

Medical Utilization And Worker Outcomes In Wisconsin

WCAC Meeting June 08, 2021

About WCRI

- Independent, not-for-profit research organization founded in 1983
- Diverse membership and funding support
 - Insurers, service providers, employers, labor unions, state agencies, independent rating bureaus
- Focus on WC benefit delivery systems
- Don't make policy recommendations nor take positions on issues
- Resource for public officials & stakeholders

Topics Of WCRI Research

Medical Fee Schedules

Prices

Medical Cost Containment

Utilization

Worker Outcomes

Indemnity Benefits

Litigation

Prescription Drugs and Opioids

Various Topical Studies

Outline Of Today's Topics

- How WI compared to other study states on utilization of medical treatments
- How WI medical utilization changed 2013–2018
- How WI compared to other states on worker outcomes and return to work

Sources:

CompScope™ Benchmarks For Wisconsin, 21st Edition (2021)

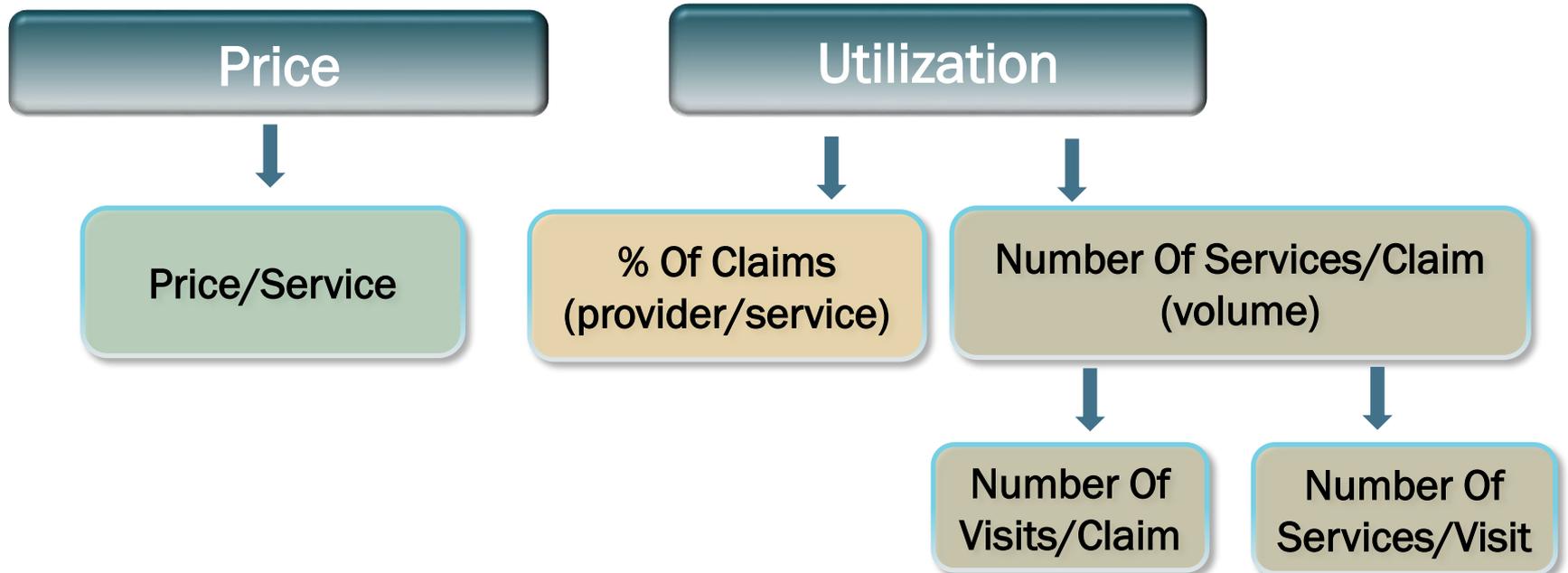
CompScope™ Medical Benchmarks For Wisconsin, 21st Edition (2020)

WCRI Medical Price Index For Workers' Compensation, 12th Edition (2020)

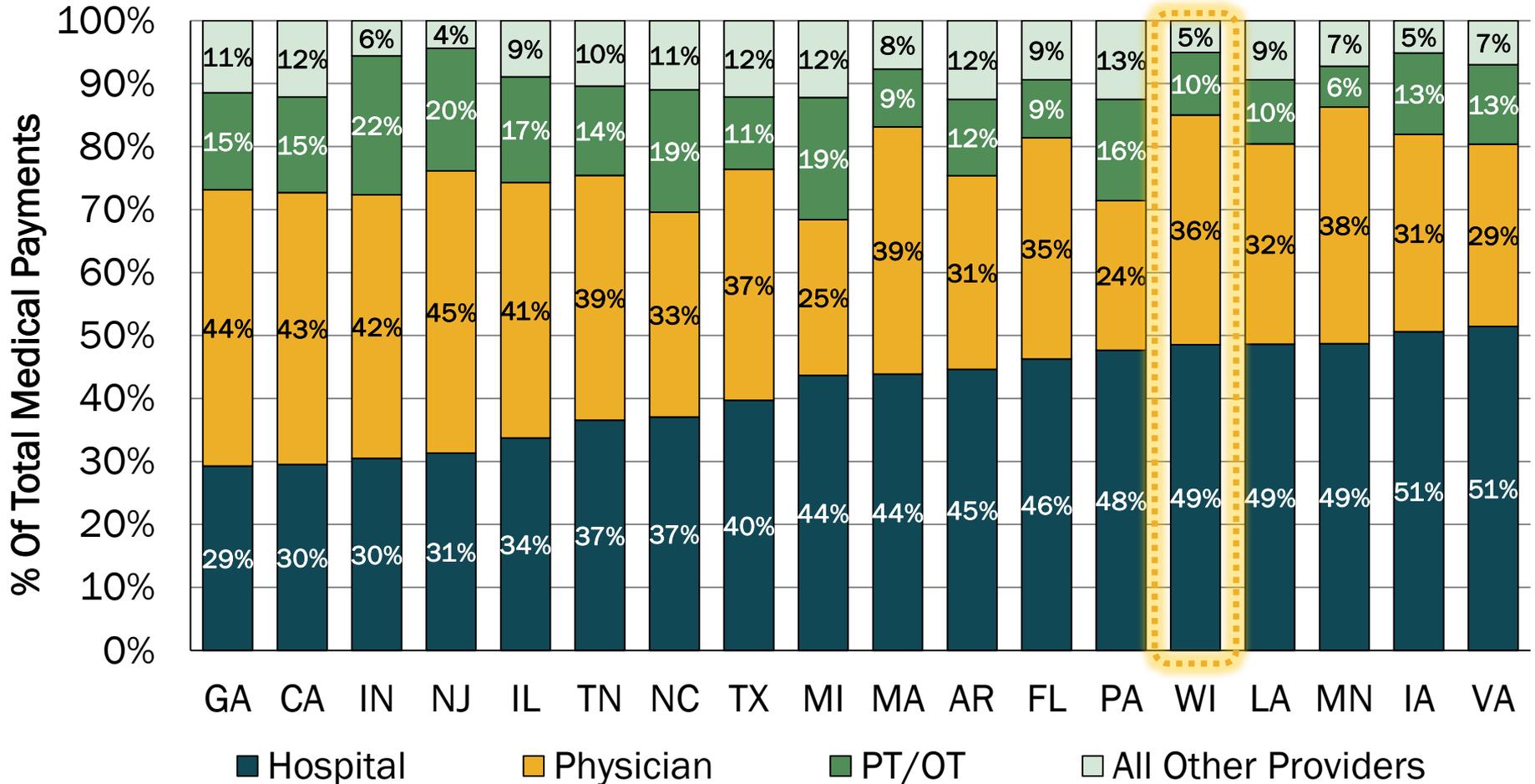
WCRI Comparing Outcomes for Injured Workers in Wisconsin, 2016 Interviews (2017)

Average Medical Payment Per Claim Is Composed Of Prices And Utilization

Average Medical Payment Per Claim



Hospitals Accounted For 49% Of WI Medical Payments, Larger Share Than Other States



2018/19 Claims With > 7 Days Of Lost Time, Adjusted For Injury/Industry Mix
 PT/OT: Physical/occupational therapist

