



State of Children's Health Care in Pennsylvania

Fall 2015

INDICATOR	SIGNIFICANCE	2014 Report		Current Report		Status			
		Count	Percent	Count	Percent				
Uninsured Children - The number and percent of children from birth through age 17 not covered by health insurance at the point in time they were surveyed.	Health insurance promotes preventive care, reduces emergency care, saves money and contributes to a child's overall well-being.	0-5 years	45,800	5.3%	47,800	5.5%	LOST GROUND		
		6-17 years	93,100	5.0%	99,500	5.4%			
		0-17 years	139,000	5.1%	147,300	5.4%			
		Public Insurance	841,900	30.8%	820,000	30.3%			
		Private Insurance	1,615,200	59.1%	1,599,200	59.0%			
		Public and Private Insurance	134,900	4.9%	142,400	5.3%			
		No Insurance	139,000	5.1%	147,300	5.4%			
Children Enrolled in Publicly Funded Health Care Coverage - The number and percent of children enrolled in Medicaid (also referred to as Medical Assistance, or MA) and CHIP.	Medicaid provides coverage to children in families with limited income or where the child has a disabling condition. CHIP provides coverage to children not eligible for Medicaid income levels who are otherwise uninsured.	Total *	1,089,288 36.5%	190,274 6.4%	1,279,562 42.9%	1,094,701 36.7%	188,452 6.3%	1,283,153 43.0%	---
		Birth to 5 years	451,392 51.4%	35,686 4.1%	487,078 55.5%	444,520 50.6%	36,746 4.2%	481,266 54.8%	
		6-18 years	637,896 30.3%	154,572 7.3%	792,468 37.7%	650,181 30.9%	151,681 7.2%	801,862 38.1%	
Use of Services			Health Choices	CHIP	Health Choices	CHIP	Status		
Children Enrolled in MA and CHIP			826,138	190,274	1,079,513	188,452			
Well Child Visits - The percent of children who were continuously insured during the measurement year and who received the appropriate number of well child visits during the measurement year.	Regular check-ups are one of the best ways to detect physical, developmental, behavioral and emotional problems. These visits also provide an opportunity for the clinician to answer questions, offer guidance, counseling and anticipatory guidance to the parents and adolescent patients.	Birth to 15 months (6 or more)	64.40%	74.39%	64.96%	76.13%	NO SIGNIFICANT CHANGE		
		3-6 years (one or more yearly)	75.62%	79.89%	76.58%	81.21%			
		12-20 years (one or more yearly)	59.31%	61.43%	58.91%	61.95%			
Access to Primary Care - The percent of children ages 12 months to 6 years who had a visit with a primary care practitioner within the last year or for children ages 7 to 19 years who had a visit with a primary care provider in the last two years.	Maintaining access to care requires more than making providers and services available, it involves assuring that the child has a medical home that provides coordination of care.	12-24 months (yearly)	96.71%	98.24%	96.65%	97.56%	NO SIGNIFICANT CHANGE		
		25 months - 6 years (yearly)	87.69%	93.27%	88.16%	92.94%			
		7-11 years (last 2 years)	91.54%	95.68%	91.59%	95.27%			
		12-19 years (last 2 years)	90.00%	95.61%	89.88%	95.17%			
Annual Dental Visits - The percent of children and adolescents between the ages of 2 to 20 who were continuously insured and had a dental visit during the measurement year.	Regular dental visits are critical to promoting oral health, which impacts overall physical health, and establishing life-long habits of good oral hygiene.	2-3 years	37.76%	32.50%	40.18%	35.64%	NO SIGNIFICANT CHANGE		
		4-6 years	63.72%	74.61%	65.55%	72.79%			
		7-10 years	63.68%	73.76%	64.78%	71.27%			
		11-14 years	59.30%	71.84%	60.36%	68.39%			
		15-18 years	51.32%	60.16%	52.45%	57.44%			
		19-20 years	39.16%		39.31%				
		Total	55.22%	66.83%	56.71%	64.41%			
Ambulatory Care: Emergency Visits/1000 Member Months - The number of visits for a physical health service that were provided in an emergency room that did not result in an inpatient stay, regardless of the intensity and duration of the visit.	Some emergency room visits, especially those not resulting in hospitalization, may have been unnecessary and could have been more appropriately handled by a primary care provider/medical home/clinical setting.	<1 year	102.25	42.72	103.76	35.39	NO SIGNIFICANT CHANGE		
		1-9 years	55.97	30.96	56.17	29.28			
		10-19 years	49.66	29.99	48.48	27.63			
		Total	56.39	30.47	56.03	28.37			
Inpatient Utilization Discharges: Total/1000 Member Months - The number of admissions for a physical health service for children to age 19 that were discharged from an inpatient stay.	In some instances, hospital admissions may be avoidable if the patient has access to adequate outpatient primary and specialist care which can prevent a condition from worsening to a state that requires hospitalization.	<1 year	17.29	4.27	11.46	3.23	MADE PROGRESS		
		1-9 years	2.84	1.06	2.67	1.01			
		10-19 years	3.69	1.20	3.34	1.08			
		Total	4.17	1.16	3.54	1.07			
Lead Screening: 2-Year-Olds With One or More Lead Blood Tests - The percent of 2-year-olds who had one or more capillary or venous lead blood tests for lead poisoning prior to their second birthday.	Lead is a toxin that, if present in elevated levels in a child's blood, can result in decreased IQ or learning and behavioral problems. Universal screening is indicated according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) criteria and based on the commonwealth's higher prevalence of pre-1950 housing and elevated blood levels in children.		74.73%	49.50%	74.86%	49.90%	NO SIGNIFICANT CHANGE		
Immunization Status: Children Appropriately Immunized - The percent of children who have been appropriately immunized with the recommended vaccines by their second birthday and by their 13th birthday.	Childhood immunizations help prevent many serious illnesses such as polio, tetanus, pertussis and hepatitis. Vaccines are nationally recommended and required by PA Department of Health for participation in child (day) care and school.	2-Year-Olds	77.46%	78.89%	77.53%	81.00%	NO SIGNIFICANT CHANGE		
		13-Year-Olds	79.91%	85.50%	83.16%	86.50%			

* Total listed for CHIP is greater than the sum of birth to 5 and 6-18 years subcategories due to the inclusion of some 19-year-olds in CHIP data.

NOTE: Data in the 2014 Report column has been updated from the 2014 *State of Children's Health Care in Pennsylvania* report for Uninsured Children and Children Enrolled in Publicly Funded Health Care Coverage.