

Office of the Governor | Mississippi Division of Medicaid

# Telemedicine in Mississippi Medicaid

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# Who is Enrolled?

The percentage of the populations we serve are listed from highest to lowest:

- Children
- Low Income Parents/ Caretakers
- Disabled (Supplemental Security Income)
- Dually eligible
- Family Planning
- Pregnant Women

**740,937**  
**Medicaid beneficiaries**

**49,399**  
**CHIP beneficiaries**

**790,336**  
**Total enrollment**

*As of June 2015*

# Eligibility Guidelines

- Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP)  
Lowest match 50%, MS has highest match at **73.58%**
- Eligibility determined by income and SSI status
- Based on the Federal Poverty Level (FPL)

## 2015 Federal Poverty Level Guidelines

Family Size	100%	133%	138%	143%	194%	209%
1	11,770	15,654	16,243	16,831	22,834	24,599
2	15,930	21,187	21,983	22,780	30,904	33,294
3	20,090	26,720	27,724	22,729	38,975	41,988
4	24,250	32,253	33,465	34,678	47,045	50,683

# DEFINING THE PROBLEM

# Mississippi Medicaid Population is Medically Challenging

- Poorest state
- Ranks 50<sup>th</sup> in overall health statistics
- Ranks 50<sup>th</sup> in low birth weight infants
- Ranks 49<sup>th</sup> in obesity
- Ranks 48<sup>th</sup> in diabetes
- Ranks 48<sup>th</sup> in hypertension



