



What are Community Health Centers?

Community health centers deliver high-quality, affordable care to patients and reduce costs for America’s healthcare system. Health centers are consumer-governed, patient-centered health care organizations that provide cost-effective primary care in medically underserved communities. Health centers ensure access to patients regardless of income and insurance status by offering services on a sliding-fee scale. Health centers improve access to primary care as well as integrated specialty services such as preventive, behavioral, substance use treatment, oral, vision and pharmacy services. Additionally, health centers offer a host of ancillary services to support patients’ needs around food insecurity, housing, transportation, language access, and other social determinants of health. **Health centers...**

- Serve as the health care home for nearly **32.5 million patients** in over **16,000 communities** across the country
- **Integrate medical, specialty and social services** such as mental health, substance use treatment, oral health, case management, translation services, transportation, and employment services
- Reduce health care costs, **saving** an average of **24% per Medicaid patient** compared to other providers
- Create **340,000 jobs** and generate an estimated **\$118.4 billion in total economic impact** in local communities
- Provide care to **419,000 veterans**, **1.4 million** patients experiencing homelessness, **3.8 million** adults over age 65, and **1 in 9 children**.

Health Centers in Rhode Island

RI Health Centers

Total Health Centers	8
Service Delivery Sites	65
% Rural	13%
% with MOUD Services	100%
% Utilizing Telehealth	100%

RI Patients

Children	53,565
Older adults	23,455
Patients experiencing homelessness	5,145
Veterans	2,243
Agricultural workers	1,531
Total patients	210,125

RI Services and Staff

Physicians	116
NPs/PAs/CNMs	141
Nurses	216
Behavioral Health Specialists	194
Pharmacy	18
Dental	198
Vision	12
Enabling Services	212
Other	2
Total FTEs*	2,317

	Health Center Population	State Population
Below Poverty Level	27%	10%
Uninsured	9%	5%
Medicaid	55%	22%
Medicare	11%	21%
Dually Eligible	3%	
Private Insurance	25%	71%

*FTEs = Full Time Equivalents **Notes:** Data includes health centers receiving Health Center Program Section 330 grants and Look-Alikes. **Sources:** 2023 Uniform Data System, BPHC, HRSA, DHHS. 2023 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau.