

# Primary Care Spend

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WVAFP Legislative Co-Chair  
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# Credentials



Dr. Hendershot, MD, DC, FAAFP is a past Paul Ambrose Health Policy Fellow. He trained at Marshall University's Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine with completion of a family practice residency at the same.

He's worked in private practice as a chiropractor from 1996-2004. As an MD he's served as CMO of a rural FQHC and Past Chair of the WV PCA CMO committee. He's now employed in the WVU Medicine Health System, in Mineral Wells, WV. He follows his patients, including pediatric patients, in the hospital setting, the clinic and on the sideline. He is currently the CMO of OVHC, an SNF owned by WVU Medicine.

Dr. Hendershot has served as Past President of the WVAFP. He serves as Co-chair of the WVAFP Legislative Committee. He's currently serving as WVAFP Delegate to the AAFP Congress of Delegates. He sits on the AAFP Commission on Finance and Insurance, and serves as a board member of the Family MedPAC

# Conflicts

Dr. Hendershot has **no** conflicts of interest or disclaimers to announce and receive no remuneration from any entity for this lecture.

# Objectives

**After participation in this Systems Based Practice lecture the learner will:**

- Consider health care delivery settings and systems relevant to their practice.
- Consider cost awareness and risk/benefit analysis in patient care.
- Be more able to advocate for quality patient care and optimal patient care systems.
- Understand how work in interprofessional teams can enhance patient safety, improve patient care quality, and reduce health care cost.
- Feel more comfortable identifying system challenges and implementing potential systems solutions

# Defining the Current Challenges

BY JAMIE DUCHARME X MAY 16, 2023 11:08 AM EDT

**M**ore than 70% of U.S. adults feel the health care system is failing to meet their needs in at least one way, according to new **data from the Harris Poll**, shared exclusively with TIME.

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- For the first time in Gallup's two-decade trend, less than half of Americans are complimentary about the quality of U.S. healthcare, with 48% rating it "excellent" or "good." The slight majority now rate healthcare quality as subpar, including 31% saying it is "only fair" and 21% -- a new high -- calling it "poor."

## Majority of Americans unhappy with health care system: AP-NORC poll

Politics Sep 12, 2022 1:06 PM EDT



<https://www.medpagetoday.com/opinion/second-opinions/103166> accessed 3/10/24

Americans Sour on U.S. Healthcare Quality (gallup.com) accessed 3/10/24

<https://time.com/6279937/us-health-care-system-attitudes/> accessed 3/10/24

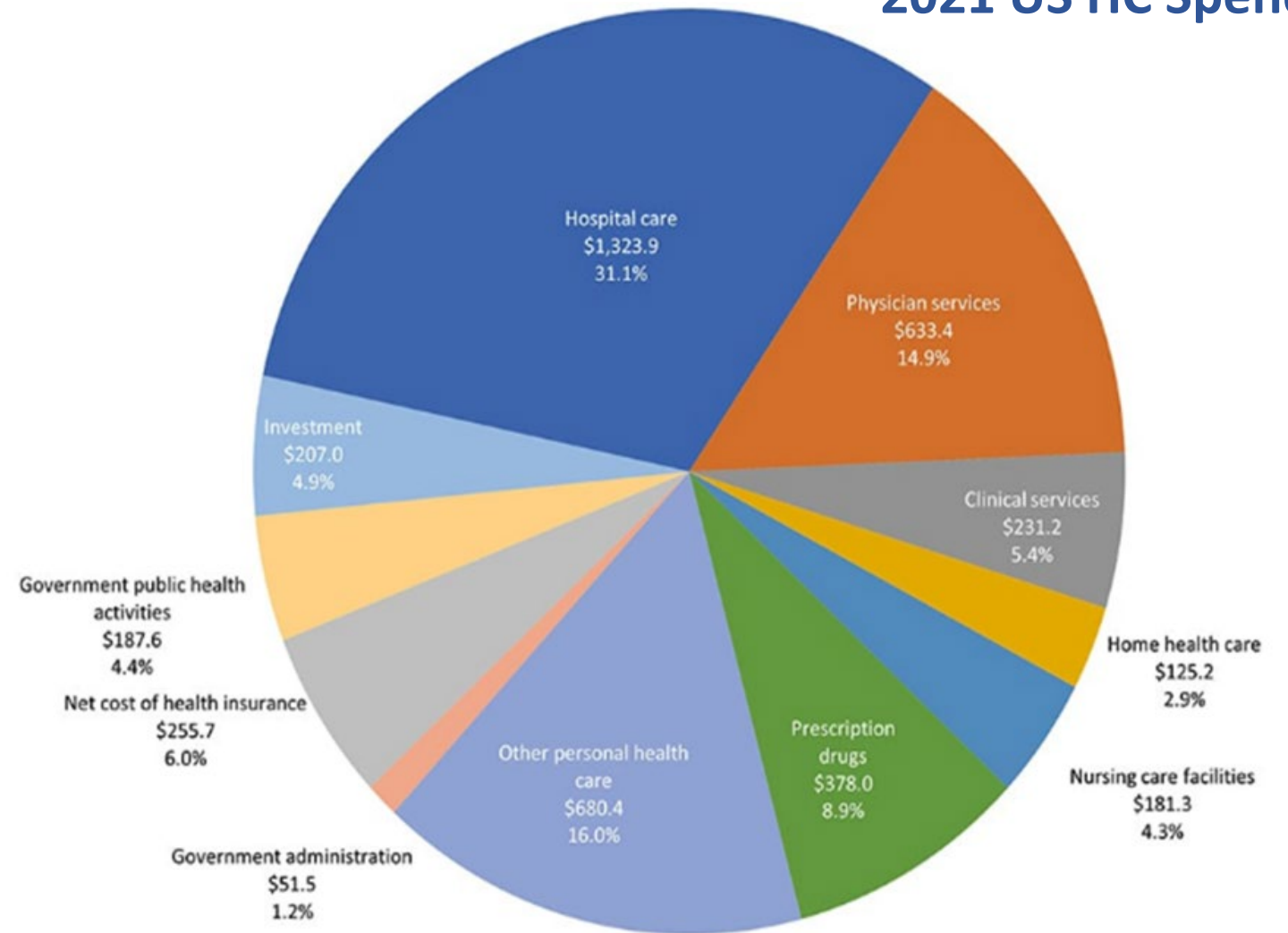
<https://www.pbs.org/newshour/politics/majority-of-americans-unhappy-with-health-care-system-ap-norc-poll> accessed 3/10/24

# US Health Care Spend

In 2022 U.S. health care spending grew  
4.1 %  
reaching **\$4.5 trillion**  
or  
**\$13,493** per person.

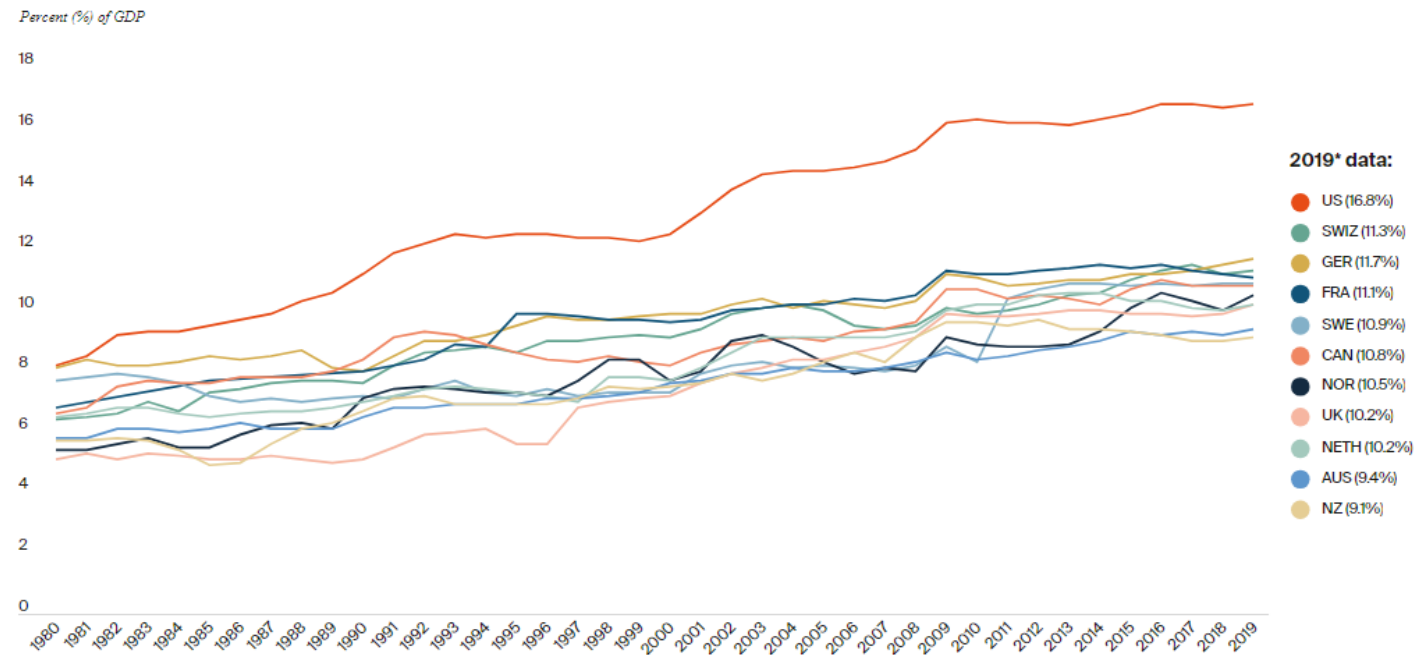
Health spending accounted for  
**17%**  
of the nation's GDP,

2021 US HC Spend



# US Health Care Spend

Health Care Spending as a Percentage of GDP, 1980–2019



Notes: Current expenditures on health. Based on System of Health Accounts methodology, with some differences between country methodologies. GDP refers to gross domestic product.

\* 2019 data are provisional or estimated for Australia, Canada, and New Zealand.

Data: OECD Health Data, July 2021.

Source: Eric C. Schneider et al., *Mirror, Mirror 2021 — Reflecting Poorly: Health Care in the U.S. Compared to Other High-Income Countries* (Commonwealth Fund, Aug. 2021). <https://doi.org/10.26099/01DV-H208>

In 1980, most industrialized nations spent between

4-8% of GDP

on Healthcare

By 2019 most spent between

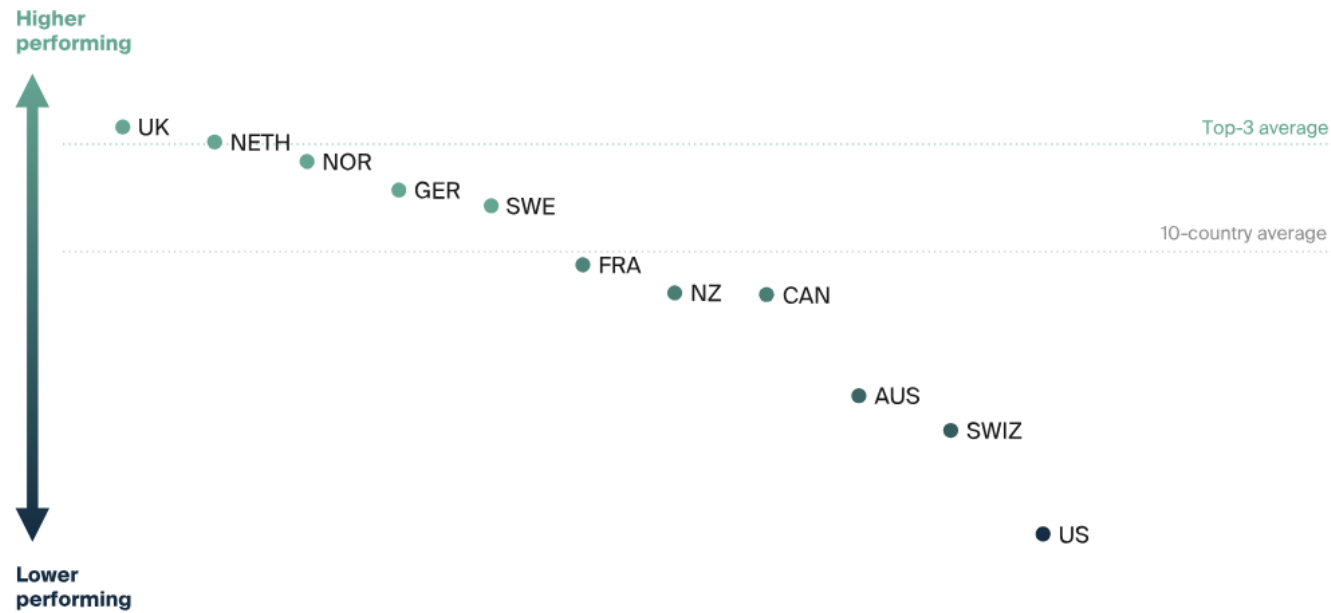
7-11% GDP

on Health care

The US was 16%

# US Health Care Access

## Health Care System Performance Scores: Affordability



The argument that US wealth can tolerate the disproportionate HC spend is not born out by the data.

In fact,  
**US HC is less affordable**  
to its citizens than other industrialized nations.

Note: To normalize performance scores across countries, each score is the calculated standard deviation from a 10-country average that excludes the US. See [How We Conducted This Study](#) for more detail.

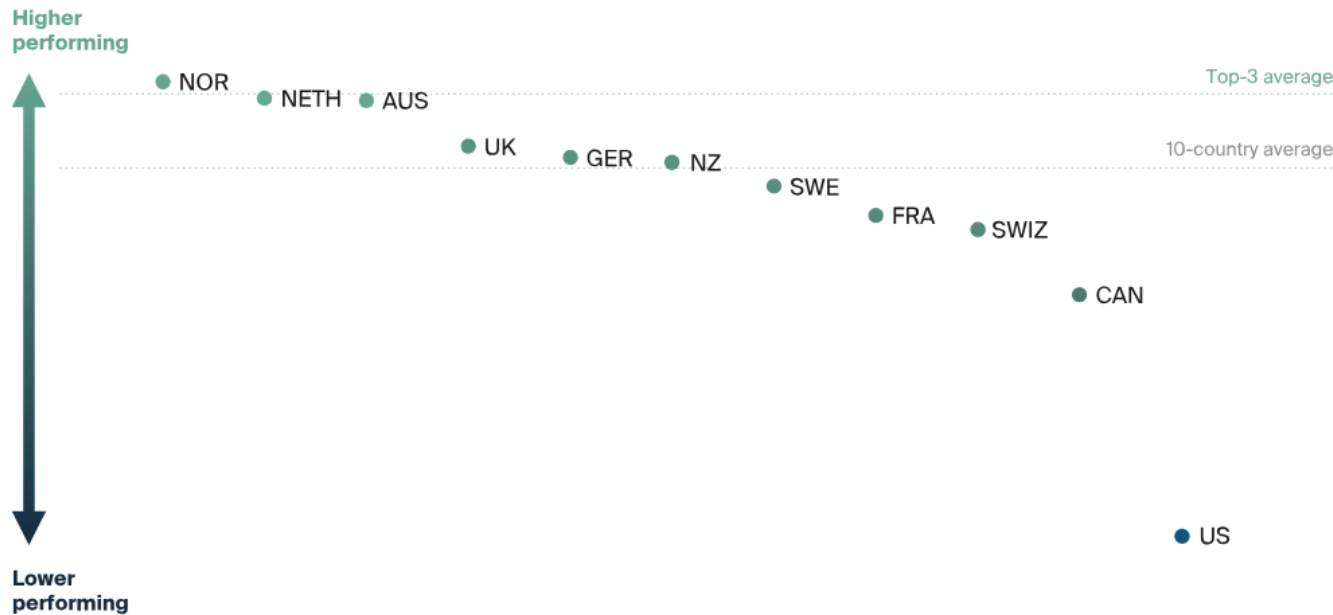
Data: Commonwealth Fund analysis.

