

# Arkansas

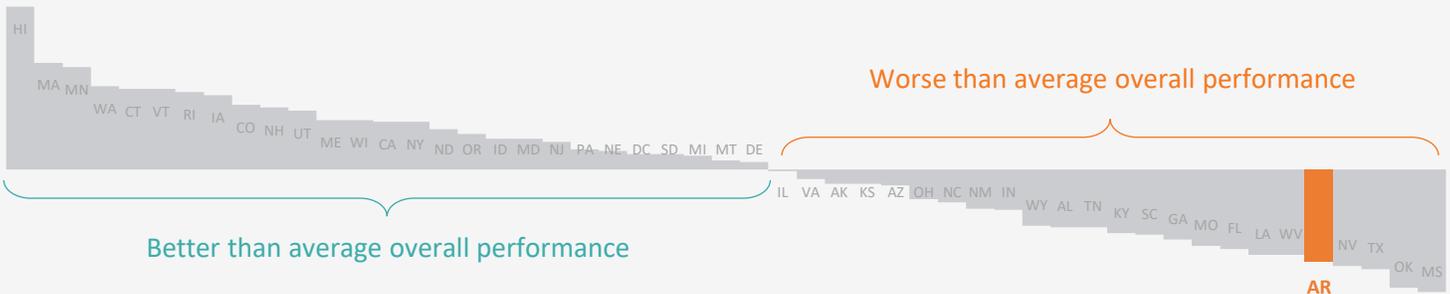
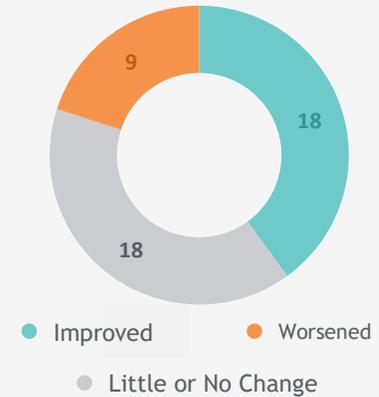


The Commonwealth Fund

## Ranking Highlights<sup>a</sup>

	National Rank		Rank Among Southeastern States	
	2019	Change from baseline	2019	Change from baseline
Overall	47 of 51	+1	11 of 12	-1
Access & Affordability	37	+7	5	+3
Prevention & Treatment	47	+2	12	0
Avoidable Use & Cost	38	-3	7	0
Healthy Lives	45	+1	9	0
Health Care Disparities	50	-11	11	-7

## How Health Care in Arkansas Has Changed<sup>b</sup>



### Top-Ranked Indicators

- Home health patients without improved mobility
- Employer-sponsored insurance spending per enrollee
- Adults with inappropriate lower back imaging

### Bottom-Ranked Indicators

- Adults who have lost six or more teeth
- Infant mortality
- Hospital 30-day mortality

### Most Improved Indicators

- Nursing home residents with an antipsychotic medication
- Home health patients without improved mobility
- Uninsured adults

### Indicators That Worsened the Most

- Preventable hospitalizations ages 18–64
- Hospital 30-day mortality
- Children who did not receive needed mental health care

## Estimated Impact of State Improvement<sup>c</sup>

Top state in the U.S.	Top state in the Southeast region	Arkansas could expect the following gains if performance in the state improved to the top level at these national and regional benchmarks:
165,846	99,844	more adults and children, beyond those who already gained coverage through the ACA, would be insured
176,922	88,461	fewer adults would skip needed care because of its cost
158,094	105,396	more adults would receive age- and gender-appropriate cancer screenings
9,196	5,410	more children (ages 19–35 months) would receive all recommended vaccines
1,914	1,205	fewer premature deaths (before age 75) would occur from causes that are potentially treatable or preventable with timely and appropriate care
69,853	17,066	fewer employer-insured adults and elderly Medicare beneficiaries would seek care in emergency departments for nonemergent or primary-care-treatable conditions

