

# Pennsylvania

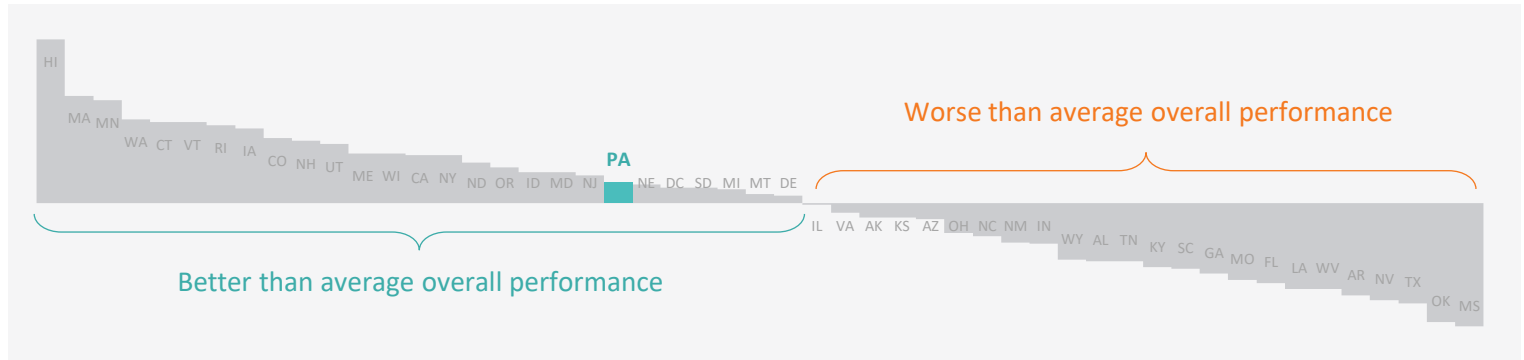
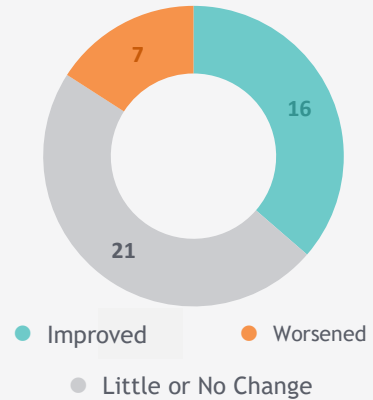


The  
Commonwealth  
Fund

## Ranking Highlights<sup>a</sup>

	National Rank		Rank Among Mid-Atlantic States	
	2019	Change from baseline	2019	Change from baseline
Overall	21 of 51	-2	5 of 6	-2
Access & Affordability	12	-6	2	-1
Prevention & Treatment	19	-7	5	-2
Avoidable Use & Cost	33	+3	5	-1
Healthy Lives	34	+2	6	0
Health Care Disparities	9	+7	2	+3

