InfoByte: Benchmarking the Impact of Coronavirus

Courtesy of the Wisconsin Health Information Organization
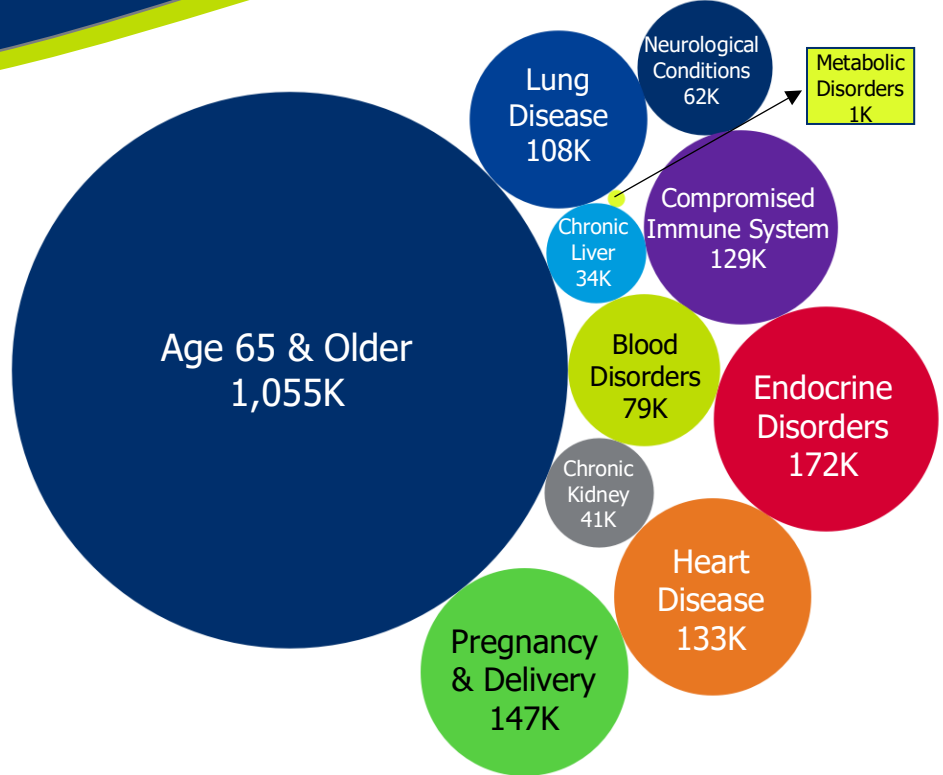
April 2020

WHIO

On March 31, 2020, the Wisconsin Health Information Organization (WHIO) delivered its first COVID-19 (coronavirus) High-Risk Member report to the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, Division of Medicaid Services. With this information, Medicaid conducted outreach to its high-risk members. Between April 6 and April 10, similar reports were provided to six additional Wisconsin insurance companies to facilitate their outreach to high-risk members.

It is our hope that by working quickly with our data contributing partners, high-risk individuals in communities across Wisconsin are better informed, and that the spread and impact of coronavirus have been reduced.

For additional information please contact WHIO at 608.442.3876

WI High-Risk Population for Serious Coronavirus

- Lung Disease 108K
- Neurological Conditions 62K
- Metabolic Disorders 1K
- Chronic Liver 34K
- Compromised Immune System 129K
- Age 65 & Older 1,055K
- Blood Disorders 79K
- Endocrine Disorders 172K
- Chronic Kidney 41K
- Heart Disease 133K
- Pregnancy & Delivery 147K

The WHIO identified approximately 1.9 million unique individuals (37% of WHIO's population) based on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's ten underlying conditions plus advanced age who may experience serious cases of coronavirus. Individuals with co-occurring conditions are counted more than once in the figure above.

Coronavirus is recognized as a respiratory illness on an insurance claim. Historically, Wisconsinites have received care for respiratory illnesses at multiple types of facilities with most care provided by clinics. Knowing how much care was provided at different facilities in the past will help us better understand when a meaningful change has occurred.

Respiratory Care Resource Use* by Type of Facility

	2016	2017	2018
Clinic	79.8M	83.3M	81.4M
Emergency Department	34.4M	32.4M	32.5M
Hospital Inpatient	28.7M	31.4M	30.0M
Urgent Care	12.0M	12.5M	11.7M
Home Health	6.7M	5.2M	3.5M
Ambulatory Surgery Center	0.7M	1.0M	0.9M
Skilled Nursing Facility	0.5M	0.8M	0.9M
Grand Total	$162.8M	$166.5M	$160.9M

*Total billed amount

Data includes individuals who received health care services and are insured by entities that participate in WHIO.