**Table 1. State Health System Performance Indicator Data by Dimension**

Dimension and indicator	Data year	State rate	U.S. average	Best state rate	State ranking	Data year	State rate	U.S. average	Change over time <sup>b</sup>
<b>Access &amp; Affordability</b>	<b>2019 Scorecard</b>					<b>Baseline</b>			
Adults ages 19–64 uninsured	2017	12	12	4	27	2013	24	20	Improved
Children ages 0–18 uninsured	2017	5	5	1	26	2013	6	8	No Change
Adults age 18 and older without a usual source of care	2017	20	23	12	20	2013	23	24	Improved
Adults age 18 and older who went without care because of cost in past year	2017	16	14	8	42	2013	21	16	Improved
Individuals under age 65 with high out-of-pocket medical costs relative to their annual household income	2016-17	13	10	5	47	2013-14	16	11	Improved
Employee insurance costs as a share of median income	2017	7.5	6.9	4.8	37	2013	7.2	6.5	No Change
Adults age 18 and older without a dental visit in past year	2016	16	16	10	31	2012	19	15	Improved
<b>Prevention &amp; Treatment</b>	<b>2019 Scorecard</b>					<b>Baseline</b>			
Adults without all age- and gender-appropriate cancer screenings	2016	36	32	24	40	2012	39	31	Improved
Adults without age-appropriate flu and pneumonia vaccines	2017	61	62	54	23	2013	63	64	No Change
Diabetic adults without an annual hemoglobin A1c test	2016	13.2	12	5.6	35	2015	17.7	16.9	Improved
Elderly patients who received a high-risk prescription drug	2015	13	11	5	41	--	--	--	--
Children without a medical home	2017	57	51	39	47	2016	52	51	Worsened
Children without age-appropriate medical and dental preventive care visits in the past year	2017	36	32	18	43	2016	41	32	Improved
Children who did not receive needed mental health care	2017	31	22	4	41	2016	15	18	Worsened
Children ages 19–35 months who did not receive all recommended vaccines	2016	32	29	15	36	2012	34	32	No Change
Hospital 30-day mortality	2014-17	15.1	13.9	12.8	51	2010-13	14.1	13.2	Worsened
Central line-associated bloodstream infections (CLABSI), Standardized Infection Ratio	2016	1.00	0.89	0.36	43	2015	1.10	0.99	No Change
Hospitals with lower-than-average patient experience ratings	2017	34	45	9	18	--	--	--	--
Home health patients without improved mobility	2017	21	25	20	3	2013	39	39	Improved
Nursing home residents with an antipsychotic medication	2017	15	15	7	16	2013	24	21	Improved
Adults with any mental illness reporting unmet need	2014-16	23	21	16	40	2009-11	28	21	Improved
Adults with any mental illness who did not receive treatment	2014-16	57	56	42	33	2009-11	58	59	No Change

**Table 1. State Health System Performance Indicator Data by Dimension (continued)**

Dimension and indicator	Data year	State rate	U.S. average	Best state rate	State ranking	Data year	State rate	U.S. average	Change over time <sup>b</sup>
<b>Avoidable Hospital Use &amp; Cost</b>						<b>2019 Scorecard</b>		<b>Baseline</b>	
Hospital admissions for pediatric asthma, per 100,000 children ages 2–17	2015	69.0	87.2	21.7	18	2012	80.6	142.9	No Change
Potentially avoidable emergency department visits									
Ages 18–64, per 1,000 employer-insured enrollees	2016	144.0	142.2	115.9	30	2015	157.1	159.0	Improved
Age 65 and older, per 1,000 Medicare beneficiaries	2015	200.2	196.9	138.3	34	2012	185.0	187.8	Worsened
Admissions for ambulatory care–sensitive conditions									
Ages 18–64, per 1,000 employer-insured enrollees	2016	7.3	5.3	5.3	40	2015	5.3	4.6	Worsened
Ages 65–74, per 1,000 Medicare beneficiaries	2017	50.3	43.9	21.7	39	2013	55	47.7	No Change
30-day hospital readmissions									
Ages 18–64, per 1,000 employer-insured enrollees	2016	3.1	3.1	2.4	17	2015	3	2.9	No Change
Age 65 and older, per 1,000 Medicare beneficiaries	2017	43.9	41	19.7	35	2013	44.7	43.5	No Change
Skilled nursing facility patients with a hospital readmission	2016	22	19	11	47	2012	25	20	Improved
Long-stay nursing home residents hospitalized within a six-month period	2016	23	15	5	48	2012	26	17	Improved
Home health patients also enrolled in Medicare with a hospital admission	2017	17	16	14	40	2013	17	16	No Change
Adults with inappropriate lower back imaging	2016	64.8	68.9	57.7	9	2015	67.8	71.1	Improved
Employer-sponsored insurance spending per enrollee	2016	\$3,623	\$4,882	\$3,255	3	2013	\$3,117	\$4,697	Worsened
Medicare spending per beneficiary	2017	\$9,799	\$9,534	\$6,195	39	2013	\$8,798	\$9,081	Worsened
<b>Healthy Lives</b>						<b>2019 Scorecard</b>		<b>Baseline</b>	
Mortality amenable to health care, deaths per 100,000 population	2014-15	123.6	84.3	54.7	47	2010-11	115.7	85.3	No Change
Breast cancer deaths per 100,000 female population	2017	20.8	19.9	15.6	32	2013	21.4	20.8	No Change
Colorectal cancer deaths per 100,000 population	2017	14.9	12.9	9.3	43	2013	17.7	14.6	Improved
Suicide deaths per 100,000 population	2017	20.8	14	6.6	43	2013	17.3	12.6	Worsened
Alcohol-related deaths per 100,000 population	2017	7.9	9.6	5.5	12	2013	5.9	8.2	No Change
Drug poisoning deaths per 100,000 population	2017	15.5	21.7	8.1	17	2013	11.1	13.8	No Change
Infant mortality, deaths per 1,000 live births	2016	8.2	5.9	3.5	49	2012	7.1	6	Worsened
Adults who report fair or poor health	2017	21	17	9	48	2013	22	16	No Change
Adults who smoke	2017	22	16	9	45	2013	26	18	Improved
Adults who are obese	2017	36	31	23	44	2013	37	29	No Change
Children who are overweight or obese	2017	27	31	21	16	2016	34	31	Improved
Adults who have lost six or more teeth	2016	16	10	6	48	2012	17	10	No Change

