

Hickory, NC

Ranking Summary (of 306 Local Areas)	2016 Scorecard		2012 Scorecard (Rev.) ^a	
	Quintile	Rank	Quintile	Rank
OVERALL	3	167	4	187
Access & Affordability	3	159	3	183
Prevention & Treatment	3	180	4	217
Avoidable Hospital Use & Cost	2	70	1	53
Healthy Lives	4	244	5	253

Change in Performance ^c	2016 Scorecard	
	count	percent
Indicators with trends	32	100%
Area rate improved	14	44%
Area rate worsened	5	16%
Little or no change in area rate	13	41%

Percentage of Indicators This Area Ranked in the:	2016 Scorecard	
	count	percent
Total indicators	35	100%
Top 10th percentile	4	11%
Top quintile	8	23%
2nd quintile	7	20%
3rd quintile	5	14%
4th quintile	7	20%
Bottom quintile	8	23%
Bottom 10th percentile	6	17%

Demographic Characteristics ^b	Hickory, NC	U.S. Average
Total Population	291,152	313,922,028
Median Household Income	\$43,600	\$58,489
Below 200% of Federal Poverty Level (FPL)	43%	34%
200% to 399% of FPL	33%	30%
400% of FPL or higher	24%	36%
% White Race, Non-Hispanic	83%	62%
% Black Race, Non-Hispanic	6%	12%
% Other Race, Non-Hispanic	4%	8%
% Hispanic Ethnicity	7%	17%

Estimated Impact of Local Improvement ^d If Hickory, NC improved its performance to the level of the best-performing local area for this indicator, then:	
25,914	more adults (ages 19–64) would be covered by health insurance (public or private), and therefore would be more likely to receive health care when needed
13,332	more adults (age 18 and older) would have a usual source of care to help ensure that care is coordinated and accessible when needed
19,065	more adults would receive age and gender appropriate recommended preventive care, such as colon cancer screenings, mammograms, and pap smears
2,046	fewer Medicare beneficiaries would receive an unsafe medication
128	fewer premature deaths (before age 75) would occur from causes that are potentially treatable or preventable with timely and appropriate care
58	fewer hospital readmissions would occur among Medicare beneficiaries (age 65 and older)
1,729	fewer emergency department visits for nonemergent or primary-care-treatable conditions would occur among Medicare beneficiaries
24,785	fewer adults (ages 18–64) would have lost six or more teeth because of tooth decay, infection, or gum disease

Notes

(a) Ranks from the 2012 edition of the Local Scorecard have been revised to match methodology and measure definitions used in the 2016 edition.

(b) The Local Scorecard reports at the level of the Hospital Referral Region (HRR), an area representing the local market for health care services, defined by health care utilization patterns. HRR boundaries may differ from other commonly used region definitions (e.g., county or Metropolitan Statistical Areas).

(c) Improved or worsened denotes a change of at least one-half (0.5) of a standard deviation (a statistical measure of variation) larger than the indicator's distribution among all Hospital Referral Regions (HRRs) over the two time points. Little or No change denotes no change in rate or a change of less than one-half of a standard deviation.

(d) The table shows the estimated impact if this HRR's performance improved to the rate of the best-performing HRR for eight Scorecard indicators. Benchmark HRRs, those with the best rate, have an estimated impact of zero (0).

[See the interactive 2016 Local Scorecard report and link to Scorecard methodology at www.CMWF.org.](#)

Table 1. Local Area Health System Performance Indicator Data by Dimension

Dimension and Indicator	Data Year	Hickory, NC			Benchmarks			Data Year	Area Rate	U.S. Average	Substantial Change Over Time ¹	
		Performance Quintile	Rank (of 306)	Area Rate	North Carolina Rate	U.S. Average	Best Area Rate					
ACCESS & AFFORDABILITY								2016 Scorecard			Baseline	
Adults ages 19–64 uninsured	2014	5	252	22%	19%	16%	4%	2012	23%	21%	No Change	
Children ages 0–18 uninsured	2014	*	*	*	6%	6%	2%	2012	*	7%	--	
Adults who went without care because of cost in past year	2013/14	4	201	17%	17%	15%	6%	2011/12	19%	15%	No Change	
At-risk adults without a routine doctor visit in past two years	2013/14	1	14	9%	12%	14%	6%	2011/12	14%	14%	Improved	
Adults without a dental visit in past year	2012 & 2014	4	188	17%	14%	15%	9%	--	--	--	--	
PREVENTION & TREATMENT								2016 Scorecard			Baseline	
Adults with a usual source of care	2013/14	1	44	84%	77%	79%	90%	2011/12	79%	79%	Improved	
Adults with age and gender appropriate cancer screenings	2012 & 2014	4	218	64%	73%	70%	79%	--	--	--	--	
Adults with age appropriate vaccines	2013/14	1	21	43%	39%	35%	49%	2011/12	39%	35%	Improved	
Medicare beneficiaries who received at least one drug that should be avoided in the elderly	2013	4	199	18%	19%	17%	9%	2011	24%	20%	Improved	
Medicare beneficiaries with dementia, hip/pelvic fracture, or chronic renal failure who received a prescription drug that is contraindicated for that condition	2013	4	242	21%	20%	20%	9%	2011	26%	23%	Improved	
Risk-adjusted 30-day mortality among Medicare beneficiaries hospitalized for heart attack, heart failure, pneumonia, or stroke	07/2011 - 06/2014	5	306	15.5%	13.2%	12.8%	11.3%	07/2010 - 06/2013	16.5%	13.2%	Improved	
Hospital safety composite score ²	07/2012 - 06/2014	4	237	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.6	07/2011 - 06/2013	0.8	0.9	Worsened	
Hospitalized patients given information about what to do during their recovery at home	2014	2	113	87%	86%	86%	91%	2013	87%	86%	No Change	
Hospitalized patients who reported hospital staff always managed pain well, responded when needed help to get to bathroom or pressed call button, and explained medicines and side effects	2014	3	131	68%	68%	68%	76%	2013	68%	68%	No Change	
Home health patients who get better at walking or moving around	2014	1	61	64%	62%	63%	70%	2012	59%	59%	Improved	
Home health patients whose wounds improved or healed after an operation	2014	5	248	88%	89%	89%	96%	2012	90%	89%	Worsened	
High-risk nursing home residents with pressure sores	1/2015 - 9/2015	3	131	6%	7%	6%	1%	1/2013 - 9/2013	7%	6%	Improved	
Long-stay nursing home residents with an antipsychotic medication	1/2015 - 9/2015	1	24	13%	15%	18%	7%	1/2013 - 9/2013	17%	21%	Improved	

