



## Florida Maternal and Child Health Fact Sheet

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### Summary

Medicaid is the publicly funded insurance program that provides health care coverage for people with low incomes. Nationwide, sixty-nine percent of Medicaid beneficiaries are enrolled in comprehensive managed care plans.<sup>1</sup> Most are enrolled in capitated managed care plans, which receive a fixed payment per enrollee regardless of the type and quantity of services provided. This means that plans have a strong incentive to tightly control the volume of services provided – perhaps even skimping on coverage of necessary ones. It is important, therefore, to monitor information about Medicaid managed care service delivery and quality to ensure compliance with federal and state law.

Administered by the Florida's Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA), the [Statewide Medicaid Managed Care \(SMMC\)](#) program is the name of Medicaid in Florida. SMMC has three parts: Managed Medical Assistance (MMA), Long-Term Care, and Dental. Most of Florida's Medicaid beneficiaries receive MMA care through a health plan which covers doctor visits, hospital care, prescription drugs, mental health care, and transportation to these services. Florida's MMA plans are contracted to fifteen Managed Care Organizations (MCO) across the state.<sup>2</sup> Eighty-five percent of managed care enrollees are covered by one of five statewide MCOs.<sup>3</sup> All children and adults enrolled in Florida Medicaid must be covered by a dental plan. KidCare is the name for Florida's health insurance programs for children encompassing Medicaid and the [Children's Health Insurance Program \(CHIP\)](#) under which families can get

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<sup>1</sup> KFF [10 Things To Know About Medicaid Managed Care](#). 69% of all Medicaid beneficiaries received their care through comprehensive risk-based MCOs. 12 states do not have comprehensive Medicaid Managed Care: AL, AK, AR, CT, ID, ME, MT, NC, OK, SD, VT, WY

<sup>2</sup> KFF [Medicaid MCOs By State](#) (visited June 12, 2020)

<sup>3</sup> KFF [Total Medicaid MCO Enrollment](#). 2,975,428 people in Florida enrolled in Medicaid Managed Care, represents 81.0% of Florida's Medicaid enrollment. (visited June 12,2020)

government-sponsored health coverage for children.<sup>4</sup> MediKids, for children ages 1-4, and Healthy Kids, for children ages 5-18, are the Medicaid managed care programs for children whose families do not qualify for traditional Medicaid and are willing to pay a low monthly premium for coverage.<sup>5</sup>

This fact sheet reports data from several sources that measure health care delivery and quality across the multiple components of Florida's SMMC program. It samples and summarizes data from the state's latest [External Quality Review](#) Report, measures from the [Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set \(HEDIS\)](#), results from the Agency of Healthcare Research and Quality's (AHRQ) [Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems \(CAHPS\) survey](#), National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) [plan ratings](#) and the Commonwealth Fund's [Scorecard on State Health System Performance](#), to assess the quality of maternal and child health care delivery at the state, local, and health system level.

These rating systems indicate that Medicaid MCOs in Florida rank above the national median in some areas of preventive care, dental care, and aspects of behavioral health treatment, but are below the national median in providing primary and behavioral health care access to children, immunizations, and behavioral health medication management. Despite these inconsistencies Florida's MCOs are favorably rated by their members. Even so, Florida's MCOs have significant room to improve the quality of care delivered to Medicaid recipients in their state. The Commonwealth Fund State Report Card estimates that if Florida's health care system as a whole performed as well as the highest performing state, 2,109,772 more adults and children would have access to both public and private health insurance and therefore be more likely to receive health care when needed.<sup>6</sup> Given the proportion of the state's children receiving health care through managed care, it is imperative that MCOs are held accountable for the quality of care they are providing.<sup>7</sup> Thorough and sustained measurement of the managed care population will allow MCOs to identify deficiencies in their service delivery models and highlight adjustments that are necessary to strengthen the overall health of the population.

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<sup>4</sup> [Florida KidCare](#) encompasses four different programs: Medicaid for Children, MediKids, Florida Healthy Kids, and Children's Medical Services Managed Care Plan (visited May 11,2020)

<sup>5</sup> [MediKids](#) (visited May 11,2020)

<sup>6</sup> The Commonwealth Fund, [Health System Data Center](#), (visited May 12, 2020).

<sup>7</sup> [Population Under 18 Years By Age](#), American Community Survey: In 2018 there were 4,227,875 Florida residents under age 18. In January 2020 there were a total of 2,412,646 Florida children enrolled in Medicaid and CHIP [www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/program-information/medicaid-and-chip-enrollment-data/report-highlights/index.html](http://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/program-information/medicaid-and-chip-enrollment-data/report-highlights/index.html)

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### **HEDIS Performance Measurement Data:**

The Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS) is a tool used by more than ninety percent of America's health plans to measure performance on important dimensions of care and service. Altogether, HEDIS consists of ninety-two measures across six domains of care.<sup>8</sup> The information gathered from HEDIS data allows health plans, health systems, and care providers to track performance over time and make comparisons about the quality of care that patients receive within states and around the country.

### **The Medicaid Core Sets:**

Fourteen HEDIS measures were selected by CMS for inclusion in the 2020 [CMS Medicaid/CHIP Child Core Set](#) to assess the quality of care provided to and health outcomes of children in Medicaid and CHIP. The Core Set assesses primary care access and preventive care, maternal and perinatal health, care of acute and chronic conditions, behavioral health care, and dental and oral health services. During federal fiscal year (FFY) 2018, Florida voluntarily reported twenty of twenty-three health care quality measures from the Child Core Set. The state also reported nineteen of twenty-three health care quality measures in the [CMS Medicaid Adult Core Set](#).

### **2019 External Quality Review Report - Statewide MCO Averages**

State Medicaid agencies who contract with MCOs must evaluate MCO compliance with state and federal regulations. States have tremendous flexibility in deciding who will perform a compliance review and are incentivized to work with recognized external quality review organizations (EQROs) to access federal matching funds that cover the cost of the review. The EQRO must assess the MCOs on: quality, timeliness and access to care; managed care plan strengths and weaknesses and recommend areas for quality improvement; and how well plans responded to the previous year's recommendations for improvement.<sup>9</sup>

Florida managed care health plans were evaluated by the EQRO Health Services Advisory Group (HSAG). Their findings are summarized in the sections that follow.

