

Disparities in Colorectal Cancer Screening

A Healthy Metric 2022 Brief Report for Wisconsin



Healthy Metric
Advancing Health Equity in Wisconsin

Report Goal

Our goal is to examine the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on disparities in colorectal cancer screening in Wisconsin in rural and urban and racial and ethnic groups.

About Healthy Metric

Healthy Metric is a partnership between UW-Madison, the Medical College of Wisconsin, Marshfield Clinic Research Institute, the Wisconsin Collaborative for Healthcare Quality, and the Wisconsin Health Information Organization that aims to eliminate health disparities in Wisconsin through collaboration, measurement, and interventions.

About the Measure

Colorectal cancer screening: The percentage of adults, aged 50-75, who received a screening for colorectal cancer. This could include a colonoscopy in the past 10 years, a CT colonography or flexible sigmoidoscopy in the past 5 years, a test for blood in the stool (FOBT/FIT) in the past 1 year or a multi-target stool DNA test in the past 3 years. This measure is endorsed by the Wisconsin Collaborative for Healthcare Quality (WCHQ).

Measure Goal

Highest possible rates of colorectal cancer screening.

Data



Data includes individuals who received health care services from a Wisconsin Collaborative for Healthcare Quality member health system/clinic in 2019 or 2020.

Funders



Contact

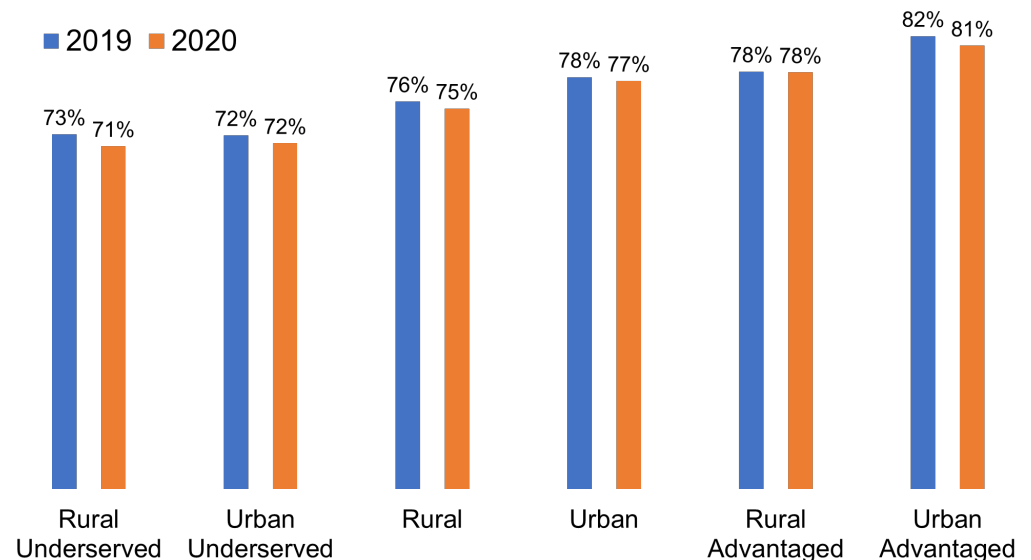
For more information about Healthy Metric, visit: www.healthymetric.org

