

North Carolina

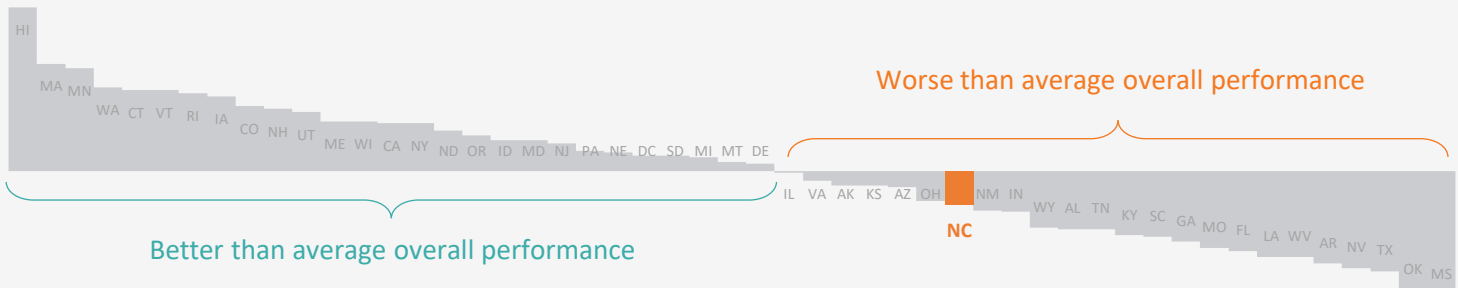
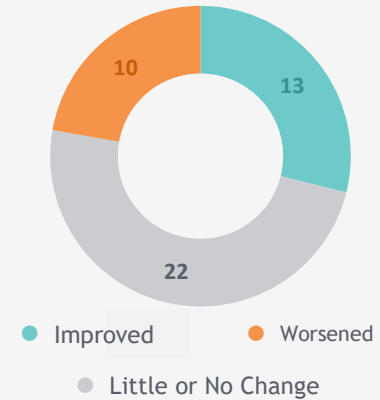


The
Commonwealth
Fund

Ranking Highlights^a

	National Rank		Rank Among Southeastern States	
	2019	Change from baseline	2019	Change from baseline
Overall	34 of 51	0	2 of 12	+2
Access & Affordability	42	-4	8	-1
Prevention & Treatment	15	-1	1	+3
Avoidable Use & Cost	24	-4	3	-1
Healthy Lives	33	-3	3	0
Health Care Disparities	46	+5	8	+4

How Health Care in North Carolina Has Changed^b



Top-Ranked Indicators

Diabetic adults without an annual hemoglobin A1c test
Children without all recommended vaccines
Adults without all recommended cancer screenings

Bottom-Ranked Indicators

Employee insurance costs as a share of median income
Central line-associated blood stream infection (CLABSI)
High out-of-pocket medical spending

Most Improved Indicators

Home health patients without improved mobility
Children who did not receive needed mental health care
Diabetic adults without an annual hemoglobin A1c test

Indicators That Worsened the Most

Children without a medical and dental preventive care visit
Drug poisoning deaths
Preventable hospitalizations ages 18–64

