



ALASKA COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS REPORT

Community Health Starts Here

2026

Community Health Starts Here

Alaska's Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) — also known as Health Centers or Community Health Centers (CHCs) — help patients achieve wellness and live productive lives. At the same time, Community Health Centers generate savings for the healthcare system, all while growing employment and stability in their communities.

Across Alaska, **29 Community Health Centers** operate **over 200 sites**, providing primary care to **1 in 6 Alaskans** from our state's largest cities to our most rural communities. Health Centers support all Alaskans, with a special focus on patients with limited access to health care, such as seniors and people without homes or insurance, so that all Alaskans can live their healthiest lives.

Health Center employees continually seek to provide the highest level of quality to their communities. CHC teams are dedicated to enhancing their own knowledge through apprenticeship training and professional development. And Health Centers continue to **invest in cutting-edge technology** for clinicians and patients to make it easier to manage health conditions, achieve good outcomes, improve reporting, share data, and **deliver cost savings**.

Health Centers stay closely connected to the people they serve. **Local patients and residents** help guide Health Centers by **serving on governing boards**. This helps make sure the care and services offered meet the needs of each community. Health Centers also collaborate with schools, food banks, and local groups to support the overall health of their communities.

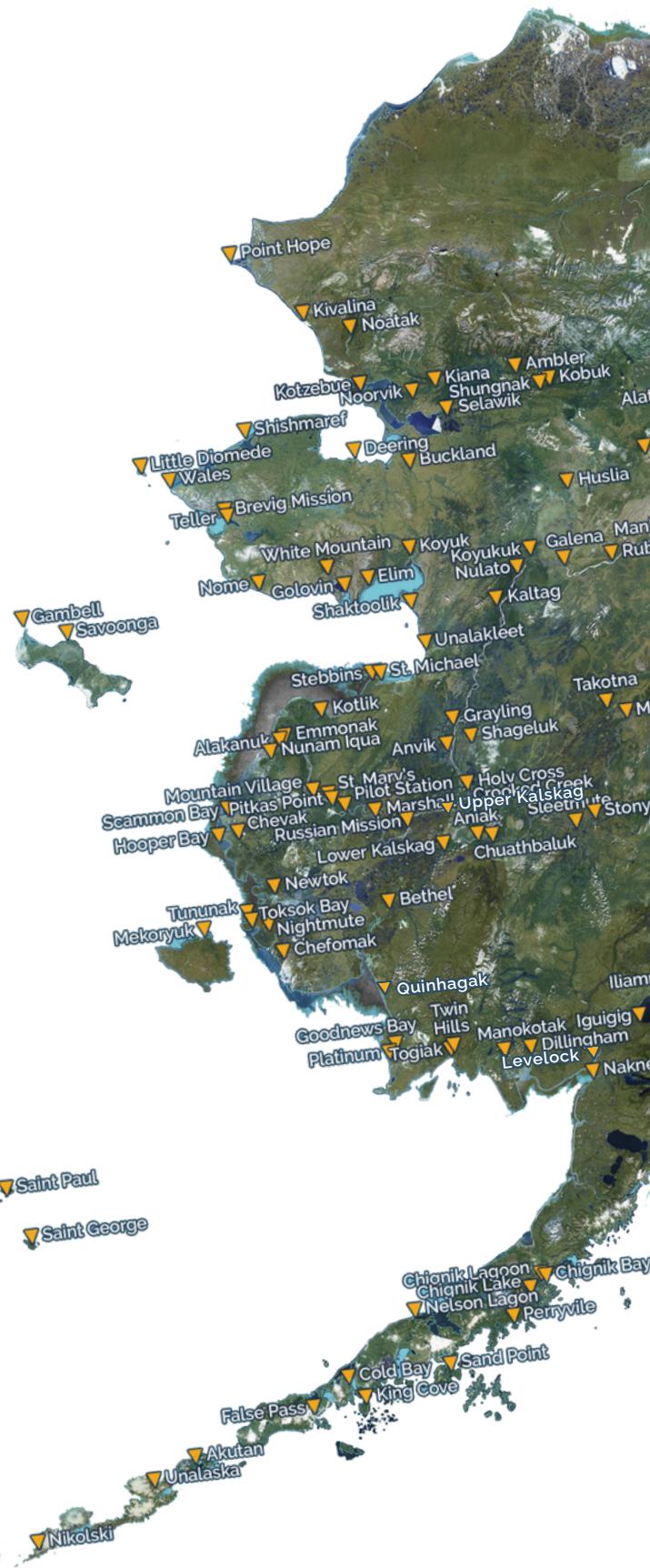
Find your local Health Center using the map in the center of this page or visit AlaskaPCA.org/map.



