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 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:**
  - Doctor of Medicine (M.D.)
  - Doctor of Osteopathy (D.O.)

- **Mid-levels:**
  - Physician Assistant (P.A.-C.)
  - Certified Nurse Midwife (C.N.M.-A.R.N.P.)
  - Licensed Midwife (L.M.)
  - Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioners (A.R.N.P.)

**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 Practice or General Practice
- General Internal Medicine
- General Pediatrics
- General Geriatrics
- General Obstetricians/Gynecology

### COUNTY PROFILE

**Snohomish County**
The 2009 Washington State Data Book supplied county data and can be found at: www.ofm.wa.gov/databook/default.asp

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Population (2009)</th>
<th>704,300</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Land area</td>
<td>2,089.06 sq. mi.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major City/Town (Population)</td>
<td>Everett (103,500)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Edmonds (40,900)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Marysville (37,530)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lynnwood (35,740)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mountlake Terrace (20,960)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mill Creek (18,480)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Provider Headcount**
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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Physicians: 382</th>
<th>Mid-levels: 80</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Survey Respondents**
Respondent is the number of survey responses submitted. Responses were achieved by direct contact and mailings to clinics.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Physicians: 315 (82% of surveyed physicians)</th>
<th>Mid-levels: 74</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Primary Care Specialty**
Some respondents did not select a specialty

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Family Practice: 162</th>
<th>Family Practice: 43</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Practice: 8</td>
<td>General Practice: -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internal Medicine: 64</td>
<td>Internal Medicine: 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Pediatrics: 38</td>
<td>General Pediatrics: 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Geriatrics: 3</td>
<td>General Geriatrics: 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OB/Gynecology: 42</td>
<td>OB/Gynecology: 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other: 9</td>
<td>Other: 5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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.

| 225.0 Physician FTE | 45.7 Mid-level FTE |

**PROVIDER CHARACTERISTICS**

**Proportion Calculations**
Proportions are calculated with:
- Numerator: counts of respondent primary care providers who indicate the listed characteristic
- Denominator: total respondents (physicians and mid-levels)

- Snohomish County: n=389, unless noted

**Hospital Admitting Privileges**
79% of providers, or 264 physicians and 44 mid-levels, have hospital admitting privileges.

- Cascade Valley (Arlington)
- Providence Regional Medical Center Everett
- Stevens Hospital (Edmonds)
- Valley General Hospital (Monroe)
- (Other in King County)

**Additional Languages**
29% of providers, or 83 physicians and 30 mid-levels, offer additional spoken languages at their practice.

- Spanish
- Russian
- Turkish
- Ukrainians
- French
- Hindi
- Vietnamese

**Other Service**
44% of providers, or 132 physicians and 38 mid-levels, have other interpretive services that include:

- Hearing, sight impaired
- Sign Language
- Language translation; Telelanguage
- Paratransit Services
### Transitory agricultural migrant farm workers
Patients and their dependents defined as not having a permanent local address in the area as the practice.

13% of providers, or 40 physicians and 11 mid-levels, 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.

29% of providers, or 86 physicians and 28 mid-levels, indicate having patients and their dependents defined as homeless.

### PAYER TYPES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PAYER TYPE</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Proportion</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Private Insurance</strong></td>
<td>Insurance through work or self-purchased includes Basic Health and other third party subsidies that are not Medicaid and Medicare.</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accepting new patients:</td>
<td>94% of providers, or 296 physicians and 70 mid-levels, accept new private insurance patients. Restrictions include: Obstetrical patients, Contracted insurance only, Pediatrics only, By referral only</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Medicaid</strong></td>
<td>Federal and state administered payment for low income persons and includes Healthy Options.</td>
<td>89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accepting new patients:</td>
<td>54% of providers, or 161 physicians and 50 mid-levels, accept new Medicaid patients. Restrictions include: New obstetrics and established patients, No new gynecological patients, Patient must be from local service area, Only CHPW, Pediatrics only</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Medicare</strong></td>
<td>Federally administered payment for senior citizens and some disabled persons under age 65. This includes Fee-for-Service and Managed Care.</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accepting new patients:</td>
<td>54% of providers, or 163 physicians and 49 mid-levels, accept new Medicare patients. Restrictions include: No new traditional medicine, Only new Medicare Advantage, Pediatrics only)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sliding Fee Scale (SFS)</strong></td>
<td>No insurance or subsidies and fees are discounted according to income level. Includes charity.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Primary Care Provider Survey**  
**Summary Report: Snohomish County**  
Survey year: 2010

### Accepting new patients:
- 15% of providers, or 49 physicians and 12 mid-levels, treat SFS patients.
- 8% is the average proportion of SFS patients. (n=61)
- 25% of providers, or 83 physicians and 16 mid-levels, accept new SFS patients.

Restrictions include:
- Pediatrics only

### Other Payer types
- L&I (Workers Compensation): 210 physicians and 54 mid-levels

### 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.

- Community Health Center of Snohomish County (CHCSC)
  - CHCSC Broadway Medical Center (Everett)
  - CHCSC Lynnwood Medical Center
  - CHCSC 112th Street Clinic (Everett)
  - CHCSC Colby Dental Clinic (Everett)
  - CHCSC Lynwood Dental Clinic
- Sea Mar Marysville Medical and Dental Clinic (Marysville)

**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.

- Cascade Valley Darrington Clinic
- Tulalip Tribes Health Clinic (Marysville)
- Stanwood Medical Center

**Tribal Health Clinic**
Tribal Health Clinics that do not serve non-tribal patients were excluded in the survey and HPSA analysis.

- Stillaguamish Health Clinic (Arlington)
- Tulalip Health Clinic (Tulalip)

**Free Clinic**
Free clinics are medical facilities providing health services for little to no cost. These clinics are not surveyed.

- None

**College/University**
None with Student Health Center

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For additional questions or inquiries:

Ms. Laura Olexa  
HPSA Analysis and Designation, Medically Underserved Area/Population  
Laura.Olexa@doh.wa.gov or (360) 236-2811

Mr. Asnake Hailu  
Rural Health Care Research  
Asnake.Hailu@doh.wa.gov or (360) 236-2870

Mr. Sam Watson-Alván  
Primary Care Office, Primary Care Access, Community Outreach  
Sam.Watson-Alván@doh.wa.gov or (360) 236-2812