

OVERVIEW

The Wisconsin Healthcare Stability Plan (WIHSP) was created in 2018 to stabilize the individual health insurance market and lower premiums. This program relies on funding from both the federal and state government to help offset high-cost claims and pass the savings on through reduced health insurance premiums. An <u>actuarial analysis</u> of WIHSP found that the average premium paid by Wisconsin enrollees on the individual health insurance market was reduced by approximately 13.2% due to the program. The analysis also found that the program led to an increase in enrollment on the individual market which reached over 221,000 this year. Governor Evers' proposal would fully fund this program, create an administrator position to oversee it, and implement an annual adjustment to help the program keep up with health care cost inflation.



STABLE INSURANCE MARKETPLACE

- WIHSP is a bipartisan effort that has helped keep rates low for consumers every year since its implementation.
 Without WIHSP, health insurance rates on HealthCare.gov would have increased by 21.4% for the 2023 plan year, based on a weighted average.
- WIHSP has also supported growth in the health insurance market creating more competition which gives Wisconsinites more choices and greater affordability.
- <u>Wisconsin's individual health insurance market has the second-most insurers in the nation</u>. Thirteen insurers participate in our individual health insurance exchange more than California or New York.¹
- Last year, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services approved Wisconsin's application for an extension of the Section 1332 State Innovation Waiver that allows us to operate WIHSP, ensuring that the program can continue through plan year 2028.

¹Kaiser Family Foundation, <u>https://www.kff.org/other/state-indicator/number-of-issuers-participating-in-the-individual-health-insurance-marketplace</u>