



HOSPICE
ANALYTICS

2026 Minnesota State Hospice Report

A Proud Supporter of



MINNESOTA **NETWORK** OF
HOSPICE & PALLIATIVE CARE

Cordt T. Kassner, PhD
CEO, Hospice Analytics / VP Data Science, 1520ai
Publisher, *Hospice & Palliative Care Today*

5/5/26

Hospice Utilization

Hospice Utilization – Post COVID-19!

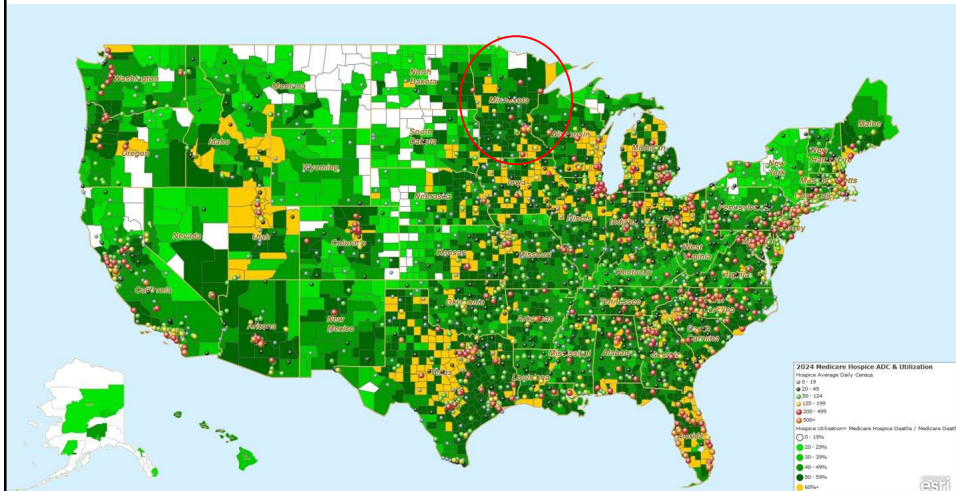
	2019 Hospice Utilization	2020 Hospice Utilization	2021 Hospice Utilization	2022 Hospice Utilization	2023 Hospice Utilization	2024 Hospice Utilization
National	50.5%	46.7%	44.9%	47.3%	49.5%	50.6%

- ▶ 2020 Hospice Utilization *decreased* nationally for the first time ever.
- ▶ 2021 Hospice Utilization *decreased* nationally again – but a smaller decrease.
- ▶ 2022 Hospice Utilization *rebounded* nationally – bringing us back to 2020...
- ▶ 2023 Hospice Utilization *rebounded* nationally – almost to the 2019 high...
- ▶ **2024 Hospice Utilization *rebounded* nationally – to the highest percentage to date!**
- ▶ **Why?** The number of hospice deaths has remained steady, but the number of Medicare deaths (which skyrocketed during COVID-19) is returning to expected levels.

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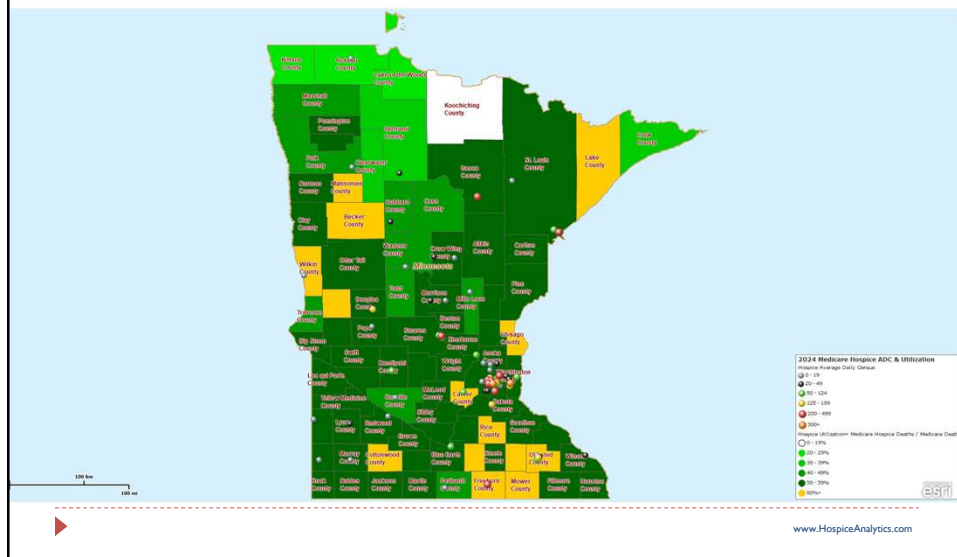
2024 Hospice Utilization (Medicare Hospice Deaths / Total Medicare Deaths)



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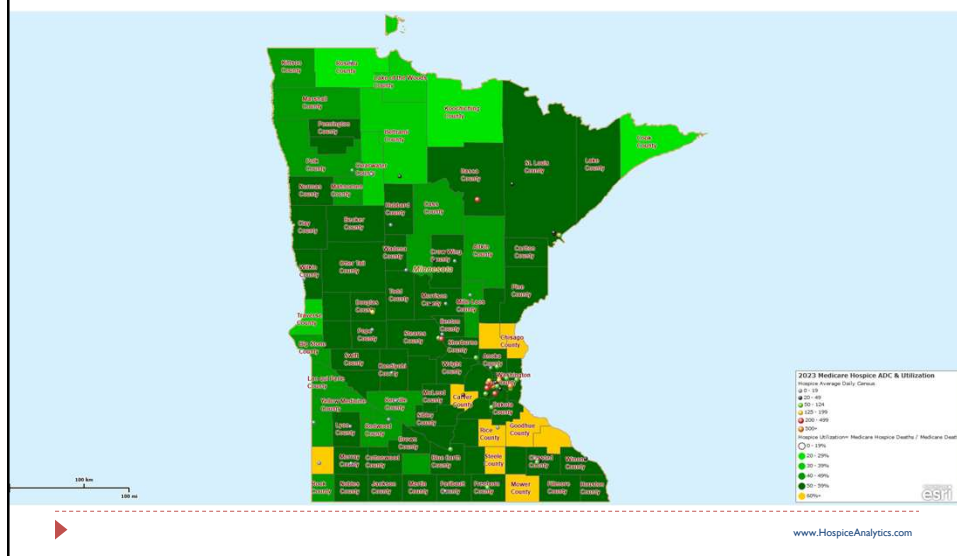
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2024 Hospice Utilization – Minnesota (Medicare Hospice Deaths / Total Medicare Deaths)



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2023 Hospice Utilization – Minnesota (Medicare Hospice Deaths / Total Medicare Deaths)



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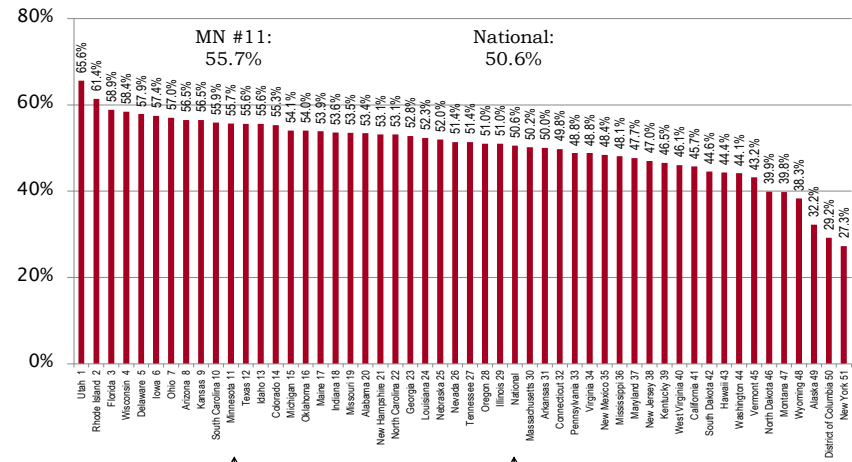
2024 Demographics & Hospice Utilization

