NATIONAL HEALTHCARE QUALITY AND DISPARITIES REPORT
CHARTBOOK ON EFFECTIVE TREATMENT

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Authors: Barbara Barton (Lead Author - AHRQ), Atlang Mompe (SSS), Michelle Roberts (AHRQ), Ernest Moy (Former QDR Director), Tameika McLean (AHRQ), and Rachel Rosmarin (AHRQ).

Primary AHRQ Staff: Andrew Bindman, Sharon Arnold, Jeff Brady, Erin Grace, Karen Chaves, Nancy Wilson, Darryl Gray, and Doreen Bonnett.

HHS Interagency Workgroup for the NHQDR: Girma Alemu (HRSA), Chisara N. Asomugha (CMS), Kirsten Beronio (ASPE), Nancy Breen (NCI), Miya Cain (ACF), Victoria Cargill (NIH), Steven Clauser (NCI), Wayne Duffus (CDC), Olinda Gonzalez (SAMHSA), Kirk Greenway (IHS), Chris Haffer (CMS-OMH), Linda Harlan (NCI), Edwin Huff (CMS), Deloris Hunter (NIH), Sonja Hutchins (CDC), Ruth Katz (ASPE), Tanya Telfair LeBlanc (CDC), Shari Ling (CMS), Darlene Marce (ACF), Tracy Matthews (HRSA), Karen McDonnell(CMS), Ernest Moy (CDC-NCHS), Curt Mueller (HRSA), Karen Nakano (CMS), Iran Naqvi (HRSA), Ann Page (ASPE), Kimberly Proctor (CMS-OMH), D.E.B Potter (ASPE), Asel Ryskulova (CDC-NCHS), Adelle Simmons (ASPE), Marsha Smith (CMS), Caroline Taplin (ASPE), Emmanuel Taylor (NCI), Nadarajen Vydelingum (NIH), Chastity Walker (CDC), Barbara Wells (NHLBI), Valerie Welsh (OASH-OMH), Tia Zeno (ASPE), and Ying Zhang (IHS).

QDR/NQS Team: Irim Azam (CQuIPS), Barbara Barton (CQuIPS), Doreen Bonnet (OCKT), Cecilia Casale (OEREP), Frances Chevarley (CFACT), Noel Eldridge (CQuIPS), Coral Ellis (BAH), Camille Fabiyi (OEREP), Zhengyi Fang (SSS), Ann Gordon (BAH), Erin Grace (CQuIPS), Darryl Gray (CQuIPS), Anil Koninty (SSS), Kevin Heslin (CDOM), Emily Mamula (BAH), Tameika McLean (CQUIPS), Kamila Mistry (OEREP), Atlang Mompe (SSS), Heather Plochman (BAH), Susan Raetzman (Truven), Michelle Roberts (CFACT), Rachel Rosmarin (CQUIPS), Lily Trofimovich (SSS), Yi Wang (SSS), and Nancy Wilson (CQuIPS).

HHS Data Experts: Clarice Brown (CDC-NCHS), Anjani Chandra (CDC-NCHS), Laura Cheever (HRSA), Frances Chevarley (AHRQ), Robin Cohen (CDC-NCHS), Rupali Doshi (HRSA), John Fleishman (AHRQ), Elizabeth Goldstein (CMS), Selena Gonzalez (CDC-HIV), Beth Han (SAMHSA), Haylea Hannah (CDC), Kimberly Lochner (CMS), Marlene Matosky (HRSA), William Mosher (CDC-NCHS), Richard Moser (NCI), Cynthia Ogden (CDC-NCHS), Robert Pratt (CDC), Asel Ryskulova (CDC-NCHS), Alek Sripipatana (HRSA), Alan Simon (CDC-NCHS), Reda Wilson (CDC/ONDIEH/NCCDPHP), Richard Wolitski (CDC-HIV), and Xiaohong (Julia) Zhu (HRSA).

Other Data Experts: Dana Auden (Oklahoma Foundation for Medical Quality [OFMQ]), Sarah Bell (University of Michigan), Timothy Chrusciel (OFMQ), Mark Cohen (ACS NSQIP), Sheila Eckenrode (MPSMS-Qualidigm), Melissa Fava (University of Michigan), David Grant (UCLA), Michael Halpern (American Cancer Society), Matthew Haskins (NHPCO), Clifford Ko (ACS NSQIP), Allen Ma (OFMQ), Wato Nsa (OFMQ), Nicholas Okpokho (OFMQ), Robin Padilla (University of Michigan), Bryan Palis (NCBD, American College of Surgeons), Pennsylvania Patient Safety Authority, Royce Park (UCLA), William Ross (Fu Associates), Scott Stewart (OFMQ), VA National Center for Patient Safety, Yolanta Vucic (OFMQ), and Claudia Wright (Oklahoma QIO).


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EFFECTIVE TREATMENT

Organization of the Chartbook on Effective Treatment

- Part of a series related to the National Healthcare Quality and Disparities Report (QDR)
- Contents:
  - Overview of the QDR
  - Overview of Effective Treatment, one of the priorities of the National Quality Strategy
  - Summary of trends and disparities in Effective Treatment from the QDR
  - Tracking of individual measures of Effective Treatment:
    - Cardiovascular Disease
    - Cancer
    - Chronic Kidney Disease
    - Diabetes
    - HIV and AIDS
    - Mental Health and Substance Abuse
    - Musculoskeletal Diseases
    - Respiratory Diseases

Background

This Chartbook on Effective Treatment is part of a family of documents and tools that support the National Healthcare Quality and Disparities Report (QDR). The QDR includes annual reports to Congress mandated in the Healthcare Research and Quality Act of 1999 (P.L. 106-129). These reports provide a comprehensive overview of the quality of health care received by the general U.S. population and disparities in care experienced by different racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic groups. The purpose of the reports is to assess the performance of our health system and to identify areas of strengths and weaknesses in the health care system along three main axes: access to health care, quality of health care, and priorities of the National Quality Strategy.

The reports are based on more than 250 measures of quality and disparities covering a broad array of health care services and settings. Data are generally available through 2013. The reports are produced with the help of an Interagency Work Group led by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) and submitted on behalf of the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS).

Changes for 2015

Beginning with the 2015 report, the National Healthcare Quality and Disparities Report and National Quality Strategy Update have been integrated into a single document that describes the Nation’s progress in improving health care access, quality, and disparities. This is a joint effort to address the progress made against the National Quality Strategy (NQS) priorities at the 5-year anniversary of the Strategy.
The NQS is backed by the *National Healthcare Quality and Disparities Report* data. Integration of these two efforts within the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality supports the development of a more comprehensive report on the success of efforts to achieve better health and health care and reduce disparities.

**Key Findings of the 2015 QDR**

- The Nation has made progress in improving the health care system to achieve the three aims of better care, smarter spending, and healthier people, but there is still work to do, specifically to address disparities in care.
- Access to health care has improved dramatically, led by sustained reductions in the number of Americans without health insurance and increases in the number of Americans with a usual source of medical care.
- Quality of health care continues to improve, but wide variation exists across the National Quality Strategy priorities.
- Disparities related to race and socioeconomic status persist among measures of access and all National Quality Strategy priorities, but progress is being made in some areas.
- Disparities in quality of care and disparities in access to care typically follow the same pattern, although disparities in access tend to be more common than disparities in quality.

**Chartbooks**

- QDR supported by a series of related chartbooks that:
  - Present information on individual measures.
  - Are updated periodically.

- Order and topics of chartbooks:
  - Access to care
  - Priorities of the National Quality Strategy
  - Access and quality of care for different priority populations

**Chartbooks Organized Around Priorities of the National Quality Strategy**

1. Making care safer by reducing harm caused in the delivery of care
2. Ensuring that each person and family is engaged as partners in their care
3. Promoting effective communication and coordination of care
4. **Promoting the most effective prevention and treatment practices for the leading causes of mortality, starting with cardiovascular disease**
5. Working with communities to promote wide use of best practices to enable healthy living
6. Making quality care more affordable for individuals, families, employers, and governments by developing and spreading new health care delivery models
Effective Treatment

Effective Treatment is one of the six national priorities identified by the National Quality Strategy (http://www.ahrq.gov/workingforquality/index.html).

The National Quality Strategy has identified three long-term goals related to effective treatment:

1. Promote cardiovascular health through community interventions that result in improvement of social, economic, and environmental factors.
2. Promote cardiovascular health through interventions that result in adoption of the most healthy lifestyle behaviors across the lifespan.
3. Promote cardiovascular health through receipt of effective clinical preventive services across the lifespan in clinical and community settings.

Improving the quality of American health care demands an intense focus on preventing and treating cardiovascular disease. The lessons from this effort will feed into efforts addressing conditions such as HIV/AIDS and other chronic illnesses. Future initiatives will address a broad range of diseases and age ranges.

This chartbook begins with measures of effective treatment of cardiovascular disease. This is followed by measures of effective treatment of seven other leading causes of death in the United States.

**Chartbook on Effective Treatment**

- This chartbook includes:
  - Summary of trends across measures of Effective Treatment from the QDR.
  - Figures illustrating select measures of Effective Treatment.

- [Introduction and Methods](https://nhqrnet.ahrq.gov/inhqrdr/data/query) contains information about methods used in the chartbook.
- A Data Query tool ([https://nhqrnet.ahrq.gov/inhqrdr/data/query](https://nhqrnet.ahrq.gov/inhqrdr/data/query)) provides access to all data tables.
# Rank of Leading Causes of Death by Age Group, 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cause of Death</th>
<th>Age (Years)</th>
<th>Report Section</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cancer</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accidents</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heart disease</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Congenital malformations</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suicide</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alzheimer's disease</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chronic lower respiratory diseases</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chronic liver disease and cirrhosis</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cerebrovascular diseases</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV disease</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diabetes</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influenza and pneumonia</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kidney disease</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benign neoplasms</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Septicemia</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homicide</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perinatal conditions</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pregnancy, childbirth, and puerperium</td>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Consistent with the NQS priority “Promoting the most effective prevention and treatment of the leading causes of mortality,” identified in the *National Strategy for Quality Improvement in Health Care*, the conditions tracked in this chartbook include the leading causes of death in the United States for which significant health care quality measurement activity exists.
- Some leading causes of death, such as accidents and homicide, cannot be tracked in this chartbook because related performance standards and quality measures are not well defined.
- Other leading causes of death cannot be tracked in this chartbook because robust national data sources are lacking.

**Leading Chronic Conditions Causing Limitation of Activity, 2010**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cause of Limitation</th>
<th>Prevalence (Millions)</th>
<th>Report Section</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Back/neck conditions</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>Musculoskeletal Diseases</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arthritis/rheumatism</td>
<td>6.8</td>
<td>Musculoskeletal Diseases</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heart condition</td>
<td>4.2</td>
<td>Cardiovascular Disease</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depression/anxiety</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>Mental Health and Substance Abuse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Musculoskeletal condition</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>Musculoskeletal Diseases</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diabetes</td>
<td>3.6</td>
<td>Diabetes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hypertension</td>
<td>3.6</td>
<td>Cardiovascular Disease</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nervous system problem</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lung/breathing problem</td>
<td>3.1</td>
<td>Respiratory Diseases</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fracture/bone/joint injury</td>
<td>2.8</td>
<td>Musculoskeletal Diseases</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Most Costly Conditions, 2013**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Total Expenses (Millions)</th>
<th>Report Section</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trauma-related disorders</td>
<td>$98,106</td>
<td>Cardiovascular Disease</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heart conditions</td>
<td>$96,453</td>
<td>Cardiovascular Disease</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental disorders</td>
<td>$86,069</td>
<td>Mental Health and Substance Abuse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cancer</td>
<td>$74,846</td>
<td>Cancer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Osteoarthritis and other nontraumatic joint disorders</td>
<td>$74,400</td>
<td>Musculoskeletal Diseases</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, asthma</td>
<td>$71,504</td>
<td>Respiratory Diseases</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diabetes mellitus</td>
<td>$63,069</td>
<td>Diabetes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hypertension</td>
<td>$47,455</td>
<td>Cardiovascular Disease</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Normal birth/live born</td>
<td>$44,169</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Back problems</td>
<td>$41,455</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Sources:**
The conditions tracked in this chartbook are also prominent on the list of conditions with the highest health care expenses.

**Trends in Quality Measures**

**Summary of trends: Number and percentage of all quality measures that are improving, not changing, or worsening through 2013, overall and by NQS priority**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Improving</th>
<th>No Change</th>
<th>Worsening</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total (n=191)</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Person-Centered Care (n=20)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Effective Treatment (n=37)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Healthy Living (n=58)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patient Safety (n=31)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Care Coordination (n=37)</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Key:** n = number of measures.

**Note:** For the majority of measures, trend data are available from 2001 to 2013. For each measure with at least four estimates over time, log-linear regression is used to calculate average annual percentage change and to assess statistical significance. Measures are aligned so that positive change indicates improved access to care.

- **Improving** = Rates of change are positive at 1% per year or greater and are statistically significant.
- **No Change** = Rate of change is less than 1% per year or is not statistically significant.
- **Worsening** = Rates of change are negative at -1% per year or greater and are statistically significant.

About 60% of Effective Treatment measures were improving, similar to the total.

