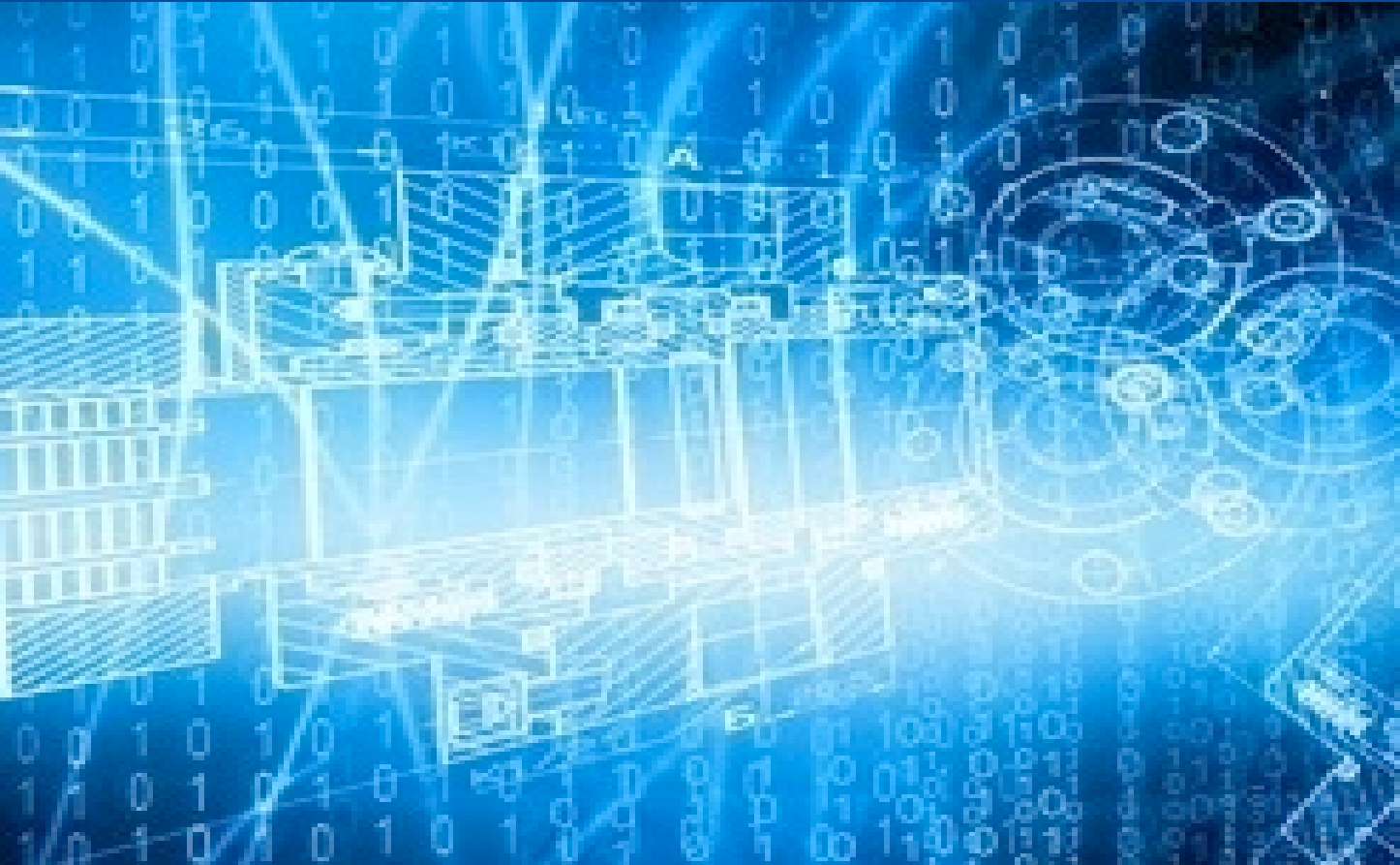# Medicaid and CHIP Enrollment Trends Snapshot through September 2020

Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services

Background

- This is a Center for Medicaid & CHIP Services (CMCS) Medicaid and CHIP Coverage Learning Collaborative (MAC LC) project that monitors Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) enrollment trends, primarily using the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Performance Indicator Data.

- The MAC LC is a CMCS project that provides a forum for facilitated discussion and learning across CMS and states, with the goal of implementing and improving the programs, tools, and systems needed to ensure high-performing state health insurance programs. The MAC LC has enabled CMS to more effectively identify issues and also monitor and improve program performance.

- This snapshot is a companion to the monthly Medicaid & CHIP September 2020 Application, Eligibility, and Enrollment Data posted on Medicaid.gov.

- The Enrollment Trends project primarily relies on Performance Indicator Data. All states—including the District of Columbia—provide data each month about their Medicaid and CHIP eligibility and enrollment activity. These data reflect a range of indicators related to key application, eligibility, and enrollment processes within the state Medicaid and CHIP agency. The complete data set is available on Data.Medicaid.gov.

