

#### New State & Federal Financial Help Impacts COVID-19 Special Enrollment Period

June 2021 NJ Department of Banking and Insurance: State-Based Exchange





### New State & Federal Financial Help – Background

- Get Covered New Jersey, the state's official health insurance marketplace operated by the New Jersey Department of Banking and Insurance, opened on November 1, 2020. New Jersey's state-based exchange was created by a law signed by Governor Murphy on June 28, 2019.
- During the inaugural Get Covered New Jersey Open Enrollment Period, enrollment increased by nearly 10 percent over the previous open enrollment.
- On January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021, Governor Murphy announced the COVID-19 Special Enrollment Period that was subsequently extended and allows New Jerseyans to enroll in health insurance through the end of the year.
- On March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021, President Joe Biden signed into law the American Rescue Plan Act, expanding financial help to consumers enrolled in coverage through the Marketplace for the first time since 2014. New Jersey also expanded state subsidies to provide increased financial help to more residents, and expanded eligibility for state subsidies to 600% of the Federal Poverty Level.
- These changes together have made coverage through Get Covered New Jersey more affordable for a much larger population – from current enrollees to the uninsured, unemployed, and those previously enrolled in coverage outside of the Marketplace are now eligible for financial help at Get Covered New Jersey. Now, 9 out of 10 people enrolling in health insurance at Get Covered New Jersey qualify for financial help.



### New Financial Help through GetCoveredNJ

- GetCoveredNJ made system updates on April 15th to allow New Jersey consumers to apply for the new state and federal financial help to benefit from the lower premiums. Effective June 1<sup>st</sup>, GetCoveredNJ automatically updated financial help for most enrolled consumers who had not already taken action to apply the additional savings to their accounts.
- The new and expanded help has led to historically low premiums. Due to the new savings, the average monthly net
  premium for those receiving financial help is at a new historic low of \$55 a month, down from \$121 a month earlier this
  year when the average net premium for those receiving financial help had reached its lowest since the implementation of
  Healthcare.gov and availability of federal tax credits in 2014 (at \$148 a month).
- The average amount of financial help received by qualifying enrollees has increased from \$485 a month to \$550 a month. Prior to implementation of the American Rescue Plan Act and new state savings, 13% of consumers receiving financial help had a quality plan with a monthly premium of \$10 a month or less. Now, 51% of Get Covered New Jersey enrollees who receive financial help are receiving quality coverage for \$10 a month or less as a result of the new and expanded state and federal financial help.
- A total of 37,277 people have signed up for coverage so far during the Special Enrollment Period (February 1-June 10). In addition to new consumers, a total of 224,714 existing enrollees are benefiting from lower monthly health insurance costs as a result of the automatically applied savings.



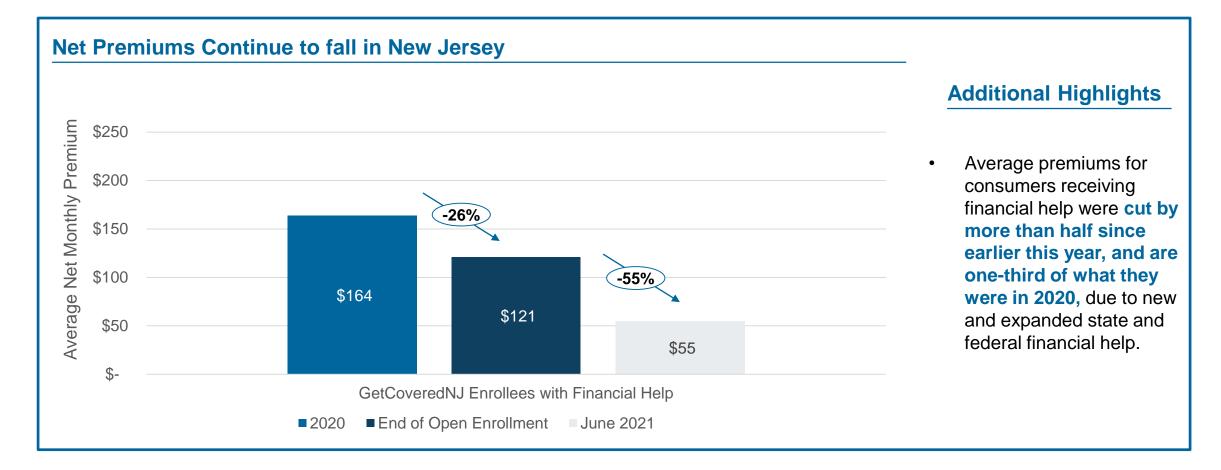
## Special Enrollment Period New Consumers, Plan Changes & Account Transfers

		Totals
2021 SEP* Plans Selected Does not reflect effectuation status	New Consumer Plan Selections	37,277
	Plan Changes (Existing Enrollees)	12,540
Accounts Transferred Does not reflect plan selections	Medicaid Outbound	27,163
	Medicaid Inbound	21,061

\*Data period is from February 1, 2021 to June 10, 2021. The Special Enrollment Period remains in effect through the end of 2021.



### **2021 Average Net Premium Reductions**





#### **Eligibility Results – Pre/Post Financial Help Expansion**



#### 48,782

GetCoveredNJ Consumers who directly updated their application to receive new financial help.





