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How well is MEDICARE working for beneficiaries in

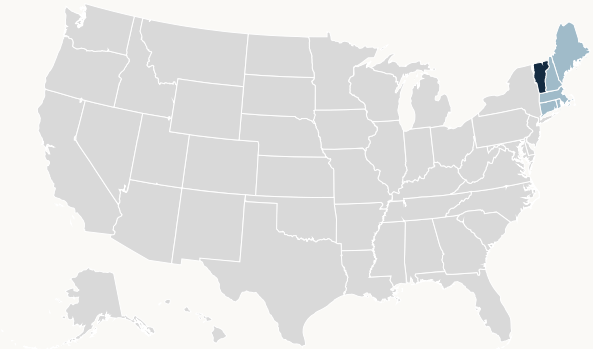
Vermont

The Commonwealth Fund

Medicare is a federal program that should be uniform across the country — but the experience of beneficiaries varies depending on where they live. See the latest performance data for your state.

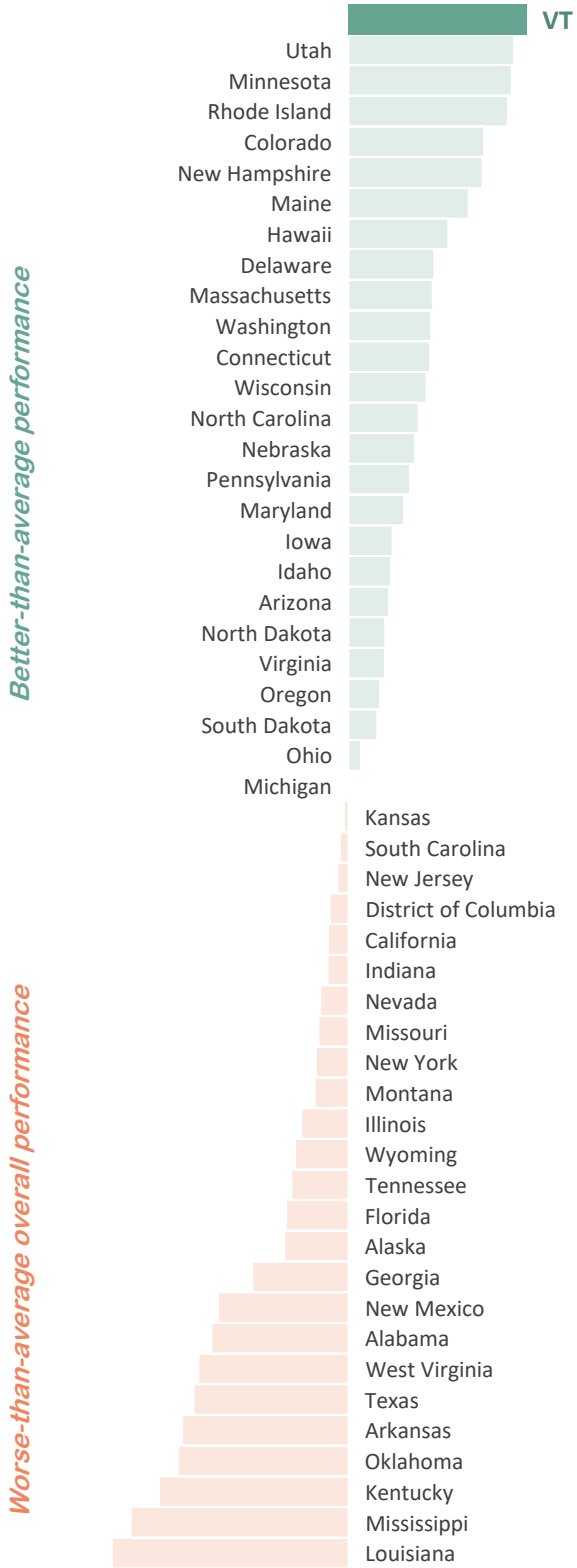
Vermont ranks #1 overall.

	National rank	Rank among New England states
Overall	1 of 51	2 of 6
Access to Care	2	3
Quality of Care	18	3
Costs and Affordability	13	4
Population Health	2	1



Note: New England region includes CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT.

