# LFD Medicaid Model 

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## General Approach

- Data driven
- Actuals from prior years
- Observed expenditure trends
- Input from independent economic variables
- Time series model
- Annual and monthly data point relationships
- Incorporates long-term and short-term trends
- Implicitly accounts for inflationary factors


## The data

- Medicaid paid claims data (actuals)
- Most current data are two months old
- May be paid up to about two years after date of service
- Reported and modeled by service category
- Modeled monthly and rolled up to annual
- Independent economic variables
- IHS econometrics as used throughout LFD forecasts
- Use two-year forecasts rather than actuals for fitting
- Incorporated only when model fit is improved


## Components of a time series model

- Trend: the general tendency of an increase over time
- Seasonal: fluctuations within a year during the season
- Cyclical: medium-term cycles, generally over two or more years
- Irregular variation: unpredictable influences outside of regular patterns


## Seasonal ARMA

- MA: Moving average (trend)
- Accounts for the prior time period's value for the error between the model and the actuals
- AR: Autoregressive (cyclical)
- Accounts for the prior time period's value for a variable when making future predictions for that variable
- Seasonal (seasonal)
- Accounts for AR or MA effects over seasons as well as over consecutive time periods


## Example: Mid-Level Practitioner



## Transition to annual data



Annual MLP fit


## In Summary

- Solely a numerical, statistical model
- Relies on relationships between years and growth trends as seen in prior years
- Modeled at a granular level and rolled up to useful values

