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## FACT SHEET

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
September 18, 2014

Contact: CMS Media Relations  
(202) 690-6145 or [press@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:press@cms.hhs.gov)

### Medicare in Alabama, 2015

The Affordable Care Act strengthens Medicare and helps beneficiaries take charge of their health. The law provides important benefits such as free preventive services, free annual wellness visits, and discounts and better coverage for prescription drugs for Medicare recipients in the coverage gap known as the “donut hole.”

Between 2010 when the Affordable Care Act was enacted and 2015, the number of people who are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans is expected to increase by 42 percent to an all-time high.

Medicare remains strong and beneficiaries will continue to be covered through the program. Whether through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, they’ll still have the same benefits and security they have now: they do not need to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. Medicare is not part of the Marketplace.

#### **In Alabama in 2015:**

- 100% of people with Medicare have access to a Medicare Advantage plan
- 40 Medicare Advantage plans available
- 30 Medicare Prescription Drug Plans available
- 100% of people with Part D have access to a plan with lower premium than what they paid in 2014
- 38% of people with Medicare Part D get Extra Help (also called the low-income subsidy, or LIS)
- \$15.60 is the lowest monthly premium for a prescription drug plan

Plan costs and coverage change each year, so everyone with Medicare should check to make sure their plan still meets their health needs and budget. There may be a Medicare health or drug plan available with better coverage or a lower premium in 2015.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, more people with Medicare are seeing reduced costs – through both discounts on brand-name drugs in the Medicare Part D “donut hole” and a provision in the law that makes preventive services like mammograms and other cancer

screenings available for free. In 2014, 392,750 people in Alabama with Original Medicare took advantage of at least one preventive service without cost-sharing through July 2014. People with Medicare in Alabama have saved an overall \$187,328,015 on prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D donut hole since 2010 as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

### **Important Dates in 2015**

#### **September**

- Medicare beneficiaries should watch their mailboxes for the “Medicare & You” 2015 handbook and for information from their current health or drug plan about changes they will see in 2014.

#### **October**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **begins October 15.**
- Beneficiaries should watch their mail for notices from Medicare with information about changes in 2015.
- Beneficiaries can compare plans at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) starting October 1.

#### **December**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **ends December 7.**

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### Medicare in Alaska, 2015

The Affordable Care Act strengthens Medicare and helps beneficiaries take charge of their health. The law provides important benefits such as free preventive services, free annual wellness visits, and discounts and better coverage for prescription drugs for Medicare recipients in the coverage gap known as the “donut hole.”

Between 2010 when the Affordable Care Act was enacted and 2015, the number of people who are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans is expected to increase by 42 percent to an all-time high.

Medicare remains strong and beneficiaries will continue to be covered through the program. Whether through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, they’ll still have the same benefits and security they have now: they do not need to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. Medicare is not part of the Marketplace.

#### **In Alaska in 2015:**

- There are no Medicare Advantage plans in Alaska
- 24 Medicare Prescription Drug Plans available
- 91% of people with Part D have access to a plan with lower premium than what they paid in 2014
- 55% of people with Medicare Part D get Extra Help (also called the low-income subsidy, or LIS)
- \$15.60 is the lowest monthly premium for a prescription drug plan

Plan costs and coverage change each year, so everyone with Medicare should check to make sure their plan still meets their health needs and budget. There may be a Medicare health or drug plan available with better coverage or a lower premium in 2015.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, more people with Medicare are seeing reduced costs – through both discounts on brand-name drugs in the Medicare Part D “donut hole” and a provision in the law that makes preventive services like mammograms and other cancer screenings available for free. In 2014, 27,370 people in Alaska with Original Medicare took

advantage of at least one preventive service without cost-sharing through July 2014. People with Medicare in Alaska have saved an overall \$7,955,808 on prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D donut hole since 2010 as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

### **Important Dates in 2015**

#### **September**

- Medicare beneficiaries should watch their mailboxes for the “Medicare & You” 2015 handbook and for information from their current health or drug plan about changes they will see in 2014.

#### **October**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **begins October 15.**
- Beneficiaries should watch their mail for notices from Medicare with information about changes in 2015.
- Beneficiaries can compare plans at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) starting October 1.

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### **Medicare in American Samoa, 2015**

The Affordable Care Act strengthens Medicare and helps beneficiaries take charge of their health. The law provides important benefits such as free preventive services, free annual wellness visits, and discounts and better coverage for prescription drugs for Medicare recipients in the coverage gap known as the “donut hole.”

Between 2010 when the Affordable Care Act was enacted and 2015, the number of people who are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans is expected to increase by 42 percent to an all-time high.

Medicare remains strong and beneficiaries will continue to be covered through the program. Whether through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, they’ll still have the same benefits and security they have now: they do not need to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. Medicare is not part of the Marketplace.

#### **In American Samoa in 2015:**

- There are no Medicare Advantage plans in American Samoa
- 1 Medicare Prescription Drug Plan available
- 48% of people with Medicare Part D get Extra Help (also called the low-income subsidy, or LIS)
- \$24.80 is the lowest monthly premium for a prescription drug plan

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, more people with Medicare are seeing reduced costs – through both discounts on brand-name drugs in the Medicare Part D “donut hole” and a provision in the law that makes preventive services like mammograms and other cancer screenings available for free. In 2014, 168 people in American Samoa with Original Medicare took advantage of at least one preventive service without cost-sharing through July 2014.

#### **Important Dates in 2015**

**September**

- Medicare beneficiaries should watch their mailboxes for the “Medicare & You” 2015 handbook and for information from their current health or drug plan about changes they will see in 2014.

### **October**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **begins October 15.**
- Beneficiaries should watch their mail for notices from Medicare with information about changes in 2015.
- Beneficiaries can compare plans at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) starting October 1.

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### Medicare in Arizona, 2015

The Affordable Care Act strengthens Medicare and helps beneficiaries take charge of their health. The law provides important benefits such as free preventive services, free annual wellness visits, and discounts and better coverage for prescription drugs for Medicare recipients in the coverage gap known as the “donut hole.”

Between 2010 when the Affordable Care Act was enacted and 2015, the number of people who are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans is expected to increase by 42 percent to an all-time high.

Medicare remains strong and beneficiaries will continue to be covered through the program. Whether through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, they’ll still have the same benefits and security they have now: they do not need to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. Medicare is not part of the Marketplace.

#### **In Arizona in 2015:**

- 100% of people with Medicare have access to a Medicare Advantage plan
- 76 Medicare Advantage plans available
- 30 Medicare Prescription Drug Plans available
- 100% of people with Part D have access to a plan with lower premium than what they paid in 2014
- 27% of people with Medicare Part D get Extra Help (also called the low-income subsidy, or LIS)
- \$15.70 is the lowest monthly premium for a prescription drug plan

Plan costs and coverage change each year, so everyone with Medicare should check to make sure their plan still meets their health needs and budget. There may be a Medicare health or drug plan available with better coverage or a lower premium in 2015.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, more people with Medicare are seeing reduced costs – through both discounts on brand-name drugs in the Medicare Part D “donut hole” and a provision in the law that makes preventive services like mammograms and other cancer

screenings available for free. In 2014, 321,172 people in Arizona with Original Medicare took advantage of at least one preventive service without cost-sharing through July 2014. People with Medicare in Arizona have saved an overall \$208,970,077 on prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D donut hole since 2010 as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

### **Important Dates in 2015**

#### **September**

- Medicare beneficiaries should watch their mailboxes for the “Medicare & You” 2015 handbook and for information from their current health or drug plan about changes they will see in 2014.

#### **October**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **begins October 15.**
- Beneficiaries should watch their mail for notices from Medicare with information about changes in 2015.
- Beneficiaries can compare plans at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) starting October 1.

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### Medicare in Arkansas, 2015

The Affordable Care Act strengthens Medicare and helps beneficiaries take charge of their health. The law provides important benefits such as free preventive services, free annual wellness visits, and discounts and better coverage for prescription drugs for Medicare recipients in the coverage gap known as the “donut hole.”

Between 2010 when the Affordable Care Act was enacted and 2015, the number of people who are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans is expected to increase by 42 percent to an all-time high.

Medicare remains strong and beneficiaries will continue to be covered through the program. Whether through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, they’ll still have the same benefits and security they have now: they do not need to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. Medicare is not part of the Marketplace.

#### **In Arkansas in 2015:**

- 100% of people with Medicare have access to a Medicare Advantage plan
- 37 Medicare Advantage plans available
- 29 Medicare Prescription Drug Plans available
- 100% of people with Part D have access to a plan with lower premium than what they paid in 2014
- 39% of people with Medicare Part D get Extra Help (also called the low-income subsidy, or LIS)
- \$15.60 is the lowest monthly premium for a prescription drug plan

Plan costs and coverage change each year, so everyone with Medicare should check to make sure their plan still meets their health needs and budget. There may be a Medicare health or drug plan available with better coverage or a lower premium in 2015.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, more people with Medicare are seeing reduced costs – through both discounts on brand-name drugs in the Medicare Part D “donut hole” and a provision in the law that makes preventive services like mammograms and other cancer

screenings available for free. In 2014, 226,581 people in Arkansas with Original Medicare took advantage of at least one preventive service without cost-sharing through July 2014. People with Medicare in Arkansas have saved an overall \$91,425,154 on prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D donut hole since 2010 as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

### **Important Dates in 2015**

#### **September**

- Medicare beneficiaries should watch their mailboxes for the “Medicare & You” 2015 handbook and for information from their current health or drug plan about changes they will see in 2014.

#### **October**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **begins October 15.**
- Beneficiaries should watch their mail for notices from Medicare with information about changes in 2015.
- Beneficiaries can compare plans at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) starting October 1.

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### Medicare in California, 2015

The Affordable Care Act strengthens Medicare and helps beneficiaries take charge of their health. The law provides important benefits such as free preventive services, free annual wellness visits, and discounts and better coverage for prescription drugs for Medicare recipients in the coverage gap known as the “donut hole.”

Between 2010 when the Affordable Care Act was enacted and 2015, the number of people who are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans is expected to increase by 42 percent to an all-time high.

Medicare remains strong and beneficiaries will continue to be covered through the program. Whether through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, they’ll still have the same benefits and security they have now: they do not need to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. Medicare is not part of the Marketplace.

#### **In California in 2015:**

- 97.9% of people with Medicare have access to a Medicare Advantage plan
- 278 Medicare Advantage plans available
- 32 Medicare Prescription Drug Plans available
- 100% of people with Part D have access to a plan with lower premium than what they paid in 2014
- 35% of people with Medicare Part D get Extra Help (also called the low-income subsidy, or LIS)
- \$15.70 is the lowest monthly premium for a prescription drug plan

Plan costs and coverage change each year, so everyone with Medicare should check to make sure their plan still meets their health needs and budget. There may be a Medicare health or drug plan available with better coverage or a lower premium in 2015.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, more people with Medicare are seeing reduced costs – through both discounts on brand-name drugs in the Medicare Part D “donut hole” and a provision in the law that makes preventive services like mammograms and other cancer

screenings available for free. In 2014, 1,576,352 people in California with Original Medicare took advantage of at least one preventive service without cost-sharing through July 2014. People with Medicare in California have saved an overall \$988,480,941 on prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D donut hole since 2010 as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

### **Important Dates in 2015**

#### **September**

- Medicare beneficiaries should watch their mailboxes for the “Medicare & You” 2015 handbook and for information from their current health or drug plan about changes they will see in 2014.

#### **October**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **begins October 15.**
- Beneficiaries should watch their mail for notices from Medicare with information about changes in 2015.
- Beneficiaries can compare plans at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) starting October 1.

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### Medicare in Colorado, 2015

The Affordable Care Act strengthens Medicare and helps beneficiaries take charge of their health. The law provides important benefits such as free preventive services, free annual wellness visits, and discounts and better coverage for prescription drugs for Medicare recipients in the coverage gap known as the “donut hole.”

Between 2010 when the Affordable Care Act was enacted and 2015, the number of people who are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans is expected to increase by 42 percent to an all-time high.

Medicare remains strong and beneficiaries will continue to be covered through the program. Whether through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, they’ll still have the same benefits and security they have now: they do not need to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. Medicare is not part of the Marketplace.

#### **In Colorado in 2015:**

- 93% of people with Medicare have access to a Medicare Advantage plan
- 39 Medicare Advantage plans available
- 30 Medicare Prescription Drug Plans available
- 100% of people with Part D have access to a plan with lower premium than what they paid in 2014
- 24% of people with Medicare Part D get Extra Help (also called the low-income subsidy, or LIS)
- \$15.60 is the lowest monthly premium for a prescription drug plan

Plan costs and coverage change each year, so everyone with Medicare should check to make sure their plan still meets their health needs and budget. There may be a Medicare health or drug plan available with better coverage or a lower premium in 2015.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, more people with Medicare are seeing reduced costs – through both discounts on brand-name drugs in the Medicare Part D “donut hole” and a provision in the law that makes preventive services like mammograms and other cancer

screenings available for free. In 2014, 195,753 people in Colorado with Original Medicare took advantage of at least one preventive service without cost-sharing through July 2014. People with Medicare in Colorado have saved an overall \$123,599,475 on prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D donut hole since 2010 as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

### **Important Dates in 2015**

#### **September**

- Medicare beneficiaries should watch their mailboxes for the “Medicare & You” 2015 handbook and for information from their current health or drug plan about changes they will see in 2014.

#### **October**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **begins October 15.**
- Beneficiaries should watch their mail for notices from Medicare with information about changes in 2015.
- Beneficiaries can compare plans at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) starting October 1.

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### Medicare in Connecticut, 2015

The Affordable Care Act strengthens Medicare and helps beneficiaries take charge of their health. The law provides important benefits such as free preventive services, free annual wellness visits, and discounts and better coverage for prescription drugs for Medicare recipients in the coverage gap known as the “donut hole.”

