

# Facility Fee Payments for Outpatient Care Reduce Costs and Improve Outcomes



6.2 million visits in 2023 at six THOT-member health systems.

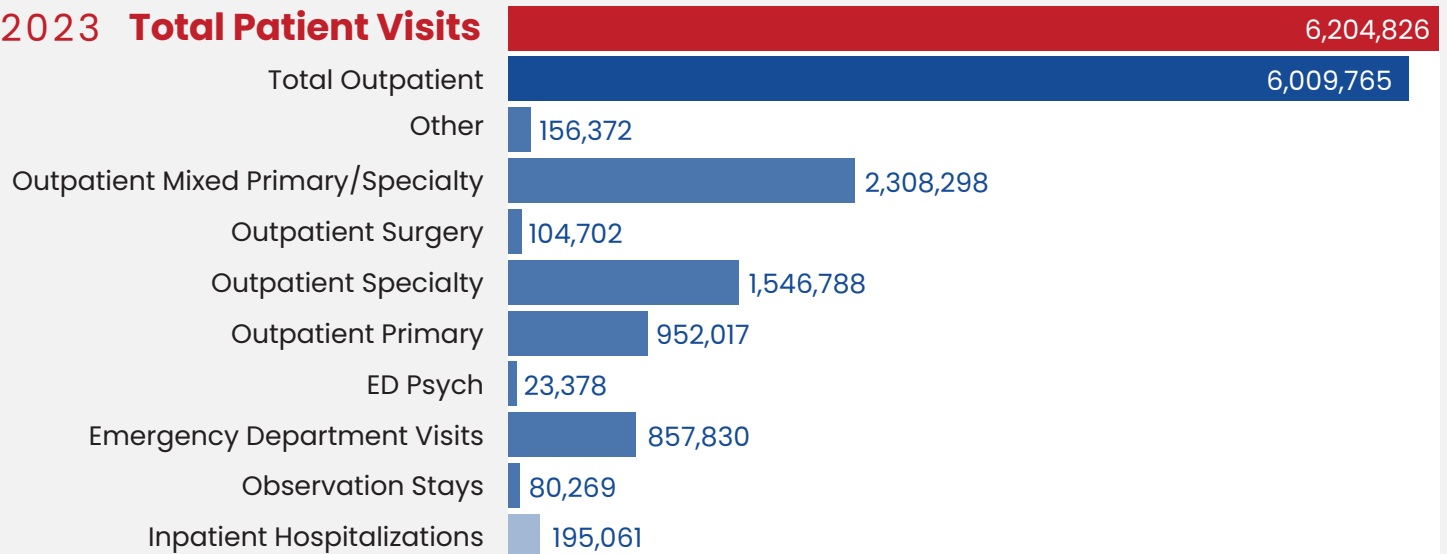


97 percent of visits are outpatient visits.<sup>1</sup>



Outpatient clinics provide primary and specialty care in areas where access to care is typically limited.

## 2023 Total Patient Visits



- THOT members' investments in neighborhood clinics is part of a long-term strategy to increase access, reduce costs, and improve care.<sup>2</sup>
- Nearly 90 percent of outpatient clinics are in neighborhoods with access to care challenges based on, for example, income, lack of insurance, health status, or transportation. Most are in neighborhoods with multiple obstacles to accessing needed care. (See maps on page 2.)
- These clinics provide uninsured Texans access to one of the most cost-effective, integrated options to access care, including preventive, primary, specialty, and, when needed, inpatient hospital, care.

## Outpatient Sites of Care



Primary and specialty care clinics



School-based clinics



Homeless shelters



Behavioral health clinics



Telehealth visits at patients' desired location

<sup>1</sup> Outpatient visits include emergency department visits because a hospital ED is not considered part of the inpatient facility and visits billed as "observation" visits, where a patient is monitored in the hospital setting to determine if hospital admission is required.

