

DID YOU KNOW ...

HUNT FOR 'ILLEGAL ALIENS' ON MEDICAID COMES UP EMPTY

April 2026

Last fall, the Trump administration sent states the names of hundreds of thousands of individual Medicaid enrollees thought to be in the US illegally. This was one part of the federal crackdown on, using the administration's terminology, "illegal aliens." The requested review was expected to identify the extent of the undocumented who were illegally receiving Medicaid benefits. The specific review request came from the federal Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

KFF Health News, a national newsroom that produces in-depth journalism about health issues, obtained the data from five states involved in the review months after the review request.

Note:

- Data for five states was reviewed (Penn., Colo., Texas, Ohio and Utah).
- **Of 180,000 records reviewed, 379 were terminated. That's 0.0021%.**
- The law authorizing Medicaid and the closely related Children's Health Insurance Program states it is only available to US citizens and lawful immigrants.
- States check immigration status when people sign up.

Republicans have falsely claimed for years that Medicaid is burdened with "fraud, waste, and abuse" to justify cutting Medicaid as part of Trump's OBBB (One Big Beautiful Bill). That tax cut has **rewarded the top 1% and their corporate allies with billions of dollars** that have further weakened the middle class and added further trillions of dollars to the national debt.

As the newly released data shows, Medicaid is not a scam; the Republican transfer of wealth from the 98% to the top 1% is.

Medicaid:

Covers 1 in 5
Americans



Pays for 41%
of births



Covers
30 million kids



Pays 50%+
of long-term care
for seniors & the disabled



The vast bulk of this protection disappears in 2027. Conveniently, after the 2026 midterm election.