

The Cost of Care for Children Enrolled in CCS

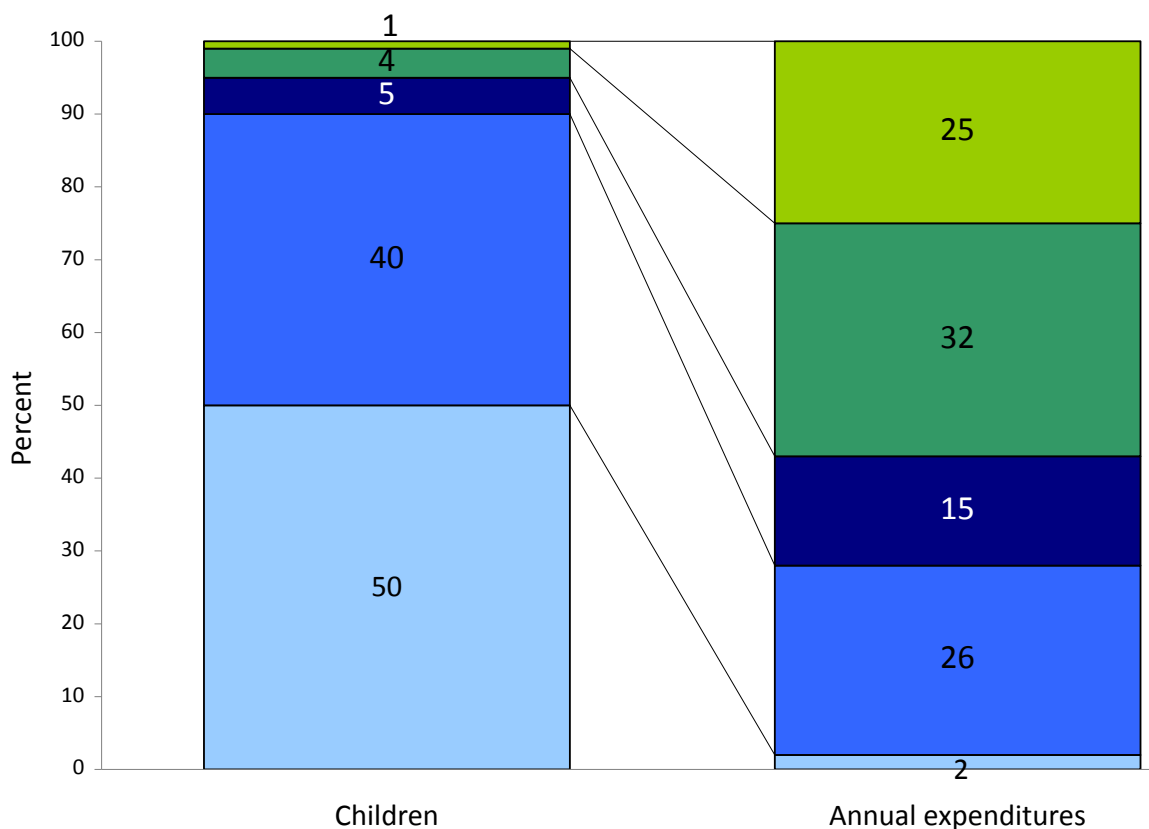
THE FINDINGS

- **Health care expenditures are concentrated in a small number of children:** 10% of children account for 72% of CCS patient-care expenditures.
- **Most CCS enrollees cost the system relatively little.** 50% of children account for 2% of program expenditures.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- **Cost savings may be realized by focusing cost-containment endeavors on the highest expenditure populations.**
- **Increased use of alternatives to inpatient care (e.g., home-health care, community-based therapy) may improve health care system efficiency.**

Exhibit 1: Distribution of Annual Expenditures by Children enrolled in California Children Services



"CCS enrollee" is any child enrolled in California Children's Services from 7/1/2006 to 6/30/2012 with costs > \$0. As the nation's largest Title V program, CCS provides case management each year for >150,000 children with a serious chronic medical condition and whose family has an eligible adjusted annual income. Most CCS enrollees are enrolled in MediCal or Healthy Families. <http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/ccs>. Data analyzed were de-identified information from all paid claims for these CCS enrollees, as abstracted from the state's Management Information System / Decision Support System.