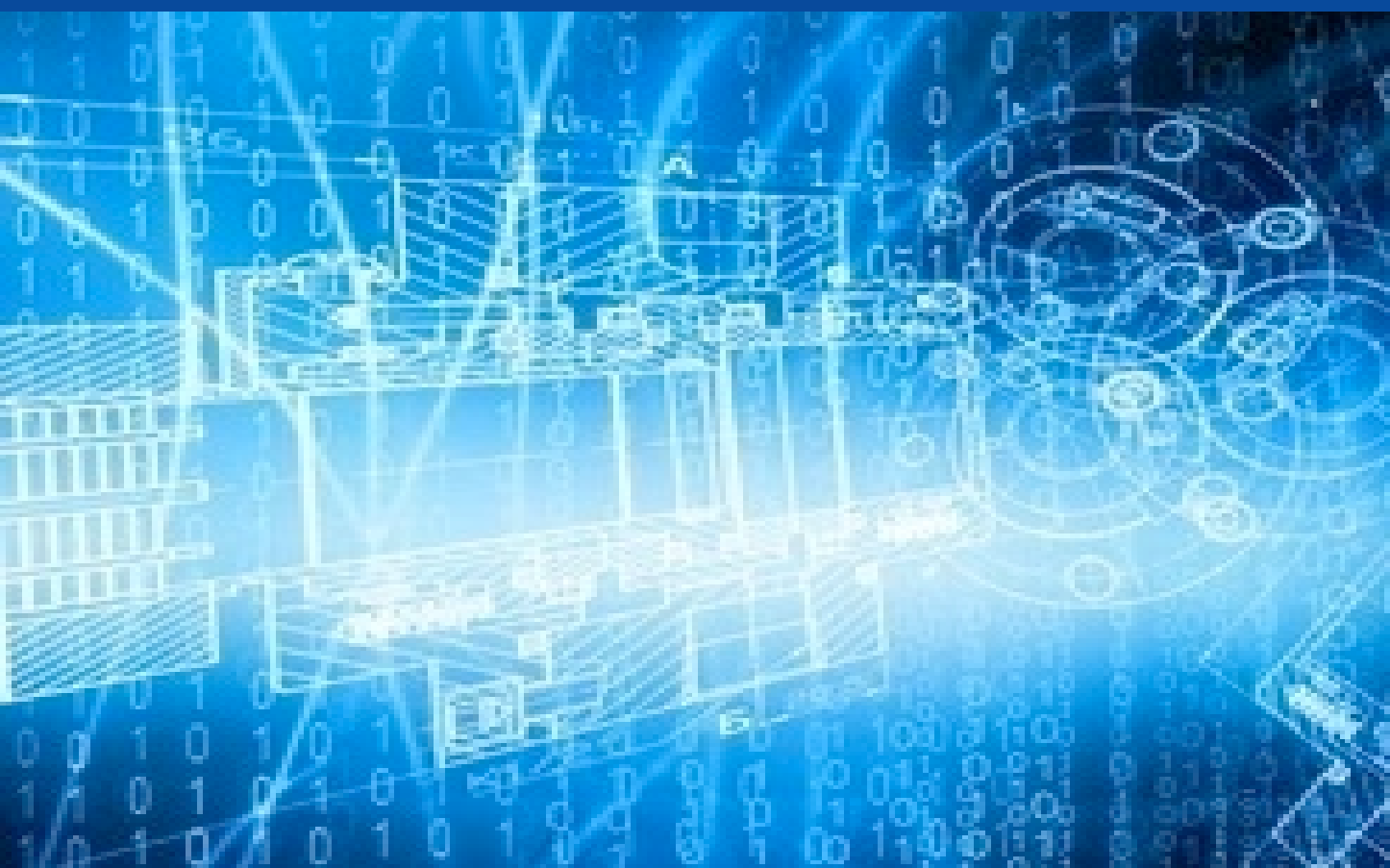


# December 2020 and January 2021 Medicaid and CHIP Enrollment Trends Snapshot



*Center for Medicaid  
and CHIP Services*

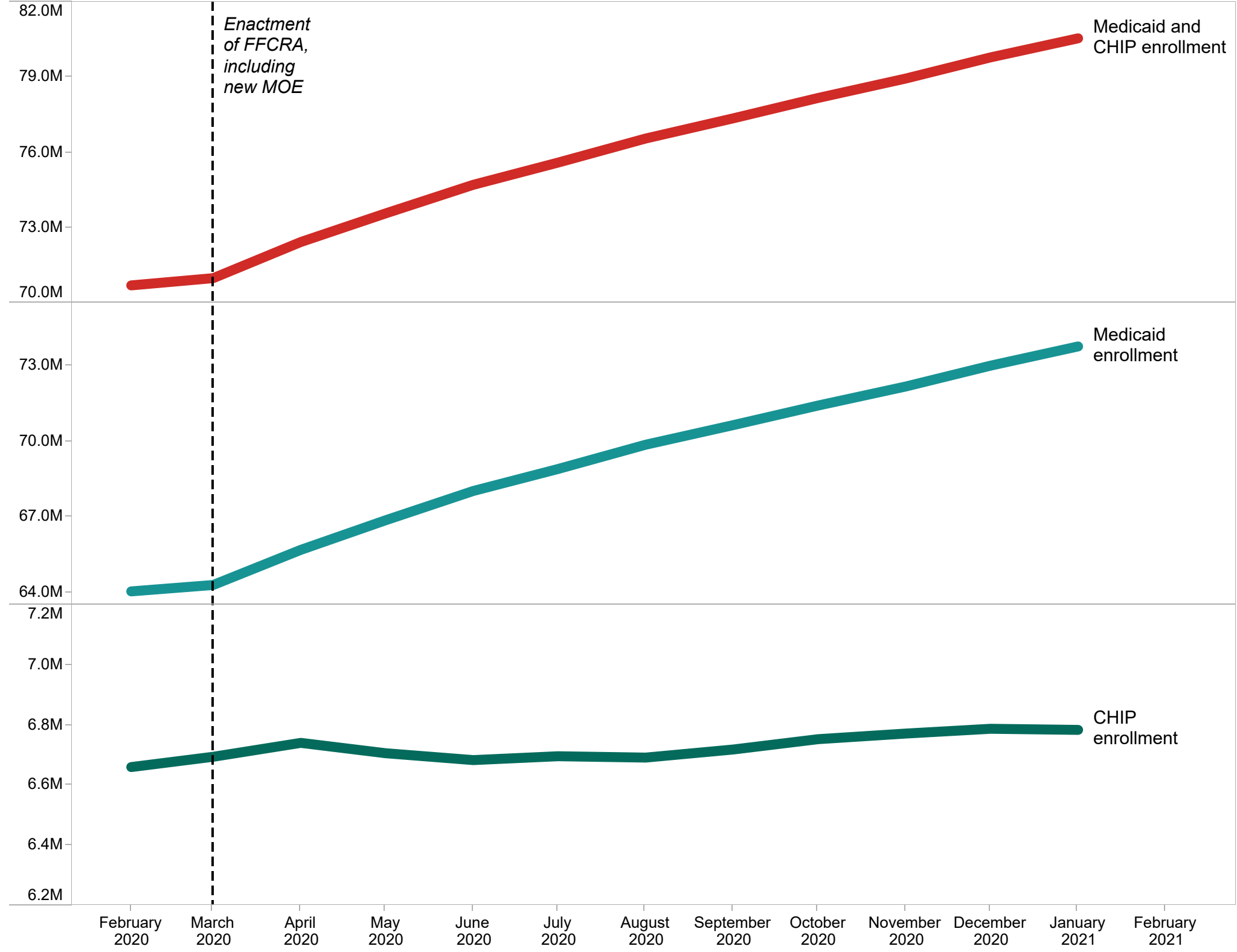
# Background

- This is a Center for Medicaid & CHIP Services (CMCS) Medicaid and CHIP Coverage Learning Collaborative (MAC LC) project that monitors Medicaid and Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) enrollment trends, primarily using the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Performance Indicator Data.
- The MAC LC is a CMCS project that provides a forum for facilitated discussion and learning across CMS and states, with the goal of implementing and improving the programs, tools, and systems needed to ensure high-performing state health insurance programs. The MAC LC has enabled CMS to more effectively identify issues and also monitor and improve program performance.
- This snapshot is a companion to the December 2020 and January 2021 Medicaid & CHIP Application, Eligibility, and Enrollment Data posted on [Medicaid.gov](https://www.Medicaid.gov).
- The Enrollment Trends project primarily relies on Performance Indicator Data. All states—including the District of Columbia—provide data each month about their Medicaid and CHIP eligibility and enrollment activity. These data reflect a range of indicators related to key application, eligibility, and enrollment processes within the state Medicaid and CHIP agency. The complete data set is available on [Data.Medicaid.gov](https://Data.Medicaid.gov).

