



COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE) Unwinding Update

House Interim Committee Behavioral Health and Health Care

Vivian Levy, Interim Medicaid Director, Oregon Health Authority (OHA)

Nathan Singer, Director, Oregon Eligibility Partnership, Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS)

May 30, 2024



Protecting Oregon's low rate of uninsured people

1 in 3

People enrolled in Oregon Health Plan

37%

Growth in OHP during COVID-19 emergency; 400,000 new members

4.6%

People in Oregon without health coverage; down from 6% before the pandemic

Oregon's objective during the public health emergency unwinding has been to preserve and expand health coverage for economically and medically vulnerable people to eliminate health inequity and bring better outcomes in people's lives.

PHE unwinding goals

1

Ensure **all people and families eligible for benefits offered through the ONE system receive and continue to receive services in a timely manner** without interruption

2

Give those **no longer eligible for benefits clear direction and coordination** of additional resources

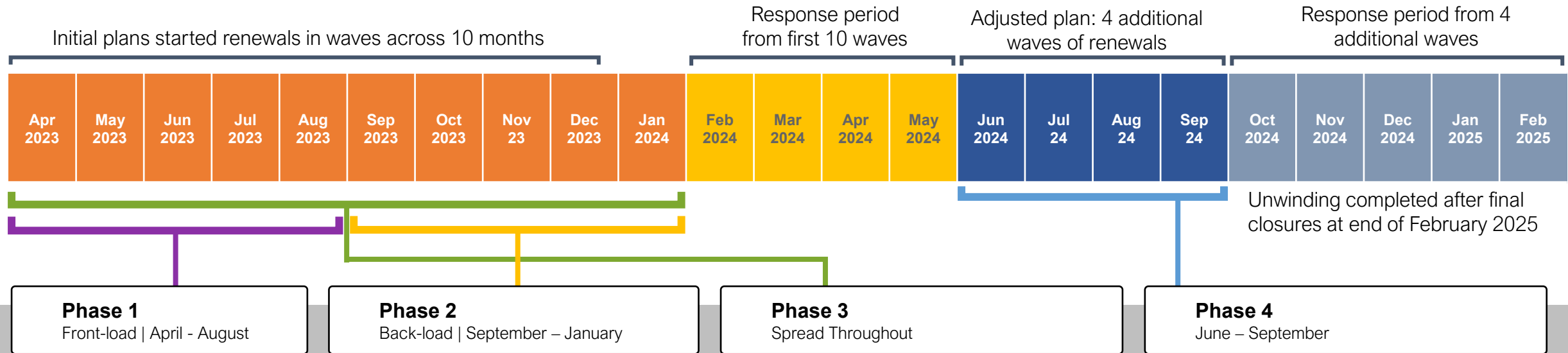
3

Give those who assist people receiving benefits **clear information about how they can help**



Medical renewal status

Phased renewals by population



Front-loaded renewals

Groups likely to remain eligible and who need fewer interventions and verifications to maintain eligibility.



Back-loaded renewals

Groups that we want to provide maximum protections after the Public Health Emergency ends *and* people likely eligible for OHP Bridge.



Spread throughout the renewal process

Groups that may need more support, either to keep OHP or move to other coverage.



Extended timeline

Individuals whose previous due date changed or whose benefits were restored until the system and notices could be updated.



