

STATE INNOVATION INDEX



Written by Anna Parsons



CROSS STATE LICENSING



ONLINE DRUG PRESCRIBING



MEDICAID COVERAGE



PRIVATE PAYER PARITY LAWS



The data used to create this section was collected from the American Telehealth Association, the Center for Connected Health Policy and state laws and regulations.



I. CROSS STATE LICENSING

State licensing requirements may be the largest barrier to telehealth. They act as a barrier to competition in the medical-service industry. In order to practice medicine in a state, one must have a medical license in that state. Obtaining a subsequent medical license in another state can be a challenging process. There are required examinations, training, education requirements, and fees. Allowing physicians to practice across state lines saves patients and physicians time and money by reducing regulations. States who allowed maximum freedom for physicians to practice across state lines were given more points.



II. ONLINE DRUG PRESCRIBING

The third indicator addresses whether a physician is lawfully allowed to prescribe a drug to a patient on the sole basis of telehealth interaction. As a safeguard, all states require physicians and patients to establish a relationship before the physician can write a prescription. However, states differ in their requirements and whether they allow this relationship to be established using telehealth. Some states do not allow prescribing at all, others only allow prescribing after an in-person doctor visit or only for non-controlled substances. States that allowed more freedom for prescribing via telehealth scored higher in this section.



III. MEDICAID COVERAGE

The second indicator evaluates states' Medicaid coverage or reimbursement policy for services provided through telehealth. One of the greatest benefits of telehealth is its ability to reduce costs. Many Medicaid rules require unnecessary costs, which prevent telehealth from bringing about its substantial cost reductions. This section specifically addresses coverage for psychiatric disorders, addiction treatment, store and forward, live video, and remote patient monitoring. States' place varying levels of restriction on these types of telehealth coverage. For this indicator, states whose Medicaid programs reimbursed for telehealth received higher scores.



IV. PRIVATE PAYER PARITY LAWS

Many states have laws requiring private insurance companies to change their coverage to provide telehealth services for their clients. Some states require private insurers to reimburse for telehealth services at the same rate as they would for the same in person service. This completely negates the cost benefits of telehealth, as one of the most attractive qualities of telehealth is being cheaper and less time consuming than in person services. In addition, state governments should not interfere with the private company-consumer insurance relationship.

THE PHYSICIAN SHORTAGE CRISIS

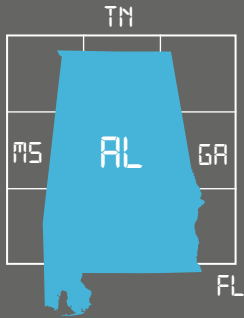
According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the baseline physician requirements per 100,000 population will reach a total of at least 291 physicians by 2020. This demand rose from 253 physicians per 100,000 population in 2000 because of the increasingly aging population. This means that a total of 37 states—as well as the country on average—falls below this baseline requirement. Telehealth is a way to mitigate this need.



RANK	STATE	GRADE	GPA
1	COLORADO	B+	3.6
2	UTAH	B+	3.5
2	TEXAS	B+	3.5
4	NEW MEXICO	B+	3.4
5	ALABAMA	B+	3.3
6	WASHINGTON	B+	3.2
6	CONNECTICUT	B+	3.2
8	ARIZONA	B	3.1
8	KANSAS	B	3.1
8	WEST VIRGINIA	B	3.1
11	MARYLAND	B	3.0
11	WISCONSIN	B	3.0
13	ALASKA	B-	2.8
13	IOWA	B-	2.8
13	OKLAHOMA	B-	2.8
13	TENNESSEE	B-	2.8
17	MISSOURI	B-	2.7
18	ILLINOIS	C+	2.6
18	MISSISSIPPI	C+	2.6
18	NEW HAMPSHIRE	C+	2.6
18	SOUTH CAROLINA	C+	2.6
22	MINNESOTA	C+	2.5
23	MAINE	C+	2.4
23	PENNSYLVANIA	C+	2.4
23	VERMONT	C+	2.4
26	NEBRASKA	C+	2.3
26	NEVADA	C+	2.3
26	OHIO	C+	2.3
26	WYOMING	C+	2.3
26	LOUISIANA	C+	2.3
31	FLORIDA	C	2.2
31	NORTH DAKOTA	C	2.2
33	MICHIGAN	C	2.1
33	SOUTH DAKOTA	C	2.1
35	IDAHO	C	2.0
35	INDIANA	C	2.0
37	GEORGIA	D+	1.6
37	KENTUCKY	D+	1.6
37	RHODE ISLAND	D+	1.6
40	CALIFORNIA	D+	1.4
40	DELAWARE	D+	1.4
40	HAWAII	D+	1.4
40	NORTH CAROLINA	D+	1.4
44	MASSACHUSETTS	D+	1.3
44	MONTANA	D+	1.3
44	OREGON	D+	1.3
44	VIRGINIA	D+	1.3
48	ARKANSAS	D	1.1
49	NEW YORK	D	1.0
50	NEW JERSEY	D-	0.8



ALABAMA



BORDER STATES RANK

FLORIDA	31
GEORGIA	37
MISSISSIPPI	18
TENNESSEE	13

What the State Did Well: Many of Alabama's rural communities are underserved, and the advantages of telehealth could help fill this gap. Alabama has made great strides in bringing better healthcare to their citizens in rural areas by allowing physicians to practice across state lines. The state also has no restrictions for online drug prescribing which gives patients easier access to the medications they desperately need.

What the State Could Improve: Alabama could improve by providing better Medicaid coverage for services delivered through telehealth. The current lack of coverage discourages low income and rural communities from using telehealth services and costs taxpayers' dollars they could otherwise be saving.

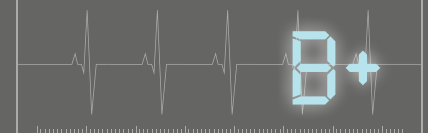


RANK

5

1 is the Best 50 is the Worst

State Overall Average GRADE



A is the Best F is the Worst

States overall grade and GPA is based on the states standing in the four most important state policy variables related to telehealth.

GPA

3.3

4.0 is the Best 0 is the Worst



DOES THE STATE ALLOW CROSS STATE LICENSING?

GRADE GPA

A+ 4.0

YES. A special purpose license allowing practitioners licensed in other states to practice across state lines may be issued.



DOES THE STATE ALLOW ONLINE DRUG PRESCRIBING?

A+ 4.0

Online Drug Prescribing YES.

A+

Only with In-Person Doctor Visit NO.

A+

Only for Non-Controlled Substances NO.

A+



DOES THE STATE PROVIDE MEDICAID COVERAGE?

D 1.0

Psychiatric Disorders
Mental Health
Addiction Treatment NO.

F

Store and Forward NO.

F

Live Video YES. Under some circumstances.

C

Remote Patient Monitoring YES. Only for patients with diabetes or congestive heart failure.

C

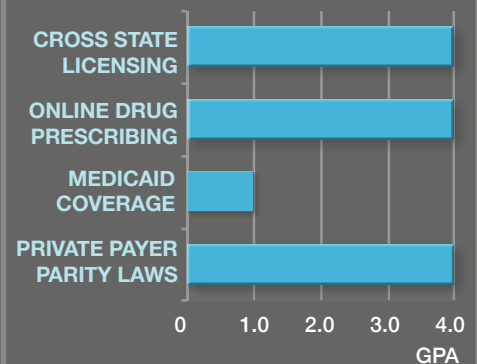


PRIVATE PAYER PARITY LAWS?

A+ 4.0

NONE.

GRADE AVERAGE BY CATEGORY



PHYSICIAN SHORTAGE CRISIS

Total Population	4,863,300
Number of Active Physicians	10,329
Rate per 100,000	212.4

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the baseline physician requirements per 100,000 population will reach a total of at least 291 physicians by 2020.



ALASKA



What the State Did Well: Alaska's massive geographical area spanning two time zones is begging for innovation to create a better solution in connecting with access to quality health care. Leveraging the benefits of telehealth could save the lives of many Alaskans who work in dangerous, frigid and extremely remote environments across the state. Alaska has confronted this need head on by becoming one of two states to provide full Medicaid coverage of telehealth services which encourages the use of better, more accessible treatment for poorer communities and saves taxpayer dollars. Alaska also allows maximum freedom for online drug prescribing giving more residents access to vital medications.

What the State Could Improve: The state could improve its telehealth provisions by embracing competition and to allow doctors to practice across state lines and bring the best medical care possible to Alaskans.



RANK

13

1 is the Best 50 is the Worst

State Overall Average **GRADE**

A is the Best F is the Worst

States overall grade and GPA is based on the states standing in the four most important state policy variables related to telehealth.

GPA

2.8

4.0 is the Best 0 is the Worst

**DOES THE STATE ALLOW CROSS STATE LICENSING?**

GRADE F GPA 0.0

NO.

**DOES THE STATE ALLOW ONLINE DRUG PRESCRIBING?**

A+ 4.0

Online Drug Prescribing YES. A+

Only with In-Person Doctor Visit NO. A+

Only for Non-Controlled Substances NO. A+

**DOES THE STATE PROVIDE MEDICAID COVERAGE?**

A+ 4.0

Psychiatric Disorders YES. A+

Mental Health YES. A+

Addiction Treatment YES. A+

Store and Forward YES. A+

Live Video YES. A+

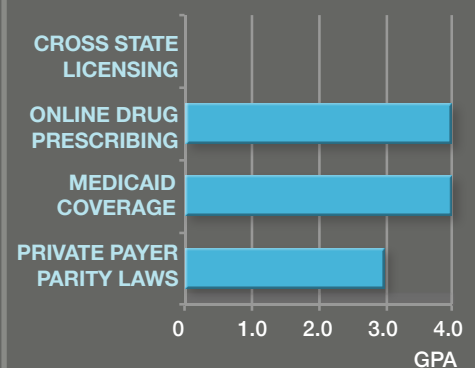
Remote Patient Monitoring YES. A+

**PRIVATE PAYER PARITY LAWS?**

B 3.0

Private payers are required to provide coverage for mental health benefits provided through telemedicine.

GRADE AVERAGE BY CATEGORY



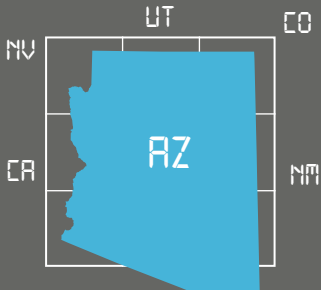
PHYSICIAN SHORTAGE CRISIS

Total Population	741,894
Number of Active Physicians	1,961
Rate per 100,000	264.3

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the baseline physician requirements per 100,000 population will reach a total of at least 291 physicians by 2020.



ARIZONA



BORDER STATES RANK

CALIFORNIA	40
COLORADO	1
NEVADA	26
NEW MEXICO	4
UTAH	2

What the State Did Well: As a leading state for innovation in the country, Arizona is on a fast track towards making telemedicine easily accessible to all of its residents. Arizona has embraced competition in the medical service industry. By allowing physicians to practice across state lines the best medical care is now available to more Arizonans. Additionally, the state allows for maximum freedom for online drug prescribing, a rarity amongst most states.

What the State Did Poorly: Arizona does not provide full Medicaid coverage and only reimburses for certain services. The state should also step away from regulating private insurers and allow the market to work as consumers negotiate affordable prices with their insurance companies.



RANK

8

1 is the Best 50 is the Worst

State Overall Average GRADE



A is the Best F is the Worst

States overall grade and GPA is based on the states standing in the four most important state policy variables related to telehealth.

GPA

3.1

4.0 is the Best 0 is the Worst



DOES THE STATE ALLOW CROSS STATE LICENSING?

GRADE GPA

A+ 4.0

YES.



DOES THE STATE ALLOW ONLINE DRUG PRESCRIBING?

A+ 4.0

Online Drug Prescribing YES.

A+

Only with In-Person Doctor Visit NO.

A+

Only for Non-Controlled Substances NO.

A+



DOES THE STATE PROVIDE MEDICAID COVERAGE?

C+ 2.5

Psychiatric Disorders YES. Only for live video.
Mental Health
Addiction Treatment

B

Store and Forward YES. For certain services.

B

Live Video YES. Under some circumstances.

B

Remote Patient Monitoring YES. Only for patients with diabetes or congestive heart failure.

D

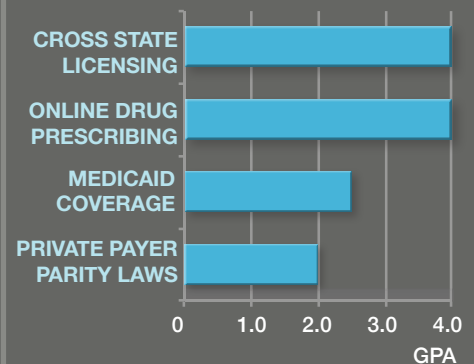


PRIVATE PAYER PARITY LAWS?

C 2.0

Private insurers are required to provide coverage for any service that would be covered were it provided through an in-person consultation and if provided to patients in rural areas.

GRADE AVERAGE BY CATEGORY

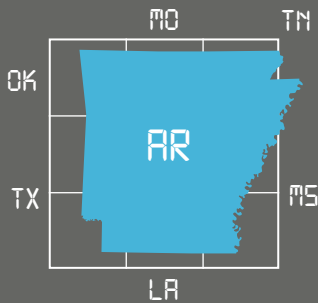


PHYSICIAN SHORTAGE CRISIS

Total Population	6,931,071
Number of Active Physicians	16,345
Rate per 100,000	235.8



ARKANSAS



BORDER STATES RANK

LOUISIANA	26
MISSISSIPPI	18
MISSOURI	17
OKLAHOMA	13
TENNESSEE	13
TEXAS	2

What the State Did Poorly: Arkansas has faced a physician shortage for years. To solve this crisis, the state must reimagine how the doctor-patient relationship can be improved upon for the future of healthcare. Expanding access to telehealth in the state would free doctors from performing repetitive tasks that act as barriers between them and their patients. Arkansas could address their physician shortage by allowing physicians to practice across state lines to give their citizens a bigger pool of doctors to choose from. The state currently inhibits poor, rural communities from receiving more affordable and accessible health care by providing almost no Medicaid coverage, and even forcing private insurers to reimburse telehealth services at the same rate as if the service were delivered in person, negating the cost-saving benefits of telehealth. Arkansas' physician shortage will only worsen if these issues are not addressed.



RANK

48

1 is the Best 50 is the Worst

State Overall Average GRADE



A is the Best F is the Worst

States overall grade and GPA is based on the states standing in the four most important state policy variables related to telehealth.

GPA

1.1

4.0 is the Best 0 is the Worst



DOES THE STATE ALLOW CROSS STATE LICENSING?

GRADE F
GPA 0.0

NO. Unless the out-of-state provider is only providing episodic consultation services.



DOES THE STATE ALLOW ONLINE DRUG PRESCRIBING?

GRADE B
GPA 3.4

Online Drug Prescribing YES.

A+

Only with In-Person Doctor Visit NO.

A+

Only for Non-Controlled Substances YES.

F



DOES THE STATE PROVIDE MEDICAID COVERAGE?

GRADE D
GPA 1.0

Psychiatric Disorders
Mental Health
Addiction Treatment NO.

F

Store and Forward NO.

F

Live Video YES.

A+

Remote Patient Monitoring NO.

F

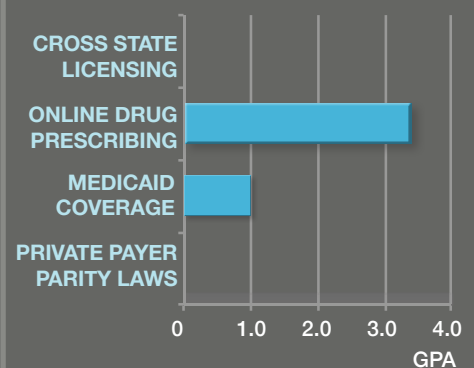


PRIVATE PAYER PARITY LAWS?

GRADE F
GPA 0.0

Private insurers must reimburse "on the same basis" if the service were delivered in-person.

GRADE AVERAGE BY CATEGORY



PHYSICIAN SHORTAGE CRISIS

Total Population	2,988,248
Number of Active Physicians	6,088
Rate per 100,000	203.7

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the baseline physician requirements per 100,000 population will reach a total of at least 291 physicians by 2020.



CALIFORNIA



BORDER STATES RANK

ARIZONA	8
NEVADA	26
OREGON	44

What the State Did Poorly: Boasting 40 million residents, California must take steps toward protecting and expanding medical care to its residents by paving the way for more affordable health services. Currently, a growing shortage of medical workers has left many Californians without the care they deserve. Telemedicine can help solve this problem. California currently restricts competition in the medical service industry by putting up barriers to state licensing which restricts citizens' choices and denies their access to the best medical care available. The state's onerous restrictions for online drug prescribing make it more difficult for Californians to obtain vital medications. In addition, California's lack of Medicaid coverage for telehealth services harms poor communities who do not have access to flourishing hospitals and would benefit from easier access and more affordable health care.



RANK

40

1 is the Best 50 is the Worst

State Overall Average GRADE



A is the Best F is the Worst

States overall grade and GPA is based on the states standing in the four most important state policy variables related to telehealth.

GPA

1.4

4.0 is the Best 0 is the Worst



DOES THE STATE ALLOW CROSS STATE LICENSING?

NO.

GRADE F GPA 0.0



DOES THE STATE ALLOW ONLINE DRUG PRESCRIBING?

Online Drug Prescribing YES.

A+

GRADE C GPA 2.0

Only with In-Person Doctor Visit YES.

F

Only for Non-Controlled Substances YES.

F



DOES THE STATE PROVIDE MEDICAID COVERAGE?

Psychiatric Disorders Mental Health Addiction Treatment NO.

F

GRADE D- GPA 0.8

Store and Forward YES. Only for teleophthalmology, teledermatology and teledentistry.

D

Live Video YES. Under some circumstances.

C

Remote Patient Monitoring YES. Only for patients with diabetes or congestive heart failure.

F

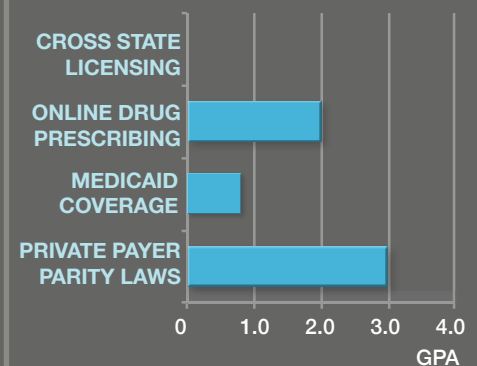


PRIVATE PAYER PARITY LAWS?

YES. The state has no explicit payment parity but private payers cannot require an in-person meeting before telehealth services take place.