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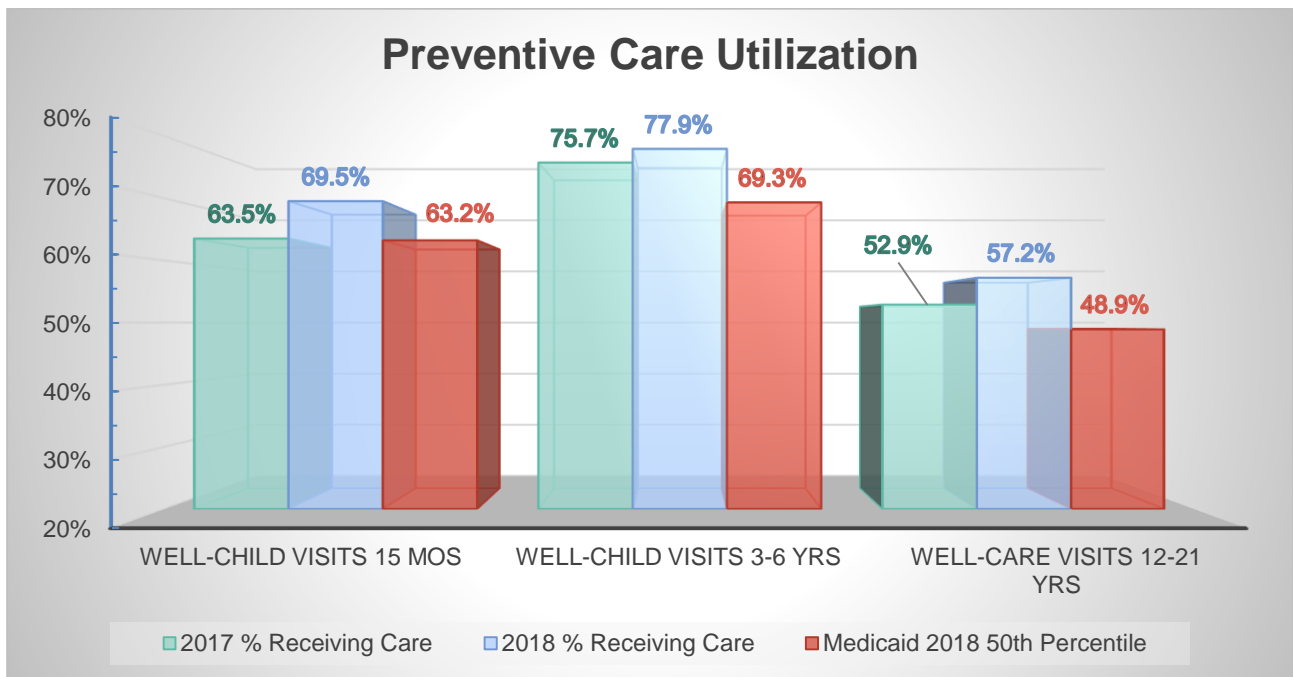
<sup>8</sup> The six domains of care are: Effectiveness of Care; Access/Availability of Care; Experience of Care; Utilization and Risk Adjusted Utilization; Health Plan Descriptive Information; Measures Collected Using Electronic Clinical Data Systems. Each of the individual HEDIS measures can be categorized into one of the domains. Nat'l Comm. for Quality Assurance, *HEDIS and Performance Measurement*, <https://www.ncqa.org/hedis/> (last visited Oct. 26, 2018).

<sup>9</sup> Wayne Turner et al., Nat'l Health Law Prog., *A Guide to Oversight, Transparency, and Accountability in Medicaid Managed Care* (Mar. 2015), <http://www.healthlaw.org/publications/browse-all-publications/managed-care-toolkit-march-2015>.

The measures listed below are those that cover maternal and child health. The percentages indicate the ratio of the number of children receiving a particular service to the number of eligible children.

The charts present the aggregate average of all Florida Medicaid managed care plans for 2017 and 2018.<sup>10</sup> As described in the 2019 EQR, AHCA set the Medicaid seventy-fifth percentile as the ambitious target for all plan measures, the immediate goal was for plans to have all measures rate above the national Medicaid fiftieth percentile. The fiftieth percentile is the median care delivery value which half of states fall below and half of states rank above.