Between 2010 when the Affordable Care Act was enacted and 2015, the number of people who are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans is expected to increase by 42 percent to an all-time high.

Medicare remains strong and beneficiaries will continue to be covered through the program. Whether through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, they’ll still have the same benefits and security they have now: they do not need to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. Medicare is not part of the Marketplace.

#### **In Connecticut in 2015:**

- 100% of people with Medicare have access to a Medicare Advantage plan
- 26 Medicare Advantage plans available
- 27 Medicare Prescription Drug Plans available
- 100% of people with Part D have access to a plan with lower premium than what they paid in 2014
- 38% of people with Medicare Part D get Extra Help (also called the low-income subsidy, or LIS)
- \$15.60 is the lowest monthly premium for a prescription drug plan

Plan costs and coverage change each year, so everyone with Medicare should check to make sure their plan still meets their health needs and budget. There may be a Medicare health or drug plan available with better coverage or a lower premium in 2015.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, more people with Medicare are seeing reduced costs – through both discounts on brand-name drugs in the Medicare Part D “donut hole” and a provision in the law that makes preventive services like mammograms and other cancer

screenings available for free. In 2014, 246,776 people in Connecticut with Original Medicare took advantage of at least one preventive service without cost-sharing through July 2014. People with Medicare in Connecticut have saved an overall \$160,504,261 on prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D donut hole since 2010 as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

### **Important Dates in 2015**

#### **September**

- Medicare beneficiaries should watch their mailboxes for the “Medicare & You” 2015 handbook and for information from their current health or drug plan about changes they will see in 2014.

#### **October**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **begins October 15.**
- Beneficiaries should watch their mail for notices from Medicare with information about changes in 2015.
- Beneficiaries can compare plans at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) starting October 1.

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### Medicare in Delaware, 2015

The Affordable Care Act strengthens Medicare and helps beneficiaries take charge of their health. The law provides important benefits such as free preventive services, free annual wellness visits, and discounts and better coverage for prescription drugs for Medicare recipients in the coverage gap known as the “donut hole.”

Between 2010 when the Affordable Care Act was enacted and 2015, the number of people who are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans is expected to increase by 42 percent to an all-time high.

Medicare remains strong and beneficiaries will continue to be covered through the program. Whether through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, they’ll still have the same benefits and security they have now: they do not need to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. Medicare is not part of the Marketplace.

#### **In Delaware in 2015:**

- 100% of people with Medicare have access to a Medicare Advantage plan
- 10 Medicare Advantage plans available
- 27 Medicare Prescription Drug Plans available
- 100% of people with Part D have access to a plan with lower premium than what they paid in 2014
- 25% of people with Medicare Part D get Extra Help (also called the low-income subsidy, or LIS)
- \$15.70 is the lowest monthly premium for a prescription drug plan

Plan costs and coverage change each year, so everyone with Medicare should check to make sure their plan still meets their health needs and budget. There may be a Medicare health or drug plan available with better coverage or a lower premium in 2015.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, more people with Medicare are seeing reduced costs – through both discounts on brand-name drugs in the Medicare Part D “donut hole” and a provision in the law that makes preventive services like mammograms and other cancer

screenings available for free. In 2014, 93,756 people in Delaware with Original Medicare took advantage of at least one preventive service without cost-sharing through July 2014. People with Medicare in Delaware have saved an overall \$58,135,835 on prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D donut hole since 2010 as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

### **Important Dates in 2015**

#### **September**

- Medicare beneficiaries should watch their mailboxes for the “Medicare & You” 2015 handbook and for information from their current health or drug plan about changes they will see in 2014.

#### **October**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **begins October 15.**
- Beneficiaries should watch their mail for notices from Medicare with information about changes in 2015.
- Beneficiaries can compare plans at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) starting October 1.

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### Medicare in Florida, 2015

The Affordable Care Act strengthens Medicare and helps beneficiaries take charge of their health. The law provides important benefits such as free preventive services, free annual wellness visits, and discounts and better coverage for prescription drugs for Medicare recipients in the coverage gap known as the “donut hole.”

Between 2010 when the Affordable Care Act was enacted and 2015, the number of people who are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans is expected to increase by 42 percent to an all-time high.

Medicare remains strong and beneficiaries will continue to be covered through the program. Whether through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, they’ll still have the same benefits and security they have now: they do not need to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. Medicare is not part of the Marketplace.

#### **In Florida in 2015:**

- 100% of people with Medicare have access to a Medicare Advantage plan
- 247 Medicare Advantage plans available
- 27 Medicare Prescription Drug Plans available
- 100% of people with Part D have access to a plan with lower premium than what they paid in 2014
- 30% of people with Medicare Part D get Extra Help (also called the low-income subsidy, or LIS)
- \$15.70 is the lowest monthly premium for a prescription drug plan

Plan costs and coverage change each year, so everyone with Medicare should check to make sure their plan still meets their health needs and budget. There may be a Medicare health or drug plan available with better coverage or a lower premium in 2015.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, more people with Medicare are seeing reduced costs – through both discounts on brand-name drugs in the Medicare Part D “donut hole” and a provision in the law that makes preventive services like mammograms and other cancer

screenings available for free. In 2014, 1,408,151 people in Florida with Original Medicare took advantage of at least one preventive service without cost-sharing through July 2014. People with Medicare in Florida have saved an overall \$783,533,079 on prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D donut hole since 2010 as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

### **Important Dates in 2015**

#### **September**

- Medicare beneficiaries should watch their mailboxes for the “Medicare & You” 2015 handbook and for information from their current health or drug plan about changes they will see in 2014.

#### **October**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **begins October 15.**
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### Medicare in Georgia, 2015

The Affordable Care Act strengthens Medicare and helps beneficiaries take charge of their health. The law provides important benefits such as free preventive services, free annual wellness visits, and discounts and better coverage for prescription drugs for Medicare recipients in the coverage gap known as the “donut hole.”

Between 2010 when the Affordable Care Act was enacted and 2015, the number of people who are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans is expected to increase by 42 percent to an all-time high.

Medicare remains strong and beneficiaries will continue to be covered through the program. Whether through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, they’ll still have the same benefits and security they have now: they do not need to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. Medicare is not part of the Marketplace.

#### **In Georgia in 2015:**

- 100% of people with Medicare have access to a Medicare Advantage plan
- 49 Medicare Advantage plans available
- 30 Medicare Prescription Drug Plans available
- 100% of people with Part D have access to a plan with lower premium than what they paid in 2014
- 36% of people with Medicare Part D get Extra Help (also called the low-income subsidy, or LIS)
- \$15.70 is the lowest monthly premium for a prescription drug plan

Plan costs and coverage change each year, so everyone with Medicare should check to make sure their plan still meets their health needs and budget. There may be a Medicare health or drug plan available with better coverage or a lower premium in 2015.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, more people with Medicare are seeing reduced costs – through both discounts on brand-name drugs in the Medicare Part D “donut hole” and a provision in the law that makes preventive services like mammograms and other cancer

screenings available for free. In 2014, 549,607 people in Georgia with Original Medicare took advantage of at least one preventive service without cost-sharing through July 2014. People with Medicare in Georgia have saved an overall \$339,600,613 on prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D donut hole since 2010 as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

### **Important Dates in 2015**

#### **September**

- Medicare beneficiaries should watch their mailboxes for the “Medicare & You” 2015 handbook and for information from their current health or drug plan about changes they will see in 2014.

#### **October**

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### **Medicare in Guam, 2015**

The Affordable Care Act strengthens Medicare and helps beneficiaries take charge of their health. The law provides important benefits such as free preventive services, free annual wellness visits, and discounts and better coverage for prescription drugs for Medicare recipients in the coverage gap known as the “donut hole.”

Between 2010 when the Affordable Care Act was enacted and 2015, the number of people who are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans is expected to increase by 42 percent to an all-time high.

Medicare remains strong and beneficiaries will continue to be covered through the program. Whether through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, they’ll still have the same benefits and security they have now: they do not need to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. Medicare is not part of the Marketplace.

#### **In Guam in 2015:**

- There are no Medicare Advantage plans in Guam
- 2 Medicare Prescription Drug Plans available
- 3% of people with Medicare Part D get Extra Help (also called the low-income subsidy, or LIS)
- \$21.40 is the lowest monthly premium for a prescription drug plan

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, more people with Medicare are seeing reduced costs – through both discounts on brand-name drugs in the Medicare Part D “donut hole” and a provision in the law that makes preventive services like mammograms and other cancer screenings available for free. In 2014, 4,462 people in Guam with Original Medicare took advantage of at least one preventive service without cost-sharing through July 2014. People with Medicare in Guam have saved an overall \$698,102 on prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D donut hole since 2010 as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

#### **Important Dates in 2015**

### **September**

- Medicare beneficiaries should watch their mailboxes for the “Medicare & You” 2015 handbook and for information from their current health or drug plan about changes they will see in 2014.

### **October**

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### Medicare in Hawaii, 2015

The Affordable Care Act strengthens Medicare and helps beneficiaries take charge of their health. The law provides important benefits such as free preventive services, free annual wellness visits, and discounts and better coverage for prescription drugs for Medicare recipients in the coverage gap known as the “donut hole.”

Between 2010 when the Affordable Care Act was enacted and 2015, the number of people who are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans is expected to increase by 42 percent to an all-time high.

Medicare remains strong and beneficiaries will continue to be covered through the program. Whether through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, they’ll still have the same benefits and security they have now: they do not need to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. Medicare is not part of the Marketplace.

#### **In Hawaii in 2015:**

- 100% of people with Medicare have access to a Medicare Advantage plan
- 18 Medicare Advantage plans available
- 25 Medicare Prescription Drug Plans available
- 93% of people with Part D have access to a plan with lower premium than what they paid in 2014
- 26% of people with Medicare Part D get Extra Help (also called the low-income subsidy, or LIS)
- \$15.60 is the lowest monthly premium for a prescription drug plan

Plan costs and coverage change each year, so everyone with Medicare should check to make sure their plan still meets their health needs and budget. There may be a Medicare health or drug plan available with better coverage or a lower premium in 2015.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, more people with Medicare are seeing reduced costs – through both discounts on brand-name drugs in the Medicare Part D “donut hole” and a provision in the law that makes preventive services like mammograms and other cancer

screenings available for free. In 2014, 59,747 people in Hawaii with Original Medicare took advantage of at least one preventive service without cost-sharing through July 2014. People with Medicare in Hawaii have saved an overall \$50,594,539 on prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D donut hole since 2010 as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

### **Important Dates in 2015**

#### **September**

- Medicare beneficiaries should watch their mailboxes for the “Medicare & You” 2015 handbook and for information from their current health or drug plan about changes they will see in 2014.

#### **October**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **begins October 15.**
- Beneficiaries should watch their mail for notices from Medicare with information about changes in 2015.
- Beneficiaries can compare plans at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) starting October 1.

#### **December**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **ends December 7.**

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## FACT SHEET

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
September 18, 2014

Contact: CMS Media Relations  
(202) 690-6145 or [press@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:press@cms.hhs.gov)

### Medicare in Idaho, 2015

The Affordable Care Act strengthens Medicare and helps beneficiaries take charge of their health. The law provides important benefits such as free preventive services, free annual wellness visits, and discounts and better coverage for prescription drugs for Medicare recipients in the coverage gap known as the “donut hole.”

Between 2010 when the Affordable Care Act was enacted and 2015, the number of people who are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans is expected to increase by 42 percent to an all-time high.

Medicare remains strong and beneficiaries will continue to be covered through the program. Whether through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, they’ll still have the same benefits and security they have now: they do not need to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. Medicare is not part of the Marketplace.

#### **In Idaho in 2015:**

- 99.1% of people with Medicare have access to a Medicare Advantage plan
- 39 Medicare Advantage plans available
- 31 Medicare Prescription Drug Plans available
- 100% of people with Part D have access to a plan with lower premium than what they paid in 2014
- 26% of people with Medicare Part D get Extra Help (also called the low-income subsidy, or LIS)
- \$15.70 is the lowest monthly premium for a prescription drug plan

Plan costs and coverage change each year, so everyone with Medicare should check to make sure their plan still meets their health needs and budget. There may be a Medicare health or drug plan available with better coverage or a lower premium in 2015.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, more people with Medicare are seeing reduced costs – through both discounts on brand-name drugs in the Medicare Part D “donut hole” and a provision in the law that makes preventive services like mammograms and other cancer

screenings available for free. In 2014, 72,824 people in Idaho with Original Medicare took advantage of at least one preventive service without cost-sharing through July 2014. People with Medicare in Idaho have saved an overall \$41,737,687 on prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D donut hole since 2010 as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

### **Important Dates in 2015**

#### **September**

- Medicare beneficiaries should watch their mailboxes for the “Medicare & You” 2015 handbook and for information from their current health or drug plan about changes they will see in 2014.

#### **October**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **begins October 15.**
- Beneficiaries should watch their mail for notices from Medicare with information about changes in 2015.
- Beneficiaries can compare plans at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) starting October 1.

#### **December**

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(202) 690-6145 or [press@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:press@cms.hhs.gov)

### Medicare in Illinois, 2015

The Affordable Care Act strengthens Medicare and helps beneficiaries take charge of their health. The law provides important benefits such as free preventive services, free annual wellness visits, and discounts and better coverage for prescription drugs for Medicare recipients in the coverage gap known as the “donut hole.”

Between 2010 when the Affordable Care Act was enacted and 2015, the number of people who are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans is expected to increase by 42 percent to an all-time high.

Medicare remains strong and beneficiaries will continue to be covered through the program. Whether through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, they’ll still have the same benefits and security they have now: they do not need to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. Medicare is not part of the Marketplace.