Source: Eric C. Schneider et al., *Mirror, Mirror 2021 — Reflecting Poorly: Health Care in the U.S. Compared to Other High-Income Countries* (Commonwealth Fund, Aug. 2021). <https://doi.org/10.26099/01DV-H208>



# US Health Care Outcomes

## Comparative Health Care System Performance Scores



Note: To normalize performance scores across countries, each score is the calculated standard deviation from a 10-country average that excludes the US. See [How We Conducted This Study](#) for more detail.

Data: Commonwealth Fund analysis.

Source: Eric C. Schneider et al., *Mirror, Mirror 2021 — Reflecting Poorly: Health Care in the U.S. Compared to Other High-Income Countries* (Commonwealth Fund, Aug. 2021). <https://doi.org/10.26099/01DV-H208>

Despite the **highest** HC Spend..

The US continues to have

**Inverse outcomes**

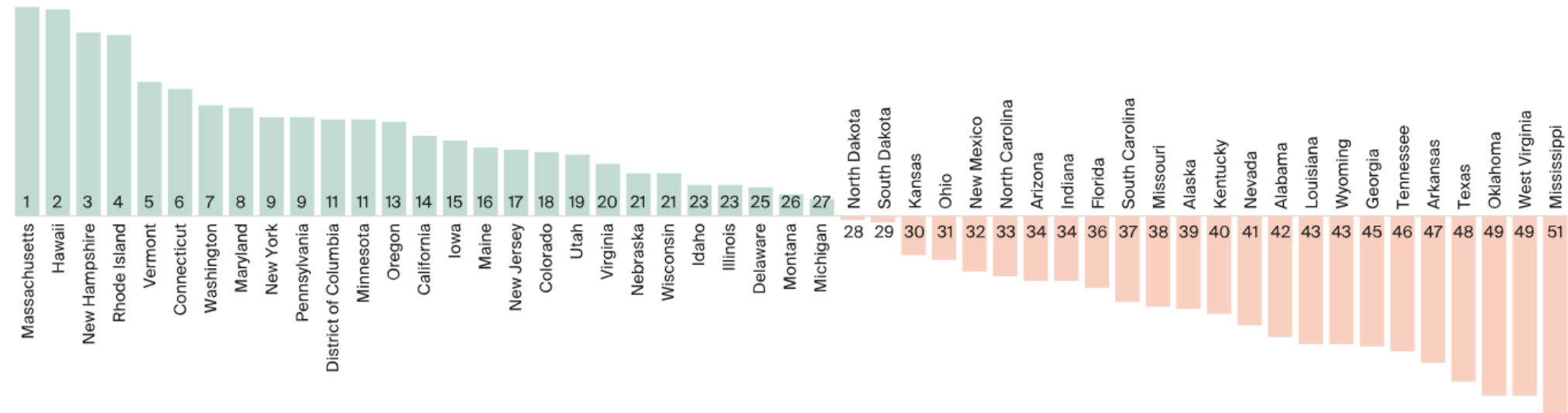
# US Health Care Outcomes

Some states outperform other states..

# State Outcomes

Massachusetts, Hawaii, and New Hampshire top the overall rankings on health system performance for 2023.

Overall Rankings for 2023 Scorecard on State Health System Performance



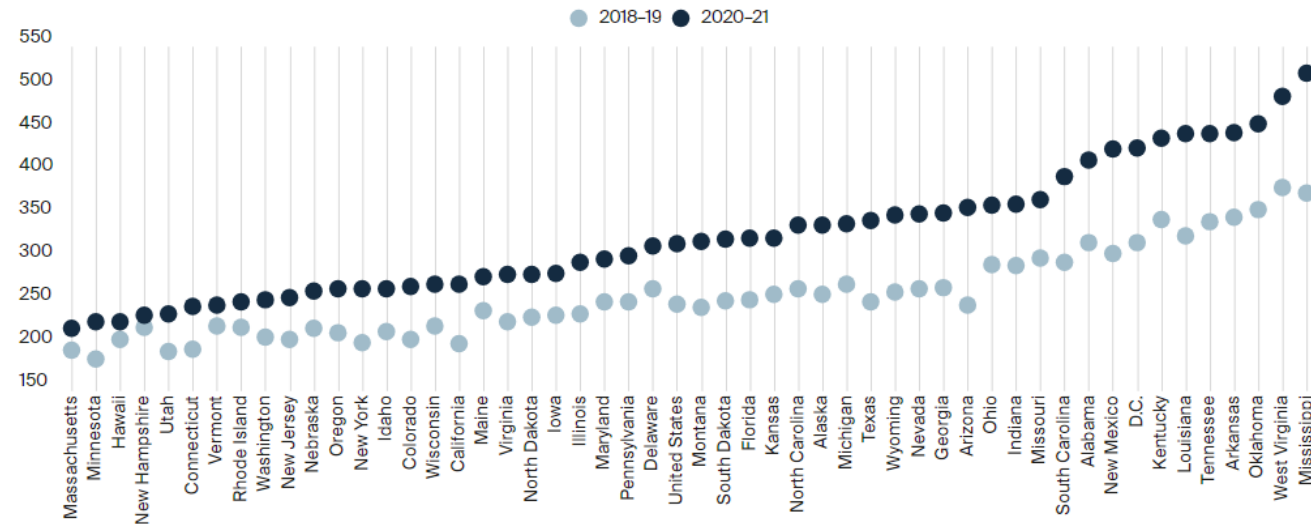
Notes: States arranged in rank order. Bar height corresponds to overall performance score. Green bars indicate better than average performance; orange bars indicate lower than average performance.

Source: David C. Radley et al., *The Commonwealth Fund 2023 Scorecard on State Health System Performance: Americans' Health Declines and Access to Reproductive Care Shrinks, But States Have Options* (Commonwealth Fund, June 2023). <https://doi.org/10.26099/fcas-cd24>

# State Outcomes

Deaths from preventable and treatable causes rose between 2019 and 2021 amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

Avoidable deaths before age 75 per 100,000 population, by state (2018-19 and 2020-21)



[Download data](#)

Note: Number of deaths before age 75 per 100,000 population that resulted from causes that can be mainly avoided through timely and effective prevention and treatment. Methodology developed by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and Eurostat, as published in [Avoidable Mortality: OECD/Eurostat Lists of Preventable and Treatable Causes of Death](#) (January 2022 Version).

Data: 2018-2019 and 2020-21 National Vital Statistics System (NVSS), All-County Micro Data, Restricted Use Files.

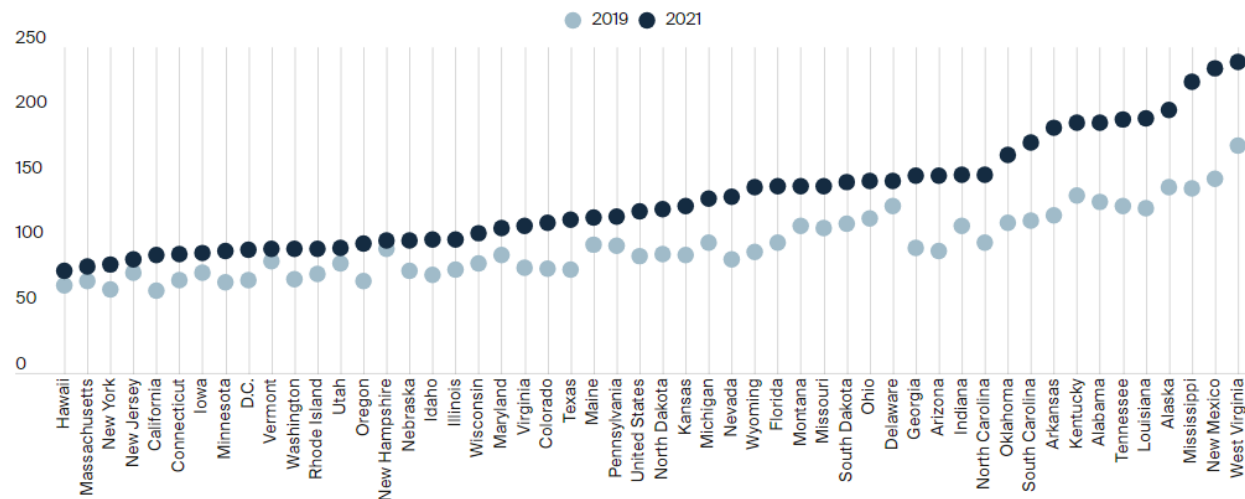
Source: David C. Radley et al., *The Commonwealth Fund 2023 Scorecard on State Health System Performance: Americans' Health Declines and Access to Reproductive Care Shrinks, But States Have Options* (Commonwealth Fund, June 2023). <https://doi.org/10.26099/fcas-cd24>

If you live in WV,  
you are more than  
**2X**  
as likely to die  
from an **avoidable death**  
than if you live in  
Massachusetts

# State Outcomes

All-cause mortality rates for women of reproductive age vary widely across states and increased significantly from 2019 to 2021.

Age-adjusted all-cause mortality rate per 100,000 females ages 15-44, by state (2019 and 2021)



[Download data](#)

Data: 2019 and 2021 National Vital Statistics System (NVSS), via CDC WONDER.

Source: David C. Radley et al., *The Commonwealth Fund 2023 Scorecard on State Health System Performance: Americans' Health Declines and Access to Reproductive Care Shrinks, But States Have Options* (Commonwealth Fund, June 2023). <https://doi.org/10.26099/fcas-cd24>

If you are a **WV Women**

15-44 YOA

you are

**3X**

more likely to die

than a same aged women  
in New York.

(Where you live matters)

# WV Health Outcomes

Avoidable Hospital Use & Cost						2023 Scorecard				Baseline		
Potentially avoidable emergency department visits												
Ages 18–64, per 1,000 employer-insured enrollees	2021	133	134	122	21	2019	153	137		Improved		
Age 65 and older, per 1,000 Medicare beneficiaries	2021	176	141	115	51	2019	237	185		Improved		
Admissions for ambulatory care–sensitive conditions												
Ages 18–64, per 1,000 employer-insured enrollees	2021	5	4	4	29	2019	7	7		Improved		
Age 65 and older, per 1,000 Medicare beneficiaries	2021	40	29	16	50	2019	53	41		Improved		
30-day hospital readmissions												
Ages 18–64, per 1,000 employer-insured enrollees	2021	3	3	2	23	2019	3	3		Improved		
Age 65 and older, per 1,000 Medicare beneficiaries	2021	43	33	16	51	2019	54	40		Improved		
Skilled nursing patients with a successful discharge	2020	51%	57%	69%	48	2018	47%	54%		Improved		
Home health patients with a hospital admission	2019	19%	15%	11%	51	2017	17%	16%		Worsened		
Adults with inappropriate lower back imaging	2021	69%	69%	60%	21	2019	65%	68%		Worsened		
Employer-sponsored insurance spending per enrollee	2021	\$7,545	\$6,060	\$4,255	47	2019	\$6,495	\$5,354		Worsened		
Medicare spending per beneficiary	2021	\$10,253	\$10,478	\$6,915	25	2019	\$10,324	\$10,180		No Change		
Primary care spending as a share of total health care spending												
Ages 18–64 (employer-insured enrollees)	2021	5.7%	6.9%	10.0%	41	2019	5.8%	7.2%		No Change		
Age 65 and older (Medicare beneficiaries)	2020	5.3%	5.5%	7.6%	24	2018	5.8%	5.7%		Worsened		

	National Rank	Rank Among Southeastern States*
<b>Overall</b>	<b>49 of 51</b>	<b>11 of 12</b>
Reproductive & Women's Health	38	6
Access & Affordability	37	4
Prevention & Treatment	39	6
Avoidable Hospital Use & Cost	50	12
Healthy Lives	51	12
Income Disparity	33	2
Racial & Ethnic Health Equity	45	11

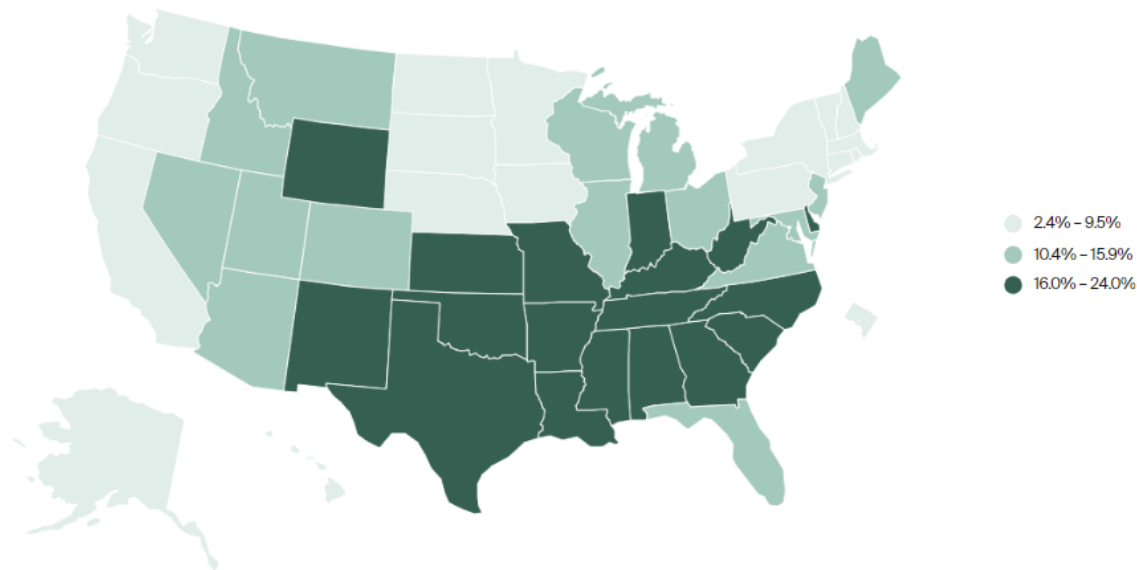
\* Southeastern states include AL, AR, FL, GA, KY, LA, MS, NC, SC, TN, VA, WV

**WV leads the nation in avoidable Hospital use and cost..**

# State Accessibility

In some states, particularly in the South, as many as a quarter of residents have medical debt; a symptom of coverage gaps and inadequate insurance.

