

Medicaid Unwinding: AI/AN Impact

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BACKGROUND

CMS requested that NIHB provide estimates on the number of American Indian/Alaska Natives disenrolled from Medicaid as a result of unwinding.

DATA SOURCES

All data used in this presentation were updated as of September 5, 2023. Please note that the availability of unwinding data varies by state due to differences in reporting and unwinding timelines. We used the following sources of data for our calculations:

1. 2021 American Community Survey (ACS)
2. Kaiser Family Foundation (KFF) Medicaid Enrollment and Unwinding Tracker
3. State Medicaid Enrollment Data
4. State Medicaid Unwinding Data

METHODS

We used two methods to calculate estimates for the number of AI/ANs disenrolled from Medicaid:

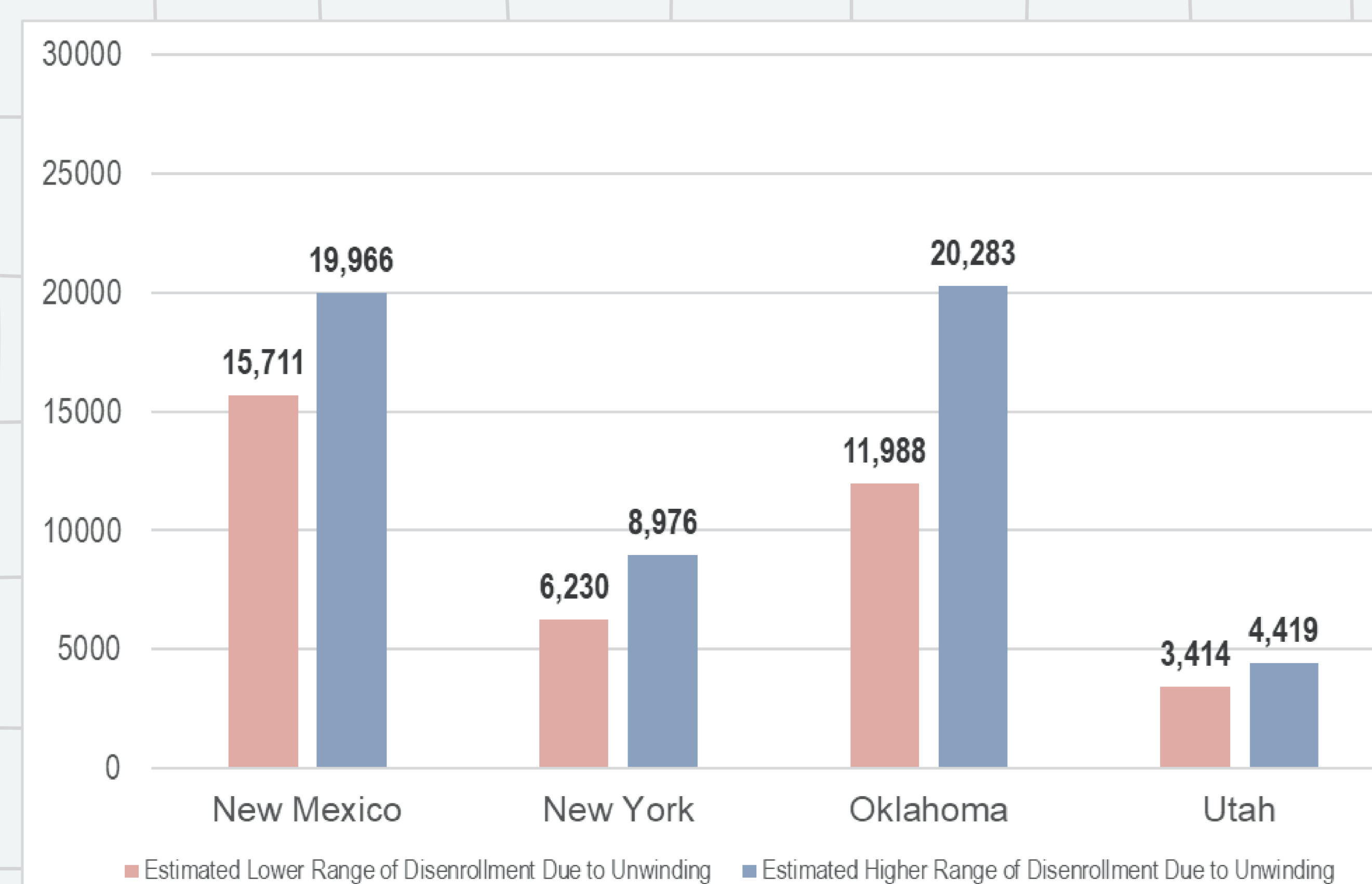
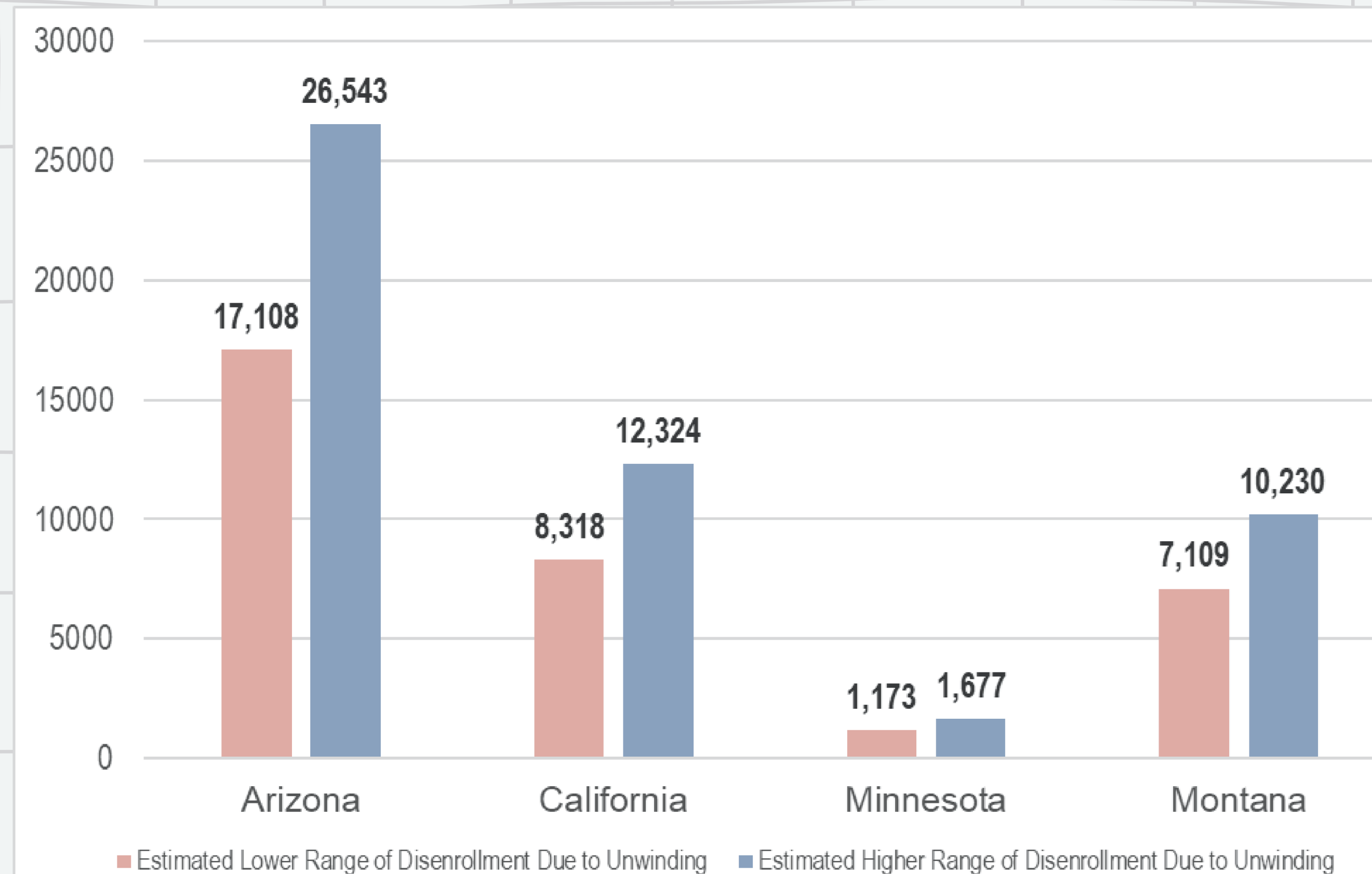
Method #1: Multiplying the number of Medicaid disenrollments (KFF) by AI/AN Medicaid enrollment rates in 2021 (ACS).

