

Federal data show health disparities among states

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The slow rollout of a new federal health insurance marketplace may be deepening differences in health coverage among Americans.

New federal figures show more people are gaining coverage in states that have fully embraced the federal <u>health care law</u> than in those whose elected officials have rejected involvement.

In the dozen states that expanded Medicaid eligibility and are running their own health insurance exchanges, about half the people who applied for coverage through the exchanges have either picked an insurance plan or been routed to Medicaid.

The percentage of applicants selecting an insurance plan or being directed to Medicaid barely tops 15 percent in the two dozen states that have rejected Medicaid expansion and relied solely on the federal government to run their online insurance marketplace.

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