# Enrollment Snapshot

- To be responsive to questions on Medicaid and CHIP enrollment, particularly given the impact of the COVID-19 public health emergency (PHE), this Enrollment Snapshot captures high level information on the most recently submitted month of Performance Indicator Data within the context of the previous 12 months, focusing on:
  - Total Medicaid and CHIP enrollment
  - Medicaid enrollment
  - CHIP enrollment
  - Adult enrollment
  - Child enrollment
- This analysis also captures high level information on the trend in the number of Medicaid and CHIP applications received by states.

**Figure 1. National Medicaid and CHIP enrollment, February 2020 to January 2021, CMS Performance Indicator Data**






Date	Medicaid and CHIP enrollment	Medicaid enrollment	CHIP enrollment
February 2020	70,687,860	64,027,737	6,660,123
March 2020	70,976,240	64,281,892	6,694,348
April 2020	72,418,165	65,677,618	6,740,547
May 2020	73,559,217	66,853,058	6,706,159
June 2020	74,699,696	68,016,386	6,683,310
July 2020	75,586,191	68,890,063	6,696,128
August 2020	76,546,334	69,854,697	6,691,637
September 2020	77,352,266	70,633,733	6,718,533
October 2020	78,163,979	71,411,134	6,752,845
November 2020	78,938,471	72,166,966	6,771,505
December 2020	79,782,581	72,995,197	6,787,384
January 2021	80,543,351	73,759,632	6,783,719

**Annual trend, February 2020 to January 2021**




From February 2020 to January 2021, national Medicaid and CHIP enrollment increased by 9,855,491 individuals (13.9%).

- National Medicaid enrollment increased by 9,731,895 individuals (15.2%).
- National CHIP enrollment increased by 123,596 individuals (1.9%).

**Monthly trend, December 2020 to January 2021**

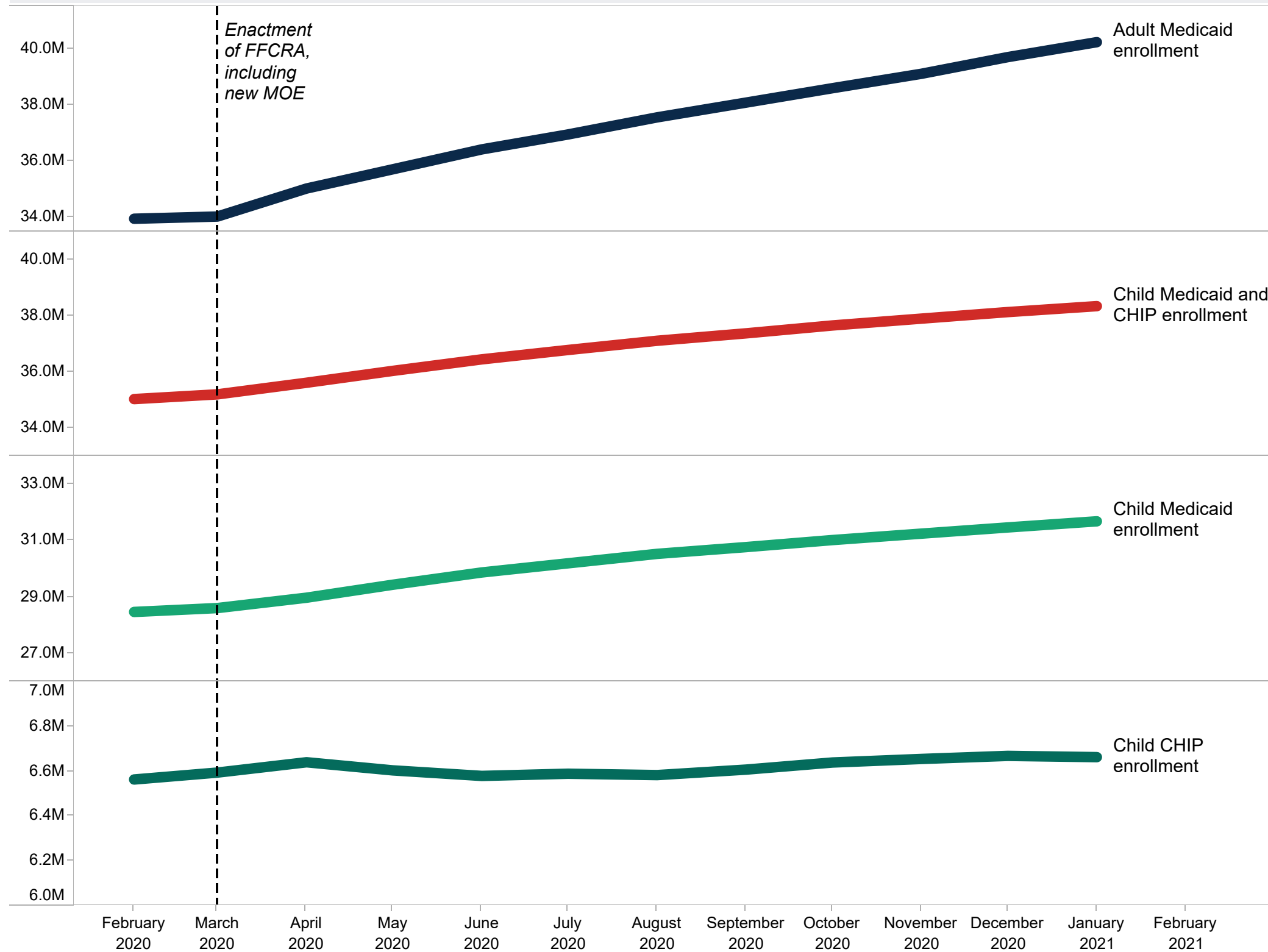
<u>Total enrollment</u>	<u>Medicaid enrollment</u>	<u>CHIP enrollment</u>
Increased by 760,770 (+1.0%) 	Increased by 764,435 (+1.0%) 	Decreased by 3,665 (-0.1%) 

