



The Department of Health Care Policy and Financing

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Did you know?

- 60% of Medicaid clients are children under age 20
- 15% of Medicaid clients speak Spanish at home
- 58% of adult Medicaid clients are women
- 17% of Medicaid clients are classified as aged and disabled
- 85% of the Medicaid population in Colorado lives in urban settings

Medicaid Clients in Colorado

The Department of Health Care Policy and Financing is committed to ensuring that the Coloradans we serve have integrated health care and enjoy physical, mental and social well-being. This profile of Colorado Medicaid clients is intended to give a snapshot of the diverse individuals, groups and communities that are served by the program. This report is a demographic profile of the people that received health care benefits through the Medicaid program in 2012.

In the past year, the Medicaid program paid for health care services for approximately 681,500 Colorado residents.

Through health care reform, this number has grown to include a larger number of people. The program now covers more children and families living in poverty. Medicaid families come from a variety of backgrounds and face unique challenges. Most Medicaid clients do not stay on the program for long periods of time. For example, there are children and families who cycle on and off the program. Elderly and/or disabled clients tend to stay on Medicaid for longer periods of time.

Economic Profile

There are a variety of different ways for people to qualify for Medicaid benefits. In general, individuals and families qualify based on federal poverty guidelines. Eligibility is determined in a careful application process.

Federal poverty levels for 2013 are shown in this table. Based on different categories of eligibility, families receive benefits if their annual income falls within these ranges. For people with disabilities, there are programs that allow for higher income limits.

To qualify for...	Your annual income cannot exceed...
Medicaid: Children	\$31,332 for a family of 4
Medicaid: Pregnant Women	\$43,572 for a family of 4
Medicaid: Parents	\$23,556 for a family of 4
Medicaid: Elderly and Disabled	\$8,520 for an individual
Medicaid: Long-Term Services and Supports	\$25,560 for an individual
Medicaid: Adults without Dependent Children	\$1,150 for an individual
Medicaid: Buy-in Programs	Limits vary, please call our customer service line at 303-866-3513

Geographic Profile



Colorado Title XIX Medicaid Caseload State Fiscal Year 2011-2012

Includes Title XIX Medicaid caseload, eligible at least one day during the State fiscal year 2011-2012. Data was extracted from the client monthly tables in the Colorado MMIS DSS data warehouse based on caseload calculation methodology. County categorization is based on the county listed on the client's address at the time of eligibility. Clients are distinct within counties but not across multiple counties.

Unique Medicaid clients represented in map: 800,497
Average number of Medicaid clients per month during FY 2011-2012: 619,963*
(*FY 2013-2014 Budget request B47)



Department of Health Care Policy and Financing
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Many individuals and families on Medicaid tend to move frequently. Maintaining contact information for follow-up can be a challenge.

Of the Medicaid clients in Colorado in 2012, 15% lived in rural areas, and 85% lived in cities with populations above 100,000.

Age Profile

A large majority of Medicaid clients (60%) are children and adolescents under the age of 20;

32% of Medicaid clients fall between the ages of 21-64, and 8% are over 65 years old.

Many of the adults on Medicaid fall into a category called “elderly and/or disabled”; this is 18% of Medicaid clients. These clients are over 65 years old, are functionally impaired, or both. Many need long-term services and daily support. A large proportion of the Medicaid budget (61%) pays for the care of this population.

Medicaid clients who are disabled may have physical, mental, or developmental disabilities. Of this group, some live in long-term care facilities, and others are cared for through community-based services. The Medicaid program helps clients find ways to stay in home based care, with community-based support.



“My daughter is a quadriplegic with Cerebral Palsy and a severe seizure disorder. She became active on the Children’s Extensive Services Waiver when she was eight years old; she has 10 hours a day with a nurse via a Home Health Agency. She has an amazing life. I have an amazing life being her mother. Most important, my daughter has a life she loves.” Parent of a Medicaid child, Colorado Springs

Gender Profile

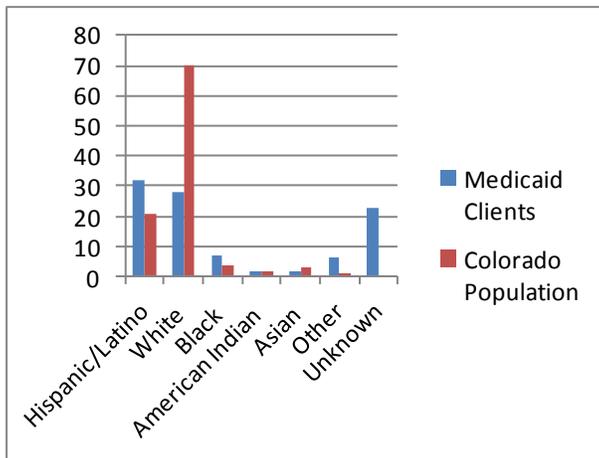


There are more women on Medicaid than men. Close to 58% of adult Medicaid clients are female; 42% are male. Many of the women who are on Medicaid qualify for services for a fairly short time during pregnancy. Health care services during the prenatal period may help to improve birth outcomes for newborns.

“I just had my first baby, and Medicaid helps me with my son’s doctor’s appointments and with his medications.” New mom, Denver

Close to 36% of the births in Colorado are to mothers who are on Medicaid during their pregnancies. Mothers on Medicaid show birth outcomes that are similar to the general population in terms of infant birth weight, appropriate maternal weight gain, use of alcohol during pregnancy, and follow up for well baby check-ups.

Racial/ Ethnic Profile



There are many clients (23%) who do not identify their race or ethnicity on their application. The race or ethnicity of a quarter of the Colorado Medicaid population is not known.

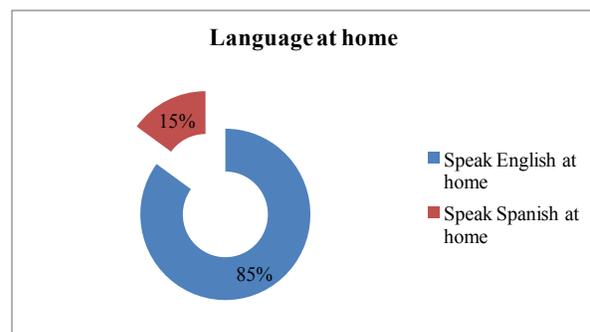
For those who do report their ethnicity:

33% identify as Hispanic/Latino

28% identify as Caucasian

7% identify as African American or Black

2% identify as Asian, 1% as American Indian, 5% as “other.”



Families who report speaking Spanish at home make up 15% of the Medicaid population in Colorado.



The Department administers the Medicaid and Child Health Plan Plus programs as well as a variety of other programs for Colorado’s low-income families, the elderly and persons with disabilities. Information for this report is drawn from our Management Information System and budget reports. For further information contact Lisa.Waugh@state.co.us or call 303-866-2029.