

### Unwinding update Status of resuming Medical Assistance, MinnesotaCare renewals February 2024

John Connolly | Assistant Commissioner Health Care Administration



## How we got here

- March 18, 2020: Families First Coronavirus Response Act begins continuous coverage
  - DHS stops annual eligibility renewals and most adverse actions on enrollment
  - Condition of enhanced federal funding through the Families First Coronavirus Response Act
- Consolidated Appropriations Act 2023 signed Dec. 29, 2022
- March 31, 2023: Continuous coverage ends, renewals restart; called the "unwinding"
- May 2023: First group of enrollees receives renewal packets



### Minnesota's guiding principles for the unwind

Maintain coverage for all eligible enrollees without interruptions

Comply with evolving federal guidance Minimize burden on the workforce to aid timely processing of renewals

# Timeline

2020 2021 - 2022 2023 2024  $(\mathbf{q})$ 9  $(\mathbf{r})$ •  $(\mathbf{q})$  $(\mathbf{q})$  $\mathbf{P}$ Medical Assistance renewal cohorts 2-12 with multiple Minnesota March: Notice deadline extensions to help enrollees preparing with May: Renewal about restarting several forms sent to **December:** renewals sent to Quarter 4: start/stops based Cohort 1 Initial CMS enrollees in July 31: Deadline for September: MinnesotaCare cohort on 11 public guidance Cohort 1, enrollees in Cohort 1 Mitigation 2.0 health emergency issued mitigation 1.0 plan extensions and June: Deadline for CMS guidance enrollees in Cohort 1 April: Began system June 2024: extended from June processes for Return to 30 to July 31 enrollees in renewals Cohort 1 for cohort 1

# Mitigation 2.0 highlights

	Approach	Key Deliverables	Due Date	Status
$\bigcirc$	Reinstate – Restore Coverage Applies to the July, August, and September cohorts	<ul> <li>Identify affected individuals and develop report</li> <li>Develop reinstatement notices for affected individuals</li> <li>Train DHS eligibility workers</li> <li>MA coverage for 12,508 individuals was reinstated (mainly children)</li> </ul>	Must be completed by 11/30/2023	Completed
	Renew – Pause Procedural Terminations Applies to the October, November, and December cohorts	<ul> <li>Extend coverage for 3 months for each renewal cohort</li> <li>Identify affected individuals and develop report</li> <li>Develop notices for affected individuals</li> <li>Train eligibility workers</li> </ul>	County workers must complete for affected individuals in the Minnesota Eligibility Technology System (METS) who are in the November and December cohorts by 4/30/2024	On track – ✓ Completed for October cohort ✓ Coverage extended for all cohorts ✓ Extension/closure notice mailed to enrollees in all cohorts who didn't complete their renewal ✓ Affected enrollees identified and reports for all cohorts sent to processing agencies ✓ Eligibility workers trained
	Extend – Implement Mitigation Strategy Applies to the January and future cohorts until system changes are made	<ul> <li>Identify affected households and develop report</li> <li>Suppress renewal forms for affected households</li> <li>Train eligibility workers</li> </ul>	The automated METS process ran on 1/22/2024 for affected households in the March cohort	On track – ✓ Completed for Jan., Feb. & March cohorts ✓ Affected households identified and report for March cohort developed ✓ Renewal forms suppressed for affected households in the March cohort ✓ Eligibility workers trained

# Where we are today

### **Renewals summary**

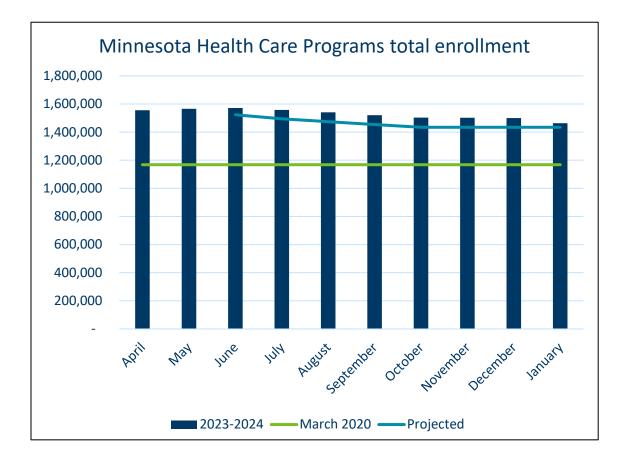
	Processing status	5*	Renewal outcomes*	
Renewals due	Completed	Remaining	Kept eligibility	Disenrolled
1,471,000	1,130,000	341,000	842,000	288,000
	77%	23%	75%**	25%**

Data as of **2/7/2024.** Data rounded to nearest 1,000.

