

# Washington

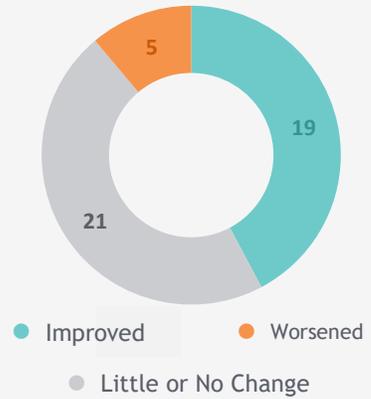


The Commonwealth Fund

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

	National Rank		Rank Among Western States	
	2019	Change from baseline	2019	Change from baseline
Overall	4 of 51	+10	2 of 6	0
Access & Affordability	13	+12	2	0
Prevention & Treatment	18	+15	2	0
Avoidable Use & Cost	3	+3	2	+1
Healthy Lives	8	+3	3	0
Health Care Disparities	6	+15	2	+1

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



### Top-Ranked Indicators

- Preventable hospitalizations ages 18–64
- Diabetic adults without an annual hemoglobin A1c test
- Hospital 30-day readmission rate ages 18–64

### Bottom-Ranked Indicators

- Adults with any mental illness reporting unmet need
- Hospital 30-day mortality
- Adults with inappropriate lower back imaging

### Most Improved Indicators

- Home health patients without improved mobility
- Children without all recommended vaccines
- Uninsured adults

### Indicators That Worsened the Most

- Hospital 30-day readmission rate ages 18–64
- Hospital 30-day mortality
- Preventable hospitalizations ages 18–64

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

Top state in the U.S.	Top state in the West region	Washington could expect the following gains if performance in the state improved to the top level at these national and regional benchmarks:
265,284	201,755	more adults and children, beyond those who already gained coverage through the ACA, would be insured
173,888	173,888	fewer adults would skip needed care because of its cost
278,741	209,056	more adults would receive age- and gender-appropriate cancer screenings
11,868	0	more children (ages 19–35 months) would receive all recommended vaccines
547	0	fewer premature deaths (before age 75) would occur from causes that are potentially treatable or preventable with timely and appropriate care
68,876	60,396	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	9	12	4	18	2013	20	20	Improved
Children ages 0–18 uninsured	2017	3	5	1	4	2013	7	8	Improved
Adults age 18 and older without a usual source of care	2017	24	23	12	31	2013	28	24	Improved
Adults age 18 and older who went without care because of cost in past year	2017	11	14	8	12	2013	15	16	Improved
Individuals under age 65 with high out-of-pocket medical costs relative to their annual household income	2016-17	8	10	5	5	2013-14	10	11	Improved
Employee insurance costs as a share of median income	2017	5.1	6.9	4.8	3	2013	5.0	6.5	No Change
Adults age 18 and older without a dental visit in past year	2016	15	16	10	22	2012	14	15	No Change
<b>Prevention &amp; Treatment</b>	<b>2019 Scorecard</b>					<b>Baseline</b>			
Adults without all age- and gender-appropriate cancer screenings	2016	32	32	24	20	2012	31	31	No Change
Adults without age-appropriate flu and pneumonia vaccines	2017	57	62	54	8	2013	61	64	Improved
Diabetic adults without an annual hemoglobin A1c test	2016	7.1	12	5.6	2	2015	12.7	16.9	Improved
Elderly patients who received a high-risk prescription drug	2015	10	11	5	19	--	--	--	--
Children without a medical home	2017	44	51	39	7	2016	52	51	Improved
Children without age-appropriate medical and dental preventive care visits in the past year	2017	28	32	18	17	2016	27	32	No Change
Children who did not receive needed mental health care	2017	24	22	4	34	2016	20	18	No Change
Children ages 19–35 months who did not receive all recommended vaccines	2016	24	29	15	10	2012	35	32	Improved
Hospital 30-day mortality	2014-17	14.6	13.9	12.8	43	2010-13	13.9	13.2	Worsened
Central line-associated bloodstream infections (CLABSI), Standardized Infection Ratio	2016	0.71	0.89	0.36	10	2015	0.87	0.99	Improved
Hospitals with lower-than-average patient experience ratings	2017	48	45	9	34	--	--	--	--
Home health patients without improved mobility	2017	26	25	20	28	2013	44	39	Improved
Nursing home residents with an antipsychotic medication	2017	15	15	7	16	2013	19	21	Improved
Adults with any mental illness reporting unmet need	2014-16	24	21	16	42	2009-11	26	21	Improved
Adults with any mental illness who did not receive treatment	2014-16	54	56	42	17	2009-11	53	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	52.5	87.2	21.7	9	2012	83.6	142.9	Improved
Potentially avoidable emergency department visits									
Ages 18–64, per 1,000 employer-insured enrollees	2016	125.8	142.2	115.9	8	2015	137.5	159.0	Improved
Age 65 and older, per 1,000 Medicare beneficiaries	2015	175.0	196.9	138.3	12	2012	157.3	187.8	Worsened
Admissions for ambulatory care–sensitive conditions									
Ages 18–64, per 1,000 employer-insured enrollees	2016	5.6	5.3	5.3	1	2015	3.3	4.6	Worsened
Ages 65–74, per 1,000 Medicare beneficiaries	2017	28.5	43.9	21.7	8	2013	31.5	47.7	No Change
30-day hospital readmissions									
Ages 18–64, per 1,000 employer-insured enrollees	2016	2.7	3.1	2.4	3	2015	2.2	2.9	Worsened
Age 65 and older, per 1,000 Medicare beneficiaries	2017	28.7	41	19.7	10	2013	30.6	43.5	No Change
Skilled nursing facility patients with a hospital readmission	2016	15	19	11	6	2012	17	20	Improved
Long-stay nursing home residents hospitalized within a six-month period	2016	12	15	5	10	2012	13	17	No Change
Home health patients also enrolled in Medicare with a hospital admission	2017	15	16	14	5	2013	15	16	No Change
Adults with inappropriate lower back imaging	2016	76.5	68.9	57.7	49	2015	78	71.1	No Change
Employer-sponsored insurance spending per enrollee	2016	\$4,629	\$4,882	\$3,255	19	2013	\$4,545	\$4,697	No Change
Medicare spending per beneficiary	2017	\$7,800	\$9,534	\$6,195	8	2013	\$7,359	\$9,081	No Change
<b>Healthy Lives</b>						<b>2019 Scorecard</b>		<b>Baseline</b>	
Mortality amenable to health care, deaths per 100,000 population	2014-15	62.4	84.3	54.7	7	2010-11	64.1	85.3	No Change
Breast cancer deaths per 100,000 female population	2017	19.3	19.9	15.6	20	2013	20.5	20.8	Improved
Colorectal cancer deaths per 100,000 population	2017	11.9	12.9	9.3	13	2013	12.8	14.6	No Change
Suicide deaths per 100,000 population	2017	16.9	14	6.6	30	2013	14	12.6	Worsened
Alcohol-related deaths per 100,000 population	2017	13.4	9.6	5.5	40	2013	13.3	8.2	No Change
Drug poisoning deaths per 100,000 population	2017	15.2	21.7	8.1	16	2013	13.4	13.8	No Change
Infant mortality, deaths per 1,000 live births	2016	4.3	5.9	3.5	6	2012	5.3	6	Improved
Adults who report fair or poor health	2017	15	17	9	19	2013	15	16	No Change
Adults who smoke	2017	14	16	9	5	2013	16	18	Improved
Adults who are obese	2017	28	31	23	11	2013	27	29	No Change
Children who are overweight or obese	2017	25	31	21	8	2016	25	31	No Change
Adults who have lost six or more teeth	2016	7	10	6	5	2012	8	10	No Change