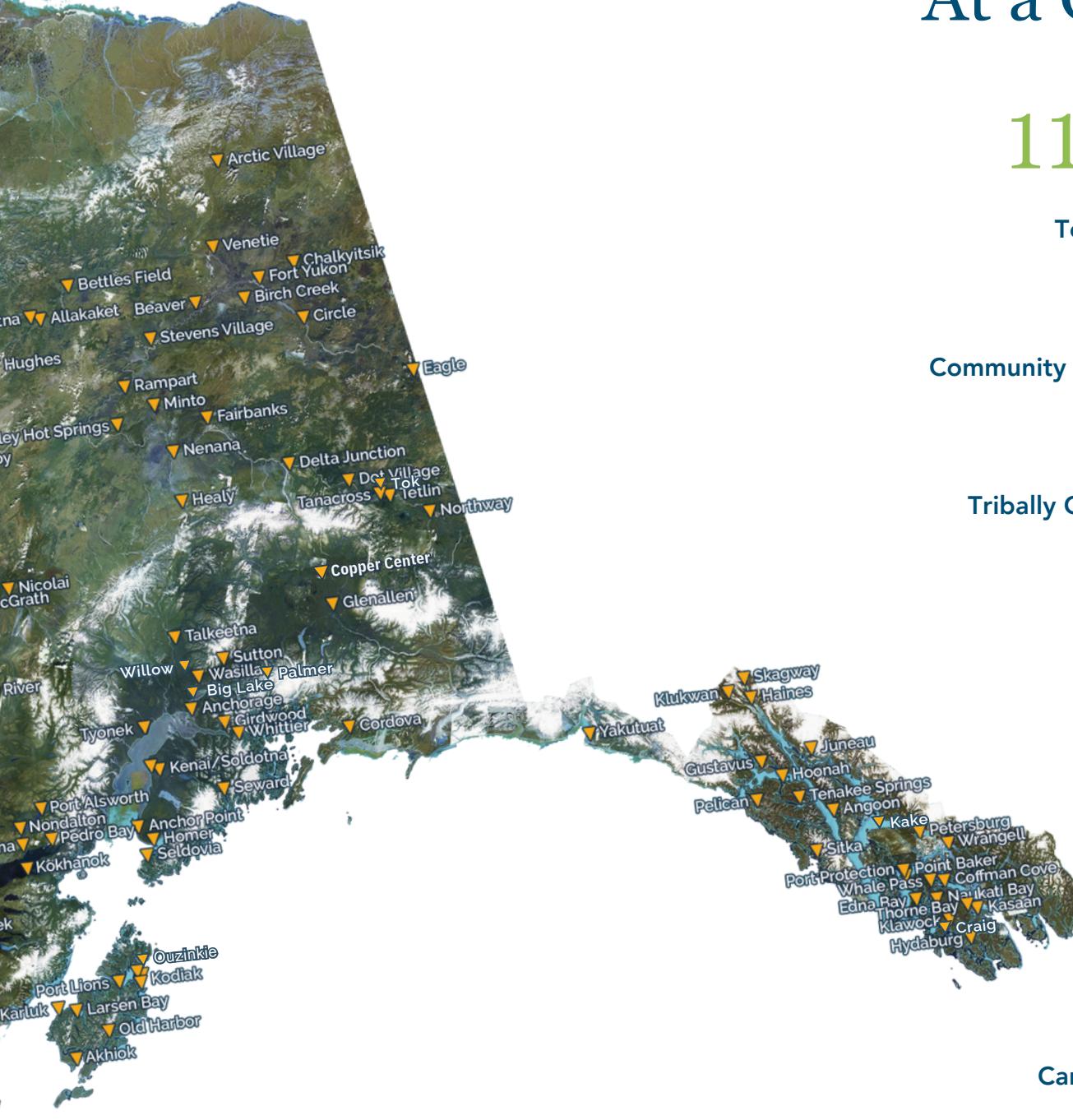
Nancy Merriman
Chief Executive Officer of Alaska Primary Care Association