\*Includes all unwinding cohorts to date from July 2023, including enrollees who automatically renewed in the February, March and April 2024 cohorts.

\*\*Of completed renewals

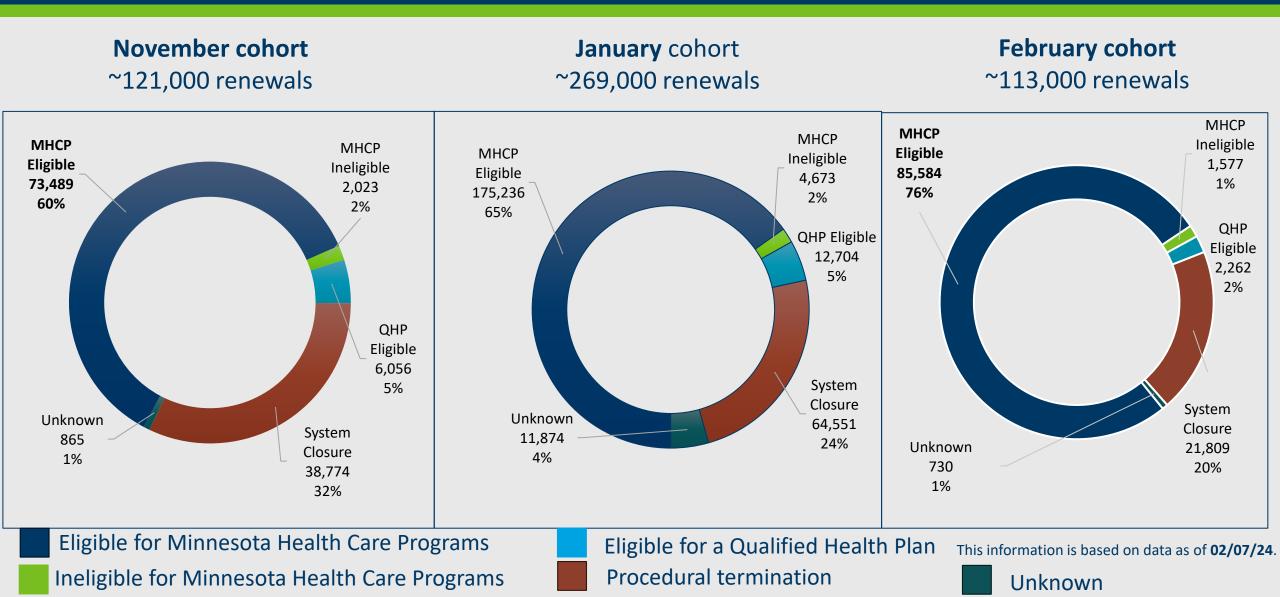
# Where we are today



### Data as of **2/7/2024**

- Current enrollment: 1,464,000 Minnesotans.
  - A 6.8% decline from June 2023 enrollment peak.
  - The programs included: Medical Assistance, MinnesotaCare, Family Planning and Medicare Savings Programs.
  - It includes MA enrollees not subject to renewal, such as hospital presumptive eligibility, Refugee Medical Assistance and children in foster care.

### Latest renewal outcomes

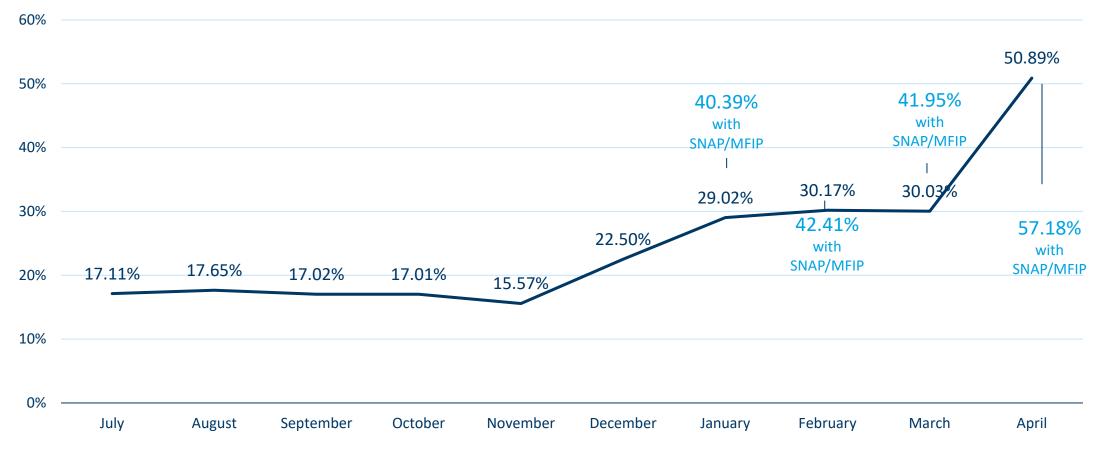


### Successes: Keeping kids covered

Mitigation 2.0 helped nearly 13,000 children have their coverage reinstated, and about 79,000 keep their coverage.

