

**EQR Table 9. Behavioral Health Care Performance Improvement Projects (PIPs) Included in External Quality Review (EQR) Technical Reports, 2023–2024 Reporting Cycle, by Topic Area**

*Summary:* This table shows Behavioral Health Care PIP counts by state and by topic area.<sup>a</sup> It also shows the populations included in each topic area's PIPs: adult (A), child (C), or unspecified (U). For purposes of this table, the term “child” also includes “adolescents.” In the 2023–2024 reporting cycle, 35 states reported at least one PIP related to Behavioral Health Care. The three most common topics were: (1) Case Management (15 states reported at least one PIP focused on this topic), (2) Access to Behavioral Health Care (14 states), and (3) Care Coordination and Substance Use (12 states, each).

Topic Area	Total States Reporting PIPs	Total PIPs <sup>b</sup>	AL	AR	AZ	CA	CO	DC	DE	FL	GA	HI	IN	KS	LA	MA	MI	MS	NC	ND	NH	NJ	NM	NV	NY	OH	OR	PA	PR	RI	TN	TX	UT	WA	WI	WV	WY	
<b>Total PIPs<sup>b</sup></b>	35	462	7	5	1	159	13	5	3	11	1	7	11	4	6	7	10	6	13	1	6	5	4	4	11	6	32	20	9	11	7	45	13	9	3	4	3	
<b>Behavioral Health</b>																																						
Access to Behavioral Health Care	14	111	A, C	-	-	A, C, U	-	-	A, C	-	-	-	-	C	-	-	A, C	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	A, C	A	A	A, C	-	A, C	A, CA, C	A	-	-	C		
Behavioral-Health Related Readmissions	10	38	-	A, C	-	A, C, U	-	-	-	A, C	C	-	-	-	-	-	-	A, C	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	A	A, C	-	A, C	-	A, C	-	A, C	-	-	-	
Care Coordination <sup>c</sup>	12	42	A	-	-	A, CA, C	C	-	A	-	-	A, C	-	-	A, C	A	-	-	-	-	-	A, CA, C	-	-	-	-	-	-	A, C, U	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	C	C
Case Management <sup>d</sup>	15	55	A	A, C	A	A, C, U	-	-	A	-	-	-	A, C	-	C	A, C	-	-	A	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	A, C	-	A, U	-	-	-	A, C	C	-	C	C	
Health Equity <sup>e</sup>	5	39	-	-	-	A, C	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	A, C	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	A, C	A	-	-	-	-	-	-	A, C	-	-	
SDOH/HRSN <sup>f</sup>	6	31	A	-	-	A, C	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	A	-	-	A, C	-	-	-	-	A, C	A	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Telehealth	5	14	-	-	-	A, CA, C	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	A, C	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	A, C	-	-	-	A	-	-	-	
Other Behavioral Health Topics Not Classified Elsewhere <sup>g</sup>	5	9	-	-	-	A, C	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	A	-	-	A, C	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	A	-	-	-	-	-	A, C	-	-	-	-	
<b>Mental Health</b>																																						
ADHD	3	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	C	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	C	-	-	C	-	-	-		
Antipsychotics	7	19	-	A, C	-	A, C, U	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	A	-	-	-	-	-	C	-	-	A	-	A, U	-	-	A	-	-	-	
Anxiety	2	3	-	-	-	C	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	A, C	-	-	-	-		
Crisis Stabilization <sup>h</sup>	2	9	-	-	-	A, C	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Depression Screening and Treatment	11	28	-	A, C	-	C	A, C	-	-	-	-	-	-	A	-	-	A	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	A, C	-	A	A, C	A	-	A, C	-	-	-	-	
Follow-Up After Hospitalization for Mental Illness	11	48	-	-	-	A, C	-	A, C	-	A, C	-	-	-	-	-	-	A, CA, C	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	A, C	-	-	-	A, CA, CA, C	-	-	-	-	
Follow-Up Care After Mental Illness-Related ED Visits	8	49	-	-	-	A, C	-	A, C	-	A, C	-	A	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	A	-	-	A, C	-	-	A, C	-	A, C	-	A, C	
Mental Health Treatment	6	48	-	-	-	A, C	-	-	C	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	C	A, U	-	-	A, C	-	A, C		
Other Mental Health Topics Not Classified Elsewhere <sup>i</sup>	3	8	-	A, C	-	A, C	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	A, C	-	-	-	-		
<b>Substance Use</b>																																						
Alcohol Use	7	16	A	-	-	A, C	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	A, C	-	-	-	-	A, C	-	A, C	-	-	-	A, C	A	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	

EQR Table 9 (continued)