**Cumulative change, February 2020 to January 2021**

<u>Total enrollment</u>	<u>Medicaid enrollment</u>	<u>CHIP enrollment</u>
Increased by 9,855,491 (+13.9%) 	Increased by 9,731,895 (+15.2%) 	Increased by 123,596 (+1.9%) 

**Source:** Medicaid and CHIP Eligibility and Enrollment Performance Indicators as of April 20, 2021.  
**Note:** This analysis includes preliminary enrollment data from 50 states and the District of Columbia. "FFCRA" refers to the Families First Coronavirus Response Act. "MOE" refers to the FFCRA's maintenance of effort requirement, which makes available a temporary 6.2 percentage point increase to each state or territory's federal medical assistance percentage (FMAP) during the national public health emergency. As a condition of receiving the FMAP increase, states must meet several requirements pertaining to eligibility and maintenance of enrollment. For additional information on Medicaid and CHIP enrollment prior to the start of the national public health emergency, please see Appendix A.

**Figure 2. National adult and child enrollment in Medicaid and CHIP, February 2020 to January 2021, CMS Performance Indicator Data**





Date	Adult Medicaid enrollment	Child Medicaid and CHIP enrollment	Child Medicaid enrollment	Child CHIP enrollment
February 2020	33,956,090	35,025,981	28,463,375	6,562,606
March 2020	34,034,610	35,194,886	28,601,431	6,593,455
April 2020	35,028,350	35,608,582	28,969,156	6,639,426
May 2020	35,709,894	36,031,961	29,428,694	6,603,267
June 2020	36,416,510	36,443,254	29,864,735	6,578,519
July 2020	36,946,274	36,777,509	30,189,171	6,588,338
August 2020	37,552,472	37,106,481	30,524,234	6,582,247
September 2020	38,077,302	37,371,537	30,764,812	6,606,725
October 2020	38,587,198	37,652,095	31,013,765	6,638,330
November 2020	39,099,406	37,896,263	31,242,079	6,654,184
December 2020	39,690,199	38,129,375	31,461,546	6,667,829
January 2021	40,220,508	38,341,034	31,678,738	6,662,296

**Annual trend, February 2020 to January 2021**

From February 2020 to January 2021, national adult and child enrollment increased by 9,579,471 individuals (13.9%).

- National adult enrollment increased by 6,264,418 individuals (18.4%).
- National child enrollment increased by 3,315,053 individuals (9.5%).

**Monthly trend, December 2020 to January 2021**

<u>Adult Medicaid enrollment</u>	<u>Child Medicaid and CHIP enrollment</u>
Increased by 530,309 (+1.3%) 	Increased by 211,659 (+0.6%) 

