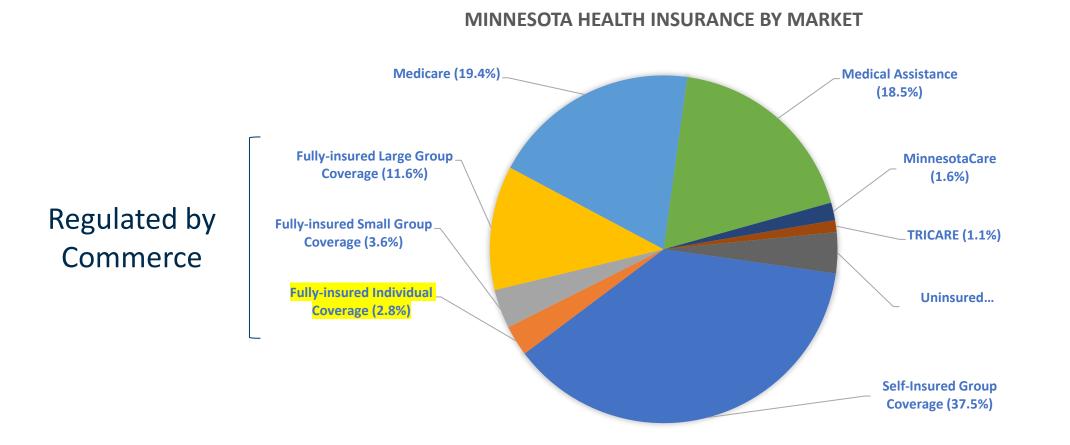
Section 1332 Innovation Waiver Public Meeting Presentation June 24, 2025



#### **Presentation Overview**

- How Minnesotans access health care coverage
- Minnesota's individual market history
- Actions taken by Minnesota legislature to make coverage more affordable
- Minnesota's 1332 waiver for an individual market reinsurance program
- Reinsurance program figures, 2018-2024
- Reinsurance status, 2026

#### How Minnesotans access Health Insurance



Source: MDH Health Economics Presentation: "Trends and Variation in Health Insurance Coverage"

## Overview of Minnesota's Individual Market

- Roughly 187,000 Minnesotans get healthcare coverage through the individual market
  - Minnesotans without access to healthcare coverage through an employer, Basic Health Plan (MinnesotaCare), Medicare, or Medicaid.
  - Contractors, farmers, realtors, daycare providers
  - Employees working for small businesses not offering health insurance
  - Early retirees

## 2016-17 Individual Market Landscape

- Some federal programs providing individual market stability expired
- Another key Affordable Care Act aspect, premium tax credits (PTC), continued to provide stability to those with incomes below 400% of federal poverty level (FPL)
- Individual market enrollees above 400% FPL vulnerability to instability
- Instability triggered by more participants with high-cost claims than expected

## 2016-17 Individual Market Landscape, continued

- Minnesota insurance companies reacted with rate increases, enrollment cap requests, narrower provider networks and a market exit:
  - From 2014 to 2017, the gross average premium per enrollee per month rose from \$206 to \$526
- Worst-case example: Family in Rochester, 60-year-old health of household, with \$105,000 of income, paying \$2,000 per month in premiums
- Market enrollment dropped significantly:
  - Enrollment peaked in 2015 with over 300,000 enrollees
  - Approximately 260,000 in 2016
  - Approximately 160,000 in 2017

- In April 2017, Minnesota passed a new law aimed at helping Minnesotans who buy their own insurance—a state-based reinsurance program called the Minnesota Premium Security Plan
- Designed to alleviate the impact of high-claim costs
- Translates to lower premium rates for consumer from what they would be without the program
- Requires filing for approval of a 1332 waiver from the federal government
- 1332 waivers last up to five years

