

Medicaid AVR in Colorado



**Colorado Consumer
Health Initiative**

Colorado Consumer Health Initiative

Advancing the consumer perspective to improve health care

The Colorado Consumer Health Initiative (CCHI) is a statewide, non-partisan, non-profit membership organization working so all Coloradans can get affordable, high-quality and equitable health care.

CCHI was created in 2000 to be a counterweight to powerful health care interests by building a cohesive consumer voice among health advocacy organizations and their constituents.

VISION:

EQUITABLE ACCESS TO
AFFORDABLE, QUALITY
HEALTH CARE FOR ALL
COLORADANS



Voting & Health in CO

- Inclusive voting policies, including:
 - Automatic voter registration through the DMV,
 - Same-day and election day registration,
 - No-excuse absentee voting, and
 - Restoration of rights for ex-felons
- 71% of eligible voters are registered
- Pre-pandemic uninsured rate - 6.5%
- Medicaid expansion state
- Rate relatively well on health indicators

So why are we excited about Medicaid AVR?

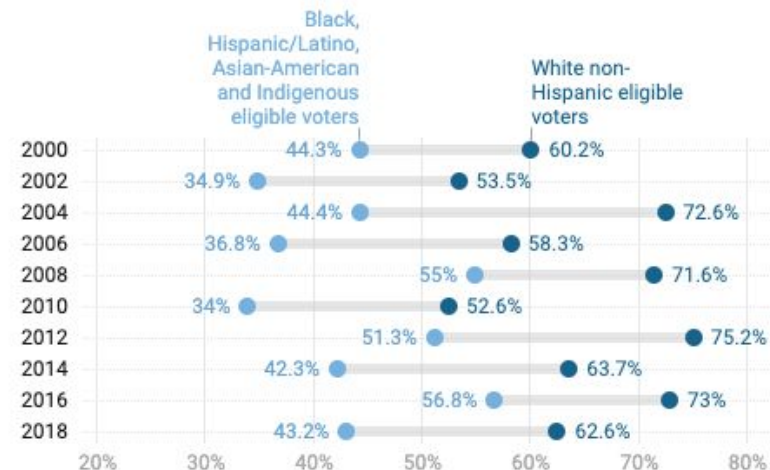
- 29% of eligible voters aren't registered
- 20% of the state population, 1.3 million people, are covered through Medicaid
- Voter registration status/stability shares similar challenges to Medicaid coverage

Racial equity:

- White Coloradans 40% more likely to cast their ballot
- Medicaid enrollees:

Racial disparities in voter turnout persist in Colorado

Turnout rates by racial demographics, Current Population Survey estimates, 2000–2018



Location	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian/Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander	American Indian/Alaska Native	Multiple Races	Total
Colorado	12.5%	29.9%	30.7%	12.0%	29.8%	18.4%	17.7%

Medicaid AVR

- Builds on robust health enrollment efforts, infrastructure (CO caveat), networks
- Medicaid AVR creates a foundation that can help us reach up to 95% voter registration
 - That could mean an additional 385,528 voters
 - 90% are voters of color and/or under age 30
- Close equity gaps in registration

Voting is a form of consumer voice that supports health

- Correlation between voting and better health outcomes
 - Lower uninsured
 - Better reported health
 - Lower infant mortality

We work to raise and amplify consumer voices for better health care, and improving voting access is a fundamental way to do that!