

Using Medicaid and CHIP Data to Monitor Enrollment and Renewal in Connecticut

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The HUSKY Program



HUSKY Program Eligibility

HUSKY A (Medicaid)

- 395,000 children and parents, pregnant women
- Family income:
 - Children <185% FPL
 - Parents <185% FPL
 - Pregnant women <250% FPL

HUSKY B (CHIP)

- 15,000 children under 19
- Family income:
 - 185-300% FPL (subsidized)
 - >300% FPL (unsubsidized)

Independent Performance Monitoring in the HUSKY Program

- State-funded Medicaid agency and foundation partnership since 1995
- Unique access to program data
- Focus on enrollment dynamics, children's health services and maternal health/ birth outcomes
- Reports to legislative oversight committee

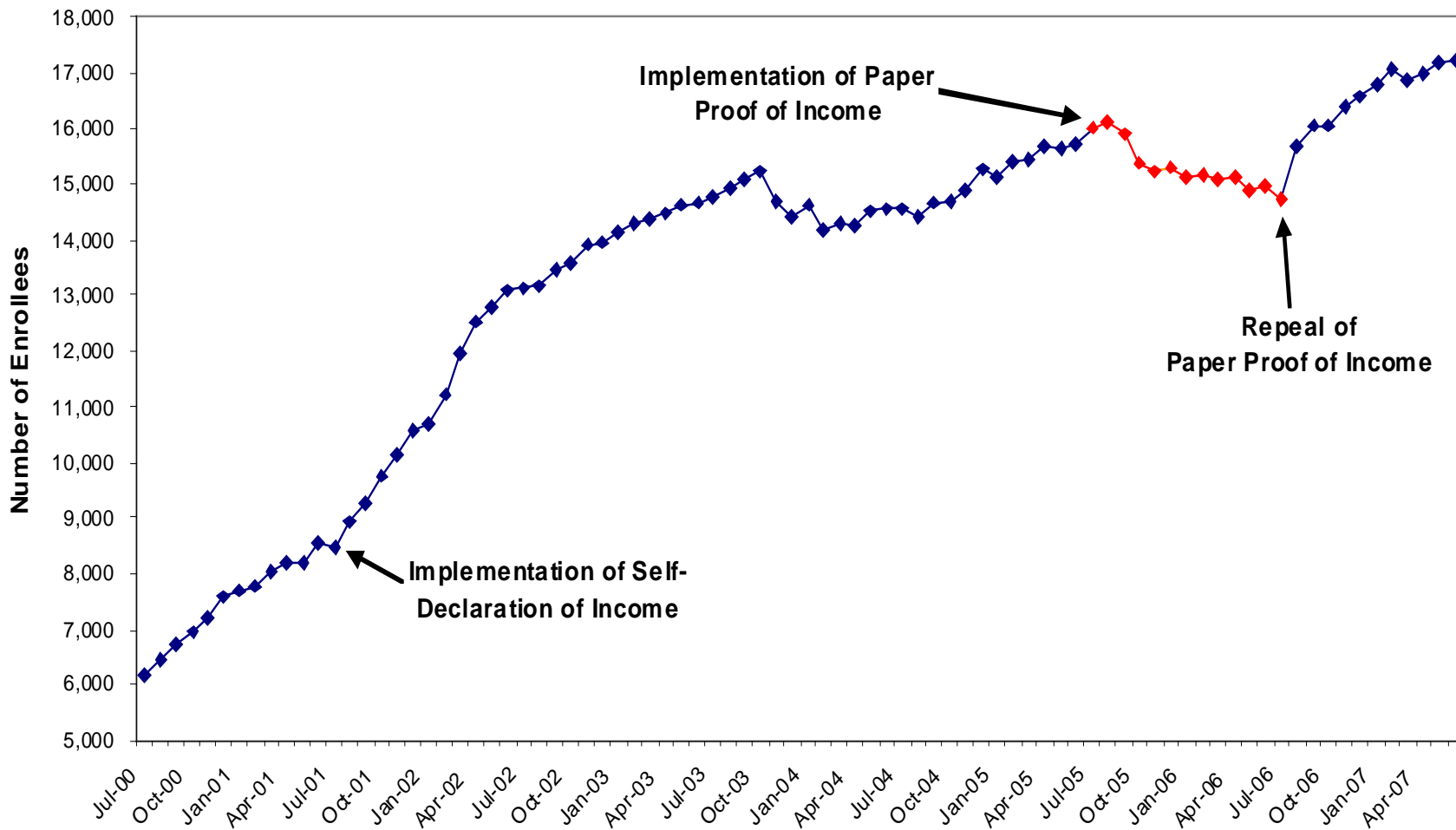
Data for Monitoring HUSKY Program Performance