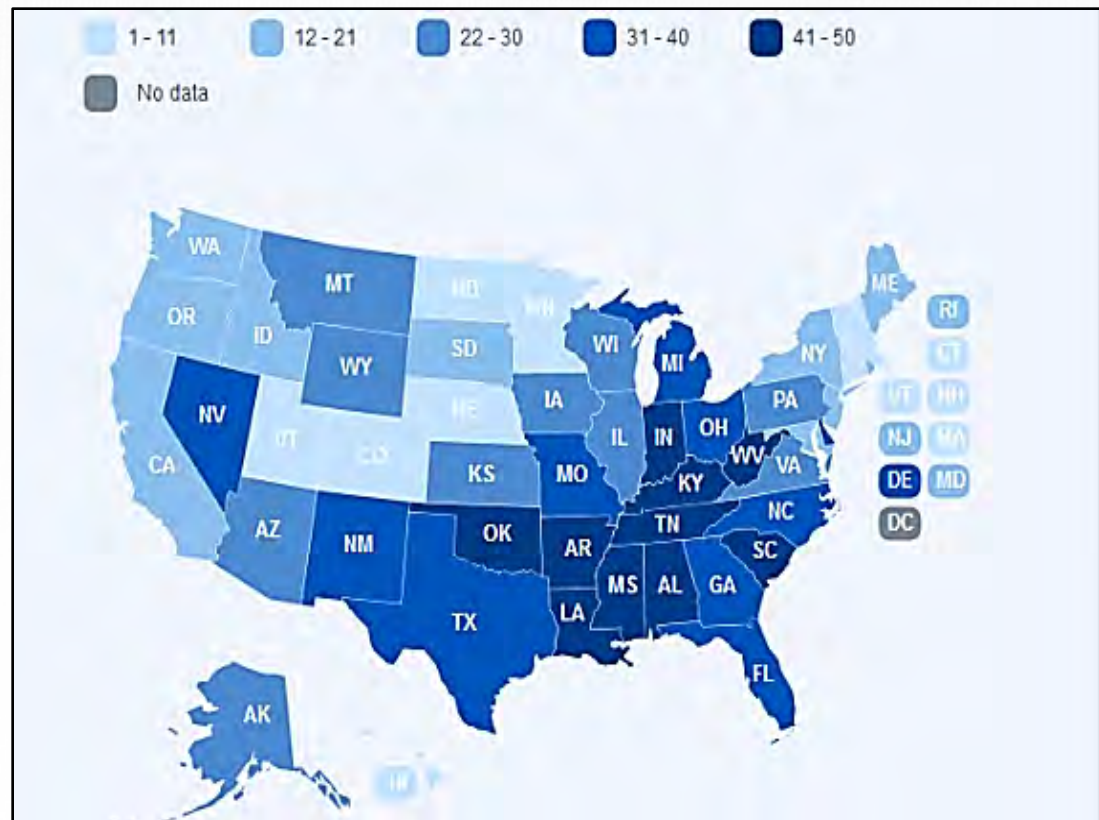
# U.S. Health Ranking

## Top Five States

- Hawaii (1)
- Vermont (2)
- Massachusetts (3)
- Connecticut (4)
- Utah (5)

## Bottom Five States

- Oklahoma (46)
- Kentucky (47)
- Louisiana (48)
- Arkansas (49)
- Mississippi (50)