**Table 2. State Disparity Indicator Data**

Dimension and indicator	Data year	Low-income rate <sup>d</sup>	Disparity <sup>e</sup>	State ranking	Data year	Low-income rate <sup>d</sup>	Disparity <sup>e</sup>	Change over time <sup>f</sup>
<b>Disparity</b>								
Adults ages 19–64 uninsured	2017	17	-13	17	2013	40	-33	Improved
Children ages 0–18 uninsured	2017	3	-1	1	2013	9	-6	Improved
Adults age 18 and older without a usual source of care	2017	30	-12	32	2013	37	-22	Improved
Adults age 18 and older who went without care because of cost in past year	2017	17	-9	7	2013	31	-25	Improved
Individuals under age 65 with high out-of-pocket medical costs relative to their annual household income	2016-17	25	-23	15	2013-14	25	-23	No Change
Adults age 18 and older without a dental visit in past year	2016	26	-15	39	2012	25	-17	No Change
Adults without all age- and gender-appropriate cancer screenings	2016	35	-8	15	2012	39	-15	Improved
Adults without age-appropriate flu and pneumonia vaccines	2017	62	-10	37	2013	65	-13	Improved
Children without a medical home	2017	52	-16	6	2016	65	-24	Improved
Children without age-appropriate medical and dental preventive care visits in the past year	2017	33	-9	15	2016	32	-8	Worsened
Children ages 19–35 months who did not receive all recommended vaccines	2016	28	-10	20	2012	35	0	No Change
Hospital admissions for pediatric asthma, per 100,000 children ages 2–17	2015	47	6.9	1	2012	82.3	-4	No Change
Potentially avoidable emergency department visits, Medicare beneficiaries age 65 and older, per 1,000 beneficiaries	2014	317.3	-160.6	13	2012	281.2	-140.8	Worsened
Hospital admissions for ambulatory care-sensitive conditions, Medicare beneficiaries age 65 and older, per 1,000 beneficiaries	2015	69.9	-40.4	10	2012	66.6	-29.7	Worsened
30-day hospital readmissions among, Medicare beneficiaries age 65 and older, per 1,000 beneficiaries	2015	40.4	-19.5	12	2012	49.7	-23.7	Improved
Adults who report fair or poor health	2017	29	-21	16	2013	29	-23	Improved
Adults who smoke	2017	22	-12	12	2013	24	-16	Improved
Adults who are obese	2017	39	-13	38	2013	36	-9	Worsened
Adults who have lost six or more teeth	2016	14	-11	15	2012	14	-10	Worsened

**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.