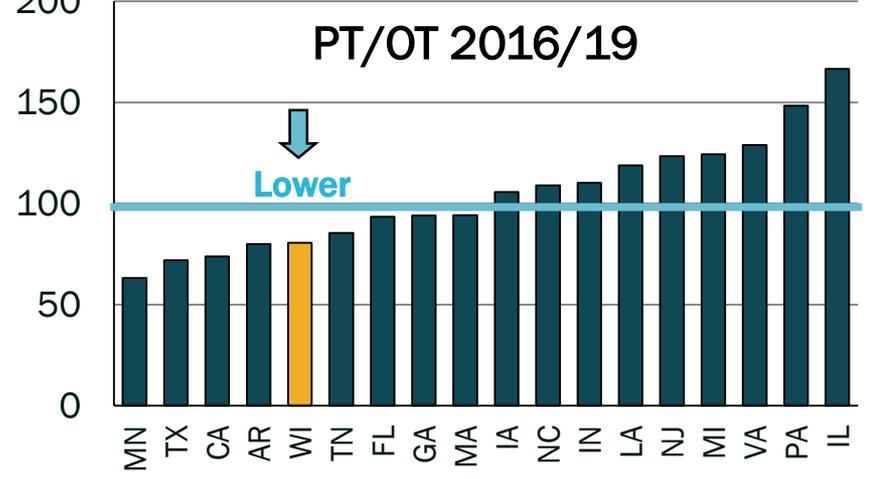
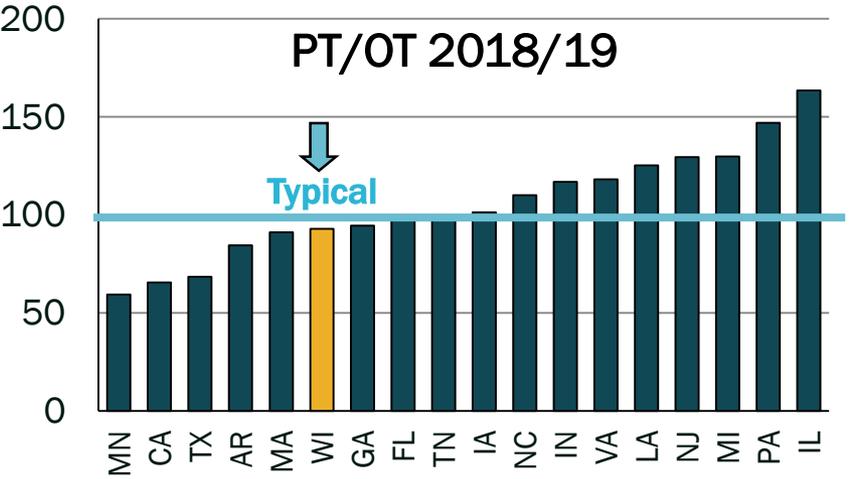
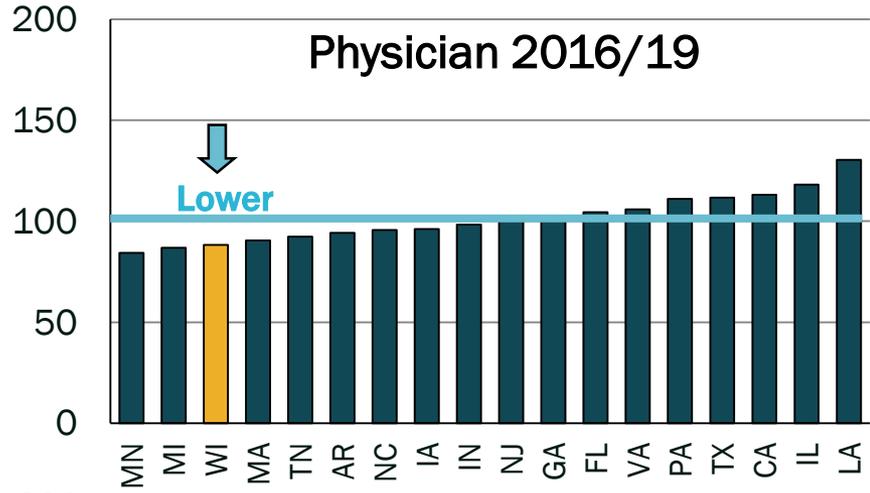
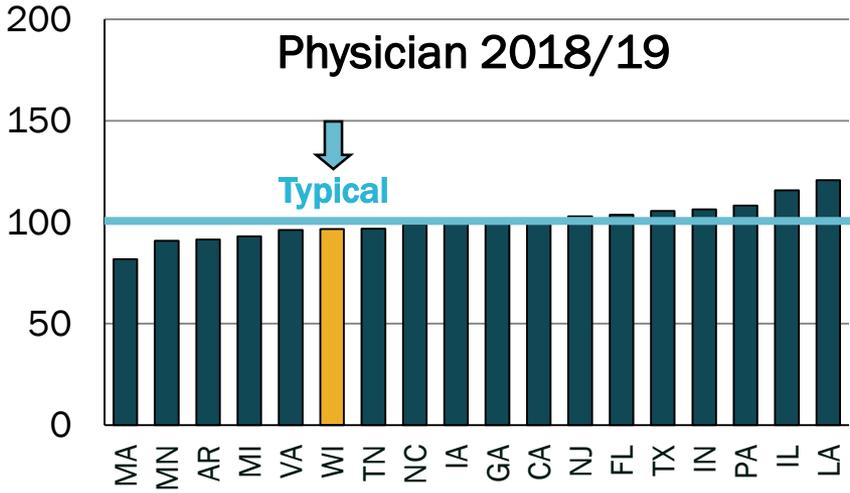
Prices Paid Were A Key Reason For Higher Medical Payments Per Claim In Wisconsin

2018/19 Claims	WI Compared With Median Study State			
	Payments Per Claim	Prices	Utilization	% Of Claims
Physician (all types)	Higher	Higher	Typical	Lower
PT/OT	Higher	Higher	Typical	Lower
Hospital Outpatient	Higher	Higher	Higher	Higher
Hospital Inpatient	Higher	N/A	N/A	Typical

Notes: The largest providers of physical medicine services were PT/OTs and hospitals. Utilization for physician and PT/OT services was lower than typical for more mature claims. Hospital outpatient prices and utilization are based on payments per service and number of services per claim. Claims With > 7 Days Of Lost Time, Adjusted For Injury/Industry Mix
 Sources: *CompScope™ Medical Benchmarks For Wisconsin, 21st Edition (2020)*; *WCRI Medical Price Index For Workers' Compensation, 12th Edition (2020)*

Nonhospital Utilization Per Claim In Wisconsin Was Lower Than Most States, Especially At 36 Months

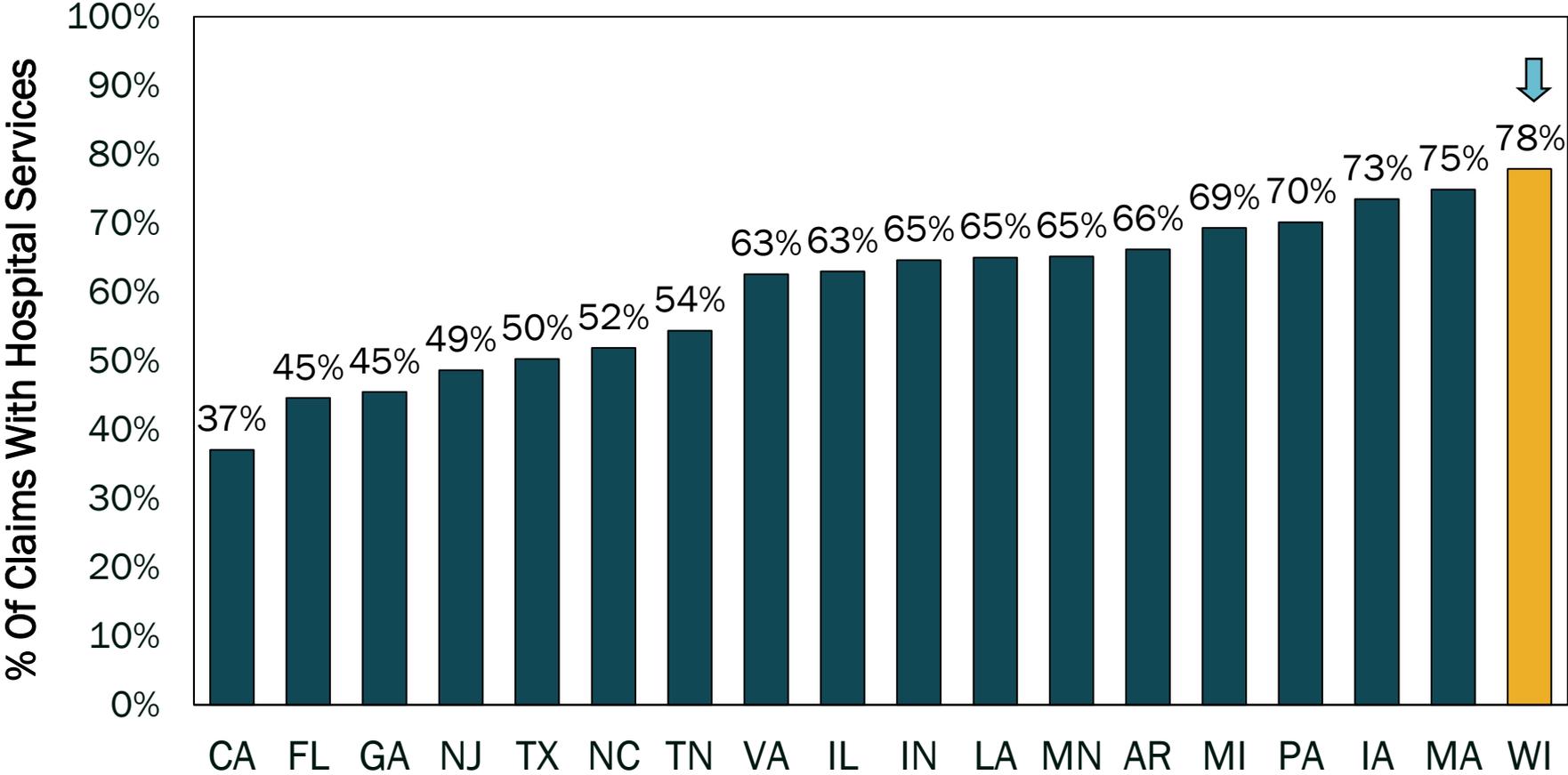
Nonhospital Utilization Index (median state = 100)



Utilization Indices For Nonhospital Services, Claims With > 7 Days Of Lost Time, Adjusted For Injury/Industry Mix
 Source: *CompScope™ Medical Benchmarks For Wisconsin, 21st Edition (2020)*



Wisconsin Had The Highest % Of Claims With Hospital Services Compared With Other Study States



2018/19 Claims With > 7 Days Of Lost Time, Adjusted For Injury/Industry Mix
Source: *CompScope™ Medical Benchmarks For Wisconsin, 21st Edition (2020)*

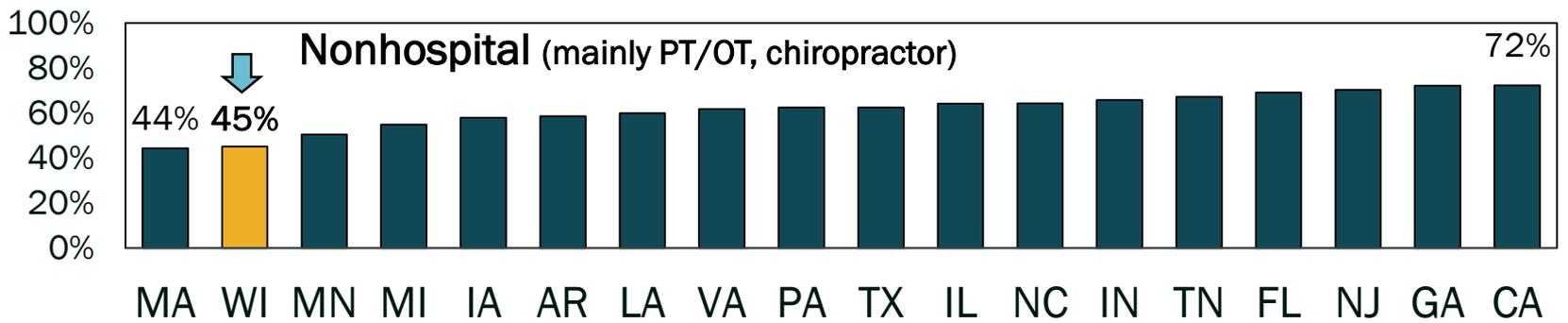
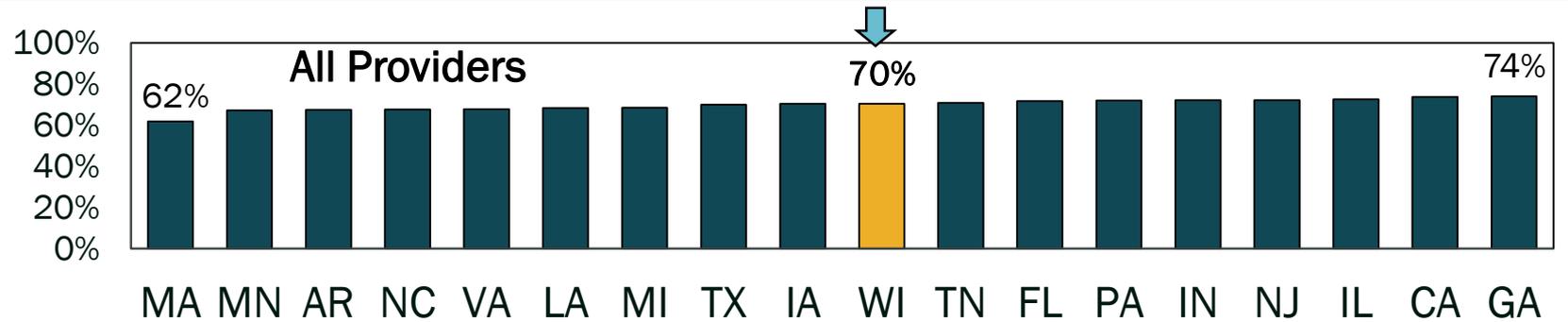
A Higher-Than-Typical % Of Claims In Wisconsin Had Hospital Outpatient Services

Percentage Of Claims	Hospital Outpatient Services			Nonhospital Services		
	WI	Median State	WI Compared With Median	WI	Median State	WI Compared With Median
Evaluation & Management	21%	10%	3rd Highest	92%	95%	Lower
Supplies & Equipment	28%	19%	3rd Highest	42%	51%	Lower
Facility Services	31%	20%	Highest	10%	14%	Lower
Major Radiology	33%	19%	Highest	47%	50%	Typical
Physical Medicine	36%	13%	Highest	45%	62%	2nd Lowest
Minor Radiology	45%	35%	3rd Highest	70%	75%	Lower

2018/19 Claims With > 7 Days Of Lost Time, Adjusted For Injury/Industry Mix
 Source: *CompScope™ Medical Benchmarks For Wisconsin, 21st Edition (2020)*

Lower % Of WI Claims With Physical Medicine By Nonhospital Providers, Higher % By Hospitals

% Of Claims With Physical Medicine



2018/19 Claims With > 7 Days Of Lost Time, Adjusted For Injury/Industry Mix

Source: *CompScope™ Medical Benchmarks For Wisconsin, 21st Edition (2020)*

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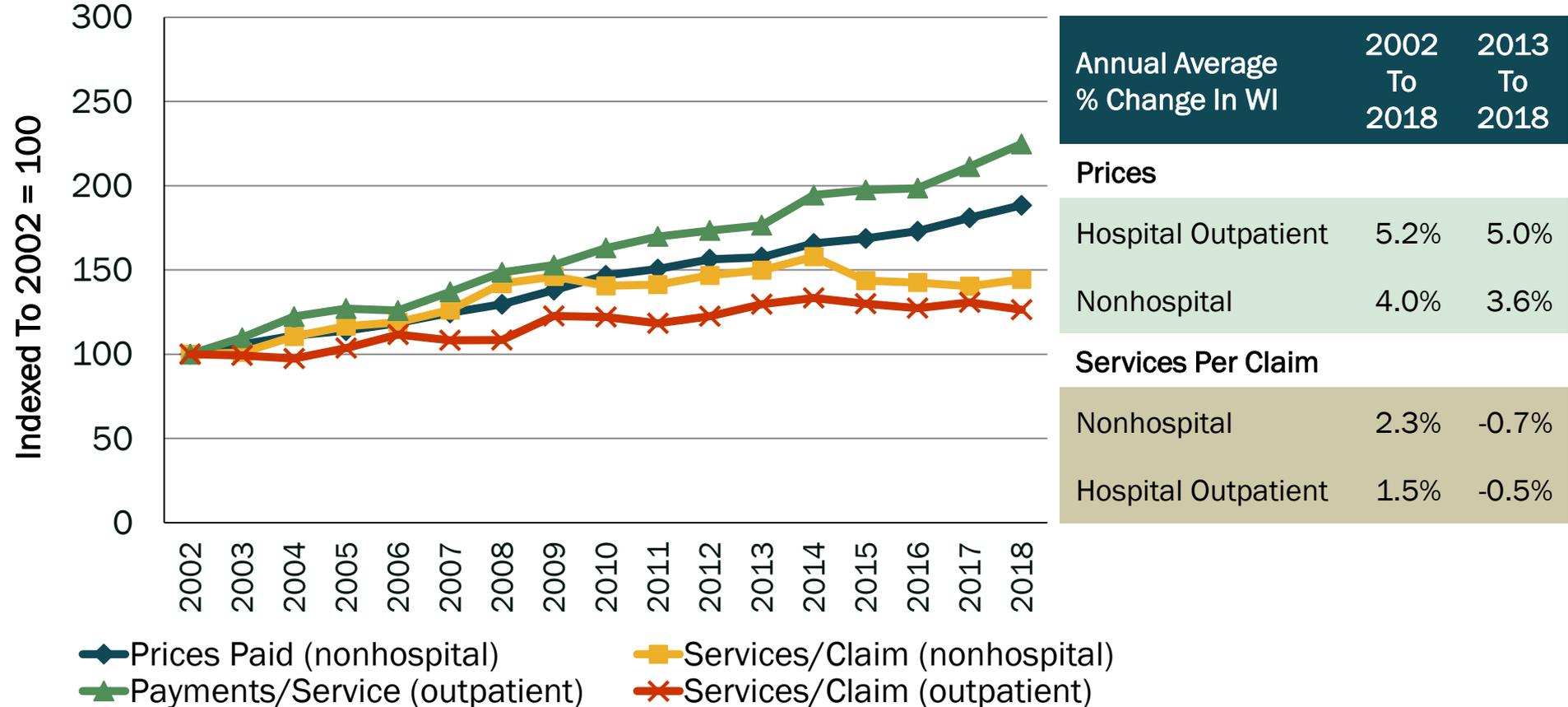
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WCRI Comparing Outcomes for Injured Workers in Wisconsin, 2016 Interviews (2017)

Long-Term Growth In Medical Payments Per Claim In Wisconsin Has Been Driven By Prices



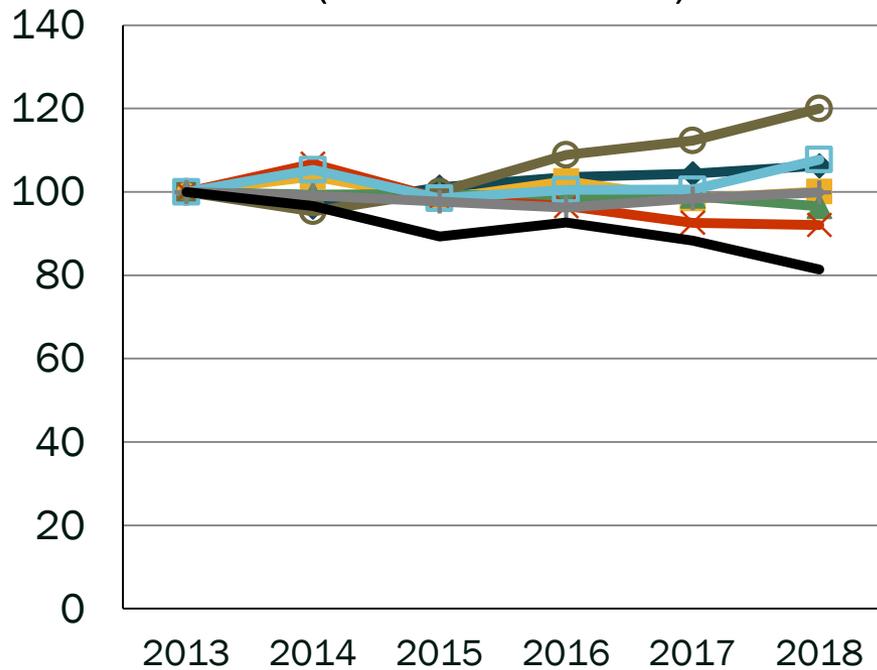
Claims With > 7 Days Of Lost Time, Not Adjusted For Injury/Industry Mix. Prices paid are reported on calendar year.

Source For Nonhospital Prices: *WCRI Medical Price Index For Workers' Compensation, 12th Edition (2020)*

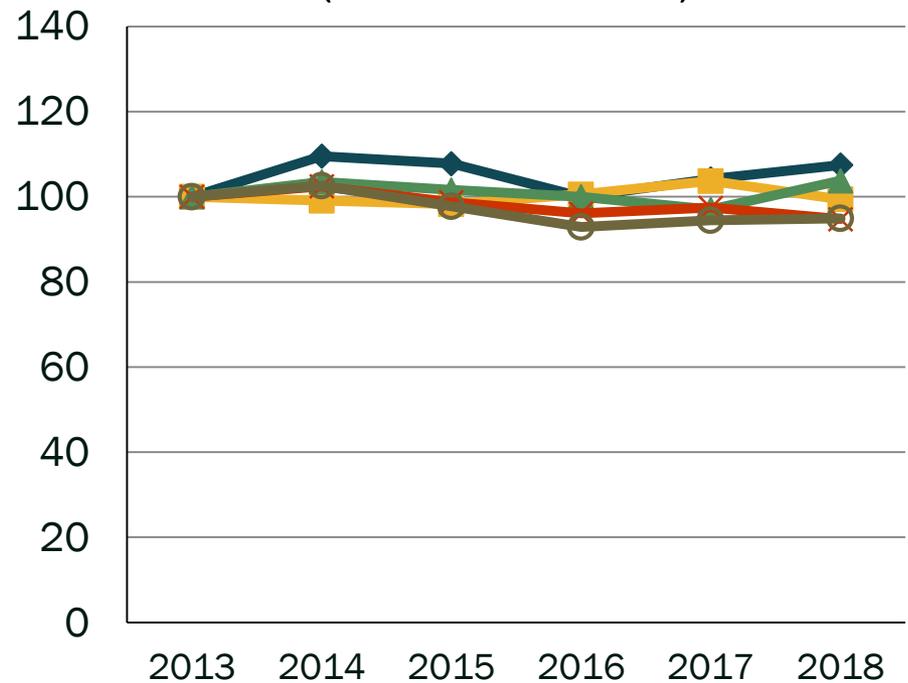
Source For All Other Data: *CompScope™ Medical Benchmarks For Wisconsin, 21st Edition (2020)*

Utilization Per Claim Of Nonhospital And Hospital Outpatient Services In WI Changed Little 2013-2018

Nonhospital Services (indexed to 2013=100)



Hospital Outpatient Services (indexed to 2013=100)



- ◆ Emergency
- ▲ Major Radiology
- Neuro. Testing
- Major Surgery
- Eval. & Mgmt.
- ✕ Minor Radiology
- Physical Medicine
- Pain Mgmt. Inj.