	Minnesota	National
Population	5,793,151	340,085,120
Total Deaths	49,771	3,072,500
Medicare Beneficiaries	1,201,800	70,306,074
Medicare Beneficiary Deaths	41,629	2,512,241
Medicare Hospice Unduplicated Beneficiaries	31,718 76% of Medicare deaths	1,829,143 73% of Medicare deaths
Medicare Hospice Beneficiary Deaths	23,168 55.7% of Medicare deaths	1,269,998 50.6% of Medicare deaths
Medicare Hospice Total Days of Care	2,425,920 Days	145,136,920 Days
Medicare Hospice Mean Days / Beneficiary	76 Days	80 Days
Medicare Hospice Median Days / Beneficiary	33 Days	28 Days
Medicare Hospice Total Payments	\$463,463,814	\$27,756,388,541
Medicare Hospice Mean Payment / Beneficiary	\$14,612	\$15,266

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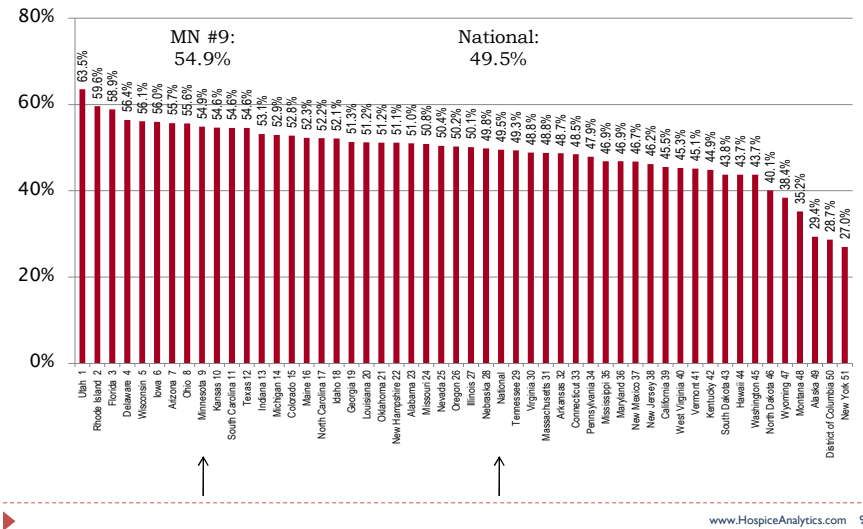
2024 Hospice Utilization
(Medicare Hospice Deaths / Total Medicare Deaths)



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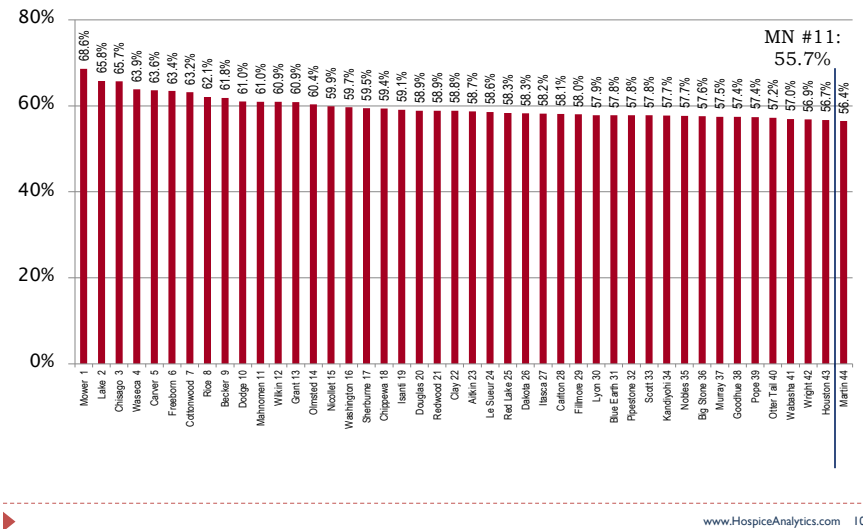
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2023 Hospice Utilization (Medicare Hospice Deaths / Total Medicare Deaths)



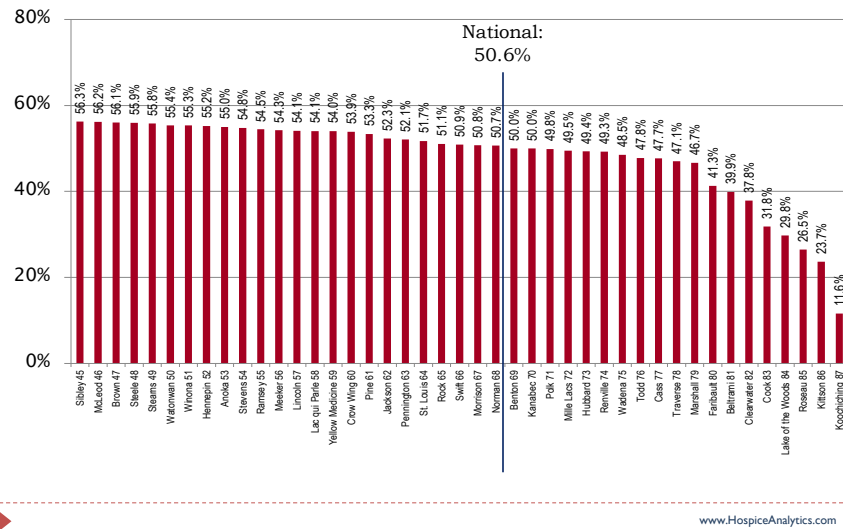
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2024 Hospice Utilization x County – MN (slide 1 of 2) (Medicare Hospice Deaths / Total Medicare Deaths)



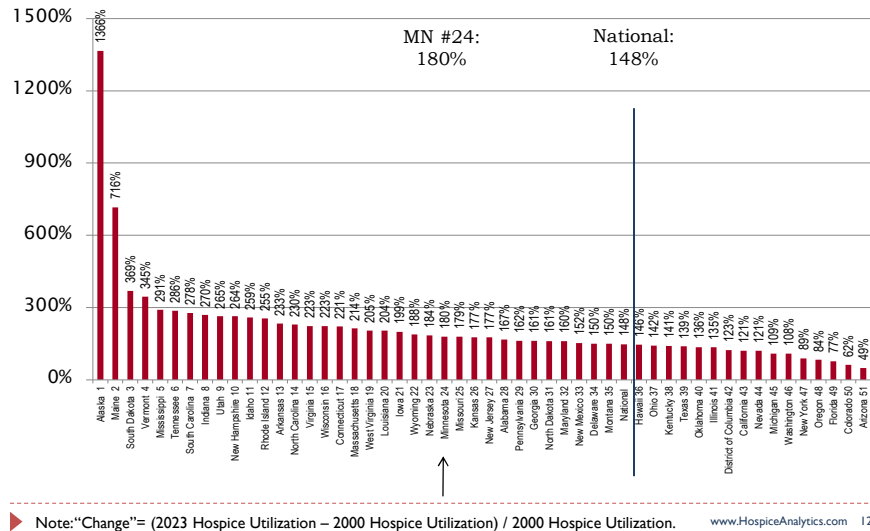
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2024 Hospice Utilization x County – MN (slide 2 of 2) (Medicare Hospice Deaths / Total Medicare Deaths)