AI/AN Medicaid enrollment rates in 2021 were calculated by dividing the number of AI/AN enrolled in Medicaid by the total number enrolled in Medicaid in 2021.

Method #2: Multiplying Medicaid disenrollment rates by the number of AI/AN enrolled in Medicaid in 2021 (ACS).

Medicaid disenrollment rates were calculated by dividing the number of Medicaid disenrollments by total number of Medicaid enrollments. Data on total number of Medicaid enrollments for each state were from the month prior to when unwinding began in that state.

POTENTIAL AI/AN MEDICAID DISENROLLMENT ESTIMATES BY STATE



DATA LIMITATIONS

The following limitations should be kept in mind when reviewing and applying the results of our data analysis:

- 2021 ACS data undercounts Medicaid enrollment.
- Availability of disenrollment data varies by state.
- States are all on different unwinding trajectories, and the process of renewal may change over time in different ways for each state.
- The estimates represent potential Medicaid unwinding numbers for American Indian/Alaska Natives at the time of the data analysis. We acknowledge that the data is constantly changing and updating.
- We are unable to determine the proportion of American Indian/Alaska Natives on Medicaid that have been disenrolled, relative to the overall population and other racial/ethnic groups.

CONCLUSION

Currently, there is no way to calculate the exact impact of Medicaid unwinding on Indian Country. More importantly, we are not able to estimate the disproportionate effects of unwinding on Tribes. Tribal Nations continue to urge CMS to require states to share data on AI/AN enrollment in Medicaid.

REFERENCES

Kaiser Family Foundation. (2023, September 5). Medicaid Enrollment and Unwinding Tracker. Retrieved September 5, 2023 from <https://www.kff.org/medicaid/issue-brief/medicaid-enrollment-and-unwinding-tracker/>

United States Census Bureau. (2023). ACS 1-Year Estimates Public Use Microdata Sample, Vintage 2021. <https://data.census.gov/mdat/#/>

To view the full presentation and all references, please scan the QR code to the right with your phone.

