



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 Alaska

AK Health Centers

Total Health Centers	29
Service Delivery Sites	199
% Rural	97%
% with MOUD Services	59%
% Utilizing Telehealth	97%

AK Patients

Children	24,937
Older adults	20,751
Patients experiencing homelessness	4,575
Veterans	4,514
Agricultural workers	351
Total patients	112,659

AK Services and Staff

Physicians	163
NPs/PAs/CNMs	234
Nurses	113
Behavioral Health Specialists	192
Pharmacy	66
Dental	173
Vision	28
Enabling Services	184
Other	324
Total FTEs*	2,725

	Health Center Population	State Population
Below Poverty Level	21%	10%
Uninsured	16%	10%
Medicaid	34%	24%
Medicare	16%	15%
Dually Eligible	6%	
Private Insurance	34%	66%

*FTEs = Full Time Equivalents **Notes:** State data include only health centers receiving Health Center Program Section 330 grants. **Sources:** 2023 Uniform Data System, BPHC, HRSA, DHHS. 2023 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau. Detailed sources are available at <http://www.nachc.org/research-and-data/state-level-data-maps/>.