# THE ARGUMENT FOR TELEHEALTH

Tech-savvy  
Consumer  
Population

Growing  
Population  
in The US

Surge in  
Computer-  
based  
Technology

Provider  
Shortage

Lack of  
Access to  
Medical  
Services

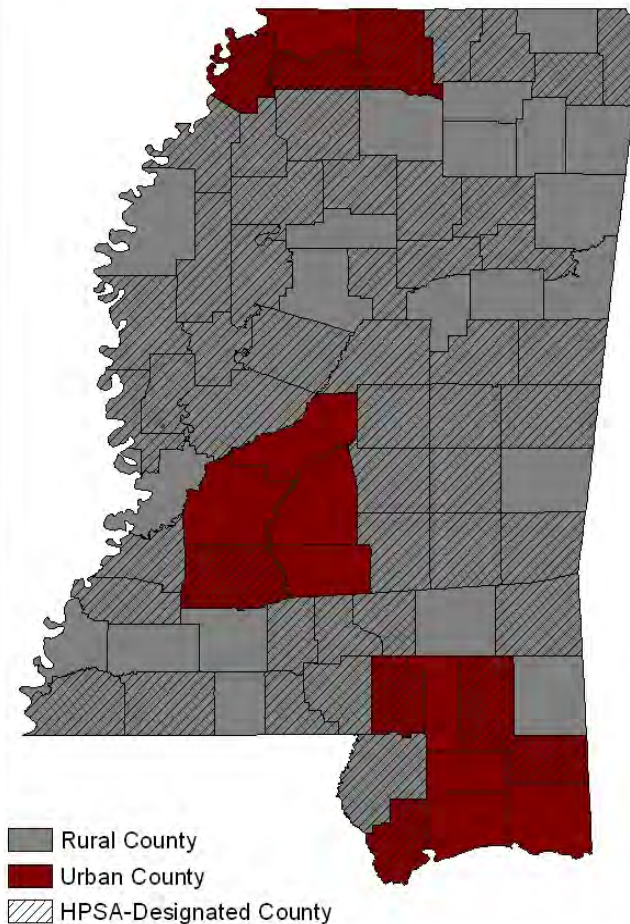
Increase in  
Aging  
Citizens

# Reaching Our Beneficiaries

60% of Mississippi residents live in a rural setting

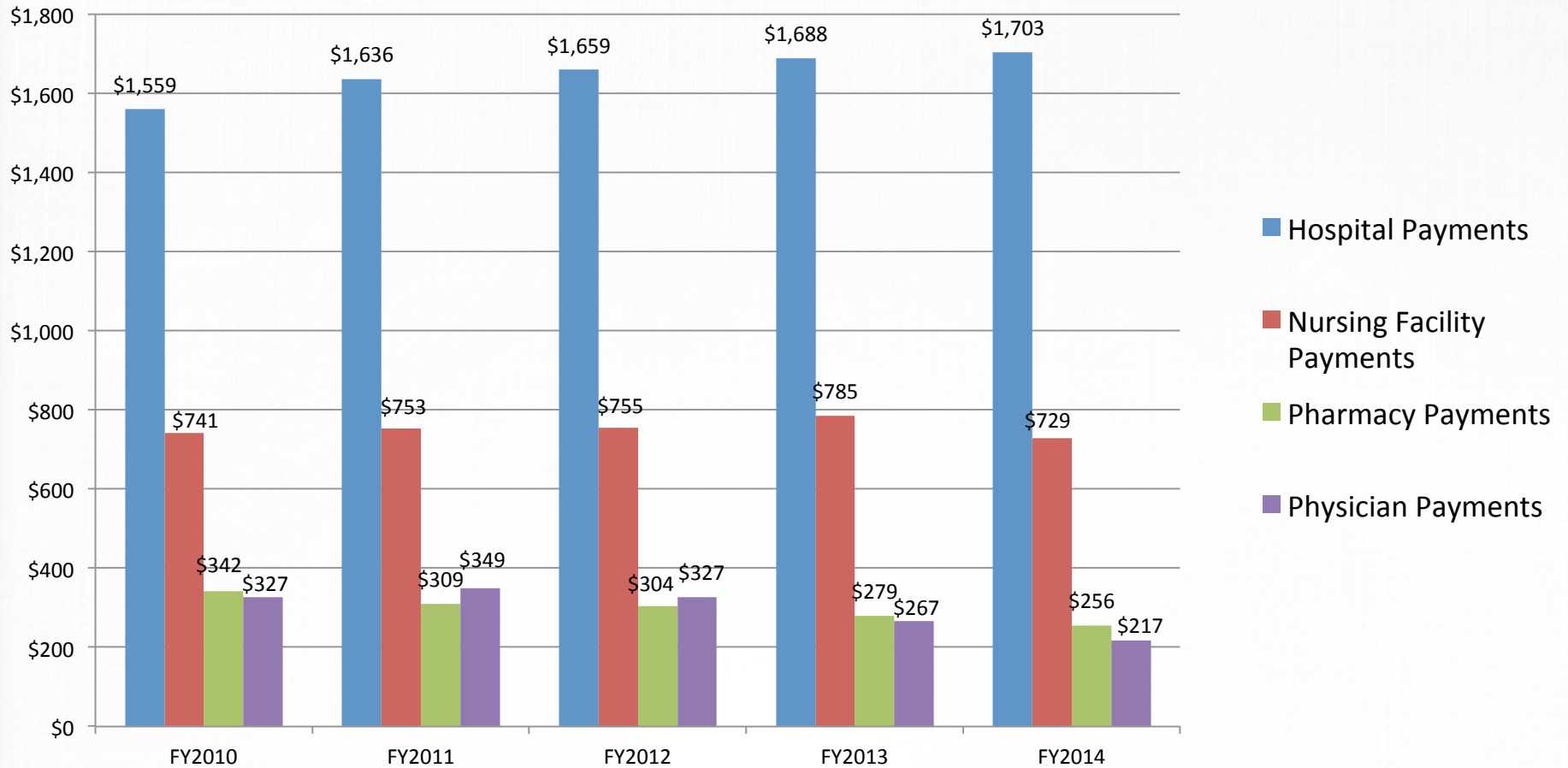
37% of Mississippi residents live in medically underserved communities

Most Mississippians travel 40-min. to receive specialty healthcare





# Major Medicaid Provider Payments (in millions)



Note: Numbers represent fee-for-service and exclude managed care payments. FY2013 nursing facility payments include UPL totaling approximately \$63m. NF UPL payments made in FY2012 were approximately \$18m and \$15 million in FY2011.

# OVERCOMING THE OBSTACLES

# Where to Get Started

Provider Collaboration

Executive Support

Legislative Support

Innovative Coverage

Reimbursement Methodology

# Telehealth Policy



Telehealth  
Enhancement  
Act of 2013:  
HR 3306



Senate Bill  
No. 2646

As noted by the American Telemedicine Association's (ATA) comparison of telemedicine coverage and reimbursement standards for every state in the US, Mississippi is one of seven states that averaged the highest composite score suggesting a supportive policy landscape that accommodates telemedicine adoption.