**Effective Treatment Measure Reintroduced in the 2015 QDR**

- Measures that reach 95% are removed from the QDR.
- One Effective Treatment measure that was removed was reintroduced in 2015 because it fell under 95%:
  - Eligible HIV patients receiving prophylaxis for *Pneumocystis* pneumonia
Effective Treatment Measures That Showed Worsening Quality

- Three Effective Treatment measures showed worsening over time, including two measures of management of chronic conditions (bold):

  - Suicide deaths per 100,000 population
  - Adults age 40+ with diagnosed diabetes who had their feet checked for sores or irritation in the calendar year
  - People with current asthma who are now taking preventive medicine daily or almost daily

Effective Treatment Measures With Elimination of Disparities

- One measure showed elimination of Black-White, Asian-White, and Hispanic-Non-Hispanic White disparities:

  - Women under age 70 treated for breast cancer with breast-conserving surgery who received radiation therapy to the breast within 1 year of diagnosis

- One measure showed elimination of a Hispanic-Non-Hispanic White disparity:

  - Admissions for diabetes with short-term complications per 100,000 population, age 18 and over

- One measure showed elimination of income-related disparities:

  - People with current asthma who are now taking preventive medicine daily or almost daily (either oral or inhaler)

- Two measures showed elimination of rural-urban disparities:

  - Adults age 40 and over with diagnosed diabetes who had their feet checked for sores or irritation in the calendar year
  - Admissions for uncontrolled diabetes without complications per 100,000 population, age 18 and over

Effective Treatment Measures With Widening of Disparities

- One measure showed widening of American Indian/Alaska Native-White disparities:

  - New HIV cases per 100,000 population age 13 and over

- Three measures showed widening of income-related disparities:

  - Admissions for diabetes with short-term complications per 100,000 population, age 18 and over
  - Admissions for diabetes with long-term complications per 100,000 population, age 18 and over
- Hospital admissions for lower extremity amputations per 1,000 population age 18 and over with diabetes

- Two measures showed widening of urban-rural disparities:
  - Deaths per 1,000 hospital admissions with acute myocardial infarction, age 18 and over
  - Deaths per 1,000 hospital admissions with congestive heart failure, age 18 and over

- Two measures showed widening of uninsured-privately insured disparities:
  - Deaths per 1,000 hospital admissions with percutaneous transluminal coronary angioplasty, age 40 and over
  - Adults age 40 and over with diagnosed diabetes who received a dilated eye examination in the calendar year

**Measures of Effective Treatment**

- This chartbook tracks measures of Effective Treatment through 2013 and 2014, overall and for populations defined by age, race, ethnicity, income, education, insurance, and number of chronic conditions.
- Measures of Effective Treatment include:
  - Receipt of processes that reflect high-quality care.
  - Outcomes related in part to receipt of high-quality care.

**Conditions Covered**

- This chartbook is organized around eight conditions that are the leading causes of mortality and morbidity in the United States:
  - Cardiovascular disease
  - Cancer
  - Chronic kidney disease
  - Diabetes
  - HIV and AIDS
  - Mental health and substance abuse
  - Musculoskeletal diseases
  - Respiratory diseases
Cardiovascular Disease

Measures of Effective Treatment of Cardiovascular Disease

- Treatment of Hypertension
  - Outcome: Adults with hypertension whose blood pressure is under control
  - Outcome: Children with high total cholesterol

- Treatment of Heart Attack:
  - Process: Hospital patients with heart attack given fibrinolytic medication within 30 minutes of arrival
  - Outcome: Inpatient deaths per 1,000 adult hospital admissions with heart attack

- Treatment of Congestive Heart Failure
  - Outcome: Adult admissions for congestive heart failure per 100,000 population


Cardiovascular Disease Measures for Which Disparities Were Eliminated

- Inpatient deaths per 1,000 adult hospital admissions for heart attack
  - Medicare vs. any private insurance
Treatment of Hypertension
Adults With Hypertension Whose Blood Pressure Is Under Control

- **Importance:** Although progress has been made in raising awareness of blood pressure screening and monitoring, blood pressure control among people with diagnosed high blood pressure remains a problem.

- **Trends:** From 1999-2002 to 2011-2012, the percentage of adults with hypertension who had their blood pressure under control improved overall. The percentage also improved for adults with less than a high school education and adults with any college. There was no statistically significant change among high school graduates.

- **Groups With Disparities:** In all years, adults with hypertension ages 40-59 and 60 years and over were more likely than adults ages 18-39 with hypertension to have their blood pressure under control.
Children and Adolescents With High Cholesterol


- **Overall Rate:** During 2011-2014, overall, 7.4% of children and adolescents ages 6-19 had high total cholesterol.

- **Groups With Disparities:**

  - The percentage of children and adolescents with high cholesterol was lower among children ages 6-8 (6.0%) than adolescents ages 16-19 (8.9%).
  - A higher percentage of females (8.9%) had high total cholesterol compared with males (5.9%).
  - A higher percentage of Black (9.6%) and Asian (10.9%) children and adolescents had high total cholesterol compared with White (7.3%) children and adolescents.


*Note:* For this measure, lower rates are better. White, Black, and Asian are non-Hispanic. Hispanic includes all races.
The percentage of obese children and adolescents who had high total cholesterol was nearly twice the percentage of normal weight children with high total cholesterol (11.6% compared with 6.3%).

**Children and Adolescents With Poor Cholesterol Levels**


Note: For this measure, lower rates are better. White, Black, and Asian are non-Hispanic. Hispanic includes all races.

**Importance:** Studies have shown that atherosclerosis begins in childhood and can lead to coronary heart disease in adults. It has also been shown that there is a strong correlation between pediatric hyperlipidemia, carotid intimal thickening, and cardiovascular events in adults (Chauhan & Paunikar, 2014). The Bogalusa Heart Study demonstrated that non-high-density lipoprotein cholesterol is a better predictor of adult dyslipidemia than low-density lipoprotein cholesterol (Srinivasan, et al., 2006).

**Overall Rate:** During 2011-2014, overall, 21.0% of children and adolescents had an abnormal cholesterol measure.

**Groups With Disparities:**

The percentage of children and adolescents who had at least one abnormal cholesterol reading increased with age. Approximately 14% of children ages 6-8 had at least one abnormal cholesterol reading and 26.9% of adolescents ages 16-19 had at least one abnormal cholesterol measure.
The percentage of Black children and adolescents with at least one abnormal cholesterol reading was lower than the percentage of White children and adolescents with at least one abnormal cholesterol reading (17.8% compared with 21.5%).

The percentage of obese children with at least one abnormal cholesterol measure (43.3%) was more than three times as high as the percentage among children of normal weight (13.8%).

**Treatment of Heart Attack**

**Timely Receipt of Fibrinolytic Medication**

- **Importance:** Some heart attacks are caused by blood clots. Early actions, such as fibrinolytic medication, may open blockages caused by blood clots, reduce heart muscle damage, and save lives. To be effective, these actions need to be performed quickly after the start of a heart attack.
- **Trends:** From 2005 to 2013, the percentage of patients who received timely fibrinolytic medication improved overall, for both sexes, and for all racial/ethnic groups.
• **Groups With Disparities:**
  
  - In 7 of 9 years, the percentage of patients who received timely fibrinolytic medication was significantly higher for males than for females. In the 2 most recent years, there was no statistically significant difference in the percentage of male and female patients who received timely fibrinolytic medication.
  
  - From 2005 to 2010, the percentage of patients who received timely fibrinolytic medication was significantly higher for Whites than for Blacks. From 2011 to 2013, there was no statistically significant difference in the percentage of White and Black patients who received timely fibrinolytic medication.

**Inpatient Deaths From Heart Attack, by Payment Source**

![Graph showing inpatient deaths per 1,000 adult hospital admissions for heart attack, by expected payment source, 2000-2013](image)

- **Total**
- **Private**
- **Medicare**
- **Medicaid**
- **Uninsured**

**Source:** Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project, Nationwide (2000-2011) and National (2012-2013) Inpatient Samples and AHRQ Quality Indicators, version 4.4.

**Denominator:** Adults age 18 and over admitted to a non-Federal community hospital in the United States with acute myocardial infarction as principal discharge diagnosis.

**Note:** For this measure, lower rates are better. Rates are adjusted by age, major diagnostic category, all payer refined-diagnosis related group risk of mortality score, and transfers into the hospital.

- **Importance:** Heart attack is a common life-threatening condition that requires rapid recognition and efficient treatment in a hospital to reduce the risk of serious heart damage and death.

- **Trends:** From 2000 to 2013, the risk-adjusted inpatient mortality rate for hospital admissions with heart attack decreased significantly overall and for all insurance groups.

- **Groups With Disparities:** In all years, uninsured patients had higher inpatient mortality rates for hospital admissions with heart attack than privately insured patients.
• **Achievable Benchmark:**

  - The 2011 top 4 State achievable benchmark for inpatient heart attack mortality was 41 deaths per 1,000 admissions. The top 4 States that contributed to the achievable benchmark are Arizona, Georgia, Michigan, and Ohio.
  - At the current rate of improvement, the 2011 benchmark could be met for the total population in approximately 1 year.
  - At current rates of improvement, uninsured patients could reach the 2011 benchmark in 6 years while other insurance groups could reach it in less than 2 years.

**Inpatient Deaths From Heart Attack, by Residence Location**

![Graph showing inpatient deaths per 1,000 adult hospital admissions for heart attack, by residence location, 2000-2013.](image)

- **Denominator:** Adults age 18 and over admitted to a non-Federal community hospital in the United States with acute myocardial infarction as principal discharge diagnosis.
- **Note:** For this measure, lower rates are better. Rates are adjusted by age, major diagnostic category, all payer refined-diagnosis related group risk of mortality score, and transfers into the hospital.

• **Importance:** Urban-rural disparities in cardiovascular mortality have been observed.

• **Trends:** From 2000 to 2013, the risk-adjusted inpatient mortality rate for hospital admissions with heart attack decreased significantly for all residence location groups.

• **Groups With Disparities:** In all years, residents of micropolitan and noncore areas had higher inpatient mortality rates for hospital admissions with heart attack than residents of large fringe metropolitan areas.
- **Achievable Benchmark:**
  - The 2011 top 4 State achievable benchmark for inpatient heart attack mortality was 41 deaths per 1,000 admissions. The top 4 States that contributed to the achievable benchmark are Arizona, Georgia, Michigan, and Ohio.
  - At current rates of improvement, patients from large fringe, large central, and small metropolitan areas could reach the 2011 benchmark in less than a year while patients from micropolitan, noncore, and medium metropolitan areas could reach the benchmark in a year and a half.

**Inpatient Deaths From Heart Attack, by Race/Ethnicity**

![Inpatient deaths per 1,000 adult hospital admissions for heart attack, by race/ethnicity, 2001-2013](image)

*Key: API = Asian or Pacific Islander.*


*Denominator:* Adults age 18 and over admitted to a non-Federal community hospital in the United States with acute myocardial infarction as principal discharge diagnosis.

*Note:* For this measure, lower rates are better. Rates are adjusted by age, major diagnostic category, all payer refined-diagnosis related group risk of mortality score, and transfers into the hospital. White and Black are non-Hispanic. Hispanic includes all races.

- **Importance:** Racial disparities in heart attack care have been observed.
- **Trends:** From 2001 to 2013, the risk-adjusted inpatient mortality rate for hospital admissions with heart attack decreased significantly for all racial/ethnic groups.
- **Groups With Disparities:** In 10 of 13 years, Black patients had lower inpatient mortality rates for hospital admissions with heart attack than White patients.
• **Achievable Benchmark:**
  - The 2011 top 4 State achievable benchmark for inpatient heart attack mortality was 41 deaths per 1,000 admissions. The top 4 States that contributed to the achievable benchmark are Arizona, Georgia, Michigan, and Ohio.
  - In 2013, Blacks had achieved the benchmark.
  - At current rates of improvement, all other racial/ethnic groups could reach the benchmark in less than 2 years.

**Treatment of Heart Failure**

**Admissions With Congestive Heart Failure, by Area Income**

![Diagram showing adult admissions with congestive heart failure per 100,000 population, by area income, 2000-2013](image)

- **Importance:** Some hospitalizations for heart failure are unavoidable, but rates of hospitalization can be influenced by the quality of outpatient care.
- **Trends:** From 2000 to 2013, the rate of admission for congestive heart failure among adults decreased significantly overall and for all area income groups.
- **Groups With Disparities:** In all years, rates of admission for congestive heart failure were higher among residents in the lowest and second area income quartiles compared with residents in the highest area income quartile.
• **Achievable Benchmark:**

  - The 2008 top 4 State achievable benchmark for adult congestive heart failure admissions was 195 admissions per 100,000 population. The top 4 States that contributed to the achievable benchmark are Colorado, Oregon, Utah, and Vermont.
  - At current rates of improvement, residents in the highest area income quartile could achieve the benchmark in 4 years while residents in the lowest area income quartile would need 15 years.

**Admissions With Congestive Heart Failure, by Race/Ethnicity**

![Graph showing adult admissions with congestive heart failure per 100,000 population, by race/ethnicity, 2001-2013.](image)

- **Key:** API = Asian or Pacific Islander.
- **Source:** Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project, State Inpatient Databases, disparities analysis files and AHRQ Quality Indicators, version 4.4, 2001-2013.
- **Denominator:** U.S. resident population age 18 and over.
- **Note:** For this measure, lower rates are better. White and Black are non-Hispanic. Hispanic includes all races.

• **Importance:** Racial disparities in care for congestive heart failure have been observed.

• **Trends:** From 2001 to 2013, the rate of admission for congestive heart failure among adults decreased significantly for all racial/ethnic groups.

• **Groups With Disparities:** In all years, rates of admission for congestive heart failure were higher among Blacks and lower among Asians and Pacific Islanders (API) compared with Whites.
• **Achievable Benchmark:**

  ■ The 2008 top 4 State achievable benchmark for adult congestive heart failure admissions was 195 admissions per 100,000 population. The top 4 States that contributed to the achievable benchmark are Colorado, Oregon, Utah, Vermont.

  ■ At current rates of improvement, the benchmark could be achieved by Hispanics in 5 years and Whites could achieve it in 6 years. Blacks would need 15 years to achieve the benchmark.

  ■ APIs have already achieved the benchmark.

**References**


Cancer

Measures of Effective Treatment of Cancer

- Process:
  - Women with clinical stage I-IIb breast cancer who received axillary node dissection or sentinel lymph node biopsy at the time of surgery
  - Women under age 70 treated for breast cancer with breast-conserving surgery who received radiation therapy to the breast within 1 year of diagnosis

- Outcome:
  - Age-adjusted breast cancer deaths per 100,000 population

Measures of screening for cancer are located in the Healthy Living chartbook at http://www.ahrq.gov/research/findings/nhqrdr/chartbooks/healthyliving/index.html.

