

Arkansas Health Care Independence Program

State Legislative Quarterly Report
January 1, 2015 to March 31, 2015



I. Program Enrollment

Enrollment in the **Arkansas Health Care Independence Program** continued to be strong state-wide during the first quarter of 2015. As of March 31, 2015 a total of 242,103 Arkansans had applied and been determined eligible. People in all 75 counties have been approved.

Pulaski County led the state with 32,774 sign-ups followed by:

- Washington County — 12,389
- Benton County — 10,967
- Garland County — 9,594
- Sebastian County — 8,938
- Craighead County — 8,417
- Faulkner County — 7,803
- Jefferson County — 7,887
- Crittenden — 6,168
- White County — 6,449

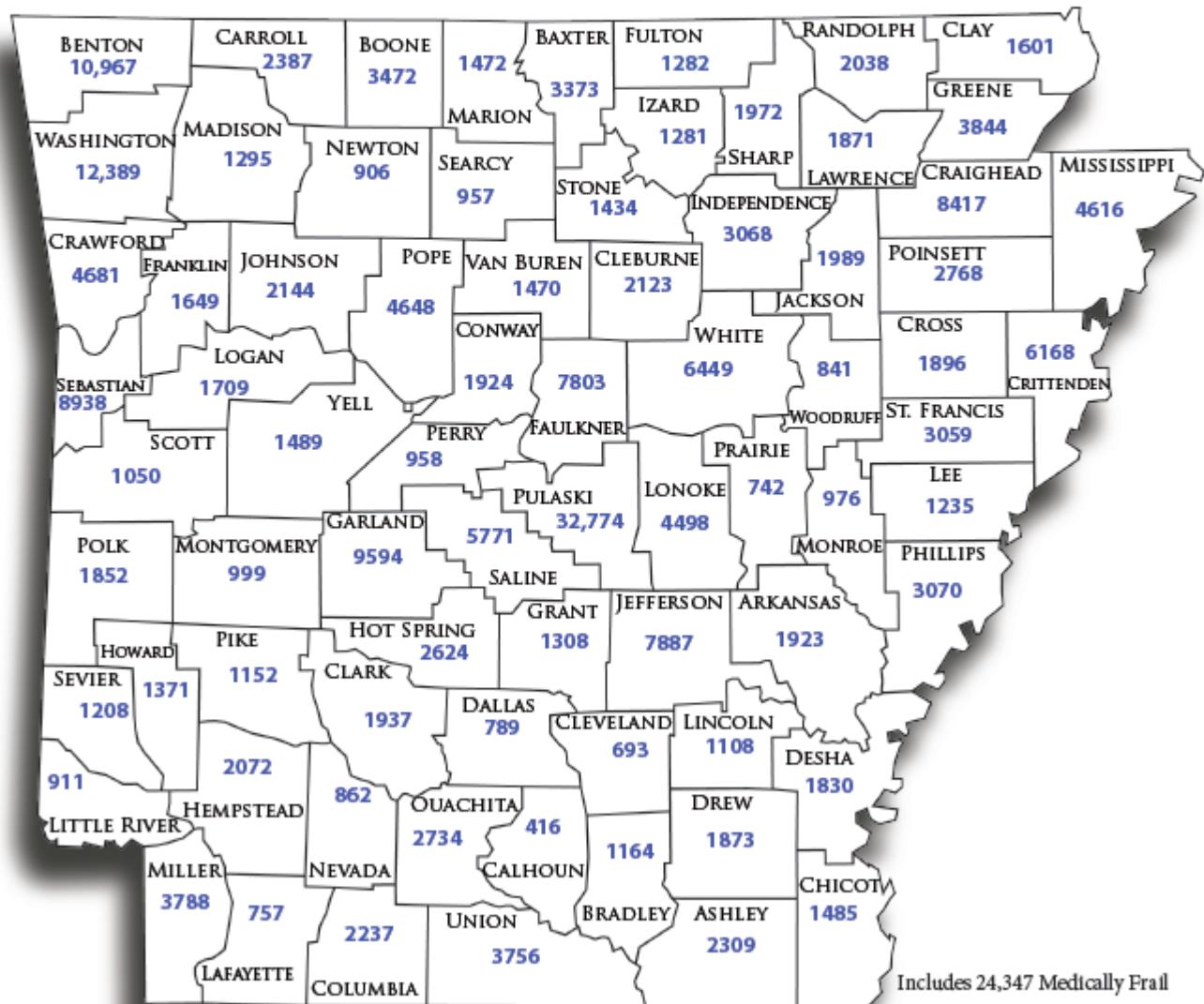
A. Medically Frail Determinations

Through December 2014	Medically Frail Determinations (Average %)	ABP-State Plan	ABP-FFS equivalent of QHP
	24,347 (10%)	21,327	3,020

Health Care Independence Program

As of March 31, 2015

242,103 Eligibility Approvals
229,599 Enrollment Complete



II. Patient Experience

Patient experience will be analyzed as part of the evaluation of the program's Demonstration Waiver. Specifically, the evaluation will determine whether, compared to care patients would have gotten in the traditional Medicaid program over time, the Health Care Independence program provides patients:

- Equal or better access to health care
- Equal or better health care and outcomes
- Better continuity of care

Evaluation data on patient experience in the Health Care Independence Program is not yet available, but will be included in this report as it becomes available.

Patient satisfaction data will be collected using the Consumer Assessment of Health Plan Survey (CAHPS) beginning in 2015. CAHPS survey ask consumers and patients to report on their experiences with health care and cover important topics including quality of care, access to care, and experience with care.

