

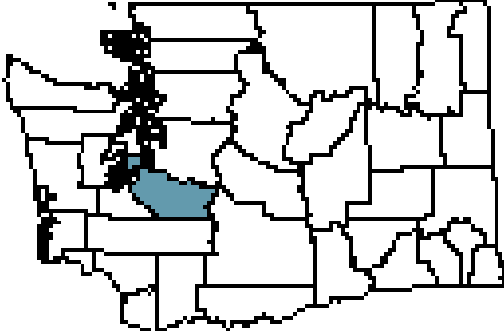
## Primary Care Provider Survey Summary Report: Pierce County

Survey year: 2010

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 Phi Ly at [Phi.Ly@doh.wa.gov](mailto:Phi.Ly@doh.wa.gov) or by phone at (360) 236-2825. Information on other counties can be found on the [Health Care Access Research Page](#).

GENERAL DEFINITIONS		
Primary Care Provider	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: preventative 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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Doctor of Medicine (M.D.)</li><li>• Doctor of Osteopathy (D.O.)</li></ul>	Mid-levels: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Physician Assistant (P.A.-C.)</li><li>• Certified Nurse Midwife (C.N.M.-A.R.N.P.)</li><li>• Licensed Midwife (L.M.)</li><li>• Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioners (A.R.N.P.)</li></ul>
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.	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Family Practice or General Practice</li><li>• General Internal Medicine</li><li>• General Pediatrics</li><li>• General Geriatrics</li><li>• General Obstetricians/Gynecology</li></ul>	
COUNTY PROFILE		
Pierce County	The 2009 Washington State Data Book supplied county data and can be found at: <a href="http://www.ofm.wa.gov/databook/default.asp">www.ofm.wa.gov/databook/default.asp</a>	
Population (2009)	813,600	
Land area	1,678.91 sq. mi.	
Major City/Town (Population)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Tacoma (203,400)</li><li>• Lakewood (58,840)</li><li>• Puyallup (38,690)</li><li>• University Place (31,500)</li><li>• Bonney Lake (16,500)</li><li>• Edgewood (9,615)</li></ul>	

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<b>Provider Headcount</b>	The DOH determined the number of providers within the county by compiling listings from several sources.	
	Mid-level headcount is not readily available and is collected for other healthcare analysis. Mid-level capacity is excluded in the HPSA analysis.	
	<b>Physicians: 413</b>	<b>Mid-levels: 130</b>
<b>Survey Respondents</b>	Respondent is the number of survey responses submitted. Responses were achieved by direct contact and mailings to clinics.	
	<b>Physicians: 361</b> (87% response rate)	<b>Mid-levels: 114</b> (87% response rate)
<b>Primary Care Specialty</b>  Some respondents did not select a specialty	Family Practice: 207 General Practice: 10 Internal Medicine: 57 General Pediatrics: 58 General Geriatrics: 1 OB/Gynecology: 27	Family Practice: 82 General Practice: 3 Internal Medicine: 2 General Pediatrics: 13 General Geriatrics: 1 OB/Gynecology: 13
<b>Provider Full-Time Equivalency (FTE)</b>	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.	
	<b>292.7 Physician FTE</b>	<b>91.3 Mid-level FTE</b>
<b>PROVIDER CHARACTERISTICS</b>		
<b>Proportion Calculations</b>	Proportions are calculated with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Numerator: counts of respondent primary care providers who indicate the listed characteristic</li> <li>Denominator: total respondents (physicians and mid-levels)               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Pierce County: n=475, unless noted</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<b>Hospital Admitting Privileges</b>	52% of providers, or 224 physicians and 25 mid-levels, have hospital admitting privileges.	
<b>Hospital(s)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Franciscan Health Systems               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>St. Anthony Hospital (Gig Harbor)</li> <li>St. Clare Hospital (Lakewood)</li> <li>St. Joseph (Tacoma)</li> </ul> </li> <li>Multicare Health Systems               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Good Samaritan Hospital (Puyallup)</li> <li>Mary Bridge Children's Hospital (Tacoma)</li> <li>Tacoma General Hospital (Tacoma)</li> </ul> </li> <li>Western State Hospital (Pierce County-DSHS)</li> <li>Enumclaw Hospital (King County)</li> <li>Seattle Children's Hospital (King County)</li> </ul>	
<b>Additional Languages</b>	30% of providers, or 121 physicians and 23 mid-levels, offer additional spoken languages at their practice.  Identified languages include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Spanish</li> <li>Korean</li> <li>Mandarin Chinese; Cantonese</li> <li>Russian</li> <li>Cambodian</li> <li>Vietnamese</li> <li>Arabic</li> <li>Punjabi</li> </ul>	

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<b>Other Service</b>	<p>51% of providers, or 158 physicians and 66 mid-levels, have other interpretive services that include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>American sign language</li> <li>Language translation</li> <li>DSHS/Language Bank</li> <li>Paratransit</li> </ul>
<b>Transitory agricultural migrant farm workers</b>	<p>Patients and their dependents defined as not having a permanent local address in the area as the practice.</p> <p>4% of providers, or 14 physicians and 3 mid-levels, indicate having patients and their dependents defined as transitory agricultural migrant farm workers.</p>
<b>Homeless persons</b>	<p>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.</p> <p>7% of providers, or 25 physicians and 7 mid-levels, indicate having patients and their dependents defined as homeless.</p>
<b>PAYER TYPES</b>	
<b>Private Insurance</b>	<p>Insurance through work or self-purchased includes Basic Health and other third party subsidies that are not Medicaid and Medicare.</p> <p>81% of providers, or 305 physicians and 80 mid-levels, treat private insurance patients.</p> <p>52% is the average proportion of private insurance patients. (n=385)</p>
<b>Accepting new patients:</b>	<p>69% of providers, or 268 physicians and 60 mid-levels, accept new private insurance patients.</p> <p>Restrictions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Depends on insurance</li> <li>No new patients over age 18</li> <li>No pain management</li> </ul>
<b>Medicaid</b>	<p>Federal and state administered payment for low income persons and includes Healthy Options.</p> <p>83% of providers, or 303 physicians and 91 mid-levels, treat Medicaid patients.</p> <p>27% is the average proportion of Medicaid patients. (n=394)</p>
<b>Accepting new patients:</b>	<p>58% of providers, or 220 physicians and 54 mid-levels, accept new Medicaid patients.</p> <p>Restrictions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Newborns only</li> <li>No new Fee-for-service patients</li> <li>No new patients over age 18</li> <li>No pain management</li> <li>Must be through Northwest Physician Network</li> </ul>
<b>Medicare</b>	<p>Federally administered payment for senior citizens and some disabled persons under age 65. This includes Fee-for-Service and Managed Care.</p> <p>72% of providers, or 266 physicians and 74 mid-levels, treat Medicare patients.</p> <p>21% is the average proportion of Medicare patients. (n=340)</p>
<b>Accepting new patients:</b>	<p>51% of providers, or 200 physicians and 41 mid-levels, accept new Medicare patients.</p> <p>Restrictions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>By referral only</li> <li>No new patients over age 18</li> <li>No pain management</li> </ul>

Page 4 of 4