

THE DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE WEEKLY UPDATE

BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE DNC COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

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ACA on the Front Pages

On Wednesday, the Department of Health and Human Services announced that the Affordable Care Act's enrollment numbers are up, and **3.7 million people are now on track for healthcare coverage** starting in January. That's in addition to the **millions of Americans who are already benefiting** from the law through its protections for people with pre-existing conditions, elimination of lifetime caps, access to quality preventive care, and so much more.

Enrollment on the [federal exchange is spiking](#) and in states across the country people are finding quality affordable healthcare options, and they are signing up. Here is a small collection of some of the positive front page headlines from across the country this week:



Democratic State Parties Contrast Positive Impact of ACA with Costs of Repeal

This week, Democratic state parties worked to show how the positive aspects of the Affordable Care Act will help the people in their states in contrast to the GOP's healthcare plan: repeal the law. The GOP's plan would roll back all of the benefits individuals are already experiencing, and take us back to a broken healthcare system where insurance companies were in the driver's seat.

State parties discussed Medicaid expansion, mental health benefits available in the law, expanded funding to community health centers, and protecting children with preexisting conditions among the many other benefits.

Click here to read a few of the statements the parties released on how people will benefit from the Affordable Care Act in their states:

- [The Affordable Care Act in New Mexico: Medicaid and Community Health Centers](#)
- [State-Based Health Exchange Enrollment Surges While Parnell's Obstruction Denies Alaskans Care](#)
- [ACA in Action: Millions Will Gain Health Coverage through Medicaid](#)
- [The Affordable Care Act in Washington](#)
- [Louisiana's Community Health Centers Benefiting from \\$78 Million in Investments from ACA](#)

The parties also took to social media to spread the positive benefits on twitter. Here are a few of the best tweets from the week:

NC Democratic Party @NCDemParty

The 2.6 billion dollar price tag of @PatMcCroyNC's refusal to expand Medicaid under #ACA #ncpol
pic.twitter.com/GVoYd866zf

Reply Retweet Favorite More

GOP GOVERNORS' REJECTION of MEDICAID EXPANSION COSTS THEIR STATES BILLIONS in FEDERAL FUNDS
including:

- \$719 MILLION
- \$1.8 BILLION
- \$294 MILLION
- \$9.2 BILLION
- \$2.9 BILLION
- \$5.0 BILLION
- \$2.6 BILLION

DPNM @NMDEMS

In NM 862,000 incl 122 k children have health care for pre-exist conditions-and Steve Pearce wants to take it away.
pic.twitter.com/wCi2Zs5F2y

Reply Retweet Favorite More

Minnesota DFL Party @MinnesotaDFL

Because of ACA, insurance companies are prohibited from denying health coverage for the up to 17 million children.
pic.twitter.com/tIzzu4ZUrK

Reply Retweet Favorite More

Helping Children with Pre-Existing Conditions

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, 17 million children with pre-existing conditions can no longer be denied coverage or charged more for health insurance.

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[President Obama and World Leaders Celebrate Nelson Mandela](#)

On Tuesday, President Obama and other world leaders traveled to Johannesburg to attend a memorial for former South African President Nelson Mandela.

The President spoke at the service of Mandela's impact both on him personally and the world, asking people to consider how each of us can make the world a better place through our actions.

He said, "For the people of South Africa, for those he inspired around the globe, Madiba's passing is rightly a time of mourning, and a time to celebrate a heroic life. But I believe it should also prompt in each of us a time for self-reflection. With honesty, regardless of our station or our circumstance, we must ask: How well have I applied his lessons in my own life? It's a question I ask myself, as a man and as a President."

Click [here](#) to watch the President's tribute to Mandela.



[DNC Calls on Chris Christie to Come Clean on Bridge Scandal](#)

Chris Christie has a lot of explaining to do.

Earlier this year on the [first day of school](#) in Fort Lee, New Jersey a Christie appointee inexplicably and with no warning shut most of the toll lanes leading to the George Washington Bridge - [the busiest bridge in the world](#). As a direct result, traffic backed up for miles, bringing the surrounding communities to a standstill.

For the four days the lanes were closed, many commute times from New Jersey to New York City quadrupled - taking over [2 hours to go just a few miles](#) - parents had problems getting their kids to school, and [commerce was stalled](#). What's worse, according to local news accounts, the Christie Administration's manufactured traffic jam "[diverted police, fire and ambulance corps personnel away from local emergencies](#)."

This week, [the DNC called on Christie to drop the schtick](#) and give straight answers about the scandal surrounding whether the Christie administration caused a massive transportation nightmare to exact political retribution. The next day the largest newspaper in New Jersey [agreed](#). A top Christie ally and political appointee recently [resigned amid the growing scandal](#).

Today, the DNC released a new video, "[Chris Christie's Bridge Scandal Explained](#)" to help everyone better understand Christie's scandal and wrongdoing. Watch the video [here](#).

