

Worcester, MA

Ranking Summary (of 306 Local Areas)	2016 Scorecard		2012 Scorecard (Rev.) ^a	
	Quintile	Rank	Quintile	Rank
OVERALL	1	28	1	30
Access & Affordability	1	2	1	2
Prevention & Treatment	1	21	1	38
Avoidable Hospital Use & Cost	3	166	3	176
Healthy Lives	1	41	1	25

Change in Performance ^c	2016 Scorecard	
	count	percent
Indicators with trends	32	100%
Area rate improved	10	31%
Area rate worsened	2	6%
Little or no change in area rate	20	63%

Percentage of Indicators This Area Ranked in the:	2016 Scorecard	
	count	percent
Total indicators	35	100%
Top 10th percentile	12	34%
Top quintile	19	54%
2nd quintile	6	17%
3rd quintile	6	17%
4th quintile	4	11%
Bottom quintile	0	0%
Bottom 10th percentile	1	3%

Demographic Characteristics ^b	Worcester, MA	U.S. Average
Total Population	828,945	313,922,028
Median Household Income	\$80,382	\$58,489
Below 200% of Federal Poverty Level (FPL)	24%	34%
200% to 399% of FPL	26%	30%
400% of FPL or higher	49%	36%
% White Race, Non-Hispanic	78%	62%
% Black Race, Non-Hispanic	4%	12%
% Other Race, Non-Hispanic	7%	8%
% Hispanic Ethnicity	10%	17%

Estimated Impact of Local Improvement ^d	
If Worcester, MA improved its performance to the level of the best-performing local area for this indicator, then:	
15,578	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
0	more adults (age 18 and older) would have a usual source of care to help ensure that care is coordinated and accessible when needed
3,831	more adults would receive age and gender appropriate recommended preventive care, such as colon cancer screenings, mammograms, and pap smears
308	fewer Medicare beneficiaries would receive an unsafe medication
94	fewer premature deaths (before age 75) would occur from causes that are potentially treatable or preventable with timely and appropriate care
231	fewer hospital readmissions would occur among Medicare beneficiaries (age 65 and older)
3,472	fewer emergency department visits for nonemergent or primary-care-treatable conditions would occur among Medicare beneficiaries
31,943	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	Worcester, MA			Benchmarks			Data Year	Area Rate	U.S. Average	Substantial Change Over Time ¹	
		Performance Quintile	Rank (of 306)	Area Rate	Massachusetts Rate	U.S. Average	Best Area Rate					
ACCESS & AFFORDABILITY								2016 Scorecard			Baseline	
Adults ages 19–64 uninsured	2014	1	1	4%	5%	16%	4%	2012	6%	21%	No Change	
Children ages 0–18 uninsured	2014	*	*	*	2%	6%	2%	2012	*	7%	--	
Adults who went without care because of cost in past year	2013/14	1	6	8%	8%	15%	6%	2011/12	9%	15%	No Change	
At-risk adults without a routine doctor visit in past two years	2013/14	1	3	7%	7%	14%	6%	2011/12	6%	14%	No Change	
Adults without a dental visit in past year	2012 & 2014	1	7	11%	10%	15%	9%	--	--	--	--	
PREVENTION & TREATMENT								2016 Scorecard			Baseline	
Adults with a usual source of care	2013/14	1	1	90%	89%	79%	90%	2011/12	90%	79%	No Change	
Adults with age and gender appropriate cancer screenings	2012 & 2014	1	6	77%	79%	70%	79%	--	--	--	--	
Adults with age appropriate vaccines	2013/14	1	45	41%	41%	35%	49%	2011/12	41%	35%	No Change	
Medicare beneficiaries who received at least one drug that should be avoided in the elderly	2013	1	8	11%	10%	17%	9%	2011	14%	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	1	16	13%	14%	20%	9%	2011	18%	23%	Improved	
Risk-adjusted 30-day mortality among Medicare beneficiaries hospitalized for heart attack, heart failure, pneumonia, or stroke	07/2011 - 06/2014	1	49	12.3%	11.9%	12.8%	11.3%	07/2010 - 06/2013	12.4%	13.2%	No Change	
Hospital safety composite score ²	07/2012 - 06/2014	2	86	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.6	07/2011 - 06/2013	0.8	0.9	No Change	
Hospitalized patients given information about what to do during their recovery at home	2014	1	57	88%	89%	86%	91%	2013	80%	86%	Improved	
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	171	67%	67%	68%	76%	2013	66%	68%	No Change	
Home health patients who get better at walking or moving around	2014	4	191	60%	66%	63%	70%	2012	58%	59%	No Change	
Home health patients whose wounds improved or healed after an operation	2014	1	3	94%	92%	89%	96%	2012	91%	89%	Improved	
High-risk nursing home residents with pressure sores	1/2015 - 9/2015	1	56	5%	5%	6%	1%	1/2013 - 9/2013	5%	6%	No Change	
Long-stay nursing home residents with an antipsychotic medication	1/2015 - 9/2015	4	210	20%	19%	18%	7%	1/2013 - 9/2013	24%	21%	Improved	

