WV WIC Eligible Population Methodology, 2024

<u>Estimate of Eligible Mothers</u>
1. Determine the percentage of each WV county population that is below 185% of the Federal Poverty Level. Current percentages were taken from the 2018-2022 American Community Survey estimates provided online by the Census Bureau (Table S1701: Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months).
2. Determine the number of births among WV residents in each county that were paid for by Medicaid. Yearly numbers are extracted from the birth certificate data collected by the WV Health Statistics Center.
3. Determine the number of births among WV residents in each county that have an unknown payer. Yearly numbers are extracted from the birth certificate data collected by the WV Health Statistics Center.
4. Multiply #1 and #3 for each county to get the remaining eligible births with an unknown payer.
5. Add the results of #2 and #4 for each county. This is the number of mothers that are WIC eligible.

<u>Estimate of Eligible Infants and Children Ages 0-4</u>
1. Determine the percentage of each WV county population that is below 185% of the Federal Poverty Level. Current percentages were taken from the 2018-2022 American Community Survey estimates provided online by the Census Bureau (Table S1701: Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months).
2. Determine the estimated population of WV infants and children less than 5 years of age in each county. Current population estimates of WV residents by county and age groups are available yearly from the Census Bureau (cc-est2022-agesex-54). Please note that this methodology changed in 2023 due to NCHS no longer providing single year of age bridged-race population estimates by county.)
3. Multiply #1 and #2 for the age group in each county. This is the number of infants and children aged less than 5 in each county that are WIC eligible.

Recommendations

PEP Served - Caseload

PEP Served - Caseload
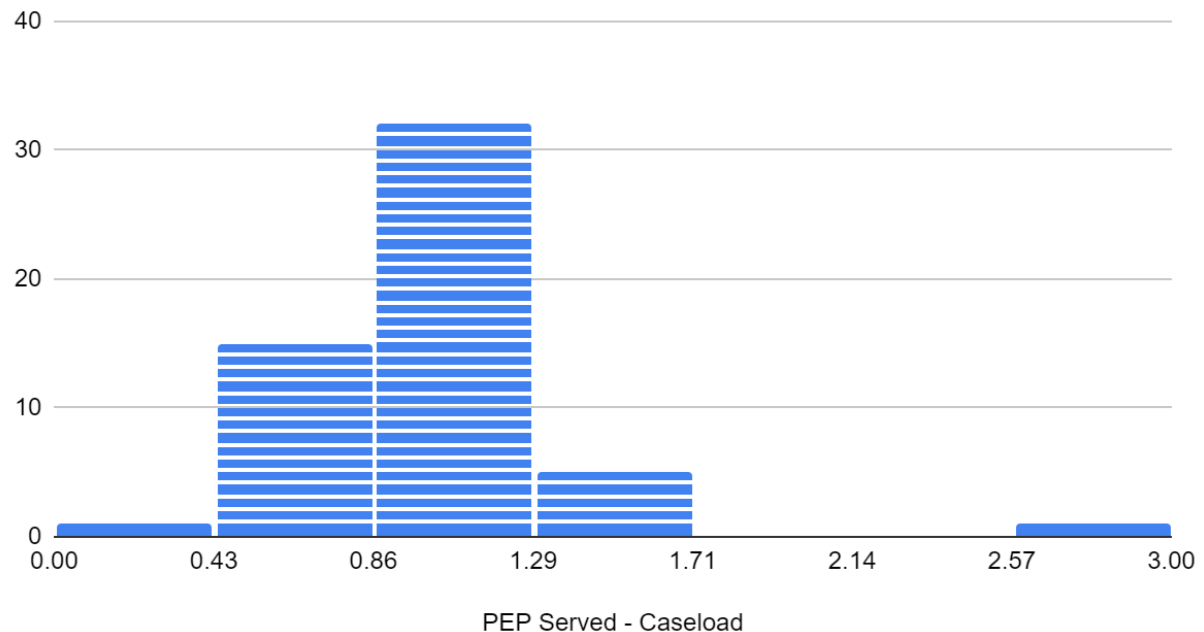
Since percentages shouldn't be averaged together, the standard deviation isn't used here. It should also be noted that the outliers are rather far out from the top and bottom of the group. In the above chart, each box represents a county. The graph starts at 42% and goes to 275%, giving us the minimum and maximum for our group. Each column can be viewed as a "bin" or a group of "like numbers." Meaning anything within 5% of the minimum and maximum percentage. The lowest 3 counties and the highest 3 counties were grouped together. It should be noted, however, that we have two counties that are outliers (the boxes to the far right and the left). By doing this, we can create a more normal looking curve, but it is important to note that this is still not a normal curve.

When examining the above chart and by looking at the median for state potentially eligible served (94.29%) it would be recommended that the line of 70% of potentially eligible served. That leaves 6 counties who need to meet that goal, however, two counties are very close to this goal (less than 10%). Below is a list of the 6 counties and an estimate of how many new participants they would need in order to meet the 70% mark. Given that the majority of the counties are above 55% and the counties that are not are relatively close with the exception of a couple, this is a reachable goal. It is important to note that most counties are within the 86% to 100% range of the PEP served, this is only representing those that receive Medicaid. Please refer to the WV WIC Eligible Population Methodology for more information. These potentially eligible numbers are Medicaid PEP, not whole population PEP.

Barbour	PEP Served-54.78%	# of participants needed-60
Calhoun	PEP Served-67.43%	# of participants needed-5
Mingo	PEP Served-59.76%	# of participants needed- 90
Monroe	PEP Served-46.34%	# of participants needed- 71
Pendleton	PEP Served-62.41%	# of participants needed-10
Pocahontas	PEP Served-42.48%	# of participants needed- 55