Enrollment Snapshot

- To be responsive to questions on Medicaid and CHIP enrollment, particularly given the impact of the COVID-19 public health emergency (PHE), this Enrollment Snapshot captures high level information on the most recently submitted month of Performance Indicator Data within the context of the previous 12 months, focusing on:

  - Total Medicaid and CHIP enrollment
  - Medicaid enrollment
  - CHIP enrollment
  - Adult enrollment
  - Child enrollment

- We are also looking at trends in the number of unemployed people compared to enrollment using state unemployment data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

- Lastly, this analysis captures high level information on the trend in the number of Medicaid and CHIP applications received by states.

Figure 1. National Medicaid and CHIP enrollment, October 2019 to September 2020, CMS Performance Indicator Data
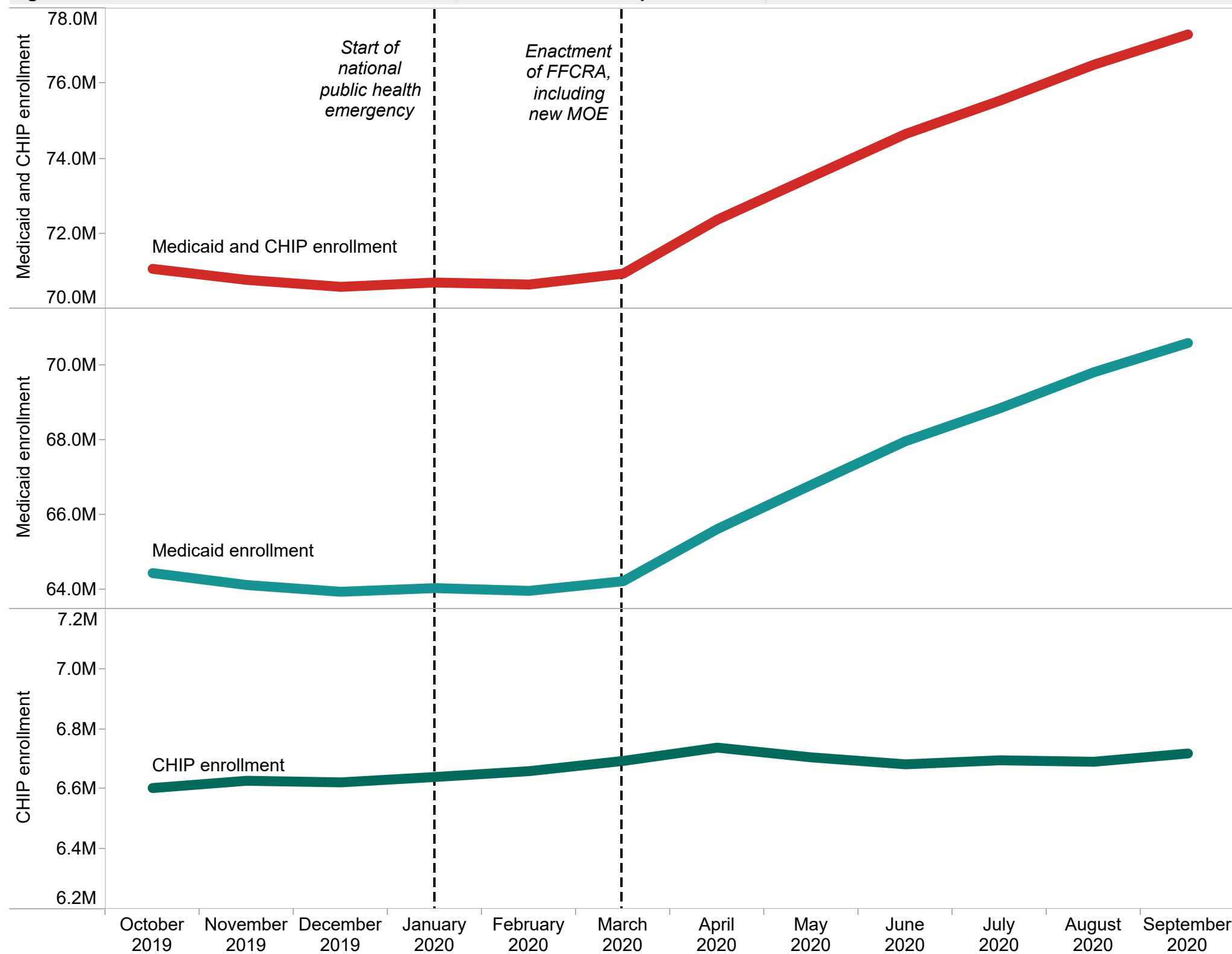

Table 1. National Medicaid and CHIP enrollment, October 2019 to September 2020

Date	Medicaid and CHIP enrollment	Medicaid enrollment	CHIP enrollment
October 2019	71,062,283	64,458,297	6,603,986
November 2019	70,768,379	64,140,221	6,628,158
December 2019	70,583,397	63,960,502	6,622,895
January 2020	70,698,545	64,057,802	6,640,743
February 2020	70,645,240	63,984,957	6,660,283
March 2020	70,936,446	64,242,189	6,694,257
April 2020	72,370,999	65,632,436	6,738,563
May 2020	73,514,788	66,808,672	6,706,116
June 2020	74,655,218	67,972,218	6,683,000
July 2020	75,541,840	68,845,443	6,696,397
August 2020	76,499,975	69,808,441	6,691,534
September 2020	77,306,714	70,587,631	6,719,083

Annual trend, October 2019 to September 2020

From October 2019 to September 2020, national Medicaid and CHIP enrollment increased by 6,244,431 individuals (8.8%).
- National Medicaid enrollment increased by 6,129,334 individuals (9.5%).
- National CHIP enrollment increased by 115,097 individuals (1.7%).

