

# Public-Health Programs

## Nevada

In Nevada there are two state-level programs which can assist children from low-income households who need a reliable source of health care: Nevada Medicaid (CHAP) and Nevada Check Up (CHIP).

### Medicaid

The Medicaid program, authorized by the Social Security Act in 1965, is a health-insurance program for low-income individuals and families. It is jointly funded by state and federal governments. Medicaid provides comprehensive, preventive coverage with some benefits designed specifically for children. These benefits include immunizations; well-child checkups; school physicals; and hearing, dental, and vision-screening services. In 2000, an estimated 54,430 children under 20 years of age received Medicaid, slightly up from the 53,013 children in 1999.<sup>1</sup>

### Nevada Check Up (CHIP)

New federal funds became available after Congress enacted the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP, also called S-CHIP). The 1997 Nevada Legislature passed enabling legislation to authorize the development and implementation of Nevada Check Up, which began October 1, 1998.

Uninsured children, ages birth to 18, from families with incomes that are too high for Medicaid and too low to afford private insurance coverage, can be covered by Nevada Check Up. Families with income levels up to 200 percent of the federal poverty level may qualify. States can cover children at higher levels if they choose. Program quarterly premiums, based on income and family size, range from \$10, \$25, or \$50 per quarter (per family). Families have no co-payments or deductibles. As of January 7, 2002, 22,850 children were covered by Nevada Check Up.<sup>2</sup>

**Number of Children Receiving Nevada Check Up by County and Age: 2002**

County	Less Than 1 Year	1 to 6 Years	7 to 13 Years	14 to 18 Years	Total Children
Carson City	46	374	417	170	1,007
Churchill	15	134	119	71	339
Clark	632	5,752	5,850	2,037	14,271
Douglas	8	120	193	114	435
Elko	20	290	308	165	783
Esmeralda	0	5	6	2	13
Eureka	0	3	5	1	9
Humboldt	9	141	156	73	379
Lander	2	29	46	16	93
Lincoln	0	5	12	12	29
Lyon	19	242	339	218	818
Mineral	1	29	39	25	94
Nye	11	107	142	77	337
Pershing	1	24	43	19	87
Storey	0	2	5	5	12
Washoe	121	1,502	1,724	632	3,979
White Pine	4	49	66	46	165
<b>NEVADA</b>	<b>889</b>	<b>8,808</b>	<b>9,470</b>	<b>3,683</b>	<b>22,850</b>

Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Division of Health Care Financing and Policy, Nevada Check Up, as of January 7, 2002.