

**Table 83**  
**Changes in Access to or Coverage Under a Zero Premium Plan:**  
**Calendar Years 1999-2004**

| Year | Medicare+Choice Coordinated Care Plans                     |                                     |
|------|--|-------------------------------------|
|      | Overall Medicare Population with<br>Access to Zero Premium | Enrollees with Zero<br>Premium Plan |
|      | Percent  |                                     |
| 1999 | 61   | 68                                  |
| 2000 | 53   | 61                                  |
| 2001 | 39   | 45                                  |
| 2002 | 34   | 39                                  |
| 2003 | 29   | 38                                  |
| 2004 | 40   | 48 <sup>1</sup>                     |

<sup>1</sup> A change in methodology applies in 2004. Because health plans are reporting enrollments by benefit package to CMS when an organization offers more than one benefit package in a given county, the 2004 figure for enrollees choosing zero premium plans is enrollment at the actual "plan" level (that is, by benefit package). In prior years, enrollees were assigned to zero premium plans if one was offered by the organization in the county of residence of the individual. The 48 percent figure for 2004 would be a higher number if the methodology used in prior years were continued for 2004.

SOURCES: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Office of Research, Development, and Information and MedPAC: Analysis of Medicare Compare and Health Plan Management System data.