

## Health Centers on the Front Lines of COVID-19: \$7.6 Billion in Lost Revenue and Devastating Impact on Patients and Staff

Community Health Centers are serving on the front lines of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, and it's having a dramatic impact on their day-to-day operations, staffing, care delivery, and short- and long-term budgets.

Many health centers are already **experiencing a surge of patients needing COVID-19 screening and treatment** and others are preparing for it. Health centers are adjusting clinical operations to meet this mounting public health challenge while at the same time **experiencing severe declines in regular primary and preventive care visits** – including for medical, behavioral health, and dental services – due to social isolation directives, staff cuts related to the pandemic, nationwide personal protective equipment (PPE) shortages, federal and state “stay at home” orders, and expectations that “non-essential” services be delayed.

This decline in visits has resulted in a **significant decrease in health centers' revenue**, in turn impacting their operations and employment, which is expected to last for at least six months. For many health centers, this revenue loss could ultimately result in the need to close their doors. The data below is the result of a roughly 60% decline in visits over this time:



Sources: Capital Link. Analysis of Revenue and Job Losses at Community Health Centers and Related Community Impacts Due to COVID-19. March 2020. Lost health center visits analysis conducted by NACHC using Capital Link data and Uniform Data System, April 2020.

### Health Centers Need Your Help!

This unprecedented situation leaves **health centers in dire need of at least \$7.6 billion in emergency supplemental funding** in order to meet the COVID-19 health needs of their communities, keep patients from flooding local hospital systems, and sustain crucial health care to the nation's most vulnerable populations. And every day that this epidemic continues to grow, the need will be even greater.

This crisis hits at a time when health centers nationally are already operating on short-term funding extensions and facing the potential loss of 70% of their federal health center grant unless Congress acts before November 30, 2020.

Congress took the first steps in providing a total of \$1.42 billion in emergency health center funding as part of initial legislative efforts to address this national crisis. But much more is needed. **Congress must act now to prevent the deterioration of essential health care infrastructure in local communities and decimation of the country's health for generations to come.**

## Estimated COVID-19 Impacts on Health Center Revenue, Employment and Visits by State

State	Lost Revenue (in millions)	Lost Jobs	Lost Patient Visits
<b>US Total</b>	<b>\$7,594</b>	<b>100,499</b>	<b>34,165,790</b>
AK	\$203	2,846	163,856
AL	\$34	482	339,899
AR	\$46	639	259,907
AZ	\$157	2,195	691,087
CA	\$1,514	21,197	6,955,986
CO	\$404	4,843	796,335
CT	\$102	1,221	619,068
DC	\$70	986	278,596
DE	\$6	89	48,466
FL	\$641	8,975	1,678,197
GA	\$59	828	513,674
HI	\$40	482	214,557
IA	\$44	526	229,966
ID	\$41	572	229,262
IL	\$234	2,810	1,471,589
IN	\$116	1,386	518,320
KS	\$31	429	205,857
KY	\$112	1,575	556,380
LA	\$68	958	492,308
MA	\$268	3,221	1,171,744
MD	\$95	1,323	416,805
ME	\$45	629	259,353
MI	\$200	2,793	803,261
MN	\$35	425	206,991
MO	\$205	2,462	626,085
MS	\$29	403	276,079

State	Lost Revenue (in millions)	Lost Jobs	Lost Patient Visits
MT	\$26	315	132,174
NC	\$82	1,147	571,937
ND	\$9	127	39,776
NE	\$13	162	100,284
NH	\$23	279	118,962
NJ	\$78	935	597,479
NM	\$67	931	497,082
NV	\$21	298	93,249
NY	\$543	7,609	3,011,650
OH	\$178	2,142	923,184
OK	\$42	498	241,291
OR	\$133	1,862	525,224
PA	\$168	2,014	838,337
PR	\$115	1,605	482,615
RI	\$49	690	226,116
SC	\$111	1,549	484,669
SD	\$12	121	67,068
TN	\$170	2,035	439,752
TX	\$278	3,337	1,628,810
UT	\$31	432	162,082
VA	\$53	640	366,875
VT	\$2	33	16,713
WA	\$81	1,127	219,139
WI	\$329	3,952	1,374,712
WV	\$77	924	339,018
WY	\$97	1,355	546,139

Note: Estimates are based on a 6 month period and assume 60% decline in visits during this time.

<sup>1</sup> Lost health center revenue and jobs analysis conducted by Capital Link, March 2020.

<sup>2</sup> Lost health center visits analysis conducted by NACHC using Capital Link data and Uniform Data System, April 2020.