Cancer Measures for Which Disparities Were Eliminated

- Women under age 70 treated for breast cancer with breast-conserving surgery who received radiation therapy to the breast within 1 year of diagnosis:
  - White vs. Black
  - White vs. Asian
Breast Cancer Treatment

Women With Breast Cancer Who Received Axillary Node Dissection or Sentinel Lymph Node Biopsy at the Time of Surgery

- **Importance:** Recommended cancer treatment depends on different factors, such as the stage or extent of the cancer within the body, especially whether the disease has spread from the original site to other parts of the body. If cancer cells have spread to the lymph nodes, there is a higher chance that the cells could have metastasized to other sites in the body. The more lymph nodes with breast cancer cells, the more likely it is that the cancer may be found in other organs as well. Therefore, finding cancer in one or more lymph nodes often affects the treatment plan.

- **Trends:** From 2004 to 2012, the percentage of women with clinical stage I-IIb breast cancer who received axillary node dissection or sentinel lymph node biopsy at the time of lumpectomy or mastectomy improved overall and for all residence location and racial/ethnic groups except American Indians and Alaska Natives (AI/ANs).

- **Groups With Disparities:**

  - In 7 of 9 years, the percentage of women who received axillary node dissection or sentinel lymph node biopsy was higher for residents of noncore areas than for residents of large metropolitan areas.
In 7 of 9 years, the percentage of women who received axillary node dissection or sentinel lymph node biopsy was higher for Asian women than for White women.

**Achievable Benchmark:**

- The 2008 top 6 State achievable benchmark was 97%. The top 6 States that contributed to the achievable benchmark are Alaska, Arkansas, Nevada, Mississippi, Montana, and Oklahoma.
- At the current rates of improvement, the achievable benchmark could be attained overall in 4 years, in less than 6 years for all residence locations, and in less than 5 years for all racial/ethnic groups.

**Women With Breast Cancer Who Received Axillary Node Dissection or Sentinel Lymph Node Biopsy at the Time of Surgery, by Granular Ethnicities**

![Graph showing axillary node dissection or sentinel lymph node biopsy rates by granular ethnicities, 2004-2012.](image)

**Key:** AI/AN = American Indian or Alaska Native.

**Source:** Commission on Cancer, American College of Surgeons and American Cancer Society, National Cancer Data Base, 2004-2012.

**Denominator:** Women with breast cancer undergoing lumpectomy or mastectomy.

**Note:** Puerto Ricans include patients receiving cancer care in hospitals in Puerto Rico.
- **Importance:** Asian and Hispanic groups are not homogeneous. Data on granular Asian and Hispanic ethnicities are limited but often show variation in care.

- **Trends:** From 2004 to 2012, the percentage of women with clinical stage I-IIb breast cancer who received axillary node dissection or sentinel lymph node biopsy at the time of lumpectomy or mastectomy improved for Chinese, Filipino, Vietnamese, Cuban, and Puerto Rican women.

- **Achievable Benchmark:**
  - The 2008 top 6 State achievable benchmark was 97%. The top 6 States that contributed to the achievable benchmark are Alaska, Arkansas, Nevada, Mississippi, Montana, and Oklahoma.
  - Koreans have achieved the benchmark.
  - At the current rates of improvement, Asian Indian women will achieve the benchmark in less than 1 year, Puerto Ricans in 1 year, Vietnamese women in 2 years, Cubans in less than 4 years, Filipinos in less than 5 years, Chinese women in 6 years, and Mexicans and Japanese women in about 7 years.

**Women Treated for Breast Cancer With Breast-Conserving Surgery Who Received Radiation Therapy**

![Graph showing women under age 70 treated for breast cancer with breast-conserving surgery who received radiation therapy to the breast within 1 year of diagnosis, by race/ethnicity and residence location, 2004-2012.]

**Key:** AI/AN = American Indian or Alaska Native.  
**Source:** Commission on Cancer, American College of Surgeons and American Cancer Society, National Cancer Data Base, 2004-2012.  
**Denominator:** Women with breast cancer undergoing breast-conserving surgery.
• **Importance:** Radiotherapy decreases local recurrence rates and improves outcomes for women with invasive breast cancer who undergo breast-conserving surgery. For breast-conserving surgery patients younger than 70 years, delivery of radiotherapy within 1 year is a Commission on Cancer quality-of-cancer-care measure with an expected compliance rate of 90% or more (Hieken, et al., 2016).

• **Trends:** From 2004 to 2012, the percentage of women treated for breast cancer with breast-conserving surgery who received radiation therapy improved overall and for all racial/ethnic groups except Whites and for all residence locations.

• **Groups With Disparities:**
  - In 7 of 9 years, Black, Asian, and Hispanic women who were treated for breast cancer with breast-conserving surgery were less likely than White women to receive radiation therapy.
  - In all years, residents of small metropolitan, micropolitan, and noncore areas who were treated for breast cancer with breast-conserving surgery were more likely than residents of large metropolitan areas to receive radiation therapy.

• **Achievable Benchmark:**
  - The 2008 top 5 State achievable benchmark was 95%. The top 5 States that contributed to the achievable benchmark are Kansas, Minnesota, Montana, New Hampshire, and Wisconsin.
  - At the current rates of improvement, Asian and AI/AN women could achieve the benchmark in less than 5 years.
  - Hispanic and Black women could achieve the benchmark in about 11 years.
  - White women are making no progress toward the benchmark.
Women Treated for Breast Cancer With Breast-Conserving Surgery Who Received Radiation Therapy, by Granular Ethnicities

Importance: Breast-conserving surgery followed by radiation therapy is an established standard of care for early stage breast cancer with equivalent survival for invasive breast cancer patients compared with mastectomy. Minority women with early stage breast cancer have been reported to have double the risk for failing to receive necessary adjuvant treatments compared with White women (Parise, et al., 2012).

Groups With Disparities:

- In 7 of 9 years, Mexican women who were treated for breast cancer with breast-conserving surgery were less likely than White women to receive radiation therapy.
- In 2012, Cuban, Puerto Rican, Asian Indian, Chinese, Japanese, and Korean women who were treated for breast cancer with breast-conserving surgery were more likely than White women to receive radiation therapy.

Source: Commission on Cancer, American College of Surgeons and American Cancer Society, National Cancer Data Base, 2004-2012.
Denominator: Women with breast cancer undergoing breast-conserving surgery.
• **Achievable Benchmark:**

- The 2008 top 5 State achievable benchmark was 95%. The top 5 States that contributed to the achievable benchmark are Kansas, Minnesota, Montana, New Hampshire and Wisconsin.
- At the current rates of improvement, Cubans could reach the benchmark in 2 years, Puerto Ricans in 3 years but it would take Mexican women nearly 24 years to achieve the benchmark.
- Korean women achieved the benchmark in 2011.
- At the current rates of improvement, Chinese women could achieve the benchmark in 2.5 years, Vietnamese in 5 years, Asian Indians and Japanese in about 6 years and Filipinos in 13 years.

**Breast Cancer Deaths**

**Age-Adjusted Breast Cancer Deaths**

![Breast Cancer Deaths Chart]

- **Importance:** The death rate from a disease is a function of many factors, including the causes of the disease; social forces; and effectiveness of the health care system in providing prevention, treatment, and management of the disease. Breast cancer deaths reflect the impact of breast cancer screening, diagnosis, and treatment.
• **Trends:** From 2004 to 2013, the age-adjusted breast cancer death rate improved overall and for all racial/ethnic groups and geographic locations.

• **Groups With Disparities:**
  - In all years, the breast cancer death rate was lower for Asian and Pacific Islander (API), AI/AN, and Hispanic females than for White females.
  - In all years, the breast cancer death rate was higher for Black females than for White females.

• **Achievable Benchmark:**
  - The 2008 top 5 State achievable benchmark was 17 deaths per 100,000 population. The top 5 States that contributed to the achievable benchmark are Alaska, Hawaii, Montana, Vermont, and Wyoming.
  - The benchmark has been achieved by API, AI/AN, and Hispanic females.
  - At the current rates of improvement, the achievable benchmark could be attained overall and for Whites in 9 years but Blacks would require 30 years.

**References**


Chronic Kidney Disease

Measures of Effective Treatment of Chronic Kidney Disease

- **Process:**
  - Nephrology care before kidney failure
  - Arteriovenous fistula as primary mode of vascular access
  - Registration for transplantation

- **Outcome:**
  - Hemodialysis death rate

**Nephrology Care**

Patients Who Saw a Nephrologist Prior to Renal Replacement Therapy, by Race and Ethnicity

![Graph showing the percentage of patients who saw a nephrologist at least 12 months prior to initiation of renal replacement therapy, by race and ethnicity, 2005-2013.](chart)

**Key:**
- NHOP = Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- AI/AN = American Indian or Alaska Native


**Note:**
- Hispanic includes all races. These charts use data from the newest version of the ESRD Medical Evidence CMS 2278 form. The cohorts include incident hemodialysis patients. Includes only patients for whom it is known whether they saw a nephrologist prior to initiation.
• **Importance:** Early referral to a nephrologist is important for patients with progressive chronic kidney disease who are approaching kidney failure. Patients who begin nephrology care more than a year before kidney failure are less likely to begin dialysis with a catheter, experience infections related to vascular access, or die during the months after dialysis initiation (USRDS, 2013a).

• **Trends:** From 2005 to 2013, the total percentage of chronic kidney disease patients receiving care from a nephrologist at least 12 months before the start of renal replacement therapy increased from 25.7% to 34.3%.

• **Groups With Disparities:**
  
  - In all years, the percentage of new end stage renal disease (ESRD) patients who began nephrology care at least 12 months prior to initiation of renal replacement therapy was higher for non-Hispanic Whites than for Hispanics.
  
  - In 2013, nearly 36% of White and Asian ESRD patients began nephrology care at least 12 months prior to initiation of renal replacement therapy while 30% of Black, American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN), and Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander (NHOPI) patients began nephrology care at least 12 months prior to initiation of renal replacement therapy.

**Patients Who Saw a Nephrologist Prior to Renal Replacement Therapy, by Sex and Age**

![Graph showing the percentage of patients who saw a nephrologist at least 12 months prior to initiation of renal replacement therapy, by sex and age, 2005-2013](https://www.usrds.org/2015/view/v2_02.aspx)


**Note:** These charts use data from the newest version of the ESRD Medical Evidence CMS 2278 form. The cohorts include incident hemodialysis patients. Includes only patients for whom it is known whether they saw a nephrologist prior to initiation.
- **Importance:** Early referral to a nephrologist is important for patients with progressive chronic kidney disease who are approaching kidney failure. Patients who begin nephrology care more than a year before kidney failure are less likely to begin dialysis with a catheter, experience infections related to vascular access, or die during the months after dialysis initiation (USRDS, 2013a).

- **Trends:** From 2005 to 2013, the percentage of male chronic kidney disease patients receiving care from a nephrologist at least 12 months before the start of renal replacement therapy increased from 26.1% to 34.2%. For female patients, the percentage increased from 25.3% to 34.4%.

- **Groups With Disparities**
  - In 2013, 34% of both males and females began nephrology care at least 12 months prior to initiation of renal replacement therapy.
  - In all years, the percentage of ESRD patients who began nephrology care at least 12 months prior to initiation of renal replacement therapy was higher for patients under age 18 than for patients ages 18-44, 45-64, and 65 and over.

**Use of Fistulas**

**Hemodialysis Patients Who Use Arteriovenous Fistulas for Vascular Access**

![Graph showing use of fistulas by race and sex, 2012-2013](https://www.usrds.org/2015/view/v2_02.aspx)

Key: NHOPI = Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander; AI/AN = American Indian or Alaska Native.

- **Importance:** Among hemodialysis patients, a usable arteriovenous fistula was associated with the lowest risk of death, infection, and cardiovascular events, compared with other types of vascular access (USRDS, 2015).
- **Overall:** In 2013, 62.8% of adult hemodialysis patients used arteriovenous fistulas as the primary mode of vascular access.
- **Groups With Disparities:**
  - In 2013, 74.2% of AI/AN patients, 67.7% of NHOPI patients, 67.3% of Asian patients, 65.2% of White patients, and 57.8% of Black hemodialysis patients used arteriovenous fistulas as the primary mode of vascular access.
  - In 2013, 68.8% of males and 55.1% of female hemodialysis patients used arteriovenous fistulas as the primary mode of vascular access.

**Registration for Transplantation**

*Dialysis Patients Who Were Registered for Transplantation, by Race and Ethnicity*

**Key:**
- NHOPI = Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- AI/AN = American Indian or Alaska Native

**Source:** U.S. Renal Data System, 2000-2013. [https://www.usrds.org/2015/view/v2_02.aspx](https://www.usrds.org/2015/view/v2_02.aspx)

**Note:**
- Hispanic includes all races.
- The cohort includes patients from 2000-2013 who were younger than 70 at the initiation of ESRD.
- Percentages are calculated as the number of patients placed on the deceased donor organ waiting list or receiving a deceased donor transplant within 1 year of initiation, divided by the number of patients without a living donor available (i.e., patients receiving a living donor transplant are excluded), and are estimated using the Kaplan-Meier methodology.
• **Importance:** Kidney transplantation is a renal replacement therapy that replaces the failing kidney with a healthy donor kidney. ESRD patients who receive a kidney transplant have lower mortality and hospitalization rates than those on dialysis. First-year all-cause mortality rates in hemodialysis patients, for example, are nearly five times higher than rates among transplant patients (USRDS, 2013 b).

• **Trends:** From 2000 to 2013, the total percentage of dialysis patients under age 70 who were registered for transplantation within 1 year of progressing to ESRD increased from 15.2% to 18.0%.

• **Groups With Disparities:**
  
  ■ In all years, Blacks and AI/ANs were less likely than Whites to be registered for transplantation within 1 year of progressing to ESRD. Asians were more likely than Whites to be registered.
  
  ■ From 2000 to 2013, the percentage of dialysis patients registered for transplantation within 1 year of progressing to ESRD was lower for non-Hispanic Blacks than for non-Hispanic Whites and Hispanics.

• **Achievable Benchmark:**
  
  ■ The 2011 top 5 State achievable benchmark for registration for transplantation within 1 year of progressing to ESRD was 20.6%. The top 5 States that contributed to the achievable benchmark are Colorado, Delaware, Minnesota, South Dakota, and Vermont.
  
