# Washington

The Commonwealth Fund

## Ranking Highlights

| | 2018 Rank[a] | Change[b] |
|---|---|---|
| Overall | 7 | +6 |
| Access & Affordability | 20 | +4 |
| Prevention & Treatment | 25 | +7 |
| Avoidable Use & Cost | 3 | +2 |
| Healthy Lives | 8 | +2 |
| Disparity | 6 | +25 |

### How Health Care in Washington Has Changed[c]



- Greatly Improved — 6
- Improved — 8
- Little or No Change — 18
- Worsened — 3
- Greatly Worsened — 2



Better Than Average Overall Performance

Worse Than Average Overall Performance
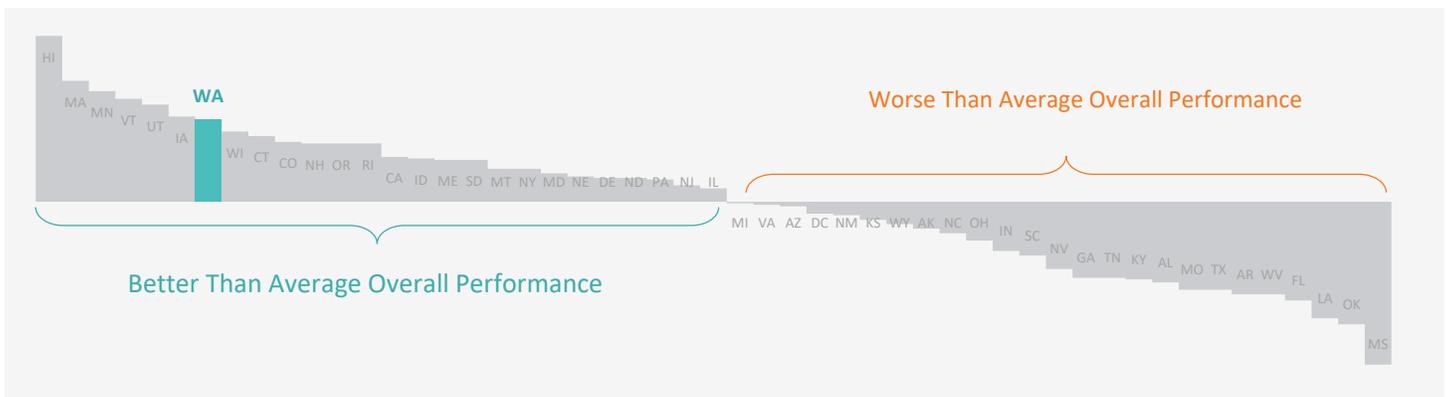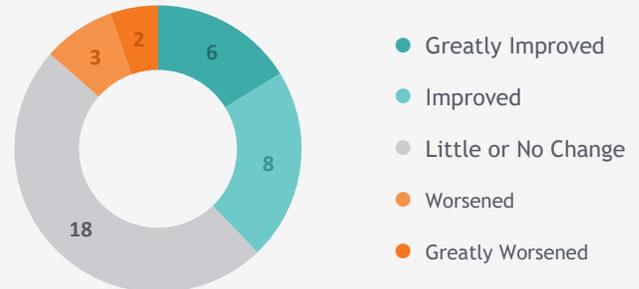
## Top Ranked Indicators