**Cumulative change, February 2020 to January 2021**

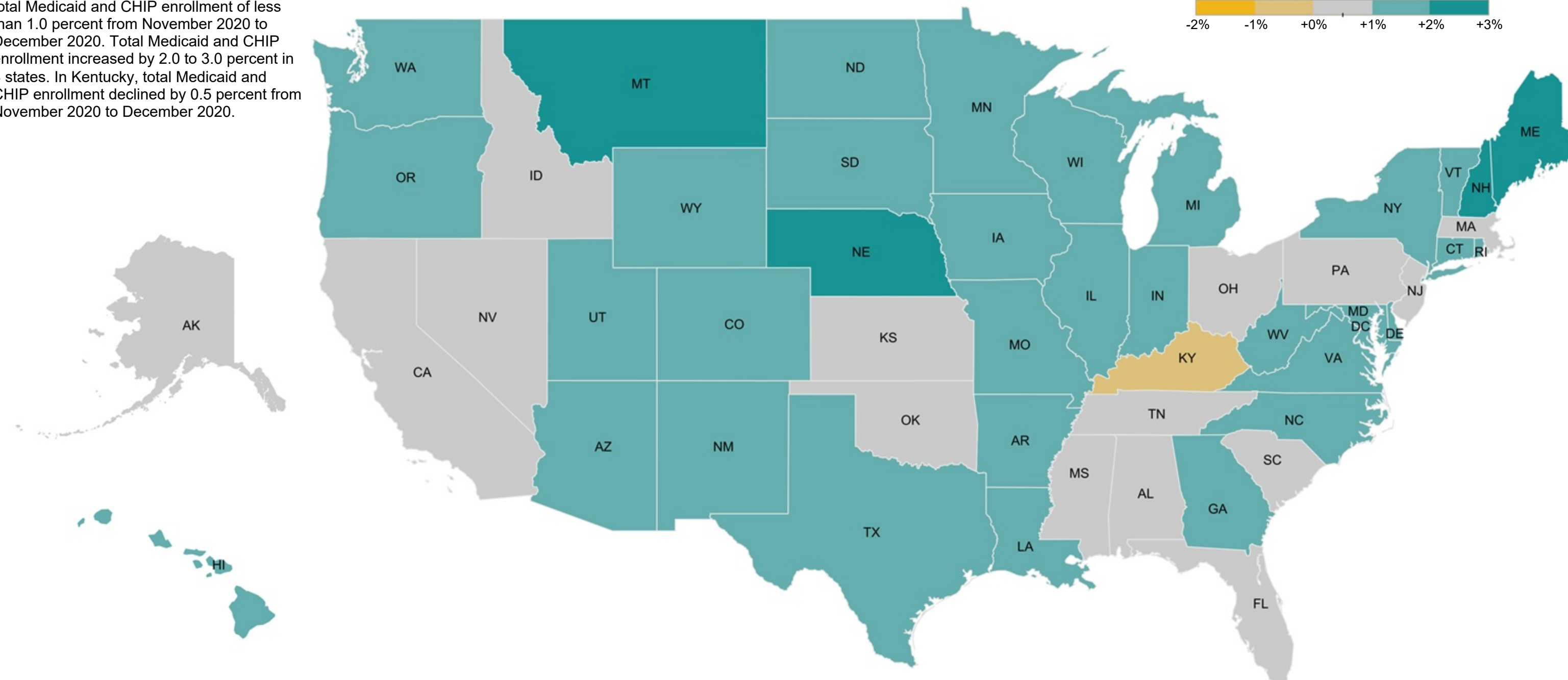
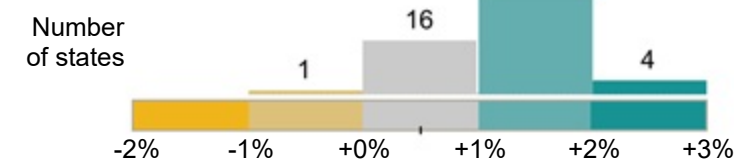
<u>Adult Medicaid enrollment</u>	<u>Child Medicaid and CHIP enrollment</u>
Increased by 6,264,418 (+18.4%) 	Increased by 3,315,053 (+9.5%) 

**Source:** Medicaid and CHIP Eligibility and Enrollment Performance Indicators as of April 20, 2021.  
**Note:** This analysis includes preliminary enrollment data from 49 states and the District of Columbia. Arizona is excluded because the state did not report the breakouts for adult and child enrollment between February 2020 and January 2021. "FFCRA" refers to the Families First Coronavirus Response Act. "MOE" refers to the FFCRA's maintenance of effort requirement, which makes available a temporary 6.2 percentage point increase to each state or territory's federal medical assistance percentage (FMAP) during the national public health emergency. As a condition of receiving the FMAP increase, states must meet several requirements pertaining to eligibility and maintenance of enrollment. For additional information on adult and child enrollment in Medicaid and CHIP prior to the start of the national public health emergency, please see Appendix B.

**Figure 3. Change in total Medicaid and CHIP enrollment, November 2020 to December 2020, CMS Performance Indicator Data**

Between November 2020 and December 2020, total Medicaid and CHIP enrollment increased by 1.0 to 2.0 percent in 30 states. In 15 states and the District of Columbia, there were modest increases in total Medicaid and CHIP enrollment of less than 1.0 percent from November 2020 to December 2020. Total Medicaid and CHIP enrollment increased by 2.0 to 3.0 percent in 4 states. In Kentucky, total Medicaid and CHIP enrollment declined by 0.5 percent from November 2020 to December 2020.

**Percentage change in Medicaid and CHIP enrollment**



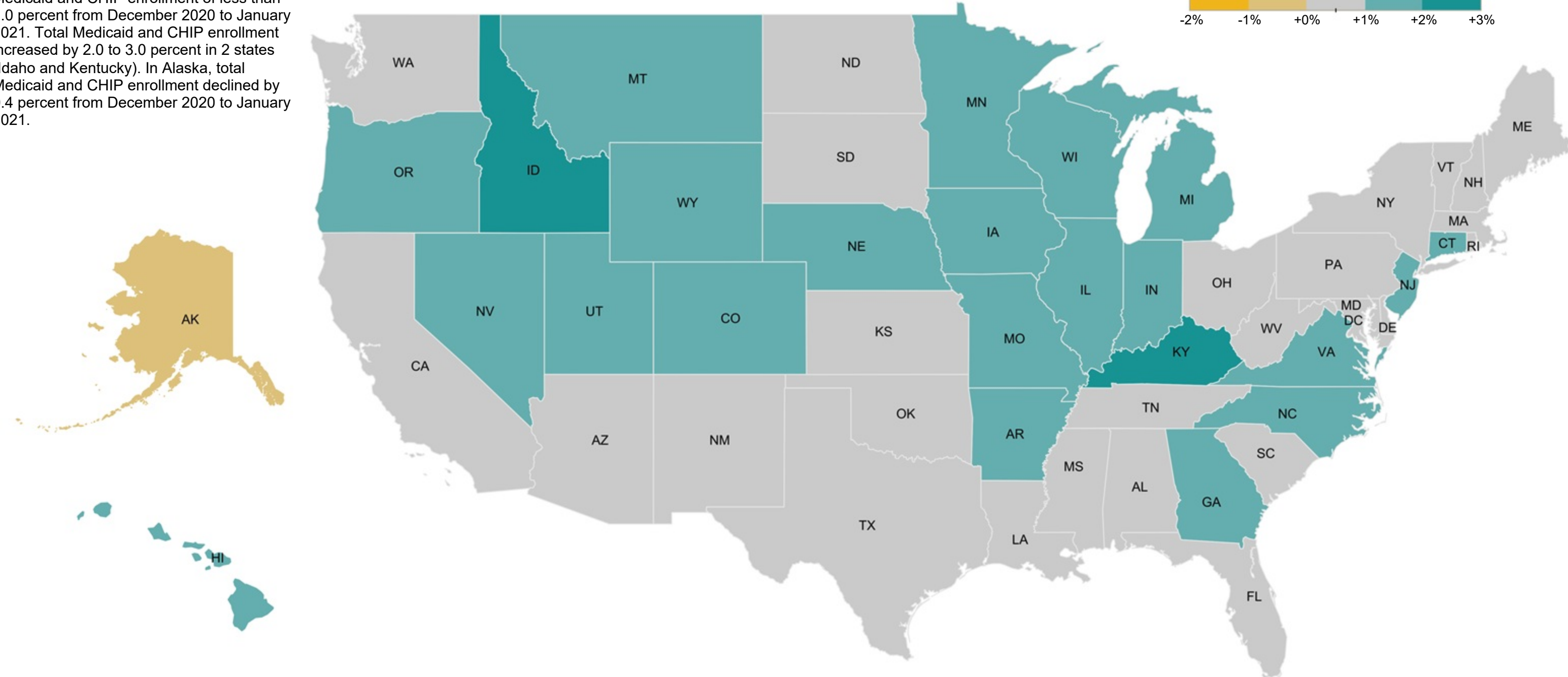
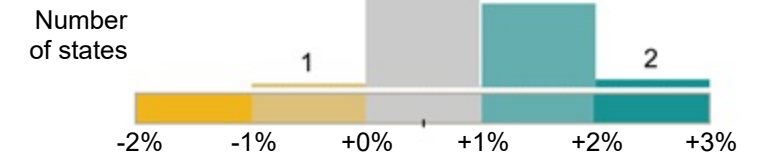
**Source:** Medicaid and CHIP Eligibility and Enrollment Performance Indicators as of April 20, 2021.  
**Note:** This analysis includes preliminary enrollment data from 50 states and the District of Columbia.