- Longitudinal HUSKY enrollment data
- Encounter and claims data
- Connecticut birth data
- Qualitative data
 - Calls to HUSKY Infoline
 - Reports from community-based outreach providers who participate in Covering Connecticut's Kids and Families coalition

Evaluating the Impact of Policy Change on Enrollment: Self-declaration of Income

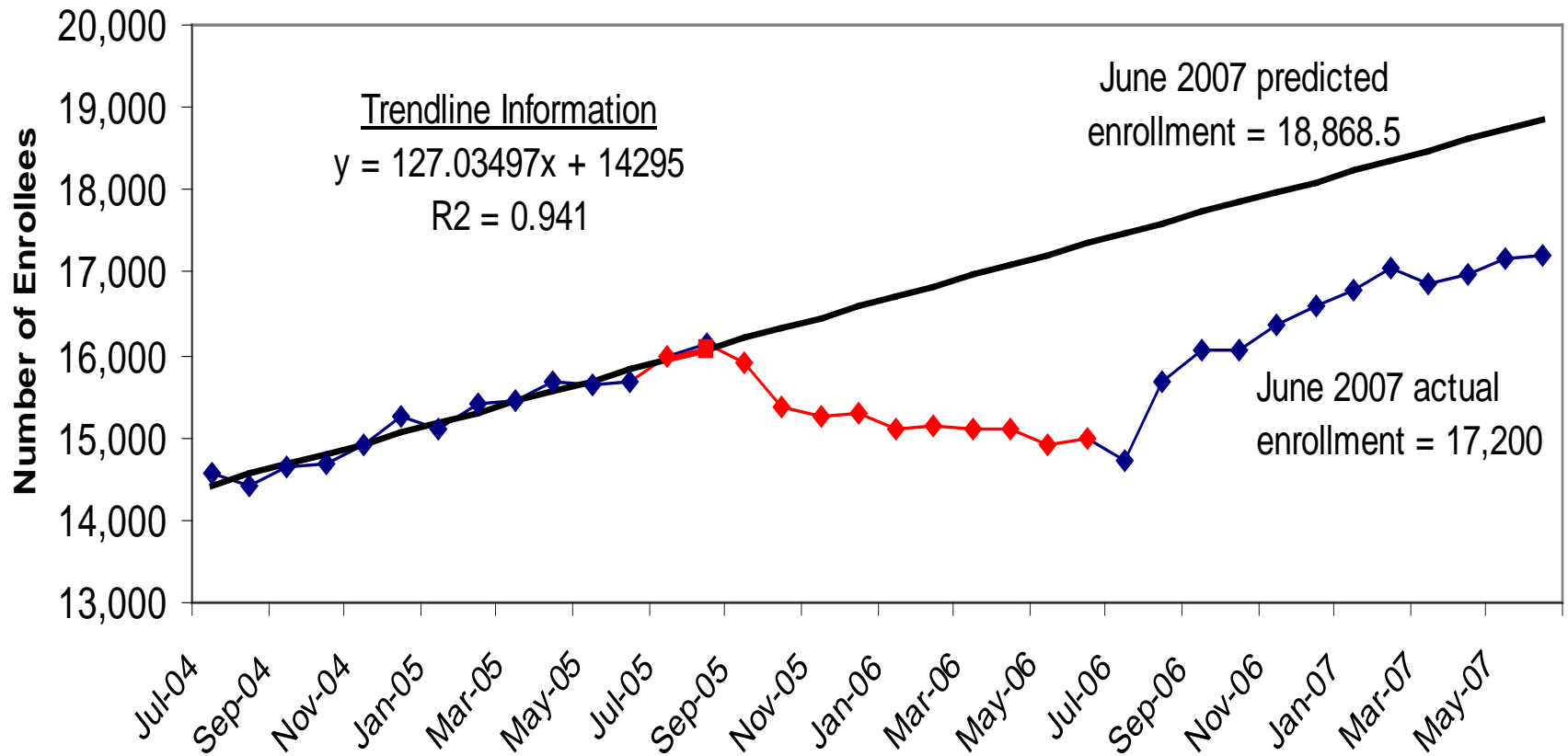
HUSKY B Application Requirements

