

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

West Virginia Federally-Supported Health Centers, 2008

Number of Organizations	28
Number of Delivery Sites	188
Total Patients	346,650
Number Migrant/Seasonal Farmworker Patients	1,413
Number Homeless Patients	7,283

	Health Center Population	State Population ³	US Population ³
Percent at or Below 100% of Poverty	55%	19%	17%
Percent Under 200% of Poverty	91%	40%	32%
Percent Uninsured	26%	15%	15%
Percent Medicaid	23%	15%	14%
Percent Medicare	14%	17%	12%
Percent Hispanic/Latino	1%	1%	15%
Percent African American	3%	4%	13%
Percent Asian/Pacific Islander	0%	1%	5%
Percent American Indian/Alaska Native	0%	0%	1%
Percent White	91%	95%	80%
Percent Rural	92%	43%	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 West Virginia Residents Served by Federally-Supported Health Centers⁴

Percent of Low Income, Uninsured , 2008	55%
Percent of Medicaid Beneficiaries , 2006	17%
Percent of Population at or Below 100% of Poverty , 2008	55%

Economic Benefits of Federally-Supported Health Centers

Wasted Expenditures on Avoidable Emergency Department Visits , 2006 ⁵	\$180,480,840
Economic Benefits Generated for Local Communities, 2006 ⁶	\$294,209,387

West Virginia 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	179.0	684,884
NPs/PAs/CNMs	128.3	392,832
Nurses	274.7	41,129
Dentists	14.6	34,222
Dental Hygienists	12.0	15,308
Behavioral Health Specialists [#]	31.3	40,066
Pharmacy	64.5	N/A
Total Enabling Services [†]	95.6	63,504
Other Staff	1,164.4	N/A
Total	1,964.4	1,283,185

* 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	91,174	44,645
Diabetes mellitus	64,954	24,484
Heart Disease (Selected)	21,488	9,407
Asthma	12,815	8,320
Depression & Other Mood Disorders	31,795	13,189
All Mental Health & Substance Abuse	84,345	N/A
Preventive Services		
Health Supervision Ages 0-11*	42,684	26,353
Selected Immunizations [#]	75,226	56,888
Oral Dental Exams	18,080	13,987
Pap Test	48,002	44,778
Mammogram	15,782	15,012
HIV Test	3,739	3,524

* 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	57%
Preventive Dental Care	50%
Mental Health Treatment/Counseling	86%
Substance Abuse Treatment & Counseling	61%
Hearing Screening	100%
Vision Screening	100%
Pharmacy	50%
Preventive Services	
Smoking Cessation Program	71%
HIV Testing And Counseling	75%
Glycosylated Hemoglobin Measurement, Diabetes	86%
Blood Pressure Monitoring	100%
Blood Cholesterol Screening	93%
Weight Reduction Program	89%
Enabling Services	
Case Management	86%
Eligibility Assistance	96%
Health Education	93%
Interpretation/Translation Services	57%
Transportation	32%
Out stationed Eligibility Workers	7%

* "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	Cost
Medical Costs per Medical Patient*	\$349
Dental Costs per Dental Patient	\$282
Total Cost per Total Patient [#]	\$487

Average Cost per Patient Visit	Cost
Medical Cost per Medical Patient Visit	\$114
Dental Costs per Dental Patient Visit	\$131

* 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.wvpc.org.

This publication was supported by Grant/Cooperative Agreement Number U30CS16089 from the Health Resources and Services Administration, Bureau of Primary Health Care (HRSA/BPHC). Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of HRSA/BPHC.