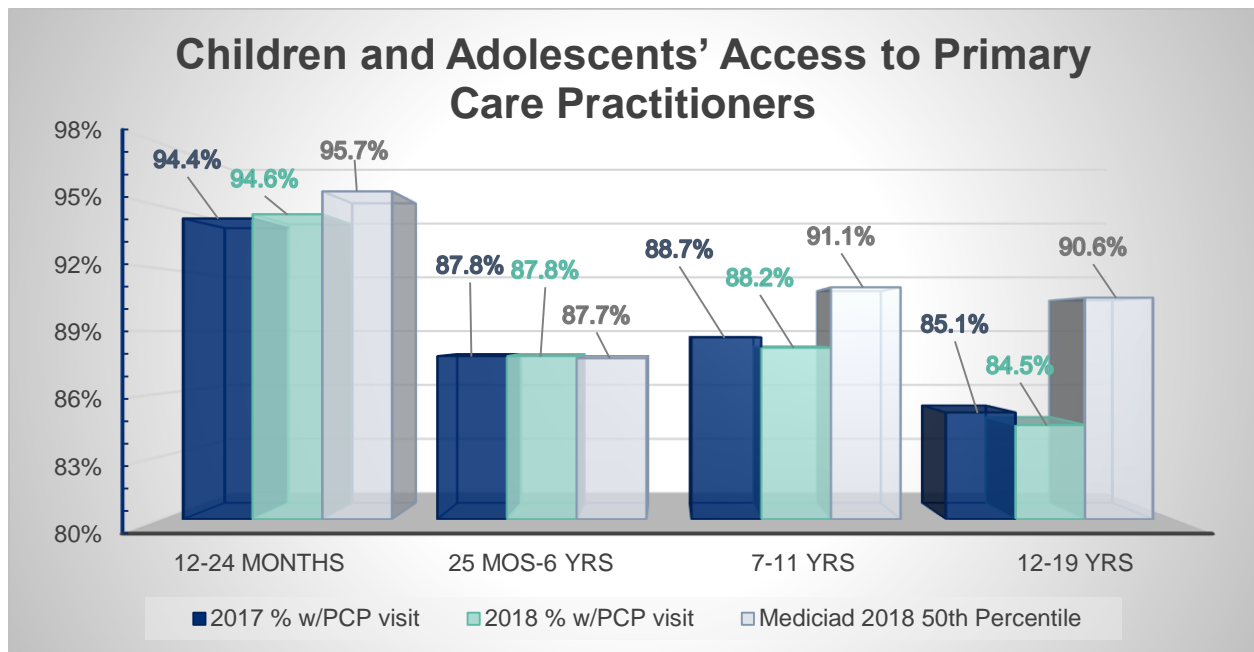
**Children’s Preventive Care**



<sup>10</sup> In 2018 FL had 14 rated plans: Aetna Better Health of Florida, Children's Medical Services, Clear Health Alliance, Community Care Plan, Florida MHS (Magellan), Humana Medical Plan, Molina Healthcare of Florida, Prestige Health Choice, Simply Healthcare Plans, Staywell Health Plan, Sunshine Health Child Welfare Specialty Plan, Sunshine State Health Plan, United Healthcare of Florida

Sources: HSAG, *SFY 2017–2018 External Quality Review Technical Report*, pg. 26-27. [Medicaid and CHIP in Florida: Quality of Care In Florida](#) (visited May 15, 2020) <sup>11 12</sup>

**Access to Care**



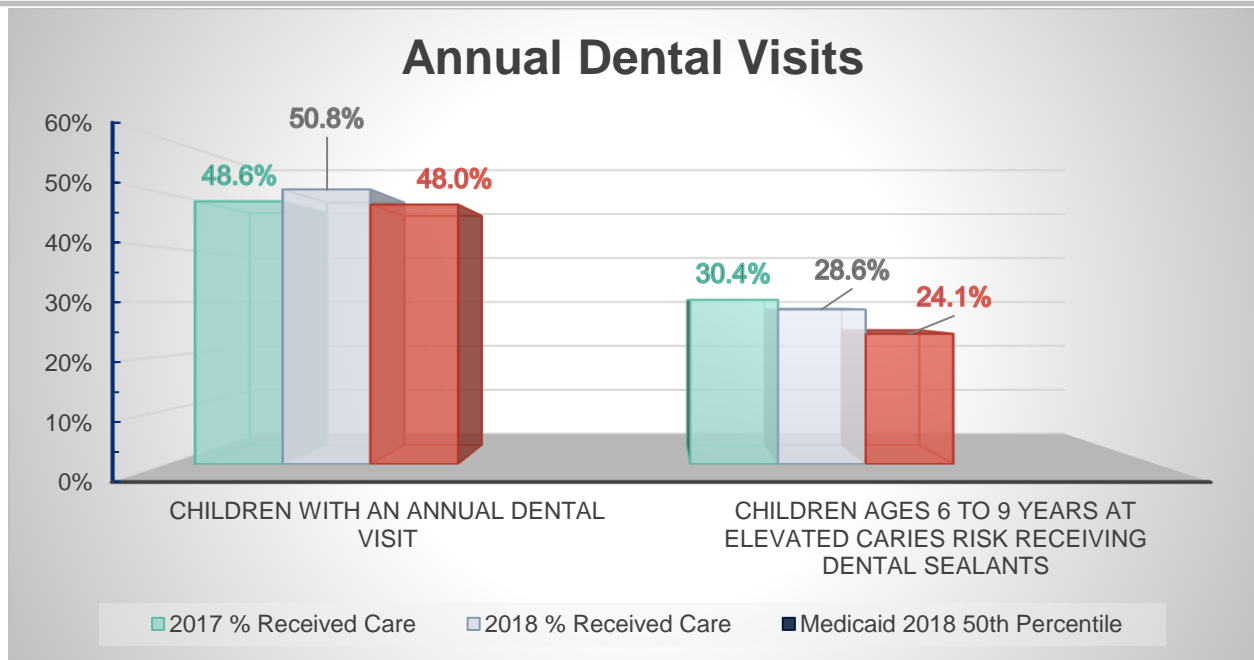
Source: HSAG, *SFY 2017–2018 External Quality Review Technical Report*, pg.34 <sup>13</sup>

<sup>11</sup> Florida’s Managed Medical Assistance Plans saw small improvements across their aggregate performance in Well-Child and Well-Care visits from 2017 to 2018 and exceeded the Medicaid median score in 2018 for all Well-Child and Well- Care visit measures.

<sup>12</sup> Regular PCP visits reduce non-emergency ER use and fill the need for screening, treatment and preventative services. Well-Care visits assess physical, emotional and social development; promote healthy behaviors

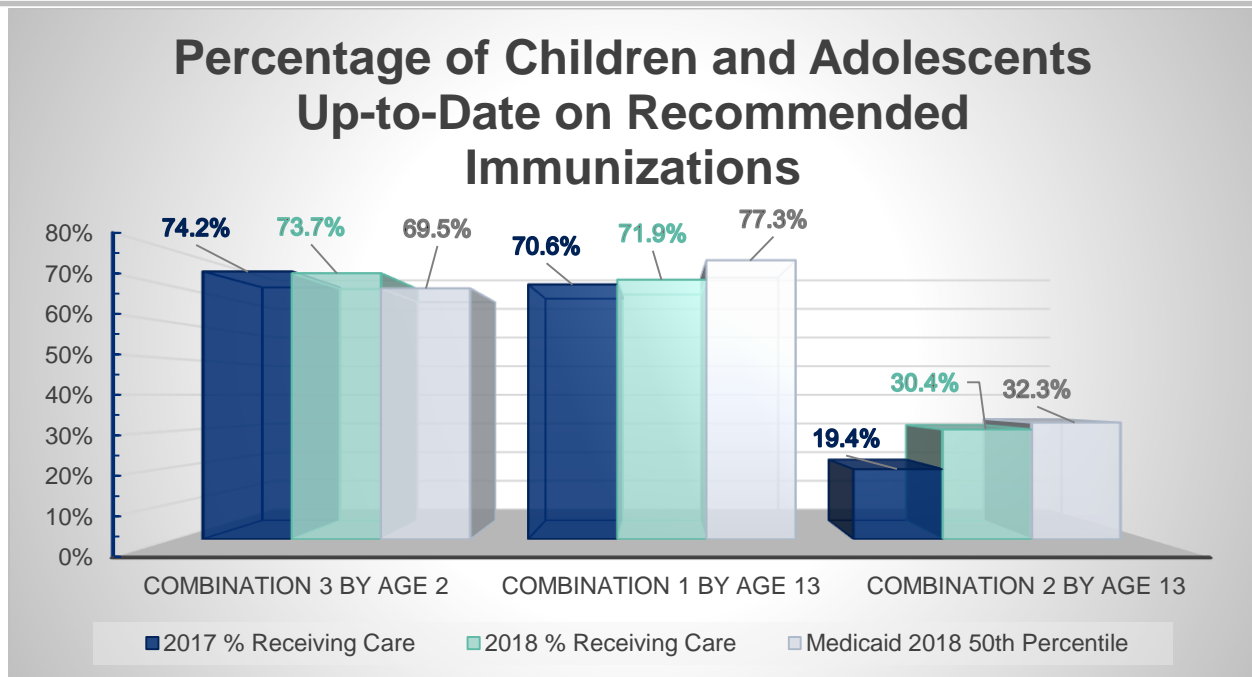
- *Well-Child Visits in the Third, Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Years of Life* – percentage of children who received one or more visits with PCP during measurement year
- *Adolescent Well-Care Visits* – same as above, ages 12-21, visits with PCP or OB/GYN

