

# Florida Update

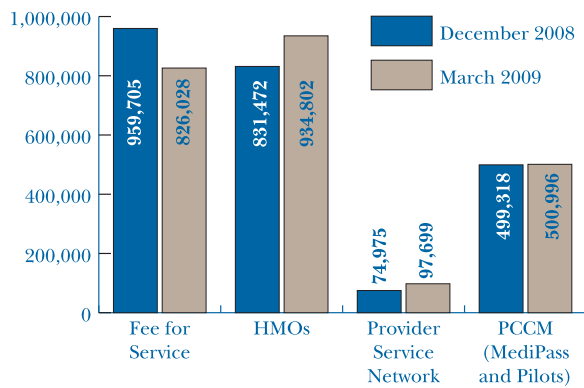
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## Current Florida Medicaid Enrollment

Currently, there are 2,359,525 Medicaid recipients in Florida. This represents a slight decrease of less than one percent from the December 2008 enrollment level. Enrollment in Florida's Medicaid Managed Care

### Florida Medicaid Enrollment



programs realized an increase of 9 percent during this same time period (65 percent of Medicaid recipients are enrolled in a managed care program as of March 2009). The remaining 35 percent of the population remain in Fee-For-Service Medicaid (FFS). These FFS recipients are primarily beneficiaries who are not eligible for managed care enrollment. The number of Medicaid fee for service recipients in March 2009 declined by almost 14 percent from the December 2008 level.

The increased enrollment levels realized in Managed Care resulted predominantly from an increase in HMO

and Provider Service Network enrollments. As of March 2009, HMO enrollments increased over 12 percent from the December 2008 levels; as of March 2009, 61 percent of recipients enrolled in Medicaid managed care were enrolled in an HMO. These recipients are distributed across 17 HMOs that enroll Medicaid recipients throughout Florida, and include recipients enrolled in 'Medicaid Reform' counties. Additional information, by plan and Florida county, is provided in the inserts enclosed in this newsletter.

Florida's Provider Service Networks (PSNs) enrolled approximately 6 percent of Florida Medicaid's managed care population in March 2009 (97,699 recipients). As of March 2009, PSN enrollments increased over 30 percent from the December 2008 levels. These plans also operate in the 'reform counties' with the HMOs. As of March 2009, there are six PSNs operating in Florida (see below).

The remaining 33 percent of the Florida Medicaid managed care recipients (500,996 recipients) are enrolled in Florida's Primary Care Case Management Programs (PCCM). Florida's PCCM consists of 4 distinct programs: MediPass (which includes children enrolled in Children's Medical Services), Access Health Solutions, Netpass, and Pediatric Associates. As of March 2009, approximately 83 percent of the PCCM population were enrolled in MediPass; 11 percent were in Access Health Solutions; 5 percent were in NetPass; and 2 percent were in Pediatric Associates.

The listing of Florida Medicaid HMOs and other information is updated by the Agency for Health Care Administration, Bureau of Managed Health Care. To find the latest listing with contact information, go to: [www.fdhc.state.fl.us/MCHQ/Managed\\_Health\\_Care/MHMO/index.shtml](http://www.fdhc.state.fl.us/MCHQ/Managed_Health_Care/MHMO/index.shtml).

Provider Service Network	Number of Recipients March 2009	Number of Recipients December 2008
Access Health Solutions	35,144	21,258
Prestige (New PSN, enrollments as of 12/08)	9,882	3
CMS	4,840	4,486
NetPass	6,940	5,138
Pediatric Associates	0	9,254
SFCCN	18,942	16,334
Shands/Jax DBA First Coast Advantage	21,951	18,502

## Health Insurance Coverage for Children

The Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured released several reports in January, 2009 on the subject of health insurance coverage for the nation's children. The reports address the challenges associated with providing coverage during poor economic times and the role of Medicaid and SCHIP in assuring access to health care for children. One of the reports, *Health Insurance Coverage of America's Children*, provides state-specific statistics on the rate of health insurance coverage. The report shows that in 2007, 19.5 percent of Florida's 4.3 million children under age 19 did not have health insurance coverage. This compares to a national average of 11.7 percent. Only Texas, with a rate of 21.8 percent had a higher uninsured children's rate.

It is estimated that 43.6 percent of Florida's children – about 1.9 million – live in families with income below 200 percent of the Federal Poverty Rate. While coverage is available through Florida KidCare, the report finds that more than 31 percent of these children are uninsured, a considerably higher rate than for children in higher income families.

