Primary Care Provider Survey
Summary Report: Benton County

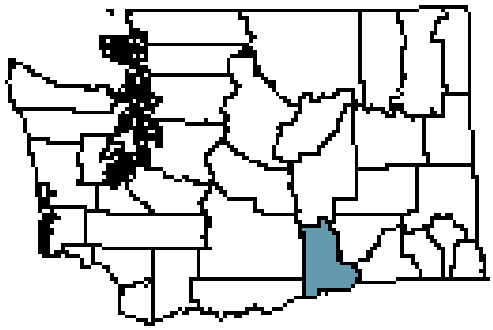
Survey year: 2014

The Department of Health (DOH) conducts the Primary Care Provider Survey to obtain health care access data. This data is used in the Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) designation analysis. HPSA is a federal program administered by the federal Office of Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). A HPSA designation identifies areas with provider shortages for underserved and uninsured populations. To learn more about the program please see the HPSA Overview.

This summary report reflects provider survey responses. The department makes every attempt to establish a close to accurate number of providers by collecting lists from local health departments, the National Provider Identifier Registry and other sources. To meet federal guidelines in the analysis the target response rate is >75%. This report offers an aggregate summary of the survey responses.

For questions about the survey data, methodology, and related information please contact Natalie Ogle at Natalie.Ogle@doh.wa.gov or by phone at (360) 236-2832. Information on other counties can be found on the Health Care Access Research Page.

GENERAL DEFINITIONS	
Primary Care Physician	Health care professionals who serve as the initial point of contact in the assessment and management of a patient's health care needs. This includes: preventive care; treatment of health ailments; management of chronic illness and conditions; and additional care defined by the practitioner's specialty.
Provider Types and Credentials	Primary care providers are defined by HRSA and exclude naturopathic doctors. For survey purposes credentialing types licensed by the department were used.
	Physicians: · Doctor of Medicine (M.D.) · Doctor of Osteopathy (D.O.)
Primary Care Specialty	Primary care specialties are defined by HRSA and exclude specialized care for any of the below listed specialties as well as emergency room, locum tenens (substitutes), hospitalists, occupational medicine, urgent or walk-in clinics, free clinics, and Department of Corrections facilities.
	· Family Medicine or General Medicine · General Internal Medicine · General Pediatrics · General Geriatrics · General Obstetrics/Gynecology

COUNTY PROFILE		
Benton County	The United States Census Bureau supplied county data and can be found at: http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/53000.html	
Population (2013)	184,486	
Land area	1,700.38 sq. mi	
Major City/Town (Population)	· Kennewick (75,971) · Richland (51,440) · West Richland (12,663) · Prosser (5,799) · Benton City (3,038)	

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Provider Headcount	The DOH determined the number of providers within the county by compiling listings from several sources.
	Physicians: 117
Survey Respondents	Respondent is the number of survey responses submitted. Responses were achieved by direct contact and mailings to clinics.
	Physicians: 114 (or 97.4% of surveyed physicians)
Primary Care Specialty Some respondents may not have selected a specialty	Family Practice: 53 General Practice: 3 Internal Medicine: 12 General Pediatrics: 21 General Geriatrics: 3 OB/Gynecology: 21
Provider Full-Time Equivalency (FTE)	Full-time equivalent is the sum of reported primary care hours (weekly hours >40 were adjusted to 40) then divided by 40 to obtain the total FTE for the county. One FTE = 40 hours direct patient care per week.
	Physician FTE: 95.1
PROVIDER CHARACTERISTICS	
Proportion Calculations	Proportions are calculated with: • Numerator: counts of respondent primary care physicians who indicate the listed characteristic • Denominator: total respondents (physicians) ○ **Benton County: n=114, unless noted**
Hospital Admitting Privileges	52.6% of providers, or 60 physicians, have hospital admitting privileges
Multilingual Interpretive Services	78.1% of providers, or 89 physicians, indicate having a resource for multilingual interpretive services in their community.
Transitory agricultural migrant farm workers	Patients and their dependents defined as not having a permanent local address in the area as the practice.
	19.3% of providers, or 22 physicians, indicate having patients and their dependents defined as transitory agricultural migrant farm workers.
Homeless persons	Patients and their dependents defined as those living in unstable, nonpermanent locations such as in shelters, transitional housing, in tents, in cars, or on the streets.
	14.9% of providers, or 17 physicians, indicate having patients and their dependents defined as homeless.
PAYER TYPES	
Medicaid	Federal and state administered payment for low income persons and includes Healthy Options.

Accepting new patients:	92.1% of providers, or 105 physicians, treat Medicaid patients. 28.3% is the average proportion of Medicaid patients. (n=105) 69.3% of providers, or 79 physicians, accept new Medicaid patients. Restrictions include: · Children only · OB/GYN only · Only if immunization plan is followed · Only accepted as a secondary insurance
Medicare	Federally administered payment for senior citizens and some disabled persons under age 65. This includes Fee-for-Service and Managed Care.
Accepting new patients:	69.3% of providers, or 79 physicians, treat Medicare patients. 22.3% is the average proportion of Medicare patients. (n=79) 63.2% of providers, or 72 physicians, accept new Medicare patients. Restrictions include: · Referral only · Numbers restricted · OB/GYN only · Current patients only
Sliding Fee Scale (SFS)	No insurance or subsidies and fees are discounted according to income level. Includes charity.
Accepting new patients:	4.4% of providers, or 5 physicians, treat SFS patients. 15.0% is the average proportion of SFS patients. (n=5) 8.8% of providers, or 10 physicians, accept new SFS patients. Restrictions include: · OB/GYN only
Other Payer types	Private insurance through work or self purchased; other public payers including Basic Health, military (e.g. Tricare), and L&I
	67.5% of providers, or 77 physicians, treat patients with other payer types.
ADDITIONAL FACILITIES	
Federally Qualified Health Center or Community Health Center (FQHC or CHC)	FQHCs, also known as CHCs, are health care facilities that provide primary care services to all persons regardless of ability to pay. Centers providing primary care are surveyed.
	· Tri-Cities Community Health Kennewick · Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic Valley Vista Medical Group (Prosser)
Rural Health Clinic (RHC)	The U.S. Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services designates clinics meeting specific conditions for certification as a Rural Health Clinic. RHCs are eligible for enhanced Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement. These clinics are surveyed.
	· Benton City Clinic
Tribal Health Clinic	Tribal Health Clinics that do not serve non-tribal patients were excluded in the survey and HPSA analysis.

	• None
Free Clinic	Free clinics are medical facilities providing health services for little to no cost. These clinics are not surveyed.
	• Grace Clinic (Kennewick)
College/University	• None with health clinics

For additional questions or inquiries:

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