

# Delaware

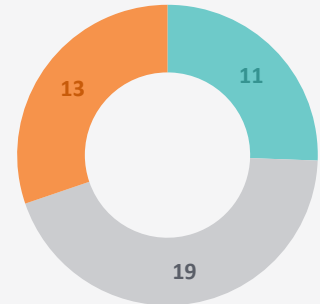


The Commonwealth Fund

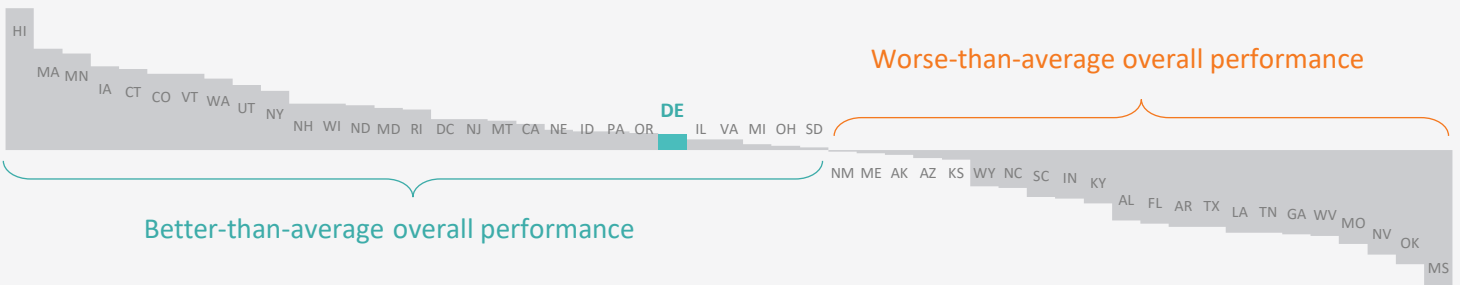
## Ranking Highlights<sup>a</sup>

	National Rank		Rank Among Mid-Atlantic States	
	2020	Change from baseline	2020	Change from baseline
Overall	24 of 51	-8	5 of 6	-3
Access & Affordability	19	-6	6	-2
Prevention & Treatment	14	-5	2	0
Avoidable Use & Cost	34	-4	4	-2
Healthy Lives	31	-2	5	0
Income Disparity	18	+2	2	+1

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



● Improved ● Worsened ● Little or No Change



### Top-Ranked Indicators

- Adults with any mental illness who did not receive treatment
- Hospital 30-day mortality
- Children without a medical and dental preventive care visit

### Bottom-Ranked Indicators

- Primary care spending as share of total, ages 18–64
- Preventable hospitalizations ages 18–64
- Drug poisoning deaths

### Most Improved Indicators

- Diabetic adults without an annual hemoglobin A1c test
- Home health patients with a hospital admission
- Central line-associated blood stream infection (CLABSI)

### Indicators That Worsened the Most

- Hospital 30-day mortality
- Preventable hospitalizations ages 18–64
- Drug poisoning deaths

