



# Colorado Adults' Health Insurance Status: 2011 update

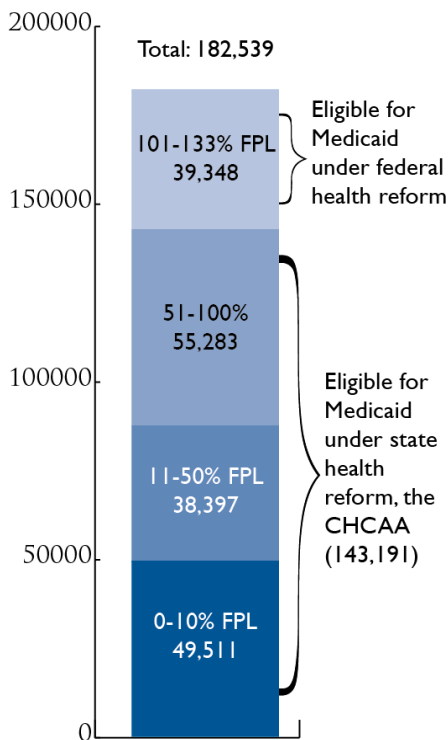
A profile of Colorado's uninsured, low-income adults without dependent children

## FACT SHEET

Revised July 2011

Health insurance coverage is highly correlated with an individual's ability to gain access to health care, from doctor visits to filling prescriptions. In Colorado, low-income adults without dependent children (AwDCs) have higher uninsured rates than other groups. The *Colorado Health Care Affordability Act* (HB09-1293, or the CHCAA) expands Medicaid eligibility to the AwDC population at or below 100 percent of the federal poverty level (FPL).<sup>1</sup> Using data from the 2009 American Community Survey, this fact sheet describes and estimates the number of uninsured AwDCs between the ages of 19-64 who will become eligible for Medicaid under the CHCAA.

Graph I. Uninsured Colorado adults without dependent children at or below 133% of FPL by income level, 2009



NOTE: All graphs and maps in this brief include only AwDCs who meet citizenship/documentation status and residency requirements for enrolling in Medicaid.

### The Colorado Health Care Affordability Act and Medicaid expansions for adults without dependent children

The Colorado Health Care Affordability Act of 2009 (the CHCAA) assesses a fee on Colorado hospitals to leverage federal dollars to increase hospital reimbursement rates of publicly funded programs and fund Medicaid and Child Health Plan Plus expansions. Medicaid eligibility for AwDCs is expected to be phased in beginning in early 2012; full implementation is expected by the end of 2013.

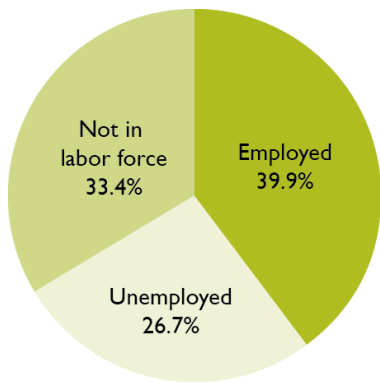
CHI estimates that over 143,000 uninsured AwDCs have annual family incomes at or below 100% of FPL. The map on page 2 shows the distribution by county. Of these uninsured AwDCs who will be newly eligible for Medicaid, CHI estimates that:

- Nearly two-thirds (over 88,000) are male. In comparison, the general Colorado adult population is 51% male.
- The vast majority, or 89%, are single. (Twenty percent are separated, divorced or widowed; two-thirds have never been married.) Around 11% are married.
- Over half (57%) have a high school diploma or less. For 31%, the highest education level attained is an associate's degree or some college. Twelve percent have a bachelor's degree or higher.

An additional 39,000 uninsured AwDCs have family incomes between 101% and 133% of FPL. This group is expected to become eligible for Medicaid in 2014 under the federal *Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act*.

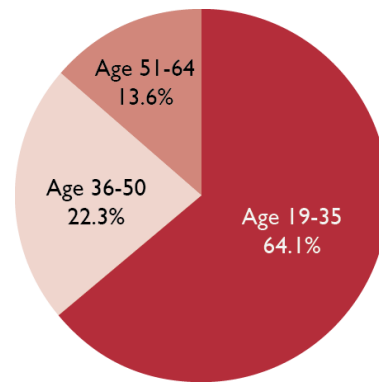
<sup>1</sup> In 2009, the federal poverty level for an individual was \$10,830.

