

Oklahoma Community Health Centers:

Responding to COVID-19

Background: Community Health Centers

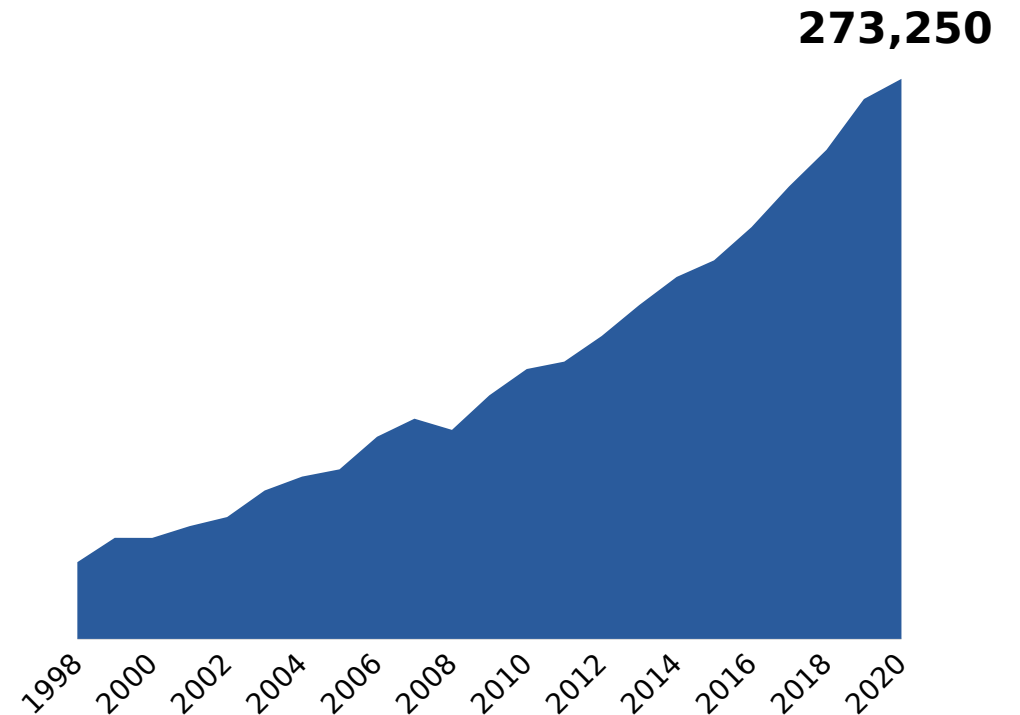
- Community health centers (CHCs) provide comprehensive, integrated care to all patients regardless of ability to pay
- Address social determinants of health by providing wraparound services like care coordination and patient education to treat the root causes of illness
- Increase access in underserved areas—both rural and urban—by serving in Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs)