- ◆ Eval. & Mgmt.
- ▲ Minor Radiology
- Operating Room
- Major Radiology
- ✕ Physical Medicine

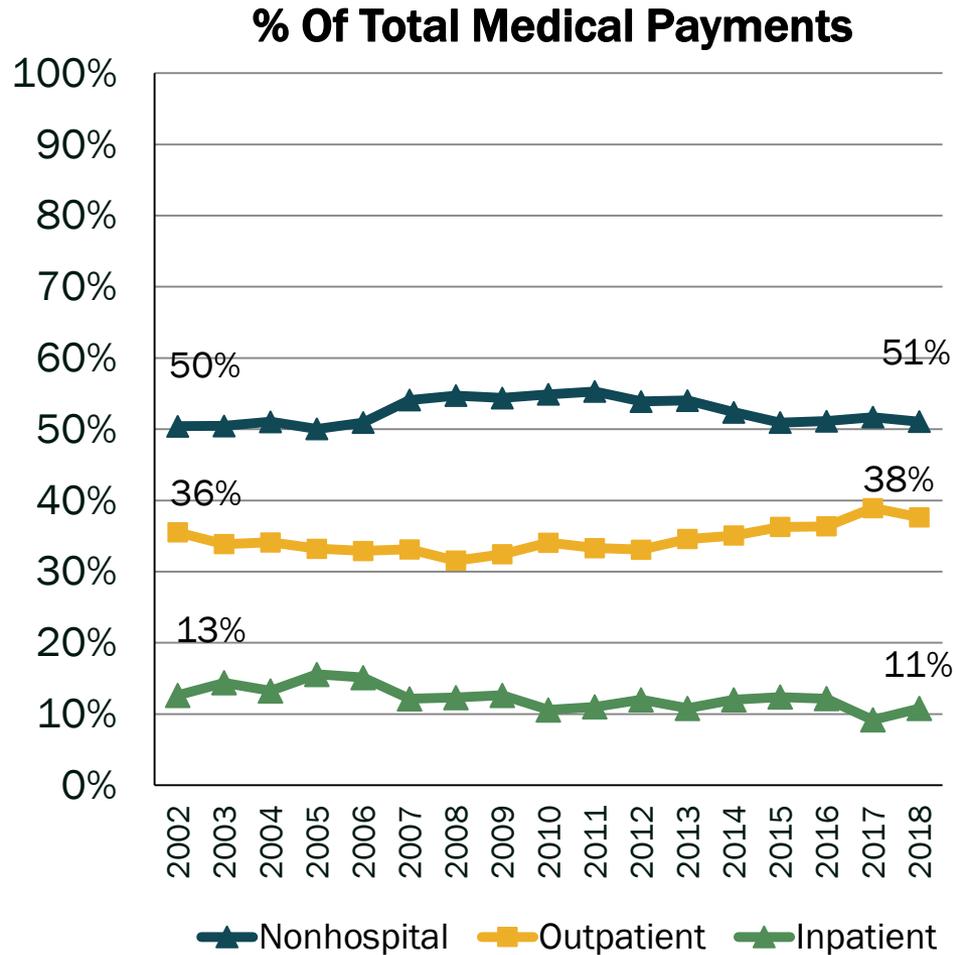
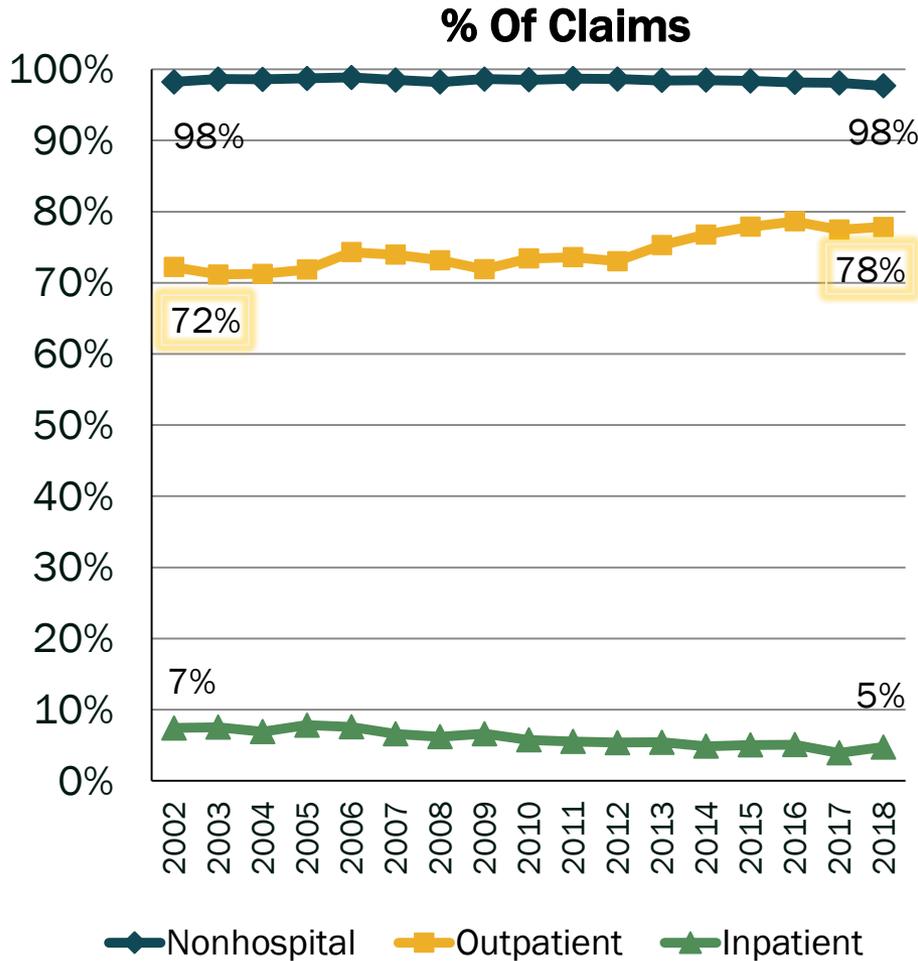
Utilization Per Claim With > 7 Days Of Lost Time At 12 Months Of Experience, Not Adjusted For Injury/Industry Mix

Source: *CompScope™ Medical Benchmarks For Wisconsin, 21st Edition (2020)*

Eval. & Mgmt.: Evaluation and management (office visits). Neuro. Testing: Neurological and neuromuscular testing.

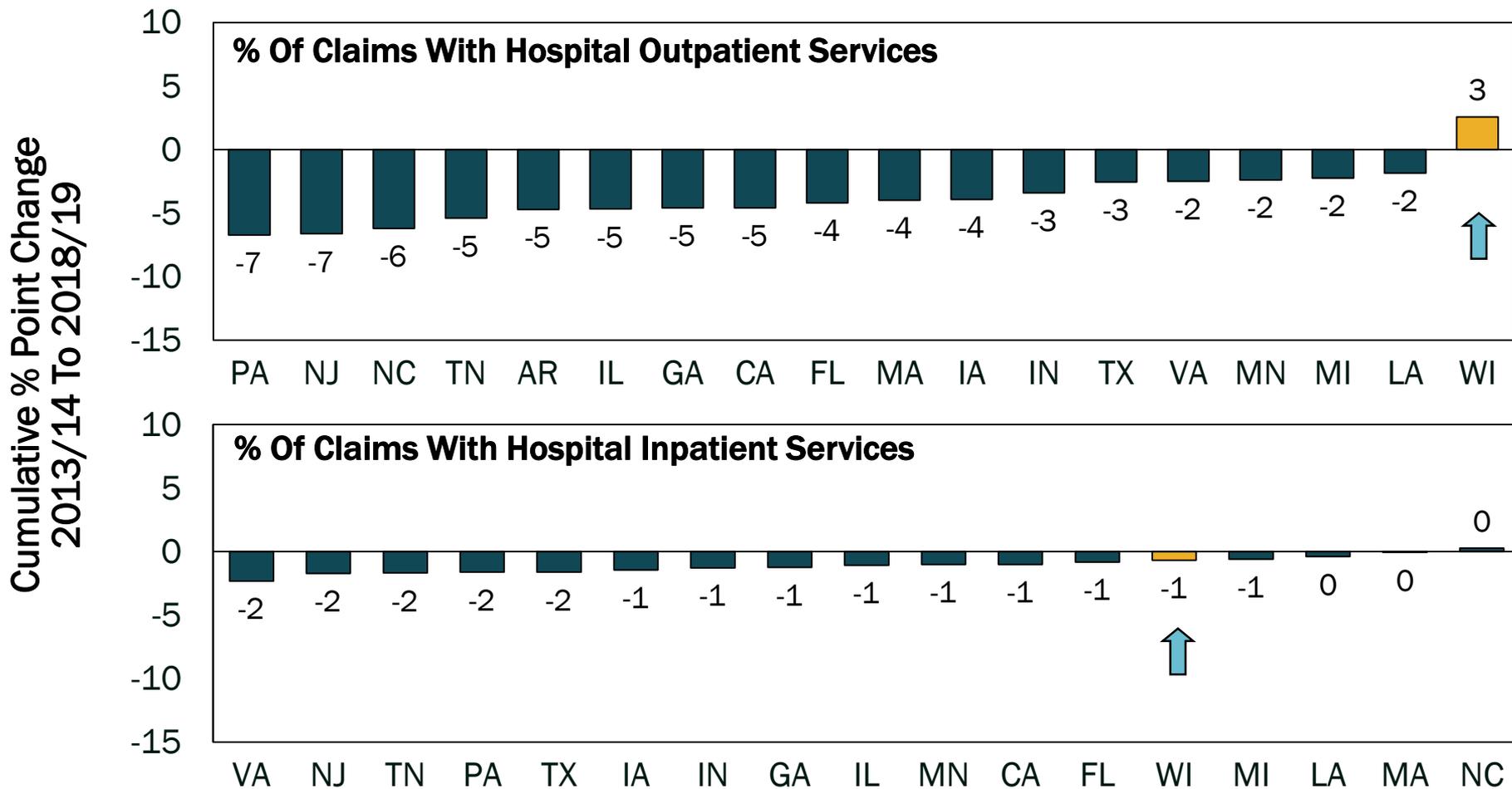
Pain Mgmt. Inj.: Pain management injections

