

Priority Area 6:

Access to High-Quality Health Care

Intended Result

All people in South Carolina receive patient-centered, timely, and high-quality health care.

Why is This Important?

Access to high-quality health care is fundamental to individual and community well-being. High-quality health care is effective, efficient, patient-centered, safe, and timely, all of which are critical for preventing disease, managing chronic conditions, and reducing avoidable disability and premature death. However, gaps in access, particularly for low-income, rural, and underserved populations, drive gaps in health outcomes, lead to delayed diagnoses, and increase preventable hospitalizations, disease complications, and health care costs.

Headline Indicators

Delayed Medical Care

Percentage of adults reporting delaying medical care due to cost.

Avoidable Emergency Department Utilization

Rate of avoidable emergency department visits per 100,000 population.

Health Insurance Coverage

Percentage of adults with health insurance coverage.

Medically Underserved Areas

Rate of primary care providers per 100,000 population.

Strategies & Opportunities for Collaborative Action

6.1 Reduce structural and economic barriers within the healthcare system.

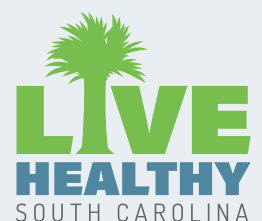
6.2 Strengthen access to and navigation of the healthcare system.

6.3 Advance healthcare policies to close coverage gaps across populations.

6.4 Adopt and expand programs that improve geographical access to care.



Scan the QR Code for the full SHIP report and details on all nine priority areas, with access to the full SHA report.



SC State Health Improvement Plan: 2025-2030

The **State Health Improvement Plan (SHIP)** serves as a statewide strategic roadmap to improve population health and address South Carolina's most pressing health challenges. It reflects intentional and robust collaboration among state agencies, public health entities, health care providers, community-based organizations, and other key partners to develop and implement sustainable, data-driven solutions that achieve collective impact. The SHIP contains nine priority areas that were developed using analytic insights from the comprehensive health data in the State Health Assessment and cross-sector partner input. The SHIP provides a strategic framework for multisector partners to align resources and guide collective action to improve health outcomes across South Carolina.

