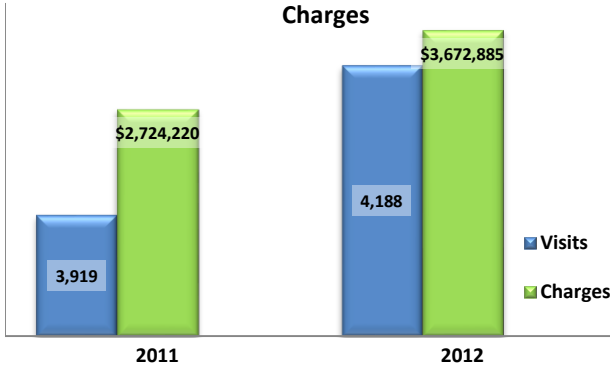


Emergency Department Dental Visits & Charges



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.

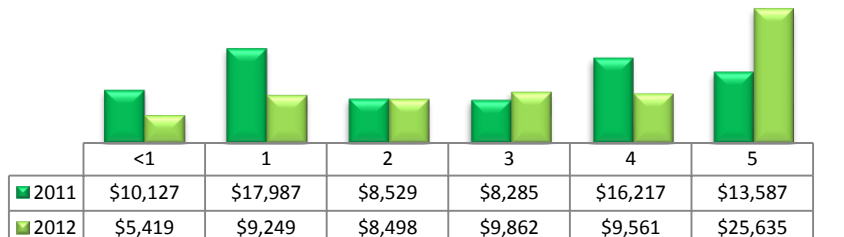
Floridians absorb the cost of Medicaid and uninsured ER dental visits in several ways including higher health insurance premiums and healthcare costs, increased tax dollars needed to fund the state Medicaid program, increased local tax dollars to support local public hospitals, and lost productivity.

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	375	2,006	1,008	434	96	2011	265,437	1,250,031	725,790	392,031	90,931
Medicaid/Managed	261	790	310	90	0	Medicaid/Managed	164,149	510,331	215,016	74,372	-
Commercial	41	124	112	64	9	Commercial	39,091	91,773	89,975	85,546	5,207
Self-Pay/Uninsured	53	874	396	127	4	Self-Pay/Uninsured	44,581	474,871	276,366	95,417	1,639
Kidcare	2	1	0	0	0	Kidcare	6,761	286	-	-	-
Medicare/Managed	0	44	97	87	78	Medicare/Managed	-	31,124	68,255	69,938	81,132
All Other	18	173	93	66	5	All Other	10,855	141,646	76,178	66,758	2,953
2012	426	2,178	1,035	420	129	2012	343,134	1,681,732	987,964	452,717	207,338
Medicaid/Managed	268	851	356	106	0	Medicaid/Managed	215,931	623,017	321,844	106,508	-
Commercial	50	144	110	61	7	Commercial	46,648	127,922	124,554	77,352	14,088
Self-Pay/Uninsured	68	773	339	104	2	Self-Pay/Uninsured	50,963	574,599	313,166	101,437	710
Medicare/Managed	1	59	89	71	114	Medicare/Managed	2,360	42,571	86,720	75,643	188,170
All Other	39	351	141	78	6	All Other	27,232	313,623	141,680	91,777	4,370

Visits for Young Children for Preventable Conditions



Charges for Young Children for Preventable Conditions



Highest ED Dental ACS Visits by Zip Code

	2011		2012	
	Visits	Charges	Visits	Charges
32780	436	245,987	410	279,093
32935	364	246,444	395	347,805
32907	317	233,038	348	288,737
32901	304	224,588	299	259,651
32905	295	226,577	325	263,573
32909	254	199,262	309	275,562
32922	249	154,440	280	238,088
32796	238	132,426	266	220,529
32926	154	104,118	189	221,782

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.