

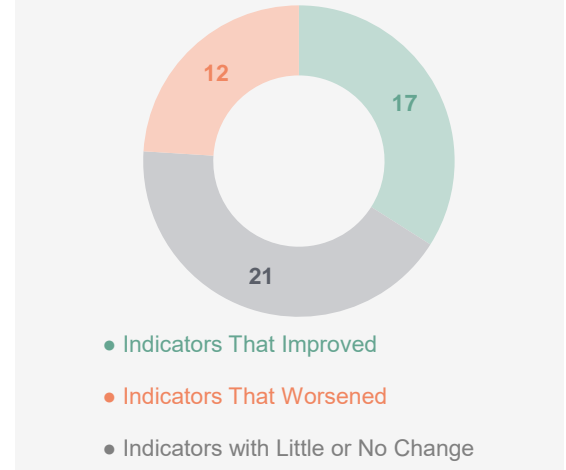
Kentucky

Ranking Highlights^a

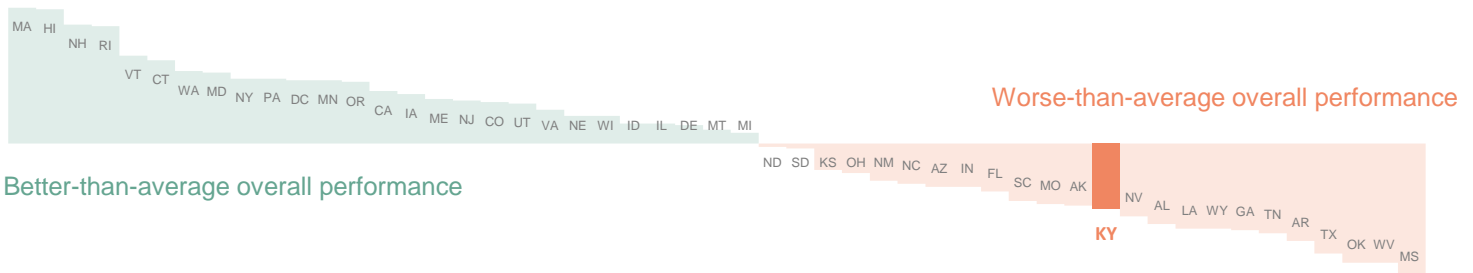
	National Rank	Rank Among Southeastern States*
Overall	40 of 51	5 of 12
Reproductive & Women’s Health	35	4
Access & Affordability	30	2
Prevention & Treatment	33	3
Avoidable Hospital Use & Cost	38	9
Healthy Lives	49	10
Income Disparity	39	4
Racial & Ethnic Health Equity	26	3

* Southeastern states include AL, AR, FL, GA, KY, LA, MS, NC, SC, TN, VA, WV

How Health Care Performance Changed in Kentucky^b



How Kentucky Compares to All States



Better-than-average overall performance

The Best and Worst in Kentucky

Best Performance

- Potentially avoidable emergency department visits ages 18–64
- Preventable hospitalizations ages 18–64
- Children who did not receive needed mental health care

Improved the Most

- Preventable hospitalizations ages 18–64
- Hospital 30-day readmission rate ages 18–64
- Children who did not receive needed mental health care

Worst Performance

- Adults who report fair or poor health
- Adults who have lost six or more teeth
- Adults without a dental visit

Worsened the Most

- Premature deaths from preventable causes
- Drug overdose deaths
- Central line-associated blood stream infection (CLABSI)

