Forward Texas: TAMEST Conversations on COVID-19: Improving Healthcare Access for All Texans During and After COVID-19

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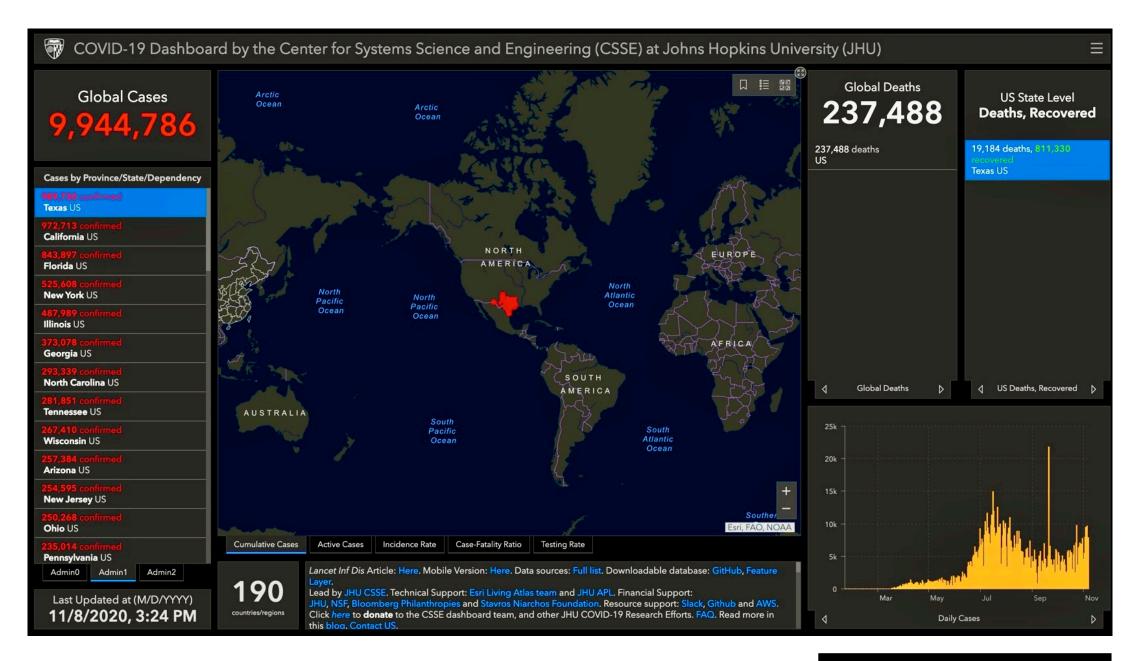
Professor and Holy Distinguished Chair, Patient-Centered Medical Home

