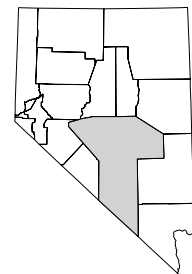


**DEMAND FOR PRIMARY CARE
PHYSICIANS IN GABBS, NEVADA**



Demand for Primary Care Physicians in Gabbs, Nevada

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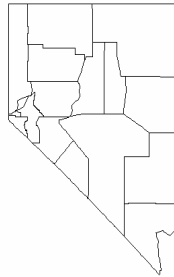
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An Analysis of the Demand for Primary Care Physicians in Gabbs, Nevada

Introduction

This report will examine the need for primary care physicians in Gabbs, Nevada. Specifically, the study will:

1. Determine the need for primary care physicians
 - a. Determine the medical service area and population;
 - b. Estimate primary care physician office visits; and
 - c. Estimate the total demand for primary care physicians in the medical service area.

No recommendations will be made. The information included in this report is designed to assist local decision-makers in assessing the need and potential for primary care physician services.

Determine Need for Primary Care Physicians in the Gabbs, Nevada, Medical Service Area

To determine an estimate of the number of visits to primary care physicians, it is necessary to know the medical service area. The medical service area includes places where persons are most likely to use a physician in Gabbs. The 2005 estimated population of the medical service area is shown in **Table 1**. The estimated 2005 population of the medical service area is 492. These estimates were made by using 2005 ESRI Business Analyst Online population estimates.

The number of physician office visits generated in the Gabbs, Nevada service area is estimated by using the service area population data and the data from Oklahoma State University Study on the demand for primary care physicians in Atoka County, Oklahoma (Lawler, et al. 2000). Research shows the number of annual physician office visits for the specified age group breakdowns shown in **Table 2**. For instance, for males under age 15,

the average number of physician office visits is 2.4 visits per year [1,3]. This average annual visit rate is applied to the populations for each gender and age group. Residents in the medical service area are estimated to make 1,582 total physician office visits (Table 2). Of these total physician office visits, 62.2 percent or 984 ($1,582 \times 62.2\% = 984$) will be made to physicians active in primary patient care while the remainder will be made to specialists.

The total number of primary care physician office visits given various usage rates is presented in Table 3 for the Gabbs, Nevada medical service area. If there is 90 percent usage of Gabbs primary care physicians by residents of the medical service area, an estimated 886 primary care physician office visits will be made annually in Gabbs. A primary care physician in Nevada has an average of 4,976 patient office visits annually and, therefore, it is estimated that Gabbs needs an estimated .18 primary care physicians ($886/4,976 = .18$). Gabbs, Nevada currently does not have any primary care physicians. Given the estimated annual visits, it appears that Gabbs can only support approximately 20 percent of a full-time primary care physician. All assumptions and local conditions must be taken into consideration by decision-makers before deciding if a physician could successfully locate in Gabbs, Nevada.

Table 1. Estimated 2005 Gabbs, Nevada Population

Age	Male	Female	Total
<15	46	47	93
15-24	41	31	72
25-44	47	61	108
45-64	71	65	136
65-74	29	25	54
75+	14	15	29
Total	248	244	492

Table 2. Total Annual Physician Office Visits and Total Annual Primary Care Physician Office Visits for Gabbs, NV

Age	Total Annual Physician Office Visits						Total Annual Physician Visits
	Male			Female			
	2005 Population	Visit Rate	Total Visits	2005 Population	Visit Rate	Total Visits	
<15	46	2.4	110	47	2.3	108	219
15-24	41	1.2	49	31	2.3	71	121
25-44	47	1.6	75	61	3.1	189	264
45-64	71	3	213	65	4.1	267	480
65-74	29	5.4	157	25	6.1	153	309
75+	14	6.7	94	15	6.4	96	190
Total	248		698	244		884	1582
Total Annual Physician Office Visits							1582
Total Annual Primary Care Physician Office Visits							984
(Total Annual Office Visits X 62.2% = Primary Care Physician Annual Office Visits)							

**Table 3. Primary Care Physician Office Visits Given
Usage by Local Residents in Gabbs, Nevada**

	70%	75%	80%	85%	90%	95%	100%
Usage Level	689	738	787	836	886	935	984
Number of Primary Care Physicians	0.138	0.148	0.158	0.168	0.178	0.188	0.198
<p>If 90% usage level, then 886 total primary care physician office visits for an estimated 0.18 Total Primary Care Physicians Based on 4,976 average annual primary care office visits per physician practice</p>							

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ESRI Business Analyst Online. 2005. *Age by Sex by Race Profile for Gabbs, Nevada.*

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