Share of people with a credit bureau record who have medical debt in collections, by state (2021)

 [Download data](#)

Note: Urban Institute analysis is based on a 4 percent nationally representative sample of consumer records from a major credit bureau as of February 2022.

Data: Alexander Carther, et al., *Debt in America* (Urban Institute, June 2022). Accessible from <https://datacatalog.urban.org/dataset/debt-america-2022>

Source: David C. Radley et al., *The Commonwealth Fund 2023 Scorecard on State Health System Performance: Americans' Health Declines and Access to Reproductive Care Shrinks, But States Have Options* (Commonwealth Fund, June 2023). <https://doi.org/10.26099/fcas-cd24>

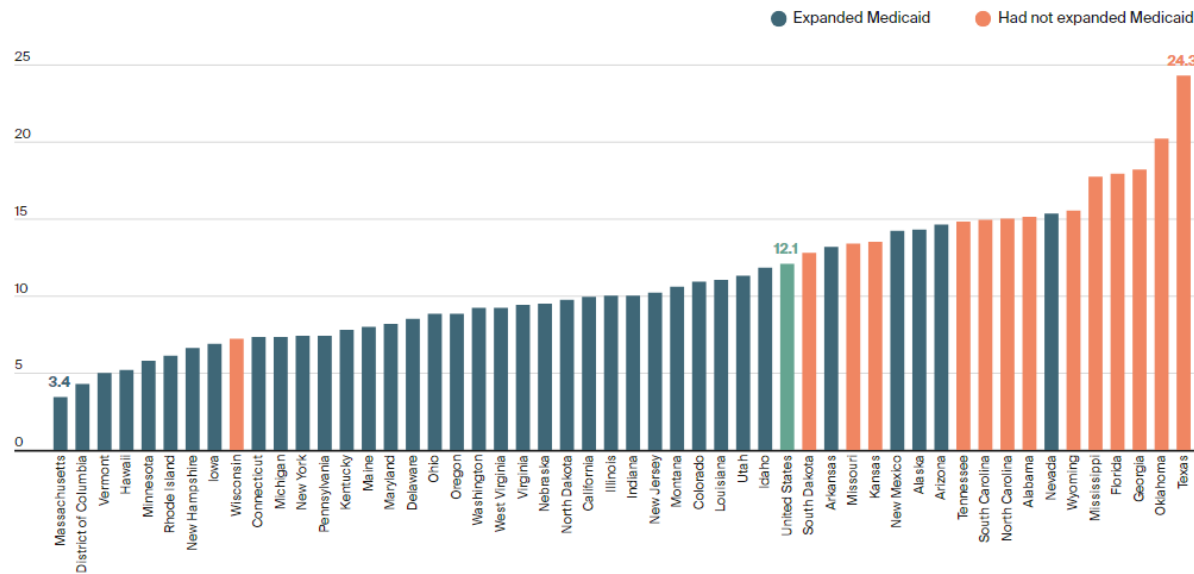
And despite poor medical outcomes,

**Approximately 1:5 WVs  
carry medical debt.**

# State Accessibility

Adult uninsured rates have fallen since 2019 but remain highest in states that have not expanded their Medicaid programs.

Percentage of adults ages 19-64 who are uninsured, by state (2021)



Download data

Note: States with orange shading had not fully expanded their Medicaid program under the Affordable Care Act by January 1, 2021.

Data: U.S. Census Bureau, 2021 One-Year American Community Survey, Public Use Microdata Sample (ACS PUMS).

Source: David C. Radley et al., *The Commonwealth Fund 2023 Scorecard on State Health System Performance: Americans' Health Declines and Access to Reproductive Care Shrinks, But States Have Options* (Commonwealth Fund, June 2023). <https://doi.org/10.26099/fcas-cd24>

**WV does have a bright spot,**  
having only  
**9-10% uninsured.**

This means 90% of WVs belong  
to a payment model.

(Note-this chart includes the  
covid Medicaid expansion.)



# The Solution?

WV spends more on worse healthcare..

How do we fix this?

# The Importance of Primary Spend

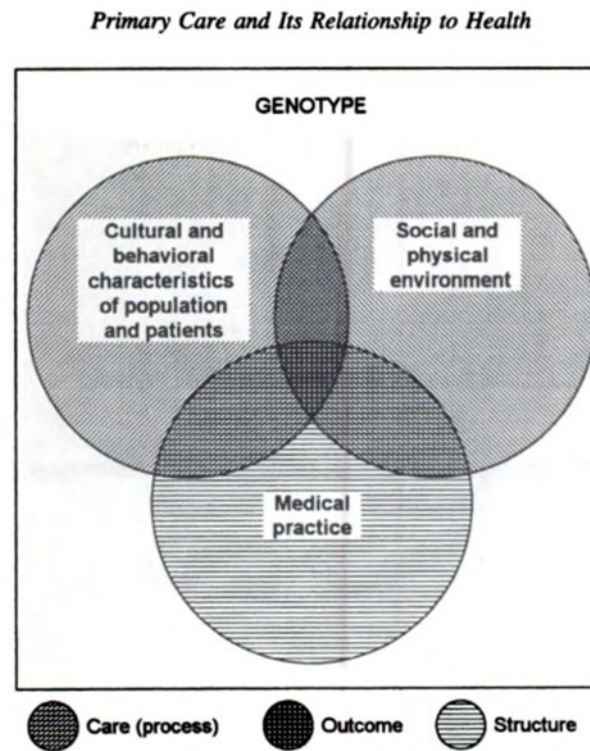
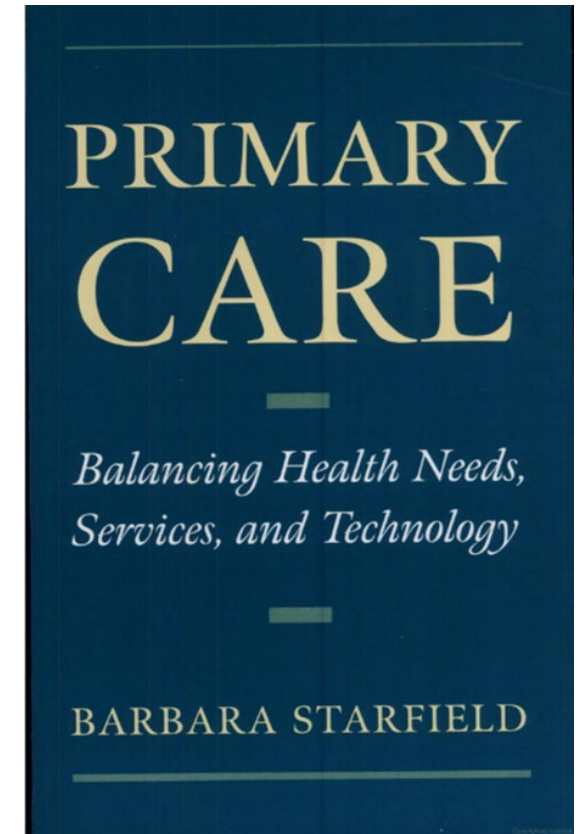


Figure 1.1. Determinants of health status. Source: Starfield (1973).



# The Importance of Primary Spend

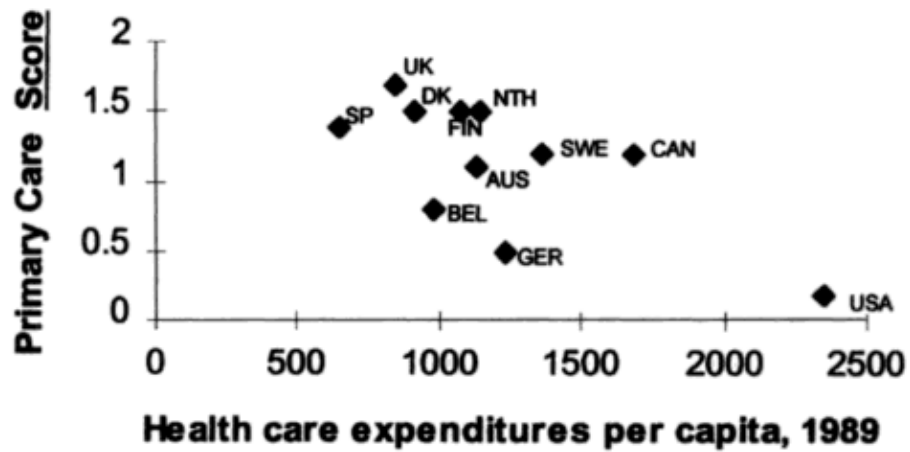


Figure 1.4. Relationship between strength of primary care and total health care expenditures.

14

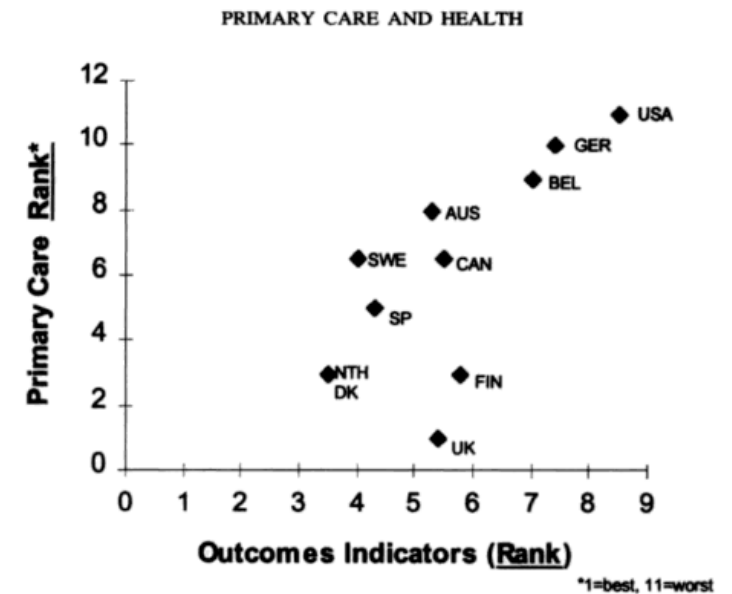


Figure 1.3. Relationship between strength of primary care and combined outcomes.

As early 1989 Dr. Starfield was outlining the correlation between primary care, cost of care and outcomes.

# The Importance of Primary Spend

The four **key concepts of primary care** as identified by Barbara Starfield:

- First Contact accessibility,
- Coordination,
- Comprehensiveness, and
- Continuity.



<https://www.nytimes.com/2023/02/14/health/doctors-medical-guidelines.html>. Accessed 3/10/24

Primary Care Balancing Health Needs, Services, and technology. Barbra Starfield. Oxford University Press, 1998

# The Importance of Primary Spend

1. Raising the professional earnings of primary care physicians to parity or near parity with specialists
2. Establishing a more rational basis for referral and especially for long-term management of patients (In particular, primary care physicians could care for more patients with ongoing health problems with more appropriate consultation arrangements and shared care with subspecialists, thus reducing the demand for direct services by subspecialists. That is, primary care with appropriate back-up from specialists could reduce the demand for subspecialist care.)
3. Restructuring state licensing policies to limit physician supply to areas of need
4. Providing financial incentives to programs that educate primary care physicians
5. Expanding and improving loan forgiveness programs for primary care physicians
6. Restructuring fee schedules for primary care to encourage the provision of important primary care services
7. Reducing burdensome administrative paperwork associated with billing and quality assurance activities
8. Providing bonuses for achieving important primary care objectives
9. Providing bonuses for team practice in primary care
10. Rewarding higher levels of achievement of primary care functions
11. Earmarking increased funding for primary care research to enhance the intellectual challenges of primary care and increase the scientific base for its practice
12. Involving trainees in ongoing quality of care monitoring to prepare them for critical review of their own practices

Starfield's recommendations are the template of many of the healthcare reform efforts pursued over the last 25 years.

Not surprisingly-

- funding primary care,
- increasing PCP workforce, and
- rewarding outcomes

form the bases of her recommendations.

# Effect of Primary Care: Continuity

## Higher Primary Care Physician Continuity is Associated With Lower Costs and Hospitalizations.

Medicare claims data for 1.4M beneficiaries obtaining care from a national sample of 6,551 PCPs to calculate continuity scores by 4 established methods. Patient-level continuity scores attributed to a single physician were averaged to create physician-level scores.

**Adjusted expenditures** for beneficiaries cared for by physicians in the highest continuity score quintile were **14.1% lower** than for those in the lowest quintile **\$8,092 vs \$6,958**.

The **odds of hospitalization were 16.1% lower** between the highest and lowest continuity quintiles.

All 4 continuity scores tested were significantly associated with lower total expenditures and hospitalization rates. Such indices are potentially useful as QPP measures.

# Effect of Primary Care: Continuity

## The Effect of PCP Visits on Total Care Cost: Evidence From the VHA

A **retrospective study** of over **5M** patients assigned to a PCP in the VHA in FY 2016-2019. The main outcome was **total annual patient care cost**.

On average, each additional in-person PC visit was associated with a total cost reduction of **\$721** (per patient per year). **The first PC visit was associated with the largest savings, \$3976 on average**, and a steady diminishing return was observed.

The higher the patient risk (severity of illness), the larger the cost reduction: Among the top 10% of high-risk patients, the first PC in-person visit was associated with a reduction of **\$16,406** (19%).



# Effect of Primary Care: Continuity

## PCP Continuity, Frequency, and Regularity Associated With Medicare Savings

Among 504,471 beneficiaries temporally regular visits with higher continuity were associated with the highest savings.

The savings increased with increasing visit frequencies.

Peak savings observed at higher visit frequencies as clinical complexity increased.