November 10, 2020



Science Center at San Antonio

Joe R. & Teresa Lozano Long School of Medicine



Texas: 989,710 Cases

Texas: 19,184 Deaths

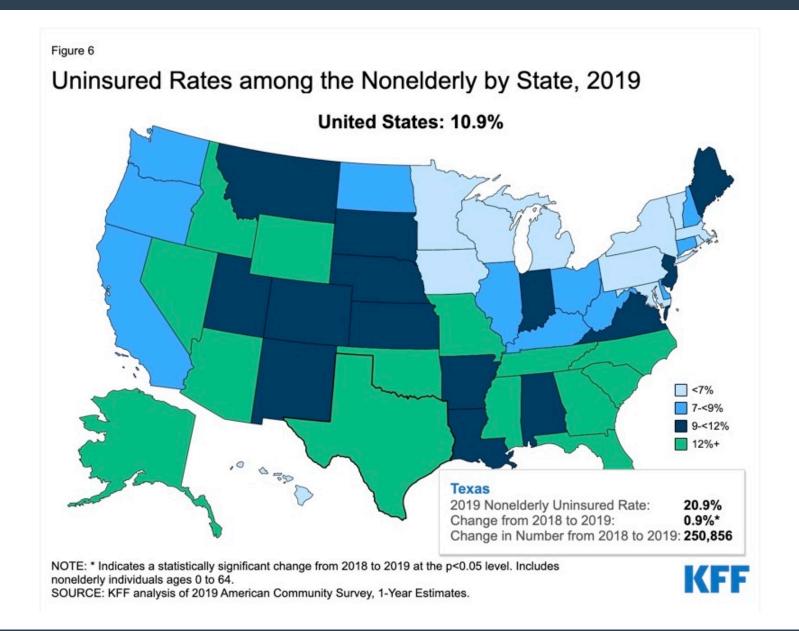
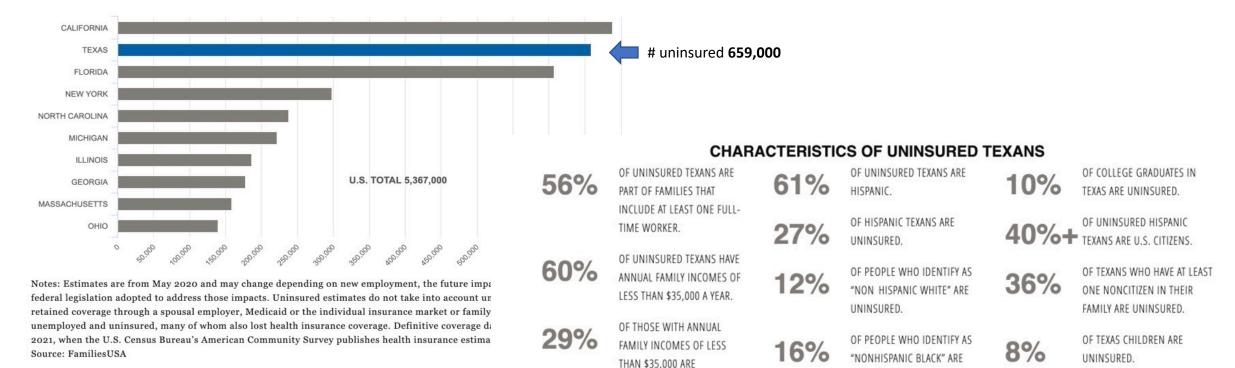


EXHIBIT 1: ESTIMATED NUMBER OF UNINSURED DUE TO JOB LOSS, 10 MOST POPULOUS STATES AND U.S., FEBRUARY-MAY 2020

Roll over the chart for specific values.



UNINSURED.

4%

OF TEXANS EARNING \$100,000

OR MORE ARE UNINSURED.

Source: Buettgens M, Blumberg LJ, Wang Pan C. The Uninsured in Texas Statewide and Local Areas Views, The Urban Institute, December 12, 2018

19%

OF TEXANS UNDER AGE 65 ARE

UNINSURED.

UNINSURED.

UNINSURED.

48%

OF TEXANS WITHOUT A HIGH

SCHOOL DIPLOMA ARE

What Issues Will Uninsured People Face with Testing and Treatment for COVID-19?

- Work in jobs that may increase their risk of exposure to SARS-COV-2
- Uninsured workers who must take off work • because they or family members are sick could face significant financial consequences
- People who are uninsured will likely face ٠ unique barriers accessing COVID-19 testing and treatment services
- Uninsured individuals who contract COVID-• 19 and need medical care will likely receive large medical bills, even if they have low incomes and are unable to pay

Figure 1

Occupations with the Largest Numbers of Uninsured Workers, 2018

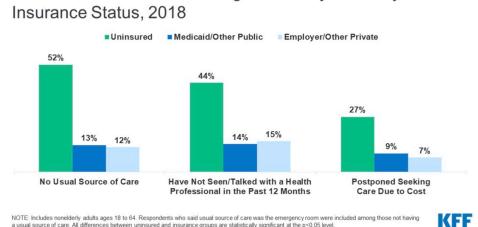
Occupation	Number of Uninsured Workers
Construction laborers	695,000
Cooks	618,000
Driver/sales workers and truck drivers	578,000
Cashiers	491,000
Waiters and waitresses	459,000
Janitors and building cleaners	444,000
Maids and housekeeping cleaners	441,000
Carpenters	432,000
Landscaping and groundskeeping workers	392,000
Retail salespersons	379,000

Note: Includes uninsured workers age 19-64 Source: KFF analysis of 2018 American Community Survey, 1-year estimates