#### **In Illinois in 2015:**

- 100% of people with Medicare have access to a Medicare Advantage plan
- 75 Medicare Advantage plans available
- 33 Medicare Prescription Drug Plans available
- 100% of people with Part D have access to a plan with lower premium than what they paid in 2014
- 30% of people with Medicare Part D get Extra Help (also called the low-income subsidy, or LIS)
- \$15.70 is the lowest monthly premium for a prescription drug plan

Plan costs and coverage change each year, so everyone with Medicare should check to make sure their plan still meets their health needs and budget. There may be a Medicare health or drug plan available with better coverage or a lower premium in 2015.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, more people with Medicare are seeing reduced costs – through both discounts on brand-name drugs in the Medicare Part D “donut hole” and a provision in the law that makes preventive services like mammograms and other cancer

screenings available for free. In 2014, 857,076 people in Illinois with Original Medicare took advantage of at least one preventive service without cost-sharing through July 2014. People with Medicare in Illinois have saved an overall \$438,490,959 on prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D donut hole since 2010 as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

### **Important Dates in 2015**

#### **September**

- Medicare beneficiaries should watch their mailboxes for the “Medicare & You” 2015 handbook and for information from their current health or drug plan about changes they will see in 2014.

#### **October**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **begins October 15.**
- Beneficiaries should watch their mail for notices from Medicare with information about changes in 2015.
- Beneficiaries can compare plans at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) starting October 1.

#### **December**

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### Medicare in Indiana, 2015

The Affordable Care Act strengthens Medicare and helps beneficiaries take charge of their health. The law provides important benefits such as free preventive services, free annual wellness visits, and discounts and better coverage for prescription drugs for Medicare recipients in the coverage gap known as the “donut hole.”

Between 2010 when the Affordable Care Act was enacted and 2015, the number of people who are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans is expected to increase by 42 percent to an all-time high.

Medicare remains strong and beneficiaries will continue to be covered through the program. Whether through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, they’ll still have the same benefits and security they have now: they do not need to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. Medicare is not part of the Marketplace.

#### **In Indiana in 2015:**

- 100% of people with Medicare have access to a Medicare Advantage plan
- 48 Medicare Advantage plans available
- 31 Medicare Prescription Drug Plans available
- 100% of people with Part D have access to a plan with lower premium than what they paid in 2014
- 27% of people with Medicare Part D get Extra Help (also called the low-income subsidy, or LIS)
- \$15.70 is the lowest monthly premium for a prescription drug plan

Plan costs and coverage change each year, so everyone with Medicare should check to make sure their plan still meets their health needs and budget. There may be a Medicare health or drug plan available with better coverage or a lower premium in 2015.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, more people with Medicare are seeing reduced costs – through both discounts on brand-name drugs in the Medicare Part D “donut hole” and a provision in the law that makes preventive services like mammograms and other cancer

screenings available for free. In 2014, 420,990 people in Indiana with Original Medicare took advantage of at least one preventive service without cost-sharing through July 2014. People with Medicare in Indiana have saved an overall \$302,903,806 on prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D donut hole since 2010 as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

### **Important Dates in 2015**

#### **September**

- Medicare beneficiaries should watch their mailboxes for the “Medicare & You” 2015 handbook and for information from their current health or drug plan about changes they will see in 2014.

#### **October**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **begins October 15.**
- Beneficiaries should watch their mail for notices from Medicare with information about changes in 2015.
- Beneficiaries can compare plans at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) starting October 1.

#### **December**

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### Medicare in Iowa, 2015

The Affordable Care Act strengthens Medicare and helps beneficiaries take charge of their health. The law provides important benefits such as free preventive services, free annual wellness visits, and discounts and better coverage for prescription drugs for Medicare recipients in the coverage gap known as the “donut hole.”

Between 2010 when the Affordable Care Act was enacted and 2015, the number of people who are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans is expected to increase by 42 percent to an all-time high.

Medicare remains strong and beneficiaries will continue to be covered through the program. Whether through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, they’ll still have the same benefits and security they have now: they do not need to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. Medicare is not part of the Marketplace.

#### **In Iowa in 2015:**

- 98.6% of people with Medicare have access to a Medicare Advantage plan
- 31 Medicare Advantage plans available
- 30 Medicare Prescription Drug Plans available
- 100% of people with Part D have access to a plan with lower premium than what they paid in 2014
- 22% of people with Medicare Part D get Extra Help (also called the low-income subsidy, or LIS)
- \$15.70 is the lowest monthly premium for a prescription drug plan

Plan costs and coverage change each year, so everyone with Medicare should check to make sure their plan still meets their health needs and budget. There may be a Medicare health or drug plan available with better coverage or a lower premium in 2015.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, more people with Medicare are seeing reduced costs – through both discounts on brand-name drugs in the Medicare Part D “donut hole” and a provision in the law that makes preventive services like mammograms and other cancer

screenings available for free. In 2014, 228,767 people in Iowa with Original Medicare took advantage of at least one preventive service without cost-sharing through July 2014. People with Medicare in Iowa have saved an overall \$124,714,999 on prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D donut hole since 2010 as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

### **Important Dates in 2015**

#### **September**

- Medicare beneficiaries should watch their mailboxes for the “Medicare & You” 2015 handbook and for information from their current health or drug plan about changes they will see in 2014.

#### **October**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **begins October 15.**
- Beneficiaries should watch their mail for notices from Medicare with information about changes in 2015.
- Beneficiaries can compare plans at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) starting October 1.

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### Medicare in Kansas, 2015

The Affordable Care Act strengthens Medicare and helps beneficiaries take charge of their health. The law provides important benefits such as free preventive services, free annual wellness visits, and discounts and better coverage for prescription drugs for Medicare recipients in the coverage gap known as the “donut hole.”

Between 2010 when the Affordable Care Act was enacted and 2015, the number of people who are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans is expected to increase by 42 percent to an all-time high.

Medicare remains strong and beneficiaries will continue to be covered through the program. Whether through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, they’ll still have the same benefits and security they have now: they do not need to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. Medicare is not part of the Marketplace.

#### **In Kansas in 2015:**

- 100% of people with Medicare have access to a Medicare Advantage plan
- 33 Medicare Advantage plans available
- 29 Medicare Prescription Drug Plans available
- 100% of people with Part D have access to a plan with lower premium than what they paid in 2014
- 24% of people with Medicare Part D get Extra Help (also called the low-income subsidy, or LIS)
- \$15.60 is the lowest monthly premium for a prescription drug plan

Plan costs and coverage change each year, so everyone with Medicare should check to make sure their plan still meets their health needs and budget. There may be a Medicare health or drug plan available with better coverage or a lower premium in 2015.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, more people with Medicare are seeing reduced costs – through both discounts on brand-name drugs in the Medicare Part D “donut hole” and a provision in the law that makes preventive services like mammograms and other cancer

screenings available for free. In 2014, 185,008 people in Kansas with Original Medicare took advantage of at least one preventive service without cost-sharing through July 2014. People with Medicare in Kansas have saved an overall \$110,511,665 on prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D donut hole since 2010 as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

### **Important Dates in 2015**

#### **September**

- Medicare beneficiaries should watch their mailboxes for the “Medicare & You” 2015 handbook and for information from their current health or drug plan about changes they will see in 2014.

#### **October**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **begins October 15.**
- Beneficiaries should watch their mail for notices from Medicare with information about changes in 2015.
- Beneficiaries can compare plans at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) starting October 1.

#### **December**

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### Medicare in Kentucky, 2015

The Affordable Care Act strengthens Medicare and helps beneficiaries take charge of their health. The law provides important benefits such as free preventive services, free annual wellness visits, and discounts and better coverage for prescription drugs for Medicare recipients in the coverage gap known as the “donut hole.”

Between 2010 when the Affordable Care Act was enacted and 2015, the number of people who are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans is expected to increase by 42 percent to an all-time high.

Medicare remains strong and beneficiaries will continue to be covered through the program. Whether through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, they’ll still have the same benefits and security they have now: they do not need to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. Medicare is not part of the Marketplace.

#### **In Kentucky in 2015:**

- 100% of people with Medicare have access to a Medicare Advantage plan
- 46 Medicare Advantage plans available
- 31 Medicare Prescription Drug Plans available
- 100% of people with Part D have access to a plan with lower premium than what they paid in 2014
- 36% of people with Medicare Part D get Extra Help (also called the low-income subsidy, or LIS)
- \$15.70 is the lowest monthly premium for a prescription drug plan

Plan costs and coverage change each year, so everyone with Medicare should check to make sure their plan still meets their health needs and budget. There may be a Medicare health or drug plan available with better coverage or a lower premium in 2015.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, more people with Medicare are seeing reduced costs – through both discounts on brand-name drugs in the Medicare Part D “donut hole” and a provision in the law that makes preventive services like mammograms and other cancer

screenings available for free. In 2014, 325,977 people in Kentucky with Original Medicare took advantage of at least one preventive service without cost-sharing through July 2014. People with Medicare in Kentucky have saved an overall \$241,455,107 on prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D donut hole since 2010 as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

### **Important Dates in 2015**

#### **September**

- Medicare beneficiaries should watch their mailboxes for the “Medicare & You” 2015 handbook and for information from their current health or drug plan about changes they will see in 2014.

#### **October**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **begins October 15.**
- Beneficiaries should watch their mail for notices from Medicare with information about changes in 2015.
- Beneficiaries can compare plans at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) starting October 1.

#### **December**

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### Medicare in Louisiana, 2015

The Affordable Care Act strengthens Medicare and helps beneficiaries take charge of their health. The law provides important benefits such as free preventive services, free annual wellness visits, and discounts and better coverage for prescription drugs for Medicare recipients in the coverage gap known as the “donut hole.”

Between 2010 when the Affordable Care Act was enacted and 2015, the number of people who are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans is expected to increase by 42 percent to an all-time high.

Medicare remains strong and beneficiaries will continue to be covered through the program. Whether through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, they’ll still have the same benefits and security they have now: they do not need to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. Medicare is not part of the Marketplace.

#### **In Louisiana in 2015:**

- 100% of people with Medicare have access to a Medicare Advantage plan
- 49 Medicare Advantage plans available
- 28 Medicare Prescription Drug Plans available
- 92% of people with Part D have access to a plan with lower premium than what they paid in 2014
- 41% of people with Medicare Part D get Extra Help (also called the low-income subsidy, or LIS)
- \$15.70 is the lowest monthly premium for a prescription drug plan

Plan costs and coverage change each year, so everyone with Medicare should check to make sure their plan still meets their health needs and budget. There may be a Medicare health or drug plan available with better coverage or a lower premium in 2015.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, more people with Medicare are seeing reduced costs – through both discounts on brand-name drugs in the Medicare Part D “donut hole” and a provision in the law that makes preventive services like mammograms and other cancer

screenings available for free. In 2014, 276,872 people in Louisiana with Original Medicare took advantage of at least one preventive service without cost-sharing through July 2014. People with Medicare in Louisiana have saved an overall \$173,357,503 on prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D donut hole since 2010 as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

### **Important Dates in 2015**

#### **September**

- Medicare beneficiaries should watch their mailboxes for the “Medicare & You” 2015 handbook and for information from their current health or drug plan about changes they will see in 2014.

#### **October**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **begins October 15.**
- Beneficiaries should watch their mail for notices from Medicare with information about changes in 2015.
- Beneficiaries can compare plans at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) starting October 1.

#### **December**

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### Medicare in Maine, 2015

The Affordable Care Act strengthens Medicare and helps beneficiaries take charge of their health. The law provides important benefits such as free preventive services, free annual wellness visits, and discounts and better coverage for prescription drugs for Medicare recipients in the coverage gap known as the “donut hole.”

Between 2010 when the Affordable Care Act was enacted and 2015, the number of people who are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans is expected to increase by 42 percent to an all-time high.

Medicare remains strong and beneficiaries will continue to be covered through the program. Whether through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, they’ll still have the same benefits and security they have now: they do not need to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. Medicare is not part of the Marketplace.

#### **In Maine in 2015:**

- 100% of people with Medicare have access to a Medicare Advantage plan
- 36 Medicare Advantage plans available
- 28 Medicare Prescription Drug Plans available
- 100% of people with Part D have access to a plan with lower premium than what they paid in 2014
- 46% of people with Medicare Part D get Extra Help (also called the low-income subsidy, or LIS)
- \$15.60 is the lowest monthly premium for a prescription drug plan

Plan costs and coverage change each year, so everyone with Medicare should check to make sure their plan still meets their health needs and budget. There may be a Medicare health or drug plan available with better coverage or a lower premium in 2015.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, more people with Medicare are seeing reduced costs – through both discounts on brand-name drugs in the Medicare Part D “donut hole” and a provision in the law that makes preventive services like mammograms and other cancer

screenings available for free. In 2014, 111,748 people in Maine with Original Medicare took advantage of at least one preventive service without cost-sharing through July 2014. People with Medicare in Maine have saved an overall \$36,372,097 on prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D donut hole since 2010 as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

### **Important Dates in 2015**

#### **September**

- Medicare beneficiaries should watch their mailboxes for the “Medicare & You” 2015 handbook and for information from their current health or drug plan about changes they will see in 2014.

#### **October**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **begins October 15.**
- Beneficiaries should watch their mail for notices from Medicare with information about changes in 2015.
- Beneficiaries can compare plans at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) starting October 1.

#### **December**

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### Medicare in Maryland, 2015

The Affordable Care Act strengthens Medicare and helps beneficiaries take charge of their health. The law provides important benefits such as free preventive services, free annual wellness visits, and discounts and better coverage for prescription drugs for Medicare recipients in the coverage gap known as the “donut hole.”

Between 2010 when the Affordable Care Act was enacted and 2015, the number of people who are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans is expected to increase by 42 percent to an all-time high.

Medicare remains strong and beneficiaries will continue to be covered through the program. Whether through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, they’ll still have the same benefits and security they have now: they do not need to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. Medicare is not part of the Marketplace.

