



# ASPE

## ISSUE BRIEF

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### Health Insurance Marketplace Premiums for 2014

On October 1, 2013, a Health Insurance Marketplace will open in each state, providing a new, simplified way to compare individual market health insurance plans. Americans will be able to use the Health Insurance Marketplace to shop for and purchase health insurance coverage, which will begin January 1, 2014.<sup>1</sup> In addition, individuals and families with household incomes between 100 percent and 400 percent of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) who are not eligible for certain other types of coverage may qualify for tax credits to make premiums more affordable.<sup>2</sup>

This report summarizes the health plan choices and premiums that will be available in the Health Insurance Marketplace. It contains new information, current as of September 18, 2013, on qualified health plans<sup>3</sup> in the 36 states in which the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) will support or fully run the Health Insurance Marketplace in 2014. Plan data is in final stages but is still under review as of September 18 and may be revised in HHS systems before being displayed for consumers, so this information is subject to change. This analysis also includes similar information that is publicly available from 11 states and the District of Columbia that are implementing their own Marketplace.<sup>4</sup> This report focuses on the plans with the lowest premiums in each state, as consumers are expected to shop for low-cost plans.

Nearly all consumers (about 95%) will have a choice of 2 or more health insurance issuers (often many more) and nearly all consumers (about 95%) live in states with average premiums below earlier estimates.<sup>5</sup> Other key findings include:

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<sup>1</sup> To be eligible to purchase coverage in a Marketplace, you must be a US citizen or legal resident and not be incarcerated.

<sup>2</sup> Tax credit eligibility is dependent on several factors in addition to income, including whether an individual is eligible for Minimum Essential Coverage through their employer, Medicaid, or CHIP.

<sup>3</sup> A qualified health plan is a plan certified to be offered in a Marketplace. A health insurance issuer may offer multiple qualified health plans. For example, a silver plan and a bronze plan from Blue Cross and Blue Shield would be considered two qualified health plans.

<sup>4</sup> The three states missing from this analysis, Massachusetts, Hawaii, and Kentucky, had not released premium information as of September 16, 2013. Idaho and New Mexico, while State-Based Marketplaces, will be using federal systems to display plans, and are therefore included in the 36 states with data submitted to CMS.

<sup>5</sup> See [http://aspe.hhs.gov/health/reports/2013/MarketCompetitionPremiums/ib\\_premiums\\_update.cfm](http://aspe.hhs.gov/health/reports/2013/MarketCompetitionPremiums/ib_premiums_update.cfm) for a description of the earlier estimates from the Congressional Budget Office.

## **Individuals will have an average of 53 qualified health plan choices in states where HHS will fully or partially run the Marketplace<sup>6</sup>**

- Individuals and families will be able to choose from a variety of bronze, silver, gold, and platinum plans in the Health Insurance Marketplace, as well as catastrophic plans for young adults and those without affordable options.<sup>7</sup> Health insurance issuers can offer multiple qualified health plans, including multiple qualified health plan choices within a single metal level. In the 36 states in this analysis, the number of qualified health plan choices available in a rating area ranges from a low of 6 to a high of 169 plans.<sup>8</sup> On average, individuals and families will have 53 qualified health plans to choose from in their rating area. Young adults will have an average of 57 qualified health plans to choose from, including catastrophic plans. The average number of choices will likely increase after including final data from state-based Marketplaces, which tend to have greater issuer participation.
- On average, there are 8 different health insurance issuers<sup>9</sup> participating in each of the 36 Marketplaces included in this analysis. This ranges from a low of 1 issuer to a high of 13 issuers within a state. About 95 percent of the non-elderly population in these 36 states lives in rating areas with 2 or more issuers. Roughly one in four issuers is offering health plans in the individual market for the first time in 2014.<sup>10</sup>

## **Premiums before tax credits will be more than 16 percent lower than projected**

- The weighted average second lowest cost silver plan for 48 states (including DC) is 16 percent below projections based on the ASPE-derived Congressional Budget Office

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<sup>6</sup> This total excludes catastrophic plans, which are not available to all enrollees. This analysis includes only the 36 states that submitted data directly to CMS, as that data contains a complete accounting of the number of qualified health plans offered in each rating area in each state.

<sup>7</sup> The Affordable Care Act requires that qualified health plans offered on the Marketplace must be one of four tiers, or “metal levels,” based on actuarial value (catastrophic plans are exempt from this requirement). Actuarial value is a measure of health plan generosity. A bronze plan has an actuarial value of approximately 60 percent, a silver plan has an actuarial value of approximately 70 percent, a gold plan has an actuarial value of approximately 80 percent, and a platinum plan has an actuarial value of approximately 90 percent.

<sup>8</sup> Rating areas are state-defined pricing regions for issuers. They overlap with the issuer service areas in many, but not all, cases. In general, the number of issuers or plans available in a rating area will be the number of choices available to all individuals and families living in that rating area. Issuers are not required to offer a qualified health plan in every rating area within a state, however, so the number of available issuers and qualified health plans varies by rating area. These totals exclude catastrophic plans, which are not available to all enrollees.

<sup>9</sup> A health insurance issuer is a company that may offer multiple qualified health plans. For example, a hypothetical Blue Cross and Blue Shield licensed company would be a health insurance issuer, while its \$2000 deductible silver plan would be a qualified health plan. An enrollee may have fewer issuers participating in his or her rating area than the total number participating in that state, because issuers are not required to offer a qualified health plan in every rating area.

