



**BlueCross BlueShield
Association**

An Association of Independent
Blue Cross and Blue Shield Plans

BlueCross BlueShield Association

Blue Cross and Blue Shield System Fact Sheet

- Together, 47 independent Blue Cross and Blue Shield member Plans make up the Blue Cross and Blue Shield System. This System is coordinated by the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association; however, all member Plans function as independent, locally operated companies. The Association is the owner of the BLUE CROSS ® and BLUE SHIELD ® trade names and service marks, and licenses their use to the independent Member Plans.
- Collectively, Blue Cross and Blue Shield Plans provide health care coverage for 77.4 million people in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. This is the highest total enrollment for the Blues since 1987, and represents 25 percent of the U.S. population.
- The Blue Cross and Blue Shield Plans and their subsidiaries collectively reported revenue of \$93.7 billion for the year ended December 31, 1999.
- In the United States, more than 80 percent of hospitals and nearly 90 percent of physicians contract directly with the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Plans.
- Collectively, Blue Cross and Blue Shield Plans comprise the nation's largest provider of managed care services. More than 55.4 million people—roughly one in 6 Americans—are enrolled in a Blue Cross and Blue Shield managed care plan.
- Blue Cross and Blue Shield Medicare contractors are collectively the largest processor of Medicare claims. In FY 1999, we paid \$135 billion in benefit payments on behalf of the Program's beneficiaries. In FY 1999, Blue Cross and Blue Shield Medicare contractors processed 89% of the claims from hospitals and other provider institutions (Part A) and 59% of the claims from physicians and other health care practitioners (Part B).
- The Blue Cross and Blue Shield System's Federal Employee Program (FEP) enrolls 3.5 million federal government employees, dependants and retirees. Forty-six percent of all federal government employees and retirees who receive their health care through the government's Federal Employees Health Benefit Plan are members of FEP.
- The Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association operates the nation's largest new medical technology evaluation program, known as the Technology Evaluation Center (TEC). TEC recently won an unprecedented contract to provide technology assessments for the Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services (CHAMPUS), making TEC the primary technology assessment resource for both the public and private sectors.