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

Dimension and Indicator	Data Year	Worcester, MA			Benchmarks			Data Year	Area Rate	U.S. Average	Substantial Change Over Time ¹
		Performance Quintile	Rank (of 306)	Area Rate	Massachusetts Rate	U.S. Average	Best Area Rate				
2016 Scorecard								Baseline			
AVOIDABLE HOSPITAL USE & COST											
Hospital admissions among Medicare beneficiaries for ambulatory care–sensitive conditions, ages 65–74, per 1,000 beneficiaries	2014	3	181	30	28	27	9	2012	29	29	No Change
Hospital admissions among Medicare beneficiaries for ambulatory care–sensitive conditions, age 75 and older, per 1,000 beneficiaries	2014	4	233	78	77	66	33	2012	72	70	No Change
Medicare 30-day hospital readmissions, rate per 1,000 beneficiaries	2014	3	132	27	35	27	10	2012	32	34	No Change
Short-stay nursing home residents readmitted within 30 days of hospital discharge to nursing home	2012	2	97	19%	19%	20%	12%	2010	24%	22%	Improved
Long-stay nursing home residents hospitalized within a six-month period	2012	3	126	17%	14%	17%	5%	2010	20%	19%	Improved
Home health patients also enrolled in Medicare with a hospital admission	2014	2	120	16%	17%	16%	12%	2012	16%	17%	No Change
Potentially avoidable emergency department visits among Medicare beneficiaries, per 1,000 beneficiaries	2013	4	190	192	197	181	122	2011	219	185	Improved
Total reimbursements per enrollee (age 18-64) with employer-sponsored insurance	2014	2	112	\$4,169	\$4,522	\$4,569	\$2,720	2013	\$3,983	\$4,489	No Change
Total Medicare (Parts A & B) reimbursements per enrollee	2014	3	142	\$8,567	\$8,892	\$8,819	\$5,593	2012	\$8,874	\$8,854	No Change
2016 Scorecard								Baseline			
HEALTHY LIVES											
Mortality amenable to health care, deaths per 100,000 population	2012-13	1	33	62	60	84	47	2010-11	65	85	No Change
Breast cancer deaths per 100,000 female population	2012-13	1	7	17.2	20.4	22.8	12.3	2010-11	19.4	23.7	Improved
Colorectal cancer deaths per 100,000 population	2012-13	1	17	12.6	14.1	15.9	9.6	2010-11	14.1	16.7	Improved
Suicide deaths per 100,000 population	2012-13	1	39	10.2	8.6	12.9	6.0	2010-11	9.0	12.5	No Change
Infant mortality, deaths per 1,000 live births	2012-13	1	53	4.8	4.2	6.0	2.5	2010-11	5.2	6.1	No Change
Adults ages 18–64 who report fair/poor health or activity limitations because of physical, mental, or emotional problems	2013/14	2	96	25%	22%	25%	13%	2011/12	22%	25%	Worsened
Adults who smoke	2013/14	3	126	19%	16%	19%	7%	2011/12	16%	19%	Worsened
Adults ages 18–64 who are obese (BMI >= 30)	2013/14	1	34	26%	23%	28%	14%	2011/12	25%	28%	No Change
Adults ages 18–64 who have lost six or more teeth because of tooth decay, infection, or gum disease	2012 & 2014	2	105	10%	9%	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.