III. Economic impact including enrollment distribution

Data on the economic impact of the Health Care Independence Program is not yet available. As information on the economic impact of the program (including the impact of premium tax revenue, increased income and sales tax revenue, and data on offset savings) becomes available, it will be included in this report.

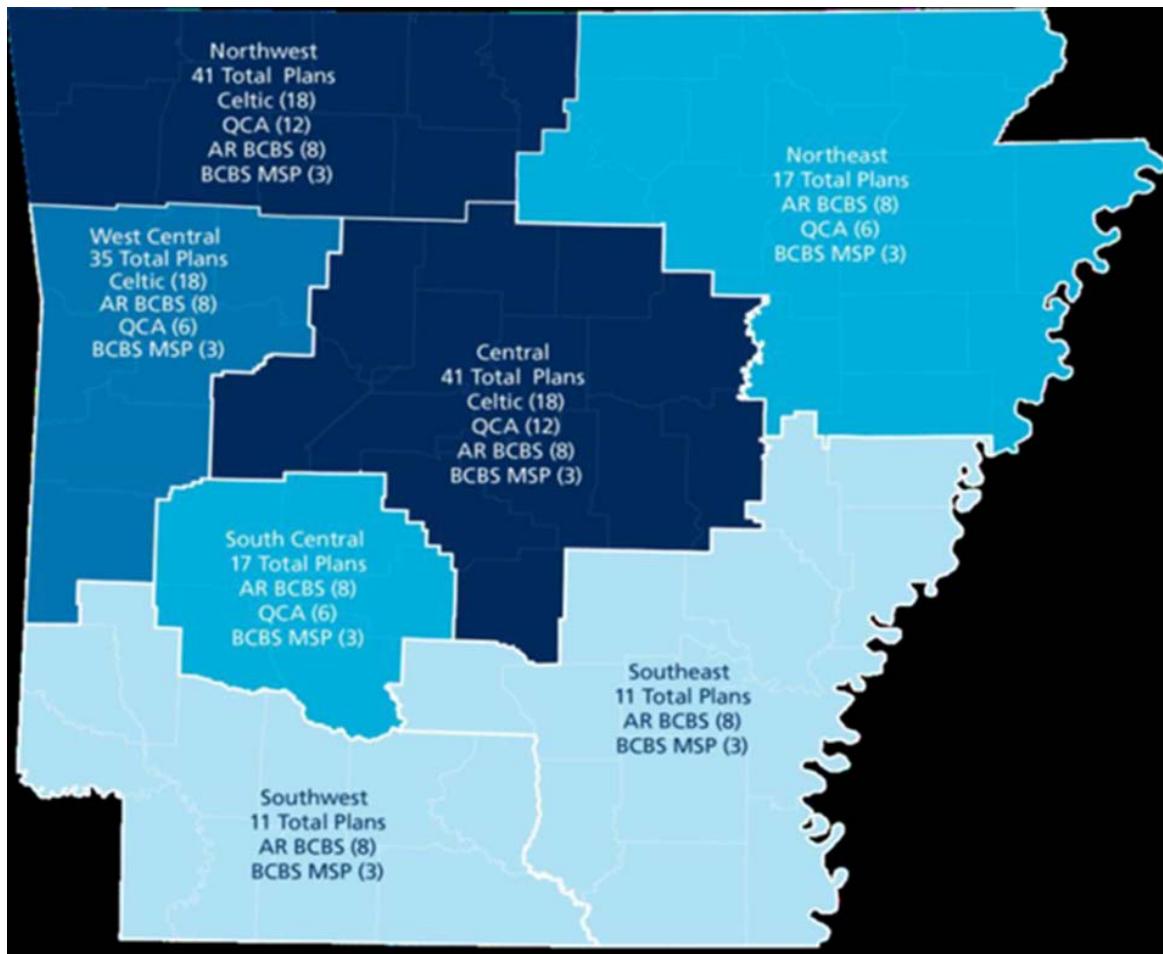
IV. Carrier competition

For Plan Year 2015, the Arkansas Marketplace has five issuers offering 72 Qualified Health Plans (QHPs) and five issuers offering 12 Stand Alone Dental Plans. These plans are offered through seven rating areas and premium rates change per rating area.

The five issuers are:

- Arkansas Blue Cross Blue Shield
- Celtic doing business as Arkansas Health and Wellness Solution (Ambetter)
- QualChoice and Health Insurance Co.
- QC Health Plan, Inc.
- Blue Cross Blue Shield Multi-State Plan.

Carrier competition has increased with the Private Option. QC Health Plan, Inc. was a new issuer for plan year 2015. June 15, 2014 was the deadline for carriers to submit plans for approval as QHPs to be offered on the Marketplace in Plan Year 2015. All carriers were required to submit at least one EHB-only Silver Level plan to be offered on the Marketplace; these would be the plans available for consumers under the Private Option Program. All QHP applicants for 2015 have applied to provide statewide coverage.



V. Uncompensated Care

One goal of the Health Care Independence Program is to reduce uncompensated care provided by Arkansas's hospitals and to reduce the amount of uninsured care provided in emergency departments.

In April 2015, the Arkansas Center for Health Improvement released a report that illustrated the results of a survey of approximately 80 percent of statewide hospital volume and revenue. Hospitals providing care for lower income Arkansans reported 56.4 percent cost reduction in uncompensated care losses totaling \$69 million. The survey that informed the report was conducted in 2014 and compared to the first two quarters of 2013.

The report can be found here: <http://www.achi.net/Docs/275/>

The evaluation of the Health Care Independence Program will update this information.