



Media Release

Sept. 3, 2021

Statement from Executive Director of the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange rates for 2022

BALTIMORE (Sept. 3, 2021) — Statement from Michele Eberle, executive director of the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange, on the rates released today by the Maryland Insurance Administration for health insurance plans for 2022 on the individual market:

"Due to the rising health care costs, health insurance rates on the individual market will increase an average of 2.1% next year. Fortunately, most people who purchase through Maryland Health Connection can find affordable health insurance, especially with the additional financial help provided by the recent American Rescue Plan. More than half of everyone enrolled in private plans through Maryland Health Connection now pays less than \$50 per month for coverage.

"I am extremely proud of the strides we have made with leadership from Governor Larry Hogan and the General Assembly. Premiums for Maryland families were among the lowest in the country this year. We thank the state's Insurance Commissioner Kathleen A. Birrane and her team for their review and for helping to hold the line on rates. We look forward to working with our partner insurance carriers in the 2022 plan year when Maryland will offer additional financial help to many young adults between 18 and 34."

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Maryland Health Benefit Exchange (MHBE), a public corporation and independent unit of state government established in 2011, administers Maryland Health Connection.

<u>Maryland Health Connection</u> (MHC) is the state-based marketplace for Marylanders to shop and enroll in health insurance, as well as determine eligibility for Medicaid and other assistance programs. It is the only place where Marylanders can access financial help such as tax credits to make coverage more affordable.