

NCSL State Health Cost Containment Resources

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Health care in the United States is a \$3 trillion industry, accounting for 17.5 percent of the gross domestic product, up from 14 percent in 2000. Health care inflation outpaces inflation in other markets. Federal, state and local governments share the financial burden of health care with employers and individuals. For example, in 2014 Medicaid cost an average of 16 percent of total state general funds. State and local governments covered 17 percent of total health spending. *—From CMS Actuaries Report, Dec. 2, 2015 & 2014*

The National Conference of State Legislatures has a wealth of health cost containment information available free of charge online. This information is updated regularly as NCSL tracks state actions on this and other related issues.

- **Cost and Quality.** NCSL's main page on this issue is, available at
 - <http://www.ncsl.org/research/health/cost-and-quality.aspx>
- **Health Cost Containment** - a series of 25 published web-based reports and resources, with updates 2014-2015
<http://www.ncsl.org/default.aspx?tabid=19200>



Health Cost Containment and Efficiencies
NCSL Briefs for State Legislators

Complete Original 2010-2012 Cost Containment Brief Series - (Introduction & 16 Briefs, 74 pages) 

Administrative Simplification in Health System (2015)	Public Health and Cost Savings (2012)
Global Payments to Health Providers (2014)	Health Provider Patient Safety (medical errors) (2014)
Episode-of-Care Payments (Bundled Payments) (2015)	Medical Malpractice Reform (2014)
All-Payer Claims Databases (APCD) (2015)	
Accountable Care Organizations (ACOs) (2015)	Web Reports and Resources
Pay-for Performance (Provider P-4-P) (2015)	Certificate of Need (CON) programs – 2015 Web report
Equalizing Provider Rates: All Payer Rate Setting (2014)	Telehealth Policy (2015) *NEW*
Prescription Drugs Cost Containment: (2015)	Health Savings Accounts (HSAs) – 2015 Web report
~ Use of Generics and Brand Name Discounts	Network Adequacy: Insurance Access to Providers (2015)
~ Drug Agreements and Volume Purchasing	Value-Based Insurance Design – 2015 Web report
Pooling Public Employee Health Benefits (2014)	Health Price Disclosure and Transparency - 2015 Web report
Combating Fraud and Abuse (2014)	State Health Cost Containment and Federal Health Reforms
Medical Homes (2015)	
Employer-Sponsored Wellness & Health Promotion (2014)	

- **Overview of health finance and costs** (<http://www.ncsl.org/research/health/health-finance-issues.aspx>)^{Updated 12/2/2015}
- **Containing Medicaid Costs** (<http://www.ncsl.org/research/health/medicaid-containing-costs-and-improving-value.aspx>)
- **Health Care Safety-Net Toolkit for Legislators** (www.ncsl.org/research/health/health-care-safety-net-toolkit.aspx)

These resources represent only some of the information NCSL's Health program makes available, and only a fraction of the research NCSL does for state legislators. For questions about cost containment and health finance issues, contact:

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