Figure 1. Number of Enrollees Each Month from July 2000 to May 2007



Effect of the Policy Change Quantified

Figure 2. Number of Enrollees per Month from July 2004 to June 2007



Evaluating the Effectiveness of Outreach: Counting New Enrollees

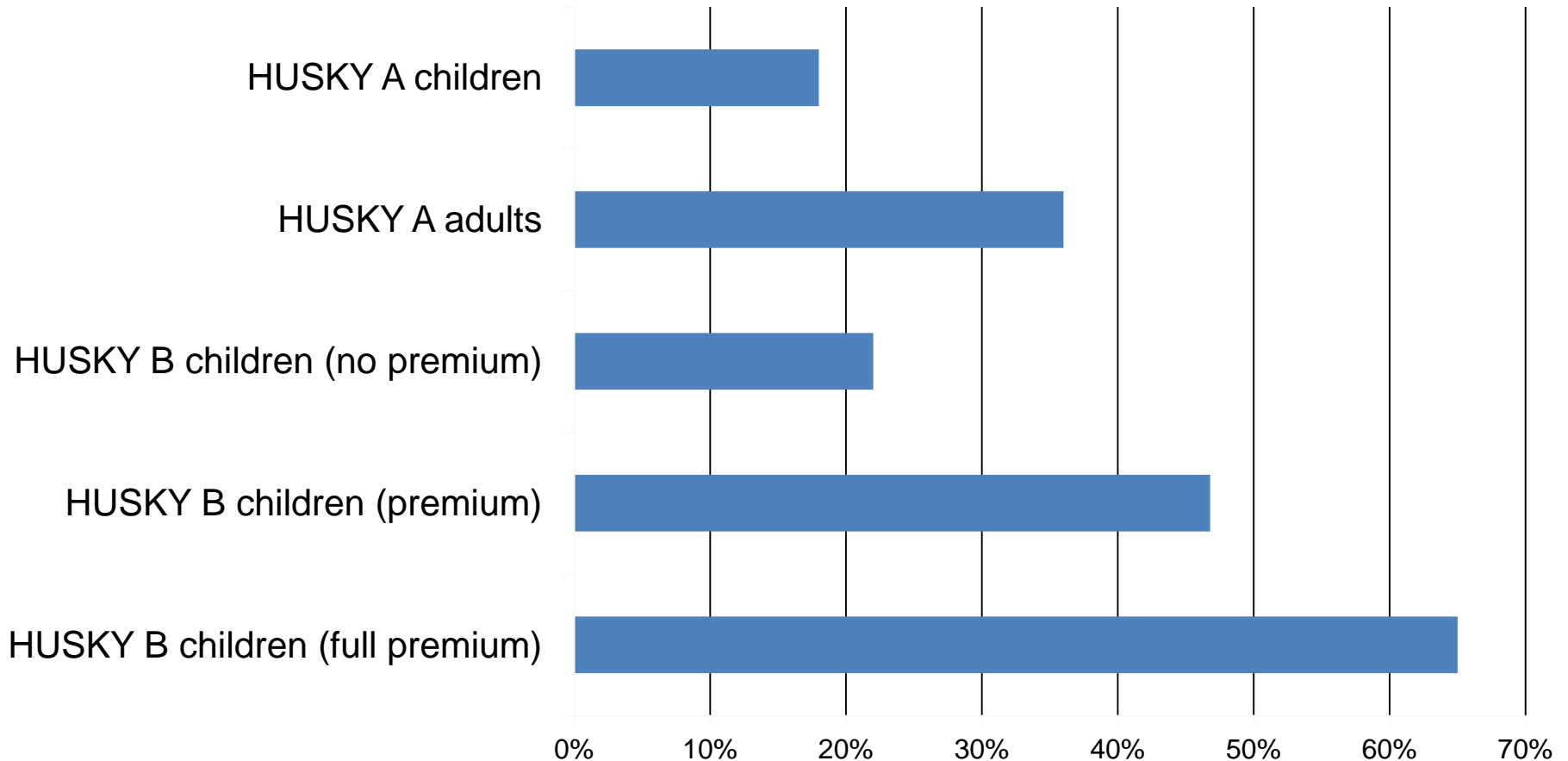
Trends in New Enrollment

	HUSKY A	HUSKY B	HUSKY Total
2009	89,281	7,088	96,369
2008	72,010	3,680	75,690
2007	70,760	4,231	74,991
2006	62,844	3,457	66,301

