

OVERVIEW OF PROGRAMS PROVIDING PRENATAL SERVICES



AN ISSUE BRIEF FROM LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD STAFF

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OBJECTIVE

In fiscal year 2015, prenatal services for pregnant women and their unborn children were provided in Texas through the Expanded Primary Health Care program, the Title V Prenatal program, Medicaid for pregnant women, and the Children's Health Insurance Program Perinatal program.

KEY FACTS

- ◆ Each prenatal service program provides a unique set of services ranging from diagnostic testing to diabetic supplies.
- ◆ In fiscal year 2015, Texas Medicaid for pregnant women costs were more in All Funds than any other prenatal service program.

BUDGETARY IMPACT

For fiscal year 2015, \$1.4 billion in All Funds was spent on services for pregnant women and their unborn children.

STATUTORY REFERENCES

The Texas Health and Safety Code, Chapter 31, Primary Health Care

The Texas Health and Safety Code, Chapter 32, Maternal and Infant Health Improvement

Seventy-ninth Legislature, General Appropriations Act, 2006–07 Biennium

In fiscal year 2015, prenatal services for pregnant women and their unborn children were provided in Texas through the Expanded Primary Health Care program (EPHC), the federal Title V Prenatal program, Medicaid for pregnant women, and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) Perinatal program. Each program has its own eligibility requirements based on factors such as income, age, and ineligibility for other prenatal programs. **Figure 1** shows a funding overview of programs providing prenatal services in Texas for fiscal year 2015.

THE EXPANDED PRIMARY HEALTH CARE AND TITLE V PRENATAL PROGRAMS

The EPHC program provides prenatal care and other health services to women who may not qualify for Medicaid services. The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) administered the EPHC program in fiscal year 2015. To be eligible, recipients must have a family income at or less than 200 percent of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) (\$23,540 for a single person, and \$31,860 for family of two in 2015). Eligible recipients must be age 18 or older, a Texas resident, and unable to access care through insurance or other programs providing the same benefits.

In fiscal year 2015, EPHC provided prenatal services to an average monthly number of 321 clients. The program provided prenatal dental services to an average monthly number of 85 clients. The average monthly cost per recipient for prenatal medical services was \$121. EPHC expenditures for prenatal services were \$0.5 million (All Funds) in fiscal year 2015.

The U.S. Social Security Act, Title V, Prenatal program at DSHS provides prenatal services to women who are in the process of applying for and enrolling in the Medicaid or CHIP Perinatal programs. To be eligible for the program, recipients must have a family income at or less than 185 percent of the FPL (\$21,775 for a single person, and \$29,471 for a family of two in 2015). Eligible recipients must also be Texas residents and ineligible for other programs or benefits providing the same services. The Title V Prenatal program provided prenatal medical services to an average monthly number of 421 clients in fiscal year 2015. The program provided prenatal dental services to an average monthly number of 203 clients. The average monthly cost per recipient for prenatal services was \$235. Program expenditures were \$1.8 million (All Funds) in fiscal year 2015.

The Eighty-fourth Legislature, 2015, transferred EPHC to the Texas Health and Human

FIGURE 1
PROGRAMS PROVIDING
PRENATAL SERVICES, ALL FUNDS
FISCAL YEAR 2015

PROGRAM	ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES (IN MILLIONS)
EPHC	\$0.5
Title V Prenatal	\$1.8
CHIP Perinatal	\$208.4
Medicaid	\$1,188.6
Total	\$1,398.8

NOTES: EPHC= Expanded Primary Health Care program; Title V=U.S. Social Security Act, Title V; CHIP=Children's Health Insurance Program; Medicaid expenditures include only prenatal medical services. SOURCES: Legislative Budget Board; Texas Health and Human Services Commission; Texas Department of State Health Services.

Services Commission (HHSC). In 2016, EPHC will be consolidated with other women’s health programs to form the Healthy Texas Woman program at HHSC. The Legislative Budget Board infographic titled Women’s Health History shows the history and evolution of women’s health programs in Texas. Senate Bill 200, Eighty-fourth Legislature, 2015, transfers the Title V Prenatal program to HHSC as part of the consolidation of the health and human services system. The Title V Prenatal program is scheduled to transfer with other client services to HHSC by September 1, 2016.

