Deaths of Despair: A State-Specific Perspective

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Percentage Uninsured, by County 2015

Obamacare Rates Rising

But there's a lot of variation. In some Arizona counties, prices for the most affordable midlevel plan are going up by 191 percent. In parts of Texas, premiums are going down by 30 percent.

2017 premium increase for lowest-cost silver plan

Note: There are two separate markets in Los Angeles County. We have shown rates for the market where more customers are enrolled.

Source: McKinsey Center for U.S. Health System Reform

Competition Has Fallen in the U.S.

About 18 percent of people eligible for the Obamacare markets will live in counties with only one insurance carrier offering health plans next year.

Number of insurance carriers in the Obamacare markets

Source: McKinsey Center for U.S. Health System Reform
Mortality Statistics by State: All Causes

2016 U.S. Median Household Income

Source: 2016 American Community Survey and 2016 Puerto Rico Community Survey, United States Census Bureau
States of Despair: Deaths From Drugs, Alcohol, or Suicide Per 100,000 People

Source: Susan L. Hayes, David C. Radley, and Douglas McCarthy, “States of Despair: A Closer Look at Rising State Death Rates from Drugs, Alcohol, and Suicide,” To the Point (blog), Commonwealth Fund, Aug. 8, 2018

Prescribing Variances of Providers by State

U.S. State Prescribing Rates, 2016

U.S. Prescribing Rates, by State: Arkansas ranks second in the nation for the total annual number of opioid prescriptions written. In Arkansas in 2016, there were 114.6 opioid prescriptions written per every 100 persons. (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)
State-Led or State-Supported Interventions with Some Success

- Monitoring
  - Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs
- Drug take-back programs
- Public outreach and education
- Payer engagement strategies

Restricting Access Through Payer Engagement Efforts

Percent of beneficiaries who receive high-dose opioids (adults 19-64, 2016)
Newer, Promising Interventions Underway but Not Fully Deployed

- Physician engagement and education
- Employee assistance programs
- Crisis stabilization units

Employee Assistance Programs

Arkansas Employee Assistance Program

Our Team  Email the Counselor  Resources/Online Assistance

Employee Services

Everyone has problems at one time or another. Problems, like people, come in all sizes, types, intensities, and can come at any time. Problems sometimes start small, but can grow and spread to other areas of a person’s life, threatening a marriage, career or both. The Employee Assistance Program (EAP) consultation service provides assessment, short-term counseling, information and referral (if indicated) for employees (including their spouses and dependents) who
Crisis Stabilization Units

Governor Hutchinson Joins National Initiative to Highlight Establishment of Mental Health Crisis Stabilization Units

Governor Visits Arkansas’s First Crisis Stabilization Unit to Highlight Impact of State’s Recent Efforts to Improve Public Safety

FORT SMITH — When Governor Asa Hutchinson signed Justice Reinvestment legislation last year, he established the nation’s first statewide network of specialized treatment facilities so that people with mental illnesses can be diverted from jail. To understand what it is like to be treated at these new facilities, the Governor recently sat down and spoke with a man who has experienced one firsthand.

Current Gaps, Policy Interventions Still Needed

- Coordination within states across payers
- Coordination between states with prescription drug monitoring programs
- Medicaid coverage challenges
- Buprenorphine availability: Physician “X” waiver administrative barriers
Buprenorphine Availability

Figure 1: Ratio of Certified Buprenorphine Providers to Opioid Overdose Deaths by State

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