Monthly trend, August 2020 to September 2020

Total enrollment	Medicaid enrollment	CHIP enrollment
Increased by 806,739 (+1.1%)	Increased by 779,190 (+1.1%)	Increased by 27,549 (+0.4%)

Cumulative change, February 2020 to September 2020

Total enrollment	Medicaid enrollment	CHIP enrollment
Increased by 6,661,474 (+9.4%)	Increased by 6,602,674 (+10.3%)	Increased by 58,800 (+0.9%)

Source: Medicaid and CHIP Eligibility and Enrollment Performance Indicators as of December 16, 2020.
Note: This analysis includes preliminary enrollment data from 50 states and the District of Columbia. "FFCRA" refers to the Families First Coronavirus Response Act. "MOE" refers to the FFCRA's maintenance of effort requirement, which makes available a temporary 6.2 percentage point increase to each state or territory's federal medical assistance percentage (FMAP) during the emergency. As a condition of receiving the FMAP increase, states must meet several requirements pertaining to eligibility and maintenance of enrollment.

Figure 2. National adult and child enrollment in Medicaid and CHIP, October 2019 to September 2020, CMS Performance Indicator Data
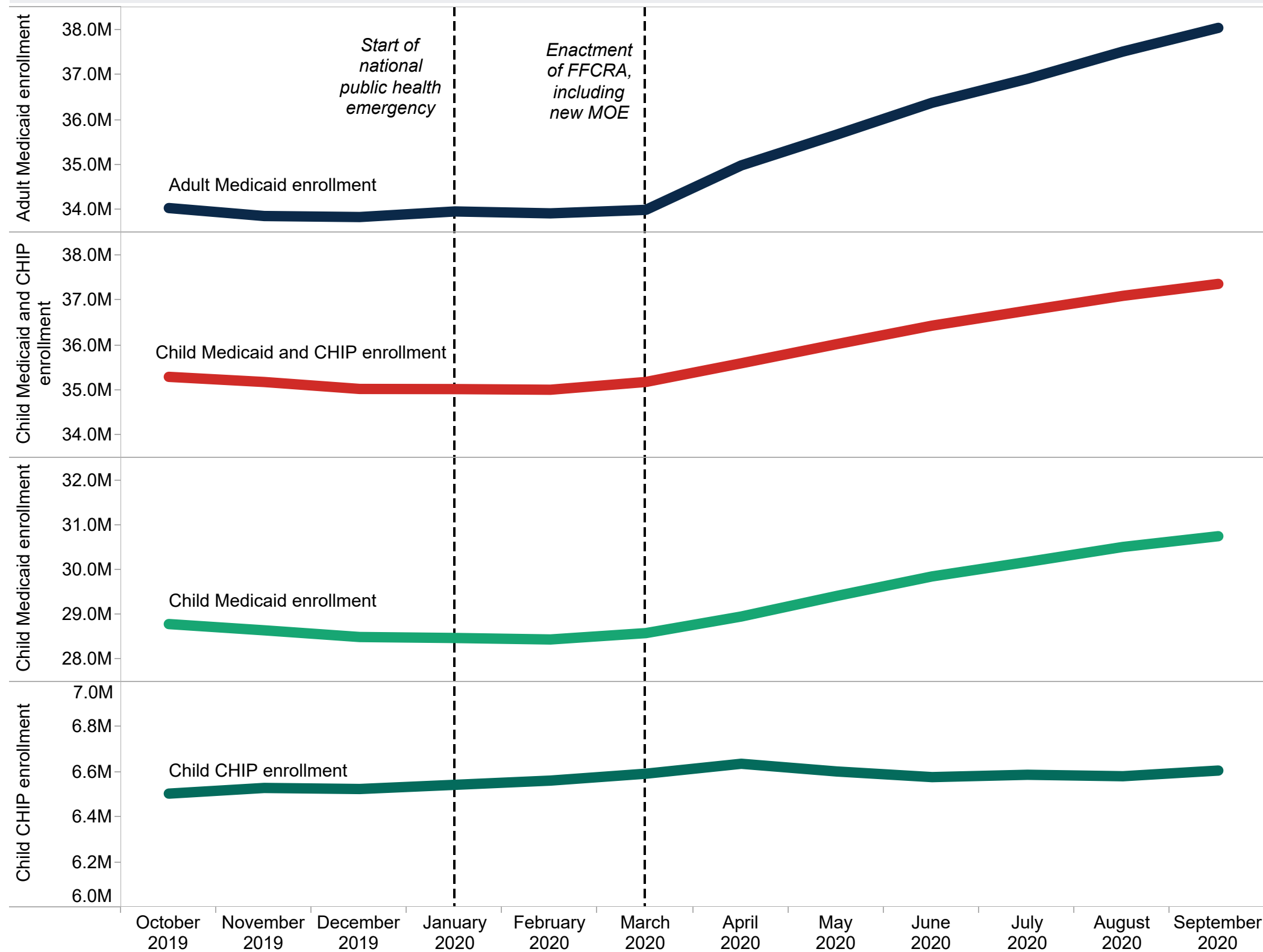

