



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 Illinois

IL Health Centers

Total Health Centers	50
Service Delivery Sites	510
% Rural	24%
% with MOUD Services	74%
% Utilizing Telehealth	98%

IL Patients

Children	469,576
Older adults	115,525
Patients experiencing homelessness	44,688
Veterans	9,337
Agricultural workers	9,111
Total patients	1,459,452

IL Services and Staff

Physicians	775
NPs/PAs/CNMs	837
Nurses	659
Behavioral Health Specialists	651
Pharmacy	54
Dental	457
Vision	11
Enabling Services	1,495
Other	33
Total FTEs*	11,056

	Health Center Population	State Population
Below Poverty Level	54%	11%
Uninsured	16%	6%
Medicaid	61%	20%
Medicare	7%	18%
Dually Eligible	3%	
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.