## How Health Care in Pennsylvania Has Changed<sup>b</sup>



### Top-Ranked Indicators

Alcohol deaths

Children who did not receive needed mental health care

Elderly patients who received a high-risk prescription drug

### Bottom-Ranked Indicators

Home health patients with a hospital admission

Children without a medical home

Drug poisoning deaths

### Most Improved Indicators

Home health patients without improved mobility

Adults without all recommended vaccines

Diabetic adults without an annual hemoglobin A1c test

### Indicators That Worsened the Most

Preventable hospitalizations ages 18–64

Children without a medical home

Drug poisoning deaths

## Estimated Impact of State Improvement<sup>c</sup>

Top state in the U.S.	Top state in the Mid-Atlantic region	Pennsylvania could expect the following gains if performance in the state improved to the top level at these national and regional benchmarks:
337,577	205,944	more adults and children, beyond those who already gained coverage through the ACA, would be insured
197,896	0	fewer adults would skip needed care because of its cost
521,972	463,976	more adults would receive age- and gender-appropriate cancer screenings
22,398	8,145	more children (ages 19–35 months) would receive all recommended vaccines
3,259	1,110	fewer premature deaths (before age 75) would occur from causes that are potentially treatable or preventable with timely and appropriate care
244,175	151,602	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 <sup>b</sup>
<b>Access &amp; Affordability</b>	<b>2019 Scorecard</b>					<b>Baseline</b>			
Adults ages 19–64 uninsured	2017	7	12	4	8	2013	14	20	Improved
Children ages 0–18 uninsured	2017	5	5	1	26	2013	5	8	No Change
Adults age 18 and older without a usual source of care	2017	15	23	12	6	2013	14	24	No Change
Adults age 18 and older who went without care because of cost in past year	2017	10	14	8	6	2013	12	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	9	11	No Change
Employee insurance costs as a share of median income	2017	6.6	6.9	4.8	29	2013	5.2	6.5	Worsened
Adults age 18 and older without a dental visit in past year	2016	15	16	10	22	2012	13	15	Worsened
<b>Prevention &amp; Treatment</b>	<b>2019 Scorecard</b>					<b>Baseline</b>			
Adults without all age- and gender-appropriate cancer screenings	2016	33	32	24	24	2012	31	31	No Change
Adults without age-appropriate flu and pneumonia vaccines	2017	57	62	54	8	2013	63	64	Improved
Diabetic adults without an annual hemoglobin A1c test	2016	14.2	12	5.6	39	2015	18.9	16.9	Improved
Elderly patients who received a high-risk prescription drug	2015	8	11	5	5	--	--	--	--
Children without a medical home	2017	58	51	39	48	2016	45	51	Worsened
Children without age-appropriate medical and dental preventive care visits in the past year	2017	25	32	18	11	2016	26	32	No Change
Children who did not receive needed mental health care	2017	6	22	4	4	2016	13	18	Improved
Children ages 19–35 months who did not receive all recommended vaccines	2016	26	29	15	17	2012	32	32	Improved
Hospital 30-day mortality	2014-17	13.6	13.9	12.8	9	2010-13	12.9	13.2	Worsened
Central line-associated bloodstream infections (CLABSI), Standardized Infection Ratio	2016	0.95	0.89	0.36	35	2015	0.94	0.99	No Change
Hospitals with lower-than-average patient experience ratings	2017	50	45	9	35	--	--	--	--
Home health patients without improved mobility	2017	24	25	20	13	2013	37	39	Improved
Nursing home residents with an antipsychotic medication	2017	16	15	7	27	2013	19	21	Improved
Adults with any mental illness reporting unmet need	2014-16	22	21	16	33	2009-11	21	21	No Change
Adults with any mental illness who did not receive treatment	2014-16	54	56	42	17	2009-11	54	59	No Change

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 <sup>b</sup>
Avoidable Hospital Use & Cost						2019 Scorecard			Baseline
Hospital admissions for pediatric asthma, per 100,000 children ages 2–17	2015	107.1	87.2	21.7	32	2012	--	142.9	--
Potentially avoidable emergency department visits									
Ages 18–64, per 1,000 employer-insured enrollees	2016	140.3	142.2	115.9	22	2015	158.6	159.0	Improved
Age 65 and older, per 1,000 Medicare beneficiaries	2015	193.5	196.9	138.3	24	2012	186.7	187.8	No Change
Admissions for ambulatory care–sensitive conditions									
Ages 18–64, per 1,000 employer-insured enrollees	2016	6.7	5.3	5.3	24	2015	4.6	4.6	Worsened
Ages 65–74, per 1,000 Medicare beneficiaries	2017	48.4	43.9	21.7	35	2013	52.6	47.7	No Change
30-day hospital readmissions									
Ages 18–64, per 1,000 employer-insured enrollees	2016	3.3	3.1	2.4	32	2015	3.1	2.9	No Change
Age 65 and older, per 1,000 Medicare beneficiaries	2017	44.9	41	19.7	37	2013	48.8	43.5	No Change
Skilled nursing facility patients with a hospital readmission	2016	19	19	11	22	2012	21	20	Improved
Long-stay nursing home residents hospitalized within a six-month period	2016	12	15	5	10	2012	16	17	Improved
Home health patients also enrolled in Medicare with a hospital admission	2017	17	16	14	40	2013	17	16	No Change
Adults with inappropriate lower back imaging	2016	69.9	68.9	57.7	33	2015	73	71.1	Improved
Employer-sponsored insurance spending per enrollee	2016	\$4,246	\$4,882	\$3,255	11	2013	\$4,185	\$4,697	No Change
Medicare spending per beneficiary	2017	\$9,753	\$9,534	\$6,195	36	2013	\$9,633	\$9,081	No Change
Healthy Lives						2019 Scorecard			Baseline
Mortality amenable to health care, deaths per 100,000 population	2014-15	82.6	84.3	54.7	30	2010-11	85.8	85.3	No Change
Breast cancer deaths per 100,000 female population	2017	20.9	19.9	15.6	33	2013	21.8	20.8	No Change
Colorectal cancer deaths per 100,000 population	2017	13.6	12.9	9.3	34	2013	15.9	14.6	Improved
Suicide deaths per 100,000 population	2017	15	14	6.6	20	2013	13.4	12.6	No Change
Alcohol-related deaths per 100,000 population	2017	6	9.6	5.5	3	2013	5.2	8.2	No Change
Drug poisoning deaths per 100,000 population	2017	44.3	21.7	8.1	49	2013	19.4	13.8	Worsened
Infant mortality, deaths per 1,000 live births	2016	6.2	5.9	3.5	29	2012	7.1	6	Improved
Adults who report fair or poor health	2017	17	17	9	27	2013	15	16	Worsened
Adults who smoke	2017	19	16	9	35	2013	21	18	Improved
Adults who are obese	2017	31	31	23	22	2013	30	29	No Change
Children who are overweight or obese	2017	29	31	21	22	2016	32	31	Improved
Adults who have lost six or more teeth	2016	11	10	6	30	2012	11	10	No Change

