



# Social Drivers of Health- The Missing Link

## RHPTP HELP Webinar

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Indiana Hospital Association

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# Objectives

- Differentiate between social drivers of health, health equity, health equality, and health disparities
- Recognize how social drivers of health influence health outcomes and the role that hospitals can play in identifying gaps in care
- Interpret the history and future expectations of regulatory bodies, including CMS and payors on identification of social drivers of health

# Definition-Old

## Social Determinants of Health



- Conditions in the environments where people are born, live, learn, work, play, worship, and age.
- Affect a wide range of health, functioning, and quality-of-life outcomes and risks.
- Have a major impact on people's health and well-being.
- Contribute to a wide range of health disparities and inequities.

# What Drives Outcomes?



## Healthcare Access & Quality

- Health coverage
- Provider availability
- Provider linguistic & cultural competency
- Quality of Care



## Education

- Literacy
- Language
- Early childhood education
- Vocational training
- Higher Education



## Economic Stability

- Employment
- Income
- Expenses
- Debt
- Medical bills
- Support



## Community & Social Context

- Social integration
- Support systems
- Community engagement
- Stress
- Exposure to violence/trauma

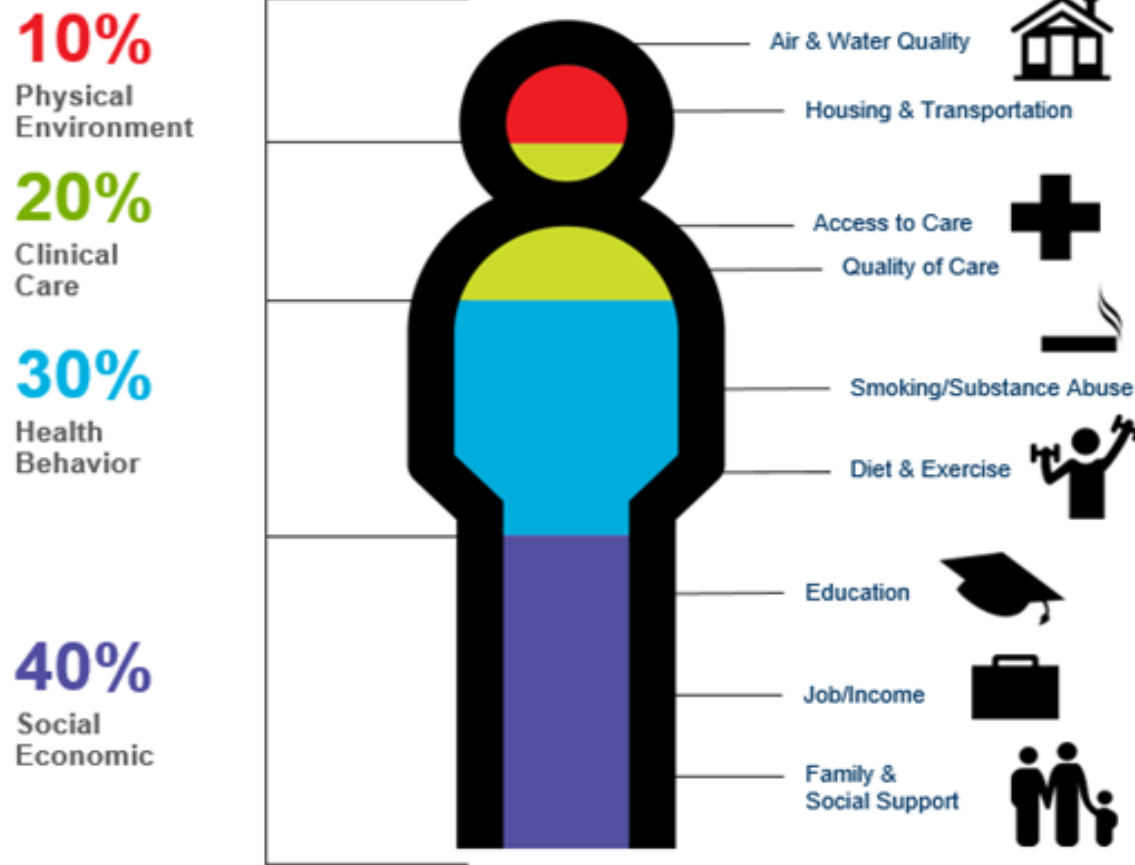


## Neighborhood & Built Environment

- Housing
- Transportation
- Safety
- Parks/Playgrounds
- Walkability
- Zip code/geography

Health Outcomes: Mortality, Life Expectancy, Health Care Expenditures, Health Status, Functional Limitations

# Impact of Societal Factors



- The most important truth to know about societal factors is that they make up a staggering 80% of our health.
- If health systems are committed to improving health and well-being for their patients and communities, they need to think and act beyond the walls of the hospital.
- This is a compelling story to tell, and you play a very important role in uncovering the systemic consequence of health inequities.

# Definition-New

As a recent [Health Affairs](#) blog emphasized, *“Now more than ever, it is crucial that we use language that speaks to the realities of peoples’ lives and illuminates, rather than obscures, our shared understanding of and responsibility to act on all the factors that drive health.”*

- Shift away from what elements outside of clinical care **determined** the health of a person, to providing support and programs to **drive** better health outcomes.
  - Determined = just the way it is
  - Drivers = over-coming and changing negative influencers



# County Health Rankings & Roadmaps



What Impacts Health ▾

Health Data ▾

Strategies and Solutions ▾

Findings and Insights ▾

About Us ▾



## Health Data

The annual data release provides a revealing snapshot of how health is influenced by where we live, learn, work, and play. The snapshots provide communities a starting point to investigate where to make change.

[Read our 2024 National Findings Report](#)

### Find Data by Location

Enter your state, county, or ZIP Code

Search

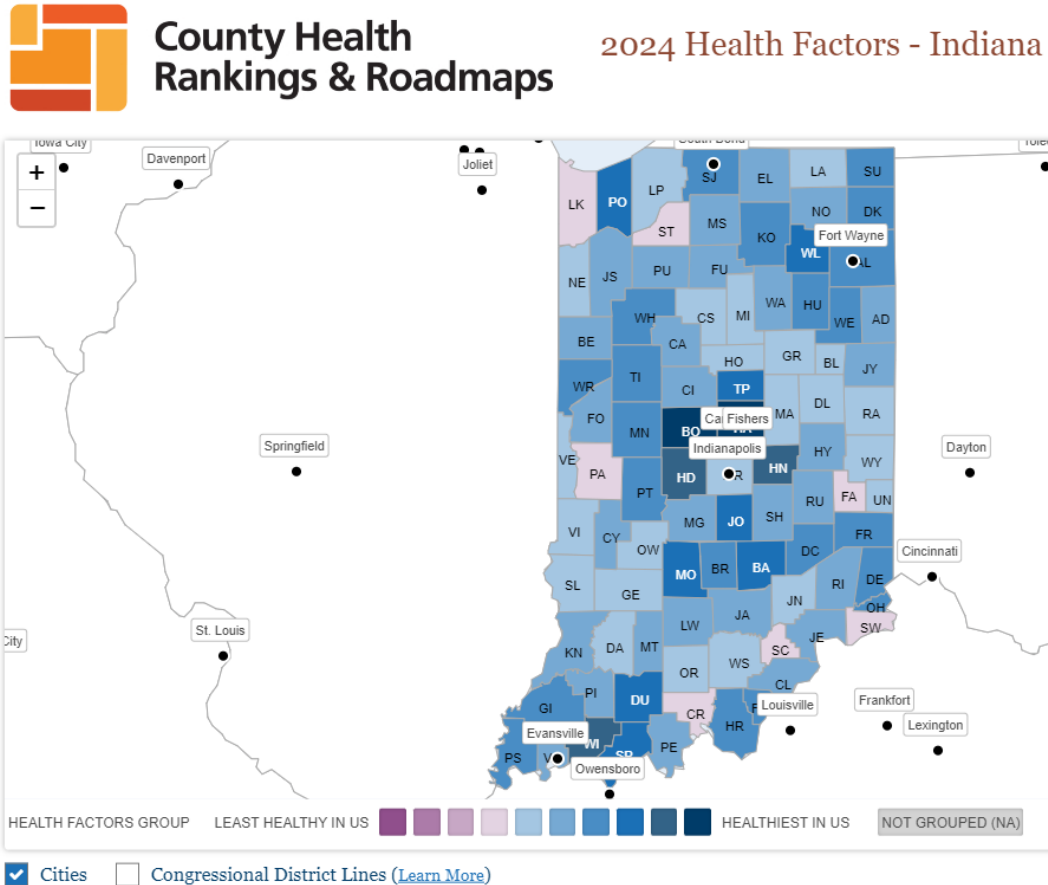


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Find datasets and documentation: Download state and national datasets

Downloads

# How do Counties Rank for Health Factors?



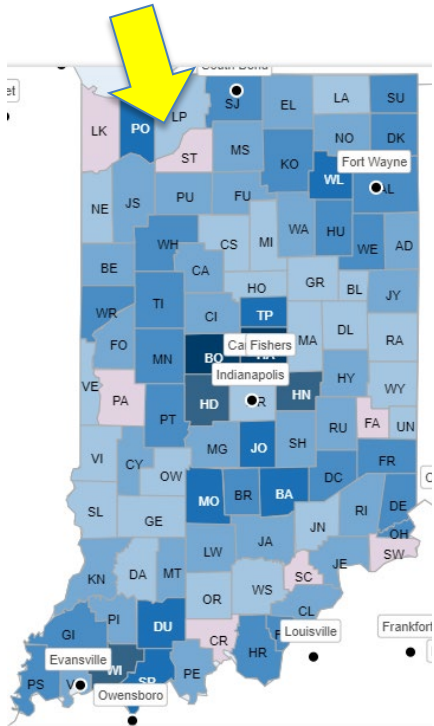
Health factors represent community conditions that we can change to improve health and opportunity, such as access to quality education, living wage jobs, quality clinical care, nutritious foods, green spaces, and secure and affordable housing. We measure four health factor areas.



