

Medicaid Unwind: Urgent Updates from DHHS

FOR FALL AND WINTER 2023-2024



Agenda

- Latest Enrollment Transition Numbers
- Ex Parte Re-openings – Noticing and Timing
- Flexibilities: Optimizing Ex Parte Renewal and Extending 30 day Grace Periods
- Children and Unwind: Status and Considerations for Continuous Enrollment
- Review Appendix K End Date and Impacts



Latest Enrollment Transition Numbers



DHHS's Unwind Status to Date (Counts)

Illustrated below is a big picture view of NH's progress to date for the protected population unwind by individual counts.



DHHS's Unwind Status to Date (Percent)

Illustrated below is a big picture view of NH's progress to date for the protected population unwind by percentage.



DHHS's Unwind Status to Date (Children)

Illustrated below is a big picture view of NH's progress to date for children in the protected population unwind by individual counts. The remaining unwind renewals for children were previously scheduled for September and have now been distributed through December.



Ex Parte Re-Openings

NOTICING AND TIMING



CMS' August 30 Letter to All 50 States

Letter required states to determine whether they have an eligibility systems issue that could cause people, especially children, to be disenrolled from Medicaid or the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) even if they are still eligible for coverage and required states to immediately act to correct the problem and reinstate coverage.



Timing and Notice

- Approximately 3100 individuals who were closed between April and August will be re-opened; approximately 1300 were children and 1800 were adults.
- Roughly, another 1200 people, a relatively high percentage of which are children, who were closed in September are being re-opened.
- The policy adjustment will result in an additional 1200 people in retaining coverage from the group of people due for renewal in October.



New Flexibilities

30 DAY GRACE PERIOD AND MAXIMIZING EX PARTE REVIEW



Temporary 30-Day Grace Period

GENERAL MEDICAID POPULATION

Delay procedural terminations
(with application present)
for 30 days while state conducts targeted renewal outreach



LTC AND WAIVER RECIPIENTS

Delay procedural terminations
(even w/o application present)
for 30 days

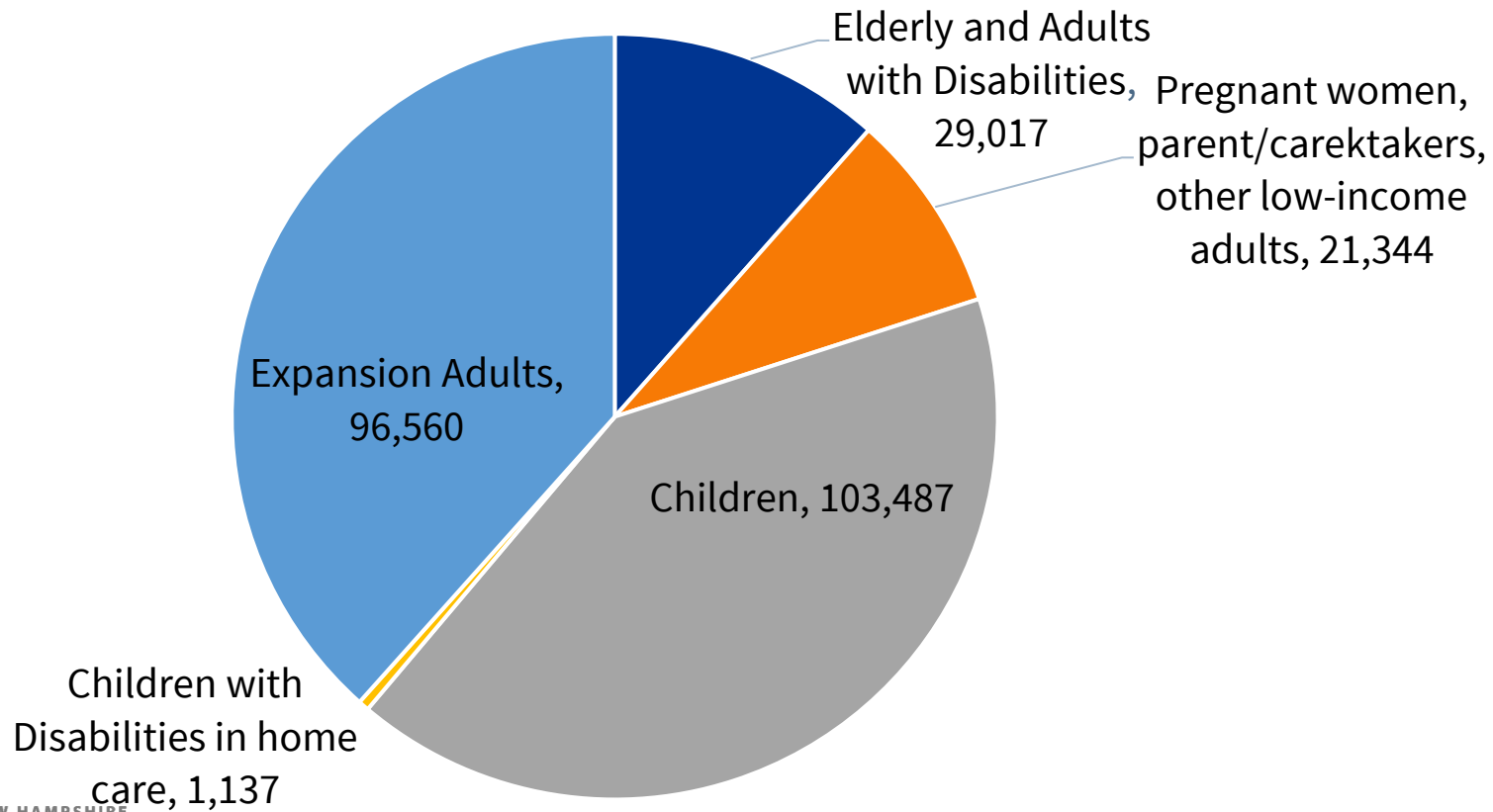
Maximizing Passive Renewal

- Auto renewal for enrollees with zero income
- Expanded reasonable compatibility income thresholds
- Adopted disregard of verification of small dollar accounts