<sup>13</sup> Florida increased child and adolescent access to Primary Care Physicians in 2018 compared to 2017 only in the 12 to 24-month age group. Otherwise, the state saw a decline in access to PCPs in the other measured age groups from 2017 to 2018. As a whole the plans performed below the Medicaid 50<sup>th</sup> percentile in each age grouping, except the 25 months to 6-year old group.



Source: HSAG, *SFY 2017–2018 External Quality Review Technical Report*, pg. 27. <sup>14</sup>

<sup>14</sup> Florida increased access to dental care visits from 2017 to 2018 but saw a decrease in dental sealants although the percent receiving care exceeded the Medicaid 50<sup>th</sup> percentile in both categories. It should be noted Florida reports dental visits from ages 2-20 but the Child Core Set measure includes ages 1-20.



Source: *SFY 2017–2018 External Quality Review Technical Report*, pp. 26-27. [Medicaid and CHIP in Florida: Quality of Care In Florida](#) (visited May 15, 2020) <sup>15 16 17</sup>

Overall, Florida reported twelve Primary Care Access & Preventive Care measures to Medicaid in 2018. Of those, fifty percent met or exceeded top quartile of national results, but one-third fell below the national median.

Below 1st Quartile	1st Quartile - Median	Median - Top Quartile	Above Top Quartile
2 of 12	2 of 12	2 of 12	6 of 12

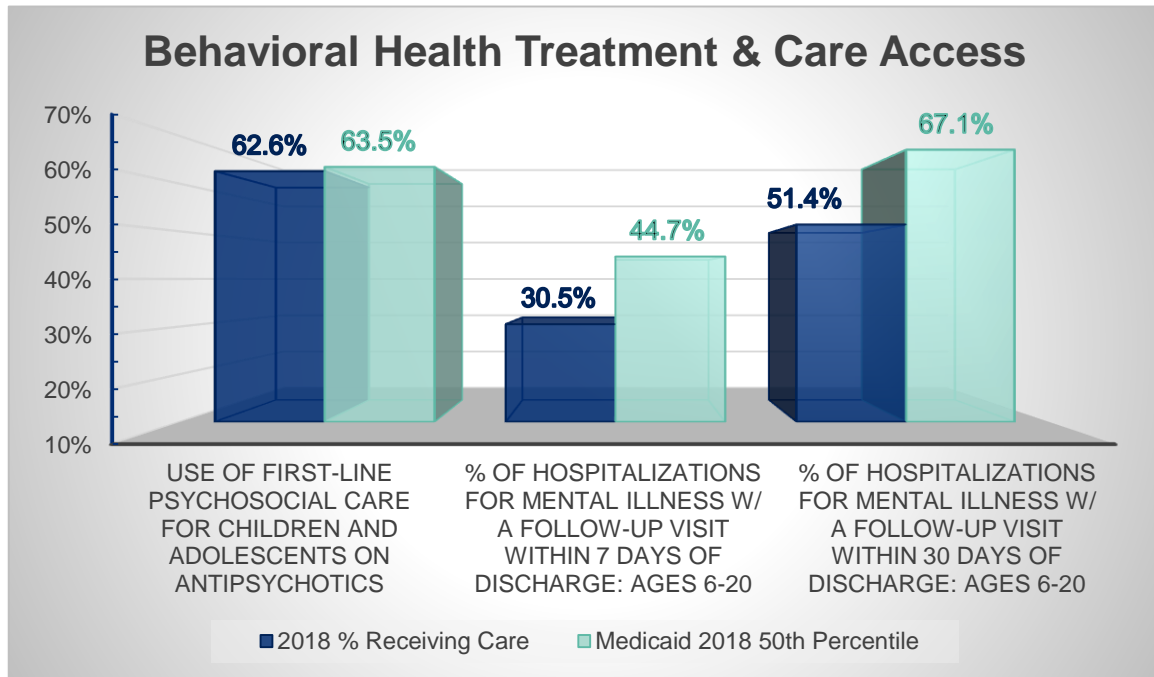
<sup>15</sup> Although the percentage dropped from 2017-2018, children in Florida received a higher percentage of recommended Combination 3 immunizations than the Medicaid 50<sup>th</sup> percentile of immunizations.

Adolescents’ Combination 1 immunizations are increasing but are still below the Medicaid 50<sup>th</sup> percentile. Adolescent Combination 2 HPV vaccinations exceeded the Medicaid 50<sup>th</sup> percentile in 2018.

