



Governor Evers' 2021-2023 Biennial Budget

Public Health and Health Equity

Karen Timberlake, Interim Secretary
March 17, 2021



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT
of HEALTH SERVICES

Agenda

- Public Health and Health Equity: Discussion of Key Budget Provisions in Governor Evers' Proposed 2021-23 Budget
- Questions and Next Steps

Budget Materials

- DHS Budget Website:
<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/budget/index.htm>
- DHS Budget Fact Sheets:
<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/budget/resources.htm>

People First: Governor Evers' Proposed Budget

Wisconsin faces unprecedented challenges. Governor Evers' proposed 2021-2023 budget puts people first by increasing and improving access to health care, expanding behavioral health services, protecting our neighbors most in need, and ensuring our public health system is robust and responsive. Now is a time for bold action, and instead of retracing our steps to go back to the way things were, we will bounce back a safer, healthier, and more equitable state. Together, we commit to putting people first to meet our challenges moving forward.

Governor Evers' proposed budget puts the people of Wisconsin first.



Invest in Coverage and Communities >

Many individuals and families cannot afford health insurance in our state. This is a critical need for too many people in Wisconsin, and the situation is especially urgent for Wisconsin's communities of color. We must take action. Governor Evers' budget invests in access to affordable health care and commits to policies and funding designed to break down structural inequities and improve health outcomes.



Invest in Behavioral Health >

To ensure the right supports are available at the right time for all Wisconsin residents, we are building an integrated behavioral health system that provides prevention, intervention, and treatment services to individuals across their life span in their communities. Governor Evers' budget invests in behavioral health and substance use disorder services because these services are essential to overall wellness.



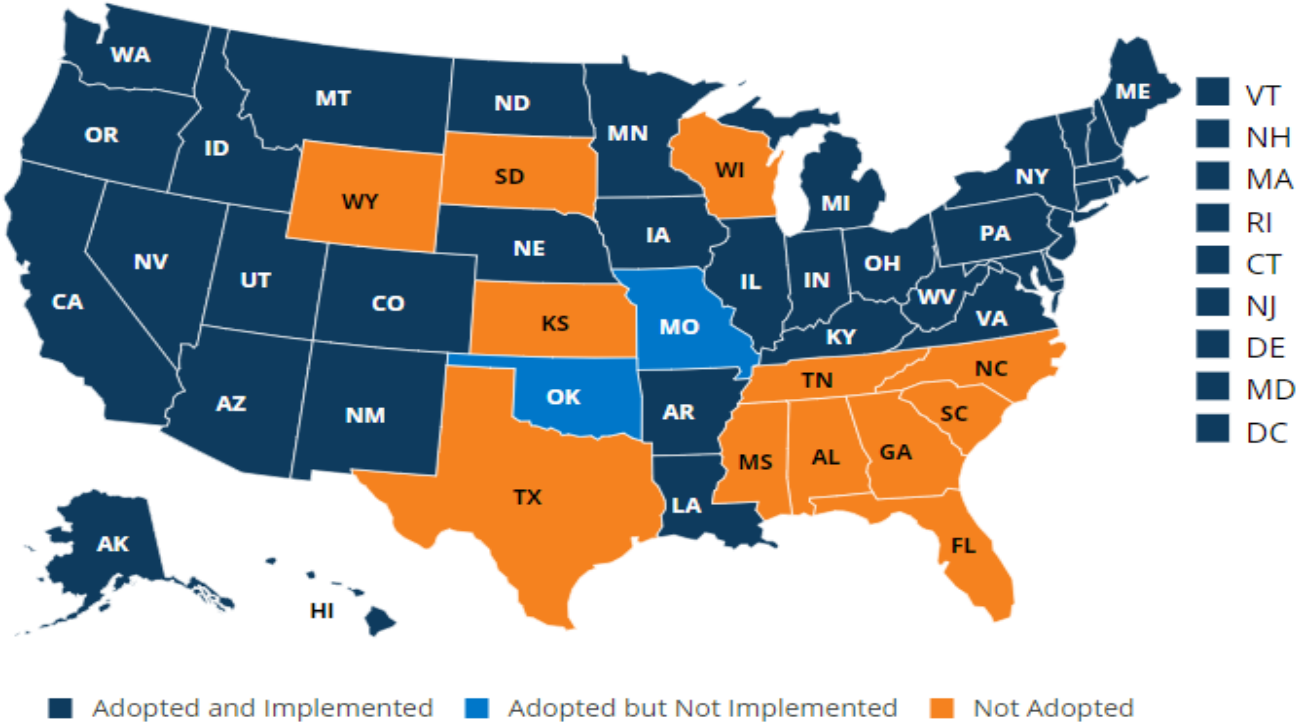
Invest in Public Health and Long-Term Care >

The COVID-19 pandemic has further highlighted the importance of community preparedness and high quality care for Wisconsin residents of all ages. To rebuild together, Governor Evers' budget invests in our public health and long-term care systems, ensuring every Wisconsinite can live their best life.

Medicaid Expansion

- State GPR Savings - \$634 million
 - Additional funding available through the American Rescue Plan
- Expands coverage to approximately 90,000 Wisconsinites, ~50,000 uninsured

Status of State Action on the Medicaid Expansion Decision



SOURCE: "Status of State Action on the Medicaid Expansion Decision," KFF State Health Facts, updated March 12, 2021.
<https://www.kff.org/health-reform/state-indicator/state-activity-around-expanding-medicaid-under-the-affordable-care-act/>

Investing in Public Health

Funding for Communicable Disease Response

- Funding for local and tribal health departments - \$10m
- Funding for state communicable disease response - \$3.6m

Investments in State Public Health

- Harm reduction strike teams - \$435,000
- Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Local Grants - \$480,000
- Health Information Exchange Grants - \$1.3 million

Protecting Kids

- Childhood lead poisoning prevention
 - Ongoing funding for Lead Safe Homes Program
 - Windows Plus Program - \$2 million
 - Birth to 3 Eligibility expansion - \$9.9 million
- Tobacco Use Prevention- \$2 million

Community Health

FQHCs

- Community Health Centers - \$4 million
- Free and Charitable Clinics - \$4 million

Advancing Health Equity

Healthy Women, Healthy Babies

- Women's Health Block Grant Funding
 - Restoration of Funding - \$400,000
 - Elimination of restrictions on grant recipients
- Extend post-partum coverage for pregnant women in Medicaid - \$21 million
- Coverage for doula services- \$1 million

Health Equity and Minority Health Grants

- Health Equity Community Grants to Local and Tribal Health Departments - \$15 million
- Minority Health Grants - \$8 million

Community Health

- Community Health Workers - \$29.3 million
 - Grant funding - \$15 million
 - Medicaid coverage - \$14.3 million
- Community Health Benefit - \$25.5 million
- Tribal Shared Savings- \$5.5 million

Other Key Areas of the DHS Budget

Improving Access to Behavioral Health Services

Increased Funding and New Services

- Psycho-social Rehabilitation Benefit - \$2 million
- Treatment for people involved in criminal justice system- \$6.1m

Treating and Preventing SUD

- Medication-Assisted Treatment - \$12.4 million

Supporting Local Crisis Response Regional Crisis Response - \$17.6 Million

Supporting Caregivers and Long Term Care Providers

Supporting Older Adults in the Community

- ADRC funding- \$7 million
- Dementia Care Specialists - \$3.5 million

Medicaid Funding

- Nursing Home rate increase - \$241 million
- Payments for Direct Care - \$155.6 million

Next Steps/Discussion