Table 1. State Health System Performance Indicator Data by Dimension

Dimension and indicator	Data year	State rate	U.S. average	Best state rate	State rank	Data year	State rate	U.S. average	Change over time ^b					
Access & Affordability					2023 Scorecard					Baseline				
Adults ages 19–64 uninsured	2021	8%	12%	3%	14	2019	9%	13%	No Change					
Children ages 0–18 uninsured	2021	4%	5%	1%	16	2019	4%	6%	No Change					
Adults age 18 and older who went without care because of cost in past year	2021	9%	10%	5%	26	2019	12%	14%	Improved					
Adults age 18 and older without a usual source of care	2021	14%	17%	9%	13	—	—	—	—					
Individuals under age 65 with high out-of-pocket medical costs relative to their annual household income	2020–21	8%	7%	5%	34	2018–19	12%	10%	Improved					
Employee total potential out-of-pocket medical costs as a share of state median income	2021	12%	12%	7%	35	2019	13%	12%	No Change					
People with medical debt	2021	17%	13%	2%	42	—	—	—	—					
Adults age 18 and older without a dental visit in past year	2020	43%	35%	25%	50	2018	38%	34%	Worsened					
Prevention & Treatment					2023 Scorecard					Baseline				
Adults with all age- and gender-appropriate cancer screenings	2020	70%	69%	76%	18	2018	66%	68%	Improved					
Adults with age-appropriate flu and pneumonia vaccines	2021	37%	42%	54%	43	2019	40%	41%	Worsened					
Adults vaccinated against COVID-19 with a booster	2022	35%	42%	63%	36	—	—	—	—					
Diabetic adults without an annual hemoglobin A1c test	2021	7%	10%	4%	6	2019	11%	8%	Improved					
Children without all recommended vaccines	2021	25%	28%	12%	17	2019	30%	27%	Improved					
Children with a medical home	2020–21	50%	46%	55%	17	2018–19	52%	48%	No Change					
Children without a medical and dental preventive care visit	2020-21	36%	38%	26%	21	—	—	—	—					
Children who did not receive needed mental health care	2020–21	14%	20%	11%	6	2018–19	25%	18%	Improved					
Adults age 18 and older with any mental illness who did not receive treatment	2019–20	52%	55%	41%	26	—	—	—	—					
Youth ages 12–17 with a major depressive episode who did not receive mental health services	2019–20	75%	60%	33%	48	—	—	—	—					
Hospitals with better-than-average patient experience ratings	2021	42%	45%	83%	32	2019	55%	48%	Worsened					
Hospital 30-day mortality	07/2018–12/2021	13%	12%	11%	33	07/2016–06/2019	14%	14%	Improved					

Table 1. State Health System Performance Indicator Data by Dimension (cont.)

Dimension and indicator	Data year	State rate	U.S. average	Best state rate	State rank	Data year	State rate	U.S. average	Change over time ^b	
Prevention & Treatment (cont.)						2023 Scorecard			Baseline	
Central line-associated bloodstream infection (CLABSI)	2021	1.034	0.921	0.571	41	2019	0.659	0.689	Worsened	
Nursing home residents with an antipsychotic medication	2020	17%	14%	9%	37	2018	17%	15%	No Change	
Home health patients with improved mobility	2019	83%	80%	87%	10	2017	78%	75%	Improved	
Avoidable Hospital Use & Cost						2023 Scorecard			Baseline	
Potentially avoidable emergency department visits										
Ages 18–64, per 1,000 employer-insured enrollees	2021	123	134	122	2	2019	135	137	No Change	
Age 65 and older, per 1,000 Medicare beneficiaries	2021	162	141	115	46	2019	216	185	Improved	
Admissions for ambulatory care–sensitive conditions										
Ages 18–64, per 1,000 employer-insured enrollees	2021	4	4	4	6	2019	8	7	Improved	
Age 65 and older, per 1,000 Medicare beneficiaries	2021	38	29	16	49	2019	52	41	Improved	
30-day hospital readmissions										
Ages 18–64, per 1,000 employer-insured enrollees	2021	3	3	2	35	2019	4	3	Improved	
Age 65 and older, per 1,000 Medicare beneficiaries	2021	38	33	16	41	2019	49	40	Improved	
Skilled nursing patients with a successful discharge	2020	55%	57%	69%	37	2018	52%	54%	Improved	
Home health patients with a hospital admission	2019	17%	15%	11%	37	2017	17%	16%	No Change	
Adults with inappropriate lower back imaging	2021	70%	69%	60%	31	2019	66%	68%	Worsened	
Employer-sponsored insurance spending per enrollee	2021	\$5,408	\$6,060	\$4,255	10	2019	\$5,028	\$5,354	No Change	
Medicare spending per beneficiary	2021	\$10,744	\$10,478	\$6,915	39	2019	\$10,569	\$10,180	No Change	
Primary care spending as a share of total health care spending										
Ages 18–64 (employer-insured enrollees)	2021	6.7%	6.9%	10.0%	31	2019	6.3%	7.2%	No Change	
Age 65 and older (Medicare beneficiaries)	2020	5.8%	5.5%	7.6%	14	2018	6.1%	5.7%	No Change	
Healthy Lives						2023 Scorecard			Baseline	
Premature deaths from treatable causes per 100,000 population	2020–21	119	89	59	45	2018–19	110	84	No Change	
Premature deaths from preventable causes per 100,000 population	2020–21	325	232	152	46	2018–19	239	166	Worsened	

