

## **Section 13. Health Science and Services**

### **GOALS**

The University of California plays a critically important role in training health professionals, delivering essential health care services and undertaking scientific research in the health and related sciences. UC's research discoveries help prevent and cure diseases, create new technologies for diagnosing and treating illnesses, and develop strategies for staying healthy. In addition, UC operates the largest health sciences instructional program in the nation, enrolling more than 14,000 students and encompassing 16 schools at seven campuses. Between UC's health science training programs, direct patient care activities, health research and contracts and grants, about half of the University's operations are health-related.

The ultimate goal of all UC health sciences and services programs is to train skilled, knowledgeable and compassionate health care professionals who deliver outstanding services, to conduct research that improves health care and advances life-saving technologies and to provide high-quality care to the people of California.

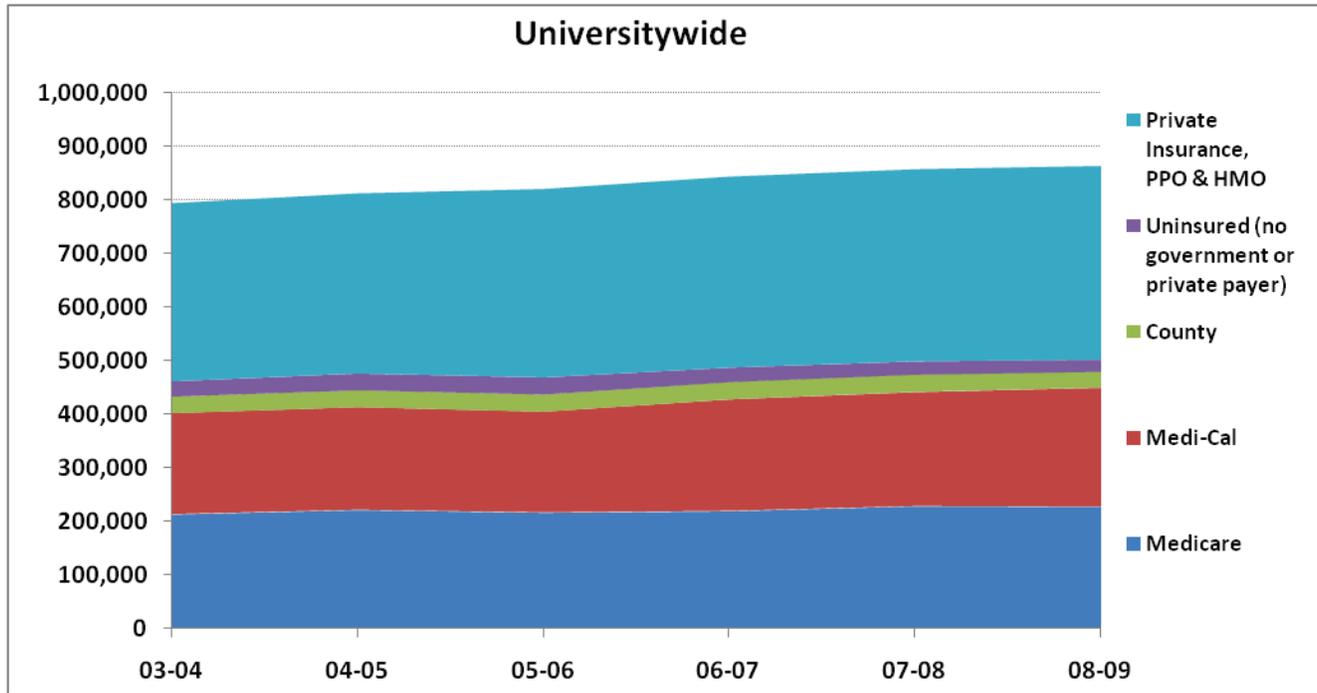
### **NARRATIVE**

UC's vast Health Sciences and Services (HSS) area cuts across multiple domains—teaching, research and service. This section presents measures that focus on the public service role of UC's health service enterprise, showing how much care the UC hospitals and clinics provide to patients, many of whom are without health insurance. Additional metrics about medical and health science education are in the graduate professional degree student section; health sciences faculty in the faculty section; health science research and funding metrics in the research and budget sections; and metrics about the quality of UC's health sciences programs are in the rankings section.

