



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
- are **cost effective**, reducing costly emergency, hospital, and specialty care, and **saving the health care system between \$9.9 to \$17.6 billion a year nationally**.²

Rhode Island Federally-Supported Health Centers

Number of Organizations	7
Number of Delivery Sites	49
Total Patients	99,975
Number Migrant/Seasonal Farmworker Patients	13
Number Homeless Patients	2,198

	Health Center Population	State Population ³	US Population ³
Percent at or Below 100% of Poverty , 2007	68%	14%	17%
Percent Under 200% of Poverty , 2007	93%	31%	36%
Percent Uninsured , 2007	27%	10%	12%
Percent Medicaid , 2007	41%	18%	13%
Percent Medicare , 2007	5%	11%	15%
Percent Hispanic/Latino , 2007*	32%	11%	15%
Percent African American , 2007*	14%	6%	13%
Percent Asian/Pacific Islander , 2007*	3%	3%	5%
Percent American Indian/Alaska Native , 2007*	1%	1%	1%
Percent White (Including Hispanic/Latino), 2007*	81%	89%	80%
Percent Rural , 2007	27%	0%	16%

* May not sum to 100% due to rounding and non-inclusion of two or more races. 0% may indicate <0.5%. Health center racial and ethnic population data may vary from last year due to changes in reporting.

Percent of Vulnerable Rhode Island Residents Served by Federally-Supported Health Centers⁴

Percent of Low Income, Uninsured , 2007	45%
Percent of Medicaid Beneficiaries , 2005	25%
Percent of Population at or Below 100% of Poverty , 2007	46%

Economic Benefits of Rhode Island Federally-Supported Health Centers

Wasted Expenditures on Avoidable Emergency Department Visits , 2006 ⁵	\$61,807,552
Economic Benefits Generated for Local Communities, 2006 ²	\$67,410,498

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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	58.0	194,443
NPs/PAs/CNMs	30.1	73,215
Nurses	81.8	18,516
Dentists	17.2	53,478
Dental Hygienists	16.1	26,244
Behavioral Health Specialists [#]	10.8	14,805
Pharmacy	1.3	N/A
Total Enabling Services [†]	86.7	20,291
Other Staff	438.3	N/A
Total	740.1	402,952

* 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
<i>Medical Conditions</i>		
Hypertension	16,361	8,002
Diabetes mellitus	11,638	4,381
Heart Disease (Selected)	1,504	899
Asthma	6,418	3,562
Depression & Other Mood Disorders	12,072	4,108
All Mental Health & Substance Abuse	26,693	N/A
<i>Preventive Services</i>		
Health Supervision Ages 0-11*	27,623	17,374
Selected Immunizations [#]	34,024	25,162
Oral Dental Exams	21,697	17,989
Pap Test	13,466	10,315
Mammogram	727	724
HIV Test	3,029	3,020

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

Percent of Health Centers Providing Select Services Onsite*

<i>Professional Services</i>	
General Primary Medical Care	100%
Prenatal Care	71%
Preventive Dental Care	100%
Mental Health Treatment/Counseling	100%
Substance Abuse Treatment & Counseling	71%
Hearing Screening	86%
Vision Screening	100%
Pharmacy	14%
<i>Preventive Services</i>	
Smoking Cessation Program	43%
HIV Testing And Counseling	100%
Glycosylated Hemoglobin Measurement, Diabetes	86%
Blood Pressure Monitoring	100%
Blood Cholesterol Screening	71%
Weight Reduction Program	43%
<i>Enabling Services</i>	
Case Management	86%
Eligibility Assistance	100%
Health Education	100%
Interpretation/Translation Services	100%
Transportation	43%
Out stationed Eligibility Workers	86%

* "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.

Health Center Costs of Care

Average Cost per Patient	Cost
Medical Costs per Medical Patient*	\$455
Dental Costs per Dental Patient	\$372
Total Cost per Total Patient [#]	\$597
<i>Average Cost per Patient Visit</i>	
Medical Cost per Medical Patient Visit	\$143
Dental Costs per Dental Patient Visit	\$134

* 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, 2007 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 the NACHC 2008 Chart Book at www.nachc.com/research.

² NACHC, Robert Graham Center, and Capital Link, *Access Granted*, August 2007, <http://www.nachc.com/research-reports.cfm>.

³ Urban Institute and Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured estimates based on Census Bureau's March 2007 and 2008 Current Population Survey. See 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 2007. Released May 2008. <http://www.census.gov/popest/states/>.

⁴ Compares health center 2005 and 2007 UDS to 2005-2006 and 2006-2007 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, <http://www.nachc.com/research>.

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