

Washington Strategies to Improve Oversight, Accountability, & Transparency

Health Care Spending Oversight

Health care spending oversight entities monitor and track health care spending systematically, offering data and research support to ensure efficient resource use. While many states set population health priorities, some have established oversight entities with enforcement powers. Strategies tracked include:

- Health Care Spending Benchmarks
- Authority to Enforce Health Care Spending Benchmarks
- Hospital or Primary Care Spending Oversight Entities

Prescription Drug Affordability Boards

Some states have established independent entities charged with reviewing high-cost prescription drugs and recommending strategies to improve affordability. In certain cases, these boards are authorized to set upper payment limits to curb excessive drug prices. Strategies examined in this section include:

- Prescription Drug Affordability Board Established
- Prescription Drug Upper Payment Limits Established

All-Payer Claims Databases

All-payer claims databases (APCDs) compile diverse health care data that may include health, dental, and pharmacy claims from private insurers, state employee health programs, Medicare, and Medicaid. In instances where a database includes only some of these payers, it is referred to as a multi-payer claims database. Typically created through legislation, APCDs are often subject to state oversight and regulation. However, some claims databases have been voluntarily developed by independent entities, limiting oversight. Strategies examined in this section include:

- All-Payer Claims Database Established
- All-Payer Claims Database Operated by the State

Price Transparency

This section evaluates state efforts to provide access to health care price data through a publicly available and easily accessible tool. Strategies examined in this section include:

- Price Transparency Tool Established
- Prescription Drug Price Transparency Tool Established



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All-Payer Claims Database

Policy	Status as of June 2025	Summary
Established an All-Payer Claims Database (APCD)	 State has a(n) all-payer or multi-payer claims database	
All-Payer Claims Database (APCD) Operated by the State	 APCD is operated by the state	

Prescription Drug Affordability Board

Policy	Status as of June 2025	Summary
Established Prescription Drug Affordability Board (PDAB)	 The state has an active prescription drug affordability board	The Washington Prescription Drug Affordability Board has the authority to review the affordability of certain drugs.
Prescription Drug Upper Payment Limits	 The state has established Upper Payment Limits for prescription drugs	The Washington Prescription Drug Affordability Board has the authority to establish upper payment limits for up to 12 drugs.



State Has Active Policy or Program



Policy or Program Partially Implemented



State Does Not Have an Active Policy or Program



No Source, or Limited Information Found

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Price Transparency

Policy	Status as of June 2025	Summary
Service Cost Price Transparency Tool	 State has a public-facing price transparency tool that reports negotiated rates	
Prescription Drug Price Reporting Requirement	 Organizations are required to report prescription drug price information to a state entity	Health plans must annually report to the Health Care Authority the 25 most-prescribed drugs, the 25 costliest drugs, and the 25 drugs with the highest increase in spending. Drug manufacturers must annually report factors to increase the wholesale acquisition cost (WAC) of the drug and the amount of the increase. This only applies to drugs that enter the market with a WAC of \$10,000 or more or for drugs currently on the market with a WAC of \$100 or more and the WAC increase by 20% in one year or 50% in three years. Additionally, manufacturers must provide 60 days advance notice of a qualifying price increase.

Health Care Spending Oversight

Policy	Status as of June 2025	Summary
Health Care Spending Benchmark	 State has established a health care spending benchmark for providers, insurance carriers, or both	Washington State's Health Care Cost Transparency Board set average health care growth targets at 3.2% from 2021-2023, 3.0% for 2024-2025, and has proposed 2.8% for 2026-2039. Performance against the benchmark is measured at the state level, at the insurance market level including Medicare, Medicaid, and commercial insurers, by carrier, and by large provider entity.
Authority to Enforce Health Care Spending Benchmark	 State does not have an enforcement mechanism for their health care spending benchmark(s)	The benchmark does not have an enforcement mechanism.
Hospital or Primary Care Spending Oversight Entity	 State monitors and reports hospital spending, primary care spending, or both	SB5589, enacted in 2022, charged Washington's Health Care Cost Transparency Board to monitor and report on primary care spending. The Board's Advisory Committee on Primary Care provides expert advice related to the state's primary care spending target for the board's review.



State Has Active Policy or Program



Policy or Program Partially Implemented



State Does Not Have an Active Policy or Program



No Source, or Limited Information Found

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