

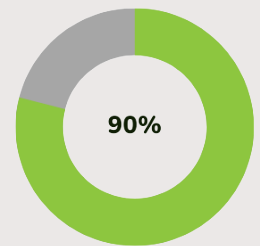
WHAT IS A COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER?

JANUARY 2025

There are 19 federally-designated Community Health Centers in Wisconsin with more than 200 service delivery sites, serving nearly 300,000 patients.

DID YOU KNOW?

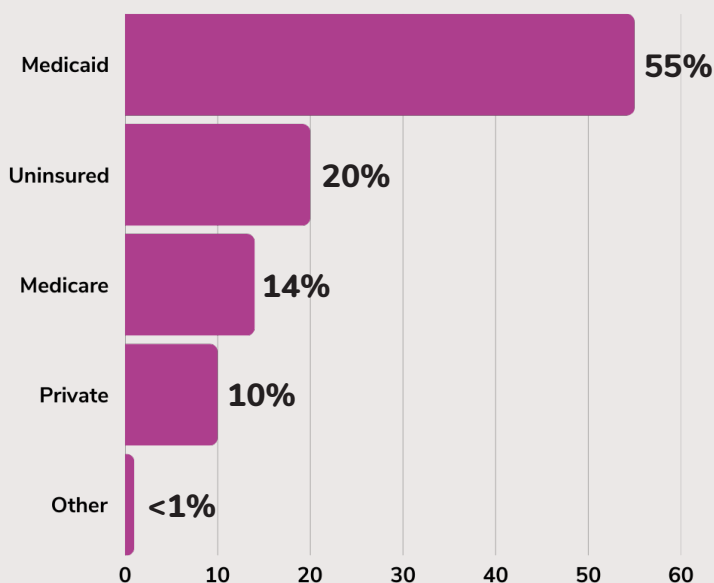
- Community Health Centers, also known as FQHCs, are clinics that provide primary care services, **including check-ups, behavioral health, dental care, mental health and substance use disorder treatment**, and supporting services like care coordination and community referrals.
- Wisconsin's 19 Community Health Centers are part of a national network of clinics that serve as the medical home for over **31 million people** of all ages in over 15,000 communities.
- Community Health Centers provide services to everyone **regardless of insurance status**, with fees adjusted based on a patient's ability to pay.
- Because of their special federal designation, Community Health Centers participate in unique programs like the National Health Service Corps, a program to incentivize practice in high-need areas.
- Community Health Centers receive **limited funding from public investments** to provide care for uninsured individuals and high-need populations (approximately one-third of revenue is state or federal grant funding).
- Every \$1 in federal investments generates \$7 in economic activity across Wisconsin, delivering over **\$652 million in economic activity annually**.



Over 90% of Community Health Center patients live below 200% of the Federal Poverty Line.

200% of the Federal Poverty Line in 2023 was \$29,160 for a family of four.

Insurance Status of Wisconsin Community Health Center Patients



WHAT MAKES COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS UNIQUE

Community Health Centers are:

- Dedicated to filling gaps in traditional health care systems by serving under-resourced communities
- Private or public not-for-profit organizations
Located in or serving high need communities, based on federal requirements, which may be urban or rural areas
- Governed by a patient-majority Board of Directors
Responsible for meeting performance and accountability requirements and publicly reporting clinical and financial data to the federal government

Community Health Centers sit at the crossroads of health care and public health. They are not:

- Hospitals or health systems
- Free and charitable clinics
- Local public health departments