CHCF Environmental Indicators Dashboard, 2022

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The Environmental Indicators Dashboard was designed at the request of the CHCF Board of Directors to orient Board members to the California health care environment by providing data on a set of statewide key performance indicators. We originally shared this dashboard with the Board of Directors in June 2018; this is its fifth publication.

This dashboard is a 30,000-foot view of key statistics relevant to CHCF’s mission and work. These metrics focus on entrenched, systemic challenges. The data presented are not a direct measure of CHCF’s impact as we alone cannot move these indicators, however, they do highlight where we are seeing progress and where there remains need for CHCF’s sustained, systemic efforts.

Most of the measures include data from 2020 (or 2021) and therefore begin to reflect the impact of COVID-19.

CHCF funds several of the data sources cited in the environmental indicators dashboard, including the California Health Interview Survey (CHIS) and the CHCF Health Policy Survey.

Measure selection and dashboard design guiding principles include:
- Align with CHCF goals and incorporate strategic focus on Medi-Cal, Californians with low incomes, listening to consumers, and equity
- Represent major quality domains (e.g., access, patient experience, clinical outcomes, equity, and cost)

The CHIS survey did not include the question "People who experienced unfair treatment getting medical care due to race/ethnicity" this year, so we have presented the previous year’s data. This question has been added back to CHIS surveys moving forward, and new data should be available for next year’s dashboard.

We changed the maternity care measure to align with California Department of Public Health and California Maternal Quality Care Collaborative measurement. The new measure, pregnancy-related mortality, represents deaths up to one year after childbirth.
Key Takeaways

- Important health care quality disparities by race and ethnicity:
  - Higher rates of reported unfair treatment and preventable hospitalizations for Black Californians
  - Alarming pregnancy-related death rate for Black birthing people
  - Latino/x Californians disproportionally uninsured

- California’s overall uninsured rate has leveled off after Affordable Care Act implementation. Nearly a quarter of uninsured Californians are eligible for Medi-Cal. Californians ineligible for public coverage due to immigration status comprise the largest portion of the remaining uninsured.

- Behavioral health care needs are immense. One in four Medi-Cal enrollees reports needing care, and 41% of those who needed care did not receive it.

- Large gaps in specialty care access persist with one in four Medi-Cal enrollees reporting difficulty accessing specialty care.

- Compared to Medicaid plans nationally, Medi-Cal plans perform similarly or better on almost three-quarters of CMS core measures.
  - Medi-Cal plans performed worse than the national average on 12 adult measures, 10 of which were behavioral health measures.

- Huge numbers of Californians are delaying or skipping care due to cost, with an even greater number of residents with the lowest incomes postponing or not receiving care.

- The number of Californians experiencing homelessness continues to climb, and about 40% of those experiencing homelessness also report a disabling condition.

- Only 10% of people dually enrolled in Medi-Cal and Medicare, most of whom are older adults with complex needs, are enrolled in integrated plans.

- Currently, there are important changes taking place in Medi-Cal and health care writ large in California. We anticipate that these developments will impact some of the indicators included in this dashboard over the next few years. However, we underscore that these metrics are related to entrenched challenges that will require long-term funding and significant systemic work to change.

- What insights or reactions do you have about the data presented this year? Any surprises or concerns?