<https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/health-data/indiana?year=2024&measure=Health+Factors>



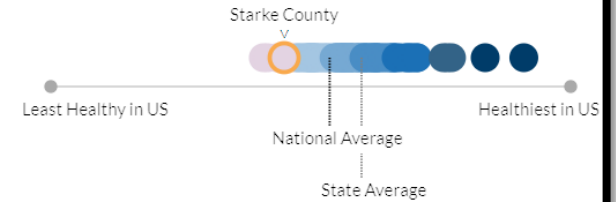
# Starke County, Indiana



## Starke County Health Factors i

Many things influence how well and how long we live. Health Factors represent those things we can improve to live longer and healthier lives. They are indicators of the future health of our communities.

**Starke County is faring worse than the average county in Indiana for Health Factors, and worse than the average county in the nation.**



Show areas to explore    Show areas of strength    Trends Available

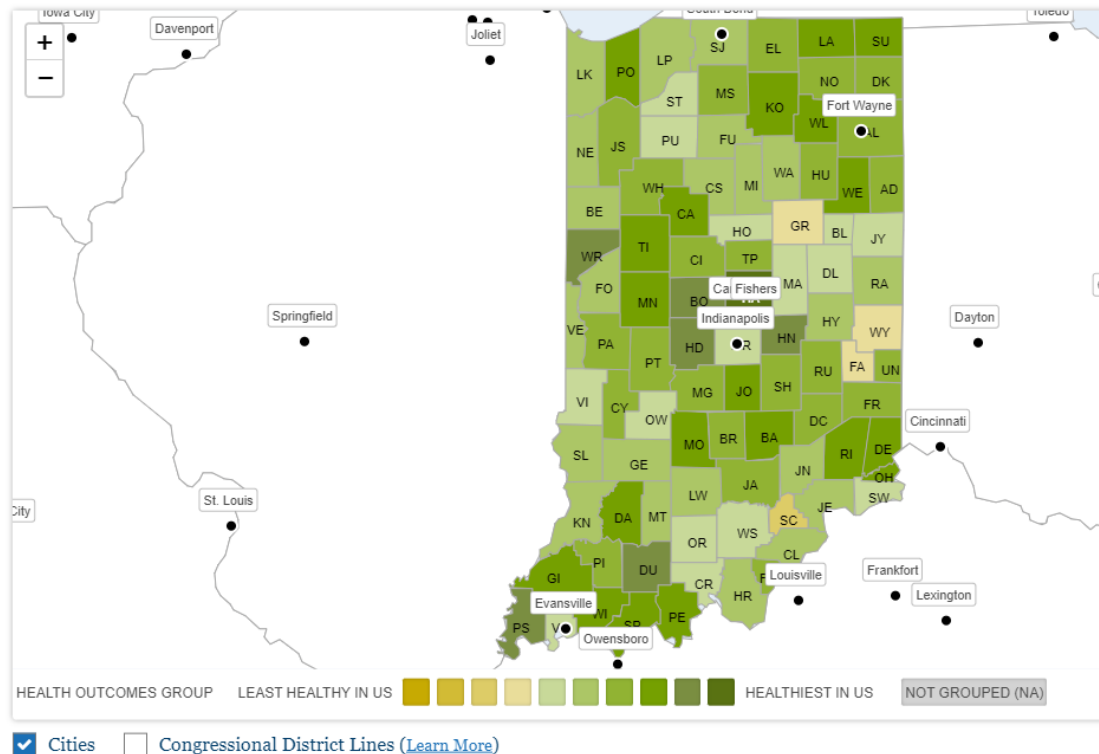
Health Factors				
Health Behaviors	Starke County	Indiana	United States	
Adult Smoking	23%	18%	15%	▼
Adult Obesity	42%	37%	34%	▼
Food Environment Index	8.1	6.8	7.7	▼
Physical Inactivity	29%	25%	23%	▼
Access to Exercise Opportunities	67%	77%	84%	▼
Excessive Drinking	17%	18%	18%	▼
Alcohol-Impaired Driving Deaths	14%	18%	26%	▼
Sexually Transmitted Infections	184.0	510.7	495.5	▼
Teen Births	28	20	17	▼
Additional Health Behaviors (not included in summary)				+

Starke County, Indiana, is Rural. 100% of the population lives in a low population density area.

# How Do Counties Rank for Health Outcomes?



## 2024 Health Outcomes - Indiana



## What are Health Outcomes?

We measure length and quality of life to understand the health outcomes among counties in Indiana.

### Length of Life

Premature death  
*(years of potential life lost before age 75)*

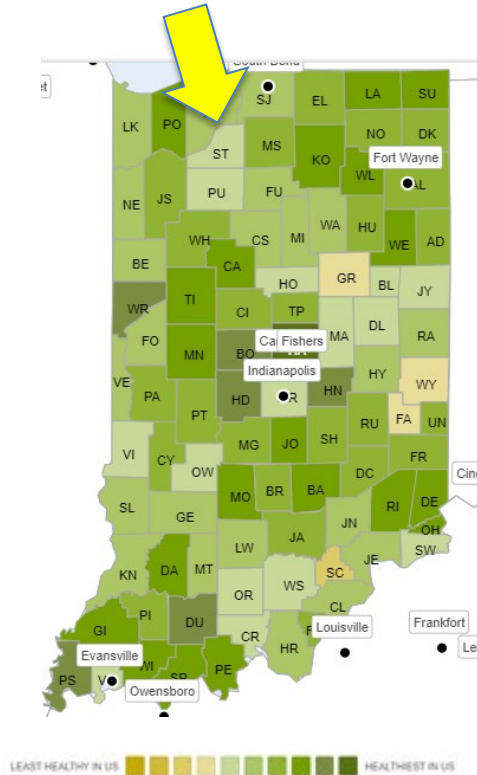
### Quality of Life

Self-reported health status

Percent of low birthweight newborns

<https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/explore-health-rankings/indiana/data-and-resources>

# Starke County, Indiana

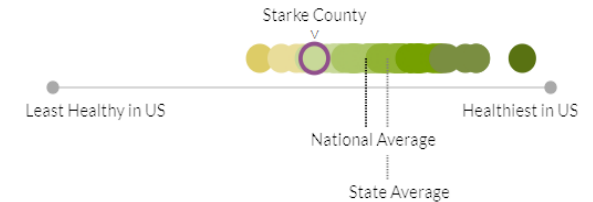


One county over, Porter County,  
Has a life expectancy of 77.5 years.

## Starke County Health Outcomes i

Health Outcomes tell us how long people live on average within a community, and how much physical and mental health people experience in a community while they are alive.

Starke County is faring worse than the average county in Indiana for Health Outcomes, and worse than the average county in the nation.



Trends Available

### Health Outcomes

Health Outcomes	Starke County	Indiana	United States	
Length of Life				—
Premature Death	12,300	9,300	8,000	⌵
Quality of Life				—
Poor or Fair Health	19%	16%	14%	⌵
Poor Physical Health Days	4.1	3.5	3.3	⌵
Poor Mental Health Days	5.8	5.2	4.8	⌵
Low Birthweight	8%	8%	8%	⌵
Additional Health Outcomes (not included in summary)				—
Life Expectancy	72.4	75.6	77.6	⌵
Premature Age-Adjusted Mortality	620	450	390	⌵
Child Mortality		60	50	⌵
Infant Mortality		7	6	⌵

# Health Equality vs. Equity

## EQUALITY:

Everyone gets the same – regardless if it's needed or right for them.



## EQUITY:

Everyone gets what they need – understanding the barriers, circumstances, and conditions.



# Where Do We Start?



## Data

- -Data can help us to understand what people's greatest social needs are, and can also link with race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, and language barriers.
- -This has been CMS's plan for quite some time.



# History

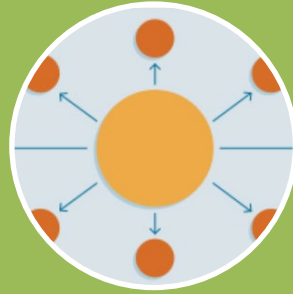
# 2015 Equity Plan for Improving Quality in Medicare



**Priority 1:** Expand the collection, reporting, and analysis of standardized data



**Priority 2:** Evaluate disparities impacts and integrate equity solutions across CMS programs



**Priority 3:** Develop and disseminate promising approaches to reduce health disparities



**Priority 4:** Increase the ability of the health care workforces to meet the needs of vulnerable populations



**Priority 5:** Improve communication and language access for individuals with limited English proficiency and persons with disabilities



**Priority 6:** Increase physical accessibility of health care facilities

<https://www.cms.gov/files/document/paving-way-equity-cms-omh-progress-report.pdf>

# 2016 CMS Progress Report on Equity Plan

- Introduction of improving the collection of demographic patient data
- REaL data = Race, Ethnicity and Language
- Began to add sexual orientation data
- Began to add disability status
- Worked with QIN-QIOs and HENS to help understand how to address health equity
- Introduced Accountable Health Community Models which included screening for SDOH