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The WHIO at Work for Wisconsin

The coronavirus pandemic is having a profound impact on all aspects of life. Policymakers, state agencies, health care provider organizations, insurance companies, employers, and others are seeking answers to questions that are quickly changing as we transition through this pandemic into a new future.
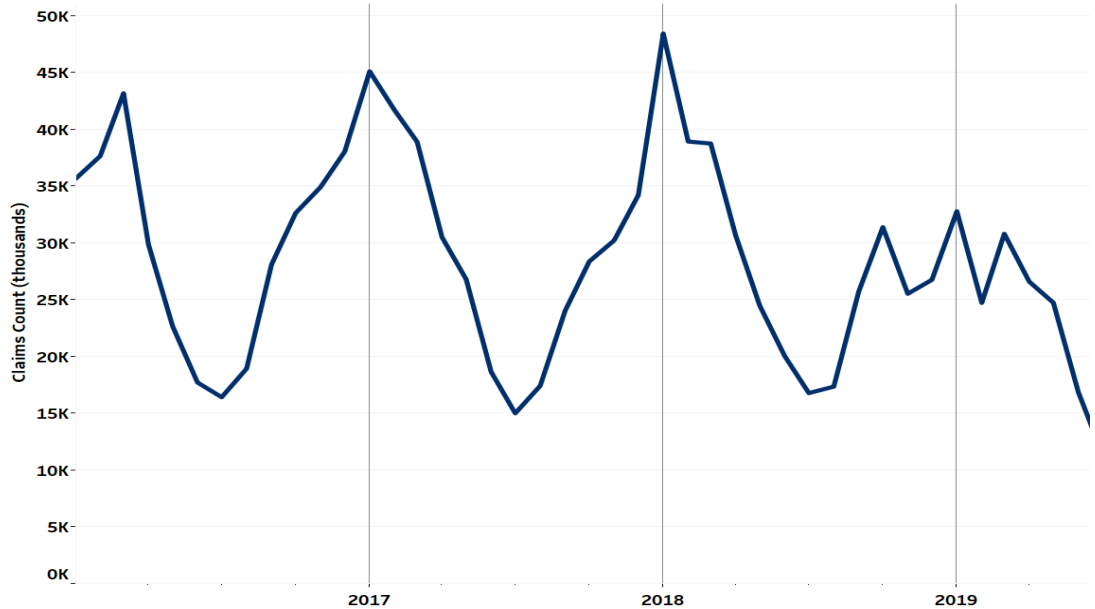
This report provides baseline trend information that will be needed to benchmark and understand the impact of coronavirus on the Wisconsin health care delivery systems.

WHIO is Wisconsin's All-Payer Claims Database, containing information on the health and health care delivered to over 4 million (73% of Wisconsinites) insured lives.

If you have an idea of how the WHIO information can be used to help Wisconsin reduce the impact of coronavirus, please let us know.
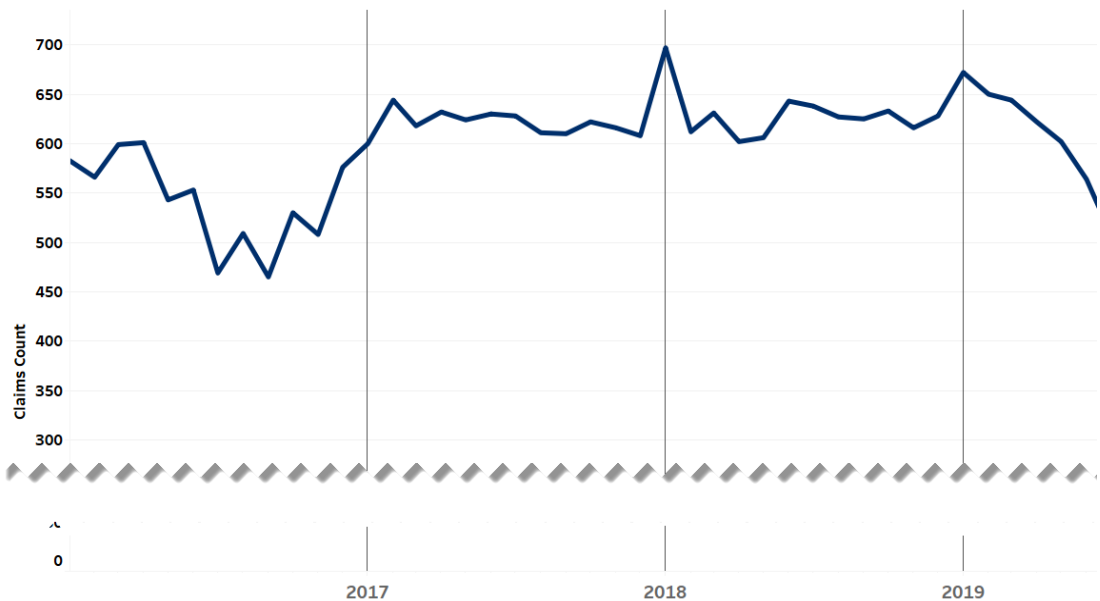
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Respiratory Care Utilization Trend
January 2016 – June 2019

Respiratory care has historically shown a seasonal effect with higher use in the winter months than the summer months. At the same time, the use of ventilators to treat all conditions in critical care facilities, skilled nursing facilities, and at home has been relatively consistent over time. The WHA COVID-19 Situational Awareness Website (wha.org/COVID19Update) indicated that about 25% of critical care ventilators were in use on April 23, 2020.

Ventilator Utilization Trend, All Sites, All Conditions
January 2016 – June 2019

Data includes individuals who received health care services and are insured by entities that participate in WHIO.