<sup>10</sup> McKinsey & Company. Emerging exchange dynamics: Temporary turbulence or sustainable market disruption? September 2013.

premiums.<sup>11</sup> In 15 states, the second lowest cost silver plan will be less than \$300 per month – a savings of \$1,100 a year per enrollee compared to expectations. Overall, 95% of the uninsured potentially eligible for the Marketplaces live in states with average premiums below ASPE-derived CBO projected premiums (see Figure 1).<sup>12</sup>

- Young adults will pay lower premiums and also have the option of a catastrophic plan that covers prevention, some primary care, and high costs in cases of major accident or illness.<sup>13</sup> The weighted average lowest monthly premiums for a 27-year-old in 36 states<sup>14</sup> will be (*before* tax credits): \$129 for a catastrophic plan, \$163 for a bronze plan, and \$203 for a silver plan. More than half of the uninsured potentially eligible for the Marketplaces live in a state where a 27-year-old can purchase a bronze plan for less than \$165 per month *before* tax credits. There are an estimated 6.4 million uninsured Americans between the ages of 25 and 30 who may be eligible for coverage through Medicaid or the Marketplaces in 2014.<sup>15</sup>

### Premiums after tax credits

- Tax credits will make premiums even more affordable for individuals and families. For example, in Texas, an average 27-year-old with income of \$25,000 could pay \$145 per month for the second lowest cost silver plan, \$133 for the lowest cost silver plan, and \$83 for the lowest cost bronze plan *after* tax credits.<sup>16</sup> For a family of four in Texas with income of \$50,000, they could pay \$282 per month for the second lowest cost silver plan, \$239 for the lowest silver plan, and \$57 per month for the lowest bronze plan *after* tax credits.<sup>17</sup>

<sup>11</sup> For a discussion of methodology, see

[http://aspe.hhs.gov/health/reports/2013/MarketCompetitionPremiums/ib\\_premiums\\_update.cfm](http://aspe.hhs.gov/health/reports/2013/MarketCompetitionPremiums/ib_premiums_update.cfm).

<sup>12</sup> Based on analysis of the the 2011 American Community Survey (ACS), available at [http://cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Outreach/HIMarketplace/Census-Data-.html?no\\_redirect=true](http://cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Outreach/HIMarketplace/Census-Data-.html?no_redirect=true). Eligible uninsured is defined as uninsured Americans who are citizens or legal residents under the age of 65 and therefore eligible for coverage either in the Marketplace or through Medicaid. We define Marketplace eligible as the eligible uninsured with incomes above 138% of the Federal Poverty Level in Medicaid expansion states or above 100% of the Federal Poverty Level in non-expansion states. These estimates do not take into account the eligibility requirements relating to other minimum essential coverage.

<sup>13</sup> Tax credits are not available for catastrophic plans.

<sup>14</sup> This analysis includes only the 36 states that submitted data directly to CMS, as not all 12 of the State-based Marketplaces with available premium data have released catastrophic premiums.

<sup>15</sup> Estimated using the 2011 American Community Survey (ACS) Public Use Microdata Sample. This estimate includes US citizens and legal residents between the ages of 25 and 30 who are uninsured and may be eligible for the Marketplace or Medicaid in 2014. The estimates do not take into account whether an individual may have access to Minimum Essential Coverage through an employer.

<sup>16</sup> This analysis concerns only tax credits and premium costs, but we note that cost sharing reductions are not available in bronze plans except for American Indians and Alaska Natives. Cost sharing reductions are available to individuals and families with incomes below 250 percent of the FPL who enroll in silver plans, and to American Indians and Alaska Natives enrolled in metal level. These cost sharing reductions reduce consumer costs (such as out-of-pocket maximums, copays, and coinsurance) at the point of service, whereas tax credits reduce only premiums.

<sup>17</sup> Because the tax credit is calculated as the difference between the cost of the second lowest cost silver plan premium and the maximum payment amount determined by income, those with higher premiums get larger tax

- After taking tax credits into account, fifty-six percent of uninsured Americans (nearly 6 in 10) may qualify for health coverage in the Marketplace for less than \$100 per person per month, including Medicaid and CHIP in states expanding Medicaid.<sup>18</sup>

**Premiums tend to be lower in states where there is more competition and transparency**

- In the 36 states included in this analysis, states with the lowest average premium tend to have a higher average number of issuers offering qualified health plans. There are, on average, 8 issuers participating in the Marketplace in the states with average premiums in the lowest quartile, compared to an average of 3 issuers in states with average premiums in the highest quartile.