# 2019 Addition of SPADEs

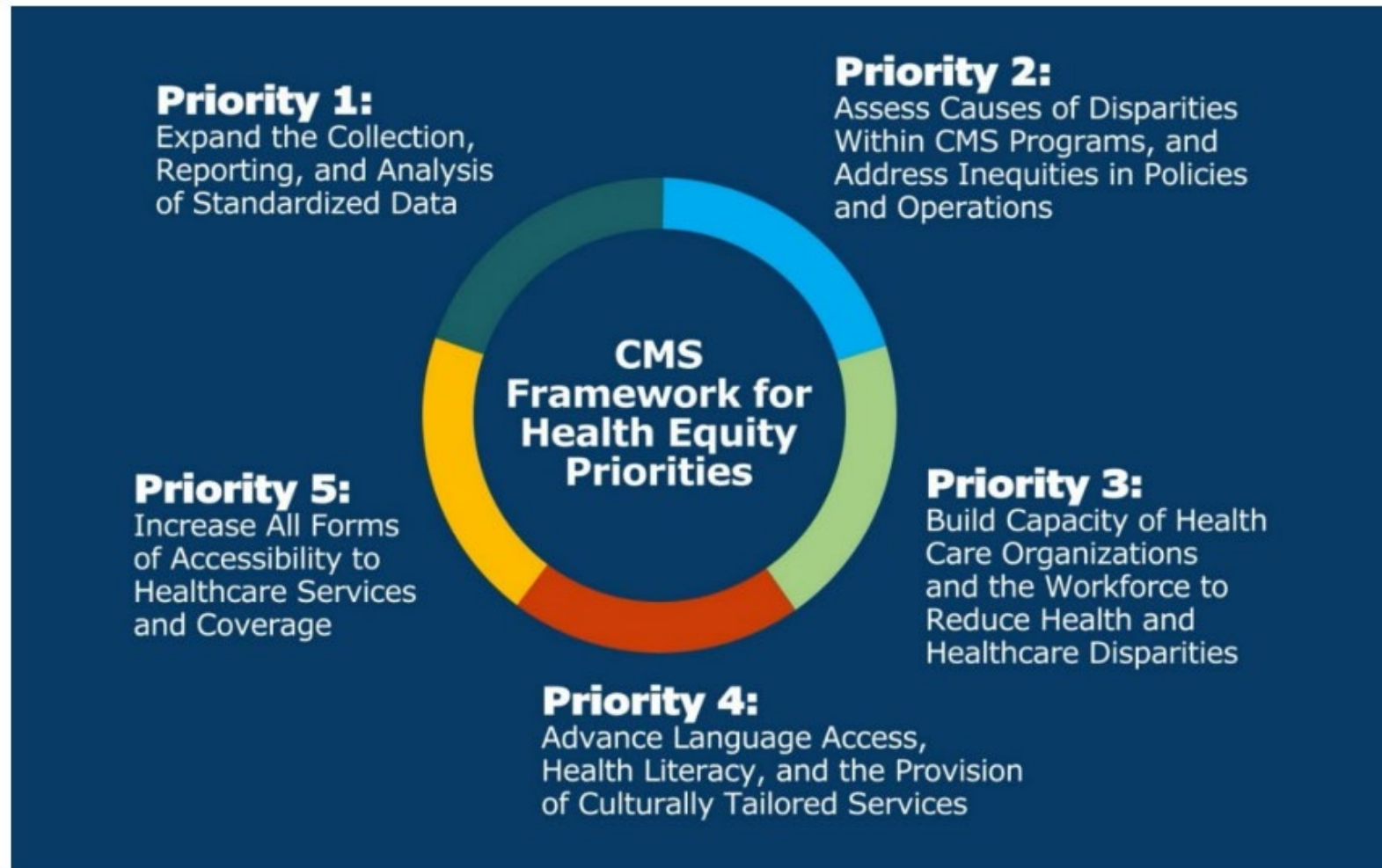
- In 2019, CMS identified and developed standardized **patient assessment data elements (SPADEs)** to assess social determinants of health and embedded these data elements into the Post-Acute Care Quality Reporting Programs, to be collected starting in 2020.
- Although data collection was delayed due to the public health emergency, this policy change in Medicare's prospective payment system makes collection of social determinants of health data part of the required standardized patient assessments administered in post-acute care settings.
- This extends to long-term care hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, intermediate rehabilitation facilities, and home health agencies.
- The additional SPADEs include race, ethnicity, preferred language/interpreter services, health literacy, transportation, and social isolation.

# CMS Framework for Health Equity 2022-2032



<https://www.cms.gov/files/document/cms-framework-health-equity-2022.pdf>

# CMS Framework for Health Equity Priorities



# Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS)



## Note Priority 4: Advance Language Access, Health Literacy, and the Provision of Culturally Tailored Services

- Community partnerships can help organizations meet the unique needs of individuals from various cultures through collaboration to develop language access plans, collect language data, and improve equitable communication.

<https://www.cms.gov/files/document/cms-2023-hec-post-conference-report-2023.pdf>



# How Do We Acknowledge SDOH?

# Z Codes



ICD-10 codes that describe social problems, conditions, or risk factors that influence a patient's health.

# ICD-10-CM SDOH Categories



- Z55 – Problems related to education and literacy
- Z56 – Problems related to employment and unemployment
- Z57 – Occupational exposure to risk factors
- Z58-- Problems related to employment and unemployment
- Z59 – Problems related to housing and economic circumstances
- Z60 – Problems related to social environment
- Z62 – Problems related to upbringing
- Z63 – Other problems related to primary support group, including family circumstances
- Z64 – Problems related to certain psychosocial circumstances
- Z65 – Problems related to other psychosocial circumstances

# Examples

- Many of the “stories” you hear from patients are linked to Z codes.

In the past month, did <u>Poor Physical or Mental Health</u> keep you from doing your usual activities, like work, school or a hobby?			
Code	Description	Code	Description
Z78.9	Poor physical health	Z63.0	Problems in relationship with spouse or partner
Z71.1	Mental health related complaint	Z63.4	Disappearance and death of a family member
Z60	Problems related to social environment	Z63.5	Disruption of family by separation and divorce
Z60.0	Problems of adjusting to life-cycle transitions	Z63.6	Dependent relative needing care at home
Z60.2	Problems related to living alone	Z63.7	Other stressful life events affecting family and household
Z60.4	Social exclusion and rejection	Z63.32	Other absence of family member
Z60.5	Target of (perceived) adverse discrimination and persecution	Z63.72	Alcoholism and drug addiction in family
Z62	Problems related to upbringing	Z63.8	Other specified problems related to primary support group
Z62.0	Inadequate parental supervision and control	Z65	Problems related to other psychosocial circumstance
Z62.82	Parent-child conflict	Z65.3	Problems related to other legal circumstances

If you take <u>Medication</u> , are you not taking it because it is too expensive?			
Code	Description	Code	Description
Z91.14	Patient's other noncompliance with medication regimen	Z59.6	Low income

Do you ever <u>Feel Unsafe</u> in your home or neighborhood?			
Code	Description	Code	Description
Z60.8	Other problems related to social environment	Z62.82	Parent-child conflict
Z63.0	Problems in relationship with spouse or partner	Z59.2	Discord with neighbors, lodgers and landlord
Z60.5	Target of (perceived) adverse discrimination and persecution		

[SDoH Z Code Crosswalk.pdf \(ospdocs.com\)](https://ospdocs.com/SDoH/ZCodeCrosswalk.pdf)



# Developing Z-Code Reporting

- Generally sourced from administrative claims
- Analytics team guidance
- Z-Code position in longitudinal records
- Improving documentation





## What You Can Do

- 1 ➔ Hospitals should educate key stakeholders, including physicians, non-physician health care providers, and coding professionals of the important need to screen, document and code data on patients' social needs. Utilizing Z codes will allow hospitals and health systems to better track patient needs and identify solutions to improve the health of their communities.
- 2 ➔ As coding professionals review a patient's medical record to identify the appropriate ICD-10-CM codes to include, they should be aware of and begin utilizing the ICD-10-CM codes included in categories Z55-Z65, listed in Table 1.
- 3 ➔ Hospital leaders can prioritize the importance of documenting and coding patients' social needs and allow coders extra time to integrate coding for social determinants into their processes.

<https://www.aha.org/system/files/2018-04/value-initiative-icd-10-code-social-determinants-of-health.pdf>



# Did You Know?

- Persons with potential health hazards related to socioeconomic and psychosocial circumstances, code assignment may be based on medical record documentation from clinicians involved in the care of the patient who are not the patient's provider since this information represents social information, rather than medical diagnoses.
- For example, coding professionals may utilize documentation of social information from social workers, community health workers, case managers, or nurses, if their documentation is included in the official medical record.
- Patient self-reported documentation may be used to assign codes for social determinants of health, as long as the patient self-reported information is signed-off by and incorporated into the medical record by either a clinician or provider.

<https://www.cms.gov/files/document/fy-2024-icd-10-cm-coding-guidelines-updated-02/01/2024.pdf>

# Why are Z codes important?

- Support evaluation and management (E/M) coding
- Justify medical necessity
- Paint a complete picture of the patient's circumstances
- Identify potential barriers to diagnosis and treatment
- Gather data on treatment efficacy and the true cost of care

# ICD-10 Z Code Updates for 2023

**CMS.gov** Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

## 2023 ICD-10-CM

April 1, 2023 UPDATE

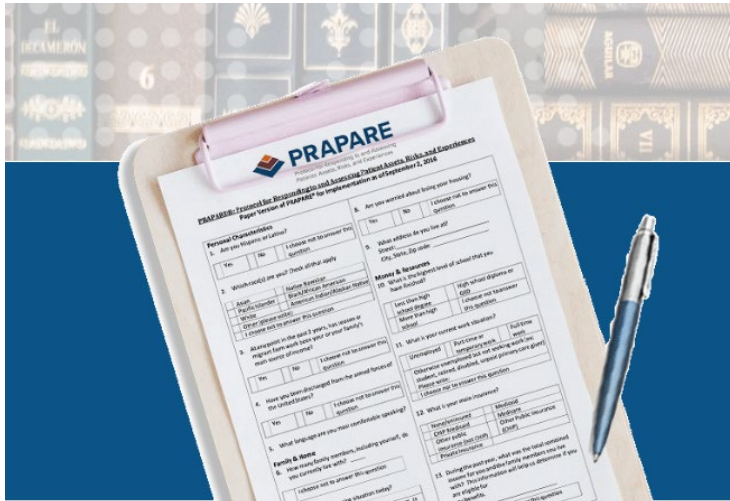
In an effort to better enable the collection of health-related social needs (HRSNs), defined as individual-level, adverse social conditions that negatively impact a person's health or healthcare, are significant risk factors associated with worse health outcomes as well as increased healthcare utilization, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) is implementing 42 new diagnosis codes into the International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision, Clinical Modification (ICD-10-CM), for reporting effective April 1, 2023.