Table 2. National adult and child enrollment, October 2019 to September 2020

Date	Adult Medicaid enrollment	Child Medicaid and CHIP enrollment	Child Medicaid enrollment	Child CHIP enrollment
October 2019	34,044,095	35,298,572	28,793,636	6,504,936
November 2019	33,867,184	35,184,394	28,654,268	6,530,126
December 2019	33,844,840	35,030,484	28,505,039	6,525,445
January 2020	33,968,810	35,027,103	28,483,075	6,544,028
February 2020	33,926,543	35,012,908	28,450,142	6,562,766
March 2020	34,004,248	35,185,454	28,592,090	6,593,364
April 2020	34,990,186	35,599,580	28,962,138	6,637,442
May 2020	35,673,321	36,024,105	29,420,881	6,603,224
June 2020	36,380,462	36,434,824	29,856,615	6,578,209
July 2020	36,910,933	36,768,499	30,179,892	6,588,607
August 2020	37,516,581	37,096,012	30,513,868	6,582,144
September 2020	38,042,245	37,361,041	30,753,766	6,607,275

Annual trend, October 2019 to September 2020

From October 2019 to September 2020, national adult and child enrollment increased by 6,060,619 individuals (8.7%).
- National adult enrollment increased by 3,998,150 individuals (11.7%).
- National child enrollment increased by 2,062,469 individuals (5.8%).

Monthly trend, August 2020 to September 2020

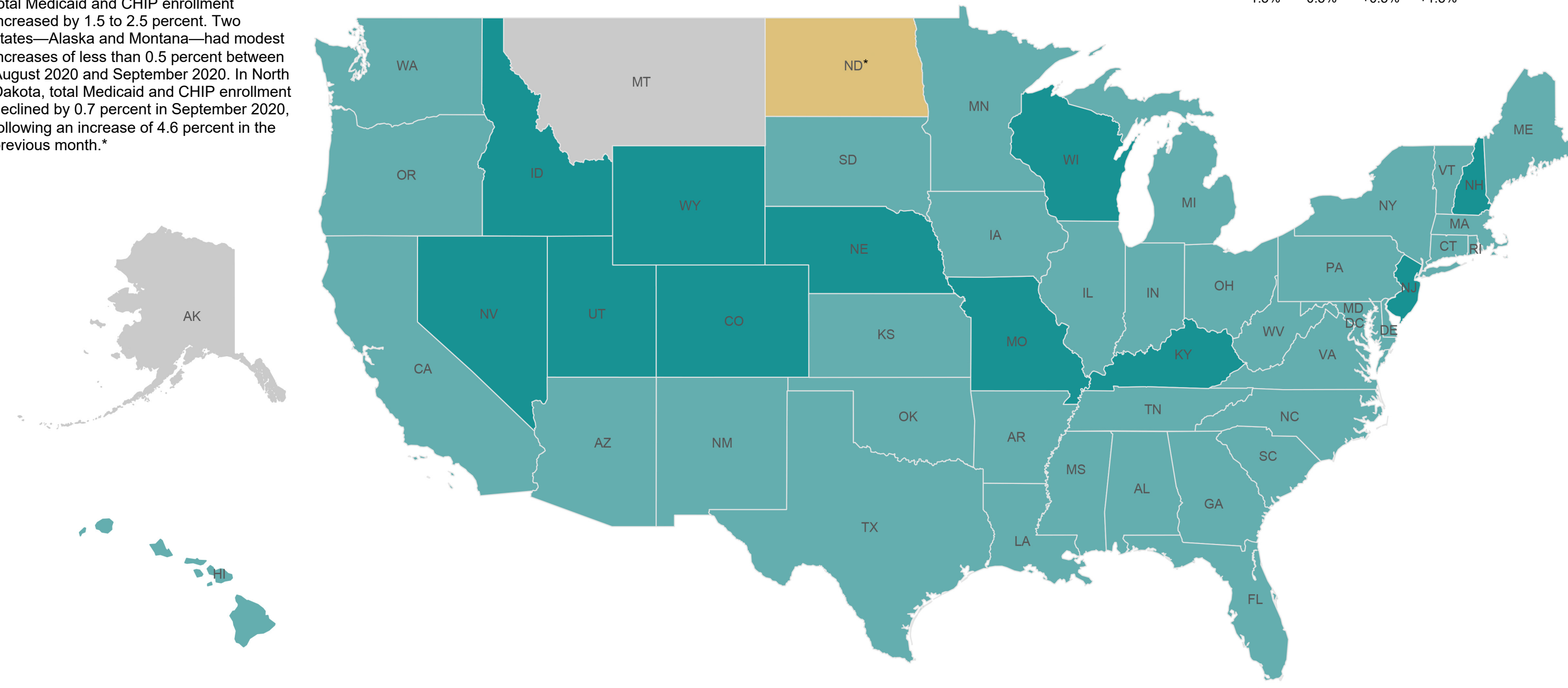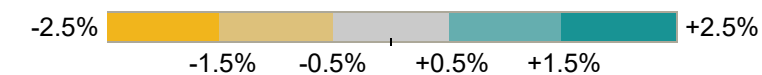| Adult Medicaid enrollment	Child Medicaid and CHIP enrollment
Increased by 525,664 (+1.4%)	Increased by 265,029 (+0.7%)