### **LOOKING FORWARD**

The January 2010 Health Sciences and Services Accountability Report provides a fuller description of the broad sweep of the University's activities in health sciences and services: [www.universityofcalifornia.edu/accountability](http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/accountability). Medical center financial reports are at [www.universityofcalifornia.edu/reportingtransparency](http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/reportingtransparency). Additional information about UC's Health Sciences and Services programs at the Office of the President is at [www.ucop.edu/hss](http://www.ucop.edu/hss).

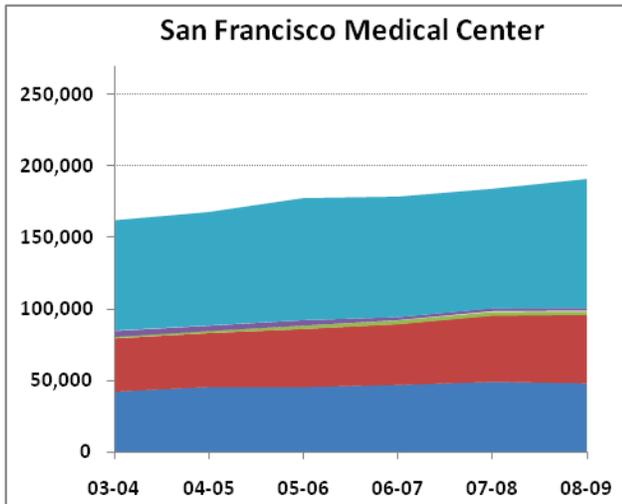
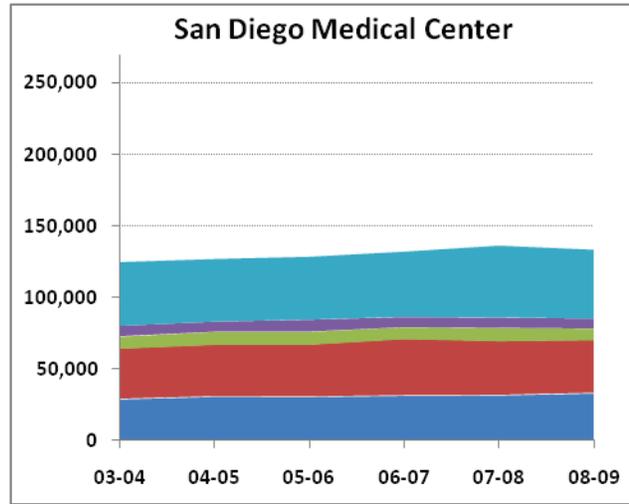
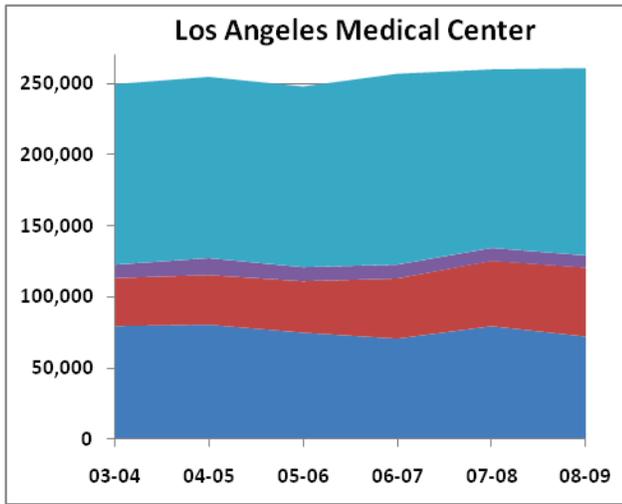
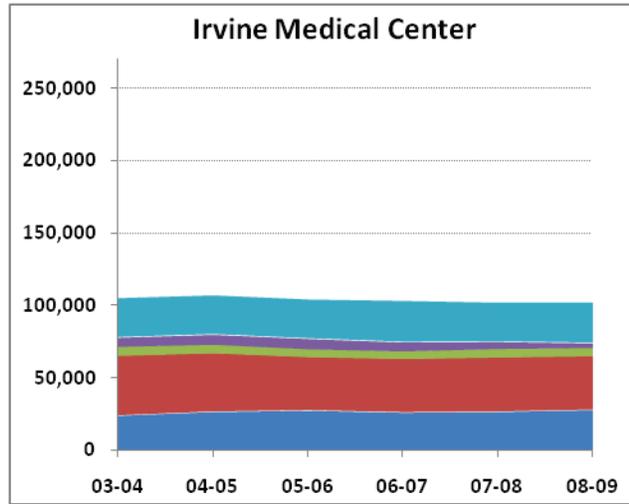
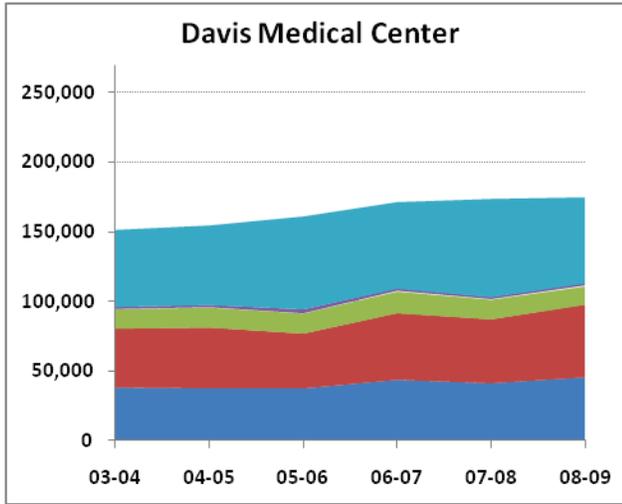
**Indicator 83**  
**Hospital Inpatient Days, 2003-04 to 2008-09**