The files in the Downloads section below contain information on the ICD-10-CM updates effective with discharges on and after April 1, 2023.

- **Old News:** Beginning Oct. 1, 2022, updates to Z code Z59.8 have taken effect for the fiscal year 2023. Additional codes have been established to allow for greater specificity.
- **New News:** Effective April 1, 2023, CMS has now implemented updates to codes to occur twice a year in April and October instead of just October.
- In a comparison between the October 22 updates to the April 23 updates, some Z codes have been removed and other codes have become more specific.

<https://www.cms.gov/medicare/icd-10/2023-icd-10-cm>

# Screening Tools



PRAPARE-25 languages and in many EMRs

## Social Needs Screening Tool

**PATIENT FORM (short version)**

Please answer the following.

**HOUSING**

- What is your housing situation today?
  - I do not have housing (I am staying with others, in a hotel, in a shelter, living outside on the street, on a beach, in a car, abandoned building, bus or train station, or in a park)
  - I have housing today, but I am worried about losing housing in the future
  - I have housing
- Think about the place you live. Do you have problems with any of the following? (check all that apply)
  - Bug infestation
  - Mold
  - Lead paint or pipes
  - Inadequate heat
  - Oven or stove not working
  - No or not working smoke detectors
  - Water leaks
  - None of the above

**FOOD**

- Within the past 12 months, you worried that your food would run out before you got money to buy more.<sup>1</sup>
  - Often true
  - Sometimes true
  - Never true
- Within the past 12 months, the food you bought just didn't last and you didn't have money to get more.<sup>1</sup>
  - Often true
  - Sometimes true
  - Never true

**TRANSPORTATION**

- In the past 12 months, has lack of transportation kept you from medical appointments, meetings, work or from getting things needed for daily living? (check all that apply)
  - Yes, it has kept me from medical appointments or getting medications
  - Yes, it has kept me from non-medical meetings, appointments, work, or getting things that I need
  - No

**UTILITIES**

- In the past 12 months has the electric, gas, oil, or water company threatened to shut off services in your home?
  - Yes
  - No
  - Already shut off

**PERSONAL SAFETY**

- How often does anyone, including family, physically hurt you?
  - Never
  - Rarely
  - Sometimes
  - Fairly often
  - Frequently
- How often does anyone, including family, insult or talk down to you?
  - Never
  - Rarely
  - Sometimes
  - Fairly often
  - Frequently
- How often does anyone, including family, threaten you with harm?
  - Never
  - Rarely
  - Sometimes
  - Fairly often
  - Frequently

AAFP-10 questions

## The Accountable Health Communities Health-Related Social Needs Screening Tool

**What's the Accountable Health Communities (AHC) Health-Related Social Needs (HRSN) Screening Tool?**

We at the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation (CMMI) made the Accountable Health Communities (AHC) Health-Related Social Needs (HRSN) Screening Tool to use in the AHC Model.<sup>1</sup> We're testing to see if systematically finding and dealing with the health-related social needs of Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries has any effect on their total health care costs and makes their health outcomes better.

**Why is the AHC HRSN Screening Tool important?**

Growing evidence shows that if we deal with unmet HRSNs like homelessness, hunger, and exposure to violence, we can help undo their harm to health. Just like with clinical assessment tools, providers can use the results from the HRSN Screening Tool to inform patients' treatment plans and make referrals to community services.

**What does the AHC HRSN Screening Tool mean for me?**

Screening for HRSNs isn't standard clinical practice yet. We're making the AHC HRSN Screening Tool a standard screening across all the communities in the AHC Model. We're sharing the AHC HRSN Screening Tool for awareness.

**What's in the AHC HRSN Screening Tool?**

In a National Academy of Medicine discussion paper,<sup>2</sup> we shared the 10-item HRSN Screening Tool. The Tool can help providers find out patients' needs in these 5 core domains that community services can help with:

- Housing instability
- Food insecurity
- Transportation problems
- Utility help needs

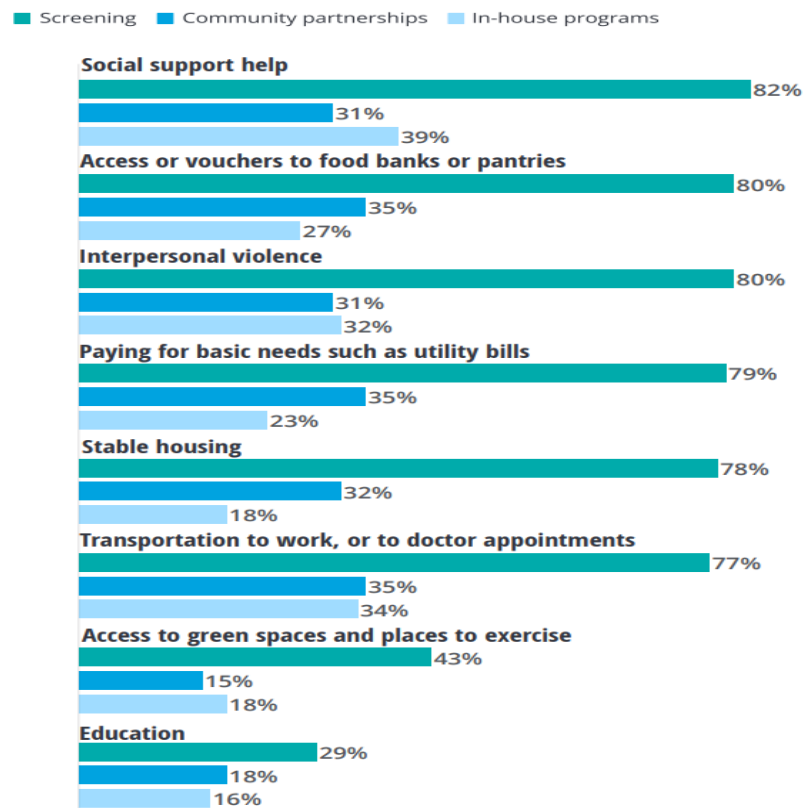
<sup>1</sup> United States, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. (2017, September 05). Accountable Health Communities Model. <https://www.cms.gov/medicare/innovation/ahc-model>  
<sup>2</sup> Billow, A., MD, MPH, Vanderler, K., MPH, Anthony, S., DPH, & Alvey, D., PhD. (2017). Standardized Screening for Health-Related Social Needs in Clinical Settings: The Accountable Health Communities Screening Tool. National Academy of Medicine Perspectives. 1-9. <https://www.nam.edu/medperspectives/2017/05/standardized-screening-for-health-related-social-needs-in-clinical-settings.pdf>

Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation 1

CMS

# The GAP

Most health care leaders say they are screening their patients for DOH, but fewer say they are connecting them to services that address DOH (via community partners or in-house programs)



Note: Percentage of respondents who selected each response when asked “Does your organization screen patients or members to determine if they have the following needs?” and “Does your organization ‘have programs in-house to help patients or members,’” and/or ‘have formal partnerships with community organizations to help patients or members.’”  
Source: Deloitte 2021 Drivers of Health Survey.

- In 2017, 88% of hospitals who responded to a survey (300) stated they were screening for social needs.
- 33% reported that they had a well-defined process for connecting people with resources.
- A repeat survey in 2021 found that 79% of hospitals (251) screened for social needs, 35% stating they had a process for connecting people to resources.

<https://www2.deloitte.com/us/en/insights/industry/health-care/drivers-of-health-equity-survey.html>

# Team Building



- Hospital Leadership
- Clinical Staff
- Coders
- IT Team
- Social Workers, Navigators
- Providers
- Community Wellness Liaisons





# IHA and SDOH

# Our Foundation



- [Healthy People 2030](#) features many objectives related to SDOH.
- Tracking Data to Improve Health Collaborative efforts at the federal, state, and local levels can help address health disparities.
- Healthy People offers a platform for collaboration; priority alignment, including alignment of federal strategies; and information sharing around disease prevention and health promotion priorities for the Nation.



# IHA Work on Social Drivers of Health

## Small Rural Hospital Improvement Grant Program

\*Funded 2023-2028

\*36 hospitals participating

## Safety PIN C

\*Funded 2021-2024

\*Goal is 100% participations of Indiana birthing hospitals to integrate health equity framework by implementation of Social Determinants of Health screening, systemized coding, data analysis, and report visualization followed by action using the PETAL framework to connect women and infants to resources prior to crisis.



## Indiana Healthy Opportunities for Everyone Program (I-HOPE)

\*Funded 2021-2024

\*National initiative to address COVID-19 health disparities among populations at high-risk and underserved, including racial and ethnic minority populations and rural communities.