  ■ Hispanics could achieve the benchmark in 5 years, Whites in 8 years, and Blacks in 15 years. AI/ANs and NHOPIs are making no progress toward the benchmark.
  
  ■ Asians have already surpassed the 2011 achievable benchmark.
Dialysis Patients Who Were Registered for Transplantation, by Sex and Age

Dialysis patients under age 70 who were registered for transplantation or received a deceased donor kidney within a year of ESRD initiation, by sex and age, 2000-2013

- **Importance:** Kidney transplantation is a renal replacement therapy that replaces the failing kidney with a healthy donor kidney. ESRD patients who receive a kidney transplant have lower mortality and hospitalization rates than those on dialysis. First-year all-cause mortality rates in hemodialysis patients, for example, are nearly five times higher than rates among transplant patients (USRDS, 2013b).

- **Groups With Disparities:**
  - In 2013, 18.9% of females and 17.1% of males were registered for transplantation within 1 year of progressing to ESRD.
  - In all years, patients under age 18 years were more likely than patients ages 18-44 years, 45-64 years, and 65-69 years to be registered for transplantation within 1 year of progressing to ESRD.

- **Achievable Benchmark:**
  - The 2011 top 5 State achievable benchmark for registration for transplantation within 1 year of progressing to ESRD was 20.6%. The top 5 States that contributed to the achievable benchmark are Colorado, Delaware, Minnesota, South Dakota, and Vermont.

Denominator: Patients younger than 70 at ESRD initiation.
Note: Percentages are calculated as the number of patients placed on the deceased donor organ waiting list or receiving a deceased donor transplant within 1 year of initiation, divided by the number of patients without a living donor available (i.e., patients receiving a living donor transplant are excluded), and are estimated using the Kaplan-Meier methodology.
- Patients ages 18 and under and 18-44 have already surpassed the 2011 achievable benchmark. Patients ages 45-64 and 65-69 could not achieve the benchmark for approximately 15 years.
- Female patients could achieve the benchmark in 6 years and males in 11 years.

**Hemodialysis Death Rate**

**Mortality Ratios on Hemodialysis**

Standardized mortality ratios on hemodialysis, by State or territory, 2014

- **Importance:**
  - Hemodialysis patient mortality varies across dialysis facilities and, correspondingly, across States.
  - The standardized mortality ratio (SMR) is designed to summarize the observed death rate at a facility relative to the death rate that was expected based on national death rates during that year for patients with the same characteristics as those in a given facility.

*Source:* University of Michigan Kidney Epidemiology and Cost Center, Dialysis Facility Reports, 2014.

*Note:* For this measure, lower ratios are better.
Geographic Variation:

- SMRs vary across U.S. States and territories, from a low in South Dakota to a high in Puerto Rico.
- South Dakota’s SMR of 0.64 indicates facility death rates that are typically 36% below the national death rate.
- Puerto Rico’s SMR of 1.45 indicates facility death rates that are 45% above the national death rate.

References


Diabetes

Measures of Effective Treatment of Diabetes

- **Process:**
  - Receipt of four recommended diabetes services
  - People with current diabetes who have a written diabetes management plan

- **Outcome:**
  - Adults age 40 and over with diabetes who felt confident they could control and manage their diabetes
  - Hospital admissions for uncontrolled diabetes
  - New cases of end stage renal disease due to diabetes

**Diabetes Treatment**

**Receipt of Recommended Services by Adults Age 40 and Over**

Adults age 40 and over with diagnosed diabetes who received all four recommended services for diabetes in the calendar year (2+ hemoglobin A1c tests, foot exam, dilated eye exam, and flu shot), by race/ethnicity, 2008-2013

Denominator: Civilian noninstitutionalized population with diagnosed diabetes, age 40 and over.
Note: Data include people with both type 1 and type 2 diabetes. Percentages are age adjusted to the 2000 U.S. standard population using two age groups: 40-59 and 60 and over. White and Black are non-Hispanic. Hispanic includes all races.
• Importance:
  - Regular hemoglobin A1c (HbA1c) tests, foot exams, dilated eye exams, and flu shots help people keep their diabetes under control and avoid diabetic complications.
  - A composite measure is used to track the national rate of receipt of all four of these recommended annual diabetes interventions.

• Trends: From 2008 to 2013, among adults age 40 and over with diagnosed diabetes, there were no statistically significant improvements overall or among any racial/ethnic groups.

• Groups With Disparities: In 3 of 6 years, including 2012 and 2013, Hispanics and Blacks were less likely than Whites to receive the recommended services.

Receipt of Recommended Services by Adults Age 65 and Over, by Insurance

- Importance: Diabetes prevalence increases with age, so monitoring older adults is important.
- Trends: From 2008 to 2013, improvement was observed for adults with Medicare and private insurance.
• **Groups With Disparities:**

  - In the last 4 years, among adults age 65 and over, those with Medicare and other public insurance were less likely than those with Medicare and private insurance to receive all four recommended services.
  - In the last 3 years, among adults age 65 and over, those with Medicare only were less likely than those with Medicare and private insurance to receive all four recommended services.
  - Between 2008 and 2013, among adults age 65 and over, the gap between those with Medicare and private insurance and Medicare only grew, indicating worsening disparities.
  - Between 2008 and 2013, among adults age 65 and over, the gap between those with Medicare and private insurance and Medicare and public insurance grew, indicating worsening disparities.

**People With Diabetes Who Have a Diabetes Management Plan**

![Chart showing people with diabetes management plan by Asian and Hispanic subpopulations and English proficiency, California, 2011-2013 combined.](chart)

**Importance:**

  - Self-care and perceived confidence to take action to manage chronic illness and to maintain such skills over time have been shown to be associated with better health outcomes (Ludman, et al., 2013).
A successful partnership for diabetes care requires providers to educate patients about daily management of their diabetes. Thus, providers should develop a written diabetes management plan, especially for patients with a history of uncontrolled diabetes.

National data on diabetes management and outcomes for some underserved populations are not available from the national data sources in the QDR. These populations include people with limited English proficiency; individuals who speak a language other than English at home; lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender individuals; and Asian and Hispanic subpopulations. To address some of these data gaps, we show additional data from the California Health Interview Survey.

- **Overall Rate:** Only 43.2% of Californians with current diabetes had a written diabetes management plan in 2011-2013.

- **Groups With Disparities:**
  - Among Asian Californians with diabetes, the percentage who had a written diabetes management plan was 29.7% for Japanese, 36.9% for Chinese, 40.8% for Filipino, and 55.9% for Vietnamese people.
  - Among Hispanic Californians with diabetes, those who spoke English well/very well and those who did not speak English well or at all were less likely than those who spoke English only to have a written diabetes management plan.

### Diabetes Treatment Outcomes

**Adults With Diabetes Who Felt Confident They Could Manage Their Diabetes**

![Bar chart showing adults age 40 and over with diabetes who felt confident they could control and manage their diabetes, by ethnicity and English proficiency, California, 2011-2013 combined.](chart)

**Source:** UCLA, Center for Health Policy Research, California Health Interview Survey, 2011-2013.

**Denominator:** Civilian noninstitutionalized population in California.
• **Importance**: Self-care and perceived confidence in taking action to manage chronic illness and maintain such skills over time have been shown to be associated with better health outcomes (Ludman, et al., 2013).

• **Overall Rate**: In 2011-2013, 91.7% of California adults age 40 and over with diagnosed diabetes felt confident that they could control and manage their diabetes.

• **Groups With Disparities**:
  - In 2011-2013, Hispanics of all races, Mexicans, and Central Americans were less likely than Whites to report that they felt confident they could control and manage their diabetes.
  - California adults who spoke English well or very well and adults who did not speak English well or at all were less likely than adults who spoke only English to report that they felt confident they could control and manage their diabetes.

Hospital Admissions for Uncontrolled Diabetes, by Race/Ethnicity

- **Importance**: Individuals who do not achieve good control of their diabetes may develop symptoms that require correction through hospitalization. Admission rates for uncontrolled diabetes may be reduced by better outpatient treatment and patients’ tighter adherence to the recommended diet and medication.
• **Trends:**

  - The rate of hospital admissions for uncontrolled diabetes without complications per 100,000 population decreased from 27.9% in 2001 to 15.4% in 2013.
  - From 2001 to 2013, the percentage of hospital admissions decreased for all populations:
    - For Whites, from 17.6% to 10.3%.
    - For Blacks, from 88.3% to 45.3%.
    - For APIs, from 14.2% to 5.9%.
    - For Hispanics, from 46.0% to 21.7%.

• **Groups With Disparities:** In all years, the rate of hospital admissions for uncontrolled diabetes was higher for Blacks and Hispanics and lower for Asians and Pacific Islanders (APIs) compared with Whites.

• **Achievable Benchmark:**

  - The 2011 top 4 State achievable benchmark was 4 admissions per 100,000 population age 18 and over. The top 4 States that contributed to the achievable benchmark are Maine, Montana, Utah, and Vermont.
  - At the current rate, the benchmark would not be met for the total population, Whites, and Blacks for approximately 15 years.
  - APIs could reach the benchmark in 3 years and Hispanics in 7 years.

**Hospital Admissions for Uncontrolled Diabetes, by Area Income**

![Graph showing hospital admissions for uncontrolled diabetes by area income from 2000 to 2013. The y-axis represents the rate per 100,000 population, and the x-axis represents the years from 2000 to 2013. Q1 (Lowest) to Q4 (Highest) are indicated.]
• **Importance:** Low-income neighborhoods may have insufficient health resources to meet the needs of all people with diabetes.

• **Trends:** From 2000 to 2013, the rates showed improvement for all income populations.

• **Groups With Disparities:**
  - In all years, the rate of hospital admissions for uncontrolled diabetes was higher for residents of the lowest, second, and third income quartiles than for residents of the highest income quartile.

• **Achievable Benchmark:**
  - The 2011 top 4 State achievable benchmark was 4 admissions per 100,000 population age 18 and over. The top 4 States that contributed to the achievable benchmark are Maine, Montana, Utah, and Vermont.
  - At the current rates of improvement:
    - Residents of the lowest income quartile could achieve the benchmark in less than 14 years.
    - Residents of the second income quartile could achieve the benchmark in 11 years.
    - Residents of the third income quartile could achieve the benchmark in less than 12 years.
    - Residents of the highest income quartile could achieve the benchmark in less than 13 years.

**Hospital Admissions for Uncontrolled Diabetes, by Race/Ethnicity, Stratified by Income**

![Hospital admissions for uncontrolled diabetes without complications per 100,000 population, age 18 and over, by race/ethnicity, stratified by income, 2013](chart.png)

**Key:**
- API = Asian or Pacific Islander
- Q = quartile of median household income of the patient’s ZIP code of residence

**Source:**

**Denominator:**
U.S. resident population age 18 and over.

**Note:**
For this measure, lower rates are better. Area income is based on the median income of a patient’s ZIP Code of residence.
• **Importance:** Low-income neighborhoods may have insufficient health resources to meet the needs of all people with diabetes.

• **Groups With Disparities:**

  - In 2013, the rate of hospital admissions for uncontrolled diabetes was higher for Black and Hispanic residents than for White residents in all income quartiles.
  - Black residents in the highest quartile had higher rates of hospital admissions for uncontrolled diabetes than White residents in the lowest income quartile.

• **Achievable Benchmark:**

  - The 2011 top 4 State achievable benchmark was 4 admissions per 100,000 population age 18 and over. The top 4 States that contributed to the achievable benchmark are Maine, Montana, Utah, and Vermont.
  - The only group to achieve the benchmark was API residents in the highest income quartile.

**Hospital Admissions for Uncontrolled Diabetes, American Indians and Alaska Natives**


Note: For this measure, lower rates are better. Total estimates are age adjusted using the total U.S. population for 2000 as the U.S. standard population. Service population does not include the Portland and California regions.
• Importance:
  
  ■ Diabetes is one of the leading causes of morbidity and mortality among American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) populations. Its prevention and control are a major focus of the Indian Health Service (IHS) Director’s Chronic Disease Initiative and the IHS Health Promotion/Disease Prevention Initiative. Addressing barriers to health care is a large part of the overall IHS goal of ensuring that comprehensive, culturally acceptable personal and public health services are available and accessible to AI/ANs.
  
  ■ AI/ANs who are members of federally recognized Tribes are eligible for services provided by IHS. About 2 million AI/ANs in the United States receive care directly from IHS, through tribally contracted and operated health programs or through services purchased by IHS from other providers. Due to low numbers and lack of data, information about AI/AN hospitalizations is difficult to obtain in most Federal and State hospital utilization data sources. The QDR addresses this gap by examining utilization data from IHS, Tribal, and contract hospitals.

• Trends: From 2003 to 2014, the age-adjusted rate of hospitalizations for uncontrolled diabetes in IHS, Tribal, and contract hospitals decreased overall and among all age groups.

• Groups With Disparities: In all years, patients ages 18-44 had lower rates than patients ages 45-64 and 65 and over.

• Achievable Benchmark:
  
  ■ The 2011 top 4 State achievable benchmark was 4 admissions per 100,000 population age 18 and over. The top 4 States that contributed to the achievable benchmark are Maine, Montana, Utah, and Vermont.
  
  ■ At the current rates, the benchmark could be met overall in 7 years, by patients ages 18-44 in 4 years, ages 45-64 in 5 years, and age 65 and over in 10 years.
End Stage Renal Disease due to Diabetes

New cases of end stage renal disease due to diabetes per million population, by race and ethnicity, 2003-2013

- **Importance:** Diabetes is the most common cause of kidney failure. Keeping blood glucose levels under control can prevent or slow the progression of kidney disease. When kidney disease is detected early, medication can slow the disease’s progress; when detected late, it commonly progresses to end stage renal disease (ESRD) requiring dialysis or kidney transplantation. While some cases of kidney failure due to diabetes cannot be avoided, other cases reflect inadequate control of blood glucose or delayed detection and treatment of early kidney disease due to diabetes.