Executive Summary

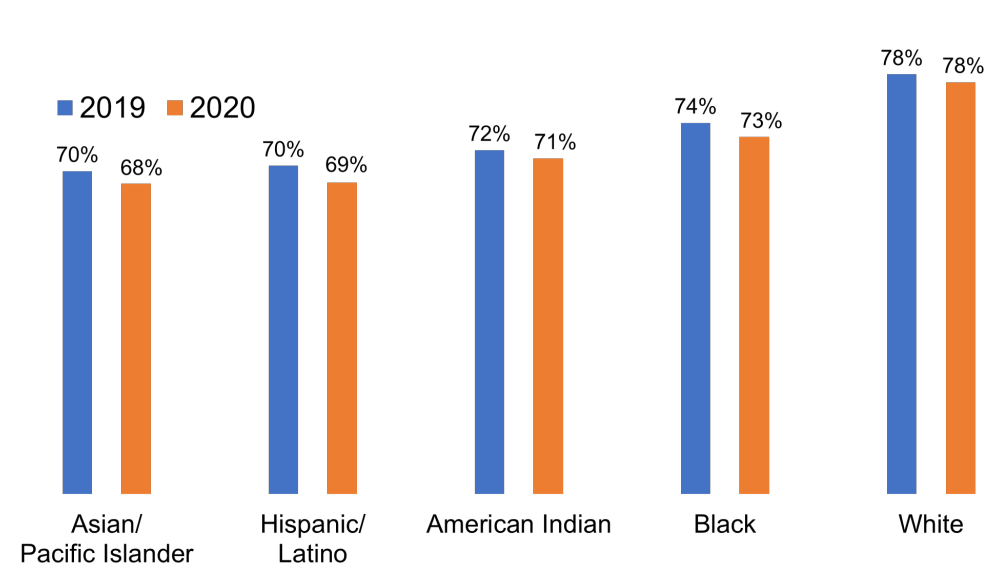
There are disparities in colorectal cancer screening by geography and racial/ethnic groups, which persisted during the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Rural underserved and urban underserved groups experienced substantial disparities in colorectal cancer screening.
- Asian and Pacific Islander and Hispanic/Latino Wisconsinites experienced substantial disparities in colorectal cancer screening.

Colorectal Cancer Screening by Rural and Urban Groups

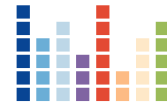


Colorectal Cancer Screening by Race and Ethnicity



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Background

Colorectal cancer is the second most common cancer in Wisconsin. Colorectal cancer screening is important because screening tests can help find cancer at an earlier stage, when it may be easier to treat, and identify and remove pre-cancerous polyps before they develop into cancer.

The screening intervals for different colorectal cancer screening tests vary, so only a subset of patients is eligible for screening each year. This may be why the change in this measure from 2019 to 2020 is not as large as expected, even though primary care visits and preventive care decreased during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Health Disparities Indicators

For this report, health disparities were defined as differences in health outcomes and care measures adversely affecting populations seen in primary care settings. In this report, six groups of rural and urban Wisconsinites were used to capture the unique health-related characteristics of rural and urban areas. More information on how the rural and urban groups were developed is available in the [2020 Wisconsin Health Disparities Report: Rural and Urban Populations](#). This report utilizes race and ethnicity categories as defined by the CDC and includes American Indian, Asian or Pacific Islander, Black, Hispanic/Latino and White. The disparities presented may be linked to the social determinants of health and unequal distribution of power and resources.

Taking Action

Resources for Taking Action to Reduce Disparities

- [Improving Colorectal Cancer Screening Rates Toolkit](#)
- [Health Care Systems for Tracking Colorectal Cancer Screening Tests](#)
- [Wisconsin Cancer Collaborative](#)
- [National Colorectal Cancer Roundtable Resources](#)
- [What Works for Health: Colorectal Cancer Screening](#)
- [The Community Guide: Colorectal Cancer Screening](#)

Questions to Consider for Taking Action

- Are there barriers to patients being screened (e.g., location of the facility, office hours, inflexible employment)?
- What are the financial barriers to getting screened for populations experiencing disparities?
- Is communication about the benefits and types of screenings tailored to the population(s) experiencing disparities and available in a variety of formats?

About the Funders

Advancing A Healthier Wisconsin Endowment (AHW): Driven by a vision for a healthier Wisconsin, the Advancing a Healthier Wisconsin Endowment reaches statewide, propelling the most promising work and ideas to build a healthier Wisconsin for generations to come.

Wisconsin Partnership Program (WPP): WPP represents a far-reaching commitment by the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health to greatly improve the health of people in Wisconsin for years to come.

Healthy Metric is a partnership between:

