

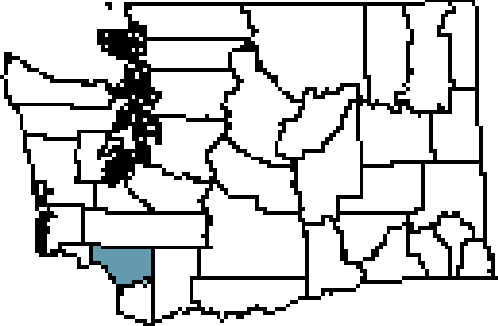
Primary Care Provider Survey Summary Report: Cowlitz County

Survey year: 2011

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.	
	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; border: none;"> Physicians: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Doctor of Medicine (M.D.) • Doctor of Osteopathy (D.O.) </td> <td style="width: 50%; border: none;"> Mid-levels: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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.) </td> </tr> </table>	Physicians: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Doctor of Medicine (M.D.) • Doctor of Osteopathy (D.O.)
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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"> • Family Practice or General Practice • General Internal Medicine • General Pediatrics • General Geriatrics • General Obstetricians/Gynecology 	
COUNTY PROFILE		
Cowlitz County	The 2009 Washington State Data Book supplied county data and can be found at: www.ofm.wa.gov/databook/default.asp	
Population (2009)	99,600	
Land area	1,138.64 sq. mi	
Major City/Town (Population)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Longview (36,010) • Kelso (11,840) • Woodland (5,110) • Kalama (2,505) • Castle Rock (2,145) 	
		

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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.	
	Physicians: 79	Mid-levels: 22
Survey Respondents	Respondent is the number of survey responses submitted. Responses were achieved by direct contact and mailings to clinics.	
	Physicians: 73 (92% of surveyed physicians)	Mid-levels: 22
Primary Care Specialty Some respondents did not select a specialty	Family Practice: 40 General Practice: - Internal Medicine: 10 General Pediatrics: 16 General Geriatrics: - OB/Gynecology: 7	Family Practice: 13 General Practice: - Internal Medicine: 1 General Pediatrics: 5 General Geriatrics: - OB/Gynecology: 3
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.	
	64.0 Physician FTE	20.1 Mid-level FTE
PROVIDER CHARACTERISTICS		
Proportion Calculations	Proportions are calculated with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Numerator: counts of respondent primary care providers who indicate the listed characteristic • Denominator: total respondents (physicians and mid-levels) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Cowlitz County: n=95, unless noted 	
Hospital Admitting Privileges	73% of providers, or 21 physicians, have hospital admitting privileges	
Hospital(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PeaceHealth St. John Medical Center (Longview) 	
Additional Languages	36% of providers, or 31 physicians and 3 mid-levels, offer spoken languages other than English. Languages include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spanish • Russian • Chinese • Persian • Filipino 	
Other Service	Additional services provided include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Language translation • Telelanguage • Sign Language 	
Transitory agricultural migrant farm workers	Patients and their dependents defined as not having a permanent local address in the area as the practice.	
	7% of providers, or 6 physicians and 1 mid-level, 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.	
	4% of providers, or 3 physicians and 1 mid-level, indicate having patients and their dependents defined as homeless.	

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PAYER TYPES	
Private Insurance	<p>Insurance through work or self-purchased includes Basic Health and other third party subsidies that are not Medicaid and Medicare.</p>
Accepting new patients:	<p>97% of providers, or 70 physicians and 22 mid-levels, treat private insurance patients.</p> <p>55% is the average proportion of private insurance patients. (n=92)</p> <p>74% of providers, or 49 physicians and 21 mid-levels, accept new private insurance.</p> <p>Restrictions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Age 17 and under • Kaiser members only • No chronic pain • Peds only
Medicaid	<p>Federal and state administered payment for low income persons and includes Healthy Options.</p>
Accepting new patients:	<p>76% of providers, or 52 physicians and 20 mid-levels, treat Medicaid patients.</p> <p>30% is the average proportion of Medicaid patients. (n=72)</p> <p>64% of providers, or 42 physicians and 19 mid-levels, accept new Medicaid patients.</p> <p>Restrictions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peds only; under age 18 • Native Americans only
Medicare	<p>Federally administered payment for senior citizens and some disabled persons under age 65. This includes Fee-for-Service and Managed Care.</p>
Accepting new patients:	<p>62% of providers, or 43 physicians and 16 mid-levels, treat Medicare patients.</p> <p>30% is the average proportion of Medicare patients. (n=59)</p> <p>52% of providers, or 34 physicians and 15 mid-levels, accept new Medicare patients.</p> <p>Restrictions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No chronic pain • Under age 18
Sliding Fee Scale (SFS)	<p>No insurance or subsidies and fees are discounted according to income level. Includes charity.</p>
Accepting new patients:	<p>21% of providers, or 15 physicians and 5 mid-levels, treat SFS patients.</p> <p>1% is the average proportion of SFS patients. (n=20)</p> <p>21% of providers, or 15 physicians and 5 mid-levels, accept new SFS patients.</p> <p>Restrictions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peds only; under age 18
Other Payer types	<p>L&I providers: 10 physicians and 2 mid-levels.</p>

ADDITIONAL FACILITIES	
<u>Federally Qualified Health Center</u> or <u>Community Health Center</u> (FQHC or CHC)	<p>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.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cowlitz FHC Family Planning (Kelso) • Cowlitz FHC Longview Clinic • Cowlitz FHC Woodland Clinic
<u>Rural Health Clinic</u> (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"> • None
<u>Tribal Health Clinic</u>	<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"> • Cowlitz Indian Tribe Health Clinic (medical, mental health) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Open to non-tribal members: No
<u>Free Clinic</u>	<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"> • Cowlitz Free Medical Clinic (Longview)
College/University	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None with health centers

For additional questions or inquiries:

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