UNIFORM DATA SYSTEM (UDS)

Years Data System Included Sexual and Gender Minority (SGM)-Related Data Elements 2016 - Present

Data System Description

The Uniform Data System (UDS) is an annual reporting system that provides standardized information about the performance and operation of health centers delivering health care services to underserved communities and vulnerable populations. Its core components include patient demographics, staffing and utilization, selected diagnoses and services rendered, quality of care indicators, health outcomes and disparities, and finances and revenues of awardee health centers. UDS data on patient characteristics and clinical conditions are used to evaluate and improve health-center performance, ensure compliance with legislative mandates, and identify trends in health centers' impact on expanding access, addressing health disparities, improving quality, and reducing health care costs.

The UDS report is required for the following health centers:

- Health Resources and Service Administration (HRSA) awardees that receive federal funds under the Health Center Program authorized by section 330 of the Public Health Service (PHS) Act (42 U.S.C. 254b), which include the Community Health Center (CHC) (330(e)) program, the Migrant Health Center (MHC) (330(g)) program, the Health Care for the Homeless (HCH) (330(h)) program, and/or the Public Housing Primary Care (PHPC) (330(i)) program.

- Health Center Program look-alikes, which are health centers that do not receive federal funding but meet the requirements for designation under the program.

- Certain health centers that are funded under the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Bureau of Health Workforce (BHW).

Reporting Methodology

The UDS report is completed annually by health centers, including Health Center Program awardees (under section 330), Health Center Program look-alikes, and BHW sites operating in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and the Pacific Basin. These health centers are required to report UDS data for the entire calendar year via the HRSA Electronic Handbook system.

UDS Report Components

All health centers (Health Center Program awardees [under section 330], Health Center Program look-alikes, and BHW sites) complete the UDS report, which includes two components: the Universal Report and the Grant Report.

The Universal Report provides data on patient demographics, services, staffing, and financing for the entire scope of services. It is the source of unduplicated health center data for the reporting year, and includes 12 tables and 2 additional forms on health information technology (HIT) and other data elements (see Table 1 below).

The Grant Report consists of all or part of the data elements of the Universal Report tables (see Table 1 below for overlap between the reports). Grant Reports are only required from entities that receive funding under section 330. Health centers with dual designations are required to complete two UDS reports (awardee UDS report and the look-alike UDS report or the BHW UDS report) covering the approved scope of each service site separately. See Table 2 below for details on reporting requirements by health center designation.

Table 1: Data Elements in the Universal Report and the Grant Report.

Table	Data Reported	Universal Report	Grant Report
Service Area			
Zip Code Table	Patients by Zip Code	•	
Patient Profile			
Table 3A	Patients by Age and by Sex Assigned at Birth	•	•
Table 3B	Demographic Characteristics	•	•
Table 4	Selected Patient Characteristics	•	•
Staffing and Utilization			
Table 5	Staffing and Utilization	•	Partial data reported (utilization data only)
Table 5A	Tenure for Health Center Staff	•	
Clinical			
Table 6A	Selected Diagnoses and Services Rendered	•	•
Table 6B	Quality of Care Measures	•	
Table 7	Health Outcomes and Disparities	•	
Financial			
Table 8A	Financial Costs	•	
Table 9D	Patient-Related Revenue	•	
Table 9E	Other Revenue	•	

Table	Data Reported	Universal Report	Grant Report
Other Form			
HIT Form	Health Information Technology (HIT) Capabilities and Quality Recognition	•	
Other Form	Other Data Elements (telehealth, medication-assisted treatment [MAT] and outreach and enrollment assists)	•	

Table 2. Reporting Requirements by Designation(s)

Required Entities by Designation(s)	UDS Report	
By Designation(s)	**Universal Report**	**Grant Report**

Health Center Program Awardee under section 330)
 	
    CHC (330(e))
    MHC (330(g))
    HCH (330(h))
    PHPC (330(i))
	Yes: One report for the combined projects	Grant specific
		No
		Yes
		Yes
		Yes