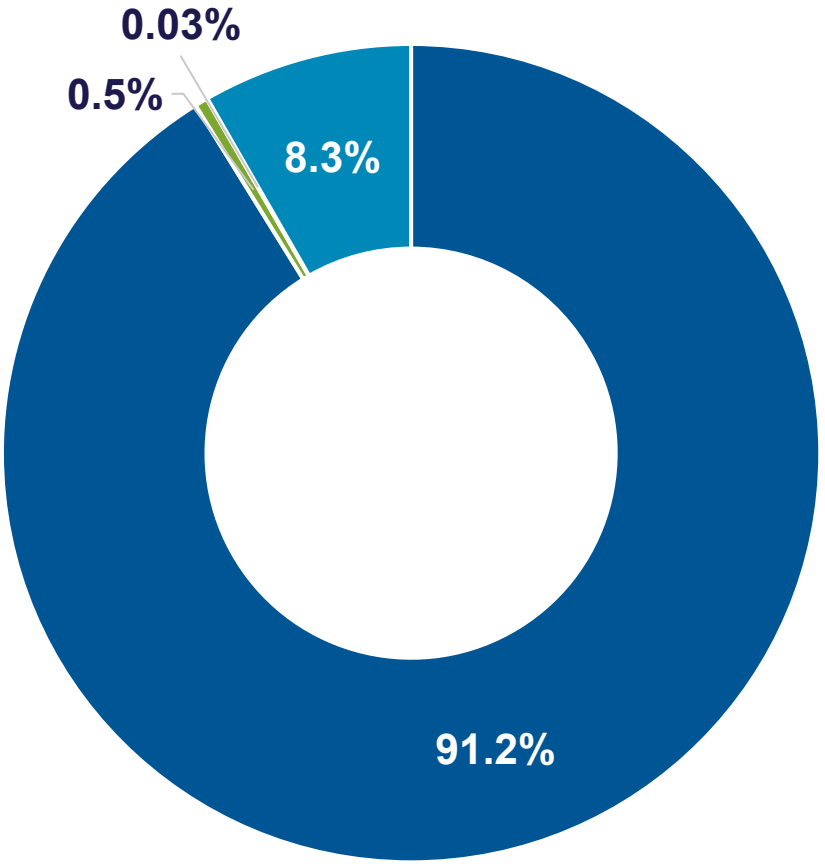
Over 91 percent of renewals complete

Renewals Initiated
7,916

Status

Awaiting State Action
7,473

