

Spotlight on State: Wisconsin

This is part of a [series of summaries](#) that highlight notable legislation and initiatives in health policy and reform of all 50 states. Check back on The Source as we roll out additional states each week.

See [Wisconsin](#) state page.

Wisconsin operates one of the largest private APCDs in the country, even though it is not mandated by statute. The Wisconsin Health Information Organization (WHIO), a private organization, gathers and makes healthcare claims data publicly accessible. With insurance claims data from sixteen commercial health plans and the state Medicaid program, the database provides consumers information about cost, population health, prescribing patterns, and more.

Wisconsin confers merger review authority of healthcare consolidation to the attorney general for all nonprofit hospitals. Not only does it mandate notice to the AG, it requires approval from both the AG and relevant state agencies.

In healthcare market regulation, Wisconsin received a \$2.4 million grant from CMS in 2014 to develop a state innovation plan to reduce Medicare and Medicaid costs. Wisconsin was one of the first five states to [receive an approved 1332 waiver](#) from the federal government. Recent state law mandates the Wisconsin Health Care Stability Plan (WIHSP), a publicly-funded reinsurance program, to expand access to care, reduce premium increases, keep more individuals insured, and entice insurers to offer insurance plans in the state. The program will pay insurers up to eighty percent of claims greater than \$50,000 but less than \$250,000. Wisconsin's 1332 [State Innovation Waiver](#) to implement WIHSP was approved by HHS through 2023.

See below for an overview of existing Wisconsin state mandates. Click on citation tab for detailed information of specific statutes (click link to download statute text).