**Figure 4. Change in total Medicaid and CHIP enrollment, December 2020 to January 2021, CMS Performance Indicator Data**

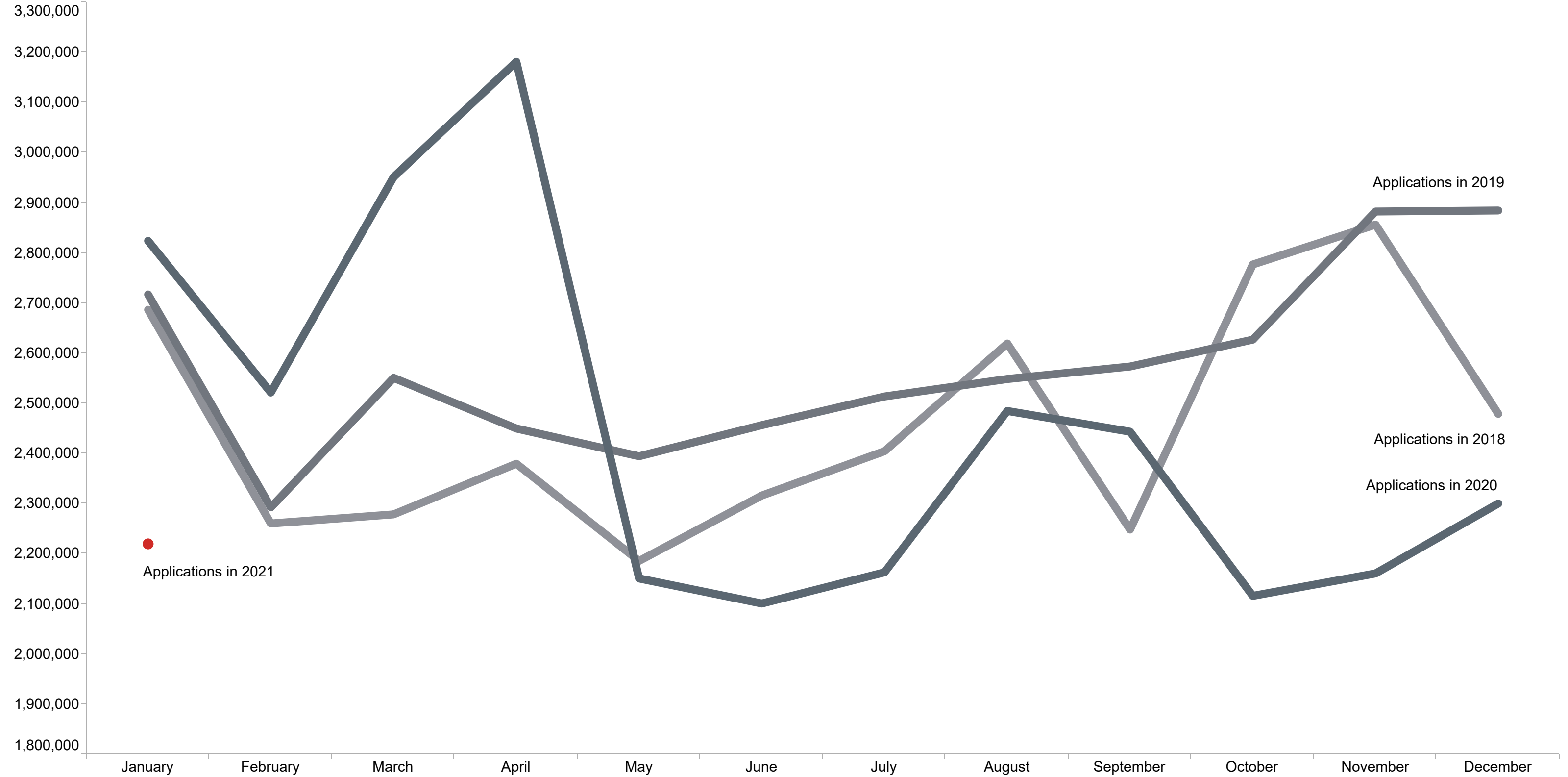
Between December 2020 and January 2021, total Medicaid and CHIP enrollment increased by 1.0 to 2.0 percent in 21 states and the District of Columbia. In 26 states, there were modest increases in total Medicaid and CHIP enrollment of less than 1.0 percent from December 2020 to January 2021. Total Medicaid and CHIP enrollment increased by 2.0 to 3.0 percent in 2 states (Idaho and Kentucky). In Alaska, total Medicaid and CHIP enrollment declined by 0.4 percent from December 2020 to January 2021.

**Percentage change in Medicaid and CHIP enrollment**



**Source:** Medicaid and CHIP Eligibility and Enrollment Performance Indicators as of April 20, 2021.  
**Note:** This analysis includes preliminary enrollment data from 50 states and the District of Columbia.