How Vermont compares to all states



The Medicare Population in Vermont

	Vermont	United States[a]
State population enrolled in Medicare	25.7%	19.8%
Population age 65 and older	148,485	61,245,283
Share of beneficiaries age 85 and older	10.0%	10.8%
Beneficiaries enrolled in Medicare Advantage	30.5%	50.4%
Median household income over age 65	$60,814	$59,648
Older adults with income at or near federal poverty level	15.4%	18.9%
Beneficiaries receiving Low-Income Subsidy	18.2%	20.1%

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Table 1. Medicare Performance Indicators

Dimension and indicator	Data year	State rate	U.S. average[a]	Best state rate	State rank
Access to Care			**2025 Scorecard**		
Adults age 65 and older who had a routine checkup in the past two years	2024	97.4%	97.1%	99.2%	24
Medicare Advantage plans within a state that require prior authorization for specialist doctor visits or preventive care	2025	14.3%	48.3%	8.3%	3
Adults age 65 and older who did not have at least one person they think of as their personal health care provider	2024	2.4%	4.0%	1.9%	8
Adults age 65 and older without a dental visit in the past year	2024	22.0%	28.2%	19.1%	8
Medicare beneficiaries with a home health referral who received home health services within seven days of hospital discharge	2022	54.7%	51.5%	62.9%	21
Quality of Care			**2025 Scorecard**		
Medicare beneficiaries age 65 and older who received at least one drug that should be avoided in the elderly	2023	20.9%	21.2%	17.4%	14
Hospital admissions for ambulatory care–sensitive conditions among Medicare beneficiaries, per 1,000 beneficiaries	2023	21.1	26.4	13.9	13
Potentially avoidable emergency department visits, Medicare beneficiaries age 65 and older, per 1,000 beneficiaries	2023	185.4	155.2	126.4	48
30-day hospital readmissions among Medicare beneficiaries, per 1,000 beneficiaries	2023	27.1	37.5	18.6	13
Risk-adjusted 30-day mortality among Medicare beneficiaries age 65 and older hospitalized for heart attack, heart failure, pneumonia, or stroke	07/2020 - 06/2023	15.4%	14.4%	12.3%	40
Short-stay nursing home residents readmitted within 30 days of hospital discharge to nursing home	10/2023 - 09/2024	19.7%	25.0%	13.0%	6
Patient safety and adverse hospital events composite measure (PSI-90; lower is better)	07/2021 - 06/2023	57	36	16	45
Adults age 65 and older with an injurious fall in the past year	2023	29.7%	38.7%	28.8%	2
Long-stay nursing home residents who received an antipsychotic medication	01/2024 - 12/2024	19.5%	14.6%	7.5%	39
Long-stay nursing home residents with pressure sores	01/2024 - 12/2024	6.7%	5.5%	3.9%	44
Adults age 65 and older who have ever received a pneumonia vaccine	2024	71.4%	70.3%	76.4%	26
Adults age 65 and older who received a flu vaccine in the past year	2024	73.1%	62.8%	73.1%	1
Adults age 65 and older who received a COVID vaccine between August 2024 and March 2025	08/2024 - 03/2025	53.4%	43.4%	54.7%	2

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Table 1. Medicare Performance Indicators (cont.)

Dimension and indicator	Data year	State rate	U.S. average[a]	Best state rate	State rank
Costs and Affordability			**2025 Scorecard**		
Adults age 65 and older who went without care because of cost in the past year	2024	1.6%	3.8%	1.6%	1
Medicare beneficiares average out-of-pocket spending on Part D drugs	2023	$391	$386	$216	30
Total share of Part D drug costs paid by the Medicare beneficiary	2023	7.5%	7.4%	3.0%	27
Total Medicare (Parts A & B) reimbursements per enrollee	2023	$9,314	$11,886	$8,203	5
Primary care spending as share of total Medicare spending among beneficiaries age 65 and older	2023	2.6%	5.7%	10.9%	51
Population Health			**2025 Scorecard**		
Adults age 65 and older who rated their health as fair or poor	2024	15.9%	25.0%	15.9%	1
Medicare beneficiaries diagnosed with three or more chronic conditions	2023	48%	62%	45%	3
Adults age 65 and older reporting 14 or more poor physical health days per month	2024	14.9%	17.5%	13.6%	7
Adults age 65 and older reporting 14 or more poor mental health days per month	2024	7.0%	8.7%	6.0%	3
Adults age 65 and older who reported difficulty with dressing, running errands alone, walking, or concentrating	2024	22.1%	32.6%	22.1%	1
Average number of years of additional life expectancy at age 65	2021	19.4%	18.4%	20.6%	4
Adults age 65 and older reporting loneliness or lack of emotional support	2022	34.7%	34.5%	28.7%	24
Adults age 60 and older who experienced food insecurity within the past year	2023	8.1%	9.2%	3.8%	25

Notes: (a) National (U.S.) estimates include all 50 states and D.C. and do not include territories.

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