

# Recent Changes Will Increase Health Costs and Decrease Coverage in Alabama

Without Congressional action, eligible enrollees in Alabama will pay on average **\$612** more per year for marketplace health coverage—and multiple times more per family. These costs could even be higher, given <u>preliminary projected increases</u> in premiums for 2026 of **15 percent**.

**386,200** residents had health insurance marketplace coverage in 2024, **128** percent more than in 2021. This includes:

- ~87,222 residents ages 55-64
- ~12,649 residents who are children

Additionally, the new reconciliation law will require **105,451** enrollees to file new paperwork to stay covered.

#### **Counties Hardest Hit**

Highest average loss of premium tax credits:

- Autauga County: \$840 more per year
- Shelby County: \$828 more per year
- Baldwin County: \$792 more per year
- Elmore County: \$756 more per year
- Monroe County: \$720 more per year

Highest number of enrollees that could be affected:

- Jefferson County: 52,000
- Mobile County: 44,700
- Madison County: 28,100
- Baldwin County: 22,900
- Montgomery County: 13,200

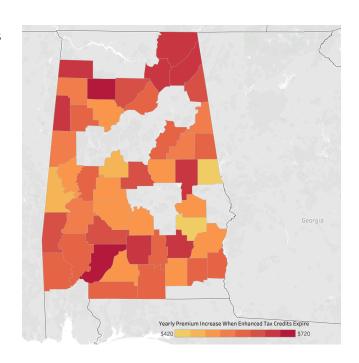
### **Rural Counties:**

Without Congressional action, eligible enrollees in rural counties will pay on average \$583 more per year for marketplace health coverage—and multiple times more per family.

**110,800** residents in rural counties had health insurance marketplace coverage in 2024, **152** percent more than in 2021. This includes:

- ~27,093 residents ages 55-64
- ~1,856 residents who are children

Additionally, the new reconciliation law will require **29,441** enrollees in rural counties to file new paperwork to stay covered.



## **High Diabetes Rate Counties:**

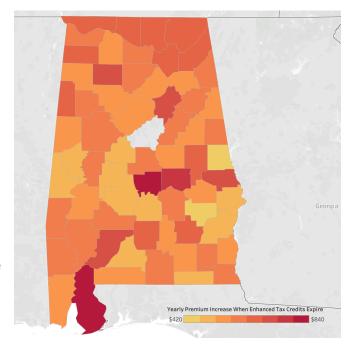
Without Congressional action, eligible enrollees in high diabetes rate counties will pay on

average \$605 more per year for marketplace health coverage—and multiple times more per family.

**373,400** residents in high diabetes rate counties had health insurance marketplace coverage in 2024, **132** percent more than in 2021. This includes:

- ~84,231 residents ages 55-64
- ~10,792 residents who are children

Additionally, the new reconciliation law will require **102,228** enrollees in high diabetes rate counties to file new paperwork to stay covered.



## **High Cancer Rate Counties:**

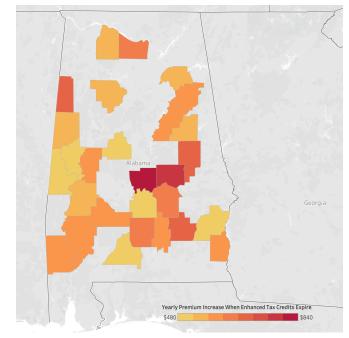
Without Congressional action, eligible enrollees in high cancer rate counties will pay on

average \$604 more per year for marketplace health coverage—and multiple times more per family.

**86,400** residents in high cancer rate counties had health insurance marketplace coverage in 2024, **121** percent more than in 2021. This includes:

- ~20,046 residents ages 55-64
- ~1,774 residents who are children

Additionally, the new reconciliation law will require **24,399** enrollees in high cancer rate counties to file new paperwork to stay covered.



# **High Uninsured Rate Counties:**

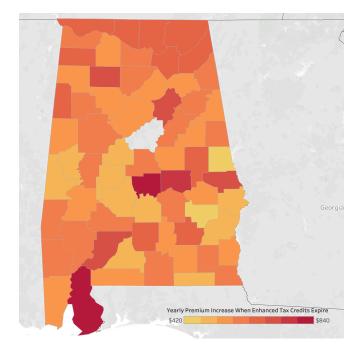
Without Congressional action, eligible enrollees in high uninsured rate counties will pay on

average \$605 more per year for marketplace health coverage—and multiple times more per family.

**373,400** residents in high uninsured rate counties had health insurance marketplace coverage in 2024, **132** percent more than in 2021. This includes:

- ~84,231 residents ages 55-64
- ~10,792 residents who are children

Additionally, the new reconciliation law will require **102,228** enrollees in high uninsured rate counties to file new paperwork to stay covered.



# **High Primary Care Ratio Counties:**

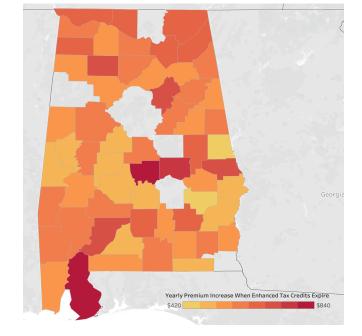
Without Congressional action, eligible enrollees in high primary care ratio counties will pay on

average \$608 more per year for marketplace health coverage—and multiple times more per family.

**268,000** residents in high primary care ratio counties had health insurance marketplace coverage in 2024, **134** percent more than in 2021. This includes:

- ~62,443 residents ages 55-64
- ~7,106 residents who are children

Additionally, the new reconciliation law will require **71,051** enrollees in high primary care ratio counties to file new paperwork to stay covered.



# **County Characteristics Definitions:**

- **Rural:** Counties are classified as rural if they meet the definition of "Fully FORHP Rural Counties" by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) <u>Federal Office of Rural Health Policy</u>.
- **High Diabetes:** Counties with higher than the national average rates of diabetes.
- Higher Cancer Prevalence: Counties with higher than the national average prevalence rate of cancer.
- High Uninsured: Counties with a rate of people without health insurance above the national average.
- High Primary Care Ratio: Counties whose population to primary care physician ratio is above the national average, meaning fewer primary care providers per capita.