



## 2025 Milestones: Turning Data into Insights

*Advancing Evidence. Elevating Public Sector Voices. Informing National Policy.*



### National Reach & Policy Education

In 2025, the National Institute for Public Employee Health Care Policy expanded its national footprint by delivering timely, data-driven insights that informed policymakers, public sector purchasers, advocates, and the broader policy community. Through research, surveys, and educational resources, the Institute helped shape understanding of complex health policy issues affecting millions of public employees, retirees, and their families nationwide.



### Policy Briefs & Educational Resources



*Bringing public sector realities into national PBM policy conversations.*



### PBMs & Public Sector Purchasing

The Institute released a widely shared one-pager, [The Relationship between PBMs and Public Sector Health Care Purchasers: Insights from Plan Sponsors](#), to inform policymakers and stakeholders about how public sector purchasers engage with pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs).

Grounded in real-world plan sponsor experience, the resource outlines common contract components, emerging trends, and oversight considerations specific to public purchasers—bringing clarity to a highly complex and often opaque segment of the health care system.

### Medicare Advantage EGWPs

The Institute published a comprehensive report, [Public Sector Medicare Advantage EGWPs in a Shifting Landscape: Challenges, Opportunities, and Policy Considerations](#), examining the evolving role of Medicare Advantage Employee Group Waiver Plans (EGWPs) in public sector retiree coverage.

To expand accessibility and reach, the report was paired with a concise [fact sheet](#) designed for policymakers, advocates, and media—supporting clearer understanding of EGWPs amid ongoing Medicare Advantage scrutiny and reform discussions.



*Expanded national awareness of public sector retiree benefit design*



*Informed federal and state policy dialogue on Medicare Advantage*

## III. Original Research & Surveys

### Specialty Drug Costs

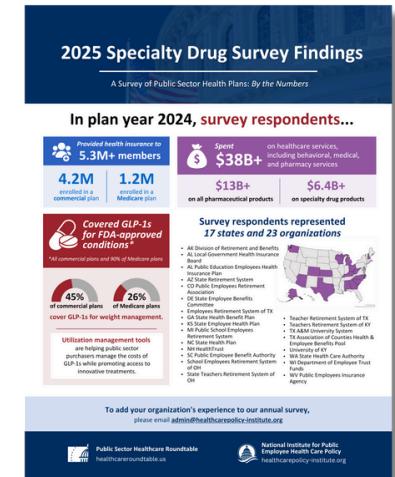
The Institute released the **2024 Specialty Drug Survey**, which captured responses from plan sponsors across 13 states and represented more than 78 health plans covering 1.2 million lives. Together, these plans reported \$8.9 billion in total drug spending in 2023, with nearly half (\$4.1 billion) attributable to specialty medications, underscoring the growing financial pressure on public-sector purchasers.

Building on this work, the Institute published the **2025 Specialty Drug Survey Fact Sheet**, highlighting early findings from the 2025 survey to provide timely, actionable insights as states and plan sponsors navigate affordability, access, and long-term sustainability challenges.



Full survey results and in-depth analysis to be released Q1 2026

**A first-of-its-kind snapshot of public sector health coverage across states**



### State Profiles Survey (Inaugural)

In partnership with the Public Sector HealthCare Roundtable, the Institute launched its first-ever **State Profiles Survey**, a foundational research effort to strengthen understanding of public-sector health care purchasers across states.

The survey documents who public purchasers are, the populations they serve, and the breadth of benefits offered filling a critical data gap and providing policymakers with a clearer picture of public sector coverage nationwide. The final product is scheduled for release in 2026.

## Where We Were: Events and Appearances

In 2025, the Institute deepened its role as a trusted convener, research partner, and policy voice for public sector health care purchasers. Through targeted convenings, national presentations, and formal congressional engagement, the Institute elevated purchaser perspectives on specialty drug costs, Medicare Advantage EGWPs, and access to innovative therapies.

Key highlights included presenting findings from the Annual Specialty Drug Survey and GLP-1 coverage research through national webinars and the 21st Annual Public Sector HealthCare Roundtable Conference; convening public sector leaders in Washington, D.C. to address pressing federal policy priorities; and engaging Congress through written testimony to ensure group Medicare Advantage products are reflected in reform discussions.



## 🔍 Research & Data Insights

The Institute translates complex data into actionable insights that help public sector purchasers navigate a rapidly evolving health care landscape.

- Shared findings from the **Annual Specialty Drug Survey**, highlighting rising costs and impacts on public sector purchasers
- Presented early insights on **GLP-1 coverage approaches** for public sector plans
- Released initial results from the **2025 Specialty Drug Survey** to a national audience

## 🏛️ Policy Leadership

The Institute elevates public sector purchaser perspectives by engaging directly in federal policy discussions and legislative processes.

- Submitted **congressional testimony** to the House Energy & Commerce Subcommittee on Health
- Elevated purchaser priorities in national health policy debates
- Reinforced the importance of **group Medicare Advantage products**, including EGWPs, in reform efforts

## 🤝 Convenings & Collaborations

Through strategic convenings, the Institute brings together public sector leaders to foster dialogue, collaboration, and shared problem-solving.

- Hosted **in-person and virtual convenings** to connect public sector leaders and new members
- Convened stakeholders in **Washington, D.C.** to examine MA EGWPs, specialty drug pricing, provider consolidation, and access to innovative therapies
- Strengthened engagement across the Institute and Public Sector HealthCare Roundtable networks

## ★ National Visibility & Reach

By sharing research and insights on national platforms, the Institute expands its reach and influence across the public sector health policy community.

- Featured research and priorities at the **21st Annual Public Sector HealthCare Roundtable Conference**
- Increased awareness of the Institute's expertise, resources, and thought leadership
- Engaged policymakers, plan sponsors, and partners nationwide



## Why this work matters

By translating complex policy issues into clear, accessible resources—and elevating the perspectives of public sector purchasers—the Institute plays a critical role in educating policymakers and stakeholders engaged in this space. In 2025, the Institute strengthened evidence-based policymaking, amplified public sector voices, and reinforced its role as a trusted national resource at a time when informed decision-making has never been more important.

## Closing

As we reflect on 2025, the Institute is proud of the progress made in advancing evidence-informed policy, strengthening engagement with public sector health care leaders, and providing actionable insights to support sustainable, high-quality benefits for employees, retirees, and their beneficiaries. We look forward to building on this momentum in the year ahead, continuing to inform policy discussions and drive meaningful impact for the public sector employees, retirees, and their beneficiaries.

## About the Institute

The National Institute for Public Employee Health Care Policy (the Institute) was established in July of 2023. It is a non-profit (501)(c)(3), nonpartisan, national policy institute focused on public policy areas impacting health care plans available to public sector employees, retirees, and their beneficiaries. The Institute conducts research, develops authored papers and issue briefs, and hosts events to raise awareness and educate the Washington, D.C. policy community.