

What are Health Centers?

Community, Migrant, Homeless, Public Housing, and other Health Center Program grantees are **non-profit, community-directed providers** that remove common barriers to care by serving communities who otherwise confront financial, geographic, language, cultural and other barriers. Known as health centers, they:

- are **located in high-need areas** identified as having elevated poverty, higher than average infant mortality, and where few physicians practice;
- are **open to all residents**, regardless of insurance status or ability to pay;
- **tailor services** to fit the special needs and priorities of their communities, and provide services in a linguistically and culturally appropriate manner;
- provide **comprehensive primary and other health care services**, including services that help their patients access care, such as transportation, translation, and case management;
- **provide high quality care**, reducing health disparities and improving patient outcomes;¹ and
- are **cost effective**, reducing costly emergency, hospital, and specialty care, and **saving the health care system \$24 billion a year nationally.**²

Massachusetts Federally-Supported Health Centers, 2014

Number of Grantee Organizations	37
Percent with Electronic Health Record System Installed ³	92%
Percent with Patient Centered Medical Home Recognition ³	85%
Number of Delivery Sites	264
Total Patients	690,821
Percent Growth in Number of Patients since 2010	17%
Percent of Patients Served by Rural Organizations	27%
Number of Migrant/Seasonal Farmworker Patients	2,744
Number of Homeless Patients	37,006
Number of Veterans Served	10,317

Population Characteristics⁴

	<u>Health Center Population</u>	<u>State Population</u>	<u>US Population</u>
Percent at or Below 100% of Poverty	67%	14%	15%
Percent Under 200% of Poverty	89%	29%	34%
Percent Uninsured	15%	4%	10%
Percent Medicaid	49%	24%	19%
Percent Medicare	10%	13%	13%
Percent Hispanic/Latino	33%	11%	17%
Percent African American	18%	8%	13%
Percent Asian/Pacific Islander	10%	6%	6%
Percent American Indian/Alaska Native	0%	0%	1%
Percent White	48%	83%	77%

Massachusetts Health Center Fact Sheet, 2014

Patient Visits and Patients by Selected Primary Diagnoses and Services⁵

	<u>Patient Visits</u>	<u>Patients</u>
<i>Medical Conditions</i>		
Hypertension	301,117	105,423
Diabetes mellitus	236,505	54,075
Heart Disease	62,434	19,049
Asthma	81,901	39,827
Depression and Other Mood Disorders	315,259	65,765
Anxiety and PTSD	234,974	45,476
Substance Abuse	258,068	N/A
Other Mental Disorders	154,425	N/A
<i>Preventive Services</i>		
Health Supervision Ages 0-11	107,968	70,759
Immunizations	331,005	N/A
Oral Dental Exams	160,791	119,261
Pap Test	51,407	48,973
Mammogram	26,053	24,707
Hepatitis B and C Test	96,534	71,236
HIV Test	57,937	49,631

Health Center Staff and Related Patient Visit⁶

	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Patient Visits</u>
Physicians	481.7	1,359,774
NPs/PAs/CNMs	337.8	699,622
Nurses	718.9	190,240
Dentists	175.5	402,195
Dental Hygienists	76.5	109,686
Mental Health Specialists	344.0	341,930
Pharmacy	133.7	N/A
Total Enabling Services	849.2	234,923
Vision	66.0	112,645
Other Staff	4,723.6	93,521
Total Staff	7,906.9	3,544,536

Percent of Health Centers with Staff to Provide Select Services Onsite⁷

<i>Clinical Services</i>	
General Primary Medical Care	97%
Preventive Dental Care	81%
Mental Health and/or Substance Abuse Treatment Counseling	81%
Vision	59%
Pharmacy	46%
<i>Enabling Services</i>	
Case Management	84%
Eligibility Assistance	95%
Health Education	73%
Interpretation/Translation Services	49%
Transportation	19%
Outreach	76%

Health Center Costs of Care⁸

Average Cost per Patient

Medical Costs per Medical Patient	\$686
Dental Costs per Dental Patient	\$490
Total Cost per Total Patient	\$1,316

Average Cost per Patient Visit

Medical Cost per Medical Patient Visit	\$196
Dental Costs per Dental Patient Visit	\$159
Mental Health and Substance Abuse Costs per Mental Health and Substance Abuse Health Patient Visit	\$135

Note: Data reflected in this fact sheet may underreport the true volume of care delivered by health centers. In this document, unless otherwise noted, the term "health centers" refers to organizations that receive grants under the Health Center Program as authorized under section 330 of the Public Health Service Act, as amended. This fact sheet does not include data for those health centers that do not receive Health Center Program grants. This includes those entities known as Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) "Look-Alikes." In 2014 there were 81 FQHC Look-Alikes across the United States.

For sources and endnotes visit http://www.nachc.com/client//StateFS_Sources.pdf. For more information, email research@nachc.com or visit www.massleague.org.