Figure 1: Occupations with the Largest Numbers of Uninsured Workers, 2018

Barriers to Health Care among Nonelderly Adults by

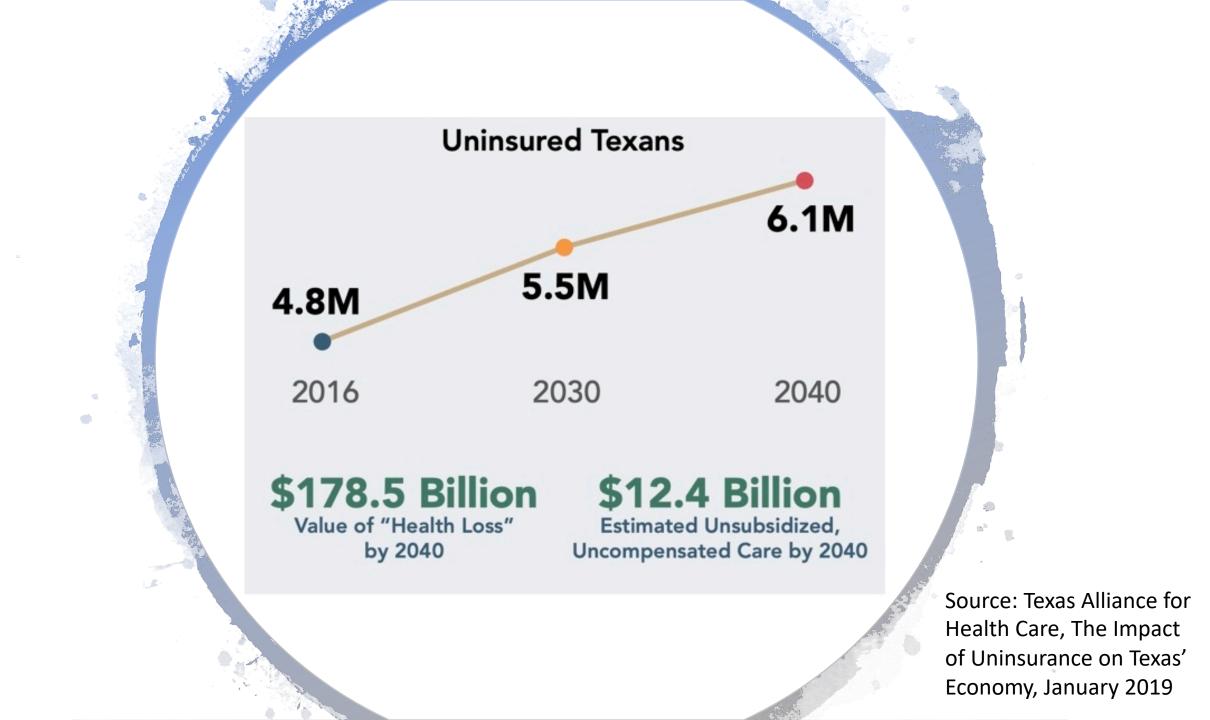
Figure 2



NOTE: Includes nonelderly adults ages 18 to 64. Respondents who said usual source of care was the emergency room were included among those not having a usual source of care. All differences between uninsured and insurance groups are statistically significant at the p<0.05 level SOURCE: KFF analysis of 2018 National Health Interview Survey.

Figure 2: Barriers to Health Care among Nonelderly Adults by Insurance Status, 2018