The referenced report is available on the Kaiser Family Foundation's web site at:

[www.kff.org/uninsured/upload/7609\\_02.pdf](http://www.kff.org/uninsured/upload/7609_02.pdf).

Other related reports are available at:

[www.kff.org/medicaid/kcmu012309pkg.cfm](http://www.kff.org/medicaid/kcmu012309pkg.cfm).

## CHIPRA

On February 4, 2009, President Barack Obama signed the Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009 (CHIPRA) into law, reauthorizing and extending the State Children's Health Insurance Program (now referred to as CHIP) through September 30, 2013; CHIP was to expire March 31, 2009. Several provisions will impact access to health care through Florida KidCare. CHIPRA:

- Eliminates the previous five-year waiting period for documented immigrant children and pregnant women to be eligible for coverage and allows states to verify eligibility through matches with federal records rather than requiring documents proving citizenship;
- Requires states to offer dental care for the Healthy Kids program;

- Requires mental health parity coverage;
- Requires reimbursement for Federally Qualified Health Centers and Rural Health Clinics for the Healthy Kids program; and
- Provides a 30 day grace period for non payment cancellation.

Florida is also reviewing the possibility and cost impact of several optional provisions of the law such as expanded coverage for pregnant women, coverage for legal immigrants, supplemental dental benefits, presumptive eligibility for pregnant women, express lane eligibility and increases in CHIP income level. (See article on the Social Services Estimating Impact Conference.)

The reauthorized program will increase CHIP spending by almost \$33 billion over the next four and a half years, with the added cost funded through a 61-cent-per-pack increase in the federal cigarette tax. Nationally, program expansion should result in coverage to an additional 4 million children by 2013. Under CHIPRA, Florida's allotment for FY 2009 increases 18% from \$303 million to \$358.4 million.

The day after President Obama signed CHIPRA he also issued a memorandum that lifted two CHIP-related policy directives from the Bush administration. The first directive had limited states' flexibility in expanding coverage under CHIP to children in higher-income families unless assurances were given that 95 percent of children in families with income below CHIP standards were already enrolled in the program. The second directive rescinded the requirement that children in families with income above 250 percent of the FPL be uninsured for at least one year before qualifying for CHIP coverage. Because these issues were not specifically addressed in CHIPRA, the stated purpose of President Obama's memorandum was to eliminate any potential confusion for states relative to the earlier directives.

## Florida KidCare

Total enrollment in Florida KidCare, the state's children's health insurance program for uninsured children under age 19 was 1,527,328 as of February 2009 (an increase of 14,255 since December 2008). Of this total, 216,337 children enrolled through Title XXI (CHIP) and 1,289,840 in Title XIX (Medicaid). The following web site will provide additional Florida KidCare data and enrollment trends: [www.floridakidcare.org/resources.html](http://www.floridakidcare.org/resources.html).

## KidCare Coordinating Council 2009 Annual Report

The Florida KidCare Coordinating Council is responsible for providing an annual report and recommendations for improving the Florida KidCare program. Council membership includes representatives from the Department of Health, the Department of Children and Families, the Agency for Health Care Administration, the Florida Healthy Kids Corporation, the Department of Insurance, local government, health insurance companies, health maintenance organizations, health care providers, families participating in the program, and organizations representing low-income families. The 2009 Annual Report and Recommendations can be found at: [www.floridakidcare.org/council.html](http://www.floridakidcare.org/council.html).

The next meeting of the Coordinating Council will be held in Tallahassee, Friday, May 8, 2009 from 1:00-4:00 pm at the Southwood Office Complex, Building 4025, Room 301.

## Florida's HMO Update

The Florida Office of Insurance Regulation compiles quarterly fiscal and enrollment data as reported by each HMO. Information contained in the "Managed Care Summary Report" has not been audited or independently verified. The Summary Report for the Second Quarter of 2008 (June 2008) includes asset and liability information by Carrier, premiums and other considerations by Carrier by Market Segment (Medicaid, Medicare, federal employees, and private coverage), and enrollment information by Carrier, by county, and by Carrier-by County for Healthy Kids, Medicaid Medicare, Federal Employees and private coverage.

This table compares performance reported Second Quarter 2008 with that reported Second Quarter 2007.

