Health Care Resources

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Access and utilization of healthcare is affected by a range of variables including the availability of medical professionals in an area, insurance coverage, transportation, cultural expectations and other factors.

Practitioners

In 2009, the number of physicians per 10,000 population was 40.7. The number of primary care physicians per 10,000 population was 14.1. The number of federal physicians per 10,000 population was 26. In North Carolina there were 24.7 physicians per 10,000 population in 2007.

Practitioner	**Number**
Physicians	
Non-Federal Physicians	1,449
Primary Care Physicians	500
Family Practice	136
General Practice	4
Internal Medicine	196
Obstetrics/Gynecology	52
Pediatrics	112
Other Specialties	949
Dental	
Dentists	186
Dental Hygienists	200
Nurses	
Registered Nurses	6,170
Nurse Practitioners	231
Certified Nurse Midwives	6
Licensed Practical Nurses	1,004
Other Health Professionals	
Chiropractors	44
Occupational Therapists	115
Occupational Therapy Assistants	25
Pharmacists	497
Physical Therapists	262
Physical Therapy Assistants	64
Physician Assistants	267
Podiatrists	17
Practicing Psychologists	88
Psychological Associates	32
Respiratory Therapists	308
Source: Cecil G. Sheps Center for Health Services Research. NC Health Professions Data System. 2009 Active Health Professionals.	

In Forsyth County 18 dentists were Significant Health Choice Providers, who provide dental care to Health Choice recipients. There were 64 dentists who were Significant Medicaid Providers who treat Medicaid recipients.

Hospitals Discharges and Beds

The number of general hospital discharges have decreased from 2006 to 2009 for both Forsyth County and North Carolina. General Hospital Discharges decreased approximately 6% from 2008 to 2009. In North Carolina, the number of general hospital discharges decreased less than 1%

General Hospital Discharges, 2006-2009				
	2006	**2007**	**2008**	**2009**
Forsyth County	38,599	37,859	38,902	36,549
North Carolina	961,904	980,775	968,197	967,560
Source: Log Into North Carolina (LINC). Http://linc.state.nc.us				

Beds General Hospital, 2006-2009				
	2006	**2007**	**2008**	**2009**
Forsyth County	1,511	1,562	1,562	1,608
North Carolina	20,329	20,322	20,443	20,647
Source: Log Into North Carolina (LINC). Http://linc.state.nc.us				

Hospitals

North Carolina Baptist Hospital
North Carolina Baptist Hospital, located in Winston-Salem, NC is a 840-bed teaching hospital that is the region's principal tertiary referral center. It is home to nearly 13,000 employees and is the largest employer in Forsyth County. Brenner Children's Hospital, opened in 2002. This 400,000-square-foot, 160-bed tower is a "hospital within a hospital" and has cared for thousands of young patients and their families. It houses North Carolina's only Level I Pediatric Trauma Center, a pediatric Emergency Department, pediatric and neonatal intensive-care units, infant, child and adolescent inpatient units, and outpatient clinics .

Forsyth Medical Center & Medical Park Hospital
Forsyth Medical Center is a 921-bed, not-for-profit regional medical center. It offers a full continuum of emergency, medical, surgical, rehabilitative and behavioral health services. Coupled with the nearby 22 -bed Medical Park Hospital, both give Winston-Salem one of the largest, best-equipped hospital facilities in the state. Both are accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations and are a member of the American Hospital Association.

Forsyth Medical Center and Medical Park Hospital perform close to 40,000 surgical procedures each year, including more than 6,500 general surgery procedures, 7,000 orthopedic and neurological procedures and 700 open-heart surgeries. They are also active in a number of different clinical areas, including cancer diagnoses, stroke treatments and the delivery of babies .

Kernersville Medical Center, Novant Health's newest hospital, is a 50-bed community hospital. This $100 million state-of-the-are facility includes a 24/7 emergency department, surgical services, intensive care unit, radiology services, laboratory and pharmacy services, general orthopedics and sports medicine and diagnostic cardiac, neurological and GI care. In the hospital's first year of being open, they performed nearly 2,000 surgeries and saw more than 21,000 patients in the emergency department. The hospital serves residents and businesses located in eastern Forsyth, western Guilford, Rockingham and Stokes Counties.

Community Clinics

Community Care Center of Forsyth County

The Community Care Center is a free medical and dental clinic staffed primarily by volunteers. While 91% of their patients have a working member of the household, they earn too much to be eligible for Medicaid or Medicare, but not enough to afford private insurance or medical care. The Community Care Center is now the largest and most comprehensive free clinic in North Carolina providing basic healthcare services and the following, specialty clinical services :

- Cardiology
- Dental
- Dermatology
- Endocrinology
- Gastroenterology
- Gynecology
- Neurology
- Ophthalmology
- Optometry
- Otolaryngology
- Pediatrics
- Podiatry
- Psychiatry (limited)
- Psychology (limited)
- Radiology
- Urology