Graph 2. Uninsured adults without dependent children between 0-100% of FPL by employment status, Colorado, 2009

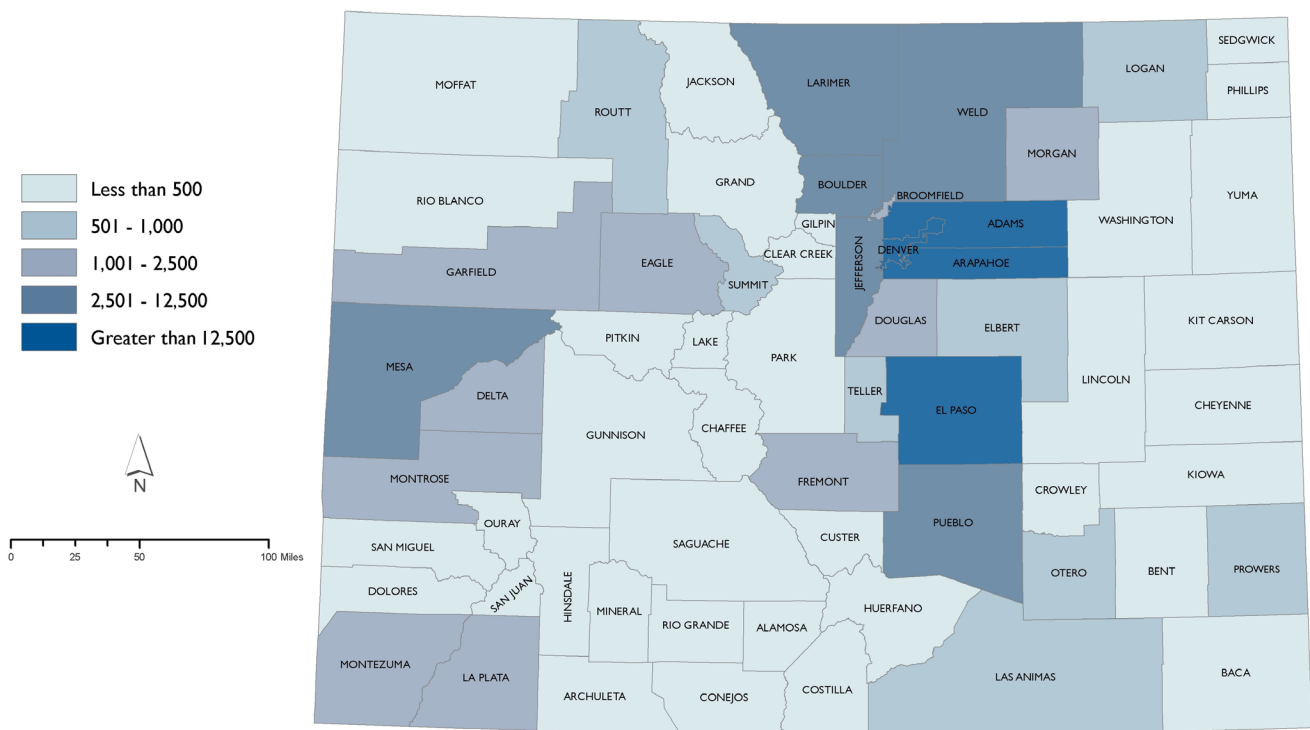


NOTE: Employed includes individuals who work part time.

Graph 3. Uninsured adults without dependent children between 0-100% of FPL by age, Colorado, 2009



Map 1. Uninsured adults without dependent children newly eligible for Medicaid under the CHCAA by county, Colorado, 2009



## WOULD YOU LIKE THE NUMBERS BEHIND THIS MAP?

CHI analyzed the 2009 American Community Survey to develop these estimates. For more information on how the estimates were derived or to view the companion piece, *Colorado Adults' Health Insurance Status: 2011 Data Supplement*, please visit [www.ColoradoHealthInstitute.org/AdultEBNE](http://www.ColoradoHealthInstitute.org/AdultEBNE).