SHADAC Announcements

**SHADAC Report Explains State Use of Uncompensated Care Pools**

Previously produced SHADAC analysis of how certain states have used 1115 Medicaid demonstration waivers to fund state uncompensated care pools (or “UCPs”) has been repurposed into an easily [accessible and downloadable brief](#). The brief walks users through the types of hospitals and health systems that are eligible to be paid through UCP funding and provides an overview of the seven states that currently use these waivers (California, Florida, Kansas, Massachusetts, New Mexico, Tennessee, and Texas) as well as two states (Arizona and Hawaii) with recently expired waivers.

**SHADAC Fall Webinar Series**

- **October 13**: [From Telephone to Multi-mode Surveys: State Case Studies and Conversations](#)
  
  SHADAC Investigator Kathleen T. Call, PhD, moderated a discussion with panelists from California, Massachusetts, and Minnesota regarding their state’s transitions from random digit dial (RDD) telephone surveys to address-based sample (ABS) mail surveys. During the webinar, state analysts and survey experts highlighted their experiences, successes and challenges faced in this transition, and shared lessons learned. Slides and a recording from the webinar are available [here](#).

- **October 21**: [Rising Suicide Rates: Examining Trends and Variations through State-level Data](#)
  
  Over the past two decades, the rise in suicide death rates has continued along an accelerating climb, with pronounced increases occurring in more recent years (from 2000-2009 the suicide death rate grew by 13%; from 2009-2018 the rate grew by 21%). SHADAC Research Fellow Carrie Au-Yeung used national and state-level data on suicide deaths to examine this growing public health issue during a recent SHADAC webinar, highlighting concerning trends and variations by geographic locations as well as by specific subpopulation groups. Slides and a recording from the webinar are available [here](#).

- **November 10**: [Overdose Crisis in Transition: Changing Trends in a Widening Drug Death Epidemic](#)
  
  For nearly two decades, the United States has experienced a growing epidemic of drug overdose deaths. However, mortality data from 2018 illustrate a stark transformation in the trajectory of the crisis—rare declines in deaths from prescription opioids and heroin, while synthetic opioids, cocaine, and psychostimulants continued along alarming rises. Focusing on these recent developments, SHADAC Senior Research Fellow Colin Planalp detailed changing trends in the opioid crisis—both in terms of substances and subpopulations of concern—across the nation and among the states in an upcoming SHADAC webinar. Slides and a recording from the webinar are available [here](#).

**Customized Legislative District Infographics Added to SHADAC’s Minnesota Uninsured Profile Tool**

SHADAC researchers continued their partnership with the Blue Cross Blue Shield Foundation of Minnesota to build on their original resource—the Minnesota Uninsured Profile Tool—and recently published a [unique set of infographics](#) providing critical information on Minnesota’s uninsured populations at the legislative district level. Within the individual infographics, color-coded state maps and charts were designed to identify, categorize, and provide socioeconomic data for MN House and Senate districts with high uninsured rates and assist in addressing disparities among the uninsured.

**Data, Analysis, and Trends from the States**

**California Health Interview Survey (CHIS) 2019 Data Release**

The University of California Los Angeles (UCLA) Center for Health Policy Research held a [webinar](#) to present results from the 2019 data release for the California Health Interview Survey (CHIS). Presenters Todd Hughes (Director of the CHIS) and Susan H. Babey (CHPR senior research scientist) shared
sampling and data collection redesign methods from the survey as well as data from new questions added to the 2019 questionnaire on social media use and mental health, suicide ideation among veterans, and public program participation.

**Colorado 1332 Reinsurance Program Keeps Premiums Low**
As of January 1, 2020, Colorado became one of fourteen states with state-based reinsurance programs through a 1332 innovation waiver. A new preliminary report from the state shows that Coloradans with individual health plans can expect to see premiums lowered by an average of 17.4% in 2021. The release also noted that none of the current companies are planning to exit the individual marketplace, and in fact are expanding into multiple new counties. Recent state legislation plans to extend the reinsurance program for an additional five years.

**2011-2019 Oregon Health Insurance Survey (OHIS) Data Dashboards**
The Oregon Health Authority recently announced that data from the Oregon Health Insurance Survey (OHIS) for years 2011 to 2019 is now available via interactive dashboards. The intent in utilizing this new format is to allow users to more easily compare trends over time as well as among specific subgroups. Currently, insurance coverage and uninsured estimates are available, with plans to release data on cost & affordability and access & utilization in the near future.

