

Tracking Reform Action in Colorado (TRAC) Lab

September 10, 2013

Recommended Measures for Tracking the Impacts of Health Reform in Colorado

The Colorado Health Institute (CHI) has developed this list of measures and data sources as a reference for tracking the impact of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) in Colorado.¹ Suggestions for additional measures and data sources are welcome. Please contact Shana Montrose at montroses@coloradohealthinstitute.org.

Acronyms:

ACS = The American Community Survey

BRFSS = Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System

CHA = Colorado Hospital Association

CHAS = Colorado Health Access Survey

CEBS = Colorado Employer Benefits Survey (Lockton Companies)

CIVHC = Center for Improving Value in Health Care (All-Payer Claims Database)

DOI = Colorado Division of Insurance

DORA = Department of Regulatory Agencies

HCPF = Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing

HRET = Health Research & Educational Trust (produced with Kaiser Family Foundation): Employer Health Benefits Survey (can be used to supplement CEBS)

Marketplace = Connect for Health Colorado (also known as the Exchange)

MEPS-HC = Medical Expenditure Panel Survey

MEPS-HC = Medical Expenditure Panel Survey – Household Component

MEPS – IC = Medical Expenditure Panel Survey – Insurance Component

NAPH – National Association of Public Hospitals and Health Systems

NHIS = National Health Interview Survey

¹ Original list based on document authored by the State Health Access Data Assistance Center (SHADAC). (2011). *A Framework for Tracking the Impacts of the Affordable Care Act in California*. <http://www.shadac.org/publications/framework-tracking-impacts-affordable-care-act-in-california>.

Metric	Data Source
COVERAGE METRICS	
Overview Measures	
Insurance coverage distribution	CHAS/ACS
Uninsurance	
Uninsured at point in time	CHAS/ACS
Uninsured at some point in the past year	CHAS
Uninsured for a year or more	CHAS
Number of people exempt from coverage mandate, by reason	Income Tax Records*, ACS, other sources
Number of people paying the tax penalty for not purchasing coverage	Income Tax Records
Employer-Sponsored Insurance (ESI)	
Percentage of employers offering coverage	MEPS-IC
Percentage of workforce in firms that offer coverage	MEPS-IC
If employer offers coverage, percentage of employees eligible	MEPS – IC
Take up rate (% of eligible employees enrolled)	MEPS - IC
Percentage of families with any ESI offer	NHIS/CHAS
Percentage of families offered ESI that take up coverage for all family members	NHIS/CHAS
Number of employers paying the penalty for not offering coverage	
Public Coverage	
State public program enrollment	HCPF/CHAS/ACS
Public program churning (% leaving public coverage who re-enroll within 3 months)	CHAS
Participation rate (% eligible who are enrolled)	ACS
Health Insurance Exchange	
Nongroup Coverage: Number of people purchasing coverage through the exchange	Marketplace*
Nongroup Coverage: Number of people with and without subsidies	Marketplace*
Nongroup Coverage: Percentage of nongroup market purchasing through the exchange	Marketplace*/ DOI
Group Coverage: Number of employers purchasing coverage through the exchange	Marketplace*/CEBS
Group Coverage: Number of employers receiving tax credits to purchase in marketplace	
Group Coverage: Employer marketplace take-up rate	Marketplace*
Group Coverage: Number of workers with group coverage in marketplace	Marketplace*
Group Coverage: Workers with group coverage in marketplace as percentage of marketplace-eligible employer coverage	

AFFORDABILITY AND COMPREHENSIVENESS METRICS	
Insurance Premiums	
ESI – Total premium for single coverage	CEBS
ESI – Total premium for family coverage	CEBS
ESI – Employee premium contribution: Single coverage	CEBS
ESI – Employee premium contribution: Family coverage	CEBS
Nongroup coverage – Premium per enrollee	DORA
Subsidies for Premiums and Cost-Sharing	
Number receiving premium subsidies in the marketplace	Marketplace*
Number receiving cost-sharing subsidies in the marketplace	Marketplace*
Average value of premium subsidies in the marketplace	Marketplace*
Average value of cost-sharing subsidies in the marketplace	Marketplace*
Financial Burden	
Percentage of families with high cost burden	MEPS-HC
“Affordable” premium contributions as a percentage of income	Income Tax Records*
Comprehensiveness of Coverage	
ESI: Enrollment by benefit level	CEBS
ESI: Average deductibles and distribution of deductibles for single coverage	CEBS
ESI: Average deductibles and distribution of deductibles for family coverage	CEBS
Nongroup Coverage: Enrollment by benefit level	Marketplace*
Nongroup Coverage: Average deductible and distribution of deductibles per enrollee	Marketplace*
ACCESS TO CARE METRICS	
Use of Services	
Percentage of people with a usual source of care	CHAS
Type of place for usual source of care	CHAS
Percentage of people with a doctor visit in the past year	CHAS
Percentage of people with a preventive care visit in the past year	CHAS/BRFSS
Safety Net	
Volume and type of services provided by safety net clinics	ClinicNET, Uniform Data System (FQHCs), CASBHC/CHI survey of school-based health centers, CO Behavioral Healthcare Council
County indigent care volume and cost	HCPF
Uncompensated care	CHA/NAPH
Barriers to Care	
Percentage of people who forgo necessary care	CHAS

Reasons for forgone care	CHAS
Percentage of people not able to get an appointment in a timely way	CHAS
Percentage of people who have difficulty finding a provider that will accept new patients	CHAS
Percentage of people who have difficulty finding a provider that accepts their insurance	CHAS
Percentage of people who did not see a specialty provider because of cost.	CHAS
System-Level Access	
Primary care: Percentage of physicians accepting new patients, by payer	Peregrine
Percentage of physicians accepting new patients, by primary or specialty care	Peregrine
Primary care: Percentage of physicians participating in public programs	Peregrine
Specialty care: Percentage of physicians participating in public programs	Peregrine
Emergency room visit rates	CHAS/CIVHC/SDAC (Medicaid)
Potentially preventable emergency room visits	CIVHC, SDAC for public programs
Ambulatory care sensitive hospital admissions	CHA

* Requires new data collection