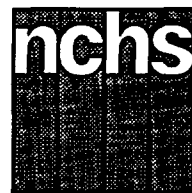


# Advance Data



From Vital and Health Statistics of the CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION/National Center for Health Statistics

## Hospices and Home Health Agencies: Data From the 1991 National Health Provider Inventory

by Adrienne L. Jones, Division of Health Care Statistics

### Hospices and home health agencies

This report presents information on the characteristics of hospices and home health agencies in the United States. The data are from the 1991 National Health Provider Inventory (NHPI). The NHPI was a mail survey of nursing homes, board and care homes, home health

agencies, and hospices. However, the discussions in this report are limited to home health agencies and hospices.

The NHPI was formerly called the National Master Facility Inventory (NMFI) and the Inventory of Long-Term Care Places (ILTCP) (1). Before the inclusion of hospices and home health agencies, the inventory had been limited to inpatient facilities. Because of its

recent expansion to include hospices and home health agencies the name was changed to NHPI.

The U.S. Bureau of the Census conducted the 1991 NHPI under an interagency agreement with the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS). The primary purposes of the NHPI were to provide a sampling frame for selected sample surveys and to provide national

**Table 1. Number and percent distribution of home health agencies and hospices by type of ownership, certification, and geographic region: United States, 1991**

Agency characteristic	Type of agency					
	Total		Home health agency		Hospice	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
All agencies . . . . .	7,804	100.0	6,853	100.0	951	100.0
Type of ownership						
Proprietary . . . . .	2,827	36.2	2,779	40.6	48	5.0
Nonprofit . . . . .	3,353	43.0	2,515	36.7	838	88.1
Government and other . . . . .	1,624	20.0	1,559	22.7	64	6.7
Certification						
Medicare certified . . . . .	6,242	80.0	5,609	81.8	633	66.6
Medicaid certified . . . . .	6,193	79.4	5,655	82.5	538	56.6
Geographic region						
Northeast . . . . .	1,428	18.3	1,271	18.5	157	16.5
Midwest . . . . .	2,257	28.9	1,964	28.7	293	30.8
South . . . . .	3,002	38.5	2,691	39.3	311	32.7
West . . . . .	1,117	14.3	927	13.5	190	20.0

NOTE: Percents may not add to totals because of rounding.



**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**  
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data on the number, type, and geographic distribution of providers of long-term care.

Although the mailing list of home health agencies and hospices used for the NHPI contained over 14,000 records, the number of in-scope places were found to be 7,804. The data in this report will be limited to those agencies. Source of data, survey methods, and definitions are given in the technical notes at the end of the report.

### Agency characteristics

In 1991 there were 7,804 hospices and home health agencies in the United States (table 1). The majority (88 percent) were home health agencies. Of the 6,853 home health agencies, 2,779 (41 percent) were proprietary, 2,515 (37 percent) were nonprofit, and 1,559 (23 percent) were government and some other type of ownership. On the other hand, only 5 percent of the 951 hospices were proprietary owned, 88 percent were nonprofit, and the type of ownership for 7 percent was government or other.

Most of the hospices and home health agencies were certified by Medicare and Medicaid; 6,242 were Medicare certified and 6,193 were Medicaid certified. Of the 6,853 home health agencies, about 82 percent were Medicare and Medicaid certified. Substantially fewer of the 951 hospices were certified; 67 percent were certified for Medicare and 57 percent were certified for Medicaid.

