



What is the Colorado Health Institute?

The Colorado Health Institute (CHI) is a nonprofit organization that provides objective health information for Colorado decisionmakers. Constituents include state policymakers, health planners, the business and nonprofit communities, advocacy and consumer groups, health care providers, foundations, the media and the public. CHI was established in 2002 by three foundations that recognized the state's need for unbiased health information – Caring for Colorado Foundation, Rose Community Foundation and The Colorado Trust.

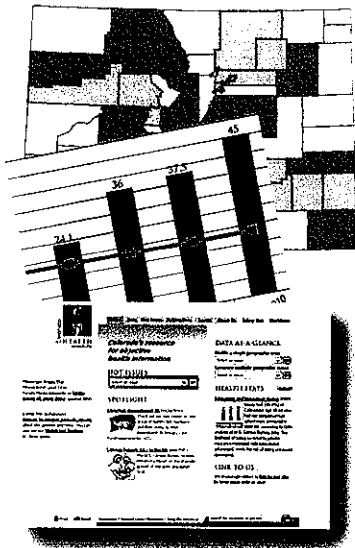
A healthier Colorado through informed decisions

What is CHI's mission?

To advance the overall health of the people of Colorado by serving as an independent and impartial source of reliable and relevant health-related information for sound decisionmaking.

How does CHI achieve its mission?

CHI carries out its work through three core functions:



1. *Information Clearinghouse* — CHI strives to be the state's leading clearinghouse of national, state and local health-related data and other resources:

- A gateway to help people understand and gain access to internal and external data.
- Publications about the most pressing health and health care issues facing the state.
- An expanding and dynamic Web site (www.coloradohealthinstitute.org) that provides access to databases, publications, presentations, links and other information about health and health care issues.
- A collection of maps, graphs and other brief information that can be downloaded for use in PowerPoint and other types of presentations.

2. *Analysis and Research* — CHI examines health-related policy issues and trends to provide objective, nonpartisan analysis and policy options. Staff members specialize in transforming data and technical material into usable, understandable policy information. Policy research and analysis undertaken by CHI staff include:

- Conducting an oral health environmental scan that inventories existing resources and data on the oral health of Coloradans.
- Analyzing Colorado's uninsured population, first in 2004 with an update in 2005.
- Monitoring the capacity of the state's health care safety net to provide care for the state's un- or underinsured residents.

3. *Information Dissemination* — In addition to its Web site and publications, CHI disseminates the findings of its analyses and research in various ways:

- Learning and networking opportunities for state and community health leaders and decisionmakers, including roundtables, seminars, conferences and "hot issues" events that provide a neutral forum for discussing pressing health and health care issues.
- Testimony and analysis for legislators and legislative staff focusing on health-related policy issues.
- Engagement of local partners through advisory committees and work groups, and technical assistance to help local communities identify, access and use data to solve health-related policy issues.

"Health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity." – World Health Organization