# Medicaid Managed Care: Background

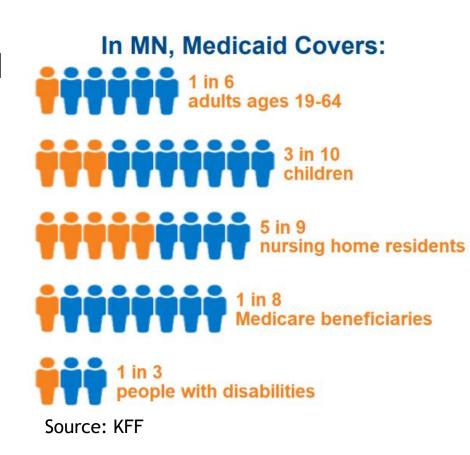
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### A critically important program for the state

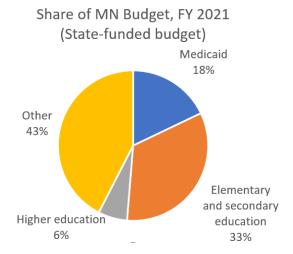
- Approximately 1.4 million Minnesotans are covered by Medicaid (18% of population)
- Covers Minnesotans throughout the state
- Covers one-in-three Minnesota births
- Offers broad range of covered services for enrollees

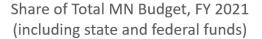


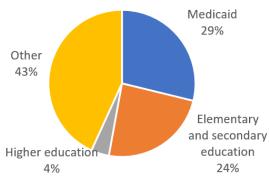
#### Medicaid financing in Minnesota

 Minnesota spent approximately \$15 billion on Medicaid in 2022

 Federal government subsidizes over half the cost of Minnesota's Medicaid program







Source: Medicaid and CHIP Payment Advisory Commission



#### Medicaid is like four programs in one



Pregnancy and Children



Adults without Disability



People with Disabilities



Dually-Eligible with Medicare

## A critical support for health system, a budget challenge, and an investment opportunity

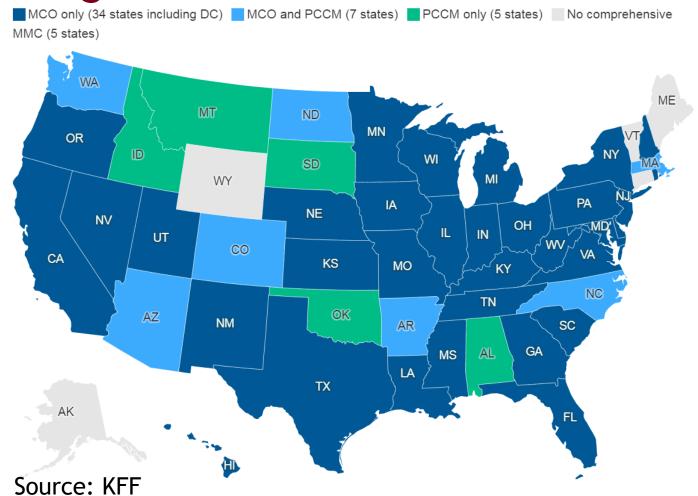
- Medicaid is critical for safety net, mental health, childbirth, long term services & supports, child health, health equity
- Very large state budget line funding is challenging especially during economic downturns
- US Congressional Budget Office: "long-term fiscal effects of Medicaid spending on children could offset half or more of the program's initial outlays"

#### State flexibility in Medicaid programs

- Federal subsidy dollars come with rules for how Medicaid programs work
- States have lots of flexibility, nevertheless:
  - Eligibility rules
  - Covered benefits
  - Provider payment rates
  - Administrative processes

### Medicaid: "Make" or "Buy?"

## Most Medicaid Enrollees are in a Managed Care Organization



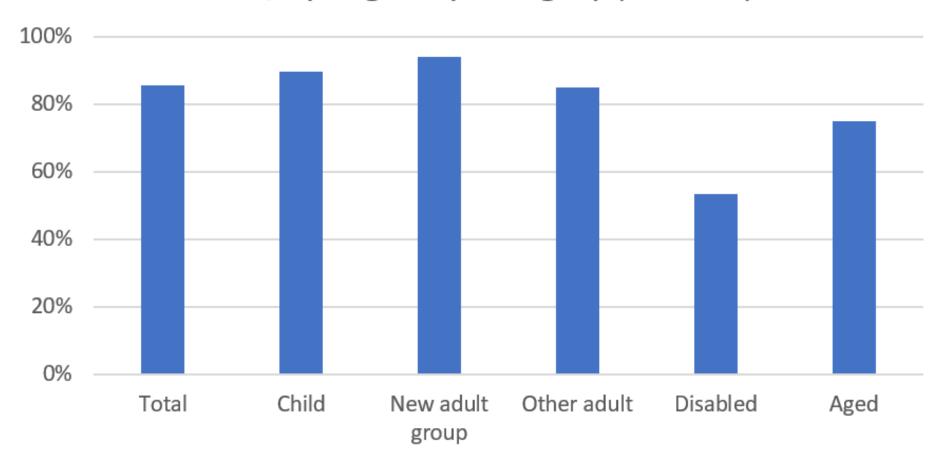
#### Motivations for Medicaid Managed Care

- Try to reduce spending via private sector efficiencies
- Managed care has a variety of tools to control spending
- Create more budgetary predictability for the state
- Outsource administrative and bureaucratic functions
- Reduce stigma of Medicaid enrollment
- Create incentives and accountability for access, quality, and costs of care

#### Different Models of Medicaid Managed Care

- Comprehensive, "full risk" contracts to managed care organizations
  - Capitation rates reflect expected spending for population
- Partial capitation contracts, carving-out specific types of services either to the state or to other managed care organizations
  - Mental health, pharmacy benefits, dental services, longterm services & supports
- Use different models for different geographies within a state, or for different eligibility groups within a state
- Federal rules guide what happens in Medicaid managed care

### Percent of MN Medicaid Enrollees in Managed Care, by Eligibility Category (FY 2021)



Source: MACPAC

#### Managed Care Organization Requirements

- Determine a provider network
- Determine how services are delivered
- Determine which services require authorization or referral
- Determine its reimbursement rates to providers
- Must cover member's urgent or emergency care including outside of the MCO's network or service area
- Must cover open access services including family planning
- Must have procedures for handling member grievances and appeals

#### Medicaid Managed Care in Minnesota

- Early adopter: MN has had some Medicaid managed care since 1985
- 49% of MN's Medicaid spending is payment to MCOs (FY 2022)
- All counties participate in competitive bidding process for up to 5-year contracts, with at least two MCOs/county
  - Plans are graded on criteria including organizational capacity, provider networks, plans for improving health and equity, plans for value-based payment, administrative processes
  - Plans selected on those criteria enter into rate negotiation with the State
- Currently nine MCOs delivering Medicaid benefits across MN

## Medicaid Managed Care: Evidence of Effects Nationally

- Good evidence that Medicaid managed care <u>can</u> reduce costs modestly, improve access to some services and improve some outcomes
- Overall, weak and mixed evidence on whether Medicaid managed care <u>does</u> systematically affect costs, quality, and access
- Important caveats:
  - States use very different managed care models, and for different populations
  - Within-states, performance can vary a lot across managed care organizations
  - Much evidence of effects on costs looks at populations that were already relatively low cost

### Thank you

