

Who Pays for Hospital Care



Hospitals treat everyone who comes through their doors, regardless of their ability to pay for services. This is a federal requirement for some services including emergency care, but also a point of pride for Colorado hospitals as cornerstone institutions in their communities. Perhaps the largest consideration in the finances of a hospital is: **Who pays for the services?**

Commercial Health Insurance

Hospitals are paid by private health insurance or self-insured companies to treat patients obtaining coverage through the commercial markets. Examples include ACA individual plans, small group plans, and large group coverage (e.g., major corporation).



Medicaid Financing

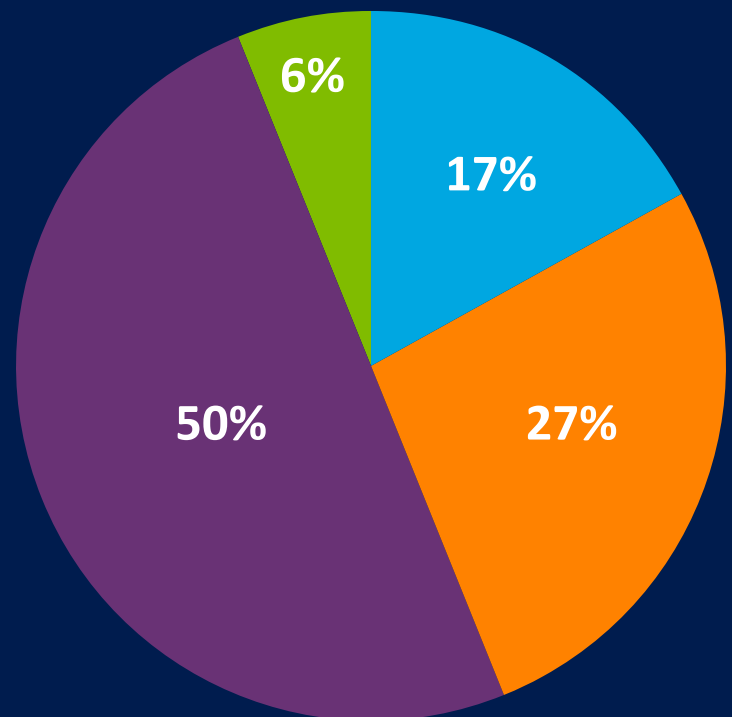
Medicaid is a publicly funded health insurance option available to low-income residents who qualify. All states' Medicaid programs are funded jointly by the state and federal government, and each state's program is managed differently. Colorado's Medicaid program, named **Health First Colorado**, is administered by the **Colorado Department of Health Care Policy & Financing (HCPF)**. In November 2022, there were approximately **1.7 million** Coloradans were enrolled in Medicaid, and the program's total expenditures were **\$8.1 billion**.

Medicare Financing

Medicare is a publicly funded health insurance option available to people aged 65+ and younger people with disabilities. It is administered by the federal government through the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). In 2021, Medicare covered approximately 64 million people in the United States. Total expenditures in 2020 were **\$829.5 billion**. This money comes from the two Medicare Trust Funds.



Proportion of Colorado Market, 2021



- Commercial Health Insurance
- Medicare
- Medicaid
- Self Pay/Other