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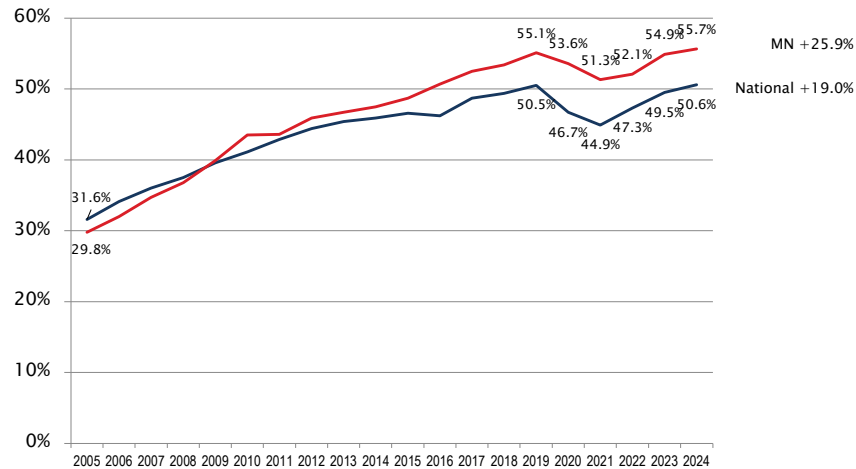
Change in Hospice Utilization 2000-2024 (Medicare Hospice Deaths / Total Medicare Deaths)



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2005-2024 State Hospice Utilization 20-Year Trends

Highest state and national hospice utilization rates on record!



► Note: Hospice Utilization= Medicare Hospice Deaths / Total Medicare Deaths.

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When Will US Deaths Stop Increasing? 2055

United States
Census
Bureau

Partners Researchers Educators Survey Respondents News NAACE Codes Jobs About Us Contact Us Help
Topics Data & Maps Surveys & Programs Resource Library Search data, events, resources, and more

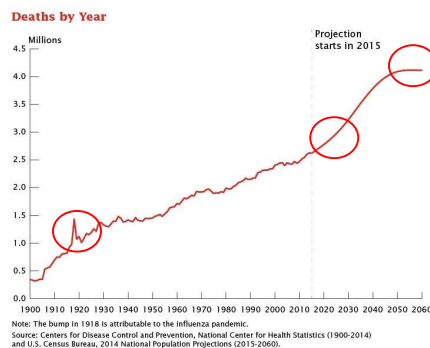
**As Population Ages,
U.S. Nears Historic
Increase in Deaths**



/ U.S. Census Bureau / America Counts: Stories Behind the Numbers / As Population Ages, U.S. Nears Historic Increase in Deaths

**Two States, A Third of Counties Have More
Deaths Than Births**

*Difficult to find updated data
presented this way...*



► Devine J. "As Population Ages, U.S. Nears Historic Increase in Deaths." U.S. Census **10/24/17**.
<https://www.census.gov/library/stories/2017/10/aging-boomers-deaths.html>.

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Hospice Compare Update 2/18/26

Hospice Compare v. 2/18/26

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Hospice Compare Update 2/18/26

- Star ratings (based on CAHPS) available, but only 30% (2082 / 6943) of hospices are rated – mostly due to requirement of 75+ CAHPS surveys to calculate score.
- Hospice Care Index (HCI) available, although may be removed due to lack of variation among high scores.
- ***Hospice Outcomes & Patient Evaluation (HOPE) tool begins 10/1/25.***
- ***Expecting a reporting gap between HIS ending and HOPE beginning.***

Hospice Compare v. 2/18/26

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Hospice Compare Update 2/18/26

- Of hospices with reportable Star Ratings:

5 Star= 299 (14%) hospices	MN 6 (14%)
4 Star= 922 (44%) hospices	MN 20 (47%)
3 Star= 613 (29%) hospices	MN 12 (28%)
2 Star= 217 (10%) hospices	MN 3 (7%)
1 Star= 31 (2%) hospices	MN 2 (5%)

- Therefore, nationally:

58% of hospices had 4+ Star Ratings
87% of hospices had 3+ Star Ratings

Hospice Compare Update 2/18/26

- Some caveats:

- The percentages of hospices with Star Ratings in each state ranged from 7% (CA) to 96% (KY). Reasons for hospices missing Star Ratings need to be better understood, discussed, and reduced in the future.
- MN had 43/84 (51%; 41 missing) hospices reporting Star Ratings.

Hospice Compare Update 2/18/26

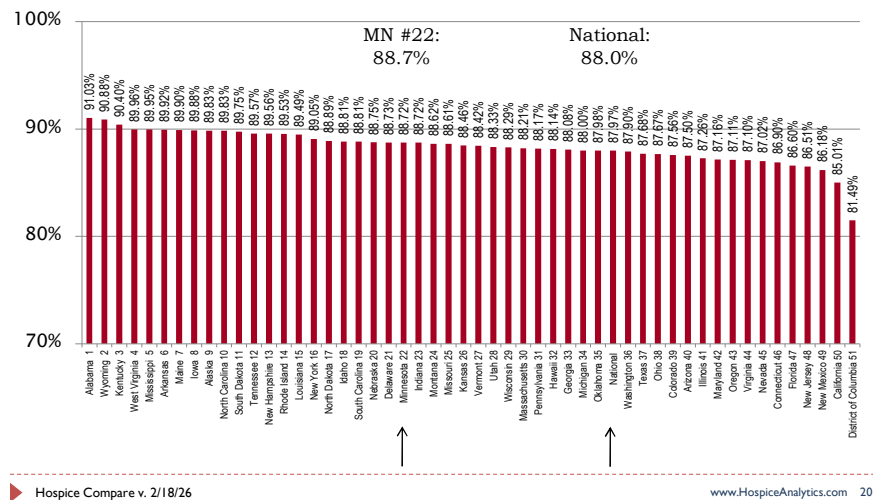
- Some caveats:
 - Hospice Star Ratings will be updated every six (6) months.
 - Hospice Star Ratings started 2/22 and are 4 years old. This is an appropriate timeframe for both CMS and Hospices to receive, understand, and work to improve scores before making important decisions based on this information.

Hospice Compare v. 2/18/26

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2/26 Hospice Compare: Hospice HIS & CAHPS – Average Top Box Scores

