

Alaska

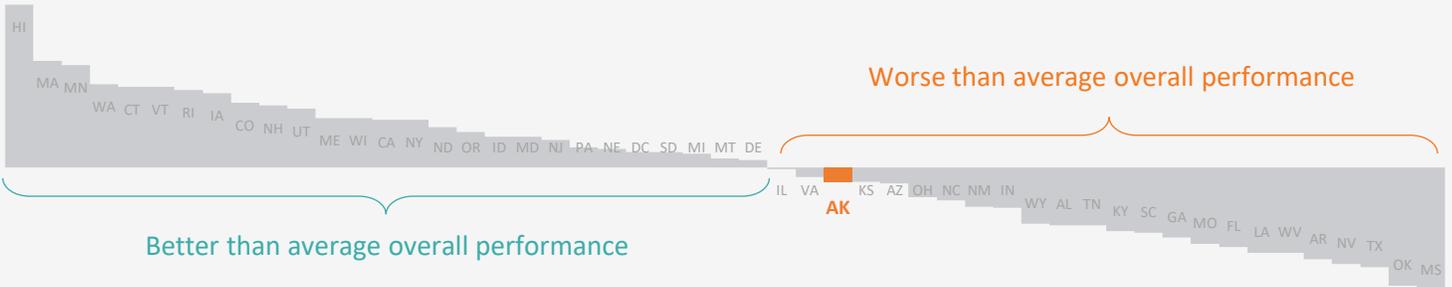
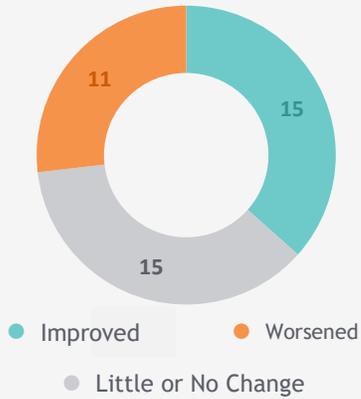


The Commonwealth Fund

Ranking Highlights^a

	National Rank		Rank Among Western States	
	2019	Change from baseline	2019	Change from baseline
Overall	30 of 51	+5	5 of 6	0
Access & Affordability	39	0	5	0
Prevention & Treatment	38	+12	5	0
Avoidable Use & Cost	8	+10	4	0
Healthy Lives	36	-3	5	0
Health Care Disparities	14	+3	5	-3

How Health Care in Alaska Has Changed^b



Top-Ranked Indicators

- Home health patients with a hospital admission
- Skilled nursing facility patients with a hospital readmission
- Medicare spending per beneficiary

Bottom-Ranked Indicators

- Employer-sponsored insurance spending per enrollee
- Suicide deaths
- Home health patients without improved mobility

Most Improved Indicators

- High out-of-pocket medical spending
- Home health patients without improved mobility
- Children without all recommended vaccines

Indicators That Worsened the Most

- Hospital 30-day mortality
- Adults who are obese
- Preventable hospitalizations ages 18–64