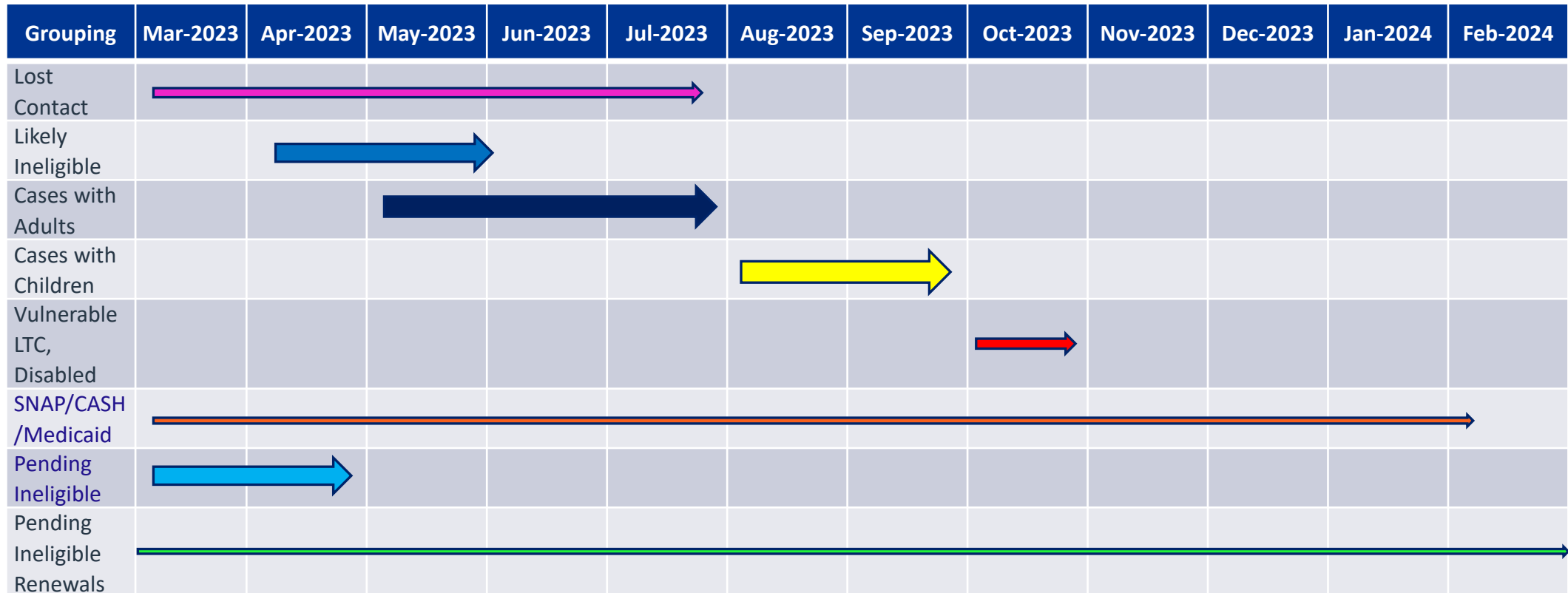
Considerations for Children and Unwind in Light of Continuous Coverage Beginning in 2024

Big Picture:

At Its High-Water Mark, Medicaid Insured 18% of New Hampshire's Population
Children are the Single Largest Eligibility Category



Initial Monthly Distribution of Transitions Among General Groups of Protected Individuals



Note: The above visual represents the primary distribution groupings, several individuals may overlap across groups, e.g. a lost contact case may also be a case with children. For illustrative purposes only.

Extending the Renewals Distribution for Children

Children Renewal Redistribution

Redistributed 1,836 redeterminations from September extending the distribution plan as follows:

- 1,012 cases to October
- 312 cases to November
- 512 cases to December



Continual Enrollment For Children Begins January 2024

- How will this intersect with the end of the Unwind processes for children?



Appendix K: End Date and Potential Impacts

Appendix K Authority Ending November 11, 2023.

- Appendix K is a standalone appendix that may be utilized by states during emergency situations to request amendment to approved 1915(c) waivers.
- It includes actions that states can take under the existing Section 1915(c) home and community-based waiver authority in order to respond to an emergency.
- In particular, during the PHE, Appendix K allowed for Medical Eligibility Assessment (MEA) determinations to be “pushed out” one year even if MEA was not confirmed.
- Appendix K authorities will be expiring November 11.



MEAs and Medicaid Eligibility

	April-November 11, 2023	November 12 th	November 12 th -onward
MEA date and annual Medicaid redetermination date	Prior to PHE, these were decoupled dates that can occur asynchronously. Failing to redetermine Medicaid eligibility can result in termination.		
MEA Process	<p>MEAs that affirm medical eligibility proceed as typical and next MEA date is one year out.</p> <p>MEAs that do not result in confirming medical eligibility may be pushed out one year under temporary flexibility.</p>	<p>MEA process will return to “normal operations” and the Department is currently strategizing best approaches for supporting recipients with upcoming MEA dates in Oct-Dec as this transition approaches.</p>	<p>MEAs will need to be completed in line with typical operations to confirm medical eligibility.</p>



Next Steps

- Department is working to provide additional reporting on recipients where action/documentation/verification is needed for financial eligibility as well as forecasting recipients at risk of MEA-driven issues in November.

Questions?



Thank you!