	Per-patient spending	ED visits (per 1000 pts)	Hospitalizations
Highly continuous regular	\$8,367	305	159
Noncontinuous, irregular	\$14,269	640	283

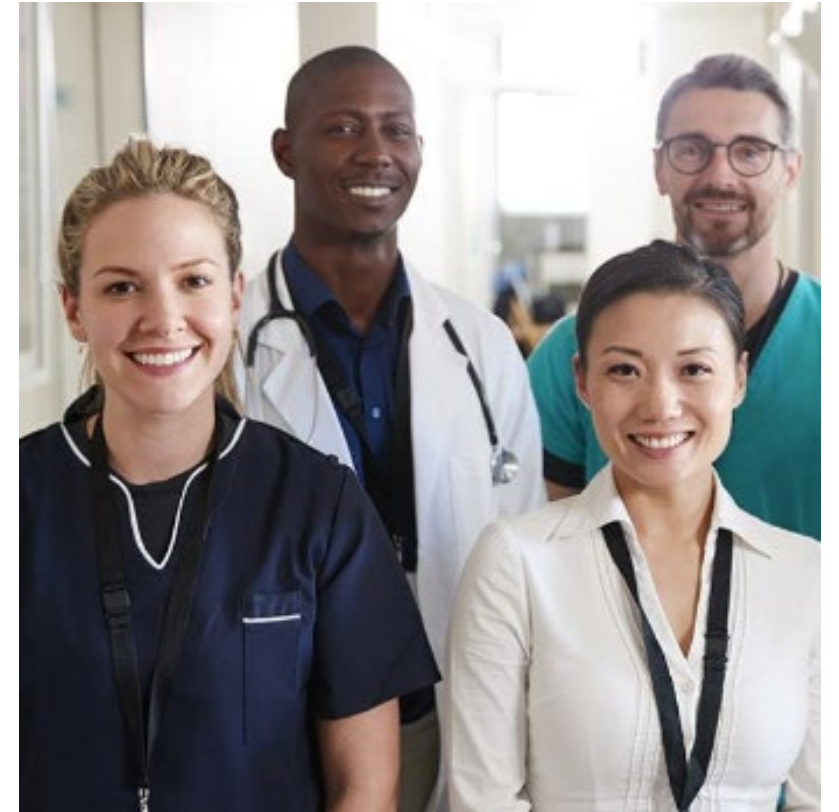


# Shortages in Primary Care Providers

## Most Common definition

**Primary Care Clinician (PCC)** : Clinicians practicing in the specialties of -  
family medicine,  
general internal medicine,  
general pediatrics, and  
general medicine;

includes Nurse Practitioners, and  
Physician Associates/ Physician Assistants.



# Primary Care Physician Workforce

‘The number of med students...has increased, but we have an even greater problem. **The number of US MD grads choosing primary care...keeps decreasing.**

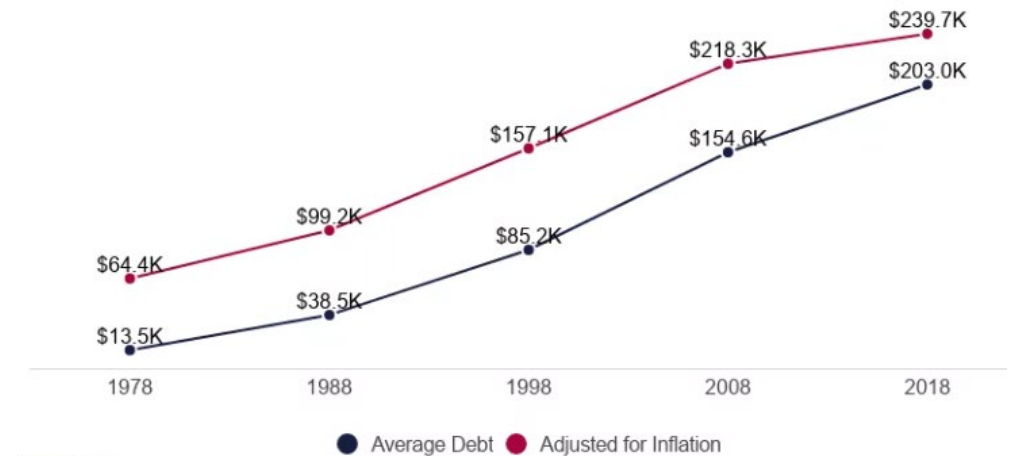
In the 2009 NR Match, only 7% of graduates chose FP, and 19% chose IM.

..Of those choosing IM...the majority will become subspecialists or hospitalists. Hauer et al reported that **only 2% of US senior MD med students planned to have a career in general IM.**

One reason that med students enter specialties is that the average educational debt of the class of 2008 MD graduates was \$150,000.

This influences many graduates to enter specialties that pay, on average, twice as much as primary care so that they can pay off their educational debt.”

Average Medical School Graduate Debt Over Time

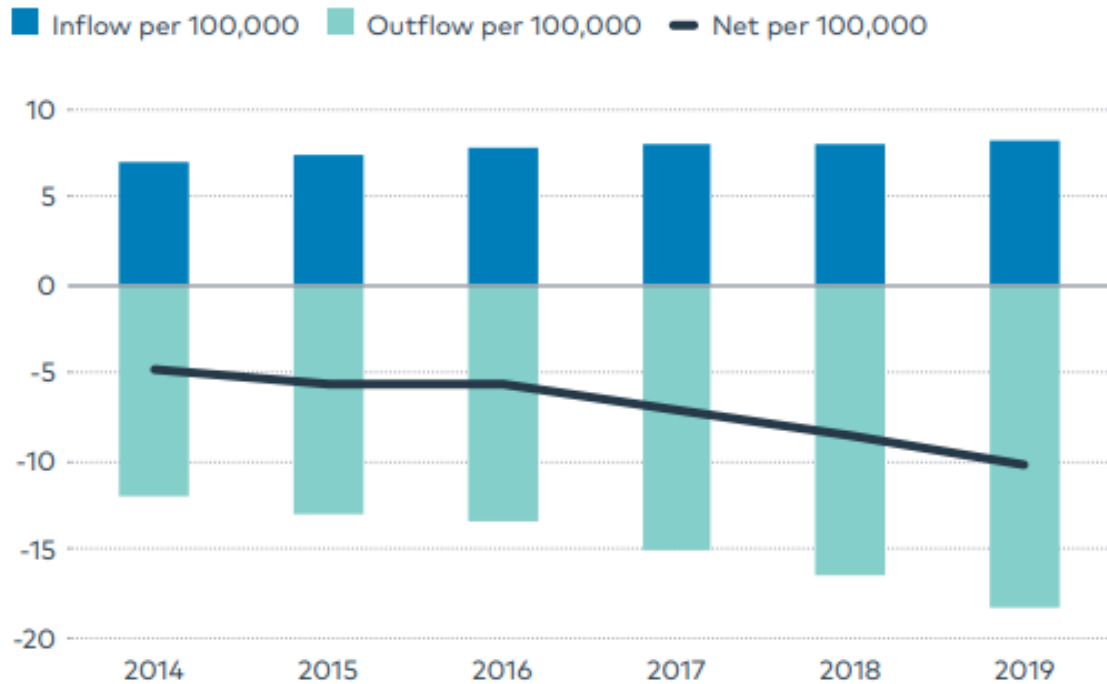


..Family medicine represents 12% of all U.S. students or graduates who matched in 2023

# US Primary Care Pipeline

FIGURE 1

Inflow and Outflow, Primary Care Clinicians per 100,000 Population, 2014–2019 (with Physician Retirement at Age 65)



Data Source: American Medical Association Physician Masterfile 2012–2020; Medicare Provider Utilization and Payment Data: Physician and Other Supplier Public Use File 2013–2020; U.S. Census 2012–2020

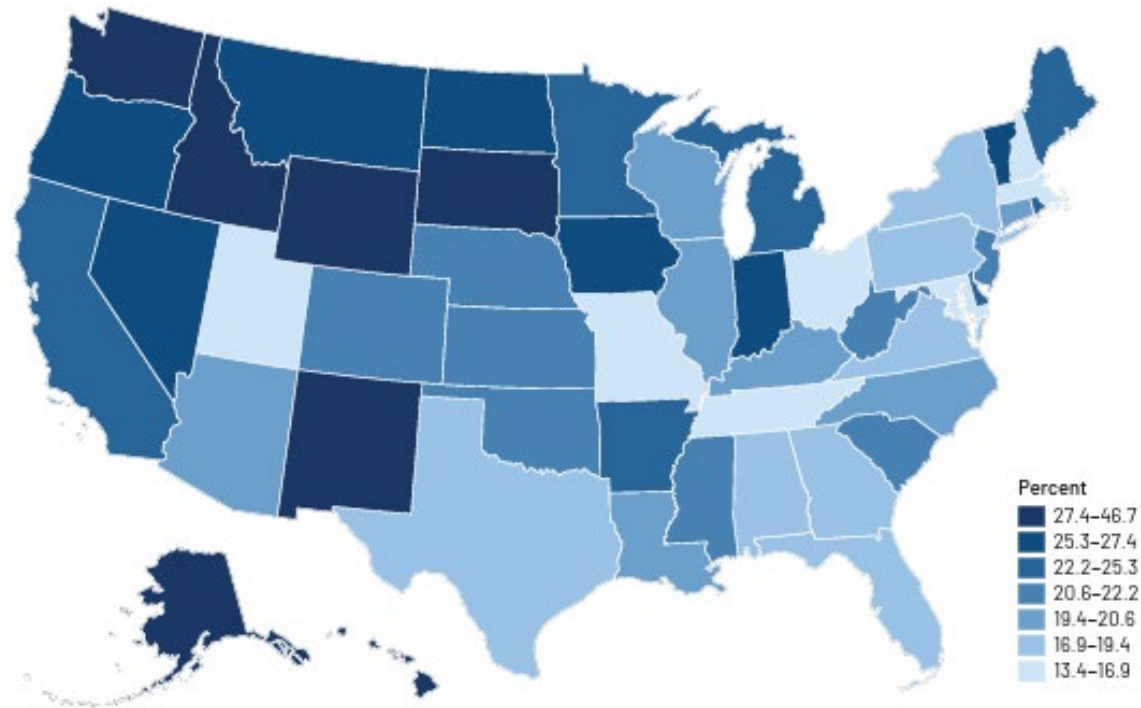
Notes: Primary Care Clinicians includes PCPs, NPs, and PAs. As for PCPs, inflow was calculated as the number of PCPs (per 100,000 population) entering the workforce after completion of their fields training program, while outflow was calculated as the number of PCPs retiring at age 65. As for NPs and PAs, inflow and outflow were identified based on Medicare billing such that we assumed someone billing for the first time was a new provider and when someone no longer billed for at least two consecutive years we assumed they were no longer providing those services.

The supply of incoming PCPs has remained flat.

But those retiring and leaving practice has increased consistently over the previous decade.

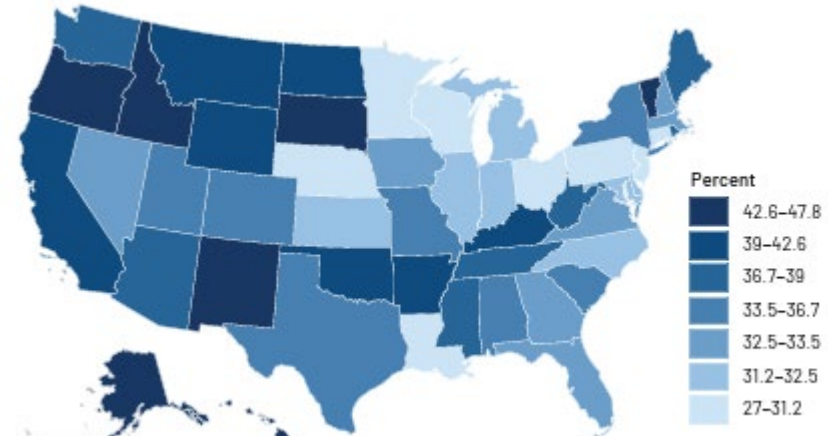
# US Primary Care Pipeline

Figure 2. Percentage of Physicians Entering Primary Care by State in 2020

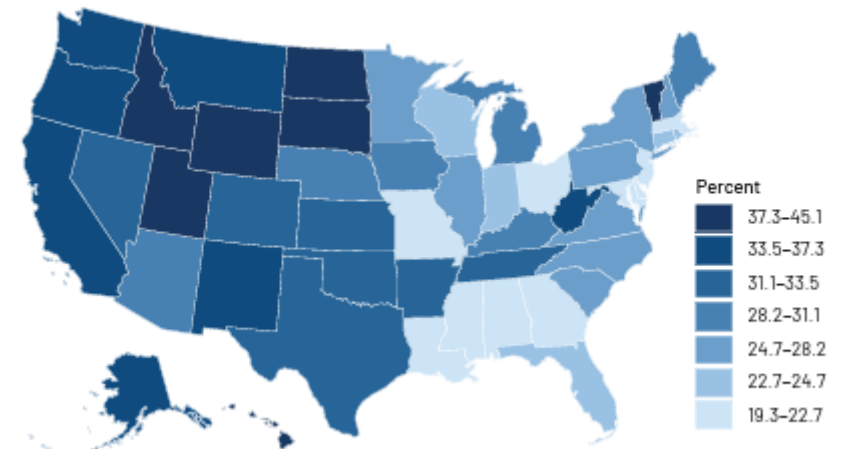


Data Source: Analyses of Accredited Council of Graduate Medical Education data in American Medical Association Masterfile, 2020.  
Notes: Primary care specialties included family medicine, general practice, internal medicine, and pediatrics.