- **Trends:** From 2003 to 2013, the overall rate of new cases of ESRD due to diabetes improved from 174.4 to 155.9 per million population. Hispanics improved from 407.5 to 308.2, Blacks improved from 511.2 to 392.7, and AI/ANs improved from 469.3 to 291.6 per million population.

- **Groups With Disparities:** In all years, Blacks and AI/ANs had higher rates than Whites, and Hispanics had higher rates than non-Hispanics.

- **Achievable Benchmark:**

  - The 2008 top 5 State achievable benchmark was 90 per million population. The top 5 States that contributed to the achievable benchmark are Alaska, Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.
At current rates of change, the benchmark would not be achieved overall or by any racial or ethnic group for decades.

**National Quality Strategy Priorities in Action: Effective Treatment of Diabetes**

- **Priorities in Action** features some of our Nation's most promising and transformative quality improvement programs.
- The **Wind River Reservation** in Wyoming is the home of the Eastern Shoshone and Northern Arapaho Tribes.

- The reservation is in the heart of the Northern Plains in southwestern Wyoming.
- About 12,500 residents live on the reservation; 12 percent have diabetes and 71 percent are clinically obese.
- In 2009, the Eastern Shoshone Tribal Health Department received a grant to create a community-clinical partnership on the reservation to:
  - Address barriers to diabetes management and prevention, and
  - Create a comprehensive system of care to help tribal members with or at risk of diabetes manage their condition and improve outcomes.

- The 5-year grant was in partnership with the Northern Arapaho Tribe, Indian Health Service, and Sundance Research Institute.
- The system of care included education and support services.

**Reference**

HIV and AIDS

Overview
- HIV is a virus that kills or damages cells of the body’s immune system.
- AIDS is the most advanced stage of HIV infection.
- HIV can be spread through:
  - Any unprotected sex with an infected person,
  - Sharing of drug needles with an infected person, or
  - Contact with the blood of an infected person.
- Women can pass the virus to their babies during pregnancy, childbirth, or breastfeeding.

Impact of HIV and AIDS
- The impact of HIV and AIDS is disproportionately higher for:
  - Racial and ethnic minorities,
  - People of lower income or education levels, and
  - Other vulnerable populations with high-risk behaviors, such as, men who have sex with men (MSM) and transgender people.

Access to Care for HIV and AIDS
- Although access to care has improved, several groups of people living with HIV remain less likely to have access to care and less likely to have optimal patterns of care:
  - Blacks and Hispanics,
  - Women,
  - Injection drug users,
  - Homeless people, and
  - Uninsured people (Colasanti, et al., 2016; Horberg, 2015; Moore, 2011).

Prevalence and Incidence of HIV Infection
- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that:
  - More than 1.2 million people age 13 years and over are living with HIV.
  - About 13.0% of people living with HIV are unaware of their infection.
  - From 2005 to 2014, the annual number of new HIV diagnoses declined by 19%, however the progress is uneven across different groups.
  - The rate of new infections is high among certain groups, such as MSM and transgender people.
Diagnoses of HIV Infection by Race/Ethnicity

- In 2014, the estimated total number of diagnoses of HIV infection in the United States was 44,073 (CDC, 2016a), with a rate of 13.8 per 100,000 population (CDC, 2015c).
- The estimated 2014 rate of diagnosis of HIV infection per 100,000 population follows (CDC, 2015c):
  - Whites, 6.1
  - Blacks, 49.4
  - Hispanics/Latinos, 18.4
  - Multiple-race individuals, 15.4
  - Native Hawaiians and Other Pacific Islanders (NHOPIs), 10.6
  - American Indians and Alaska Natives (AI/ANs), 9.5
  - Asians, 6.2

Diagnoses of HIV Infection Among Adult and Adolescent Males, by Race/Ethnicity, 2014

- The estimated 2014 rate of diagnosis of HIV infection per 100,000 population of adult and adolescent males follows (CDC, 2016b):
  - Whites, 12.6
  - Blacks, 94.0
  - Hispanics, 41.5
  - Multiple-race individuals, 40.6
  - NHOPIs, 22.0
  - AI/ANs, 18.3
  - Asians, 13.4

Diagnoses of HIV Infection Among Adult and Adolescent Females, by Race/Ethnicity, 2014

- The estimated 2014 rate of diagnosis of HIV infection per 100,000 population of adult and adolescent females follows (CDC, 2016b):
  - Whites, 1.7
  - Blacks, 30
  - Hispanics, 6.5
  - Multiple-race individuals, 8.2
  - NHOPIs, 3.5
  - AI/ANs, 5.1
  - Asians, 1.8
Diagnoses of HIV Infection by Transmission Category

- In 2014, estimated HIV diagnoses among male and female adults and adolescents in the United States (43,898) were attributed to the following (CDC, 2015c):
  - Male-to-male sexual contact, 67% (29,418)
  - Heterosexual contact (males), 7.5% (3,285)
  - Heterosexual contact (females), 16.5% (7,242)
  - Injection drug use (males), 3.6% (1,590)
  - Injection drug use (females), 2.4% (1,045)
  - Male-to-male sexual contact and injection drug use, 2.8% (1,217)
  - Other transmissions, <1% (101)

- The estimated HIV diagnoses among male and female adults and adolescents excludes children under age 13.

HIV and AIDS Among MSM

- In 2014, in the United States, male-to-male sexual contact accounted for:
  - 83% (29,418) of the 35,571 estimated HIV diagnoses among all males age 13 years and over (CDC, 2015a) and
  - 58% (12,059) of the 20,792 estimated AIDS diagnoses among adults and adolescents (CDC, 2015c).

- Gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men represent only 2% of the U.S. population but account for 55% of people living with HIV in the United States:
  - From 2005 to 2014, HIV diagnoses decreased in the United States by 19% overall but increased by 6% among all gay and bisexual men, which was driven by increases among African American and Hispanic/Latino gay and bisexual men.
  - In the same timeframe, increases in HIV diagnoses among all gay and bisexual men was less than 1%, although progress is different among racial/ethnic groups (CDC, 2015a).

Racial/Ethnic Makeup of MSM Diagnosed With AIDS

- The racial/ethnic makeup of the estimated 12,059 MSM diagnosed with AIDS in 2014 (CDC, 2015c) follows:
  - Whites, 32.3% (3,899)
  - Blacks, 37.9% (4,576)
  - Hispanics, 23.3% (2,809)
  - Multiple-race individuals, 3.8% (463)
  - NHOPIs, <1% (14)
  - AI/ANs, <1% (53)
  - Asians, 2.0% (245)
HIV and AIDS Care Among MSM

- In 2014, in the United States, among MSM with diagnosed HIV infection, 84% were linked to care within 3 months of diagnosis (CDC, 2015a).
- According to the most recent data, among MSM who had been living with diagnosed HIV infection for at least a year:
  - 57% were retained in care and
  - 58% had achieved viral suppression (CDC, 2015a).


HIV/AIDS Among Transgender People

- The transgender population has been significantly affected by the HIV epidemic in the United States.
- Transgender women have the highest risk of HIV infection:
  - HIV prevalence in transgender women is an estimated 21.7% (Baral, et al., 2013).
  - Among male-to-female (MTF) transgender people, 28% tested positive for HIV infection, but 12% self-reported being HIV positive (CDC, 2015b), suggesting many are unaware of their serostatus.
  - Higher HIV rates (56.3% for test results and 30.8% for self-reporting) were found among MTF Blacks (Herbst, et al., 2008).
  - Black transgender women have the highest percentage of new HIV positive test results (Herbst, et al., 2008).


HIV and AIDS Prevention in Transgender Populations

- Transgender people often engage in behaviors that increase the risk of HIV infection, such as:
  - Multiple sex partners or unprotected sex,
  - Commercial sex work, and
  - Use of needle injections for recreational drugs or to alter gender (e.g., hormones, silicone) (Herbst, et al., 2008; Stephens, et al., 2011).

- Improved data collection on the transgender population is crucial:
  - Due to limited data, it is difficult to create evidence-based HIV preventive interventions that meet the unique needs of transgender populations.
  - Varying definitions of the transgender population further complicate data collection; for example, only 33% report having surgically transitioned (Grant, et al., 2011).

HIV and AIDS Among People Who Inject Drugs

- Injection drug use leads to approximately 10% of HIV cases in the United States annually (AIDS.gov).
- Injection drug users obtain and spread HIV by:
  - Sharing drug preparation or injecting equipment with a person who has HIV.
  - Engaging in risky sexual behaviors with their sex and drug-using partners.
- For more information: https://www.aids.gov/hiv-aids-basics/prevention/reduce-your-risk/substance-abuse-use/.

HIV and AIDS Among People in Rural Communities Who Inject Drugs

- Overall, HIV transmission related to injection drug use has declined.
- Increasing trends of prescription opioid analgesics and hepatitis C infections are seen in rural communities.
- An estimated 50% of injection drug users in the United States reside outside major metropolitan areas, but only 5.8% of syringes are exchanged in rural areas.
- Resources are lacking for HIV prevention and treatment (Peters, et al., 2016).

HIV and AIDS and Hepatitis Among People Who Inject Drugs

- About 80% of HIV-infected injection drug users in the United States also have hepatitis C (HCV) (AIDS.gov):
  - HCV leads to cirrhosis of the liver and liver cancer.
  - HCV is more serious in people living with HIV because it leads to liver damage more quickly.
  - Co-infection with HCV also affects treatment of HIV infection, such as slowing the rate of immune response to therapy.
- For more information: https://www.aids.gov/hiv-aids-basics/prevention/reduce-your-risk/substance-abuse-use/.

HIV and AIDS Policy

- NHAS was updated to 2020:
  - Goal 1: Reduce new HIV infections.
  - Goal 2: Increase access to care and improve health outcomes for people living with HIV.
  - Goal 3: Reduce HIV-related disparities and health inequalities.
  - Goal 4: Achieve a more coordinated national response to the HIV epidemic.
**NHAS 2020: Federal Action Plan**

- Widespread HIV testing and linkage to care
  - SAMHSA: Guide award recipients on HIV testing practices to focus on communities with greatest prevalence of HIV
- Improved retention in care and viral suppression
  - HRSA: Use of data-driven strategies to promote quality improvement and integration of HIV care into primary care practices
- Full access to comprehensive PrEP services
  - CDC: Rapid dissemination of lessons learned from demonstration projects and implementation research to increase awareness and uptake

**HIV and AIDS Measures**

- Outcome: New HIV cases
- Process: Adult patients with HIV and at least two CD4 cell counts of 200 or less who received Pneumocystis pneumonia prophylaxis
- Outcome: People living with HIV who know their serostatus
- Process: People with an HIV diagnosis who had at least two CD4 or viral load tests performed at least 3 months apart during the last year
- Outcome: People with an HIV diagnosis in medical care whose most recent viral load in the last 12 months was <200 copies/mL
- Process: People with an HIV diagnosis in medical care who were prescribed antiretroviral therapy in the last 12 months
- Outcome: HIV infection deaths
- Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program
  - Outcome: HIV patients with at least one HIV care visit and most recent viral load <200 during the year
  - Process: HIV patients who were retained in HIV care (at least 2 ambulatory visit dates at least 90 days apart)
Measure Reintroduced in the QDR

- Eligible patients receiving *Pneumocystis* pneumonia prophylaxis: Reintroduced because performance fell below 95%.
  
  - Measures that reach performance levels of 95% are no longer reported. Data on these measures will continue to be collected and these measures will be added back to the reports if their performance falls below 95%.
  
  - For more information: [http://www.ahrq.gov/research/findings/nhqrdr/chartbooks/intro.html](http://www.ahrq.gov/research/findings/nhqrdr/chartbooks/intro.html).

New HIV Cases

New HIV Cases per 100,000 Population

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>White</th>
<th>Black</th>
<th>Asian</th>
<th>NHOPi</th>
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<th>Female</th>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Key:** AI/AN = American Indian and Alaska Native; NHOPi = Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander.


**Note:** For this measure, lower rates are better. White, Black, Asian, NHOPi, and AI/AN are non-Hispanic. Hispanic includes all races.

- **Importance:** Determining the number of new cases helps to track the spread of HIV over time and can help identify target populations for public health interventions. Accurate estimates of new HIV infection rates are crucial for preventing the spread of the disease.

- **Overall Rate:** In 2013, the total rate of new HIV cases per 100,000 population for people age 13 and over was 17.9.
- **Trends:** From 2008 to 2013, the rates of new HIV cases decreased for Blacks, Hispanics, people of multiple races, and females. The rates increased for AI/ANs.

- **Groups With Disparities:**
  - In all years, AI/ANs, Blacks, Hispanics, NHOPIs, and multiple-race people had higher rates of new HIV cases compared with Whites. The disparity between AI/ANs and Whites grew larger.
  - In 3 of 6 years, Asians had a lower rate of new HIV cases compared with Whites.
  - In all years, females had lower rates of new HIV cases compared with males.

**HIV Treatment**

**Patients With HIV Who Received *Pneumocystis* Pneumonia Prophylaxis**

![Graph showing the percentage of adult patients with HIV who received *Pneumocystis* pneumonia prophylaxis during the last year, by race/ethnicity, sex, and insurance, 2012](source)

**Importance:** *Pneumocystis* pneumonia (PCP, formerly known as *Pneumocystis carinii* pneumonia) is an opportunistic infection that affects immunocompromised individuals, particularly those infected with HIV/AIDS. Before the widespread use of PCP prophylaxis, PCP infection was more common, resulting in greater numbers of hospital admissions and related increases in cost, morbidity, and mortality. Since 1992, CDC has recommended prophylaxis for individuals with CD4 T-cell counts below. The use of prophylaxis has increased survival rates for immunocompromised patients (Fishman, 1998).
• **Overall Rate:** In 2012, 91.9% of adult patients with HIV had at least two CD4 cell counts of 200 or less and received PCP prophylaxis during the last year. The percentage of Adult patients with HIV and at least two CD4 cell counts of 200 or less who received PCP during the last year follows for various groups:

- Whites, 90.8%
- Blacks, 93.5%
- Hispanics, 89.5%
- Males, 92.4%
- Females, 90.5%
- Private insurance, 81.1%
- Medicaid, 91.8%
- Medicare/dual eligible, 90.4%
- Uninsured, 95%

• **Groups With Disparities:**

- In 2012, the percentage of adults with HIV and at least two CD4 cell counts of 200 or less who received PCP was higher for those with Medicaid (91.8%) and Medicare/dual eligible (90.4%) compared to those with private (81.1%) insurance.