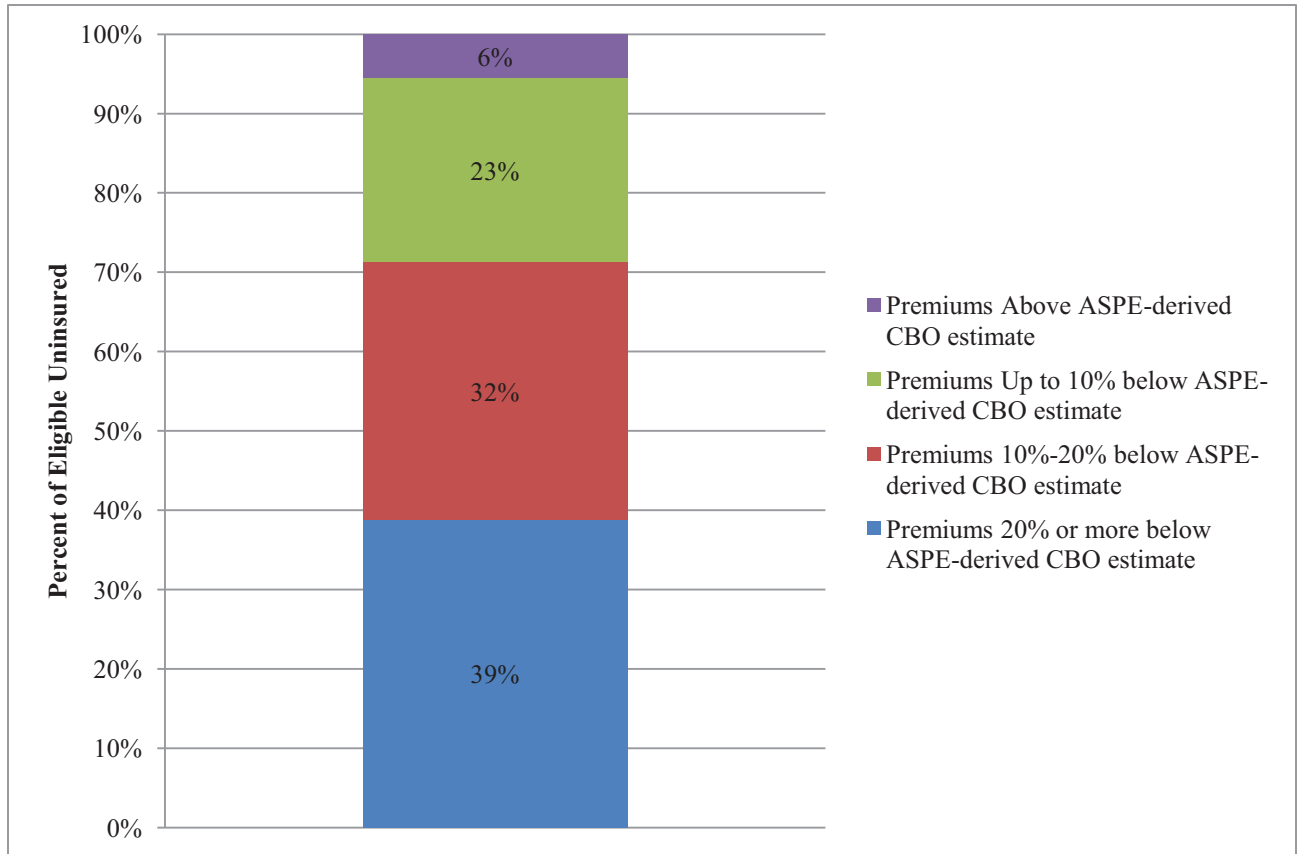
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credits. Therefore, using tax credits to purchase a bronze plan may yield lower net bronze premiums in higher-cost states or for older individuals and families.

<sup>18</sup> See [http://aspe.hhs.gov/health/reports/2013/Uninsured/ib\\_uninsured.cfm](http://aspe.hhs.gov/health/reports/2013/Uninsured/ib_uninsured.cfm).

**Figure 1: Percent of Uninsured Potentially Eligible for the Marketplaces by Second Lowest Cost Silver Premium Relative to ASPE-Derived CBO Estimate, 48 States**

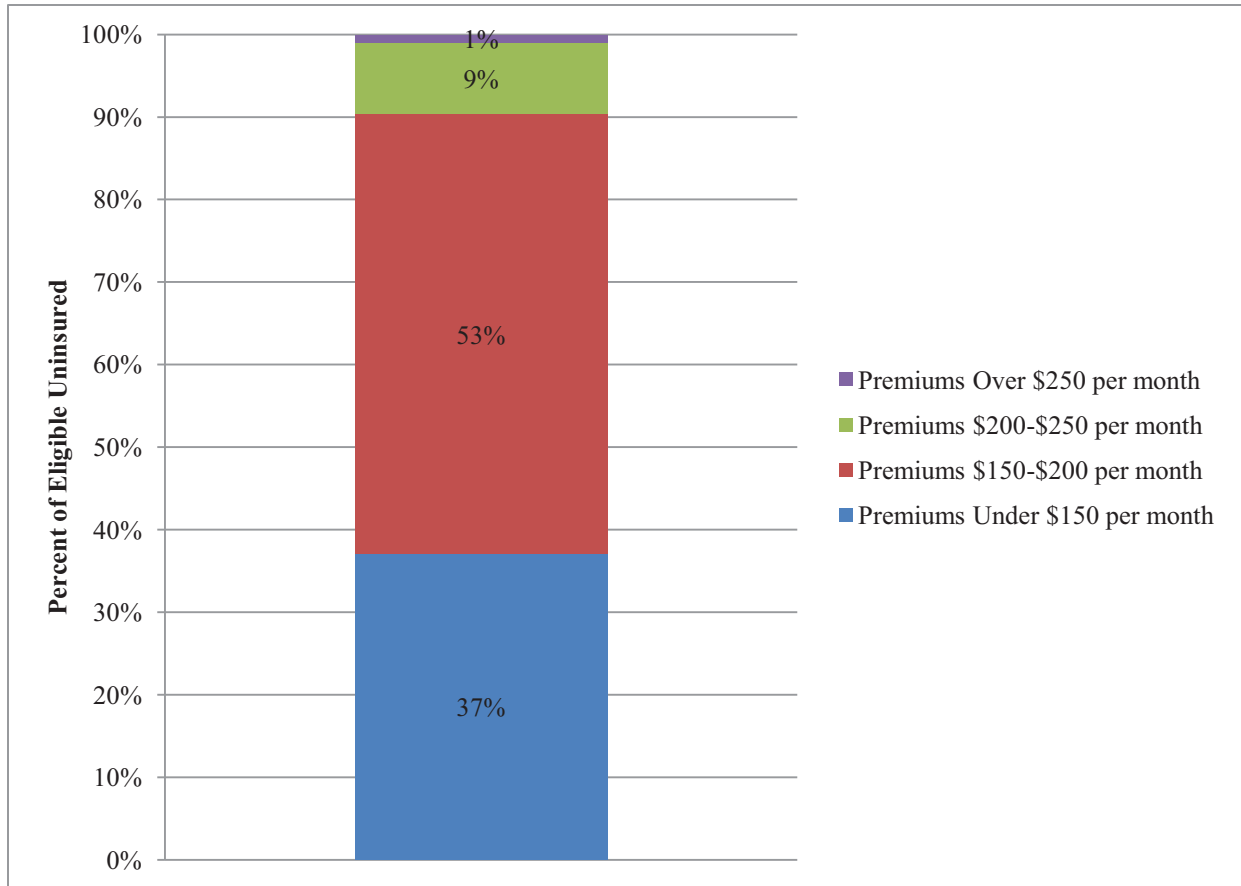
The following figure shows the distribution of uninsured Americans potentially eligible to enroll in the Marketplaces in the 48 states with available premium information, as compared to the ASPE-derived CBO premium estimate of \$392 per month.