Investigating Coverage Continuity

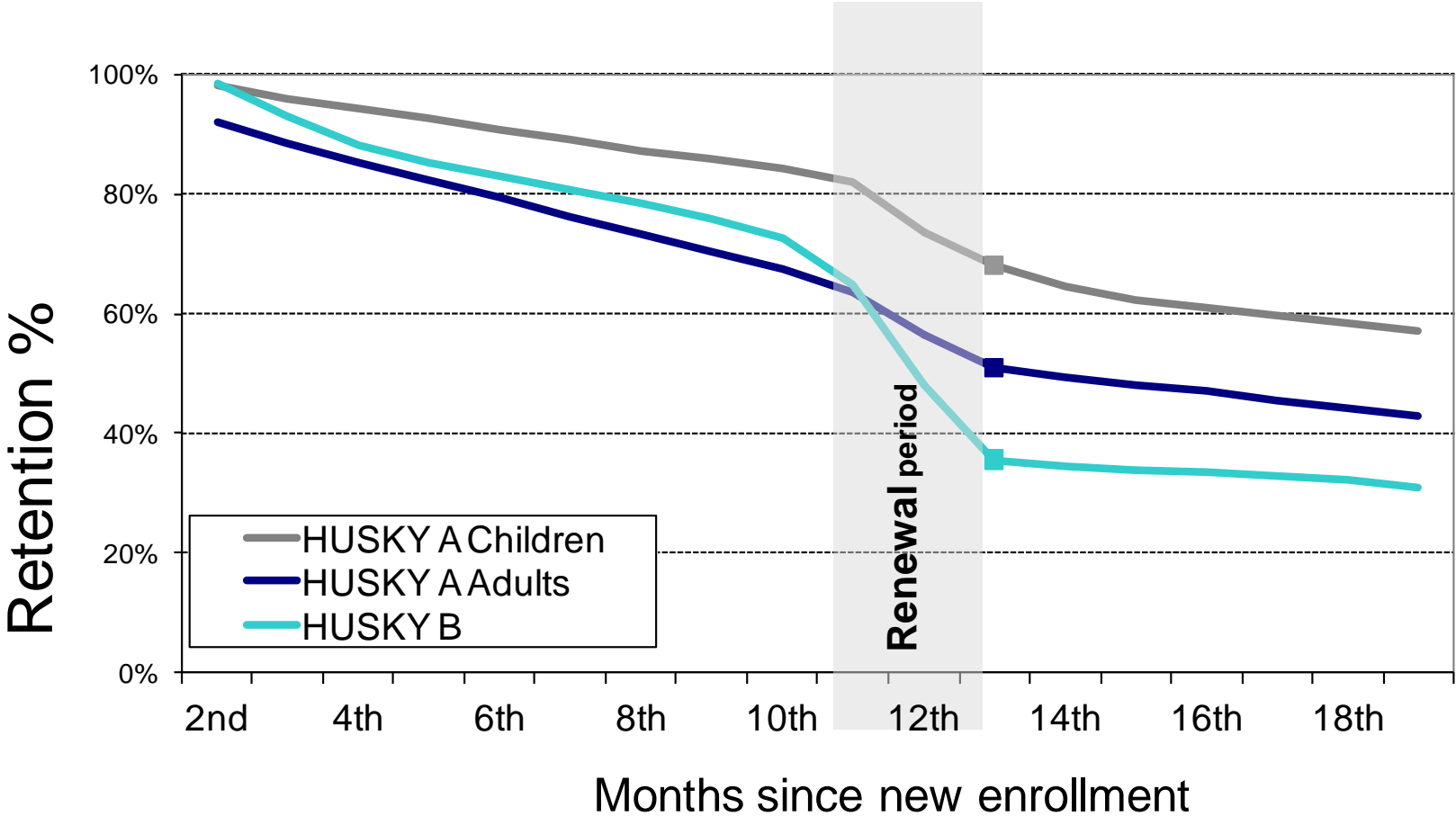
Age and Program Matter

Percent Who Lost Coverage in the First Year After Newly Enrolling



Program Matters When Renewing

Figure 3. Retention by HUSKY Program and Age Group



Investigating Barriers to Staying Enrolled: 18 year olds

Evidence of Procedural Problems

	Comparison Age Groups		
	After 18 th birthday	After 10 th birthday	After 15 th birthday
Enrolled on the birthday but not enrolled the following month	16%	2%	2%

Note: The actual rate for disenrollment of 18 year olds may be higher because the data are adjusted when coverage is reinstated retroactively.