KFF



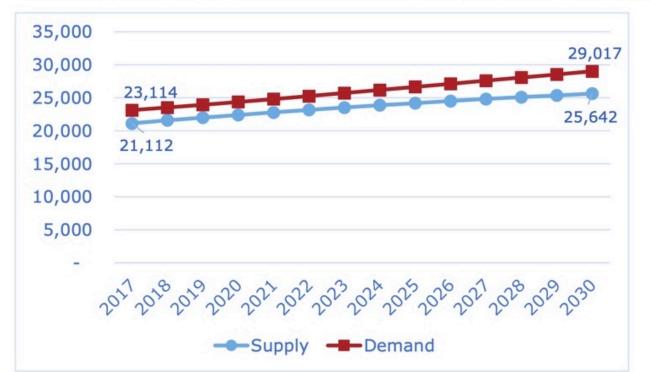


Figure 1. Supply and Demand for Primary Care Physician FTEs, Texas

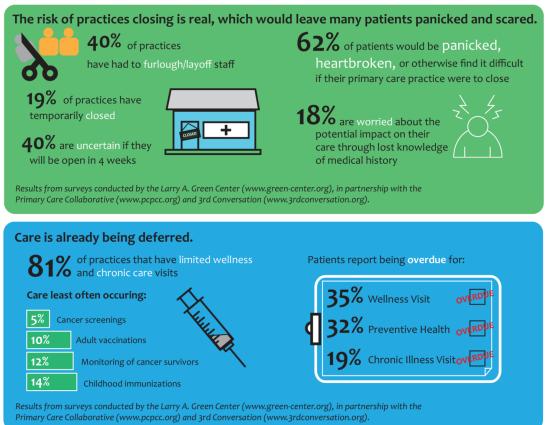
Primary Care in Texas is in Peril without intentional policy support

Projections by primary care specialty estimate that the supply of family medicine FTEs will increase by 16.1 percent between 2017 and 2030 while demand will increase by 27.1 percent. As demand outpaces supply, the shortage for this provider will increase from 103 FTEs in 2017 to 1,016 FTEs in 2030.

DSHS, Texas Projections of Supply and Demand for Primary Care Physicians and Psychiatrists, July 2018 Larry Green Center COVID-19 Primary Care Surveys

COVID-19 Survey of Primary Care Clinicians and Patients

Topic: Practice Closures, Care Deferred, Risk of Country Opening



Both clinicians and patients are worried about re-opening the country.

When asked if they think it is safe to "open up" the country:

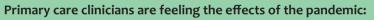


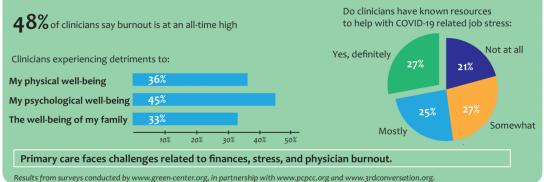
Only 22% of patients and 9% of clinicians said "yes." Roughly half of each said "no," and the remainder were either unsure or thought certain conditions (related to infection rates. testing capacity, and contact tracing) would need to be met.

Results from surveys conducted by the Larry A. Green Center (www.green-center.org), in partnership with the Primary Care Collaborative (www.pcpcc.org) and 3rd Conversation (www.3rdconversation.org).

COVID-19 Survey of Primary Care Clinicians and Patients

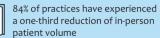
Topic: The People of Primary Care and the Collateral Damage





Clinician responses about what they need to stay open reflect their experiences:





- "...to be seen safely" "allow patients..." "...to feel safe" "...to see that the office is a safe place"

- 60% of practices' virtual patient volume is at an all-time high

14% report telehealth billing denied, 19% had to purchase PPE at high prices

- "to use telehealth and get paid"
- "ability to bill for telephone based care at parity" "all payers to pay for telemedicine and phone visits"



- "better reimbursement" 15% had to destroy expired vaccines, \longrightarrow "financial support to offset pandemic-related spending"
 - "salary to meet demands of increased patient contact"

Clinicians know what they need to stay open, and they are asking for help.

Results from surveys conducted by www.green-center.org, in partnership with www.pcpcc.org and www.3rdconversation.org.

If primary care practices were to close, it would have a significant impact on patients:

Most patients report having a strong bond with their primary care provider

I have a doctor I can trust	82%	
I feel connected to my doctor	76%	
I can ask my doctor about anything	76%	
My doc helps make sense of what's going on with me 85%		
Seeing my doctor makes me feel bette	* 79 %	

3 in 10 patients (32%) say they would either panic or be heartbroken if their doctor's office closed

Another 4 (39%) would be "upset" because it is hard to find a doctor they can trust

The closing of primary care practices would be detrimental to patients' well-being.

Results from surveys conducted by www.green-center.org, in partnership with www.pcpcc.org and www.3rdconversation.org.

The Texas Context

- A growing threat from COVID-19 cases and deaths
- The largest and growing number of uninsured persons in any state
- A major economic drain in our state, a potential to develop a healthy workforce
- Primary Care already at low levels, threatened further during pandemic
- We can use best science, innovation and transformation to create a health care system that addresses access, quality and equity
- A robust and properly supported primary care is key