NOTE: This figure uses weighted average second lowest cost silver premiums as depicted in Table 4, before tax credits. States are weighted by the number of uninsured potentially eligible for the Marketplaces.

**Figure 2: Percent of Uninsured Potentially Eligible for the Marketplaces by Lowest Cost Bronze Premium for a 27 Year Old, 36 States<sup>19</sup>**

The following figure shows the distribution of uninsured Americans potentially eligible to enroll in the Marketplaces by bronze premiums for a 27-year-old.



NOTE: This figure uses weighted average lowest cost bronze premiums for a 27-year-old as depicted in Table 1, before tax credits. States are weighted by the number of uninsured potentially eligible for the Marketplaces.

<sup>19</sup> The 36 states included in this analysis are the Supported State-based Marketplaces, State Partnership Marketplaces, and Federally-facilitated Marketplaces, for which ASPE has complete data. We do not include State-based Marketplace data here.

**Table 1: Premiums and Qualified Health Plan Choices, 36 States (Weighted average across entire state)**

State	Average Number of QHPs <sup>20</sup>	27-Year-Old, Before Tax Credits			27-Year-Old with an Income of \$25,000			Family of Four with an Income of \$50,000 <sup>21</sup>			
		Lowest Bronze	Lowest Silver	Lowest Gold	Lowest Catastrophic	Second Lowest Silver Before Tax Credit	Second Lowest Silver After Tax Credit	Lowest Bronze After Tax Credit	Second Lowest Silver Before Tax Credit	Second Lowest Silver After Tax Credit	Lowest Bronze After Tax Credit <sup>22</sup>
AK <sup>23</sup>	34	\$254	\$312	\$401	\$236	\$312	\$107	\$48	\$1,131	\$205	\$0
AL	7	\$162	\$200	\$248	\$138	\$209	\$145	\$98	\$757	\$282	\$112
AR	28	\$181	\$231	\$263	\$135	\$241	\$145	\$85	\$873	\$282	\$64
AZ	106	\$141	\$164	\$187	\$107	\$166	\$145	\$120	\$600	\$282	\$192
DE	19	\$203	\$234	\$282	\$137	\$237	\$145	\$111	\$859	\$282	\$158
FL	102	\$169	\$200	\$229	\$132	\$218	\$145	\$96	\$789	\$282	\$104
GA	50	\$179	\$208	\$242	\$142	\$221	\$145	\$103	\$800	\$282	\$132
IA	39	\$139	\$175	\$203	\$95	\$189	\$145	\$96	\$683	\$282	\$103
ID	42	\$150	\$182	\$211	\$134	\$188	\$145	\$107	\$680	\$282	\$144
IL	58	\$134	\$180	\$210	\$134	\$188	\$145	\$90	\$682	\$282	\$84
IN	34	\$200	\$258	\$332	\$168	\$265	\$145	\$80	\$961	\$282	\$46
KS	37	\$130	\$171	\$192	\$87	\$171	\$145	\$104	\$619	\$282	\$133
LA	40	\$175	\$235	\$253	\$142	\$249	\$145	\$71	\$902	\$282	\$15
ME	20	\$216	\$255	\$336	\$182	\$265	\$145	\$96	\$961	\$282	\$104
MI	43	\$146	\$178	\$218	\$118	\$202	\$145	\$89	\$731	\$282	\$80
MO	17	\$162	\$211	\$242	\$110	\$220	\$145	\$87	\$798	\$282	\$72
MS	22	\$225	\$265	\$321	N/A	\$295	\$145	\$75	\$1,069	\$282	\$28

<sup>20</sup> Not including catastrophic plans.

<sup>21</sup> For the purposes of this analysis, a family of four is defined as one 40-year-old adult, one 38-year-old adult, and two children under the age of 18.

<sup>22</sup> After tax credits, bronze premiums for a family of four may be below those for a single individual. This occurs because the tax credit is calculated as the difference between the cost of the second lowest cost silver plan premium and the maximum payment amount determined by income. Because premiums for older individuals and families are higher than those for younger individuals, tax credits are larger for older individuals and families. Therefore, using tax credits to purchase a bronze plan may yield lower bronze premiums for older individuals and families than for younger individuals.