Cumulative change, February 2020 to September 2020

Adult Medicaid enrollment	Child Medicaid and CHIP enrollment
Increased by 4,115,702 (+12.1%)	Increased by 2,348,133 (+6.7%)

Source: Medicaid and CHIP Eligibility and Enrollment Performance Indicators as of December 16, 2020.

Note: This analysis includes preliminary enrollment data from 49 states and the District of Columbia. Arizona is excluded because the state did not report the breakouts for adult and child enrollment between October 2019 and September 2020. "FFCRA" refers to the Families First Coronavirus Response Act. "MOE" refers to the FFCRA's maintenance of effort requirement, which makes available a temporary 6.2 percentage point increase to each state or territory's federal medical assistance percentage (FMAP) during the emergency. As a condition of receiving the FMAP increase, states must meet several requirements pertaining to eligibility and maintenance of enrollment.

Figure 3. Change in total Medicaid and CHIP enrollment, August 2020 to September 2020, CMS Performance Indicator Data

Between August 2020 and September 2020, total Medicaid and CHIP enrollment increased by 0.5 to 1.5 percent in 36 states and the District of Columbia. In 11 states, total Medicaid and CHIP enrollment increased by 1.5 to 2.5 percent. Two states—Alaska and Montana—had modest increases of less than 0.5 percent between August 2020 and September 2020. In North Dakota, total Medicaid and CHIP enrollment declined by 0.7 percent in September 2020, following an increase of 4.6 percent in the previous month.*

