

The Washington State Department of Health WA HEALTH

The Washington Healthcare Emergency And Logistics Tracking Hub (WA HEALTH)

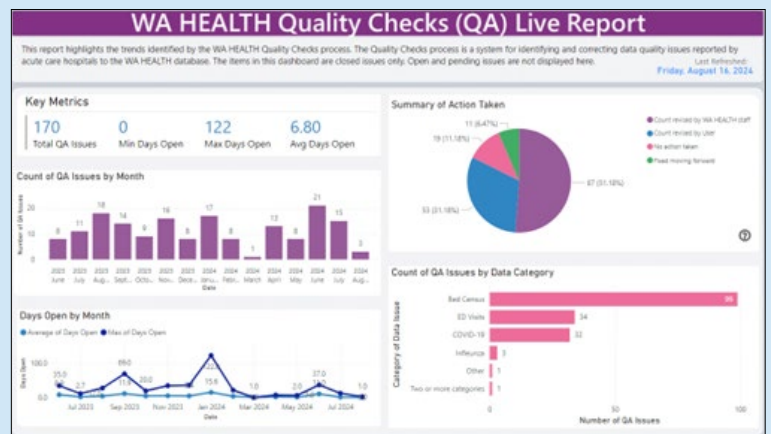
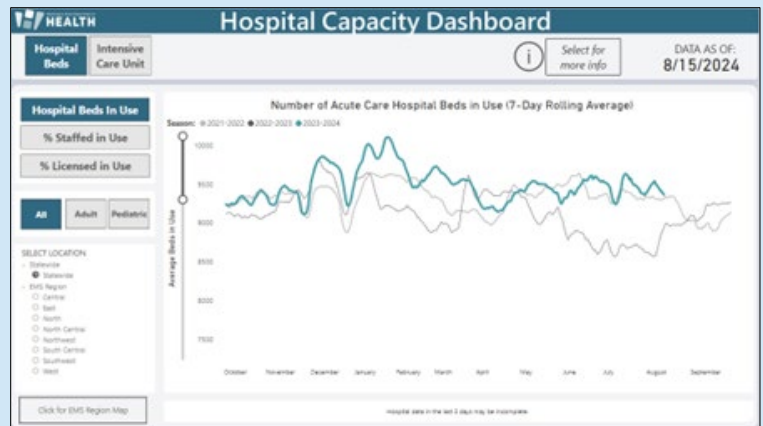
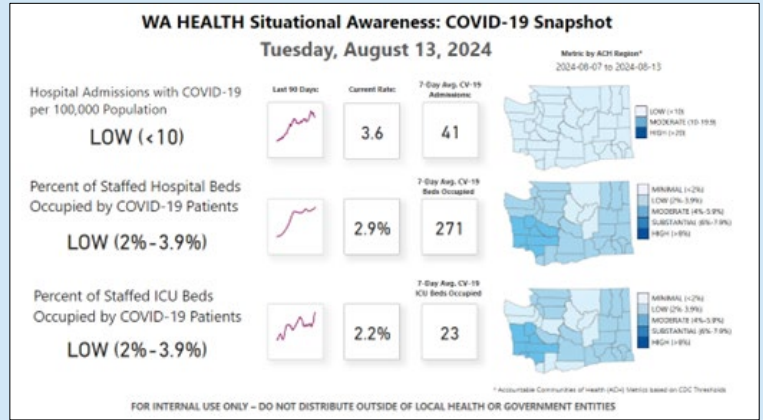
mission is to operate and enhance a technology platform that collects key health care data to help leaders make timely and informed decisions in response to public health threats. WA HEALTH aims to empower Washington with health care insights for a resilient and healthy future.