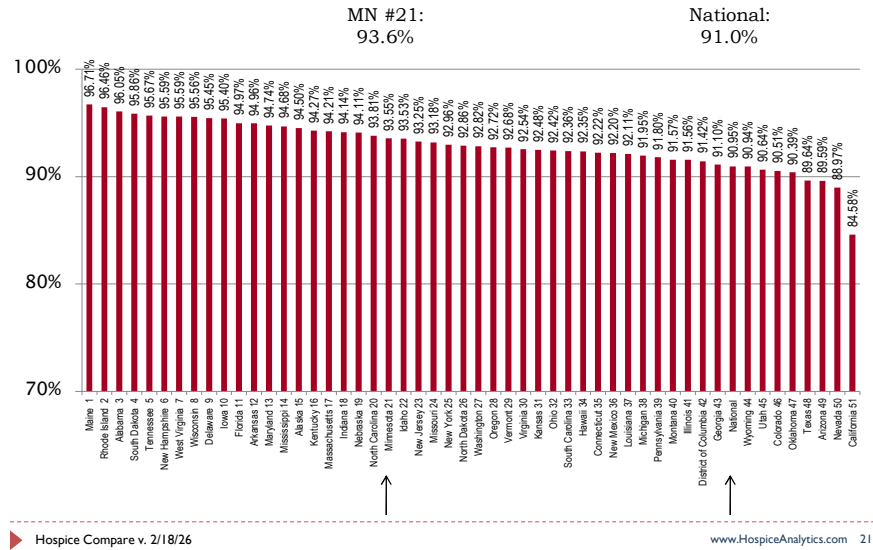


Hospice Compare v. 2/18/26

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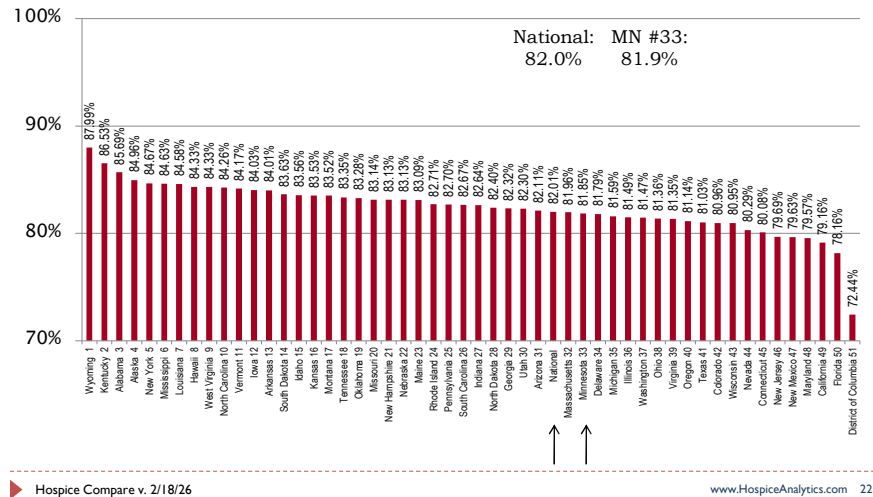
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2/26 Hospice Compare: Hospice Item Set – Mean of 9 Quality Measures



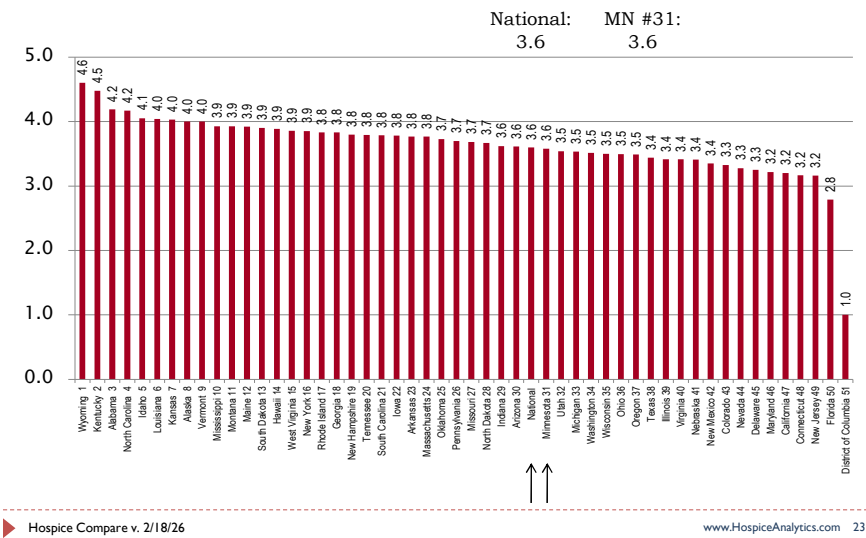
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2/26 Hospice Compare: Hospice CAHPS – Mean of 8 Quality Measures



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2/26 Hospice Compare: Hospice Star Ratings



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2/26 Hospice Compare: Hospice HIS & CAHPS – Average Top Box Scores

Minnesota Top 10:

Hospice	HIS Mean Score of Reported Measures	CAHPS Mean Score of Reported Measures	Calculated Composite HIS & CAHPS	CAHPS Star Rating - Family caregiver survey rating
United Hospital District Inc 241549	98	90	93.83	5
Avera@Home Pipestone 241580	95	92	93.48	
AVERA AT HOME SOUTHWEST MINNESOTA 241598	98	89	93.22	5
CENTRACARE HOSPICE 241500	99	87	93.05	5
WINONA AREA HOSPICE SERVICES 241535	99	87	92.87	4
Horizon Public Health 241548	98	88	92.82	5
Glacial Ridge Hospice 241502	92	93	92.63	
Lakeview Hospice 241552	97	88	92.56	5
Range Regional Health Services 241574	97	88	92.37	5
CentraCare Hospice 241517	99	85	91.86	

Hospice Compare v. 2/18/26

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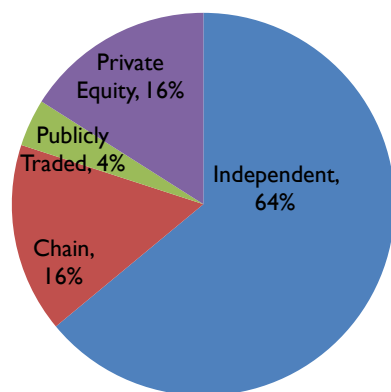
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Additional Medicare Claims Data Points

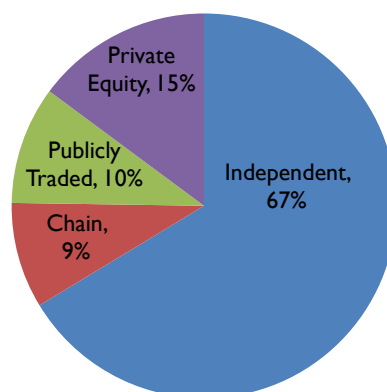
25

6/25 Medicare Hospice Percentage of Hospices x Corporate Ownership

Minnesota



National



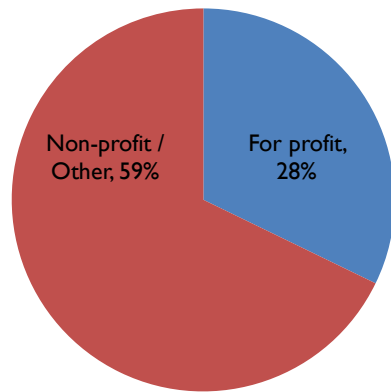
► JAMA, Stevenson;Aldridge, 2021.

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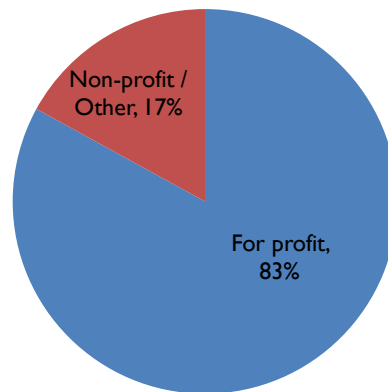
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2024 Medicare Hospice Percentage of Hospices x Type Control

Minnesota



National

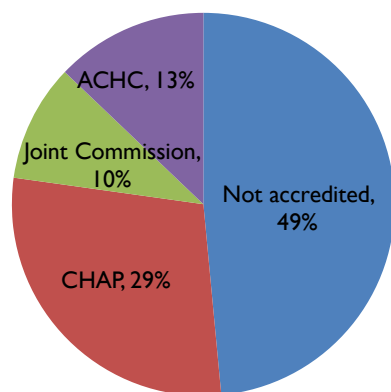


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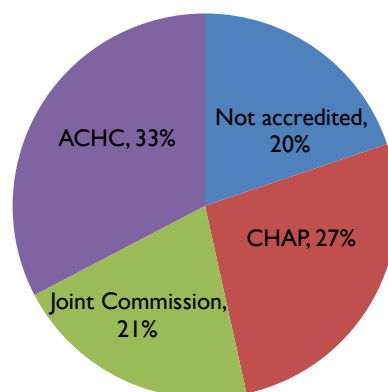
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2024 Medicare Hospice Percentage of Hospices x Accreditation Organization