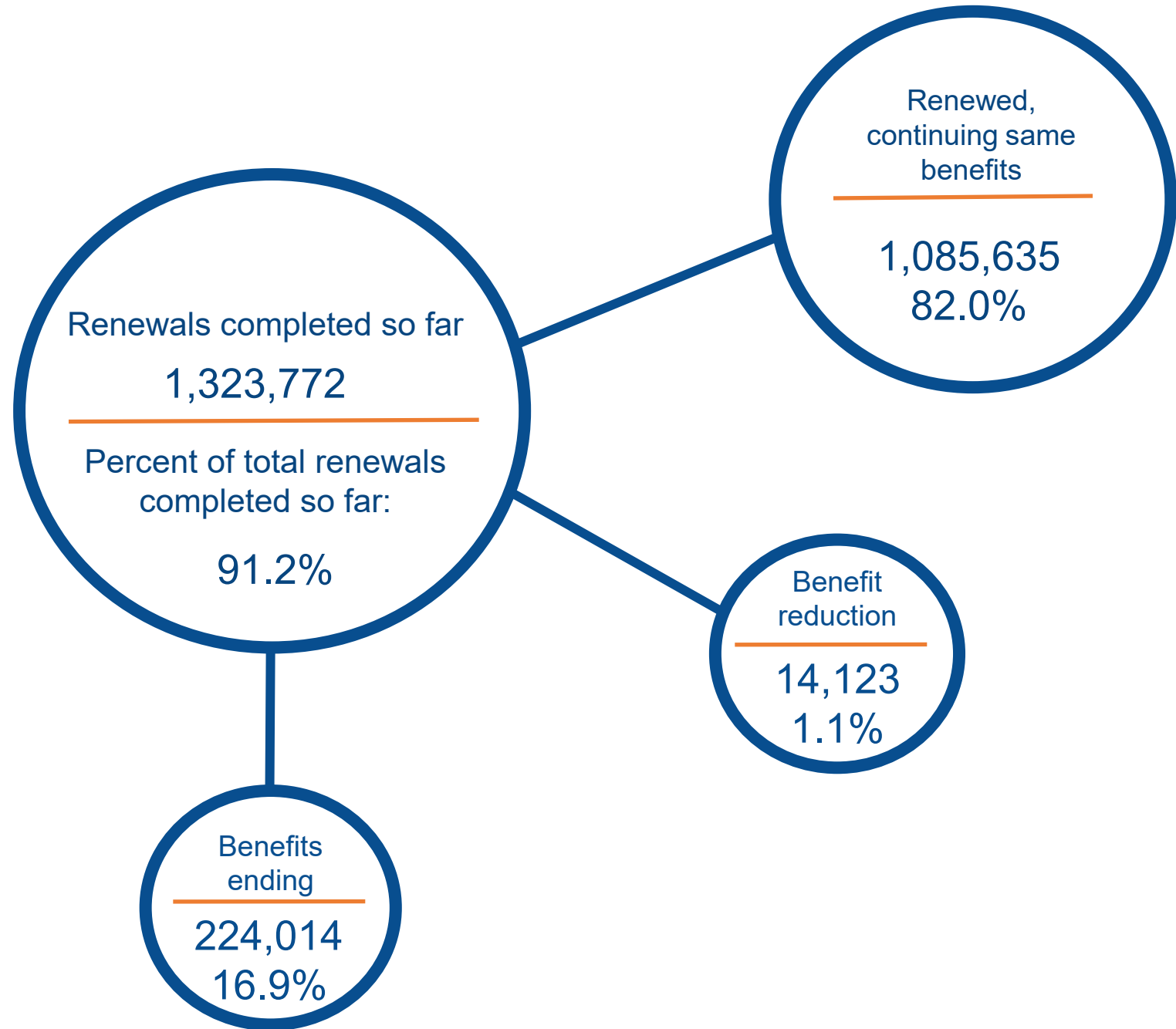
Awaiting Recipient Response
443



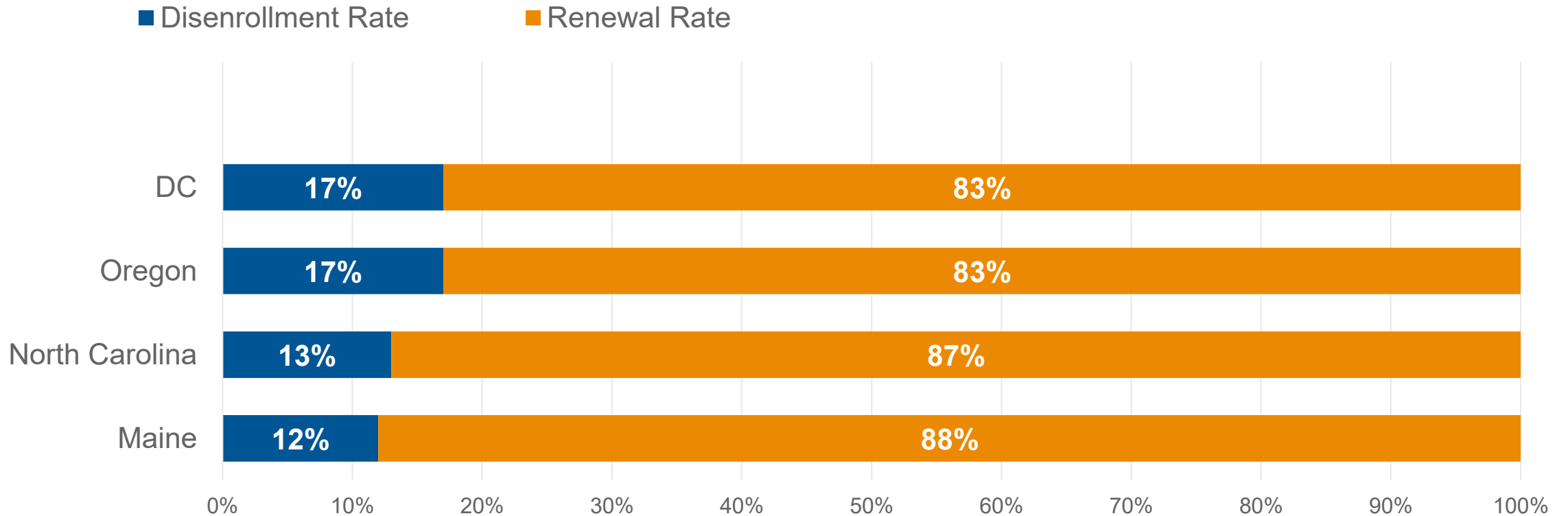
- Complete
- Awaiting State Action
- Awaiting Response
- Delayed