Long-Term Increase In % Of Claims With Hospital Outpatient Services In Wisconsin



Claims With > 7 Days Of Lost Time At 12 Months Of Experience, Not Adjusted For Injury/Industry Mix
 Source: *CompScope™ Medical Benchmarks For Wisconsin, 21st Edition (2020)*

% Of Claims With Hospital Services Decreased In Most Study States Unlike Wisconsin 2013–2018



Claims With > 7 Days Of Lost Time At 12 Months Of Experience, Not Adjusted For Injury/Industry Mix

Source: *CompScope™ Medical Benchmarks For Wisconsin, 21st Edition (2020)*

Shift In Billing Services From Nonhospital To Hospital Outpatient Providers In WI

% Of Claims With E&M, WI Cumulative ppt Change 2013 To 2018			
Provider	2013	2018	ppt Diff.
Nonhospital	94%	92%	-1
Hospital Outpatient	17%	21%	5
Total	97%	97%	0

% Of Claims With Major Radiology, WI Cumulative ppt Change 2013 To 2018			
Provider	2013	2018	ppt Diff.
Nonhospital	4%	3%	-1
Hospital Outpatient	28%	33%	5
Total	49%	52%	2

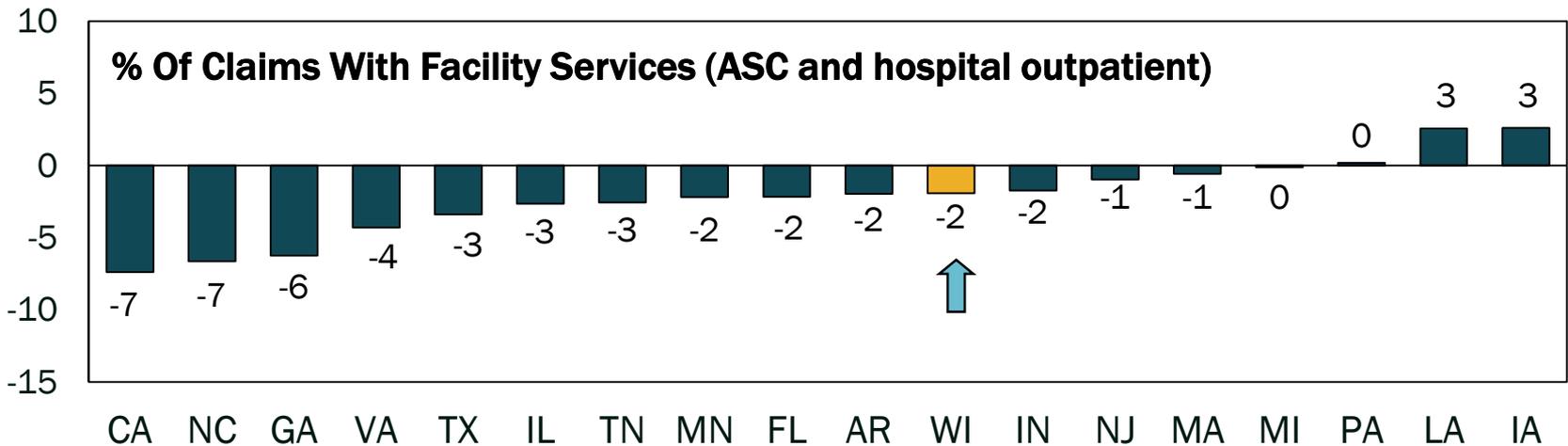
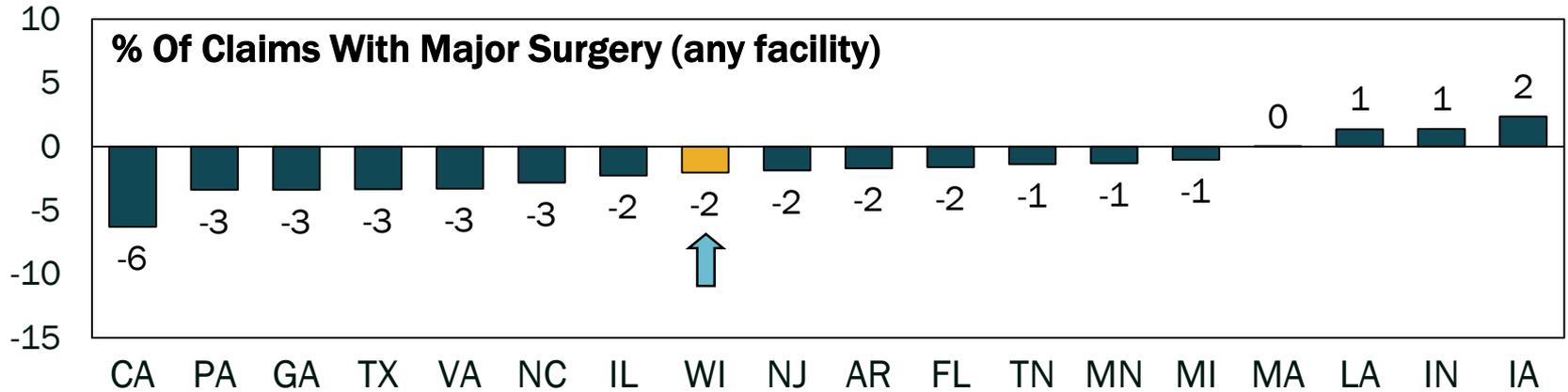
Claims With > 7 Days Of Lost Time At 12 Months Of Experience, Not Adjusted For Injury/Industry Mix
ppt Diff. column shows rounded numbers.

Source: *CompScope™ Medical Benchmarks For Wisconsin, 21st Edition (2020)*

Diff.: Difference. E&M: Evaluation and management (office visits). ppt.: Percentage point.

Decrease In Surgery Rates May Be Key Reason For Decreases In Facility Claims In Most States

Cumulative % Point Change
2013/14 To 2018/19



Claims With > 7 Days Of Lost Time At 12 Months Of Experience, Not Adjusted For Injury/Industry Mix

Source: *CompScope™ Medical Benchmarks For Wisconsin, 21st Edition (2020)*

ASC: Ambulatory surgery center

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Wisconsin 2016 WCRI Worker Outcomes Survey

Method

- Surveyed workers in 15 states
- Injuries with more than 7 days of lost time
- Interviewed 3 years postinjury
- 400 completed interviews in each state
- Compared states while controlling for differences in injury type, worker, and employer characteristics

