



# Managed Health Care

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## Fast facts

- ▲ In December 2008, Hennepin County had approximately 106,700 residents enrolled in managed health care.

## What is managed health care?

Managed health care is a state-run plan that purchases health care, including hospital care, clinic care, preventative care, prescription drug, medical equipment and more, from licensed managed care organizations (MCO) for people enrolled in public assistance health care programs such as Medical Assistance (MA), MinnesotaCare and General Assistance Medical Care (GAMC). The state's goal is to improve access to services and control costs for citizens.

## How many are served?

In December 2008, Hennepin County had approximately 106,700 residents enrolled in managed health care:

- Low-income children, families and pregnant women;
- Seniors, including nursing home residents and persons living in the community;
- Low-income adults; and
- Recent immigrants who are low income yet do not qualify for federal MA because of date of entry or length of time in the United States but who meet all other eligibility factors.

Some individuals are excluded from managed health care or may be able to voluntarily enroll in a specific managed health care product. The majority of these individuals are people who are eligible for MA due to blindness or disability and who are under age 65.

## How does managed care work?

The Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) contracts with and pays capitation payments to the MCOs to deliver health care to people enrolled in the plan. What services are covered depends on the program.

Hennepin County has four primary MCOs providing services to Hennepin County residents: Medica, Metropolitan Health Plan (MHP), HealthPartners and UCare Minnesota. Hennepin County also works with Blue Plus on a special Managed Health Care product.