Estimated Impact of State Improvement^c

Top state in the U.S.	Top state in the West region	Alaska could expect the following gains if performance in the state improved to the top level at these national and regional benchmarks:
78,458	72,170	more adults and children, beyond those who already gained coverage through the ACA, would be insured
21,450	21,450	fewer adults would skip needed care because of its cost
37,483	31,236	more adults would receive age- and gender-appropriate cancer screenings
2,516	1,101	more children (ages 19–35 months) would receive all recommended vaccines
129	75	fewer premature deaths (before age 75) would occur from causes that are potentially treatable or preventable with timely and appropriate care
19,654	18,850	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 ^b
Access & Affordability	2019 Scorecard					Baseline			
Adults ages 19–64 uninsured	2017	18	12	4	46	2013	24	20	Improved
Children ages 0–18 uninsured	2017	10	5	1	47	2013	12	8	Improved
Adults age 18 and older without a usual source of care	2017	31	23	12	48	2013	33	24	No Change
Adults age 18 and older who went without care because of cost in past year	2017	12	14	8	18	2013	14	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	14	11	Improved
Employee insurance costs as a share of median income	2017	7.2	6.9	4.8	34	2013	5.9	6.5	Worsened
Adults age 18 and older without a dental visit in past year	2016	15	16	10	22	2012	14	15	No Change
Prevention & Treatment	2019 Scorecard					Baseline			
Adults without all age- and gender-appropriate cancer screenings	2016	36	32	24	40	2012	37	31	No Change
Adults without age-appropriate flu and pneumonia vaccines	2017	66	62	54	47	2013	67	64	No Change
Diabetic adults without an annual hemoglobin A1c test	2016	11.5	12	5.6	25	2015	16.4	16.9	Improved
Elderly patients who received a high-risk prescription drug	2015	10	11	5	19	--	--	--	--
Children without a medical home	2017	52	51	39	32	2016	52	51	No Change
Children without age-appropriate medical and dental preventive care visits in the past year	2017	37	32	18	46	2016	37	32	No Change
Children who did not receive needed mental health care	2017	11	22	4	15	2016	24	18	Improved
Children ages 19–35 months who did not receive all recommended vaccines	2016	31	29	15	33	2012	40	32	Improved
Hospital 30-day mortality	2014-17	14.4	13.9	12.8	38	2010-13	13.7	13.2	Worsened
Central line-associated bloodstream infections (CLABSI), Standardized Infection Ratio	2016	0.87	0.89	0.36	28	2015	1.09	0.99	Improved
Hospitals with lower-than-average patient experience ratings	2017	29	45	9	13	--	--	--	--
Home health patients without improved mobility	2017	35	25	20	51	2013	51	39	Improved
Nursing home residents with an antipsychotic medication	2017	12	15	7	5	2013	13	21	No Change
Adults with any mental illness reporting unmet need	2014-16	18	21	16	7	2009-11	22	21	Improved
Adults with any mental illness who did not receive treatment	2014-16	62	56	42	46	2009-11	67	59	Improved

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 ^b
Avoidable Hospital Use & Cost						2019 Scorecard		Baseline	
Hospital admissions for pediatric asthma, per 100,000 children ages 2–17	2015	--	87.2	21.7	--	2012	61.9	142.9	--
Potentially avoidable emergency department visits									
Ages 18–64, per 1,000 employer-insured enrollees	2016	149.8	142.2	115.9	34	2015	166.0	159.0	Improved
Age 65 and older, per 1,000 Medicare beneficiaries	2015	212.9	196.9	138.3	41	2012	204.7	187.8	No Change
Admissions for ambulatory care–sensitive conditions									
Ages 18–64, per 1,000 employer-insured enrollees	2016	6.5	5.3	5.3	17	2015	4.4	4.6	Worsened
Ages 65–74, per 1,000 Medicare beneficiaries	2017	25.9	43.9	21.7	5	2013	--	47.7	--
30-day hospital readmissions									
Ages 18–64, per 1,000 employer-insured enrollees	2016	3	3.1	2.4	9	2015	2.6	2.9	Worsened
Age 65 and older, per 1,000 Medicare beneficiaries	2017	24.1	41	19.7	4	2013	26.1	43.5	No Change
Skilled nursing facility patients with a hospital readmission	2016	11	19	11	1	2012	--	20	--
Long-stay nursing home residents hospitalized within a six-month period	2016	13	15	5	14	2012	--	17	--
Home health patients also enrolled in Medicare with a hospital admission	2017	14	16	14	1	2013	14	16	No Change
Adults with inappropriate lower back imaging	2016	69	68.9	57.7	27	2015	74.5	71.1	Improved
Employer-sponsored insurance spending per enrollee	2016	\$8,042	\$4,882	\$3,255	49	2013	\$7,186	\$4,697	Worsened
Medicare spending per beneficiary	2017	\$6,626	\$9,534	\$6,195	2	2013	\$5,792	\$9,081	Worsened
Healthy Lives						2019 Scorecard		Baseline	
Mortality amenable to health care, deaths per 100,000 population	2014-15	73.2	84.3	54.7	19	2010-11	72.1	85.3	No Change
Breast cancer deaths per 100,000 female population	2017	16.3	19.9	15.6	2	2013	19.3	20.8	Improved
Colorectal cancer deaths per 100,000 population	2017	15.4	12.9	9.3	46	2013	16.4	14.6	No Change
Suicide deaths per 100,000 population	2017	27	14	6.6	50	2013	23.2	12.6	Worsened
Alcohol-related deaths per 100,000 population	2017	20.2	9.6	5.5	47	2013	16.7	8.2	Worsened
Drug poisoning deaths per 100,000 population	2017	20.2	21.7	8.1	23	2013	14.4	13.8	Worsened
Infant mortality, deaths per 1,000 live births	2016	5.2	5.9	3.5	14	2012	5.1	6	No Change
Adults who report fair or poor health	2017	17	17	9	27	2013	14	16	Worsened
Adults who smoke	2017	21	16	9	41	2013	23	18	Improved
Adults who are obese	2017	34	31	23	39	2013	28	29	Worsened
Children who are overweight or obese	2017	24	31	21	4	2016	26	31	No Change
Adults who have lost six or more teeth	2016	10	10	6	24	2012	9	10	No Change

