

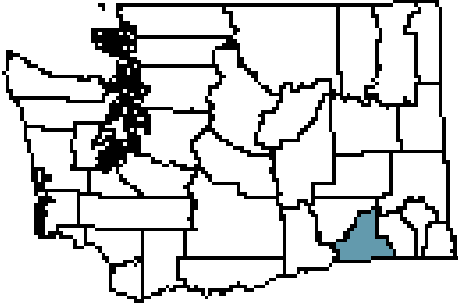
Primary Care Provider Survey Summary Report: Walla Walla County

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 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.	
	<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		
Benton County	The 2011 Washington State Data Book supplied county data and can be found at: www.ofm.wa.gov/databook/default.asp	
Population (2011)	58,800	
Land area	1,270.13 sq. mi	
Major City/Town (Population)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walla Walla (31,670) • College Place (8,780) • Waitsburg (1,215) 	
		

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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: 57	Mid-levels: 12
Survey Respondents	Respondent is the number of survey responses submitted. Responses were achieved by direct contact and mailings to clinics.	
	Physicians: 57 (100% of surveyed physicians)	Mid-levels: 12
Primary Care Specialty Some respondents did not select a specialty	Family Practice: 23 General Practice: - Internal Medicine: 13 General Pediatrics: 9 General Geriatrics: - OB/Gynecology: 10	Family Practice: 5 General Practice: 1 Internal Medicine: - General Pediatrics: 2 General Geriatrics: - OB/Gynecology: 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.	
	39.1 Physician FTE	8.2 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"> ○ Walla Walla County: n=69, unless noted 	
Hospital Admitting Privileges	66.7% of providers, or 40 physicians and 6 mid-levels, have hospital admitting privileges	
Hospital(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dayton General Hospital • St Mary Medical Center • Walla Walla General Hospital 	
Additional Languages	46.4% of providers, or 28 physicians and 4 mid-levels, offer spoken languages other than English. Languages include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spanish • Romanian • Thai 	
Other Service	Additional services provided include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tele-language Call service • Written Translation 	
Transitory agricultural migrant farm workers	Patients and their dependents defined as not having a permanent local address in the area as the practice.	
	10.1% of providers, or 5 physicians and 2 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.	

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	13% of providers, or 7 physicians and 2 mid-levels, indicate having patients and their dependents defined as homeless.
PAYER TYPES	
Private Insurance	Insurance through work or self-purchased includes Basic Health and other third party subsidies that are not Medicaid and Medicare.
Accepting new patients:	<p>65.2% of providers, or 37 physicians and 8 mid-levels, treat private insurance patients.</p> <p>5.4% is the average proportion of private insurance patients. (n= 45)</p> <p>50.7% of providers, or 26 physicians and 9 mid-levels, accept new private insurance.</p> <p>Restrictions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16 years old and under • OB patients only
Medicaid	Federal and state administered payment for low income persons and includes Healthy Options.
Accepting new patients:	<p>56.5% of providers, or 34 physicians and 5 mid-levels, treat Medicaid patients.</p> <p>8% is the average proportion of Medicaid patients. (n=39)</p> <p>49.3% of providers, or 25 physicians and 9 mid-levels, accept new Medicaid patients.</p> <p>Restrictions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16 years old and under • OB patients only • No CHPW • No GAU
Medicare	Federally administered payment for senior citizens and some disabled persons under age 65. This includes Fee-for-Service and Managed Care.
Accepting new patients:	<p>44.9% of providers, or 26 physicians and 5 mid-levels, treat Medicare patients.</p> <p>4.3% is the average proportion of Medicare patients. (n=31)</p> <p>50.7% of providers, or 26 physicians and 9 mid-levels, accept new Medicare patients.</p> <p>Restrictions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16 years old and under • OB patients only
Sliding Fee Scale (SFS)	No insurance or subsidies and fees are discounted according to income level. Includes charity.
Accepting new patients:	<p>46.4% of providers, or 27 physicians and 5 mid-levels, treat SFS patients.</p> <p>12.7% is the average proportion of SFS patients. (n=32)</p> <p>47.8% of providers, or 24 physicians and 9 mid-levels, accept new SFS patients.</p> <p>Restrictions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16 years old and under • OB patients only • Must qualify for healthcare discount
Other Payer types	L&I providers: 18 physicians and 1 mid-level.
ADDITIONAL FACILITIES	
<u>Federally Qualified Health Center or</u>	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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<u>Community Health Center (FQHC or CHC)</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic Family Medical Center (Walla Walla)
<u>Rural Health Clinic (RHC)</u>	<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"> • Adventist Health Medical Group (Walla Walla) • Blue Mountain Medical Group (Walla Walla) • Waitsburg Clinic (Waitsburg) • Walla Walla Clinic (Walla Walla)
<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"> • None
<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"> • SOS Health Services of Walla Walla (College Place)
<u>College/University</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whitman College Welty Student Health Center (Walla Walla) • Walla Walla University Campus Health & Wellness (College Place)

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-Alvan@doh.wa.gov or (360) 236-2812