<sup>16</sup> Childhood Immunization Combination 3 - DTAP, IPV, MMR, HIB Hepatitis B, VZV and PCV - <https://www.ncqa.org/hedis/measures/childhood-immunization-status/> (last visited Nov. 21, 2019)

<sup>17</sup> Adolescent Immunization Combination 1 (Meningococcal, TDAP/TD) and Combination 2 (Meningococcal, TDAP/TD, HPV) - <https://www.ncqa.org/hedis/measures/immunizations-for-adolescents/> (visited Nov. 21, 2019)

Behavioral Health

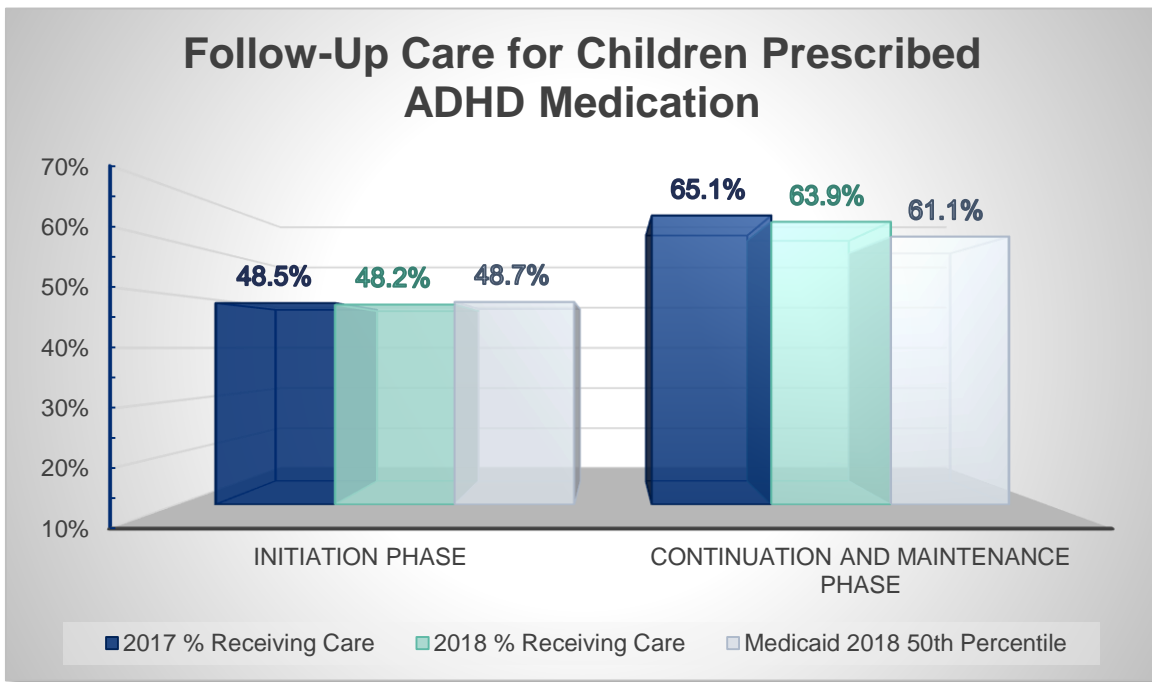


Source: [Medicaid and CHIP in Florida: Quality of Care In Florida](#) (visited 5/15/2020) <sup>18</sup> <sup>19</sup>

<sup>18</sup> Children and adolescents in Florida accessed a lower percentage of behavioral health treatment and mental illness treatment than the national median for these measures, particularly for Follow Up Visits Following Hospitalization.

<sup>19</sup> *Use of First-Line Psychosocial Care for Children and Adolescents on Antipsychotics* – measures the percentage of children and adolescents ages 1 to 17 who had two or more antipsychotic prescriptions for non-psychotic conditions and had documentation of psychosocial care as first-line treatment. Nat’l Comm. for Quality Assurance, *Prenatal and Postpartum Care*, <https://www.ncqa.org/hedis/measures/use-of-first-line-psychosocial-care-for-children-and-adolescents-on-anti-psychotics/> (visited Nov. 9, 2018).





Source: *SFY 2017–2018 External Quality Review Technical Report, pp. 27. Medicaid and CHIP in Florida: Quality of Care In Florida* (visited 5/15/2020) <sup>20 21</sup>

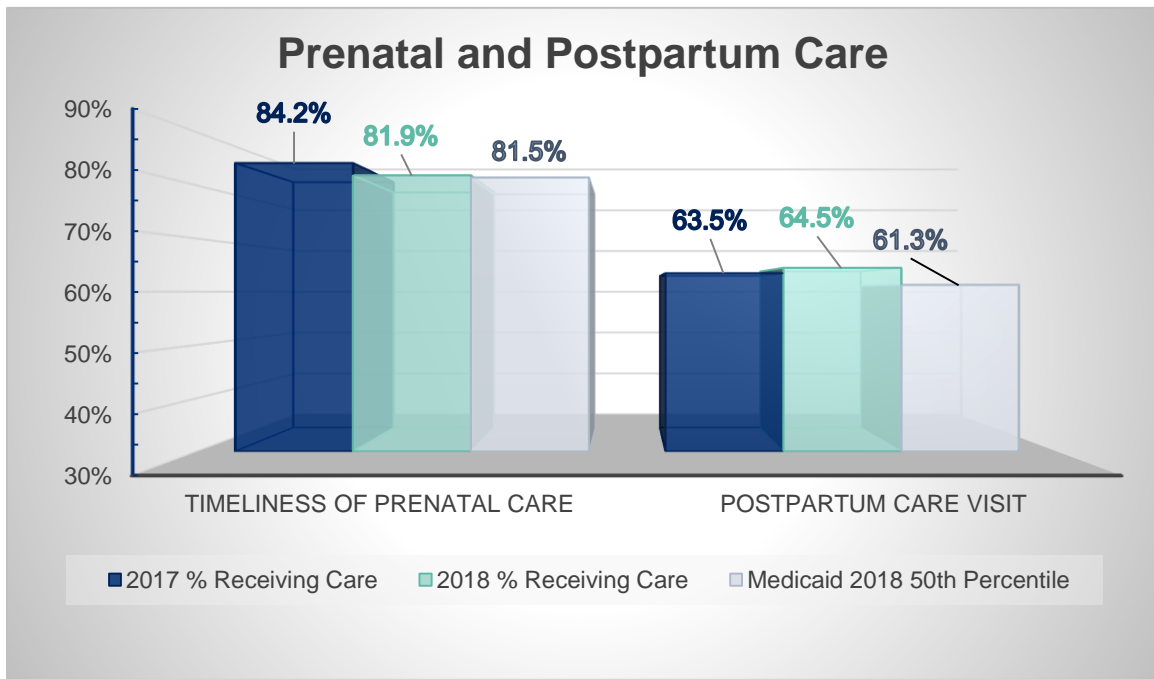
In 2018, Florida reported six Behavioral Health measures to Medicaid. None of the six met or exceeded the top quartile of national results and two-thirds fell below the national median.