GRADE B GPA 3.0

GRADE AVERAGE BY CATEGORY



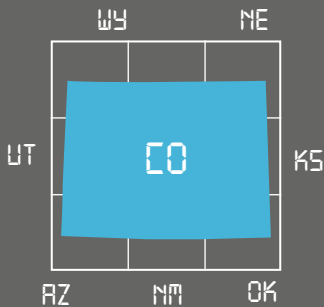
PHYSICIAN SHORTAGE CRISIS

Total Population	39,250,017
Number of Active Physicians	105,907
Rate per 100,000	269.8

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the baseline physician requirements per 100,000 population will reach a total of at least 291 physicians by 2020.



COLORADO



BORDER STATES RANK

ARIZONA	8
KANSAS	8
NEBRASKA	26
NEW MEXICO	4
OKLAHOMA	13
UTAH	2
WYOMING	26

What the State Did Well: As a growing hub for innovation, it is no surprise that Colorado has embraced the opportunity to reimagine the doctor-patient relationship and improve the future of health care for all of its residents. Colorado is ranked number one for its choice to embrace competition in the medical service industry by allowing physicians to practice across state lines, allowing maximum freedom for online drug prescribing, and allowing private insurers to negotiate affordable rates for telehealth services with health care providers.

What the State Could Improve: The state's downfall is its failure to provide full Medicaid coverage for telehealth services which, if reformed, could give poor, rural communities better health care options.



RANK

1 is the Best 50 is the Worst

State Overall Average GRADE



A is the Best F is the Worst

States overall grade and GPA is based on the states standing in the four most important state policy variables related to telehealth.

GPA

3.6

4.0 is the Best 0 is the Worst



DOES THE STATE ALLOW CROSS STATE LICENSING?

YES.

GRADE A+ GPA 4.0



DOES THE STATE ALLOW ONLINE DRUG PRESCRIBING?

Online Drug Prescribing YES.

A+

GRADE A+ GPA 4.0

Only with In-Person Doctor Visit NO.

A+

Only for Non-Controlled Substances NO.

A+



DOES THE STATE PROVIDE MEDICAID COVERAGE?

Psychiatric Disorders YES. For psychiatric disorders, but no mention of addiction treatment.

B

GRADE B- GPA 2.8

Store and Forward NO.

F

Live Video YES.

A+

Remote Patient Monitoring YES. A flat fee set by the board.

A+

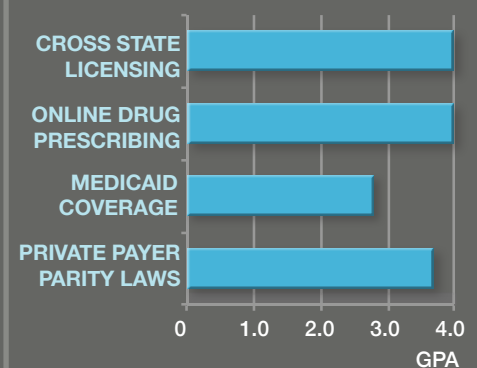


PRIVATE PAYER PARITY LAWS?

Insurers cannot deny coverage solely because the service is provided through telehealth. But they can find other reasons, such as the service doesn't meet the appropriate standard of care in the insurer's view. No explicit payment parity.

GRADE A- GPA 3.7

GRADE AVERAGE BY CATEGORY



PHYSICIAN SHORTAGE CRISIS

Total Population	5,540,545
Number of Active Physicians	15,422
Rate per 100,000	278.3

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the baseline physician requirements per 100,000 population will reach a total of at least 291 physicians by 2020.



CONNECTICUT



BORDER STATES RANK

MASSACHUSETTS	44
NEW YORK	49
RHODE ISLAND	37

What the State Did Well: Connecticut has taken small steps to improve access to telehealth in their state. In 2018, the state passed Senate Bill 302, allowing physicians to prescribe controlled substances via telemedicine for the treatment of psychiatric disabilities or substance use disorder, including medication assisted therapy.

What the State Did Poorly: Connecticut still has a long way to go in legalizing online drug prescribing as the state still has an in-person doctor visit requirement. The state provides poor Medicaid coverage which prevents citizens in low-income communities from receiving more affordable and accessible health care. In addition, Connecticut has onerous restrictions on cross state licensing restricting patient choice and preventing access to quality care.

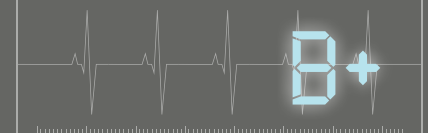


RANK

6

1 is the Best 50 is the Worst

State Overall Average GRADE



A is the Best F is the Worst

States overall grade and GPA is based on the states standing in the four most important state policy variables related to telehealth.

GPA

3.2

4.0 is the Best 0 is the Worst



DOES THE STATE ALLOW CROSS STATE LICENSING?

GRADE A+ GPA 4.0

YES. A special purpose license allowing practitioners licensed in other states to practice across state lines may be issued.



DOES THE STATE ALLOW ONLINE DRUG PRESCRIBING?

GRADE A- GPA 3.7

Online Drug Prescribing	YES.	A+
Only with In-Person Doctor Visit	NO.	A+

Only for Non-Controlled Substances	YES. Except for treatment psychiatric disorders or substance abuse disorders.	C
------------------------------------	---	---



DOES THE STATE PROVIDE MEDICAID COVERAGE?

GRADE D+ GPA 1.3

Psychiatric Disorders	NO.	F
Mental Health		
Addiction Treatment		

Store and Forward	YES.	A+
-------------------	------	----

Live Video	YES. Only for those who face an undue hardship.	D
------------	---	---

Remote Patient Monitoring	NO.	F
---------------------------	-----	---

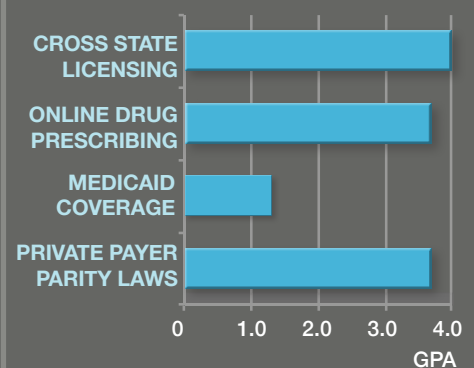


PRIVATE PAYER PARITY LAWS?

GRADE A- GPA 3.7

Coverage must be provided for telehealth if it would be covered in-person, subject to the terms and conditions of the policy.

GRADE AVERAGE BY CATEGORY



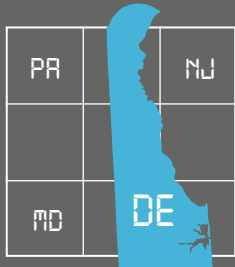
PHYSICIAN SHORTAGE CRISIS

Total Population	3,576,452
Number of Active Physicians	12,341
Rate per 100,000	345.1

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the baseline physician requirements per 100,000 population will reach a total of at least 291 physicians by 2020.



DELAWARE



BORDER STATES RANK

MARYLAND	11
NEW JERSEY	50
PENNSYLVANIA	23

What the State Did Well: Delaware allows for maximum freedom for online drug prescribing giving more residents access to vital medications.

What the State Did Poorly: Recruiting and retaining physicians is one of Delaware's primary problems as it does not have a single medical school within its borders. By embracing telehealth, Delaware could free up the physicians it has retained from rote tasks, allowing them to focus on providing more communication, compassion and understanding for their patients. In addition, Delaware could embrace competition in the medical service industry and give their patients more options and control over choosing their physician if they allowed physicians to practice across state lines. The state provides little Medicaid coverage for telehealth services and places burdensome restrictions on private insurers, forcing them to reimburse telehealth services at the same rate as in-person services. This discourages Delaware's residents in low-income communities from using more affordable and accessible medical care.



RANK

40

1 is the Best 50 is the Worst

State Overall Average

GRADE



A is the Best F is the Worst

States overall grade and GPA is based on the states standing in the four most important state policy variables related to telehealth.

GPA

1.4

4.0 is the Best 0 is the Worst



DOES THE STATE ALLOW CROSS STATE LICENSING?

NO.

GRADE GPA

F 0.0



DOES THE STATE ALLOW ONLINE DRUG PRESCRIBING?

Online Drug Prescribing YES.

A+

A+ 4.0

Only with In-Person Doctor Visit NO.

A+

Only for Non-Controlled Substances NO.

A+



DOES THE STATE PROVIDE MEDICAID COVERAGE?

Psychiatric Disorders YES. For psychiatric disorders, but no mention of addiction treatment.

B

C- 1.8

Store and Forward NO.

F

Live Video YES.

A+

Remote Patient Monitoring NO.

F

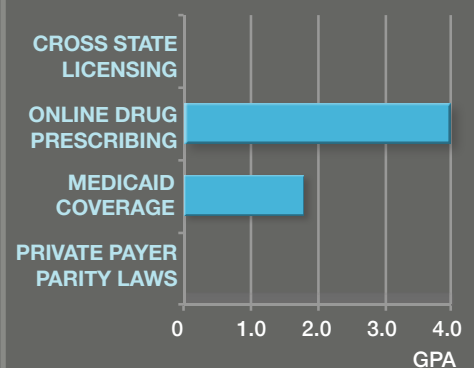


PRIVATE PAYER PARITY LAWS?

A private insurer must reimburse the provider for the diagnosis, consultation, or treatment of the patient on the same basis as in-person services for telemedicine.

F 0.0

GRADE AVERAGE BY CATEGORY



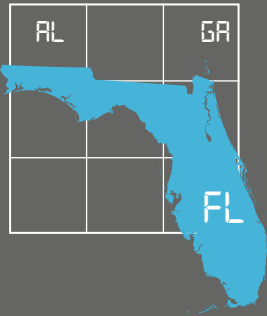
PHYSICIAN SHORTAGE CRISIS

Total Population	952,065
Number of Active Physicians	2,592
Rate per 100,000	272.3

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the baseline physician requirements per 100,000 population will reach a total of at least 291 physicians by 2020.



FLORIDA



BORDER STATES RANK

ALABAMA	5
GEORGIA	37

What the State Did Well: Florida allows private insurers to negotiate affordable rates for telehealth services with health care providers.

What the State Could Improve: The state only allows online drug prescribing for non-controlled substances; this could prevent residents from having access to vital medications.

What the State Did Poorly: Florida lawmakers failed again in 2018 to pass a bill, Senate bill 280, which would expand access to telehealth services. Although the state has established a telehealth task force, they are currently sitting in limbo. This leaves many Floridians without access to the medical care they deserve. Florida could embrace innovation in the medical care industry by allowing physicians to practice across state lines, removing restrictions for online drug prescribing, and providing full Medicaid coverage for telehealth services.



RANK

31

1 is the Best 50 is the Worst

State Overall Average GRADE



A is the Best F is the Worst

States overall grade and GPA is based on the states standing in the four most important state policy variables related to telehealth.

GPA

2.2

4.0 is the Best 0 is the Worst



DOES THE STATE ALLOW CROSS STATE LICENSING?

NO.

GRADE GPA

F 0.0



DOES THE STATE ALLOW ONLINE DRUG PRESCRIBING?

Online Drug Prescribing YES.

A+

Only with In-Person Doctor Visit NO.

A+

Only for Non-Controlled Substances YES. Except for psychiatric disorders.

D



DOES THE STATE PROVIDE MEDICAID COVERAGE?

Psychiatric Disorders Mental Health Addiction Treatment YES. For psychiatric disorders, but no reference to addiction treatment.

B

Store and Forward NO.

F

Live Video YES. Only some cases apply.

C

Remote Patient Monitoring NO.

F

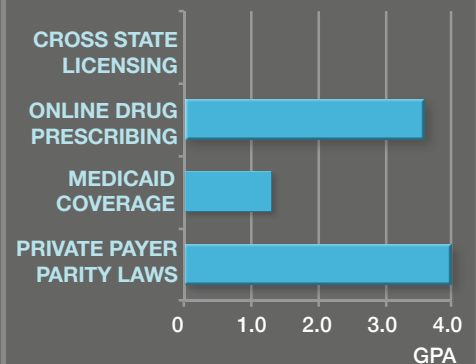


PRIVATE PAYER PARITY LAWS?

NONE.

A+ 4.0

GRADE AVERAGE BY CATEGORY



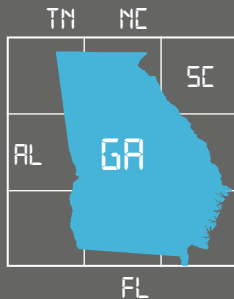
PHYSICIAN SHORTAGE CRISIS

Total Population	20,612,439
Number of Active Physicians	53,685
Rate per 100,000	260.4

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the baseline physician requirements per 100,000 population will reach a total of at least 291 physicians by 2020.



GEORGIA



What the State Did Poorly: Georgia currently restricts competition in the medical service industry by putting up barriers to state licensing which restricts citizens' choices and denies their access to the best medical care available. The state's onerous restrictions for online drug prescribing make it more difficult for residents to obtain vital medications. In addition, Georgia's poor Medicaid coverage for telehealth services harms poor communities who do not have access to flourishing hospitals and would benefit from easier access and more affordable health care.

BORDER STATES RANK

ALABAMA	5
FLORIDA	31
N. CAROLINA	40
S. CAROLINA	18
TENNESSEE	13



RANK

37

1 is the Best 50 is the Worst

State Overall Average **GRADE**

A is the Best F is the Worst

States overall grade and GPA is based on the states standing in the four most important state policy variables related to telehealth.

GPA

1.6

4.0 is the Best 0 is the Worst



DOES THE STATE ALLOW CROSS STATE LICENSING?

NO.

GRADE F GPA 0.0



DOES THE STATE ALLOW ONLINE DRUG PRESCRIBING?

Online Drug Prescribing	YES.	A+
Only with In-Person Doctor Visit	YES.	F
Only for Non-Controlled Substances	YES.	F

GRADE C GPA 2.0



DOES THE STATE PROVIDE MEDICAID COVERAGE?

Psychiatric Disorders	NO.	F
Mental Health		
Addiction Treatment		
Store and Forward	NO. Except for teledentistry.	D
Live Video	YES. Under some circumstances.	C
Remote Patient Monitoring	NO.	F

GRADE D- GPA 0.8

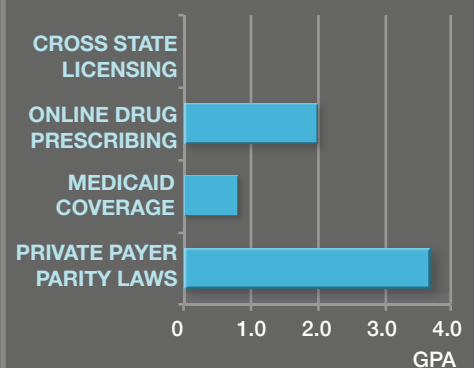


PRIVATE PAYER PARITY LAWS?

Private insurers are required to provide payment of telemedicine for services that are covered under the plan, subject to contract terms and conditions.

GRADE A- GPA 3.7

GRADE AVERAGE BY CATEGORY



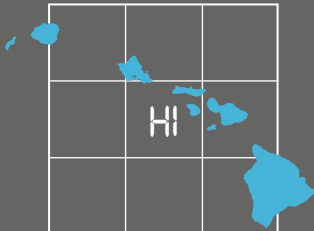
PHYSICIAN SHORTAGE CRISIS

Total Population	10,310,371
Number of Active Physicians	23,215
Rate per 100,000	225.2

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the baseline physician requirements per 100,000 population will reach a total of at least 291 physicians by 2020.



HAWAII



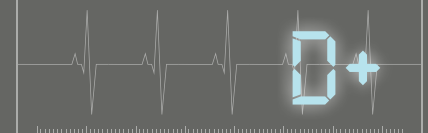
What the State Did Poorly: The remote island of Hawaii should be the first state to embrace the expansion of telehealth. However, even after passing a comprehensive bill legalizing telehealth services in 2016, the state still has barriers harming patients access to better medical care. Currently Hawaii does not allow physicians to practice across state lines, narrowing its doctor population to the small number of physicians the state has been able to retain on the island. The state would benefit from removing the in-person doctor visit requirement for online drug prescriptions to allow more residents easy access to the medications they desperately need. Unfortunately, Hawaii places significant burdens on private insurers by requiring them to provide telehealth coverage at an equivalent rate to in-person services which negates the cost-effective benefits associated with telehealth. Hawaiian's deserve better than a doctor shortage of 22%. The state must embrace the future of medical care.



RANK

40

1 is the Best 50 is the Worst

State Overall Average **GRADE**

A is the Best F is the Worst

States overall grade and GPA is based on the states standing in the four most important state policy variables related to telehealth.

GPA

1.4

4.0 is the Best 0 is the Worst

**DOES THE STATE ALLOW CROSS STATE LICENSING?**

GRADE GPA

F 0.0

NO.

**DOES THE STATE ALLOW ONLINE DRUG PRESCRIBING?**

C+ 2.6

Online Drug Prescribing YES. A+

Only with In-Person Doctor Visit YES. F

Only for Non-Controlled Substances NO. A+

**DOES THE STATE PROVIDE MEDICAID COVERAGE?**

B 3.0

Psychiatric Disorders Mental Health Addiction Treatment NO. F

Store and Forward YES. A+

Live Video YES. A+

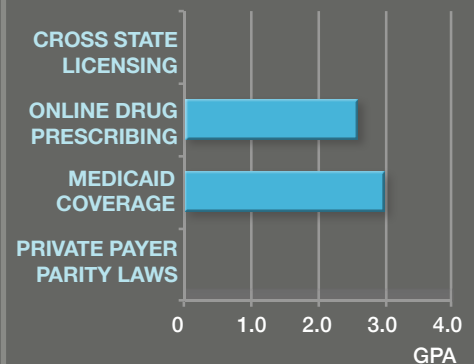
Remote Patient Monitoring YES. A+

**PRIVATE PAYER PARITY LAWS?**

F 0.0

Reimbursement for services provided through telehealth must be equivalent to reimbursement for the same services provided via face-to-face contact between a health care provider and patient.

GRADE AVERAGE BY CATEGORY



PHYSICIAN SHORTAGE CRISIS

Total Population	1,428,557
Number of Active Physicians	4,350
Rate per 100,000	304.5

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the baseline physician requirements per 100,000 population will reach a total of at least 291 physicians by 2020.



IDAHO



BORDER STATES RANK

MONTANA	44
NEVADA	26
OREGON	44
UTAH	2
WASHINGTON	6
WYOMING	26

What the state did well: Idaho ranks second to last in the nation for the number of physician's per capita in the state. The state's larger cities have attracted enough physicians for the population, but the health care of its residents living in rural Idaho is at risk. Thankfully the state is learning to embrace telehealth as the future of medical care. In 2018 St. Luke's Health System, located in Boise, joined the ranks of systems opening virtual hospitals. St. Luke's new telehealth program will better serve Idaho's rural population as its staff of 350 doctors will be able to give over 80,000 telehealth consultations each year. Patients hundreds of miles and multiple mountain passes away will finally be able to receive the medical treatment they desperately need in Idaho.

