

Northampton County



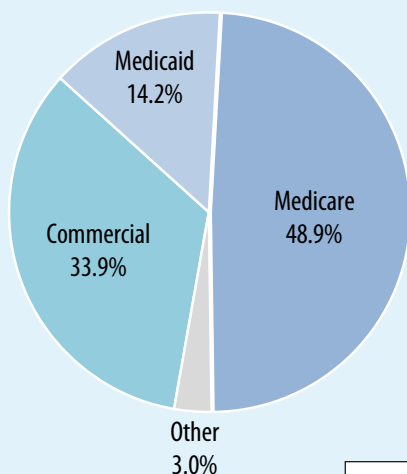
Hospital Admissions for Northampton County Residents

Hospital admissions

30,815 Northampton County residents (10.3%) were admitted to a PA hospital in FY 2012. Statewide, the percentage was 9.4%.

Some patients were admitted several times during the year, so the total number of hospital admissions for Northampton County residents was 45,937.

Hospital admissions by payer type



Statewide, the percentages were:

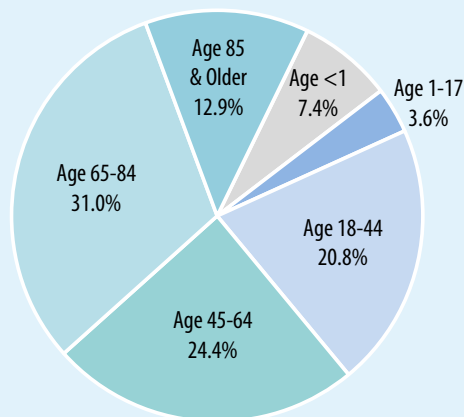
Medicare	44.4%
Medicaid	18.7%
Commercial	33.5%
Self Pay/Other/Unknown	3.4%

Where were residents hospitalized?

(Top 5 by number of admissions)

Hospital Name	Number of Admissions	Percent of Admissions
St Luke's/Bethlehem	17,328	37.7%
Easton	8,320	18.1%
Lehigh Valley/Muhlenberg	7,558	16.5%
Lehigh Valley	6,654	14.5%
Sacred Heart/Allentown	769	1.7%

Hospital admissions by age



Statewide, the percentages were:

Age <1	8.6%
1-17	4.0%
18-44	22.3%
45-64	25.6%
65-84	29.2%
85 & older	10.3%

PA Health Care Cost Containment Council



Hospitalization rates for chronic conditions and county rankings

Condition ¹	Hospitalization Rate ²		County Rank ³
	State	County	
Diabetes	21.3	23.2	57th
Heart Failure	41.5	48.5	47th
COPD ⁴ or Asthma (ages 40 or older)	56.4	50.0	33rd
Bacterial Pneumonia	30.5	24.9	14th
Asthma (ages 18 to 39)	6.9	5.4	44th

¹ These conditions were defined using the Prevention Quality Indicators developed by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (www.qualityindicators.ahrq.gov).

² Per 10,000 residents.

³ Rankings are 1-67, where 1 is lowest (best) hospitalization rate. Higher rank might be dependent on population differences among counties (an older population, for example). Rates were not adjusted for population differences so that important effects of these patient characteristics were not masked by such adjustment. Note that 15.9% of Northampton County residents were age 65 or older; statewide, the percentage was 15.6%.

⁴ Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease

Medicare payments

One way to examine health care resource use is to look at Medicare spending. The following table shows on average the amount Medicare spent per county enrollee in 2010.

Average Medicare Spending Per Enrollee	
State	County
\$9,633	\$10,566

These figures reflect overall spending by the Medicare fee-for-service program (including hospital admissions, outpatient care, home health, etc.) and were adjusted for age, sex and race differences among Medicare beneficiaries age 65-99.

Data Source: The Dartmouth Atlas of Health Care (www.dartmouthatlas.org).

Want to know what Medicare pays health care facilities in PA for common outpatient services such as cataract surgery, MRIs or biopsies? Then visit PHC4's website at www.phc4.org and click on the interactive database of Medicare Payment Information for Common Outpatient Services.

About PHC4

Created by the PA General Assembly in 1986, the PA Health Care Cost Containment Council (PHC4) is an independent state agency charged with collecting, analyzing and reporting information that can be used to improve the quality and restrain the cost of health care in the state. Today, PHC4 is a recognized national leader in public health care reporting. More than 750,000 public reports on patient treatment results are downloaded from the PHC4 website each year, and more than 200 organizations and individuals annually utilize PHC4's special requests process to access and use data. PHC4 is governed by a 25-member board of directors, representing business, labor, consumers, health care providers, insurers and state government.

Joe Martin, Executive Director
225 Market Street, Suite 400, Harrisburg, PA 17101
717-232-6787 • www.phc4.org

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