CALIFORNIA

By the numbers: Medicare Part D

3,687,561	Medicare Part D beneficiaries in California[1]
1,638,344	Beneficiaries enrolled in Medicare Advantage prescription drug plans in 2015[2]
276	Number of Medicare Advantage plans available in 2016[3]
35%	Beneficiaries receiving Part D's Extra Help in 2016[3]
14%	Medicare beneficiaries as a percent of state population in 2015[5]
2,049,217	Beneficiaries enrolled in stand-alone prescription drug plans in 2015[4]
28	Number of Part D Plans available in 2016[3]
$18.40	Lowest monthly premium for a prescription drug plan in 2016[3]
89%	Beneficiaries with access to Part D plan with lower premium than what they paid in 2015[3]

In 2014, 57% of Medicare beneficiaries in California were white, 6% were black, 20% were Hispanic and 16% were another ethnicity.[6]

Medicare Part D is working well for beneficiaries and taxpayers…And it's getting better.

- Several surveys show that about 90% or more of Part D enrollees are satisfied with their coverage and say that their coverage works well.[7]
- In 2016, one third of all Part D plans nationwide have no deductible.[8]
- Total Part D costs are 45%, or $349 billion, less than initial projections for 2004-2013. Additionally, Part D drug spending was just 11.8% of total Medicare spending in 2015.[9]
- CBO changed its scoring methodology to reflect evidence that increased prescription drug use leads to offsetting reductions in Medicare spending for other medical services.[8]
- Part D helped expand drug coverage and improve adherence to medicines; gaining Medicare Part D prescription drug coverage was tied to an 8% decrease in hospital admissions for seniors overall, with higher reductions for certain conditions.[10]
- A growing body of research finds reductions in mortality following the implementation of Part D. One study found, since the implementation of Part D in 2006, nearly 200,000 Medicare beneficiaries have lived at least one year longer with an average increase in longevity of 3.3 years.[11]

Sources: [1] See Medicare Advantage: MA-PD Plan Enrollment and Medicare Prescription Drug Plans: Stand Alone PDP Enrollment at www.kff.org. [2] See Medicare Advantage: MA-PD Plan Enrollment at www.kff.org. [3] CMS Part D State Fact Sheets "Medicare in California, 2016," at www.cms.gov. [4] See Medicare Prescription Drug Plans: StandAlone PDP Enrollment at www.kff.org [5] See Medicare Beneficiaries as a Percent of Total Population at www.kff.org. [6] See Profile of Medicare Beneficiaries by Race and Ethnicity: A Chartpack at www.kff.org. [7] Morning Consult Survey for Medicare Today, "Nearly Nine of 10 Seniors Satisfied with Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Coverage, National Survey Finds" August 2015. [8] Medicare Part D: A First Look at Plan Offerings in 2016 at www.kff.org. [9] Congressional Budget Office; see CBO Medicare baselines at www.cbo.gov. [10] Effects of Prescription Drug Insurance on Hospitalization and Mortality: Evidence from Medicare Part D," National Bureau of Economic Research, February 2014. [11] Reductions in Mortality Among Medicare Beneficiaries Following the Implementation of Medicare Part D," American Journal of Medical Care, July 2015.