	June 2007	June 2008
Managed Care Organizations	38	39
MCOs Reporting Loss	5	10
Overall Net Income	\$591,143,185	\$320,511,987
Total Enrollment By Carrier	3,417,662	3,357,369
Medicare Enrollment By Carrier	664,170	639,816
Medicaid Enrollment By Carrier	727,678	818,550

For more information of Florida's HMOs visit [www.floir.com/mc/oir\\_mc\\_enroll\\_financial\\_summ.a.spx](http://www.floir.com/mc/oir_mc_enroll_financial_summ.a.spx). To view the full June 2008 Summary Report, go to: [www.floir.com/pdf/HMO2Q2008.pdf](http://www.floir.com/pdf/HMO2Q2008.pdf)

## Florida's Budget

On February 20, 2009, Governor Crist outlined his proposed \$66.5 billion budget and a number of legislative priorities for the 2009 Legislative session. According to the Governor's Press Office, the budget maintains the Governor's commitment to protecting Florida's communities and natural resources and providing health care access for Florida's most vulnerable citizens. The proposal includes recommendations for a portion of Florida's 3 year \$12.2 billion share of the federal stimulus dollars from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. The Governor's 2009-10 budget and legislative priorities include:

- \$294 million for the Medicaid Aged and Disabled Program to restore 12 months of Medicaid health care coverage for 13,000 elderly and disabled individuals.
- \$470 million for the Medically Needy Program to restore 12 months of Medicaid health care coverage for 21,000 individuals who have extremely high medical bills in relation their annual income.
- \$52 million for increased enrollment in the KidCare program to support an additional 46,000 children.

For more information or to view the proposed budget, go to: [www.thepeoplesbudget.state.fl.us](http://www.thepeoplesbudget.state.fl.us).

## Florida Revenue and Medicaid Projections

The Revenue Estimating Conference for the General Revenue Fund met March 13, 2009. In response to a weakening economy, the Revenue Estimating Conference reduced its estimate of General Revenue collections for Fiscal Year 2008-09 by \$1.1 billion or 4.9% below the estimate from November. Revenue estimates for Fiscal Year 2009-10 were reduced by \$2.3 billion or 10.6% from the November forecast.

The Social Services Estimating Conference met on February 13 to adopt a new Expenditure Forecast. The new forecast for Fiscal Year 2008-09 is \$677.3 million higher than the adjusted appropriation (adjusted due to special session reductions). The projected deficit for Fiscal Year 2009-10 is \$1.33 billion, prior to addressing Medically Needy and MEDS AD. While program expenditures for Fiscal Year 2009-10 were expected to decline from the elimination of the optional MEDS AD and Medically Needy eligibility categories, that will not happen

because states accepting stimulus funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act are not allowed to reduce eligibility standards. The added cost to restore Medically Needy and MEDS AD is \$897 million in addition to the \$1.33 billion projected deficit.

**Caseloads** have not been revisited by the Social Services Estimating Conference since January. At that time projections were 2.37 million for Fiscal Year 2008-09 and 2.58 million for Fiscal Year 2009-10.

The conference held **Impact** meetings on March 3 and 16 to estimate the effect of specified issues on the Fiscal Year 2009-10 Medicaid program and budget. The detailed report of these issues is available on the Internet.

More information on any of the conferences along with reports, minutes, work papers and projections are available on the Florida Legislature, Office of Economic and Demographic Research web site: <http://edr.state.fl.us/conferences.htm>.

## 2009 Legislature

March 3, 2009 was the opening day of the 2009 Session. The session ends May 1. More than 2000 bills have been filed. To follow chamber calendars for readings on bills of interest, official calendars are usually released each weekday after 5:30 p.m. The House calendar provides an overview of the week as well as specific agendas for two days. e.g. calendars released Friday evening will include agendas for the following Monday and Tuesday. The Senate calendar includes agendas for three days, e.g. calendars released Friday evening will include agendas for the following Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. Calendars can be found at,

House:

[www.myfloridahouse.gov/Sections/HouseCalendar/calendarsschedules.aspx](http://www.myfloridahouse.gov/Sections/HouseCalendar/calendarsschedules.aspx)

Senate:

[www.flsenate.gov/Session/index.cfm?Mode=Calendars&Submenu=2&Tab=session&CFID=69296000&CFTOKEN=72683198](http://www.flsenate.gov/Session/index.cfm?Mode=Calendars&Submenu=2&Tab=session&CFID=69296000&CFTOKEN=72683198)

## 2009 HHS Poverty Guidelines

Poverty guidelines issued each year in the Federal Register are a simplification of the federal poverty thresholds and are used for administrative purposes such as determining financial eligibility for certain federal programs. Poverty thresholds are updated each year by the Census Bureau and are used mainly for statistical purposes.