The majority of agencies were located in the South and Midwest regions; 39 percent were in the South and 29 percent were in the Midwest, compared with 18 percent in the Northeast and 14 percent in the West. A greater percent of home health agencies (39 percent) than of hospices (31 percent) were in the South; relatively more hospices (20 percent) than home health agencies (14 percent) were in the West. The percent of home health agencies and percent of hospices in the other two regions were close; 19 percent of home health agencies and 17 percent of hospices were in the Northeast, and 29 percent of home

Table 2. Number of home health agencies and hospices by State: United States, 1991

States	All agencies	Number	
		Home health agencies	Hospices
All States	7,804	6,853	951
Alabama	146	127	19
Alaska	15	10	5
Arizona	80	71	9
Arkansas	144	133	11
California	416	333	83
Colorado	120	101	19
Connecticut	119	110	9
Delaware	22	19	3
District of Columbia	21	18	3
Florida	447	413	34
Georgia	88	70	18
Hawaii	26	18	8
Idaho	40	26	14
Illinois	358	309	49
Indiana	163	150	13
Iowa	180	155	25
Kansas	176	153	22
Kentucky	131	112	19
Louisiana	191	180	11
Maine	50	35	15
Maryland	121	96	25
Massachusetts	192	166	26
Michigan	253	196	57
Minnesota	229	196	33
Mississippi	117	116	1
Missouri	188	173	15
Montana	61	49	12
Nebraska	81	75	6
Nevada	30	28	2
New Hampshire	73	60	13
New Jersey	130	111	19
New Mexico	48	45	3
New York	445	410	35
North Carolina	203	155	48
North Dakota	72	70	2
Ohio	291	252	39
Oklahoma	88	75	13
Oregon	85	71	14
Pennsylvania	345	317	28
Rhode Island	48	43	5
South Carolina	114	101	13
South Dakota	87	80	7
Tennessee	273	262	11
Texas	599	557	41
Utah	57	53	42
Vermont	26	19	7
Virginia	221	193	28
Washington	92	81	11
West Virginia	76	64	12
Wisconsin	179	155	24
Wyoming	47	41	6

health agencies and 31 percent of hospices were in the Midwest.

About a third (34 percent) of the home health agencies were located in California, Florida, Illinois, New York, Pennsylvania, and Texas (table 2). Texas had the most home health agencies (557) followed by New York (410), Florida (413), Pennsylvania (317), California (333), and Illinois (309). Of

the remaining States, Ohio and Tennessee each had more than 250 home health agencies. Eleven States and the District of Columbia each had fewer than 50 home health agencies.

About a third (33 percent) of the hospices were also located in six States: California, Illinois, Michigan, North Carolina, Ohio, and Texas. California had the greatest number of hospices

**Table 3. Number and percent distribution of home health care and hospice care clients by type of care received according to type of ownership, certification, and geographic region: United States, 1991**

Agency characteristic	Number	Percent	Type of care received					
			Home health care		Hospice care		Health and hospice care	
			Number	Percent distribution	Number	Percent distribution	Number	Percent distribution
All agencies . . . . .	1,263,704	100.0	1,189,464	100.0	43,487	100.0	30,753	100.0
Type of ownership								
Proprietary . . . . .	349,863	27.7	333,480	28.0	7,003	16.1	9,380	30.5
Nonprofit . . . . .	708,871	56.1	657,881	55.3	33,739	77.6	17,251	56.1
Government and other . . . . .	204,970	16.2	198,103	16.7	2,745	6.3	4,122	13.4
Certification								
Medicare certified . . . . .	1,126,565	89.1	1,062,458	89.3	37,708	86.7	26,399	85.8
Medicaid certified . . . . .	1,125,522	89.1	1,063,225	89.4	35,738	82.2	26,559	86.4
Geographic region								
Northeast . . . . .	402,077	31.8	380,907	32.0	9,746	22.4	11,424	37.1
Midwest . . . . .	276,120	21.9	261,940	22.0	8,514	19.6	5,666	18.4
South . . . . .	443,664	35.1	416,001	35.0	17,135	39.4	10,528	34.2
West . . . . .	141,843	11.2	130,616	11.0	8,092	18.6	3,135	10.2

NOTE: Percents may not add to totals because of rounding.