Preventable hospitalizations, ages 18–64

Diabetic adults without a HbA1C test

Hospital admissions for pediatric asthma

## Bottom Ranked Indicators

Children without a medical home

Mentally ill adults reporting unmet need

Hospital 30-day mortality

## Most Improved Indicators

Home health patients without improved mobility

Uninsured adults

Uninsured children

## Indicators That Worsened the Most

Avoidable emergency department visits, Medicare, age 65+

Hospital 30-day mortality

Employee insurance costs as a share of median income

## Estimated Impact of State Improvement[d]

| Top State in the U.S. | Top State in the West | Washington could expect the following gains if performance in the state improved to the top level at these national and regional benchmarks: |
|---|---|---|
| 170,182 | 170,182 | fewer adults would skip needed care because of its cost |
| 232,844 | 166,558 | more adults would receive age- and gender-appropriate cancer screenings |
| 12,360 | 817 | more children (ages 19–35 months) would receive all recommended vaccines |
| 14,915 | 8,949 | fewer Medicare beneficiaries would receive an unsafe medication |
| 530 | 117 | fewer premature deaths (before age 75) would occur from causes that are potentially treatable or preventable with timely and appropriate care |
| 22,419 | 22,419 | 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 (e) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Access & Affordability** | | | 2018 Scorecard | | | | Baseline | | |
| Adults ages 19–64 uninsured | 2016 | 9 | 12 | 4 | 17 | 2013 | 20 | 20 | Improved |
| Children ages 0–18 uninsured | 2016 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 5 | 2013 | 7 | 8 | Improved |
| Adults without a usual source of care | 2016 | 24 | 22 | 11 | 32 | 2013 | 28 | 24 | Improved |
| Adults who went without care because of cost | 2016 | 10 | 13 | 7 | 9 | 2013 | 15 | 16 | Improved |
| Individuals with high out-of-pocket medical spending | 2015-16 | 13 | 14 | 9 | 16 | 2013-14 | 13 | 15 | No Change |
| Employee health insurance contributions as a share of median income | 2016 | 6 | 6 | 4 | 23 | 2013 | 4 | 6 | Worsened |
| Adults without a dental visit in past year | 2016 | 15 | 16 | 10 | 22 | 2012 | 14 | 15 | No Change |
| **Prevention & Treatment** | | | 2018 Scorecard | | | | Baseline | | |
| Adults without all age- and gender-appropriate cancer screenings | 2016 | 32 | 32 | 24 | 20 | 2012 | 31 | 31 | No Change |
| Adults without all age-appropriate recommended vaccines | 2016 | 62 | 63 | 54 | 21 | 2013 | 61 | 64 | No Change |
| Diabetic adults ages 18–64 without a hemoglobin A1c test | 2015 | 13 | 17 | 11 | 2 | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Medicare beneficiaries received a high-risk drug | 2014 | 12 | 13 | 7 | 21 | 2012 | 16 | 17 | Improved |
| Children without all components of a medical home | 2016 | 52 | 51 | 40 | 42 | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Children without both a medical and dental preventive care visit in the past year | 2016 | 27 | 32 | 20 | 11 | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Children who did not receive needed mental health treatment | 2016 | 20 | 18 | 5 | 37 | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Children ages 19–35 months who did not receive all recommended vaccines | 2016 | 24 | 29 | 15 | 10 | 2013 | 29 | 30 | Improved |
| Hospital 30-day mortality | 2013 - 2016 | 14.9 | 14.1 | 13 | 44 | 2010 - 2013 | 13.9 | 13.2 | Worsened |
| Central line-associated blood stream infection (CLABSI) | 2015 | 0.87 | 0.99 | 0.32 | 16 | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Hospital patients discharged without instructions for home recovery | 2016 | 12 | 13 | 9 | 17 | 2013 | 13 | 14 | No Change |
| Hospital patients who did not receive patient-centered care | 2016 | 34 | 32 | 27 | 40 | 2013 | 34 | 32 | No Change |
| Home health patients who did not get better at walking or moving around | 2016 | 30 | 29 | 23 | 29 | 2013 | 44 | 39 | Improved |
| Nursing home residents with an antipsychotic medication | 2016 | 15 | 16 | 8 | 15 | 2013 | 19 | 21 | Improved |
| Adults with any mental illness reporting unmet need | 2013-2015 | 24 | 20 | 14 | 43 | 2009-2011 | 26 | 21 | Improved |
| Adults with any mental illness who did not receive treatment | 2013-2015 | 56 | 56 | 41 | 29 | 2009-2011 | 53 | 59 | Worsened |