Source: CT Voices analysis of 2006-07 enrollment data from CT Department of Social Services.

Stories enhance the findings



An 18 year old discovered that he was no longer covered when he went for a check-up over Spring Break.

Source: CT Voices summary of calls to HUSKY Infoline

A mother called to ask for help paying for prescriptions for her HIV+ daughter who lost coverage when she turned 18



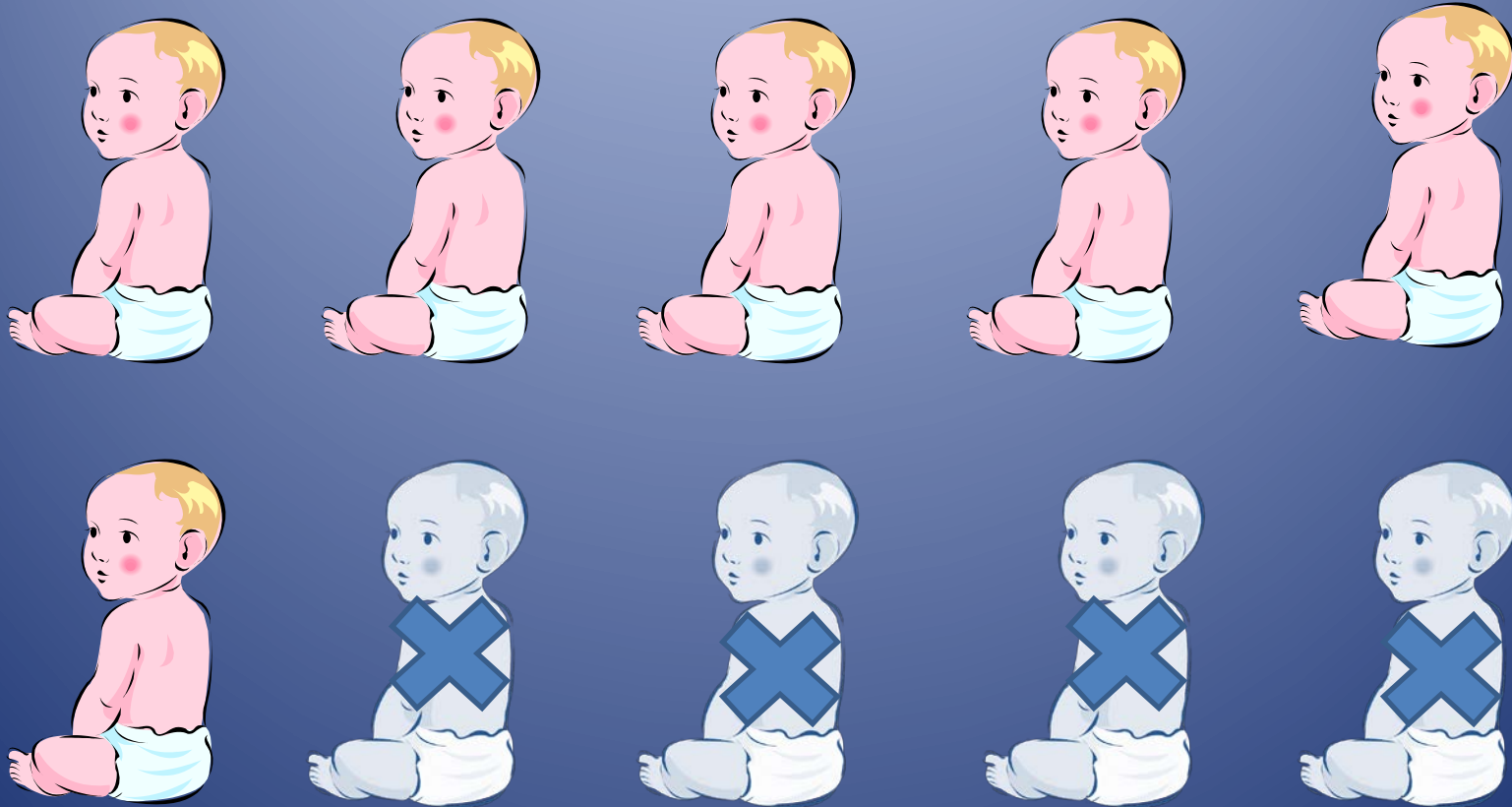
Source: CT Voices summary of calls to HUSKY Infoline

