



## Alaska

**Number (Percent) of Responding Health Centers\*: 16 (80%)**

### Acquisition and Use of Electronic Health Information

Percent reporting that they **submit claims electronically**:

- 81% Yes
- 19% No
- 0% Don't Know

Percent reporting that they **use Electronic Medical Records (EMRs)**:

- 13% Yes, all electronic
- 25% Yes, part paper and part electronic
- 63% No

Percent reporting that they **plan to install a new EMR system or replace the current system** within the next 3 years:

- 56% Yes
- 6% No
- 31% Maybe
- 6% Don't Know

Percent reporting that have **more than one primary care delivery site**: 63%

Of these, percent reporting the capacity their other sites have on average:

- Less capacity than primary site: 60%
- About the same capacity: 40%
- Greater capacity: 0%

Percent reporting that they maintain any **disease-specific patient registries** (e.g., depression, diabetes, asthma): 88%

Percent reporting that they maintain any patient registries as part of HRSA's **Health Disparities Collaboratives**: 69%

### Barriers to Adopting Electronic Medical Records (EMRs)

| Respondents Rate the <b>Importance of Select Barriers</b> to Implementing an EMR at Their Health Center | <b>Not at all Important</b> | <b>Somewhat Important</b> | <b>Important</b> | <b>Very Important</b> |
|---|-----------------------------|---------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| Unable to integrate the EMR with practice's billing/claims submission system                            | 0%                          | 13%                       | 25%              | 63%                   |
| Added value of EMR does not justify investment  | 20%                         | 53%                       | 27%              | 0%                    |
| Lack of capital to invest in EMR  | 0%                          | 13%                       | 25%              | 63%                   |
| Lack of support from physicians   | 7%                          | 40%                       | 40%              | 13%                   |
| Lack of support from non-physician providers  | 7%                          | 40%                       | 53%              | 0%                    |
| Inability to evaluate, compare, and select the appropriate EMR system                                   | 21%                         | 21%                       | 36%              | 21%                   |
| Currently available software does not meet the health center's needs                                    | 13%                         | 7%                        | 53%              | 27%                   |
| Concern about loss of productivity or income during transition to the EMR system                        | 0%                          | 31%                       | 25%              | 44%                   |

## Alaska

### Health Information Technology Planning & Staffing

Percent reporting that they have a **dedicated health information technology staff person or Chief Information Officer**:

50% Yes  
50% No  
0% Don't Know

Percent reporting that they utilize the following **additional information systems** or computer support staff:<sup>^</sup>

A network: 13%  
Contractual arrangements: 63%  
Larger organizational structure:<sup>#</sup> 19%  
None of the above: 19%

| Reported role of <b>health center's governing board</b> in implementing an EMR: <sup>^</sup>  | Percent Reporting |
|---|-------------------|
| Approved a budget for implementation of an EMR  | 50%               |
| Approved/ assisted with the development of a strategic plan for health IT/EMR   | 25%               |
| Established a board workgroup on health center information technology issues  | 0%                |
| Identified or approved network partners for HIT   | 6%                |
| Had/has one or more representatives serving on a regional health information organization (RHIO) or similar health information technology organization <sup>†</sup> | 0%                |
| Initiated efforts to highlight health information technology adoption at the health center  | 19%               |

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#### About the 2006 Survey of Health Center Use of Electronic Health Information

The National Association of Community Health Centers, Harvard Medical School/MGH, and George Washington University conducted and funded this survey, with additional survey assistance from faculty at Yale University. Executive Directors of all federally-funded health centers in 2004 (N=914) received the survey by mail and email, and data were collected from March through May 2006. National response rate is 79.5%. Data in this fact sheet are based on available responses. The maximum percent of responses nationwide that were missing for questions on barriers was 6.9%, and 1.7% for any other question. The final report is forthcoming. For more information, email [healthit@nachc.com](mailto:healthit@nachc.com).

Note: Responses may not total 100% due to rounding.

\* Based on the number of federally-funded health centers in 2004. For more recent information, see [www.nachc.com/research/ssbysdat.asp](http://www.nachc.com/research/ssbysdat.asp).

<sup>^</sup> Health centers may select all that apply and therefore responses do not total 100%.

<sup>#</sup> I.e., affiliate medical center, university, or health department.

<sup>†</sup> In some states, the Primary Care Association may be an active participant in a RHIO or state-wide initiative promoting health information exchange.