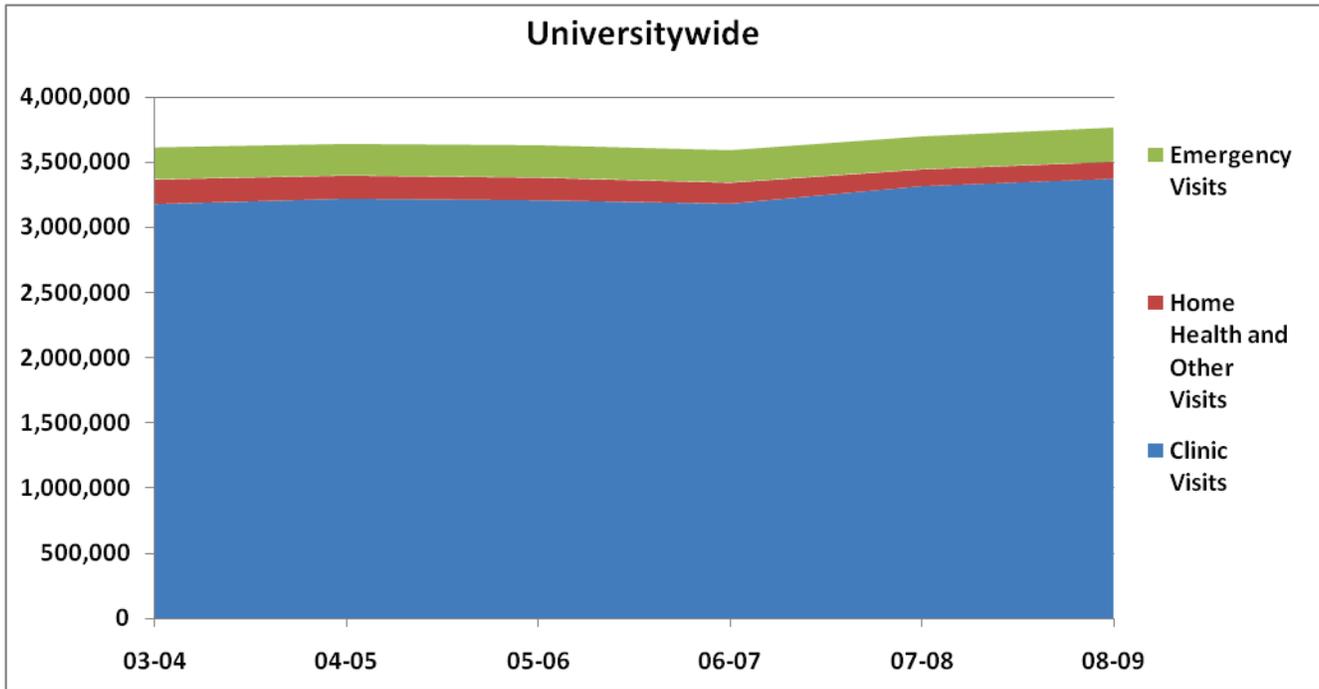
- The University’s academic medical centers operate in urban areas, and three of the five centers are former county hospitals. Each medical center has several primary care and specialty clinics distributed in the communities they serve.
- In addition to providing primary and specialty care, UC medical centers treat critically ill newborns, care for cancer patients and treat half of all transplant patients and one-quarter of extensive burn cases in California. They also treat patients from other hospitals that have exhausted all efforts and consider UC to be hospitals of last resort.
- “Inpatient days” represents the total number of days that all patients spend in a hospital bed. The graphs presented here display the total number of inpatient days at the five UC medical centers by the type of insurance the patient has.
- Across the five UC medical centers, 60 percent of inpatient days are used by Medicare, Medi-Cal, county coverage or uninsured patients.
- Statewide, UC’s five medical centers accounted for 4 percent of inpatient days of low-income patients, i.e., those with Medi-Cal or without insurance.

