



Maryland Health Connection
Sample Rate Scenarios
October 2013



Frequently Asked Questions

How were these rates calculated?

The rates charged by health insurance companies for each plan are developed by the health insurance company and approved by the Maryland Insurance Administration. By law, insurance companies can develop rates based only on the age, geographic location, tobacco status and family composition of a consumer. They cannot consider the health status of an individual when determining insurance prices. The rates used in these scenarios are examples of the lowest cost plans that would be available.

How are the tax credits calculated?

The Affordable Care Act states that individuals, based on their household size and income, are only allowed to pay a certain percentage of their income towards their health insurance premium. To calculate the tax credit a household may receive, we take the second lowest-cost silver plan available to that household and subtract the amount the household is allowed to pay for health insurance, and that is the amount of the tax credit.

What is a bronze, silver, gold or platinum plan?

These four classifications, also called metal levels, represent how much of your health care the health insurance company pays for. With a bronze plan, the health insurance company pays about 60% of your health care costs, which means that you pay about 40% in deductibles, copayments and other out-of-pocket expenses when you use health services. With a silver plan, the health insurance company pays about 70%. A gold plan is 80% and a platinum plan is 90%. Bronze plans are likely to have lower premiums and higher out-of-pocket costs; whereas platinum plans have higher premiums and lower out-of-pocket costs.

Generally, platinum plans would be the most cost-effective choice for individuals who plan to utilize many health care services. Gold plans would be recommended to those who utilize health care services frequently; silver plans would be recommended to those who utilize a moderate amount of health care services. Bronze would be the most cost-effective choice for individuals who don't utilize health care services very often.

How are the tax credits used?

The amount a household receives in tax credits can be used to buy any plan, not just the second lowest-cost silver plan. A household could select a more expensive plan and pay more of the cost of the premium or a less expensive plan and pay less of the cost of the premium.

The tax credit is sent to the health insurance company every month, so the bill that goes to the consumer is lower. A household could choose to have the entire tax credit sent to the health insurance company each month, or they could choose to have a smaller amount sent. In that case, they would pay more towards their premiums during the year, but would get more money back when they submit their taxes.

Note: Tax credits are determined by estimated income and are reconciled just like federal income tax. This means that you may receive a refund or owe additional money to the federal government depending on your actual income that year.

Is this what I will pay for health insurance?

No. These rates are only samples to give you an idea of what you could pay. To determine the amount of the tax credit for which your household is eligible and to see plans available in your area, visit www.MarylandHealthConnection.gov, call our consumer support center at 1-855- 642-8572, or 1-855-642-8573 for individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing or visit a local organization where someone can help you in person. You can find a list of these organizations at www.MarylandHealthConnection.gov under Consumer Assistance.

Sample Household #1

Household Composition: Single Individual, Age 21
Tobacco Status: Non-Tobacco User
Annual Income: \$25,000

Baltimore Metropolitan Area (Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Harford County, Howard County and Anne Arundel County)

| Monthly Tax Credit: \$35.83 | No Financial Assistance | With Tax Credit |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Lowest Cost Bronze Plan | \$114 | \$78.17 |
| Lowest Cost Silver Plan | \$179 | \$143.17 |
| Second Lowest Cost Silver Plan | \$180 | \$144.17 |
| Lowest Cost Gold Plan | \$204 | \$168.17 |
| Lowest Cost Platinum Plan | \$289 | \$253.17 |

Eastern Maryland (St. Mary's County, Charles County, Calvert County, Cecil County, Kent County, Queen Anne's County, Talbot County, Caroline County, Dorchester County, Wicomico County, Somerset County and Worcester County)

| Monthly Tax Credit: \$32.83 | No Financial Assistance | With Tax Credit |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Lowest Cost Bronze Plan | \$112.00 | \$79.17 |
| Lowest Cost Silver Plan | \$175.00 | \$142.17 |
| Second Lowest Cost Silver Plan | \$177.00 | \$144.17 |
| Lowest Cost Gold Plan | \$200.00 | \$167.17 |
| Lowest Cost Platinum Plan | \$283.00 | \$250.17 |

Washington DC Metropolitan (Montgomery County and Prince George's County)

| Monthly Tax Credit: \$23.83 | No Financial Assistance | With Tax Credit |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Lowest Cost Bronze Plan | \$107.00 | \$ 83.17 |
| Lowest Cost Silver Plan | \$166.00 | \$ 142.17 |
| Second Lowest Cost Silver Plan | \$168.00 | \$ 144.17 |
| Lowest Cost Gold Plan | \$190.00 | \$ 166.17 |
| Lowest Cost Platinum Plan | \$269.00 | \$ 245.17 |

Western Maryland (Garrett County, Allegany County, Washington County, Carroll County and Frederick County)

| Monthly Tax Credit: \$21.83 | No Financial Assistance | With Tax Credit |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Lowest Cost Bronze Plan | \$105.00 | \$ 83.17 |
| Lowest Cost Silver Plan | \$165.00 | \$ 143.17 |
| Second Lowest Cost Silver Plan | \$166.00 | \$ 144.17 |
| Lowest Cost Gold Plan | \$188.00 | \$ 166.17 |
| Lowest Cost Platinum Plan | \$266.00 | \$ 244.17 |