#### **In Maryland in 2015:**

- 91.3% of people with Medicare have access to a Medicare Advantage plan
- 20 Medicare Advantage plans available
- 27 Medicare Prescription Drug Plans available
- 100% of people with Part D have access to a plan with lower premium than what they paid in 2014
- 32% of people with Medicare Part D get Extra Help (also called the low-income subsidy, or LIS)
- \$15.70 is the lowest monthly premium for a prescription drug plan

Plan costs and coverage change each year, so everyone with Medicare should check to make sure their plan still meets their health needs and budget. There may be a Medicare health or drug plan available with better coverage or a lower premium in 2015.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, more people with Medicare are seeing reduced costs – through both discounts on brand-name drugs in the Medicare Part D “donut hole” and a provision in the law that makes preventive services like mammograms and other cancer

screenings available for free. In 2014, 413,842 people in Maryland with Original Medicare took advantage of at least one preventive service without cost-sharing through July 2014. People with Medicare in Maryland have saved an overall \$180,898,465 on prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D donut hole since 2010 as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

### **Important Dates in 2015**

#### **September**

- Medicare beneficiaries should watch their mailboxes for the “Medicare & You” 2015 handbook and for information from their current health or drug plan about changes they will see in 2014.

#### **October**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **begins October 15.**
- Beneficiaries should watch their mail for notices from Medicare with information about changes in 2015.
- Beneficiaries can compare plans at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) starting October 1.

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### **Medicare in Massachusetts, 2015**

The Affordable Care Act strengthens Medicare and helps beneficiaries take charge of their health. The law provides important benefits such as free preventive services, free annual wellness visits, and discounts and better coverage for prescription drugs for Medicare recipients in the coverage gap known as the “donut hole.”

Between 2010 when the Affordable Care Act was enacted and 2015, the number of people who are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans is expected to increase by 42 percent to an all-time high.

Medicare remains strong and beneficiaries will continue to be covered through the program. Whether through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, they’ll still have the same benefits and security they have now: they do not need to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. Medicare is not part of the Marketplace.

#### **In Massachusetts in 2015:**

- 100% of people with Medicare have access to a Medicare Advantage plan
- 82 Medicare Advantage plans available
- 27 Medicare Prescription Drug Plans available
- 100% of people with Part D have access to a plan with lower premium than what they paid in 2014
- 39% of people with Medicare Part D get Extra Help (also called the low-income subsidy, or LIS)
- \$15.60 is the lowest monthly premium for a prescription drug plan

Plan costs and coverage change each year, so everyone with Medicare should check to make sure their plan still meets their health needs and budget. There may be a Medicare health or drug plan available with better coverage or a lower premium in 2015.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, more people with Medicare are seeing reduced costs – through both discounts on brand-name drugs in the Medicare Part D “donut hole” and a provision in the law that makes preventive services like mammograms and other cancer

screenings available for free. In 2014, 518,507 people in Massachusetts with Original Medicare took advantage of at least one preventive service without cost-sharing through July 2014. People with Medicare in Massachusetts have saved an overall \$187,648,205 on prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D donut hole since 2010 as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

### **Important Dates in 2015**

#### **September**

- Medicare beneficiaries should watch their mailboxes for the “Medicare & You” 2015 handbook and for information from their current health or drug plan about changes they will see in 2014.

#### **October**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **begins October 15.**
- Beneficiaries should watch their mail for notices from Medicare with information about changes in 2015.
- Beneficiaries can compare plans at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) starting October 1.

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### Medicare in Michigan, 2015

The Affordable Care Act strengthens Medicare and helps beneficiaries take charge of their health. The law provides important benefits such as free preventive services, free annual wellness visits, and discounts and better coverage for prescription drugs for Medicare recipients in the coverage gap known as the “donut hole.”

Between 2010 when the Affordable Care Act was enacted and 2015, the number of people who are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans is expected to increase by 42 percent to an all-time high.

Medicare remains strong and beneficiaries will continue to be covered through the program. Whether through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, they’ll still have the same benefits and security they have now: they do not need to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. Medicare is not part of the Marketplace.

#### In Michigan in 2015:

- 100% of people with Medicare have access to a Medicare Advantage plan
- 114 Medicare Advantage plans available
- 31 Medicare Prescription Drug Plans available
- 100% of people with Part D have access to a plan with lower premium than what they paid in 2014
- 25% of people with Medicare Part D get Extra Help (also called the low-income subsidy, or LIS)
- \$15.70 is the lowest monthly premium for a prescription drug plan

Plan costs and coverage change each year, so everyone with Medicare should check to make sure their plan still meets their health needs and budget. There may be a Medicare health or drug plan available with better coverage or a lower premium in 2015.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, more people with Medicare are seeing reduced costs – through both discounts on brand-name drugs in the Medicare Part D “donut hole” and a provision in the law that makes preventive services like mammograms and other cancer

screenings available for free. In 2014, 677,110 people in Michigan with Original Medicare took advantage of at least one preventive service without cost-sharing through July 2014. People with Medicare in Michigan have saved an overall \$441,210,965 on prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D donut hole since 2010 as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

### **Important Dates in 2015**

#### **September**

- Medicare beneficiaries should watch their mailboxes for the “Medicare & You” 2015 handbook and for information from their current health or drug plan about changes they will see in 2014.

#### **October**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **begins October 15.**
- Beneficiaries should watch their mail for notices from Medicare with information about changes in 2015.
- Beneficiaries can compare plans at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) starting October 1.

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(202) 690-6145 or [press@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:press@cms.hhs.gov)

### Medicare in Minnesota, 2015

The Affordable Care Act strengthens Medicare and helps beneficiaries take charge of their health. The law provides important benefits such as free preventive services, free annual wellness visits, and discounts and better coverage for prescription drugs for Medicare recipients in the coverage gap known as the “donut hole.”

Between 2010 when the Affordable Care Act was enacted and 2015, the number of people who are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans is expected to increase by 42 percent to an all-time high.

Medicare remains strong and beneficiaries will continue to be covered through the program. Whether through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, they’ll still have the same benefits and security they have now: they do not need to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. Medicare is not part of the Marketplace.

#### **In Minnesota in 2015:**

- 100% of people with Medicare have access to a Medicare Advantage plan
- 21 Medicare Advantage plans available
- 30 Medicare Prescription Drug Plans available
- 100% of people with Part D have access to a plan with lower premium than what they paid in 2014
- 23% of people with Medicare Part D get Extra Help (also called the low-income subsidy, or LIS)
- \$15.70 is the lowest monthly premium for a prescription drug plan

Plan costs and coverage change each year, so everyone with Medicare should check to make sure their plan still meets their health needs and budget. There may be a Medicare health or drug plan available with better coverage or a lower premium in 2015.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, more people with Medicare are seeing reduced costs – through both discounts on brand-name drugs in the Medicare Part D “donut hole” and a provision in the law that makes preventive services like mammograms and other cancer

screenings available for free. In 2014, 164,086 people in Minnesota with Original Medicare took advantage of at least one preventive service without cost-sharing through July 2014. People with Medicare in Minnesota have saved an overall \$168,816,804 on prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D donut hole since 2010 as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

### **Important Dates in 2015**

#### **September**

- Medicare beneficiaries should watch their mailboxes for the “Medicare & You” 2015 handbook and for information from their current health or drug plan about changes they will see in 2014.

#### **October**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **begins October 15.**
- Beneficiaries should watch their mail for notices from Medicare with information about changes in 2015.
- Beneficiaries can compare plans at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) starting October 1.

#### **December**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **ends December 7.**

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## FACT SHEET

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
September 18, 2014

Contact: CMS Media Relations  
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### Medicare in Mississippi, 2015

The Affordable Care Act strengthens Medicare and helps beneficiaries take charge of their health. The law provides important benefits such as free preventive services, free annual wellness visits, and discounts and better coverage for prescription drugs for Medicare recipients in the coverage gap known as the “donut hole.”

Between 2010 when the Affordable Care Act was enacted and 2015, the number of people who are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans is expected to increase by 42 percent to an all-time high.

Medicare remains strong and beneficiaries will continue to be covered through the program. Whether through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, they’ll still have the same benefits and security they have now: they do not need to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. Medicare is not part of the Marketplace.

#### In Mississippi in 2015:

- 100% of people with Medicare have access to a Medicare Advantage plan
- 25 Medicare Advantage plans available
- 28 Medicare Prescription Drug Plans available
- 100% of people with Part D have access to a plan with lower premium than what they paid in 2014
- 47% of people with Medicare Part D get Extra Help (also called the low-income subsidy, or LIS)
- \$15.60 is the lowest monthly premium for a prescription drug plan

Plan costs and coverage change each year, so everyone with Medicare should check to make sure their plan still meets their health needs and budget. There may be a Medicare health or drug plan available with better coverage or a lower premium in 2015.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, more people with Medicare are seeing reduced costs – through both discounts on brand-name drugs in the Medicare Part D “donut hole” and a provision in the law that makes preventive services like mammograms and other cancer

screenings available for free. In 2014, 238,043 people in Mississippi with Original Medicare took advantage of at least one preventive service without cost-sharing through July 2014. People with Medicare in Mississippi have saved an overall \$91,277,553 on prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D donut hole since 2010 as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

### **Important Dates in 2015**

#### **September**

- Medicare beneficiaries should watch their mailboxes for the “Medicare & You” 2015 handbook and for information from their current health or drug plan about changes they will see in 2014.

#### **October**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **begins October 15.**
- Beneficiaries should watch their mail for notices from Medicare with information about changes in 2015.
- Beneficiaries can compare plans at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) starting October 1.

#### **December**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **ends December 7.**

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### Medicare in Missouri, 2015

The Affordable Care Act strengthens Medicare and helps beneficiaries take charge of their health. The law provides important benefits such as free preventive services, free annual wellness visits, and discounts and better coverage for prescription drugs for Medicare recipients in the coverage gap known as the “donut hole.”

Between 2010 when the Affordable Care Act was enacted and 2015, the number of people who are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans is expected to increase by 42 percent to an all-time high.

Medicare remains strong and beneficiaries will continue to be covered through the program. Whether through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, they’ll still have the same benefits and security they have now: they do not need to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. Medicare is not part of the Marketplace.

#### **In Missouri in 2015:**

- 100% of people with Medicare have access to a Medicare Advantage plan
- 58 Medicare Advantage plans available
- 31 Medicare Prescription Drug Plans available
- 100% of people with Part D have access to a plan with lower premium than what they paid in 2014
- 28% of people with Medicare Part D get Extra Help (also called the low-income subsidy, or LIS)
- \$15.70 is the lowest monthly premium for a prescription drug plan

Plan costs and coverage change each year, so everyone with Medicare should check to make sure their plan still meets their health needs and budget. There may be a Medicare health or drug plan available with better coverage or a lower premium in 2015.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, more people with Medicare are seeing reduced costs – through both discounts on brand-name drugs in the Medicare Part D “donut hole” and a provision in the law that makes preventive services like mammograms and other cancer

screenings available for free. In 2014, 400,513 people in Missouri with Original Medicare took advantage of at least one preventive service without cost-sharing through July 2014. People with Medicare in Missouri have saved an overall \$238,181,540 on prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D donut hole since 2010 as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

### **Important Dates in 2015**

#### **September**

- Medicare beneficiaries should watch their mailboxes for the “Medicare & You” 2015 handbook and for information from their current health or drug plan about changes they will see in 2014.

#### **October**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **begins October 15.**
- Beneficiaries should watch their mail for notices from Medicare with information about changes in 2015.
- Beneficiaries can compare plans at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) starting October 1.

#### **December**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **ends December 7.**

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### Medicare in Montana, 2015

The Affordable Care Act strengthens Medicare and helps beneficiaries take charge of their health. The law provides important benefits such as free preventive services, free annual wellness visits, and discounts and better coverage for prescription drugs for Medicare recipients in the coverage gap known as the “donut hole.”

Between 2010 when the Affordable Care Act was enacted and 2015, the number of people who are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans is expected to increase by 42 percent to an all-time high.

Medicare remains strong and beneficiaries will continue to be covered through the program. Whether through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, they’ll still have the same benefits and security they have now: they do not need to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. Medicare is not part of the Marketplace.

#### **In Montana in 2015:**

- 98.8% of people with Medicare have access to a Medicare Advantage plan
- 13 Medicare Advantage plans available
- 30 Medicare Prescription Drug Plans available
- 100% of people with Part D have access to a plan with lower premium than what they paid in 2014
- 26% of people with Medicare Part D get Extra Help (also called the low-income subsidy, or LIS)
- \$15.70 is the lowest monthly premium for a prescription drug plan

Plan costs and coverage change each year, so everyone with Medicare should check to make sure their plan still meets their health needs and budget. There may be a Medicare health or drug plan available with better coverage or a lower premium in 2015.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, more people with Medicare are seeing reduced costs – through both discounts on brand-name drugs in the Medicare Part D “donut hole” and a provision in the law that makes preventive services like mammograms and other cancer

screenings available for free. In 2014, 61,248 people in Montana with Original Medicare took advantage of at least one preventive service without cost-sharing through July 2014. People with Medicare in Montana have saved an overall \$30,346,218 on prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D donut hole since 2010 as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

### **Important Dates in 2015**

#### **September**

- Medicare beneficiaries should watch their mailboxes for the “Medicare & You” 2015 handbook and for information from their current health or drug plan about changes they will see in 2014.

#### **October**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **begins October 15.**
- Beneficiaries should watch their mail for notices from Medicare with information about changes in 2015.
- Beneficiaries can compare plans at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) starting October 1.

#### **December**

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### Medicare in Nebraska, 2015

The Affordable Care Act strengthens Medicare and helps beneficiaries take charge of their health. The law provides important benefits such as free preventive services, free annual wellness visits, and discounts and better coverage for prescription drugs for Medicare recipients in the coverage gap known as the “donut hole.”

Between 2010 when the Affordable Care Act was enacted and 2015, the number of people who are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans is expected to increase by 42 percent to an all-time high.

