


 The logo features two overlapping circles: an orange one on the left and a teal one on the right. The text 'Medi-Cal' is in white inside the orange circle, 'Explained' is in white inside the teal circle, and 'FACT SHEET' is in a large, blue, sans-serif font to the right of the circles.

Medi-Cal Explained FACT SHEET

Medi-Cal Explained: 2024 Managed Care Plans

Author: Ralph Silber

MEDI-CAL MANAGED CARE PLANS are becoming an even more critical part of the Medi-Cal landscape, with increasing responsibility for new services and management of new populations not previously part of managed care. In 2024, there will be major changes in many California counties as to which Medi-Cal managed care plans operate there.

To help providers and other delivery system stakeholders understand the coming changes, this fact sheet describes geographic changes as well as some unique managed care arrangements. The information is organized in two ways: by county and by managed care plan. First, Table 1 lists California's 58 counties alphabetically and indicates which Medi-Cal managed care plans will operate in each county beginning in January 2024. It also indicates which counties will have a managed care plan either enter or exit operations in 2024. Second, Table 2 lists managed care plans alphabetically and lists the counties each plan will operate in beginning in January 2024.

In addition to the geographic changes, there are some unique current and upcoming Medi-Cal managed care arrangements worth calling out:

- In Los Angeles County, L.A. Care Health Plan subcontracts with Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield of California Promise Health Plan as plan partners. In addition, Health Net subcontracts with Molina Healthcare as a plan partner. Under a "plan partner" arrangement, members can

choose to receive their Medi-Cal managed care benefits directly through L.A. Care or Health Net, or from one of their plan partners.

- In Fresno, Kings, and Madera Counties, CalViva, a public plan, contracts with Health Net to carry out many health plan functions and responsibilities.
- In Imperial County, beginning in 2024, the Community Health Plan of Imperial Valley, a new public plan, will contract with Health Net to carry out many health plan functions and responsibilities.
- Statewide, beginning in 2024, Kaiser Permanente (Kaiser) will operate in 32 of California's 58 counties under a single, direct Medi-Cal contract with California's Department of Health Care Services. Under this contract, Kaiser will enter these markets: Fresno, Imperial, Kings, Madera, Mariposa, Santa Cruz, Stanislaus, Sutter, Tulare,

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For more information, visit www.chcf.org.

and Yuba Counties. Kaiser already participates in Medi-Cal in other counties through these two approaches:

- **Direct contract.** Amador, El Dorado, Placer, Sacramento, and San Diego Counties.
- **Subcontractor to public plan.** Alameda, Contra Costa, Kern, Los Angeles, Marin, Napa, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Francisco, San Joaquin, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Solano, Sonoma, Ventura, and Yolo Counties.

Of note, special enrollment criteria will apply for Kaiser Permanente in all counties. For details please visit [2024 Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans](#) on the Department of Health Care Service website.

Table 1. 2024 Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans and Counties of Operation, Alphabetical by County

County	2024 Plans		
	Public Plan*	Other Plans	Major Change [†]
Alameda	■ Alameda Alliance for Health	■ Kaiser Permanente	< Anthem Blue Cross — exiting
Alpine	■ Health Plan of San Joaquin	■ Anthem Blue Cross	< California Health & Wellness — exiting > Health Plan of San Joaquin — entering
Amador		■ Anthem Blue Cross ■ Health Net ■ Kaiser Permanente	
Butte	■ Partnership HealthPlan of California		< Anthem Blue Cross — exiting < California Health & Wellness — exiting > Partnership HealthPlan of California — entering
Calaveras		■ Anthem Blue Cross ■ Health Net	
Colusa	■ Partnership HealthPlan of California		< Anthem Blue Cross — exiting < California Health & Wellness — exiting > Partnership HealthPlan of California — entering
Contra Costa	■ Contra Costa Health Plan	■ Kaiser Permanente	< Anthem Blue Cross — exiting
Del Norte	■ Partnership HealthPlan of California		
El Dorado	■ Health Plan of San Joaquin	■ Anthem Blue Cross ■ Kaiser Permanente	< California Health & Wellness — exiting > Health Plan of San Joaquin — entering
Fresno	■ CalViva Health [†]	■ Anthem Blue Cross ■ Kaiser Permanente	> Kaiser Permanente — entering
Glenn	■ Partnership HealthPlan of California		< Anthem Blue Cross — exiting < California Health & Wellness — exiting > Partnership HealthPlan of California — entering
Humboldt	■ Partnership HealthPlan of California		