Source: University of California Medical Centers Report on Audit of Financial Statements ([www.universityofcalifornia.edu/finreports](http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/finreports))

**Indicator 83 (continued) Hospital Inpatient Days, 2003-04 to 2008-09**



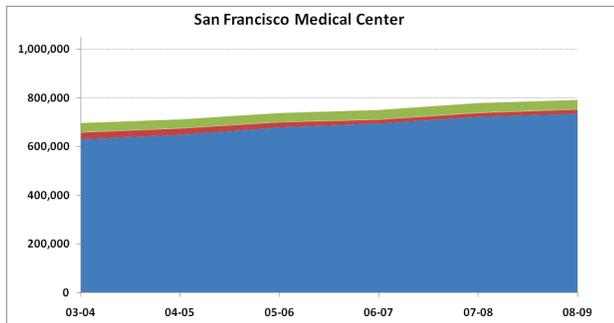
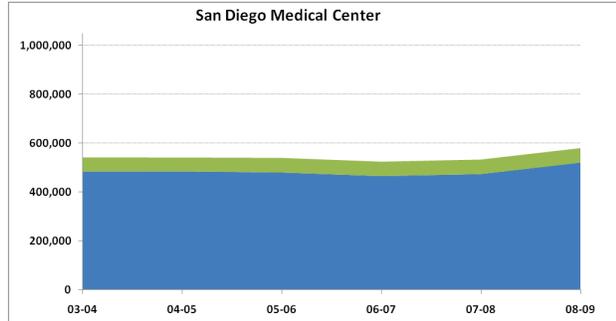
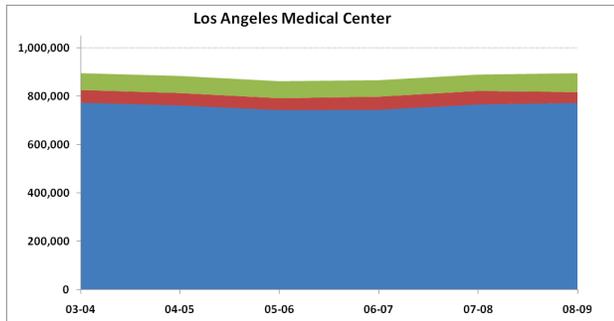
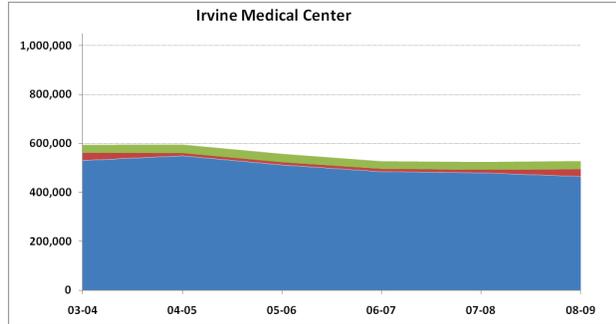
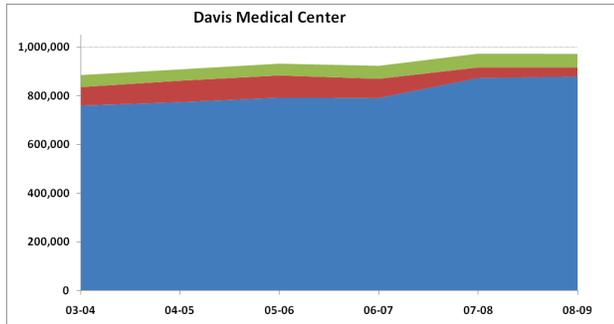
**Indicator 84**  
**Outpatient Visits, 2003-04 to 2008-09**