**HIV Awareness**

**People With HIV Who Know Their Serostatus**

[Graph depicting the percentage of people with HIV who know their serostatus by race/ethnicity and gender from 2007 to 2011.]

• **Importance:** Those who are aware of a positive serostatus early on can gain early access to care and additional social services that can potentially improve quality of life. Also, knowledge of infection increases the likelihood of individuals to engage in safer sex practices with their partners compared with those who are unaware of their serostatus (CDC, 2013).

• **Overall Rate:** In 2011, the total percentage of people living with HIV who knew their serostatus was 86%.

• **Trends:** From 2007 to 2011, the percentage of people living with HIV who knew their serostatus improved for all racial/ethnic groups and both males and females.

• **Groups With Disparities:**
  - In all years, the percentage of people living with HIV who knew their serostatus was lower for AI/ANs, Asians, Blacks, Hispanics, and NHOPIs compared with Whites.
  - In all years, the percentage of people living with HIV who knew their serostatus was higher among women compared with men.

**Viral Load Testing**

**People With HIV Who Had CD4 or Viral Load Tests**

![Graph showing percentage of people with HIV who had CD4 or viral load tests performed at least 3 months apart during the last year, 2009-2011.](image)

- **Importance:** Checking the HIV viral load and CD4 T-cell count are methods of determining how well antiretroviral therapies are working to suppress the infection and for observing and managing HIV infection. Current treatment guidelines indicate that viral loads should be assessed at least every 3 months to determine whether the virus has been suppressed, and more often (every 4-8 weeks) if the patient’s medication regimen has changed (HHS, 2016).

- **Overall Rate:** In 2011, the total percentage of people with an HIV diagnosis who had at least two CD4 or viral load tests performed at least 3 months apart during the last year was 51.5%.

- **Groups With Disparities:**
  - From 2009 to 2011, the percentage of people with an HIV diagnosis who had at least two CD4 or viral load tests performed at least 3 months apart during the last year was higher for multiple-race people compared with Whites. The percentage was lower for AI/ANs compared with Whites.
  - In 2 of 3 years, the percentage of people with an HIV diagnosis who had at least two CD4 or viral load tests performed at least 3 months apart during the last year was lower for NHOPIs compared with Whites.
  - There were no statistically significant differences by sex.

### Viral Load

**People With HIV With Viral Load Below 200**

![Graph showing viral load](source)

• **Importance:** Early access to care, effective HIV treatment, retention in care, and adherence to treatment regimens all help to increase viral load suppression. A suppressed viral load improves the health of people living with diagnosed HIV, increases survival, and reduces the risk of transmitting HIV to others. Patients with higher viral loads are at the highest risk of contracting opportunistic infections, experiencing non-AIDs morbidity, and dying. Initiating antiretroviral therapy (ART) is most critical for these patient groups (HHS, 2016).

• **Overall Rate:** In 2011, the total percentage of people with an HIV diagnosis in medical care whose most recent viral load in the last 12 months was less than 200 copies/mL was 75.6%.

• **Groups With Disparities:**

  - From 2009 to 2011, the percentage of people with an HIV diagnosis in medical care whose most recent viral load in the last 12 months was less than 200 copies/mL was lower for Blacks compared with Whites.
  - In all years, the percentage of people with an HIV diagnosis in medical care whose most recent viral load in the last 12 months was less than 200 copies/mL was lower for those ages 18-34 compared with those age 55 and over.

**HIV Medication**

**People With HIV Who Were Prescribed Antiretroviral Therapy**

![Graph showing the percentage of people with an HIV diagnosis in medical care who were prescribed antiretroviral therapy in the last 12 months, 2009-2011.](source)

• **Importance:** Current treatment guidelines state that all HIV-infected people should receive anti-retroviral therapy (ART), also known as combination antiretroviral drug therapy (cART). ART decreases HIV-associated morbidity and mortality and helps to prevent transmission of the virus (HHS, 2016).

• **Overall Rate:** In 2011, the total percentage of people with an HIV diagnosis in medical care who were prescribed ART during the last 12 months was 92.3%.

• **Groups With Disparities:**
  - From 2009 to 2011, the percentage of people with an HIV diagnosis in medical care who were prescribed ART during the last 12 months was lower for Blacks compared with Whites.
  - In all years, the percentage of people with an HIV diagnosis in medical care who were prescribed ART during the last 12 months was lower for those ages 18-34 compared with those age 55 and over.

**Deaths of People With HIV Infection**

• A number of factors affect the death rate among people living with HIV, including:
  - Underlying rates of HIV risk behaviors,
  - Early detection and treatment of HIV disease, and
  - Management of HIV and its complications and comorbidities.

• With widespread use of antiretroviral therapy, a better understanding is needed of the patterns and risk factors for cause-specific mortality.

**Hepatitis and Deaths of People Living With HIV**

• An estimated one-third of people living with HIV are co-infected with hepatitis B or hepatitis C; hepatitis C is more common.

• Viral hepatitis progresses faster and causes more liver-related health problems in people with HIV than in those without HIV.

• Drug therapy has extended the life expectancy of people living with HIV, but liver disease has become the leading cause of non-AIDS-related death in this population (CDC, 2014).

• Hepatitis C increases the risk of death in people living with HIV by about 50% (Branch, et al., 2012).

• Current recommendations are to screen all people living with HIV for hepatitis C.

  - Patients at high risk for hepatitis C should be screened annually and whenever this infection is suspected (AIDSinfo).

**Antiretroviral Therapy and HIV Deaths**

• ART has reduced the death rate of people living with HIV (PLWH), allowing their life expectancy to approach that of the general population.

• AIDS-related deaths in PLWH decrease with time on ART, but overall mortality among PLWH remains higher than in the general population.
As the population of people living with HIV ages and time on ART increases, causes of death are changing:

- In high-income countries, deaths from cancer, cardiovascular disease, and liver disease have been identified among PLWH.
- It is important to study cause-specific mortality to clarify whether deaths result from effects of ART, prolonged exposure to HIV, restoration of CD4 counts after severe immunosuppression, or aging and non-HIV risk factors.

Appropriate treatment based on the complex relationship between associated comorbidities and HIV disease could decrease mortality among PLWH and improve their quality of life (Ingle, et al., 2014).

**HIV and Associated Comorbidities**

- **Pulmonary hypertension:**
  - For HIV-positive individuals, HIV proteins and HIV-related inflammation are associated with an increased risk of pulmonary hypertension (Triplette, et al., 2016).

- **Frailty:**
  - HIV-related immunosenescence contributes to disease progression and adverse outcomes (Serrano-Villar, et al., 2016).

- **Atherosclerosis:**
  - Protease inhibitors used to treat HIV are associated with intermediate factors that increase risk of cardiovascular disease (Bittencourt & Peixoto, 2015).
  - Lower CD4 counts and higher plasma viral load have been shown to be important predictors of myocardial infarction (Bittencourt & Peixoto, 2015).
Number of Deaths Due to HIV Infection

**Importance:** Death rates are influenced by numerous factors, such as modes of transmission, transmission rates, rates of underlying behavioral risk factors, and effectiveness of disease management and treatment. The number of deaths due to HIV reflects the effectiveness of HIV treatment and ART adherence.

**Overall Rate:** In 2013, the total rate of HIV infection deaths was 2.1 per 100,000 population.

**Trend:** From 2000 to 2013, the HIV infection death rates were decreasing overall and for all racial/ethnic groups and both sexes.

**Groups With Disparities:**

- From 2000 to 2013, HIV infection death rates were higher for Blacks than for Whites.
- In all years, APIs had lower rates than Whites.
- In all years, the rate of HIV infection deaths was higher for males than for females.

**Achievable Benchmark:**

- The 2008 top 4 State achievable benchmark for HIV deaths was 0.9 per 100,000 population. The top 4 States that contributed to the achievable benchmark are Kansas, Minnesota, Oregon, and Wisconsin.

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**Key:** API = Asian or Pacific Islander, AI/AN = American Indian or Alaska Native.

**Source:** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics System—Mortality, 2000-2011.

**Note:** For this measure, lower rates are better. Rates are age adjusted to the 2000 U.S. standard population.
Overall, it would take the total population 5 years to reach the benchmark. At the current rate, Whites, Blacks, and AI/ANs could achieve the benchmark in 2, 7, and 3 years, respectively. APIs have already reached the benchmark.

Women would take 2 years and men would take 5 years to achieve the benchmark.

**Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Overview**

- The Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program (RWHAP) provides funds for primary care and support services for people living with and affected by HIV.
- Working with States, cities, and local community organizations, RWHAP works to improve the quality of HIV-related care for those who lack sufficient health care coverage or financial resources to cope with HIV.
- For a second year, we present RWHAP data:
  - Data presented are limited to those who received care through RWHAP.
  - Data are not representative of the entire HIV population, which is estimated to be about 1.2 million people in the United States.

- For more information: [http://hab.hrsa.gov/abouthab/aboutprogram.html](http://hab.hrsa.gov/abouthab/aboutprogram.html).

**Ryan White Program Patients With Viral Load Below 200**

*Source: Health Resources and Services Administration, HIV/AIDS Bureau, 2013.*
Overall Rate:

- The number of HIV-positive clients with at least one HIV medical care visit and at least one viral load available was 283,189; 78.6% were virally suppressed (defined as most recent HIV RNA <200 copies/mL in the calendar year). It is important for RWHAP recipients and subrecipients focus on improving viral load suppression rates in their States, as well as comparing their performance with other States.
- Quartile ranges were as follows:
  - 1st quartile (lowest): 63.51%-77.46% (AL, DC, GA, HI, IN, LA, MS, MO, NV, NJ, OH, TN, TX)
  - 2nd quartile: 77.47%-79.79% (AK, AR, FL, IL, KS, KY, MD, NY, NC, OK, PR, SC, UT)
  - 3rd quartile: 79.80%-83.98% (CA, CO, CT, DE, IA, MI, NE, OR, PA, VA, WI, WY)
  - 4th quartile (Highest): 83.99%-91.45% (AZ, ID, MA, ME, MN, MT, NH, NM, RI, SD, VT, WA, WV)
  - Missing: ND

- In 2013, most of the New England States were in the highest quartile for the percentage of RWHAP patients with at least one HIV care visit and most recent viral load of less than 200 during the year. Most of the Southeastern States were in the lowest quartile.

**Ryan White Program Patients Retained in HIV Care, by Race/Ethnicity and Gender**

![Graph showing Ryan White Program Patients Retained in HIV Care, by Race/Ethnicity and Gender](image)

**Key:** NHOPI = Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander; AI/AN = American Indian or Alaska Native.

**Source:** Health Resources and Services Administration, HIV/AIDS Bureau, 2010-2013.

**Note:** Retained in care is defined as having at least two HIV medical care visit dates that were at least 90 days apart in the calendar year, with the first visit occurring before September 1. White, Black, Asian, NHOPI, and AI/AN are non-Hispanic. Hispanic includes all races.
**Overall Rate:**

- The number of HIV-positive clients with at least one HIV medical care visit before September 1 and a second medical care visit at least 90 days apart during 2013 was 277,023. In 2013, 81.0% of RWHAP HIV patients were retained in care.

**Trend:** From 2010 to 2013, the percentage of HIV-positive clients who were retained in care worsened for Whites, Asians, and multiple-race people.

**Groups With Disparities:**

- In 3 of 4 years, Asian and multiple-race HIV-positive clients were more likely to be retained in care than White HIV-positive clients.
- In 2 of 4 years, Hispanic HIV-positive clients were more likely to be retained in care than White HIV-positive clients.
- In 2 of 4 years, AI/AN HIV-positive clients were less likely to be retained in care than White HIV-positive clients.
- In 2 of 4 years, female HIV-positive clients were more likely to be retained in care compared with male HIV-positive clients.
- The HIV/AIDS Bureau does not ask the sexual orientation of clients, but it collects variables that portray aspects of sexual orientation, including gender, transgender status, sex at birth, and client risk factors, such as men who have sex with men.
- For more information: [https://careacttarget.org/sites/default/files/file-resources/2014RSRManual508_0.pdf](https://careacttarget.org/sites/default/files/file-resources/2014RSRManual508_0.pdf).

### Ryan White Program Patients Retained in Care, by Income and Insurance

![Ryan White Program Patients Retained in Care](chart.png)

**Source:** Health Resources and Services Administration, HIV/AIDS Bureau, 2010-2013.

**Note:** Retained in care is defined as having at least two HIV medical care visit dates that were at least 90 days apart in the calendar year, with the first visit occurring before September 1. Poor refers to household incomes below the Federal poverty line; low income, from the poverty line to just below 200% of the poverty line; middle income, 200% to just below 300% of the poverty line; and high, 300% of the poverty line and over.
• **Trend:** From 2010 to 2013, the percentage of HIV-positive clients who were retained in care worsened for all income groups and those with private insurance, those with Medicare, and those who were uninsured.

• **Groups With Disparities:**
  - In all years, HIV-positive clients from poor income households were less likely to be retained in care compared with those from high income households.
  - In 3 of 4 years, HIV-positive clients with Medicare were more likely to be retained in care compared with those with private insurance.

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Mental Health and Substance Abuse

Measures
- Process: Treatment for depression
- Outcome: Suicide deaths
- Process: Treatment for illicit drug use or alcohol problem
- Process: Completion of substance abuse treatment
- Outcome: Emergency department visits with a principal diagnosis related to mental health, alcohol, or substance abuse, by age and income

Treatment for Depression
- Treatment for depression can reduce symptoms and associated illnesses and return individuals to a productive lifestyle.
- Sequenced Treatment Alternatives to Relieve Depression (STAR*D), the largest clinical trial ever of depression treatment, was funded by the National Institute of Mental Health:
  - It involved both primary care and specialty care settings.
  - Participants included people with complex health conditions, such as multiple concurrent medical and psychiatric conditions.
  - The study found that 28% to 33% of participants were symptom free after the first round of medication, and nearly 70% achieved remission after 12 months (Insel & Wang, 2009).
- Cost-benefit analyses showed that compared with usual care, strategies for treating depression in primary care settings, such as the collaborative care model, have produced positive net social benefits (Glied, et al., 2010).