Renewal Outcome Summary

Completed renewals as of May 17, 2024

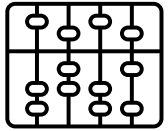


Oregon has the third highest renewal rate

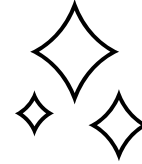


SOURCE: KFF Analysis of State Unwinding Dashboards and Monthly Reports Submitted to CMS
<https://www.kff.org/report-section/medicaid-enrollment-and-unwinding-tracker-overview/>

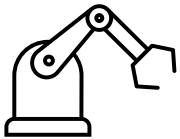
Oregon's steps to preserve coverage



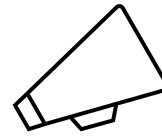
Sequencing of renewals



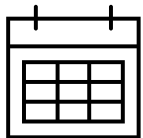
Upcoming OHP Bridge Program



Automating renewals



Outreach efforts



**Extending timelines for
response and closure**



**New Continuous Eligibility rules
reduce closures between renewals**

Improvements to the Renewal System



ONE Eligibility system changes for renewals

- Updated to handle passive renewals individually instead of by case



Medical renewal process

- No longer allowing terminations or reductions without providing the individual a chance to review and confirm case information
- Changes to requests for information at renewal to reduce confusion



Notice improvements

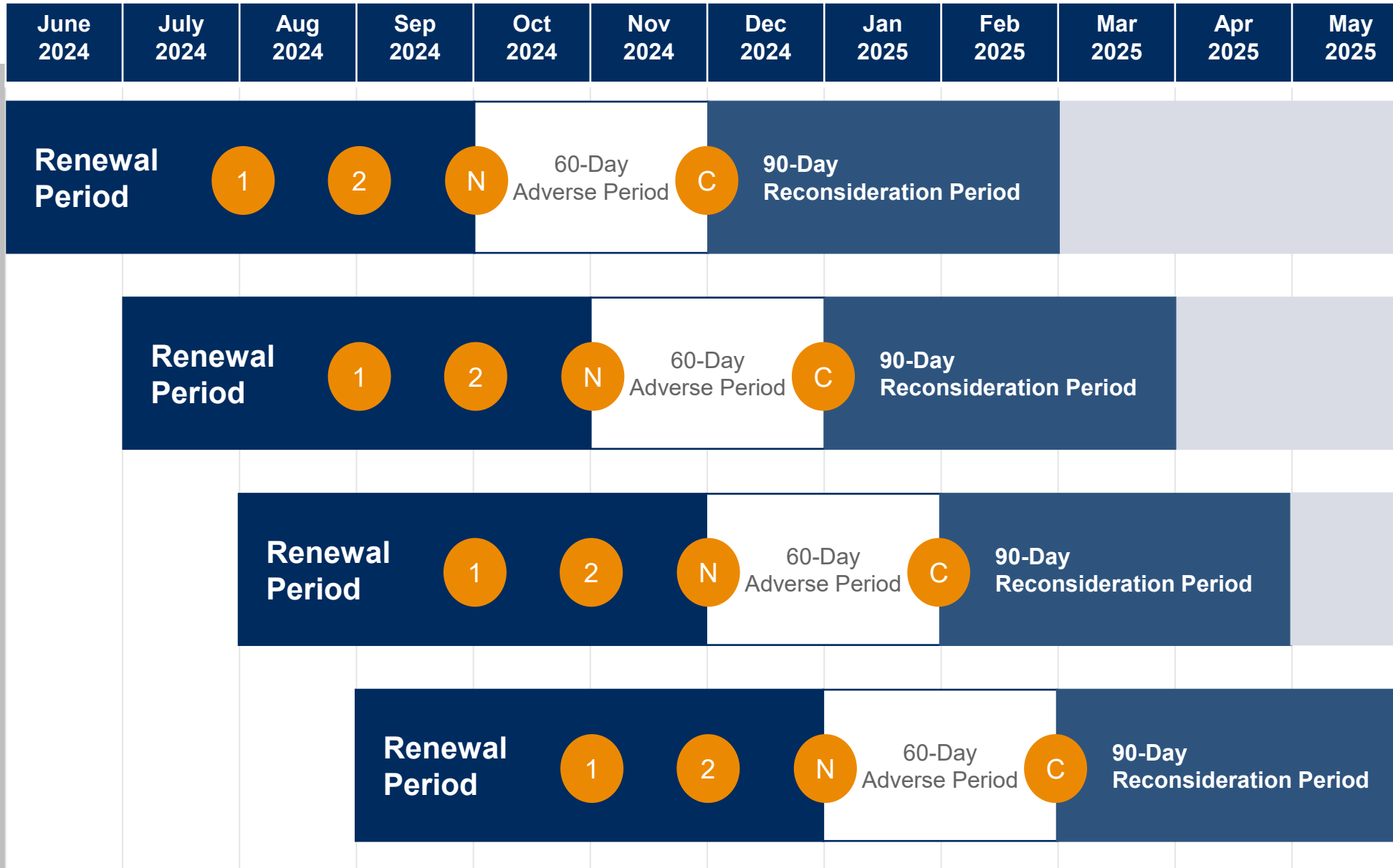
- Single renewal notice replacing previous passive and active renewal notices
- Changes to make medical eligibility and renewal notices easier to read and to give more details about decisions