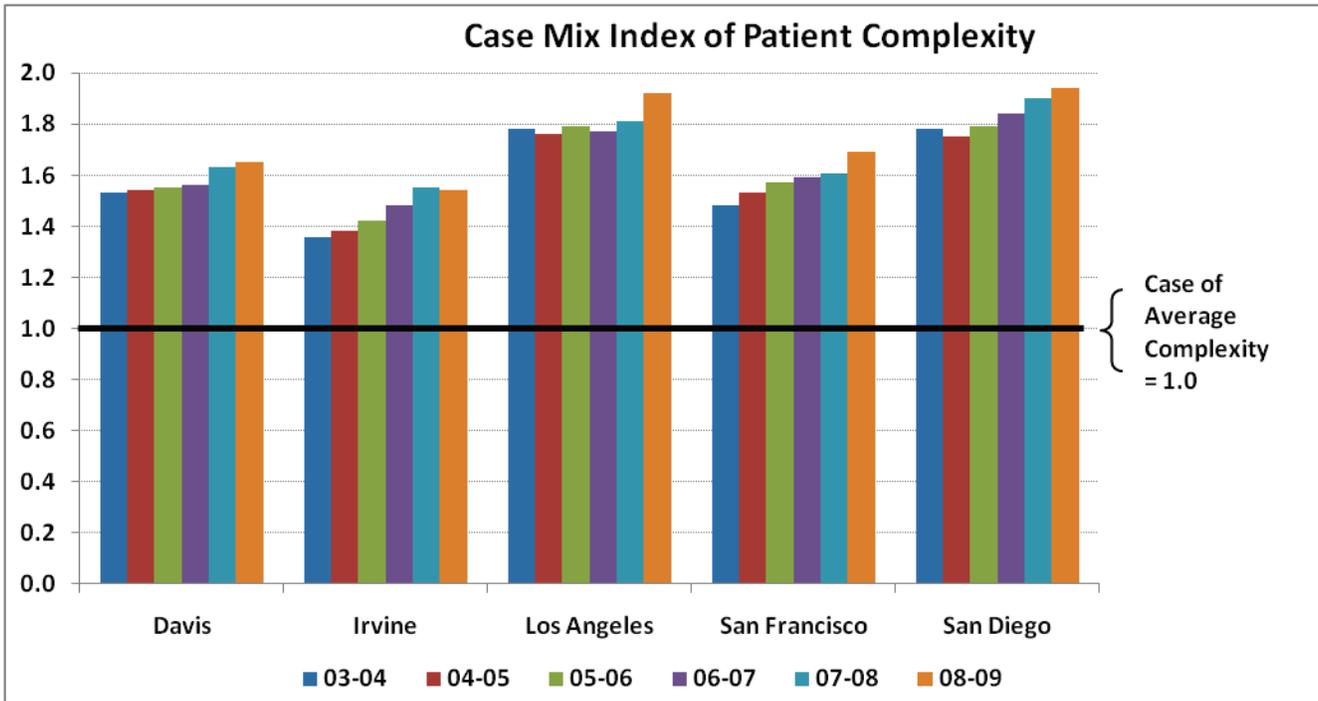
- Outpatient visits are defined as visits in which patients see either a physician or nurse practitioner in a clinic. Visits to other units, such as radiology, laboratory and physical therapy, are not counted as outpatient visits.
- The University’s five medical centers handle about 3.8 million outpatient clinic visits annually and constitute the fourth-largest health care system in California.
- The medical centers provide a full range of health care services and are sites for testing the application of new knowledge and the development of new diagnostic and therapeutic techniques.
- Together, the five medical centers accounted for 5 percent of the outpatient visits by California’s Medi-Cal and uninsured patients.

Source: University of California Medical Centers Report on Audit of Financial Statements ([www.universityofcalifornia.edu/finreports](http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/finreports))

## Indicator 84 (continued) Outpatient Visits, 2003-04 to 2008-09



**Indicator 85**  
**Patient Complexity, 2003-04 to 2008-09**



- The Case Mix Index is a standard hospital metric for addressing the question, “How sick are our patients?” Hospitals with more seriously ill patients score higher on the index, which translates into more resources used by the hospital and higher cost. An average hospital scores 1.0 on the index.
- UC’s patients generally have more complex medical conditions, which often can be managed only in tertiary referral hospitals like UC hospitals, than patients at other hospitals.
- UC medical centers must balance their role as a safety net with the need to treat patients with highly advanced medical conditions that require state-of-the-art equipment and technology.

Source: University of California Medical Centers Report on Audit of Financial Statements ([www.universityofcalifornia.edu/finreports](http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/finreports))