Outcomes of Treatment for Depression
- About 50% to 60% of patients have symptoms even after adequate firstline treatment for depression.
- Patients’ thinking and behavior play a huge role in determining outcomes, making them candidates for psychosocial treatment.
  - Evidence-based psychological therapies can help patients overcome interpersonal difficulties, health beliefs, stigmas, medication nonadherence, anhedonia (inability to feel pleasure), and rumination.
  - Psychological therapies can help modify health beliefs, treat comorbid anxiety and other disorders, and incorporate environmental and contextual factors, thus enabling patients to facilitate their recovery (Casey, et al., 2013).

Barriers to High-Quality Mental Health Care
- Barriers to high-quality mental health care include:
  - Cost of care,
  - Lack of sufficient insurance for mental health services,
Discrimination and negative attitudes toward mental health problems,
- Lack of culturally and linguistically competent providers,
- Fragmented organization of services, and
- Mistrust of providers.

- In rural and remote areas, limited availability of skilled care providers is also a major problem.

**Adults Who Received Treatment for Depression**

- **Importance:** The United States Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) recommends screening adults for depression when staff-assisted depression care supports are in place to ensure accurate diagnosis, effective treatment, and followup (USPSTF, 2015a).
- **Overall Rate:** In 2013, 68.6% of adults with a major depressive episode received treatment for depression.
- **Trends:**
  - From 2008 to 2013, the percentage of adults with a major depressive episode who received treatment for depression improved among non-Hispanic Blacks.

Source: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 2008-2013.

Denominator: Adults age 18 and over with a major depressive episode in the past year.

Note: Major depressive episode is defined as a period of at least 2 weeks when a person experienced a depressed mood or loss of interest or pleasure in daily activities and had a majority of the symptoms of depression described in the fourth edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders. Treatment for depression is defined as seeing or talking to a medical doctor or other professional or using prescription medication in the past year for depression. White and Black are non-Hispanic; Hispanic includes all races.
Changes over time were not statistically significant in the overall population, among men and women, and among non-Hispanic Whites and Hispanics.

- **Groups With Disparities:**
  - In every year except 2010, Hispanic adults with depression were less likely than White adults to receive treatment.
  - Until 2012, Black adults with depression were less likely than White adults to receive treatment.
  - In all years, men with a major depressive episode were less likely than women to receive treatment.
  - No disparities related to race/ethnicity or sex were getting smaller over time.

**Adolescents Who Received Treatment for Depression**

![Graph showing adolescents who received treatment for depression by race/ethnicity and sex, 2008-2013](#)

**Source:** Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 2008-2013.

**Denominator:** Adolescents ages 12-17 with a major depressive episode in the past year.

**Note:** Major depressive episode is defined as a period of at least 2 weeks when a person experienced a depressed mood or loss of interest or pleasure in daily activities and had a majority of the symptoms of depression described in the fourth edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders. Treatment for depression is defined as seeing or talking to a medical doctor or other professional or using prescription medication in the past year for depression. White and Black are non-Hispanic; Hispanic includes all races.

- **Importance:**
The USPSTF recommends screening adolescents ages 12-18 years for major depressive disorder when systems are in place to ensure accurate diagnosis, psychotherapy (cognitive-behavioral or interpersonal), and followup (USPSTF, 2015b).

- **Overall Rate:** In 2013, 38.1% of adolescents with a major depressive episode received treatment for depression.
- **Trends:** From 2008 to 2013, there no statistically significant changes overall, for either sex, or for any racial/ethnic group in the percentage of adolescents with a major depressive episode who received treatment for depression.
- **Groups With Disparities:**
  - In 4 of 6 years (2008, 2009, 2010, 2013), Black adolescents with depression were less likely than White adolescents to receive treatment.
  - In 4 of 6 years (2009, 2010, 2012, 2013), females with depression were more likely than males to receive treatment.
  - No disparities related to race/ethnicity or sex narrowed over time.

**Suicide Deaths**

- Suicide may be prevented when its warning signs are detected and treated.
  - The growing use of standardized screening instruments and electronic medical records will increase clinicians’ ability to identify suicidal ideas and plans among individuals being treated for depression.
  - A recent study found that about half of people who died by suicide made a health care visit within 4 weeks of death. Only 24% had a mental health diagnosis (Ahmedani, et al., 2014).

**Probability of Suicide**

- Risk factors for suicide include:
  - Psychotic experiences (DeVylder, et al., 2015).
    - Individuals with psychotic experiences are about 5 times more likely to report suicidal ideation and nearly 10 times more likely to report a suicide attempt (DeVylder, et al., 2015). Assessing psychotic experiences among individuals with suicidal ideation could reduce suicide attempts.
  - Suicidal ideation (Han, et al., 2015):
    - About 13% of suicidal ideators in a given year attempt suicide during that year. Suicidal ideation is the strongest known clinical predictor for death by suicide.
    - Progression from ideation to suicide attempt varies by suicide plan and major depression status.
    - Research needs to explore factors that affect suicide attempts and death by suicide among high-risk individuals with suicidal ideation.
Positive responses to the item “Thoughts that you would be better off dead, or of hurting yourself in some way” on the Patient Health Questionnaire for depression (Simon, et al., 2013).

**Suicide Prevention**

- Suicide prevention is multifaceted, including:
  - Educating physicians and keeping lethal weapons away from suicidal people (Mann, et al., 2005).
  - Using cognitive-behavioral therapy (Tarrier, et al., 2008).
  - Implementing various strategies, depending on risk:
    - Universal strategies that target entire populations (e.g., public education and awareness programs),
    - Selective strategies that address at-risk populations (e.g., peer “natural helpers” and accessible crisis services), and
    - Indicated strategies that address high-risk individuals (e.g., case management and parent support programs) (Nordentoft, 2011).

- Ongoing research shows promising results for Internet-based cognitive-behavioral therapy and psychoeducation in treating individuals with conditions such as mood, eating, and sleep disorders (Thorndike, et al., 2013).
- As “mobile health” interventions become more sophisticated, they can be adapted to be culturally specific and sensitive (Burns, et al., 2013).

### Suicide Rate

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total</th>
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</table>

**Key:** API = Asian and Pacific Islander; AI/AN = American Indian or Alaska Native.

**Source:** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics System—Mortality, 2008-2013.

**Note:** For this measure, lower rates are better. Estimates are age adjusted to the 2000 U.S. standard population.
• **Overall Rate:** In 2013, the overall suicide death rate was 15.2 per 100,000 population age 12 and over.

• **Trends:** From 2008 to 2013, suicide death rates worsened for the total population, both sexes, and all racial/ethnic groups.

• **Groups With Disparities:**
  - In all years, Blacks, Asians and Pacific Islanders (APIs), and American Indians and Alaska Natives (AI/ANs) had lower suicide death rates than Whites.
  - In all years, males had higher suicide death rates than females. The gap between male and females suicide death rates is growing larger over time.

• **Achievable Benchmark:**
  - The 2008 top 5 State achievable benchmark was 9 suicide deaths per 100,000 population. The top 5 States that contributed to the achievable benchmark are Connecticut, District of Columbia, Massachusetts, New Jersey, and New York.
  - APIs, Blacks, and females have achieved the benchmark.
  - The total population, AI/ANs, Whites, and males are moving away from the benchmark.

**Treatment for Substance Abuse Disorders**

• Substance abuse disorders can lead to:
  - Addiction.
  - Increased risk of certain cancers.
  - Damage to the liver, brain, and other organs.
  - Birth defects, such as fetal alcohol spectrum disorders.
  - Increased risk of death from car crashes and other injuries.

**Importance of Treatment**

• In 2011, about 2.5 million emergency department visits resulted from medical emergencies involving drug misuse or abuse:
  - 1.25 million involved illicit drugs,
  - 1.24 million involved nonmedical use of pharmaceuticals, and
  - 0.61 million involved drugs combined with alcohol (SAMHSA, 2014).

• Substance abuse disorders can be effectively treated at specialty facilities.

**Treatment Needs**

• In 2013, nearly 23 million Americans age 12 years and over needed treatment for substance abuse.
  - An estimated 2.5 million people received treatment at a specialty facility (hospital [inpatient], drug or alcohol rehabilitation [inpatient or outpatient], and mental health centers), but more than 20 million people who needed this type of treatment did not receive it (SAMSHA, 2014).
People Who Received Treatment for Illicit Drug Use or an Alcohol Problem

People age 12 and over who needed treatment for illicit drug use or an alcohol problem and who received such treatment at a specialty facility in the last 12 months, by race/ethnicity and age, 2008-2013

- **Overall Rate:** In 2013, only 10.9% of people age 12 and over who needed treatment for illicit drug use or an alcohol problem received such treatment at a specialty facility in the last 12 months.
- **Trends:** From 2008 to 2013, there was no statistically significant change overall or for any racial/ethnic or age groups in the rates of treatment.
- **Groups With Disparities:** There were no consistent differences between racial/ethnic or age groups.
- **Achievable Benchmark:**
  - The 2011 top 6 State achievable benchmark was 15%. The top 6 States that contributed to the achievable benchmark are Alabama, Alaska, Delaware, Maryland, Oregon, and Utah.
  - At the current rate, the time to benchmark for the total population is 30 years. People ages 12-17 would take 14 years to reach the benchmark while people ages 18-44 would take 6 years and people ages 45-64 could reach the benchmark within 1 year.
  - Whites would take 5 years to reach the benchmark.
  - There is no progress toward the benchmark for Blacks and Hispanics.

**Source:** Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 2008-2013.

**Denominator:** Civilian noninstitutionalized population age 12 and over who needed treatment for illicit drug use or an alcohol problem.

**Note:** Treatment refers to treatment at a specialty facility, such as a drug and alcohol inpatient and/or outpatient rehabilitation facility, inpatient hospital setting, or mental health center. White and Black are non-Hispanic. Hispanic includes all races.
 Adults Who Visited a Physician for Mental Health or Alcohol Problems

- **Groups With Disparities**: There is considerable variable in physician visits for mental health or alcohol/drug problems among Hispanic and API granular ethnicities.

- **Achievable Benchmark**:
  - The 2011 top 6 State achievable benchmark was 15%. The top 6 States that contributed to the achievable benchmark are Alabama, Alaska, Delaware, Maryland, Oregon, and Utah.
  - Data are insufficient to determine time to benchmark.

**Completion of Substance Abuse Treatment**

- For patients receiving treatment for substance abuse, studies have shown that increased length of treatment correlates with improved outcomes (McLellan, et al., 1996), such as long-term abstinence.
- Dropout from treatment often leads to relapse and return to substance use.
People Who Completed Substance Abuse Treatment

- **Overall Rate:** In 2011, 43.7% of people age 12 and over treated for substance abuse completed their treatment course.

- **Groups With Disparities:**
  - In all years, people ages 12-19 and 20-39 who were treated for substance abuse were less likely than those age 40 and over to complete treatment.
  - In all years, females who were treated for substance abuse were less likely than males to complete treatment.

- **Achievable Benchmark:**
  - The 2008 top 5 State achievable benchmark was 74%. The top 5 States that contributed to the achievable benchmark are Colorado, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Mississippi, and Texas.
  - No group showed progress toward the benchmark.

**Source:** Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Treatment Episode Data Set, Discharge Data Set, 2005-2011.

**Denominator:** Discharges age 12 and over from publicly funded substance abuse treatment facilities.

**Note:** White and Black are non-Hispanic. Hispanic includes all races.
Adults Who Completed Treatment for Mental, Emotional, Alcohol, or Drug Problems

Adults who visited a professional for mental, emotional, alcohol, or drug problems during the past 12 months who completed the recommended full course of treatment, by Hispanic and Asian granular ethnicities, 2011-2013, combined

- **Groups With Disparities**: There is considerable variable in completion of treatment for mental health or substance abuse problems among Hispanic and API granular ethnicities.

- **Achievable Benchmark**:
  - The 2008 top 5 State achievable benchmark was 74%. The top 5 States that contributed to the achievable benchmark are Colorado, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Mississippi, and Texas.
  - Most groups are far away from the benchmark.

**Potentially Avoidable Emergency Department Visits**

- About one in three individuals has had a mental health or substance abuse (MHSA) condition within the last 12 months;
- In 2007, 12 million ED visits involved a diagnosis related to MHSA, accounting for 12.5% of all ED visits in the United States; and
- Health care providers are concerned about the rise in ED visits for MHSA, as ED overcrowding can reduce quality of care and increase the likelihood of medical error (Owens, et al., 2010).

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*Source*: University of California, Los Angeles, Center for Health Policy Research, California Health Interview Survey, 2011-2013.
Emergency Department Visits Related to Mental Health, Alcohol, or Substance Abuse

Emergency department visits with a principal diagnosis related to mental health, alcohol, or substance abuse, by age and neighborhood income, 2007-2013

Key: Q = quartile.

- **Trends:**
  - From 2007 to 2013, the overall rate of ED visits with a principal diagnosis related to mental health, alcohol, or substance abuse significantly increased from 1,528 to 1,883 per 100,000 population.
  - Rates increased for people ages 18-44 and 45-64.
  - Rates increased for residents of all area income groups.

- **Groups With Disparities:**
  - In all years, individuals ages 0-17 and age 45 and over were significantly less likely to have an ED visit with a principal diagnosis related to mental health, alcohol, or substance abuse than individuals ages 18-44.
  - In all years, individuals living in the two lowest income quartile neighborhoods were more likely to have an ED visit with a principal diagnosis related to mental health, alcohol, or substance abuse than individuals living in neighborhoods in the highest income quartile.
  - No disparities related to age or area income were getting smaller over time.
References


Musculoskeletal Diseases

Prevalence of Arthritis

- Arthritis is the leading cause of disability in the United States (CDC, 2006).
- About one in five adults and 300,000 children have a diagnosed arthritic condition (White and Waterman, 2012).
- Prevalence is projected to double by the year 2020 due largely to an aging population and an increasing prevalence of obesity (Johnson & Hunter, 2014).
- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention predicts a 25% increase to 67 million U.S. adults with some form of arthritis by 2030 (CDC, 2006).

