



Illinois Health and Hospital Association

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KFF Analyzes Pre-ACA Non-Group Health Benefits

A new Kaiser Family Foundation [issue brief](#) examines the benefits provided by non-group health insurance plans before the implementation of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) requirement that they cover 10 categories of essential health benefits. Using data submitted by insurers for display on HealthCare.gov for the last quarter of 2013, the brief finds that:

- 38 percent of plans did not provide coverage for inpatient or outpatient mental/behavioral healthcare services;
- 45 percent of plans did not provide coverage for outpatient substance use disorder services; and
- 75 percent of plans did not provide coverage for delivery and inpatient care for maternity care.

The issue brief notes that some policies that provided coverage for these benefits included significant limits or restrictions. However, the vast majority of plans covered inpatient hospital services, inpatient physician and surgical services, emergency room services, imaging services, outpatient physician/surgical services, primary care visits, home healthcare services, and inpatient and outpatient rehabilitation services.

In its analysis, KFF concludes that if the House-passed American Health Care Act became law, states would face difficult decisions about seeking waivers to reduce the essential health benefits requirement, as such waivers could result in less expensive insurance plans but also diminish access to benefits critical to some residents.

IL Ranked 10th in Child Health, 19th in Child Well-Being

The Annie E. Casey Foundation this week released its [2017 Kids Count Data Book](#), which tracks state trends in child well-being with 16 indicators in the areas of health, education, economic well-being, and family and community. This year's

report showed improvements across several dimensions and particularly noted the significant decrease in the national child uninsured rate to 5 percent in 2015, down from 15 percent in 1997.

A related [blog post](#) ties increases in child well-being to data-driven investments and asks state and federal lawmakers to continue their support for these policies. For more information, see the foundation's [press release](#).

The foundation ranked [Illinois](#) as 19th overall for child well-being and 10th in child health. According to the report, between 2010 and 2015, Illinois reduced the uninsured rates for African American and Latino children from 6 percent to 3 percent in both groups, while its overall child uninsured rate was 3 percent in 2015. Across other dimensions, Illinois was ranked 13th in education, 25th in economic well-being and 28th in family and community. For more information, see the foundation's Illinois-specific [press release](#).

Commonwealth Fund Releases Spending VS. Quality Map

The Commonwealth Fund released its updated healthcare quality-spending [interactive map](#) yesterday. It allows users to see the relationship between Medicare quality and spending by state in a variety of healthcare settings. In Illinois, total Medicare spending per capita is \$9,211. The state is mapped in the lowest statistical quadrant, having higher Medicare spending than the U.S. median with lower quality results than the U.S. median. More information about the map and how to use it can be found [here](#). To access an FAQ on the methodology, [click here](#).

NEJM: Obesity Widens Across the Globe

Findings from a [study](#) published in the *New England Journal of Medicine* show that based on 2015 data, the U.S. had the highest percentage of obese children and young adults, 12.7 percent, among the 20 most populous countries in the world. China had the highest number of obese children with 15.3 million. The U.S. also led the world with the greatest number of obese adults, with 79.4 million (35 percent).

The authors estimated that 107 million children and 603 million adults were obese worldwide in 2015. Since 1980, the obesity prevalence among adults and children has doubled in 73 countries. High body mass index contributed to 4 million deaths from any cause in 2015, or 7 percent of deaths.

Register Now: Small & Rural Meeting June 22-23

Don't miss IHA's 2017 Small & Rural Hospitals Annual Meeting, which kicks off on Thursday, June 22 with a full day of programming designed to reflect this year's theme, [Advancing Rural Health in Illinois](#). There's still time to register for the 1½-day meeting, which ends at noon on Friday, June 23.

June 22 sessions are:

- Creating, Leading and Nurturing a Culture of Accountability;
- Informing, Engaging and Empowering Trustee Leaders;
- Roundtable Discussion: Small & Rural Hospital Trustee Leadership (concurrent session);
- Advancing Rural Health: Evolving Payment Models (concurrent session);
- Generational Diversity; and
- IHA Federal and State Advocacy Update.

June 23 sessions are:

- Project ECHO – Resistant Hypertension;
- Advancing Rural Health: Pardon the Interruption; and
- Parkinson's & Perseverance: The Amazing Race.

See our [program brochure](#) for descriptions of each session. The meeting will be held at the Bank of Springfield Center (formally the Prairie Capital Convention Center) and adjacent President Abraham Lincoln Springfield, a DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel.

[Click here](#) to register. We look forward to seeing you next week!

Staff contact: [Anne Stilwell](#)

Briefly Noted

The National Academies of Sciences Engineering and Medicine has released "[Community Violence as a Population Health Issue: Proceedings of a Workshop \(2017\)](#)." The publication summarizes the discussions and presentations during the Roundtable on Population Health Improvement workshop in June 2016. Recently, AHA launched its Hospitals Against Violence campaign, which features a [webpage](#) containing resources to combat violence in communities and hospitals.

According to a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) [press release](#) issued yesterday, the number of middle and high school students who say they are current tobacco users – defined as having used a tobacco product in the past 30 days – dropped from 4.7 million in 2015 to 3.9 million in 2016. The decrease is due in large part from a decline in the use of e-cigarettes – 3 million in 2015 to just under 2.2 million in 2016. Among current tobacco users in 2016, 47.2 percent of high school students and 42.4 percent of middle school students used two or more tobacco products. Details can be found in the CDC's [Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report](#).