History of CHCs in Oklahoma

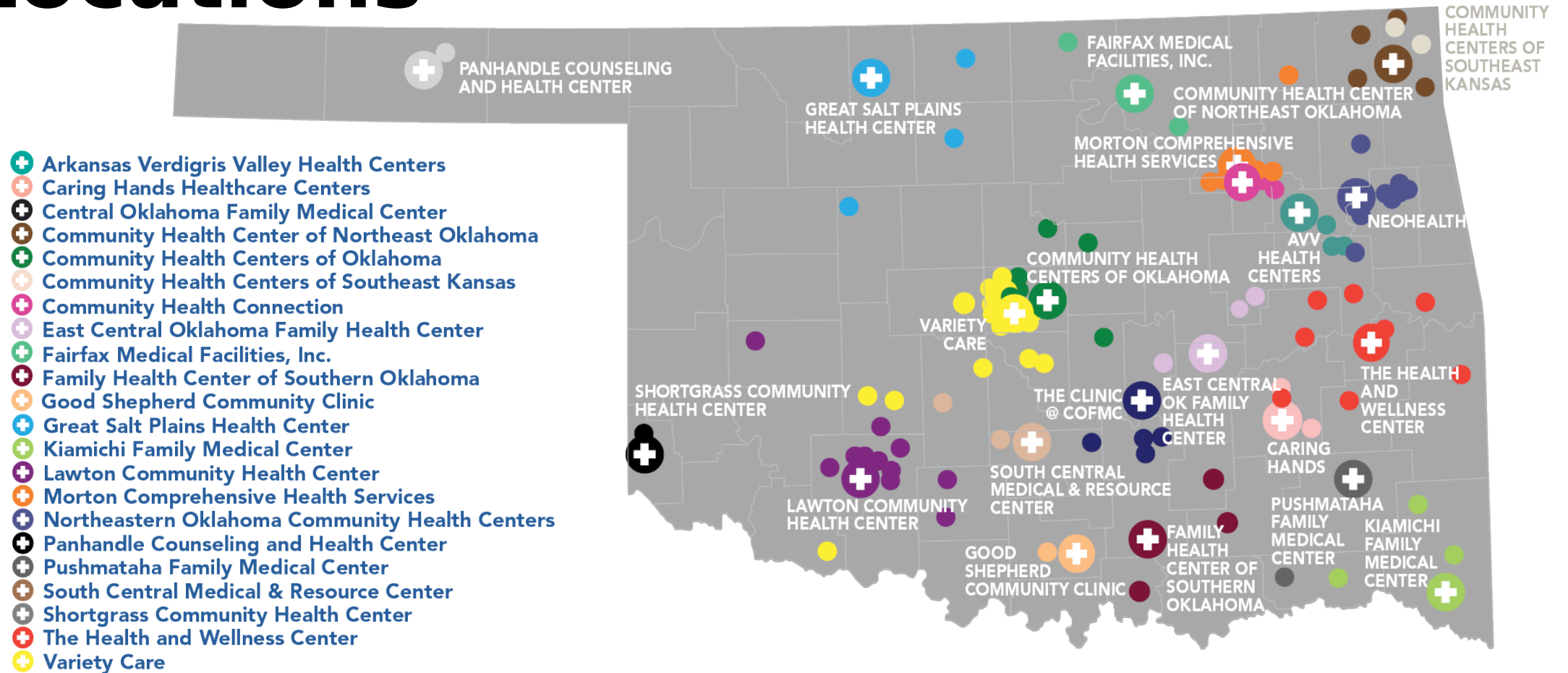
Oklahoma health centers have grown to meet the needs of their communities. In 1998, there were four health center sites in OK serving fewer than 40,000 people.

