Care Coverage

- An estimated **6,915 South Dakotans** have already lost the Medicaid, CHIP, or ACA coverage they counted on to see a doctor after Republicans gutted health care.
 - **1,535 South Dakotans** have [lost](#) their Medicaid or CHIP coverage.
 - **5,380 South Dakotans** [dropped](#) their ACA health care coverage after premiums skyrocketed.
- Premiums for South Dakotans [who counted on](#) the health tax credits Republicans gutted **increased by an average of 235% this year:**
 - A **45-year-old in South Dakota** making \$64,000 saw their average annual premium costs [rise](#) by **\$3,441** to hit \$8,881 this year.

- A **60-year-old couple in South Dakota** making \$85,000 saw their average annual premium costs [rise](#) by **\$26,158** to hit \$33,383 this year.
- A **family of four in South Dakota** making \$130,000 saw their average annual premium costs [rise](#) by **\$14,080** to hit \$25,130 this year.
- Hospital systems nationwide are already reporting a surge in uninsured patients after Republicans ripped away health tax credits. **South Dakota hospitals and clinics are facing a \$68 million** loss in funding and a 12.2% [spike](#) in uncompensated care demand that will affect their ability to keep their doors open.
- **South Dakota hospitals [alone](#)** are also expected to **lose \$369 million over the next decade due to GOP Medicaid cuts**. As of August 2026, 4 South Dakota health care providers are at-risk, announced cuts, are closing, or have closed, [including](#):
 - **AT-RISK:** Bennett County Hospital, Sanford Aberdeen Medical Center
 - **CLOSED:** Good Samaritan Society, Select Specialty Hospital