



BASIC FACTS & FIGURES:

NONPROFIT HOSPICE SERVICES¹

- Hospices provide palliative care and social, emotional, and spiritual support services to terminally ill patients and their families, focusing on comfort and quality of life, rather than curative treatments.
- There are 3,577 Medicare-certified hospices, up slightly from 2007 (3,257) and up substantially from 1984 (31), which is shortly after Medicare created a hospice benefit. There are also an estimated 200 volunteer agencies that are not Medicare-certified.
- A slight majority of hospice providers (55%) are for-profit, while 32% are nonprofit, 5% are government, and 9% fall into an “other” category.²
- Sixty-seven percent (67%) of hospices are free-standing, 17% are home health agency-based, 16% are hospital-based, and 1% is skilled nursing facility-based.
- In 2009, there were about 1,123,495 total Medicare hospice clients, 77,822,892 covered days, and over \$12 billion in Medicare payments.³ The average length of stay was 71 days and the average amount spent per client was \$10,662.
- The majority of hospice patients are female (56%) and 65 years of age or older (83%). Minority (non-Caucasian) patients account for nearly one of every four hospice patients.⁴
- Cancer diagnoses account for 36% of all hospice admissions; however, non-cancer diagnoses are on the rise. The top non-cancer diagnoses are heart disease (14%); debility unspecified (13%); dementia (13%); lung disease (8%) and other (5%).⁵
- Medicare is by far the largest payer of hospice care (84%) followed by Medicaid (5%), where hospice is an optional service and covered by 48 states and the District of Columbia.⁶ Other payers include private insurance (8%) and self-pay (3%).
- Hospices tend to be located in the southern United States. The states with the most hospices include California, Texas, and Pennsylvania. The states with the largest concentration of nonprofit hospices are Vermont, Hawaii, and Connecticut.

¹ Unless otherwise noted, data come from: Hospice Association of America. Hospice Facts & Statistics. November 2010.

² Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. January 12, 2012.

³ Source: National Association of Home Care and Hospice (Medicare Hospice Utilization and Payments, 2009) and Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Health Care Information Service (HCIS), March 2011. Totals include the United States and outlying areas.

⁴ NHPCO Facts and Figures: Hospice Care in America. 2011 Edition (2010 Data).

⁵ NHPCO Facts and Figures: Hospice Care in America. 2011 Edition (2010 Data).

⁶ Two U.S. states (New Hampshire and Oklahoma) and territories do not provide Medicaid hospice benefit.

KEY HOSPICE DATA BY STATE, 2011

State	% Nonprofit	% Government	% For-Profit	% Other
Alabama	16%	3%	73%	8%
Alaska	67%	0%	33%	0%
Arizona	23%	0%	66%	11%
Arkansas	33%	20%	45%	2%
California	25%	1%	69%	5%
Colorado	38%	8%	40%	15%
Connecticut	75%	0%	16%	9%
Delaware	33%	0%	67%	0%
District of Columbia	25%	0%	75%	0%
Florida	68%	3%	15%	15%
Georgia	16%	1%	81%	1%
Hawaii	78%	0%	22%	0%
Idaho	21%	7%	64%	7%
Illinois	35%	7%	36%	23%
Indiana	40%	6%	46%	7%
Iowa	47%	25%	22%	6%
Kansas	33%	10%	44%	13%
Kentucky	67%	0%	29%	4%
Louisiana	5%	1%	87%	7%
Maine	60%	0%	35%	5%
Maryland	59%	0%	26%	15%
Massachusetts	60%	0%	39%	1%
Michigan	41%	6%	47%	7%
Minnesota	47%	18%	14%	21%
Mississippi	13%	5%	74%	7%
Missouri	25%	8%	49%	18%
Montana	48%	7%	24%	21%
Nebraska	39%	11%	36%	14%
Nevada	5%	0%	86%	9%
New Hampshire	52%	0%	30%	17%
New Jersey	37%	2%	37%	25%
New Mexico	15%	5%	63%	18%
New York	63%	10%	12%	14%
North Carolina	49%	16%	29%	6%
North Dakota	64%	0%	21%	14%
Ohio	50%	3%	37%	9%
Oklahoma	13%	3%	71%	12%
Oregon	43%	6%	43%	9%
Pennsylvania	44%	0%	56%	1%
Rhode Island	63%	0%	25%	13%
South Carolina	20%	1%	72%	7%
South Dakota	64%	7%	21%	7%
Tennessee	16%	11%	59%	14%
Texas	12%	3%	75%	10%
Utah	13%	1%	78%	8%
Vermont	91%	0%	9%	0%
Virginia	34%	1%	60%	5%
Washington	50%	9%	16%	25%
West Virginia	60%	10%	30%	0%
Wisconsin	68%	3%	28%	1%
Wyoming	42%	21%	21%	16%
Totals	32%	5%	55%	9%

Source: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (data obtained January, 12 2012). Total does not include U.S. Territories (41 hospices).