

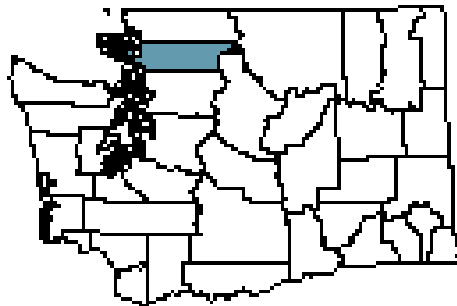
## Primary Care Provider Survey Summary Report: Skagit County

Survey year: 2012

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](mailto: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 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: 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: <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		
Benton County	The 2011 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 (2011)	117,400	
Land area	1,731.20 sq. mi	
Major City/Town (Population)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mount Vernon (31,940)</li><li>• Anacortes (15,860)</li><li>• Sedro-Woolley (10,590)</li><li>• Burlington (8,420)</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: 145</b>	<b>Mid-levels: 31</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: 116</b> (80% of surveyed physicians)	<b>Mid-levels: 27</b>
<b>Primary Care Specialty</b>  Some respondents did not select a specialty	Family Practice: 52 General Practice: 1 Internal Medicine: 29 General Pediatrics: 12 General Geriatrics: - OB/Gynecology: 15	Family Practice: 12 General Practice: - Internal Medicine: 3 General Pediatrics: 4 General Geriatrics: - OB/Gynecology: -
<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>65.0 Physician FTE</b>	<b>15.0 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>Skagit County: n=143, unless noted</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<b>Hospital Admitting Privileges</b>	65% of providers, or 84 physicians and 9 mid-levels, have hospital admitting privileges	
<b>Hospital(s)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Island Hospital</li> <li>Skagit Valley Hospital</li> <li>United General Hospital</li> </ul>	
<b>Additional Languages</b>	55.9% of providers, or 70 physicians and 10 mid-levels, offer spoken languages other than English.  Languages include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Spanish</li> <li>Russian</li> <li>Ukrainian</li> <li>American Sign Language</li> </ul>	
<b>Other Service</b>	Additional services provided include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Language Exchange</li> <li>Pacific Interpreters</li> </ul>	
<b>Transitory agricultural migrant farm workers</b>	Patients and their dependents defined as not having a permanent local address in the area as the practice.	
	18.2% of providers, or 22 physicians and 4 mid-levels, indicate having patients and their dependents defined as transitory agricultural migrant farm workers.	
<b>Homeless persons</b>	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.	

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	24.5% of providers, or 24 physicians and 11 mid-levels, indicate having patients and their dependents defined as homeless.
<b>PAYER TYPES</b>	
<b>Private Insurance</b>	Insurance through work or self-purchased includes Basic Health and other third party subsidies that are not Medicaid and Medicare.
<b>Accepting new patients:</b>	<p>86% of providers, or 99 physicians and 24 mid-levels, treat private insurance patients.</p> <p>20.8% is the average proportion of private insurance patients. (n= 123)</p> <p>72.7% of providers, or 83 physicians and 21 mid-levels, accept new private insurance.</p> <p>Restrictions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 18 years old and older</li> <li>• OB only</li> <li>• No First Health Coventry</li> <li>• No First Choice</li> <li>• No Tricare</li> <li>• No United Health Care</li> </ul>
<b>Medicaid</b>	Federal and state administered payment for low income persons and includes Healthy Options.
<b>Accepting new patients:</b>	<p>79.7% of providers, or 94 physicians and 20 mid-levels, treat Medicaid patients.</p> <p>9.9% is the average proportion of Medicaid patients. (n=114)</p> <p>73.4% of providers, or 87 physicians and 18 mid-levels, accept new Medicaid patients.</p> <p>Restrictions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OB only</li> <li>• Referrals</li> <li>• From specific zip codes</li> </ul>
<b>Medicare</b>	Federally administered payment for senior citizens and some disabled persons under age 65. This includes Fee-for-Service and Managed Care.
<b>Accepting new patients:</b>	<p>75.5% of providers, or 89 physicians and 19 mid-levels, treat Medicare patients.</p> <p>8.5% is the average proportion of Medicare patients. (n=108)</p> <p>60.8% of providers, or 72 physicians and 15 mid-levels, accept new Medicare patients.</p> <p>Restrictions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Limited number per week</li> <li>• Only nursing home patients</li> <li>• From contracted insurance companies</li> </ul>
<b>Sliding Fee Scale (SFS)</b>	No insurance or subsidies and fees are discounted according to income level. Includes charity.
<b>Accepting new patients:</b>	<p>16.8% of providers, or 21 physicians and 3 mid-levels, treat SFS patients.</p> <p>2.8% is the average proportion of SFS patients. (n=24)</p> <p>16.8% of providers, or 21 physicians and 3 mid-levels, accept new SFS patients.</p> <p>Restrictions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>
<b>Other Payer types</b>	L&I providers: 66 physicians and 13 mid-levels.
<b>ADDITIONAL FACILITIES</b>	
<b><u>Federally Qualified Health Center</u></b> <b><u>or</u></b>	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.

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<b><u>Community Health Center</u></b> (FQHC or CHC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sea Mar Mount Vernon Medical Clinic (Mount Vernon)</li> <li>• Sea Mar Mount Vernon OB/Gyn Medical Clinic (Mount Vernon)</li> <li>• Sea Mar Skagit Valley Hospital – Urgent Care (Mount Vernon)</li> <li>• Sea Mar Healthcare for Homeless (Mount Vernon)</li> </ul>
<b><u>Rural Health Clinic</u></b> (RHC)	<p>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.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anacortes Family Medicine (Anacortes)</li> <li>• Fidalgo Medical Associates at Island Hospital (Anacortes)</li> <li>• Island Family Physicians (Anacortes)</li> </ul>
<b><u>Tribal Health Clinic</u></b>	<p>Tribal Health Clinics that do not serve non-tribal patients were excluded in the survey and HPSA analysis.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Upper Skagit Tribal Health Facility (Sedro Woolley)</li> <li>• Swinomish Tribal Health Center (La Conner)</li> </ul>
<b><u>Free Clinic</u></b>	<p>Free clinics are medical facilities providing health services for little to no cost. These clinics are not surveyed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>
<b>College/University</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None with health centers</li> </ul>

For additional questions or inquiries:

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