



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 Massachusetts

MA Health Centers

Total Health Centers	37
Service Delivery Sites	276
% Rural	14%
% with MOUD Services	92%
% Utilizing Telehealth	97%

MA Patients

Children	169,865
Older adults	111,439
Patients experiencing homelessness	43,944
Veterans	7,755
Agricultural workers	10,057
Total patients	818,875

MA Services and Staff

Physicians	541
NPs/PAs/CNMs	583
Nurses	955
Behavioral Health Specialists	719
Pharmacy	375
Dental	614
Vision	130
Enabling Services	1,208
Other	61
Total FTEs*	10,699

	Health Center Population	State Population
Below Poverty Level	40%	10%
Uninsured	13%	3%
Medicaid	47%	23%
Medicare	12%	19%
Dually Eligible	7%	
Private Insurance	25%	73%

*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.