

New Jersey's Obamacare marketplace sees enrollment dip

By: Daniel Han | 04/21/2026 11:13 AM EDT

New Jersey's health insurance exchange is seeing a 14 percent dip in enrollment as customers ditch their health plans with rising premiums, the Sherrill administration announced on Tuesday.

Enrollment in Get Covered New Jersey, the state's health insurance exchange under the Affordable Care Act, is now at 440,362 as of April 15 — a 68,830 drop in enrollment since the end of the most recent open enrollment period. State officials previously said they expected to see a larger drop in enrollment in the spring, since customers with insurance purchased through the exchange would see the price of increased premiums.

Enhanced federal subsidies for health plans on Affordable Care Act state exchanges expired at the end of 2025, since Congress declined to renew the Biden-era enhanced subsidies. The debate over whether to renew the health insurance tax credits led to the nation's longest government shutdown, although Democrats were ultimately unsuccessful in efforts to renew the subsidies.

In a statement, Gov. Mikie Sherrill indirectly blamed GOP officials in Washington for the increased premium costs. Her budget proposal does not include expanding the state's premium subsidy for health plans.

"Across the board, we are seeing costs skyrocket for New Jersey families as a direct result of the federal government's mismanagement," Sherrill said. "While New Jersey is committed to addressing health care costs, Washington has chosen to drive up health insurance prices, resulting in more New Jerseyans losing coverage."

Customers are also downgrading their plans. Marketplace plans are generally described as being in "metal levels" which corresponds to how generous the coverage is; the Department of Banking and Insurance said that enrollment in silver plans dropped while enrollment in bronze plans increased. (Eighty-three percent of insurance shoppers chose silver plans in 2024, although that is now 68 percent in 2026).

The state provides subsidies for health plans on the Obamacare exchange, although they are much smaller compared to the federal subsidies. In [budget documents last year](#), the Department of Banking and Insurance estimated that the federal government provided \$2.95 billion in subsidies in the 2025 plan year for health plan premiums while the state provided \$229 million. Over approximately \$500 million of the federal subsidy was from enhanced credits that now expired.