**Table 2. State Disparity Indicator Data**

Dimension and indicator	Data year	2019 Scorecard			State ranking	Baseline			Change over time <sup>f</sup>
		Low-income rate <sup>d</sup>	Disparity <sup>e</sup>			Data year	Low-income rate <sup>d</sup>	Disparity <sup>e</sup>	
<b>Disparity</b>		<b>2019 Scorecard</b>				<b>Baseline</b>			
Adults ages 19–64 uninsured	2017	18	-13	17	2013	40	-31	Improved	
Children ages 0–18 uninsured	2017	6	-4	15	2013	7	-2	No Change	
Adults age 18 and older without a usual source of care	2017	21	-7	19	2013	28	-16	Improved	
Adults age 18 and older who went without care because of cost in past year	2017	25	-17	32	2013	32	-24	Improved	
Individuals under age 65 with high out-of-pocket medical costs relative to their annual household income	2016-17	28	-26	29	2013-14	28	-26	No Change	
Adults age 18 and older without a dental visit in past year	2016	23	-14	30	2012	27	-15	Improved	
Adults without all age- and gender-appropriate cancer screenings	2016	38	-10	23	2012	41	-14	Improved	
Adults without age-appropriate flu and pneumonia vaccines	2017	65	-11	45	2013	66	-10	No Change	
Children without a medical home	2017	70	-32	43	2016	59	-23	Worsened	
Children without age-appropriate medical and dental preventive care visits in the past year	2017	42	-17	35	2016	44	-17	No Change	
Children ages 19–35 months who did not receive all recommended vaccines	2016	36	-16	42	2012	35	-2	Worsened	
Hospital admissions for pediatric asthma, per 100,000 children ages 2–17	2015	80.3	--	--	2012	92	--	--	
Potentially avoidable emergency department visits, Medicare beneficiaries age 65 and older, per 1,000 beneficiaries	2014	384.6	-214.3	29	2012	355.1	-200.6	Worsened	
Hospital admissions for ambulatory care-sensitive conditions, Medicare beneficiaries age 65 and older, per 1,000 beneficiaries	2015	120	-74.7	46	2012	129.6	-61.6	No Change	
30-day hospital readmissions among, Medicare beneficiaries age 65 and older, per 1,000 beneficiaries	2015	70	-41.2	44	2012	81.7	-45.3	Improved	
Adults who report fair or poor health	2017	39	-31	50	2013	29	-19	Worsened	
Adults who smoke	2017	35	-24	48	2013	38	-25	Improved	
Adults who are obese	2017	52	-17	48	2013	43	-9	Worsened	
Adults who have lost six or more teeth	2016	23	-17	37	2012	24	-17	No Change	

**Notes**

(a) The 2019 Scorecard rankings generally reflect 2017 data. The 2019 Scorecard added or revised several performance measures since the May 2018 Scorecard report; rankings are not comparable between reports. Rank change from the baseline period represents states' rank difference from the baseline data year (generally 2012 or 2013). Positive values represent an improvement in rank; negative values are a worsening in rank.

(b) Trend data available for 45 of 47 total Scorecard indicators. Improved/worsened denotes a change of at least one half (0.5) standard deviation larger than the indicator's distribution among all states over the two time points. No change denotes no change in rate or a change of less than one-half standard deviation.

(c) Estimated impact if this state's performance improved to the rate of two benchmark levels — a national benchmark set at the level of the best-performing state and a regional benchmark set at the level of the top-performing state in region ([www.bea.gov](http://www.bea.gov): Great Lakes, Mid-Atlantic, New England, Plains, Rocky Mountains, Southeast, Southwest, West). Benchmark states have an estimated impact of zero (0). Equivalent estimated impact based on national and regional benchmarks indicate that the best observed rate in the region was equal to the best observed rate nationally.

(d) Rates are for states' low income population, generally those whose household income is under 200% FPL.

(e) Disparity is the difference between the states' low-income and higher-income (400%+ FPL) populations.

(f) Improvement indicates that the low-income rate improved and the disparity between low- and higher-income populations narrowed; worsening indicates the low-income rate worsened and the disparity between low- and higher-income populations widened.