



Legislative Report

Periodic data matching

Annual report

Health Care Eligibility and Access

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Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 3.197, requires the disclosure of the cost to prepare this report. The estimated cost of preparing this report is \$4,070.

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I. Executive summary

The Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) initiated the Periodic Data Matching (PDM) process in August 2018 pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 256B.0561. DHS must conduct periodic data matching to identify enrollees on Medical Assistance (MA) or MinnesotaCare programs in the Minnesota Eligibility Technology System (METS), who based on available electronic data may no longer qualify for the program in which they are enrolled. DHS must notify such enrollees, and must allow them 30 days to respond and provide information that confirms continuing eligibility or a reasonable explanation for the discrepancy. MA or MinnesotaCare coverage is closed for enrollees who fail to respond or whose response does not support eligibility.

This report provides an overview of the PDM process, and the results for each of the seven completed cycles of PDM from September 2018 through July 2019.

For that period, MA and MinnesotaCare data matching resulted in the following cumulative totals:

- A total of 281,086 cases were selected for data matching based on their month of application.
- (Note: The number of cases reflects a total number of 580,137 individual MA and MinnesotaCare enrollees who were selected for PDM.)
- A total of 68,461 individual MA and MinnesotaCare enrollees were identified as possibly ineligible as a result of the match.
- A total of 22,990 individual MA and MinnesotaCare enrollees were terminated as a result of a periodic data match.
- Of the total number of enrollees whose coverage was terminated, a total of 20,386 individual MA and MinnesotaCare enrollees were closed due to failure to cooperate (i.e., enrollee did not respond).

II. Legislation

Minnesota Statutes, section 256B.0561, subdivision 4, mandates this Legislative Report:

Subd. 4. **Report.**

By September 1, 2019, and each September 1 thereafter, the commissioner shall submit a report to the chairs and ranking minority members of the house and senate committees with jurisdiction over human services finance that includes the number of cases affected by periodic data matching under this section, the number of recipients identified as possibly ineligible as a result of a periodic data match, and the number of recipients whose eligibility was terminated as a result of a periodic data match. The report must also specify, for recipients whose eligibility was terminated, how many cases were closed due to failure to cooperate.

III. Introduction

This report was prepared in response to Minnesota Statutes, section 256B.0561, subdivision 4. It includes a brief background to familiarize the reader with the PDM process, and provides the data for seven completed cycles of data matching (September 2018, and February 2019 through July 2019) for the following measures:

- The number of cases affected by periodic data matching,
- The number of enrollees identified as possibly ineligible as a result of a periodic data match,
- The number of enrollees whose eligibility was terminated as a result of a periodic data match
- The number of enrollees whose eligibility was terminated for failure to cooperate.

IV. Background: The PDM process

MA and MinnesotaCare enrollees whose eligibility is in METS are subject to PDM using electronic data sources at least once during an enrollee's 12-month period of eligibility. For MA enrollees, METS selects cases for PDM each month based on the month of application, and ensures that the periodic data matching process does not occur within three months before or after an enrollee's annual renewal. For MinnesotaCare enrollees, PDM occurs in the months of March through August to avoid the annual renewal period that occurs each fall.

The data sources used for PDM include:

- Social Security Administration information including:
 - Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and Retirement, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (RSDI) benefit amounts
 - Medicare Part A information
 - Death information
- Equifax - Wage information from participating employers
- Internal Revenue Service (IRS) - Income information from federal tax returns

METS requests information from these data sources via the Federal Data Services Hub, and the information returned is used to project an eligibility result for the enrollee. A discrepancy is raised when electronic data is received that indicates an enrollee has income that exceeds the program income limit, the enrollee has Medicare coverage and Medicare is a barrier to program eligibility (i.e., MA for adults without children or MinnesotaCare), or the enrollee is deceased.

- If the eligibility result is within the enrollee's current program requirements, there is no discrepancy and PDM is complete for that enrollee. No notice is sent to the enrollee.
- If the eligibility result is not within the enrollee's current program requirements, a discrepancy is identified indicating the enrollee may no longer qualify for their current program.

