



Minnesota Department of **Human Services**

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July 8, 2009

**TO:** The Honorable Tom Huntley  
The Honorable Paul Thissen

**FROM:** Cal R. Ludeman  
Commissioner

**SUBJECT:** Response to Questions on the Effects of the Veto of Funding for the General Assistance Medical Care (GAMC) Program

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Thank you for your request for information about individuals who will be affected by the veto of funding for the General Assistance Medical Care program effective July 1, 2010. I appreciate the opportunity to provide you with information. The Department response to your questions is listed below. Please let us know if you have further questions or concerns.

1. **Updated basic demographic information on GAMC enrollees including gender, age, ethnicity, and county of residence. DATA IS FOR SFY2008**

**Gender:**

Male	22,787	65.63%
Female	11,935	34.37%

**Race/ethnicity:** Note, this is a worker entered field on the MAXIS system. Clients do not always answer the relevant question on the application, affecting the reliability of this data.

Asian, Pacific Islander	695	2.00%
African American	10,805	31.12%
Native American	2,686	7.74%
White	19,545	56.29%
Not Listed	717	2.06%
Multiple race codes	270	0.78%
No data on file	4	0.01%
<b>Total</b>	<b>34,722</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

**Age:** For the recipients who are <21 or >65, most are due to incorrect worker coding, along with a few rarely seen eligibility situations, such as a client over 65 being ineligible due to an improper transfer but eligible for MA. The errors either have been fixed or are being fixed.

Age Range:	Enrollee Count	% of Population
0-20	4	0.01%
21-25	5229	15.06%
26 - 30	3924	11.30%
31 - 35	3238	9.33%
36 - 40	3934	11.33%
41 - 45	5022	14.46%
46 - 50	5301	15.27%
51 - 55	3908	11.26%
56 - 60	2892	8.33%
61 - 65	1267	3.65%
66 - 70	3	0.01%
Total	34722	100.00%

**County of Residence:**

County	% of total	County	% of total
AITKIN	0.28%	MARSHALL	0.10%
ANOKA	3.29%	MARTIN	0.38%
BECKER	0.81%	MEEKER	0.23%
BELTRAMI	1.87%	MILLE LACS	0.31%
BENTON	0.67%	MORRISON	0.37%
BIG STONE	0.05%	MOWER	0.47%
BLUE EARTH	1.00%	MURRAY	0.06%
BROWN	0.22%	NICOLLET	0.72%
CARLTON	1.18%	NOBLES	0.26%
CARVER	0.38%	NORMAN	0.05%
CASS	0.62%	OLMSTED	2.11%
CHIPPEWA	0.09%	OTTER TAIL	0.74%
CHISAGO	0.40%	PENNINGTON	0.19%
CLAY	1.25%	PINE	0.41%
CLEARWATER	0.16%	PIPESTONE	0.06%
COOK	0.12%	POLK	0.82%
COTTONWOOD	0.11%	POPE	0.09%
CROW WING	0.86%	RAMSEY	12.59%
DAKOTA	2.59%	RED LAKE	0.07%
DODGE	0.14%	REDWOOD	0.17%
DOUGLAS	0.39%	RENVILLE	0.23%
FARIBAULT	0.11%	RICE	0.51%

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**County of Residence, cont.:**

County	% of total	County	% of total
FILLMORE	0.16%	ROCK	0.05%
FREEBORN	0.31%	ROSEAU	0.08%
GOODHUE	0.37%	ST. LOUIS	6.27%
GRANT	0.04%	SCOTT	0.54%
HENNEPIN	41.81%	SHERBURNE	0.60%
HOUSTON	0.17%	SIBLEY	0.12%
HUBBARD	0.27%	STEARNS	2.04%
ISANTI	0.39%	STEELE	0.46%
ITASCA	1.02%	STEVENS	0.04%
JACKSON	0.05%	SWIFT	0.05%
KANABEC	0.24%	TODD	0.26%
KANDIYOHI	0.61%	TRAVERSE	0.07%
KITTSON	0.03%	WABASHA	0.18%
KOOCHICING	0.18%	WADENA	0.38%
LAC QUI PARLE	0.05%	WASECA	0.24%
LAKE	0.15%	WASHINGTON	1.06%
LAKE OF THE WOODS	0.03%	WATONWAN	0.06%
LE SUEUR	0.22%	WILKIN	0.14%
LINCOLN	0.02%	WINONA	0.43%
LYON	0.32%	WRIGHT	0.73%
MCLEOD	0.20%	YELLOW MEDICINE	0.08%
MAHNOMEN	0.31%	OUT OF STATE	1.64%
		100.00%	

**2. Number of veterans enrolled in the program. DATA IS FOR SFY2008**

DHS does not collect or maintain data on the number of veterans enrolled in GAMC. However, based on data from September and October of 2008, approximately 8.1% of persons enrolled in GAMC for both of those months received veteran benefits.

Veteran status is not recorded in MAXIS. The figure reported below is the total of any GAMC enrollee who 1) receives VA benefits, and/or 2) is coded as receiving CHAMPUS or other VA coverage in the TPL subsystem of MMIS, and/or 3) received a lump sum with a source code VA benefits. This is more than likely a substantial undercount of GAMC enrollees who are veterans.

481 Enrollee's show a potential connection to Veteran's benefits.  
Percent of GAMC enrollees that may be veterans: 1.39%

**3. Number of enrollees who are homeless. DATA IS FOR SFY2008**

DHS uses a worker-entered indicator in MAXIS, "Homeless: Y/N"

Homeless Indicator	% Homeless:
Y	27.66%
N	74.16%
Blank	0.19%

DHS also found enrollees who had a homeless indicator of "N" but who had a General Delivery address. The worker may have incorrectly coded the homeless indicator. If added to the total, the homeless percentage is 33.22%.

Caveat: Since the homeless indicator is worker entered, it may be error prone. Workers may forget to remove the indicator when someone has a permanent address.

**4. Type and number of mental health and chemical dependency diagnoses among enrollees. DATA IS FOR SFY2008**

Number and Diagnosis Type	Number of GAMC Enrollees	Percent of Total GAMC Enrollees
Mental and Chemical Health		
Mental Health Only	4,607	13.3%
Chemical Health Only	5,593	16.1%
Mental Health and Chemical Health	10,771	31.0%
No Mental Health or Chemical Health	13,751	39.6%
Total	34,722	

**5. Type and number of other co-occurring chronic conditions. DATA IS FOR SFY2008**

Co-occurring Chronic Conditions	Number of GAMC Enrollees	Percent of Total GAMC Enrollees
Chronic Medical Illness		
One diagnosis category	6,696	19.3%
Two diagnoses categories	2,820	8.1%
Three or more diagnoses categories	1,061	3.1%
No diagnosis categories	24,145	69.5%
Total	34,722	