



Colorado Children’s Medicaid and CHP+ Enrollment Report – 2015 Quarter Two

Colorado Covering Kids and Families’ (CKF) quarterly enrollment reports illustrate children’s enrollment changes in Colorado’s Medicaid and Child Health Plan Plus (CHP+) programs and identify corresponding legislation, rule changes, and other factors that may have contributed to an increase or decrease in enrollment. The enrollment data used for this report comes from the Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing’s (HCPF) Medical Services Premiums, Expenditures, and Medicaid Caseload Reports.¹ Previous quarterly enrollment reports can be found on the CKF website at cchn.org/ckf/quarterly-enrollment-reports.

2015 Quarter Two Enrollment

In the second quarter of 2015, **combined children’s enrollment in Medicaid and CHP+ increased by 2,865**, or 0.5 percent. At the end of June, there were a **total of 567,155** children enrolled in Medicaid and CHP+.

The overall enrollment gain in the second quarter can be attributed to **4,126 Medicaid enrollments** (+0.8 percent). Meanwhile, **CHP+ enrollment decreased by 1,261** over the quarter (-2.4 percent).

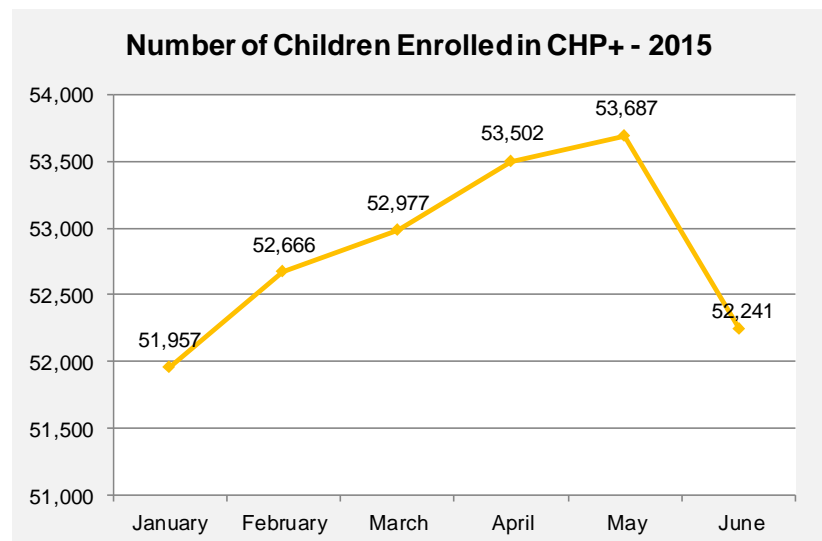
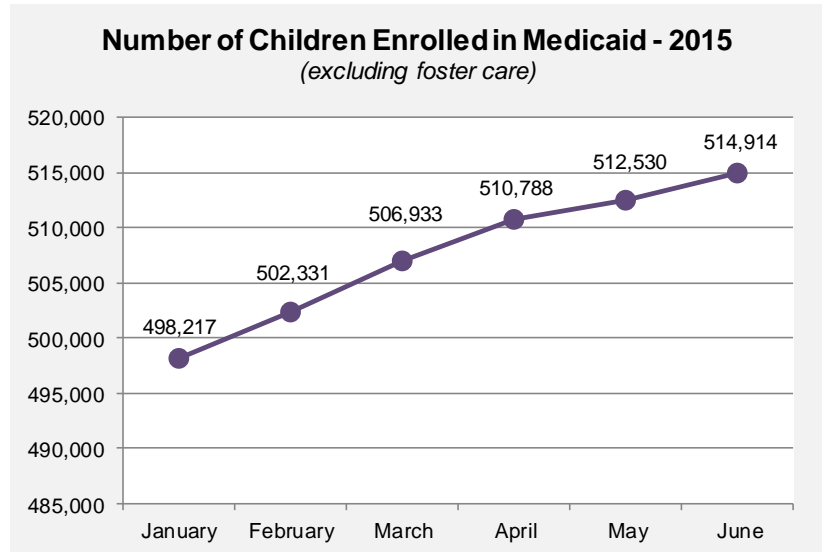
The fall in CHP+ enrollment can be pinpointed to June, when **enrollment fell by 1,446 CHP+ clients**.

Between January and June, Medicaid enrollment increased by **16,697** children, and CHP+ enrollment increased by **284** children for a **total increase of 16,981** children enrolled in both programs in the first half of 2015.

What Impacted Kids’ Medicaid and CHP+ Enrollment in the Second Quarter of 2015?

Children’s Medicaid enrollment has increased every month since October 2013. However, the rate of increase during the second quarter of 2015, 0.5 percent, is lower than the rate of increase, 1.7 percent, seen in the first quarter. The slower rate is likely due to a reduced emphasis on health insurance enrollment after the annual open enrollment period for private insurance closed in mid-February.

The fall in CHP+ enrollment could mean that more than 1,400 children were determined ineligible for CHP+ at renewal in June; however, it could also indicate a systems issue with the functionality of 12-



month continuous eligibility, which should keep children on Medicaid or CHP+ for 12 months regardless of changes to their household size or income.

Looking Forward

In the third quarter of 2015, Medicaid enrollments are likely to continue to increase at a similar rate to the second quarter. CKF will continue to monitor CHP+ enrollment and work with HCPF to identify the cause of the decrease in enrollment.

Additionally, the removal of the five-year bar for lawfully residing children and pregnant women, effective July 1, 2015, may result in increased enrollments for both Medicaid and CHP+ in the third quarter.

Previous quarterly enrollment reports can be found on the CKF website at cchn.org/ckf/quarterly-enrollment-reports/.

For more information, contact Stephanie Brooks, CKF Policy Analyst, at sbrooks@cchn.org.

¹ Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing. (2015). *Premiums, Expenditures and Caseload Reports*. <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/hcpf/premiums-expenditures-and-caseload-reports>