

Arkansas Works: Annual Public Forum



**ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF
HUMAN SERVICES**

11/16/21 PRESENTATION



Purpose of This Public Forum

- Arkansas Works operates as a section 1115 demonstration waiver
- Federal waiver regulations require an annual public forum to solicit comments on the progress of the demonstration
- Public has an opportunity to provide comments
- Forum summary will be included in quarterly and annual reports to CMS
- Forum materials available:

[Humanservices.Arkansas.gov/events/public-forum-on-the-Arkansas-works-waiver/](https://humanservices.arkansas.gov/events/public-forum-on-the-arkansas-works-waiver/)



Arkansas Works Overview

Arkansas's Medicaid expansion program under the federal Affordable Care Act.

Serves adults:

- Between 19 and 64 years old
- With household income below 138% FPL

Federal government pays 90%; Arkansas pays 10%

Uses Medicaid dollars to buy private insurance for clients

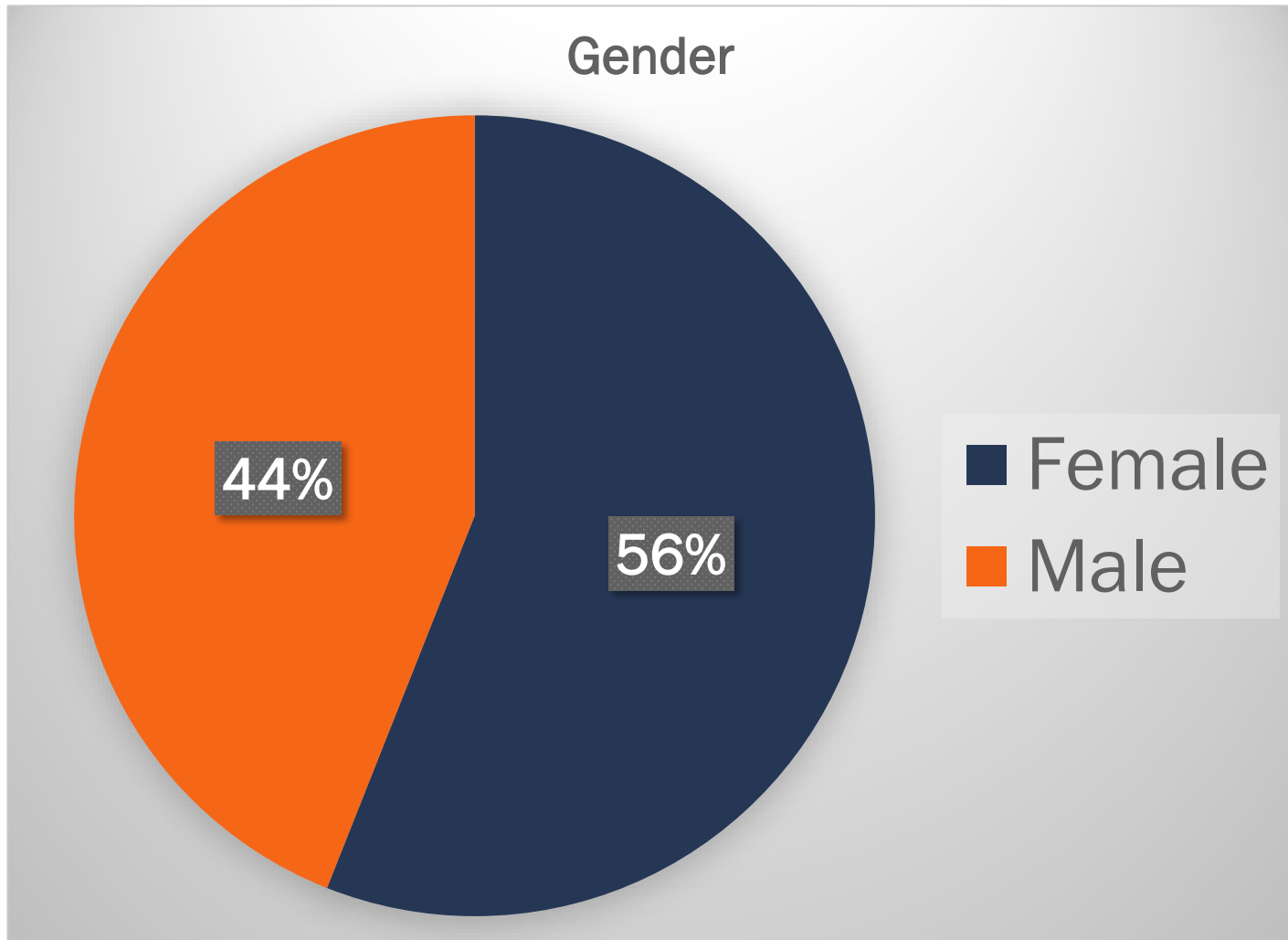


Current Arkansas Works Population

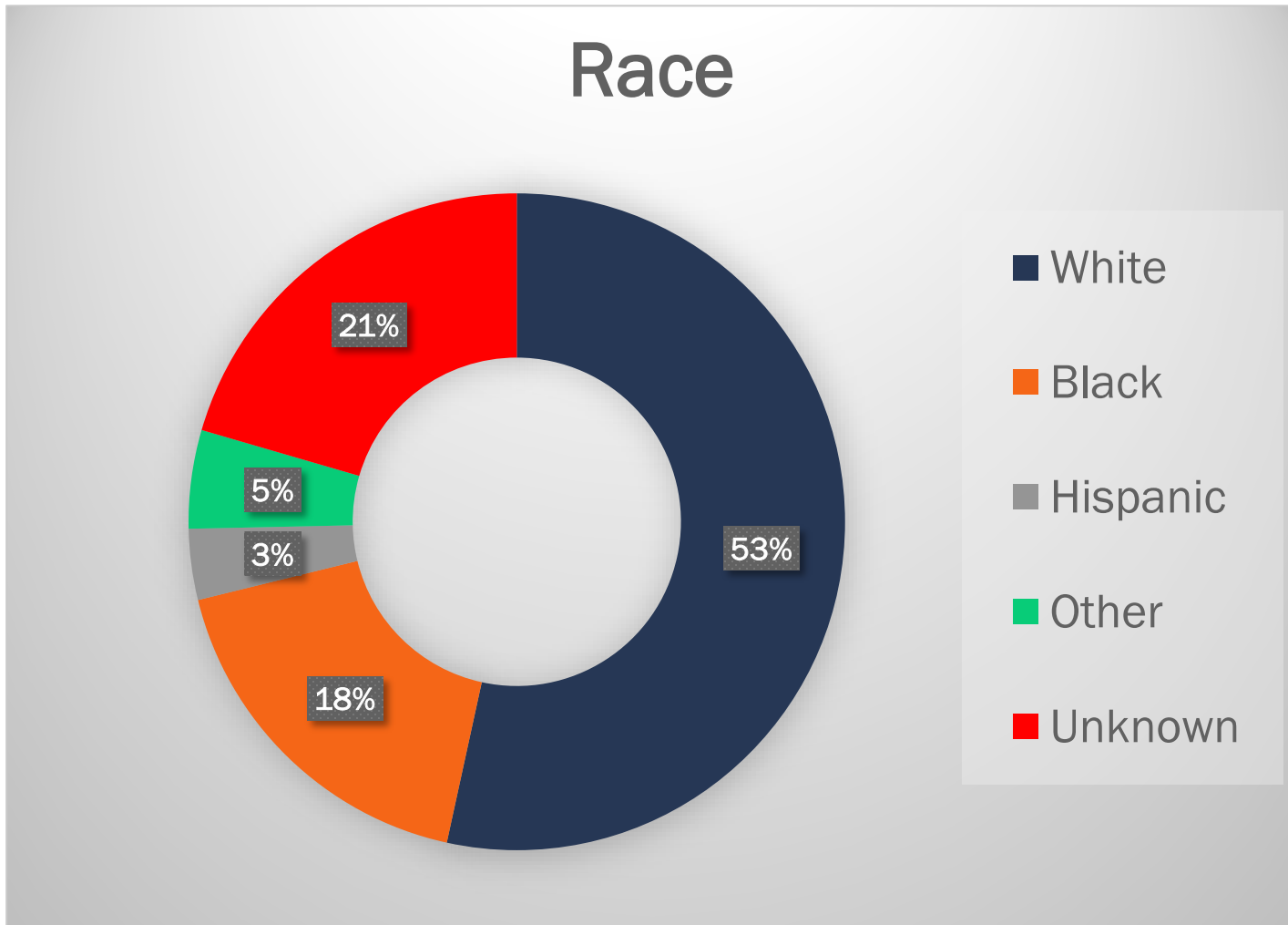
- Nearly **330,000 people** are currently enrolled in Arkansas Works.
- About **19% of Arkansas's non-elderly adults** receive health coverage through Arkansas Works.
- SFY 2021 expenditures totaled **\$2.46 billion**.



