Many people in the United States are enrolled in some type of managed care plan (e.g., Health Maintenance Organization (HMO), preferred provider organization). Participation in these plans enables people to have coordinated care, ongoing referrals to specialists, and access to an organized system of health care to obtain quality care. Research noted that health plans’ ability to implement system-wide changes in care led to the prevention of neonatal group B streptococcal infections, improved public health tuberculosis surveillance, and a decrease in postoperative infections.

Among Californians, American Indians/Alaskan Natives and Whites were the least likely to report being in a HMO, while African Americans were the most likely in both 2009 and 2011-12 (see Figure).

In the California Medi-Cal population, the Multiracial group (43%) and American Indians/Alaskan Natives (45%) were the least likely to report being in a HMO as compared to African Americans (62%) in 2009. However, in 2011-12, the Multiracial group (67%) was more likely to report being in a HMO as compared to American Indian/Alaskan Native (42%). Due to small sample sizes, the percentages for Native Hawaiians/Pacific Islanders were unreportable for Medi-Cal and California in general.

Figure

Rate of People in California and Medi-Cal in Managed Care Health Plans, by Race/Ethnicity, 2009 and 2011-12

Source: AskCHIS, California Health Interview Survey, 2009 and 2011-12


Link to Data Sources and Methods