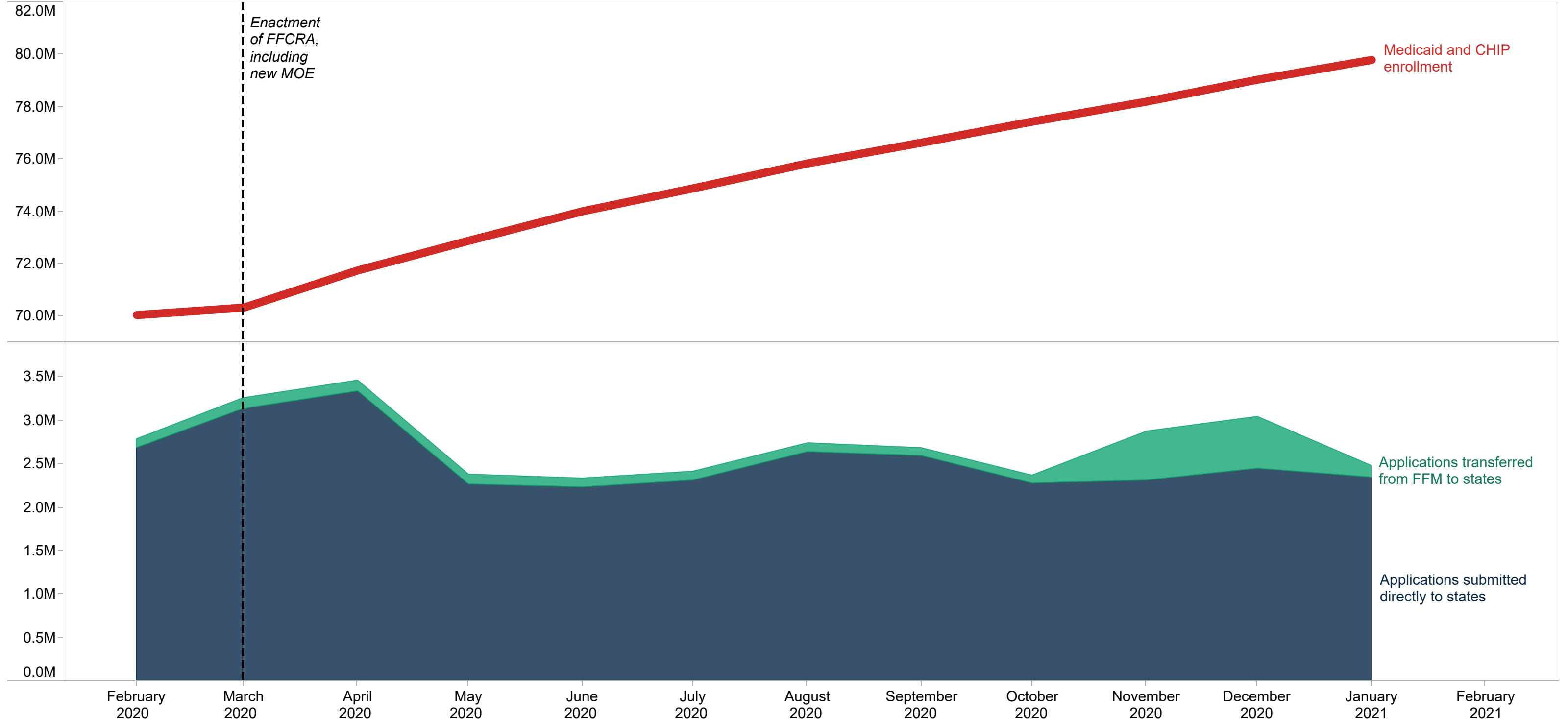
**Figure 5. National Medicaid and CHIP applications submitted directly to states from 2018 to 2021, CMS Performance Indicator Data**



**Source:** Medicaid and CHIP Eligibility and Enrollment Performance Indicators as of April 20, 2021.  
**Note:** Applications submitted directly to states include applications received by any state agency with the authority to make Medicaid or CHIP eligibility determinations, including the Medicaid agency, a separate CHIP agency, or a state-based marketplace. Applications transferred from the FFM are not included. This analysis includes preliminary applications data from 44 states and the District of Columbia. Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Kansas, Maine, and Tennessee are excluded because these states did not report applications data for one or more months between January 2018 and January 2021.



**Figure 6. Comparison of Medicaid and CHIP enrollment with the number of applications received, February 2020 to January 2021, CMS Performance Indicator Data**



**Source:** Medicaid and CHIP Eligibility and Enrollment Performance Indicators as of April 20, 2021.

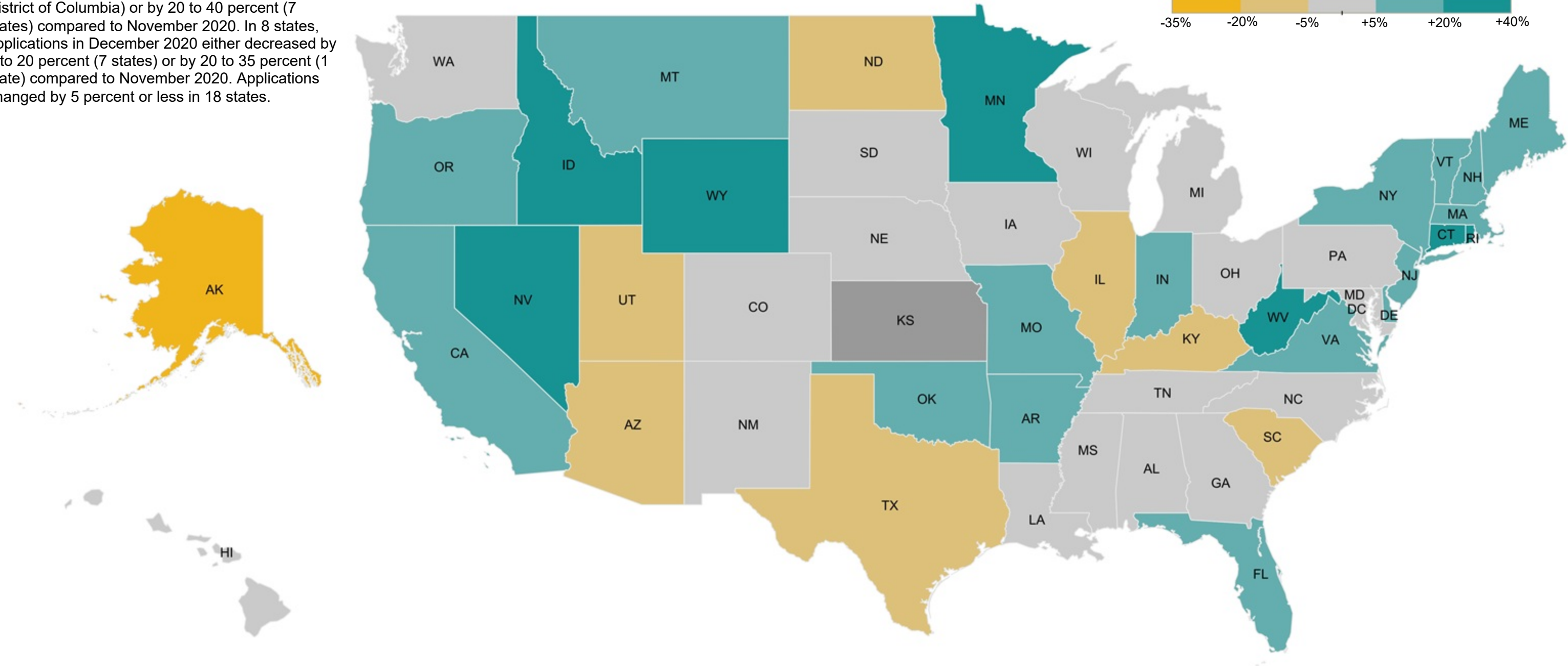
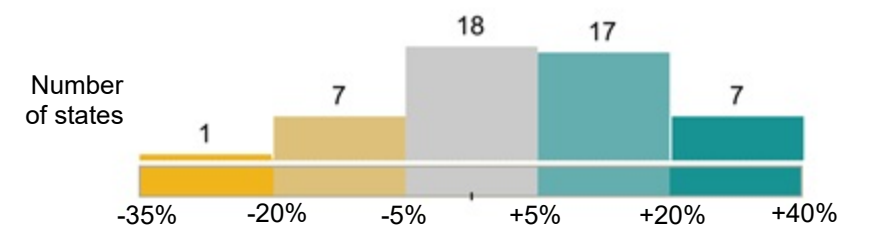
**Note:** Applications submitted directly to states include applications received by any state agency with the authority to make Medicaid or CHIP eligibility determinations, including the Medicaid agency, a separate CHIP agency, or a state-based marketplace. Applications transferred from the FFM to states include any assessed or determined account transfers received by states from the FFM for Medicaid or CHIP. This analysis includes preliminary enrollment, applications, and account transfer data from 48 states and the District of Columbia. Kansas and Maine did not report applications data for one or more months between February 2020 and January 2021, and so are excluded from this analysis.