Nurse Practitioners



Physician Assistants



# WV Workforce Needs

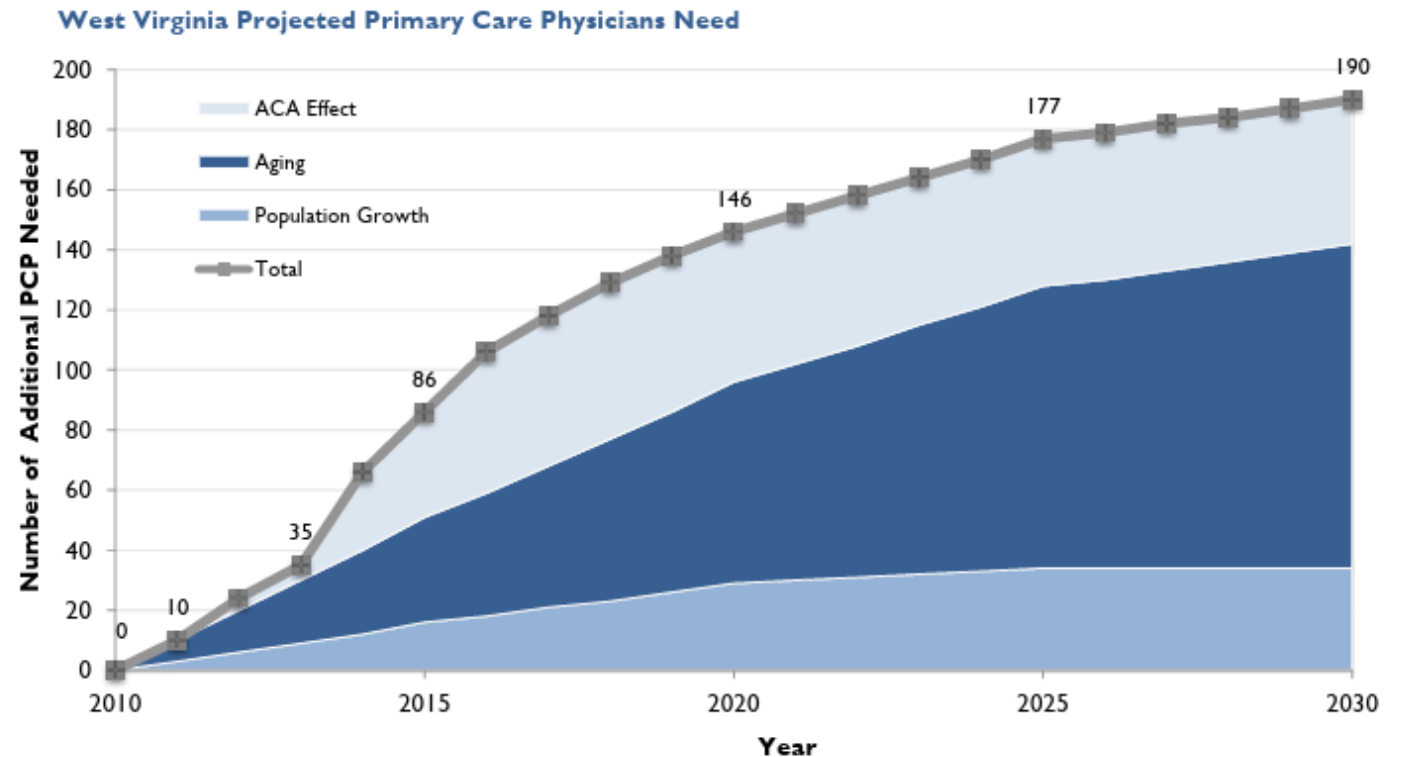
WV has 1,330 Primary Care Physicians

Paradoxically, it has a PCP to patient ratio of **1392:1**,

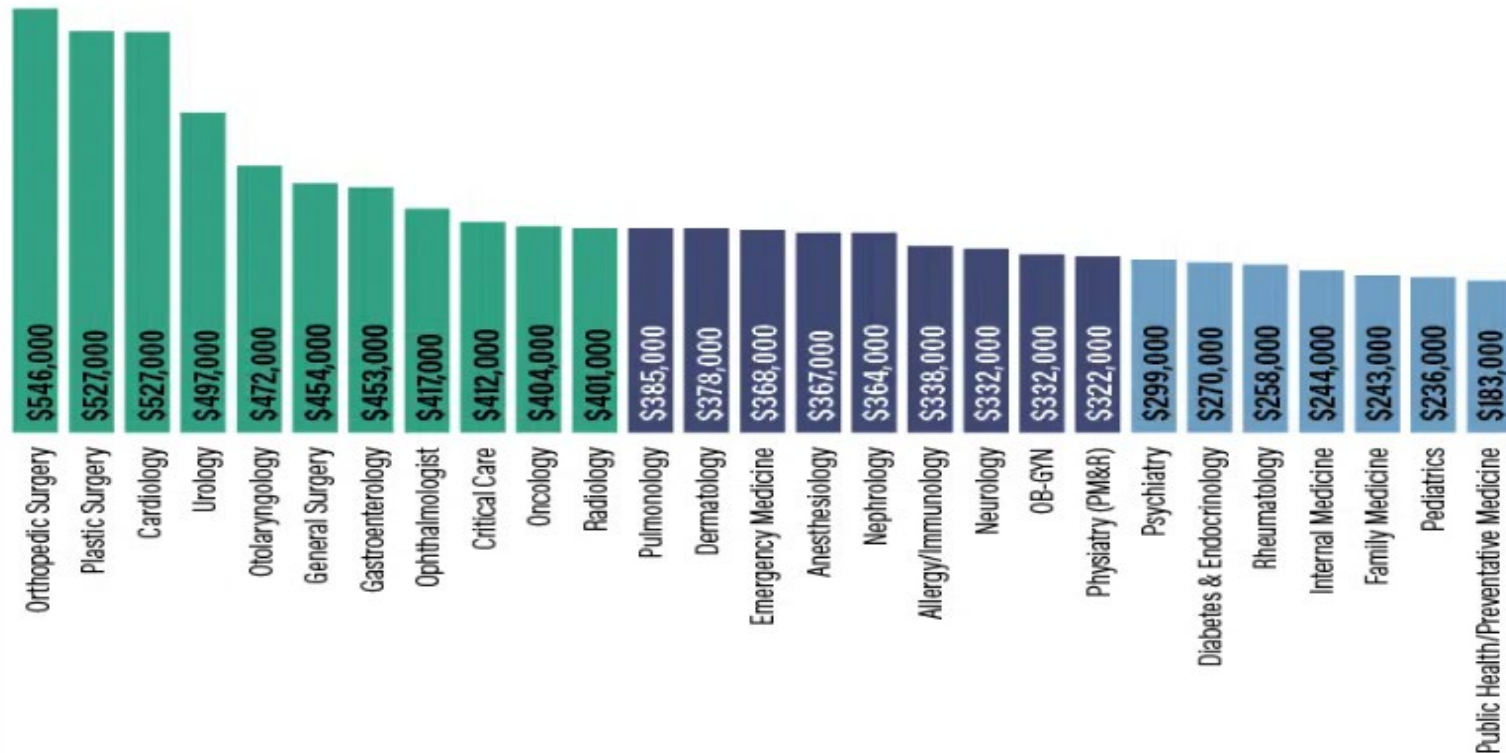
**Lower** than the national average of 1463:1.

It will need **190** new PCPs by 2030 to maintain that ratio.

To maintain current rates of utilization, West Virginia will need an additional 190 primary care physicians by 2030, a 14% increase compared to the state's current (as of 2010) 1,330 PCP workforce.



# Primary Care Workforce-Wages



PCPs earned an average of **\$251k** in 2022, a 3% increase over 2021.

Grouped together, specialists earned an average of **\$351k** in 2022, up from \$344k in 2021.



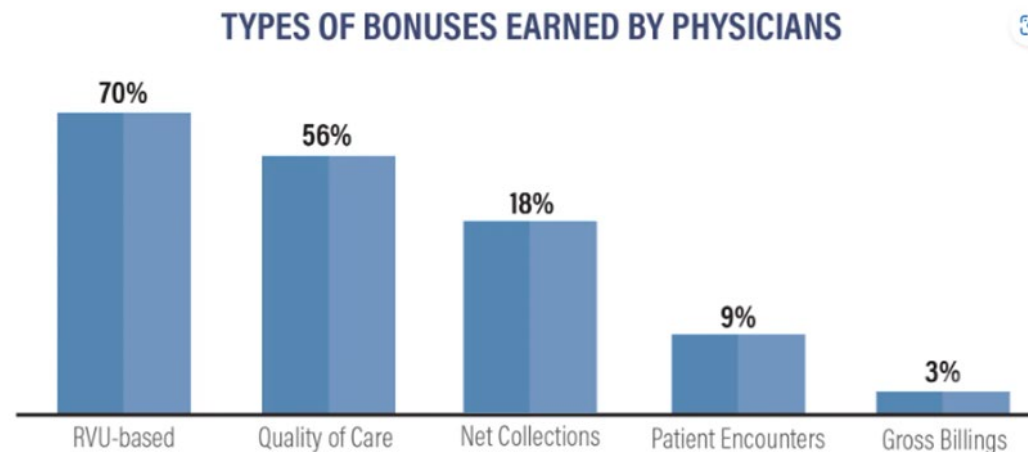
# Primary Care Workforce-Wages

Primary care payment drives workforce shortage and promotes volume over value

For 54% of FPs..

the salary of \$250K, includes an **average bonus of \$30K.**

Those bonuses are increasing in frequency and are **most often based on RVUS.**



# Primary Care Workforce-Hiring trends

**Despite increasing salaries, benefits are decreasing.**

- Health insurance: 68% (down from 78% last year)
- Malpractice: 66% (down from 78% last year)
- Retirement/401k: 61% (down from 68% last year)
- Disability: 61% (down from 70% last year)
- Educational Forgiveness: 16% (down from 21% last year)

Underserved and Rural areas pay the highest salaries as well as the biggest bonuses.

Family Physicians, which used to be in the highest demand, **have not been the most recruited physicians since 2020.**



# Primary Care Workforce-Inhibitors

## Aspects of the job that physicians like the least:

**Having so many rules and regulations: 23%**

Working long hours: 15%

Difficult patients: 15%

Difficulty getting reimbursement: 12%

Working on an EHR system: 12%

Other: 10%

Worrying about being sued: 7%

## How Many Hours Are Physicians Working?

75% of physicians work more than 40 hrs/wk.

25% work between 50 and 59 hrs/wk.

**30% work more than 60 hrs/wk.**

**Physicians are spending an average of 15.48 hours per week on paperwork and administration**

# WV Workforce-Wages

- As of 1/28/24, the average pay for a FP in WV is **\$167,920** a year or \$80.73 an hour.
- Salaries range from \$255,089 to \$62,708.
- ZipRecruiter reports the **WV FP market is not very active** as few companies are currently hiring.
- West Virginia **rank number 45 out of 50 states nationwide for FP salaries.**

City	Annual Salary
Beckley	\$219,589
Weirton	\$212,773
Morgantown	\$194,079
Parkersburg	\$193,377
Bluefield	\$191,454
Wheeling	\$190,437
Josephine	\$189,150
Clarksburg	\$184,690
Charleston	\$183,321
Huntington	\$183,278

# The Primary Care Spend Solution

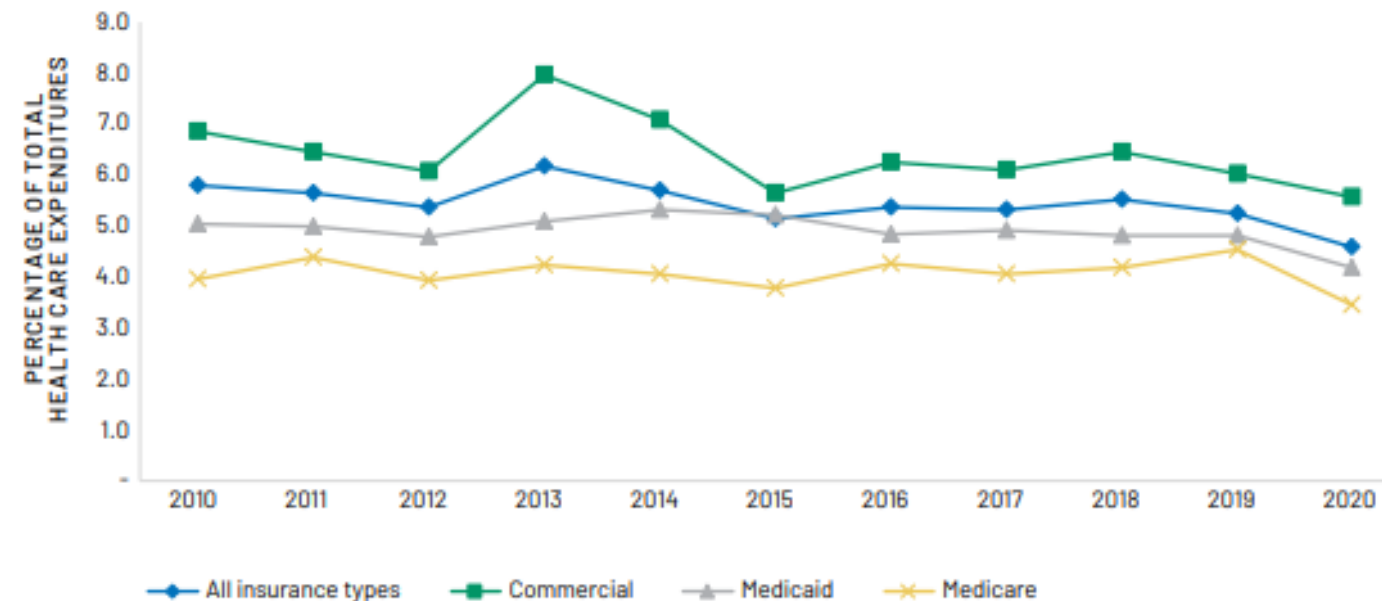
“Primary Care spend” is a concept born out of the idea that systems will change to improve efficiency and outcomes if incentivized by increased, directed, spending.

Primary care spend generally seeks to improve PC workforce, PC access and reward PC based outcomes.

In 2010, **Rhode Island**, was an originator of legislative action on primary spend...however, the concept is not based solely on legislative action.

# Historical US Primary Spend

Figure 1: Primary Care Spending (Narrow Definition) from 2010 to 2020



Data Source: Analyses of Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS), 2010-2020. MEPS was redesigned in 2018. Data on ambulatory care expenditures derived from the consolidated, office-based, and outpatient event files. See [Appendix B](#) for details.

Notes: The primary care narrow definition is restricted to primary care physicians only. The primary care specialties included family medicine, general practice, internal medicine, pediatrics, geriatrics, and osteopaths.

Primary care spend has been tracking down, despite knowledge that increased PC spend results in less cost and better outcomes.

**Commercial, not public insurance, has the best track record.**

# Historical US Primary Spend

Primary care accounts for 5-6%  
of US healthcare expenditures;

experts have recommended increasing to  
**10-12%.**

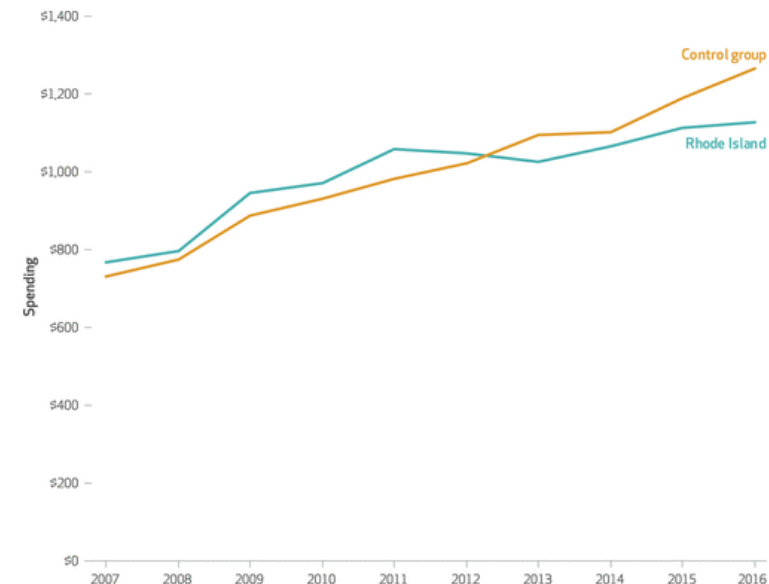
Rhode Island **did** this, the result:

It spent \$18 million on primary care and  
**saved \$115 million.**



STARFIELD SUMMIT  
...where primary care research inspires policy and practice

**Exhibit 2** Quarterly per enrollee fee-for-service spending in the Rhode Island and control-group cohorts, 2007–16



SOURCE Authors' analysis of data for 2007–16 from the Truven MarketScan Commercial Claims and Encounters database. NOTES The cohorts are explained in the notes to [exhibit 1](#). All values were adjusted to a standardized ninety-day quarter. Dollar amounts were inflation adjusted to 2015 dollars. Rhode Island's affordability standards were implemented in 2010.