What the state did poorly: The state still provides poor Medicaid coverage and requires private insurance companies to reimburse the costs of telehealth services the same as in-person medical visits.



RANK

35

1 is the Best 50 is the Worst

State Overall Average GRADE



A is the Best F is the Worst

States overall grade and GPA is based on the states standing in the four most important state policy variables related to telehealth.

GPA

2.0

4.0 is the Best 0 is the Worst



DOES THE STATE ALLOW CROSS STATE LICENSING?

GRADE A+ GPA 4.0

YES.



DOES THE STATE ALLOW ONLINE DRUG PRESCRIBING?

GRADE B+ GPA 3.4

Online Drug Prescribing YES.

A+

Only with In-Person Doctor Visit NO.

A+

Only for Non-Controlled Substances YES.

F



DOES THE STATE PROVIDE MEDICAID COVERAGE?

GRADE F GPA 0.5

Psychiatric Disorders
Mental Health
Addiction Treatment NO.

F

Store and Forward NO.

F

Live Video YES. For certain circumstances.

C

Remote Patient Monitoring NO.

F

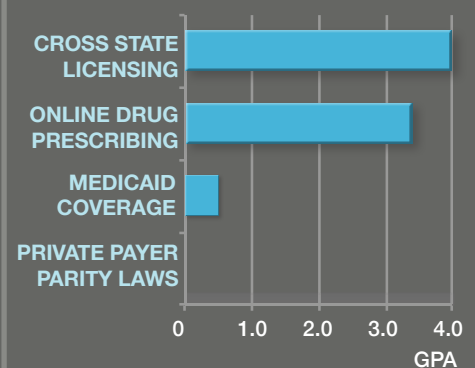


PRIVATE PAYER PARITY LAWS?

GRADE F GPA 0.0

Requires private insurance companies to reimburse the costs of telehealth sessions the same as in-person medical visits.

GRADE AVERAGE BY CATEGORY



PHYSICIAN SHORTAGE CRISIS

Total Population	1,683,140
Number of Active Physicians	3,241
Rate per 100,000	192.6

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the baseline physician requirements per 100,000 population will reach a total of at least 291 physicians by 2020.



ILLINOIS



BORDER STATES RANK

INDIANA	35
IOWA	13
KENTUCKY	37
MISSOURI	17
WISCONSIN	11

What the State Did Well: The Prairie State has made huge strides to establish virtual medical care. The state has embraced competition in the medical service industry by allowing physicians to practice across state lines and provides Medicaid coverage for psychiatric disorders and addiction treatment which is a big step in combating the opioid epidemic. In addition, the state does not have any harmful restrictions on private insurers providing telehealth services.

What the State Did Poorly: Illinois is one of eight states that does not allow online drug prescribing, making it more difficult for its residents to attain the medications they need, and the state does not provide full Medicaid coverage for telehealth services.



RANK

18

1 is the Best 50 is the Worst

State Overall Average **GRADE**

A is the Best F is the Worst

States overall grade and GPA is based on the states standing in the four most important state policy variables related to telehealth.

GPA

2.6

4.0 is the Best 0 is the Worst



DOES THE STATE ALLOW CROSS STATE LICENSING?

GRADE GPA

A+ 4.0

YES.



DOES THE STATE ALLOW ONLINE DRUG PRESCRIBING?

F 0.0

Online Drug Prescribing NO.

F

Only with In-Person Doctor Visit NO.

F

Only for Non-Controlled Substances NO.

F



DOES THE STATE PROVIDE MEDICAID COVERAGE?

C+ 2.3

Psychiatric Disorders YES.

A+

Mental Health

Addiction Treatment

Store and Forward NO.

F

Live Video YES.

A+

Remote Patient Monitoring NO. Only for home uterine monitoring.

D

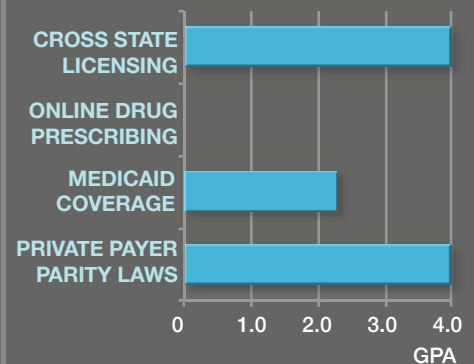


PRIVATE PAYER PARITY LAWS?

A+ 4.0

NONE.

GRADE AVERAGE BY CATEGORY



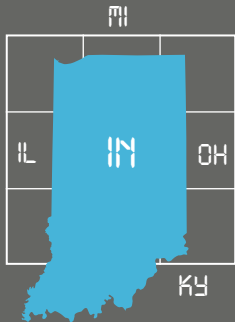
PHYSICIAN SHORTAGE CRISIS

Total Population	12,801,539
Number of Active Physicians	35,927
Rate per 100,000	280.6

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the baseline physician requirements per 100,000 population will reach a total of at least 291 physicians by 2020.



INDIANA



BORDER STATES RANK

ILLINOIS	18
KENTUCKY	37
MICHIGAN	33
OHIO	26

What the State Did Well: The state has embraced competition in the medical service industry by allowing physicians to practice across state lines. Indiana also provides Medicaid reimbursement for psychiatric disorders and addiction treatment which will help treat victims of the opioid epidemic.

What the State Did Poorly: Currently, Indiana is one of the lowest ranking states for Telehealth. The state has onerous restrictions for online drug prescribing and forces private insurers to reimburse for telehealth at the same rate as in-person services.



RANK

35

1 is the Best 50 is the Worst

State Overall Average GRADE



A is the Best F is the Worst

States overall grade and GPA is based on the states standing in the four most important state policy variables related to telehealth.

GPA

2.0

4.0 is the Best 0 is the Worst



DOES THE STATE ALLOW CROSS STATE LICENSING?

GRADE A GPA 4.0

YES. If the provider and the provider's employer or the provider's contractor have certified in writing to the Indiana Professional Licensing Agency that the provider agrees to be subject to the jurisdiction of the courts of law of Indiana and Indiana Substantive and Procedural Laws.



DOES THE STATE ALLOW ONLINE DRUG PRESCRIBING?

GRADE C GPA 2.0

Online Drug Prescribing	YES.	A+
Only with In-Person Doctor Visit	YES.	F
Only for Non-Controlled Substances	YES.	F



DOES THE STATE PROVIDE MEDICAID COVERAGE?

GRADE C GPA 2.0

Psychiatric Disorders	YES.	A+
Mental Health		
Addiction Treatment		
Store and Forward	NO.	F
Live Video	YES. For certain services.	C
Remote Patient Monitoring	YES. Only for patients with diabetes or congestive heart failure and COPD.	C

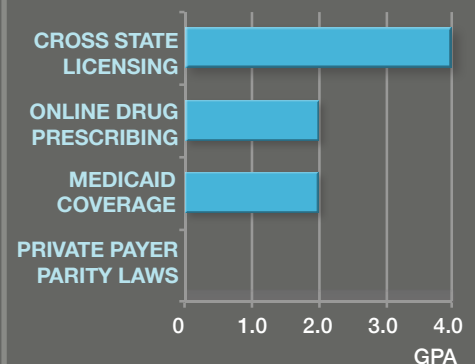


PRIVATE PAYER PARITY LAWS?

GRADE F GPA 0.0

Coverage must be provided in accordance with the same criteria as would be provided in-person. No explicit payment parity.

GRADE AVERAGE BY CATEGORY



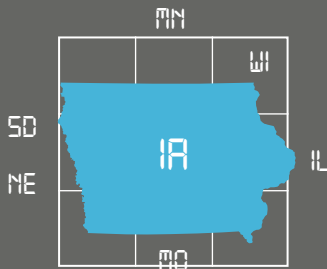
PHYSICIAN SHORTAGE CRISIS

Total Population	6,633,053
Number of Active Physicians	15,025
Rate per 100,000	226.5

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the baseline physician requirements per 100,000 population will reach a total of at least 291 physicians by 2020.



IOWA



BORDER STATES RANK

ILLINOIS	18
MINNESOTA	22
MISSOURI	17
NEBRASKA	26
SOUTH DAKOTA	33
WISCONSIN	11

What the State Did Well: The state has embraced competition in the medical service industry and allows physicians to practice across state lines ensuring all Iowans are empowered to choose the best doctor.

What the State Could Improve: The state allows online drug prescribing for controlled substances, but unfortunately requires an in-person consultation which is a barrier to many Iowans receiving the medications they desperately need. In addition, Iowa discourages poor, rural communities from using more affordable and easily accessible medical treatment by not providing full Medicaid coverage for telehealth.

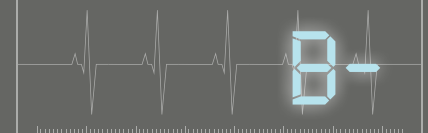


RANK

13

1 is the Best 50 is the Worst

State Overall Average GRADE



A is the Best F is the Worst

States overall grade and GPA is based on the states standing in the four most important state policy variables related to telehealth.

GPA

2.8

4.0 is the Best 0 is the Worst



DOES THE STATE ALLOW CROSS STATE LICENSING?

GRADE GPA

A+ 4.0

YES.



DOES THE STATE ALLOW ONLINE DRUG PRESCRIBING?

C+ 2.6

Online Drug Prescribing YES.

A+

Only with In-Person Doctor Visit YES.

F

Only for Non-Controlled Substances NO.

A+



DOES THE STATE PROVIDE MEDICAID COVERAGE?

D 1.0

Psychiatric Disorders Mental Health Addiction Treatment NO.

F

Store and Forward NO.

F

Live Video YES.

A+

Remote Patient Monitoring NO.

F

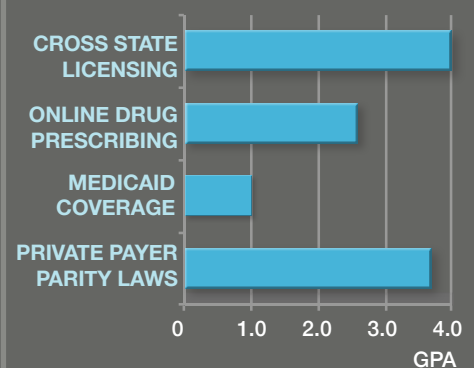


PRIVATE PAYER PARITY LAWS?

A- 3.7

The state requires private insurers policies, contracts, or plans providing third-party payment or prepayment of health or medical expenses to not discriminate between coverage benefits for health care services that are provided in-person and the same health care services provided through telehealth. The state has no explicit payment parity.

GRADE AVERAGE BY CATEGORY



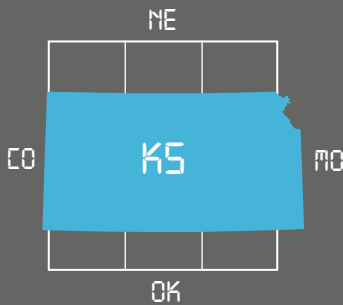
PHYSICIAN SHORTAGE CRISIS

Total Population	3,134,693
Number of Active Physicians	6,627
Rate per 100,000	211.4

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the baseline physician requirements per 100,000 population will reach a total of at least 291 physicians by 2020.



KANSAS



BORDER STATES RANK

COLORADO	1
MISSOURI	17
NEBRASKA	26
OKLAHOMA	13

What the State Did Well: Kansas embraces competition in the medical service industry by allowing physicians to practice across state lines. The state also provides maximum freedom for online drug prescribing ensuring residents receive the vital medications they desperately need. In addition, the state's Private Payer Parity law is less restrictive than most.

What the State Did Poorly: Kansas does not provide full Medicaid coverage for telehealth services which discourages poor, rural communities from using this more accessible and affordable health care option.

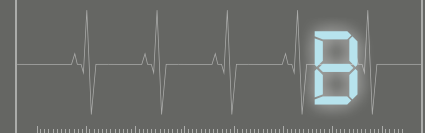


RANK



1 is the Best 50 is the Worst

State Overall Average GRADE



A is the Best F is the Worst

States overall grade and GPA is based on the states standing in the four most important state policy variables related to telehealth.

GPA

3.1

4.0 is the Best 0 is the Worst



DOES THE STATE ALLOW CROSS STATE LICENSING?

GRADE A+ GPA 4.0

YES.



DOES THE STATE ALLOW ONLINE DRUG PRESCRIBING?

GRADE A+ GPA 4.0

Online Drug Prescribing YES. A+

Only with In-Person Doctor Visit NO. A+

Only for Non-Controlled Substances NO. A+



DOES THE STATE PROVIDE MEDICAID COVERAGE?

GRADE D+ GPA 1.5

Psychiatric Disorders Mental Health Addiction Treatment NO. F

Store and Forward NO. F

Live Video YES. For certain circumstances. C

Remote Patient Monitoring YES. A+

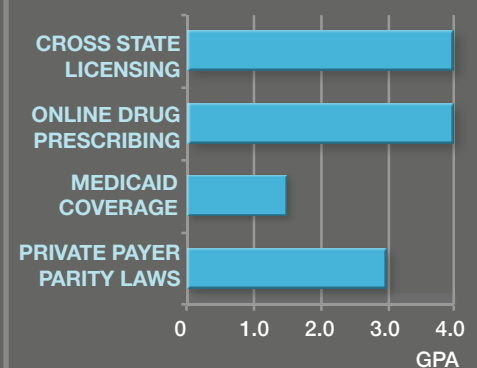


PRIVATE PAYER PARITY LAWS?

GRADE B GPA 3.0

Insurers cannot exclude from coverage a service solely because the service is provided through telemedicine, rather than in-person contact or based upon the lack of a commercial office for the practice of medicine, when such service is delivered by a healthcare provider.

GRADE AVERAGE BY CATEGORY



PHYSICIAN SHORTAGE CRISIS

Total Population	2,907,289
Number of Active Physicians	6,380
Rate per 100,000	219.4

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the baseline physician requirements per 100,000 population will reach a total of at least 291 physicians by 2020.



KENTUCKY



BORDER STATES RANK

ILLINOIS	18
INDIANA	35
MISSOURI	17
OHIO	26
TENNESSEE	13
VIRGINIA	44
WEST VIRGINIA	8

What the State Did Well: Kentucky allows maximum freedom for online drug prescribing ensuring more residents have access to vital medications.

What the State Could Improve: Kentucky recently passed legislation effective this year which improves the state's reimbursement policy for telehealth services. Unfortunately, the bill also forces private insurers to reimburse telehealth services at the same rate as services delivered in-person, unless a lower reimbursement rate is agreed upon, which can contribute to negating the benefits of telehealth being a more affordable health care option. Although Medicaid coverage for telehealth services has improved, the state still does not provide full coverage for psychiatric disorders, store and forward, or remote patient monitoring.

What the State Did Poorly: Kentucky does not allow physicians to practice across state lines which restricts resident's ability to choose the best doctor.

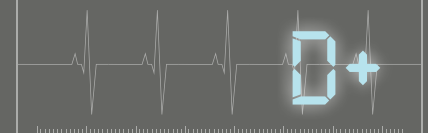


RANK

37

1 is the Best 50 is the Worst

State Overall Average GRADE



A is the Best F is the Worst

States overall grade and GPA is based on the states standing in the four most important state policy variables related to telehealth.

GPA

1.6

4.0 is the Best 0 is the Worst



DOES THE STATE ALLOW CROSS STATE LICENSING?

NO.

GRADE GPA

F 0.0



DOES THE STATE ALLOW ONLINE DRUG PRESCRIBING?

A+ 4.0

Online Drug Prescribing YES.

A+

Only with In-Person Doctor Visit NO.

A+

Only for Non-Controlled Substances NO.

A+



DOES THE STATE PROVIDE MEDICAID COVERAGE?

D+ 1.3

Psychiatric Disorders Mental Health Addiction Treatment NO.

F

Store and Forward YES. For tele-radiology.

D

Live Video YES.

A+

Remote Patient Monitoring NO.

F

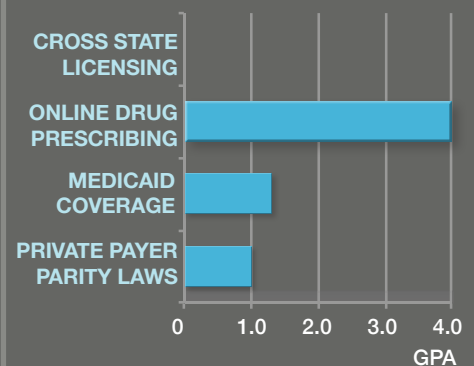


PRIVATE PAYER PARITY LAWS?

D 1.0

The state requires that private insurers do not exclude services solely because the service is provided through telehealth. Telehealth coverage and reimbursement shall be equivalent to the coverage for the same service provided in-person unless the telehealth provider and the health benefit plan contractually agree to a lower reimbursement rate for telehealth services.

GRADE AVERAGE BY CATEGORY



PHYSICIAN SHORTAGE CRISIS

Total Population	4,436,974
Number of Active Physicians	10,158
Rate per 100,000	228.9

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the baseline physician requirements per 100,000 population will reach a total of at least 291 physicians by 2020.



LOUISIANA



What the State Did Well: The Pelican State has begun to mitigate its physician shortage crisis by allowing physicians to practicing across state lines.

What the State Did Poorly: The state does not provide full Medicaid coverage for telehealth services which discourages poor, rural communities from using this more accessible and affordable health care option. Louisiana also has burdensome restrictions for online drug prescribing preventing residents from having access to vital medications and places onerous restrictions on private insurers.

BORDER STATES RANK

ARKANSAS	48
MISSISSIPPI	18
TEXAS	2



RANK

26

1 is the Best 50 is the Worst

State Overall Average **GRADE**

A is the Best F is the Worst

States overall grade and GPA is based on the states standing in the four most important state policy variables related to telehealth.

GPA

2.3

4.0 is the Best 0 is the Worst



DOES THE STATE ALLOW CROSS STATE LICENSING?

GRADE A+ GPA 4.0

YES. A telemedicine license may be issued to out-of-state physicians, if they hold a full and unrestricted license in another state or U.S. territory.



DOES THE STATE ALLOW ONLINE DRUG PRESCRIBING?

GRADE C+ GPA 2.6

Online Drug Prescribing	YES.	A+
Only with In-Person Doctor Visit	YES.	F
Only for Non-Controlled Substances	NO.	A+



DOES THE STATE PROVIDE MEDICAID COVERAGE?

