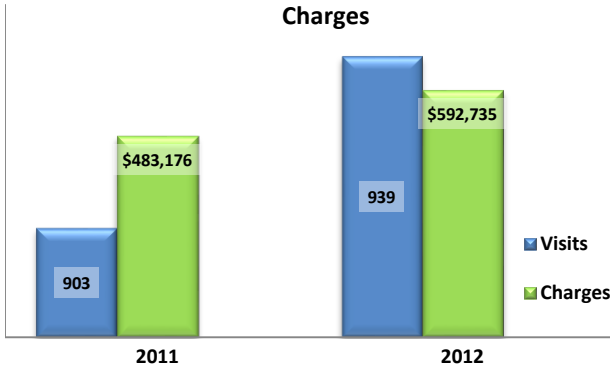


Emergency Department Dental Visits & Charges



Ambulatory Care Sensitive oral health conditions (ACS) are those considered largely avoidable with adequate prevention and primary care. The use of hospital emergency departments – among the most expensive form of medical care – for the treatment of ACS conditions may indicate lack of access to primary dental care. Among the reasons Floridians do not receive regular preventive care include lack of dental coverage for adult Medicaid patients, lack of private-practice dentists willing to accept Medicaid's low payment rates, lack of county health department resources, lack of affordable dental insurance or inability to meet high co-pays, and lack of awareness of the importance of dental health to overall health.

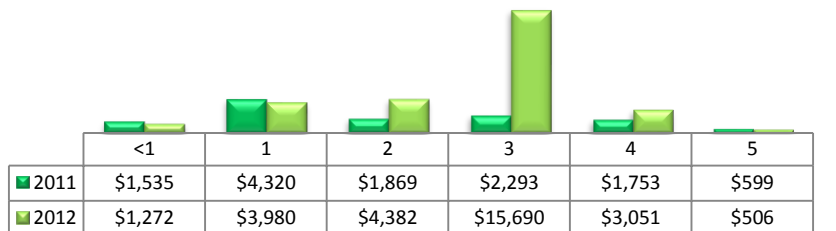
Floridians absorb the cost of Medicaid and uninsured ER dental visits in several ways including higher health insurance premiums and healthcare costs, increased tax dollars needed to fund the state Medicaid program, increased local tax dollars to support local public hospitals, and lost productivity.

Visits by Payor & Age						Charges by Payor & Age					
	0-19	19-34	35-49	50-64	65+		0-19	20-34	35-49	50-64	65+
2011	88	479	223	78	35	2011	51,364	226,396	127,319	56,381	21,716
Medicaid/Managed	54	189	62	3	0	Medicaid/Managed	33,349	86,714	49,811	810	-
Commercial	9	24	30	11	1	Commercial	4,719	26,387	14,376	23,173	168
Self-Pay/Uninsured	16	149	57	14	0	Self-Pay/Uninsured	8,610	67,659	34,535	12,687	-
Kidcare	1	0	0	0	0	Kidcare	2,189	-	-	-	-
Medicare/Managed	0	6	16	28	34	Medicare/Managed	-	3,647	6,762	12,942	21,548
All Other	8	111	58	22	0	All Other	2,497	41,989	21,835	6,769	-
2012	111	467	231	104	26	2012	62,706	267,150	160,126	76,538	26,215
Medicaid/Managed	78	180	57	17	0	Medicaid/Managed	42,565	114,135	49,884	10,223	-
Commercial	15	34	35	11	2	Commercial	11,932	24,629	29,724	28,455	1,585
Self-Pay/Uninsured	11	174	76	38	2	Self-Pay/Uninsured	6,003	97,276	40,793	21,897	2,004
Medicare/Managed	0	6	23	18	22	Medicare/Managed	-	3,926	23,637	8,531	22,626
All Other	7	73	40	20	0	All Other	2,206	27,184	16,088	7,432	-

Visits for Young Children for Preventable Conditions



Charges for Young Children for Preventable Conditions



Highest ED Dental ACS Visits by Zip Code

Zip Code	2011		2012	
	Visits	Charges	Visits	Charges
32960	215	84,724	233	108,114
32962	195	70,115	218	109,470
32967	187	120,676	168	96,175
32958	122	100,507	157	172,211
32968	66	29,562	63	28,837
32966	53	27,543	43	17,003
32948	39	26,743	36	45,682
32970	11	12,340	5	5,572
32963	7	1,887	5	1,890
32957	4	3,962	3	3,724

Policy Indicators

Indicators to consider in shaping policies to increase the overall health of Floridians while decreasing costs to the state's healthcare system:

- High numbers of Medicaid patients visiting the ER for ACS dental problems suggest a lack of access to dentists or oral healthcare clinics accepting Medicaid for both preventative care and for treatment.
- ER visits during the regular work day and traditional business hours, combined with ACS diagnoses, suggest visits being made to the ER in lieu of a clinic or dental office.
- Rates of adult tooth decay are higher in older adults yet patients aged 20 to 34 years comprise the largest segment of ER visits, suggesting that lack of dental insurance or an inability to meet high co-pays is driving such visits.

¹ Source: Emergency Room Database, Florida Agency on Health Care Administration

² Ambulatory care sensitive dental conditions, i.e. "preventable condition," are based on the ICD-9 (International Classification of Diseases, 9th Edition) codes from the published work of Dr. John Billings (http://wagner.nyu.edu/files/admissions/acs_codes.pdf).