## 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 (e) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Avoidable Hospital Use & Cost** | | | **2018 Scorecard** | | | | **Baseline** | | |
| Hospital admissions for pediatric asthma, per 100,000 children | 2014 | 60 | 106 | 22 | 3 | 2012 | 84 | 143 | Improved |
| Potentially avoidable emergency department visits | | | | | | | | | |
| Ages 18–64, per 1,000 employer-insured enrollees | 2015 | 138 | 159 | 130 | 9 | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Age 65 and older, per 1,000 Medicare beneficiaries | 2015 | 175 | 197 | 138 | 9 | 2012 | 157 | 188 | Worsened |
| Admissions for ambulatory care–sensitive conditions | | | | | | | | | |
| Ages 18–64, per 1,000 employer-insured enrollees | 2015 | 3 | 5 | 3 | 2 | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Ages 65–74, per 1,000 Medicare beneficiaries | 2015 | 17 | 26 | 14 | 2 | 2012 | 18 | 29 | No Change |
| Age 75 and older, per 1,000 Medicare beneficiaries | 2015 | 47 | 66 | 33 | 2 | 2012 | 49 | 70 | No Change |
| 30-day hospital readmissions | | | | | | | | | |
| Ages 18–64, per 1,000 employer-insured enrollees | 2015 | 2.21 | 2.9 | 1.2 | 5 | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Age 65 and older, per 1,000 Medicare beneficiaries | 2015 | 30 | 42 | 21 | 5 | 2012 | 35 | 49 | No Change |
| Short-stay nursing home residents with a 30-day readmission to the hospital | 2014 | 16 | 19 | 11 | 12 | 2012 | 17 | 20 | No Change |
| Long-stay nursing home residents with a hospital admission | 2014 | 11 | 16 | 5 | 7 | 2012 | 13 | 17 | No Change |
| Home health patients with a hospital admission | 2016 | 15 | 16.4 | 14 | 6 | 2013 | 15 | 16 | No Change |
| Adults ages 18–50 with low back pain who had an imaging study at diagnosis | 2015 | 22 | 29 | 16 | 5 | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Total employer-sponsored insurance spending per enrollee | 2015 | $4,596 | $4,736 | $3,347 | 22 | 2013 | $4,545 | $4,697 | No Change |
| Total Medicare (Parts A & B) reimbursements per enrollee | 2015 | $7,361 | $9,025 | $5,586 | 8 | 2012 | $7,106 | $8,854 | No Change |
| **Healthy Lives** | | | **2018 Scorecard** | | | | **Baseline** | | |
| Mortality amenable to health care, deaths per 100,000 population | 2014-15 | 62.4 | 84.3 | 54.7 | 7 | 2012-13 | 62.2 | 83.7 | No Change |
| Breast cancer deaths per 100,000 female population | 2016 | 19.4 | 20.1 | 13.6 | 16 | 2013 | 20.5 | 20.8 | Improved |
| Colorectal cancer deaths per 100,000 population | 2016 | 11.6 | 13.1 | 10.1 | 7 | 2013 | 12.8 | 14.6 | Improved |
| Deaths from suicide, alcohol, and drug use per 100,000 population | 2016 | 39.3 | 43.2 | 28.5 | 14 | 2013 | 38.6 | 35.6 | No Change |
| Infant mortality, deaths per 1,000 births | 2015 | 4.9 | 5.9 | 4.1 | 10 | 2012 | 5.3 | 6 | No Change |
| Adults who report fair/poor health | 2016 | 13 | 16 | 10 | 7 | 2013 | 15 | 16 | Improved |
| Adults who smoke | 2016 | 14 | 16 | 9 | 5 | 2013 | 16 | 18 | Improved |
| Adults who are obese | 2016 | 29 | 30 | 22 | 19 | 2013 | 27 | 29 | Worsened |
| Children who are overweight or obese | 2016 | 25 | 31 | 19 | 6 | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| 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 (f) | Disparity (g) | State ranking | Data year | Low-income rate (f) | Disparity (g) | Change over time (h) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Disparity** | | **2018 Scorecard** | | | | **Baseline** | | |
| Adults ages 19–64 uninsured | 2016 | 16 | -13 | 18 | 2013 | 40 | -33 | Improved |
| Children ages 0–18 uninsured | 2016 | 4 | -3 | 13 | 2013 | 9 | -6 | Improved |
| Adults without a usual source of care | 2016 | 27 | -9 | 22 | 2013 | 37 | -22 | Improved |
| Adults who went without care because of cost | 2016 | 18 | -12 | 14 | 2013 | 31 | -25 | Improved |
| Adults 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 all age-appropriate recommended vaccines | 2016 | 65 | -10 | 32 | 2013 | 65 | -13 | Improved |
| Children without all components of a medical home | 2016 | 65 | -24 | 24 | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Children without both a medical and dental preventive care visit in the past year | 2016 | 32 | -8 | 9 | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Children ages 19–35 months who did not receive all recommended vaccines | 2016 | 28 | -10 | 20 | 2013 | 36 | -17 | Improved |
| Medicare beneficiaries received a high-risk drug | 2014 | 13 | -1 | 3 | 2012 | 18 | -3 | Improved |
| Hospital admissions for pediatric asthma, per 100,000 children | 2014 | 50 | 12 | 1 | 2012 | 82 | -4 | No Change |
| Admissions for ambulatory care–sensitive conditions, Medicare duals age 65 and older, per 1,000 beneficiaries | 2015 | 70 | -40 | 9 | 2012 | 67 | -30 | Worsened |
| 30-day hospital readmissions, Medicare dual eligibles age 65 and older, per 1,000 beneficiaries | 2015 | 40 | -19 | 9 | 2012 | 50 | -24 | Improved |
| Potentially avoidable ED visits, Medicare dual eligibles age 65 and older, per 1,000 beneficiaries | 2015 | 317 | -160 | 13 | 2012 | 281 | -141 | Worsened |
| Adults who smoke | 2016 | 22 | -13 | 18 | 2013 | 24 | -16 | Improved |
| Adults who are obese | 2016 | 37 | -10 | 28 | 2013 | 36 | -9 | Worsened |
| Adults who have lost six or more teeth | 2016 | 14 | -11 | 15 | 2012 | 14 | -10 | Worsened |
| Adults who report fair/poor health | 2016 | 25 | -19 | 13 | 2013 | 29 | -23 | Improved |

**Notes. (a)** The 2018 Scorecard rankings reflect 2015 or 2016 data. The 2018 Scorecard added or revised several performance measures since the March 2017 Scorecard report; rankings are not comparable between reports. **(b)** Change 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. **(c)** Trend data available for 37 of 43 total Scorecard indicators. Greatly improved/worsened denotes a change of at least one full (1.0) standard deviation larger than the indicator's distribution among all states over the two time points; improved/worsened denotes a change of at least one-half (0.5) standard deviation. No change denotes no change in rate or a change of less than one-half standard deviation. **(d)** 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 same census region (Midwest, Northeast, South, or 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. Impact based on national and regional benchmarks should not be interpreted as cumulative. **(e)** Change (improvement or worsening) refers to a change between the baseline and current time periods of at least 0.5 standard deviations. **(f)** Rates are for the states' low income population, generally those whose household income is under 200% FPL. **(g)** Disparity is the difference between the states' low-income and higher-income (400%+ FPL) populations. **(h)** 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.