

**COLORADO  
RURAL HEALTH  
CENTER**

*The State Office of Rural Health*

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**New Publication From the Colorado Rural Health Center Addresses Rural Health  
Issues in Colorado**

*The Colorado Rural Health Center explores why a strong statewide healthcare  
infrastructure must be inclusive of the unique needs in rural areas*

Denver, Colo – The Colorado Rural Health Center (CRHC) – Colorado’s nonprofit State Office of Rural Health and member-based association - recently announced the publication its 2014 edition of the “Snapshot of Rural Health in Colorado.”

According to Michelle Mills, CRHC’s chief executive, this publication is used to educate those new to rural health – or those looking for an update on the status of rural healthcare post Affordable Care Act implementation.

“We use this document frequently to assist policymakers, partner organizations and other healthcare professionals better understand the nature and complexity of rural health issues,” says Mills.

The publication highlights current demographics, workforce trends, access and coverage impacting rural patients and providers, health disparities, and the status of health information technology.

“Its name reflects its application,” added Mills. “It’s a Colorado “snapshot” of the larger picture we are seeing in rural healthcare, such as regional concerns and obstacles.”

The publication includes over 30 rural-specific data measures. For instance, readers will discover that rural Coloradans have a higher rate of uninsurance (20.6 percent) compared to their urban counterparts (15.1 percent) – or learn that the cost of health coverage per month on a silver plan for a rural 50-year-old is \$532 compared to an urban resident of the same age, at \$352.

For over 23 years, the Colorado Rural Health Center has been a clearinghouse for rural health information and resources, helping providers throughout Colorado enhance healthcare services available in rural communities.

The publication is available for download at <http://coruralhealth.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/2014.RuralHealth.Snapshot.pdf>. For additional resources, visit the CRHC resource center at <http://coruralhealth.org/resources>.

### **About The Colorado Rural Health Center**

The Colorado Rural Health Center was established in 1991 as Colorado's State Office of Rural Health. As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation, CRHC serves dual roles as the State Office of Rural Health with the mission of assisting rural communities in addressing health care issues; and as the State Rural Health Association, advocating for policy change to ensure that rural Coloradans have access to comprehensive, affordable health care services of the highest quality. For more information visit [coruralhealth.org](http://coruralhealth.org), call 303-832-7493, or call toll free 800-851-6782 from rural Colorado.

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