January 2020

**SHADAC Announcements**

**New SHADAC Report Examines State Efforts to Serve Justice-Involved Population via Section 1115 Waivers**

Under a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) grant, SHADAC researchers studied the ways in which states are using Section 1115 transformation waivers to test new approaches to serving individuals with criminal justice involvement. SHADAC’s analysis sought to understand how three diverse states—Illinois, Texas, and Washington—approached the development, launch, and ongoing management of their justice-involved programs under Section 1115 waivers, in order to identify key facilitators, challenges, and lessons learned for other states considering whether to implement similar programs. SHADAC has published a final report and two-page summary of the key findings.

**SHADAC Brief Explains How to Apply a Primary Source of Coverage Hierarchy to Survey Data**

In a new issue brief, SHADAC researchers define a “primary source of coverage hierarchy,” and explain how researchers can apply this tool to assign a primary source of coverage to an individual reporting multiple sources of health insurance coverage on a survey. In addition to exploring different ways researchers can structure the hierarchy depending on the research question being explored, the brief walks the reader through the coverage hierarchy that SHADAC applies when reporting coverage estimates from the American Community Survey (ACS) and demonstrates how the hierarchy affects the rates of reported coverage for each insurance source.

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

**Results from the 2019 Kentucky and Ohio Health Issues Polls**

Interact for Health has just released findings from two 2019 state health surveys—the Kansas Health Issues Poll (KHIP) and the Ohio Health Issues Poll (OHIP)—focused specifically around issues of addiction, substance use disorder, and access to substance use treatment. Results from both states showed at least one-third of adults in each state (38% in Kentucky and 33% in Ohio) had a friend or family member with an addiction to prescription drugs. For more on prescription opioid and opioid-related drug overdose death rates in Kentucky, Ohio, and other states across the U.S., see SHADAC's recent national and state-level issue briefs on this topic.

**Examining 10 Years of the Affordable Care Act: Colorado’s Remaining Uninsured**

The Colorado Health Institute (CHI) has published a new analysis examining trends in Colorado’s statewide uninsured rate over the past 10 years in the wake of the passage of the Affordable Care Act
(ACA) in 2010. The evaluation found the overall rate of uninsured dropped dramatically from 13.5 percent in 2009 to 6.5 percent in 2019, with the biggest drop occurring between 2013 (14.3 percent) and 2015 (6.7 percent). An examination of the uninsured by citizenship, race/ethnicity, and age are also included within the report—part of a health care and insurance spotlight series marking the 10th anniversary of the ACA.

New Mexico Publishes First "State of New Mexico Data Book"

Recently, the New Mexico Human Services Department (HSD) published a first-of-its-kind “State of Mexico Data Book.” The book is intended as a resource and reference guide for researchers, containing a summary of social, economic, and health statistics of the state and is designed to facilitate comparisons of national, state, and county-level data. Included within the contents are demographic, program enrollment, and budget data, along with individual county fact sheets.

Payment and Delivery System Advancement in the States
An Evaluation of Washington’s Accountable Communities of Health (ACHs) for Health System Transformation

A 2019 evaluation by the Center for Community Health and Evaluation of Washington’s nine collaborative regional Accountable Communities of Health (ACHs) model revealed the program’s successes in improving quality of care and reducing health care costs for state health systems through an approach that incorporated building foundational infrastructure for collaboration, developing regional health improvement plans, jointly advancing large scale health improvement and system transformation projects, and a focus on community engagement and social determinants of health in their respective regions. Washington’s experience as documented in the report provides a number of lessons for other states looking to invest in large-scale collaborations for health system transformation.

Other Data News & SHADAC Resources
Final Data Release from the 2018 American Community Survey (ACS)

The U.S. Census Bureau recently released the 2014-2018 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS) files; the final product from their ACS data series for 2018. The files include all individual and sub sample population and housing unit responses. All data relating to the ACS can be accessed via data.census.gov. Stay tuned for the upcoming release of SHADAC’s map resource showing health insurance coverage estimates for all 50 states and all counties based on these 5-year estimates!

Partial 2018 Mortality Data Available from the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS)

The National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) has released 2018 public use data files for portions of their collective mortality data, including: Birth, Period Linked Birth – Infant Death, Birth Cohort Linked Birth – Infant Death, Mortality Multiple Cause, and Fetal Death. NCHS has also published a series of data briefs including key findings from their initial analysis of single-year data for mortality in 2018, as well as trends over multiple years for life expectancy, maternal mortality, and drug overdose deaths.

Additional Resources
New Altarum Healthcare Affordability State Policy Scorecard

Altarum’s Healthcare and Value Hub has published a new state-level policy scorecard, rating 42 states and the District of Columbia (D.C.) on their adoption of evidence-based policy actions in four areas (extending coverage; lowering out-of-pocket costs; reducing low-value care; curbing excess prices) to improve affordability of health care for residents. The scorecard also comes with a summary report and a methodology report that are available for download.
State Investments in Supportive Housing Resource from State Health and Value Strategies

As research continues to support a link between housing stability, quality, safety, and affordability and health outcomes, a new brief from State Health and Value Strategies with Manatt Health delves into the issue of states leveraging federal authorities to provide support services that help people experiencing or at risk of homelessness, people with disabilities, and older adults, to secure and maintain housing. Accompanying the brief is a detailed chart listing which mechanisms are being used by which states, for which populations they are being used, and what benefits states are able to provide through each mechanism.

Recommended Reading

Newest phase in opioid epidemic: Mix of opioids and stimulants like coke and meth
Rilyn Eischens, Minnesota Reformer

States Work to Make Individual Market Health Coverage More Affordable, But Long-Term Solutions Call for Federal Leadership
Justin Giovanelli; JoAnn Volk; Kevin Lucia, Commonwealth Fund

Report: We’re struggling to pay for health care
John Lundy, Duluth News Tribune

Why Neighborhoods—and the Policies that Shape Them—Matter
Dolores Acevedo-Garcia, RWJF Culture of Health blog

Health Affairs in 2019: Editor’s Picks
Alan Weil, Health Affairs