



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT**  
HEALTHCARE POLICY & BENEFIT SERVICES DIVISION  
OFFICE OF THE STATE COMPTROLLER

**HEALTHCARE COST CONTAINMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**  
**August 8, 2022**

Meeting Called to Order by Josh Wojcik:

**Attendance:**

<b>Labor</b>	<b>State Comptroller Administrative Staff</b>
Carl Chisem – CEUI	Joshua Wojcik
Dan Livingston – SEBAC	Thomas Woodruff
Dave Glidden – CSEA	
	<b>Presenters</b>
	Bernie Slowik – OSC
<b>Management</b>	Rae-Ellen Roy – OSC
Gregory Messner	Betsy Nosal – OSC
	<b>Consultants</b>
<b>Dept. of Insurance</b>	Terry DeMattie, Segal
Paul Lombardo	

**Public Comment:**

No public comment

**Financials:**

In 2021 there were just over 3,000 new retirees for the entire year. Through August of 2021 there were approximately 2,100. This year, through August we have had just over 4,800 new retirees added to the health plan. This is a 130% increase from the prior year-to-date figure in the overall number of retirees. We already have 60% more new retirees this year than we did for the entire year last year. There was a significant dip in growth for August with only 47 new retirees. We are also seeing a transition in enrollment which is being utilized to build the Fiscal Year 2024 and Fiscal Year 2025 biennial budget request. The active population has decreased by 6.6% . This is expected to level out as

positions are refilled. By the end of Fiscal Year 2025 we anticipate the population to only be about 1-2% less than the 2021 enrolled population as. Overall net-net through today is around a 1% increase, this is largely associated with the vested rights retirees that were eligible to begin collecting their pension but have not worked the past several years and have now retired. Population under the retiree commercial medical has increased about 19.5% from 32,000 to 38,000 lives. The majority of new retirees are under 65 and not yet Medicare eligible. Over the next few years, it is expected that a large portion of the new retirees will age in to Medicare and will transition to the Medicare Advantage plan. Retiree Medicare Advantage population has increased around 6.25% and this will jump to approximately 8.5% of the total population in the next year or so. Average age of new retirees is slightly higher than normal but remains under 65.

Q: Is the state projecting very few retirements for the remainder of the year?

A: Yes, the state expects the remainder of this year to be slow.

### **Partnership:**

As of 8/1/22, 163 groups are enrolled in Partnership 2.0 totaling over 26,000 employees and approximately 64,000 members with 121 groups having completed their 3-year contract commitment under Partnership and had the option of leaving the plan without an early termination penalty. Two groups have decided to leave on 7/1/22 and 3 more will be leaving on 9/1/22, with one new group joining 9/1/22.

### **Partnership 1.0**

As of 8/1/22, five groups remain in partnership 1.0, totaling approximately 2,400 employees and just under 3,400 members.

There was a request for a document showing geographically adjusted cost increase from July 1 to July.

Clarification was made indicating a geographic adjustment was fully phased in last year with everyone getting the same increase going forward and a breakout of the rates available online.

### **Communications Update:**

Two themed communications were sent out this month. One was for the Diabetes Prevention Program, announcing a new class starting this fall. The other communications announced monthly events, seminars that HEP is holding. Responses were good, but there were some undeliverable state emails likely due to retirement surge. An email distribution list will be updated in August to reflect current actives and Pre65 retirees. The email click-through rate was slightly under the industry average, however the open rate remains strong. Employee interest for the Diabetes Prevention Program saw seventy potential participants.

Care Compass website seeing an upward trend in usage, Google activity is standard, comparing July as compared to June, shows strong usage – considering open enrollment has ended. Members continue to utilize the site to access their benefit information.

Individuals are staying on the website at an average of at least two minutes. Google ads shows overall increase in activity.

Facebook, small overall audience – still growing with a net gain in utilization. Highlighted arthritis awareness month, water and air quality, outdoor, sun, insect safety reminders and included Diabetes Prevention, HEP seminars and Care compass information.

We are currently running the annual member benefit survey, been out for one week – already have 2,000 responses and a postcard was sent to DOT, DOC and Judicial, resulting in roughly twenty responses to date.

Motion to Adjourn was made by Dan Livingston, seconded by Karen Nolan.

Meeting was adjourned