Table 1. Local Area Health System Performance Indicator Data by Dimension (continued)

Dimension and Indicator	Data Year	Hickory, NC			Benchmarks			Data Year	Area Rate	U.S. Average	Substantial Change Over Time ¹
		Performance Quintile	Rank (of 306)	Area Rate	North Carolina Rate	U.S. Average	Best Area Rate				
2016 Scorecard								Baseline			
Hospital admissions among Medicare beneficiaries for ambulatory care–sensitive conditions, ages 65–74, per 1,000 beneficiaries	2014	3	127	25	28	27	9	2012	22	29	No Change
Hospital admissions among Medicare beneficiaries for ambulatory care–sensitive conditions, age 75 and older, per 1,000 beneficiaries	2014	2	66	54	64	66	33	2012	52	70	No Change
Medicare 30-day hospital readmissions, rate per 1,000 beneficiaries	2014	2	62	21	27	27	10	2012	27	34	Improved
Short-stay nursing home residents readmitted within 30 days of hospital discharge to nursing home	2012	1	52	17%	20%	20%	12%	2010	16%	22%	No Change
Long-stay nursing home residents hospitalized within a six-month period	2012	2	67	14%	18%	17%	5%	2010	14%	19%	No Change
Home health patients also enrolled in Medicare with a hospital admission	2014	1	50	15%	16%	16%	12%	2012	17%	17%	Improved
Potentially avoidable emergency department visits among Medicare beneficiaries, per 1,000 beneficiaries	2013	3	124	177	192	181	122	2011	150	185	Worsened
Total reimbursements per enrollee (age 18-64) with employer-sponsored insurance	2014	2	78	\$3,973	\$4,201	\$4,569	\$2,720	2013	\$4,542	\$4,489	Improved
Total Medicare (Parts A & B) reimbursements per enrollee	2014	2	87	\$7,922	\$8,271	\$8,819	\$5,593	2012	\$7,829	\$8,854	No Change
2016 Scorecard								Baseline			
HEALTHY LIVES											
Mortality amenable to health care, deaths per 100,000 population	2012-13	4	224	97	93	84	47	2010-11	104	85	No Change
Breast cancer deaths per 100,000 female population	2012-13	3	158	22.7	22.7	22.8	12.3	2010-11	22.4	23.7	No Change
Colorectal cancer deaths per 100,000 population	2012-13	2	97	15.0	15.1	15.9	9.6	2010-11	16.5	16.7	Improved
Suicide deaths per 100,000 population	2012-13	5	252	17.7	13.0	12.9	6.0	2010-11	16.7	12.5	No Change
Infant mortality, deaths per 1,000 live births	2012-13	1	45	4.7	7.2	6.0	2.5	2010-11	8.7	6.1	Improved
Adults ages 18–64 who report fair/poor health or activity limitations because of physical, mental, or emotional problems	2013/14	5	250	32%	26%	25%	13%	2011/12	32%	25%	No Change
Adults who smoke	2013/14	5	300	28%	21%	19%	7%	2011/12	22%	19%	Worsened
Adults ages 18–64 who are obese (BMI >= 30)	2013/14	5	288	39%	30%	28%	14%	2011/12	30%	28%	Worsened
Adults ages 18–64 who have lost six or more teeth because of tooth decay, infection, or gum disease	2012 & 2014	5	274	18%	13%	10%	2%	--	--	--	--

Table 1 Notes:

* Data for this area not available for this indicator.

-- Historical data not available or not comparable over time.

(1) Improved or worsened denotes a change of at least one-half (0.5) of a standard deviation (a statistical measure of variation) larger than the indicator's distribution among all Hospital Referral Regions (HRRs) over the two time points. No change denotes no change in rate or a change of less than one-half of a standard deviation.

(2) Values are the unweighted average of the region's hospitals' safety composite (PSI 90) score.