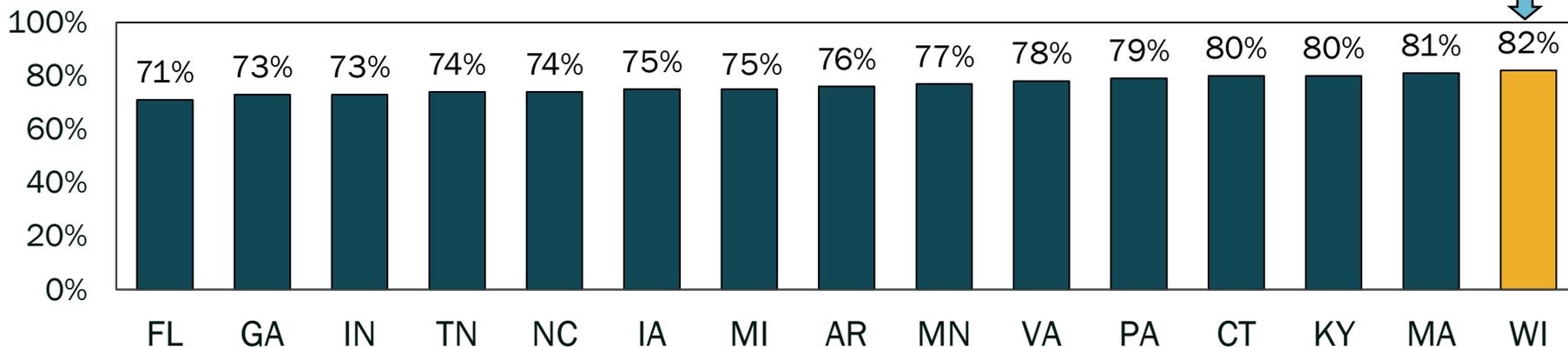
Key outcome measures

- Recovery of physical health and functioning
- Return to work
- Earnings recovery
- Access to health care
- Satisfaction with health care

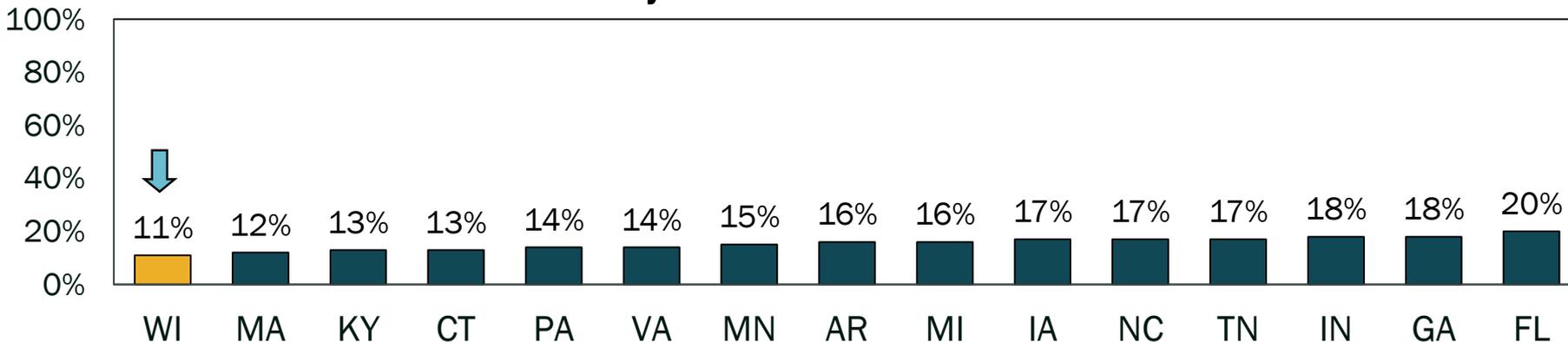
Source: *Comparing Outcomes For Injured Workers In Wisconsin, 2016 Interviews* (2017)

Wisconsin Workers Reported Higher Satisfaction With Medical Care Overall

% Of Workers "Somewhat" Or "Very" Satisfied With Medical Care Overall

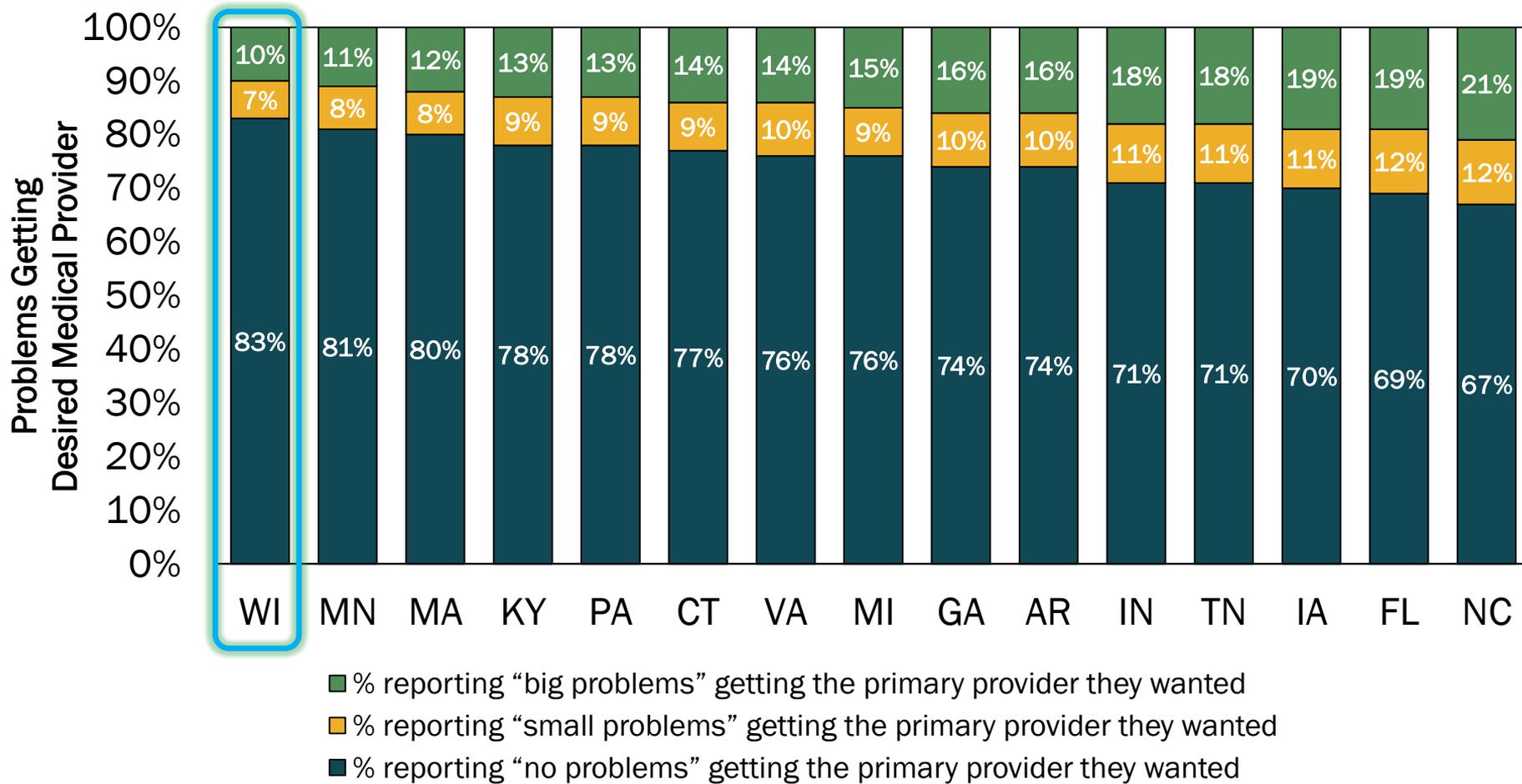


% Of Workers "Very Dissatisfied" With Medical Care Overall



Workers With > 7 Days Of Lost Time, Survey Conducted About 3 Years After An Injury, Case-Mix Adjusted
 Source: *Comparing Outcomes For Injured Workers In Wisconsin, 2016 Interviews* (2017)

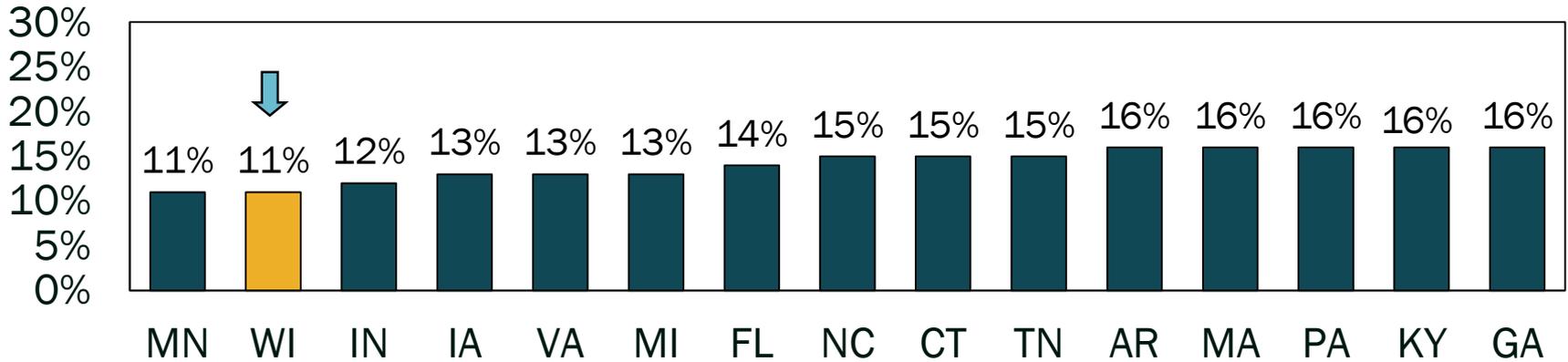
Fewer Workers Reported “Big Problems” Getting Desired Medical Provider In Wisconsin