Minnesota



National

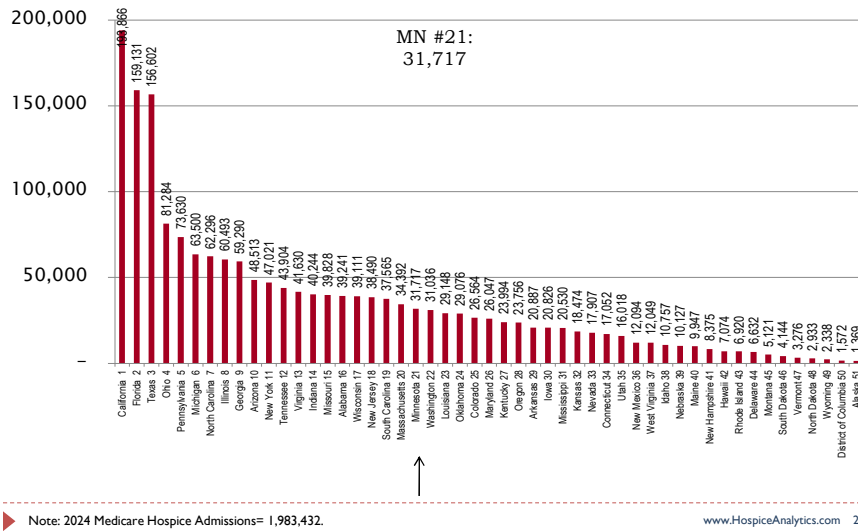


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2024 Medicare Beneficiaries Admitted to Hospice

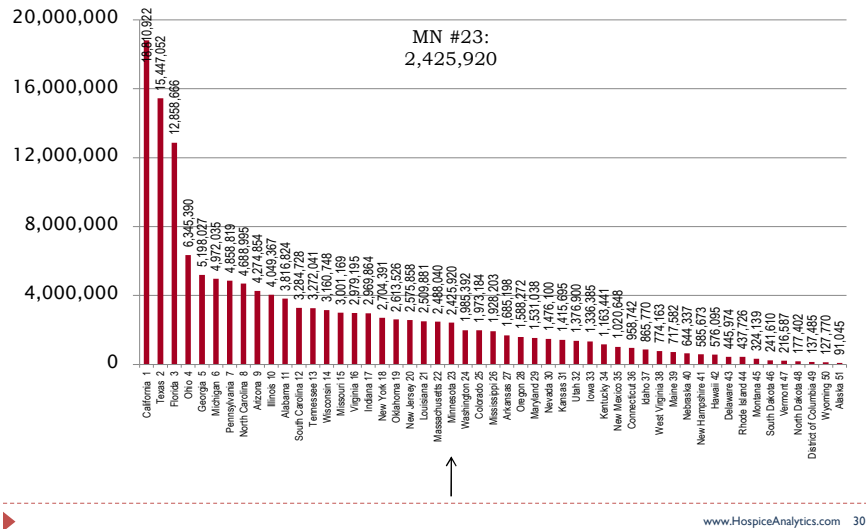
National= 1,818,206



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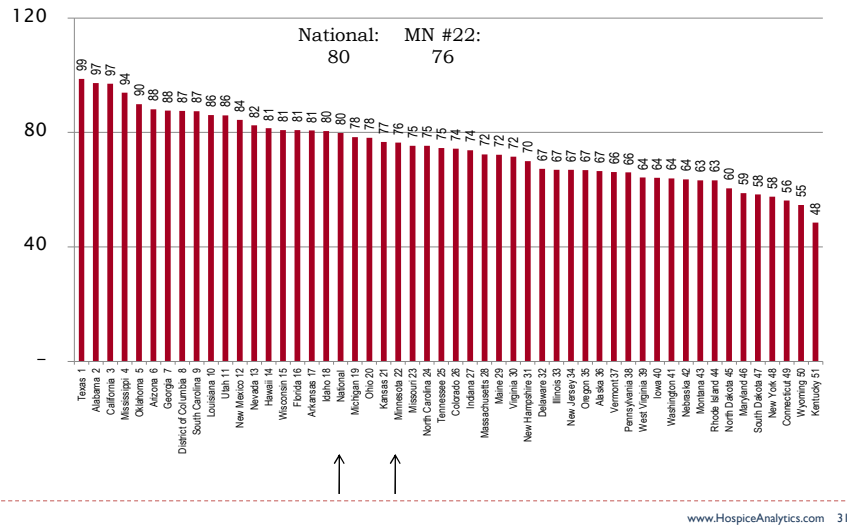
2024 Medicare Total Days of Hospice Care

National= 137,270,520 Days



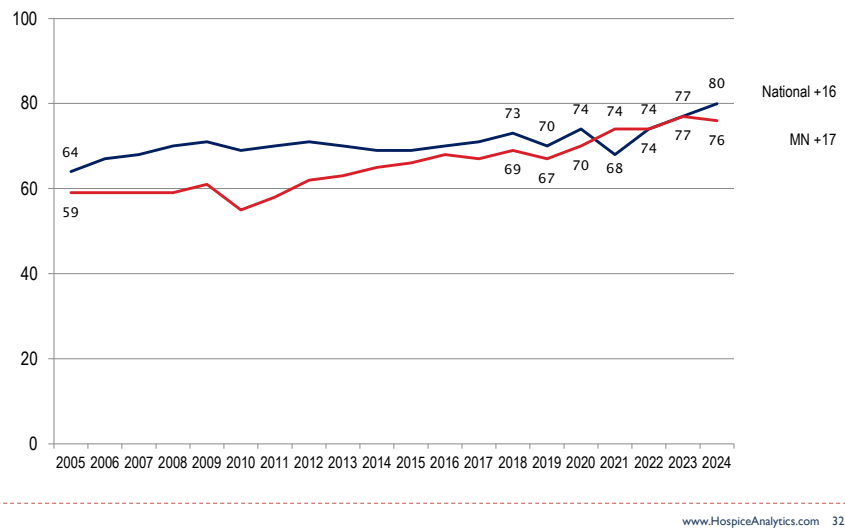
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2024 Medicare Hospice Mean Days of Care / Beneficiary



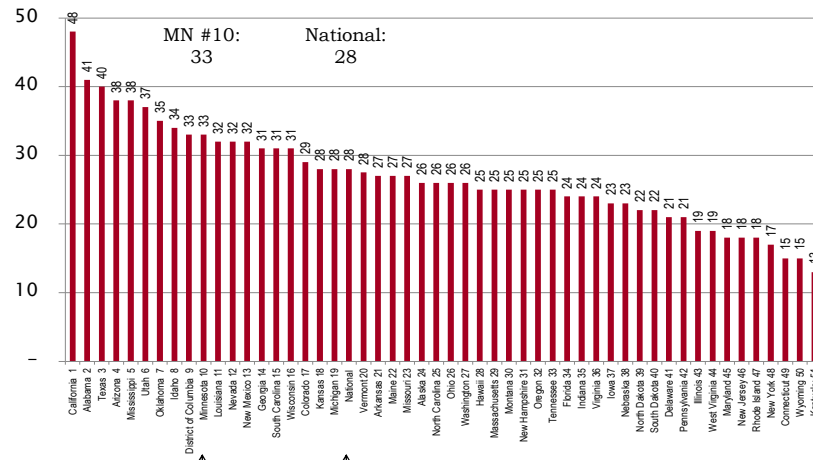
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2005-2024 Hospice Mean Days of Care 20-Year Trends



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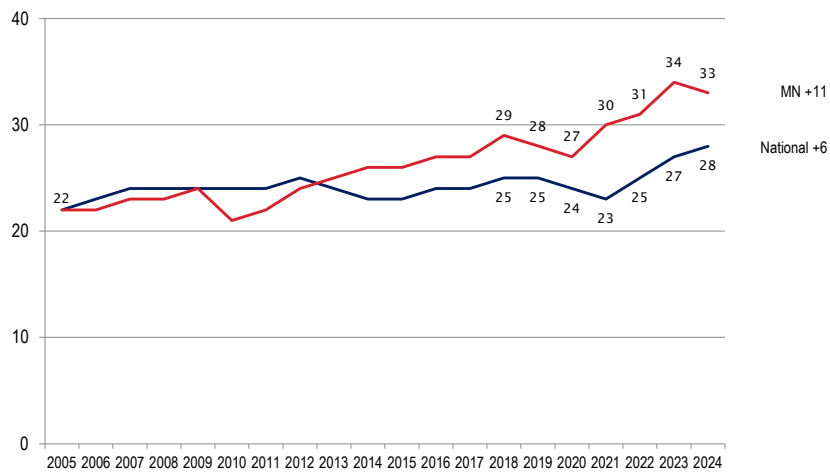
2024 Medicare Hospice Median Days of Care / Beneficiary