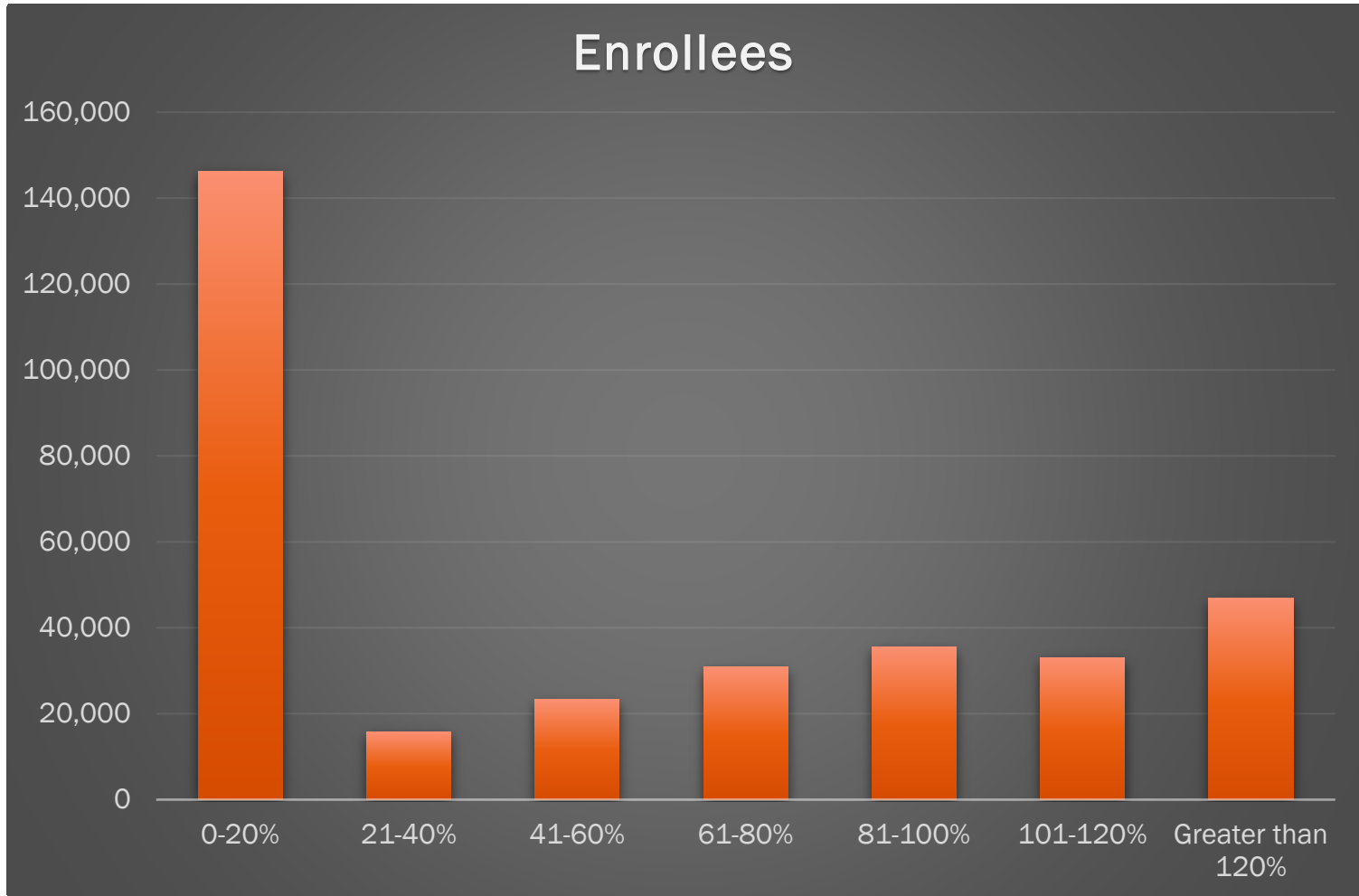
Current Arkansas Works Population



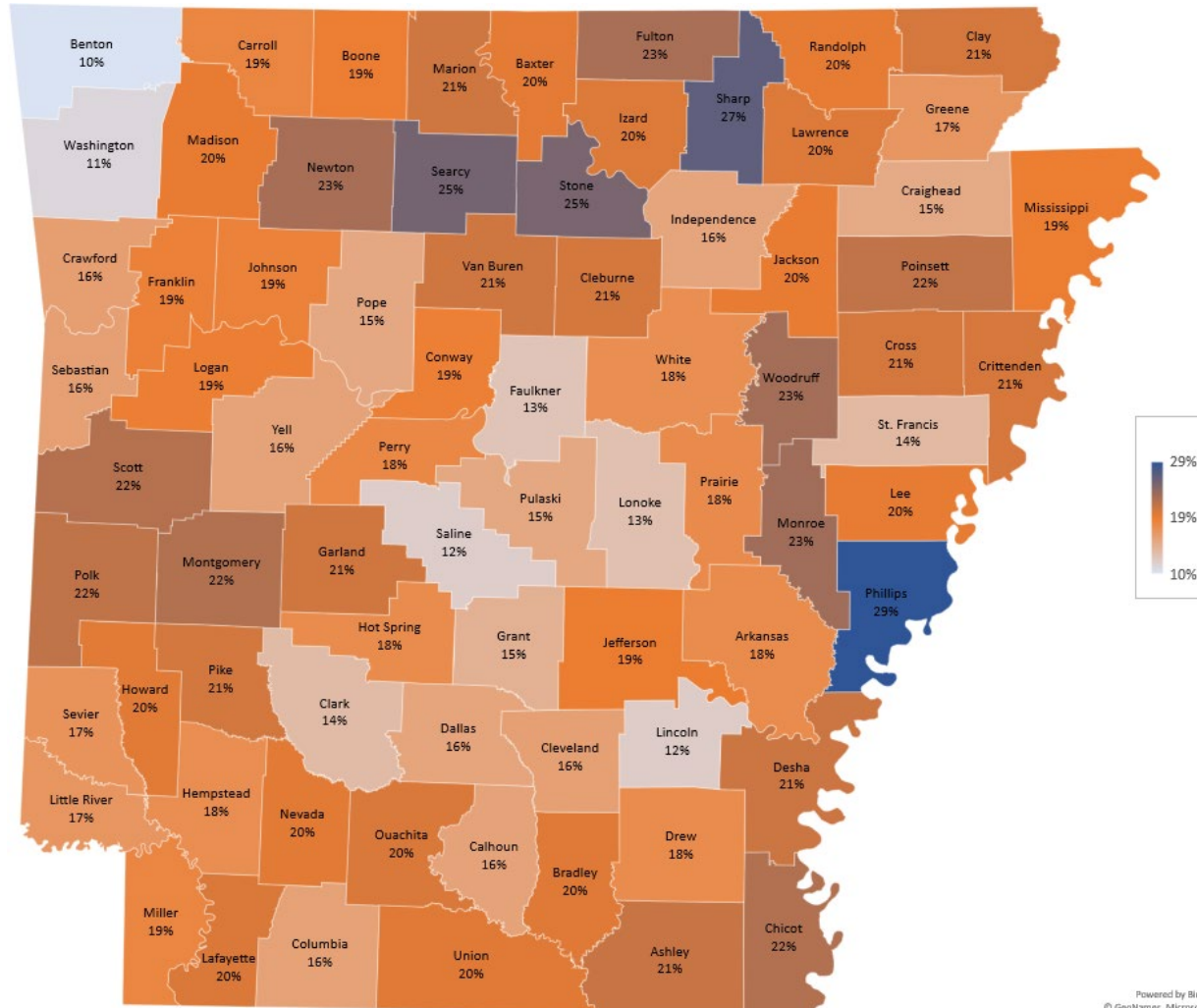
Current Arkansas Works Population



Current Arkansas Works Population



Highest Percentage Enrollment By County

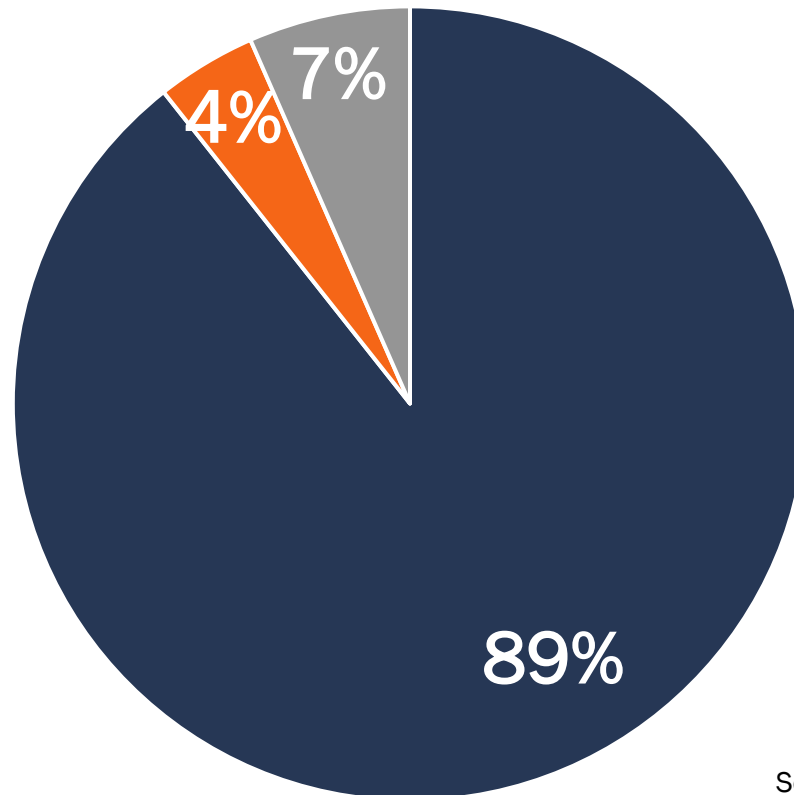


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Arkansas Works: Benefit Plans

■ QHP ■ Awaiting QHP Assignment ■ Medically Frail



September 2021



Qualified Health Plans

- Blue Cross and Blue Shield
- Blue Cross and Blue Shield: Health Advantage
- Centene: QualChoice
- Centene: Ambetter
- Centene: QualChoiceLife
- New for 2022: Oscar



Contacts for Information

- Blue Cross and Blue Shield: 1-800-392-2583
- Centene/Ambetter: 1-877-617-0390
- Oscar: 1-855-672-2755
- AFMC Assistance Center: 1-888-987-1200



Arkansas Works Evaluation

- Interim evaluation submitted in June 2021
- Available here: [Arkansas-Works-Interim-Evaluation-Final.pdf](#)
- Evaluation assesses Arkansas Works clients':
