



Today AARP along with the Commonwealth Fund and The Scan Foundation have released the first of its kind multi-dimensional State Scorecard on Long-Term Services and Supports for Older Adults with Physical Disabilities and Family Caregivers. You will be pleased to learn that Minnesota's long history of leading the nation in numerous health care rankings continues with Minnesota's overall first place ranking. However, the scorecard revealed some areas where we need to improve as well, including home health care affordability and quality. Finally, the scorecard data supports our long-standing position that Minnesota's Rate Equalization law preserves affordability and quality for both private and public pay residents. Here is a snapshot of some of the data revealed in the report:

- If Minnesota had improved its performance in the area of serving individuals with low care needs, 4,193 more individuals could have received care in the community instead of more expensive nursing homes.
- Minnesota ranks 21st in private pay nursing home affordability, with an annual median cost that is 219% of the median income of an older household. This is somewhat more affordable than the national average of 241%.
- Minnesota had the lowest percent of nursing home residents with pressure sores and the lowest percent of nursing home residents with a hospital admission.
- Minnesota ranked 37th in the number of home health patients with a hospital admission and 35th in the percent of home health episodes of care in which interventions to prevent pressure sores were included in the plan of care.

If you have further questions on this report please contact Mary Jo George, AARP Associate State Director for Advocacy, at mgeorge@aarp.org or 651-271-6586.