- A system generated Discrepancy Notice is sent to the enrollee instructing them to resolve the discrepancy by:
 - Completing the Discrepancy Response Form and returning it to the servicing agency listed on the Discrepancy Notice
 - Calling the servicing agency on the Discrepancy Notice
- The enrollee must cooperate by responding to the Discrepancy Notice and providing information requested within 30 days of the date on the notice. An extension beyond the 30-day period is available when an enrollee is cooperating with the agency but is unable to provide the information needed before the date of closure.
- If the enrollee responds, the eligibility worker acts on the information provided by the enrollee, including whether the enrollee confirms the discrepancy or reports a change that resolves the discrepancy. The worker enters the information in METS and a system-generated notice is mailed to the enrollee confirming continued eligibility, a change in program, or closing of coverage.
- If the enrollee fails to respond to the Discrepancy Notice, MA or MinnesotaCare is closed at the end of the month and they are mailed a closing notice.

V. Periodic Data Matching Results

Table 1 – Results for MA and MinnesotaCare Enrollees by PDM Month

PDM Month	Enrollees Selected for PDM Process	Enrollees with a Discrepancy	Enrollees Closed at End of PDM Month*	Enrollees Closed Did Not Cooperate	Enrollees Closed Cooperated but No Longer Eligible
September 2018 (Field Test)	64,901 MA enrollees	6,659 MA enrollees	2,340 MA enrollees	2,281 MA enrollees	59 MA enrollees
February 2019	51,954 MA enrollees	5,192 MA enrollees	2,349 MA enrollees	2,087 MA enrollees	262 MA enrollees
March 2019	49,749 MA enrollees	4,619 MA enrollees	2,041 MA enrollees	1,808 MA enrollees	233 MA enrollees
March 2019	1,639 MinnesotaCare enrollees	154 MinnesotaCare enrollees	35 MinnesotaCare enrollees	18 MinnesotaCare enrollees	17 MinnesotaCare enrollees
April 2019	80,849 MA enrollees	9,609 MA enrollees	3,025 MA enrollees	2,713 MA enrollees	312 MA enrollees
April 2019	17,932 MinnesotaCare enrollees	3,073 MinnesotaCare enrollees	540 MinnesotaCare enrollees	374 MinnesotaCare enrollees	166 MinnesotaCare enrollees
May 2019	87,475 MA enrollees	10,887 MA enrollees	4,047 MA enrollees	3,622 MA enrollees	425 MA enrollees
May 2019	19,349 MinnesotaCare enrollees	3,904 MinnesotaCare enrollees	834 MinnesotaCare enrollees	576 MinnesotaCare enrollees	258 MinnesotaCare enrollees
June 2019	92,935 MA enrollees	8,649 MA enrollees	2,928 MA enrollees	2,710 MA enrollees	218 MA enrollees
June 2019	17,806 MinnesotaCare enrollees	1,770 MinnesotaCare enrollees	403 MinnesotaCare enrollees	303 MinnesotaCare enrollees	100 MinnesotaCare enrollees
July 2019	78,110 MA enrollees	9,442 MA enrollees	3,428 MA enrollees	3,092 MA enrollees	336 MA enrollees
July 2019	17,438 MinnesotaCare enrollees	4,503 MinnesotaCare enrollees	1,020 MinnesotaCare enrollees	802 MinnesotaCare enrollees	218 MinnesotaCare enrollees
TOTALS Sept. 2018 through July 2019	505,973 MA enrollees	55,057 MA enrollees	20,158 MA enrollees	18,313 MA enrollees	1,845 MA enrollees
TOTALS Sept. 2018 through July 2019	74,164 MinnesotaCare enrollees	13,404 MinnesotaCare enrollees	2,832 MinnesotaCare enrollees	2,073 MinnesotaCare enrollees	759 MinnesotaCare enrollees

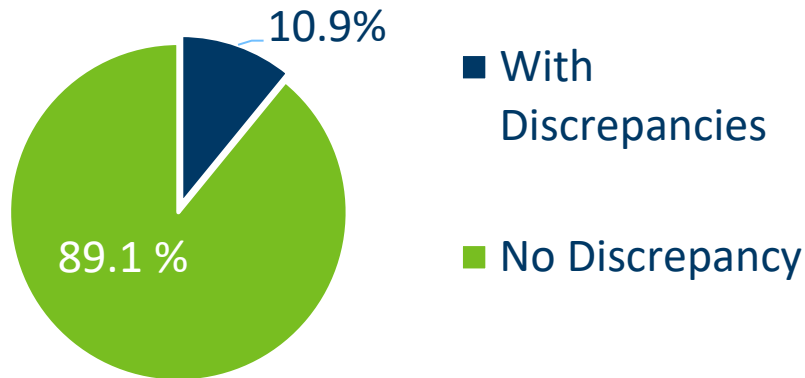
* Closing may be due to failure by the enrollee to respond to the Discrepancy Notice or because the enrollee was determined ineligible based on updated information they provided during the PDM process.