 - ✓ Continuity of care
 - ✓ Access to health care
 - ✓ Quality of Care
 - ✓ Cost effectiveness of services
- Final evaluation June 2023



Arkansas Works Evaluation

Continuity of care

- Shorter gaps in coverage
- Proportion of visits with same specialist higher for some specialties, but lower for visits with same PCP

Access to health care

- No meaningful difference in provider network adequacy or accessibility
- Increased insured rates, rates of having a personal doctor and rates of getting a routine check-up
- Higher rates of breast cancer screening and preventive care visit; lower rates of cervical cancer screening



Arkansas Works Evaluation

Quality of Care

No difference in:

- Preventable ED visits
- Hospital admissions for diabetes complications, COPD, asthma
- Hospital readmissions

Cost effectiveness of services

- Premium costs increased over three-year evaluation period, but...
- Premiums increased at a lower rate than in surrounding states



Arkansas Works to ARHOME

- Arkansas Works state law and federal waiver expire December 31, 2021
- Act 530 of 2021 authorizes DHS to apply for a new five-year waiver
- DHS applied for a new waiver in July
- New program will be known as the Arkansas Health and Opportunity for Me program, or ARHOME
- Currently awaiting CMS approval



Comments and Questions

- Comments and questions can be:
 - ✓ Submitted to nell.m.smith@dhs.Arkansas.gov
or
 - ✓ Mailed to Nell Smith, Arkansas Department of Human Services, Division of Medical Services, 700 Main Street, Little Rock, AR 72203
or
 - ✓ Expressed during the public comment portion of this meeting



Public Comment

We want to hear from you!



**ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF
HUMAN SERVICES**

Contact Us

Nell Smith

Nell.M.Smith@dhs.arkansas.gov



**ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF
HUMAN SERVICES**

We Care. We Act. We Change Lives.