County	2024 Plans		
	Public Plan*	Other Plans	Major Change†
Imperial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Health Plan of Imperial Valley** 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kaiser Permanente 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> < California Health & Wellness — exiting < Molina Healthcare — exiting > Community Health Plan — entering > Kaiser Permanente — entering
Inyo		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anthem Blue Cross Health Net 	
Kern	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kern Health System 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anthem Blue Cross Kaiser Permanente 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> < Health Net — exiting > Anthem Blue Cross — entering
Kings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CalViva Health† 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anthem Blue Cross Kaiser Permanente 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Kaiser Permanente — entering
Lake	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partnership HealthPlan of California 		
Lassen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partnership HealthPlan of California 		
Los Angeles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> L.A. Care Health Plan 	<p>Direct:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health Net Kaiser Permanente <p>L.A. Care plan partners:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield of California Promise Health Plan <p>Health Net plan partner:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Molina HealthCare 	
Madera	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CalViva Health† 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anthem Blue Cross Kaiser Permanente 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Kaiser Permanente — entering
Marin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partnership HealthPlan of California 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kaiser Permanente 	
Mariposa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Central California Alliance for Health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kaiser Permanente 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> < Anthem Blue Cross — exiting < California Health & Wellness — exiting > Central California Alliance — entering > Kaiser Permanente — entering
Mendocino	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partnership HealthPlan of California 		
Merced	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Central California Alliance for Health 		
Modoc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partnership HealthPlan of California 		
Mono		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anthem Blue Cross Health Net 	
Monterey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Central California Alliance for Health 		

County	2024 Plans		
	Public Plan*	Other Plans	Major Change†
Napa	■ Partnership HealthPlan of California	■ Kaiser Permanente	
Nevada	■ Partnership HealthPlan of California		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> < Anthem Blue Cross — exiting < California Health & Wellness — exiting > Partnership HealthPlan of California — entering
Orange	■ CalOptima	■ Kaiser Permanente	
Placer	■ Partnership HealthPlan of California	■ Kaiser Permanente	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> < Anthem Blue Cross — exiting < California Health & Wellness — exiting > Partnership HealthPlan of California — entering
Plumas	■ Partnership HealthPlan of California		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> < Anthem Blue Cross — exiting < California Health & Wellness — exiting > Partnership HealthPlan of California — entering
Riverside	■ Inland Empire Health Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Kaiser Permanente ■ Molina Healthcare** 	
Sacramento		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Anthem Blue Cross ■ Health Net ■ Molina Healthcare ■ Kaiser Permanente 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> < Aetna — exiting
San Benito	■ Central California Alliance for Health		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> < Anthem Blue Cross — exiting > Central California Alliance — entering
San Bernardino	■ Inland Empire Health Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Kaiser Permanente ■ Molina Healthcare§ 	
San Diego		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Blue Shield of California Promise Health Plan ■ Community Health Group ■ Kaiser Permanente ■ Molina Healthcare 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> < Aetna — exiting < Health Net — exiting
San Francisco	■ San Francisco Health Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Anthem Blue Cross ■ Kaiser Permanente 	
San Joaquin	■ Health Plan of San Joaquin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Health Net ■ Kaiser Permanente 	
San Luis Obispo	■ CenCal		
San Mateo	■ Health Plan of San Mateo	■ Kaiser Permanente	
Santa Barbara	■ CenCal		
Santa Clara	■ Santa Clara Family Health Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Anthem Blue Cross ■ Kaiser Permanente 	
Santa Cruz	■ Central California Alliance for Health	■ Kaiser Permanente	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Kaiser Permanente — entering
Shasta	■ Partnership HealthPlan of California		
Sierra	■ Partnership HealthPlan of California		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> < Anthem Blue Cross — exiting < California Health & Wellness — exiting > Partnership HealthPlan of California — entering

County	2024 Plans		
	Public Plan*	Other Plans	Major Change†
Siskiyou	■ Partnership HealthPlan of California		
Solano	■ Partnership HealthPlan of California	■ Kaiser Permanente	
Sonoma	■ Partnership HealthPlan of California	■ Kaiser Permanente	
Stanislaus	■ Health Plan of San Joaquin	■ Health Net ■ Kaiser Permanente	› Kaiser Permanente — entering
Sutter	■ Partnership HealthPlan of California	■ Kaiser Permanente	◀ Anthem Blue Cross — exiting ◀ California Health & Wellness — exiting › Kaiser Permanente — entering › Partnership HealthPlan of California — entering
Tehama	■ Partnership HealthPlan of California		◀ Anthem Blue Cross — exiting ◀ California Health & Wellness — exiting › Partnership HealthPlan of California — entering
Trinity	■ Partnership HealthPlan of California		
Tulare		■ Anthem Blue Cross ■ Health Net ■ Kaiser Permanente	› Kaiser Permanente — entering
Tuolumne		■ Anthem Blue Cross ■ Health Net	
Ventura	■ Gold Coast Health Plan	■ Kaiser Permanente	
Yolo	■ Partnership HealthPlan of California	■ Kaiser Permanente	
Yuba	■ Partnership HealthPlan of California	■ Kaiser Permanente	◀ Anthem Blue Cross — exiting ◀ California Health & Wellness — exiting › Kaiser Permanente — entering › Partnership HealthPlan of California — entering

* In California there are public, nonprofit Medi-Cal managed care plans that are locally governed and publicly accountable. They were established in state statute and county ordinances to serve Medi-Cal enrollees and support the safety net.