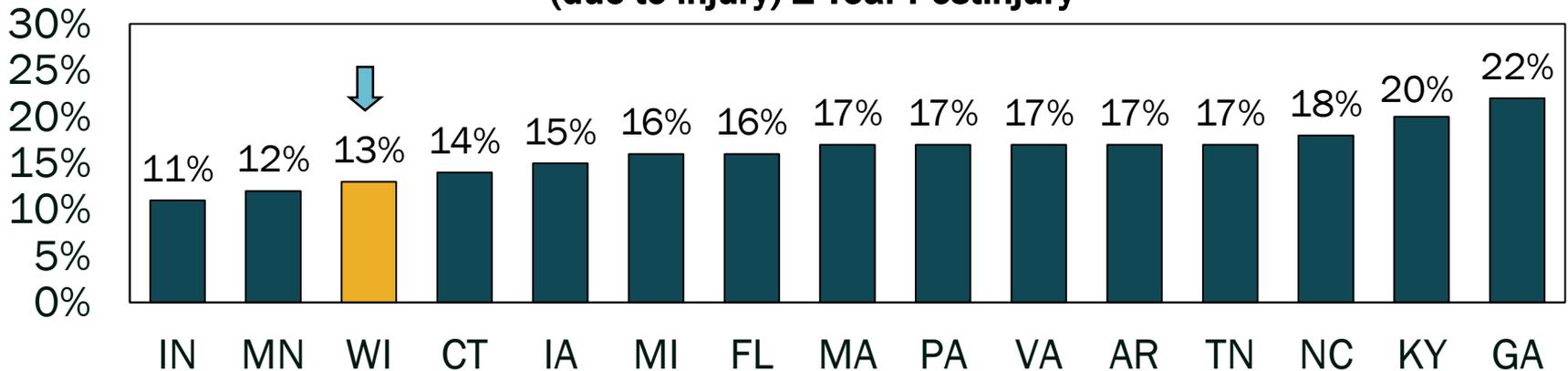
Workers With > 7 Days Of Lost Time, Survey Conducted About 3 Years After Injury, Case-Mix Adjusted
 Source: *Comparing Outcomes For Injured Workers In Wisconsin, 2016 Interviews* (2017)

Self-Reported Return To Work: Results For Wisconsin Were Somewhat Lower Than Other States

Percentage Of Workers NOT Working (due to injury) At Interview



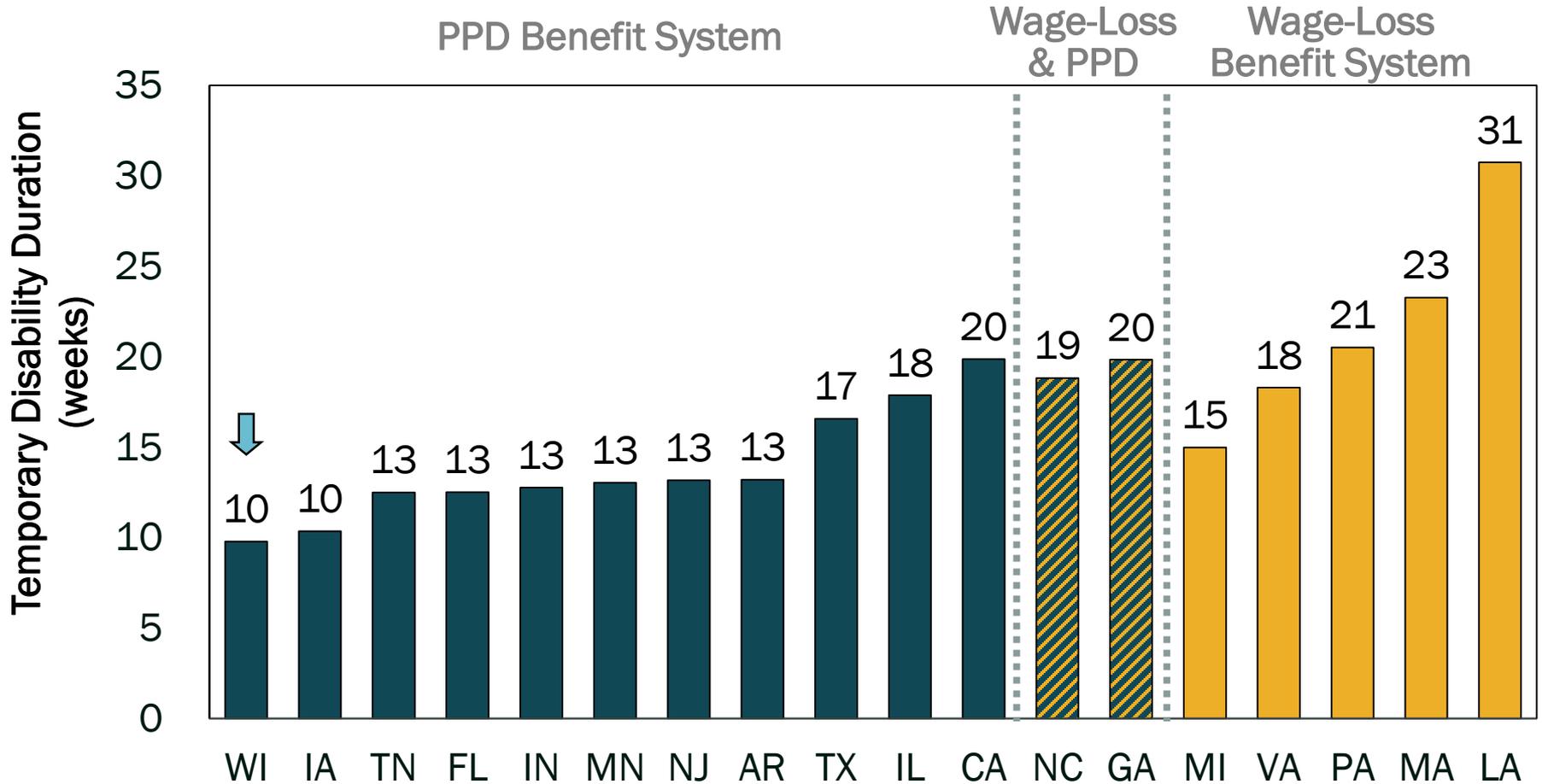
Percentage Of Workers With No Substantial Return To Work (due to injury) 1 Year Postinjury



Workers With > 7 Days Of Lost Time, Survey Conducted About 3 Years After Injury, Case-Mix Adjusted

Source: *Comparing Outcomes For Injured Workers In Wisconsin, 2016 Interviews* (2017)

Wisconsin Duration Of Temporary Disability Per Claim Was The Shortest Of All Study States



2017/20 Claims With > 7 Days Of Lost Time, Adjusted For Injury/Industry Mix And Wages
 Sources: *CompScope™ Benchmarks For Wisconsin, 21st Edition (2021)*
 PPD: Permanent partial disability

Key Takeaways

- Utilization per claim was lower in WI compared with other states; higher percentage of claims had hospital services
- Between 2013 and 2018, utilization per claim changed little in WI; shift in percentage of claims from nonhospital to hospital outpatient providers
- WI workers with injuries reported fewer problems getting medical provider they wanted compared with other states

Thank You!

For comments/questions about the findings:

Evelina Radeva

Policy Analyst

eradeva@wcrinet.org

617-661-9274

Kathy Fisher

Director of External Relations

kfisher@wcrinet.org

781-987-3114