GetCoveredNJ consumers who had their enrollments automatically updated



# **Breakdown of Premiums by Dollar Amount**

Open Enrollment End vs. Post Financial Help Expansion

- More than half of GetCoveredNJ enrollees receiving financial help pay **\$10 a month or less** for coverage, up from 13 percent prior to the expansion of financial help.
- More than two-thirds of GetCoveredNJ enrollees receiving financial help pay \$50 a month or less for coverage, up from 32 percent prior to the changes in financial help.
- More than one third of GetCovered NJ enrollees receiving financial help are paying **\$1 or less a month** nearly free premiums and 5 times higher than before the new financial help.

Receiving Financial Help	Effective Period	\$1 or Less Premiums	\$10 or Less Premiums		\$100 or Less Premiums	Over 100+ Premiums
	Open Enrollment 2021	7%	13%	32%	52%	48%
	SEP- 2021	35%	51%	68%	81%	19%



### **Average Financial Help by Month for Enrolled Consumers**

Advance Premium Tax Credits (APTC) and New Jersey Health Plan Savings (NJHPS) during open enrollment vs. after financial help expansion

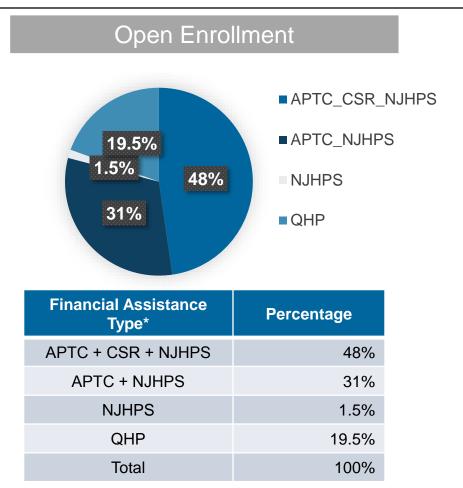
# After New and Expanded Financial Help

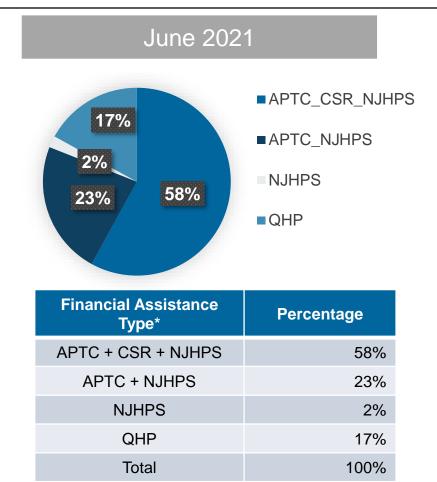
**Open Enrollment 2021** 





### **Plan Selections with Financial Assistance**

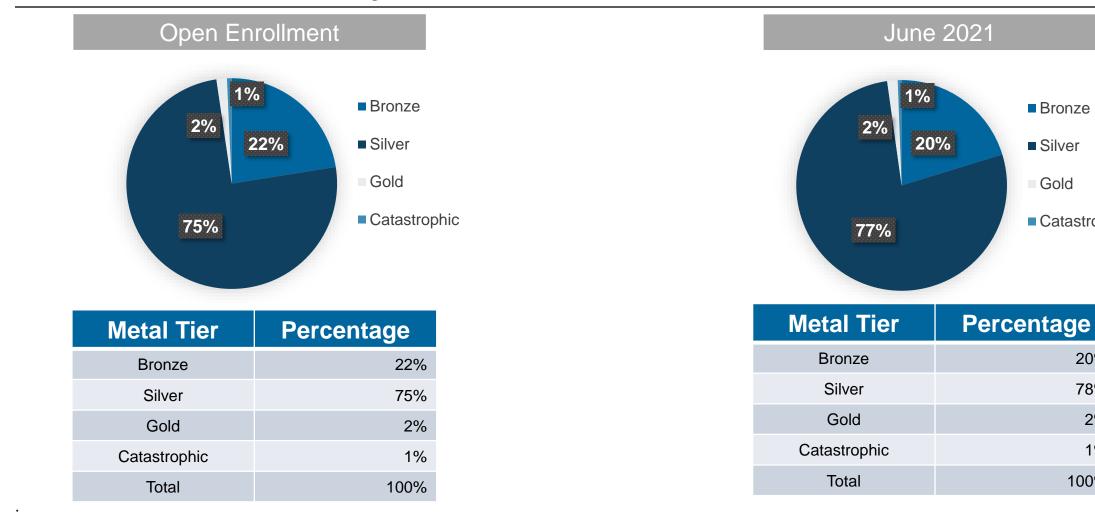




\*APTC: Advance Premium Tax Credits; CSR: Cost Sharing Reductions; NJHPS: NJ Health Plan Savings (New Jersey state subsidy); QHP: Qualified Health Plan



### **Plan Selections by Metal Tier**





Bronze

■ Silver

Gold

Catastrophic

20%

78%

2%

1%

100%

## **Key Data Caveats**

- This document is intended to show directional trends to indicate overall consumer activity.
- Caution should be taken when trying to compare numbers across categories for a variety of reasons:
  - Some numbers are at a household level (i.e., account transfers) where others are at an individual level (i.e., plan selections).

• Duplication may exist at some steps and consumers may show up in multiple places (i.e., mixed household eligibility will show up in account transfer and plan selection or consumers may create more than one account unintentionally)

- This document is inclusive of medical plan information only, it excludes dental plan information.
- The data represents a snapshot in time and calculations are subject to change. Changes in the figures will occur as individuals update applications and plan selections throughout the open enrollment period.

