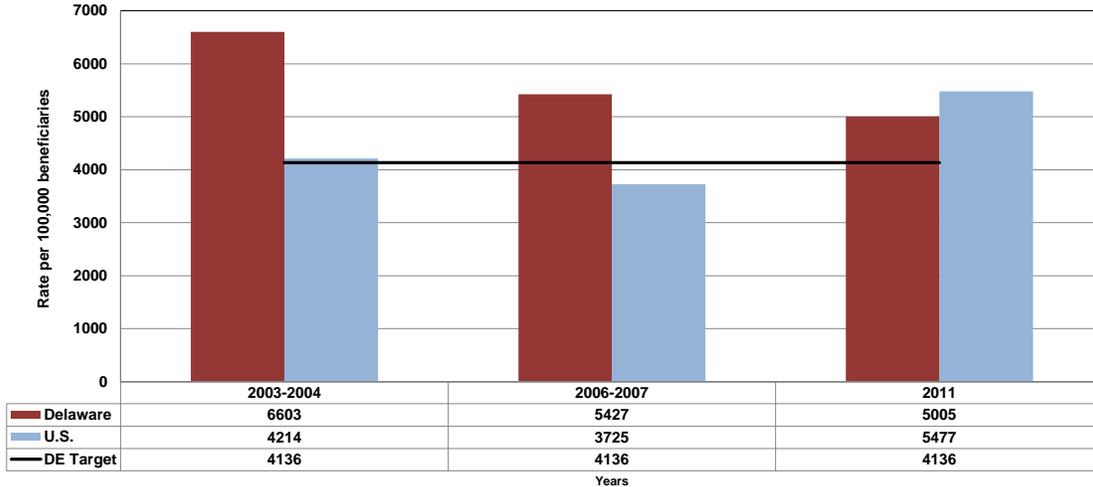




Preventable Hospital Stays
Top Level Outcome Measure



Interpretation

From 2003-2004, the rate of preventable hospital stays in Delaware was 6,603 per 100,000 population and 4,214 for the U.S. The rates for Delaware and the U.S. continued to decrease. The most current estimate reported in 2011 was a decrease to 5,005 preventable hospital stays per 100,000 in Delaware. In contrast, the U.S. rate increased drastically from 3,725 preventable stays per 100,000 in 2006-2007 to 5,477 in 2011. Overall, preventable hospital stays declined in Delaware and increased for the U.S.

Addressing the health issue

The Division of Public Health supports several programs and initiatives in support of positive health outcomes. The Office of Primary Care and Rural Health assist health care advocates, such as community health centers, with access to care issues affecting the uninsured and vulnerable populations of Delaware. This office works closely with a host of public/private partners to build health care systems by supporting initiatives and partnerships across the state and in rural Delaware. The Chronic and Infectious Disease Prevention and Control programs offer myriad education, prevention, and treatment interventions to reduce and prevent hospital admissions.

¹ Rate of preventable hospital stays= number of Medicare hospital admissions for ambulatory sensitive conditions per 100,000 beneficiaries.

² Time intervals were reported by the Commonwealth fund for these statistics. Please note that the intervals are not continuous years.

³ Source: Commonwealth Fund: State Scorecard; Health System Performance, 2009 and 2013.

⁴ The Delaware target was established in DPH's Strategic Plan to be met by 2020 and reflects the average of the top best 5 states' rates. The DE target spans prior years as an arbitrary comparison of previous years' rates with the current target.