Investigating Barriers to Staying Enrolled: 1 year olds

Medicaid Eligibility for Newborns

- Under federal law, babies born to Medicaid-eligible mothers are eligible for the first year of life, regardless of changes in mother's income.
- In Connecticut, most babies are assigned to a Medicaid coverage group for newborns (F10)

Four in Ten Babies in Newborn Group Lost Coverage When They Turned One



Source: CT Voices analysis of 2008-09 enrollment data from CT Department of Social Services.

Enrolled on birthday...	... in this coverage group but NOT enrolled the following month
1 st	HUSKY A newborn	41.6%
1 st	HUSKY A other groups	5.8%
1 st	HUSKY B	6.5%
For comparison...		
5 th	HUSKY A & B	2.3%
10 th	HUSKY A & B	2.0%

Note: Actual rate of disenrollment may be higher due to uncounted retroactive reinstatement of enrollment.
Source: CT Voices analysis of 2008-09 enrollment data from CT Department of Social Services.

Excerpt from Notice Sent to Families with Babies Turning One

Notice of Discontinuance
F10 HUSKY A for Newborn Children

Your medical assistance will be discontinued on [date]. We are taking this action for the following reason(s):

THERE ARE NO ELIGIBLE PEOPLE IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD
Policy Reference: 2000 8080.20 8540.25

YOU ARE NOT THE RIGHT AGE TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR THIS PROGRAM.
Policy reference: 2525 8080.20 8540.15

[child's name here]

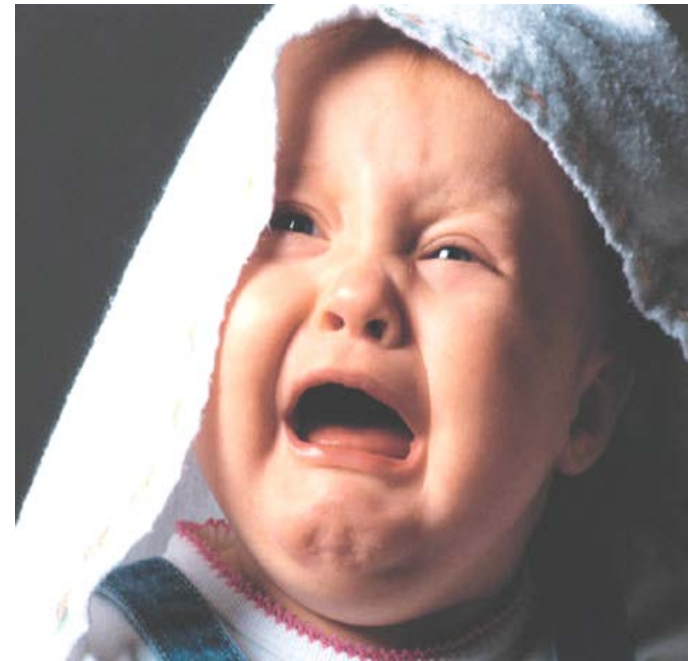
Stories tell of the impact



A mother called seeking help getting immunizations for her baby who lost coverage when she turned one.

Source: CT Voices summary of calls to HUSKY Infoline

A mother called to report that her baby lost coverage even though the family is still enrolled. She discovered the baby was not insured when she tried to fill a prescription for antibiotics.



Source: CT Voices summary of calls to HUSKY Infoline

Challenges to Using Data for Monitoring Outreach and Enrollment

Challenges

- Obtaining timely data
- Working with agency staff to identify and address problems that affect enrollment and retention
- Informing policy makers and community partners about the importance of helping families maintain coverage
- Increasing public awareness about improving retention as a way to reduce number of uninsured children

Acknowledgements

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