Today, twenty-one organizations at **125+ sites serve over 270,000 Oklahomans.**

Source: 2019 HRSA UDS

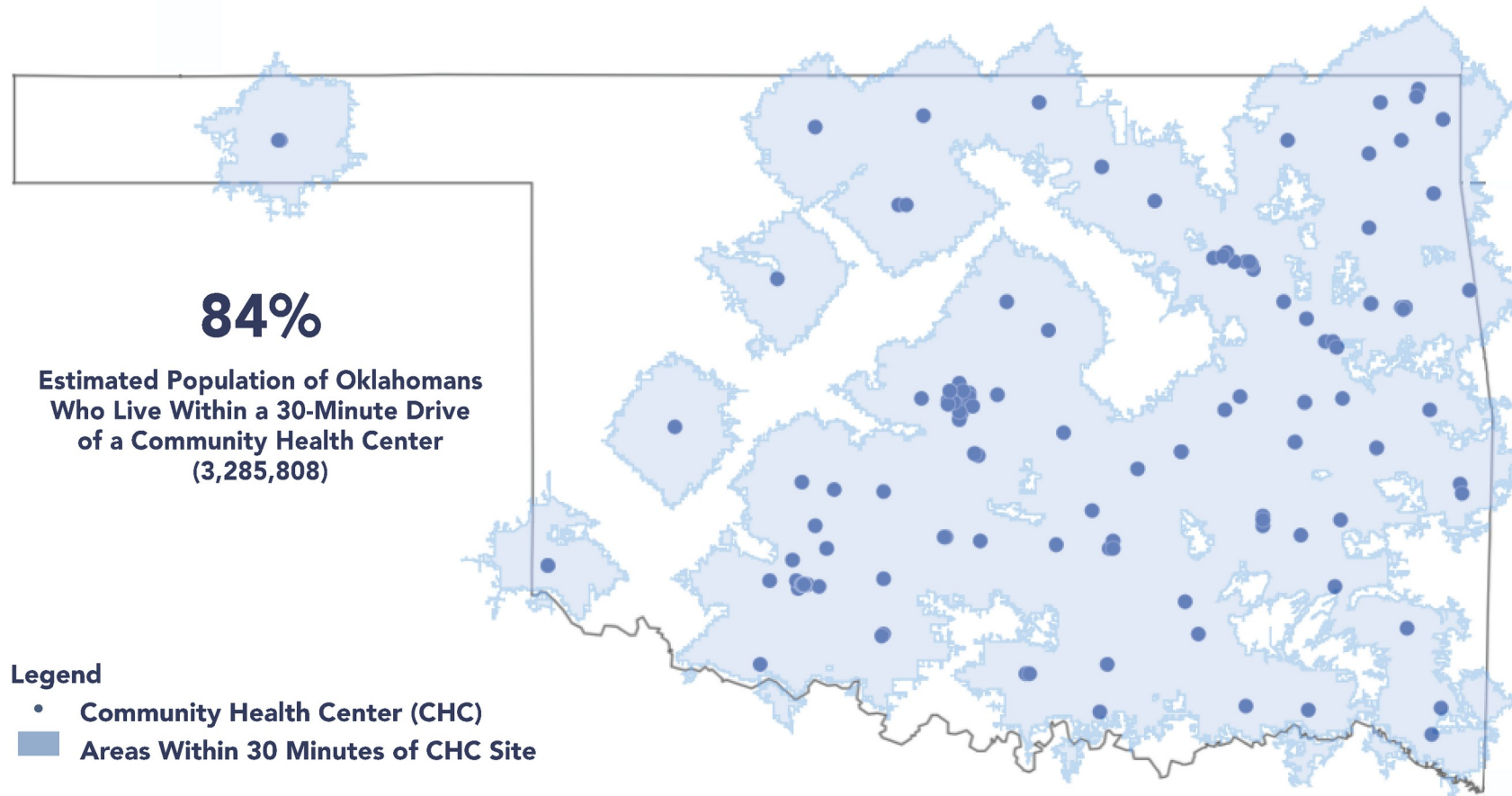


Community Health Center Locations



Most Oklahomans Live Within 30 Minutes of a CHC

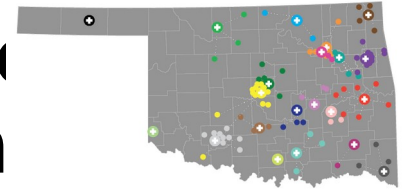
Areas Within a 30 Minute Drive of a Community Health Center (CHC)



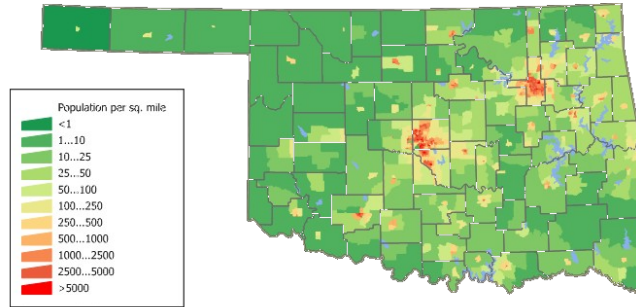
Data Source: HRSA Datawarehouse, ArcGIS, US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2015-2019 B101001.

Created by OKPCA: 08/17/2021

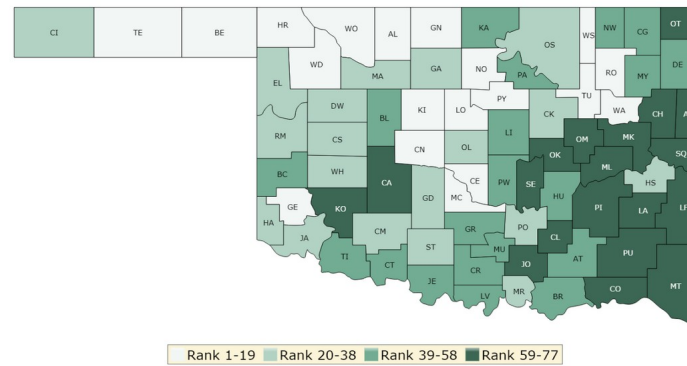
Community Health Centers are Strategically Located to Improve Health of Oklahoma



