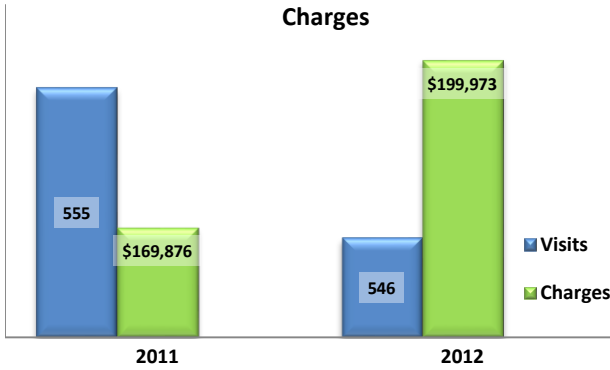


Emergency Department Dental Visits & Charges

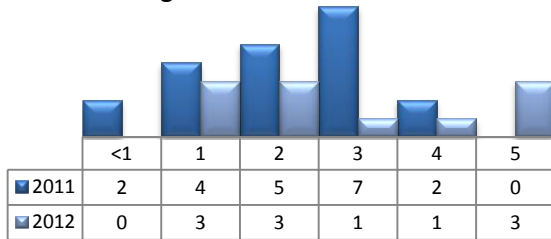


Ambulatory Care Sensitive oral health conditions (ACS) are those considered largely avoidable with adequate prevention and primary care. The use of hospital emergency departments – among the most expensive form of medical care – for the treatment of ACS conditions may indicate lack of access to primary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

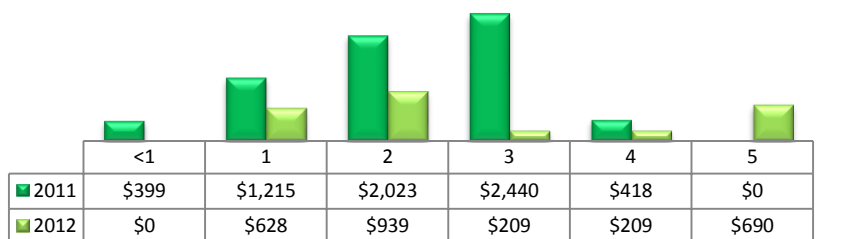
Floridians absorb the cost of Medicaid and uninsured ER dental visits in several ways including higher health insurance premiums and healthcare costs, increased tax dollars needed to fund the state Medicaid program, increased local tax dollars to support local public hospitals, and lost productivity.

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	55	315	126	44	15	2011	15,929	93,698	34,649	13,280	12,320
Medicaid/Managed	33	122	33	6	0	Medicaid/Managed	9,347	35,772	8,776	1,252	-
Commercial	7	48	36	19	0	Commercial	1,621	11,699	9,762	6,982	-
Self-Pay/Uninsured	13	131	44	6	0	Self-Pay/Uninsured	4,391	41,275	11,987	1,317	-
Kidcare	1	0	0	0	0	Kidcare	209	-	-	-	-
Medicare/Managed	0	9	13	13	15	Medicare/Managed	-	3,128	4,124	3,729	12,320
All Other	1	5	0	0	0	All Other	361	1,824	-	-	-
2012	58	309	116	54	9	2012	19,261	111,776	39,183	23,840	5,913
Medicaid/Managed	34	110	34	12	0	Medicaid/Managed	9,783	38,181	9,534	6,454	-
Commercial	11	49	25	11	1	Commercial	5,986	17,755	7,520	4,027	272
Self-Pay/Uninsured	13	138	50	11	0	Self-Pay/Uninsured	3,492	52,380	18,101	7,478	-
Medicare/Managed	0	10	7	17	8	Medicare/Managed	-	2,765	4,028	5,000	5,641
All Other	0	2	0	3	0	All Other	-	695	-	881	-

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
32446	137	44,041	116	37,118
32448	129	36,393	140	49,316
32431	61	19,877	62	23,083
32440	48	12,783	37	10,451
32442	41	10,821	44	17,371
32460	39	11,539	59	25,580
32443	39	10,635	21	6,575
32420	28	13,223	27	11,277
32447	8	1,737	13	4,124
32445	7	1,538	12	6,454

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).