Below 1st Quartile	1st Quartile - Median	Median - Top Quartile	Above Top Quartile
2 of 6	2 of 6	2 of 6	

<sup>20</sup> Initiation Phase is the percentage of children, ages 6-12, newly prescribed ADHD medication with 1 follow-up visit during the 30-days after diagnosis.

<sup>21</sup> Continuation and Maintenance is the percentage of children, ages 6-12, newly prescribed ADHD medication with at least 2 follow-up visits in the 9 months following the Initiation Phase. Florida’s percentage of children receiving ADHD medication declined from 2017 to 2018 in both the Initiation and Continuation and Maintenance Phases.

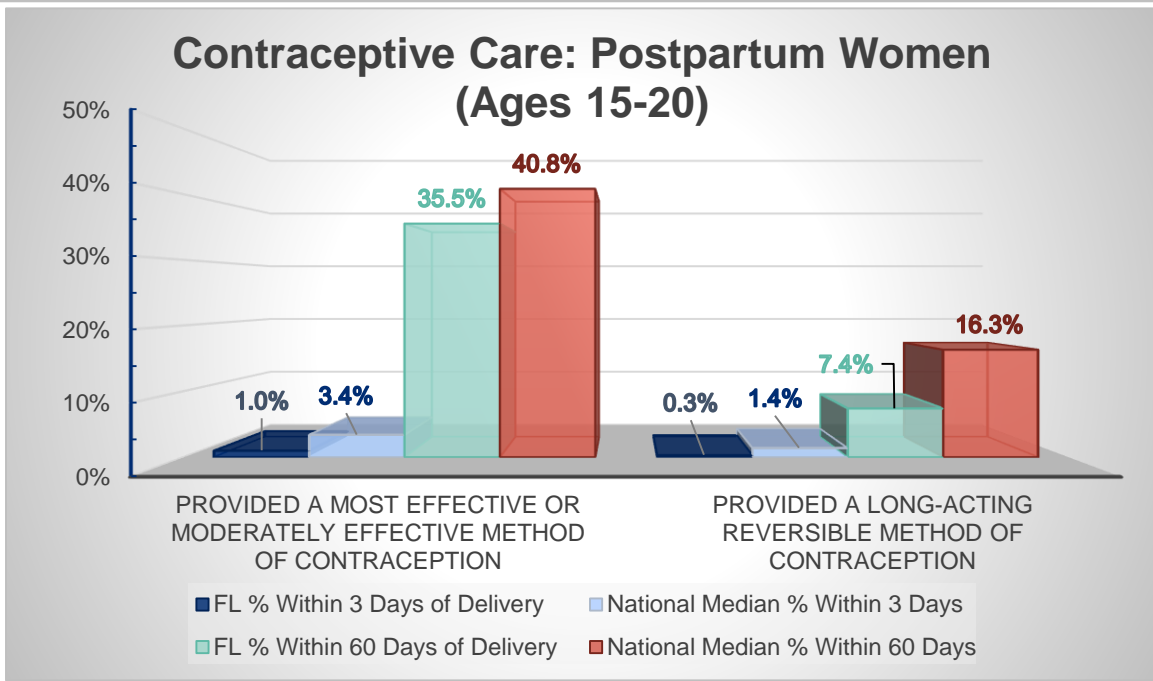
Maternal Health



Source: *SFY 2017–2018 External Quality Review Technical Report*, pg. 28. [NCQA: Prenatal and Postpartum Care \(PPC\)](#) (visited May 15, 2020) <sup>22 23</sup>

<sup>22</sup> Prenatal Care Visit the percentage of deliveries that received a visit as a member of the organization in the first trimester, on the enrollment start date or within 42 days of enrollment in the organization.

<sup>23</sup> Postpartum Care Visit is defined as a visit on or between 21 and 56 days after delivery. These metrics comes from a recommendation by the American Academy of Pediatrics and the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists that a woman with an uncomplicated pregnancy be examined at least once in the first trimester for prenatal care and approximately 4–6 weeks after delivery for postpartum care. <https://www.ncqa.org/hedis/measures/prenatal-and-postpartum-care-ppc/> (visited May 15, 2020)



Source: [Medicaid and CHIP in Florida: Quality of Care In Florida](#) (visited May 15, 2020) <sup>24 25 26</sup>

Overall, in 2018, Florida reported six Maternal or Perinatal health measures to Medicaid. Similar to what was reported for Behavioral Health, none of the six met or exceeded the top quartile of national results and two-thirds fell below the national median.

Below 1st Quartile	1st Quartile - Median	Median - Top Quartile	Above Top Quartile
2 of 6	2 of 6	2 of 6	

<sup>24</sup> The Office of Population Affairs (OPA) developed contraceptive care measures, endorsed by the National Quality Forum exit disclaimer icon, that assess the provision of contraception to all women in need of contraceptive services. Women in Florida were provided a lower percentage of Most or Moderately effective and a lower percentage of Long Acting Reversible contraceptives than the national median. The percentages were closer to the 25<sup>th</sup> percentile than the national median. This was true when measured both within 3 days and 60 days of delivery. <https://www.hhs.gov/opa/performance-measures/index.html> (last visited Nov. 25, 2019)

<sup>25</sup> *Postpartum Most and Moderately Effective Methods* - Among women aged 15-20 years who had a live birth, the percentage that is provided a most effective (i.e., sterilization, implants, IUD/IUS) or moderately effective (i.e., injectables, oral pills, patch, ring, or diaphragm) contraceptive methods within 3 and 60 days of delivery

<sup>26</sup> *Postpartum Access to Long Acting Reversible Contraception (LARC)*: Among women aged 15-20 years who had a live birth, the percentage that is provided a LARC method (i.e. implants or IUD/IUS) within 3 and 60 days of delivery

**SMMC Program Medicaid Health Plan Report Card**

In 2019, the Florida Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA) administered member satisfaction surveys to parents/caretakers of child Medicaid beneficiaries of the MMA plans. Twelve statewide Medicaid health plans were rated by their members. AHCA utilizes the Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (CAHPS) Health Plan Survey to elicit performance feedback that can be turned into opportunities to improve overall member satisfaction. The following satisfaction survey results cover general child performance measures.