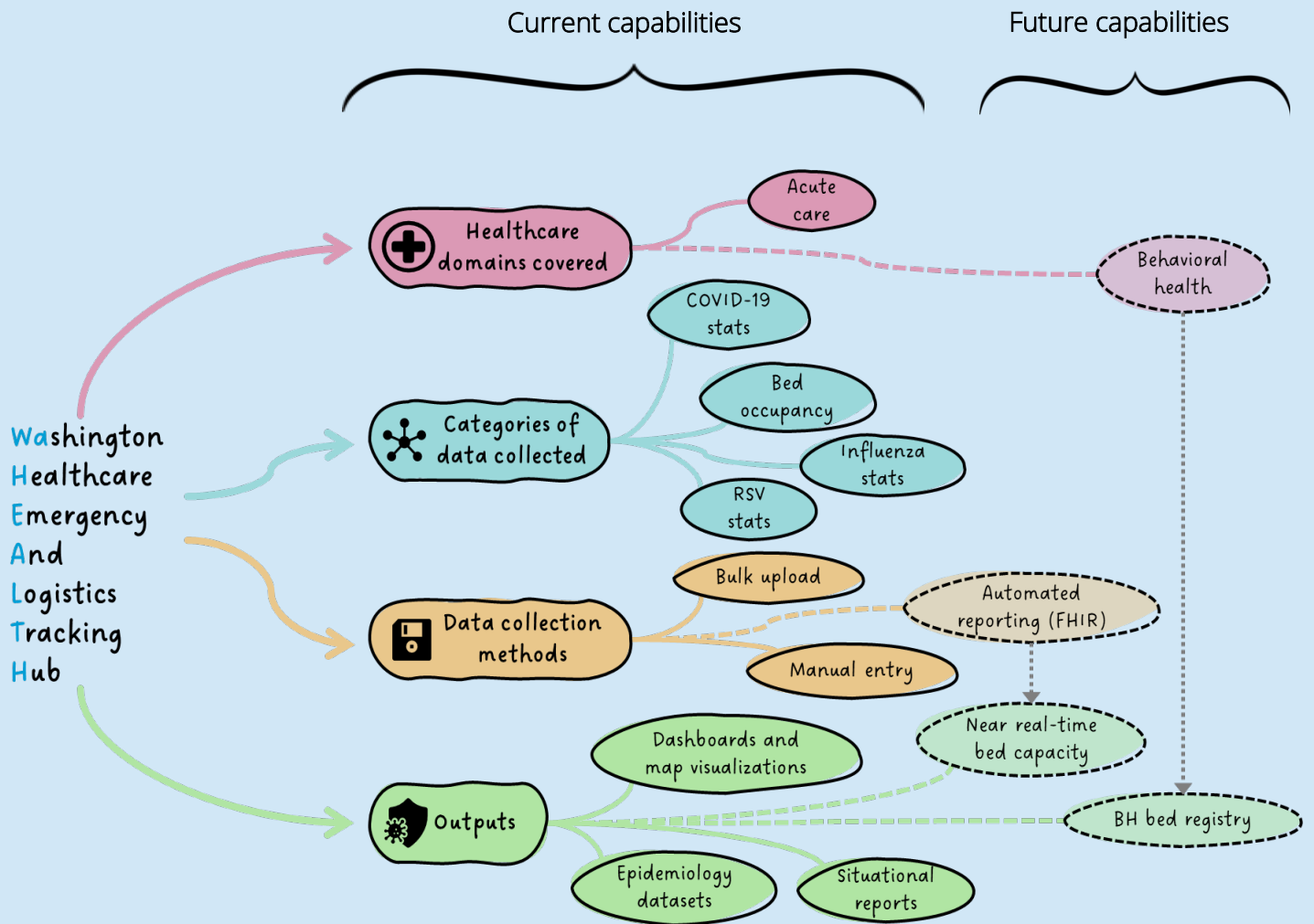
Rapid Development

On Feb. 29, 2020, the governor enacted a State of Emergency for all counties in Washington because of the coronavirus outbreak. On April 6, 2020, our team and Microsoft developers got to work. We would provide a statewide view of hospital capacity for acute care, ICU and surge beds, personal protection equipment (PPE), and staffing and ventilator availability. WA HEALTH launched on April 15, 2020.

In 2021, the federal Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) certified WA HEALTH as an authorized submitter of Washington hospital data. We began reporting for approximately 50% of the acute care facilities in the state. Two years later, we were reporting data to HHS for all 93 acute care facilities in Washington.

Originally, WA HEALTH reported for hospitals that opted for the service. When looking into quality issues, HHS concluded that the quality of data reported by WA HEALTH surpassed that of the data reported by the facilities. Our effectiveness and quality check processes are so strong that we now report on behalf of all hospitals in Washington.





Since the beginning of WA HEALTH, we required acute care facilities to report data to us under emergency rules which have been continuously renewed. In January 2024, the Health Administration Responsibility Project (HARP) officially began work to make the rules permanent.

As the COVID-19 pandemic recedes, the focus of the WA HEALTH program is shifting from being primarily a response tool to a preparedness/readiness tool. The WA HEALTH program is evolving to serve as a critical preparedness tool to address public health threats before they happen. We aim to collect and provide comprehensive healthcare data to support leaders and health care facilities in anticipating, planning for, and responding to health crises and emergencies. With this work, we will help ensure the long-term resilience of the health care system.

For additional information, you can email the WA HEALTH Team at wahealth@doh.wa.gov.