

HIMSS *Analytics*[®] 2015 Population Health Study

Population health initiatives
are gaining momentum,
but the industry is still in the
early stages of proving strategy
and vendor solution value

As the emphasis on the change in delivery of care escalates, population health management initiatives are becoming more prevalent across the healthcare industry. However, many organizations are addressing their initial population health needs without a vendor-provided population health IT solution. In this Essential Brief, we share insight from nearly 200 healthcare executives (C-Suite, Administrators, Directors & VPs) on their population health initiatives, their current and future approach to population health IT solutions and consultants, and unique insight into organization's outlook on what their population health services will look like in 5 years.

Population Health Definition

Population health covers a multiple healthcare areas that focus on the needs of patients via different care models.

According to the 2015 Population Health Study...

81%

of healthcare providers with **more than 100 beds** currently employ initiatives or programs focused on **population health**.



The term “population health” is broadly used to describe different approaches to care for a population of people as patients and as the overall community. For the purposes of our study population health was defined as improving the health outcomes for a defined population in a specific geographic area. A breakdown of respondents by bed size indicated that over 80% of organizations with over 100 beds currently employ a wide range of initiatives focused on population health management.

Beginning Initiatives

67 percent of study participants indicated they employ initiatives or programs focused on population health.

According to the 2015 Population Health Study...

Over **67%** of respondents **currently employ** initiatives or programs focused on **population health**.

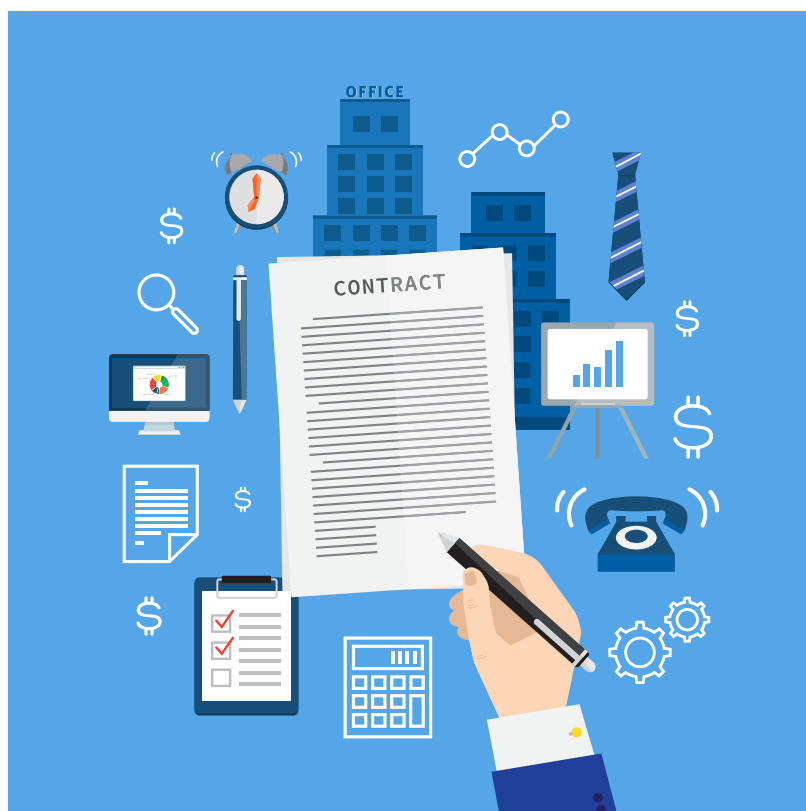
How many use a vendor provided solution?

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Organizations across the industry, regardless of size, have begun to put into place programs focused on bettering the health of their population. These areas include chronic disease management, wellness and preventive health, a clinically integrated network (CIN) and a patient-centered medical home (PCMH). Most organizations have focused their efforts on chronic disease management (83% of respondents with initiatives in place) and wellness/preventive health (82% of respondents with initiatives in place.) Surprisingly, very few indicated the use of a dedicated vendor solution to help address their population health needs.

Patients Under Risk Contracts

A majority of study respondents indicated some level of their population under risk contracts, highlighting the ongoing necessity for comprehensive population health management solutions.



Evidence around the clinical and financial benefits of utilizing population health initiatives and solutions is still in the early stages and the transition from volume to value-based care will take some time to develop. A primary vehicle to facilitate the transition to value-based population health care is the change in how patient risk is mitigated. Organizations have begun to develop their own risk agreements with community populations to aid in that transition and to ultimately improve clinical outcomes and lower costs. Our study indicates that along with the population health initiatives in place, over 60% of respondents have a portion of their patient population under risk contracts. Going forward, we expect risk contract development to rise in size (\$) and volume (#), further driving the need for valued population health strategies.

Other questions asked in this study:

- Describe the vision for your organization's population health services five years from now.
- Does your organization currently use a vendor provided solution to address your population health needs?
- Does your organization use a consultant for your population health strategy?
- What are the primary areas of focus of your consultant regarding your population health strategy?
- Does your organization have plans to employ initiatives or programs focused on population health?
- Does your organization have plans to utilize a vendor provided solution to address your population health needs?
- Does your organization have plans to use a consultant for your population health strategy and implementation?

HIMSS Analytics is focused on supplying healthcare IT vendors and providers with relevant data that leads to better decision making. We conduct these studies to provide real-time snapshots of market activity across multiple solutions and initiatives. However, the market's trust is important to us and we will never provide the names of study participants.

About HIMSS Analytics

The HIMSS Analytics Advisory Solutions group provides quantitative and qualitative research solutions to guide you through your product value stream.

- What challenges are you facing?
- How can we help?

Contact us at advisorysolutions@himssanalytics.org



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HIMSS Analytics is a part of HIMSS, a global voice, advisor and thought leader of health transformation through health IT with a unique breadth and depth of expertise and capabilities to improve the quality, safety, and efficiency of health, healthcare and care outcomes. HIMSS designs and leverages key data assets, predictive models and tools to advise global leaders, stakeholders and influencers of best practices in health IT, so they have the right information at the point of decision.

Through its health IT network of over 1 million experts, over 200 knowledge exchanges and collaborations, including 60,000-plus members, HIMSS drives innovative, forward thinking around best uses of technology in support of better connected care, improved population health and low cost of care.

HIMSS is a not-for-profit, headquartered in Chicago, Illinois with additional offices in North America, Europe, United Kingdom and Asia.