



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 Colorado

CO Health Centers

Total Health Centers	20
Service Delivery Sites	266
% Rural	45%
% with MOUD Services	90%
% Utilizing Telehealth	100%

CO Patients

Children	192,510
Older adults	64,148
Patients experiencing homelessness	28,381
Veterans	14,459
Agricultural workers	17,465
Total patients	659,977

CO Services and Staff

Physicians	310
NPs/PAs/CNMs	437
Nurses	306
Behavioral Health Specialists	356
Pharmacy	224
Dental	564
Vision	6
Enabling Services	846
Other	25
Total FTEs*	6,401

	Health Center Population	State Population
Below Poverty Level	50%	9%
Uninsured	23%	7%
Medicaid	49%	19%
Medicare	8%	17%
Dually Eligible	4%	
Private Insurance	17%	70%

*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.