(83), followed by Michigan (57), Illinois (49), North Carolina (48), Texas (42), and Ohio (39). Florida, Minnesota, and New York each had more than 30 hospices. Fifteen States and the District of Columbia each had fewer than 10 hospices.

### Hospice and home health clients

More than one million clients were provided home health and hospice care in the United States in 1991 (table 3). Three types of clients are included in this report: clients who received only home health services (home health clients); clients who received only hospice services (hospice clients); and clients who received home health care as well as hospice care services. Of the 1,263,704 home health and hospice care clients, 1,189,464 (94.1 percent) received only home health care, 43,487 (3.4 percent) clients received only hospice care, and 30,753 (2.4 percent) received both types of care.

Most of the clients who received only home health care were served by nonprofit agencies; proprietary agencies provided care to 28 percent of these clients and 17 percent were served by government agencies and agencies with other types of ownership. In contrast, 78 percent of hospice clients were

provided care by nonprofit agencies, 16 percent were served by proprietary agencies, and 6 percent were served by government and other agencies. Of the 30,753 clients that received home health and hospice care 17,252 or 56 percent were served by nonprofit agencies and 31 percent were cared for by proprietary agencies.

Medicare certified agencies provided care to 1,126,565 clients, and Medicaid certified agencies accounted for nearly the same number of clients, 1,125,522. Eighty-nine percent of all home health clients were served by Medicare- and/or Medicaid-certified agencies. The comparable percents for hospice clients are 87 and 82 percent. Similarly, 86 percent of clients who received both types of care were served by certified agencies.

Over 400,000 hospice and home health clients were located in the Northeast (402,077) or South (443,664) regions. The Midwest and West regions combined account for 417,963 clients. A comparison of clients by region according to type of care received show some interesting differences. There was only a 3-percent difference in the percent of clients who received home health care in the Northeast and South regions (32 and 35 percent), but clients who received hospice care in these two regions differed by 17 percent

(22 percent in the Northeast compared with 39 percent in the South). The opposite pattern occurred for clients in the Midwest and West regions. In these regions, there was an 11-percent difference in clients who received home health care but only a 1-percent difference in hospice care clients.

The number of clients provided home health and hospice care in the United States during 1991 by type of care provided for each State are shown in table 4. As expected, most of the clients in every State were home health clients. The remaining clients received either hospice care only or home health and hospice care. The number of clients that received both types of care was greater than the number that received only hospice care in 11 States (Arkansas, Connecticut, Illinois, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Missouri, New Jersey, North Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia).

The number of clients by type of care received for the 10 States with the largest numbers of total clients are shown in table 5. These 10 States also served the largest number of home health clients. Fifty-four percent of all clients as well as 54 percent of home health clients were provided care by these 10 States. Fourteen percent of all home health and hospice clients (181,454) were served in New York

Table 4. Number of active home health and hospice clients by type of care received and State: United States, 1991