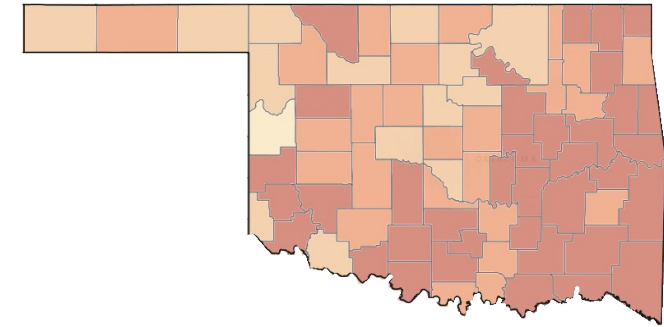
Population Density



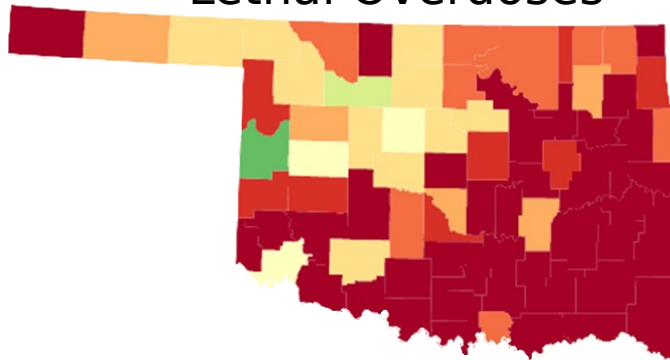
County Health Rankings



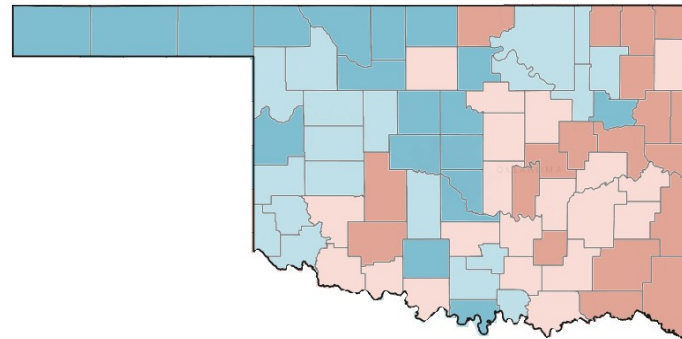
Heart Disease Mortality



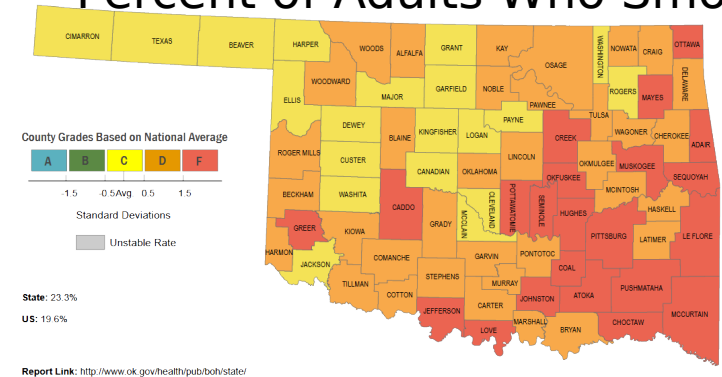
Lethal Overdoses



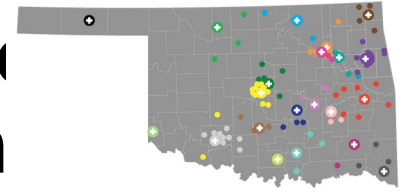
Adult Obesity



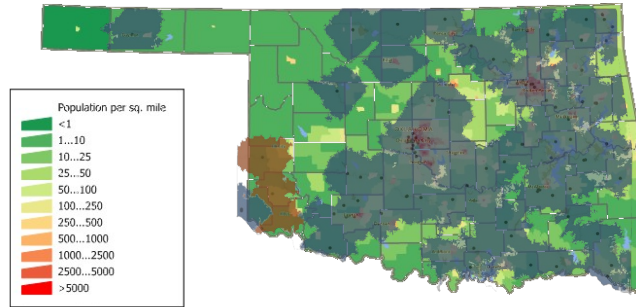
Percent of Adults Who Smoke



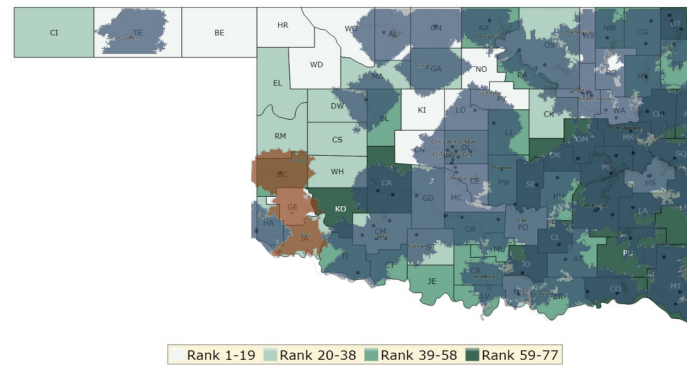
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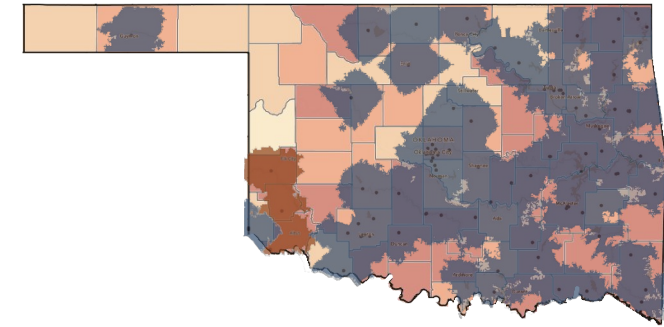
Population Density