Sample Household #2

Household Composition: Single Individual, Age 64
Tobacco Status: Non-Tobacco User
Annual Income: \$36,000

Baltimore Metropolitan Area (Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Harford County, Howard County and Anne Arundel County)

| Monthly Tax Credit: \$256.00 | No Financial Assistance | With Tax Credit |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Lowest Cost Bronze Plan | \$343 | \$87.00 |
| Lowest Cost Silver Plan | \$536 | \$280.00 |
| Second Lowest Cost Silver Plan | \$541 | \$285.00 |
| Lowest Cost Gold Plan | \$613 | \$357.00 |
| Lowest Cost Platinum Plan | \$866 | \$610.00 |

Eastern Maryland (St. Mary's County, Charles County, Calvert County, Cecil County, Kent County, Queen Anne's County, Talbot County, Caroline County, Dorchester County, Wicomico County, Somerset County and Worcester County)

| Monthly Tax Credit: \$245.00 | No Financial Assistance | With Tax Credit |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Lowest Cost Bronze Plan | \$337 | \$92.00 |
| Lowest Cost Silver Plan | \$525 | \$280.00 |
| Second Lowest Cost Silver Plan | \$530 | \$285.00 |
| Lowest Cost Gold Plan | \$601 | \$356.00 |
| Lowest Cost Platinum Plan | \$849 | \$604.00 |

Washington DC Metropolitan (Montgomery County and Prince George's County)

| Monthly Tax Credit: \$218.00 | No Financial Assistance | With Tax Credit |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Lowest Cost Bronze Plan | \$320 | \$102.00 |
| Lowest Cost Silver Plan | \$499 | \$281.00 |
| Second Lowest Cost Silver Plan | \$503 | \$285.00 |
| Lowest Cost Gold Plan | \$571 | \$353.00 |
| Lowest Cost Platinum Plan | \$806 | \$588.00 |

Western Maryland (Garrett County, Allegany County, Washington County, Carroll County and Frederick County)

| Monthly Tax Credit: \$213.00 | No Financial Assistance | With Tax Credit |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Lowest Cost Bronze Plan | \$316 | \$103.00 |
| Lowest Cost Silver Plan | \$494 | \$281.00 |
| Second Lowest Cost Silver Plan | \$498 | \$285.00 |
| Lowest Cost Gold Plan | \$565 | \$352.00 |
| Lowest Cost Platinum Plan | \$798 | \$585.00 |



Sample Household #3

Household Composition: Family of 4 (Ages 60, 55, 24, 19)
 Tobacco Status: Non-Tobacco User
 Annual Income: \$53,000

Baltimore Metropolitan Area (Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Harford County, Howard County and Anne Arundel County)

| Monthly Tax Credit: \$867.88 | No Financial Assistance | With Tax Credit |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| Lowest Cost Bronze Plan | \$753 | \$114.88 leftover* |
| Lowest Cost Silver Plan | \$1,175 | \$307.12 |
| Second Lowest Cost Silver Plan | \$1,185 | \$317.12 |
| Lowest Cost Gold Plan | \$1,345 | \$477.12 |
| Lowest Cost Platinum Plan | \$1,900 | \$1,032.12 |

Eastern Maryland (St. Mary's County, Charles County, Calvert County, Cecil County, Kent County, Queen Anne's County, Talbot County, Caroline County, Dorchester County, Wicomico County, Somerset County and Worcester County)

| Monthly Tax Credit: \$844.88 | No Financial Assistance | With Tax Credit |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| Lowest Cost Bronze Plan | \$738 | \$106.88 leftover* |
| Lowest Cost Silver Plan | \$1,152 | \$307.12 |
| Second Lowest Cost Silver Plan | \$1,162 | \$317.12 |
| Lowest Cost Gold Plan | \$1,318 | \$473.12 |
| Lowest Cost Platinum Plan | \$1,862 | \$1,017.12 |

Washington DC Metropolitan (Montgomery County and Prince George's County)

| Monthly Tax Credit: \$786.88 | No Financial Assistance | With Tax Credit |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Lowest Cost Bronze Plan | \$702 | \$84.88 leftover* |
| Lowest Cost Silver Plan | \$1,094 | \$307.12 |
| Second Lowest Cost Silver Plan | \$1,104 | \$317.12 |
| Lowest Cost Gold Plan | \$1,251 | \$464.12 |
| Lowest Cost Platinum Plan | \$1,769 | \$982.12 |

Western Maryland (Garrett County, Allegany County, Washington County, Carroll County and Frederick County)

| Monthly Tax Credit: \$773.88 | No Financial Assistance | With Tax Credit |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Lowest Cost Bronze Plan | \$693 | \$80.88 leftover |
| Lowest Cost Silver Plan | \$1,082 | \$308.12 |
| Second Lowest Cost Silver Plan | \$1,091 | \$317.12 |
| Lowest Cost Gold Plan | \$1,239 | \$465.12 |
| Lowest Cost Platinum Plan | \$1,750 | \$976.12 |

*Leftover funds could be used to purchase stand-alone dental coverage if dental is not covered by the health plan.