**Payment and Delivery System Advancement in the States**

**California and the Adoption of Alternative Payment Models**
The California Health Care Foundation (CHCF) released a brief analysis that explores state policymakers’ efforts toward adopting a medical alternative payment model (APM) in order to address rising health costs and improve quality of care. The post also includes an outline of targeted adoption steps, such as defining market segments and goals, establishing an APM framework for data collection and to measure accomplishments, and creating an aligned quality measure set, among others.

**Social Risk Factor Screening Measure Series from SHVS**
As state Medicaid agencies increasingly recognize the impact that social risk factors (i.e., housing instability, food insecurity, access to transportation, etc.), have on health, states have begun to require MCOs and ACOs to identify and screen for social risk factors affecting individual members. State Health & Value Strategies (SHVS) recently released two related issue briefs drawing on experiences of Massachusetts, Oregon, and Rhode Island in developing their own social risk factor screening measures, as resources for states looking to develop a new measure to assess social risk factor screening rates. SHVS is also hosting a two-part webinar series on social risk factor screening, with the first having taken place on November 16th.

**Other Data News & SHADAC Resources**

**2019 American Community Survey and Puerto Rico Community Survey Now Available on IPUMS**
Estimates from the 2019 American Community Survey (ACS) and Puerto Rico Community Survey (PRCS) are now available from IPUMS USA. Along with these data, new and updated variables for 2019 regarding household relationships (among both adults and dependents/children), subsidized marketplace coverage, work weeks, and public transportation have also been included.

**SHADAC’s State Health Compare Updates Eleven Measures from the BRFSS and the YRBSS**
A number of measures on SHADAC’s State Health Compare web tool have been updated with 2019 data from two related surveys—the Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBS), which surveys U.S. middle and high school students (age 13-17), and the Behavior Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), which surveys U.S. adults (age 18+). Estimates of smoking, binge drinking, and physical activity have been updated for both age categories, as well as estimates of adult obesity, adult unhealthy days, adults with no personal doctor, adults who forgo needed medical care, and adult chronic disease prevalence.

**Updated State-Specific Survey Resource Encompassing Residents COVID-19 Experiences**
SHADAC has updated its comprehensive resource that scans and inventories data collection efforts in all 50 states and the District of Columbia regarding residents’ personal experiences and opinions regarding the pandemic. Thus far, 88 total surveys have been identified across 35 states, a majority of which have focused on adults (age 18-65). In addition to noting the target populations for the surveys, SHADAC also collected information regarding common survey topics (contact with or knowledge of persons with confirmed cases; safety precautions taken; ability to pay bills; mental and physical health challenges;
among many others) and timeframe methodologies (point-in-time vs. periodic).

**Other Resources**

**U.S. Children's Uninsured Rate Rises by Largest Annual Jump in More Than a Decade**

According to a recently released report from the Georgetown Center for Children and Families (CCF), the number of children without health coverage jumped to 5.7% in 2019, rising steadily each year from a historic low of 4.7% in 2017. The report also found that in the years between 2016 and 2019, nearly half of coverage losses (41%) occurred in Texas and Florida, and that coverage losses were largest among White and Latino children. Along with the report, Georgetown CCF has released an interactive state-by-state child health care report and a webinar recording discussing the findings in further detail.

**University of Minnesota Professor Katy Kozhimannil receives 25th Heinz Award**

The Heinz Family Foundation recently announced University of Minnesota School of Public Health Professor and Director of the Rural Health Research Center Katy B. Kozhimannil, PhD, MPA, as the recipient of the prestigious 25th Heinz Award in Public Policy. Dr. Kozhimannil’s research focuses on examining the rising rate of maternal mortality in rural, low-income communities and among women of color; the impact of doula care on birth outcomes; and the impact of structural racism on individual and community health; and her work has informed current policy proposals for extensions on pregnancy-related eligibility for Medicaid. In response to the coronavirus pandemic, Dr. Kozhimannil’s recent work has shifted to highlight and address inequities revealed by racial disparities in COVID-19 deaths in rural areas.

**Recommended Reading**

- Arkansas’s Suicide Rate Up 41% Since 2000; Risks Exacerbated by Pandemic
  - Arkansas Center for Health Improvement (Blog)

- Minnesota and U.S. Uninsurance Rates Grew in Years Leading up to Pandemic
  - Colin Planalp; SHADAC

- Experts discuss issues presented by the pandemic
  - Anne Kesler; The Spectrum

- Measuring Coverage Rates in a Pandemic: Policy and Research Challenges
  - Adrianna McIntyre, Matthew Brault, Benjamin Sommers; JAMA Health Forum

- COVID-19 Research at the Community Level
  - Alonzo Plough & Carolyn Miller; RWJF Culture of Health (Blog)