Patients by ZIP Code

PURPOSE:

The Patients by ZIP Code Table identifies patients by both their ZIP code of residence and their primary medical insurance.

CHANGES:

In addition to an aggregate UDS Report submission within EHBs, health centers submit certain de-identified patient-level data (UDS+), including Zip Code Table using Health Level Seven (HL7®) Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources (FHIR®) standards version release 4 (R4) for UDS, for the data elements on the following tables:

- Health centers will submit UDS+ data through (bulk) FHIR R4 APIs, using the **UDS+ FHIR Implementation Guide (IG)** as described in Appendix G of the **UDS Manual**. Details on the minimum submission requirements will be announced on the **UDS Modernization Initiative** and the **Health Center Program Community** websites.

KEY TERMS:

PATIENTS: Individuals who have one or more face-to-face or virtual UDS-countable visit(s) during the calendar year.

PATIENTS BY ZIP CODE: Patients according to the ZIP code on file as of the last visit.

OTHER ZIP CODE PATIENTS: Patients from ZIP codes from which 10 or fewer patients were served.

UNKNOWN RESIDENCE PATIENTS: Patients for whom residence is not known and for whom a proxy is not available.

PRIMARY MEDICAL INSURANCE: A patient's primary *medical* insurance as of the last visit during the calendar year. Document the health insurance plan the health center would typically bill first for medical services.

HOW DATA ARE USED:

- Information is used to map health center service area data and relate patients to community population and resources.

- Data are combined across health centers to enable BPHC and health centers to examine total program reach, remaining need, and to avoid service area overlaps.

- Maps and data can be accessed using an online tool, the **Health Center Program GeoCare Navigator**. The GeoCare Navigator tool allows the user to organize data within service area by geography, as well as by patient origin or distance.

TABLE TIPS:

- ZIP codes with ten or fewer patients should be aggregated, and patients reported as "Other."

- Patients whose ZIP code is not known should be reported as "Unknown Residence."

- In general, the total number of patients with "Other" and "Unknown" ZIP codes should not exceed 15 percent of total patients unless there is a clear programmatic reason.

- **HOMELESS PATIENTS:** Use ZIP code of location where patient receives services if no other data exists.

- **MIGRANT PATIENTS:** Use ZIP code of the patient's temporary local housing if available or locations where patient receives services.

- **FOREIGN NATIONALS:** Use current ZIP code for people from other countries who reside in the United States either permanently or temporarily. Tourists and other people who have permanent residence outside the United States should be reported as "Other ZIP code."

For more detailed information see UDS Reporting Requirements for 2024 Health Center Data, pages 24 – 28.

Patients by ZIP Code

- Medical insurance information must be obtained for all health center patients, regardless of the type of services received (e.g., report a dental patient by primary medical insurance, not dental insurance).

- The information in this table is to be updated each calendar year.

CROSS TABLE CONSIDERATIONS:

Patients by ZIP Code, Tables 3A, 3B, and 4 describe the SAME PATIENTS and the totals must be equal.

The number of patients by insurance source reported on the Patients by ZIP Code Table must be consistent with the number of patients by insurance category reported on Table 4.

PATIENTS BY ZIP CODE:

Zip Code (a)	None/ Unisured (b)	Medicaid/ CHIP/Other Public (c)	Medicare (d)	Private (e)
03301				
03302				
Other				
Unknown				

Note: This is a representation of the form. However, the actual online input process will look significantly different, as may the printed output from the EHB.

For more detailed information see UDS Reporting Requirements for 2024 Health Center Data, pages 24 – 28.

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