There are more than 12 million people simultaneously enrolled in Medicare and Medicaid. This so-called “dual-eligible” population is most often elderly or disabled and has complex health needs. Forced to navigate between two separate government programs, dual-eligible individuals face a mountain of red tape, waste, and a lack of coordination – resulting in higher costs and worse health outcomes. Models that integrate Medicare and Medicaid can reduce duplicative processes, improve access to needed services, and make navigating care easier.

We spend nearly $2X$ more on care for dual-eligible individuals than other Medicare and Medicaid-eligible individuals:

- **Total Spending:** On average, total spending for dual-eligible individuals in 2021 was almost triple their non-dual-eligible counterparts – $38,545 compared with $11,172.3
- **Medicare:** Dual-eligible individuals make up 19% of the Medicare population but represent 35% of aggregate Medicare spending.4
- **Medicaid:** Dual-eligible individuals make up 13% of the Medicaid population but represent 27% of aggregate Medicaid spending.5

**WORSE HEALTH OUTCOMES:** Despite significantly more spending, dual-eligible individuals report they are in poorer health than their Medicare-only counterparts.7

- 11% of dual-eligible individuals consider themselves in poor health compared to only 4% of their Medicare-only counterparts.
- Dual-eligible individuals are less likely to report very good or excellent health compared to their Medicare-only counterparts (24% vs. 53%, respectively).

**HIGHER COST CARE:** Poorer health often results in last-resort, more expensive settings of care for people who are dual-eligible.8
GREATER HEALTH AND SOCIAL NEEDS: The dual-eligible population is more likely to be frail and unable to independently carry out activities of daily living (ADL’s) – including bathing, getting dressed, etc.\(^9\)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Limitations in 1-2 ADLs</th>
<th>Limitations in 3 or more ADLs</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>23% of dual-eligible individuals; 12% of Medicare-only individuals.</td>
<td>24% of dual-eligible individuals; 6% of Medicare-only individuals.</td>
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MORE CHRONIC CONDITIONS: Dual-eligible individuals suffer from more chronic conditions than their Medicare-only counterparts.\(^10\)

- 26% of dual-eligible individuals have 5+ chronic conditions and 15% of Medicare-only beneficiaries have 5+ chronic conditions.

RACIAL DISPARITIES: Dual-eligible individuals are disproportionately Black, Hispanic, and from other communities of color.\(^11\)

**Dual-eligible Individuals:**
- White/ non-Hispanic: 53%
- Black/ non-Hispanic: 21%
- Hispanic: 18%
- Other: 8%

**Medicare-only Individuals:**
- White/ non-Hispanic: 82%
- Black/ non-Hispanic: 9%
- Hispanic: 3%
- Other: 6%

END NOTES

1-7 MedPAC/MACPAC 2024 Databook - Beneficiaries Dually Eligible for Medicare and Medicaid
8 ATI 2022 Chartbook – A Profile of Medicare-Medicaid Dual Beneficiaries
9 MedPAC/MACPAC 2024 Databook - Beneficiaries Dually Eligible for Medicare and Medicaid
10 Kaiser Family Foundation 2023 Issue Brief – A Profile of Medicare-Medicaid Enrollees
11 MedPAC/MACPAC 2024 Databook - Beneficiaries Dually Eligible for Medicare and Medicaid