Table 1. State Health System Performance Indicator Data by Dimension (cont.)

Dimension and indicator	Data year	State rate	U.S. average	Best state rate	State rank	Data year	State rate	U.S. average	Change over time ^b
Healthy Lives (cont.)	2023 Scorecard					Baseline			
Drug overdose deaths per 100,000 population	2021	56	32	11	47	2019	33	22	Worsened
Suicide deaths per 100,000 population	2021	18	14	6	32	2019	17	14	No Change
Alcohol-related deaths per 100,000 population	2021	13	14	8	18	2019	11	10	No Change
Adults ages 18–64 who report fair or poor health	2021	19%	14%	10%	49	2019	22%	17%	Improved
Adults age 18 and older who smoke	2021	19%	14%	7%	45	2019	23%	15%	Improved
Adults who are obese	2021	42%	34%	25%	48	2019	38%	32%	Worsened
Children who are overweight or obese	2020–21	41%	34%	24%	49	2018–19	37%	31%	Worsened
Adults who have lost six or more teeth	2020	15%	9%	5%	49	2018	15%	9%	No Change
Reproductive & Women’s Health	2023 Scorecard					Baseline			
Maternal deaths while pregnant or within 42 days of termination of pregnancy, per 100,000 live births	2019–21	38	26	10	38	—	—	—	—
Severe maternal morbidity rate per 10,000 in-hospital deliveries	2020	78	88	43	19	2018	72	77	No Change
Infant mortality, deaths per 1,000 live births	2020	6.4	5.4	3.5	38	2018	6.1	5.7	No Change
Share of births born preterm, prior to 37 weeks of pregnancy (gestation)	2021	12%	10%	8%	45	2019	11%	10%	Worsened
Breast and cervical cancer deaths per 100,000 female population	2021	23	22	16	37	2019	25	22	Improved
All-cause mortality rate per 100,000 women ages 15–44	2021	192	124	79	44	2019	137	89	Worsened
Share of in-hospital births in state with a self-pay insurance payment source	2021	2.07%	2.74%	0.30%	26	2019	2.67%	3.41%	No Change
Women ages 18–44 without a usual source of care	2021	17%	21%	9%	18	—	—	—	—
Women ages 18–44 without a routine checkup in the past two years	2021	12%	13%	8%	24	2019	12%	13%	No Change
Share of births not beginning prenatal care in first trimester	2021	22%	22%	11%	27	2019	21%	22%	No Change
Share of women with a recent live birth who did not report having a postpartum checkup visit	2020	14%	11%	8%	37	2018	12%	9%	Worsened
Women with up-to-date breast and cervical cancer screenings	2020	74%	74%	80%	24	2018	72%	76%	No Change