† A *major change* is defined as a managed care plan entering or exiting the county. (In 2024, certain counties will transition from California Health & Wellness to Health Net. However, because both these plans are Centene companies, this is not considered a major change.)

‡ CalViva Health contracts out many health plan functions and responsibilities to Health Net. Community Health Plan of the Imperial Valley will also contract out many functions to Health Net.

** Currently, Health Net is a plan partner with Molina in Riverside and San Bernardino Counties. This arrangement will end on January 1, 2024.

Source: Author’s review and analysis of 2023 California Department of Health Care Services Medi-Cal documents and interviews with Medi-Cal managed care key informants.

Table 2. 2024 Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans and Counties of Operation, Alphabetical by Managed Care Plan

Medi-Cal Managed Care Plan	County
Alameda Alliance for Health	Alameda
Anthem Blue Cross	Direct: Alpine, Amador, Calaveras, El Dorado, Fresno, Inyo, Kern, Kings, Madera, Mono, Sacramento, San Francisco, Santa Clara, Tulare, Tuolumne Plan partner with L.A. Care: * Los Angeles
Blue Shield of California Promise Health Plan	Direct: San Diego Plan partner with L.A. Care: * Los Angeles
CalOptima	Orange
CalViva Health	Contracts out most health plan functions to Health Net in: Fresno, Kings, Madera
CenCal Health	San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara
Central California Alliance for Health	Mariposa, Merced, Monterey, San Benito, Santa Cruz
Community Health Group	San Diego
Community Health Plan of Imperial Valley	Contracts out most functions to Health Net in Imperial
Contra Costa Health Plan	Contra Costa
Gold Coast Health Plan	Ventura
Health Plan of San Joaquin	Alpine, El Dorado, San Joaquin, Stanislaus
Health Plan of San Mateo	San Mateo
Health Net [†]	Direct: Amador, Calaveras, Inyo, Los Angeles, Mono, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tulare, Tuolumne Subcontract: Fresno, Imperial, Kings, Madera
Inland Empire Health Plan	Riverside, San Bernadino
Kaiser Permanente	Alameda, Amador, Contra Costa, El Dorado, Fresno, Imperial, Kern, Kings, Los Angeles, Madera, Marin, Mariposa, Napa, Orange, Placer, Riverside, Sacramento, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Francisco, San Joaquin, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Solano, Sonoma, Stanislaus, Sutter, Tulare, Ventura, Yolo, Yuba
Kern Health Systems	Kern
L.A. Care Health Plan	Los Angeles; delegates some membership to Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield of California Promise Health Plan
Molina Healthcare	Direct: Riverside, Sacramento, San Bernardino, San Diego Plan partner with Health Net: [†] Los Angeles
Partnership HealthPlan of California	Butte, Colusa, Del Norte, Glenn, Humboldt, Lake, Lassen, Marin, Mendocino, Modoc, Napa, Nevada, Placer, Plumas, Shasta, Sierra, Siskiyou, Solano, Sonoma, Sutter, Tehama, Trinity, Yolo, Yuba
San Francisco Health Plan	San Francisco
Santa Clara Family Health Plan	Santa Clara

* L.A. Care Health Plan subcontracts with Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield of California Promise Health Plan as plan partners. These plan partners are offered as an option to L.A. Care members and carry out many health plan functions and responsibilities for Medi-Cal enrollees who select them. However, unlike managed care plans with a direct arrangement, they are subcontractors and do not hold a contract with the Department of Health Care Services in Los Angeles County.

[†] Health Net subcontracts with Molina as a plan partner in Los Angeles. This plan partner is offered as an option to Health Net members and carries out many health plan functions and responsibilities for Medi-Cal enrollees who select Molina. However, unlike a managed care plan with a direct arrangement, Molina is a subcontractor and does not hold a contract with the Department of Health Care Services in Los Angeles County.

Source: Author's review and analysis of 2023 California Department of Health Care Services Medi-Cal documents and interviews with Medi-Cal managed care key informants.

About the Authors

Ralph Silber, MPH, is an independent consultant with more than forty years of experience in the community health center movement and an affiliate with El Cambio Consulting. He previously served as the CEO of the Alameda Health Consortium and the Community Health Center Network, a Medi-Cal managed care organization.

El Cambio Consulting provides strategic guidance, analysis, and management consulting to safety net health care organizations in California that are rooted in their communities and committed to improving health outcomes through perseverance and innovation. This includes community health centers, county public health agencies and departments, Medi-Cal managed care plans, social service providers and the foundations and associations that support their work.

Medi-Cal Explained is an ongoing series on Medi-Cal for those who are new to the program, as well as those who need a refresher. To see other publications in this series, visit www.chcf.org/MC-explained.