Results for MA Enrollees

PDM results for MA enrollees for September 2018 and February through July 2019 PDM cycles.

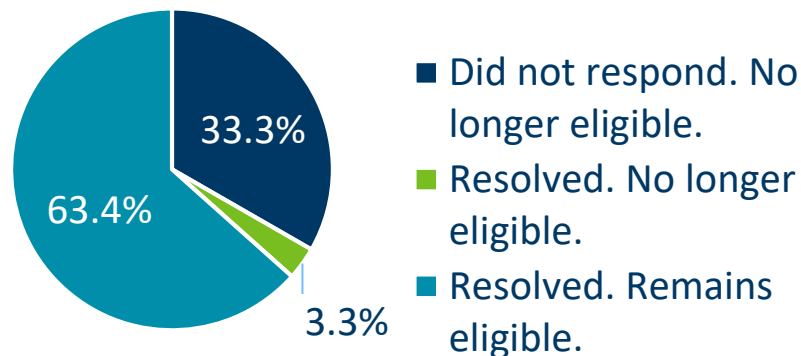
Of the total number of MA enrollees selected for PDM (505,973 enrollees), 89.1% did not have a discrepancy and 10.9% had discrepancies.

MA Enrollees PDM Discrepancy Status (505,973 enrollees)



Of those with discrepancies (55,057 enrollees), 63.4% of the enrollees (34,899 enrollees) resolved the discrepancies and remained eligible for MA, 33.3% (18,313 enrollees) were closed because they did not respond to the Discrepancy Notice, and 3.3% (1,845 enrollees) responded but based on the information provided were determined to be no longer eligible for MA.

MA Enrollees Resolution of PDM Discrepancies (55,057 enrollees)



MA Forecast Comparisons

For September 2018, the 2,340 MA enrollees that closed at the end of the PDM month in the field test is 83.3% of the 2,808 enrollees projected to close based on the November 2018 forecast. (There were a small number of additional closures in subsequent months due to counties granting extensions to enrollees to complete the PDM process.) Projected closures due to the PDM process were subsequently adjusted downward by about 17% in the February 2019 forecast to reflect the field test experience. Some enrollees may have returned information resolving the discrepancy after closure resulting in their MA eligibility being restored. Based on data from the field test, approximately 30% of MA enrollees closed at the end of the PDM month had their eligibility restored the following month. The February 2019 forecast also reflects restored eligibility for about 30% of enrollees initially closed.

For February 2019, the 2,349 MA enrollees that closed at the end of the PDM month is 99.2% of the 2,368 enrollees projected to close based on the February 2019 forecast. (There were a small number of additional closures in subsequent months due to counties granting extensions to enrollees to complete the PDM process.) Some enrollees may have returned information resolving the discrepancy after closure resulting in their MA eligibility being restored. Based on data from the February cohort, approximately 37% of MA enrollees closed at the end of the PDM month have since had their eligibility restored back to March 2019.

For March 2019, the 2,041 MA enrollees that closed at the end of the PDM month is 87.2% of the 2,340 enrollees projected to close based on the February 2019 forecast. (There were a small number of additional closures in subsequent months due to counties granting extensions to enrollees to complete the PDM process.) Some enrollees may have returned information resolving the discrepancy after closure resulting in their MA eligibility being restored. Based on data from the March cohort, approximately 34% of MA enrollees closed at the end of the PDM month have since had their eligibility restored back to April 2019.

