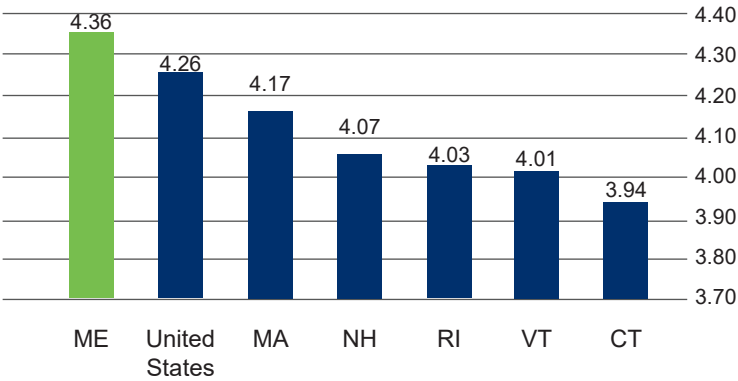


A snapshot of Maine nursing homes

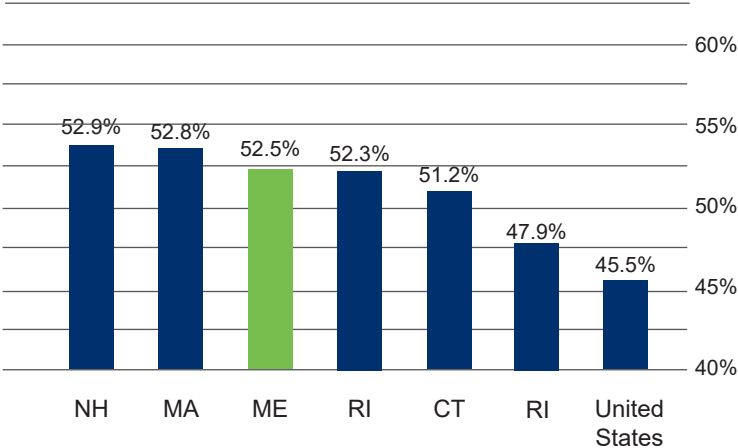
High Resident Acuity
High Staffing Levels
High Demand
High MaineCare Utilization



Average ADLs per Nursing Home Resident



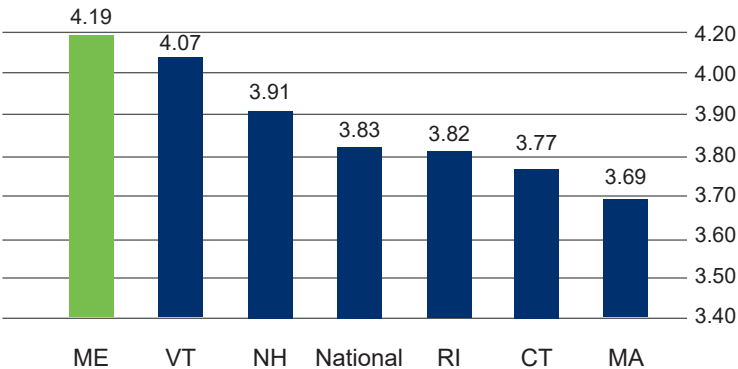
Percentage of Nursing Home Residents with a Dementia Diagnosis



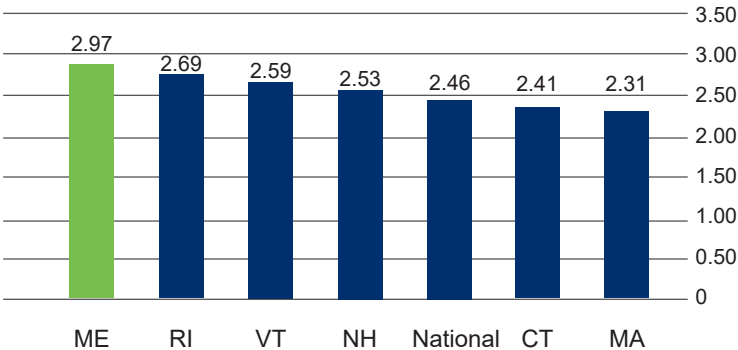
There are many quality indicators upon which the federal and state governments evaluate nursing home care. For the public, there are two important factors for consideration: how much care is being provided and is that enough to meet the needs of residents? In comparison to regional and national peers, Maine nursing home residents have complex, medical needs and require more help with activities of daily living. More than half have dementia. Higher staffing levels are necessary to meet these physical and cognitive demands. By design, the state changed its admission criteria years ago to reserve nursing home beds for only the most sick and frail residents. This significantly changed the acuity level of residents served in nursing homes and the staff needed to care for them.

