

LTC Insurance Coverage Grows In Most States

June 10, 2011 - Twenty-five states reported a double-digit percentage increase in the number of residents with long term care insurance, according to annual data compiled by the American Association for Long-Term Care Insurance (AALTCI).

Smaller states recorded the greatest percentage growth compared with the prior year's report. Alaska, for example, experienced a 130 percent growth in the number of insured individuals in the state.

Smaller states, such as Wyoming and Vermont, saw significant increases as well, with 62 percent and 48 percent growth, respectively.

According to AALTCI's research, states with the largest number of residents owning long term care insurance include California, New York, Texas, Florida, and Illinois.

"New York, with over 450,000 policy holders, recorded the largest percentage increase in covered lives with nearly 8 percent more insureds," said AALTCI Executive Director Jesse Slome.

Pennsylvania and Missouri were the only two states to see year-to-year declines in the number of residents with coverage. Declines may occur because the number of lapsed policy holders and deaths exceed the number of newly insured individuals.

"Sales of long term care insurance are increasing as more consumers recognize the importance and affordability of this protection," Slome said. "Many insurance agents are having their best years as prospects are seeking them out, something that has never occurred before."

The data are compiled in AALTCI's annual Sourcebook. For more information, contact AALTCI at (818) 597-3227.

—Meg LaPorte