

What are Community Health Centers?

Community, Migrant, and Homeless Health Centers 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. Also known as Federally-Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), 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

Florida Federally-Supported Health Centers, 2008

Number of Organizations	41
Number of Delivery Sites	372
Total Patients	877,322
Number Migrant/Seasonal Farmworker Patients	71,341
Number Homeless Patients	65,390

	Health Center Population	State Population ³	US Population ³
Percent at or Below 100% of Poverty	68%	18%	17%
Percent Under 200% of Poverty	87%	37%	32%
Percent Uninsured	53%	20%	15%
Percent Medicaid	28%	10%	14%
Percent Medicare	6%	17%	12%
Percent Hispanic/Latino	35%	21%	15%
Percent African American	25%	16%	13%
Percent Asian/Pacific Islander	1%	2%	5%
Percent American Indian/Alaska Native	0%	0%	1%
Percent White	56%	80%	80%
Percent Rural	62%	5%	16%

Race/Ethnicity may not sum to 100% due to rounding and non-inclusion of two or more races. 0% may indicate <0.5%. Rural data from 2007.

Percent of Vulnerable Florida Residents Served by Federally-Supported Health Centers⁴

Percent of Low Income, Uninsured, 2008	20%
Percent of Medicaid Beneficiaries, 2006	6%
Percent of Population at or Below 100% of Poverty, 2008	19%

Economic Benefits of Federally-Supported Health Centers

Wasted Expenditures on Avoidable Emergency Department Visits, 2006⁵	\$1,061,420,739
Economic Benefits Generated for Local Communities, 2006 ⁶	\$537,168,777

Florida Health Center Fact Sheet, 2008

Data for federally-funded health centers only and may therefore underreport the true volume of care. See note below.

Health Center Staff and Related Patient Visits

	FTE*	Patient Visits
Primary Care Physicians	363.0	1,555,532
NPs/PAs/CNMs	192.3	599,151
Nurses	499.8	284,878
Dentists	84.1	263,161
Dental Hygienists	40.8	58,287
Behavioral Health Specialists [#]	140.7	247,298
Pharmacy	141.7	N/A
Total Enabling Services [†]	420.9	259,822
Other Staff	3,090.1	N/A
Total	4,973.4	3,329,238

* Full-time equivalent.

[#] Includes psychiatrists, psychologists, and licensed or credentialed behavioral health providers.

[†] Includes outreach workers, health educators, case managers, translators, transportation, eligibility assistance workers, and child care workers. Not all staff have related patient visits.

Patient Visits and Patients by Selected Primary Diagnoses and Services

	Patient Visits	Patients
Medical Conditions		
Hypertension	196,380	88,638
Diabetes mellitus	139,284	49,841
Heart Disease (Selected)	21,682	10,210
Asthma	35,392	21,863
Depression & Other Mood Disorders	106,233	31,026
All Mental Health & Substance Abuse	283,536	N/A
Preventive Services		
Health Supervision Ages 0-11*	232,435	120,391
Selected Immunizations [#]	193,975	135,097
Oral Dental Exams	155,946	110,066
Pap Test	93,365	87,476
Mammogram	14,562	14,046
HIV Test	52,511	47,843

* Well child visits. [#] Includes DPT, MMR, polio, influenza, hepatitis A & B, HiB, etc.

Health Centers Providing Select Services Onsite*

Professional Services	
General Primary Medical Care	100%
Prenatal Care	58%
Preventive Dental Care	73%
Mental Health Treatment/Counseling	65%
Substance Abuse Treatment & Counseling	30%
Hearing Screening	88%
Vision Screening	95%
Pharmacy	55%
Preventive Services	
Smoking Cessation Program	53%
HIV Testing And Counseling	93%
Glycosylated Hemoglobin Measurement, Diabetes	83%
Blood Pressure Monitoring	100%
Blood Cholesterol Screening	93%
Weight Reduction Program	68%
Enabling Services	
Case Management	95%
Eligibility Assistance	98%
Health Education	100%
Interpretation/Translation Services	95%
Transportation	35%
Out stationed Eligibility Workers	30%

* "Onsite" includes services rendered by employees, contracted providers, volunteers and others who render services in the health center's name. Health centers may also provide services through formal referral arrangements. Data based on 2007 UDS.

Health Center Costs of Care

Average Cost per Patient	
Medical Costs per Medical Patient*	\$332
Dental Costs per Dental Patient	\$296
Total Cost per Total Patient [#]	\$473
Average Cost per Patient Visit	
Medical Cost per Medical Patient Visit	\$113
Dental Costs per Dental Patient Visit	\$126

* Excludes lab and x-ray as in previous years.

[#] Includes the total cost of all services over total users.

Sources and Notes

Unless otherwise specified, this fact sheet is based on Bureau of Primary Health Care, HRSA, DHHS, 2008 Uniform Data System (UDS). It includes data from Federally-Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) that receive federal health center grants and are therefore required to report administrative, clinical and other information. Data do not account for a category of FQHCs that does not receive these funds, known as FQHC Look-Alikes. There are approximately 100 FQHC Look-Alikes across the United States. Consequently, data reflected in this fact sheet may underreport the true volume of care delivered by health centers.

¹ See Summaries of Literature on Health Centers, Quality of Care, www.nachc.com/research.

² GWU, *Using Primary Care to Bend the Curve: Estimating the Impact of a Health Center Expansion on Health Care Costs*, September 2009, www.gwhealthpolicy.org.

³ Kaiser Family Foundation, State Health Facts Online, www.statehealthfacts.org. U.S. Census Bureau, Table 4: Annual Estimates of the Population by Race Alone and Hispanic or Latino Origin for the United States and States: July 2008. Released May 2009. www.census.gov/popest/states/.

⁴ Compares health center UDS data to state population data, respectively. State population data come from Kaiser Family Foundation, State Health Facts Online. www.statehealthfacts.kff.org.

⁵ NACHC and Association of Community Affiliated Plans, *The Impact of Health Centers and Community-Affiliated Health Plans on Emergency Department Use*, April 2007, www.nachc.com/research.

⁶ NACHC, Robert Graham Center, and Capital Link, *Access Granted*, August 2007, www.nachc.com/research.

For more information, email research@nachc.com or visit www.fahc.org.

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