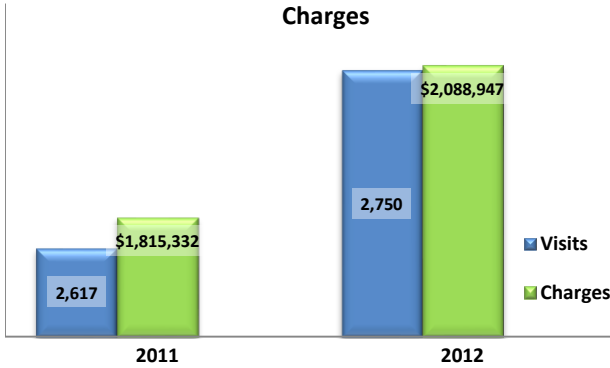


Emergency Department Dental Visits & Charges

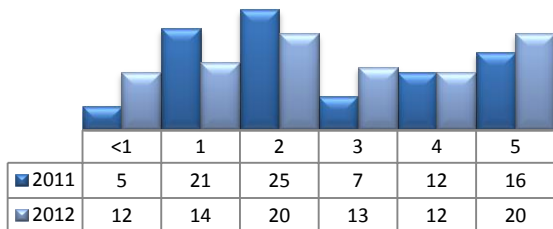


Ambulatory Care Sensitive oral health conditions (ACS) are those considered largely avoidable with adequate prevention and primary care. The use of hospital emergency departments – among the most expensive form of medical care – for the treatment of ACS conditions may indicate lack of access to primary 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.

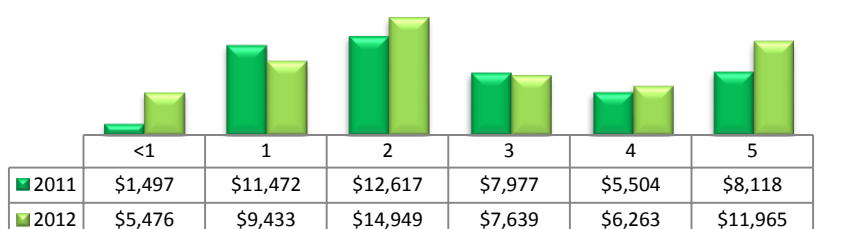
Floridians absorb the cost of Medicaid and uninsured ER dental visits in several ways including higher health insurance premiums and healthcare costs, increased tax dollars needed to fund the state Medicaid program, increased local tax dollars to support local public hospitals, and lost productivity.

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	301	1,367	647	245	57	2011	202,520	760,672	534,511	201,747	115,882
Medicaid/Managed	198	578	189	28	0	Medicaid/Managed	112,658	321,422	159,858	28,323	-
Commercial	38	96	85	40	0	Commercial	41,345	72,667	58,414	40,124	-
Self-Pay/Uninsured	59	636	315	104	1	Self-Pay/Uninsured	35,778	335,115	250,024	75,976	369
Kidcare	4	5	0	0	0	Kidcare	12,184	2,849	-	-	-
Medicare/Managed	0	28	40	62	55	Medicare/Managed	-	18,048	52,336	47,093	114,392
All Other	2	24	18	11	1	All Other	555	10,571	13,879	10,231	1,121
2012	318	1,461	650	244	77	2012	236,583	1,076,755	481,579	204,168	89,862
Medicaid/Managed	200	630	195	45	1	Medicaid/Managed	109,830	456,271	123,996	40,179	421
Commercial	29	93	81	31	1	Commercial	51,096	116,422	61,979	41,853	9,133
Self-Pay/Uninsured	79	683	302	115	1	Self-Pay/Uninsured	64,384	453,055	238,755	73,993	4,449
Kidcare	5	1	0	0	0	Kidcare	3,601	217	-	-	-
Medicare/Managed	0	41	57	41	74	Medicare/Managed	-	26,438	38,552	37,274	75,859
All Other	5	13	15	12	0	All Other	7,672	24,352	18,297	10,869	-

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
34748	489	317,999	442	289,817
34711	311	252,621	356	318,282
32726	220	170,394	241	190,290
32757	195	133,947	211	187,339
32159	146	108,523	156	113,375
34714	128	84,371	143	86,143
32784	126	74,235	153	112,137
34788	125	94,472	131	128,086
32778	117	112,167	147	124,962

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.