**Data quality:** Two states (Tennessee and Wyoming) that used the FFM for eligibility and enrollment functions for plan year 2020 did not report applications transferred from the FFM to the state for one or more months between February 2020 and October 2020. These two states are also using the FFM for plan year 2021 but did not report applications transferred from the FFM to the state for one or more months between November 2020 and January 2021. Nevada transitioned to a state-based marketplace for plan year 2020, but unexpectedly reported 2,245 applications transferred from the FFM to the state in January 2021. New Jersey and Pennsylvania transitioned to state-based marketplaces for plan year 2021; as of April 20, 2021, both states are working with CMS to report their data correctly before and after the transition. These five states are retained in the analysis despite these concerns about data quality.

**Figure 7. Change in Medicaid and CHIP applications submitted directly to states, November 2020 to December 2020, CMS Performance Indicator Data**

**Nationally, the number of Medicaid and CHIP applications submitted directly to states was about 6 percent higher in December 2020 compared to November 2020.** In 23 states and the District of Columbia, applications either increased by 5 to 20 percent (16 states and the District of Columbia) or by 20 to 40 percent (7 states) compared to November 2020. In 8 states, applications in December 2020 either decreased by 5 to 20 percent (7 states) or by 20 to 35 percent (1 state) compared to November 2020. Applications changed by 5 percent or less in 18 states.

**Percentage change in Medicaid and CHIP applications**

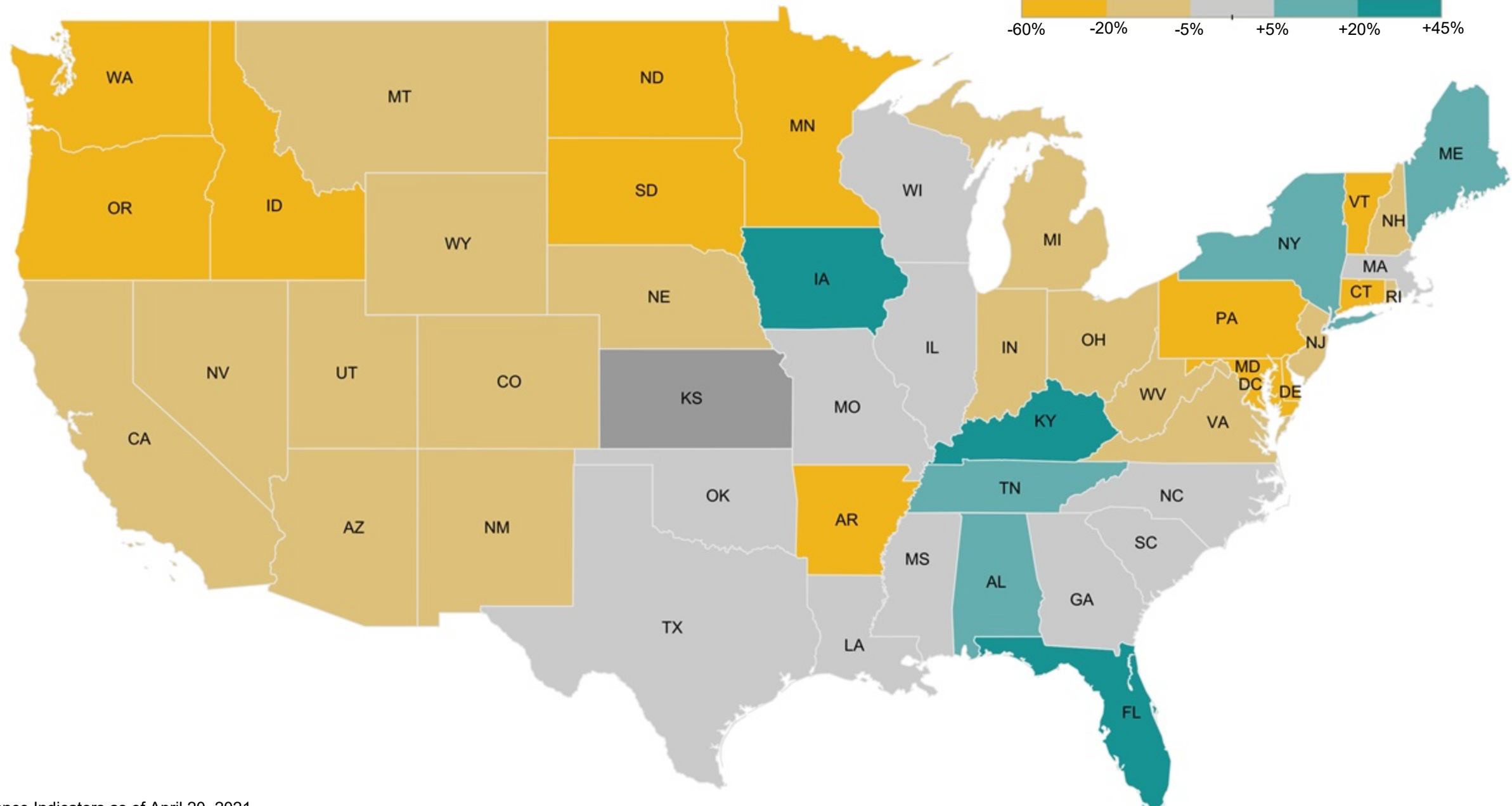
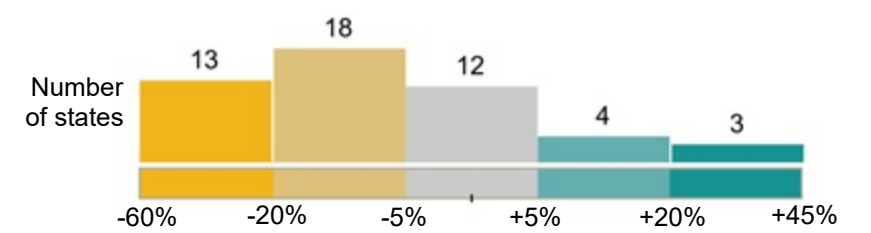


