Cost of Care in Colorado

Overview

It takes nearly $4,000 Per Person Per Year (PPPY) to cover the health care needs of most Coloradans*

*Medicaid, Commercial, & Medicare Advantage covered lives

Rural vs. Urban

In general, expenses for rural Coloradans are higher.

Rural Medicare Advantage patients pay nearly double the out-of-pocket costs annually compared to urban residents.

Trends

Between 2012-2015, costs to pay for health care expenses rose an average of 6%* across all payers.

*$600 PPPY increase

...and females are most expensive between ages 35-64, and 65+.
The biggest increase in costs across all payers is in the pharmacy service category. Medicare Advantage had the highest increase in pharmacy, from $440 PPPY to $1,900 PPPY.

**SERVICE CATEGORY AVERAGE PERCENT CHANGE FROM 2012-2015**

- **Pharmacy Services**: 27%
- **Inpatient (hospital) Services**: 2%
- **Professional (clinician) Services**: 4%
- **Outpatient (clinic) Services**: 4%

**In 2015 Commercially insured annual costs were higher in some Western Slope areas and Eastern Plains areas, and lower in the Front Range and Southeast areas of the state.**

**County Profiles**

- **Pitkin County**: 68% above the state median PPPY cost for commercial payers.
- **Phillips County**: 79% above the state median PPPY cost for commercial payers.

To learn more, visit us at: www.civhc.org/get-data/interactive-data/statewide-metrics/cost-of-care

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