Medicare remains strong and beneficiaries will continue to be covered through the program. Whether through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, they’ll still have the same benefits and security they have now: they do not need to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. Medicare is not part of the Marketplace.

#### **In Nebraska in 2015:**

- 86.4% of people with Medicare have access to a Medicare Advantage plan
- 17 Medicare Advantage plans available
- 30 Medicare Prescription Drug Plans available
- 100% of people with Part D have access to a plan with lower premium than what they paid in 2014
- 23% of people with Medicare Part D get Extra Help (also called the low-income subsidy, or LIS)
- \$15.70 is the lowest monthly premium for a prescription drug plan

Plan costs and coverage change each year, so everyone with Medicare should check to make sure their plan still meets their health needs and budget. There may be a Medicare health or drug plan available with better coverage or a lower premium in 2015.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, more people with Medicare are seeing reduced costs – through both discounts on brand-name drugs in the Medicare Part D “donut hole” and a provision in the law that makes preventive services like mammograms and other cancer

screenings available for free. In 2014, 112,528 people in Nebraska with Original Medicare took advantage of at least one preventive service without cost-sharing through July 2014. People with Medicare in Nebraska have saved an overall \$68,202,523 on prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D donut hole since 2010 as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

### **Important Dates in 2015**

#### **September**

- Medicare beneficiaries should watch their mailboxes for the “Medicare & You” 2015 handbook and for information from their current health or drug plan about changes they will see in 2014.

#### **October**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **begins October 15.**
- Beneficiaries should watch their mail for notices from Medicare with information about changes in 2015.
- Beneficiaries can compare plans at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) starting October 1.

#### **December**

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### Medicare in Nevada, 2015

The Affordable Care Act strengthens Medicare and helps beneficiaries take charge of their health. The law provides important benefits such as free preventive services, free annual wellness visits, and discounts and better coverage for prescription drugs for Medicare recipients in the coverage gap known as the “donut hole.”

Between 2010 when the Affordable Care Act was enacted and 2015, the number of people who are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans is expected to increase by 42 percent to an all-time high.

Medicare remains strong and beneficiaries will continue to be covered through the program. Whether through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, they’ll still have the same benefits and security they have now: they do not need to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. Medicare is not part of the Marketplace.

#### **In Nevada in 2015:**

- 97.1% of people with Medicare have access to a Medicare Advantage plan
- 32 Medicare Advantage plans available
- 32 Medicare Prescription Drug Plans available
- 100% of people with Part D have access to a plan with lower premium than what they paid in 2014
- 25% of people with Medicare Part D get Extra Help (also called the low-income subsidy, or LIS)
- \$15.70 is the lowest monthly premium for a prescription drug plan

Plan costs and coverage change each year, so everyone with Medicare should check to make sure their plan still meets their health needs and budget. There may be a Medicare health or drug plan available with better coverage or a lower premium in 2015.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, more people with Medicare are seeing reduced costs – through both discounts on brand-name drugs in the Medicare Part D “donut hole” and a provision in the law that makes preventive services like mammograms and other cancer

screenings available for free. In 2014, 125,388 people in Nevada with Original Medicare took advantage of at least one preventive service without cost-sharing through July 2014. People with Medicare in Nevada have saved an overall \$69,827,445 on prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D donut hole since 2010 as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

### **Important Dates in 2015**

#### **September**

- Medicare beneficiaries should watch their mailboxes for the “Medicare & You” 2015 handbook and for information from their current health or drug plan about changes they will see in 2014.

#### **October**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **begins October 15.**
- Beneficiaries should watch their mail for notices from Medicare with information about changes in 2015.
- Beneficiaries can compare plans at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) starting October 1.

#### **December**

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### Medicare in New Hampshire, 2015

The Affordable Care Act strengthens Medicare and helps beneficiaries take charge of their health. The law provides important benefits such as free preventive services, free annual wellness visits, and discounts and better coverage for prescription drugs for Medicare recipients in the coverage gap known as the “donut hole.”

Between 2010 when the Affordable Care Act was enacted and 2015, the number of people who are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans is expected to increase by 42 percent to an all-time high.

Medicare remains strong and beneficiaries will continue to be covered through the program. Whether through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, they’ll still have the same benefits and security they have now: they do not need to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. Medicare is not part of the Marketplace.

#### **In New Hampshire in 2015:**

- 96.4% of people with Medicare have access to a Medicare Advantage plan
- 10 Medicare Advantage plans available
- 28 Medicare Prescription Drug Plans available
- 100% of people with Part D have access to a plan with lower premium than what they paid in 2014
- 28% of people with Medicare Part D get Extra Help (also called the low-income subsidy, or LIS)
- \$15.60 is the lowest monthly premium for a prescription drug plan

Plan costs and coverage change each year, so everyone with Medicare should check to make sure their plan still meets their health needs and budget. There may be a Medicare health or drug plan available with better coverage or a lower premium in 2015.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, more people with Medicare are seeing reduced costs – through both discounts on brand-name drugs in the Medicare Part D “donut hole” and a provision in the law that makes preventive services like mammograms and other cancer

screenings available for free. In 2014, 115,504 people in New Hampshire with Original Medicare took advantage of at least one preventive service without cost-sharing through July 2014. People with Medicare in New Hampshire have saved an overall \$41,947,677 on prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D donut hole since 2010 as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

### **Important Dates in 2015**

#### **September**

- Medicare beneficiaries should watch their mailboxes for the “Medicare & You” 2015 handbook and for information from their current health or drug plan about changes they will see in 2014.

#### **October**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **begins October 15.**
- Beneficiaries should watch their mail for notices from Medicare with information about changes in 2015.
- Beneficiaries can compare plans at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) starting October 1.

#### **December**

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### Medicare in New Jersey, 2015

The Affordable Care Act strengthens Medicare and helps beneficiaries take charge of their health. The law provides important benefits such as free preventive services, free annual wellness visits, and discounts and better coverage for prescription drugs for Medicare recipients in the coverage gap known as the “donut hole.”

Between 2010 when the Affordable Care Act was enacted and 2015, the number of people who are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans is expected to increase by 42 percent to an all-time high.

Medicare remains strong and beneficiaries will continue to be covered through the program. Whether through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, they’ll still have the same benefits and security they have now: they do not need to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. Medicare is not part of the Marketplace.

#### **In New Jersey in 2015:**

- 100% of people with Medicare have access to a Medicare Advantage plan
- 46 Medicare Advantage plans available
- 29 Medicare Prescription Drug Plans available
- 94% of people with Part D have access to a plan with lower premium than what they paid in 2014
- 25% of people with Medicare Part D get Extra Help (also called the low-income subsidy, or LIS)
- \$15.70 is the lowest monthly premium for a prescription drug plan

Plan costs and coverage change each year, so everyone with Medicare should check to make sure their plan still meets their health needs and budget. There may be a Medicare health or drug plan available with better coverage or a lower premium in 2015.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, more people with Medicare are seeing reduced costs – through both discounts on brand-name drugs in the Medicare Part D “donut hole” and a provision in the law that makes preventive services like mammograms and other cancer

screenings available for free. In 2014, 680,934 people in New Jersey with Original Medicare took advantage of at least one preventive service without cost-sharing through July 2014. People with Medicare in New Jersey have saved an overall \$632,375,228 on prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D donut hole since 2010 as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

### **Important Dates in 2015**

#### **September**

- Medicare beneficiaries should watch their mailboxes for the “Medicare & You” 2015 handbook and for information from their current health or drug plan about changes they will see in 2014.

#### **October**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **begins October 15.**
- Beneficiaries should watch their mail for notices from Medicare with information about changes in 2015.
- Beneficiaries can compare plans at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) starting October 1.

#### **December**

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### Medicare in New Mexico, 2015

The Affordable Care Act strengthens Medicare and helps beneficiaries take charge of their health. The law provides important benefits such as free preventive services, free annual wellness visits, and discounts and better coverage for prescription drugs for Medicare recipients in the coverage gap known as the “donut hole.”

Between 2010 when the Affordable Care Act was enacted and 2015, the number of people who are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans is expected to increase by 42 percent to an all-time high.

Medicare remains strong and beneficiaries will continue to be covered through the program. Whether through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, they’ll still have the same benefits and security they have now: they do not need to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. Medicare is not part of the Marketplace.

#### **In New Mexico in 2015:**

- 100% of people with Medicare have access to a Medicare Advantage plan
- 30 Medicare Advantage plans available
- 31 Medicare Prescription Drug Plans available
- 100% of people with Part D have access to a plan with lower premium than what they paid in 2014
- 35% of people with Medicare Part D get Extra Help (also called the low-income subsidy, or LIS)
- \$12.60 is the lowest monthly premium for a prescription drug plan

Plan costs and coverage change each year, so everyone with Medicare should check to make sure their plan still meets their health needs and budget. There may be a Medicare health or drug plan available with better coverage or a lower premium in 2015.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, more people with Medicare are seeing reduced costs – through both discounts on brand-name drugs in the Medicare Part D “donut hole” and a provision in the law that makes preventive services like mammograms and other cancer

screenings available for free. In 2014, 98,258 people in New Mexico with Original Medicare took advantage of at least one preventive service without cost-sharing through July 2014. People with Medicare in New Mexico have saved an overall \$57,676,945 on prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D donut hole since 2010 as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

### **Important Dates in 2015**

#### **September**

- Medicare beneficiaries should watch their mailboxes for the “Medicare & You” 2015 handbook and for information from their current health or drug plan about changes they will see in 2014.

#### **October**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **begins October 15.**
- Beneficiaries should watch their mail for notices from Medicare with information about changes in 2015.
- Beneficiaries can compare plans at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) starting October 1.

#### **December**

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### Medicare in New York, 2015

The Affordable Care Act strengthens Medicare and helps beneficiaries take charge of their health. The law provides important benefits such as free preventive services, free annual wellness visits, and discounts and better coverage for prescription drugs for Medicare recipients in the coverage gap known as the “donut hole.”

Between 2010 when the Affordable Care Act was enacted and 2015, the number of people who are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans is expected to increase by 42 percent to an all-time high.

Medicare remains strong and beneficiaries will continue to be covered through the program. Whether through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, they’ll still have the same benefits and security they have now: they do not need to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. Medicare is not part of the Marketplace.

#### **In New York in 2015:**

- 100% of people with Medicare have access to a Medicare Advantage plan
- 222 Medicare Advantage plans available
- 25 Medicare Prescription Drug Plans available
- 95% of people with Part D have access to a plan with lower premium than what they paid in 2014
- 36% of people with Medicare Part D get Extra Help (also called the low-income subsidy, or LIS)
- \$15.70 is the lowest monthly premium for a prescription drug plan

Plan costs and coverage change each year, so everyone with Medicare should check to make sure their plan still meets their health needs and budget. There may be a Medicare health or drug plan available with better coverage or a lower premium in 2015.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, more people with Medicare are seeing reduced costs – through both discounts on brand-name drugs in the Medicare Part D “donut hole” and a provision in the law that makes preventive services like mammograms and other cancer

screenings available for free. In 2014, 1,103,224 people in New York with Original Medicare took advantage of at least one preventive service without cost-sharing through July 2014. People with Medicare in New York have saved an overall \$906,941,498 on prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D donut hole since 2010 as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

### **Important Dates in 2015**

#### **September**

- Medicare beneficiaries should watch their mailboxes for the “Medicare & You” 2015 handbook and for information from their current health or drug plan about changes they will see in 2014.

#### **October**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **begins October 15.**
- Beneficiaries should watch their mail for notices from Medicare with information about changes in 2015.
- Beneficiaries can compare plans at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) starting October 1.

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### Medicare in North Carolina, 2015

The Affordable Care Act strengthens Medicare and helps beneficiaries take charge of their health. The law provides important benefits such as free preventive services, free annual wellness visits, and discounts and better coverage for prescription drugs for Medicare recipients in the coverage gap known as the “donut hole.”

Between 2010 when the Affordable Care Act was enacted and 2015, the number of people who are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans is expected to increase by 42 percent to an all-time high.

Medicare remains strong and beneficiaries will continue to be covered through the program. Whether through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, they’ll still have the same benefits and security they have now: they do not need to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. Medicare is not part of the Marketplace.

#### **In North Carolina in 2015:**

- 100% of people with Medicare have access to a Medicare Advantage plan
- 47 Medicare Advantage plans available
- 29 Medicare Prescription Drug Plans available
- 100% of people with Part D have access to a plan with lower premium than what they paid in 2014
- 32% of people with Medicare Part D get Extra Help (also called the low-income subsidy, or LIS)
- \$15.70 is the lowest monthly premium for a prescription drug plan

Plan costs and coverage change each year, so everyone with Medicare should check to make sure their plan still meets their health needs and budget. There may be a Medicare health or drug plan available with better coverage or a lower premium in 2015.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, more people with Medicare are seeing reduced costs – through both discounts on brand-name drugs in the Medicare Part D “donut hole” and a provision in the law that makes preventive services like mammograms and other cancer

screenings available for free. In 2014, 679,097 people in North Carolina with Original Medicare took advantage of at least one preventive service without cost-sharing through July 2014. People with Medicare in North Carolina have saved an overall \$373,031,357 on prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D donut hole since 2010 as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

### **Important Dates in 2015**

#### **September**

- Medicare beneficiaries should watch their mailboxes for the “Medicare & You” 2015 handbook and for information from their current health or drug plan about changes they will see in 2014.

#### **October**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **begins October 15.**
- Beneficiaries should watch their mail for notices from Medicare with information about changes in 2015.
- Beneficiaries can compare plans at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) starting October 1.

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### Medicare in North Dakota, 2015

The Affordable Care Act strengthens Medicare and helps beneficiaries take charge of their health. The law provides important benefits such as free preventive services, free annual wellness visits, and discounts and better coverage for prescription drugs for Medicare recipients in the coverage gap known as the “donut hole.”

Between 2010 when the Affordable Care Act was enacted and 2015, the number of people who are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans is expected to increase by 42 percent to an all-time high.