Estimated Impact of State Improvement^c

Top state in the U.S.	Top state in the Southeast region	North Carolina could expect the following gains if performance in the state improved to the top level at these national and regional benchmarks:
852,155	615,216	more adults and children, beyond those who already gained coverage through the ACA, would be insured
641,809	320,904	fewer adults would skip needed care because of its cost
188,062	0	more adults would receive age- and gender-appropriate cancer screenings
12,471	0	more children (ages 19–35 months) would receive all recommended vaccines
3,769	1,298	fewer premature deaths (before age 75) would occur from causes that are potentially treatable or preventable with timely and appropriate care
241,514	64,609	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	16	12	4	42	2013	23	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	21	23	12	22	2013	27	24	Improved
Adults age 18 and older who went without care because of cost in past year	2017	16	14	8	42	2013	18	16	Improved
Individuals under age 65 with high out-of-pocket medical costs relative to their annual household income	2016-17	14	10	5	50	2013-14	14	11	No Change
Employee insurance costs as a share of median income	2017	8.2	6.9	4.8	45	2013	7.8	6.5	No Change
Adults age 18 and older without a dental visit in past year	2016	15	16	10	22	2012	15	15	No Change
Prevention & Treatment	2019 Scorecard					Baseline			
Adults without all age- and gender-appropriate cancer screenings	2016	28	32	24	7	2012	29	31	No Change
Adults without age-appropriate flu and pneumonia vaccines	2017	57	62	54	8	2013	56	64	No Change
Diabetic adults without an annual hemoglobin A1c test	2016	7.5	12	5.6	3	2015	13.4	16.9	Improved
Elderly patients who received a high-risk prescription drug	2015	12	11	5	37	--	--	--	--
Children without a medical home	2017	45	51	39	8	2016	46	51	No Change
Children without age-appropriate medical and dental preventive care visits in the past year	2017	33	32	18	31	2016	27	32	Worsened
Children who did not receive needed mental health care	2017	16	22	4	26	2016	30	18	Improved
Children ages 19–35 months who did not receive all recommended vaccines	2016	22	29	15	4	2012	25	32	Improved
Hospital 30-day mortality	2014-17	14.3	13.9	12.8	33	2010-13	13.7	13.2	Worsened
Central line-associated bloodstream infections (CLABSI), Standardized Infection Ratio	2016	1.04	0.89	0.36	46	2015	1.06	0.99	No Change
Hospitals with lower-than-average patient experience ratings	2017	44	45	9	29	--	--	--	--
Home health patients without improved mobility	2017	24	25	20	13	2013	39	39	Improved
Nursing home residents with an antipsychotic medication	2017	13	15	7	7	2013	16	21	Improved
Adults with any mental illness reporting unmet need	2014-16	24	21	16	42	2009-11	22	21	Worsened
Adults with any mental illness who did not receive treatment	2014-16	51	56	42	9	2009-11	59	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	77.7	87.2	21.7	19	2012	113.3	142.9	Improved
Potentially avoidable emergency department visits									
Ages 18–64, per 1,000 employer-insured enrollees	2016	142.5	142.2	115.9	27	2015	159.2	159.0	Improved
Age 65 and older, per 1,000 Medicare beneficiaries	2015	217.1	196.9	138.3	42	2012	197.4	187.8	Worsened
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	44.6	43.9	21.7	29	2013	44.9	47.7	No Change
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	37.8	41	19.7	24	2013	39.1	43.5	No Change
Skilled nursing facility patients with a hospital readmission	2016	19	19	11	22	2012	20	20	No Change
Long-stay nursing home residents hospitalized within a six-month period	2016	16	15	5	28	2012	18	17	No Change
Home health patients also enrolled in Medicare with a hospital admission	2017	16	16	14	19	2013	16	16	No Change
Adults with inappropriate lower back imaging	2016	65.3	68.9	57.7	10	2015	65.5	71.1	No Change
Employer-sponsored insurance spending per enrollee	2016	\$4,764	\$4,882	\$3,255	26	2013	\$4,497	\$4,697	No Change
Medicare spending per beneficiary	2017	\$9,003	\$9,534	\$6,195	21	2013	\$8,422	\$9,081	Worsened
Healthy Lives						2019 Scorecard			Baseline
Mortality amenable to health care, deaths per 100,000 population	2014-15	93.6	84.3	54.7	36	2010-11	93.9	85.3	No Change
Breast cancer deaths per 100,000 female population	2017	21.5	19.9	15.6	40	2013	20.4	20.8	Worsened
Colorectal cancer deaths per 100,000 population	2017	12.1	12.9	9.3	15	2013	13.3	14.6	Improved
Suicide deaths per 100,000 population	2017	14.3	14	6.6	17	2013	12.6	12.6	No Change
Alcohol-related deaths per 100,000 population	2017	8.4	9.6	5.5	16	2013	7.6	8.2	No Change
Drug poisoning deaths per 100,000 population	2017	24.1	21.7	8.1	32	2013	12.9	13.8	Worsened
Infant mortality, deaths per 1,000 live births	2016	7.2	5.9	3.5	39	2012	7.4	6	No Change
Adults who report fair or poor health	2017	17	17	9	27	2013	17	16	No Change
Adults who smoke	2017	17	16	9	25	2013	20	18	Improved
Adults who are obese	2017	33	31	23	32	2013	30	29	Worsened
Children who are overweight or obese	2017	30	31	21	27	2016	31	31	No Change
Adults who have lost six or more teeth	2016	12	10	6	35	2012	13	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	31	-26	46	2013	42	-36	Improved
Children ages 0–18 uninsured	2017	7	-5	22	2013	8	-6	Improved
Adults age 18 and older without a usual source of care	2017	32	-17	48	2013	31	-17	No Change
Adults age 18 and older who went without care because of cost in past year	2017	31	-23	49	2013	34	-29	Improved
Individuals under age 65 with high out-of-pocket medical costs relative to their annual household income	2016-17	30	-27	37	2013-14	30	-27	No Change
Adults age 18 and older without a dental visit in past year	2016	19	-7	4	2012	25	-17	Improved
Adults without all age- and gender-appropriate cancer screenings	2016	33	-11	29	2012	38	-20	Improved
Adults without age-appropriate flu and pneumonia vaccines	2017	58	-5	10	2013	62	-14	Improved
Children without a medical home	2017	49	-9	1	2016	53	-20	Improved
Children without age-appropriate medical and dental preventive care visits in the past year	2017	46	-22	46	2016	29	-10	Worsened
Children ages 19–35 months who did not receive all recommended vaccines	2016	25	-13	29	2012	26	-7	No Change
Hospital admissions for pediatric asthma, per 100,000 children ages 2–17	2015	90.8	-55.1	10	2012	145.6	-93.4	Improved
Potentially avoidable emergency department visits, Medicare beneficiaries age 65 and older, per 1,000 beneficiaries	2014	445.1	-265.4	48	2012	405.2	-243	Worsened
Hospital admissions for ambulatory care-sensitive conditions, Medicare beneficiaries age 65 and older, per 1,000 beneficiaries	2015	108.3	-66.5	38	2012	103.2	-50.1	Worsened
30-day hospital readmissions among, Medicare beneficiaries age 65 and older, per 1,000 beneficiaries	2015	65.9	-39	40	2012	81.5	-48.1	Improved
Adults who report fair or poor health	2017	36	-30	49	2013	32	-26	Worsened
Adults who smoke	2017	26	-16	27	2013	27	-16	No Change
Adults who are obese	2017	48	-16	45	2013	41	-16	No Change
Adults who have lost six or more teeth	2016	19	-13	25	2012	21	-15	Improved

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.