

Medicare Facts by State

This document highlights the presence of the Medicare population in each state:

- The number of older Americans age 65 and older.
- The number of disability claims (related to mental health) represents the Medicare-eligible population.
- The number of Mental Health Professionals (per 100,000).
- The number of people living with a Serious Mental Illness (SMI)*
- The number of suicides for older Americans age 65 and older.
- The number of disability claims related to mental health.
- The number of individuals living in a community that does not have enough mental health professionals.

In order to meet the mental health needs of those 65 and older, the chart below highlights data for each state regarding the number of mental health professionals and the number of individuals living in communities without access to these mental health professionals. Currently, there are approximately 160,000 LPMHCs in the United States.

The American Counseling Association (ACA) released a survey titled Counselors' Interest in Working with Medicare Beneficiaries. In this survey, 24,198 individuals responded, of which 72.40% indicated they would seek to become a Medicare-approved provider, in the event the Mental Health Access Improvement Act is passed, and counselors become eligible to be reimbursed for providing services to Medicare beneficiaries. If that proportion reflects the level of interest among all counselors, we can estimate that up to 115,000 LPMHCs would pursue enrollment as Medicare-eligible providers.

Further, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), disability-associated healthcare totaled \$868 billion, accounting for 36% of all healthcare expenditures. Of this national average, Medicare paid \$324.7 billion, Medicaid paid \$277.2 billion, and non-public sources paid \$266.1 billion.

**Note, the National Institute of Mental Health defines a Serious Mental Illness (SMI) as "a mental, behavioral, or emotional disorder resulting in serious functional impairment, which substantially interferes with or limits one or more major life activities. The burden of mental illness is particularly concentrated among those who experience disability due to SMI." As such, data on the number of individuals with SMI can suggest variances in disability claims and the need for more mental health professionals to support that population. Further, suicide is the leading cause of death for individuals with SMI. Thus, the number of suicides for seniors can be seen in this document.*

The Data reported below can be interpreted and understood as follows:

- The numbers reported under “Mental Health Professionals #'s” is defined as Number of psychiatrists, psychologists, licensed clinical social workers, counselors, marriage and family therapists, advanced practice nurses specializing in mental health care as well as those treating alcohol and other drug abuse per 100,000 population. For example, in Virginia, there are 207.8 mental health professionals per 100,000 population.
- The numbers reported under “Suicide Numbers for Seniors” are reported as the number of suicides reported per 100,000 population that are 65 or older. Some may be reported as a range with the lowest number reported and the highest, with numbers increasing as the age of the victim increases
- The numbers reported under “# Disability Claims related to mental health” are classified as the Social Security Administrations definition of the subcategories under this diagnostic group. These subcategories include autism spectrum disorder, developmental disorders, childhood and adolescent disorders, intellectual disorders, depressives, bipolar and related disorders, neuro-cognitive disorders, schizophrenia spectrum and other psychotic disorders, and other mental disorders.
- The numbers reported under “People living with a Serious Mental Illness” are classified as the National Institute of Mental Health (NIH) as defined as “a mental, behavioral, or emotional disorder resulting in serious functional impairment, which substantially interferes with or limits one or more major life activities. The burden of mental illnesses is particularly concentrated among those who experience disability”

State	# Mental Health Professionals (per 100,000)	# Senior Population	Adults in State with Mental Health Condition	People living with a Serious Mental Illness	Suicide Numbers for Seniors	# Disability Claims related to mental health	# Individuals living in a community that does not have enough mental health professionals
AL—Alabama	120.8	887,018 (17.6%)	794,000	1:6	21–25 deaths per 100,000	70,048	2,927,845
AK—Alaska	625.9	97,446 (13.3%)	108,000	28,000	18.3–22.2 deaths per 100,000	5,362	377,740
AZ—Arizona	154.8	1,331,566 (18.3%)	1,030,000	257,000	23.1–35.4 deaths per 100,000	57,833	2,862,704
AR—Arkansas	254.3	529,531 (17.5%)	457,000	125,000	15.1–19.9 deaths per 100,000	57,833	1,426,349
CA—California	284.3	5,964,151 (15.2%)	5,566,000	1,243,000	14.3–21.4 deaths per 100,000	257,243	9,398,534
CO—Colorado	407.2	877,622 (15.1%)	924,000	242,000	21.2–26.4 deaths per 100,000	35,694	2,574,969
DE—Delaware	299	201,680 (20.1%)	149,000	42,000	16 deaths per 100,000	9,099	88,697
DC—Washington D.C.	589.6	85,766 (12.8%)	125,000	27,000		6,228	133,945
FL—Florida	185.1	4,595,818 (21.1%)	2,889,000	648,000	19–27.1 deaths per 100,000	179,529	6,387,811