<https://www.healthaffairs.org/doi/full/10.1377/hlthaff.2018.05164> accessed 3/10/24

# Other State's Experiences

If WV wanted to have better outcomes and spend the same or less,

**how would it start?**

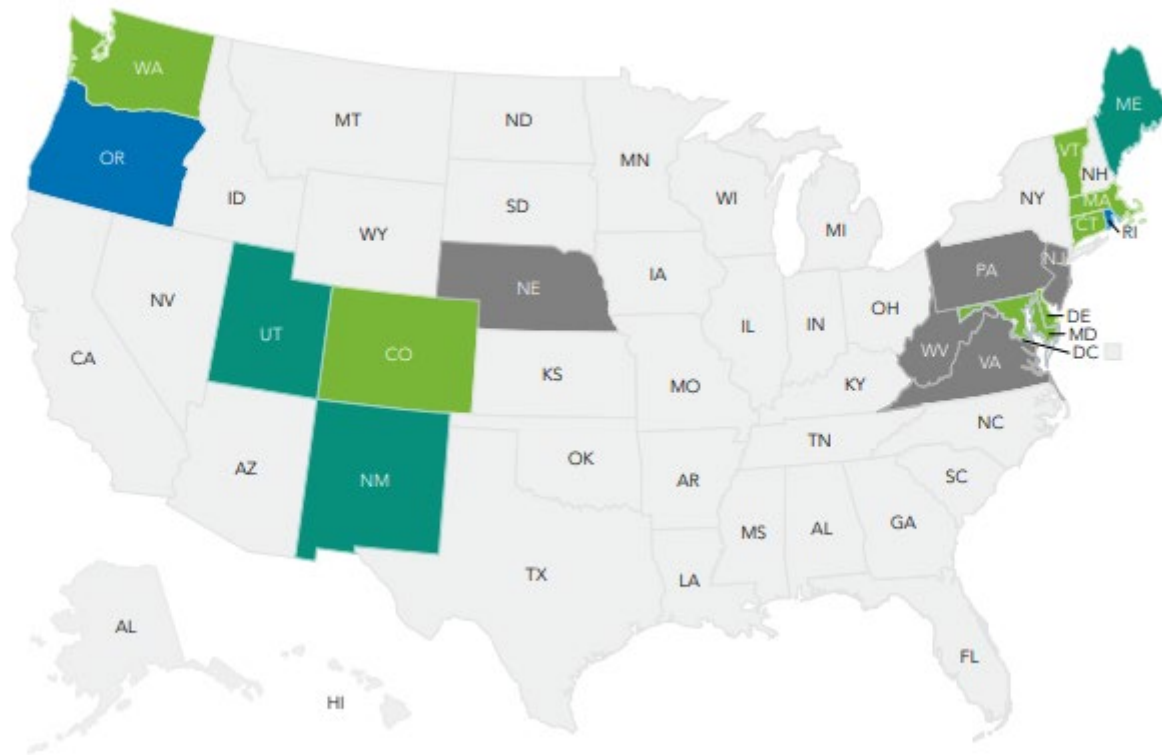
National organizations have been tracking other states experiences and can offer insight..





# Other State's Experiences

Figure 1. States with Interest in Increasing Primary Care Investment



**PRACTICING** (Oregon, Rhode Island)

**GETTING STARTED** (Maine, New Mexico, Utah)

**IN PROCESS** (Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, Massachusetts, Vermont, Washington)

**ASPIRATIONAL** (Nebraska, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia)

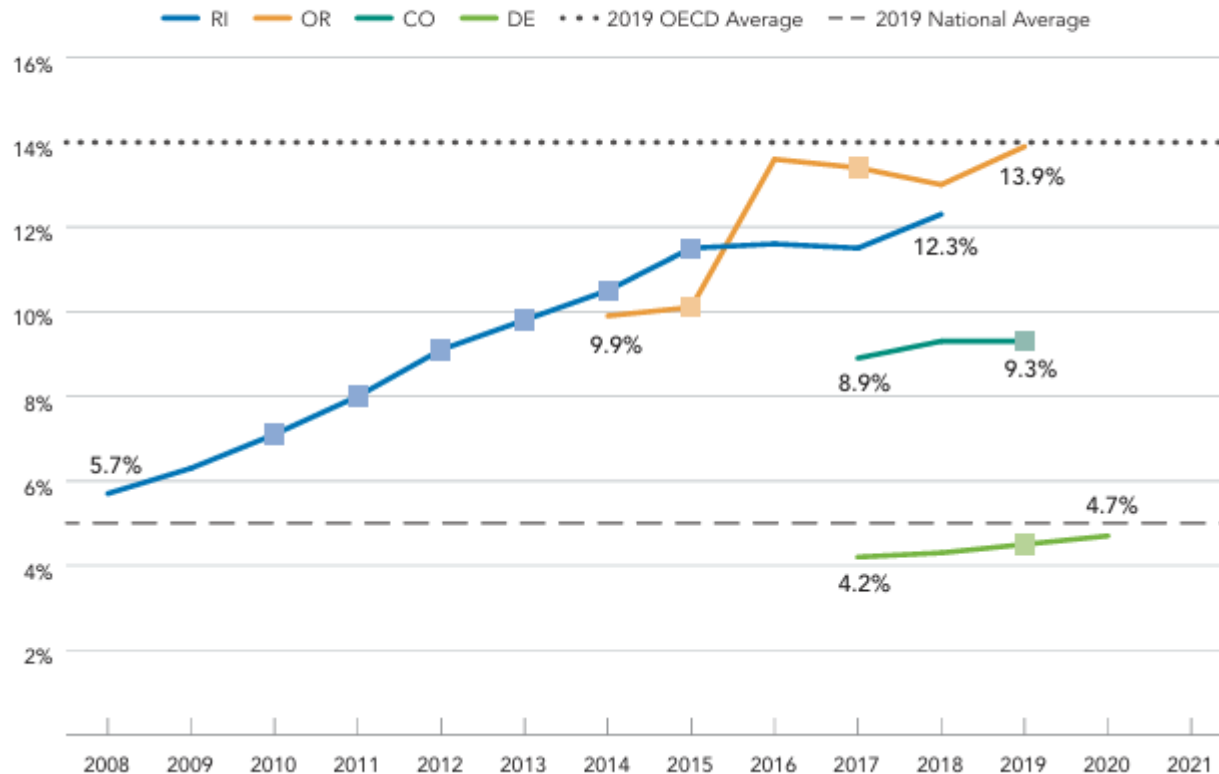
1/3 of US states and several public and private purchasers have prioritized shifting more of the health care dollar to primary care.

Common mechanisms and tools, often used in combination, can achieve this goal:

- **Transparency.** Measurement and reporting
- **Contracting.** Shaping formal agreements
- **Regulatory.** Statutes and regulation

# Other State's Experiences

Figure 3. Percentage of Health Care Dollars Invested in Primary Care, Selected States, 2008–2021



## RHODE ISLAND MILESTONES 2010–2014

Carriers required to increase by 1% per year.  
2015 Carriers required to spend at least 10.7% on primary care.

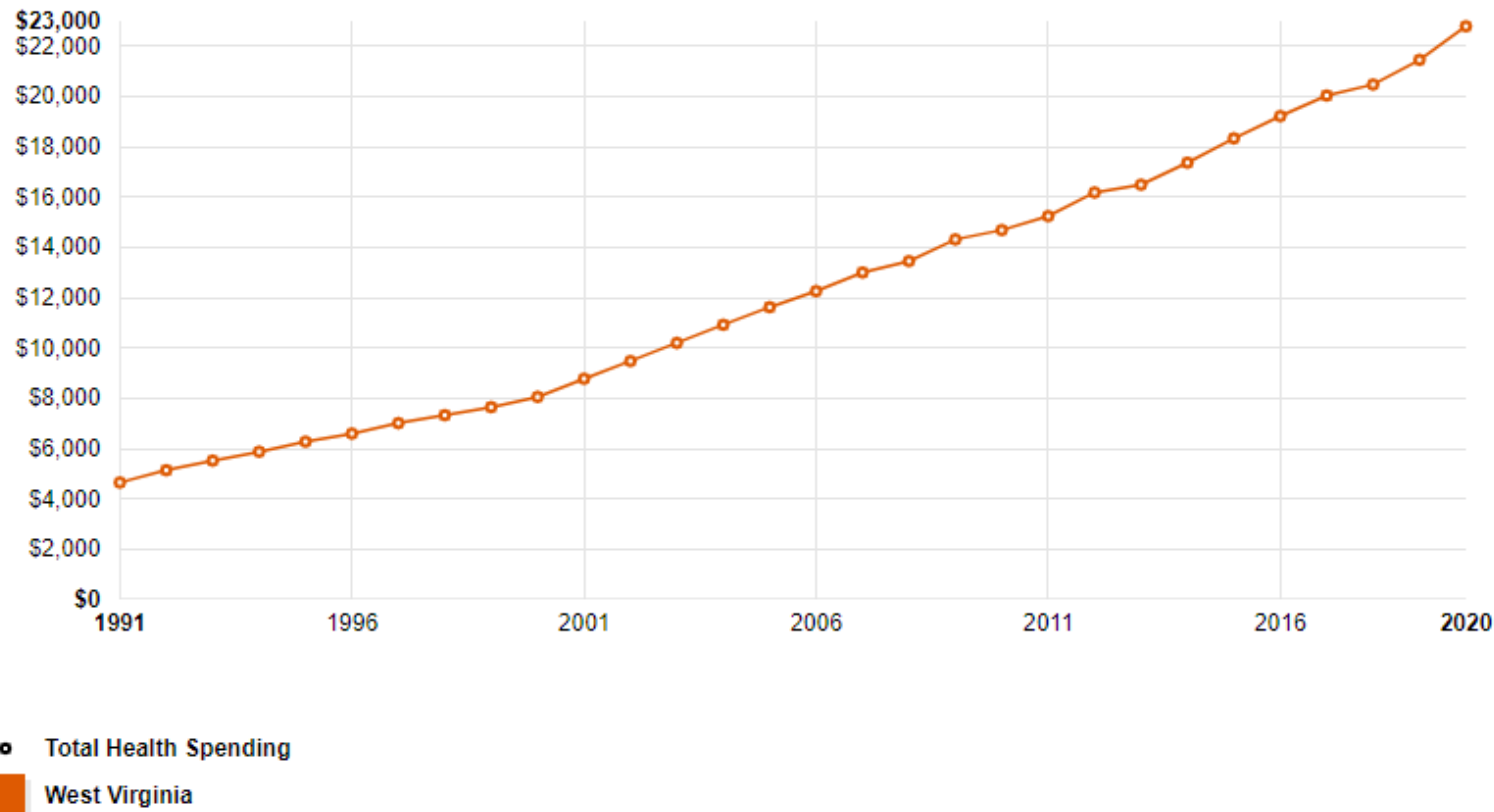
**OREGON MILESTONES 2015** Law passed that requires reporting of primary care spend percentage by payer.  
2017 Carriers/CCOs required to allocate at least 12% to primary care in 2023.

**COLORADO MILESTONE 2019** Primary care spending first reported; 1% increase not required until 2022 and 2023.

**DELAWARE MILESTONES 2019** PCRC set target to increase primary care investment to 12%. 2022 Carriers required to increase primary care spend to 7%, then 1.5% a year until 11.5%.



# WV Primary Care Spend

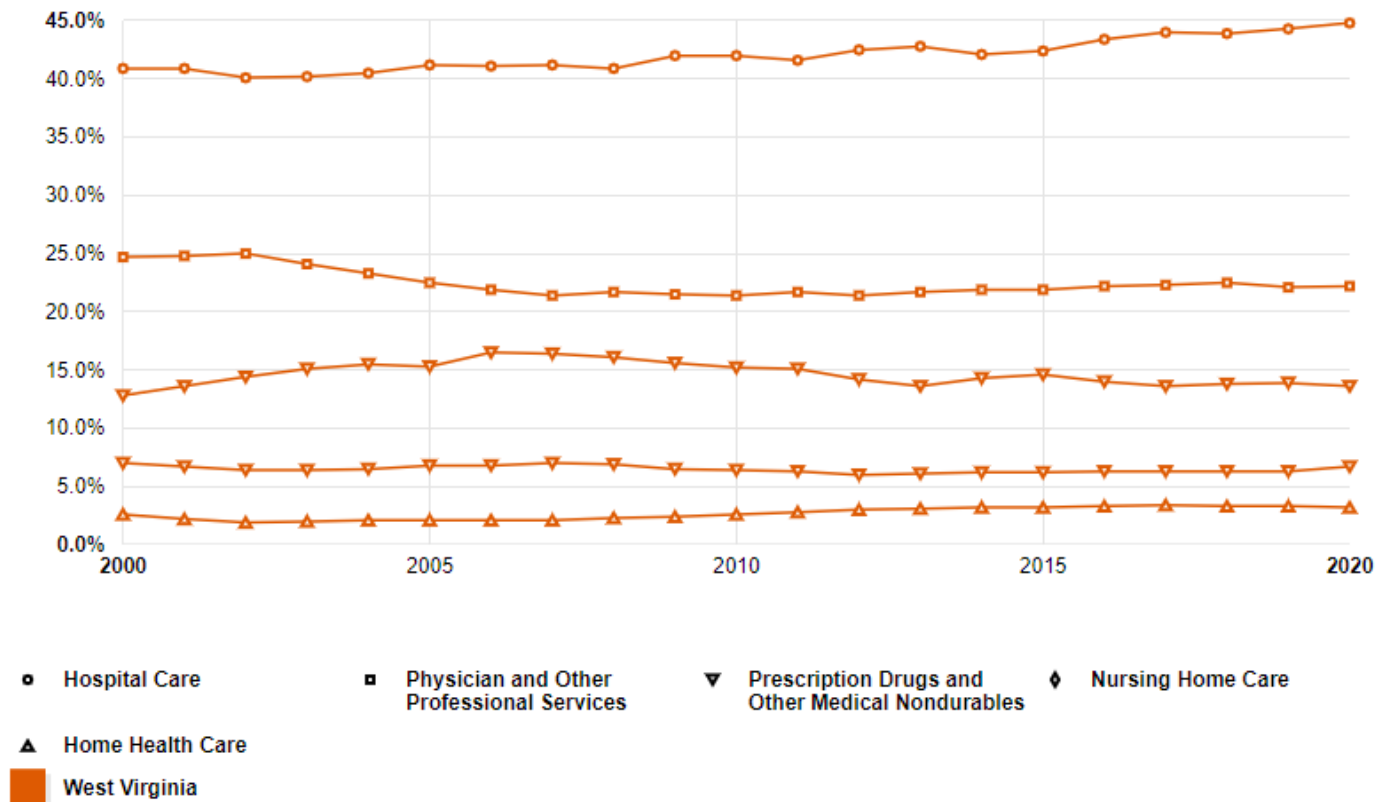


This shows the overall **growth of WV Health care spend,**  
in millions of dollars.

(Recall our outcomes)

The data was reviewed to help define WV total primary spend.