## The federal government gives states the opportunity to innovate

- Section 1332 of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) permits states to apply for a State Innovation Waiver
- A successful waiver must ensure that the state's innovation results in:
  - Health care at least as comprehensive as prior to the waiver
  - Health care at least as affordable as prior to the waiver
  - Coverage provided to at least a comparable number of residents as expected without the waiver
  - No increase to the federal deficit

# Minnesota uses federal money to fund the reinsurance program

- Because reinsurance lowers premiums, it also lowers the federal tax credits Minnesotans use to make their insurance more affordable
  - Higher premiums = higher federal tax credits
  - Lower premiums = lower federal tax credits
- Minnesota's waiver seeks to retain the foregone federal tax credits and use those federal funds to support the MPSP
  - Budget neutral for the federal government

## Impact of the 1332 Waiver

- Minnesota's 1332 waiver, associated with the MPSP, has accomplished the following:
  - 1. Maximized federal funding to reduce individual market premiums
  - 2. Captured federal funds that would otherwise come to Minnesota
    - Program is deficit neutral to the federal government
  - 3. Stabilized the individual market
    - 2018-2024 rates were approximately 15-20% lower than they would be absent the program.
    - Carriers in the market in 2017 have remained in the market thereafter, and a carrier has entered the individual market since the introduction of the MPSP.
    - For plan year 2025, all counties have more than one carrier

#### **Reinsurance Administration and Process**

- The Minnesota Comprehensive Health Association (MCHA) oversees the reinsurance program
  - MCHA has auditing, accounting, and payment procedures to make reinsurance payments to carriers
- Financial cost of high-cost claims to carriers and to the state are determined as claims develop over the year
- Quarterly and annual reports are due to the federal government throughout the duration of the waiver

## Reinsurance Federal Funding and Program Size, 2018-2024

|                    | 2018          | 2019          | 2020          | 2021          | 2022          | 2023          | 2024           |
|--------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| Federal<br>Funding | \$130,720,000 | \$84,758,000  | \$86,064,000  | \$142,727,000 | \$91,110,000  | \$119,486,000 | \$129,884,000  |
| Program<br>Size    | \$136,125,000 | \$149,660,000 | \$160,210,000 | \$189,843,000 | \$146,898,000 | \$206,969,230 | \$267,500,000* |

\*The 2024 program size is a projected measurement since runout costs are not yet known.

## Distribution of Reinsurance Payment Dollar Amounts by Rating Area 2024

| Rating Area                     | Reinsurance Distribution* | Individual Market<br>Enrollment Distribution** |  |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|--|--|
| Rating Area 1 - Rochester       | 9%                        | 6%   |  |
| Rating Area 2 - Duluth          | 5%                        | 4%   |  |
| Rating Area 3 - South Central   | 7%                        | 4%   |  |
| Rating Area 4 - South West      | 2%                        | 2%   |  |
| Rating Area 5 - West Central    | 4%                        | 5%   |  |
| Rating Area 6 - West            | 3%                        | 4%   |  |
| Rating Area 7 - Central         | 9%                        | 8%   |  |
| Rating Area 8 - Metro/St. Cloud | 59%                       | 64%  |  |
| Rating Area 9 - North West      | 1%                        | 2%   |  |
| Statewide                       | 100%                      | 100%   |  |

\*Minnesota Comprehensive Health Association 2024Q4 Report, Wakely Consulting Group

\*\*Enrollment data as of June 2024, aggregated by MN Dept of Commerce

#### Minnesota's 1332 Waiver Renewal

- The most recent 1332 Waiver renewal was for plan years 2023-2027. In 2023, the coinsurance parameter reverted to 80%, as it was pre-2022.
- The federal government approved Minnesota's Continuation of the MPSP of the 1332 waiver in July 2022.
- The Waiver hold's MinnesotaCare's federal funding stream harmless.
- While the waiver extension has been approved by the federal government through 2027, state funding for the reinsurance program is only supported through 2026.
- In 2027, the reinsurance program will be funded through an insurer assessment.

#### **Questions or Comments?**

Comments may also be submitted to <u>MN1332PublicComments@state.mn.us</u>