

Oregon Hospitals: Your Community Stewards

Services

- 345,000 patients are admitted to Oregon hospitals each year.
- 7,108,000 patient visits took place in a hospital outpatient setting.
- 1,145,000 patients are treated in emergency rooms.
- 46,688 babies were delivered in Oregon's hospitals last year.
- \$751,908,800 in "uncompensated care" (the total of charity care plus bad debt) was provided by Oregon hospitals last year.

Contributions to Oregon's Economy

During the last 3-5 years, hospitals were a major economic engine in every community across the state.

- Oregon hospitals employ approximately 55,517 people (full and part time) and make up 30% of the state's largest employers.
- Of the state's 50 largest employers, Oregon hospitals comprise 15, providing important family wage jobs.
- Oregon hospitals are among the top six industries to project rapid job growth by 2014.
- Hospitals support one of every 10 jobs outside the hospital walls.

Finances

- There are 57 Oregon community hospitals. Of these, 35% experienced negative total operating margins in 2006.
- Oregon hospitals overall operating margins were 4.24% in 2006, down from 4.95% in 1996, just prior to the *Balanced Budget Act of 1997*.

Payment for Medicare and Medicaid Services

Together, Medicare and Medicaid represent 50.5% of care provided by Oregon hospitals.

- Medicare payments fall short of the cost of caring for beneficiaries.
 - In Oregon, Medicare pays on average, only 84 cents for each dollar spent caring for beneficiaries.
 - 84% of hospitals in Oregon are paid less than cost for providing services to Medicare patients.
 - The Medicare funding shortfall for Oregon hospital care exceeds \$406,313,585.

- Medicaid payments fall short of the cost of caring for Oregon's Medicaid patients.
 - In Oregon, Medicaid pays on average, only 73 cents for each dollar spent caring for Medicaid patients.
 - 91% of Oregon hospitals are paid less than cost for providing services to Medicaid patients.
 - The Medicaid funding shortfall for hospital care in Oregon is one of the worst in the nation at \$194,102,009.

Capacity Constraints

- Hospital based emergency care is at the breaking point across the country and in Oregon. In our state, 17% of Oregonians have no health insurance and use the hospital ER for their primary care services.
- Five Portland area hospitals are increasing their emergency room capacity to reduce the growing number of ambulance diversions (when the hospital cannot accept additional patients by ambulance).
- By 2015, Oregon's hospitals and health care providers will be seeking an additional 60,000 trained health care workers to meet the demand for services.
- Oregon currently has 2-3 times more qualified nursing school applicants than it has the capacity to educate. Nearly one-half of registered nurses are 50 years or older. By 2025, 41% of currently licensed RNs are expected to retire.
- In the next few years, Oregon will need an additional 15,700 RNs to meet the demand for services.