# WV Primary Care Spend

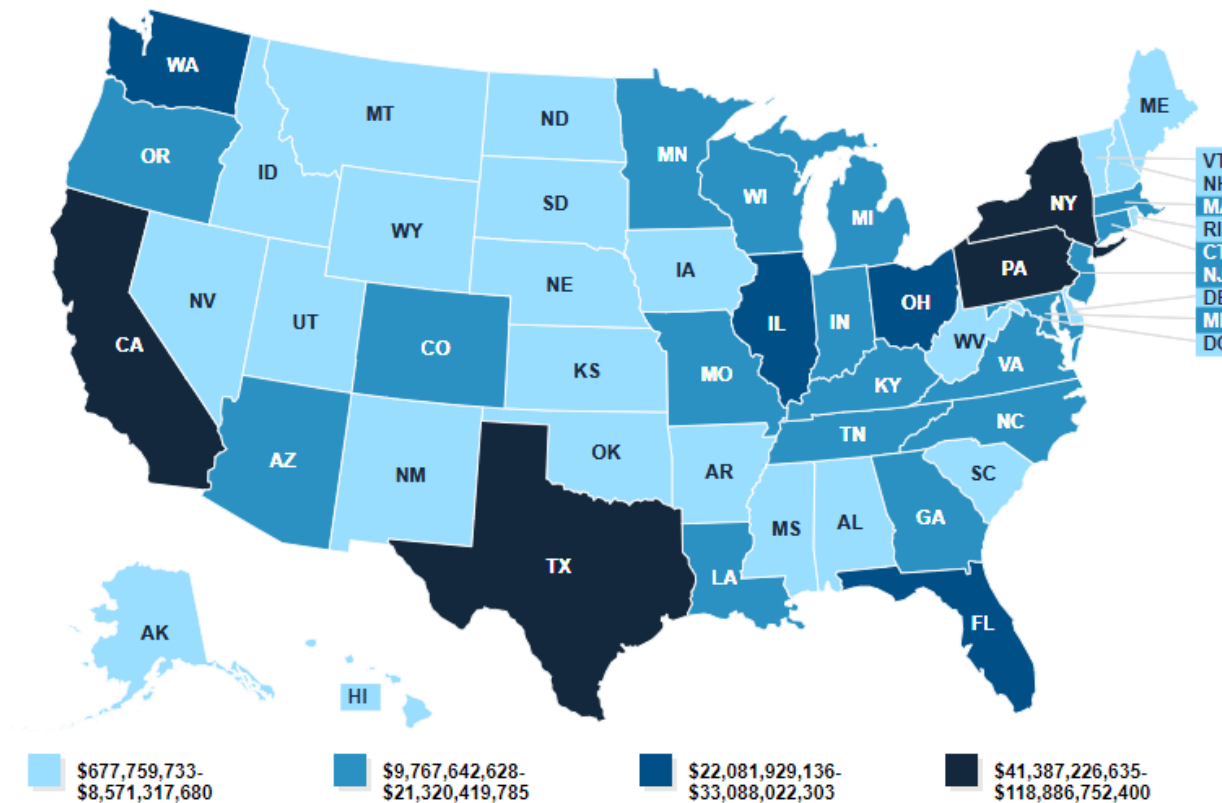


**Hospital care has seen steady increases.**

**Physician and professional services have declined.**

**SNF are fixed due to strict regulation and policy.**

# WV Primary Care Spend



In 2022 WV Medicaid Spent **\$5.2B** on health care.

It is the single largest portion of the WV Budget.

For 2022, WV general fund expenditures were **\$2.6B** and **\$18.8B** in total spending- including fed transfers.

Location	Total Medicaid Spending
West Virginia	\$5,223,455,595

FY 2022

This sets our base WV Medicaid spend,  
But elicits the complexity of actual spend

# WV Primary Care Spend

WV Department of Health and Human  
Resources Bureau for Medical Services Total  
PCP Spend by CPT Code

- 2019           \$ 33,156,759.75
- 2020           \$ 40,252,777.76
- 2021           \$ 223,914,765.90
- 2022           \$ 248,047,722.67

Based on the  
**\$5.2B**  
WV Medicaid spent in  
**2022**

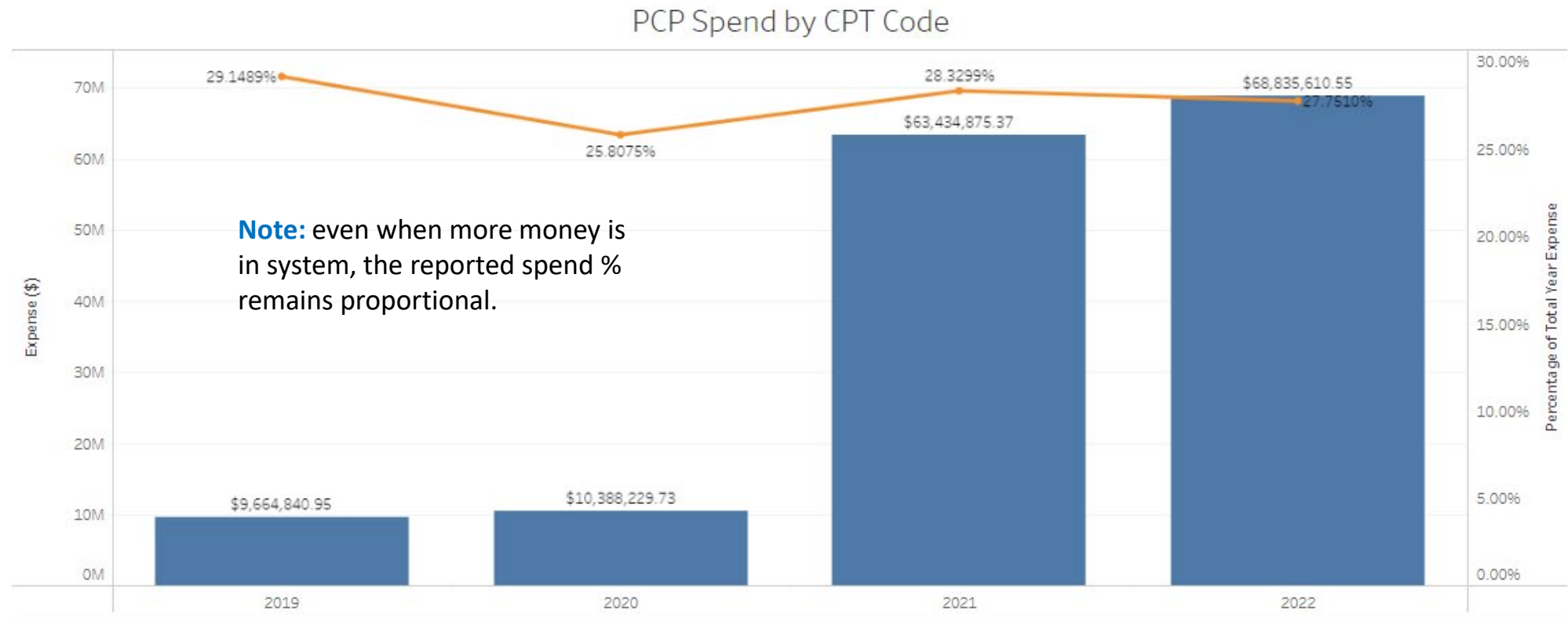
The percentage spend  
on primary care would  
be **4.7%**

# WV Primary Care Spend

Claims PCP Spend Dashboard by [Andrea Calkins](#)



Dashboard Table



99211-99215 established problem-based office visit

2022: 1.3% when denominator is \$5.223 B

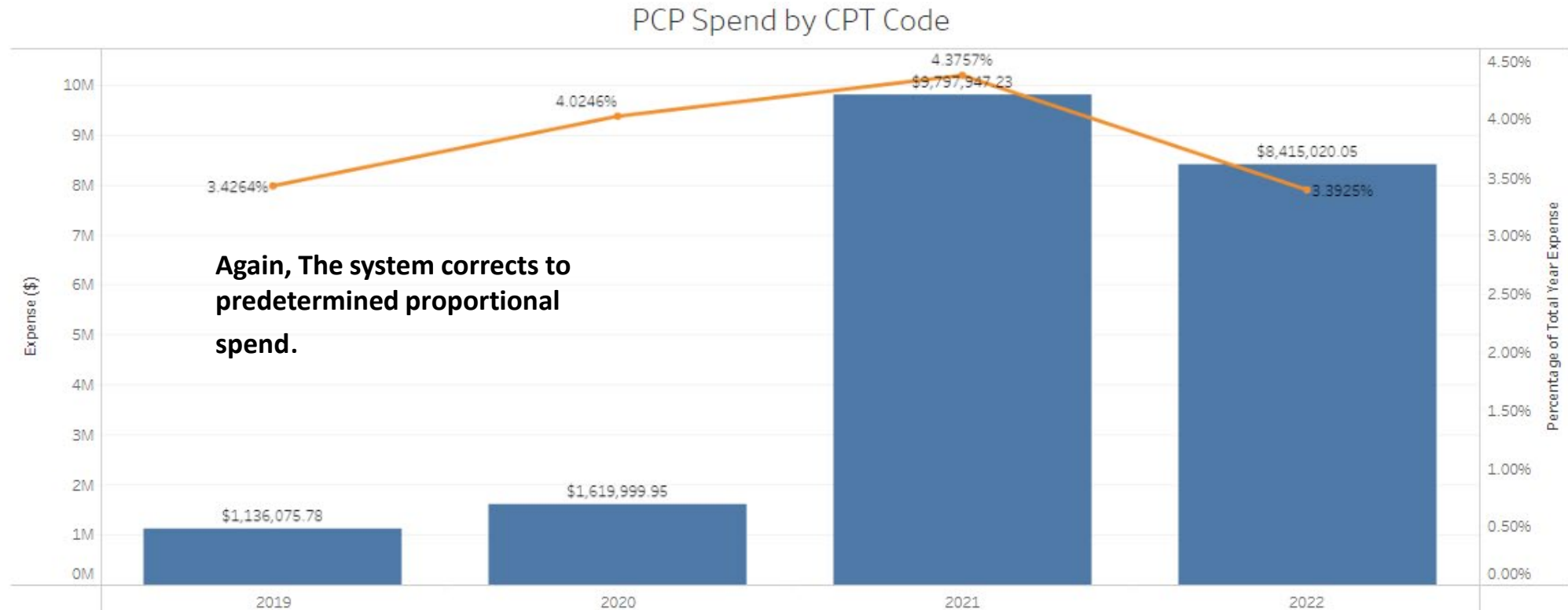
# WV Primary Care Spend

Claims PCP Spend Dashboard by [Andrea Calkins](#)



Dashboard

Table



99391-99397 established pediatric well visits

2022 .16% when denominator is \$5.223 B

# Other State's Experiences

## How to start:

**Form a stakeholder workgroup:** including PCPs, representatives of health systems, commercial health plans, Medicaid, PEIA, employers, and consumers. The stakeholders create a balanced/consensus vision, with clear aligned expectations including how primary care should be funded.

**Set investment targets:** By law or contractual requirements, clear goals are essential. Targets should reflect the true cost of agreed upon goals., including

- expenses related to additional staff,
- new technology, and
- ongoing training and technical assistance.

Targets can include [incremental annual % changes](#), or [absolute targets](#), i.e., 14% of total costs on primary care. Targets can be set by purchasers and/or the state, they can be voluntary or required, they can be enforced through penalties.

**Gather data and report:** An all-payer claims database facilitates data collection. Annual reporting reinforces expectations and helps to define new goals/benchmarks .

# Other State's Experiences

PRIMARY CARE DEFINITION	PRACTICING		IN PROCESS				
	OR	RI	CO	CT	DE	MA	MD
Narrow (N), Broad (B), or No Distinction (ND)	ND	ND	ND	N, B	ND	ND	ND
<b>Most Common Provider Specialties</b>							
▶ Family/general practice	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
▶ Internal medicine (no subspecialty)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
▶ Pediatrics (no subspecialty)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
▶ Nurse practitioner/physician assistant	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Expanded Provider Specialties</b>							
▶ Certified clinical nurse specialist	✓		✓			✓	
▶ Nurse, nonpractitioner	✓		✓			✓	✓
▶ Internal medicine (geriatric specialty)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
▶ Adolescent medicine	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
▶ Obstetrician/gynecologist	✓		✓	✓		✓*	
▶ Behavioral health practitioner	✓		✓			✓†	
▶ Homeopath/naturopath	✓					✓	✓
▶ FQHC/primary care clinic/rural health clinic practitioner	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
▶ Other			✓	✓		✓	

**Defining Primary Care  
Requires the  
stakeholders to agree..**

In addition to other  
parameters, it can be  
done by

Provider or Service.



# Other State's Experiences

PRIMARY CARE DEFINITION	PRACTICING		IN PROCESS							GETTING STARTED		
	OR	RI	CO	CT	DE	MA	MD	VT	WA	ME	UT	CA/IHA
<b>Services and Expenses</b>												
▶ Office visits/preventive visits/vaccine administration	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
▶ Behavioral health	✓		✓			✓	✓	✓				
▶ Care coordination and/or management	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
▶ Health information exchange/other infrastructure	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓				
▶ Maternity	✓ <sup>5</sup>		✓ <sup>5</sup>					✓				
▶ Primary care incentive payments		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓				
<b>Data Source</b>												
▶ All-payer claims database (APCD)	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
▶ Payer submits Excel template to state	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓				✓
▶ Non-claims-based payments included	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓				✓
<b>Definition of Total Spending Includes</b>												
▶ Non-claims payments	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓				✓
▶ Prescriptions (Rx)		✓		✓		✓	✓		✓			✓

The most consistent attributed primary care services are:

- Office visit by provider type,
- Care coordination.

Non-claims payments and prescription data are often included in total spend.

The point is the states' stakeholders define primary care

# Primary Care Spend Solutions

**Recurrent State level themes regarding solutions include:**

**Data:** Changes to workforce and payment data systems so policymakers are better able to make data-driven decisions related to primary care

**Payment:** Pay primary care more and differently to achieve greater access to primary care and to support a team delivering more comprehensive care

**Workforce:** Enact policies to leverage, support and retain the current primary care workforce

**Education/Training:** Incentivize, inspire and diversify the future primary care workforce

**Employers:** Educate employees about the importance of a primary care relationship and urge health plans to encourage establishing such relationships; and remove financial barriers to primary care

# WV Steps to Primary Care Spend

## **Form a stakeholder group**

WVAFP, The Osteopathic Association, State Medical, Medical Schools, School of Public Health representative, The PCA, the Rural Health Association, Dept of Pub Health representatives, Medicaid MCOs, Commercial insurer representatives, PEIA representatives. Etc,

## **Legislate a database**

WV had an “All Payer Claims Data Base” but was removed from Code in 2023, initiated by house health. If enacted, where should this be housed?

## **Codify the stakeholder groups primary care recommendations**

Likely an incremental approach and include in MCO contracts.