<sup>23</sup> Alaska has an alternate Federal Poverty Level, which is used to calculate tax credits here.



State	Average Number of QHPs <sup>20</sup>	27-Year-Old, Before Tax Credits				27-Year-Old with an Income of \$25,000				Family of Four with an Income of \$50,000 <sup>21</sup>			
		Lowest Bronze	Lowest Silver	Lowest Gold	Lowest Catastrophic	Second Lowest Before Tax Credit	Second Lowest Silver After Tax Credit	Second Lowest After Tax Credit	Lowest Bronze After Tax Credit	Second Lowest Before Tax Credit	Second Lowest Silver After Tax Credit	Second Lowest After Tax Credit	Lowest Bronze After Tax Credit <sup>22</sup>
MT	26	\$165	\$204	\$222	\$149	\$208	\$145	\$102	\$753	\$282	\$126		
NC	22	\$186	\$237	\$283	\$123	\$243	\$145	\$88	\$880	\$282	\$74		
ND	24	\$185	\$230	\$259	\$142	\$232	\$145	\$98	\$841	\$282	\$111		
NE	40	\$159	\$196	\$232	\$122	\$206	\$145	\$98	\$744	\$282	\$113		
NH	12	\$186	\$236	\$281	\$157	\$237	\$145	\$94	\$859	\$282	\$96		
NJ	29	\$219	\$253	\$303	\$186	\$260	\$145	\$103	\$943	\$282	\$131		
NM	52	\$143	\$181	\$204	\$120	\$186	\$145	\$102	\$672	\$282	\$128		
OH	46	\$177	\$200	\$243	\$131	\$212	\$145	\$110	\$768	\$282	\$156		
OK	53	\$114	\$169	\$203	\$105	\$175	\$145	\$84	\$634	\$282	\$63		
PA	56	\$151	\$170	\$205	\$125	\$187	\$145	\$109	\$675	\$282	\$152		
SC	26	\$176	\$219	\$259	\$146	\$223	\$145	\$97	\$809	\$282	\$109		
SD	32	\$196	\$225	\$272	\$169	\$235	\$145	\$106	\$852	\$282	\$141		
TN	59	\$119	\$155	\$205	N/A	\$161	\$145	\$103	\$584	\$282	\$128		
TX	54	\$139	\$189	\$225	\$139	\$201	\$145	\$83	\$727	\$282	\$57		
UT	82	\$153	\$183	\$212	\$116	\$203	\$145	\$95	\$656	\$282	\$122		
VA	47	\$156	\$213	\$253	\$118	\$221	\$145	\$80	\$799	\$282	\$48		
WI	97	\$189	\$227	\$280	\$150	\$238	\$145	\$96	\$861	\$282	\$106		
WV	12	\$185	\$218	\$266	\$169	\$218	\$145	\$112	\$789	\$282	\$161		
WY	16	\$286	\$324	\$365	\$259	\$342	\$145	\$90	\$1,237	\$282	\$81		
Average, 36 States	53	\$163	\$203	\$240	\$129	\$214	\$145	\$93	\$774	\$282	\$95		

NOTE: Premiums shown above are a weighted average of the lowest cost plans in each rating area within a state. Weights are derived from county-level population under the age of 65, projected by the Census Bureau. The average across all 36 states is based on the number of uninsured eligible for the Marketplaces.



**Table 2: Premiums and Qualified Health Plan Choices, 36 States (Largest City in State)**

State	City Name	Number of QHPs <sup>24</sup>	27-Year-Old, Before Tax Credits				27-Year-Old with an Income of \$25,000				Family of Four with an Income of \$50,000 <sup>25</sup>			
			Lowest Bronze	Lowest Silver	Lowest Gold	Lowest Catastrophic	Second Lowest Silver Before Tax Credit	Second Lowest Silver After Tax Credit	Second Lowest Bronze After Tax Credit	Second Lowest Silver Before Tax Credit	Second Lowest Silver After Tax Credit	Second Lowest Bronze After Tax Credit	Second Lowest Silver Before Tax Credit	Second Lowest Silver After Tax Credit
AK <sup>27</sup>	Anchorage	34	\$254	\$312	\$402	\$236	\$312	\$107	\$48	\$131	\$205	\$0		
AL	Birmingham	10	\$170	\$209	\$239	\$140	\$211	\$145	\$104	\$765	\$282	\$134		
AR	Little Rock	38	\$190	\$241	\$276	\$124	\$251	\$145	\$84	\$909	\$282	\$60		
AZ	Phoenix	111	\$139	\$159	\$181	\$105	\$161	\$145	\$123	\$584	\$282	\$202		
DE	Entire State	19	\$203	\$234	\$282	\$137	\$237	\$145	\$111	\$859	\$282	\$158		
FL	Miami	137	\$163	\$202	\$239	\$109	\$221	\$145	\$87	\$799	\$282	\$72		
GA	Atlanta	68	\$166	\$188	\$214	\$127	\$205	\$145	\$105	\$744	\$282	\$138		
IA	Cedar Rapids	45	\$132	\$171	\$193	\$90	\$189	\$145	\$88	\$683	\$282	\$77		
ID	Boise	46	\$145	\$179	\$208	\$128	\$189	\$145	\$101	\$685	\$282	\$122		
IL	Chicago	73	\$125	\$172	\$202	\$141	\$174	\$145	\$96	\$628	\$282	\$106		
IN	Indianapolis	31	\$204	\$278	\$348	\$170	\$279	\$145	\$70	\$1,011	\$282	\$11		
KS	Wichita	36	\$121	\$162	\$179	\$81	\$162	\$145	\$104	\$587	\$282	\$134		
LA	New Orleans	52	\$170	\$209	\$238	\$139	\$242	\$145	\$74	\$875	\$282	\$23		
ME	Portland	17	\$192	\$233	\$306	\$162	\$242	\$145	\$96	\$876	\$282	\$103		

<sup>24</sup> Not including catastrophic plans.