GRADE D+ GPA 1.5

Psychiatric Disorders	NO.	F
Mental Health		
Addiction Treatment		
Store and Forward	NO.	F
Live Video	YES.	A+
Remote Patient Monitoring	YES. Only for congestive heart failure, diabetes or pulmonary disease.	C

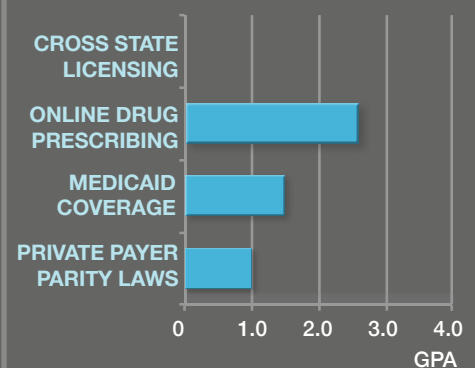


PRIVATE PAYER PARITY LAWS?

GRADE D GPA 1.0

The state requires private insurers to reimburse originating-site physician fees at least 75 percent of the normal fee for an intermediate office visit

GRADE AVERAGE BY CATEGORY



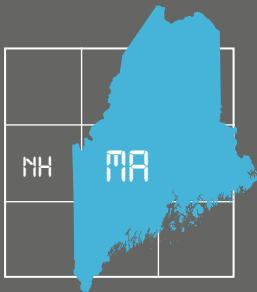
PHYSICIAN SHORTAGE CRISIS

Total Population	4,681,666
Number of Active Physicians	11,737
Rate per 100,000	250.7

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the baseline physician requirements per 100,000 population will reach a total of at least 291 physicians by 2020.



MAINE



BORDER STATES RANK

NEW HAMPSHIRE 18

What the State Did Well: With 700 or so residents living on several islands off the coast of Maine, the state is a perfect place for telehealth to provide better healthcare to those who struggle with accessing primary care facilities. Fortunately for Maine's residents, the state has embraced cross state licensing improving its citizens ability to choose their doctor and provides maximum freedom for online drug prescribing.

What the State Did Poorly: Maine does not provide full Medicaid coverage for telehealth services which is bad news for its poor communities and rural residents. The state could also benefit from reforming its private payer parity laws and giving private insurers the freedom to reimburse telehealth at appropriate rates benefiting patients more.

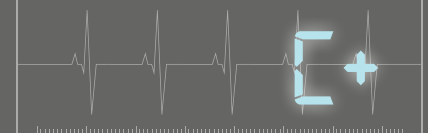


RANK

23

1 is the Best 50 is the Worst

State Overall Average GRADE



A is the Best F is the Worst

States overall grade and GPA is based on the states standing in the four most important state policy variables related to telehealth.

GPA

2.4

4.0 is the Best 0 is the Worst



DOES THE STATE ALLOW CROSS STATE LICENSING?

GRADE GPA

A+ 4.0

YES.



DOES THE STATE ALLOW ONLINE DRUG PRESCRIBING?

A+ 4.0

Online Drug Prescribing YES.

A+

Only with In-Person Doctor Visit NO.

A+

Only for Non-Controlled Substances NO.

A+



DOES THE STATE PROVIDE MEDICAID COVERAGE?

D+ 1.5

Psychiatric Disorders Mental Health Addiction Treatment NO.

F

Store and Forward NO.

F

Live Video YES.

A+

Remote Patient Monitoring YES. Under some circumstances.

C

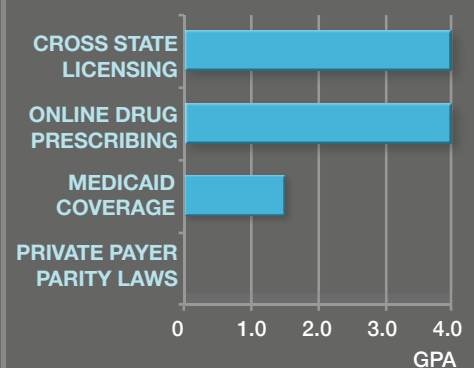


PRIVATE PAYER PARITY LAWS?

F 0.0

A health plan may not deny coverage on the basis that the coverage is provided through telemedicine if the health care service would have been covered through an in-person consultation between a covered person and a health care provider. Coverage must be determined in a manner consistent with coverage for services provided through in-person consultation.

GRADE AVERAGE BY CATEGORY



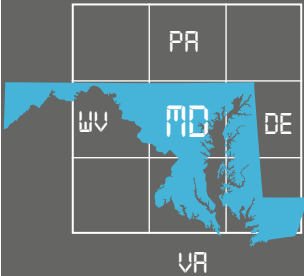
PHYSICIAN SHORTAGE CRISIS

Total Population	1,331,479
Number of Active Physicians	4,320
Rate per 100,000	324.5

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the baseline physician requirements per 100,000 population will reach a total of at least 291 physicians by 2020.



MARYLAND



What the State Did Well: Maryland has embraced competition in the medical service industry by allowing physicians to practice across state lines. The state also provides maximum freedom for online drug prescribing ensuring residents receive the vital medications they desperately need.

What the State Did Poorly: Maryland could provide full Medicaid coverage for telehealth services and reform its private payer parity law to ensure the cost-effective benefits of telehealth are preserved.

BORDER STATES RANK

DELAWARE	40
PENNSYLVANIA	23
VIRGINIA	44
WEST VIRGINIA	8



RANK

1 is the Best 50 is the Worst



State Overall Average GRADE



A is the Best F is the Worst

States overall grade and GPA is based on the states standing in the four most important state policy variables related to telehealth.

GPA

3.0

4.0 is the Best 0 is the Worst



DOES THE STATE ALLOW CROSS STATE LICENSING?

YES.

GRADE A+ GPA 4.0



DOES THE STATE ALLOW ONLINE DRUG PRESCRIBING?

Online Drug Prescribing YES.

A+

GRADE A+ GPA 4.0

Only with In-Person Doctor Visit NO.

A+

Only for Non-Controlled Substances NO.

A+



DOES THE STATE PROVIDE MEDICAID COVERAGE?

Psychiatric Disorders
Mental Health
Addiction Treatment

YES, but to be eligible a beneficiary must reside in one of the designated rural geographic areas or whose situation makes person-to-person psychiatric services unavailable.

C

GRADE C GPA 2.0

Store and Forward NO.

F

Live Video YES.

A+

Remote Patient Monitoring YES. For certain circumstances.

C

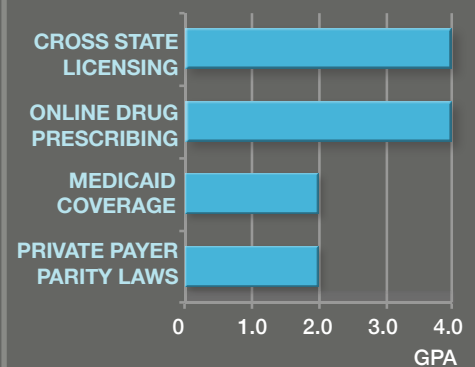


PRIVATE PAYER PARITY LAWS?

Insurers must reimburse a health care provider for the diagnosis, consultation and treatment of an insured patient that can be appropriately provided through telehealth. No explicit payment parity.

GRADE C GPA 2.0

GRADE AVERAGE BY CATEGORY



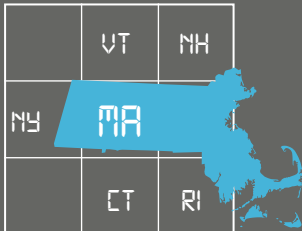
PHYSICIAN SHORTAGE CRISIS

Total Population	6,016,447
Number of Active Physicians	22,731
Rate per 100,000	377.8

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the baseline physician requirements per 100,000 population will reach a total of at least 291 physicians by 2020.



MASSACHUSETTS



What the State Did Well: Massachusetts recently announced the state's Medicaid program will provide coverage for psychiatric disorders and substance abuse treatment which is a big step in confronting the opioid epidemic. The state provides maximum freedom for online drug prescribing ensuring more residents have access to vital medications.

What the State Did Poorly: The state still provides poor Medicaid coverage overall which discourages poor, rural communities from using this more accessible and affordable health care option. Massachusetts also restricts freedom for private insurers to cover telehealth services at a cheaper rate than in-person services.

BORDER STATES RANK

CONNECTICUT	6
NEW HAMPSHIRE	18
NEW YORK	49
RHODE ISLAND	37
VERMONT	23

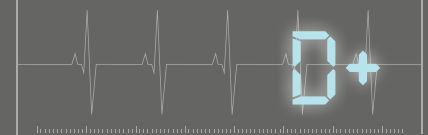


RANK

44

1 is the Best 50 is the Worst

State Overall Average GRADE



A is the Best F is the Worst

States overall grade and GPA is based on the states standing in the four most important state policy variables related to telehealth.

GPA

1.3

4.0 is the Best 0 is the Worst



DOES THE STATE ALLOW CROSS STATE LICENSING?

NO.

GRADE GPA

F 0.0



DOES THE STATE ALLOW ONLINE DRUG PRESCRIBING?

Online Drug Prescribing YES.

A+

A+ 4.0

Only with In-Person Doctor Visit NO.

A+

Only for Non-Controlled Substances NO.

A+



DOES THE STATE PROVIDE MEDICAID COVERAGE?

Psychiatric Disorders
Mental Health
Addiction Treatment YES.

A+

D+ 1.3

Store and Forward NO.

F

Live Video NO.

F

Remote Patient Monitoring YES. For short-term situations.

D

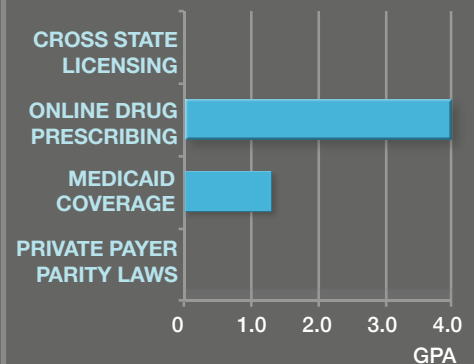


PRIVATE PAYER PARITY LAWS?

The state requires private insure to provide telehealth coverage consistent with coverage for health care services provided through in-person consultation.

F 0.0

GRADE AVERAGE BY CATEGORY



PHYSICIAN SHORTAGE CRISIS

Total Population	6,811,779
Number of Active Physicians	30,123
Rate per 100,000	443.5

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the baseline physician requirements per 100,000 population will reach a total of at least 291 physicians by 2020.



MICHIGAN



BORDER STATES RANK

ILLINOIS	18
INDIANA	35
OHIO	26
WISCONSIN	11

What the State Did Well: Michigan recently started a telehealth pilot program in Arborwood Elementary school which has expanded to 12 schools across the district. The program set up telemedicine kiosks in each school to improve student's health and wellness. Although Michigan still has a long way to go in providing more choice and freedom for telehealth services, this is a unique pilot program showcasing the exciting possibilities telehealth can offer.

What the State Did Poorly: Michigan does not provide full Medicaid coverage for telehealth services which is bad news for its poor communities and rural residents. In addition, the state does not allow physicians to practice across state lines.



RANK

33

1 is the Best 50 is the Worst

State Overall Average GRADE



A is the Best F is the Worst

States overall grade and GPA is based on the states standing in the four most important state policy variables related to telehealth.

GPA

2.1

4.0 is the Best 0 is the Worst



DOES THE STATE ALLOW CROSS STATE LICENSING?

NO.

GRADE F GPA 0.0



DOES THE STATE ALLOW ONLINE DRUG PRESCRIBING?

Online Drug Prescribing YES.

A+

GRADE A+ GPA 4.0

Only with In-Person Doctor Visit

A+

Only for Non-Controlled Substances

A+



DOES THE STATE PROVIDE MEDICAID COVERAGE?

Psychiatric Disorders Mental Health Addiction Treatment

NO.

F

GRADE F GPA 0.5

Store and Forward

NO.

F

Live Video

YES. Only for certain patients at certain sites.

C

Remote Patient Monitoring

NO.

F

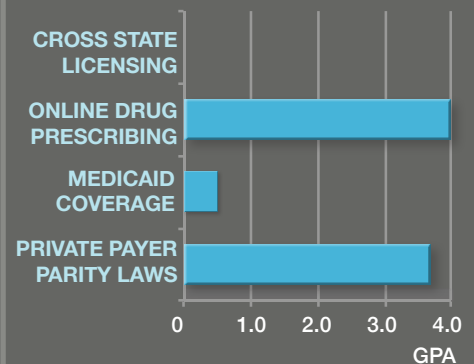


PRIVATE PAYER PARITY LAWS?

Insurers must cover services appropriately provided through telemedicine, as determined by the insurer. No explicit payment parity.

GRADE A- GPA 3.7

GRADE AVERAGE BY CATEGORY



PHYSICIAN SHORTAGE CRISIS

Total Population	9,928,300
Number of Active Physicians	28,206
Rate per 100,000	284.1

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the baseline physician requirements per 100,000 population will reach a total of at least 291 physicians by 2020.



MINNESOTA



What the State Did Well: The North Star state is solving a doctor shortage by embracing competition in the medical service industry and allowing physicians to practice across state lines. The state also provides maximum freedom for online drug prescribing allowing Minnesotans access to medications they desperately need.

What the State Could Improve: The state could provide full Medicaid coverage for telehealth services and reform its private payer parity laws to provide easier access and more affordable care to its citizens.

BORDER STATES RANK

IOWA	13
NORTH DAKOTA	31
SOUTH DAKOTA	33
WISCONSIN	11



RANK

22

1 is the Best 50 is the Worst

State Overall Average GRADE



A is the Best F is the Worst

States overall grade and GPA is based on the states standing in the four most important state policy variables related to telehealth.

GPA

2.5

4.0 is the Best 0 is the Worst



DOES THE STATE ALLOW CROSS STATE LICENSING?

GRADE A+ GPA 4.0

YES. A physician licensed in another state can provide telemedicine services to a patient in Minnesota if their license has never been revoked or restricted in any state, they agree to not open an office in Minnesota, meet with patients in Minnesota, or receive calls in Minnesota from patients and they register with the state's board.



DOES THE STATE ALLOW ONLINE DRUG PRESCRIBING?

GRADE A+ GPA 4.0

Online Drug Prescribing	YES.	A+
Only with In-Person Doctor Visit	NO.	A+
Only for Non-Controlled Substances	NO.	A+



DOES THE STATE PROVIDE MEDICAID COVERAGE?

GRADE C GPA 2.0

Psychiatric Disorders Mental Health Addiction Treatment	NO.	F
Store and Forward	YES. At specific originating sites.	C
Live Video	YES. At specific originating sites.	C
Remote Patient Monitoring	YES.	A+

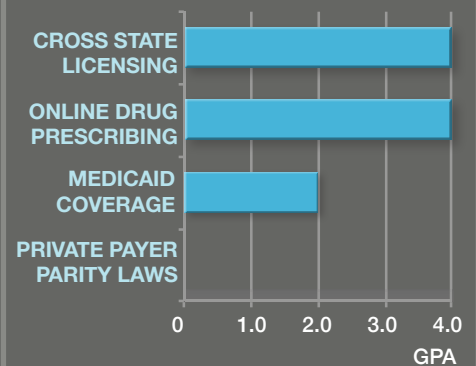


PRIVATE PAYER PARITY LAWS?

GRADE F GPA 0.0

A health carrier must reimburse at the same rate as the health carrier would for in-person delivered services.

GRADE AVERAGE BY CATEGORY



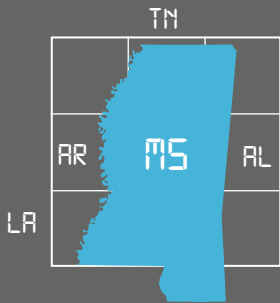
PHYSICIAN SHORTAGE CRISIS

Total Population	5,519,952
Number of Active Physicians	16,105
Rate per 100,000	291.8

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the baseline physician requirements per 100,000 population will reach a total of at least 291 physicians by 2020.



MISSISSIPPI



What the State Did Well: The Magnolia state allows physicians to practice across state lines and gives maximum freedom for online drug prescribing.

What the State Did Poorly: Mississippi barely missed the mark by passing a private payer parity law negating the cost-effective benefits of telehealth and failing to provide full Medicaid coverage for psychiatric disorders and remote patient monitoring.



RANK

18

1 is the Best 50 is the Worst

State Overall Average **GRADE**

A is the Best F is the Worst

States overall grade and GPA is based on the states standing in the four most important state policy variables related to telehealth.

GPA

2.6

4.0 is the Best 0 is the Worst

BORDER STATES RANK

ALABAMA	5
ARKANSAS	48
LOUISIANA	26
TENNESSEE	13



DOES THE STATE ALLOW CROSS STATE LICENSING?

YES.

GRADE A+ GPA 4.0



DOES THE STATE ALLOW ONLINE DRUG PRESCRIBING?

Online Drug Prescribing YES.

A+

GRADE A+ GPA 4.0

Only with In-Person Doctor Visit

A+

Only for Non-Controlled Substances

A+



DOES THE STATE PROVIDE MEDICAID COVERAGE?

Psychiatric Disorders
Mental Health
Addiction Treatment

NO.

F

GRADE C+ GPA 2.5

Store and Forward YES.

A+

Live Video YES.

A+

Remote Patient Monitoring YES. For certain chronic conditions.

C

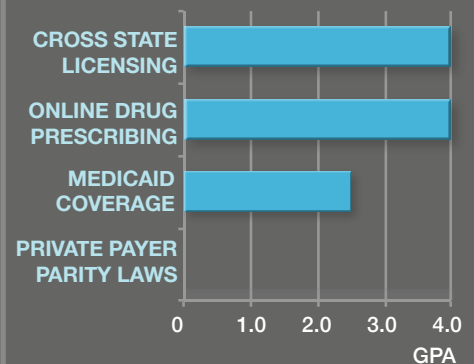


PRIVATE PAYER PARITY LAWS?

All health insurance plans must provide coverage for telemedicine services, including live video and store-and-forward, to the same extent as in-person consultations.

GRADE F GPA 0.0

GRADE AVERAGE BY CATEGORY



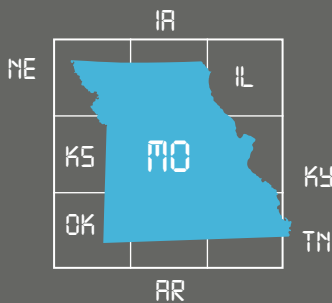
PHYSICIAN SHORTAGE CRISIS

Total Population	2,988,726
Number of Active Physicians	5,562
Rate per 100,000	186.1

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the baseline physician requirements per 100,000 population will reach a total of at least 291 physicians by 2020.