## **Report outcomes annually-then revisit goals.**



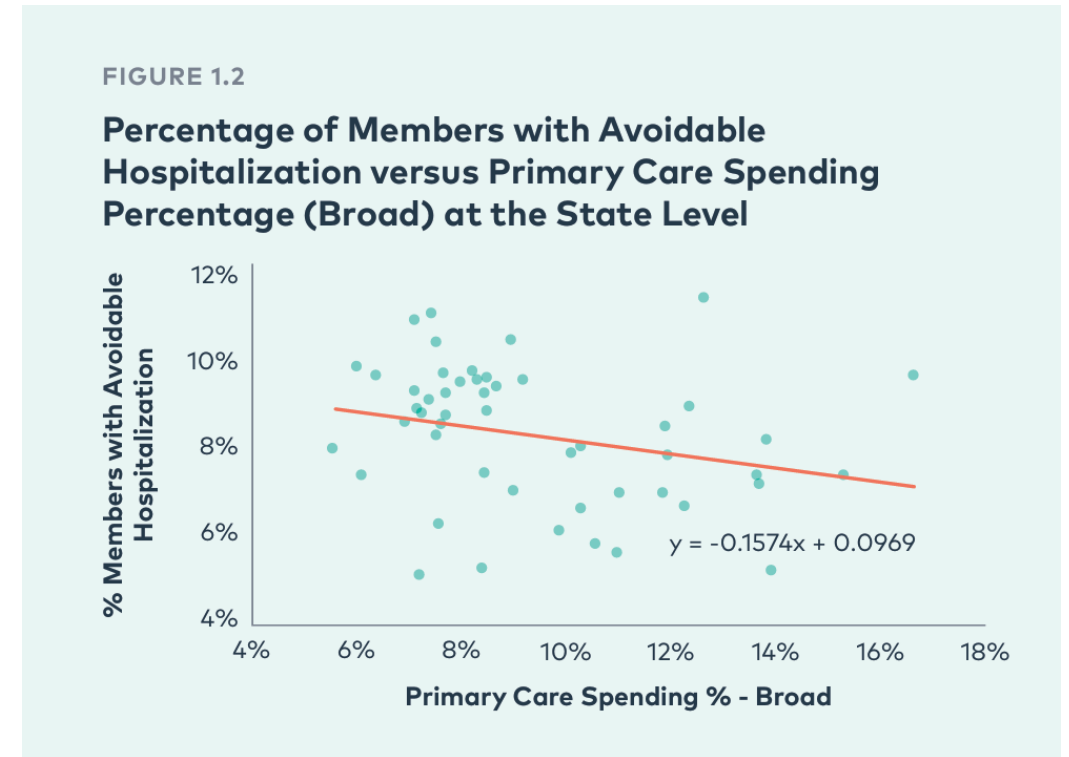
# WV Primary Care Spend

Funding Shifts...A single example:

Hospitalizations-it is estimated that 1/3 of admissions are unnecessary.

In 2020 WV  
population of 1,792,147 had  
**10.26%, or 179,000 persons with a  
preventable hospitalization.**

**This represents a potential cost savings of  
\$1.5B**



# Visualizing Enhanced Primary Care Spend

Primary spend increases should increase numbers and salaries of PCPs.

But to be successful the stakeholders should visual a primary centric delivery system:

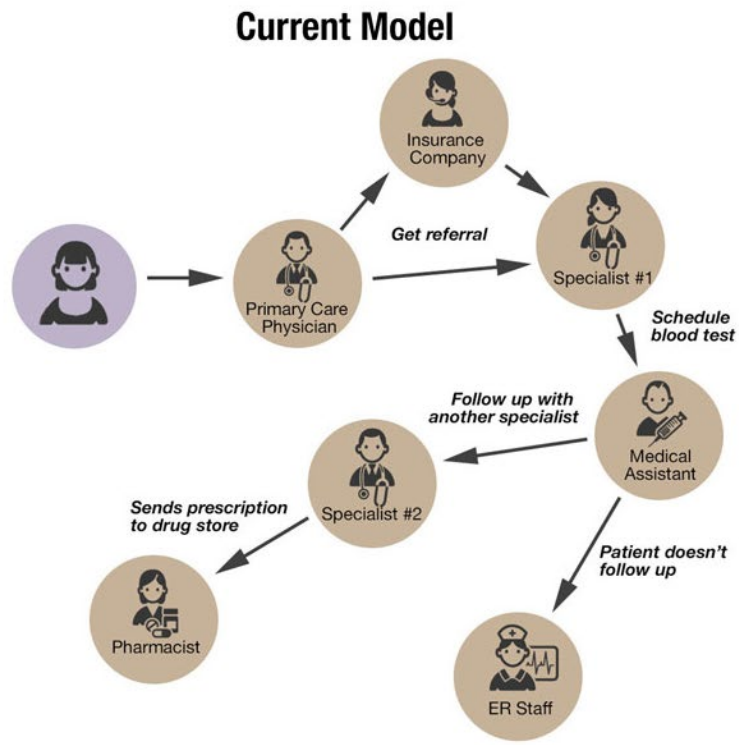




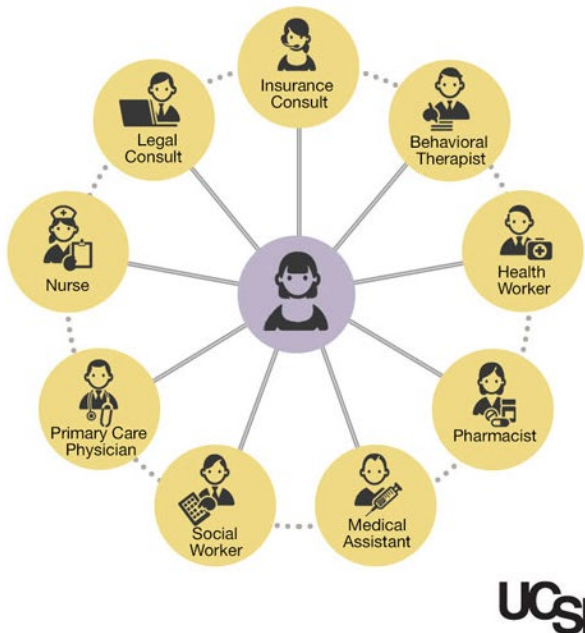
# Visualizing Enhanced Primary Care Spend

## Rethinking Primary Care

Clear communication and effective coordination among health care providers are vital for patient health, but the current primary care structure makes collaboration incredibly difficult. See the difference:



## Patient-Centered Medical Home



A 2014 cartoon showing the patient at the center of all care

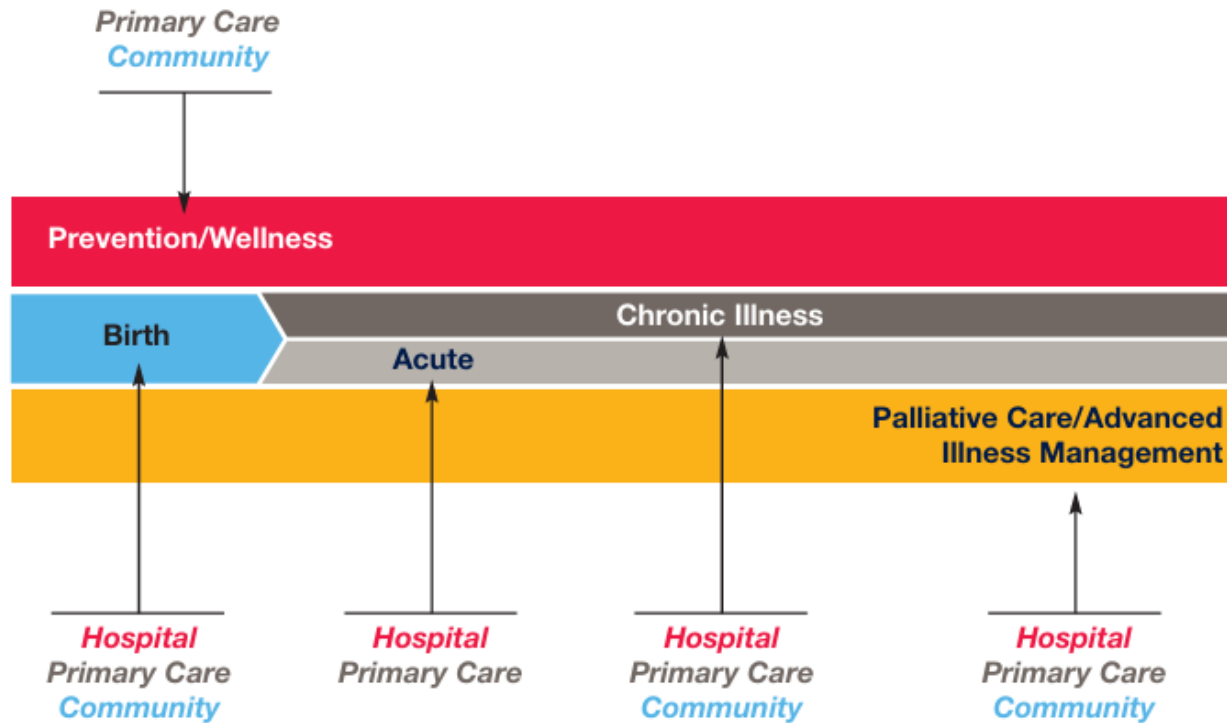
Note:

In the first cartoon the arrows only move in one direction.

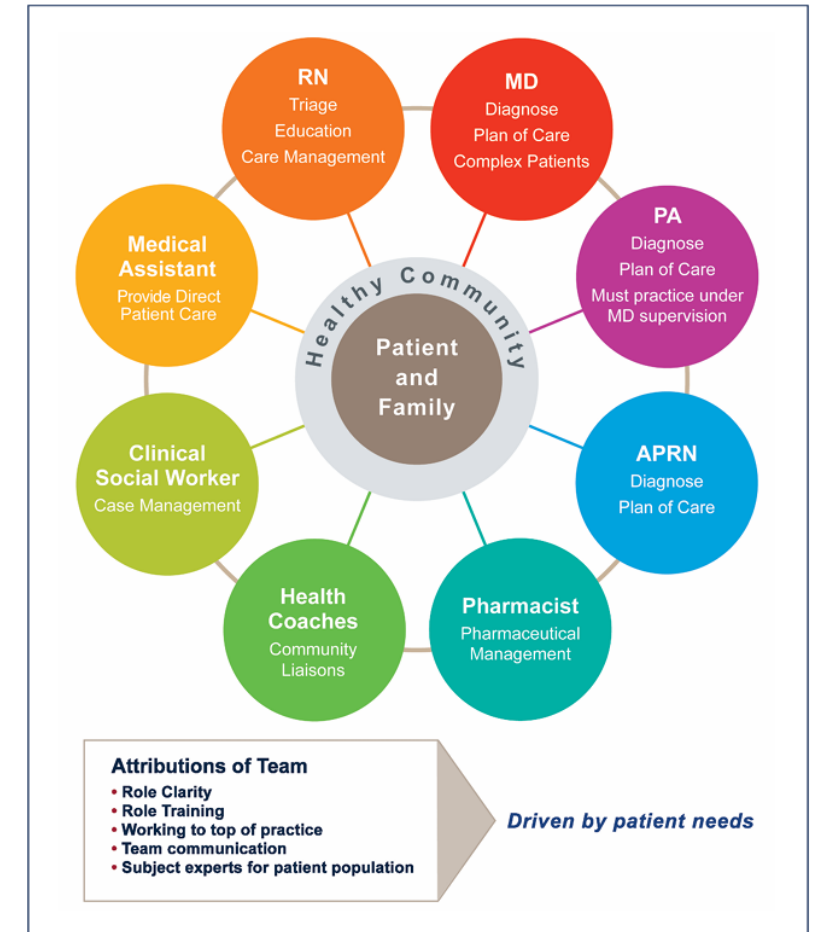
the PCP is not in central position in the second cartoon

UCSF

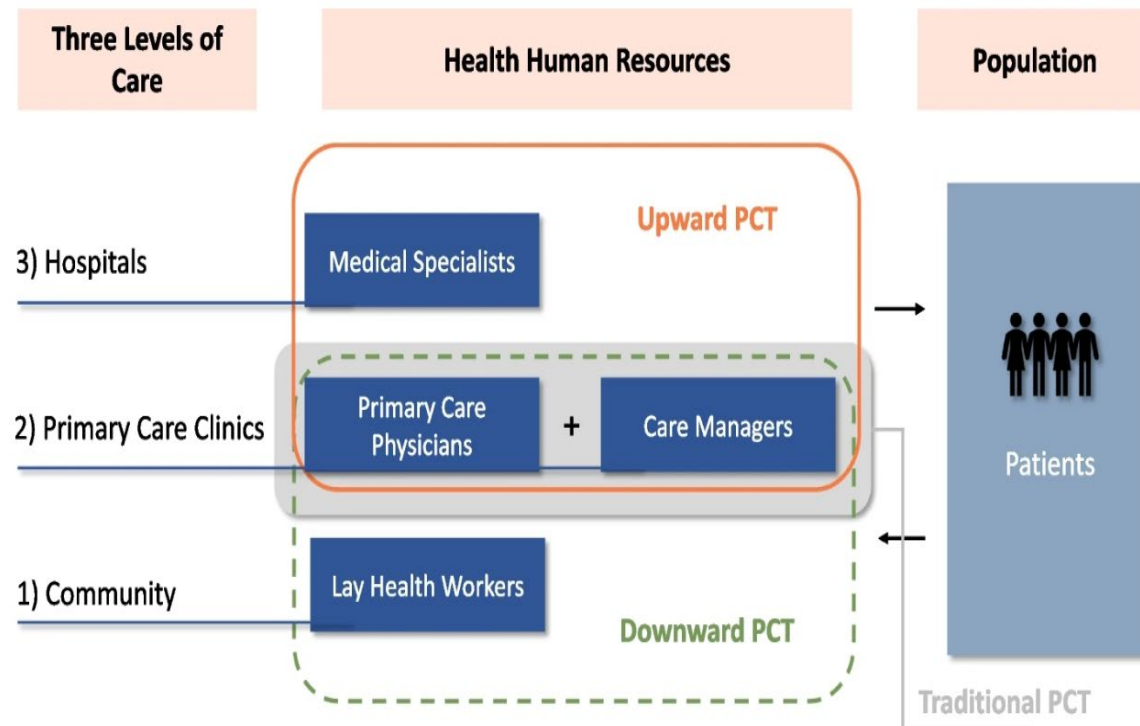
# Visualizing Enhanced Primary Care Spend



Accountability-Based Primary Care Workforce Model



# Visualizing Enhanced Primary Care Spend



**A functional primary centric model would have:**

- PCP as first contact and with a patient in a longitudinal relationship.
- PCP should be:
  - highest level of education/training
  - Working at limit of scope
  - Competitively reimbursed
  - Free of unnecessary administrative burdens
  - Managing a reasonable panel size
  - Having a flexible schedule
  - Able to direct pts to affordable complimentary care, ie behavioral health, PT, etc.



# Final Thoughts:

Current WV delivery models have not resulted in desired outcomes.

Patient morbidity and mortality are worst in nation.

Cost of care is not sustainable.

Primary care in WV requires re-investment and redirection.

Primary care spend increase with specific consensus driven targets can result in improvement of cost and outcomes.



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