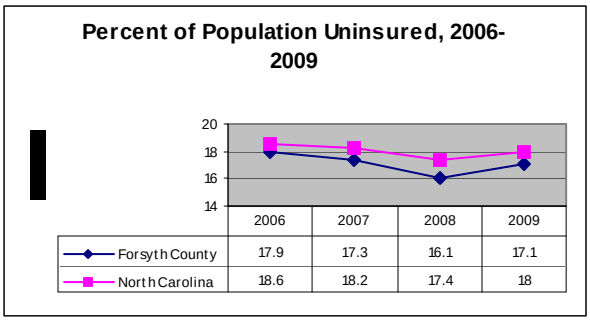
Forsyth County Department of Public Health

The Forsyth County Department of Public Health is located at 799 N. Highland Avenue in Winston-Salem. Comprehensive clinical services include Women's Preventive Health, Teen and Adult Health, Communicable Disease Control, Immunizations, School and Community Health Education, Dental Health Services, Medicaid Chronic Disease Case Management, Child Health, WIC, Environmental Health, TB Control, Family Planning, STD Clinic, HIV Testing and Counseling, and Lead Poisoning and Prevention.

Neighborhood clinics are held each month in our community in order to serve persons who have difficulty obtaining very basic preventive and acute care services. They are intended for adults and children who do not have private doctors .

Health Insurance

Citizens' access to and utilization of health care services is related to the ability to pay for those services, either directly or through private or government health insurance plans/programs. From 2006 to 2008, Forsyth County saw decreases in the percent of the population that was uninsured, only to see an increase by 1 percent point in 2009. Forsyth County followed the same pattern as North Carolina, although the increase from 2008 to 2009 was only 0.6 percent. Overall Forsyth County's uninsured population remained below North Carolina's average.



Source: US Census Bureau. Small Area Health Insurance Estimates.

Children and Health Insurance

NC Health Choice for Children, a free or reduced price comprehensive health care program for children, is also available for families not eligible for Medicaid, but whose income is not sufficient to afford health insurance premiums. It has the same benefits as the State Health Plan, plus vision, hearing and dental benefits (following the same guidelines as Medicaid).
Between 2006 and 2009, the number of children enrolled in NC Health Choice in Forsyth County increased approximately 23%. North Carolina saw an increase of approximately 19% in the number of children enrolled in NC Health Choice. The number of children enrolled in Medicaid also increased between 2006 and 2009 for both Forsyth County and North Carolina. North Carolina saw an increase of approximately 19%, while North Carolina had an increase of approximately 18%. The number of children without health insurance saw peaks in 2008 for both Forsyth County and North Carolina, although the number of children without health insurance decreased in 2009.

Children and Health Insurance, 2006-2009				
Number of Children Enrolled in NC Health Choice				
	2006	2007	2008	2009
Forsyth County	3,982	4,372	4,675	4,900
North Carolina	118,145	126,190	134,518	140,683
Number of Children Enrolled in Medicaid				
	2006	2007	2008	2009
Forsyth County	28,855	30,013	32,160	34,368
North Carolina	746,534	770,672	818,372	879,646
Children Without Health Insurance (Number)				
	2006	2007	2008	2009
Forsyth County	n/a	10,279	13,288	11,996
North Carolina	n/a	292,454	308,567	279,547
Source: Annie E. Casey Foundation. Kids County Data Center.				

Long-Term Care

The number of nursing facility beds has remained stable in Forsyth County and North Carolina between 2006 and 2009. From 2006 to 2008, Forsyth County had the same number of nursing facility beds at 1,661, which decreased by 5 beds in 2009 to 1656. North Carolina saw some fluctuations but has ultimately increased beds by 67 to 44,315 in 2009.

Nursing Facility Beds, 2006-2009				
	2006	**2007**	**2008**	**2009**
Forsyth County	1661	1661	1661	1656
North Carolina	44248	44210	44234	44315
Source: Log Into North Carolina. linc.state.nc.us.				

Compilation of Forsyth County Health Resources

Below is a list of some health resources by category in Forsyth County. Detailed information on each resource is found under Community Health Resources in the Appendix.

Category	Number of Resources
AIDS/HIV Services	14
Ancillary	1
Chiropractic	8 **
Dental Health Providers	7
Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault	5
Foundations and Nonprofits	11
Free Clinic and Community Centers	13
Home Health Care	6
Homeless Services	7
Hospice	3
Hospitals and Urgent Care	9
Immunizations	2
Insurance Providers and Employee Health Benefits	9 **
Jail Health Services	1
Maternal and Child Care	8
Medical School Services	3
Medical/Health Transportation	7
Medication Assistance	4
Mental Health	25
Nursing Home and Intermediate and Skilled Care Facilities	12
Nursing School Services	2
Nutrition Services	4
Renal Dialysis Centers	5
School Health Services	4
Screening, Testing & Diagnosis	9
Substance and Alcohol abuse Services	21
Suppliers of Medical Equipment	6
Uninsured Financial Assistance (Hospital)	2

**** More in Phone Directory**

Sources:

1. Cecil G. Sheps Center for Health Services Research. NC Health Professions Data System. 2009 Active Health Professionals.
2. Log Into North Carolina (LINC). Http://linc.state.nc.us
3. US Census Bureau. Small Area Health Insurance Estimates
4. Annie E. Casey Foundation. Kids County Data Center.