

Value of Colorado's Community Health Centers

Providing over 50 years of accessible & affordable primary care to Coloradans

Community Health Centers (CHCs) provide affordable and high quality care to working families and communities that would otherwise not have adequate access to health care services. Colorado's 20 CHCs are a critical part of the state's health care system, promoting wellness, and preventing and treating illness, including helping patients and communities respond to COVID-19.

CHCs are essential to health care for low-income Coloradans and individuals who receive public insurance or are uninsured

90% of Colorado CHC patients earn below 200% of the Federal Poverty Line (FPL)

63% of Colorado CHC patients earn below 100% of the FPL

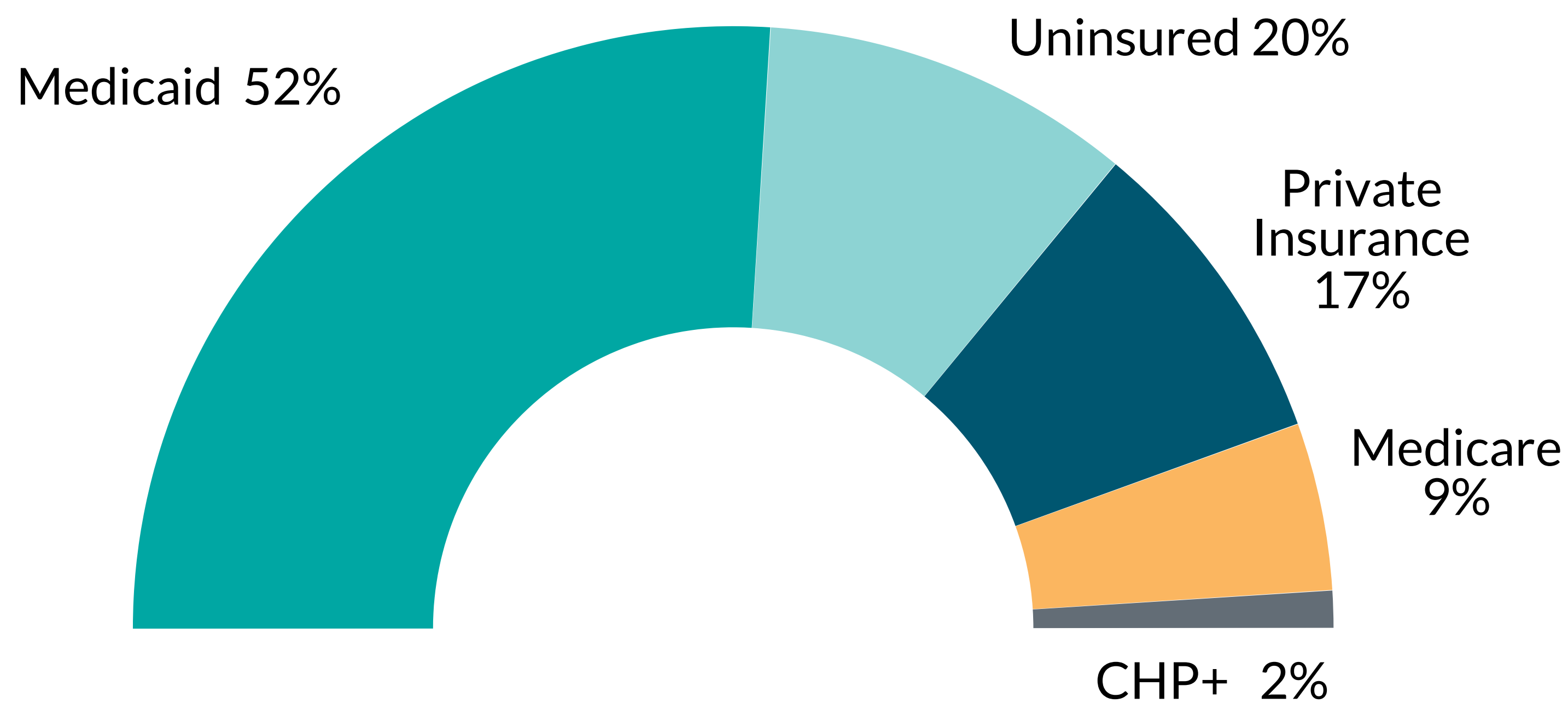
In 2023, this is \$13,590/year for an individual and \$27,750/year for a family of four.⁵

