



CHALLENGES FACING MEDICAID AND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY AND FINANCING IN COLORADO: A GUIDE FOR POLICYMAKERS



AUTHORS: GREG D'ARGONNE CSI HEALTHCARE FELLOW,
SERGIO JAQUEZ-CARO & ERIK GAMM

Colorado's Department of Health Care Policy and Financing is growing while Medicaid coverage is shrinking to nearly its 2015 level.

Between 2015 and 2025, HCPF spending grew

 **101%**

while the rest of the state budget grew by just **64%**.

HCPF spent

\$16 BILLION
in 2025 

It could have spent **\$10.8 billion in 2025** without underlying cost increases added by state and federal policy.

KEY FACTS:

Between 2018 and 2024,

Medicaid enrollment rose by 7.6%

Meanwhile:

 **78%**

HCPF total FTE employment rose **78%**

 **101%**

HCPF spending from the executive director's office rose **101%**