MISSOURI



BORDER STATES RANK

ARKANSAS	48
ILLINOIS	18
IOWA	13
KANSAS	8
KENTUCKY	37
NEBRASKA	26
OKLAHOMA	13
TENNESSEE	13

What the State Did Well: As a more rural state, Missouri has recognized the advantages of telehealth in bringing its residents more affordable and accessible medical care. The state allows maximum freedom for online drug prescribing and provides close to full Medicaid coverage for telehealth.

What the State Could Improve: The state would benefit from providing Medicaid coverage for telehealth services for psychiatric disorders and substance abuse which is an essential tool in combating the opioid epidemic.

What the State Did Poorly: Missouri does not allow physicians to practice across state lines. The state could embrace competition in the medical service industry and allow patients more freedom when choosing their doctor.



RANK

17

1 is the Best 50 is the Worst

State Overall Average GRADE



A is the Best F is the Worst

States overall grade and GPA is based on the states standing in the four most important state policy variables related to telehealth.

GPA

2.7

4.0 is the Best 0 is the Worst



DOES THE STATE ALLOW CROSS STATE LICENSING?

NO.

GRADE F GPA 0.0



DOES THE STATE ALLOW ONLINE DRUG PRESCRIBING?

A+ 4.0

Online Drug Prescribing YES.

A+

Only with In-Person Doctor Visit NO.

A+

Only for Non-Controlled Substances NO.

A+



DOES THE STATE PROVIDE MEDICAID COVERAGE?

B 3.0

Psychiatric Disorders Mental Health Addiction Treatment NO.

F

Store and Forward YES.

A+

Live Video YES.

A+

Remote Patient Monitoring YES.

A+

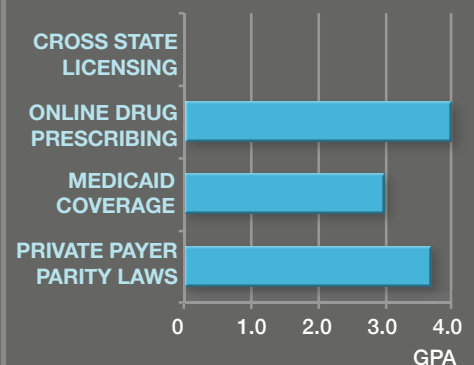


PRIVATE PAYER PARITY LAWS?

A- 3.7

A health carrier may not exclude an otherwise covered health care service from coverage solely because the service is provided through telehealth rather than face-to-face consultation or contact between a health care provider and a patient. A health carrier or health benefit plan may limit coverage for health care services that are provided through telehealth to health care providers that are in a network approved by the plan or the health carrier. No explicit payment requirement.

GRADE AVERAGE BY CATEGORY



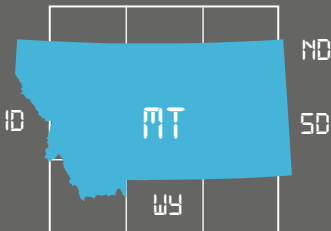
PHYSICIAN SHORTAGE CRISIS

Total Population	6,093,000
Number of Active Physicians	16,268
Rate per 100,000	267.0

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the baseline physician requirements per 100,000 population will reach a total of at least 291 physicians by 2020.



MONTANA



What the State Did Well: With its glacial lakes and soaring mountain tops the Big Sky Country's expansive landscape presents significant burdens when trying to connect doctors with patients. If Montana embraced the future of medical care through telehealth, more of its residents would receive the medical treatment they desperately need. The state has welcomed competition in the medical service industry by allowing physicians to practice across state lines.

What the State Did Poorly: Montana is one of eight states that completely bans online drug prescribing preventing the state's residents from receiving the vital prescriptions they need. Montana provides extremely poor Medicaid coverage for telehealth services which discourages its poor, rural communities from taking advantage of this easily accessible, affordable service and costs taxpayer dollars.

BORDER STATES RANK

IDAHO	35
NORTH DAKOTA	31
SOUTH DAKOTA	33
WYOMING	26



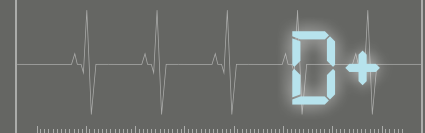
RANK

44

1 is the Best 50 is the Worst

State Overall Average

GRADE



A is the Best F is the Worst

States overall grade and GPA is based on the states standing in the four most important state policy variables related to telehealth.

GPA

1.3

4.0 is the Best 0 is the Worst



DOES THE STATE ALLOW CROSS STATE LICENSING?

GRADE GPA

A+ 4.0

YES.



DOES THE STATE ALLOW ONLINE DRUG PRESCRIBING?

F 0.0

Online Drug Prescribing NO.

F

Only with In-Person Doctor Visit NO.

F

Only for Non-Controlled Substances NO.

F



DOES THE STATE PROVIDE MEDICAID COVERAGE?

D 1.0

Psychiatric Disorders Mental Health Addiction Treatment NO.

F

Store and Forward NO.

F

Live Video YES.

A+

Remote Patient Monitoring NO.

F

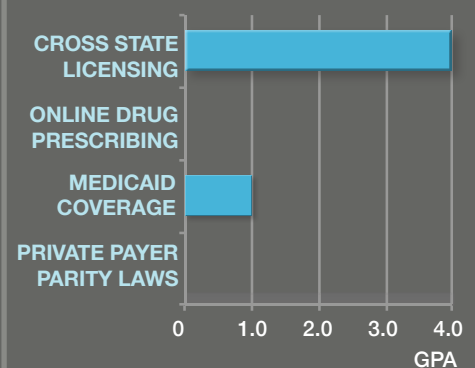


PRIVATE PAYER PARITY LAWS?

F 0.0

Private payers are required to provide coverage for services delivered through telemedicine if the services are otherwise covered by the policy, certificate, contract, or agreement. Coverage must be equivalent to the coverage for services that are provided in-person by a health care provider or health care facility.

GRADE AVERAGE BY CATEGORY



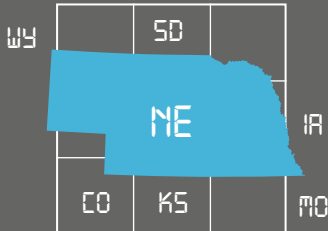
PHYSICIAN SHORTAGE CRISIS

Total Population	1,042,520
Number of Active Physicians	2,401
Rate per 100,000	230.3

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the baseline physician requirements per 100,000 population will reach a total of at least 291 physicians by 2020.



NEBRASKA



BORDER STATES RANK

COLORADO	1
IOWA	13
KANSAS	8
MISSOURI	17
SOUTH DAKOTA	33
WYOMING	26

What the State Did Well: Nebraska has embraced competition in the medical service industry by allowing physicians to practice across state lines. In addition, the state allows maximum freedom for online drug prescribing ensuring more residents easier access to medications they need.

What the State Did Poorly: The Cornhusker State could improve its shortage of mental health care providers by embracing the future of medical care through telehealth. Currently, the state provides poor Medicaid coverage for telehealth services and no coverage at all for psychiatric disorders or substance abuse treatment. The state has a private payer parity law negating the cost-effective benefits of telehealth.

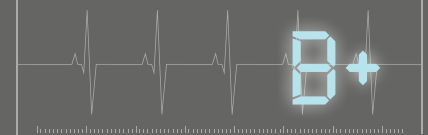


RANK

26

1 is the Best 50 is the Worst

State Overall Average GRADE



A is the Best F is the Worst

States overall grade and GPA is based on the states standing in the four most important state policy variables related to telehealth.

GPA

2.3

4.0 is the Best 0 is the Worst



DOES THE STATE ALLOW CROSS STATE LICENSING?

GRADE A+ GPA 4.0

YES.



DOES THE STATE ALLOW ONLINE DRUG PRESCRIBING?

GRADE A+ GPA 4.0

Online Drug Prescribing	YES.	A+
Only with In-Person Doctor Visit	NO.	A+
Only for Non-Controlled Substances	NO.	A+



DOES THE STATE PROVIDE MEDICAID COVERAGE?

GRADE D+ GPA 1.3

Psychiatric Disorders	NO.	F
Mental Health		
Addiction Treatment		

Store and Forward	YES. For tele-radiology.	D
-------------------	--------------------------	---

Live Video	YES. Under some circumstances.	C
------------	--------------------------------	---

Remote Patient Monitoring	YES. Under some circumstances.	C
---------------------------	--------------------------------	---

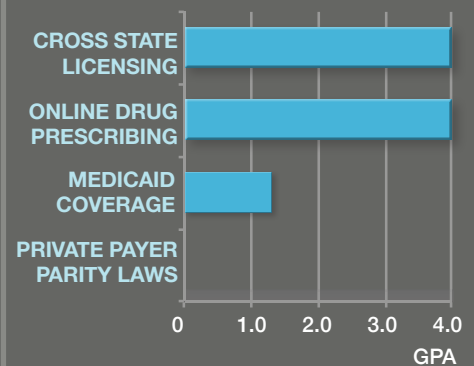


PRIVATE PAYER PARITY LAWS?

GRADE F GPA 0.0

Insurance companies must offer doctors the same reimbursement for telehealth services that they would for an identical service provided in-person. Private payers and self-funded employee benefit plans are prohibited from excluding a service from coverage solely because the service is delivered through telehealth and is not provided through in-person consultation or contact between a licensed health care provider and a patient. This does not apply to policies, certificates, contracts, or plans that provide coverage for a specified disease or other limited-benefit coverage.

GRADE AVERAGE BY CATEGORY



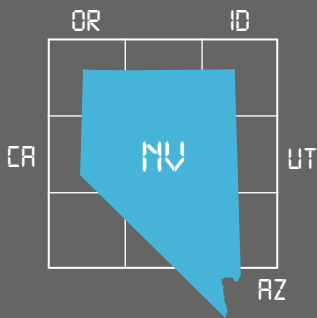
PHYSICIAN SHORTAGE CRISIS

Total Population	1,907,116
Number of Active Physicians	4,426
Rate per 100,000	232.1

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the baseline physician requirements per 100,000 population will reach a total of at least 291 physicians by 2020.



NEVADA



BORDER STATES RANK

ARIZONA	8
CALIFORNIA	40
IDAHO	35
OREGON	44
UTAH	2

What the State Did Well: The Battle Born State has taken big steps to welcome telehealth in the last few years. Nevada has allowed cross state licensing, allowing physicians to practice across state lines and protecting resident's ability to choose the best doctor. The state also allows maximum freedom for online drug prescribing which ensures residents have easier access to medications they need.

What the State Could Improve: Nevada does not provide full Medicaid coverage which discourages poor, rural citizens from receiving more affordable and accessible medical care. In addition, the state places onerous burdens on private insurers which negate the cost-effective benefits of telehealth.



RANK

25

1 is the Best 50 is the Worst

State Overall Average **GRADE**

A is the Best F is the Worst

States overall grade and GPA is based on the states standing in the four most important state policy variables related to telehealth.

GPA

2.3

4.0 is the Best 0 is the Worst



DOES THE STATE ALLOW CROSS STATE LICENSING?

YES.

GRADE A+ GPA 4.0



DOES THE STATE ALLOW ONLINE DRUG PRESCRIBING?

Online Drug Prescribing YES.

A+

GRADE A+ GPA 4.0

Only with In-Person Doctor Visit

A+

Only for Non-Controlled Substances

A+



DOES THE STATE PROVIDE MEDICAID COVERAGE?

Psychiatric Disorders
Mental Health
Addiction Treatment

NO.

F

GRADE D GPA 1.0

Store and Forward YES. Under some circumstances.

C

Live Video YES. Under some circumstances.

C

Remote Patient Monitoring

F

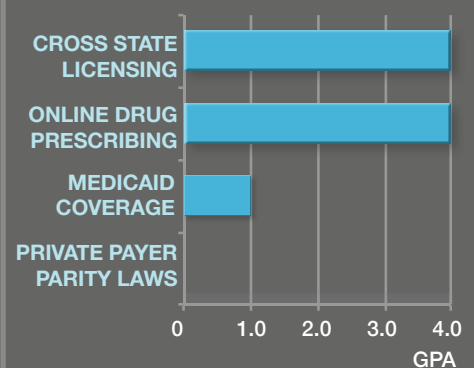


PRIVATE PAYER PARITY LAWS?

Every health plan policy issued must include coverage for services provided through telehealth to the same extent as through provided in-person or by other means.

GRADE F GPA 0.0

GRADE AVERAGE BY CATEGORY



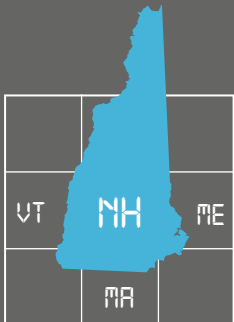
PHYSICIAN SHORTAGE CRISIS

Total Population	2,940,058
Number of Active Physicians	5,884
Rate per 100,000	200.1

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the baseline physician requirements per 100,000 population will reach a total of at least 291 physicians by 2020.



NEW HAMPSHIRE



BORDER STATES RANK

MAINE	23
MASSACHUSETTS	44
VERMONT	23

What the State Did Well: The state's biggest step forward in bringing telehealth to more of its residents was allowing physicians to practice across state lines which protects resident's ability to choose the best doctor.

What the State Did Poorly: The state stifles freedom for online drug prescribing which is a barrier to its citizens receiving the vital prescriptions they need. New Hampshire does not provide quality Medicaid coverage for telehealth services which discourages low-income communities from taking advantage of the cost-effective benefits of telehealth and costs taxpayer dollars.



RANK

18

1 is the Best 50 is the Worst

State Overall Average GRADE



A is the Best F is the Worst

States overall grade and GPA is based on the states standing in the four most important state policy variables related to telehealth.

GPA

2.6

4.0 is the Best 0 is the Worst



DOES THE STATE ALLOW CROSS STATE LICENSING?

GRADE GPA

A+ 4.0

YES.



DOES THE STATE ALLOW ONLINE DRUG PRESCRIBING?

C 2.0

Online Drug Prescribing YES.

A+

Only with In-Person Doctor Visit YES.

F

Only for Non-Controlled Substances YES.

F



DOES THE STATE PROVIDE MEDICAID COVERAGE?

F 0.5

Psychiatric Disorders
Mental Health
Addiction Treatment NO.

F

Store and Forward NO.

F

Live Video YES. Under some circumstances.

C

Remote Patient Monitoring NO.

F

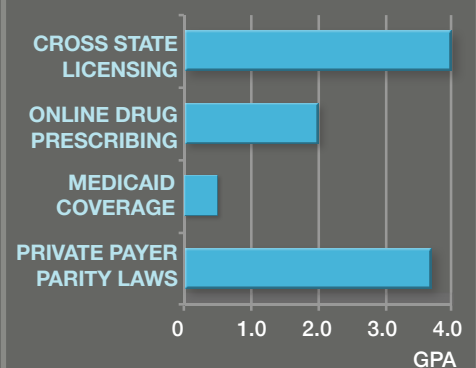


PRIVATE PAYER PARITY LAWS?

A- 3.7

Insurers may not deny coverage for services on the sole basis that the coverage is provided through telemedicine if the health care service would be covered if it were provided through in-person consultation between the covered person and a health care provider. No explicit payment parity.

GRADE AVERAGE BY CATEGORY



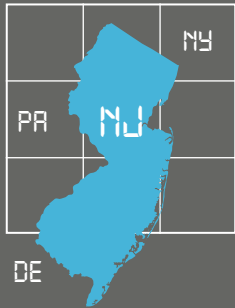
PHYSICIAN SHORTAGE CRISIS

Total Population	1,334,795
Number of Active Physicians	4,113
Rate per 100,000	308.1

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the baseline physician requirements per 100,000 population will reach a total of at least 291 physicians by 2020.



NEW JERSEY



BORDER STATES RANK

DELAWARE	40
NEW YORK	49
PENNSYLVANIA	23

What the State Did Poorly: New Jersey comes in last place when it comes to embracing the future of health care through telehealth. The state provides poor Medicaid coverage for telehealth services, has significant barriers to online drug prescribing, and places onerous burdens on private insurers negating the cost-effective benefits of telehealth. The state prevents physicians from practicing across state lines and restricts competition in the medical service industry. The state must reimagine the future of health care and embrace telehealth if they care about bringing more affordable and more easily accessible medical care to its citizens.



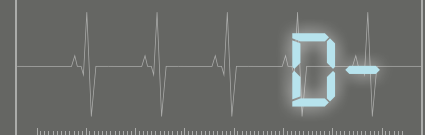
RANK

50

1 is the Best 50 is the Worst

State Overall Average

GRADE



A is the Best F is the Worst

States overall grade and GPA is based on the states standing in the four most important state policy variables related to telehealth.

GPA

0.8

4.0 is the Best 0 is the Worst



DOES THE STATE ALLOW CROSS STATE LICENSING?

NO.

GRADE F GPA 0.0



DOES THE STATE ALLOW ONLINE DRUG PRESCRIBING?

Online Drug Prescribing YES.

A+

Only with In-Person Doctor Visit YES.

F

Only for Non-Controlled Substances NO.

A+



DOES THE STATE PROVIDE MEDICAID COVERAGE?

Psychiatric Disorders YES. At certain eligible sites.
Mental Health
Addiction Treatment

C

Store and Forward NO.

F

Live Video YES. For tele-psychiatry.

D

Remote Patient Monitoring NO.

F

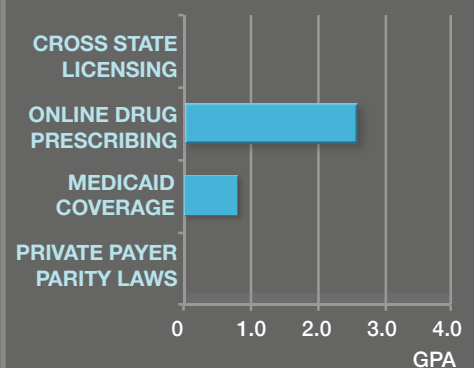


PRIVATE PAYER PARITY LAWS?

Insurers must provide coverage and payment for health services delivered through telemedicine or telehealth on the same basis as when the services are delivered through in-person contact and consultation.

GRADE F GPA 0.0

GRADE AVERAGE BY CATEGORY



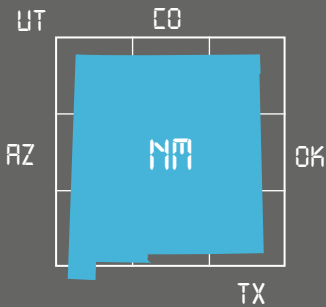
PHYSICIAN SHORTAGE CRISIS

Total Population	8,944,469
Number of Active Physicians	26,378
Rate per 100,000	294.9

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the baseline physician requirements per 100,000 population will reach a total of at least 291 physicians by 2020.



NEW MEXICO



What the State Did Well: New Mexico has embraced competition in the medical service industry by allowing physicians to practice across state lines. In addition, the state allows maximum freedom for online drug prescribing.