Table 2. State Income Disparity Data

Disparity Indicator	Data year	Low-income rate ^c	Disparity ^d	State rank	Data year	Low-income rate ^c	Disparity ^d	Change over time ^e
	2023 Scorecard				Baseline			
Adults ages 19–64 uninsured	2021	12%	-9	6	2019	14%	-10	Improved
Children ages 0–18 uninsured	2021	5%	-3	11	2019	5%	-2	No Change
Adults age 18 and older who went without care because of cost in past year	2020–21	16%	-12	16	2018–19	20%	-13	Improved
Adults age 18 and older without a usual source of care	2020–21	21%	-7	7	—	—	—	—
Individuals under age 65 with high out-of-pocket medical costs relative to their annual household income	2020–21	17%	-14	6	2018–19	27%	-24	Improved
Adults age 18 and older without a dental visit in past year	2018/20	57%	-34	42	2016/18	52%	-28	No Change
Adults with all age- and gender-appropriate cancer screenings	2018/20	61%	-14	49	2016/18	60%	-14	No Change
Adults with age-appropriate flu and pneumonia vaccines	2020–21	34%	-15	21	2018–19	33%	-9	Worsened
Children ages 19–35 months who did not receive all recommended vaccines	2021	27%	-12	25	2019	28%	1	No Change
Children ages 0–17 with all components of a medical home	2020–21	40%	-24	14	2018–19	45%	-19	No Change
Children without age-appropriate medical and dental preventive care visits in the past year	2020–21	48%	-24	40	—	—	—	—
Potentially avoidable emergency department visits, Medicare beneficiaries age 65 and older, per 1,000 beneficiaries	2020	296	-151	37	2019	390	-199	Improved
Hospital admissions for ambulatory care–sensitive conditions, Medicare beneficiaries age 65 and older, per 1,000 beneficiaries	2020	82	-46	25	2019	95	-50	Improved
30-day hospital readmissions, Medicare beneficiaries age 65 and older, per 1,000 beneficiaries	2020	80	-47	29	2019	85	-48	Improved
Primary care spending as share of total health care spending among Medicare beneficiaries age 65 and older	2020	5.7%	-0.1	10	2018	6.0%	-0.2	Improved
Adults ages 18–64 who report fair or poor health	2020–21	32%	-26	50	2018–19	37%	-28	Improved
Adults age 18 and older who smoke	2020–21	33%	-22	46	2018–19	37%	-22	No Change
Adults ages 18–64 who are obese (BMI >= 30)	2020–21	45%	-8	32	2018–19	43%	-6	Worsened
Adults ages 18–64 who have lost six or more teeth because of tooth decay, infection, or gum disease	2018/20	27%	-22	50	2016/18	27%	-20	No Change

Table 3. State Racial and Ethnic Health Equity Performance Summary Data^f

Health System Performance Score & State Rank
Among Population Group

	Percentile Score (1–100)	State Rank Among Population Group
American Indian and Alaska Native people	—	—
Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander people	—	—
Black people	33	16 of 39 states
Hispanic people	19	35 of 48 states
White people ^g	54	—

Performance Score based on methodology used in: *Achieving Racial and Ethnic Equity in U.S. Health Care: A Scorecard of State Performance*, Commonwealth Fund, Nov. 2021, available at: <https://www.commonwealthfund.org/publications/scorecard/2021/nov/achieving-racial-ethnic-equity-us-health-care-state-performance>