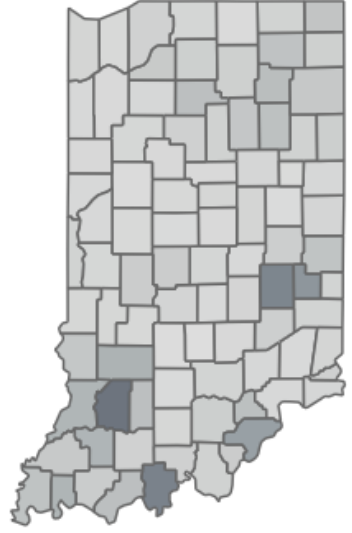
## Hospital Quality Improvement Collaborative (HQIC)

\*Funded 2020-2024

\*A CMS funded project to partner with hospitals across the country in rural, critical access, and urban setting that provide care for vulnerable populations.

## Zip Code Data

### Other Social Factors



### Z Codes

- Z60.4
- Z60.8
- Z60.9
- Z71.3
- Z71.6
- Z71.9
- Z72.0
- Z72.4
- Z71.82
- Z71.89

For access, contact Ryan Prentice at: [Rprentice@ihaconnect.org](mailto:Rprentice@ihaconnect.org)

## Individual Hospital Data

**Statewide view of Z-Code Groupings**  
 Hit the [+] above the Z-Code Group header to drill-down to Diagnosis Code and the [-] will drill back up to the groupings. Hit the [+] to drill down on date fields or [-] to drill up.

Z-Code Group	Diagnosis Co.	2018					2019					2020				
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual T..	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual T..	Q1	Q2	Q3	Annual T..	
Contact with and Suspected Exposure to Arsenic Lead or A...	Z77010	11	6	3	4	24	3	12	8	4	27	3		9	12	
	Z77011	225	249	447	290	1,211	293	296	341	300	1,230	270	201	317	768	
	Z77090	201	310	294	294	1,179	336	322	311	297	1,266	285	201	279	765	
Educational Circumstances	Z550	12	17	14	16	59	13	6	13	17	49	15	9	14	38	
	Z551			1		1								1	1	
	Z552	1		4	1	6		1	1	2	4			1	1	
	Z553	8	14	8	10	40	21	5	7	23	56	12	5	17	34	
	Z554	3	5	7	18	33	32	24	7	11	74	13	3	7	23	
	Z558	196	225	222	338	981	395	433	327	263	1,418	155	173	146	474	
Z559	40	58	51	69	218	97	69	39	92	297	31	24	58	113		
Effects of Work Environment	Z560	671	804	930	1,137	3,542	1,178	1,110	1,089	1,035	4,412	990	1,246	1,789	4,025	
	Z561	2	1		3	6			1		3	1	3		4	
	Z562		7	3	4	14	2	4	5	2	13	2	2	2	6	
	Z564	5		1	2	8	1	2	2	2	7	1		3	4	
	Z569	11	5	10	12	38	19	27	11	10	67	8	6	8	22	
	Z5609	16	13	14	6	49	7	7	4	6	24	8	7	12	27	
Foster Care	Z6221	133	124	126	136	519	148	129	113	148	538	116	103	130	349	
	Z6202	4	3	14	7	28	5	9	3	7	24	5	4	4	13	
Homelessness/Other Housing Concerns	Z590	3,095	3,336	3,733	3,562	13,726	3,662	3,752	4,172	4,228	15,814	4,655	4,151	4,309	13,115	
	Z591	13	11	19	28	71	16	23	19	28	86	17	19	27	63	
	Z592	2	1	2	3	8	5	7	5	3	20	5	7	10	22	
	Z598	116	111	139	138	504	130	122	114	113	497	96	97	104	297	
	Z602	176	182	179	237	743	194	262	262	262	979	287	185	283	755	

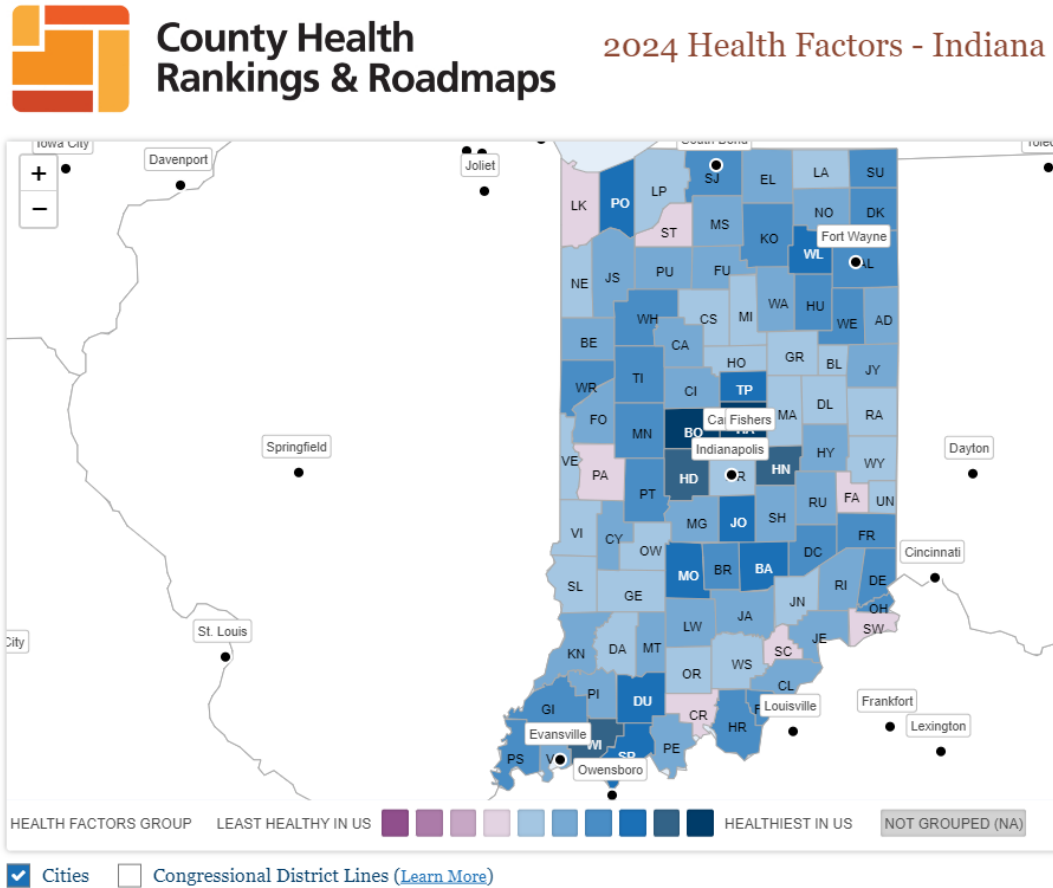
# Indiana's Z Code Utilization-88% Improvement



Patients	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023 (3Q)
<b>Z-Code Group</b>	Annual Total	Annual Total	Annual Total	Annual Total	Annual Total	Annual Total
Occupational exposure to risk-factors	537	530	502	365	473	412
Other problems related to primary support group including family circ	5695	8049	6706	8575	12446	10714
Other problems related to upbringing	10002	10633	9538	8891	10519	8300
Problems related to certain psychosocial circumstances	307	265	229	391	391	317
Problems related to education and literacy	1296	1828	955	1030	1407	1651
Problems related to employment and unemployment	3774	4695	5848	7765	10359	8364
Problems related to housing and economic circumstances	15469	17682	18924	20763	27271	32316
Problems related to other psychosocial circumstances	1923	2379	2485	5239	6714	6317
Problems related to social environment	1486	1934	1845	4505	5900	7557
<b>Yearly Total</b>	40489	47995	47032	57524	75480	75948
<b>Total Claims</b>	6,694,854	6,914,042	5,964,135	6,658,232	8,567,069	6,853,309
	0.60%	0.69%	0.79%	0.86%	0.88%	1.10%

\*Data obtained from IHA internal data dashboard- All Payor

# Remember This Slide?



Health factors represent community conditions that we can change to improve health and opportunity, such as access to quality education, living wage jobs, quality clinical care, nutritious foods, green spaces, and secure and affordable housing. We measure four health factor areas.



<https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/health-data/indiana?year=2024&measure=Health+Factors>

# Opportunity

Tell policy  
makers the story  
of health  
disparities in  
communities  
across the state

