

# ALL-PAYER CLAIMS DATABASE (APCD)

## What is an APCD?

An APCD is a data aggregation tool that provides a wholistic picture into where and how health care dollars are spent. APCDs collect transactional data—including services rendered, as well as the amount paid—from public (Medicare and Medicaid) and private health insurers (commercial plans and some self-insured employers). APCDs convert disparate data from each of these sources and across the continuum of care into one comprehensive, standardized data set.

[FAQs on APCDs.](#)

## Who benefits?

### Kentuckians

Insights from an APCD will enable research and data-driven policies that can lead to higher quality of care for Kentuckians. The cost-transparency element of an APCD will cut down on unnecessary expenses for care that increase out-of-pocket costs for consumers.

### Hospitals and Providers

An APCD can help providers and hospitals better understand patient populations, identify trends, and make more informed decisions about care delivery. By providing comprehensive data on health care utilization and costs, an APCD can help health systems operate more efficiently, provide higher-quality care, and ultimately improve the health and well-being of their patients and communities.

### Employers

An APCD would give employers the ability to identify utilization of healthcare benefits to understand costs, recognize both cost and quality, and to understand the healthcare system performance toward high quality care. This would assist with benefit design and planning, allowing employers to improve health outcomes while more effectively managing their healthcare expenses. It would also aid in implementing and complying with new federal fiduciary and transparency rules that require employers to pay a “fair price” for health benefits.

### Policymakers

An APCD would give state and local policymakers the full picture of the complex landscape of health care spending. By showing where the costs are coming from and where the burden is falling – an APCD can inform research and policies that save money, increase access to care, and improve health outcomes.

## How APCDs guided health policy in other states



### ARKANSAS

The Arkansas APCD was used to estimate the cost of smoking to Medicaid.

[Read more.](#)



### INDIANA

The Indiana APCD was recently created. Its purpose includes identifying healthcare needs and informing policy.

[Read more.](#)



### VIRGINIA

The Virginia APCD identified a growing drug problem in one county.

[Read more.](#)



### UTAH

The Utah APCD was used to examine the potential overuse of non-evidence-based health care practices.

[Read more.](#)

*All states ranked in the top 10 for the [2022 state health rankings](#) have an APCD.*