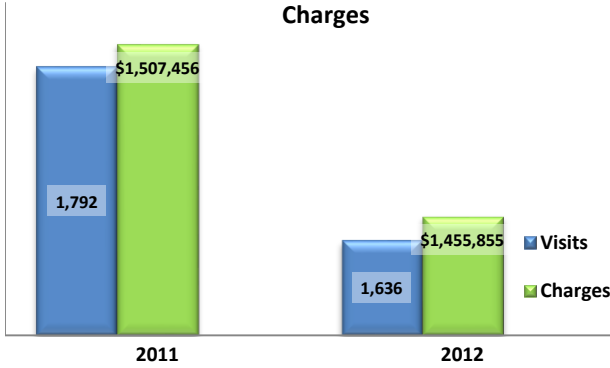


Emergency Department Dental Visits & Charges

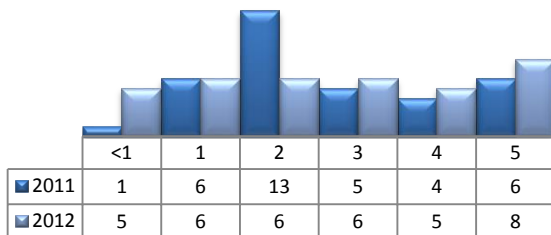


Ambulatory Care Sensitive oral health conditions (ACS) are those considered largely avoidable with adequate prevention and primary care. The use of hospital emergency departments – among the most expensive form of medical care – for the treatment of ACS conditions may indicate lack of access to primary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

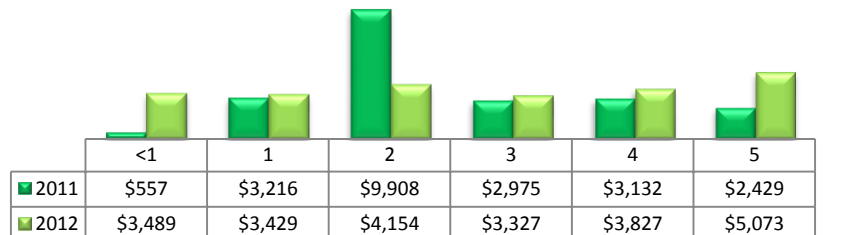
Floridians absorb the cost of Medicaid and uninsured ER dental visits in several ways including higher health insurance premiums and healthcare costs, increased tax dollars needed to fund the state Medicaid program, increased local tax dollars to support local public hospitals, and lost productivity.

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	196	954	464	153	25	2011	140,297	768,104	422,256	142,813	33,986
Medicaid/Managed	107	377	166	33	0	Medicaid/Managed	78,788	309,151	148,472	29,424	-
Commercial	30	92	62	36	4	Commercial	21,198	68,322	61,899	39,999	8,962
Self-Pay/Uninsured	43	431	190	49	0	Self-Pay/Uninsured	28,013	335,753	169,596	42,527	-
Medicare/Managed	2	19	34	29	19	Medicare/Managed	2,251	23,461	30,951	26,123	19,919
All Other	14	35	12	6	2	All Other	10,047	31,417	11,338	4,740	5,105
2012	155	874	423	151	33	2012	132,765	692,037	427,144	166,192	37,717
Medicaid/Managed	80	379	160	31	0	Medicaid/Managed	57,076	282,187	162,066	22,237	-
Commercial	29	87	47	32	3	Commercial	34,492	71,014	48,599	41,716	7,892
Self-Pay/Uninsured	31	375	170	38	1	Self-Pay/Uninsured	22,631	312,101	177,269	38,021	217
Medicare/Managed	1	13	36	41	29	Medicare/Managed	1,267	8,468	30,667	55,306	29,608
All Other	14	20	10	9	0	All Other	17,299	18,267	8,543	8,912	-

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
32570	563	467,260	492	368,444
32583	306	254,490	296	234,095
32566	271	245,929	206	256,915
32571	252	192,841	288	275,445
32563	220	184,453	195	202,984
32565	139	130,747	115	84,528
32561	20	12,760	28	18,973
32530	13	14,433	5	3,110
32572	5	2,678	7	9,106

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.