On the whole, Florida parents and caretakers express high satisfaction with their children’s Medicaid Health Plans. Eighty-five percent of parents rated their chosen health plan eight out of ten or higher. Doctors received the highest satisfaction ratings with over ninety percent of parents across plans rating their doctors rating as “Usually or Always” communicating well. Parents expressed much lower satisfaction with their children’s health plans on the number of doctors the plans have available. Only sixty-three percent of parents said the number of doctors available is “Excellent or Very Good.” This perceived lack of choice does not seem to translate in an inability for children to get access care, which one might assume would be the case if there is a lack of choice of providers. Over eighty percent of parents said their children could “Usually or Always” get needed care and get care quickly.

	<b>% Rating their Plan, an 8 or Higher, On a Scale of 0–10</b>	<b>% Rating Usually or Always Easy to Get Needed Care</b>	<b>% Rating Usually or Always Easy to Get Care Quickly</b>	<b>% Rating Their Doctors Usually or Always Communicate Well</b>	<b>% Say the Number of Doctors from Which to Choose is Excellent or Very Good</b>
<b>Statewide Average</b>	85%	83%	89%	94%	63%
<b>Highest Rated</b>	Community Care Plan: 90%	United Healthcare: 86%	United Healthcare: 92%	Aetna Better Health: 95%	Aetna Better Health: 79%
<b>Lowest Rated</b>	United Healthcare: 85%	Humana Medical Plan: 79%	Magellan: 86%	Molina Healthcare: 92%	Staywell Health Plan: 55%

The Florida Medicaid Health Plans [Quality of Care Ratings](#) are based on how a plan’s scores on various indicators and measures compare to the national means and percentiles of all Medicaid health plans. Florida then gives a star rating to the health plan based on where the plans’ scores compare to the national median of Medicaid health plans’ scores. Five stars, or Best rating, are given to Florida plans that are at or above fifty percent of all Medicaid health plans’ scores. The remaining star ratings are detailed in the below:

- ★★★★★ Best at or above 50% of all Medicaid health plans' scores
- ★★★★☆ Good better than at least 40% of all Medicaid health plans' scores

★★★★☆	Fair	better than at least 25% of all Medicaid health plans' scores
★★☆☆☆	Poor	better than at least 10% of all Medicaid health plans' scores
★☆☆☆☆	Very Poor	worse than 90% of all Medicaid health plans' scores

An examination of the Quality of Care Ratings that deal specifically with maternal and child health indicates that only a few of Florida’s Medicaid health plans are scoring above the national median on these quality measures. On measures that assess Keeping Kids Healthy, none of Florida’s health plans scored above the national median and the majority of Florida plans only scored better than twenty-five percent of national health plans. When dealing with Children’s Dental Care, two of Florida’s health plans scored about the national median but again the majority of Florida’s health plans only scored better than twenty-five percent of national health plans.<sup>27</sup> Only on indicators of Pregnancy-Related Care do a majority of Florida’s health plans rate better than forty percent of national health plans, but unfortunately four of Florida’s plans earn the lowest, Very Poor rating.<sup>28</sup>

	Number of Plans By Quality of Care Rating				
	Best	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor
<b>Keeping Kids Healthy</b>	None	5 of 12	6 of 12	None	1 of 12
<b>Children’s Dental Care</b>	2 of 12	None	7 of 12	2 of 12	1 of 12
<b>Pregnancy-Related Care</b>	3 of 13	4 of 13	2 of 13	None	4 of 13

<sup>27</sup> Community Care Plan and Sunshine Health Child Welfare Specialty Plan received Best ratings for Children’s Dental Care.

<sup>28</sup> Aetna Better Health of Florida and Community Care Plan received Best ratings; Children's Medical Services, Clear Health Alliance, Florida MHS (Magellan), and Sunshine Health Child Welfare Specialty Plan all received Very Poor ratings.

## NCQA Individual Plan Ratings

National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) seeks to identify the best performing providers and practices by [rating health insurance plans](#) on clinical quality through HEDIS scores and member satisfaction survey results.<sup>29</sup> The results of this information gathering is compiled into a Report Card for private commercial, Medicare, and Medicaid insurance plans.<sup>30</sup>

In 2019 Florida had ten Medicaid MCOs operating in the state that reported sufficient data to earn a rating from NCQA. All of the plans earned between a 3.5 and 2.5 Overall Rating on a scale of 1 to 5.<sup>31</sup>

### Plan Ratings for Children and Adolescent Well-Care

Plan Name	Dental Visits	Childhood Immunizations	Adolescent Immunizations	BMI Assessment	Overall
<b>Humana</b>	2.0	2.0	4.0	5.0	<b>3.0</b>
<b>Simply Healthcare</b>	2.0	2.0	4.0	5.0	<b>3.0</b>
<b>Community Care Plan</b>	3.0	2.0	3.0	4.0	<b>3.0</b>

### Plan Ratings for Women's Reproductive Health Care

Plan Name	Prenatal Care	Postpartum Care	Overall
<b>Aetna Better Health</b>	4.0	4.0	<b>4.0</b>
<b>Community Care Plan</b>	4.0	4.0	<b>4.0</b>

<sup>29</sup> Outcomes measures are weighted more heavily in the ratings than patient experience and process measures.

<sup>30</sup> Natl Comm. for Quality Assurance, *NCQA Health Plan Report Cards*, <https://reportcards.ncqa.org/#/health-plans/list> (last visited Oct. 26, 2018).