Health Center Program Look-Alike	Yes	No
BHW Site	Yes	No

SGM-Related Data Elements

Category	Data Element	Data Element History
Sexual Identity	Patients by Sexual Orientation (Lines 13–19) • Line 13: Lesbian or Gay. Report patients who are emotionally and sexually attracted to people of their own gender. • Line 14: Straight (not lesbian or gay). Report patients who are emotionally and sexually attracted to people of the opposite gender. • Line 15: Bisexual. Report patients who are emotionally and sexually attracted to people of their own gender and people of other genders. • Line 16: Something else. Report patients who are emotionally and sexually attracted to people who identify themselves as queer, asexual, or pansexual or another sexual orientation not captured in Lines 13–15 above, or Lines 17–18 below. • Line 17: Don't know. Report patients who self-report that they do not know what their sexual orientation is. Include patients for whom the health center does not know sexual orientation (i.e., health center did not have system in place to routinely ask about sexual orientation). • Line 18: Chose not to disclose. Report patients who chose not to disclose their sexual orientation. • Line 19: Total Patients.	This is the current version of the data elements, and it has been used since 2018. The UDS included Sexual orientation/ gender identity (SO/GI) data elements as a reporting requirement, beginning in calendar year 2016. The previous version of data elements from 2017 was: • Line 13: Lesbian or Gay. No change in definition. • Line 14: Straight (not lesbian or gay). No change in definition. • Line 15: Bisexual. Report patients who are emotionally and sexually attracted to people of their own gender and people of other genders. • Line 16: Something else. Report patients who are emotionally and sexually attracted to people of another sexual orientation other than the three categories described above. Include patients who identify themselves as queer, asexual, or pansexual. • Line 17: Don't know. No change in definition. • Line 18: Chose not to disclose. No change in definition. • Line 19: Total Patients. Sum of Lines 13 +14 + 15 + 16 + 17 + 18. The previous version of data elements from 2016 was: • Line 13: Lesbian or Gay. A sexual orientation that describes a person who is emotionally and sexually attracted to people of their own gender.

Category	Data Element	Data Element History
		• Line 14: Straight (not lesbian or gay). A sexual orientation that describes a person who is emotionally and sexually attracted to people of the opposite gender. • Line 15: Bisexual. A sexual orientation that describes a person who is emotionally and sexually attracted to people of their own gender and people of other genders. • Line 16: Something else. A person who is emotionally and sexually attracted to people of another sexual orientation other than the three categories described above. In addition, include in this category persons who identify themselves as queer, asexual, or pansexual. • Line 17: Don't know. A person who self-reports that they do not know what their sexual orientation is. Also use this category to report patients where the health center does not know the patient's sexual orientation (i.e., health center did not have systems in place to routinely ask about sexual orientation). • Line 18: Chose not to disclose. A person who chose not to disclose their sexual orientation. Line 19: Total Patients. Sum of Lines 13 + 14 + 15 + 16 + 17 + 18.
Sexual Attraction	Currently no SGM data elements are required to report in this category.	Not applicable.
Sexual Behavior	Currently no SGM data elements are required to report in this category.	Not applicable.
Gender Identity	Patients by Gender Identity (Lines 20–26) • Line 20: Male. Report patients who identify themselves as a man/male. • Line 21: Female. Report patients who identify themselves as a woman/female.	This is the current version of the data elements, and it has been used since 2018. The UDS included Sexual orientation/ gender identity (SO/GI) data elements as a reporting requirement, beginning in calendar year 2016. The previous version of data elements from 2017 was: • Line 20: Male. No change in definition. • Line 21: Female. No change in definition.