What the State Did Poorly: The state does not provide full Medicaid coverage for telehealth which discourage poor communities from taking advantages of these affordable and accessible services.

BORDER STATES RANK

ARIZONA	8
COLORADO	1
OKLAHOMA	13
TEXAS	2
UTAH	2

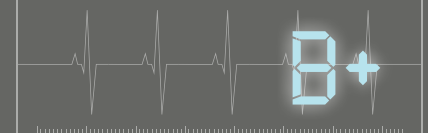


RANK

4

1 is the Best 50 is the Worst

State Overall Average GRADE



A is the Best F is the Worst

States overall grade and GPA is based on the states standing in the four most important state policy variables related to telehealth.

GPA

3.4

4.0 is the Best 0 is the Worst



DOES THE STATE ALLOW CROSS STATE LICENSING?

GRADE A+ GPA 4.0

YES. NM issues telemedicine licenses to providers who hold a full, unrestricted license in another state and has good moral character.



DOES THE STATE ALLOW ONLINE DRUG PRESCRIBING?

GRADE A+ GPA 4.0

Online Drug Prescribing	YES.	A+
Only with In-Person Doctor Visit	NO.	A+
Only for Non-Controlled Substances	NO.	A+



DOES THE STATE PROVIDE MEDICAID COVERAGE?

GRADE C GPA 2.0

Psychiatric Disorders	NO.	F
Mental Health		
Addiction Treatment		
Store and Forward	YES.	A+
Live Video	YES.	A+
Remote Patient Monitoring	NO.	F

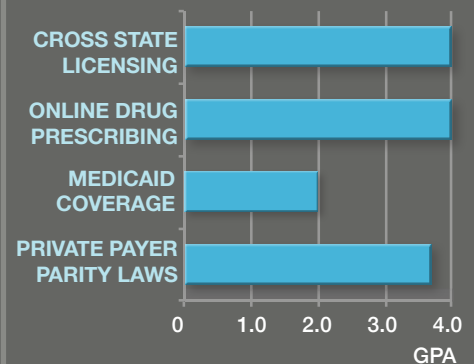


PRIVATE PAYER PARITY LAWS?

GRADE A- GPA 3.7

An insurer shall allow covered benefits to be provided through telemedicine services.

GRADE AVERAGE BY CATEGORY



PHYSICIAN SHORTAGE CRISIS

Total Population	2,081,015
Number of Active Physicians	5,023
Rate per 100,000	241.4

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the baseline physician requirements per 100,000 population will reach a total of at least 291 physicians by 2020.



NEW YORK



What the State Did Poorly: Telehealth could help New York solve the daunting combination of a doctor shortage and a growing opioid crisis and bring relief to its residents, especially those in rural areas. Unfortunately, the state has not made telehealth easily accessible to its citizens. New York has not embraced competition in the medical service industry and bans physicians from practicing across state lines which restricts patient's ability to choose the best doctor. In addition, the state bans online drug prescribing except for buprenorphine. New York does not provide full Medicaid coverage for telehealth services which discourages poor communities from using this affordable and easily accessible form of medical care.

BORDER STATES RANK

CONNECTICUT	6
MASSACHUSETTS	44
NEW JERSEY	50
PENNSYLVANIA	23
VERMONT	23



RANK

49

1 is the Best 50 is the Worst

State Overall Average GRADE



A is the Best F is the Worst

States overall grade and GPA is based on the states standing in the four most important state policy variables related to telehealth.

GPA

1.0

4.0 is the Best 0 is the Worst



DOES THE STATE ALLOW CROSS STATE LICENSING?

NO.

GRADE F GPA 0.0



DOES THE STATE ALLOW ONLINE DRUG PRESCRIBING?

Online Drug Prescribing NO. Only for buprenorphine.

F

GRADE F GPA 0.0

Only with In-Person Doctor Visit

Only for Non-Controlled Substances



DOES THE STATE PROVIDE MEDICAID COVERAGE?

Psychiatric Disorders Mental Health Addiction Treatment NO.

F

GRADE C GPA 2.0

Store and Forward YES. For dermatology and ophthalmology.

C

Live Video YES. For certain locations and services.

C

Remote Patient Monitoring YES.

A+

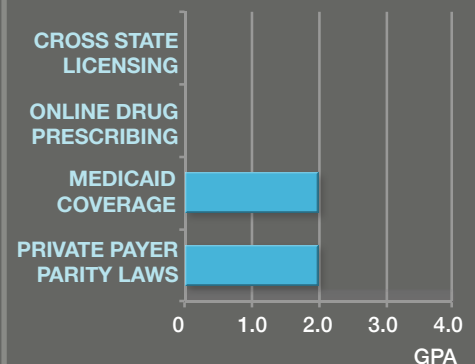


PRIVATE PAYER PARITY LAWS?

GRADE C GPA 2.0

A health plan shall not exclude from coverage services that are provided via telehealth if they would otherwise be covered under a policy, provided that an insurer may exclude coverage of a service by a health care provider where the provider is not otherwise covered under the policy.

GRADE AVERAGE BY CATEGORY



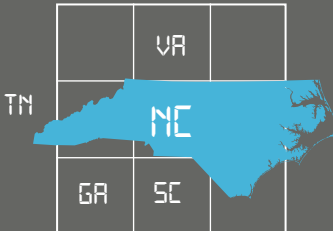
PHYSICIAN SHORTAGE CRISIS

Total Population	19,745,289
Number of Active Physicians	72,095
Rate per 100,000	365.1

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the baseline physician requirements per 100,000 population will reach a total of at least 291 physicians by 2020.



NORTH CAROLINA



What the State Did Poorly: Home of the nation's capital for opioid abuse, Wilmington, North Carolina could benefit greatly from telehealth. Unfortunately, North Carolina has been slow to adopt changes for the future of medical care. North Carolina is one of eight states who do not allow online drug prescribing which keeps its residents from receiving the vital medications they need. In addition, the state offers poor Medicaid coverage for telehealth and does not provide any coverage for addiction treatment which could reinforce state efforts to fight the opioid epidemic. The state also bans physicians from practicing across state lines which prevents competition in the medical service industry.

BORDER STATES RANK

GEORGIA	37
SOUTH CAROLINA	18
TENNESSEE	13
VIRGINIA	44



RANK

40

1 is the Best 50 is the Worst

State Overall Average GRADE



A is the Best F is the Worst

States overall grade and GPA is based on the states standing in the four most important state policy variables related to telehealth.

GPA

1.4

4.0 is the Best 0 is the Worst



DOES THE STATE ALLOW CROSS STATE LICENSING?

NO.

GRADE F GPA 0.0



DOES THE STATE ALLOW ONLINE DRUG PRESCRIBING?

Online Drug Prescribing NO.

F

GRADE F GPA 0.0

Only with In-Person Doctor Visit

F

Only for Non-Controlled Substances

F



DOES THE STATE PROVIDE MEDICAID COVERAGE?

Psychiatric Disorders
Mental Health
Addiction Treatment

YES. But no reference to coverage for addiction treatment.

B

GRADE C- GPA 1.8

Store and Forward

NO.

F

Live Video

YES.

A+

Remote Patient Monitoring

NO.

F

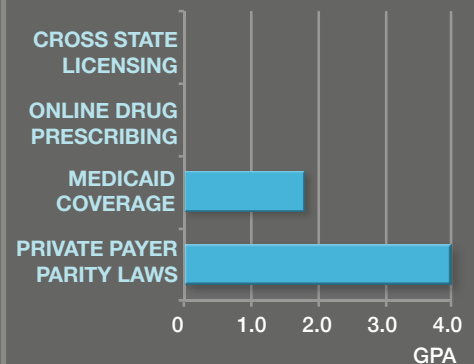


PRIVATE PAYER PARITY LAWS?

NONE.

GRADE A+ GPA 4.0

GRADE AVERAGE BY CATEGORY



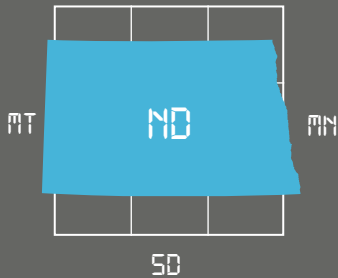
PHYSICIAN SHORTAGE CRISIS

Total Population	10,146,788
Number of Active Physicians	25,295
Rate per 100,000	249.3

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the baseline physician requirements per 100,000 population will reach a total of at least 291 physicians by 2020.



NORTH DAKOTA



What the State Did Well: North Dakota has embraced competition in the medical service industry by allowing physicians to practice across state lines. In addition, the state allows maximum freedom for online drug prescribing.

What the State Did Poorly: The state offers poor Medicaid coverage for telehealth services and does not provide any coverage for addiction treatment which could reinforce state efforts to fight the opioid epidemic. In addition, the state's private payer parity law negates the cost-effective benefits of telehealth.

BORDER STATES RANK

MINNESOTA	22
MONTANA	44
SOUTH DAKOTA	33



RANK

31

1 is the Best 50 is the Worst

State Overall Average **GRADE**

A is the Best F is the Worst

States overall grade and GPA is based on the states standing in the four most important state policy variables related to telehealth.

GPA

2.2

4.0 is the Best 0 is the Worst

**DOES THE STATE ALLOW CROSS STATE LICENSING?**

GRADE A GPA 4.0

YES. The ND Medical Board may engage in reciprocal licensing agreements with out-of-state licensing agencies but is not required to do so.

**DOES THE STATE ALLOW ONLINE DRUG PRESCRIBING?**

GRADE A+ GPA 4.0

Online Drug Prescribing	YES.	A+
Only with In-Person Doctor Visit	NO.	A+
Only for Non-Controlled Substances	NO.	A+

**DOES THE STATE PROVIDE MEDICAID COVERAGE?**

GRADE D- GPA 0.8

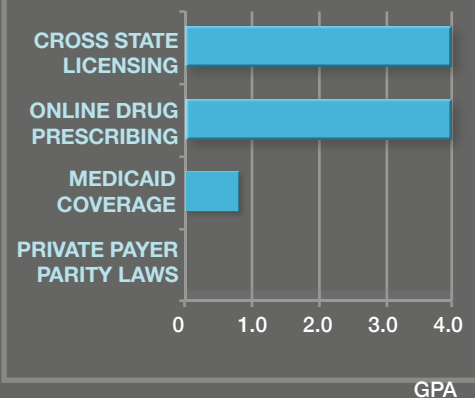
Psychiatric Disorders	NO.	F
Mental Health		
Addiction Treatment		
Store and Forward	NO.	F
Live Video	YES. For most services.	B
Remote Patient Monitoring	NO.	F

**PRIVATE PAYER PARITY LAWS?**

GRADE F GPA 0.0

An insurer must provide coverage for telehealth delivered services to the same extent as the same coverage for in-person services. They are not required to provide coverage for health services that are not medically necessary.

GRADE AVERAGE BY CATEGORY



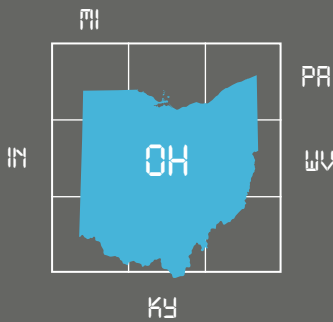
PHYSICIAN SHORTAGE CRISIS

Total Population	757,952
Number of Active Physicians	1,759
Rate per 100,000	232.1

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the baseline physician requirements per 100,000 population will reach a total of at least 291 physicians by 2020.



OHIO



What the State Did Well: The state allows maximum freedom for online drug prescribing ensuring more residents can receive the vital medications they need.

What the State Did Poorly: The state does not provide full Medicaid coverage for telehealth services which keeps its residents from receiving the vital medications they need. Ohio restricts competition in the medical service industry by not allowing physicians to practice across state lines.



RANK

26

1 is the Best 50 is the Worst

State Overall Average **GRADE**

A is the Best F is the Worst

States overall grade and GPA is based on the states standing in the four most important state policy variables related to telehealth.

GPA

2.3

4.0 is the Best 0 is the Worst

BORDER STATES RANK

INDIANA	35
KENTUCKY	37
MICHIGAN	33
PENNSYLVANIA	23
WEST VIRGINIA	8



DOES THE STATE ALLOW CROSS STATE LICENSING?

NO.

GRADE GPA

F 0.0



DOES THE STATE ALLOW ONLINE DRUG PRESCRIBING?

Online Drug Prescribing YES.

A+

A+ 4.0

Only with In-Person Doctor Visit NO.

A+

Only for Non-Controlled Substances NO.

A+



DOES THE STATE PROVIDE MEDICAID COVERAGE?

Psychiatric Disorders Mental Health Addiction Treatment NO.

F

D 1.0

Store and Forward NO.

F

Live Video YES.

A+

Remote Patient Monitoring NO.

F

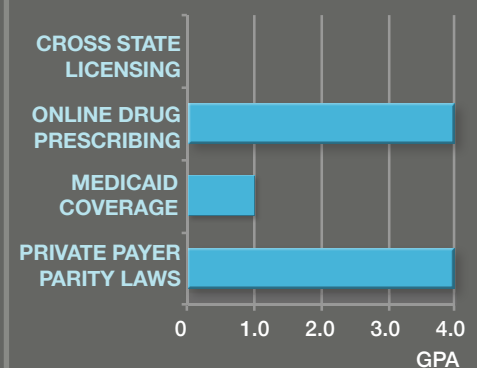


PRIVATE PAYER PARITY LAWS?

NONE.

A+ 4.0

GRADE AVERAGE BY CATEGORY



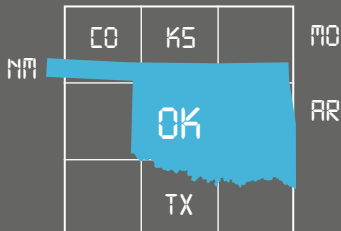
PHYSICIAN SHORTAGE CRISIS

Total Population	11,614,373
Number of Active Physicians	33,621
Rate per 100,000	289.5

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the baseline physician requirements per 100,000 population will reach a total of at least 291 physicians by 2020.



OKLAHOMA



What the State Did Well: The majority of Oklahoma's 77 counties are made up of rural communities. Fortunately for its residents, the future of healthcare in Oklahoma is looking to welcome telehealth as a solution. The state allows maximum freedom for online drug prescribing ensuring more residents can receive the vital medications they need. Oklahoma also provides full Medicaid coverage for telehealth services.

What the State Could Improve: The state could benefit from allowing physicians to practice across state lines and embracing competition in the medical service industry.

BORDER STATES RANK

ARKANSAS	48
COLORADO	1
KANSAS	8
MISSOURI	17
NEW MEXICO	4
TEXAS	2



RANK

13

1 is the Best 50 is the Worst

State Overall Average GRADE



A is the Best F is the Worst

States overall grade and GPA is based on the states standing in the four most important state policy variables related to telehealth.

GPA

2.8

4.0 is the Best 0 is the Worst



DOES THE STATE ALLOW CROSS STATE LICENSING?

NO.

GRADE F GPA 0.0



DOES THE STATE ALLOW ONLINE DRUG PRESCRIBING?

Online Drug Prescribing YES.

A+

A+ 4.0

Only with In-Person Doctor Visit NO.

A+

Only for Non-Controlled Substances NO.

A+



DOES THE STATE PROVIDE MEDICAID COVERAGE?

Psychiatric Disorders YES.
Mental Health
Addiction Treatment

A+

A+ 4.0

Store and Forward YES.

A+

Live Video YES.

A+

Remote Patient Monitoring YES.

A+

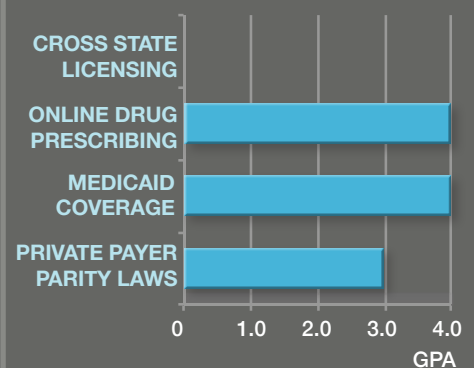


PRIVATE PAYER PARITY LAWS?

If a provider determines that telemedicine is an appropriate way to deliver care, an insurer cannot require face-to-face contact. No explicit payment parity.

B 3.0

GRADE AVERAGE BY CATEGORY



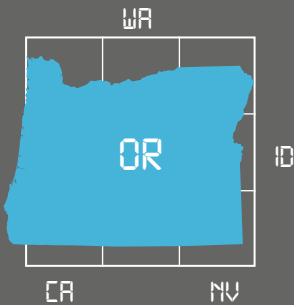
PHYSICIAN SHORTAGE CRISIS

Total Population	3,923,561
Number of Active Physicians	8,057
Rate per 100,000	205.3

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the baseline physician requirements per 100,000 population will reach a total of at least 291 physicians by 2020.



OREGON



What the State Did Poorly: As a state actively looking toward the future of tech and trying to embrace innovation, Oregon should do more to prepare for the future of health care. The state places significant barriers between physicians and patients in the practice of telehealth. Oregon is currently one of eight states that does not allow online drug prescribing. In addition, the state does not allow physicians to practice across state lines and prevents poor communities from receiving affordable, easily accessible medical treatment by not providing Medicaid coverage for telehealth.

BORDER STATES RANK

CALIFORNIA	40
IDAHO	35
NEVADA	26
WASHINGTON	6

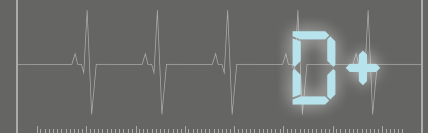


RANK

44

1 is the Best 50 is the Worst

State Overall Average GRADE



A is the Best F is the Worst

States overall grade and GPA is based on the states standing in the four most important state policy variables related to telehealth.

GPA

1.3

4.0 is the Best 0 is the Worst



DOES THE STATE ALLOW CROSS STATE LICENSING?

NO.

GRADE F GPA 0.0



DOES THE STATE ALLOW ONLINE DRUG PRESCRIBING?

Online Drug Prescribing NO.

F

GRADE F GPA 0.0

Only with In-Person Doctor Visit

F

Only for Non-Controlled Substances

F



DOES THE STATE PROVIDE MEDICAID COVERAGE?

Psychiatric Disorders YES.
Mental Health
Addiction Treatment

A+

GRADE D+ GPA 1.5

Store and Forward NO.

F

Live Video YES. Under some circumstances.

C

Remote Patient Monitoring NO.

F

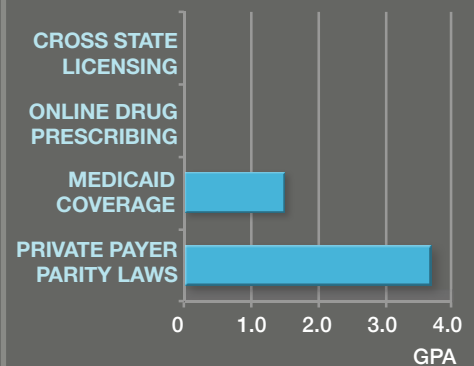


PRIVATE PAYER PARITY LAWS?