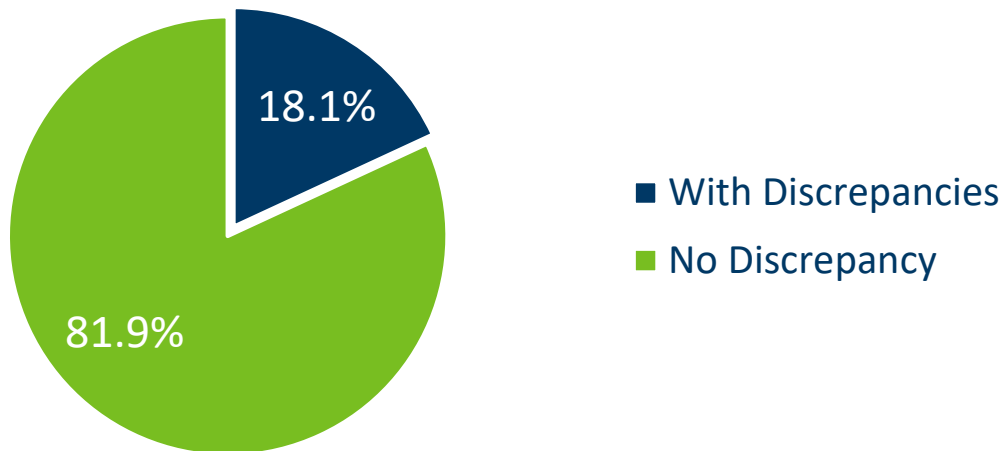
DHS is in the process of tracking additional PDM cohorts for future forecast updates.

Results for MinnesotaCare Enrollees

PDM results for MinnesotaCare enrollees for March through July 2019 PDM cycles

Of the total number of MinnesotaCare enrollees selected for PDM (74,164 enrollees), 81.9% did not have a discrepancy and 18.1% had discrepancies.

MinnesotaCare Enrollees PDM Discrepancy Status (74,164 enrollees)



Of those with discrepancies (13,404 enrollees), 78.9% of the enrollees (10,572 enrollees) resolved the discrepancies and remained eligible for MinnesotaCare, 15.5% (2,073 enrollees) were closed because they did not respond to the Discrepancy Notice, and 5.6% (759 enrollees) responded but based on the information provided were determined to be no longer eligible for MinnesotaCare.

MinnesotaCare Resolution of PDM Discrepancies (13,404 enrollees)

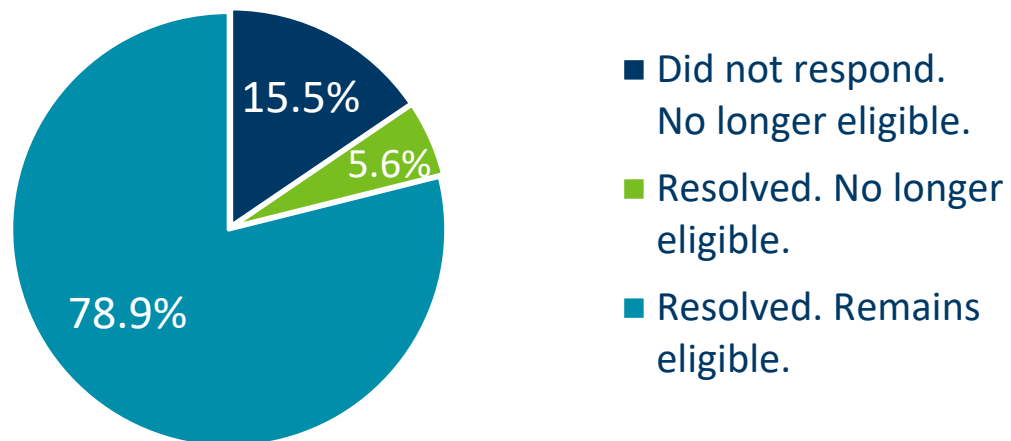


Table 2: PDM Discrepancies by Type

The following table shows the type and number of discrepancies identified per month for both MA and MinnesotaCare enrollees. The PDM process identified a total of 68,670 discrepancies. An enrollee may have more than one type of discrepancy. Of this total, 98.6% (67,716) were income discrepancies, 1.1% (756) were discrepancies related to Medicare Part A data, and 0.3% (198) were discrepancies indicating that an enrollee was deceased.

Discrepancy Types	September 2018	February 2019	March 2019	April 2019	May 2019	June 2019	July 2019	TOTAL
Income	6,615	5,137	4,720	12,504	14,671	10,263	13,806	67,716
Medicare	33	61	66	200	116	133	147	756
Death	14	31	16	27	34	50	26	198