### The 2009 Poverty Guidelines for the 48 Contiguous States and the District of Columbia

Persons in Family	Poverty Guideline
1	\$10,830
2	\$14,570
3	\$18,310
4	\$22,050
5	\$25,790
6	\$29,530
7	\$33,270
8	\$37,010
For families with more than 8 persons, add \$3,740 for each additional person.	

For more details and information including an explanation of the difference between poverty thresholds and poverty guidelines and a link to the January 23, 2009 Federal Register notice, go to: <http://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty/09poverty.shtml>

## American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009

The ARRA was signed by President Obama on February 17. This act provides \$787 billion in funding for a wide range of programs. Approximately \$225 billion of this total amount comes to states or flows through state government for projects such as highways and bridges, clean water, weatherization, etc. More than \$12 billion may flow through Florida state government in the next few years. \$363 million has already been drawn down in Medicaid matching funds for the last quarter of 2008 with a request for an additional \$412 million submitted for the first quarter of 2009. For up-to-date information on the Act, news announcements, and to read the full document, go to: [www.recovery.gov](http://www.recovery.gov).

Many states have already established their own recovery web pages to help explain how they are spending funds allocated by the Recovery Act. To find a state's web site, click on the link for State Progress and Resources: [www.recovery.gov/?q=content/state-recovery-page](http://www.recovery.gov/?q=content/state-recovery-page).

On March 18, 2009, Vice President Joe Biden announced the release of nearly \$100 million in Recovery Act funding to support senior nutrition programs. The funding is expected to provide nearly 14 million meals nationwide. Florida's share of the funding is more than \$7 million with \$ 4.8 million for congregate nutrition and nearly \$2.4 million for home delivery. For more information and a breakdown of funding by state, go to: [www.aoa.gov](http://www.aoa.gov).

## Administration on Aging Budget

Prior to the announcement by the Vice President, Edwin L. Walker, Acting Assistant Secretary for Aging reported that the Administration on Aging's (AoA) budget for FY 2009 is nearly \$78 million above last year's level. The budget was part of the Omnibus Appropriations Act of 2009 signed into law by President Barack Obama on March 11, 2009.

The budget, which totals \$1,491,343,000, contains an increase of \$10 million for Home and Community-Based Services. Modest increases have been included for Native American programs, programs that support family caregivers, long-term care nursing home ombudsman programs, senior legal hotlines and pension counseling projects. The legislation also contains an additional \$10.1 million for AoA initiatives that promote good health through prevention, dignity and independence for older Americans. To view the entire FY 2009 AoA budget, visit:

[www.aoa.gov/about/legbudg/current\\_budg/legbudg\\_current\\_budg.aspx](http://www.aoa.gov/about/legbudg/current_budg/legbudg_current_budg.aspx).

## Teen Pregnancies and Premature Births Increase

In January 2009, the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) released its National Vital Statistics Reports presenting data on the characteristics of births in the country during 2006. The reports show the country's overall birth rate rose 3% from 2005, among nearly all races and age groups, the largest annual increase since 1989. The US birth rate for teens age 15-19 dropped by 34 percent between 1991 and 2005 but increased in 2006 by three percent. Florida rose 7 percent from 2005 to 45.2 births per 1,000 teens age 15-19. This was higher than the national average of 41.9 births per 1000 but still considerably lower than the 1991 Florida teen birth rate of nearly 68 births per 1,000 teens. The mean age at which Florida women gave birth to their first child in 2006 matched the national mean age of 25 years. The report indicates this was a significant drop in the mean age for Florida from the previous year (data not shown). The state with the lowest mean age for a first child in 2006 was Mississippi at 22.6 years and the state with the highest mean age was Massachusetts at 27.7 years.

Nationally, the average number of women across all races receiving timely prenatal care decreased for the second year in a row and the rates for premature births and low birth weight babies increased in 2006. The rate across all ages and races for premature births in Florida was 13.8%, above the national average of 12.8%. Florida's premature birth rate was above the national average for all races and also for white, black and Hispanic women. The percent of preterm births was highest for black women at 19% in Florida and 18.5% nationally. (See "Announcements" for updated data.)

The complete set of reports is available at: [www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr57/nvsr57\\_07.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr57/nvsr57_07.pdf).