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2005-2024 Hospice Median Days of Care 20-Year Trends

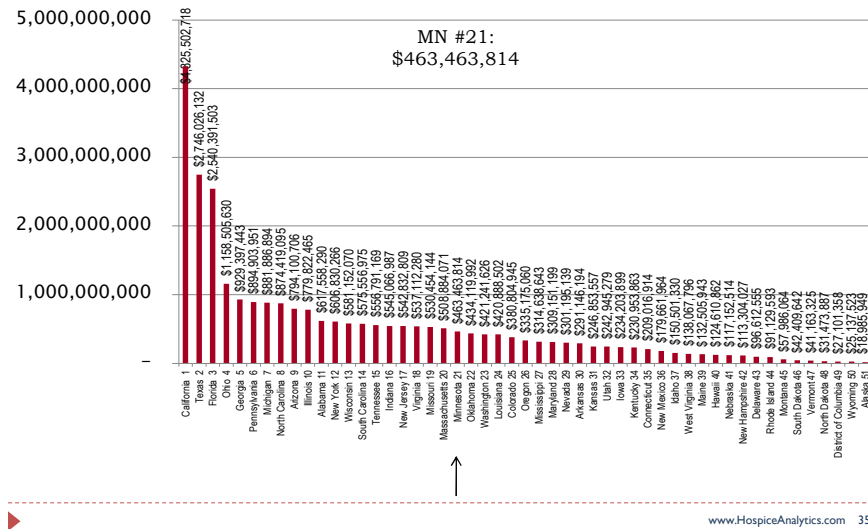


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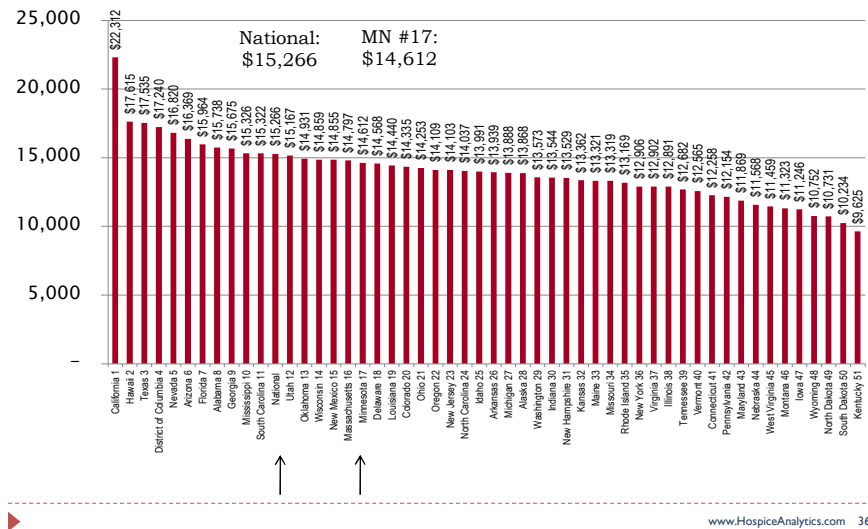
2024 Medicare Hospice Total Medicare Reimbursement

National= \$27,756,388,541

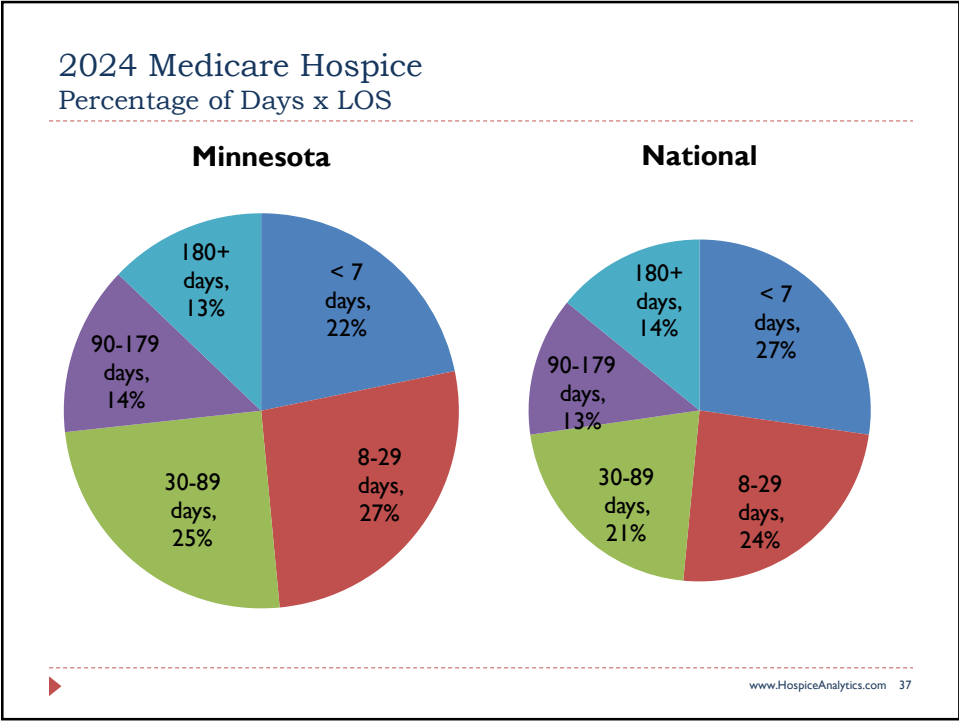


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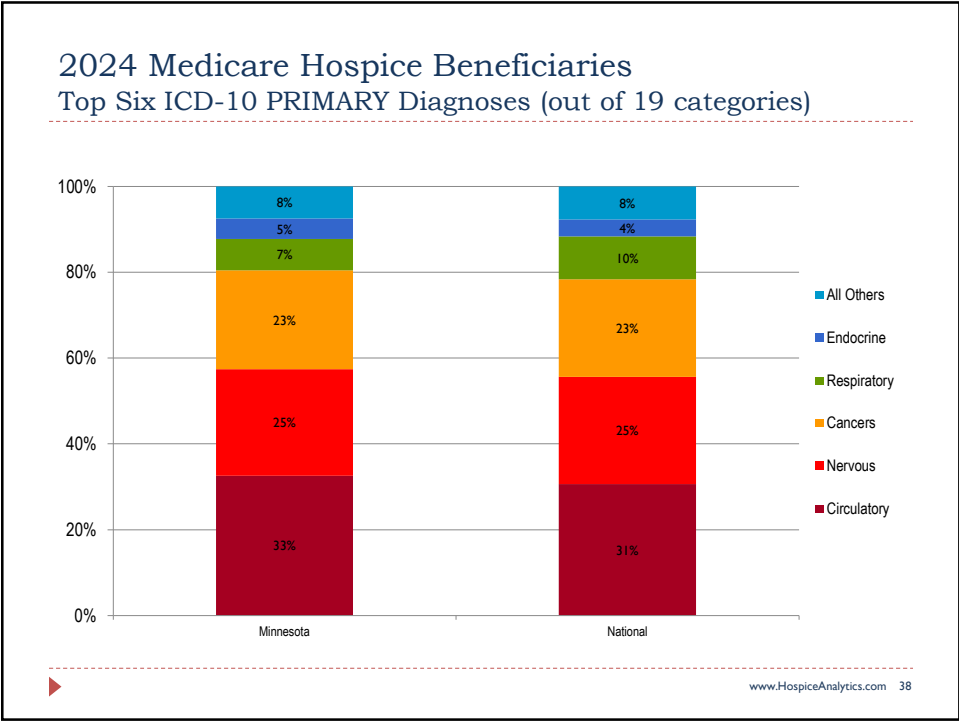
2024 Medicare Hospice Mean Medicare Reimbursement / Beneficiary