Final group for medical renewals

Remaining unwinding renewals begin June 2024

- The 120,000 remaining renewals include:
 - Some people who have Oregon Supplemental Income Program-Medical (OSIPM). OSIPM provides OHP coverage to people who are legally blind, have a disability, and/or are 65 or older with limited income and financial resources.
 - Some people whose benefits were restored or whose renewals were rescheduled as part of a federal request to review automated renewal processes.
 - All other household members on cases with a member in the above groups.

Timeline for remaining unwinding renewals



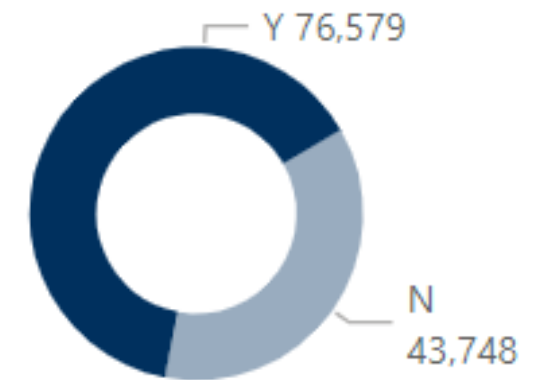
Interactive Key

- 1 1st Reminder Notice
- 2 2nd Reminder Notice
- N Notice of Closure
- C Renewal Closure
- Renewal Period
- 60-Day Adverse Period
- 90-Day Adverse Period

Remaining renewal demographics

- Compared to the overall OHP population, the final renewal group has more members who:
 - Have a disability (64 percent)
 - Are over 65 years old (42 percent)
- For members whose benefits previously closed or reduced:
 - If income and financial resources have not changed, their benefits will close or reduce.
 - Their notices will provide more information about why this happened.
- Members who have a case manager through their long-term services and supports will receive outreach.
- Staggering these renewals over 4 months allows for additional support for this population.

Disability Status



Thank You
Questions?

The logo for the Oregon Health Authority. It features the word "Oregon" in a smaller, orange, serif font positioned above the word "Health". "Health" is written in a large, blue, serif font. Below "Health", the word "Authority" is written in a smaller, orange, serif font. The entire logo is centered within a light blue, rounded rectangular background.

Oregon
Health
Authority