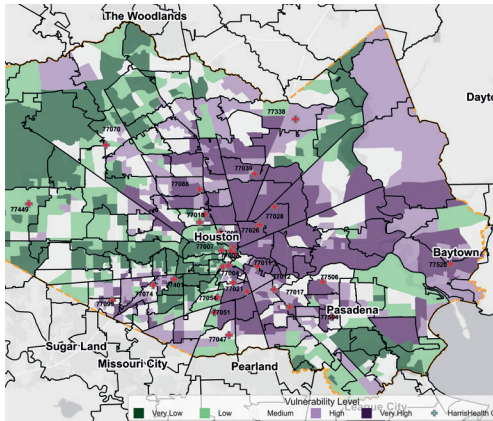
<sup>2</sup> Data from the 1990s showed providing care in hospitals' neighborhood communities reduced emergency department use, reduced hospital length of stay when inpatient care was needed, and reduced costs



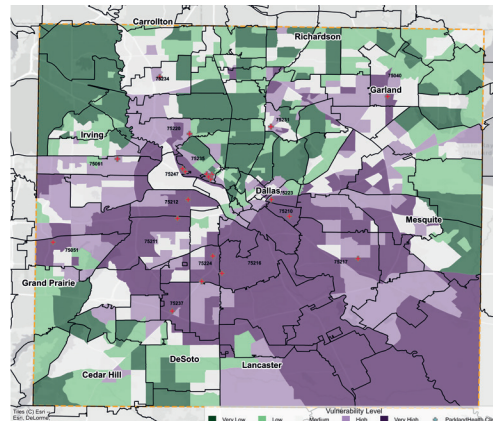
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The maps below show the concentration of outpatient sites of care (red) in neighborhoods with significant access challenges (purple). The darker shades of purple indicate greater access challenges.

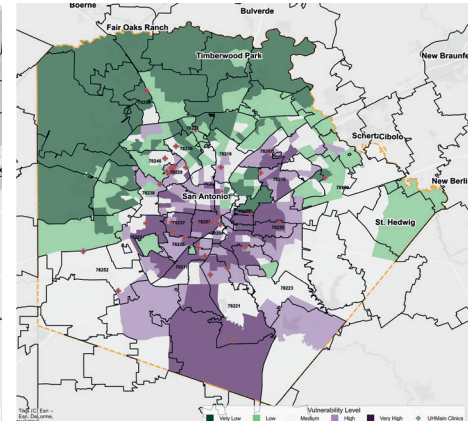
**Harris Health-Access Challenges**



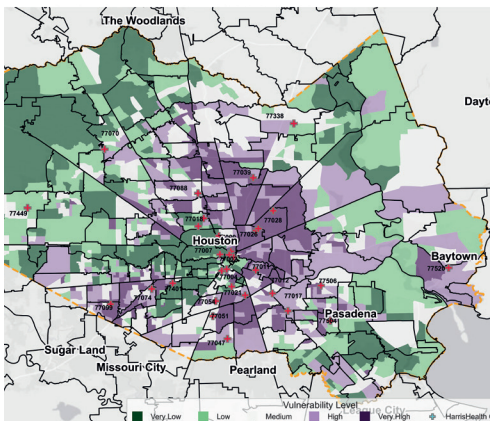
**Parkland Health-Access Challenges**



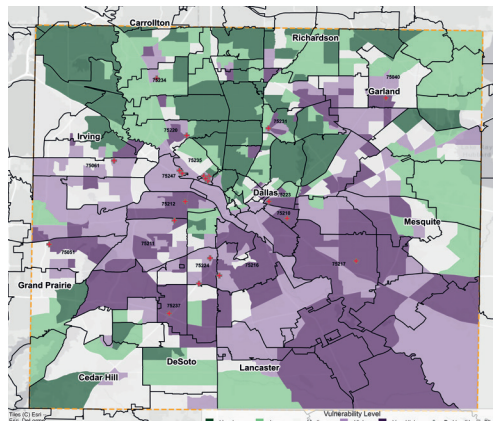
**UH Main-Access Challenges**



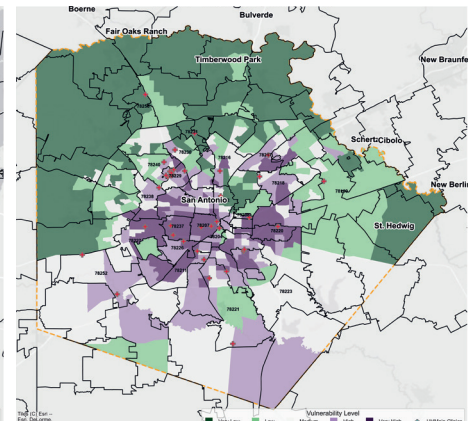
**Harris Health-Median Household Income**



**Parkland Health-Mental Health**



**UH Main-Median Household Income**



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## About THOT

Teaching Hospitals of Texas is the state's principal voice and advocate for hospitals and health systems that teach, train, and mentor the next generation of physicians, nurses, and other healthcare professionals. THOT members anchor the state's trauma and disaster response infrastructure, provide world-class tertiary and community-based care, and support policies and funding to ensure healthcare access for all Texans.