GRADE A- GPA 3.7

Health plans must provide coverage of a health service that is provided using synchronous two-way interactive video if the service would be covered when provided in-person, or it is a medically necessary service. Plans are not required to reimburse a health professional for a service that is not a covered benefit under the plan or who has not contracted the plan.

GRADE AVERAGE BY CATEGORY



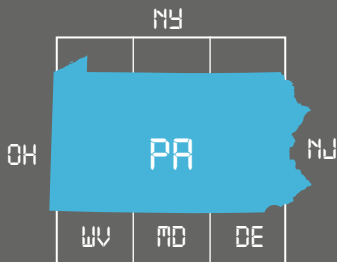
PHYSICIAN SHORTAGE CRISIS

Total Population	4,093,465
Number of Active Physicians	12,050
Rate per 100,000	294.4

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the baseline physician requirements per 100,000 population will reach a total of at least 291 physicians by 2020.



PENNSYLVANIA



What the State Did Well: Pennsylvania allows physicians to practice across state lines which protect Pennsylvanian's ability to choose the best doctor. The state provides Medicaid coverage for addiction treatment psychiatric disorders which is a step forward in fighting the opioid epidemic.

What the State Did Poorly: The state still has a long way to go in legalizing online drug prescribing and providing better Medicaid coverage for telehealth.



RANK

23

1 is the Best 50 is the Worst

State Overall Average **GRADE**

A is the Best F is the Worst

States overall grade and GPA is based on the states standing in the four most important state policy variables related to telehealth.

GPA

2.4

4.0 is the Best 0 is the Worst

BORDER STATES RANK

DELAWARE	40
MARYLAND	11
NEW JERSEY	50
NEW YORK	49
OHIO	26
WEST VIRGINIA	8



DOES THE STATE ALLOW CROSS STATE LICENSING?

GRADE A+ **GPA** 4.0

YES. Pennsylvania issues extraterritorial licenses that allow practice in Pennsylvania to physicians residing or practicing with unrestricted licenses in an adjoining state, near the Pennsylvania boundary, and whose practice extends into Pennsylvania.



DOES THE STATE ALLOW ONLINE DRUG PRESCRIBING?

GRADE F **GPA** 0.0

Online Drug Prescribing	NO.	F
Only with In-Person Doctor Visit	NO.	F
Only for Non-Controlled Substances	NO.	F



DOES THE STATE PROVIDE MEDICAID COVERAGE?

GRADE D+ **GPA** 1.5

Psychiatric Disorders Mental Health Addiction Treatment	YES.	A+
Store and Forward	NO.	F
Live Video	YES. Under some circumstances.	C
Remote Patient Monitoring	NO.	F

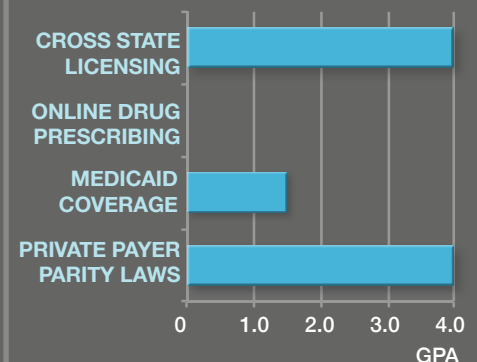


PRIVATE PAYER PARITY LAWS?

GRADE A+ **GPA** 4.0

NONE.

GRADE AVERAGE BY CATEGORY



PHYSICIAN SHORTAGE CRISIS

Total Population	12,784,227
Number of Active Physicians	39,863
Rate per 100,000	311.8

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the baseline physician requirements per 100,000 population will reach a total of at least 291 physicians by 2020.



RHODE ISLAND



What the State Did Poorly: Rhode Island is in the middle of a medical crisis. Doctors are leaving the state at a rapid pace leaving many Rhode Islander's without the medical care they deserve. The state has worsened this crisis by not allowing physicians to practice across state lines, providing poor Medicaid coverage for telehealth, and creating barriers to online drug prescribing. The state needs to embrace the future of healthcare through telemedicine if it hopes to solve this pending crisis.



RANK

37

1 is the Best 50 is the Worst

State Overall Average **GRADE**

A is the Best F is the Worst

States overall grade and GPA is based on the states standing in the four most important state policy variables related to telehealth.

GPA

1.6

4.0 is the Best 0 is the Worst

BORDER STATES RANK

CONNECTICUT	6
MASSACHUSETTS	44
NEW YORK	49



DOES THE STATE ALLOW CROSS STATE LICENSING?

NO.

GRADE F GPA 0.0



DOES THE STATE ALLOW ONLINE DRUG PRESCRIBING?

C+ 2.3

Online Drug Prescribing YES. A+

Only with In-Person Doctor Visit YES. F

Only for Non-Controlled Substances NO. Only if it is for a short duration. C



DOES THE STATE PROVIDE MEDICAID COVERAGE?

F 0.3

Psychiatric Disorders Mental Health Addiction Treatment NO. F

Store and Forward NO. F

Live Video YES. For inpatient consultation and follow-up consultation. D

Remote Patient Monitoring NO. F

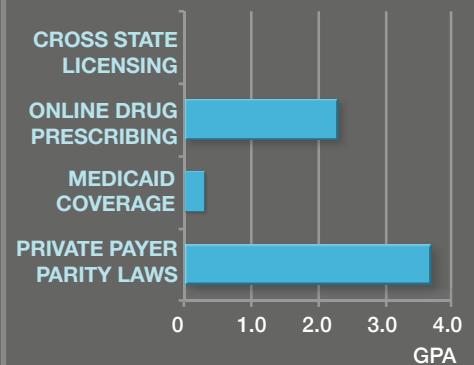


PRIVATE PAYER PARITY LAWS?

A- 3.7

A health insurer shall not exclude a health care service for coverage solely because the health care service is provided through telemedicine and is not provided through in-person consultation or contact.

GRADE AVERAGE BY CATEGORY



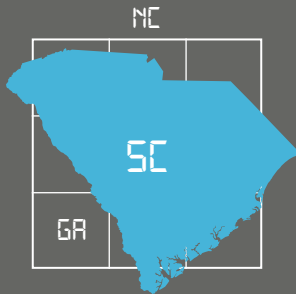
PHYSICIAN SHORTAGE CRISIS

Total Population	1,056,426
Number of Active Physicians	3,770
Rate per 100,000	356.9

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the baseline physician requirements per 100,000 population will reach a total of at least 291 physicians by 2020.



SOUTH CAROLINA



What the State Did Well: South Carolina allows private insurers to negotiate affordable rates for telehealth services with health care providers.

What the State Did Poorly: South Carolina has resisted competition in the medical service industry by not allowing physicians to practice across state lines. The state does not provide full Medicaid coverage for telehealth services and requires an in-person doctor visit for online drug prescribing.



RANK

18

1 is the Best 50 is the Worst

State Overall Average

GRADE



A is the Best F is the Worst

States overall grade and GPA is based on the states standing in the four most important state policy variables related to telehealth.

GPA

2.6

4.0 is the Best 0 is the Worst

BORDER STATES RANK

GEORGIA	37
NORTH CAROLINA	40

 **DOES THE STATE ALLOW CROSS STATE LICENSING?** **GRADE F GPA 0.0**

NO.

 **DOES THE STATE ALLOW ONLINE DRUG PRESCRIBING?** **GRADE B GPA 3.4**

Online Drug Prescribing	YES.	A+
-------------------------	------	----

Only with In-Person Doctor Visit	NO.	A+
----------------------------------	-----	----

Only for Non-Controlled Substances	YES.	F
------------------------------------	------	---

 **DOES THE STATE PROVIDE MEDICAID COVERAGE?** **GRADE B GPA 3.0**

Psychiatric Disorders	YES.	A+
Mental Health		
Addiction Treatment		

Store and Forward	NO.	F
-------------------	-----	---

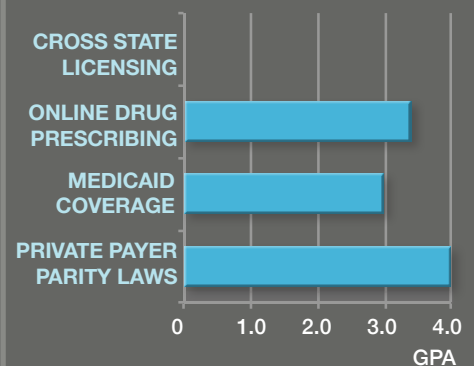
Live Video	YES.	A+
------------	------	----

Remote Patient Monitoring	YES.	A+
---------------------------	------	----

 **PRIVATE PAYER PARITY LAWS?** **GRADE A+ GPA 4.0**

NONE.

GRADE AVERAGE BY CATEGORY



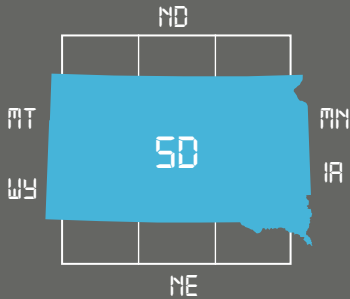
PHYSICIAN SHORTAGE CRISIS

Total Population	4,961,119
Number of Active Physicians	11,269
Rate per 100,000	227.1

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the baseline physician requirements per 100,000 population will reach a total of at least 291 physicians by 2020.



SOUTH DAKOTA



What the State Did Well: Obtaining quality medical care is difficult for the residents of rural South Dakota. The Mount Rushmore state has taken a significant step to ensure their rural residents to not get left behind by allowing physicians to practice across state lines. The state does not have a private payer parity law and allows patients to reap the cost-effective benefits of telehealth.

What the State Did Poorly: South Dakota currently bans online drug prescribing and provides little to no Medicaid coverage.

BORDER STATES RANK

IOWA	13
MINNESOTA	22
MONTANA	44
NEBRASKA	26
NORTH DAKOTA	31
WYOMING	26



RANK

33

1 is the Best 50 is the Worst

State Overall Average **GRADE**

A is the Best F is the Worst

States overall grade and GPA is based on the states standing in the four most important state policy variables related to telehealth.

GPA

2.1

4.0 is the Best 0 is the Worst



DOES THE STATE ALLOW CROSS STATE LICENSING?

GRADE GPA

A+ 4.0

YES.



DOES THE STATE ALLOW ONLINE DRUG PRESCRIBING?

F 0.0

Online Drug Prescribing NO. F

Only with In-Person Doctor Visit NO. F

Only for Non-Controlled Substances NO. F



DOES THE STATE PROVIDE MEDICAID COVERAGE?

F 0.5

Psychiatric Disorders Mental Health Addiction Treatment NO. F

Store and Forward NO. F

Live Video YES. Under some circumstances. C

Remote Patient Monitoring NO. F

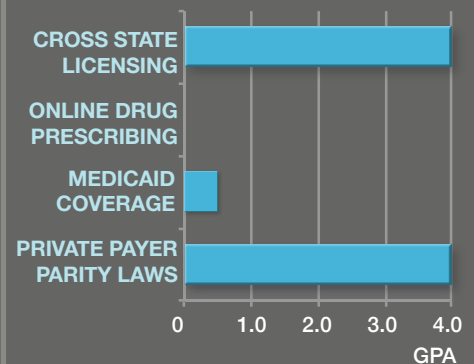


PRIVATE PAYER PARITY LAWS?

A+ 4.0

NONE.

GRADE AVERAGE BY CATEGORY



PHYSICIAN SHORTAGE CRISIS

Total Population	865,454
Number of Active Physicians	2,038
Rate per 100,000	235.5

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the baseline physician requirements per 100,000 population will reach a total of at least 291 physicians by 2020.



TENNESSEE



What the State Did Well: Tennessee has made strides in recent years toward embracing the future of health care through telemedicine. The state allows physicians to practice across state lines which protects patient's ability to choose the best doctor and allows maximum freedom for online drug prescribing ensuring patients receive the vital medications they need.

What the State Could Improve: Tennessee could provide Medicaid coverage for remote patient monitoring in the future and reform its private payer parity laws to allow patients to reap the cost-effective benefits of telehealth.

BORDER STATES RANK

ALABAMA	5
ARKANSAS	48
GEORGIA	37
KENTUCKY	37
MISSISSIPPI	18
MISSOURI	17
NORTH CAROLINA	40
VIRGINIA	44


RANK
13

1 is the Best 50 is the Worst

State Overall Average

GRADE


A is the Best F is the Worst

States overall grade and GPA is based on the states standing in the four most important state policy variables related to telehealth.

GPA
3.3

4.0 is the Best 0 is the Worst



DOES THE STATE ALLOW CROSS STATE LICENSING?

YES.

GRADE GPA
A+ 4.0


DOES THE STATE ALLOW ONLINE DRUG PRESCRIBING?

Online Drug Prescribing YES.

A+
A+ 4.0

Only with In-Person Doctor Visit NO.

A+

Only for Non-Controlled Substances NO.

A+


DOES THE STATE PROVIDE MEDICAID COVERAGE?

 Psychiatric Disorders YES.
 Mental Health
 Addiction Treatment

A+
B 3.0

Store and Forward YES

A+

Live Video YES.

A+

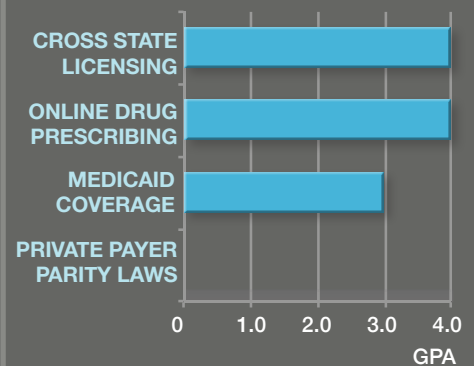
Remote Patient Monitoring NO.

F
F 0.0


PRIVATE PAYER PARITY LAWS?

A health insurance entity shall provide coverage for healthcare services provided during a telehealth encounter in a manner that is consistent with what the health insurance policy or contract provides for in-person encounters for the same service. Health insurance entities participating in the medical assistance program are required to provide coverage for telehealth (which includes live video) delivered services in a manner that is consistent with the health insurance policy or contract provided for in-person services.

GRADE AVERAGE BY CATEGORY



PHYSICIAN SHORTAGE CRISIS

Total Population	6,651,194
Number of Active Physicians	16,627
Rate per 100,000	250.0

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the baseline physician requirements per 100,000 population will reach a total of at least 291 physicians by 2020.



TEXAS



What the State Did Well: In 2018, Texas took a big step forward in embracing the future of healthcare by allowing maximum freedom for online drug prescribing. This ensures that more Texan's can receive the vital medications they need. Texas allows physicians to practice across state lines and encourages competition in the medical service industry.

What the State Could Improve: The state offers good Medicaid coverage for telehealth services but lacks coverage for psychiatric disorders and substance abuse which would help the state combat the growing opioid epidemic.

BORDER STATES RANK

ARKANSAS	48
LOUISIANA	26
NEW MEXICO	4
OKLAHOMA	13



RANK

2

1 is the Best 50 is the Worst

State Overall Average GRADE



A is the Best F is the Worst

States overall grade and GPA is based on the states standing in the four most important state policy variables related to telehealth.

GPA

3.5

4.0 is the Best 0 is the Worst



DOES THE STATE ALLOW CROSS STATE LICENSING?

GRADE GPA

A+ 4.0

YES. A telemedicine license may be issued for out of state providers



DOES THE STATE ALLOW ONLINE DRUG PRESCRIBING?

A+ 4.0

Online Drug Prescribing	YES.	A+
Only with In-Person Doctor Visit	NO.	A+
Only for Non-Controlled Substances	NO.	A+



DOES THE STATE PROVIDE MEDICAID COVERAGE?

B 3.0

Psychiatric Disorders	NO.	F
Mental Health		
Addiction Treatment		
Store and Forward	YES.	A+
Live Video	YES.	A+
Remote Patient Monitoring	YES.	A+

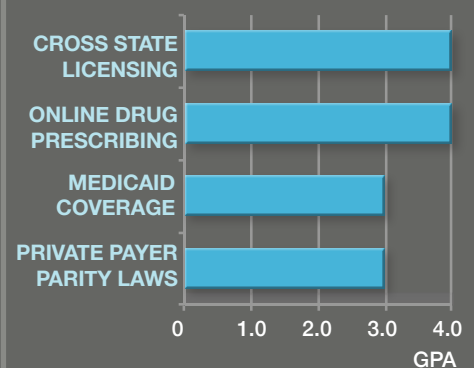


PRIVATE PAYER PARITY LAWS?

B 3.0

Prohibits a health benefit plan from excluding from coverage a service delivered as a telemedicine medical service or a telehealth service solely because the service is not provided in-person.

GRADE AVERAGE BY CATEGORY



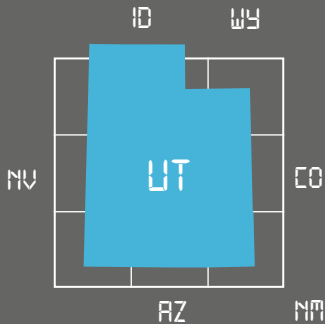
PHYSICIAN SHORTAGE CRISIS

Total Population	27,862,596
Number of Active Physicians	61,132
Rate per 100,000	219.4

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the baseline physician requirements per 100,000 population will reach a total of at least 291 physicians by 2020.



UTAH



BORDER STATES RANK

ARIZONA	8
COLORADO	1
IDAHO	35
NEW MEXICO	4
NEVADA	26
WYOMING	26

What the State Did Well: Utah acts as a model for other states when it comes to reimagining the doctor-patient relationship and embracing the future of health care in telemedicine to provide better health care to its residents. Utah has embraced competition in the medical service industry by allowing physicians to practice across state lines and protecting patient's ability to choose the best doctor. The state allows maximum freedom for online drug prescribing which gives patients access to the vital medications they need. In addition, the state does not place any onerous burdens on private insurers' ability to cover telehealth services. However, there is still room for improvement.

What the State Could Improve: The state could provide full Medicaid coverage for telehealth services and encourage its poor, rural communities to use this affordable and efficient form of medical care.



RANK

2

1 is the Best 50 is the Worst

State Overall Average

GRADE



A is the Best F is the Worst

States overall grade and GPA is based on the states standing in the four most important state policy variables related to telehealth.

GPA

3.5

4.0 is the Best 0 is the Worst



DOES THE STATE ALLOW CROSS STATE LICENSING?

GRADE A+ GPA 4.0

YES. A special purpose license allowing practitioners licensed in other states to practice across state lines may be issued.



