

# Community Hospital Fast Facts

## Services

- Nearly 346,969 patients are admitted to Oregon hospitals each year.
- Care is provided to 8,775,688 outpatients each year.
- Over 1,213,460 patients are treated in emergency rooms.
- Hospitals in Oregon assisted in the delivery of 47,915 babies last year.
- More than \$982,325,515 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, health care employers in Oregon supported the 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 family wage jobs.
- Oregon hospitals are among the top six industries to project rapid job growth by 2014.
- Only six Oregon industries are listed in the top 10 of both the job growth and rapid growth fields. The three health care categories (ambulatory health care, hospitals and nursing and residential care) account for half of these industries.
- When also accounting for hospital purchases of goods and services from other businesses, hospitals support one of every 10 jobs outside the hospital walls.

## Finances

- There are 58 Oregon community hospitals. Of these, 32% experienced negative total operating margins in 2008.
- Oregon hospitals' operating margins were 3.65% in 2008, 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 51.4% of care provided by Oregon hospitals.
- Medicare payments fall short of the cost of caring for beneficiaries.
- Medicare pays only 86 cents for each dollar spent caring for beneficiaries.
- Seventy-five percent of hospitals in Oregon are paid less than the cost of services provided to Medicare patients.
- The Medicare funding shortfall for Oregon hospital care exceeds \$374,300,446
- Medicaid payments fall short of the cost of caring for Oregon's Medicaid patients.
- Oregon's hospitals receive an average of 77 cents for each dollar spent caring for Medicaid patients.
- Eighty-two percent of Oregon hospitals are paid less than the cost of services to Medicaid patients.
- The Medicaid funding shortfall for hospital care in Oregon is one of the worst in the nation at \$189,670,340

## 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 address the amount of time they spend on ambulance diversion (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.