These charts tell the story.

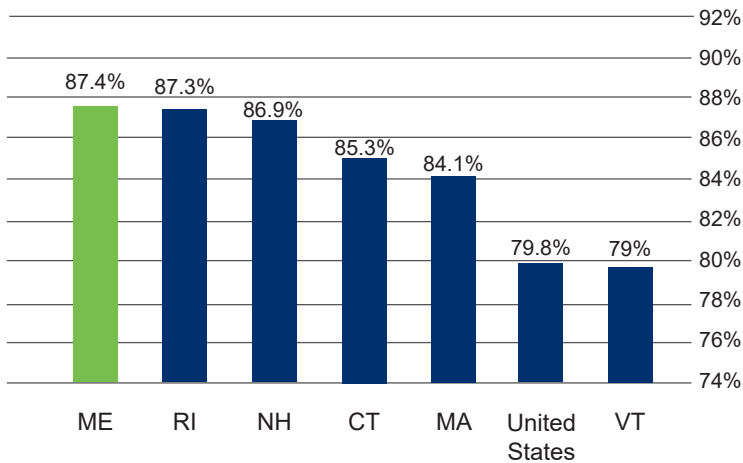
Average Hours of Care per Resident Day - All Staff



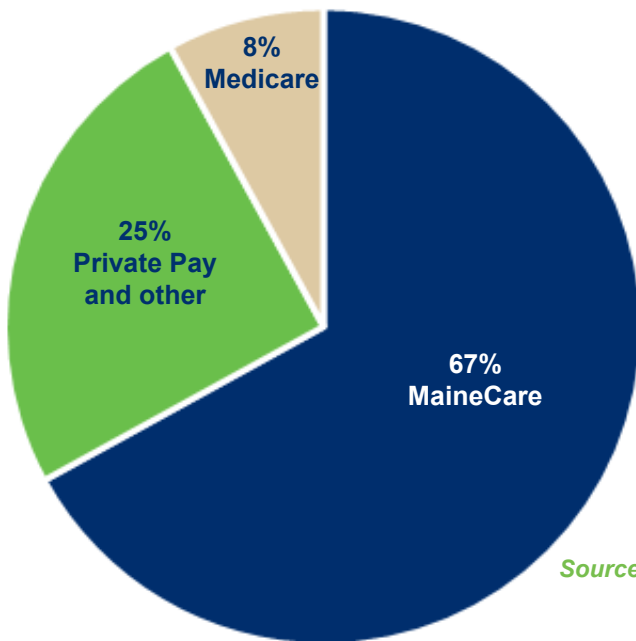
Average Hours of per Resident Day - CNAs Only



Average Facility Occupancy (data reflects CASPER, 09/30/18)



Nursing Home Payment Source - November 2018



Source: DHHS/Muskie School



Providing this level of complex care is challenging because Maine nursing homes rely on MaineCare (Medicaid) for most of their funding. For many years, nursing homes have absorbed significant financial losses due to inadequate MaineCare rates. Despite some rate progress in recent years, for some, it was too little too late and six Maine nursing homes had to close their doors last year. We can not afford to lose more capacity at a time when the demographics point to an increase in our elderly population.

Maine has built a long-term care continuum that includes home care, assisted living facilities, and nursing homes to ensure that MaineCare beneficiaries have the right care, at the right time, in the right setting. Our nursing homes currently have a high occupancy rate, caring for the most acute residents who can no longer be served in assisted living or at home. MaineCare rates must keep pace with rising costs of care, that go hand in hand with resident acuity, in order for nursing homes to survive.

Source of Data: Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Certification and Survey Provider Enhanced Reporting (CASPER, formerly OSCAR). Data reflects facilities' most recent Standard Health Survey as of June 30, 2018, and does not include deficiencies found during complaint, federal monitoring, or special focus surveys.

Legislation to address challenges

The 129th Legislative Session will provide an opportunity to address the reimbursement system and support Maine's nursing homes.

Contact MHCA at 207.623.1146 for more information.



Winter 2019