Effects of Arthritis

- It is estimated that 41% of the 50 million U.S. adults living with arthritis report activity limitations caused by arthritis (Helmick, 2008).
- Arthritis usually affects people with other chronic conditions.
  - For example, arthritis is found among 52% of people with diabetes, 57% of people with heart disease, and 53% of people with hypertension.
  - Obese people with arthritis are 44% more likely not to be physically active compared with those without arthritis (White & Waterman, 2012).

Costs of Arthritis

- In 2007, the costs attributable to arthritis and other rheumatic conditions were $128 billion:
  - $80.8 billion in direct medical expenditures ($115 billion in 2013 dollars) and
  - $47 billion in indirect lost earnings ($59.4 billion in 2013 dollars) (Ma, et al., 2014).

Chronic Joint Symptoms

- Estimates of arthritis prevalence vary depending on whether the definition includes chronic joint symptoms (pain, aching, joint stiffness).
- People with chronic joint symptoms report similar health outcomes as those with arthritis:
  - Activity limitations,
  - Poor/fair health and mental health, and
  - Similar health care use (Canizares & Badley, 2012).

- These patients need interventions and advice to manage and control their pain and symptoms and thus improve their health and quality of life (Canizares and Badley, 2012).

Measures

- Process: Adults with chronic joint symptoms who have ever seen a doctor or health professional for joint symptoms.
Treatment for Chronic Joint Symptoms

Adults With Chronic Joint Symptoms Who Have Seen a Doctor for Joint Symptoms, by Race/Ethnicity and Sex

- **Overall Rate:** In 2013, 72.0% of adults with chronic joint symptoms reported seeing a doctor or other health professional for joint symptoms.
- **Trends:** The percentage of male adults with chronic joint symptoms who reported seeing a doctor of health professional for joint systems increased from 66.0% in 2009 to 69.5% in 2013.
- **Groups With Disparities:**
  - In all years, Hispanics were less likely than Whites to report seeing a doctor or other health professional for joint symptoms.
  - In all years, females were more likely than males to report seeing a doctor or other health professional for joint symptoms.
  - From 2009 to 2013, there were no statistically significant changes in the disparity between White and Hispanic adults who reported seeing a doctor or health professional for joint symptoms.

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, National Health Interview Survey, 2009-2013.
Note: White and Black are non-Hispanic. Hispanic includes all races.
Adults With Chronic Joint Symptoms Who Have Seen a Doctor for Joint Symptoms, by Health Insurance and Age

- **Groups With Disparities:**
  - In all years, adults without insurance were less likely to report seeing a doctor or health professional for joint symptoms than adults with private insurance.
  - In all years, adults with public insurance were more likely to report seeing a doctor or health professional for joint symptoms than adults with private insurance.
  - In all years, adults ages 45-64 and 65 and over were more likely to report seeing a doctor or health professional for joint symptoms compared with those ages 18-44.
  - From 2009 to 2013, there were no statistically significant changes in the disparity between uninsured adults and privately insured adults who reported seeing a doctor or health professional for joint systems.

*Source:* Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, National Health Interview Survey, 2009-2013.
References


Respiratory Diseases

Respiratory Disease Measures

- **Process:**
  - Completion of tuberculosis therapy
  - Daily asthma medication
  - Written asthma management plans

- **Outcome:** Emergency department visits for asthma

**Completion of Tuberculosis Therapy**

- Incomplete tuberculosis therapy can lead to:
  - Increased risk of treatment failure,
  - Spread of infection to others, and
  - Development of drug-resistant strains of tuberculosis.

- The national goal for completion of treatment is:
  - By 2015, 93% completion of treatment within 12 months among patients eligible for 6- to 9-month regimens (CDC, 2010).

Patients With Tuberculosis Who Completed Treatment Within 1 Year

![Graph showing percentage of patients with tuberculosis who completed treatment within 1 year by race/ethnicity and sex from 2000 to 2011.]


*Denominator:* U.S. civilian noninstitutionalized population treated for tuberculosis.

*Note:* White and Black are non-Hispanic. Hispanic includes all races.
• **Overall:** In 2011, the overall percentage of patients who completed tuberculosis therapy within 1 year was 89.1%.

• **Trends:** The percentage of patients who completed tuberculosis therapy within 1 year increased from 80.2% in 2000 to 89.1% in 2011. Improvements were also observed among all major racial/ethnic groups and both sexes.

• **Groups With Disparities:**

  - In 9 of 12 years, Hispanics were less likely than Whites to complete tuberculosis treatment.
  - In 7 of 12 years, females were more likely than males to complete tuberculosis treatment.

• **Achievable Benchmark:**

  - The 2008 top 4 State achievable benchmark was 94%. The top 4 States that contributed to the achievable benchmark are Colorado, Kansas, Mississippi, and Oregon.
  - At the current annual rates of increase, Blacks and Hispanics could achieve the achievable benchmark in 3 years and 2 years, respectively. Whites show no progress toward the benchmark.
  - Both men and women would need about 4 years.

### Patients With Tuberculosis Who Completed Treatment Within 1 Year, Asian or Pacific Islander and Hispanic Subgroups

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**Key:** API = Asian or Pacific Islander.

**Source:** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Tuberculosis Surveillance System, 2008-2011.

**Denominator:** U.S. civilian noninstitutionalized population treated for tuberculosis.

**Note:** The 2011 data for Puerto Ricans did not meet criteria for statistical reliability.
- **Groups With Disparities:**
  - From 2008 to 2011, the percentage of Asian or Pacific Islander (API) and Hispanic granular ethnic groups who completed tuberculosis treatment showed some variability.
  - For API groups, the percentage ranged from a low of 79.9% for Asian Indian patients in 2010 to a high of 93.6% for Chinese patients in 2009.
  - For Hispanic ethnic groups, the percentage went from a low of 79.4% for Mexican patients in 2008 to a high of 93.8% for Puerto Rican patients in 2008.
  - Despite the variability of earlier years, in 2011, there were no statistically significant differences between the API patient groups or the Hispanic patient groups who completed tuberculosis treatment.

- **Achievable Benchmark:**
  - The 2008 top 4 State achievable benchmark was 94%. The top 4 States that contributed to the achievable benchmark are Colorado, Kansas, Mississippi, and Oregon.
  - At the current annual rates of increase, all APIs could achieve the benchmark in about 4 years. For individual API ethnic groups, Filipinos, other Pacific Islanders, Asian Indians, and other Asians could reach the benchmark in about 6, 5, 4, and 3 years, respectively. Chinese, Vietnamese, and Native Hawaiian groups show no progress toward the benchmark.
  - Mexicans and other Hispanics could reach the benchmark in about 4 years.

**Daily Asthma Medication**

- Improving care for people with asthma can reduce the incidence of asthma attacks and hospitalizations.
- The National Asthma Education and Prevention Program develops and disseminates science-based guidelines for asthma diagnosis and management (NHLBI, 2007).
- The guidelines are built around four essential components of asthma management critical for effective long-term control:
  - Assessment and monitoring,
  - Control of factors contributing to symptom exacerbation,
  - Pharmacotherapy, and
  - Education for partnership in care.

- Some patients with asthma do not need medication.
- Patients with persistent asthma need daily long-term controller medication to prevent exacerbations and chronic symptoms.
- Preventive medications for people with persistent asthma include inhaled corticosteroids, inhaled long-acting beta-2 agonists, cromolyn, theophylline, and leukotriene modifiers.
People with current asthma who are now taking preventive asthma medicine daily or almost daily (either oral or inhaler), by insurance (under age 65) and chronic conditions (age 18 and over), 2003-2013

- **Overall:** In 2013, the overall percentage of people with current asthma who reported taking preventive asthma medicine daily or almost daily was 22.5%.
- **Trends:** From 2003 to 2013, the percentage of people with current asthma who reported taking preventive medicine daily or almost daily decreased:
  - From 29.6% to 22.5% for total adult population.
  - From 29.8% to 21.7% for those under age 65 with private insurance.
  - From 29.5% to 20.7% for those under age 65 with public insurance.
  - From 16.7% to 8.2% for those under age 65 with no insurance.
  - From 22.3% to 13.5% for those age 18 and over with 0-1 chronic conditions.
  - From 45.2% to 31.0% for those age 18 and over with 2-3 chronic conditions.
  - From 56.4% to 45.1% for those age 18 and over with 4 or more chronic conditions.

- **Groups With Disparities:**
  - In 9 of 11 years, among people under age 65 with current asthma, those who were uninsured were less likely than those with private insurance to take preventive medicine daily or almost daily.

*Denominator:* Civilian noninstitutionalized population with current asthma.
*Note:* Age adjusted to the 2000 U.S. standard population using four age groups: 0-17, 18-44, 45-64, and 65 and over. People with current asthma report that they still have asthma or had an asthma attack in the last 12 months.
- In all years, among people age 18 and over with current asthma, those with 2-3 chronic conditions and 4 or more chronic conditions were more likely than those with 0-1 chronic conditions to take preventive medicine daily or almost daily.
- Among people under age 65 with current asthma who reported taking preventive asthma medicine daily or almost daily, the disparity between uninsured people and those with private insurance grew smaller but was still present.

**Written Asthma Management Plans**

- To effectively partner with asthma patients in their care, providers need to teach them about daily management and how to recognize and handle worsening asthma.
- Providers should develop written asthma management plans, especially for:
  - Patients with moderate or severe persistent asthma and
  - Patients with a history of severe exacerbation.

**People With Asthma Who Received a Written Asthma Management Plan**

- **Overall Rate:** In 2013, 40.5% of people with current asthma received a written asthma management plan from their provider.
Groups With Disparities:

- In 2013 Blacks (45.3%) and Hispanics (45.4%) were more likely than Whites (39%) to receive a written asthma management plan.
- In 2013, adults with less than a high school education (27.7%) were less likely than high school graduates (37.6%) and those with any college education (36.4%) to receive a written asthma management plan.
- In 2013, adults without insurance (34.4%) were more likely than adults with private insurance (30.7%) to receive a written asthma management plan.
- In 2013, children ages 0-17 (50.8%) were more likely than adults ages 18-44 (36.2%), 45-64 (39.0%), and 65 and over (34.9%) to receive a written asthma management plan from their provider.

People With Asthma Whose Doctor Helped Them Develop an Asthma Management Plan, by Asian Subgroup and English Proficiency

Denominator: Civilian noninstitutionalized population in California.
• **Overall Rate:** In California, in 2011-2013, 55.8% of Asian Californians with current asthma had a doctor who helped them develop an asthma management plan.

• **Groups With Disparities:**
  
  - In 2011-2013, Asians (55.8%) were less likely than all Californians (70.4%) to have a doctor help them develop an asthma management plan.
  
  - There were moderate variations among Asian subgroups and slight differences for Asians related to English proficiency; however, none of these differences were statistically significant due in part to large standard errors.

**People With Asthma Whose Doctor Helped Them Develop an Asthma Management Plan, by Hispanic Subgroup and by Education and English Proficiency**

![Graph](image-url)

• **Overall Rate:** In California, in 2011-2013, 62.1% of Hispanics with current asthma had a doctor who helped them develop an asthma management plan.

• **Groups With Disparities:**
  
  ■ In 2011-2013, Hispanics (62.1%) were less likely than all Californians (70.4%) to have a doctor help them develop an asthma management plan.
  
  ■ In 2011-2013, among Hispanics, those with less than a high school education (46.5%) were less likely than high school graduates (65.7%) and those with any college education (68.8%) to have a doctor help them develop an asthma management plan.
  
  ■ In 2011-2013, among Hispanics, those who did not speak English well (43.5%) were less likely than those who spoke English well or very well (65.1%) and those who spoke only English at home (69.9%) to report receiving help developing an asthma management plan.

**Potentially Avoidable Emergency Department Visits**

• The burden of asthma in the United States is high:
  
  ■ About 2 million emergency department (ED) visits
  
  ■ More than 500,000 hospitalizations
  
  ■ Nearly 14 million physician office visits
  
  ■ More than 4,200 deaths
  
  ■ About $15 billion in direct medical costs

• Asthma is difficult to manage and is associated with disparities in health outcomes, poor treatment adherence, and high health care costs.

• Improving care delivery is important to advance patient outcomes, avoid ED visits and hospitalizations, and reduce health care costs (Tapp, et al., 2011).

• Care coordination for asthma usually involves practice-based approaches, in which the care provider identifies and refers families to a care coordination program in the medical care facility.

• A more effective approach is to place care coordinators in the community as a bridge between families and health care providers:
  
  ■ They can learn and better understand the contextual factors and issues that affect families, and
  
  ■ They can identify tailored support and services for optimal health care outcomes for asthma patients (Findley, et al., 2011).
Emergency Department Visits for Asthma

- **Importance:** Asthma exacerbations were responsible for approximately 2 million ED visits in 2012. ED visits for asthma exacerbation suggest a failure of prevention-oriented care since most asthma exacerbations are preventable with high-quality long-term management.

- **Trends:** From 2008 to 2013, the overall rate of ED visits for asthma increased from 578.0 to 613.1 per 100,000 population.

- **Groups With Disparities:**
  - From 2008 to 2013, rates of ED visits for asthma were highest in the Northeast and lowest in the West. In 2013, the rate of ED visits for asthma in the Northeast was 914.8 per 100,000 population, followed by the Midwest (674.4 per 100,000 population), the South (577.9 per 100,000 population), and the West (400.7 per 100,000 population).
  - In all years, adults with the highest income were significantly less likely than all other income groups to have an ED visit for asthma.
  - For more information on care coordination related to ED visits for asthma, go to [http://www.ahrq.gov/research/findings/nhqrdr/chartbooks/carecoordination/index.html](http://www.ahrq.gov/research/findings/nhqrdr/chartbooks/carecoordination/index.html).
References


