# Publication Definitions

**Reports to Congress:** Congressionally mandated reports addressing specific issues related to Medicaid and the State Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). The reports provide thorough analysis, findings, and sometimes recommendations based on detailed research. The chapters are often opportunities for the Commission to make policy statements that are backed by evidence from our work. The Commission carefully reviews and deliberates any policy statements in these reports. Reports to Congress are published by March 15 and June 15 annually.Top of Form

**Duals Databook:** A specialized report produced with MedPAC that delivers data and insights about people who are eligible for both Medicaid and Medicare. It includes statistics and trends to help shape policies and programs for these individuals.

**MACStats:** *MACStats: Medicaid and CHIP Data Book*, published in December, contains data and information on Medicaid and CHIP that otherwise can be difficult to find and are spread out across multiple sources. *MACStats* provides key statistics and visual data on Medicaid and CHIP. It gives a snapshot of important metrics and trends, helping readers grasp the current state and changes in these programs.

**Issue Briefs:** Issue briefs can include an analysis of a particular issue based on the evidence. They can also be descriptive and provide background to a topic of interest to the Commission, and often serve as a building block for further analytic work. These briefs are typically 11-15 pages long and often contain appendices and references.

**Access in Briefs**: Similar to issue briefs, but specifically examine how a particular population accesses care and services. Top of Form

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**Comment Letters:** Official letters from MACPAC offering evidence-based feedback and analysis based on proposed regulations or policy changes. Comment letters may also be used to craft a response to a request for information issued by a governmental entity (e.g., executive branch agency or legislative committee). These are typically discussed in advance at Commission meetings when scheduling permits.

**Policy in Brief:** Brief summaries of MACPAC work, including past policy recommendations or compendium. The purpose of a MACPAC Policy in Brief is to summarize an area of policy interest to states and Congress where MACPAC has made recommendations or has collected a body of evidence. A good Policy in Brief reflects an issue that is of timely interest to Congress or the states. In addition, the Policy in Brief format can be a good option to summarize state policy compendium in an easily digestible format. The primary audience for these briefs are congressional or state staff who need a quick read on an issue.

**Compendiums:** Extensive collections of information on various Medicaid and CHIP topics. These resources bring together definitions, data, and summaries into one comprehensive guide, providing a broad overview of key issues and trends.

**Congressional testimony:** MACPAC is occasionally called to testify before the Congress on Medicaid and CHIP issues.Top of Form