JGP
Joshua Gilmore – APCA Board Chair
Chief Executive Officer of Sunshine Community Health Center



At a Glance



Total Patients*
115,173

Total Employees*
2,998

Community Health Centers*
29

Tribally Operated CHCs*
15

Care Delivery Sites

Total Care Sites*

 **227**

School-Based Sites*

 **8**

Mobile Clinics

 **3**

*Data collected by HRSA Uniform Data System (UDS) for the calendar year 2024

**Data collected from HRSA Data Center

Health Center Services

Alaskans use Health Centers for services ranging from medical to behavioral health and from vision to dental. From 2023 to 2024, the percentage of Health Center patients using Behavioral Health services increased from 11% to 18%, making it the fastest-growing service line. Here is a breakdown of the percentage of patients who used the major types of services at their CHC.



Caring for Alaskans' Health

Alaskans visit their Health Centers for a variety of needs. Here are some of the most frequently cited health conditions and services during 2024 by percentage of patients:



MEDICAL

12% Diabetes
10% Overweight
27% Hypertension



MENTAL HEALTH

12% Anxiety
9% Depression

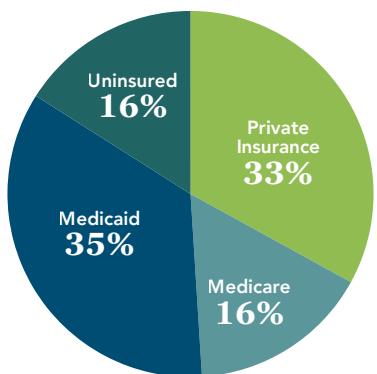


DENTAL

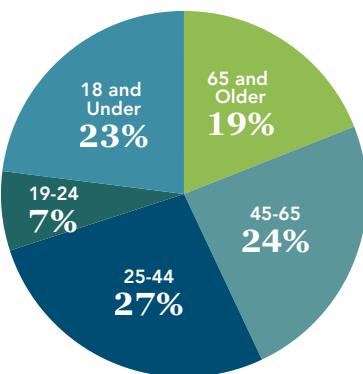
9% Restorative Services
14% Dental Exams

ALASKA COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER STATISTICS & QUALITY MEASURES

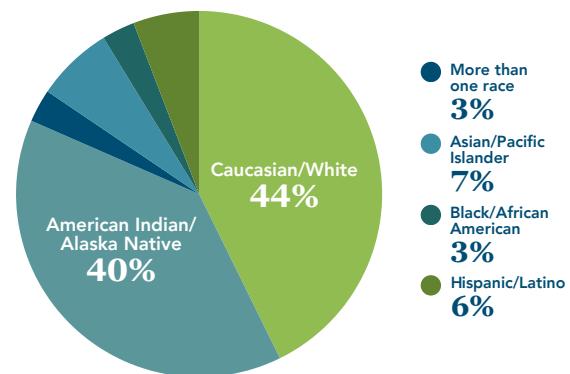
PATIENT INSURANCE COVERAGE SOURCE:



PATIENTS BY AGE:



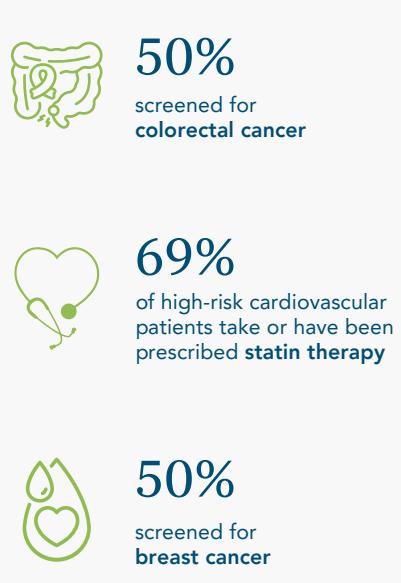
PATIENTS BY ETHNICITY/RACE:



Health Centers serve populations that have limited access to care, such as seniors, people who are uninsured, and people without homes. The percentage of Health Center patients who are 65+ years old has increased from 14% to 19% since 2018. From 2023 to 2024, the percentage of young adult (age 19 – 24) patients increased by 2%. In 2024, around 4% of CHC patients were Veterans. Learn more about the services that CHCs provide to special populations at alaskapca.org.