## Florida Faces

Tom Arnold was appointed Chief of Staff for the Agency for Health Care Administration. Secretary Benson made the announcement in early February. The Chief of Staff's Office coordinates Medicaid and Health Care Regulation policy with other state agencies, the legislature and the federal government. The office also contains the Division of Administrative Services, the Florida Center for Health Information and Policy Analysis, and the Governor's Washington D.C. Office.

Karen Zeiler, formerly with the Florida Department of Health, is the new Deputy Secretary for Operations for the Agency for Health Care Administration.

Robert Siedlecki, Jr. is the new Chief of Staff for the Florida Department of Health. Originally from Florida, Mr. Siedlecki spent six years in Washington D.C. with the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Justice.

Florida also welcomes back Josefina Carbonell, who served as Assistant Secretary for Aging at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration of Aging from August 2001 until January 2009. Ms. Carbonell has been appointed Senior Vice President of long-term care at Independent Living Systems in Miami.

Mary Pat Moore has joined the Florida Association of Health Plans as Vice President of Government Programs. Ms. Moore was most recently Policy Chief for Health and Human Services with the Governor's Office of Policy and Budget.

## Announcements

### New State Vendor Payment Search Web Site

Governor Crist and Chief Financial Officer Alex Sink unveiled two new web sites which will allow the public to view and track state spending. [www.flgov.com/sunshinespending](http://www.flgov.com/sunshinespending) provides information and links to the Sunshine Spending web site at [www.myfloridacfo.com/sunshinespending](http://www.myfloridacfo.com/sunshinespending). This site will allow you to track government-agency spending by contractor or vendor name.

### State Report Rates Medicaid Reform Health Plans

2007 Performance Measure Data Submissions for Medicaid Reform, a state report that rates health plans participating in Medicaid Reform on a wide range of performance measures has been posted on the Agency for Health Care Administration web site: [http://ahca.myflorida.com/Medicaid/quality\\_mc/perform\\_measure.shtml](http://ahca.myflorida.com/Medicaid/quality_mc/perform_measure.shtml).

### Medicaid Reform Enrollee Satisfaction Report

The Agency for Health Care Administration released first year patient satisfaction survey results for enrollees in Medicaid Reform health plans. In a media release Secretary Holly Benson said, "A report such as this is useful in evaluating where we are with the overall pilot program and its individual components. By identifying accomplishments and challenges we have a better idea of where we are in this pilot process." The release states that the results are a part of the independent evaluation of Florida's Medicaid Reform being conducted by the University of Florida. The survey report contains the first and earliest comparison of pre- and post-Reform patient satisfaction survey data since the implementation of Medicaid Reform in late 2006. Those who participated in the Year One Follow-up Survey were enrolled in a Reform health plan located in Broward or Duval County, which were the first two counties to implement the Reform program. To read the report, go to:

[http://ahca.myflorida.com/Medicaid/quality\\_management/pdf/cahps\\_report\\_final\\_03-12-09.pdf](http://ahca.myflorida.com/Medicaid/quality_management/pdf/cahps_report_final_03-12-09.pdf).

### New Florida Pregnancy and Young Child Profiles

The Florida Department of Health announced the release of the Pregnancy and Young Child Profile on Florida CHARTS. Profiles display county data for women age (15-44) and children ages birth to five. To view profiles, go to: [www.floridacharts.com/charts/SpecReport.aspx?RepID=1013450](http://www.floridacharts.com/charts/SpecReport.aspx?RepID=1013450).

## What's new on the HMA Website?

Have you been to the HMA web site recently? If not you may have missed the report. "Medicaid in a Crunch: A Mid-FY 2009 Update on State Medicaid Issues in a Recession." This report was prepared by HMA for the Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured - 1/13/2009. The report relays the perspective of leading state Medicaid directors to describe the fiscal strain on Medicaid and other safety-net programs as enrollment swells and state tax revenues shrink, raising the prospect of program cutbacks. It draws on focused interviews with leading Medicaid directors in November 2008. It augments the most recent Medicaid budget survey report that was based on a survey and interviews with all state Medicaid directors in July and August 2008, at the beginning of state fiscal year 2009. To link to the report and other news and publications, go to: [www.healthmanagement.com](http://www.healthmanagement.com).

## Florida Update Goes Green

Remember you can sign up to receive *The Florida Update* electronically. Send a message to [glarosa@healthmanagement.com](mailto:glarosa@healthmanagement.com), and future editions of *The Florida Update* will be e-mailed to you. This will also allow you to link directly to web sites referred to for more information. You can also use this address to change your mailing address, ask to be removed from our mailing list or to provide feedback on *The Florida Update*.

# The Florida Update

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