Medicare remains strong and beneficiaries will continue to be covered through the program. Whether through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, they’ll still have the same benefits and security they have now: they do not need to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. Medicare is not part of the Marketplace.

#### **In North Dakota in 2015:**

- 52.1% of people with Medicare have access to a Medicare Advantage plan
- 3 Medicare Advantage plans available
- 30 Medicare Prescription Drug Plans available
- 100% of people with Part D have access to a plan with lower premium than what they paid in 2014
- 21% of people with Medicare Part D get Extra Help (also called the low-income subsidy, or LIS)
- \$15.70 is the lowest monthly premium for a prescription drug plan

Plan costs and coverage change each year, so everyone with Medicare should check to make sure their plan still meets their health needs and budget. There may be a Medicare health or drug plan available with better coverage or a lower premium in 2015.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, more people with Medicare are seeing reduced costs – through both discounts on brand-name drugs in the Medicare Part D “donut hole” and a provision in the law that makes preventive services like mammograms and other cancer

screenings available for free. In 2014, 44,955 people in North Dakota with Original Medicare took advantage of at least one preventive service without cost-sharing through July 2014. People with Medicare in North Dakota have saved an overall \$26,881,132 on prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D donut hole since 2010 as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

### **Important Dates in 2015**

#### **September**

- Medicare beneficiaries should watch their mailboxes for the “Medicare & You” 2015 handbook and for information from their current health or drug plan about changes they will see in 2014.

#### **October**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **begins October 15.**
- Beneficiaries should watch their mail for notices from Medicare with information about changes in 2015.
- Beneficiaries can compare plans at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) starting October 1.

#### **December**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **ends December 7.**

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## FACT SHEET

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
September 18, 2014

Contact: CMS Media Relations  
(202) 690-6145 or [press@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:press@cms.hhs.gov)

### **Medicare in Northern Mariana Islands, 2015**

The Affordable Care Act strengthens Medicare and helps beneficiaries take charge of their health. The law provides important benefits such as free preventive services, free annual wellness visits, and discounts and better coverage for prescription drugs for Medicare recipients in the coverage gap known as the “donut hole.”

Between 2010 when the Affordable Care Act was enacted and 2015, the number of people who are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans is expected to increase by 42 percent to an all-time high.

Medicare remains strong and beneficiaries will continue to be covered through the program. Whether through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, they’ll still have the same benefits and security they have now: they do not need to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. Medicare is not part of the Marketplace.

#### **In Northern Mariana Islands in 2015:**

- There are no Medicare Advantage plans in Northern Mariana Islands
- 1 Medicare Prescription Drug Plan available
- \$11.70 is the lowest monthly premium for a prescription drug plan

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, more people with Medicare are seeing reduced costs – through both discounts on brand-name drugs in the Medicare Part D “donut hole” and a provision in the law that makes preventive services like mammograms and other cancer screenings available for free. In 2014, 480 people in Northern Mariana Islands with Original Medicare took advantage of at least one preventive service without cost-sharing through July 2014. People with Medicare in Northern Mariana Islands have saved an overall \$54,744 on prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D donut hole since 2010 as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

#### **Important Dates in 2015**

**September**

- Medicare beneficiaries should watch their mailboxes for the “Medicare & You” 2015 handbook and for information from their current health or drug plan about changes they will see in 2014.

### **October**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **begins October 15.**
- Beneficiaries should watch their mail for notices from Medicare with information about changes in 2015.
- Beneficiaries can compare plans at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) starting October 1.

### **December**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **ends December 7.**

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Contact: CMS Media Relations  
(202) 690-6145 or [press@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:press@cms.hhs.gov)

### Medicare in Ohio, 2015

The Affordable Care Act strengthens Medicare and helps beneficiaries take charge of their health. The law provides important benefits such as free preventive services, free annual wellness visits, and discounts and better coverage for prescription drugs for Medicare recipients in the coverage gap known as the “donut hole.”

Between 2010 when the Affordable Care Act was enacted and 2015, the number of people who are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans is expected to increase by 42 percent to an all-time high.

Medicare remains strong and beneficiaries will continue to be covered through the program. Whether through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, they’ll still have the same benefits and security they have now: they do not need to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. Medicare is not part of the Marketplace.

#### **In Ohio in 2015:**

- 100% of people with Medicare have access to a Medicare Advantage plan
- 104 Medicare Advantage plans available
- 31 Medicare Prescription Drug Plans available
- 100% of people with Part D have access to a plan with lower premium than what they paid in 2014
- 25% of people with Medicare Part D get Extra Help (also called the low-income subsidy, or LIS)
- \$15.60 is the lowest monthly premium for a prescription drug plan

Plan costs and coverage change each year, so everyone with Medicare should check to make sure their plan still meets their health needs and budget. There may be a Medicare health or drug plan available with better coverage or a lower premium in 2015.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, more people with Medicare are seeing reduced costs – through both discounts on brand-name drugs in the Medicare Part D “donut hole” and a provision in the law that makes preventive services like mammograms and other cancer

screenings available for free. In 2014, 623,082 people in Ohio with Original Medicare took advantage of at least one preventive service without cost-sharing through July 2014. People with Medicare in Ohio have saved an overall \$603,166,208 on prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D donut hole since 2010 as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

### **Important Dates in 2015**

#### **September**

- Medicare beneficiaries should watch their mailboxes for the “Medicare & You” 2015 handbook and for information from their current health or drug plan about changes they will see in 2014.

#### **October**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **begins October 15.**
- Beneficiaries should watch their mail for notices from Medicare with information about changes in 2015.
- Beneficiaries can compare plans at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) starting October 1.

#### **December**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **ends December 7.**

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### Medicare in Oklahoma, 2015

The Affordable Care Act strengthens Medicare and helps beneficiaries take charge of their health. The law provides important benefits such as free preventive services, free annual wellness visits, and discounts and better coverage for prescription drugs for Medicare recipients in the coverage gap known as the “donut hole.”

Between 2010 when the Affordable Care Act was enacted and 2015, the number of people who are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans is expected to increase by 42 percent to an all-time high.

Medicare remains strong and beneficiaries will continue to be covered through the program. Whether through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, they’ll still have the same benefits and security they have now: they do not need to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. Medicare is not part of the Marketplace.

#### **In Oklahoma in 2015:**

- 100% of people with Medicare have access to a Medicare Advantage plan
- 36 Medicare Advantage plans available
- 31 Medicare Prescription Drug Plans available
- 100% of people with Part D have access to a plan with lower premium than what they paid in 2014
- 32% of people with Medicare Part D get Extra Help (also called the low-income subsidy, or LIS)
- \$15.70 is the lowest monthly premium for a prescription drug plan

Plan costs and coverage change each year, so everyone with Medicare should check to make sure their plan still meets their health needs and budget. There may be a Medicare health or drug plan available with better coverage or a lower premium in 2015.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, more people with Medicare are seeing reduced costs – through both discounts on brand-name drugs in the Medicare Part D “donut hole” and a provision in the law that makes preventive services like mammograms and other cancer

screenings available for free. In 2014, 255,291 people in Oklahoma with Original Medicare took advantage of at least one preventive service without cost-sharing through July 2014. People with Medicare in Oklahoma have saved an overall \$153,247,454 on prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D donut hole since 2010 as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

### **Important Dates in 2015**

#### **September**

- Medicare beneficiaries should watch their mailboxes for the “Medicare & You” 2015 handbook and for information from their current health or drug plan about changes they will see in 2014.

#### **October**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **begins October 15.**
- Beneficiaries should watch their mail for notices from Medicare with information about changes in 2015.
- Beneficiaries can compare plans at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) starting October 1.

#### **December**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **ends December 7.**

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Contact: CMS Media Relations  
(202) 690-6145 or [press@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:press@cms.hhs.gov)

### Medicare in Oregon, 2015

The Affordable Care Act strengthens Medicare and helps beneficiaries take charge of their health. The law provides important benefits such as free preventive services, free annual wellness visits, and discounts and better coverage for prescription drugs for Medicare recipients in the coverage gap known as the “donut hole.”

Between 2010 when the Affordable Care Act was enacted and 2015, the number of people who are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans is expected to increase by 42 percent to an all-time high.

Medicare remains strong and beneficiaries will continue to be covered through the program. Whether through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, they’ll still have the same benefits and security they have now: they do not need to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. Medicare is not part of the Marketplace.

#### **In Oregon in 2015:**

- 100% of people with Medicare have access to a Medicare Advantage plan
- 104 Medicare Advantage plans available
- 30 Medicare Prescription Drug Plans available
- 100% of people with Part D have access to a plan with lower premium than what they paid in 2014
- 25% of people with Medicare Part D get Extra Help (also called the low-income subsidy, or LIS)
- \$15.70 is the lowest monthly premium for a prescription drug plan

Plan costs and coverage change each year, so everyone with Medicare should check to make sure their plan still meets their health needs and budget. There may be a Medicare health or drug plan available with better coverage or a lower premium in 2015.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, more people with Medicare are seeing reduced costs – through both discounts on brand-name drugs in the Medicare Part D “donut hole” and a provision in the law that makes preventive services like mammograms and other cancer

screenings available for free. In 2014, 170,100 people in Oregon with Original Medicare took advantage of at least one preventive service without cost-sharing through July 2014. People with Medicare in Oregon have saved an overall \$120,520,605 on prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D donut hole since 2010 as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

### **Important Dates in 2015**

#### **September**

- Medicare beneficiaries should watch their mailboxes for the “Medicare & You” 2015 handbook and for information from their current health or drug plan about changes they will see in 2014.

#### **October**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **begins October 15.**
- Beneficiaries should watch their mail for notices from Medicare with information about changes in 2015.
- Beneficiaries can compare plans at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) starting October 1.

#### **December**

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### Medicare in Pennsylvania, 2015

The Affordable Care Act strengthens Medicare and helps beneficiaries take charge of their health. The law provides important benefits such as free preventive services, free annual wellness visits, and discounts and better coverage for prescription drugs for Medicare recipients in the coverage gap known as the “donut hole.”

Between 2010 when the Affordable Care Act was enacted and 2015, the number of people who are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans is expected to increase by 42 percent to an all-time high.

Medicare remains strong and beneficiaries will continue to be covered through the program. Whether through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, they’ll still have the same benefits and security they have now: they do not need to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. Medicare is not part of the Marketplace.

#### **In Pennsylvania in 2015:**

- 100% of people with Medicare have access to a Medicare Advantage plan
- 155 Medicare Advantage plans available
- 29 Medicare Prescription Drug Plans available
- 100% of people with Part D have access to a plan with lower premium than what they paid in 2014
- 27% of people with Medicare Part D get Extra Help (also called the low-income subsidy, or LIS)
- \$15.70 is the lowest monthly premium for a prescription drug plan

Plan costs and coverage change each year, so everyone with Medicare should check to make sure their plan still meets their health needs and budget. There may be a Medicare health or drug plan available with better coverage or a lower premium in 2015.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, more people with Medicare are seeing reduced costs – through both discounts on brand-name drugs in the Medicare Part D “donut hole” and a provision in the law that makes preventive services like mammograms and other cancer

screenings available for free. In 2014, 742,711 people in Pennsylvania with Original Medicare took advantage of at least one preventive service without cost-sharing through July 2014. People with Medicare in Pennsylvania have saved an overall \$758,678,869 on prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D donut hole since 2010 as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

### **Important Dates in 2015**

#### **September**

- Medicare beneficiaries should watch their mailboxes for the “Medicare & You” 2015 handbook and for information from their current health or drug plan about changes they will see in 2014.

#### **October**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **begins October 15.**
- Beneficiaries should watch their mail for notices from Medicare with information about changes in 2015.
- Beneficiaries can compare plans at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) starting October 1.

#### **December**

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### Medicare in Puerto Rico, 2015

The Affordable Care Act strengthens Medicare and helps beneficiaries take charge of their health. The law provides important benefits such as free preventive services, free annual wellness visits, and discounts and better coverage for prescription drugs for Medicare recipients in the coverage gap known as the “donut hole.”

Between 2010 when the Affordable Care Act was enacted and 2015, the number of people who are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans is expected to increase by 42 percent to an all-time high.

Medicare remains strong and beneficiaries will continue to be covered through the program. Whether through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, they’ll still have the same benefits and security they have now: they do not need to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. Medicare is not part of the Marketplace.

#### **In Puerto Rico in 2015:**

- 100% of people with Medicare have access to a Medicare Advantage plan
- 44 Medicare Advantage plans available
- 7 Medicare Prescription Drug Plans available
- 100% of people with Part D have access to a plan with lower premium than what they paid in 2014
- 2% of people with Medicare Part D get Extra Help (also called the low-income subsidy, or LIS)
- \$0.10 is the lowest monthly premium for a prescription drug plan

Plan costs and coverage change each year, so everyone with Medicare should check to make sure their plan still meets their health needs and budget. There may be a Medicare health or drug plan available with better coverage or a lower premium in 2015.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, more people with Medicare are seeing reduced costs – through both discounts on brand-name drugs in the Medicare Part D “donut hole” and a provision in the law that makes preventive services like mammograms and other cancer

screenings available for free. In 2014, 43,625 people in Puerto Rico with Original Medicare took advantage of at least one preventive service without cost-sharing through July 2014. People with Medicare in Puerto Rico have saved an overall \$244,079,696 on prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D donut hole since 2010 as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

### **Important Dates in 2015**

#### **September**

- Medicare beneficiaries should watch their mailboxes for the “Medicare & You” 2015 handbook and for information from their current health or drug plan about changes they will see in 2014.

#### **October**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **begins October 15.**
- Beneficiaries should watch their mail for notices from Medicare with information about changes in 2015.
- Beneficiaries can compare plans at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) starting October 1.

#### **December**

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### Medicare in Rhode Island, 2015

The Affordable Care Act strengthens Medicare and helps beneficiaries take charge of their health. The law provides important benefits such as free preventive services, free annual wellness visits, and discounts and better coverage for prescription drugs for Medicare recipients in the coverage gap known as the “donut hole.”

