



The COMMONWEALTH FUND



## Alabama: 2014 State Long-Term Services and Supports Scorecard Results

*Raising Expectations 2014: A State Scorecard on Long-Term Services and Supports for Older Adults, People with Physical Disabilities, and Family Caregivers* takes a multi-dimensional approach to measure state-level performance of long-term services and supports (LTSS) systems that assist older people, adults with disabilities, and family caregivers. The full report is available at [www.longtermscorecard.org](http://www.longtermscorecard.org)

**Purpose:** The *Scorecard* measures system performance from the viewpoint of service users and their families. It is designed to help states improve the performance of their LTSS systems so that older people and adults with disabilities in *all* states can exercise choice and control over their lives, thereby maximizing their independence and well-being. State policymakers often control key indicators measured, and they can influence others through oversight activities and incentives.

**Results:** The *Scorecard* examines state performance, both overall and along five key dimensions. Each dimension comprises 3 to 6 data indicators, for a total of 26. It also measures changes in performance since the first *Scorecard* (2011), wherever possible (on 19 of the 26 indicators). The table below summarizes current performance and change in performance at the dimension level. State ranks on each indicator appear on the next page.

Dimension	Rank	Number of indicators with trend *	Number of indicators showing: **		
			Substantial improvement	Little or no change	Substantial decline
<b>OVERALL</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>2</b>
Affordability & Access	47	6	1	5	0
Choice of Setting & Provider	51	4	1	2	1
Quality of Care & Quality of Life	44	4	1	3	0
Support for Family Caregivers	47	3	1	1	1
Effective Transitions	46	2	0	2	0

\* Trend cannot be shown if data are missing for either the current or baseline data year. In each state, 16 to 19 indicators have enough data to calculate a trend. \*\* See full report for how change is defined.

**Impact of Improved Performance:** If Alabama improved its performance to the level of the highest performing state:

- 38,716 more low/moderate-income adults with ADL disabilities would be covered by Medicaid.
- 4,329 more new users of Medicaid LTSS would first receive services in the community.
- 3,125 nursing home residents with low care needs would instead receive LTSS in the community.
- 1,131 more people entering nursing homes would be able to return to the community within 100 days.
- 2,320 more people who have been in a nursing home for 90 days or more would be able to move back to the community.

