The current state of Medicaid reimbursement:

- **47 states** and Washington DC provide reimbursement for some form of live video in Medicaid fee-for-service.
- **9 states** reimburse for store and forward delivered services. States that only provide reimbursement for teleradiology were not counted in this number.
- **16 states** reimburse for remote patient monitoring (RPM)
- **5 states** reimburse for all three
- **30 states** provide a transmission and/or facility fee

Despite the large number of states reimbursing for live video telehealth, restrictions are still prevalent. One of the most common restrictions is a limitation on where the patient is located, referred to as the originating site. A handful of states have adopted Medicare’s policy of limiting telehealth reimbursement to rural areas in some way. Additionally, an increasing number of Medicaid programs have limited the type of facility that can serve as an originating site, often excluding a patient’s home from eligibility.

- **10 states** have geographic/rural restrictions
- **3 states** have eliminated their geographic requirement since February 2013
- **23 states** limit reimbursement to a specific list of facilities, with 8 adding such a list to their policy in the past nine months
Other common telehealth restrictions include:

- The specialty that telehealth services can be provided for
- The types of services or CPT codes that can be reimbursed (office visit, inpatient consult, etc.)
- The type of providers that can be reimbursed (e.g. physician, nurse, etc.)

Private Payer Reimbursement

33 jurisdictions have laws that govern private payer reimbursement of telehealth. This is the most common policy change in states.

- Some laws require reimbursement be equal to in-person coverage.
- Not all laws mandate reimbursement.

Other Telehealth Policy Trends

Online Prescribing

Most states consider an online questionnaire only as insufficient to establish patient-provider relationship and prescribe medication. Some states allow telehealth to be used to conduct a physical exam, while others do not.

Consent

29 States have a consent requirement in either Medicaid policy, law or regulation. As more states pass telehealth reimbursement laws, informed consent requirements have become increasingly common.

Licensure

9 states medical boards issue licenses related to telehealth. 2 states dropped their telemedicine license and adopted the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact in the past year.

12 states have adopted the Compact, which is an expedited licensure process.