<sup>25</sup> For the purposes of this analysis, a family of four is defined as one 40-year-old adult, one 38-year-old adult, and two children under the age of 18.

<sup>26</sup> After tax credits, bronze premiums for a family of four may be below those for a single individual. This occurs because the tax credit is calculated as the difference between the cost of the second lowest cost silver plan premium and the maximum payment amount determined by income. Because premiums for older individuals and families are higher than those for younger individuals, tax credits are larger for older individuals and families. Therefore, using tax credits to purchase a bronze plan may yield lower bronze premiums for older individuals and families than for younger individuals.

<sup>27</sup> Alaska has an alternate Federal Poverty Level, which is used to calculate tax credits here.

State	City Name	Number of QHPs <sup>24</sup>	27-Year-Old, Before Tax Credits				27-Year-Old with an Income of \$25,000			Family of Four with an Income of \$50,000 <sup>25</sup>		
			Lowest Bronze	Lowest Silver	Lowest Gold	Lowest Catastrophic	Second Lowest Silver Before Tax Credit	Second Lowest Silver After Tax Credit	Lowest Bronze After Tax Credit	Second Lowest Silver Before Tax Credit	Second Lowest Silver After Tax Credit	Lowest Bronze After Tax Credit <sup>26</sup>
MI	Detroit	50	\$138	\$156	\$181	\$105	\$184	\$145	\$99	\$665	\$282	\$115
MO	St. Louis	20	\$147	\$196	\$213	\$100	\$216	\$145	\$76	\$782	\$282	\$32
MS	Jackson	22	\$199	\$226	\$258	\$150	\$336	\$145	\$8	\$1,216	\$282	\$0
MT	Bozeman	26	\$163	\$201	\$219	\$147	\$206	\$145	\$102	\$744	\$282	\$126
NC	Charlotte	28	\$183	\$247	\$285	\$115	\$251	\$145	\$77	\$910	\$282	\$36
ND	Fargo	24	\$175	\$217	\$242	\$128	\$222	\$145	\$98	\$805	\$282	\$110
NE	Omaha	50	\$162	\$210	\$252	\$114	\$222	\$145	\$84	\$805	\$282	\$62
NH	Entire State	12	\$186	\$236	\$281	\$157	\$237	\$145	\$94	\$859	\$282	\$96
NJ	Entire State	29	\$219	\$253	\$303	\$186	\$260	\$145	\$103	\$943	\$282	\$131
NM	Albuquerque	55	\$126	\$155	\$186	\$110	\$159	\$145	\$112	\$577	\$282	\$162
OH	Columbus	29	\$205	\$196	\$245	\$151	\$207	\$145	\$142	\$751	\$282	\$273
OK	Oklahoma City	61	\$105	\$158	\$204	\$107	\$165	\$145	\$85	\$597	\$282	\$66
PA	Philadelphia	42	\$195	\$210	\$250	\$171	\$246	\$145	\$94	\$891	\$282	\$96
SC	Columbia	28	\$166	\$218	\$244	\$113	\$220	\$145	\$90	\$798	\$282	\$84
SD	Sioux Falls	32	\$196	\$207	\$251	\$164	\$217	\$145	\$124	\$785	\$282	\$207
TN	Nashville	72	\$114	\$148	\$197	\$131	\$154	\$145	\$104	\$559	\$282	\$135
TX	Houston	46	\$138	\$195	\$233	\$132	\$201	\$145	\$81	\$728	\$282	\$52
UT	Salt Lake	85	\$143	\$162	\$188	\$110	\$197	\$145	\$91	\$635	\$282	\$109
VA	Fairfax County	56	\$144	\$213	\$258	\$124	\$223	\$145	\$66	\$807	\$282	\$0
WI	Milwaukee	84	\$200	\$247	\$300	\$169	\$258	\$145	\$86	\$935	\$282	\$70
WV	Huntington	12	\$176	\$208	\$253	\$161	\$208	\$145	\$113	\$753	\$282	\$167
WY	Cheyenne	16	\$271	\$307	\$346	\$245	\$324	\$145	\$92	\$1,171	\$282	\$92

**Table 3: Premiums and Qualified Health Plan Choices, 25 Metropolitan Statistical Areas in 36 States (Largest Rating Area in MSA)**