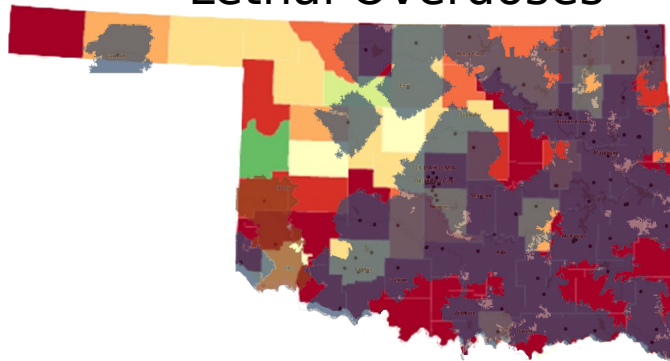
County Health Rankings



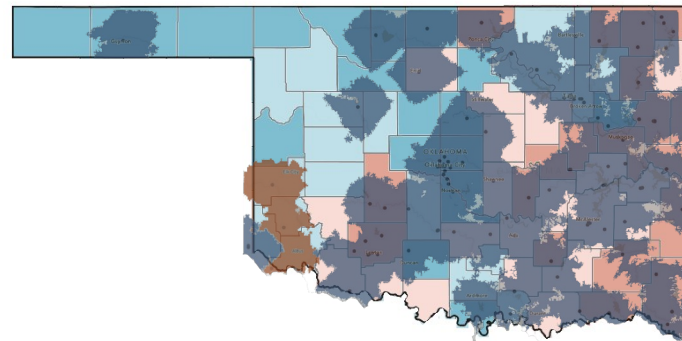
Heart Disease Mortality



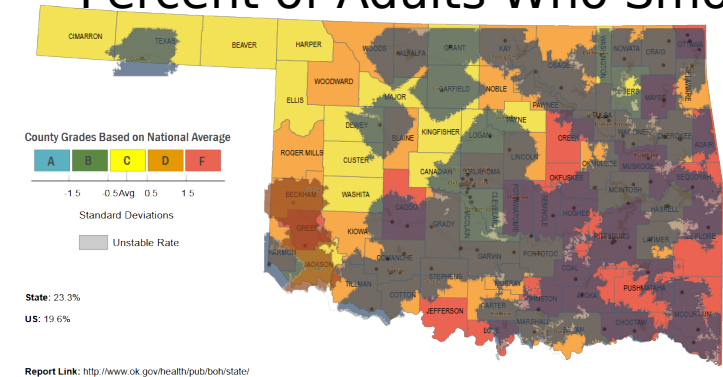
Lethal Overdoses



Adult Obesity



Percent of Adults Who Smoke



Demonstrated Success

- **Saving money**

- Oklahoma community health centers participating in a Medicare Shared Savings Program (MSSP) Accountable Care Organization (ACO) **saved Medicare over \$8.3 million in 2020** and have saved the program nearly \$20 million since 2018.
- A13-state Medicaid claims data study published in AJPH in 2016 found Medicaid patients served by health centers **saved Medicaid programs 24% per person** on average compared to Medicaid patients served by other providers by achieving 22% fewer specialty care visits, 33% lower spending on specialty care, and 25% fewer inpatient admissions.

- **Improving outcomes**

- Health centers outperform national averages for controlling hypertension and diabetes A1c levels, performing timely pap smears and mammograms, and other quality measures **Oklahoma health centers use Azara, a data reporting and visualization system, to manage population health by optimizing EHRs and leverage data for quality improvement.**

Source: Ku L, et al. Strengthening Primary Care to Bend the Cost Curve: The Expansion of Community Health Centers Through Health Reform. Geiger, Gibson/RCHN Community Health Foundation Collaborative at the George Washington University. Policy Research Brief No. 19. (June 2010).

COVID-19 Response

- Screening and testing for COVID-19
- COVID-19 vaccinations
- Expanding access to telehealth services
- Addressing behavioral health & substance use disorder treatment and recovery services
- Care for vulnerable populations
- Referrals and linkages to community resources

Community Health Centers & COVID-19



**For more on community health centers,
contact**

Oklahoma Primary Care Association:

www.okpca.org | learn@okpca.org