State	All clients	Type of care		
		Home health	Hospice	Home health and hospice
All States . . . . .	1,263,704	1,189,464	43,487	30,753
Alabama . . . . .	26,578	25,328	844	406
Alaska . . . . .	764	727	34	3
Arizona . . . . .	10,392	9,790	532	70
Arkansas . . . . .	11,052	10,336	308	408
California . . . . .	76,175	68,902	4,641	2,632
Colorado . . . . .	9,277	8,881	378	18
Connecticut . . . . .	29,716	28,123	393	1,200
Delaware . . . . .	5,730	5,590	139	1
District of Columbia . . . . .	4,631	4,563	68	0
Florida . . . . .	67,277	60,908	5,376	993
Georgia . . . . .	27,500	26,571	529	400
Hawaii . . . . .	1,051	908	127	16
Idaho . . . . .	2,338	2,111	210	17
Illinois . . . . .	52,303	48,927	1,500	1,876
Indiana . . . . .	21,839	20,656	597	586
Iowa . . . . .	20,685	19,847	676	162
Kansas . . . . .	8,518	7,528	562	428
Kentucky . . . . .	26,486	24,747	1,238	501
Louisiana . . . . .	26,037	24,383	750	904
Maine . . . . .	11,662	11,141	513	8
Maryland . . . . .	15,963	14,110	1,328	525
Massachusetts . . . . .	52,622	47,850	1,808	2,964
Michigan . . . . .	41,696	40,325	1,348	23
Minnesota . . . . .	29,365	28,442	733	190
Mississippi . . . . .	24,532	24,444	88	0
Missouri . . . . .	22,858	20,720	930	1,208
Montana . . . . .	6,382	6,121	157	104
Nebraska . . . . .	7,398	7,056	232	110
Nevada . . . . .	2,167	1,978	184	5
New Hampshire . . . . .	9,294	8,894	366	34
New Jersey . . . . .	34,574	29,093	1,360	4,121
New Mexico . . . . .	2,981	2,759	217	5
New York . . . . .	181,454	177,547	2,346	1,561
North Carolina . . . . .	36,038	34,443	1,325	270
North Dakota . . . . .	7,521	7,360	59	102
Ohio . . . . .	42,673	40,481	1,307	885
Oklahoma . . . . .	7,883	7,681	154	48
Oregon . . . . .	9,512	8,644	714	154
Pennsylvania . . . . .	62,190	58,766	2,220	1,204
Rhode Island . . . . .	14,971	14,075	564	332
South Carolina . . . . .	19,570	18,739	491	340
South Dakota . . . . .	3,097	3,026	69	2
Tennessee . . . . .	43,961	42,612	483	866
Texas . . . . .	65,131	59,258	2,354	3,519
Utah . . . . .	4,852	4,701	136	15
Vermont . . . . .	5,594	5,418	176	0
Virginia . . . . .	27,058	24,429	1,286	1,343
Washington . . . . .	14,638	13,842	712	84
West Virginia . . . . .	8,237	7,859	374	4
Wisconsin . . . . .	18,167	17,572	501	94
Wyoming . . . . .	1,314	1,252	50	12

State alone. Referring to table 2, it can be seen that these clients were served in the 445 hospices and home health agencies that were located in New York; these agencies made up 6 percent of all the hospices and home health agencies in the United States in 1991. California reported the second highest number of clients receiving home care (76,175 or

6 percent of all clients in the United States). These clients were served in 5 percent (416) of the Nation's hospices and home health agencies. Texas, the State with the largest number of agencies (599, or 8 percent of all agencies), served 65,131 (5 percent) of all clients.

Most States provided care to fewer than 1,000 hospice clients (table 4). The number of hospice clients by State ranged from 34 in Alaska to 5,376 in Florida. Seven States provided care to 47 percent of the hospice clients (Florida, California, Texas, New York, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, and

**Table 5. Number of home health and hospice care clients by type of care for the 10 States with the largest number of clients: United States, 1991**

States	Total clients	Home health	Type of care	
			Hospice	Home health and hospice
New York . . . . .	181,454	177,547	2,346	1,561
California . . . . .	76,175	68,902	4,641	2,632
Florida . . . . .	67,277	60,908	5,376	993
Texas . . . . .	65,131	59,258	2,324	3,519
Pennsylvania . . . . .	62,190	58,766	2,220	1,204
Massachusetts . . . . .	52,622	47,850	1,808	2,964
Illinois . . . . .	52,303	48,927	1,500	1,876
Tennessee . . . . .	43,961	42,612	483	866
Ohio . . . . .	42,673	40,481	1,307	885
Michigan . . . . .	41,696	40,325	1,348	23

Illinois). These States are all included in table 5. Of the remaining 7 States that served more than 1,000 hospice clients in 1991, only one (Ohio) is included in table 5. These 7 States are New Jersey (1,360), Michigan (1,348), Maryland (1,328), North Carolina (1,325), Ohio (1,307), Virginia (1,286), and Kentucky (1,238). Alaska, the District of Columbia, Mississippi, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wyoming served fewer than 100 hospice clients each.