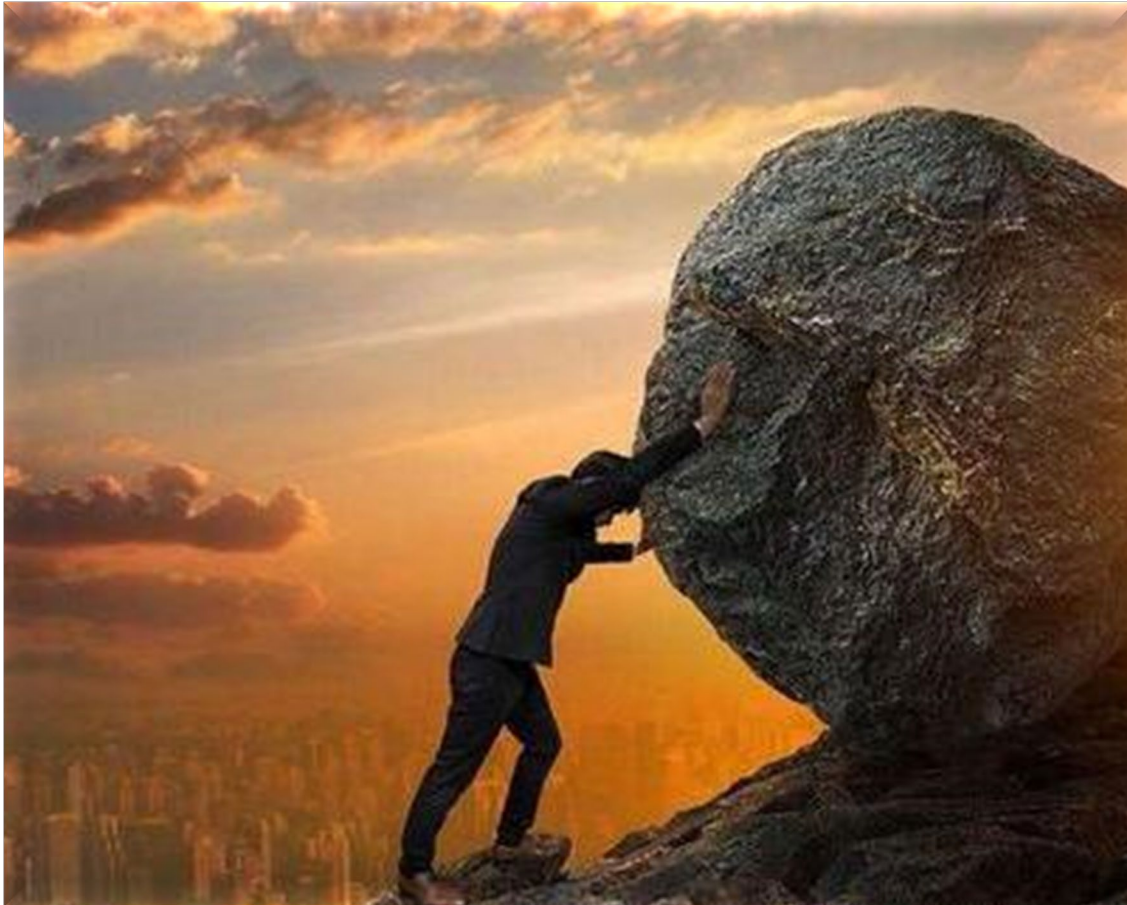




# Current & Future Expectations?



# Obstacles in Data Collection



- Lack of definitions for SDOH terms
- Unfamiliarity with social needs
- Providers and coders
- Perceived priority/lack of incentives
- Number of codes that can be captured
- Operational processes
- EHR-based screening tool
- Standard documenting process
- Coding processes
- Lack of clarity about who can screen and document
- Productivity challenges

# ACO Model

## CMS Redesigns Direct Contracting Into An ACO Model

By James Schneider — On Feb 25, 2022

NEWS



[CMS redesigns Direct Contracting into an ACO model - Fyne Fettle](#)

- The Global and Professional Direct Contracting Model was replaced with a more equity-focused and provider-led Accountable Care Organization Model for 2023.
- The redesigned model, called the ACO Realizing Equity, Access, and Community Health Model—or ACO REACH—includes new health equity requirements, changes to risk adjustment and additional application scoring criteria and requires participants to develop a Health Equity Plan that identifies health disparities and highlights actions to mitigate them.

# CMS 2023 IPPS Final Rule

Specifically, CMS is adopting:

- Hospital Commitment to Health Equity measure beginning with the CY 2023 reporting period/FY 2025 payment determination.
- Screening for Social Drivers of Health measure and Screen Positive Rate for Social Drivers of Health measure beginning with voluntary reporting in the CY 2023 reporting period and mandatory reporting beginning with the CY 2024 reporting period/FY 2026 payment determination.

# Measures

- The first measure assesses a hospital's commitment to establishing a culture of equity and delivering more equitable health care by capturing concrete activities across five key domains, including strategic planning, data collection, data analysis, quality improvement, and leadership engagement.
- The second and third measures capture screening and identification of patient-level, health-related social needs — such as food insecurity, housing instability, transportation needs, utility difficulties, and interpersonal safety. By screening for and identifying such unmet needs, hospitals will be in a better position to serve patients holistically by addressing and monitoring what are often key contributors to poor physical and mental health outcomes.



# Medicare Beneficiary Quality Improvement Project (MBQIP)



Measures in gold denote **new measures added for MBQIP reporting within the Flex Program** and are to be added to reporting data by calendar year 2025.

Measures in \*blue denote **existing measures within the MBQIP Flex Program**.

MBQIP 2025 Core Measure Set				
Global Measures	Patient Safety	Patient Experience	Care Coordination	Emergency Department
<p><b>*CAH Quality Infrastructure</b> <i>(annual submission)</i></p> <p><b>Hospital Commitment to Health Equity</b> <i>(annual submission)</i></p>	<p><b>*HCP/IMM-3:</b> Influenza Vaccination Coverage Among Healthcare Personnel (HCP) <i>(annual submission)</i></p> <p><b>*Antibiotic Stewardship:</b> Measured via Center for Disease Control National Healthcare Safety Network (CDC NHSN) Annual Facility Survey <i>(annual submission)</i></p> <p><b>Safe Use of Opioids (eCQM)</b> <i>(annual submission)</i></p>	<p><b>*Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (HCAHPS)</b> <i>(quarterly submission)</i></p>	<p><b>Hybrid Hospital-Wide Readmission</b> <i>(annual submission)</i></p> <p><b>Social Determinants of Health Screening</b> <i>(annual submission)</i></p> <p><b>Social Determinants of Health Screening Positive</b> <i>(annual submission)</i></p>	<p><b>*Emergency Department Transfer Communication (EDTC)</b> <i>(quarterly submission)</i>:</p> <p><b>*OP-18:</b> Median Time from ED Arrival to ED Departure for Discharged ED Patients <i>(quarterly submission)</i></p> <p><b>*OP-22:</b> Patient Left Without Being Seen <i>(annual submission)</i></p>

\*Measures in the current MBQIP core measure set  
+Data collection began in 2023 to inform state Flex quality programs. Data will continue to be collected going forward.

- The MBQIP 2025 Core Measures is a list of quality measures the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP) at the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) is adopting for use in the Medicare Beneficiary Quality Improvement Project (MBQIP) within the Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility Program.
- Starting in calendar year 2025, hospitals will collect data to report on the updated MBQIP core measures set as part of the Flex Program.

# TJC Standard Update for 2023



**As of Jan. 1, accreditation programs for primary care clinics, behavioral health centers, critical access facilities and hospitals will include new mandates for their leaders. New standards include:**

- Designating a leader or leaders to direct activities to reduce healthcare disparities within an organization.
- Assessing patients' health-related social needs and providing information about community resources and support services.
- Identifying healthcare disparities in the patient population by stratifying quality and safety data using socio-demographic characteristics.
- Developing a written action plan that describes how the organization will address at least one of the healthcare disparities identified in its patient population.
- Taking action when the goals in its plan to reduce health disparities are not achieved or sustained.

[https://www.jointcommission.org/-/media/tjc/documents/standards/r3-reports/r3\\_disparities\\_july2022-6-20-2022.pdf](https://www.jointcommission.org/-/media/tjc/documents/standards/r3-reports/r3_disparities_july2022-6-20-2022.pdf)

# FY 2024 Hospital Inpatient Prospective Payment System (IPPS) Proposed Rule

- “The rule also advances one of the goals of the CMS Framework for Health Equity 2022-2032 to more explicitly measure the impact of our policies on health equity. As part of our growing capabilities in this area, we are proposing to add 15 new health equity hospital categorizations for the FY 2024 IPPS payment impacts. Moving forward, one of the priorities of the CMS Framework for Health Equity 2022-2032 is to expand the collection, reporting, and analysis of standardized health equity data. As additional data become available, we plan to incorporate it on an ongoing basis into our impact analyses.”

# Homelessness a Comorbid Condition?



The screenshot shows the top portion of the NAHRI website. The header includes the NAHRI logo and the text "National Association of Healthcare Revenue Integrity". Navigation links include "Log In", "eNewsletter Signup", "Store", and "Contact Us". Social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn are present. A search bar is located on the right. Below the header is a green navigation bar with links for "Membership", "Certification", "Publications", "Resources", "Network & Events", "Career Center", "Forums", and "Become a Member". The "Publications" link is highlighted, and a sub-menu item "PUBLICATIONS" is visible. The main article title is "2024 IPPS final rule finalizes DSH payments cuts and coding changes" with a date of "Wednesday, August 9, 2023" and a source of "Revenue Integrity Insider".

## SDoH and health equity

CMS finalized its proposal to move three codes for homelessness from non-complication/comorbidity (nonCC) status to complication/comorbidity (CC) status. Starting October 1, ICD-10-CM codes Z59.00 (homelessness, unspecified), Z59.01 (sheltered homelessness), and Z59.02 (unsheltered homelessness) will be eligible for additional reimbursement. This change will recognize the increased use of hospital resources and greater costs these codes are associated with, according to CMS.

CMS also finalized its proposal to add 15 health equity categorizations under the Hospital Value-Based Purchasing Program.

[https://nahri.org/articles/2024-ippes-final-rule-finalizes-dsh-payments-cuts-and-coding-changes#:~:text=CMS%20finalized%20its%20proposal%20to,homelessness%2C%20unspecified\)%2C%20Z59](https://nahri.org/articles/2024-ippes-final-rule-finalizes-dsh-payments-cuts-and-coding-changes#:~:text=CMS%20finalized%20its%20proposal%20to,homelessness%2C%20unspecified)%2C%20Z59) .

