

## More Medicaid Enrollees in New York Access Cessation Benefits between 2000 and 2010: Smoking Declines

A goal of the New York Tobacco Control Program is to maximize use of Medicaid covered smoking cessation benefits for eligible enrollees. Medicaid began reimbursing for prescription smoking cessation medications in October 1999 and for over-the-counter cessation aids in February 2000. For 2010, smoking prevalence among Medicaid enrollees aged 18 and over (30.9%) is significantly higher than among adults with private health insurance (13.1%) and similar to adults without any health insurance (27.5%).

- Since 2000, the total annual number of claims made for both prescription and over-the-counter cessation products increased from 7,903 to 167,614 in 2010.
- The total annual number of Medicaid enrollees receiving smoking cessation benefits increased from 5,549 in 2000 to 88,832 in 2010.
- The smoking rate among Medicaid enrollees was 38.6% in 2003 (earliest year available) and 30.9% in 2010, suggesting that use of Medicaid benefits for smoking cessation has contributed to a reduction in smoking among Medicaid enrollees.

### Number of Medicaid Claims and Enrollees Receiving Cessation Prescriptions and Over-the-Counter Medications and Smoking Prevalence Among Medicaid Recipients

