

Medicaid cuts hurt unpaid caregivers. More of them will leave Wisconsin's workforce.



Working unpaid caregivers are stretched to the limit, filling care gaps when there are no paid workers to hire, or no one shows up.

Statewide surveys show the paid care worker shortage is impacting Wisconsin families and workforce now. Medicaid cuts will make it worse. Medicaid pays for most long-term care and the salaries of paid care workers.

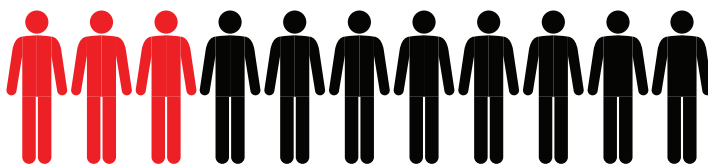
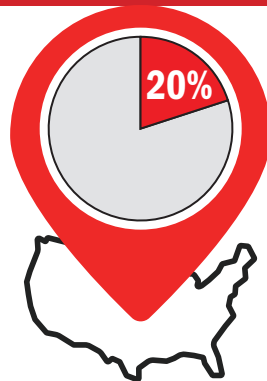
Full-time caregiving is a main reason why adults aren't working

IMPACT ON WORKERS

53 million

US adults care for a spouse, elderly parent or relative, or special-needs child ...

▶ **that's 20% of adults in the US**



34 M working unpaid caregivers

← U.S. Labor Force 171 M →

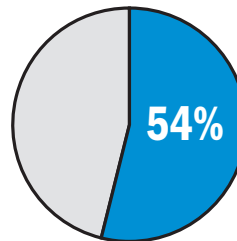
Annually, employees who leave jobs lose up to

\$3 trillion

in wages and benefits



COST TO EMPLOYERS



More than half the workforce will be an unpaid caregiver during their career.



Annually, employers lose **\$17-33 billion** to absence and turnover.

When caregiving employees drop out of the workforce, it can cost **6-9 months' worth of salary** to recruit and train a replacement worker.



To provide care, many unpaid caregivers already leave the workforce, reduce hours, and pass on promotions.

When unpaid caregivers leave jobs to provide care, Wisconsin loses tax revenue.



Employers and communities lose expertise and service capacity.



Unpaid caregivers lose income and retirement security.

Current unpaid family caregivers:

80%

spend most of their time providing care, coordinating care, or filling in for missing care workers.

66%

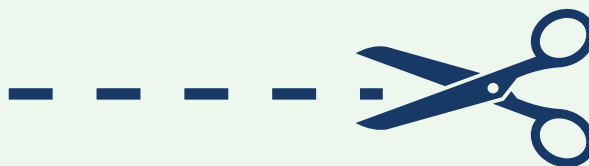
say family finances are negatively impacted

50%

leave their jobs or reduce hours to provide care because there are no care workers to hire.

Medicaid cuts will mean

- Less money for states to provide care.
- Any less help means more Wisconsin caregivers leave the workforce.
- When unpaid caregivers leave jobs it means less family income, less retirement savings, more expenses, and impacts health insurance.



What does it mean for unpaid caregivers when they leave the workforce?



- **\$432,000** in lost income over 10 years
- **\$56,000** in lost contributions in Social Security over 10 years
- **\$74,000** increased out of pocket expenses over 10 years
- **Total impact on one individual is \$563,000**

55 year old employee with average income (\$43K per year) leaving the workforce and providing care for 10 years loses.

Sources for this fact sheet can be accessed [here](#)