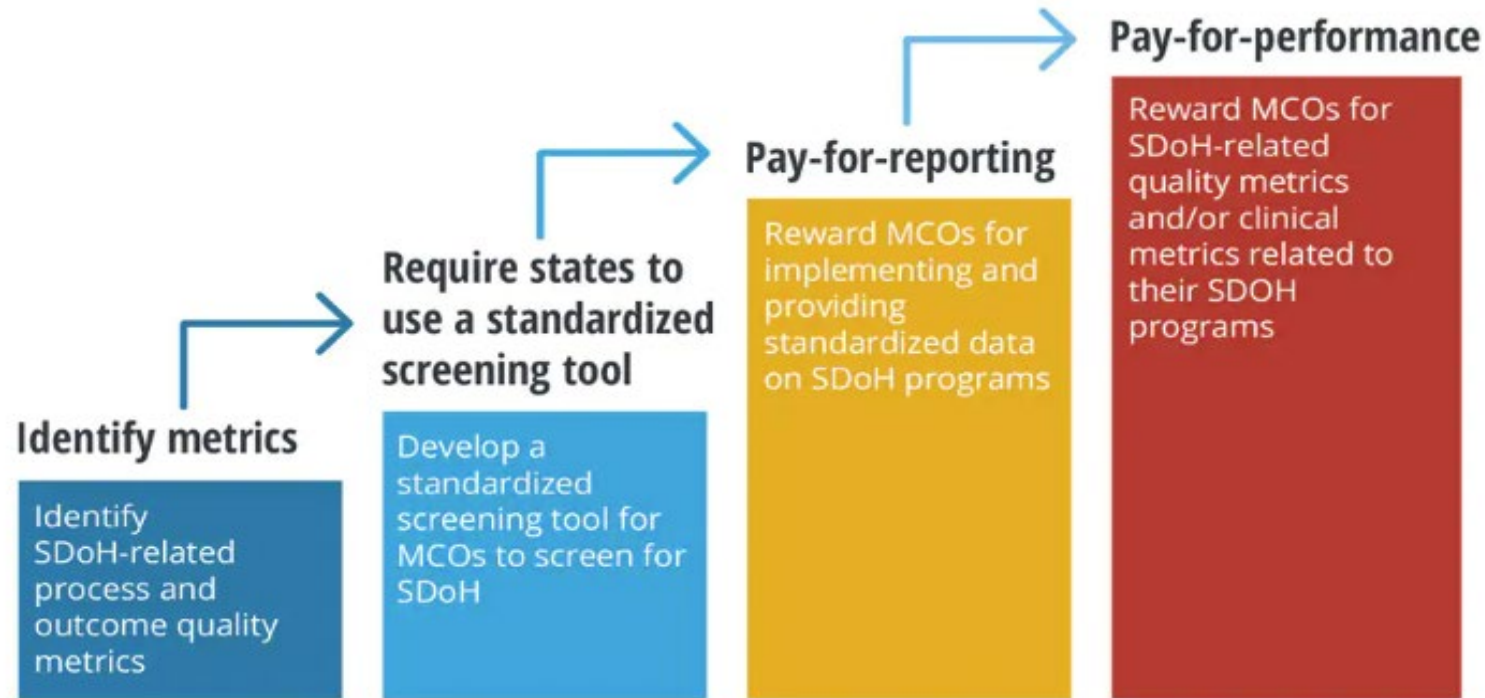


# Hospital Value- Based Purchasing (VBP) Program- IPPS FY 2024

- Adopt a health equity scoring change for rewarding excellent care in underserved populations, such that a health equity adjustment would be added to hospitals' Total Performance Scores (TPS) based on both a hospital's performance on existing Hospital VBP Program measures and the proportion of individuals with dual eligibility status that a hospital treats. As part of this proposal, CMS is also:
  - Proposing to modify the TPS maximum to be 110, such that the numeric score range would be 0 to 110.
  - Requesting stakeholder feedback on additional health equity changes to the Hospital VBP Program scoring methodology for future consideration

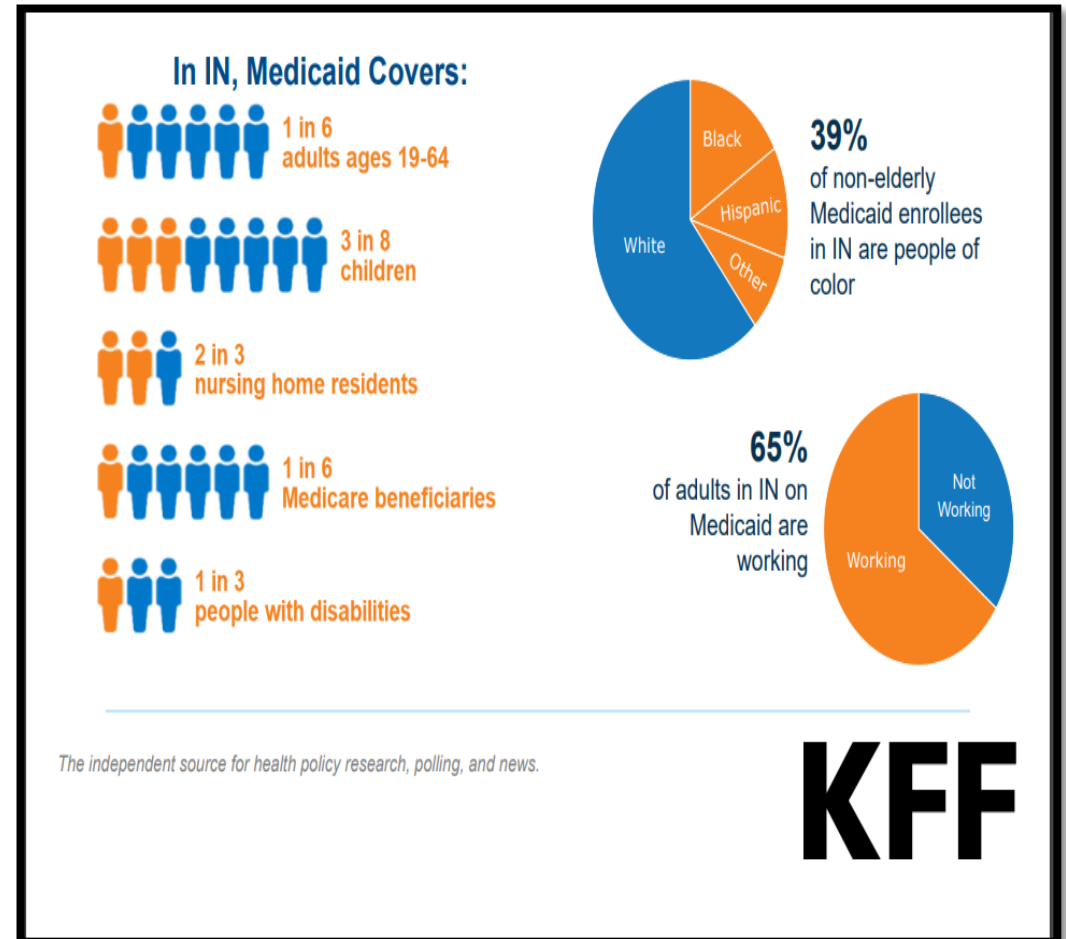
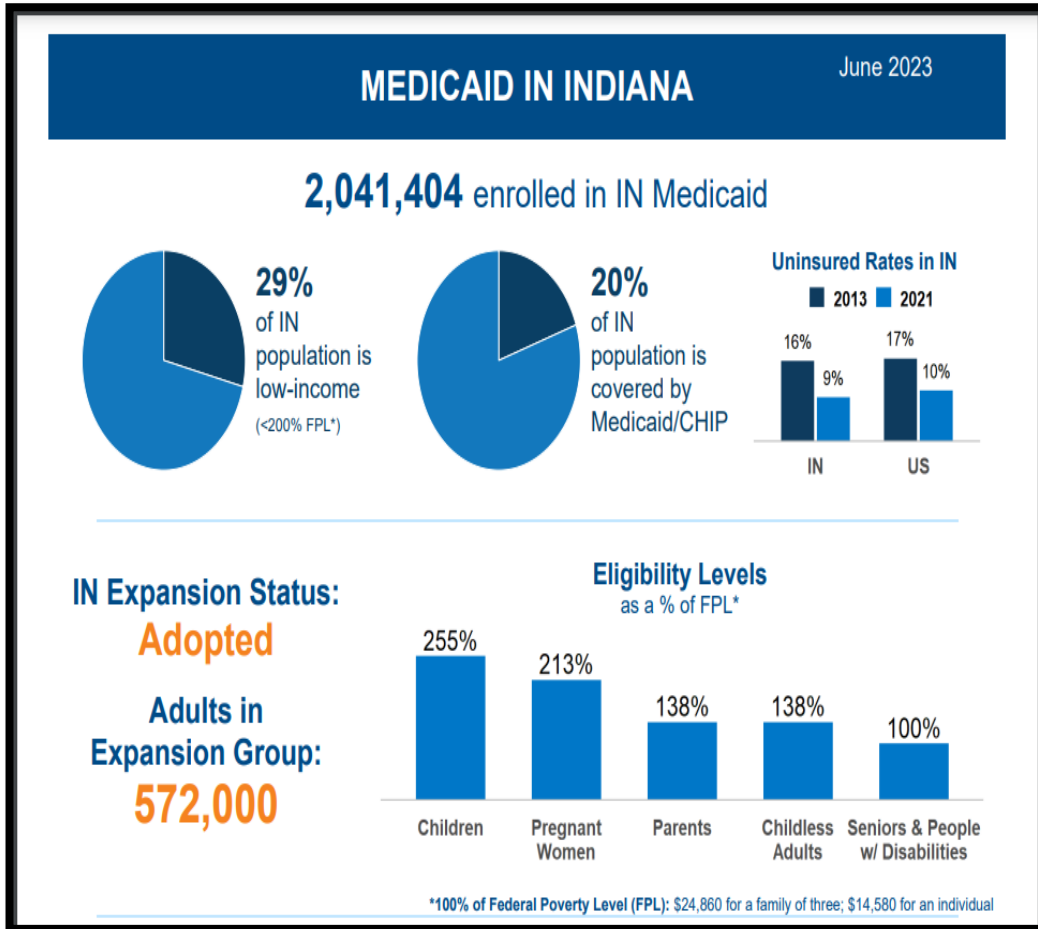
# What Medicaid is Trying to Accomplish

An incremental approach states can use to develop interventions that meet social needs



Source: Deloitte analysis.