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GA—Georgia	159.8	1,587,536 (14.7%)	1,405,000	336,000	18.1–20.5 deaths per 100,000	88,396	4,911,327
IA—Iowa	181.3	565,175 (17.7%)	473,000	128,000	15.1 deaths per 100,000	34,986	1,821,280
ID—Idaho	234.8	315,553 (16.5%)	311,000	71,000	22.2 deaths per 100,000	18,864	1,274,325
IL—Illinois	275	2,103,464 (16.6%)	1,754,000	403,000	18.1 deaths per 100,000	114,553	4,873,491
IN—Indiana	183	1,116,182 (16.4%)	1,129,000	264,000	15.1–16.8 deaths per 100,000	72,998	4,426,818
KS—Kansas	219.9	490,075 (16.7%)	420,000	111,000	16.7–17.6 deaths per 100,000	30,199	1,383,258
KY—Kentucky	263.8	771,106 (17.1%)	746,000	189,000	14.5–19 deaths per 100,000	68,801	3,204,335
LA—Louisiana	283.6	102,968 (16.5%)	715,000	179,000	16.3–22.7 deaths per 100,000	54,074	3,398,990
MA—Massachusetts	693.6	1,215,342 (17.4%)	1,155,000	260,000	8.5–10 deaths per 100,000	106,727	273,105
MD—Maryland	305.2	1,004,916 (16.3%)	781,000	181,000	12.9–18.9 deaths per 100,000	48,275	1,082,305
ME—Maine	523.3	297,778 (21.7%)	1,155,000	260,000	21.9–24.3 deaths per 100,000	106,727	273,105
MI—Michigan	305.5	1,819,197 (18.1%)	1,469,000	355,000	14.6–19.6 deaths per 100,000	131,816	4,224,425
MN—Minnesota	295.7	953,134 (16.7%)	819,000	184,000	13.5–13.7 deaths per 100,000	62,650	1,784,012
MO—Missouri	223	1,085,601 (17.6%)	993,000	255,000	18.5–22.2 deaths per 100,000	77,288	1,871,902
MS—Mississippi	187.6	495,594 (16.8%)	431,000	120,000	13.5–20.6 deaths per 100,000	42,901	2,375,345

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MT—Montana	339	216,437 (19.6%)	163,000	44,000	25.4 deaths per 100,000	10,881	573,811
NC—North Carolina	280.9	1,793,698 (17.0%)	1,469,000	356,000	14.7–18.6 deaths per 100,000	108,379	2,670,849
ND—North Dakota	215.1	124,767 (16.1%)	108,000	28,000	24.5 deaths per 100,000	6,794	302,985
NE—Nebraska	290	322,045 (16.4%)	257,000	62,000	11.8–17.6 deaths per 100,000	18,294	1,037,974
NH—New Hampshire	352.3	268,076 (19.3%)	221,000	57,000	18.4 deaths per 100,000	27,074	92,510
NJ—New Jersey	264.1	1,566,145 (16.9%)	1,112,000	248,000	8.6–13.1 deaths per 100,000	74,184	39,712
NM—New Mexico	417.7	391,437 (18.5%)	300,000	71,000	22.3–27.7 deaths per 100,000	25,572	1,366,095
NV—Nevada	234.6	518,759 (16.5%)	474,000	109,000	27.2–44.2 deaths per 100,000	20,971,591	2,445,591
NY—New York	332.1	3,471,285 (17.5%)	2,802,000	591,000	9.3–10 deaths per 100,000	182,166	4,102,718
OH—Ohio	292.5	2,096,848 (17.8%)	1,906,000	478,000	15.1–19.3 deaths per 100,000	144,535	2,385,144
OK—Oklahoma	416.6	645,836 (16.2%)	592,000	152,000	21.1–23.8 deaths per 100,000	46,670	1,518,029
OR—Oregon	602.7	789,785 (18.6%)	731,000	172,000	24–38 deaths per 100,000	43,188	1,576,668
PA—Pennsylvania	242.5	2,463,171 (19%)	1,814,000	447,000	15.6–19.5 deaths per 100,000	152,887	1,710,371
RI—Rhode Island	455.1	198,305 (18.1%)	178,000	41,000	20.7 deaths per 100,000	19,071	424,008
SC—South Carolina	193.1	965,471 (18.6%)	706,000	183,000	15.8–19.4 deaths per 100,000	53,993	2,304,799

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SD—South Dakota	202.0	156,691 (17.5%)	112,000	30,000	21.3 deaths per 100,000	8,333	448,334
TN—Tennessee	173.4	1,185,787 (17.0%)	937,000	252,000	18.1–26.7 deaths per 100,000	79,353	3,224,296
TX—Texas	133.0	3,868,160 (13.1%)	3,347,000	796,000	15.7–19.7 deaths per 100,000	205,648	15,072,179
UT—Utah	367.3	390,543 (11.7%)	550,000	139,000	17.5–23.3 deaths per 100,000	21,269	2,708,763
VA—Virginia	207.8	1,408,691 (16.3%)	1,115,000	264,000	13.8–22.2 deaths per 100,000	79,613	1,943,480
VT—Vermont	510	132,987 (20.6%)	104,000	27,000	23.1 deaths per 100,000	11,830	n/a
WA—Washington	439.9	1,253,668 (16.2%)	1,269,000	300,000	19.6–28.7 deaths per 100,000	73,765	2,836,438
WI—Wisconsin	226.9	1,055,368 (17.9%)	859,000	244,000	12.1–16.4 deaths per 100,000	70,615	2,185,992
WV—West Virginia	149.7	369,073 (20.7%)	337,000	82,000	15.2–20.1 deaths per 100,000	28,417	708,078
WY—Wyoming	371.3	103,606 (17.9%)	88,000	21,000	34.3 deaths per 100,000	5,388	561,187

SOURCES

[NAMI](#)

[Census.gov](#)

[United Health Foundation- America's Health Rankings](#)

[Annual Statistical Report on the Social Security Disability Insurance Program, 2020 \(ssa.gov\)](#)

[Explore Mental Health Providers in the United States | 2021 Annual Report | AHR \(americashealthrankings.org\)](#)

[Disability and Health Healthcare Cost Data | CDC](#)

[Counselors' Interest in Working With Medicare Beneficiaries \(counseling.org\)](#)