**Table 2. State Disparity Indicator Data**

Dimension and indicator	Data year	Low-income rate <sup>d</sup>	Disparity <sup>e</sup>	State ranking	Data year	Low-income rate <sup>d</sup>	Disparity <sup>e</sup>	Change over time <sup>f</sup>
Disparity	2019 Scorecard				Baseline			
Adults ages 19–64 uninsured	2017	14	-11	11	2013	29	-25	Improved
Children ages 0–18 uninsured	2017	7	-5	22	2013	7	-4	Worsened
Adults age 18 and older without a usual source of care	2017	13	-3	3	2013	15	-7	Improved
Adults age 18 and older who went without care because of cost in past year	2017	14	-7	3	2013	21	-17	Improved
Individuals under age 65 with high out-of-pocket medical costs relative to their annual household income	2016-17	26	-25	24	2013-14	26	-25	No Change
Adults age 18 and older without a dental visit in past year	2016	22	-11	13	2012	21	-13	No Change
Adults without all age- and gender-appropriate cancer screenings	2016	33	-6	5	2012	37	-12	Improved
Adults without age-appropriate flu and pneumonia vaccines	2017	60	-2	2	2013	68	-11	Improved
Children without a medical home	2017	69	-22	21	2016	57	-27	No Change
Children without age-appropriate medical and dental preventive care visits in the past year	2017	30	-13	21	2016	33	-15	Improved
Children ages 19–35 months who did not receive all recommended vaccines	2016	28	-2	6	2012	37	-16	Improved
Hospital admissions for pediatric asthma, per 100,000 children ages 2–17	2015	278	-228.8	28	2012	--	--	--
Potentially avoidable emergency department visits, Medicare beneficiaries age 65 and older, per 1,000 beneficiaries	2014	329.8	-149.8	6	2012	319.4	-146.2	Worsened
Hospital admissions for ambulatory care–sensitive conditions, Medicare beneficiaries age 65 and older, per 1,000 beneficiaries	2015	101.4	-50	18	2012	89.2	-31.7	Worsened
30-day hospital readmissions among, Medicare beneficiaries age 65 and older, per 1,000 beneficiaries	2015	64.3	-28.1	25	2012	80.4	-33.8	Improved
Adults who report fair or poor health	2017	31	-22	22	2013	27	-20	Worsened
Adults who smoke	2017	30	-16	27	2013	31	-17	Improved
Adults who are obese	2017	40	-11	28	2013	34	-5	Worsened
Adults who have lost six or more teeth	2016	21	-15	29	2012	17	-12	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](http://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.