Table 2. State Disparity Indicator Data

Dimension and indicator	Data year	Low-income rate ^d	Disparity ^e	State ranking	Data year	Low-income rate ^d	Disparity ^e	Change over time ^f
Disparity	2019 Scorecard				Baseline			
Adults ages 19–64 uninsured	2017	26	-15	25	2013	46	-34	Improved
Children ages 0–18 uninsured	2017	12	-7	30	2013	12	-6	Worsened
Adults age 18 and older without a usual source of care	2017	31	-6	13	2013	38	-13	Improved
Adults age 18 and older who went without care because of cost in past year	2017	14	-4	1	2013	23	-15	Improved
Individuals under age 65 with high out-of-pocket medical costs relative to their annual household income	2016-17	24	-20	6	2013-14	24	-20	No Change
Adults age 18 and older without a dental visit in past year	2016	14	-5	2	2012	18	-7	Improved
Adults without all age- and gender-appropriate cancer screenings	2016	34	1	1	2012	39	-6	Improved
Adults without age-appropriate flu and pneumonia vaccines	2017	71	-8	28	2013	71	-9	Improved
Children without a medical home	2017	59	-22	21	2016	65	-27	Improved
Children without age-appropriate medical and dental preventive care visits in the past year	2017	38	-5	8	2016	49	-20	Improved
Children ages 19–35 months who did not receive all recommended vaccines	2016	42	-23	47	2012	48	-18	No Change
Hospital admissions for pediatric asthma, per 100,000 children ages 2–17	2015	--	--	--	2012	--	--	--
Potentially avoidable emergency department visits, Medicare beneficiaries age 65 and older, per 1,000 beneficiaries	2014	452.6	-281.2	51	2012	441.8	-282.3	No Change
Hospital admissions for ambulatory care-sensitive conditions, Medicare beneficiaries age 65 and older, per 1,000 beneficiaries	2015	76.7	-51.3	21	2012	82.5	-43.4	No Change
30-day hospital readmissions among, Medicare beneficiaries age 65 and older, per 1,000 beneficiaries	2015	33.6	-18.2	9	2012	42.7	-21.8	Improved
Adults who report fair or poor health	2017	33	-23	26	2013	23	-15	Worsened
Adults who smoke	2017	39	-26	50	2013	34	-18	Worsened
Adults who are obese	2017	39	-7	10	2013	34	-7	No Change
Adults who have lost six or more teeth	2016	23	-18	40	2012	18	-13	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: 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.