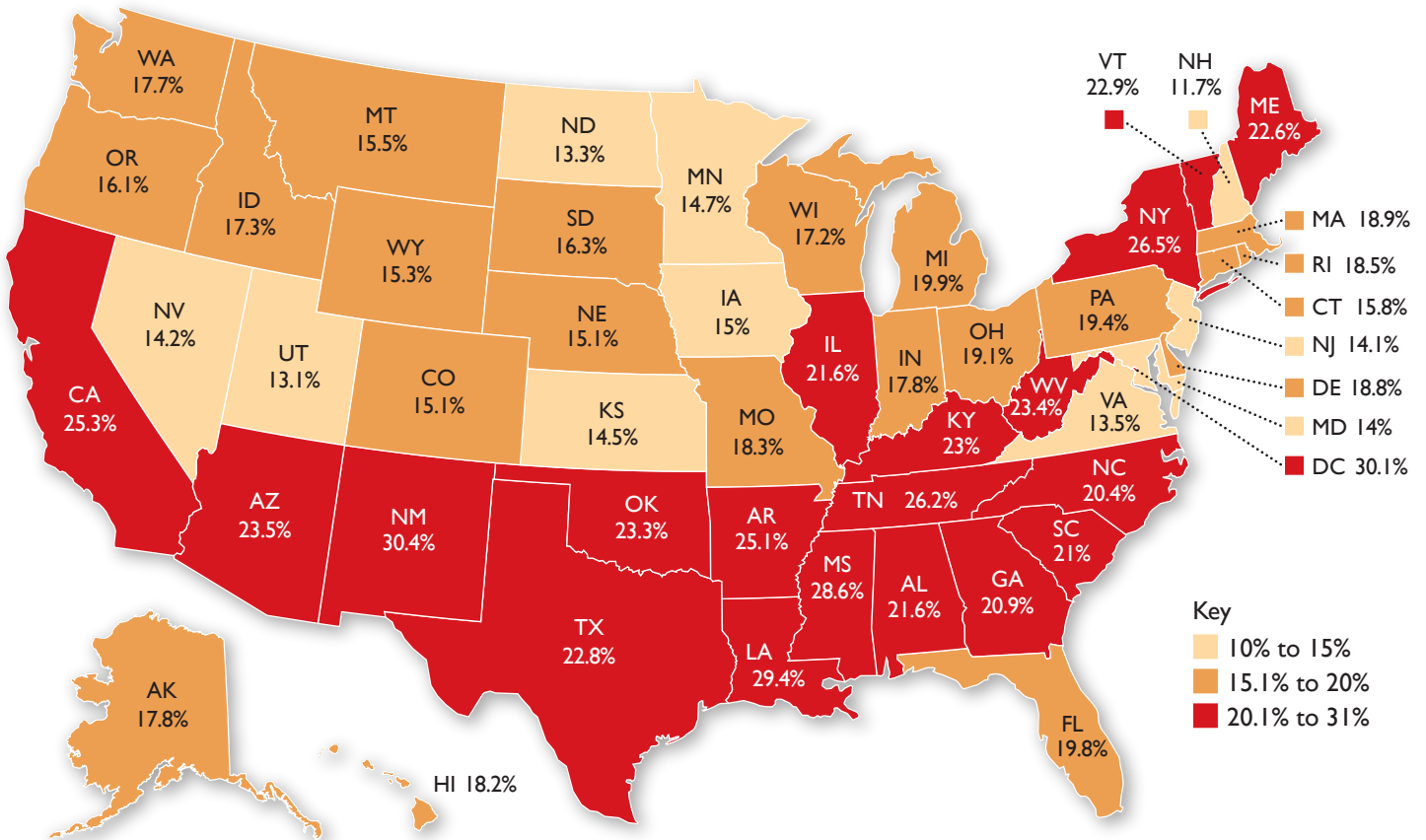


Health Care Bill Fallout: One-Fifth of U.S. Could be on Medicaid

The current health care proposals before Congress would make Medicaid available to all adults with incomes at or below 150 percent of the poverty line. That would increase Medicaid eligibility to 62.1 million, almost 21 percent of the entire U.S. population. Also, seven states and the District of Columbia would have eligibility rates of at least 25 percent.

Percentage of Population Eligible for Medicaid Under Proposed Federal Legislation



Note: Data were not adjusted to account for factors that could produce actual Medicaid enrollment that is lower or higher than the estimated uninsured population below 150% FPL in each state. For example, a portion of that uninsured population are illegal immigrants who may not be eligible for coverage. Conversely, individuals in that income range who currently do have private coverage would have a strong incentive to drop that coverage and instead enroll in Medicaid.

Source: Uninsured data as reported in FFIS, "Special Analysis: State Impact of Medicaid Eligibility Expansion," Current Population Survey, 2008 (Uninsured data; three-year avg. 2005-2007). Medicaid enrollment data are "point-in-time" monthly enrollment counts. Data as of June 2008, published September 2009. Compiled by the Health Management Associates from state Medicaid enrollment reports, for the Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured, "Medicaid Enrollment in 50 States: June 2008 Data Update," at <http://www.statehealthfacts.org/comparemaptable.jsp?ind=774&cat=4> (October 14, 2009).

Map 2 • Health Care  heritage.org