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### **Insurance Department Releases Report on 2017 Health Insurance Costs**

**CONCORD, NH** – The New Hampshire Insurance Department today released the final version of its annual report on health insurance and cost drivers in the state. The report looks at 2017 data from insurance companies operating in the state.

“The information contained in this report is critical to understanding health insurance costs in New Hampshire,” said Insurance Commissioner John Elias. “It can help policymakers, insurance companies, and other stakeholders make informed decisions about our health insurance markets.”

Some of the key findings include:

- Overall average premiums increased just over 6.5%, with the largest increase in the individual market (6.8%), though the highest premiums paid were in the large group market.
- The small group market remained relatively stable.
- The largest contributor to trends in the group market was Inpatient facility, outpatient facility and professional fees, a change from the previous years when pharmacy costs drove the trends.
- Pharmacy trends went from a 4.8% increase in 2016 to a 5% decrease in 2017.
- There was little change in the number of residents without health insurance between 2016 and 2017.

The [full report](#) is available on the Insurance Department’s website, along with an [abbreviated fact sheet](#) for quick reference.

State law requires the insurance commissioner to “hold an annual public hearing concerning premium rates in the health insurance market and the factors, including health care costs and cost trends that have contributed to rate increases during the prior year.” A preliminary version of the report was presented and discussed at the Insurance Department’s 2018 [annual hearing on premium rates](#), which took place October 30, 2018 in Concord.

### **The New Hampshire Insurance Department Can Help**

Contact us with any questions or concerns you may have regarding your insurance coverage at 1-800-852-3416 or (603) 271-1406, or by email at [consumerservices@ins.nh.gov](mailto:consumerservices@ins.nh.gov).

The New Hampshire Insurance Department’s mission is to promote and protect the public good by ensuring the existence of a safe and competitive insurance marketplace through the development and enforcement of the insurance laws of the State of New Hampshire. For more information, visit [www.nh.gov/insurance](http://www.nh.gov/insurance).