*State Telemedicine Gaps Analysis, September 2014*

# Support from the Governor

## *Diabetes Project in MS*

In his "State of the State" speech, Mississippi Governor, Phil Bryant announced a new statewide telehealth effort focused on local diabetes patients.



## The Mississippi Diabetes Telehealth Network





# Telemedicine Pilot Program

**University of Mississippi Medical Center**

July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015

# Senate Bill No. 2646

An act to create new section 83-9-353, Mississippi Code of 1972, to require health insurance and employee benefit plans in this state to provide coverage and reimbursement for "store-and-forward telemedicine services" and "remote patient monitoring services" to the same extent that the services would be covered and reimbursed if they were provided through in-person consultation; to define "store-and-forward telemedicine" and "remote patient monitoring"; to amend section 83-9-351, Mississippi Code of 1972, to include employee benefit plans in the requirement for insurance reimbursement for telemedicine services; and for related purposes.

## We Decided to Think Even Bigger than Required

# Developing Policy

**Research Medicare, Private Insurers, Medicaid States Telemedicine Policies**

**Determine Financial Impact**

**Determine Provider Types**

**State Plan Amendment Submission**

**Establishing fees for non-Medicare established fees**

**Opening Closed Codes**

# Post-Executive Approval

- Notify Internal Partners
  - Provider and Beneficiary Relations
  - Program Integrity
  - iTECH
  - Finance
- Provider Notification
  - Late Breaking News
  - Banner Messages
  - Webinars and Workshops
  - Provider Bulletin

# PERSON-CENTERED COVERAGE



# SPA 15-003 Telehealth Services

Payment for telehealth services is made as follows:

- The originating or spoke site provider is paid a Mississippi Medicaid telehealth originating site facility fee per completed transmission. The originating site provider may not bill for an encounter or Evaluation and Management (E&M) visit unless a separately identifiable service is performed.
- The distant or hub site provider is paid the current applicable Mississippi Medicaid fee for the telehealth service provided.

# SPA 15-003 Telehealth Services

The Mississippi Medicaid telehealth originating site facility fee was calculated by an actuarial firm using the May 2013 Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) mean wage for Nurse Practitioners in MS adjusted by 35% for benefits and 2% for wage growth at half of the rate for 30 minute increments and is effective for services provided on or after January 1, 2015.

The Mississippi Medicaid telehealth originating site facility fee is updated July 1 of each year based on the annual percentage change in the Medicare physician fee schedule for Level III Established Patient E&M code effective on January 1 of each year.

# Telemedicine

- It includes, but is not limited to,
  - telehealth services,
  - remote patient monitoring services,
  - teleradiology services,
  - store-and-forward and
  - continuous glucose monitoring services.

# Telehealth

The interaction must be:

1. Live,
2. Interactive, and
3. Audiovisual.

# Store-and-Forward

Telecommunication technology for the transfer of medical data from one (1) site to another through the use of a camera or similar device that records or stores an image which is transmitted or forwarded via telecommunication to another site for teleconsultation and includes, but is not limited to, teleradiology services.



