As health care organizations look for better ways to optimize care delivery and improve performance, effectively managing the size, shape and complexity of the workforce remains a key initiative. By evaluating the number of direct and indirect reports for each manager against health care industry benchmarks, organizations can improve the operational efficiency of critical support functions, align divergent staffing models, increase employee engagement and control the cost of labor.

Leveraging our proprietary SullivanCotter Workforce Insights360™ database and technology, we combine data-driven insights, competitive analysis and customized design recommendations to inform span of control levels to support your organization’s needs.

**Market Data:** Summarizes market practices using a standard data set across the industry. Span of control metrics can be produced for targeted job title groups, job levels, job families, functional areas and career stages. Analysis can also be performed for a specific job title or on a custom cohort definition.

**Competitive Analysis:** Compares your organization against health care practices using leading data. We will provide commentary on market practices, workforce insights and advice on the implications of the analysis in the context of your organization’s strategic objectives.

**Design Recommendations:** Recommends span of control guidelines and staffing models which consider the organization’s unique performance objectives, operating structures and complexity, team experience, technology utilization, physical dispersion, manager competency and talent availability.

**Benchmarking and Competitive Analysis**

**Getting It Right**

- Improving span of control is not just about reducing management headcount.
- Span of control that is too low can drive undefined accountability standards and increase overall labor expense.
- A high span of control can be linked with lower employee engagement and policy adherence due to limited managerial investment and day-to-day oversight.
- In clinical settings, research has shown that a greater span of control can correlate with higher rates of patient infection, employee injuries and staff turnover\(^1\).


Looking to gain additional insight? [Learn more](#) about our workforce solutions and the benefits of becoming a SullivanCotter Workforce Insights360™ data member.

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