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February 2023

SHADAC Announcements

Challenges with Medicaid Race & Ethnicity Data

This <u>overview</u> of Medicaid race/ethnicity data available in the Transformed Medicaid Statistical Information System (T-MSIS) is one of SHADAC's most visited resources. Our researchers recently updated the page with new information on the quality and availability of race/ethnicity data. More work is needed to improve data collection and advance efforts to achieve health equity in the Medicaid program. <u>Read more</u>.

Spotlighting the Increased Medicaid Undercount in the American Community Survey

SHADAC <u>analysis</u> of the Medicaid undercount in recent ACS surveys found that the undercount – which ranged from 6.8% to 8.5% between 2014 and 2019 – nearly doubled to 15.5% in 2021. As the U.S. navigates a return to many pre-pandemic procedures, it is important for users of this data resource to understand the significance of the undercount. <u>Read more</u>.

Congratulations to SHADAC Researcher Robert Hest!

The SHADAC team is thrilled to announce the <u>recent promotion</u> of Robert Hest to Senior Research Fellow. Hest has been with SHADAC since 2017 and has contributed to the success of many projects, including <u>State Health Compare</u> and the <u>community and uninsured profile</u>.

A Crash Course in Navigating State Health Compare



State Health Compare is a free, easy-to-use data tool housing 45+ health-related measures related to access, cost, behavior, equity, and more. This new video walks users through how to view, customize, and download estimates on State Health Compare and demonstrates steps for breaking down data by population characteristics.

Watch the Video

Additional Data News and Resources

The Intersection of the Continuous Coverage Unwinding and Employer-Sponsored Insurance

SHADAC researchers recently contributed to a set of State Health & Value Strategies resources designed to support states as they plan for the continuous coverage unwinding. These resources include: <u>an issue brief</u> on potential transitions from Medicaid to employer-sponsored insurance, <u>a companion brief</u> detailing how state agencies and employers can help enrollees navigate coverage options, and <u>sample messaging</u> <u>states can leverage</u> to communicate details of the unwinding with their employer communities.

Tracking Health Reform: The Future of State All-Payer Claims Databases

Many states grappling with steep health care spending turn to all-payer claims databases (APCDs) to help mitigate rising costs. Learn everything you need to know about state-based APCDs and their role in health policy in this <u>newly published journal article</u> from SHADAC's Dr. Lynn A. Blewett, Natalie Schwehr Mac Arthur, and James Campbell. <u>Read more</u>.

Geographic and Demographic Patterns in the Uninsured Rate

A recent <u>ASPE brief</u> examined data from the ACS to provide state and local estimates of the uninsured rate and their demographic characteristics; the brief discusses rates at the state level and by each state's Public Use Microdata Areas (PUMA), which are areas that contain no fewer than 100,000 people, providing the most granular level of geography available in the ACS public use file. Read more.



Find us over on LinkedIn where we're catching up with SHADAC Research Assistant alumni – including Madeline Turbes! Read highlights from our conversation with Madeline and be sure to follow SHADAC on LinkedIn for more updates like these.

Data, Analysis, and Trends from the States

North Carolina

Medicaid enrollees in North Carolina <u>have received nearly 24,000 Healthy Opportunities Pilot services</u> since the start of the program less than a year ago. The pilot addresses non-medical drivers of health, covering the cost of 29 services outlined in the <u>Pilot Service Fee Schedule.</u>

Washington

In order to expand access, <u>a special enrollment period</u> has been made available to individuals and families in Washington who make up to 250% of the federal poverty level. This is part of <u>Cascade Care</u> (<u>Washington's public option</u>). This special enrollment period is available monthly for those who qualify.

Recommendations for our Readers

Nearly 16 Million People Have Signed Up for Affordable Health Coverage in ACA Marketplaces Since Start of Open Enrollment Period

United States Department of Health and Human Services

HHS Approves California's Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Plan (CHIP) Demonstration Authority to Support Care for Justice-Involved People

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

Opinion: It's Time to Cover All Kids in Minnesota

Hannah Geressu (SHADAC Graduate Research Assistant); MinnPost





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