



State of Wisconsin  
Department of Health Services

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Tony Evers, Governor  
Kirsten L. Johnson, Secretary

June 13, 2025

Cyrus Anderson  
Senate Chief Clerk  
Room B20 Southeast, State Capitol  
Madison, Wisconsin 53701

Edward Blazel  
Assembly Chief Clerk  
17 West Main Street, Room 401  
Madison, WI 53703

Dear Mr. Champagne and Mr. Blazel:

I am pleased to submit to the Legislature the enclosed report as required by Wis. Stat. ch. 153.05(2m)(c). The report describes “the content and number of reports and currency of information and reports generated in the previous calendar year” by the Wisconsin Hospital Association Information Center (WHAIC). WHAIC produced all required reports in a timely manner using the most currently available annual hospital discharge data.

Whenever possible, WHAIC continues to shorten the time between availability of the annual data set for analysis and web publication of these mandated reports.

Sincerely,

Kirsten L. Johnson  
Secretary-designee

Enclosure

## Standard Reports Produced by the Wisconsin Hospital Association Information Center under Wisconsin Stat. § 153

[Wisconsin Stat. § 153.05\(2m\)\(c\)](#) directs the Department of Health Services (DHS) to submit a report about the reports produced by the Wisconsin Hospital Association (WHA). Specifically, the Secretary of DHS is required to submit to the chief clerk of each house of the legislature “a report concerning the content and number of reports and currency of information and reports generated in the previous calendar year” by the Wisconsin Hospital Association Information Center (WHAIC), the entity under contract to produce the reports under § 153.05(2m).

The ***Hospital Rate Increase Report*** is a web-based spreadsheet showing the dates of hospital price increases that caused a hospital’s gross patient revenue to increase faster than the rate of inflation (specifically, the federal government’s consumer price index). State law requires Wisconsin hospitals to report price increases to the WHA Information Center and to the public via local newspapers. The web-based spreadsheet is updated “real-time” throughout a calendar year, with a final spreadsheet report produced at the end of the calendar year. For fiscal year 2023, there was an average annualized rate increase of 5.4% from 19 hospitals. In 2022, five hospitals had an average annualized rate increase of 4.7%. [See the Hospital Rate Increase Report 2022–2023.](#)

The ***Guide to Wisconsin Hospitals*** presents descriptive financial, utilization, and staffing data about individual Wisconsin hospitals, and provides summary and trend information for selected aggregate data. Data sources are the Hospital Fiscal Survey and the Annual Survey of Hospitals submitted annually by all Wisconsin hospitals. In October 2024, WHAIC published the report covering fiscal year 2023. Respondents included 142 general medical-surgical (GMS) hospitals, of which, 58 were critical access hospitals (CAHs). Among the specialty hospitals, four were long-term acute care (LTAC) hospitals, 13 were psychiatric hospitals, and two were state-operated mental health institutions. [See the Guide to Wisconsin Hospitals 2023 report.](#)

The ***Uncompensated Health Care Report, Wisconsin Hospitals*** publication provides annual uncompensated health care information for GMS hospitals, psychiatric hospitals, alcohol and other drug abuse hospitals, and rehabilitation hospitals that are not state or federal facilities. The data source is the Annual Hospital Fiscal Survey, which includes uncompensated health care and fiscal information for one year. In October 2024, WHAIC published the report covering fiscal year 2023 from 166 hospitals. Wisconsin provided \$1.4 billion of uncompensated health care services to their patients in fiscal year 2023, this was an increase of 6.2% from fiscal year 2022. [See the Uncompensated Health Care Report 2023.](#)

The ***Health Care Data Report*** (termed a “patient-level data utilization, charge and quality report” in the administrative rules) presents an annual summary of patient data on the utilization and charges at Wisconsin hospitals and freestanding ambulatory surgery centers (FASCs). The report is divided into three sections: 1) inpatient data, 2) ambulatory surgery data, and 3) emergency department data. In August 2024, WHAIC published the report covering calendar year 2023. In 2023, there were over 549,500 inpatient hospitalizations, over 1 million ambulatory surgery cases, and over 1.9 million emergency department visits. Compared to 2022, inpatient hospitalizations increased 4%, ambulatory surgery cases stayed relatively stable, and emergency department visits increased 3.7% in 2023. [See the Health Care Data Report 2023.](#)

The ***Wisconsin Inpatient Hospital Quality Indicators Report*** provides information about procedure volume, utilization and in-hospital mortality for common conditions and procedures in GMS hospitals in Wisconsin. After the 2015 release of the report, WHAIC now provides the most currently available annual data on the [CheckPoint](#) website, making timelier data available now and in the future. It is intended to provide information about the quality of care in Wisconsin GMS hospitals that will be used to make administrative and system changes to improve patient outcomes. The quality measures used in the report are derived from hospital data submitted to WHA by GMS hospitals for inpatient stays. One such measure is patient experience, where in 2023, 76% of patients rated their experience as “high.” This is above the national average of 72%.