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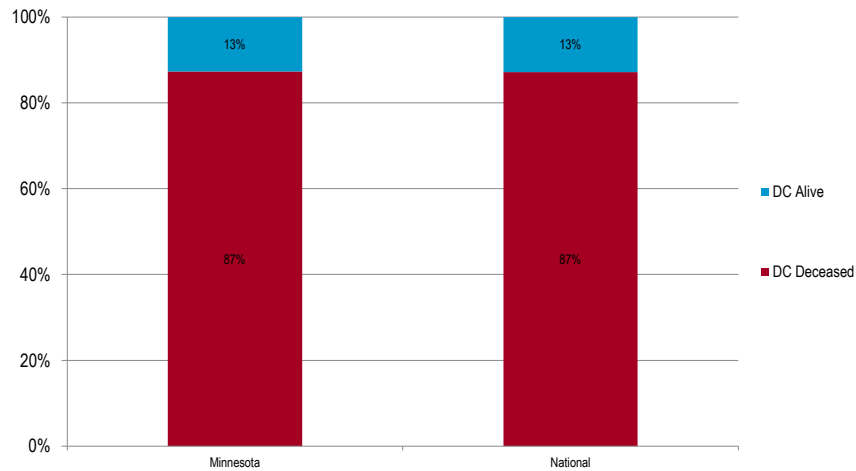


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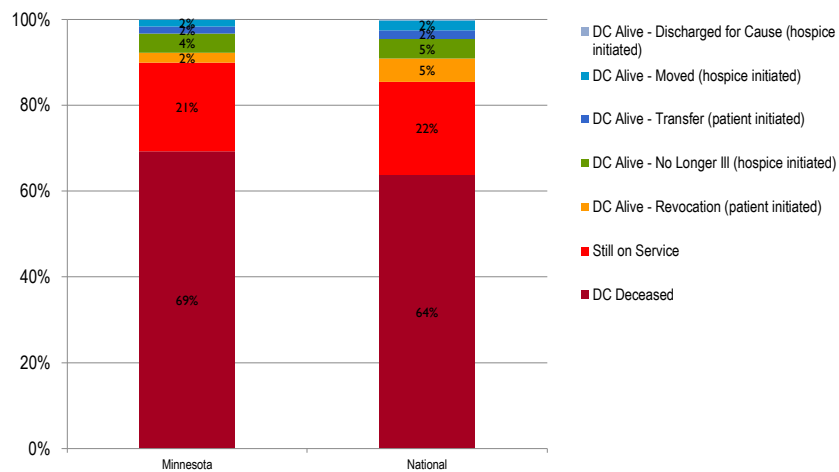
2024 Medicare Hospice Beneficiaries Status at Discharge



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2024 Medicare Hospice Beneficiaries Status at Discharge - Detailed

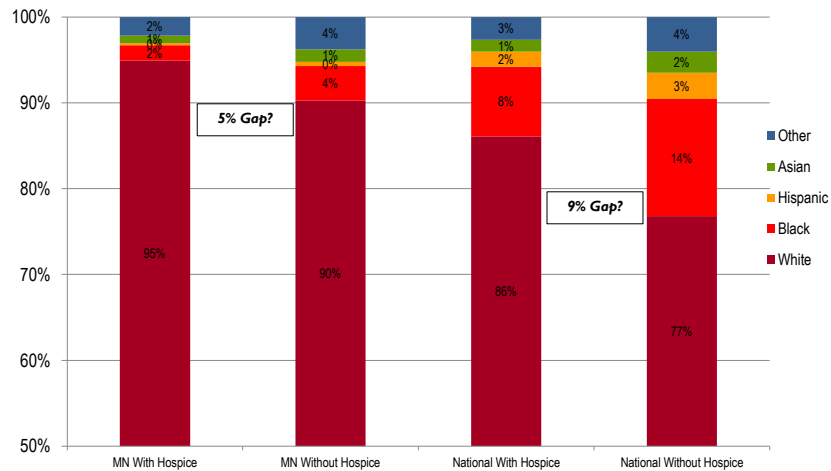


Note: Percent DC Deceased = DC Deceased / (DC Deceased + DC Alive) calculated for each admission.

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2024 Medicare Hospice Beneficiaries – Minnesota Race: Dying With vs. Without Hospice

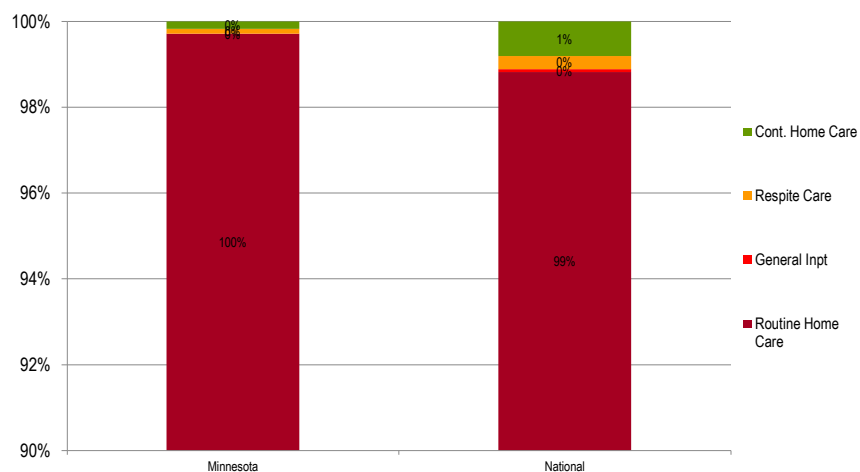


► Minorities are underserved in hospice – *although generally improving...*

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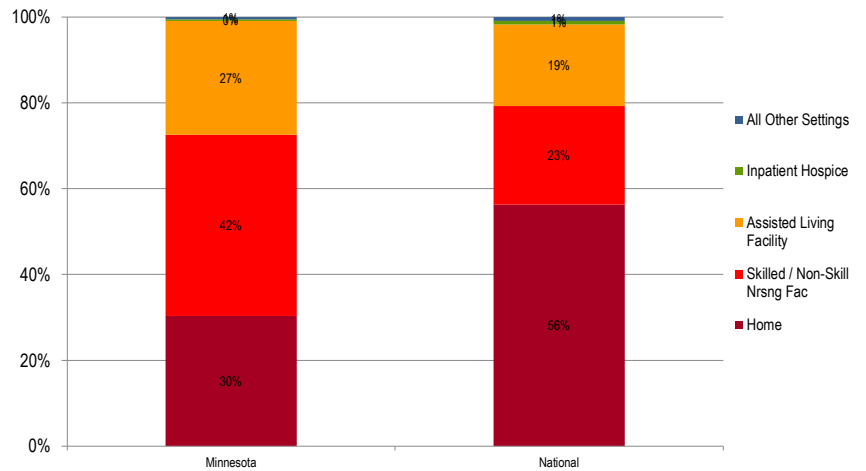
2024 Medicare Hospice Beneficiaries Levels of Care (days)



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2024 Medicare Hospice Beneficiaries Locations of Care (days)



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National Hospice Locator

<https://www.nationalhospicelocator.com/>

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National Hospice Locator

What if every referral began with checking hospice ratings?

Welcome to the National Hospice Locator!

Are you a hospice provider and want to add or update your information? [Click here](#)

SEARCH

Enter zip code, city, county or state

View Results (8363)

RESET SEARCH

ADD ADDITIONAL CRITERIA:

Innovative Practices

☐ All Hospices

Yes No

☐ Medicare Certified?