1 in 7 Coloradans trust CHCs to be their health care home. CHCs provide care for thousands of people who would otherwise slip through the cracks of our health care system, including **34% of Colorado's uninsured**.³ In addition, HCPF relies on CHCs to be the health care home for **33% of the state's Medicaid population**.⁴

Partners in Medicaid

Colorado CHCs are critical to Medicaid's statewide reach, providing comprehensive care in underserved urban, rural and frontier communities. CHCs work closely with Health First Colorado (Colorado's Medicaid program) and have played a large role in the Accountable Care Collaborative, Colorado's regionally-based Medicaid delivery system focused on access to primary and behavioral health care.

Colorado CHC Patient Insurance Status²



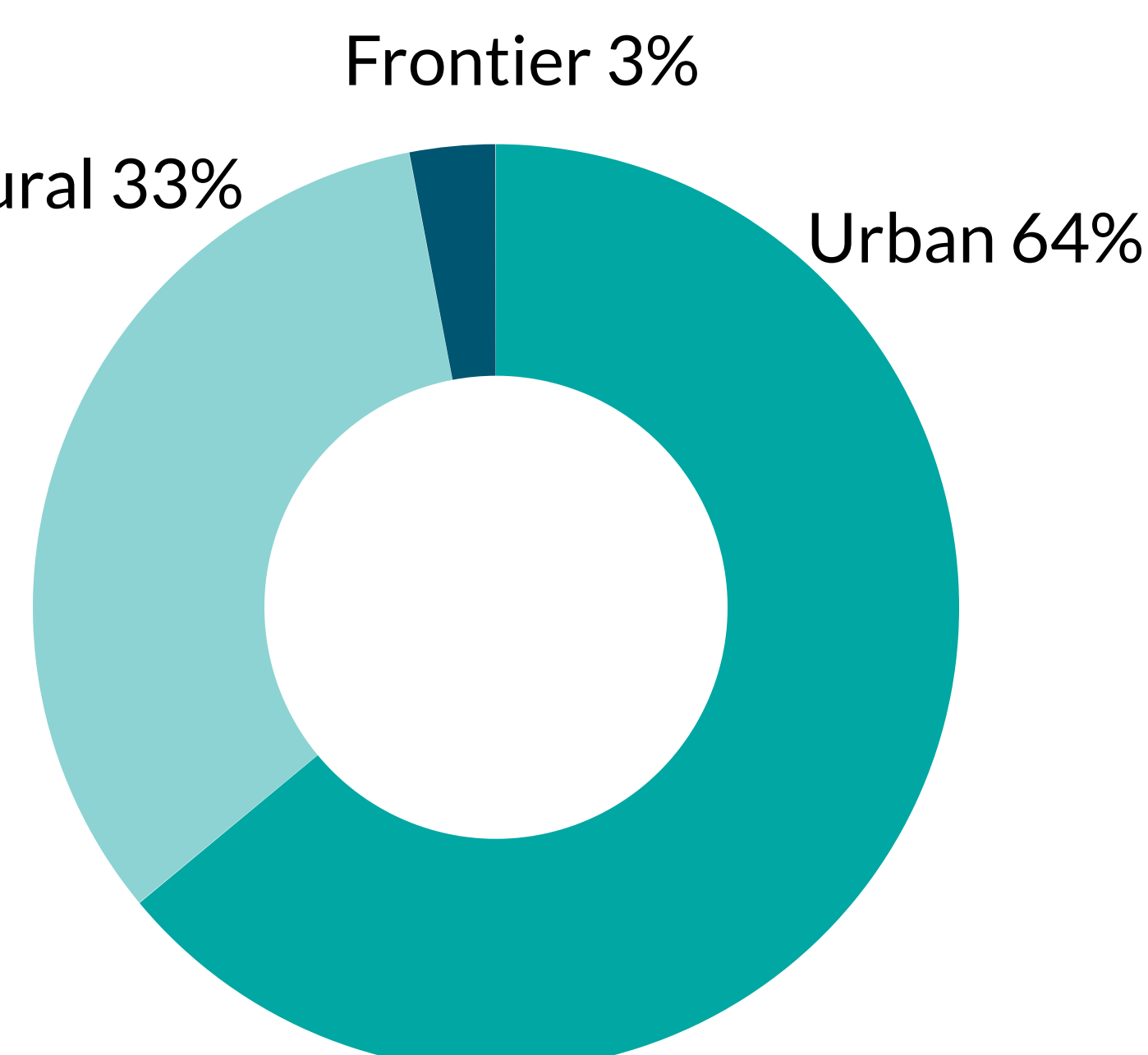
CHCs are also called **Federally Qualified Health Centers** and receive this federal designation because they are governed by **five core principles**:

