

Republicans Push “Junk” Insurance Plans During Open Enrollment

Republicans are finding new ways to attack health care for millions of Americans. During the current open enrollment period, Republicans are pushing the sale and marketing of short-term “junk” insurance plans that do not cover pre-existing conditions, maternity care, or behavioral health.

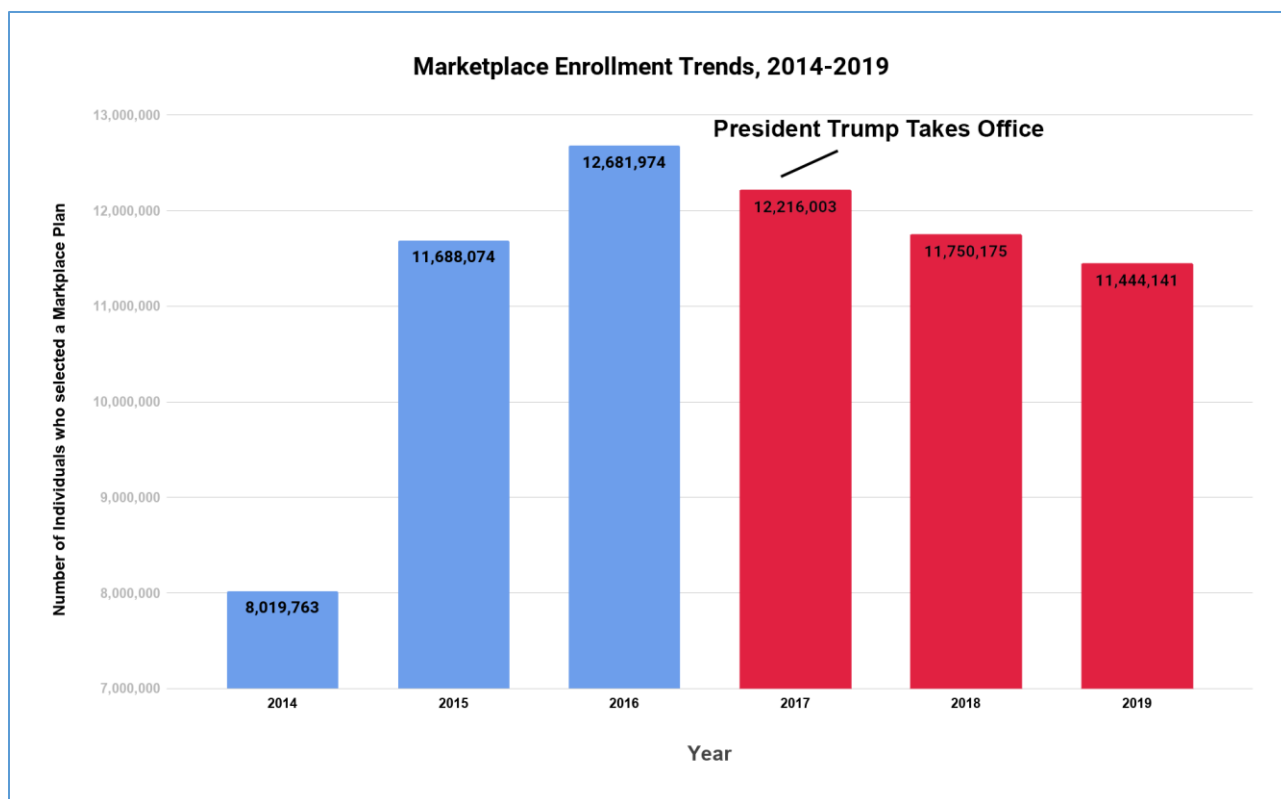
The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) is using agency funding to promote private insurance brokers who sell insurance to consumers looking for ACA-compliant plans. Brokers receive commissions for enrolling customers in health insurance plans – commissions that are up to [four times higher](#) if the plan is a junk plan.

Trump and Republicans Continue Sabotaging Health Care Enrollment

The Trump Administration has pulled out all the stops in sabotaging health care enrollment for consumers shopping for insurance in the 38 states that use the federal marketplace.

Enrollment Numbers are Significantly Lower

The number of people signed up for health insurance through open enrollment has decreased every year President Trump has been in office. From 2017 to 2019, [hundreds of thousands](#) fewer people have purchased health insurance. Additionally, numbers for the current 2020 enrollment season for the first two weeks are [down 20%](#) compared to last year. Click [here](#) for a more detailed look at open enrollment.



([Source](#))

Nearly Eliminating Funding for Health Care Navigators

The Trump Administration wasted no time severely crippling funding for nonprofit health care navigator groups that help people shop and sign up for coverage. Since 2016, the Trump Administration has cut funding for navigators by **84%**. Additionally, they removed a rule requiring at least two local navigator groups to provide services, leaving some areas without any assistance. Find out [here](#) how much funding your state has lost.

There is no federally funded navigator in one-third of the 2,400 counties served by HealthCare.gov.

Significantly Slashing Budget for Health Care Advertising

Consumers depend on various media advertising to spread the word on open enrollment to ensure they know when to sign up. On his first day in office, President Trump signed an executive order to completely gut open enrollment advertisement funding for 2017, resulting in hundreds of thousands fewer people gaining coverage. In the same year, **he slashed advertisement funding by 90%**, which stopped an estimated 1.1 million people from getting health coverage in 2017. The funding has never been restored.

Reducing the Time to Sign Up for Coverage

One of President Trump's first actions as president was to drastically reduce the open enrollment period for consumers. The Administration halved the time available to sign up for health care, moving the end date from January 31 to December 15.