### Average number of clients per agency

The number of home care agencies, the number of home care clients, and the average number of clients per agency for all agencies are shown in table 6. The average number of clients per agency ranged from a low of 28 in Wyoming to a high of 408 in New York. As mentioned in a previous section, most agencies and/or clients were in California, Texas, Florida, Illinois, Pennsylvania, New York, and Massachusetts. Among these seven States, only two averaged more than 200 clients per agency. New York reported that 445 agencies provided care to 181,454 clients, an average of 408 clients per agency, and Massachusetts reported that 192 agencies provided care to 52,622 clients, an average of 274 clients per agency. Texas, which had the most agencies overall (599), had an average of 109 clients per agency.

States that averaged more than 200 clients per agency were New York, Connecticut, Delaware, Rhode Island, Georgia, Massachusetts, New Jersey,

Mississippi, the District of Columbia, Kentucky, Maine, and Vermont. Although some of these States had a relatively low number of agencies; home health care and hospice care services were in demand. For example, Rhode Island and Georgia each had fewer than 100 agencies, but provided care to 14,971 and 27,500 clients, an average of 312 and 313 clients per agency. Delaware, Vermont, and the District of Columbia each had fewer than 30 agencies overall, but their average number of clients are 260, 215, and 221.

In comparison, Massachusetts and Illinois provided care to nearly the same number of clients; however, Massachusetts averaged 274 clients per agency while Illinois averaged 146. Illinois had 166 more home care agencies than Massachusetts.

With the exception of New York, all the States that averaged more than 200 clients also had fewer than 200 agencies overall.

### References

1. Sirrocco A. Nursing home characteristics: 1986 Inventory of Long-Term Care Places. National Center for Health Statistics. Vital Health Stat 14(33). 1989.
2. Eklund D. The agency reporting system for maintaining the national inventory of hospitals and institutions. National Center for Health Statistics. Vital Health Stat 1(6). 1968.

**Table 6. Number of home care agencies and home care clients and average number of clients by State: United States, 1991**

<i>States</i>	<i>Home care agencies</i>	<i>Home care clients</i>	<i>Average number of clients</i>
All States . . . . .	7,804	1,263,704	162
Alabama . . . . .	146	26,578	182
Alaska . . . . .	15	764	51
Arizona . . . . .	80	10,392	130
Arkansas . . . . .	144	11,052	77
California . . . . .	416	76,175	183
Colorado . . . . .	120	9,277	77
Connecticut . . . . .	119	29,716	250
Delaware . . . . .	22	5,730	260
District of Columbia . . . . .	21	4,631	221
Florida . . . . .	447	67,277	151
Georgia . . . . .	88	27,500	313
Hawaii . . . . .	26	1,051	40
Idaho . . . . .	40	2,338	58
Illinois . . . . .	358	52,303	146
Indiana . . . . .	163	21,839	134
Iowa . . . . .	180	20,685	115
Kansas . . . . .	176	8,518	48
Kentucky . . . . .	131	26,486	202
Louisiana . . . . .	191	26,037	136
Maine . . . . .	50	11,662	233
Maryland . . . . .	121	15,963	132
Massachusetts . . . . .	192	52,622	274
Michigan . . . . .	253	41,696	165
Minnesota . . . . .	229	29,365	128
Mississippi . . . . .	117	24,532	210
Missouri . . . . .	188	22,858	122
Montana . . . . .	61	6,382	105
Nebraska . . . . .	81	7,398	91
Nevada . . . . .	30	2,167	72
New Hampshire . . . . .	73	9,294	127
New Jersey . . . . .	130	34,574	266
New Mexico . . . . .	48	2,981	62
New York . . . . .	445	181,454	408
North Carolina . . . . .	203	36,038	178
North Dakota . . . . .	72	7,521	104
Ohio . . . . .	291	42,673	147
Oklahoma . . . . .	88	7,883	90
Oregon . . . . .	85	9,512	112
Pennsylvania . . . . .	345	62,190	180
Rhode Island . . . . .	48	14,971	312
South Carolina . . . . .	114	19,570	172
South Dakota . . . . .	87	3,097	36
Tennessee . . . . .	273	43,961	161
Texas . . . . .	599	65,131	109
Utah . . . . .	57	4,852	85
Vermont . . . . .	26	5,594	215
Virginia . . . . .	221	27,058	122
Washington . . . . .	92	14,638	159
West Virginia . . . . .	76	8,237	108
Wisconsin . . . . .	179	18,167	101
Wyoming . . . . .	47	1,314	28