Sample Household #4

Household Composition: Family of 5 (Ages 40, 38, 16, 14, 8)
 Tobacco Status: Non-Tobacco User
 Annual Income: \$60,000

Baltimore Metropolitan Area (Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Harford County, Howard County and Anne Arundel County)

| Monthly Tax Credit: \$451.00 | No Financial Assistance | With Tax Credit |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Lowest Cost Bronze Plan | \$508 | \$57 |
| Lowest Cost Silver Plan | \$790 | \$339 |
| Second Lowest Cost Silver Plan | \$797 | \$346 |
| Lowest Cost Gold Plan | \$906 | \$455 |
| Lowest Cost Platinum Plan | \$1,278 | \$827 |

Eastern Maryland (St. Mary's County, Charles County, Calvert County, Cecil County, Kent County, Queen Anne's County, Talbot County, Caroline County, Dorchester County, Wicomico County, Somerset County and Worcester County)

| Monthly Tax Credit: \$436.00 | No Financial Assistance | With Tax Credit |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Lowest Cost Bronze Plan | \$496 | \$60 |
| Lowest Cost Silver Plan | \$775 | \$339 |
| Second Lowest Cost Silver Plan | \$782 | \$346 |
| Lowest Cost Gold Plan | \$887 | \$451 |
| Lowest Cost Platinum Plan | \$1,255 | \$819 |

Washington DC Metropolitan (Montgomery County and Prince George's County)

| Monthly Tax Credit: \$398.00 | No Financial Assistance | With Tax Credit |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Lowest Cost Bronze Plan | \$473 | \$75 |
| Lowest Cost Silver Plan | \$738 | \$340 |
| Second Lowest Cost Silver Plan | \$744 | \$346 |
| Lowest Cost Gold Plan | \$843 | \$445 |
| Lowest Cost Platinum Plan | \$1,192 | \$794 |

Western Maryland (Garrett County, Allegany County, Washington County, Carroll County and Frederick County)

| Monthly Tax Credit: \$388.00 | No Financial Assistance | With Tax Credit |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Lowest Cost Bronze Plan | \$467 | \$79 |
| Lowest Cost Silver Plan | \$727 | \$339 |
| Second Lowest Cost Silver Plan | \$734 | \$346 |
| Lowest Cost Gold Plan | \$836 | \$448 |
| Lowest Cost Platinum Plan | \$1,178 | \$790 |

Sample Household #5

Household Composition: Couple (Ages 40 and 38)
 Tobacco Status: Non-Tobacco User
 Annual Income: \$32,000

Baltimore Metropolitan Area (Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Harford County, Howard County and Anne Arundel County)

| Monthly Tax Credit: \$281.13 | No Financial Assistance | With Tax Credit |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Lowest Cost Bronze Plan | \$289 | \$8 |
| Lowest Cost Silver Plan | \$451 | \$170 |
| Second Lowest Cost Silver Plan | \$455 | \$174 |
| Lowest Cost Gold Plan | \$516 | \$235 |
| Lowest Cost Platinum Plan | \$729 | \$448 |

Eastern Maryland (St. Mary's County, Charles County, Calvert County, Cecil County, Kent County, Queen Anne's County, Talbot County, Caroline County, Dorchester County, Wicomico County, Somerset County and Worcester County)

| Monthly Tax Credit: \$272.13 | No Financial Assistance | With Tax Credit |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Lowest Cost Bronze Plan | \$283 | \$11 |
| Lowest Cost Silver Plan | \$442 | \$170 |
| Second Lowest Cost Silver Plan | \$446 | \$174 |
| Lowest Cost Gold Plan | \$506 | \$234 |
| Lowest Cost Platinum Plan | \$715 | \$443 |

Washington DC Metropolitan (Montgomery County and Prince George's County)

| Monthly Tax Credit: \$249.13 | No Financial Assistance | With Tax Credit |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Lowest Cost Bronze Plan | \$269 | \$20 |
| Lowest Cost Silver Plan | \$420 | \$171 |
| Second Lowest Cost Silver Plan | \$423 | \$174 |
| Lowest Cost Gold Plan | \$480 | \$231 |
| Lowest Cost Platinum Plan | \$679 | \$430 |

Western Maryland (Garrett County, Allegany County, Washington County, Carroll County and Frederick County)

| Monthly Tax Credit: \$245.13 | No Financial Assistance | With Tax Credit |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Lowest Cost Bronze Plan | \$266 | \$21 |
| Lowest Cost Silver Plan | \$415 | \$170 |
| Second Lowest Cost Silver Plan | \$419 | \$174 |
| Lowest Cost Gold Plan | \$476 | \$231 |
| Lowest Cost Platinum Plan | \$671 | \$426 |