Category	Data Element	Data Element History
	• Line 22: Transgender male/Female-to-Male. Report transgender patients who describe their identity as man/male. (Some may just use the term man.) • Line 23: Transgender Female/Male-to-Female. Report transgender patients who describe their gender identity as woman/female. (Some may just use the term woman.) • Line 24: Other. Report patients who do not think that one of the four categories above adequately describes them. Include patients who identify themselves as genderqueer or nonbinary. In addition, report patients where the health center does not know the patient's gender identity (i.e., health center did not have systems in place to routinely ask about gender identity). • Line 25: Chose not to disclose. Report patients who chose not to disclose their gender. • Line 26: Total Patients. Sum of lines 20–25.	• Line 22: Transgender male/ Female-to-Male: No change in definition. • Line 23: Transgender Female/ Male-to-Female. No change in definition. • Line 24: Other. No change in definition. • Line 25: Chose not to disclose. No change in definition. • Line 26: Total Patients. Sum of lines 20 + 21 + 22 + 23 + 24 + 25. The previous version of data elements from 2016 was: • Line 20: Male. A person who identifies themselves as a man/male. • Line 21: Female. A person who identifies themselves as a woman/female. • Line 22: Transgender male/ Female-to-Male. A transgender person whose gender identity is man/male may use these terms to describe themselves. Some may just use the term man. • Line 23: Transgender Female/ Male-to-Female. A transgender person whose gender identity is woman/female may use these terms to describe themselves. Some may just use the term woman. • Line 24: Other. A person who does not think that one of the four categories above adequately describes them. Include in this category persons who identify themselves as genderqueer or nonbinary. Also use this category to report patients where the health center does not know the patient's gender identity (i.e., health center did not have systems in place to routinely ask about gender identity). • Line 25: Chose not to disclose. A person who chose not to disclose their gender. • Line 26: Total Patients. Sum of Lines 20 + 21 + 22 + 23 + 24 + 25.
Household Relationships	Currently no SGM data elements are required to report in this category.	Not applicable.

ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND

Organizations Involved

The HRSA Bureau of Primary Health Care (BPHC) has responsibility for administration and oversight of the Health Center Programs under Section 330. HRSA aligns the selected quality of care and clinical health outcome and disparity measures in the UDS with the CMS electronic Clinical Quality Measures (eCQM), which are updated annually.

System Links

Data System Guideline

Find the 2016, 2017, and 2018 UDS user manuals under "UDS Reporting Resources."
https://bphc.hrsa.gov/datareporting/reporting/index.html

All other UDS user manuals from previous years are available on the Reginfo.gov site below.
https://www.reginfo.gov/public/Forward?SearchTarget=PRA&textfield=0915-0193

Data

The UDS provides an interactive data tool to filter UDS data by state and/or health center pertaining to awardee or look-alike health centers. To access national estimates, click "View the most recent national data, and browse previous years' data" using the links below.

Health Center Program Awardee Data
https://bphc.hrsa.gov/uds/datacenter.aspx?q=d

Health Center Look-Alike Data
https://bphc.hrsa.gov/uds/lookalikes.aspx

SGM data have been collected since 2016 but are currently unavailable to the public.

UDS data prior to 2016 are currently unavailable because of technical issues; data from previous years have been removed temporarily.

General Information

All information on the UDS can be found on HRSA's Health Center Program website, including News & Announcements, Health Center Program Awardee Data, Health Center Program Look-Alike Data, UDS Resources, and Health Center Research and Evaluation.
https://bphc.hrsa.gov/datareporting/index.html

More information about the Health Center Program can be accessed using the link below.
https://bphc.hrsa.gov/about/what-is-a-health-center/index.html

References

Bureau of Primary Health Care. Health Resources and Services Administration. About the Health Center Program.
https://bphc.hrsa.gov/about/what-is-a-health-center/index.html

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. eCQM Library. (2018).
https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Legislation/EHRIncentivePrograms/eCQM_Library.html

Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs. U.S. General Services Administration. Reginfo.gov.
https://www.reginfo.gov/public/Forward?SearchTarget=PRA&textfield=0915-0193