## Alabama: 2014 State Long-Term Services and Supports Scorecard Dimension and Indicator Data

Dimension and Indicator (Current Data Year)	Baseline Rate	Current Rate	Rank	Change	All States Median	Top State Rate
<b>OVERALL RANK</b>			<b>50</b>			
<b>Affordability and Access</b>			<b>47</b>			
Median annual nursing home private pay cost as a percentage of median household income age 65+ (2013)	215%	<b>214%</b>	<b>17</b>	↔	234%	168%
Median annual home care private pay cost as a percentage of median household income age 65+ (2013)	79%	<b>79%</b>	<b>13</b>	↔	84%	47%
Private long-term care insurance policies in effect per 1,000 population age 40+ (2011)	33	<b>33</b>	<b>43</b>	↔	44	130
Percent of adults age 21+ with ADL disability at or below 250% of poverty receiving Medicaid or other government assistance health insurance (2011-12)	47.3%	<b>46.4%</b>	<b>46</b>	↔	51.4%	78.1%
Medicaid LTSS participant years per 100 adults age 21+ with ADL disability in nursing homes or at/below 250% poverty in the community (2009)	21.9	<b>23.2</b>	<b>42</b>	↔	42.3	85.2
ADRC functions (composite indicator, scale 0-70) (2012)	**	<b>45</b>	<b>38</b>	✓	54	67
<b>Choice of Setting and Provider</b>			<b>51</b>			
Percent of Medicaid and state LTSS spending going to HCBS for older people & adults w/ physical disabilities (2011)	14.9%	<b>18.0%</b>	<b>47</b>	✓	31.4%	65.4%
Percent of new Medicaid aged/disabled LTSS users first receiving services in the community (2009)	50.8%	<b>34.1%</b>	<b>38</b>	✗	50.7%	81.9%
Number of people participant-directing services per 1,000 adults age 18+ with disabilities (2013)	*	<b>0.1</b>	<b>50</b>	*	8.8	127.3
Home health and personal care aides per 1,000 population age 65+ (2010-12)	22	<b>22</b>	<b>44</b>	↔	33	76
Assisted living and residential care units per 1,000 population age 65+ (2012-13)	15	<b>15</b>	<b>45</b>	↔	27	125
<b>Quality of Life and Quality of Care</b>			<b>44</b>			
Percent of adults age 18+ with disabilities in the community usually or always getting needed support (2010)	65.8%	<b>69.8%</b>	<b>39</b>	✓	71.8%	79.1%
Percent of adults age 18+ with disabilities in the community satisfied or very satisfied with life (2010)	85.0%	<b>85.8%</b>	<b>35</b>	↔	86.7%	92.1%
Rate of employment for adults with ADL disability ages 18–64 relative to rate of employment for adults without ADL disability ages 18–64 (2011-12)	18.6%	<b>17.8%</b>	<b>47</b>	↔	23.4%	37.2%
Percent of high-risk nursing home residents with pressure sores (2013)	*	<b>5.5%</b>	<b>20</b>	*	5.9%	3.0%
Nursing home staffing turnover: ratio of employee terminations to the average number of active employees (2010)	47.3%	<b>48.4%</b>	<b>38</b>	↔	38.1%	15.4%
Percent of long-stay nursing home residents who are receiving an antipsychotic medication (2013)	*	<b>22.7%</b>	<b>39</b>	*	20.2%	11.9%
<b>Support for Family Caregivers</b>			<b>47</b>			
Legal and system supports for family caregivers (composite indicator, scale 0-14.5) (2012-13)	**	<b>1.52</b>	<b>43</b>	✓	3.00	8.00
Number of health maintenance tasks able to be delegated to LTSS workers (out of 16 tasks) (2013)	4	<b>2</b>	<b>40</b>	✗	9.5	16
Family caregivers without much worry or stress, with enough time, well-rested (2011-12)	57.5%	<b>58.9%</b>	<b>44</b>	↔	61.6%	72.8%
<b>Effective Transitions</b>			<b>46</b>			
Percent of nursing home residents with low care needs (2010)	14.9%	<b>14.5%</b>	<b>34</b>	↔	11.7%	1.1%
Percent of home health patients with a hospital admission (2012)	*	<b>28.1%</b>	<b>42</b>	*	25.5%	18.9%
Percent of long-stay nursing home residents hospitalized within a six-month period (2010)	22.9%	<b>21.1%</b>	<b>37</b>	↔	18.9%	7.3%
Percent of nursing home residents with moderate to severe dementia with one or more potentially burdensome transitions at end of life (2009)	*	<b>23.5%</b>	<b>35</b>	*	20.3%	7.1%
Percent of new nursing home stays lasting 100 days or more (2009)	*	<b>19.3%</b>	<b>24</b>	*	19.8%	10.3%
Percent of people with 90+ day nursing home stays successfully transitioning back to the community (2009)	*	<b>5.8%</b>	<b>47</b>	*	7.9%	15.8%

\* Comparable data not available for baseline and/or current year. Change in performance cannot be calculated without baseline and current data.

\*\* Composite measure. Baseline rate is not shown as some components of the measure are only available for the current year. Change in performance is based only on those components with comparable prior data. See page 73 and page 83 in *Raising Expectations 2014: A State Scorecard on Long-Term Services and Supports for Older Adults, People with Physical Disabilities, and Family Caregivers* for more detail. Notes: ADL = Activities of Daily Living; ADRC = Aging and Disability Resource Center; HCBS = Home and Community Based Services; LTSS = Long Term Services and Supports.

Please refer to Appendix B2 on page 97 in the report for full indicator descriptions, data sources, and other notes about methodology; for baseline data years, please see Exhibit 2 on page 11. The full report is available at [www.longtermscorecard.org](http://www.longtermscorecard.org)

Key for Change:	
✓	Performance improvement
↔	Little or no change in performance
✗	Performance decline