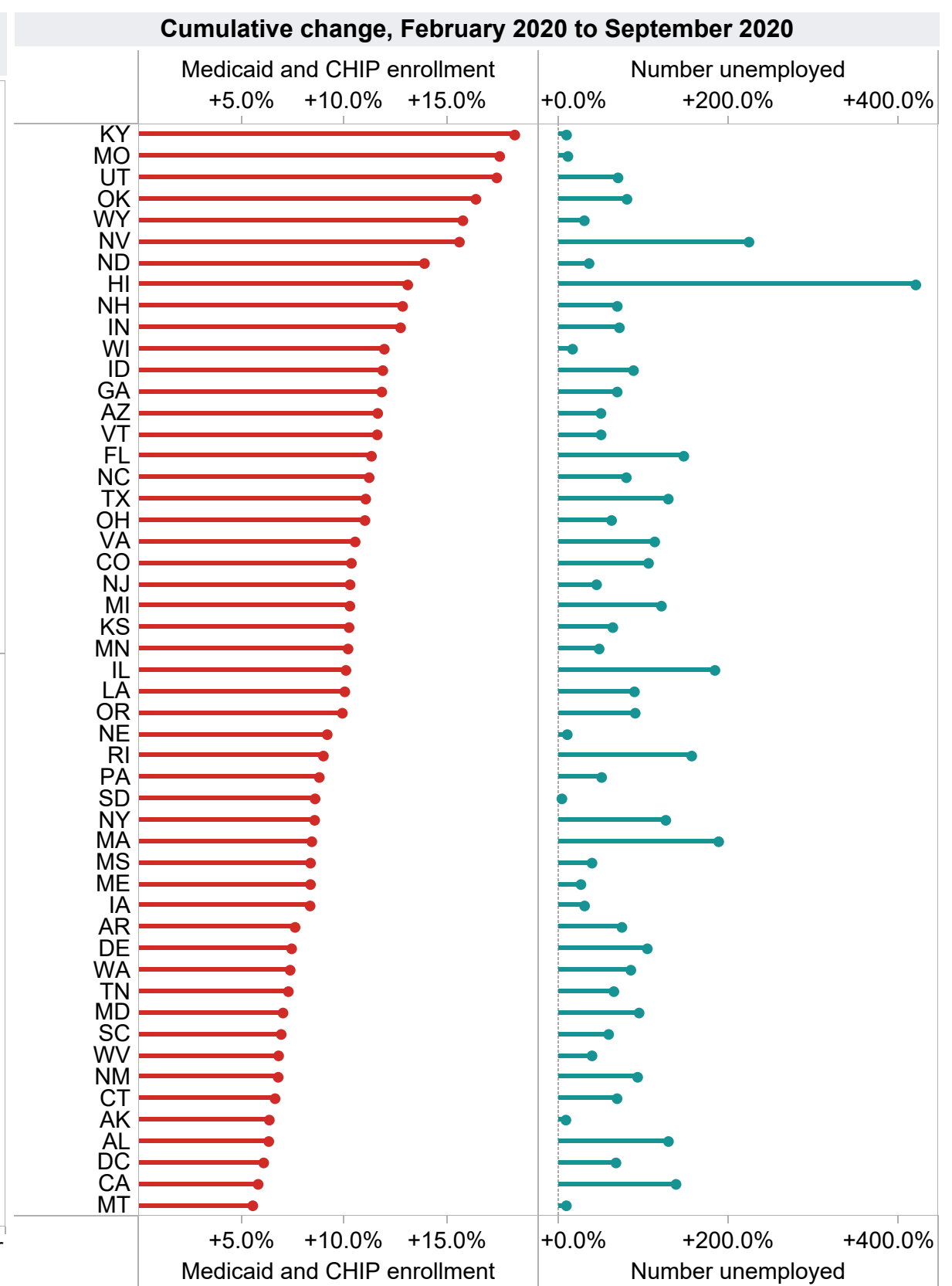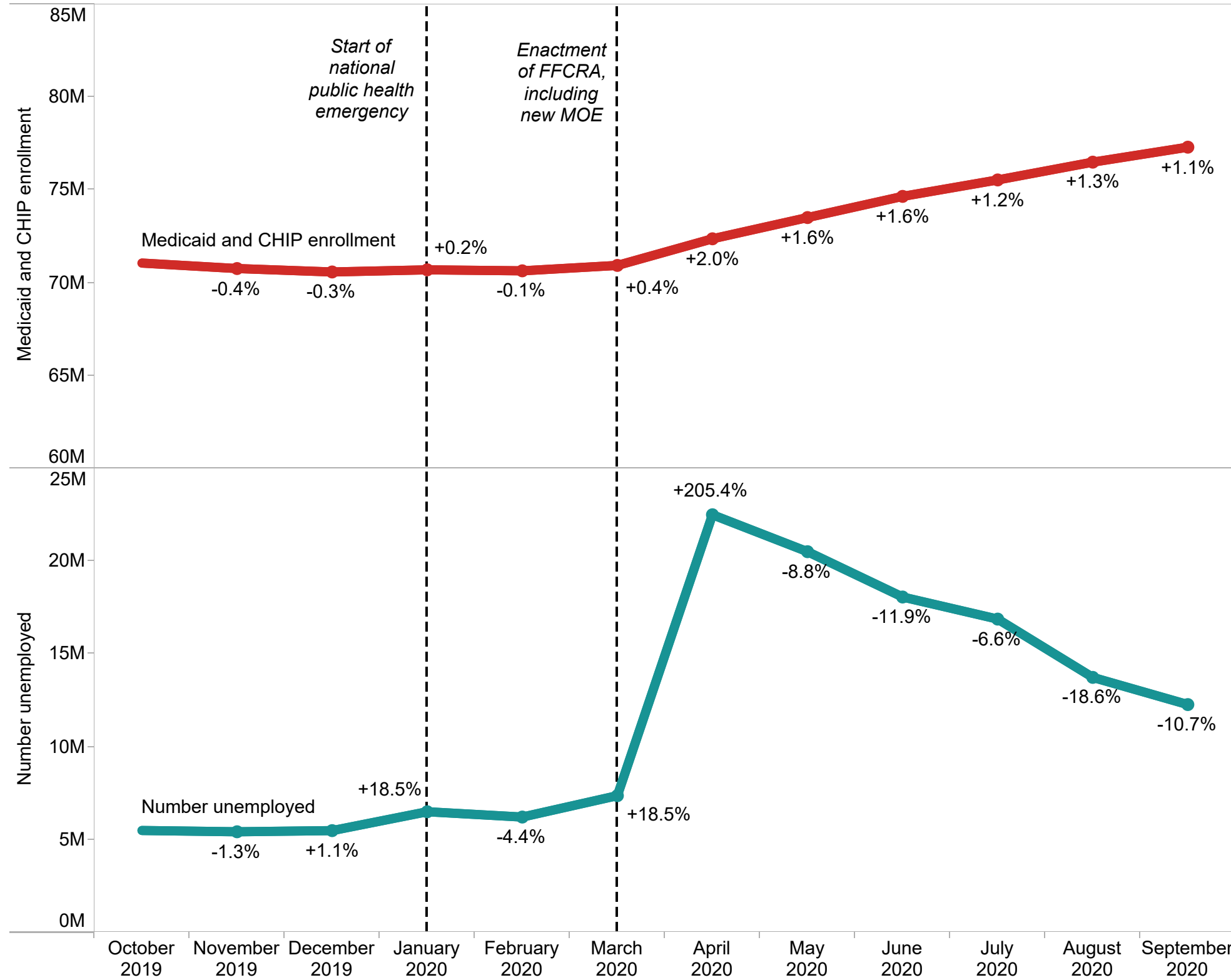**Percentage change in Medicaid and CHIP enrollment**