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

Top state in the U.S.	Top state in the Mid-Atlantic region	Delaware could expect the following gains if performance in the state improved to the top level at these national and regional benchmarks:
28,875	26,728	more adults and children would be insured
30,013	22,510	fewer adults would skip needed care because of its cost
18,359	9,180	more adults would receive age- and gender-appropriate cancer screenings
1,632	979	more children (ages 19–35 months) would receive all recommended vaccines
304	146	fewer premature deaths (before age 75) would occur from causes that are potentially treatable or preventable with timely and appropriate care
10,012	2,105	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 rank	Data year	State rate	U.S. average	Change over time <sup>b</sup>				
<b>Access &amp; Affordability</b>						<b>2020 Scorecard</b>				<b>Baseline</b>			
Adults ages 19–64 uninsured	2018	8	12	4	8	2014	10	16	No Change				
Children ages 0–18 uninsured	2018	4	5	1	16	2014	5	6	No Change				
Adults age 18 and older without a usual source of care	2018	18	23	13	12	2014	14	23	Worsened				
Adults age 18 and older who went without care because of cost in past year	2018	11	13	7	13	2014	11	14	No Change				
Individuals under age 65 with high out-of-pocket medical costs relative to their annual household income	2017–18	9.5	8.3	4.8	34	—	—	—	—				
Employee insurance costs as a share of median income	2018	6.3	6.8	4.1	23	2014	5.9	6.6	No Change				
Adults age 18 and older without a dental visit in past year	2018	34	34	24	30	2014	34	36	No Change				
<b>Prevention &amp; Treatment</b>						<b>2020 Scorecard</b>				<b>Baseline</b>			
Adults without all age- and gender-appropriate cancer screenings	2018	28	32	24	6	2014	28	32	No Change				
Adults without age-appropriate flu and pneumonia vaccines	2018	64	69	57	12	2014	61	63	Worsened				
Diabetic adults without an annual hemoglobin A1c test	2017	13.5	10.7	6.5	39	2015	20.8	16.9	Improved				
Elderly patients who received a high-risk prescription drug	2016	8.4	9.6	4.6	18	—	—	—	—				
Children without a medical home	2018	54	52	41	38	2016	48	51	Worsened				
Children without age-appropriate medical and dental preventive care visits in the past year	2018	33	42	29	6	—	—	—	—				
Children who did not receive needed mental health care	2018	18	18	5	28	2016	9	18	Worsened				
Children ages 19–35 months who did not receive all recommended vaccines	2018	26	27	16	22	2014	25	28	No Change				
Hospital 30-day mortality	07/2015 – 06/2018	13.2	13.7	12.5	6	07/2011 – 06/2014	12	12.8	Worsened				
Central line-associated bloodstream infections (CLABSI), Standardized Infection Ratio	2018	0.649	0.739	0.087	16	2015	1.048	0.994	Improved				
Hospitals with lower-than-average patient experience ratings	2018	67	46	15	45	—	—	—	—				
Home health patients without improved mobility	2018	25	22	17	40	2014	39	37	Improved				
Nursing home residents with an antipsychotic medication	2017	14	15	7	12	2013	17	21	Improved				

**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 rank	Data year	State rate	U.S. average	Change over time <sup>b</sup>
<b>Prevention &amp; Treatment (continued)</b>						<b>2020 Scorecard</b>			
						<b>Baseline</b>			
Adults with any mental illness reporting unmet need	2016–17	22	22	14	15	2012–14	20	20	Worsened
Adults with any mental illness who did not receive treatment	2016–17	48	57	41	5	2012–14	52	57	Improved
<b>Avoidable Hospital Use &amp; Cost</b>						<b>2020 Scorecard</b>			
						<b>Baseline</b>			
Potentially avoidable emergency department visits									
Ages 18–64, per 1,000 employer-insured enrollees	2017	98	149.5	84.2	7	2015	150.6	159	Improved
Age 65 and older, per 1,000 Medicare beneficiaries	2016	168.7	189.4	140.9	8	2013	158.9	181.4	No Change
Admissions for ambulatory care–sensitive conditions									
Ages 18–64, per 1,000 employer-insured enrollees	2017	7.5	6.8	6	47	2015	5.2	4.6	Worsened
Ages 65–74, per 1,000 Medicare beneficiaries	2018	42.5	41.6	20.4	29	2014	45.8	44.7	No Change
30-day hospital readmissions									
Ages 18–64, per 1,000 employer-insured enrollees	2017	3.4	3.2	2.3	42	2015	2.7	2.9	Worsened
Age 65 and older, per 1,000 Medicare beneficiaries	2018	35.4	40	18.5	21	2014	42	42	Improved
Skilled nursing facility patients with a hospital readmission	2016	19	19	11	22	2012	20	20	No Change
Long-stay nursing home residents hospitalized within a six-month period	2016	16	15	5	28	2012	19	17	Improved
Home health patients also enrolled in Medicare with a hospital admission	2018	15	16	14	9	2014	17	16	Improved
Adults with inappropriate lower-back imaging	2017	69.9	70.1	57.5	32	2015	72.2	71.1	No Change
Employer-sponsored insurance spending per enrollee	2017	\$5,173	\$5,137	\$3,606	33	2013	\$4,509	\$4,697	Worsened
Medicare spending per beneficiary	2018	\$9,480	\$9,847	\$6,473	25	2014	\$8,899	\$9,025	No Change
Primary care spending as a share of total health care spending									
Ages 18–64 (employer-insured enrollees)	2018	4.5	6.0	11.3	46	—	—	—	—
Age 65 and older (Medicare beneficiaries)	2017	5.3	5.7	7.2	35	—	—	—	—
<b>Healthy Lives</b>						<b>2020 Scorecard</b>			
						<b>Baseline</b>			
Mortality amenable to health care, deaths per 100,000 population	2016–17	88.5	84.5	54.5	32	2012–13	85	83.7	No Change
Breast cancer deaths per 100,000 female population	2018	21.8	19.7	15.1	44	2014	21.3	20.6	No Change
Colorectal cancer deaths per 100,000 population	2018	13	12.6	9.1	31	2014	13.5	14.3	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 rank	Data year	State rate	U.S. average	Change over time <sup>b</sup>
<b>Healthy Lives (continued)</b>						<b>2020 Scorecard</b>			
						<b>Baseline</b>			
Suicide deaths per 100,000 population	2018	11.4	14.2	7.5	10	2014	13.2	13	No Change
Alcohol-related deaths per 100,000 population	2018	7.7	9.9	5.7	11	2014	6.8	8.5	No Change
Drug poisoning deaths per 100,000 population	2018	43.8	20.7	6.9	50	2014	20.9	14.7	Worsened
Infant mortality, deaths per 1,000 live births	2017	6.3	5.8	3.7	32	2013	6.4	6	No Change
Adults who report fair or poor health	2018	15	17	11	18	2014	13	16	Worsened
Adults who smoke	2018	16	16	9	22	2014	20	17	Improved
Adults who are obese	2018	34	32	23	32	2014	31	29	Worsened
Children who are overweight or obese	2018	25	31	19	6	2016	31	31	Improved
Adults who have lost six or more teeth	2018	10	9	5	27	2014	11	10	No Change
State-based public health spending per resident	2018	\$41	\$37	\$137	22	2014/15	\$45	\$36	Worsened

