Dental Care Provider Survey
Summary Report: Snohomish County

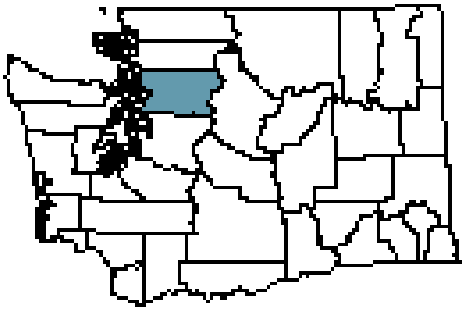
Survey year: 2009

The Department of Health (DOH) conducts the Dental 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 dental survey responses. The department makes every attempt to establish a close to accurate number of dentists 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 County Data web page.

GENERAL DEFINITIONS	
Primary Dental Care Provider	Healthcare professionals who provide comprehensive oral health by treating dental concerns and diseases and promoting prevention by providing oral health literacy. Hygienists, denturists, and specialists not providing primary dental care were excluded.
Provider Types and Credentials	Primary dental care providers are defined by HRSA. For purposes of this survey credentialing types licensed by the State of Washington were used.
	Dentists: · Doctor of Dental Surgery (D.D.S.) · Doctor of Dental Medicine (D.M.D.)
Primary Specialty	· General Dentistry · Pediatric Dentistry
Additional specialty	· Periodontics (treatment of supporting structures of teeth such as gums and bone) · Oral Surgery (surgical treatment of oral diseases, injuries and defects) · Endodontics (treatment of tooth pulp and surrounding root of teeth) · Orthodontics (study and treatment of improper bites and tooth irregularity) · Prosthodontics (esthetic restoration and replacement of missing or deficient teeth)
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
Population (2009)	704,300
Land area	2,089.06 sq. mi.
Major City/Town (Population)	· Everett (103,500) · Edmonds (40,900) · Marysville (37,530) · Lynnwood (35,740) · Mountlake Terrace (20,960) · Mukilteo (20,960) · Mill Creek (18,480)
Number of dentists surveyed	The DOH determined the number of providers within the county by reviewing, updating, and consolidating multiple listings to produce a close to accurate headcount for the survey year.
	Dentists: 304
Survey Respondents	Respondent is the number of survey responses submitted. Responses were achieved by direct contact and mailings to clinics.
	Dentists: 280 (or 92% of surveyed dentists)



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Respondent Specialties Dentists were allowed to select more than one sub-specialty	General Dentistry: 264 Pediatric Dentistry: 8 Not selected: 8	Periodontics: 32 Oral Surgery: 66 Endodontics: 73 Orthodontics: 18 Prosthodontics: 56 Other: 4
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.	
	Dentist FTE: 190.9	
Average number of days for scheduled appointment	Reported number of days was summed and divided by number of survey respondents. Includes reported days for secondary practice sites.	
Current patients:	**7.6 days**	
New patients:	**7.0 days**	
PROVIDER CHARACTERISTICS		
Proportion Calculations	Proportions are calculated with: · Numerator: counts of respondent dentists who indicate the listed characteristic · Denominator: total respondents dentists o **Snohomish County: n=280, unless noted**	
Additional Languages	36% of dentists offer additional spoken languages at their practice. Identified languages include: · Arabic, Farsi · Bosnian · Spanish · Vietnamese · Russian	
Other Service	· Data not available	
Transitory agricultural migrant farm workers	Patients and their dependents defined as not having a permanent local address in the area as the practice.	
	1% of providers, or 4 dentists, 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.	
	6% of providers, or 17 dentists, indicate having patients and their dependents defined as homeless.	
PAYER TYPE		
Private Insurance	Insurance through work or self-purchased includes Basic Health and other third party subsidies that are not Medicaid and Medicare.	
	70% of providers, or 196 dentists, treat private insurance patients. 66% is the average proportion of private insurance patients. (n=196)	
Accepting new patients:	73% of providers, or 203 dentists, accept new private insurance patients. Restrictions include: · No capitation plans · Certain plans accepted · No managed care · Patient portion due at time of service	
Medicaid	Federal and state administered payment for low income persons and includes Healthy Options.	

Accepting new patients:	37% of providers, or 103 dentists, treat Medicaid patients. 25% is the average proportion of Medicaid patients. (n=103) 21% of providers, or 60 dentists, accept new Medicaid patients. Restrictions include: · Children only; DSHS children only; children of existing patients · By referral only · Only existing patients transitioning to DSHS
Self-pay	No dental insurance, patient pays full fees or has cash discount at time of service only.
Accepting new patients:	69% of providers, or 193 dentists, treat Self-pay patients. 21% is the average proportion of Self-pay patients. (n=193) 71% of providers, or 198 dentists, accept new Self-pay patients. Restrictions include: · Down payment required · Payment due at time of service · Some payment options available
Sliding Fee Scale (SFS)	No insurance or subsidies and fees are discounted according to income level. Includes charity.
Accepting new patients:	34% of providers, or 96 dentists, treat SFS patients. 6% is the average proportion of SFS patients. (n=96) 21% of providers, or 58 dentists, accept new SFS patients. Restrictions include: · Discount for payment at time of service · Senior patient discounts · Charitable care at dentist's discretion
Other Payer types	· Data not available
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. (Only dental clinics listed below.)
	· Community Health Care Snohomish County (CHCSC) – Colby Dental Clinic · CHCSC – Lynnwood Dental Clinic
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.
	· No dental clinics
Tribal Health Clinic	Tribal Health Clinics that do not serve non-tribal patients were excluded in the survey and HPSA analysis.
	· Sauk-Suiattle Health Clinic (Darrington) – no dental · Stillaguamish Wellness Clinic (Arlington) – no dental · Tulalip Health Clinic (Marysville)
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 dental services