



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

Louisiana Federally-Supported Health Centers

Number of Organizations	22
Number of Delivery Sites	70
Total Patients	149,264
Number Migrant/Seasonal Farmworker Patients	793
Number Homeless Patients	8,612

	Health Center Population	State Population ³	US Population ³
Percent at or Below 100% of Poverty , 2007	79%	23%	17%
Percent Under 200% of Poverty , 2007	97%	43%	36%
Percent Uninsured , 2007	46%	20%	12%
Percent Medicaid , 2007	36%	16%	13%
Percent Medicare , 2007	7%	13%	15%
Percent Hispanic/Latino , 2007*	3%	3%	15%
Percent African American , 2007*	62%	32%	13%
Percent Asian/Pacific Islander , 2007*	1%	1%	5%
Percent American Indian/Alaska Native , 2007*	1%	1%	1%
Percent White (Including Hispanic/Latino), 2007*	35%	65%	80%
Percent Rural , 2007	65%	16%	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 Louisiana Residents Served by Federally-Supported Health Centers⁴

Percent of Low Income, Uninsured , 2007	12%
Percent of Medicaid Beneficiaries , 2005	4%
Percent of Population at or Below 100% of Poverty , 2007	12%

Economic Benefits of Louisiana Federally-Supported Health Centers

Wasted Expenditures on Avoidable Emergency Department Visits , 2006 ⁵	\$354,757,738
Economic Benefits Generated for Local Communities, 2006 ²	\$78,432,187

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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	63.5	201,187
NPs/PAs/CNMs	40.1	100,388
Nurses	83.5	23,453
Dentists	22.9	56,525
Dental Hygienists	3.8	4,880
Behavioral Health Specialists [#]	30.0	28,841
Pharmacy	10.1	N/A
Total Enabling Services [†]	64.6	32,394
Other Staff	538.5	N/A
Total	856.9	453,976

* 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	47,873	21,942
Diabetes mellitus	23,043	8,871
Heart Disease (Selected)	3,212	1,917
Asthma	5,374	3,111
Depression & Other Mood Disorders	12,751	5,605
All Mental Health & Substance Abuse	33,064	N/A
<i>Preventive Services</i>		
Health Supervision Ages 0-11*	19,725	12,501
Selected Immunizations [#]	15,647	12,213
Oral Dental Exams	22,482	20,212
Pap Test	11,130	10,426
Mammogram	686	616
HIV Test	4,373	4,310

* 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	27%
Preventive Dental Care	77%
Mental Health Treatment/Counseling	82%
Substance Abuse Treatment & Counseling	50%
Hearing Screening	95%
Vision Screening	91%
Pharmacy	14%
<i>Preventive Services</i>	
Smoking Cessation Program	41%
HIV Testing And Counseling	91%
Glycosylated Hemoglobin Measurement, Diabetes	91%
Blood Pressure Monitoring	100%
Blood Cholesterol Screening	86%
Weight Reduction Program	64%
<i>Enabling Services</i>	
Case Management	77%
Eligibility Assistance	95%
Health Education	95%
Interpretation/Translation Services	73%
Transportation	68%
Out stationed Eligibility Workers	32%

* "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*	\$366
Dental Costs per Dental Patient	\$260
Total Cost per Total Patient [#]	\$455
<i>Average Cost per Patient Visit</i>	
Medical Cost per Medical Patient Visit	\$144
Dental Costs per Dental Patient Visit	\$142

* 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>.

For more information, email research@nachc.com or visit www.lpca.net.

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