Topic Area	Total States Reporting PIPs	Total PIPs <sup>b</sup>	State Abbreviations																																																	
			AL	AR	AZ	CA	CO	DC	DE	FL	GA	HI	IN	KS	LA	MA	MI	MS	NC	ND	NH	NJ	NM	NV	NY	OH	OR	PA	PR	RI	TN	TX	UT	VA	WI	WV	WY															
Follow-Up Care After Alcohol or Substance Use-Related ED Visits	9	47	-	-	-	A, C	-	-	-	A, C	-	-	-	A, C	-	-	-	-	A	-	-	-	A	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					
Opioid Disorders	8	24	A	-	-	A, C	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	A, C	-	-	-	A	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	A	A	-	C	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-						
Substance Use (General)	12	85	A, C	-	-	A, C	-	-	A, C	-	-	-	-	-	A, CA, C	-	-	-	A, C	-	-	-	-	A	-	-	A, C	A	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-						
Tobacco Use	2	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	A, C	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-							

Acronyms: ADHD = Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder; CMS = Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services; ED = Emergency Department; EQR = External Quality Review; EQRO = External Quality Review Organization; GU = Guam; HRSN = Health-Related Social Needs; MCP = Managed Care Plan; PIP = Performance Improvement Project; PR = Puerto Rico; SDOH = Social Determinants of Health; USVI = United States Virgin Islands.

Source: EQR technical reports for the 2023–2024 reporting cycle. States must post EQR technical reports on their websites by April 30 of each year. Information about the EQR process is available at <https://www.medicare.gov/medicaid/quality-of-care/medicaid-managed-care/external-quality-review/index.html>.

Notes: The following three states posted their EQR technical reports after the April 30 deadline but are included in this analysis: FL, MN, and VT. ID and MO did not post EQR technical reports for the 2023-2024 reporting cycle and are not included in this analysis. CA posted one of its MCP EQR technical reports after the April 30 deadline, but this analysis includes data from all MCPs. During the 2023–2024 reporting cycle, the following eight states and territories did not contract with a qualifying MCP subject to EQR: AK, CT, GU, ME, MT, OK, SD, and USVI.

EQR technical reports must include information on the validation of PIPs required by the state that were underway during the preceding 12 months.  
An “A,” “C,” or “U” indicates the populations included in the state’s PIP in each domain; a dash (-) indicates that the state’s MCPs did not conduct a PIP related to the domain. PIPs can focus on an adult (A) population, a child (C) population, or an adult and child population (A, C). For some PIPs, the population could not be determined and is listed as unspecified (U) in the table above.

<sup>a</sup> The requirements for states to mandate PIPs and have managed care execution of those mandates validated by an EQRO and reported to the state and CMS are detailed in 42 C.F.R. §§ 438.330, 438.358, and 438.364, respectively. PIP validation means that the EQRO assessed the PIP methodology; confirmed the accuracy of the MCP’s reported results; and interpreted PIP results, noting whether the interventions are achieving improvement.

<sup>b</sup> PIPs can focus on more than one topic area; thus, the PIPs listed in this table are not mutually exclusive. For example, a PIP focused on substance use could address opioid use and other substance use and is counted once in the total PIP count, once in the “Opioid Use” topic, and once in the “Other Substance Use” topic. In addition, more than one MCP in a state may conduct a PIP related to each topic area. In this case, each PIP would be counted in the Total PIPs column but would only appear once in the state column if the PIPs focused on the same population.

<sup>c</sup> The “Care Coordination” topic includes PIPs focused on reducing fragmentation in patient care by sharing information among different healthcare providers and organizations to achieve safer and more effective care.

<sup>d</sup> The “Case Management” topic includes PIPs focused on working directly with enrollees, their family members, and other case management systems to address barriers that prevent them from achieving their healthcare goals.

<sup>e</sup> The “Health Equity” topic includes PIPs focused on improving health equity or reducing disparities specifically related to behavioral health care. A PIP aimed at reducing disparities in follow-up after hospitalization for mental illness between Black and White members would appear in “Follow-Up After Hospitalization for Mental Illness” and “Health Equity.”

<sup>f</sup> The “SDOH/HRSN” topic includes PIPs focused on addressing SDOH/HRSN related to behavioral health care.

<sup>g</sup> The “Other Behavioral Health Topics Not Classified Elsewhere” topic includes PIPs focused on behavioral health topics not specified above. For example, PIPs in this topic focused on missed appointments (CA), diabetes monitoring for people with diabetes and schizophrenia (KS), increasing the percentage of people who are diagnosed with a co-occurring disorder and receive integrated co-occurring treatment (MI), reducing social isolation (PA), and increasing the number of clients receiving peer support services (UT).

<sup>h</sup> The “Crisis Stabilization” topic includes PIPs focused on improving care for people with acute psychiatric crises who do not meet the criteria for inpatient care.

<sup>i</sup> The “Other Mental Health Topics Not Classified Elsewhere” topic includes PIPs focused on mental health topics not specified above. For example, PIPs in this topic focused on incident reporting by psychiatric residential treatment facilities (AR), improving treatment for people with eating disorders (CA), mental health treatment court (CA), and youth outcomes questionnaire (UT).