-2.5%   -1.5%   -0.5%   +0.5%   +1.5%   +2.5%

Source: Medicaid and CHIP Eligibility and Enrollment Performance Indicators as of December 16, 2020.
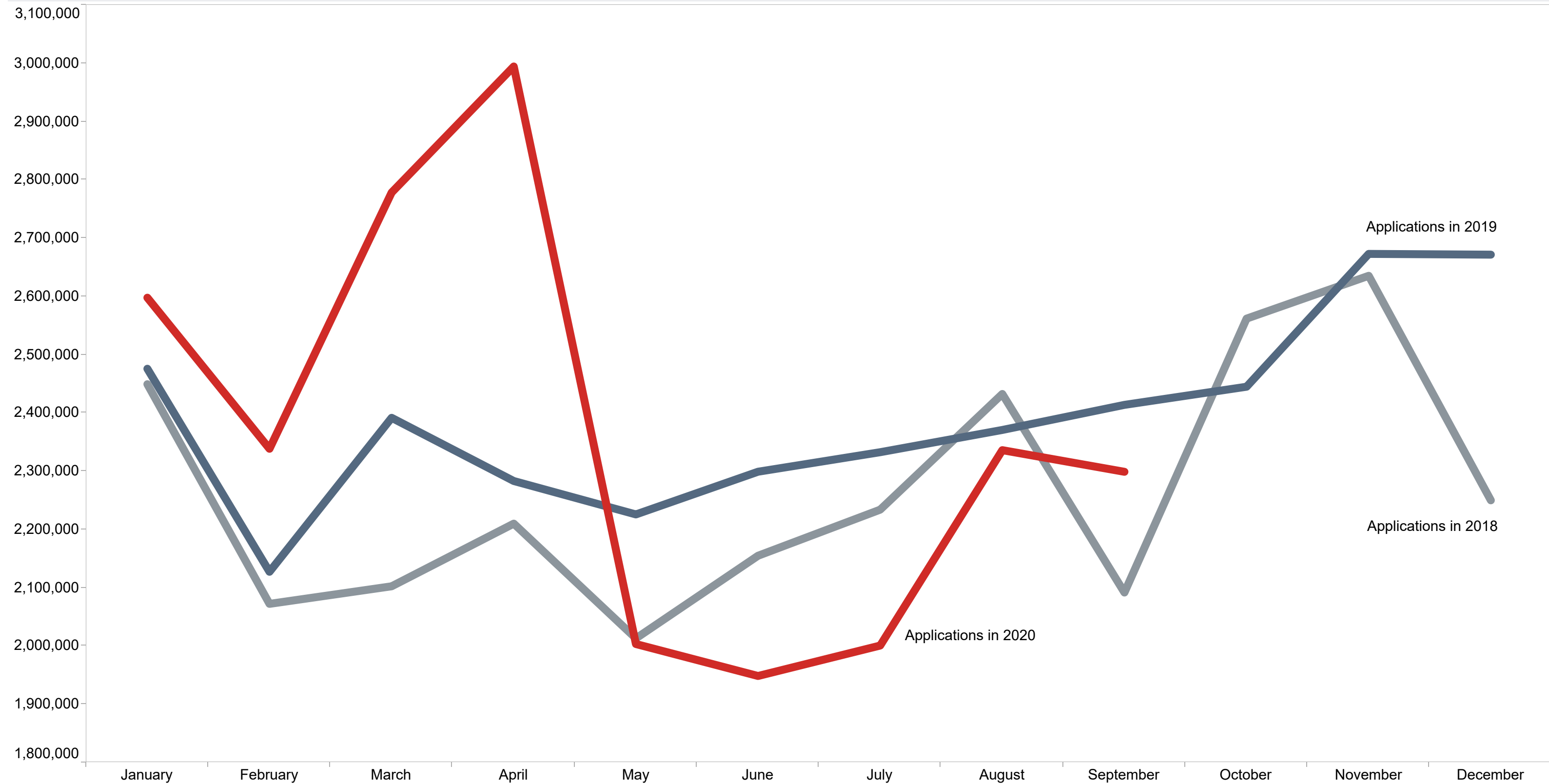**Note:** This analysis includes preliminary enrollment data from 50 states and the District of Columbia.
* **Data quality:** North Dakota indicated their enrollment decline in September 2020 is likely attributed to a systems error and does not reflect an actual decline in enrollment.

Figure 4. Medicaid and CHIP enrollment from the CMS Performance Indicator Data compared to unemployment data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, October 2019 to September 2020

Sources: (1) Medicaid and CHIP Eligibility and Enrollment Performance Indicators as of December 16, 2020 and (2) State Employment and Unemployment Data (Monthly) from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics as of December 17, 2020.

