

Children's Health First Colorado and CHP+ Enrollment Report – 2016 Quarter Three



This series of quarterly reports analyzes children's enrollment changes in Health First Colorado (Colorado's Medicaid Program) and Child Health Plan Plus (CHP+) and identifies factors that may have contributed to an increase or decrease in enrollment. The data source used is the Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing's [Premiums, Expenditures and Caseload Reports](#). Previous quarterly enrollment reports can be found at ckf.cchn.org/quarterly-enrollment-reports.

2016 Quarter Three Enrollment



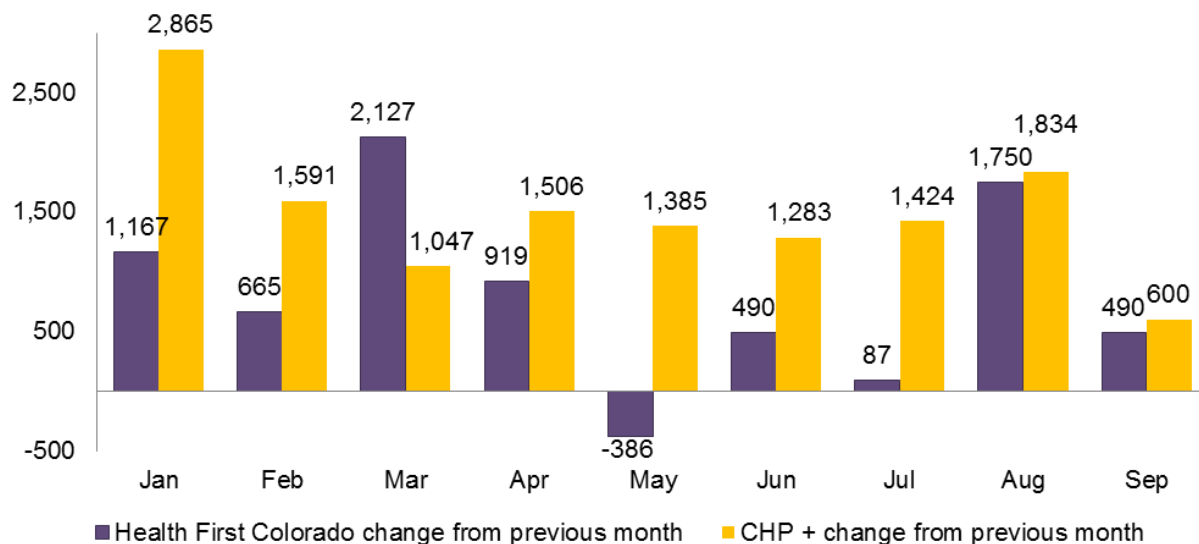
A total of **4,674** children enrolled in Health First Colorado and CHP+ during the third quarter of 2016 (July through September), a **growth of 0.8 percent** overall. This rate is slightly lower than the 1.1 percent overall growth in the third quarter of 2015.

CHP+ caseload grew by 2,434 in the quarter, or by 4.1 percent, while Health First Colorado caseload increased by a similar number of 2,240 cases over the quarter, or by 0.4 percent.

In contrast to last year, growth in CHP+ has been higher in 2016, with an average of 1,504 new enrollments each month over the first three quarters. In fact, the last time that CHP+ enrollment exceeded 61,000 was October 2013.

Health First Colorado enrollment has been increasing at a slower pace than CHP+ with an average increase of 812 cases each month. Health First Colorado enrollment has also had larger variation in enrollment each month compared to past years. For example, although enrollment increased each month of the quarter, the caseload only increased by 87 enrollments in July.

Monthly Change in Health First Colorado and CHP+ Caseload - 2016



What Impacted Enrollment in Quarter Three?

The steady rate of growth in CHP+ may be the result of a systems fix implemented in the Colorado Benefits Management System in December 2015. The fix was made to improve the functionality of 12-month continuous eligibility in the CHP+ program, allowing children to stay enrolled in the program for 12 months regardless of changes to household size and/or family income. This improvement appears to be working as planned.

Lower children's Health First Colorado enrollment may indicate that the majority of eligible children have been enrolled. It could also indicate that the Colorado economy is improving.

Looking Forward

Colorado Covering Kids and Families (CKF) anticipates that CHP+ and Health First Colorado enrollment will both show increases during the fourth quarter of 2016, which coincides with two-thirds of the open enrollment period for private health insurance from November 1, 2016, through January 31, 2017.

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