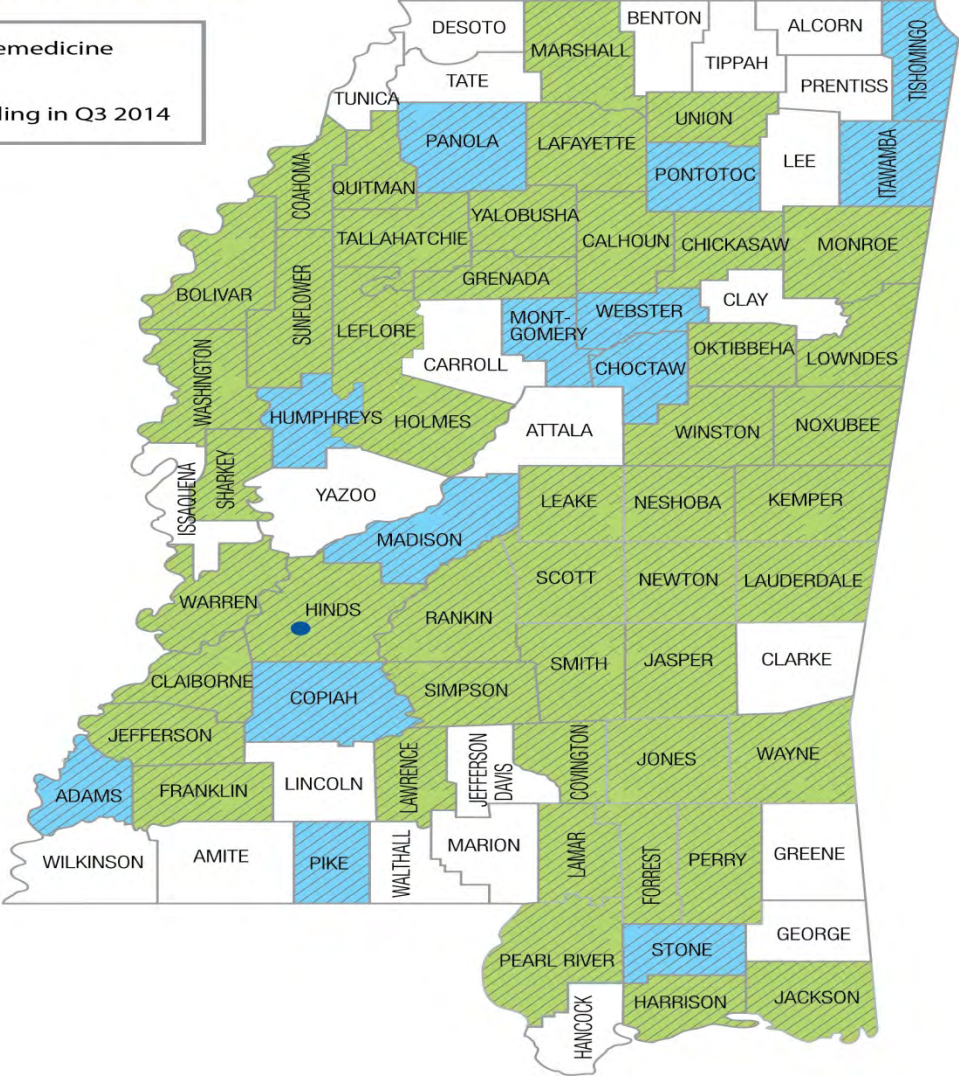
# Remote Patient Monitoring

Using digital technologies to collect medical and other forms of health data from individuals in one location and electronically transmit that information securely to healthcare providers in a different location for interpretation and recommendation.

# WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE 6 MONTHS IN?

# Provider Network

-  Counties with Telemedicine
-  UMC
-  Counties onboarding in Q3 2014



# Telehealth Services

**TeleAllergy/Immunology** services

**TeleCardiology – Adult** services

**TeleCardiology – Pediatric** services

**TeleDermatology** services

**TelEmergency** services

**TeleGenetic** services

**TeleHospitalist** services

**TelEducation** for medical and nursing professionals

**TeleICU** services – remote critical care monitoring

**Telemetry** services

**TeleID – Infectious Diseases** services

**TeleNeurology – Pediatric** services

**TeleNeonatology** services

**TeleNursing** services

**TeleObstetrics** specialty services

**TeleOphthalmology** services

**TelePathology** services

**TelePharmacy** services

**TelePrison** services

**TelePsychiatry** services

**TeleRadiology** services

**TeleStroke** services

**TeleToxicology** services

**TeleWoundCare** services

**Remote Patient Monitoring**

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