### Successes: Automatically renewing more enrollees

### Automatic renewal rates in METS



### Successes: Engaging with the community

#### Keep your ealth insurance

Do you have Medical Assistance or MinnesotaCare?

You can now get text nessages when you need to take action to keep your insurance

Keep your

health insurance

Do you have

Medical Assistance

or MinnesotaCare?

You can now get text

messages when you need

to take action to keep

your insurance.

Update your contact

m

DEPARTMENT OF

Learn more at mn.gov/dhs/renewmycover

formation to get texts

Jpdate your contac formation to get text



m Learn more at

#### Ilaalso caymiskaaga caafimaad

Ma leedahay Caawimaad Caafimaad (Medical Assistance) ama MinnesotaCare? Waxaad hadda heli kartaa fariimaha qoraalka ah marka aad u baahan tahay inaad tallaabo qaado si aad u ilaalsato caymiskaaga Dib-u-cusbooneysii macluumaadkaaga xiriirka si

aad u hesho farriimo goraal ah



Wax badan ka barta



Do you have Medical Assistance or MinnesotaCare?

You can now get text messages when you need to take action to keep your insurance. Update your contact information to get texts.



mn.gov/dhs/renewmy coverage HUMAN SERVICES



### Do you have Medical Assistance or MinnesotaCare? Keep it!

Get texts when it's time for action. Update your contact info now.

#### Keep your health insurance



Obtenga más información en mn.gov/dhs/renew mycoverage

### DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES Y Report Abuse

People we serve Partners and providers General public

Home > Renew my coverage > Tools for partners > Community Engagement

#### Renew my coverage When do I renew

Community engagement

Information and Resources for Community Engagement

**Community Partners and Impact** 

As we embark on the critical task of supporting the 1.5 million Minnesotans renewing their health coverage, the work of community partners like you, as trusted messengers, is invaluable. Whether your organization is rooted in healthcare. education, social services, faith, or the arts, your work is instrumental in bridging gaps, ensuring that vital information and resources are accessible to all Minnesotans. Our collective voices, when united, can amplify the message, empowering individuals and families to navigate these changes with confidence.

Media

Report Fra

### Keep your health insurance

Do you have Medical Assistance or MinnesotaCare? You can now get text messages when you need to take action to keep your insurance.

Update your contact information to get texts.



MINNESOTA Learn more at: mn.gov/dhs/renewmy.coverage



DEPARTMENT OF

HUMAN SERVICES

mn.gov/dhs/renewmycoverage

Conserve su seguro de salud

;Cuenta con Asistencia Médica o MinnesotaCare?

Ahora podrá recibir mensajes de texto cuando necesite

tomar medidas para conservar su seguro. Actualice su

información de contacto para recibir mensajes de texto.

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Get help ools for

Next steps

### Successes





Added more user-friendly ways to complete the renewal process Made it easier to complete the paperbased renewal forms





Checked enrollees losing coverage for other eligibility

Updated addresses



Worked with contracted health plans to maintain coverage

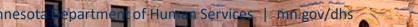


Minimized hurdles to the that cause enrollees to temporarily lose program eligibility

# Thank you for your partnership

### Legislation passed that

- Supports partners
  - Processing partners funded \$36M
  - Navigators got additional funding
- Prevents gaps in coverage
- Shores up DHS resources
- Provides continuous coverage for children



### Future

- System modernization
- Lasting benefits from improved automatic renewal rates
- Continue investments in authentic engagement with community organizations
- Waivers
  - Temporary waivers last only through end of calendar year.
  - Asset test returns for people who are 65 or older, are blind or who have a disability.



## Important reminders

- Returning forms on time is the best way to ensure people keep their insurance.
- People can look up the deadline for their paperwork at <u>mn.gov/dhs/renewmycoverage</u>.
- If people need assistance filling out forms, free help is available through MNsure navigators who are a part of trusted community organizations.
- Most enrollees who missed their renewal deadline can still turn in their renewal form and possibly receive retroactive coverage if they remain eligible.
- Enrollment for Medical Assistance and MinnesotaCare is always open, and people can apply at any time

# Watch for the circle in blue when it's time to renew