DOES THE STATE ALLOW ONLINE DRUG PRESCRIBING?

GRADE A+ GPA 4.0

Online Drug Prescribing	YES.	A+
Only with In-Person Doctor Visit	NO.	A+
Only for Non-Controlled Substances	NO.	A+



DOES THE STATE PROVIDE MEDICAID COVERAGE?

GRADE C+ GPA 2.3

Psychiatric Disorders	YES.	A+
Mental Health		
Addiction Treatment		
Store and Forward	NO.	F
Live Video	YES.	A+
Remote Patient Monitoring	YES. For patients with long-term cardiac health issues.	D

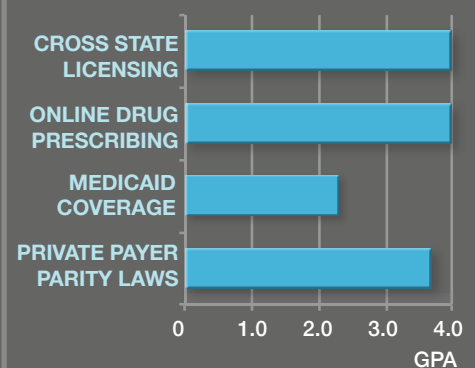


PRIVATE PAYER PARITY LAWS?

GRADE A- GPA 3.7

Coverage only required for telepsychiatry services. No explicit payment parity.

GRADE AVERAGE BY CATEGORY



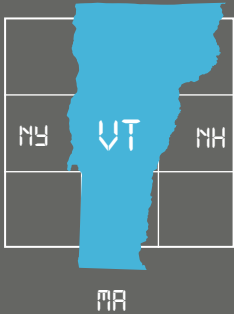
PHYSICIAN SHORTAGE CRISIS

Total Population	3,051,217
Number of Active Physicians	6,389
Rate per 100,000	209.4

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the baseline physician requirements per 100,000 population will reach a total of at least 291 physicians by 2020.



VERMONT



BORDER STATES RANK

MASSACHUSETTS	44
NEW HAMPSHIRE	18
NEW YORK	49

What the State Did Well: Vermont has taken two important steps toward allowing more residents to enjoy the affordable and easily accessible benefits of telehealth. The state allows physicians to practice across state lines which protects patient's ability to choose the best doctor. Vermont also allows maximum freedom for online drug prescribing which ensures more patients receive the vital medications they need.

What the State Did Poorly: Providing full Medicaid coverage for telehealth services and fixing private payer parity laws are two areas of reform Vermont could look to in the future.

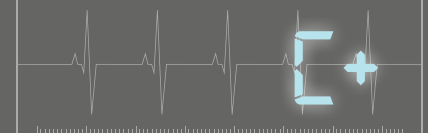


RANK

23

1 is the Best 50 is the Worst

State Overall Average GRADE



A is the Best F is the Worst

States overall grade and GPA is based on the states standing in the four most important state policy variables related to telehealth.

GPA

2.4

4.0 is the Best 0 is the Worst



DOES THE STATE ALLOW CROSS STATE LICENSING?

GRADE GPA

A+ 4.0

YES.



DOES THE STATE ALLOW ONLINE DRUG PRESCRIBING?

A+ 4.0

Online Drug Prescribing YES.

A+

Only with In-Person Doctor Visit NO.

A+

Only for Non-Controlled Substances NO.

A+



DOES THE STATE PROVIDE MEDICAID COVERAGE?

D+ 1.5

Psychiatric Disorders Mental Health Addiction Treatment NO.

F

Store and Forward NO.

F

Live Video YES. Under certain circumstances.

C

Remote Patient Monitoring YES.

A+

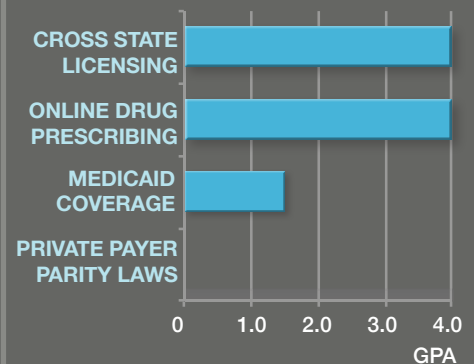


PRIVATE PAYER PARITY LAWS?

F 0.0

For live video, plans are required to cover services provided through telemedicine to the same extent the plan covers services provided in-person. For store-and-forward, plans are allowed but not required to reimburse for tele-ophthalmology and tele-dermatology.

GRADE AVERAGE BY CATEGORY



PHYSICIAN SHORTAGE CRISIS

Total Population	624,594
Number of Active Physicians	2,233
Rate per 100,000	357.5

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the baseline physician requirements per 100,000 population will reach a total of at least 291 physicians by 2020.



VIRGINIA



BORDER STATES RANK

KENTUCKY	37
MARYLAND	11
NORTH CAROLINA	40
TENNESSEE	13
WEST VIRGINIA	8

What the State Did Well: The state allows maximum freedom for online drug prescribing which ensures more residents will receive the vital medications they need.

What the State Did Poorly: The state could provide full Medicaid coverage for telehealth services and encourage its poor, rural communities to use this affordable and efficient form of medical care. Virginia could reform its private payer parity laws to allow patients to reap the cost-effective benefits of telehealth. In addition, the state could embrace competition in the medical service industry by allowing physicians to practice across state lines.



RANK

44

1 is the Best 50 is the Worst

State Overall Average

GRADE



A is the Best F is the Worst

States overall grade and GPA is based on the states standing in the four most important state policy variables related to telehealth.

GPA

1.3

4.0 is the Best 0 is the Worst



DOES THE STATE ALLOW CROSS STATE LICENSING?

NO.

GRADE **F**
GPA **0.0**



DOES THE STATE ALLOW ONLINE DRUG PRESCRIBING?

Online Drug Prescribing YES.

A+

GRADE **A+**
GPA **4.0**

Only with In-Person Doctor Visit NO.

A+

Only for Non-Controlled Substances NO.

A+



DOES THE STATE PROVIDE MEDICAID COVERAGE?

Psychiatric Disorders Mental Health Addiction Treatment NO.

F

GRADE **D+**
GPA **1.3**

Store and Forward YES. For radiology, diabetic retinopathy, tele-dermatology.

C

Live Video YES. Under some circumstances.

C

Remote Patient Monitoring YES. For continuous glucose monitoring limited to type I and type II diabetes.

D

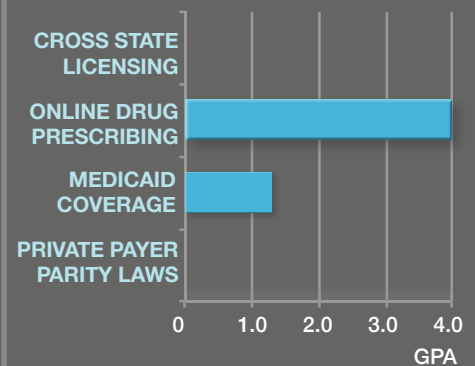


PRIVATE PAYER PARITY LAWS?

An insurer shall not exclude a service for coverage solely because the service is provided through telemedicine services. The treating provider or consulting provider must be reimbursed on the same basis that the insurer is responsible for coverage for the provision of services face-to-face.

GRADE **F**
GPA **0.0**

GRADE AVERAGE BY CATEGORY



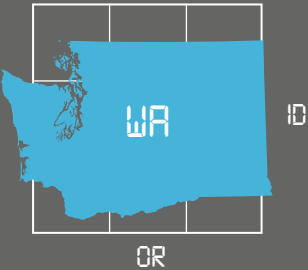
PHYSICIAN SHORTAGE CRISIS

Total Population	8,411,808
Number of Active Physicians	22,072
Rate per 100,000	262.4

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the baseline physician requirements per 100,000 population will reach a total of at least 291 physicians by 2020.



WASHINGTON



What the State Did Well: The state has embraced competition in the medical service industry by allowing physicians to practice across state lines.

What the State Did Poorly: Washington has an in-person relationship requirement for online drug prescribing which acts as a barrier for residents to receive the vital medications they need. The state is close to providing full Medicaid coverage for telehealth services but does not provide coverage for addiction treatment and all store and forward services.

BORDER STATES RANK

IDAHO	35
OREGON	44

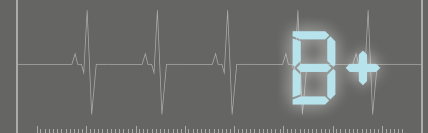


RANK

6

1 is the Best 50 is the Worst

State Overall Average GRADE



A is the Best F is the Worst

States overall grade and GPA is based on the states standing in the four most important state policy variables related to telehealth.

GPA

3.2

4.0 is the Best 0 is the Worst



DOES THE STATE ALLOW CROSS STATE LICENSING?

GRADE GPA

A+ 4.0

YES.



DOES THE STATE ALLOW ONLINE DRUG PRESCRIBING?

C+ 2.6

Online Drug Prescribing YES.

A+

Only with In-Person Doctor Visit YES.

F

Only for Non-Controlled Substances NO.

A+



DOES THE STATE PROVIDE MEDICAID COVERAGE?

B+ 3.3

Psychiatric Disorders Mental Health Addiction Treatment YES. For psychiatric disorders, but no reference to coverage for addiction treatment.

B

Store and Forward YES. For tele-dermatology and tele-dentistry.

C

Live Video YES.

A+

Remote Patient Monitoring YES.

A+

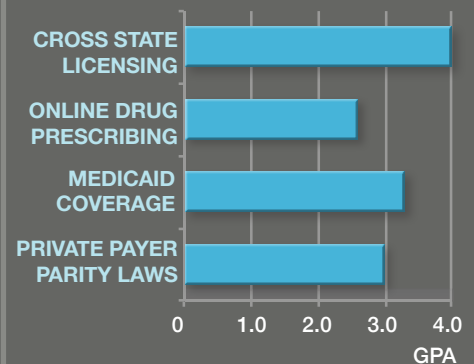


PRIVATE PAYER PARITY LAWS?

B 3.0

Insurers must reimburse a provider for services delivered through telemedicine or store-and-forward if the plan provides coverage when provided in-person.

GRADE AVERAGE BY CATEGORY



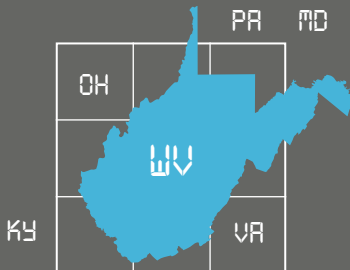
PHYSICIAN SHORTAGE CRISIS

Total Population	7,288,000
Number of Active Physicians	19,623
Rate per 100,000	269.3

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the baseline physician requirements per 100,000 population will reach a total of at least 291 physicians by 2020.



WEST VIRGINIA



BORDER STATES RANK

KENTUCKY	37
MARYLAND	11
OHIO	26
PENNSYLVANIA	23
VIRGINIA	44

What the State Did Well: West Virginia ranks amidst the top ten of states for allowing physicians to practice across state lines and placing no onerous burdens on private insurers choice to cover telehealth services.

What the State Did Poorly: As a state with 29% of its population enrolled in Medicaid, West Virginia could save taxpayer dollars and provide better, more accessible medical treatment to its poor and rural communities by providing full Medicaid coverage for telehealth services. In addition, the state could allow maximum freedom for online drug prescribing and ensure more residents receive the vital medications they need.



RANK



1 is the Best 50 is the Worst

State Overall Average GRADE



A is the Best F is the Worst

States overall grade and GPA is based on the states standing in the four most important state policy variables related to telehealth.

GPA

3.1

4.0 is the Best 0 is the Worst



DOES THE STATE ALLOW CROSS STATE LICENSING?

YES.

GRADE A+ GPA 4.0



DOES THE STATE ALLOW ONLINE DRUG PRESCRIBING?

Online Drug Prescribing YES.

A+

GRADE B+ GPA 3.4

Only with In-Person Doctor Visit NO.

A+

Only for Non-Controlled Substances YES.

F



DOES THE STATE PROVIDE MEDICAID COVERAGE?

Psychiatric Disorders
Mental Health
Addiction Treatment NO.

F

GRADE D GPA 1.0

Store and Forward NO.

F

Live Video YES.

A+

Remote Patient Monitoring NO.

F

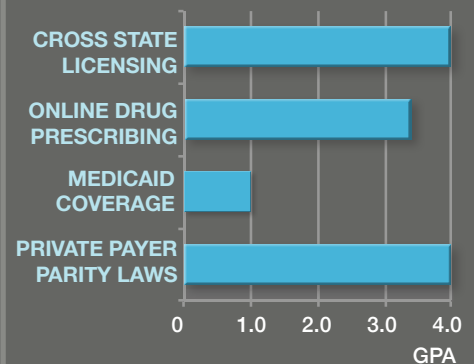


PRIVATE PAYER PARITY LAWS?

NONE.

GRADE A+ GPA 4.0

GRADE AVERAGE BY CATEGORY



PHYSICIAN SHORTAGE CRISIS

Total Population	1,831,102
Number of Active Physicians	4,671
Rate per 100,000	255.1

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the baseline physician requirements per 100,000 population will reach a total of at least 291 physicians by 2020.



WISCONSIN



BORDER STATES RANK

ILLINOIS	18
IOWA	13
MICHIGAN	33
MINNESOTA	22

What the State Did Well: Wisconsin's health system is finding innovative ways to improve medical treatment. The state has opened a tablet-based telehealth program at Marshfield Clinic, to help patients with heart failure. The tablets connect to biometric Bluetooth devices which take the patient's heart rate, blood pressure, and weight. The patient's vital signs are transmitted in real time to the tablets where they are readily available to the patient's nurse. This type of ground-breaking medical treatment would not be possible without Wisconsin's efforts to make telehealth available to its residents such as allowing physicians to practice across state lines and placing no onerous burdens on private insurers' choice to cover telehealth services.

What the State Did Poorly: The state could improve its regulations for online drug prescribing and provide full Medicaid coverage for telehealth services.



RANK



1 is the Best 50 is the Worst

State Overall Average GRADE



A is the Best F is the Worst

States overall grade and GPA is based on the states standing in the four most important state policy variables related to telehealth.

GPA

3.0

4.0 is the Best 0 is the Worst



DOES THE STATE ALLOW CROSS STATE LICENSING?

GRADE GPA

A+ 4.0

YES.



DOES THE STATE ALLOW ONLINE DRUG PRESCRIBING?

C+ 2.6

Online Drug Prescribing YES.

A+

Only with In-Person Doctor Visit YES.

F

Only for Non-Controlled Substances NO.

A+



DOES THE STATE PROVIDE MEDICAID COVERAGE?

D+ 1.3

Psychiatric Disorders YES. But no reference to coverage for addiction treatment. B

Store and Forward NO.

F

Live Video YES. Under some circumstances. C

Remote Patient Monitoring NO.

F

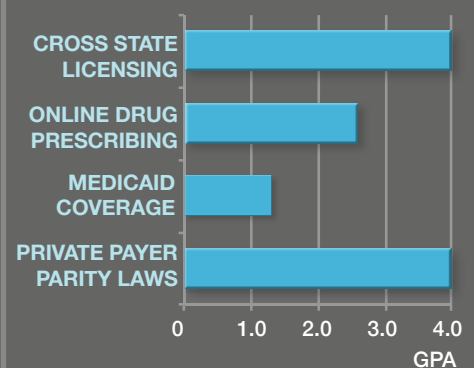


PRIVATE PAYER PARITY LAWS?

A+ 4.0

NONE.

GRADE AVERAGE BY CATEGORY



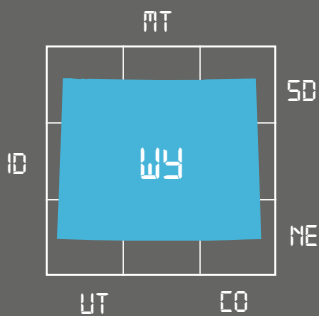
PHYSICIAN SHORTAGE CRISIS

Total Population	5,778,708
Number of Active Physicians	15,026
Rate per 100,000	260.0

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the baseline physician requirements per 100,000 population will reach a total of at least 291 physicians by 2020.



WYOMING



BORDER STATES RANK

COLORADO	1
IDAHO	35
MINNESOTA	22
NEBRASKA	26
SOUTH DAKOTA	33
UTAH	2

What the State Did Well: The state allows physicians to practice across state lines which protects patient's ability to choose the best doctor. Wyoming also places no onerous burdens on private insurers' choice to cover telehealth services.

What the State Did Poorly: As the least populous and most rural state in the nation, Wyoming could look to telehealth to bring more affordable and accessible medical care to its residents. The state currently bans online drug prescribing which prevents residents from receiving the vital medications they need. Wyoming also does not provide full Medicaid coverage for telehealth services which discourages its poor, rural communities from taking advantage of this new and innovative technology.



RANK

25

1 is the Best 50 is the Worst

State Overall Average GRADE



A is the Best F is the Worst

States overall grade and GPA is based on the states standing in the four most important state policy variables related to telehealth.

GPA

2.3

4.0 is the Best 0 is the Worst



DOES THE STATE ALLOW CROSS STATE LICENSING?

GRADE A+ GPA 4.0

YES.



DOES THE STATE ALLOW ONLINE DRUG PRESCRIBING?

GRADE F GPA 0.0

Online Drug Prescribing	NO.	F
Only with In-Person Doctor Visit	NO.	F
Only for Non-Controlled Substances	NO	F
Psychiatric Disorders	NO.	F
Mental Health		
Addiction Treatment		
Store and Forward	NO.	F
Live Video	YES.	A+
Remote Patient Monitoring	NO.	F



DOES THE STATE PROVIDE MEDICAID COVERAGE?

GRADE D GPA 1.0

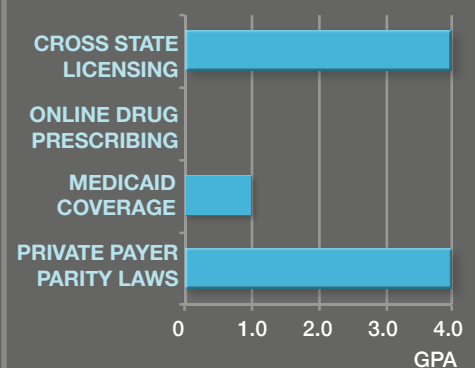


PRIVATE PAYER PARITY LAWS?

GRADE A+ GPA 4.0

NONE.

GRADE AVERAGE BY CATEGORY



PHYSICIAN SHORTAGE CRISIS

Total Population	585,501
Number of Active Physicians	1,165
Rate per 100,000	199.0

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the baseline physician requirements per 100,000 population will reach a total of at least 291 physicians by 2020.



American Legislative Exchange Council

2900 Crystal Drive, Suite 600

Arlington, VA 22202

P: 703.373.0933 • F: 703.373.0927

www.alec.org