

Protect our Care Wisconsin: New report: As open enrollment ends, GOP price hike forces 22,243 Wisconsinites to drop coverage

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WISCONSIN – This week, Protect Our Care released a new report highlighting declining Affordable Care Act (ACA) enrollment in Wisconsin following Trump and Republicans’ decision to take away the ACA tax credits that [nearly 22 million](#) hard-working Americans across the country relied on to afford health care. The window to enroll in 2026 ACA plans has closed, but the pain of the GOP war on health care is just beginning for working Wisconsinites. With data from all 50 states, this new report details the over [1 million Americans](#), including 22,243 Wisconsinites, who have already dropped coverage since the GOP health care cuts hit in January. [Millions more](#) may soon follow suit unless Republicans end their war on health care and restore the premium tax credits they ripped away from working families.

“When Trump and Republicans in Congress chose to rip away these essential tax credits, they essentially told millions of working families in Wisconsin and across this country that they can’t be bothered to address matters of literal life and death,” **said Protect Our Care Wisconsin Director Joe Zepecki.** “These GOP health care premium hikes put millions of Americans’ lives at risk. If you’re one of the almost 22 million people whose premiums Republicans just jacked up, you’re probably paying way too much for a plan that’s less comprehensive than what you had last year — or you’ve dropped coverage entirely. And we all know what happens when you have a high deductible or go uninsured: you ration care. Put off preventative appointments. Skip screenings that could catch cancer early enough to treat it. End up in the emergency room with life-threatening pneumonia that could’ve been avoided if only you could have gotten the right care when it was just

a cough. It's no way to live. But what other choice do working families have in Donald Trump's America?"

By the Numbers

This open enrollment, [GOP premium hikes](#):

- **Doubled and tripled premiums for over [20 million](#) hardworking Americans**, including [small business owners](#), [farmers](#), and [older adults](#).
- **Put health care out of reach for over [one million](#) Americans**, who can no longer afford to see a doctor and will face huge debt if they have a heart attack or accident.
- **Will lead to an estimated [5 million](#) Americans losing their health care** after they are unable to pay their premiums and are kicked off their coverage.
- **Forced middle-class families to pay [\\$20 billion](#) in higher health care costs in 2026**, while CEOs and yacht owners pocket [\\$120 billion](#) in tax breaks from the GOP tax scam.
- **Forced an estimated [one in three](#) Americans who buy health care on their own to reduce their coverage** and pay thousands more each year in health care costs.
- **Pressured countless families to [cut back](#) on food, clothing, and other basics** to afford health insurance and greater out-of-pocket costs.