

Inconsistent pricing. Skyrocketing costs. We're committed to more affordable options.

Vermont is the most expensive state for health care.*

Costs for inpatient and professional medical services are higher in Vermont than the national average and exorbitant for outpatient services compared to other states. These costs are primarily driven by the prices for medical services and drugs in hospitals.

| | Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) | Vaginal Birth Delivery [†] | Breast Cancer Treatment Drug Infusion ^{††} | Colonoscopy | Primary Care Office Visit |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|-------------|---------------------------|
| UVMHC | \$6,596 | \$17,100 | \$245 | \$5,659 | \$258 |
| Dartmouth | \$4,674 | \$11,582 | \$186 | \$3,047 | \$227 |
| Community Hospital | \$3,610 | \$6,904 | \$46 | \$2,005 | \$155 |
| Freestanding Facility | \$1,400 | \$2,870 | \$14 | \$1,717 | N/A |

[†]Inpatient facility cost only

^{††}Per drug unit only

*Consumer Affairs. (2025, January 9). *The most (and least) expensive states in for health care.* <https://www.consumeraffairs.com/insurance/most-and-least-expensive-states-for-health-care.html>

Vermont Health Care Costs Increasing Faster Than Inflation

Since 2021, prices for many health care services in Vermont have increased faster than the cumulative national inflation rate of 13% for the economy. For example:

MAGNETIC RESONANCE IMAGING (MRI) COSTS

↑27% at UVMHC ↑25% at Dartmouth ↑24% at a community hospital

PRIMARY CARE OFFICE VISIT COSTS

↑49% at UVMHC ↑25% at Dartmouth ↑14% at community physician offices

BREAST CANCER TREATMENT DRUG INFUSION COSTS

↑27% at UVMHC ↑25% at Dartmouth DRUG INFUSION COSTS at community physician offices have decreased 80%

Data period 2021-2024



High health care costs directly impact Vermonters:

- **Higher monthly premiums** to cover increased costs charged by hospitals and other providers.
- **Increased out-of-pocket costs** paid through deductibles and co-insurance.



Blue Cross VT is Committed to Making Health Care More Affordable for Our Members

- **Home drug infusion therapy program** that enables Vermonters to receive critical medication at home
- **Contracts with ambulatory surgery centers** for colonoscopies and other procedures that can be safely performed in a non-hospital setting
- **Bundled rates with community hospitals and surgery centers** for certain procedures at lower costs, compared to each item being billed individually
- **Creating value-based payment initiatives** that prioritize affordability, access and improved patient outcomes
- **Educating members about their options** for lower cost health care services and prescriptions
- **Encouraging use of independent imaging facilities**, such as VT/NH Open MRI, by referring our members to high-quality, lower-cost providers

As Vermonters committed to the health of Vermonters, let's continue the conversation.

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