Health on the Range
What the Latest Data Tell Us About Rural Coloradans

October 17, 2014

Colorado Rural Health Center Annual Conference
The Colorado Health Institute:

A Re-introduction

Our insight is used to:
Three Takeaways

1. *Rural Coloradans face unique barriers to health.*

2. *Health reform has a direct impact on addressing barriers and expanding opportunities.*

3. *Innovative solutions to improving workforce capacity in rural Colorado will be essential in coming years.*
Urban, Rural and Frontier County Designations, 2014

The county designations have been defined using the Office of Management and Budget’s definition by classifying rural counties as those that do not include a city of 50,000 people or more, and classifying frontier counties as those with a population density less than or equal to six persons per square mile.

Map prepared by the Colorado Health Institute on January 2, 2014.
**CHAS: The Basics**

**Insurance:** How many people are uninsured and why do they lack coverage?

**Access:** Who has trouble getting an appointment, even with insurance?

**Use of Care:** Where do Coloradans get their health care? How often do they use that care?

**Affordability:** Do people go without care due to cost? What are people willing to pay for insurance?

**Health Status:** How do Coloradans rate their physical, mental and oral health?
Comparing Insurance Types, Urban and Rural, Colorado

Source: Colorado Health Access Survey
Colorado’s Uninsured: A Regional Breakdown

### Uninsured Rates by Health Statistics Region, 2013

![Map showing uninsured rates by region](image)

### By the Numbers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HSR</th>
<th>Uninsured</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>9,480</td>
<td>15.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>47,153</td>
<td>15.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>16,474</td>
<td>5.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>84,832</td>
<td>13.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>3,689</td>
<td>9.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>11,748</td>
<td>16.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>17,643</td>
<td>10.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>7,253</td>
<td>16.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>14,232</td>
<td>15.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>23,729</td>
<td>22.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>10,919</td>
<td>24.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colo.</td>
<td>740,862</td>
<td>14.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[ColoradoHealthInstitute.org]
Don't Know How To Get Health Insurance
Percentage of Uninsured Coloradans Who Say They Don't Know How To Get Health Insurance, 2013

Map prepared July 15, 2014 by the Colorado Health Institute
Source: 2013 Colorado Health Access Survey
Notorious Outreach
Don't Need Health Insurance

Percentage of Uninsured Coloradans Who Say They Don't Need Health Insurance, 2013

Map prepared July 15, 2014 by the Colorado Health Institute

Source: 2013 Colorado Health Access Survey
Who is Now Getting Insurance?

**Total Enrollment**

- **136,300** CFHC medium projection 2013-14
- **127,233** Enrolled as of 4/15/14
- **150,641** CHI projected new Medicaid enrollees 2014

**Medicaid**

- **178,508** Enrolled as of 4/15/14

**Total Enrollment**

- **305,741**
Health Insurance Changes in the 12 Months Before the Survey, 2013

- 76.7%: Insured all of prior 12 months (same coverage)
- 6.1%: Currently insured, switched insurance at some point in the prior 12 months
- 3.1%: Currently insured, uninsured at some point in the prior 12 months
- 2.5%: Currently uninsured, insured at some point in the prior 12 months
- 11.6%: Uninsured all of prior 12 months
Affordability of Health Care and Coverage
Underinsurance
Problems Paying Medical Bills

29.4% - HSR 5
Kit Carson, Lincoln, Elbert, Cheyenne counties

25.6% - HSR 11
Moffat, Routt, Jackson, Rio Blanco counties

25.3% - HSR 6
Bent, Baca, Las Animas, Huerfano, Otero, Crowley, Kiowa, Prowers counties
2014: Old 11-Region System

2015: New Nine-Region Plan
2015 Rates
Second Lowest Cost Silver Plan (Marketplace)

Eastern Plains $270
Western Slope $358
State Average $277
Containing Health Care Costs

**SB 14-187:**
Cost Containment Commission

- 12-member group will conduct in-depth analysis of Colorado’s health care cost drivers
- Will recommend ways to contain costs while improving access and quality
Use and Access to Health Care
Remember...

- An insurance card doesn’t guarantee access to care.

- **Lacking** an insurance card doesn’t necessarily mean lacking access to care.
Didn’t Get Needed Health Care

- Eastern Plains: 13.4%
- San Luis Valley: 19.3%
- Southwest Corner: 15.4%
- Northwest Corner: 15.7%
- Central Region: 17.2%
- Urban Regions: 14.9%
Didn’t Seek Needed Mental Health Care Because...