Note: This analysis includes data from 50 states and the District of Columbia. "FFCRA" refers to the Families First Coronavirus Response Act. "MOE" refers to the FFCRA's maintenance of effort requirement, which makes available a temporary 6.2 percentage point increase to each state or territory's federal medical assistance percentage (FMAP) during the emergency. As a condition of receiving the FMAP increase, states must meet several requirements pertaining to eligibility and maintenance of enrollment.

Figure 5. National Medicaid and CHIP applications received in 2020 compared to annual trends for 2018 and 2019, CMS Performance Indicator Data
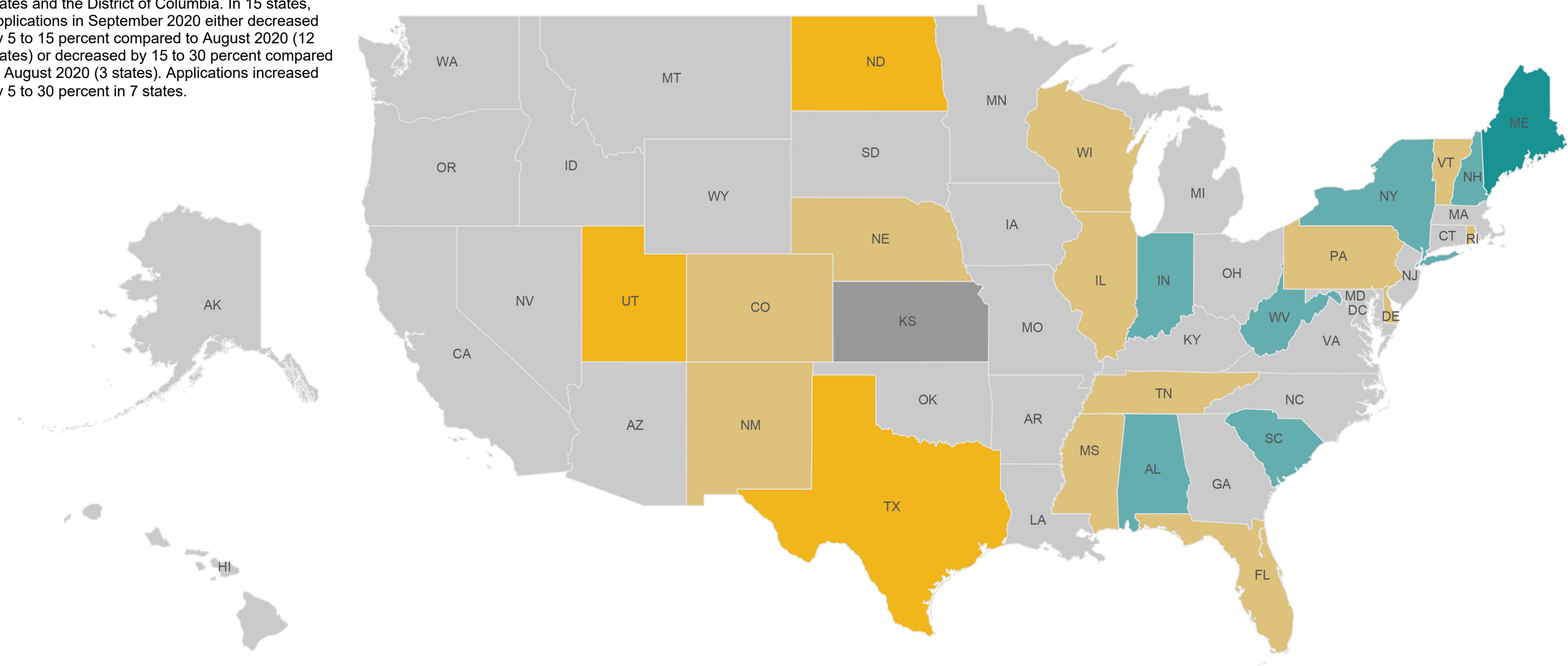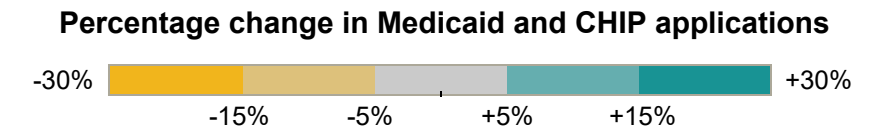
Applications in 2019

Applications in 2018

Applications in 2020

Nationally, the number of Medicaid and CHIP applications was about 2 percent lower in September 2020 compared to August 2020. Applications changed by 5 percent or less in 27 states and the District of Columbia. In 15 states, applications in September 2020 either decreased by 5 to 15 percent compared to August 2020 (12 states) or decreased by 15 to 30 percent compared to August 2020 (3 states). Applications increased by 5 to 30 percent in 7 states.

Percentage change in Medicaid and CHIP applications

-30%   -15%   -5%   +5%   +15%   +30%

Source: Medicaid and CHIP Eligibility and Enrollment Performance Indicators as of December 16, 2020.
Note: This analysis includes preliminary applications data from 49 states and the District of Columbia. Kansas is excluded because the state did not report applications data for August 2020 and September 2020.

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