MEDICAID FOR PREGNANT WOMEN

Medicaid provides health insurance and other services to low-income families, nondisabled children, related caretakers of dependent children, pregnant women, the elderly, and people with disabilities. Before the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010 (ACA) was implemented, Medicaid eligibility requirements in Texas covered pregnant women with incomes up to 185 percent of the FPL. The ACA required that most Medicaid and CHIP eligibility determinations be made using the modified adjusted gross income (MAGI) methodology. The ACA also prohibited asset tests and most income disregards, instead mandating a standard 5.0 percent income disregard to MAGI-converted income levels. Effective January 1, 2014, pregnant women with family income at or less than 203 percent of the FPL are eligible for Medicaid. In addition to income limits, eligible pregnant women must be U.S. citizens or qualified noncitizens and Texas residents. Medicaid services for pregnant women are delivered in a fee-for-service and managed care model.

According to HHSC, Medicaid provided services to an estimated average monthly number of 141,352 pregnant women in fiscal year 2015. The average monthly cost per recipient was \$700.72. Medicaid expenditures were \$1,188.6 million (All Funds) for services for pregnant women in fiscal year 2015. These amounts include expenditures associated with birth or conditions not directly related to pregnancy. The federal government contributes to the cost of Medicaid client services according to a match rate (58.05 percent in federal fiscal year 2015).

CHILDREN’S HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM PERINATAL PROGRAM

CHIP provides health insurance for uninsured, low-income children with family incomes at more than Medicaid income eligibility thresholds. The Texas CHIP Perinatal program began in 2007. To receive prenatal services through the program, pregnant women must have income lower than 207 percent of the FPL (\$24,364 for a single person, and \$32,975 for a family of two in 2015). Recipients must be Texas residents and ineligible for ongoing Medicaid due to income limits or immigration status. The CHIP Perinatal program provides services through a managed care model. In fiscal year 2015, the CHIP Perinatal program provided services to an average monthly number of 36,484 pregnant women. The average monthly cost per recipient was \$475.90. The CHIP Perinatal program expenditures were \$208.4 million (All Funds) in fiscal year 2015 for services provided to pregnant women. The federal government contributes to the cost of the program according to an enhanced match rate (70.64 percent in federal fiscal year 2015). **Figure 2** shows a comparison of prenatal services provided by each program.

**FIGURE 2
SELECTED SERVICES PROVIDED BY PRENATAL SERVICE PROGRAMS IN TEXAS, FISCAL YEAR 2015**

SERVICE	EPHC	TITLE V PRENATAL	MEDICAID	CHIP PERINATAL
Prenatal Visits	X	X	X	X
Prenatal Labs	X	X	X	X
Diagnostic Testing (e.g., ultrasound)	X	X	X	X
Counseling/Education	X	X	X	X
Prenatal Dental Services	X	X	X	X
Prescriptions/ Prenatal Vitamins	X		X	X
Inpatient/Outpatient Hospital Services			X	
Labor with Delivery of Baby			X	X
Tobacco Cessation			X	
Diabetic Supplies			X	X
Nurse Midwife Services			X	X
Free-Standing Birth Center Services			X	X
Value-Added Benefits			X	X
Postpartum Visits			X	X

NOTES:
 (1) Not an exhaustive list.
 (2) EPHC= Expanded Primary Health Care program; Title V=U.S. Social Security Act, Title V; CHIP=Children's Health Insurance Program.
 (3) Value-added benefits are available to pregnant women enrolled in Medicaid or CHIP Perinatal managed care plans. These benefits include services and items such as pregnancy classes, car seats, and breastfeeding counseling.
 SOURCES: Legislative Budget Board; Texas Department of State Health Services; Texas Health and Human Services Commission.

USEFUL REFERENCES

Texas Department of State Health Services: www.dshs.state.tx.us
 Texas Medicaid and CHIP in Perspective, 2015: www.hhsc.state.tx.us/medicaid/about/PB/PinkBook.pdf

CONTACT

Andrea DeWald Email: IssueBrief@lbb.state.tx.us