

PINELLAS COUNTY

ACCESS TO CARE PROFILE

2015

FAST FACTS

25.8

Percentage of Pinellas adults aged 18-65 who were uninsured in 2011-13.¹

9.9

Percentage of Pinellas children who were uninsured in 2008-12.¹

1,140:1

Ratio of Pinellas County residents to primary care physicians in 2011.²

16.3

Percentage of Pinellas adults who were unable to see a doctor in the past year due to cost in 2013.⁴

12.5

The rate of black infant deaths per 1,000 live births compared to 4.3 white infant deaths in Pinellas in 2011-13.³

7.5

Percentage of Pinellas adults who believe they would receive better medical care if they belonged to a different race or ethnic group in 2010.³

WHAT IS ACCESS TO CARE? HOW IS IT MEASURED?

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

Access to care assesses an individual's or a population's ability to receive needed health services .

Measures of access to care often include:

- percentage of the population with or without health insurance
- percentage of the population that could or could not get medical care when they needed it
- ratio of population to health care providers
- health disparities between racial or ethnic groups



Environmental, social, and cultural factors also can directly affect whether a patient is able to access health services, though they're typically harder to measure. Examples of such factors include transportation and language barriers.

Access to care is important because disparities in access are linked to poor quality of care, unmet health needs, preventable hospitalizations, and disparities in health outcomes. For example, in Pinellas County, such disparities in health outcomes can be seen in chronic disease deaths and infant mortality rates among racial and ethnic minority populations.

In 2012, 59.4% of Pinellas County Community Health Survey respondents cited access to care as the most important factor for a healthy community.⁵

UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS IN PINELLAS COUNTY

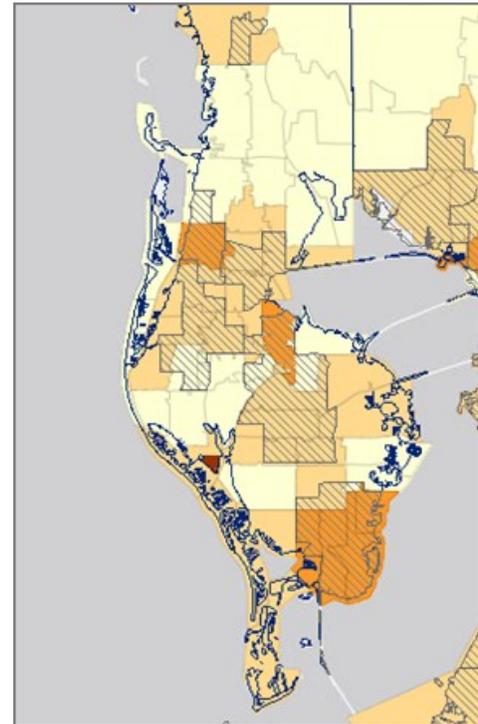
The Census Bureau estimates that as of 2013, 15% of Pinellas residents live below the Federal Poverty Level.¹ As stated in the 2013 Economic Impact of Poverty Report, there are five At-Risk Zones within Pinellas County that have higher concentrations of poverty than the County as a whole: East Tarpon Springs, North Greenwood, Highpoint, Lealman Corridor, and South St. Petersburg.

An estimated 45% (47,581) of Pinellas County's total low income population lives within the identified At-Risk Zones.⁶

In addition, there are six Primary Medical Care and Dental Health Professional Shortage Areas in Pinellas. As seen in the map at right, these areas overlap with the high-poverty areas in Pinellas.

Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA): A geographical area with 3,500 or more people per one primary care physician or 5,000 or more people per one dentist.

POVERTY AND HPSAS IN PINELLAS COUNTY

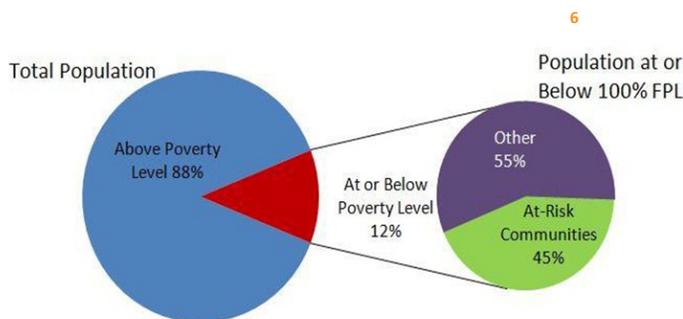


% Poverty (Pop below 100% FPL), 2007-2011

< 10%	30 - 40%
10 - 20%	> 40%
20 - 30%	

Health Professional Shortage Areas 

Percent of Total Pinellas County Population Living at or below 100% of the Federal Poverty Level, 2005 to 2009



The five At-Risk Zones within the County all suffer from the same seven factors:

insufficient transportation, limited access to food, lower educational attainment, limited access to health care, increased crime rates, high unemployment, and inadequate and insufficient housing.

These factors all contribute to the continued cycle of poverty and poor health.

Updated December 2014

¹American Community Survey estimates. http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/community_facts.xhtml. Accessed October 29, 2014.

²County Health Rankings. <http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/app/#!/florida/2014/rankings/pinellas/county/outcomes/overall/snapshot>. Accessed October 29, 2014

³Florida CHARTS. <http://www.floridacharts.com/charts/default.aspx>. Accessed October 29, 2014.

⁴ 2013 BRFS

⁵Pinellas County Community Health Assessment 2012. Accessed March 24, 2014.

⁶Update on the Economic Impact of Poverty Report 2013. <http://www.pinellascounty.org/humanservices/pdf/Economic-Impact-Poverty-Report-2013.pdf>. Accessed October 29, 2014.