KEY HEALTH MEASURES

Health Centers focus on screening, prevention, and early intervention to provide the most cost-effective care that patients need. This year, Health Centers continued to focus on the importance of cancer screenings. Since 2018, the percentage of patients screened for colorectal cancer increased by 8%, and the percentage of patients screened for breast cancer increased by 13%. Here are some metrics showing what health measures are being tracked.



*All data and figures on this page reference the UDS report for the calendar year 2024. Available online at data.HRSA.gov

Economic Impact of Health Centers and the Savings to Alaska's Health Care System

\$925,120,118 | **TOTAL ECONOMIC IMPACT IN ALASKA***

Alaska Health Centers have a direct and indirect impact on Alaska's economy through creating jobs, spending, and labor income.



4,717 | **JOBS SUPPORTED IN ALASKA***

Alaska Health Centers are one of the largest employers in rural Alaska and smaller communities, providing direct employment and supporting jobs in the community.

2,725 **HEALTH CENTER JOBS***** **1,992** **SUPPORTED JOBS**



\$184.8 M | **OVERALL SAVINGS TO ALASKA'S HEALTH CARE SYSTEM***

Medicaid saves 24% of the total cost of care when a patient chooses to use a Health Center*. When examining individual metrics, like purchasing prescription medication for children, Health Centers save as much as 49% when compared to other providers*.



81% | **PATIENTS UNDER 200% OF THE FEDERAL POVERTY LINE****

Alaska Health Centers work to ensure that populations with limited access to care can still access affordable, quality care.

*Data collected during the calendar year 2023 for the 2025 NACHC Value and Impact Assessment

**Data collected by HRSA Uniform Data Services (UDS) for the calendar year 2024

***Health Center jobs data differ from the figure on page 2 because it uses data generated in 2023 rather than in 2024





Transforming Alaska's Health Systems

During Congressional deliberations on HR1 and following the bill's passage, APCA worked quickly to ensure Alaska Community Health Centers were an integral part of the newly established Rural Health Transformation Program (RHTP).

APCA worked closely with Health Centers to listen, identify key rural health needs, and address questions as CMS developed the program. APCA also supported broad stakeholder outreach and served as a convenor for early community partner meetings with the Alaska Department of Health (DOH). APCA was later invited to serve as a member of the Alaska Rural Health Transformation Program Advisory Council to support the State of Alaska with its program development, application process, implementation planning, and communications.

Health Centers provided important information and feedback to the State of Alaska, responding to DOH's Request for Information and participating in listening sessions and convenings with Department of Health leadership.

APCA and Health Centers look forward to continued collaboration and partnership with the State of Alaska to support the success of the program and its positive impact on patients, CHCs, and Alaska's healthcare system as a whole.





Alaska Community Health Centers

Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association
Anchorage Neighborhood Health Center
Bethel Family Clinic
Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation
Camai Community Health Center
Copper River Native Association
Council of Athabascan Tribal Governments
Cross Road Health Ministries, Inc.
Dahl Memorial Clinic
Eastern Aleutian Tribes, Inc.
Ilanka Community Health Center
Iliuliuk Family and Health Services, Inc.
Interior Community Health Center
JAMHI Health and Wellness
Kodiak Area Native Association

Kodiak Community Health Center
Mat-Su Health Services, Inc.
Maniilaq Association
Norton Sound Health Corporation
Peninsula Community Health Services of Alaska, Inc.
SVT Health and Wellness
Seward Community Health Center
Southcentral Foundation
Southeast Alaska Regional Health Consortium
Sunshine Community Health Center
Tanana Chiefs Conference
Turnagain Community Health
Yakutat Community Health Center
Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation

The Alaska Primary Care Association (APCA) supports the development and operations of Alaska's Federally Qualified Health Centers, also known as Community Health Centers (CHCs), and the workforce they depend on. APCA's mission is Advancing Alaska's Wellness, and its work supports healthcare across the state.

3111 C Street, Suite 500
Anchorage, AK 99503
907-929-2722
alaskapca.org