



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 Louisiana

LA Health Centers

Total Health Centers	41
Service Delivery Sites	442
% Rural	37%
% with MOUD Services	51%
% Utilizing Telehealth	98%

LA Patients

Children	125,609
Older adults	49,394
Patients experiencing homelessness	31,233
Veterans	4,011
Agricultural workers	4,828
Total patients	503,329

LA Services and Staff

Physicians	144
NPs/PAs/CNMs	355
Nurses	360
Behavioral Health Specialists	448
Pharmacy	136
Dental	288
Vision	4
Enabling Services	640
Other	15
Total FTEs*	4,762

	Health Center Population	State Population
Below Poverty Level	44%	18%
Uninsured	13%	7%
Medicaid	59%	32%
Medicare	11%	20%
Dually Eligible	5%	
Private Insurance	17%	58%

*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.