- Serve all patients regardless of ability to pay for services.
- Located in high-need areas where there are high concentrations of poverty, very few health care providers, or both
- Provide comprehensive primary health care.
- Governed by community boards - at least 51% of board members must be patients.
- Operate as nonprofits or public agencies with a mission to provide health care to low-income, working families.

Colorado CHCs provided over **2.7 million patient visits in 2021** including:²

- 1.84 million medical visits
- 345,000 dental visits
- 270,000 mental health visits
- 260,000 other visits, including vision, substance use, and enabling services

CHCs are located in areas where care is limited²



Colorado Community Health Network (CCHN) is the unified voice for Colorado's federally qualified Community Health Centers and their patients. For more information about CCHN, please visit cchn.org.

Fact Sheet Sources

1. Fact source: CHC data on patients served over an 18-to-24 month period of time, reported to CCHN in April 2022.
2. 2021 Uniform Data System Quality Metrics Reporting
3. Colorado CHC Statewide Market Share based on 2021 UDS
4. HCPF Accountable Care Collaborative Phase II Operational Dashboard
5. HHS Poverty Guidelines for 2023
6. Robert S. Nocon et al., "Health Care Use and Spending for Medicaid Enrollees in Federally Qualified Health Centers Versus Other Primary Care Settings," American Journal of Public Health, published online September 15, 2016, ahead of print Nov. 2016. 6 L. Elizabeth Goldman, MD, MC

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CHCs are leaders and innovators in:



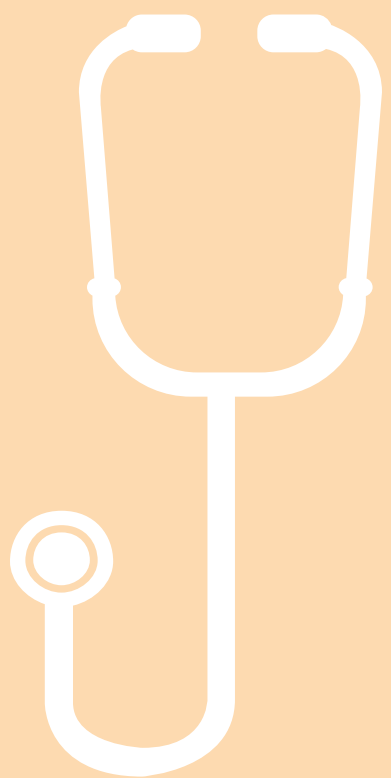
Workforce

CHCs are vital to the economic health of Colorado communities as employers and businesses. CHCs train the next generation of health care providers and team members to serve in rural and underserved areas of the state. In 2021, CHCs provided 6,082 full-time jobs to Coloradans.



Cost Savings

The Community Health Center model results in lower per-patient spending compared to non-CHC patients. A 13-state study including Colorado found that CHC Medicaid patients had 24% lower total costs of care when compared to similar patients cared for in other settings.⁶



Quality

Colorado CHCs pursue the highest level of quality health care, focusing on established quality metrics, including:

- Prenatal Care
- High Blood Pressure
- Childhood Immunizations
- Cervical Cancer Screening
- HIV Linkage to Care
- Tobacco Use Screening and Cessation

All Colorado CHCs have or are pursuing a Patient-Centered Medical Home recognition. This means they focus on system and team redesign, care coordination, improving the patient experience, providing quality care and reducing costs.



Access

CHCs provide a health care home for over 855,000 Coloradans, or one in seven people in the state. Located in high need urban and rural areas with limited access to affordable care, CHC patients receive comprehensive, patient-centered primary care including medical, behavioral, dental, and pharmacy services.



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