MSA Name	Number of QHPs <sup>28</sup>	27-Year-Old Rates			27-Year-Old with an Income of \$25,000			Family of Four with an Income of \$50,000 <sup>29</sup>			
		Lowest Bronze	Lowest Silver	Lowest Gold	Lowest Catastrophic	Second Lowest Silver Before Tax Credit	Lowest Bronze After Tax Credit	Second Lowest Silver Before Tax Credit	Lowest Bronze After Tax Credit	Second Lowest Silver After Tax Credit	
Dallas-Fort Worth, TX	43	\$153	\$217	\$266	\$173	\$223	\$145	\$74	\$808	\$282	\$26
Houston-Brazoria, TX	46	\$138	\$195	\$233	\$132	\$201	\$145	\$81	\$728	\$282	\$52
Atlanta, GA	68	\$166	\$188	\$214	\$127	\$205	\$145	\$105	\$744	\$282	\$138
Chicago, IL	73	\$125	\$172	\$202	\$141	\$174	\$145	\$96	\$628	\$282	\$106
Miami-Hialeah, FL	137	\$163	\$202	\$239	\$109	\$221	\$145	\$87	\$799	\$282	\$72
Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater, FL	102	\$167	\$189	\$218	\$129	\$199	\$145	\$113	\$721	\$282	\$165
Phoenix, AZ	111	\$139	\$159	\$181	\$105	\$161	\$145	\$123	\$584	\$282	\$202
Philadelphia, PA	42	\$195	\$210	\$250	\$171	\$246	\$145	\$94	\$891	\$282	\$96
New York-Northeastern NJ	29	\$219	\$253	\$303	\$186	\$260	\$145	\$103	\$943	\$282	\$131
Orlando, FL	98	\$182	\$207	\$238	\$141	\$225	\$145	\$102	\$816	\$282	\$126
Detroit, MI	50	\$138	\$157	\$181	\$105	\$184	\$145	\$100	\$665	\$282	\$118
San Antonio, TX	58	\$138	\$168	\$192	\$109	\$196	\$145	\$87	\$710	\$282	\$73
Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood-Pompano Beach, FL	132	\$128	\$174	\$189	\$86	\$199	\$145	\$74	\$722	\$282	\$24

<sup>28</sup> Not including catastrophic plans.

<sup>29</sup> For the purposes of this analysis, a family of four is defined as one 40-year-old adult, one 38-year-old adult, and two children under the age of 18.

<sup>30</sup> After tax credits, bronze premiums for a family of four may be below those for a single individual. This occurs because the tax credit is calculated as the difference between the cost of the second lowest cost silver plan premium and the maximum payment amount determined by income. Because premiums for older individuals and families are higher than those for younger individuals, tax credits are larger for older individuals and families. Therefore, using tax credits to purchase a bronze plan may yield lower bronze premiums for older individuals and families than for younger individuals.

MSA Name	Number of QHPs <sup>28</sup>	27-Year-Old Rates			27-Year-Old with an Income of \$25,000			Family of Four with an Income of \$50,000 <sup>29</sup>			
		Lowest Bronze	Lowest Silver	Lowest Gold	Lowest Catastrophic	Second Lowest Silver Before Tax Credit	Second Lowest Silver After Tax Credit	Lowest Bronze After Tax Credit	Second Lowest Silver Before Tax Credit	Second Lowest Silver After Tax Credit	Lowest Bronze After Tax Credit <sup>30</sup>
St. Louis, MO	20	\$147	\$196	\$213	\$100	\$216	\$145	\$76	\$782	\$282	\$32
Indianapolis, IN	31	\$204	\$278	\$348	\$170	\$279	\$145	\$70	\$1,011	\$282	\$11
Charlotte-Gastonia-Rock Hill, NC	28	\$183	\$247	\$285	\$115	\$251	\$145	\$77	\$910	\$282	\$36
Cleveland, OH	45	\$152	\$201	\$245	\$121	\$204	\$145	\$93	\$738	\$282	\$94
Washington DC Metro Area, VA	56	\$144	\$213	\$258	\$124	\$223	\$145	\$66	\$807	\$282	\$0
Pittsburgh, PA	36	\$119	\$134	\$169	\$104	\$139	\$139	\$119	\$505	\$282	\$209
Austin, TX	76	\$144	\$169	\$193	\$109	\$205	\$145	\$85	\$741	\$282	\$64
Salt Lake City-Ogden, UT	85	\$143	\$162	\$188	\$110	\$197	\$145	\$91	\$635	\$282	\$109
West Palm Beach-Boca Raton-Delray Beach, FL	132	\$147	\$167	\$193	\$109	\$220	\$145	\$72	\$797	\$282	\$18
McAllen-Edinburg-Pharr-Mission, TX	30	\$109	\$153	\$174	\$98	\$155	\$145	\$99	\$560	\$282	\$117
Jacksonville, FL	86	\$137	\$186	\$202	\$92	\$210	\$145	\$72	\$760	\$282	\$19
Greensboro-Winston Salem-High Point, NC	17	\$167	\$224	\$260	\$105	\$228	\$145	\$84	\$826	\$282	\$62

NOTE: For MSAs that include multiple rating areas, this table shows only the largest rating area within that MSA. Rating area population is derived from county-level population under the age of 65, projected by the Census.