Did not feel comfortable talking with a health professional about your personal problems

- Northwest Corner: 56.2%
- San Luis Valley: 57.1%
- Southwest Corner: 29.5%
- Eastern Plains: 25.9%
- Central Region: 11.0%
- Urban Regions: 31.2%
Didn’t Seek Needed Mental Health Care Because...

Concerned about what would happen if someone found out you have a problem

- Northwest Corner: 28.4%
- San Luis Valley: 16.4%
- Southwest Corner: 24.8%
- Eastern Plains: 22.5%
- Central Region: 12.7%
- Urban Regions: 19.6%
Didn’t Seek Needed Mental Health Care Because...

Had a hard time getting an appointment

- Northwest Corner: 19.5%
- San Luis Valley: 41.3%
- Southwest Corner: 25.6%
- Eastern Plains: 39.5%
- Central Region: 43.7%
- Urban Regions: 30.0%
Percent of ED Users Who Went for a Non-Emergency

- Eastern Plains: 48.5%
- San Luis Valley: 53.5%
- Southwest Corner: 37.0%
- Northwest Corner: 48.3%
- Central Region: 45.0%
- Urban Regions: 40.3%
Respondents who went to the ED for a non-emergency were asked why...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason</th>
<th>Eastern Plains</th>
<th>San Luis Valley</th>
<th>Southwest Corner</th>
<th>Northwest Corner</th>
<th>Central Region</th>
<th>Urban Regions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Couldn’t get an appointment when needed</td>
<td>34.8%</td>
<td>75.0%</td>
<td>47.0%</td>
<td>30.3%</td>
<td>55.2%</td>
<td>56.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It was more convenient</td>
<td>43.0%</td>
<td>76.7%</td>
<td>49.3%</td>
<td>53.0%</td>
<td>17.9%</td>
<td>58.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Tackling Workforce Capacity in Rural Colorado
Regional View: General Population

Ratio of Population to Primary Care Physician Full-Time Equivalents (FTE),
by Colorado Health Statistics Region, 2013

Map prepared November 6, 2013.

Sources and Notes
1. Peregrine, MedicalQuest Database, June 2013.
2. Calculated from data collected from Colorado Primary Care Office, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment.
Regional View: Medicaid Enrollees

Ratio of Medicaid Caseload to Medicaid Primary Care Physician Full-Time Equivalents (FTE), by Colorado Health Statistics Region, 2012

Ratio of Medicaid Caseload to Medicaid Primary Care Physician FTE
(Medicaid Caseload : 1 FTE that Accepts Medicaid)
- Very High Capacity (<1,000:1)
- High Capacity (1,000:1 to 1,600:1)
- Low Capacity (1,601:1 to 2,500:1)
- Very Low Capacity (>2,500:1)

Colorado Average Ratio:
1,853 Medicaid Clients to 1 Medicaid Primary Care Physician FTE

Sources and Notes
1. Peregrine, Medical Quest Database, June 2013 pull.
2. Colorado Primary Care Office, CDHE.
3. Average monthly caseload counts for CY 2012 from the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing.

Map prepared November 6, 2013.
Post-Medicaid Expansion

Projected Percentage Change of the Ratio of Medicaid Caseload to Medicaid Primary Care Physician Full-Time Equivalents (FTE), from 2012 to 2016, by Colorado Health Statistics Region

Projected Percentage Change of
The Ratio of Medicaid Caseload
to Medicaid Primary Care FTE

- Smallest Increase (<65%)
- Small Increase (65% - 85%)
- High Increase (86% - 115%)
- Highest Increase (>115%)

Note: A smaller increase is favorable because it indicates that the ratio of Medicaid clients to FTE accepting Medicaid is showing slower growth.

Colorado Average Percentage Increase of the Ratio of Medicaid Clients to Medicaid Primary Care Physician FTE is 91.9%

Sources and Notes
1. Peregrine, Medical Quest Database, June 2013 pull.
2. Colorado Primary Care Office, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment.
3. Average monthly caseload counts for CY 2012 from the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing.

Map prepared January 22, 2014.
Colorado counties have no source of dental care
Options for Extending Capacity: #1
Options for Extending Capacity: #2
Options for Extending Capacity: #3
Three Takeaways

1. *Rural Coloradans face unique barriers to health.*

2. *Health reform has a direct impact on addressing barriers and expanding opportunities.*

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