**Table 2. State Income Disparity Data**

Disparity Indicator	Data year	Low-income rate <sup>d</sup>	Disparity <sup>e</sup>	State rank	Data year	Low-income rate <sup>d</sup>	Disparity <sup>e</sup>	Change over time <sup>f</sup>
<b>2020 Scorecard</b>					<b>Baseline</b>			
Adults ages 19–64 uninsured	2018	11	-7	3	2014	18	-14	Improved
Adults age 18 and older who went without care because of cost in past year	2018	19	-15	19	2014	20	-16	Improved
Individuals under age 65 with high out-of-pocket medical costs relative to their annual household income	2017–18	23.5	-19.6	34	—	—	—	—
Adults age 18 and older without a dental visit in past year	2018	55	-37	47	2014	55	-41	No Change
Adults without all age- and gender-appropriate cancer screenings	2018	30	-8	9	2014	31	-9	Improved
Children without a medical home	2018	65	-24	23	2016	60	-25	No Change
Children without age-appropriate medical and dental preventive care visits in the past year	2018	43	-22	26	—	—	—	—
Children ages 19–35 months who did not receive all recommended vaccines	2018	34	-18	38	2014	32	-16	Worsened
Adults who report fair or poor health	2018	26	-18	7	2014	22	-16	Worsened
Adults who are obese	2018	36	-4	8	2014	33	-7	No Change
Adults who have lost six or more teeth	2018	16	-10	17	2014	17	-11	Improved

Table 3. State Race and Ethnicity Disparity Data

	Data year	U.S. average	State White rate	State Black rate	Black-White disparity	State Hispanic rate	Hispanic-White disparity	State Other rate	Other-White disparity
<b>Disparity Indicator</b>									
Adults ages 19–64 uninsured	2018	12	6	6	0	25	-19	—	—
Adults age 18 and older who went without care because of cost in past year	2018	13	9	13	-4	17	-8	11	-2
Adults age 18 and older without a usual source of care	2018	23	15	20	-5	39	-24	23	-8
Adults age 18 and older without a dental visit in past year	2018	34	30	42	-12	42	-12	37	-7
Adults without all age- and gender-appropriate cancer screenings	2018	32	27	27	0	29	-2	42	-15
Adults without age-appropriate flu and pneumonia vaccines	2018	69	62	70	-8	69	-7	65	-3
Adults who smoke	2018	16	17	17	0	16	1	10	7
Adults who are obese	2018	32	33	41	-8	34	-1	21	12
Mortality amenable to health care, deaths per 100,000 population	2016–17	84.5	80.2	134.2	-54	57.7	22.5	36.2	44
Infant mortality, deaths per 1,000 live births	2017	5.8	—	12.8	—	—	—	—	—

**Notes**

- (a) The 2020 Scorecard rankings generally reflect 2018 data. The 2020 Scorecard added or revised several performance measures since the June 2019 Scorecard report; rankings are not comparable between reports. Rank change from the baseline period represents states' rank difference from the baseline data year (generally 2013 or 2014). Positive values represent an improvement in rank; negative values are a worsening in rank.
- (b) Trend data available for 43 of 49 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 (defined using Bureau of Economic Analysis ([www.bea.gov](http://www.bea.gov)) regions: 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% of the federal poverty level (FPL).
- (e) Income 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.