## Technical notes

### Source of data

This report is based on information collected in the 1991 National Health Provider Inventory (NHPI). All agencies providing home health and hospice care were included in the survey without regard to licensure or to certification status under Medicare and/or Medicaid. The universe for the 1991 NHPI consisted of approximately 87,000 health care providers: approximately 14,000 home and hospice care agencies, and 73,000 nursing and board and care homes.

The U.S. Bureau of the Census, under an interagency agreement with the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) was responsible for conducting a mail survey with a telephone follow up of nonrespondents. Data collection began in April 1991.

### Survey methods

The Agency Reporting System (ARS) (2), an ongoing system designed to update constantly the NHPI listings, was used to construct a mailing file of names and addresses for 14,000 home and hospice care agencies. The mailing file of the NHPI was created by the Long-Term Care Statistics Branch (LTC SB) of NCHS.

All home health agencies and hospices were mailed a questionnaire, and about a week later, a reminder postcard. Six weeks after the initial mailing, all providers who had not returned a completed questionnaire were mailed the questionnaire a second time. After a second 6-week period, providers still remaining as nonrespondents were mailed a third questionnaire. At the end of the mailing cycle, each nonresponding provider was contacted by telephone. A minimum number of questionnaire items were sought through the telephone interviews either until the information was collected or the interviewer received a firm refusal. Only 116 of the home health agencies and hospices refused to provide any information.

The mailing file of home health agencies and hospices contained over 14,000 records. After refusals, the out-of-business, temporarily closed, and otherwise out-of-scope places were eliminated; the total number of places was 7,804.

### Definition of terms

#### Terms relating to agencies

*Home health*—Health services are provided to individuals in their places of residence for the purpose of (a) promoting, maintaining, or restoring health, or (b) maximizing the level of independence, while minimizing the effects of disability and illness (including terminal illness).

*Hospice*—Hospices are specialized services for terminally ill people and their families including medical services, social and emotional support for patients and families, volunteer support, and bereavement services for families following the death of the patient.

*Ownership*—Ownership designates the type of organization by which the agency operates. Proprietary agency indicates control by an individual, partnership, or corporation. Nonprofit agency includes ownership by a religious group or by a nonprofit organization.

*Certification*—Facility certification by Medicare and/or Medicaid.

*Medicare*—The medical assistance provided in title XVII of the Social Security Act. Medicare is a health insurance program administered by the Social Security Administration for persons 65 years of age and over and for disabled persons who are eligible for benefits.

*Medicaid*—The medical assistance provided in title XIX of the Social Security Act. Medicaid is a State administered program for the medically indigent.

*Geographic regions*—Agencies are classified by geographic area by grouping the States into regions. These regions correspond to those used by the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

<i>Region</i>	<i>States included</i>
Northeast	Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Illinois, and Indiana
Midwest	Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota
South	Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia, Alabama, Kentucky, Mississippi, Tennessee, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas
West	Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, Wyoming, Alaska, California, Hawaii, Oregon, and Washington

#### Term relating to clients

*Active clients*—Active clients are clients on the agency's roll at the time of the survey.

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