Between 2010 when the Affordable Care Act was enacted and 2015, the number of people who are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans is expected to increase by 42 percent to an all-time high.

Medicare remains strong and beneficiaries will continue to be covered through the program. Whether through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, they’ll still have the same benefits and security they have now: they do not need to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. Medicare is not part of the Marketplace.

#### **In Rhode Island in 2015:**

- 100% of people with Medicare have access to a Medicare Advantage plan
- 12 Medicare Advantage plans available
- 27 Medicare Prescription Drug Plans available
- 100% of people with Part D have access to a plan with lower premium than what they paid in 2014
- 32% of people with Medicare Part D get Extra Help (also called the low-income subsidy, or LIS)
- \$15.60 is the lowest monthly premium for a prescription drug plan

Plan costs and coverage change each year, so everyone with Medicare should check to make sure their plan still meets their health needs and budget. There may be a Medicare health or drug plan available with better coverage or a lower premium in 2015.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, more people with Medicare are seeing reduced costs – through both discounts on brand-name drugs in the Medicare Part D “donut hole” and a provision in the law that makes preventive services like mammograms and other cancer

screenings available for free. In 2014, 68,250 people in Rhode Island with Original Medicare took advantage of at least one preventive service without cost-sharing through July 2014. People with Medicare in Rhode Island have saved an overall \$36,383,645 on prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D donut hole since 2010 as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

### **Important Dates in 2015**

#### **September**

- Medicare beneficiaries should watch their mailboxes for the “Medicare & You” 2015 handbook and for information from their current health or drug plan about changes they will see in 2014.

#### **October**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **begins October 15.**
- Beneficiaries should watch their mail for notices from Medicare with information about changes in 2015.
- Beneficiaries can compare plans at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) starting October 1.

#### **December**

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Contact: CMS Media Relations  
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### Medicare in South Carolina, 2015

The Affordable Care Act strengthens Medicare and helps beneficiaries take charge of their health. The law provides important benefits such as free preventive services, free annual wellness visits, and discounts and better coverage for prescription drugs for Medicare recipients in the coverage gap known as the “donut hole.”

Between 2010 when the Affordable Care Act was enacted and 2015, the number of people who are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans is expected to increase by 42 percent to an all-time high.

Medicare remains strong and beneficiaries will continue to be covered through the program. Whether through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, they’ll still have the same benefits and security they have now: they do not need to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. Medicare is not part of the Marketplace.

#### **In South Carolina in 2015:**

- 100% of people with Medicare have access to a Medicare Advantage plan
- 29 Medicare Advantage plans available
- 31 Medicare Prescription Drug Plans available
- 100% of people with Part D have access to a plan with lower premium than what they paid in 2014
- 32% of people with Medicare Part D get Extra Help (also called the low-income subsidy, or LIS)
- \$15.60 is the lowest monthly premium for a prescription drug plan

Plan costs and coverage change each year, so everyone with Medicare should check to make sure their plan still meets their health needs and budget. There may be a Medicare health or drug plan available with better coverage or a lower premium in 2015.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, more people with Medicare are seeing reduced costs – through both discounts on brand-name drugs in the Medicare Part D “donut hole” and a provision in the law that makes preventive services like mammograms and other cancer

screenings available for free. In 2014, 392,071 people in South Carolina with Original Medicare took advantage of at least one preventive service without cost-sharing through July 2014. People with Medicare in South Carolina have saved an overall \$180,956,331 on prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D donut hole since 2010 as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

### **Important Dates in 2015**

#### **September**

- Medicare beneficiaries should watch their mailboxes for the “Medicare & You” 2015 handbook and for information from their current health or drug plan about changes they will see in 2014.

#### **October**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **begins October 15.**
- Beneficiaries should watch their mail for notices from Medicare with information about changes in 2015.
- Beneficiaries can compare plans at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) starting October 1.

#### **December**

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Contact: CMS Media Relations  
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### Medicare in South Dakota, 2015

The Affordable Care Act strengthens Medicare and helps beneficiaries take charge of their health. The law provides important benefits such as free preventive services, free annual wellness visits, and discounts and better coverage for prescription drugs for Medicare recipients in the coverage gap known as the “donut hole.”

Between 2010 when the Affordable Care Act was enacted and 2015, the number of people who are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans is expected to increase by 42 percent to an all-time high.

Medicare remains strong and beneficiaries will continue to be covered through the program. Whether through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, they’ll still have the same benefits and security they have now: they do not need to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. Medicare is not part of the Marketplace.

#### **In South Dakota in 2015:**

- 95% of people with Medicare have access to a Medicare Advantage plan
- 6 Medicare Advantage plans available
- 30 Medicare Prescription Drug Plans available
- 100% of people with Part D have access to a plan with lower premium than what they paid in 2014
- 23% of people with Medicare Part D get Extra Help (also called the low-income subsidy, or LIS)
- \$15.70 is the lowest monthly premium for a prescription drug plan

Plan costs and coverage change each year, so everyone with Medicare should check to make sure their plan still meets their health needs and budget. There may be a Medicare health or drug plan available with better coverage or a lower premium in 2015.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, more people with Medicare are seeing reduced costs – through both discounts on brand-name drugs in the Medicare Part D “donut hole” and a provision in the law that makes preventive services like mammograms and other cancer

screenings available for free. In 2014, 54,524 people in South Dakota with Original Medicare took advantage of at least one preventive service without cost-sharing through July 2014. People with Medicare in South Dakota have saved an overall \$29,708,297 on prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D donut hole since 2010 as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

### **Important Dates in 2015**

#### **September**

- Medicare beneficiaries should watch their mailboxes for the “Medicare & You” 2015 handbook and for information from their current health or drug plan about changes they will see in 2014.

#### **October**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **begins October 15.**
- Beneficiaries should watch their mail for notices from Medicare with information about changes in 2015.
- Beneficiaries can compare plans at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) starting October 1.

#### **December**

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### Medicare in Tennessee, 2015

The Affordable Care Act strengthens Medicare and helps beneficiaries take charge of their health. The law provides important benefits such as free preventive services, free annual wellness visits, and discounts and better coverage for prescription drugs for Medicare recipients in the coverage gap known as the “donut hole.”

Between 2010 when the Affordable Care Act was enacted and 2015, the number of people who are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans is expected to increase by 42 percent to an all-time high.

Medicare remains strong and beneficiaries will continue to be covered through the program. Whether through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, they’ll still have the same benefits and security they have now: they do not need to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. Medicare is not part of the Marketplace.

#### **In Tennessee in 2015:**

- 100% of people with Medicare have access to a Medicare Advantage plan
- 66 Medicare Advantage plans available
- 30 Medicare Prescription Drug Plans available
- 100% of people with Part D have access to a plan with lower premium than what they paid in 2014
- 35% of people with Medicare Part D get Extra Help (also called the low-income subsidy, or LIS)
- \$15.60 is the lowest monthly premium for a prescription drug plan

Plan costs and coverage change each year, so everyone with Medicare should check to make sure their plan still meets their health needs and budget. There may be a Medicare health or drug plan available with better coverage or a lower premium in 2015.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, more people with Medicare are seeing reduced costs – through both discounts on brand-name drugs in the Medicare Part D “donut hole” and a provision in the law that makes preventive services like mammograms and other cancer

screenings available for free. In 2014, 436,110 people in Tennessee with Original Medicare took advantage of at least one preventive service without cost-sharing through July 2014. People with Medicare in Tennessee have saved an overall \$247,873,753 on prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D donut hole since 2010 as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

### **Important Dates in 2015**

#### **September**

- Medicare beneficiaries should watch their mailboxes for the “Medicare & You” 2015 handbook and for information from their current health or drug plan about changes they will see in 2014.

#### **October**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **begins October 15.**
- Beneficiaries should watch their mail for notices from Medicare with information about changes in 2015.
- Beneficiaries can compare plans at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) starting October 1.

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### Medicare in Texas, 2015

The Affordable Care Act strengthens Medicare and helps beneficiaries take charge of their health. The law provides important benefits such as free preventive services, free annual wellness visits, and discounts and better coverage for prescription drugs for Medicare recipients in the coverage gap known as the “donut hole.”

Between 2010 when the Affordable Care Act was enacted and 2015, the number of people who are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans is expected to increase by 42 percent to an all-time high.

Medicare remains strong and beneficiaries will continue to be covered through the program. Whether through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, they’ll still have the same benefits and security they have now: they do not need to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. Medicare is not part of the Marketplace.

#### **In Texas in 2015:**

- 100% of people with Medicare have access to a Medicare Advantage plan
- 140 Medicare Advantage plans available
- 32 Medicare Prescription Drug Plans available
- 100% of people with Part D have access to a plan with lower premium than what they paid in 2014
- 36% of people with Medicare Part D get Extra Help (also called the low-income subsidy, or LIS)
- \$15.60 is the lowest monthly premium for a prescription drug plan

Plan costs and coverage change each year, so everyone with Medicare should check to make sure their plan still meets their health needs and budget. There may be a Medicare health or drug plan available with better coverage or a lower premium in 2015.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, more people with Medicare are seeing reduced costs – through both discounts on brand-name drugs in the Medicare Part D “donut hole” and a provision in the law that makes preventive services like mammograms and other cancer

screenings available for free. In 2014, 1,276,703 people in Texas with Original Medicare took advantage of at least one preventive service without cost-sharing through July 2014. People with Medicare in Texas have saved an overall \$764,797,776 on prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D donut hole since 2010 as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

### **Important Dates in 2015**

#### **September**

- Medicare beneficiaries should watch their mailboxes for the “Medicare & You” 2015 handbook and for information from their current health or drug plan about changes they will see in 2014.

#### **October**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **begins October 15.**
- Beneficiaries should watch their mail for notices from Medicare with information about changes in 2015.
- Beneficiaries can compare plans at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) starting October 1.

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### Medicare in Utah, 2015

The Affordable Care Act strengthens Medicare and helps beneficiaries take charge of their health. The law provides important benefits such as free preventive services, free annual wellness visits, and discounts and better coverage for prescription drugs for Medicare recipients in the coverage gap known as the “donut hole.”

Between 2010 when the Affordable Care Act was enacted and 2015, the number of people who are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans is expected to increase by 42 percent to an all-time high.

Medicare remains strong and beneficiaries will continue to be covered through the program. Whether through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, they’ll still have the same benefits and security they have now: they do not need to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. Medicare is not part of the Marketplace.

#### **In Utah in 2015:**

- 94.8% of people with Medicare have access to a Medicare Advantage plan
- 18 Medicare Advantage plans available
- 31 Medicare Prescription Drug Plans available
- 100% of people with Part D have access to a plan with lower premium than what they paid in 2014
- 21% of people with Medicare Part D get Extra Help (also called the low-income subsidy, or LIS)
- \$15.70 is the lowest monthly premium for a prescription drug plan

Plan costs and coverage change each year, so everyone with Medicare should check to make sure their plan still meets their health needs and budget. There may be a Medicare health or drug plan available with better coverage or a lower premium in 2015.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, more people with Medicare are seeing reduced costs – through both discounts on brand-name drugs in the Medicare Part D “donut hole” and a provision in the law that makes preventive services like mammograms and other cancer

screenings available for free. In 2014, 86,338 people in Utah with Original Medicare took advantage of at least one preventive service without cost-sharing through July 2014. People with Medicare in Utah have saved an overall \$64,035,120 on prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D donut hole since 2010 as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

### **Important Dates in 2015**

#### **September**

- Medicare beneficiaries should watch their mailboxes for the “Medicare & You” 2015 handbook and for information from their current health or drug plan about changes they will see in 2014.

#### **October**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **begins October 15.**
- Beneficiaries should watch their mail for notices from Medicare with information about changes in 2015.
- Beneficiaries can compare plans at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) starting October 1.

#### **December**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **ends December 7.**

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## FACT SHEET

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
September 18, 2014

Contact: CMS Media Relations  
(202) 690-6145 or [press@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:press@cms.hhs.gov)

### Medicare in Vermont, 2015

The Affordable Care Act strengthens Medicare and helps beneficiaries take charge of their health. The law provides important benefits such as free preventive services, free annual wellness visits, and discounts and better coverage for prescription drugs for Medicare recipients in the coverage gap known as the “donut hole.”

Between 2010 when the Affordable Care Act was enacted and 2015, the number of people who are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans is expected to increase by 42 percent to an all-time high.

Medicare remains strong and beneficiaries will continue to be covered through the program. Whether through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, they’ll still have the same benefits and security they have now: they do not need to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. Medicare is not part of the Marketplace.

#### **In Vermont in 2015:**

- 100% of people with Medicare have access to a Medicare Advantage plan
- 7 Medicare Advantage plans available
- 27 Medicare Prescription Drug Plans available
- 100% of people with Part D have access to a plan with lower premium than what they paid in 2014
- 36% of people with Medicare Part D get Extra Help (also called the low-income subsidy, or LIS)
- \$15.60 is the lowest monthly premium for a prescription drug plan

Plan costs and coverage change each year, so everyone with Medicare should check to make sure their plan still meets their health needs and budget. There may be a Medicare health or drug plan available with better coverage or a lower premium in 2015.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, more people with Medicare are seeing reduced costs – through both discounts on brand-name drugs in the Medicare Part D “donut hole” and a provision in the law that makes preventive services like mammograms and other cancer

screenings available for free. In 2014, 54,723 people in Vermont with Original Medicare took advantage of at least one preventive service without cost-sharing through July 2014. People with Medicare in Vermont have saved an overall \$22,704,715 on prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D donut hole since 2010 as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

### **Important Dates in 2015**

#### **September**

- Medicare beneficiaries should watch their mailboxes for the “Medicare & You” 2015 handbook and for information from their current health or drug plan about changes they will see in 2014.