Table 4. State Racial and Ethnic Health Equity Performance Measure Data^f

	Data year	U.S. total	AIAN people	AANHPI people	Black people	Hispanic people	White people
Health Outcomes							
Deaths before age 75 from health care treatable causes per 100,000 population	2020–21	89	—	58	171	57	119
Deaths before age 75 from preventable causes per 100,000 population	2020–21	232	111	104	402	173	328
Colorectal cancer deaths per 100,000 population	2020–21	13	—	—	23	—	17
Adults age 18 and older who smoke	2020–21	14%	—	—	24%	14%	20%
Adults ages 18–64 who are obese (BMI >= 30)	2020–21	34%	38%	—	47%	37%	41%
Adults ages 18–64 who have lost six or more teeth because of tooth decay, infection, or gum disease	2018/20	9%	—	—	14%	—	16%
30-day hospital readmissions, Medicare beneficiaries age 65 and older, per 1,000 beneficiaries	2020	33	—	—	46	—	39
Health Care Access							
Adults ages 19–64 uninsured	2021	12%	—	9%	9%	31%	7%
Children ages 0–18 uninsured	2021	5%	—	—	4%	9%	3%
Adults age 18 and older who went without care because of cost in past year	2020–21	10%	—	—	11%	16%	9%
Adults age 18 and older without a usual source of care	2020–21	17%	10%	22%	18%	31%	16%
Individuals under age 65 with high out-of-pocket medical costs relative to their annual household income	2020–21	7%	—	—	9%	11%	8%
Health Care Quality and Service Use							
Adult women ages 50–74 who did not receive a mammogram in the past two years	2018/20	22%	17%	—	15%	—	23%
Adult women ages 25–64 who did not receive a cervical cancer screening test in the past three years	2018/20	24%	14%	40%	11%	25%	26%
Adults ages 50–74 without a recent colon cancer screening test	2018/20	28%	25%	26%	28%	46%	29%

Table 4. State Racial and Ethnic Health Equity Performance Measure Data (cont.)^f

	Data year	U.S. total	AIAN people	AANHPI people	Black people	Hispanic people	White people
Health Care Quality and Service Use (cont.)							
Adults age 18 and older who did not receive a flu shot in the last year	2020–21	55%	60%	46%	62%	74%	55%
Adults age 65 and older who have never gotten a pneumonia vaccine	2020–21	30%	49%	—	40%	—	29%
Hospital admissions for ambulatory care–sensitive conditions, Medicare beneficiaries age 65 and older, per 1,000 beneficiaries	2020	29	—	—	54	—	41
Potentially avoidable emergency department visits, Medicare beneficiaries age 65 and older, per 1,000 beneficiaries	2020	137	—	—	228	—	160
Adults age 18 and older without a dental visit in past year	2018/20	35%	53%	51%	42%	45%	40%
Children ages 19–35 months who did not receive all recommended vaccines	2021	28%	—	—	—	—	21%
Children without age-appropriate medical and dental preventive care visits in the past year	2020–21	38%	—	—	34%	39%	36%
Primary care spending as a share of total health care spending age 65 and older (Medicare beneficiaries)	2020	6%	—	—	6%	—	6%

Table 5. Select Reproductive Care and Women’s Health Measures by Race and Ethnicity

	Data year	U.S. total	AIAN people	AANHPI people	Black people	Hispanic people	White people
Severe maternal morbidity rate per 10,000 in-hospital deliveries	2020	88	—	—	138	84	70
Infant mortality, deaths per 1,000 live births	2019-20	5.4	—	4.7	9.7	6.5	5.1
Share of births born preterm, prior to 37 weeks of pregnancy (gestation)	2020-21	10%	10%	9%	15%	10%	11%
Breast and cervical cancer deaths per 100,000 female population	2020-21	22	—	—	30	—	25
All-cause mortality rate per 100,000 women ages 15–44	2020-21	124	—	—	259	91	179
Share of births not beginning prenatal care in first trimester	2020-21	22%	27%	27%	30%	36%	19%

Notes

(a) The 2023 Scorecard rankings generally reflect 2021 data. The 2023 Scorecard added or revised several performance measures, including the addition of 12 measures specifically related to reproductive care and women’s health and the removal of most measures around state COVID-19 response, since the June 2022 Scorecard report; rankings are not comparable between reports.

(b) Trend data available for 50 of 58 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) Rates are for state’s low-income population, generally those whose household income is less than 200% of the federal poverty level (FPL).

(d) Income disparity is the difference between the state’s low-income and higher-income (generally 400%+ FPL) populations.

(e) Improvement indicates that the low-income rate improved and the disparity between low- and higher-income populations narrowed; worsening indicates that the low-income rate worsened and the disparity between low- and higher-income populations widened.

(f) Performance data not available for all groups in every state.

(g) State not ranked on health system performance for white people in this report; included for comparative purposes.

“—” means data not available.