☐ Hospice Inpatient Facility

☐ Quality Program Participant

☐ Circle of Life Award

☐ Pediatric Services

SEARCH

State: MINNESOTA

View Results (122)

RESET SEARCH

Search Results: Hospice Detail

1) SEASONS HOSPICE - ROCHESTER	1811 GREENVIEW PLACE SOUTHWEST, STE. 110	ROCHESTER, MN 55902	507-285-1930	📍
2) ST CROIX HOSPICE - ALBERT LEA	2580 BRIDGE AVENUE	ALBERT LEA, MN 56007	507-416-4247	
3) MOMENTS HOSPICE - HERMANTOWN	4897 MILLER TRUNK HIGHWAY #220	HERMANTOWN, MN 55811	218-520-0870	
4) HORIZON PUBLIC HEALTH - ALEXANDRIA	809 ELM STREET, STE. 1200	ALEXANDRIA, MN 56308	320-763-6018	📍
5) UNITED HOSPITAL DISTRICT - BLUE EARTH	125 SOUTH MAIN STREET, PO BOX 164	BLUE EARTH, MN 56013	507-526-3273	📍

<https://www.nationalhospicelocator.com/>

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National Hospice Locator

What if every referral began with checking hospice ratings?

Search Results:

Hospice Detail

Hospice Name

SEASONS HOSPICE - ROCHESTER

Quality Score

Hospice Analytics Quality Ranking Score= 95.00/100. National average= 68/100. Hospices with quality scores 85+ are in the top 20% of hospices in the country. Hospices with quality scores <50 are generally missing most of the information used to calculate a quality score.

Quality Score Calculation

This hospice's quality score= 95.00. In detail, this hospice earned 20.00 / 20 points on Hospice Visits in the Last Days of Life; 17.00 / 20 points on Staffing Ratios; 20.00 / 20 points on Levels of Care; 20.00 / 20 points on CAHPS Definitely Recommend This Hospice; 10.00 / 10 points on Stability; 3.00 / 5 points on Accreditation; 5.00 / 5 points on Health Equity; and 0.00 / -15 points as a fraud penalty (i.e., 0 = no fraud penalty). The sum of these points equals the total quality score. For additional information on these metrics, please see <https://www.nationalhospiceanalytics.com/blogs/healthcare-policy/2025/10/14/hospice-quality>.

Weighting	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	10.00	5.00	Calculated	WFA Penalty	Total
							5.00	-15.00	100.00
	1. Hospice Visits in Last Days of Life (2/26 HS: 82% have metric)	2. Staffing Ratios (2024 Claims: 89% have metric)	3. Levels of Care (2024 Claims: 88% have metric)	4. CAHPS Definitely Recommend Hospice (2/26 CAHPS: 44% have metric)	5. Stability (6+ Years Certified & Since Last CHOW: 8/25 POS; 100% have metric)	6. Accredited (8/25 POS; 100% have metric)	7. Health Equity (any Medicaid; 2024 Cost Reports; 72% have CR)	8. WFA Penalty 15	NHL 6th Ranking 2/18/26
Hospice									
SEASONS HOSPICE - ROCHESTER	20.00	17.00	20.00	20.00	10.00	3.00	5.00	0.00	95.00

<https://www.nationalhospicelocator.com/>

<https://www.nationalhospicelocator.com/>

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FREE daily email newsletter focused on hospice and palliative care content

1. <https://hospicepalliativecaretoday.com/>
2. <https://hospicepalliativecaretoday.com/registration>



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Key Articles: 1520ai acquires Hospice Analytics

1520ai and Hospice Analytics announce strategic combination to advance data-driven hospice care and AI innovation Published 04/29/2026

1520ai & Hospice Analytics press release; by Mark Cohen, Ernesto Lopez, Cordt Kassner; 4/28/26

1520ai and Hospice Analytics today announced that Hospice Analytics will become part of 1520ai and the broader simPAL Solutions family, bringing together Hospice Analytics' hospice data expertise with 1520ai's vision for a new generation of hospice-native AI capabilities designed to help providers turn data into better decisions and improved care. Hospice Analytics will maintain its core branding, products, and services while operating as part of 1520ai. Founder and longtime leader Cordt Kassner will continue to lead operations and guide the organization's ongoing work with hospice providers across the country. "This builds on Hospice Analytics' long-established foundation of innovation, expertise, and reliability," said Ernesto Lopez, CEO of 1520ai. "Cordt and his team have earned deep trust in the hospice community by turning complex data into meaningful, actionable insights. Together, we have an opportunity to integrate AI into that work and create tools that help hospice leaders make better decisions, improve operations, and support better care for patients and families." [Also posted on [PR Newswire](#).]

<https://hospicepalliativecaretoday.com/>

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Key Articles – A Strategic Path Forward

Palliative Medicine Reports
Volume 6.1, 2025
DOI: 10.1089/pmr.2025.0030
Accepted May 6, 2025

Palliative
Medicine
Reports

Mary Ann Liebert, Inc. publishers

SPECIAL REPORTS

Open Access

A Strategic Path Forward for Hospice and Palliative Care: A White Paper on the Potential Future of the Field

Ira Byock, MD, FAAHPM*

► <https://www.liebertpub.com/doi/epdf/10.1089/pmr.2025.0030>

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Key Articles – A Strategic Path Forward

- Efforts must start with zero tolerance of fraudulent business and clinical practices that harm vulnerable patients.
 - *Boundaries of collegiality stop at criminality.*

The four components of this strategic approach are

1. Publishing clear clinical and programmatic standards
2. Making meaningful data readily available
3. Driving quality-based competition
4. Embracing the field's authentic brand of expert care that fosters well-being for patients and their families

► <https://www.liebertpub.com/doi/epdf/10.1089/pmr.2025.0030>

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Minnesota in the news

Your search resulted in 104 matches for "minnesota", sorted newest to oldest

[Save Results as PDF](#)

1) **10 best, worst states for nurses in 2026**

Published 04/29/2026

Becker's Hospital Review; by Kelly Gooch; 4/28/26

... To determine the best and worst states for nurses, the personal finance company evaluated all 50 states across two dimensions: opportunity and competition, and work environment. Those dimensions were evaluated using 20 metrics, ranging from monthly average starting salary for nurses to average commute time. ... Here are the 10 best and worst states for nurses in 2026, per the ranking:

Best: 1. Maine; 2. New Hampshire; 3. Washington; 4. Oregon; 5. Arizona; 6. West Virginia; 7. Minnesota; 8. Montana; 9. Connecticut; 10. Florida
Worst: 50. Oklahoma; 49. North Dakota; 48. Alabama; 47. Mississippi; 46. South Dakota; 45. Louisiana; 44. Tennessee; 43. Arkansas; 42. Hawaii; 41. Virginia

2) **St. Croix Hospice CCO: transparency, compliance fosters growth**

Published 04/17/2026

Hospice News; by Jim Parker; 4/15/26

Tami Johnson-White is the newly appointed chief compliance officer for St. Croix Hospice. Johnson-White brings 30 years of health care leadership experience to St. Croix Hospice. St. Croix Hospice operates more than 85 locations across Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, South Dakota and Wisconsin. Hospice News sat down with Johnson-White to talk about her priorities as she comes into her new role, the top compliance issues facing hospices today and how they can prepare for audits.

► <https://hospicepalliativecaretoday.com/>

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Thank you

Please contact Cordt Kassner, PhD, at Hospice Analytics with any questions, comments, feedback, or for additional information:

P: 719-209-1237

E: Info@HospiceAnalytics.com

W: www.HospiceAnalytics.com

* Review the new National Hospice Locator at www.HospiceAnalytics.com –
geo-maps and detailed information on every known hospice in the United States –
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