#### **October**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **begins October 15.**
- Beneficiaries should watch their mail for notices from Medicare with information about changes in 2015.
- Beneficiaries can compare plans at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) starting October 1.

#### **December**

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### Medicare in U.S. Virgin Islands, 2015

The Affordable Care Act strengthens Medicare and helps beneficiaries take charge of their health. The law provides important benefits such as free preventive services, free annual wellness visits, and discounts and better coverage for prescription drugs for Medicare recipients in the coverage gap known as the “donut hole.”

Between 2010 when the Affordable Care Act was enacted and 2015, the number of people who are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans is expected to increase by 42 percent to an all-time high.

Medicare remains strong and beneficiaries will continue to be covered through the program. Whether through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, they’ll still have the same benefits and security they have now: they do not need to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. Medicare is not part of the Marketplace.

#### **In U.S. Virgin Islands in 2015:**

- There are no Medicare Advantage plans in U.S. Virgin Islands
- 1 Medicare Prescription Drug Plan available
- 2% of people with Medicare Part D get Extra Help (also called the low-income subsidy, or LIS)
- \$43.60 is the lowest monthly premium for a prescription drug plan

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, more people with Medicare are seeing reduced costs – through both discounts on brand-name drugs in the Medicare Part D “donut hole” and a provision in the law that makes preventive services like mammograms and other cancer screenings available for free. In 2014, 7,386 people in U.S. Virgin Islands with Original Medicare took advantage of at least one preventive service without cost-sharing through July 2014. People with Medicare in U.S. Virgin Islands have saved an overall \$2,149,499 on prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D donut hole since 2010 as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

#### **Important Dates in 2015**

### **September**

- Medicare beneficiaries should watch their mailboxes for the “Medicare & You” 2015 handbook and for information from their current health or drug plan about changes they will see in 2014.

### **October**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **begins October 15.**
- Beneficiaries should watch their mail for notices from Medicare with information about changes in 2015.
- Beneficiaries can compare plans at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) starting October 1.

### **December**

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### Medicare in Virginia, 2015

The Affordable Care Act strengthens Medicare and helps beneficiaries take charge of their health. The law provides important benefits such as free preventive services, free annual wellness visits, and discounts and better coverage for prescription drugs for Medicare recipients in the coverage gap known as the “donut hole.”

Between 2010 when the Affordable Care Act was enacted and 2015, the number of people who are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans is expected to increase by 42 percent to an all-time high.

Medicare remains strong and beneficiaries will continue to be covered through the program. Whether through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, they’ll still have the same benefits and security they have now: they do not need to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. Medicare is not part of the Marketplace.

#### **In Virginia in 2015:**

- 100% of people with Medicare have access to a Medicare Advantage plan
- 67 Medicare Advantage plans available
- 31 Medicare Prescription Drug Plans available
- 100% of people with Part D have access to a plan with lower premium than what they paid in 2014
- 30% of people with Medicare Part D get Extra Help (also called the low-income subsidy, or LIS)
- \$15.60 is the lowest monthly premium for a prescription drug plan

Plan costs and coverage change each year, so everyone with Medicare should check to make sure their plan still meets their health needs and budget. There may be a Medicare health or drug plan available with better coverage or a lower premium in 2015.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, more people with Medicare are seeing reduced costs – through both discounts on brand-name drugs in the Medicare Part D “donut hole” and a provision in the law that makes preventive services like mammograms and other cancer

screenings available for free. In 2014, 571,823 people in Virginia with Original Medicare took advantage of at least one preventive service without cost-sharing through July 2014. People with Medicare in Virginia have saved an overall \$264,585,641 on prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D donut hole since 2010 as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

### **Important Dates in 2015**

#### **September**

- Medicare beneficiaries should watch their mailboxes for the “Medicare & You” 2015 handbook and for information from their current health or drug plan about changes they will see in 2014.

#### **October**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **begins October 15.**
- Beneficiaries should watch their mail for notices from Medicare with information about changes in 2015.
- Beneficiaries can compare plans at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) starting October 1.

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### Medicare in Washington, 2015

The Affordable Care Act strengthens Medicare and helps beneficiaries take charge of their health. The law provides important benefits such as free preventive services, free annual wellness visits, and discounts and better coverage for prescription drugs for Medicare recipients in the coverage gap known as the “donut hole.”

Between 2010 when the Affordable Care Act was enacted and 2015, the number of people who are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans is expected to increase by 42 percent to an all-time high.

Medicare remains strong and beneficiaries will continue to be covered through the program. Whether through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, they’ll still have the same benefits and security they have now: they do not need to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. Medicare is not part of the Marketplace.

#### **In Washington in 2015:**

- 99.1% of people with Medicare have access to a Medicare Advantage plan
- 69 Medicare Advantage plans available
- 30 Medicare Prescription Drug Plans available
- 100% of people with Part D have access to a plan with lower premium than what they paid in 2014
- 29% of people with Medicare Part D get Extra Help (also called the low-income subsidy, or LIS)
- \$15.70 is the lowest monthly premium for a prescription drug plan

Plan costs and coverage change each year, so everyone with Medicare should check to make sure their plan still meets their health needs and budget. There may be a Medicare health or drug plan available with better coverage or a lower premium in 2015.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, more people with Medicare are seeing reduced costs – through both discounts on brand-name drugs in the Medicare Part D “donut hole” and a provision in the law that makes preventive services like mammograms and other cancer

screenings available for free. In 2014, 338,015 people in Washington with Original Medicare took advantage of at least one preventive service without cost-sharing through July 2014. People with Medicare in Washington have saved an overall \$178,412,086 on prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D donut hole since 2010 as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

### **Important Dates in 2015**

#### **September**

- Medicare beneficiaries should watch their mailboxes for the “Medicare & You” 2015 handbook and for information from their current health or drug plan about changes they will see in 2014.

#### **October**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **begins October 15.**
- Beneficiaries should watch their mail for notices from Medicare with information about changes in 2015.
- Beneficiaries can compare plans at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) starting October 1.

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### **Medicare in District of Columbia, 2015**

The Affordable Care Act strengthens Medicare and helps beneficiaries take charge of their health. The law provides important benefits such as free preventive services, free annual wellness visits, and discounts and better coverage for prescription drugs for Medicare recipients in the coverage gap known as the “donut hole.”

Between 2010 when the Affordable Care Act was enacted and 2015, the number of people who are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans is expected to increase by 42 percent to an all-time high.

Medicare remains strong and beneficiaries will continue to be covered through the program. Whether through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, they’ll still have the same benefits and security they have now: they do not need to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. Medicare is not part of the Marketplace.

#### **In District of Columbia in 2015:**

- 100% of people with Medicare have access to a Medicare Advantage plan
- 13 Medicare Advantage plans available
- 27 Medicare Prescription Drug Plans available
- 100% of people with Part D have access to a plan with lower premium than what they paid in 2014
- of people with Medicare Part D get Extra Help (also called the low-income subsidy, or LIS)
- \$15.70 is the lowest monthly premium for a prescription drug plan

Plan costs and coverage change each year, so everyone with Medicare should check to make sure their plan still meets their health needs and budget. There may be a Medicare health or drug plan available with better coverage or a lower premium in 2015.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, more people with Medicare are seeing reduced costs – through both discounts on brand-name drugs in the Medicare Part D “donut hole” and a provision in the law that makes preventive services like mammograms and other cancer

screenings available for free. In 2014, 32,278 people in District of Columbia with Original Medicare took advantage of at least one preventive service without cost-sharing through July 2014. People with Medicare in District of Columbia have saved an overall \$7,907,673 on prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D donut hole since 2010 as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

### **Important Dates in 2015**

#### **September**

- Medicare beneficiaries should watch their mailboxes for the “Medicare & You” 2015 handbook and for information from their current health or drug plan about changes they will see in 2014.

#### **October**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **begins October 15.**
- Beneficiaries should watch their mail for notices from Medicare with information about changes in 2015.
- Beneficiaries can compare plans at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) starting October 1.

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### Medicare in West Virginia, 2015

The Affordable Care Act strengthens Medicare and helps beneficiaries take charge of their health. The law provides important benefits such as free preventive services, free annual wellness visits, and discounts and better coverage for prescription drugs for Medicare recipients in the coverage gap known as the “donut hole.”

Between 2010 when the Affordable Care Act was enacted and 2015, the number of people who are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans is expected to increase by 42 percent to an all-time high.

Medicare remains strong and beneficiaries will continue to be covered through the program. Whether through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, they’ll still have the same benefits and security they have now: they do not need to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. Medicare is not part of the Marketplace.

#### **In West Virginia in 2015:**

- 100% of people with Medicare have access to a Medicare Advantage plan
- 25 Medicare Advantage plans available
- 29 Medicare Prescription Drug Plans available
- 100% of people with Part D have access to a plan with lower premium than what they paid in 2014
- 36% of people with Medicare Part D get Extra Help (also called the low-income subsidy, or LIS)
- \$15.70 is the lowest monthly premium for a prescription drug plan

Plan costs and coverage change each year, so everyone with Medicare should check to make sure their plan still meets their health needs and budget. There may be a Medicare health or drug plan available with better coverage or a lower premium in 2015.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, more people with Medicare are seeing reduced costs – through both discounts on brand-name drugs in the Medicare Part D “donut hole” and a provision in the law that makes preventive services like mammograms and other cancer

screenings available for free. In 2014, 149,222 people in West Virginia with Original Medicare took advantage of at least one preventive service without cost-sharing through July 2014. People with Medicare in West Virginia have saved an overall \$132,304,034 on prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D donut hole since 2010 as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

### **Important Dates in 2015**

#### **September**

- Medicare beneficiaries should watch their mailboxes for the “Medicare & You” 2015 handbook and for information from their current health or drug plan about changes they will see in 2014.

#### **October**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **begins October 15.**
- Beneficiaries should watch their mail for notices from Medicare with information about changes in 2015.
- Beneficiaries can compare plans at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) starting October 1.

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### Medicare in Wisconsin, 2015

The Affordable Care Act strengthens Medicare and helps beneficiaries take charge of their health. The law provides important benefits such as free preventive services, free annual wellness visits, and discounts and better coverage for prescription drugs for Medicare recipients in the coverage gap known as the “donut hole.”

Between 2010 when the Affordable Care Act was enacted and 2015, the number of people who are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans is expected to increase by 42 percent to an all-time high.

Medicare remains strong and beneficiaries will continue to be covered through the program. Whether through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, they’ll still have the same benefits and security they have now: they do not need to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. Medicare is not part of the Marketplace.

#### **In Wisconsin in 2015:**

- 100% of people with Medicare have access to a Medicare Advantage plan
- 52 Medicare Advantage plans available
- 29 Medicare Prescription Drug Plans available
- 100% of people with Part D have access to a plan with lower premium than what they paid in 2014
- 25% of people with Medicare Part D get Extra Help (also called the low-income subsidy, or LIS)
- \$15.70 is the lowest monthly premium for a prescription drug plan

Plan costs and coverage change each year, so everyone with Medicare should check to make sure their plan still meets their health needs and budget. There may be a Medicare health or drug plan available with better coverage or a lower premium in 2015.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, more people with Medicare are seeing reduced costs – through both discounts on brand-name drugs in the Medicare Part D “donut hole” and a provision in the law that makes preventive services like mammograms and other cancer

screenings available for free. In 2014, 317,984 people in Wisconsin with Original Medicare took advantage of at least one preventive service without cost-sharing through July 2014. People with Medicare in Wisconsin have saved an overall \$209,899,093 on prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D donut hole since 2010 as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

### **Important Dates in 2015**

#### **September**

- Medicare beneficiaries should watch their mailboxes for the “Medicare & You” 2015 handbook and for information from their current health or drug plan about changes they will see in 2014.

#### **October**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **begins October 15.**
- Beneficiaries should watch their mail for notices from Medicare with information about changes in 2015.
- Beneficiaries can compare plans at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) starting October 1.

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### Medicare in Wyoming, 2015

The Affordable Care Act strengthens Medicare and helps beneficiaries take charge of their health. The law provides important benefits such as free preventive services, free annual wellness visits, and discounts and better coverage for prescription drugs for Medicare recipients in the coverage gap known as the “donut hole.”

Between 2010 when the Affordable Care Act was enacted and 2015, the number of people who are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans is expected to increase by 42 percent to an all-time high.

Medicare remains strong and beneficiaries will continue to be covered through the program. Whether through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, they’ll still have the same benefits and security they have now: they do not need to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. Medicare is not part of the Marketplace.

#### In Wyoming in 2015:

- 100% of people with Medicare have access to a Medicare Advantage plan
- 3 Medicare Advantage plans available
- 30 Medicare Prescription Drug Plans available
- 100% of people with Part D have access to a plan with lower premium than what they paid in 2014
- 23% of people with Medicare Part D get Extra Help (also called the low-income subsidy, or LIS)
- \$15.70 is the lowest monthly premium for a prescription drug plan

Plan costs and coverage change each year, so everyone with Medicare should check to make sure their plan still meets their health needs and budget. There may be a Medicare health or drug plan available with better coverage or a lower premium in 2015.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, more people with Medicare are seeing reduced costs – through both discounts on brand-name drugs in the Medicare Part D “donut hole” and a provision in the law that makes preventive services like mammograms and other cancer

screenings available for free. In 2014, 29,622 people in Wyoming with Original Medicare took advantage of at least one preventive service without cost-sharing through July 2014. People with Medicare in Wyoming have saved an overall \$16,758,395 on prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D donut hole since 2010 as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

### **Important Dates in 2015**

#### **September**

- Medicare beneficiaries should watch their mailboxes for the “Medicare & You” 2015 handbook and for information from their current health or drug plan about changes they will see in 2014.

#### **October**

- Medicare Open Enrollment **begins October 15.**
- Beneficiaries should watch their mail for notices from Medicare with information about changes in 2015.
- Beneficiaries can compare plans at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) starting October 1.

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