



**RESEARCH
INSTITUTE
for HOME CARE**
ADVANCING HOME CARE
THROUGH RESEARCH

HOME HEALTH: ALASKA

Alaska's Home Health Patients & Workforce

ACROSS ALASKA, home health care providers are offering care to thousands of seniors, many of whom are living with chronic conditions. The state's home health sector also generates jobs, which help to support the state's overall economy.

The Medicare home health benefit covers skilled nursing care and therapy services provided to patients in their own residence. The patient must be under the care of a physician-approved place of care, meet the definition of "homebound," and be in need of skilled services on an intermittent basis. Patients often receive home health care following an acute care hospital discharge or because they require certain rehabilitation services. Services include care from highly skilled nurses, physical therapists, occupational therapists, speech-language pathologists, and medical social workers. Home health aides provide personal care services for patients if needed to support skilled nursing services.

As Alaska's senior population grows, home health is poised to provide these needed health care services to the state's seniors.

Economic Profile of Home Health¹

- 1,884** Number of Home Health Employees
- 2,397** Number of Jobs Created by Home Health
- \$48M** Home Health Total Wages
- \$65M** Total Impact on State Labor Income

1. KING Health Consulting, LLC and the Research Institute for Home Care; .

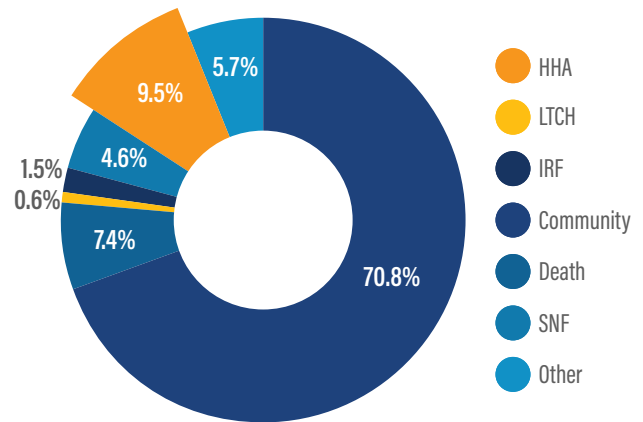
(Citing and analyzing from Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages collected by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2021).

2. Home Care Chartbook Data. November 2022. (Citing and analyzing from Medicare Standard Analytics Files, 2021).

3. Kaiser Family Foundation Analysis of CMS State/County Penetration file. 2020. <http://kff.org/medicare/state-indicator/total-medicare-beneficiaries/#>



Initial Patient Destinations Following an Inpatient Hospital Stay for Medicare Beneficiaries in 2021 in Alaska²



SPOTLIGHT: HOME HEALTH & MEDICARE

Alaska's Medicare Home Health Users are typically much sicker than the general Medicare population

| | Medicare Beneficiaries in Alaska who use Home Health | All Medicare Beneficiaries in Alaska |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|
| Total Number | 3,497 ² | 104,465 ³ |
| Percentage with 3+ Chronic Conditions | 84.42% ² | 9.08% ² |