**Source:** Medicaid and CHIP Eligibility and Enrollment Performance Indicators as of April 20, 2021.  
**Note:** Applications submitted directly to states include applications received by any state agency with the authority to make Medicaid or CHIP eligibility determinations, including the Medicaid agency, a separate CHIP agency, or a state-based marketplace. Applications transferred from the FFM are not included. This analysis includes preliminary applications data from 49 states and the District of Columbia. Kansas is excluded because the state did not report applications data for November 2020 and December 2020.

**Figure 8. Change in Medicaid and CHIP applications submitted directly to states, December 2020 to January 2021, CMS Performance Indicator Data**

**Nationally, the number of Medicaid and CHIP applications submitted directly to states was about 4 percent lower in January 2021 compared to December 2020.** In 30 states and the District of Columbia, applications in January 2021 either decreased by 5 to 20 percent (18 states) or by 20 to 60 percent (12 states and the District of Columbia) compared to December 2020. In 7 states, applications either increased by 5 to 20 percent (4 states) or by 20 to 45 percent (3 states) compared to December 2020. Applications changed by 5 percent or less in 12 states.

**Percentage change in Medicaid and CHIP applications**



**Source:** Medicaid and CHIP Eligibility and Enrollment Performance Indicators as of April 20, 2021.

**Note:** Applications submitted directly to states include applications received by any state agency with the authority to make Medicaid or CHIP eligibility determinations, including the Medicaid agency, a separate CHIP agency, or a state-based marketplace. Applications transferred from the FFM are not included. This analysis includes preliminary applications data from 49 states and the District of Columbia. Kansas is excluded because the state did not report applications data for December 2020 and January 2021.

**Data quality:** In the District of Columbia and Minnesota, applications decreased by 50 to 60 percent from December 2020 to January 2021. The District of Columbia attributed its apparent 55-percent drop in applications to a correction to its reporting methodology to remove applications that were being double-counted. As of April 27, 2021, the District of Columbia is investigating when this issue began; its data from January 2021 forward are not comparable to its earlier data. Minnesota confirmed its 52-percent decrease in applications was due to the end of open enrollment, and also receiving fewer applications from not conducting renewals during the public health emergency.

# Appendices

**Appendix A. National Medicaid and CHIP enrollment, December 2019 to January 2021**

Date	Medicaid and CHIP enrollment	Medicaid enrollment	CHIP enrollment
December 2019	70,626,835	64,000,680	6,626,155
January 2020	70,739,195	64,098,670	6,640,525
February 2020	70,687,860	64,027,737	6,660,123
March 2020	70,976,240	64,281,892	6,694,348
April 2020	72,418,165	65,677,618	6,740,547
May 2020	73,559,217	66,853,058	6,706,159
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September 2020	77,352,266	70,633,733	6,718,533
October 2020	78,163,979	71,411,134	6,752,845
November 2020	78,938,471	72,166,966	6,771,505
December 2020	79,782,581	72,995,197	6,787,384
January 2021	80,543,351	73,759,632	6,783,719

**Source:** Medicaid and CHIP Eligibility and Enrollment Performance Indicators as of April 20, 2021.  
**Note:** This table summarizes Medicaid and CHIP enrollment since December 2019. This table is provided as a supplement to Figure 1, and includes preliminary enrollment data from 50 states and the District of Columbia.

**Appendix B. National adult and child enrollment in Medicaid and CHIP, December 2019 to January 2021**

Date	Adult Medicaid enrollment	Child Medicaid and CHIP enrollment	Child Medicaid enrollment	Child CHIP enrollment
December 2019	33,870,983	35,047,779	28,519,074	6,528,705
January 2020	33,995,955	35,040,608	28,496,798	6,543,810
February 2020	33,956,090	35,025,981	28,463,375	6,562,606
March 2020	34,034,610	35,194,886	28,601,431	6,593,455
April 2020	35,028,350	35,608,582	28,969,156	6,639,426
May 2020	35,709,894	36,031,961	29,428,694	6,603,267
June 2020	36,416,510	36,443,254	29,864,735	6,578,519
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November 2020	39,099,406	37,896,263	31,242,079	6,654,184
December 2020	39,690,199	38,129,375	31,461,546	6,667,829
January 2021	40,220,508	38,341,034	31,678,738	6,662,296

**Source:** Medicaid and CHIP Eligibility and Enrollment Performance Indicators as of April 20, 2021.  
**Note:** This table summarizes adult and child enrollment in Medicaid and CHIP since December 2019. This table is provided as a supplement to Figure 2, and includes preliminary enrollment data from 49 states and the District of Columbia. Arizona is excluded from both Figure 2 and Appendix B because the state did not report the breakouts for adult and child enrollment between February 2020 and January 2021.