# Medicaid Numbers



# A Win for Indiana

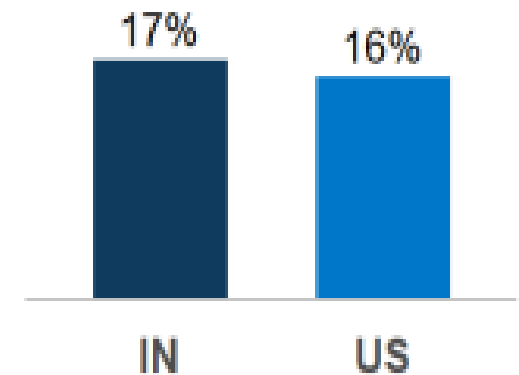


**38%**  
of births in  
IN were  
covered by  
Medicaid

Indiana **has adopted** the Medicaid  
12-month postpartum coverage  
extension

Indiana **provides** 12-months of  
continuous Medicaid eligibility for a  
limited group of children

**Medicaid Coverage of  
Women Ages 15–49**



<https://files.kff.org/attachment/fact-sheet-medicaid-state-IN>

# Anthem Health Equity Support

businesswire

## Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield in Indiana Earns NCQA Health Equity Accreditation Plus

Business Wire  
Tue, Jan 9, 2024 · 4 min read




*Newly established accreditation recognizes Anthem's commitment to health equity, prioritizing the needs of socioeconomically marginalized individuals at the highest risk for adverse health outcomes.*

INDIANAPOLIS, January 09, 2024--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield's Medicaid health plan in Indiana recently earned the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) Health Equity

- Anthem is advancing its health equity mission through various innovative programs including:
- A dedicated team of associates who are experts in health-related social needs including employment, education, housing, food, and transportation that help members navigate barriers to improved health by collaborating with CBOs.
- The Social Determinants of Health Case Management program which provides interventions that address the social needs and risks of members tailored to their unique needs and circumstances.
- Community health workers who identify and engage key members impacted by physical and behavioral health conditions given their geography, demographics, race, or ethnicity to address their ongoing health needs through a personalized whole health approach.
- Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield works with the state of Indiana to offer the Hoosier Healthwise (HHW), Hoosier Care Connect (HCC) and Healthy Indiana Plan (HIP) health insurance programs for 750,000 Medicaid beneficiaries.

# What About Reimbursement?



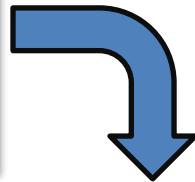
**Fax Alert**  
Important Information "You Need to Know!"

Uni2KNOW


**2022 Pay for Performance Primary Care Providers  
Care Coordination Codes and  
Quality Incentive Program**

We've updated our 2022 Care Management and Quality Incentive Program starting Jan. 1, 2022. The program was designed with the goal of helping your patients, who are UnitedHealthcare Community Plan members, become more engaged with their preventive health care.

What's new for 2022?



**Z Code Submission:**



Primary care providers have a new opportunity to earn incentives for the submission of Social Determinant of Health (SDoH) ICD-10 Z codes (Z55-Z65 and Z75) based on the results of SDoH assessments. Providers who submit SDoH-related Z codes for 5% of their seen members will earn a \$0.50 pmpm payment while providers who submit these codes for 10% of their seen members will earn a \$1.00 pmpm payment. Membership for the pmpm payment will be based on the provider's entire assigned membership for the year. Z code incentives will be paid annually at the time of quality incentive payments.

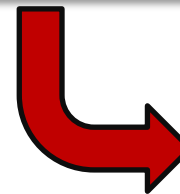
DIVE BRIEF

## Humana program to reimburse providers for identifying social determinants like homelessness, food insecurity

Published March 5, 2020

By Hailey Mensik

in f t p e



Humana isn't the first payer to try this approach.

CMS has also aimed to expand value-based programs that reward health care providers for the quality of care they provide, especially in the MA program.

<https://www.healthcaredive.com/news/humana-program-to-reimburse-providers-for-identifying-social-determinants-l/573557/>

<https://lakelandcare.com/sites/lakelandcare.com/files/attachments/2022%20P4P%20notice%20%282%29.pdf>

# Other Resources

**2023 Providers are Responsible for Social Determinants of Health Quality Measures**

[remingtonreport.com/intelligence-resources/home-health/2023-providers-are-responsible-for-social-determinants-of-health-quality-measures](https://remingtonreport.com/intelligence-resources/home-health/2023-providers-are-responsible-for-social-determinants-of-health-quality-measures)

Lisa Remington September 18, 2022



**You CAN afford**  
THE INDUSTRY'S BEST SOLUTION

**homecare homebase**

New social determinants of health (SDOH) quality measures will be required by hospitals, health plans, and multi-payer federal and state programs.

Research shows that social determinants can be more important than health care or lifestyle choices in influencing health. Numerous studies suggest that SDOH account for between 30-55% of health outcomes. We explain the quality measures across providers and stakeholders.

## [Remington Report](#)

EMPOWERED by Data. Connected by Purpose. MEMBER LOGIN FILE UPLOAD CONTACT



ABOUT US WHY NPIC MEMBERSHIP DATA PARTNERSHIP EDUCATION BLOG



### Setting Up Your Unmet Social Needs Programs for 2023

In April 2022, CMS proposed three (3) new social determinants of health measures that will go into effect in January 2023. Identifying unmet social needs will not only be a hospital priority but a community priority and a patient priority as well.

Elizabeth Rochin, PhD, RN, NE-BC | December 15, 2022

Posted under: [Maternal Health](#), [Quality of Care](#), [Social Determinants of Health/Disparities](#)

Maternal Health  
Mental Health  
Other  
Quality of Care  
Social Determinants of Health/Disparities

**About the Blog**

NPIC creates meaningful connections between data and maternal/newborn health. Since its founding in 1985, NPIC has been committed to improving maternal and newborn outcomes through data analytics and trusted hospital partnerships. [Learn more about NPIC >](#)

## [NPIC](#)

Fact sheet

### FY 2023 Hospital Inpatient Prospective Payment System (IPPS) and Long Term Care Hospitals (LTCH PPS) Final Rule – CMS-1771-F Maternal Health

Aug 01, 2022 | Hospitals

Share    

**A Commitment to Improving Maternal Health in the U.S.**

The Biden-Harris Administration is committed to achieving a government-wide vision that addresses the maternal health crisis in the U.S., including by reducing maternal mortality and morbidity and advancing maternity care quality, safety, and equity. As a part of this commitment, the White House held the first-ever federal “Maternal Health Day of Action” on December 7, 2021, at which time Vice President Kamala Harris issued a national call to action to Reduce Maternal Mortality and Morbidity. In addition, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) — through the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) — announced critical steps to improve maternal health by supporting the delivery of equitable, high-quality care for all pregnant and postpartum patients. The White House also issued presidential proclamations on [April 8](#) and [April 13](#) in recognition of Black Maternal Health Week, which occurred the week of April 11 in 2022.

Specifically, CMS shared intentions to pursue rulemaking for the establishment of a

## [IPPS](#)

# New Roles

New roles are being established to help with this work!

- Community Health Workers (CHWs)-which are frontline public health workers, are now being added to the care team in many organizations. These folks act as the liaison between social services and community and help to facilitate the access to services. They also help to build stronger community programs by the identification of community deficits. This can help with legislation for needed services in your community.
- Some hospitals are also hiring more Social Workers who are working specifically on SDOH screening and resource planning with patients.



# New CMS Tool

## IMPROVING THE COLLECTION OF Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) Data with ICD-10-CM Z Codes



### What Are Z Codes?

- SDOH-related Z codes range from ICD-10-CM categories Z55-Z65 and are used to document SDOH data (e.g., housing, food insecurity, lack of transportation)
- Z codes refer to factors influencing health status or reasons for contact with health services that are not classifiable elsewhere as diseases, injuries, or external causes

### What Are SDOH & Why Collect Them?

- SDOH are the conditions in the environment where people are born, live, learn, work, play, worship, and age that affect a wide range of health, functioning, and quality-of-life outcomes and risks!
- The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that SDOH accounts for **30-55% of health outcomes**\*

Collecting SDOH can improve equity in health care delivery and research by:

- Empowering providers to identify and address health disparities (e.g., care coordination and referrals)
- Supporting quality measurement
- Supporting planning and implementation of social needs interventions
- Identifying community and population needs
- Monitoring SDOH intervention effectiveness for patient outcomes
- Utilizing data to advocate for updating and creating new policies

### Using Z Codes for SDOH

- SDOH information can be collected before, during, or after a health care encounter through structured health risk assessments and screening tools
- These codes should be assigned only when the documentation specifies that the patient has an associated problem or risk factor that influences the patient's health
- Coding professionals may utilize documentation of social information from social workers, community health workers, case managers, or nurses, if their documentation is included in the official medical record
- SDOH information can be collected through person-provider interaction or self-reported, as long as it is signed-off on and incorporated into the medical record by a clinician or provider
- It is important to screen for SDOH information at each health care encounter to understand circumstances that may have changed in the patient's status

[VIEW JOURNEY MAP](#)

### ICD-10-CM Z Codes Update

- New SDOH Z codes may become effective each April 1 and October 1. New codes are announced prior to their effective date on [CDC website](#).
- Use the CDC National Center for Health Statistics [ICD-10-CM Browser tool](#) to search for all the current Z codes.
- Join the public process for SDOH code development and approval through the [ICD-10-CM Combination and Maintenance Committee](#)

\* Health Affairs 2010 | \* World Health Organization

[go.cms.gov/OMH](https://go.cms.gov/OMH)  
For Questions Contact: [The CMS Health Equity Technical Assistance Program](#) | [ICD-10-CM Official Guidelines for Coding and Reporting FY2024](#)



# The Journey





# Contact Information



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