<sup>31</sup> The five highest-rated plans all earned a 3.5: Coventry Health Care of Florida, Inc. d/b/a Aetna Better Health, Humana Health Plan, Molina Healthcare of Florida, Simply Healthcare Plans, South Florida Community Care Network d/b/a Community Care Plan; the lowest-rated plan, Florida MHS Inc d/b/a Magellan Complete Care, earned a 2.5

## The Commonwealth Fund State Scorecard on State Health System Performance

The Commonwealth Fund broadly defines a health care system as the way “health care services are financed, organized, and delivered to meet societal goals for health. It includes the people, institutions, and organizations that interact to meet the goals, as well as the processes and structures that guide these interactions.”<sup>32</sup> The term “health system” is used to collectively refer to people’s ability to access care, the quality of care they receive, overall healthcare spending, and health outcomes.<sup>33</sup> The Commonwealth Fund State Health System Rankings are compiled from forty-seven indicators spanning health care system performance, that are representative of four dimensions of care (access and affordability, prevention and treatment, preventable hospital use and cost and healthy lives measures).<sup>34</sup> Additionally, health care disparities are tracked across nineteen indicators comparing households that have incomes below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) with those from households earning 400% of the FPL and above. The disparities indicators which concern children’s health include percentage of uninsured children, percentage of children who do not receive recommended vaccines, and percentage of children who did not receive needed mental health treatment.<sup>35</sup> These indicators draw from publicly available data sources, including government-sponsored surveys, registries, quality indicators, vital statistics, mortality data and administrative databases. The rankings are inclusive of all health systems across the state including private commercial health systems and Medicaid MCOs.

Florida’s health systems rank forty-fourth out of fifty-one (fifty states and Washington D.C.) across the four dimensions of care and ninth out of twelve Southeastern states. This is a slight improvement over the 2018 rankings in which Florida was ranked forty-fifth. The state ranks in the top two quartiles on two of thirteen child health indicators and has an average national rank of thirty-sixth on child health indicators. Florida ranks seventh on the percentage of children without both a medical and dental preventive care visit in the past year, which is their

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<sup>32</sup> The Commonwealth Fund: Commission on a High Performance Health System, *Framework for a High Performance Health System for the United States*, August 2006. Pg. 2

<sup>33</sup> Email correspondence with David Radley, Senior Scientist, Tracking Health System Performance, The Commonwealth Fund. 12/4/2020

<sup>34</sup> Broadly, the indicators tracked by the Commonwealth Fund measure health system performance on access to care, quality of care, health outcomes, and health disparities.

<sup>35</sup> The following indicators are used to measure health system performance on children’s health disparities: Children ages 0–18 who are uninsured, Children without all components of a medical home, Children without both a medical and dental preventive care visit in the past year, Children who did not receive needed mental health treatment, Children ages 19–35 months who did not receive all recommended vaccines, Hospital admissions for pediatric asthma, per 100,000 children. See table below.

highest ranking. With regard to health disparities between the state’s low and higher income populations, Florida lowered their rate of uninsured children from fifteen to nine percent.

The chart below lists Florida’s performance on thirteen indicators that assess delivery of children’s health care and outcomes.



Top Quartile	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quartile	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quartile	4 <sup>th</sup> Quartile
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Dimension and Indicator	2019 Scorecard Performance				Baseline Performance (2012-2013)		
	State Rate	U.S. Average	Best State Rate	FL Rank	State Rate	U.S. Average	Change Over Time
<b>Access</b>							
Children ages 0–18 who are uninsured	7%	5%	1%	40	12%	8%	Improved
<b>Prevention &amp; Treatment</b>							
Children without all components of a medical home	59%	51%	39%	50	58%	51%	No Change
Children without both a medical and dental preventive care visit in the past year	35%	32%	18%	40	38%	32%	Improved
Children who did not receive needed mental health treatment	33%	22%	4%	43	18%	18%	No Change
Children ages 19–35 months who did not receive all recommended vaccines	33%	29%	15%	41	31%	32%	No Change
<b>Avoidable Hospital Use &amp; Costs</b>							
	State Rate	U.S. Average	Best State Rate	FL Rank	State Rate	U.S. Average	Change Over Time

Hospital admissions for pediatric asthma, per 100,000 children	120.6	87.2	21.7	37	143.1	/142.9	Improved
<b>Healthy Lives</b>	<b>State Rate</b>	<b>U.S. Average</b>	<b>State Rate</b>	<b>FL Rank</b>	<b>State Rate</b>	<b>U.S. Average</b>	<b>Change Over Time</b>
Infant mortality, deaths per 1,000 live births	6.1	5.9	3.5	27	6.1	6.0	No Change
Children ages 10–17 who are overweight or obese (BMS>=85th percentile)	36%	31%	21%	45	37%	31%	No Change

State Income Disparity Data

Top Quartile	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quartile	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quartile	4 <sup>th</sup> Quartile
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Dimension & Indicator	2019 Scorecard Performance			Baseline Performance (2013)		
	Low-income Population Rate	Disparity	FL Rank	Low-income Population Rate	Disparity	Change Over Time
Disparity (dif in rates between <200% FPL & >400% FPL)						
Children ages 0-18 uninsured	9%	-5	22	15%	-10	Improved
Children without all components of a medical home	68%	-25	31	67	-22	Worsened
Children without bot/h a medical and dental preventive care visit in the past year	35%	-4	7	42%	-12	Improved

Children ages 19 to 35 months who did not receive all recommended vaccines	41%	-15	37	36%	-18	No Change
Hospital admission for pediatric asthma, per 100,000 children	122.3	-75.7	47	105.8	-50.6	Worsened

The Commonwealth Fund State Scorecard is a useful tool because it allows for comparison between states on measures of health system performance. The rankings give the health systems clear objectives to target for improvement. While it is inclusive of all public and private health systems, many of the child health-focused measures pull a significant proportion of their data from the Medicaid managed care population due to the sizable population of children enrolled in Medicaid. In that regard, it is encouraging that health systems in Florida are performing well on certain dimensions like lowering the percentage of uninsured children, which was Florida’s most improved indicator, and lowering the percentage of children going without medical and dental appointments. However, it is troubling that Florida’s health systems rank in the bottom quartile nationally on seven of thirteen indicators related to children’s health and access to care and below the national median on the other seven. Florida ranks fiftieth on children’s access to a medical home and saw their biggest drop in children receiving needed mental health care. It is clear, based on these indicators, that there is still significant room for improvement across Florida’s health systems.

Another useful aspect of the Commonwealth Fund State Scorecard are the projections of the number of people that would be positively impacted if Florida’s health systems performed at the level of the highest performing states across each measure.<sup>36</sup> These numbers tangibly illustrate the impact health system performance improvement could have on the health and well-being of the state’s population in addition to comparing how the states stack up to one another.

<sup>36</sup> The Commonwealth Fund, [Health System Data Center](#), (visited May 20, 2020).