

In 2006, the Colorado Blue Ribbon Commission for Health Care Reform hired the Lewin Group, a national health economics analysis firm, to evaluate the costs and effectiveness of four proposals moving towards universal health care. The results were clear:

Cost of Various Colorado Health Care Reform Proposals

Proposal	# Remaining Uninsured	Change in Total Health Care Spending*
Better Health Care for Colorado increases access to public programs and to private insurance coverage with low-income subsidies.	467,000	+ \$595 million
Solutions for a Healthy Colorado provides a limited benefit set in the private sector with low-income subsidies, and expands coverage under Medicaid and Child Health Plus.	138,000	+ \$271 million
A Plan for Covering Coloradans requires private pool participation with low-income subsidies and expanded public programs.	109,000	+ \$1.3 billion
The Colorado Health Services (Single Payer) Program is a single payer plan that would provide coverage with comprehensive benefits to all residents of the state. Consumers would have their choice of providers and hospitals within the state.	0	- \$1.4 billion

* On top of current public/private health spending.
 (Note: Colorado currently has about 792,000 uninsured residents)

Lewin's Technical Assessment of Health Care Reform Proposals (230 page report):
<http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite?c=Page&childpage=BlueRibbon%2FRIBBLAout&cid=1178305890619&p=1178305890619&page=BlueRibbonWrapper>