**Table 4: Weighted Average Premiums, 48 States**

State	Lowest Cost Silver	Second Lowest Cost Silver	Lowest Cost Bronze
Alabama	\$303	\$318	\$247
Alaska	\$474	\$474	\$385
Arizona	\$248	\$252	\$214
Arkansas	\$351	\$366	\$275
California	\$341	\$373	\$278
Colorado	\$305	\$305	\$232
Connecticut	\$397	\$436	\$340
Delaware	\$356	\$360	\$308
District of Columbia	\$293	\$297	\$204
Florida	\$304	\$328	\$257
Georgia	\$304	\$317	\$265
Idaho	\$276	\$285	\$227
Illinois	\$274	\$286	\$203
Indiana	\$392	\$403	\$304
Iowa	\$266	\$287	\$212
Kansas	\$260	\$260	\$197
Louisiana	\$356	\$374	\$265
Maine	\$388	\$403	\$328
Maryland	\$266	\$299	\$197
Michigan	\$271	\$306	\$222
Minnesota	\$192	\$192	\$144
Mississippi	\$403	\$448	\$342
Missouri	\$318	\$334	\$245
Montana	\$309	\$316	\$251
Nebraska	\$298	\$312	\$241
Nevada	\$295	\$297	\$227
New Hampshire	\$359	\$360	\$282
New Jersey	\$382	\$385	\$332
New Mexico	\$275	\$282	\$217
New York <sup>31</sup>	\$319	\$349	\$276
North Carolina	\$361	\$369	\$282
North Dakota	\$350	\$353	\$281
Ohio	\$304	\$321	\$263
Oklahoma	\$256	\$266	\$174
Oregon	\$241	\$250	\$205
Pennsylvania	\$259	\$286	\$229
Rhode Island	\$341	\$366	\$264
South Carolina	\$333	\$339	\$267

<sup>31</sup> New York premiums are the same for all ages.

<b>State</b>	<b>Lowest Cost Silver</b>	<b>Second Lowest Cost Silver</b>	<b>Lowest Cost Bronze</b>
South Dakota	\$341	\$357	\$298
Tennessee	\$235	\$245	\$181
Texas	\$287	\$305	\$211
Utah	\$239	\$266	\$201
Vermont <sup>32</sup>	\$395	\$413	\$336
Virginia	\$323	\$335	\$237
Washington	\$350	\$352	\$264
West Virginia	\$331	\$331	\$280
Wisconsin	\$344	\$361	\$287
Wyoming	\$489	\$516	\$425
<b>Weighted Average, 48 States</b>	\$310	\$328	\$249

NOTE: Premiums shown above are a weighted average of the lowest cost silver plan, the second lowest cost silver plan, and the lowest cost bronze plan in each rating area within the 36 Supported State-based Marketplaces, State Partnership Marketplaces, and Federally-Facilitated Marketplaces as of September 18, 2013, as well as 12 State-based Marketplaces. The rating area weights are constructed based on county-level population under the age of 65. For State-based Marketplaces, premiums are a weighted average across all rating areas for California and New York, and are for the entire state in DC, Rhode Island, and Vermont. For the remaining states, premiums are for the following rating areas: Denver, Colorado; Bridgeport, Hartford, and New Haven, Connecticut; Baltimore, Maryland; Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minnesota; Las Vegas, Nevada; Portland, Oregon; Seattle, Washington. Age weighting for all states is based on expected age distribution in the Marketplaces, estimated by the RAND Corporation.

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<sup>32</sup> Vermont premiums are the same for all ages.

## Methodology

These analyses are based on data submitted to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) from 36 states, as well as publicly available premium information from 12 State-based Marketplaces. As Supported State-based Marketplaces, Idaho and New Mexico submitted plan data to CMS for display using Federal web architecture and are included in the 36 state analysis. The data used in this brief are current as of September 18, 2013. At that time, not all issuers' data had been completely verified in CMS systems. In addition, as of that date, three State-based Marketplaces had not yet published any premium information, and other states had published estimates or incomplete information. Therefore, the premiums presented in this paper should be considered illustrative, not final.

Some State-based Marketplaces have not published all premiums for each **issuer**. In Maryland, we display the silver plans from the lowest cost issuer and the second lowest cost issuer rather than for the second lowest cost silver **plan**. For all other states, we display the lowest cost silver plan and the second lowest cost silver plan. The ASPE-derived CBO estimate used for comparison to silver plans is based on the latest CBO premium estimates, adjusted as described in prior ASPE issue briefs.<sup>33</sup>

We use several different types of weighting in these analyses. To develop an age-weighted average premium within a single rating area, we used the expected age distribution of individual market enrollees in 2014 from the RAND COMPARE Microsimulation model. To develop a statewide average premium across rating areas, we weighted each rating area within a state by the total population under age 65 within that rating area. These population weights were developed using Census projections of county-level population for 2012.<sup>34</sup> To develop a nationwide average including all states, we weighted by the number of uninsured potentially eligible for the Marketplace in each state, developed from the 2011 American Community Survey (ACS) Public Use Microdata Sample.<sup>35</sup> These estimates represent non-elderly US citizens and legal residents who are uninsured and have incomes above 138% of the Federal Poverty Level in Medicaid expansion states or above 100% of the Federal Poverty Level in non-expansion states. These estimates do not take into account the eligibility requirements relating to other minimum essential coverage.

All premium tax credits presented in this issue brief are calculated based on the 2013 Federal Poverty Guidelines.<sup>36</sup> These Guidelines represent the Federal Poverty Levels that will be used for the 2014 plan year.

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<sup>33</sup> See [http://aspe.hhs.gov/health/reports/2013/MarketCompetitionPremiums/ib\\_premiums\\_update.cfm](http://aspe.hhs.gov/health/reports/2013/MarketCompetitionPremiums/ib_premiums_update.cfm)

<sup>34</sup> See <http://www.census.gov/popest/data/counties/asrh/2012/CC-EST2012-ALLDATA.html>.

<sup>35</sup> For data and further methodological details, see [http://cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Outreach/HIMarketplace/Census-Data-.html?no\\_redirect=true](http://cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Outreach/HIMarketplace/Census-Data-.html?no_redirect=true).

<sup>36</sup> See <http://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty/13poverty.cfm>.