

## 2023 Uniform Data System Trends Data Brief | August 2024

### Patient Profile



**1 in 8**  
children



**90%**  
of patients  
at or below 200%  
of the poverty line



**9.7M**  
rural  
residents



**24.7M**  
uninsured, Medicaid  
and Medicare patients



**1.4M**  
patients experiencing  
homelessness



**1.1M**  
patients served at  
school-based health  
center sites



**585K**  
pregnant patients



**1.0M**  
agricultural workers



**405K**  
veterans



**172K**  
deliveries

### Introduction

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Health Center Program funds nearly 1,400 health centers operating over 15,500 service delivery sites nationwide. Health centers deliver affordable, accessible, high-quality, and cost-effective primary health care services to medically underserved communities in every U.S. state, U.S. territory, and the District of Columbia.

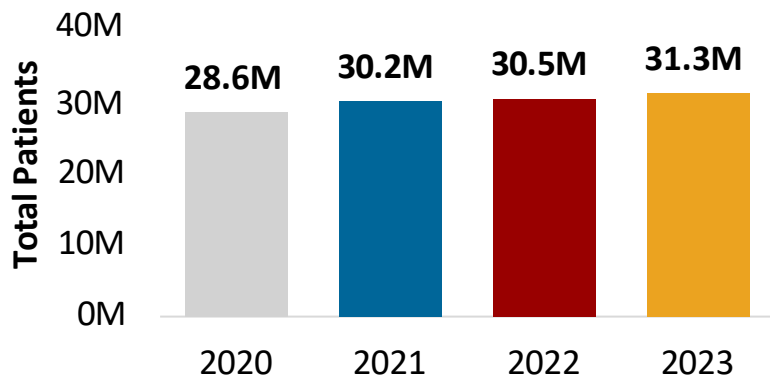
Each calendar year, health centers report on a core set of measures defined in the Uniform Data System (UDS), a standardized reporting system used to evaluate Health Center Program operations and performance. The data set includes patient characteristics, services provided, clinical processes, health outcomes, staffing, costs, and revenues.

This brief describes key trends in 2023 UDS data reported by HRSA-funded health centers.

### Health centers protect and promote the health of millions of people in the United States.

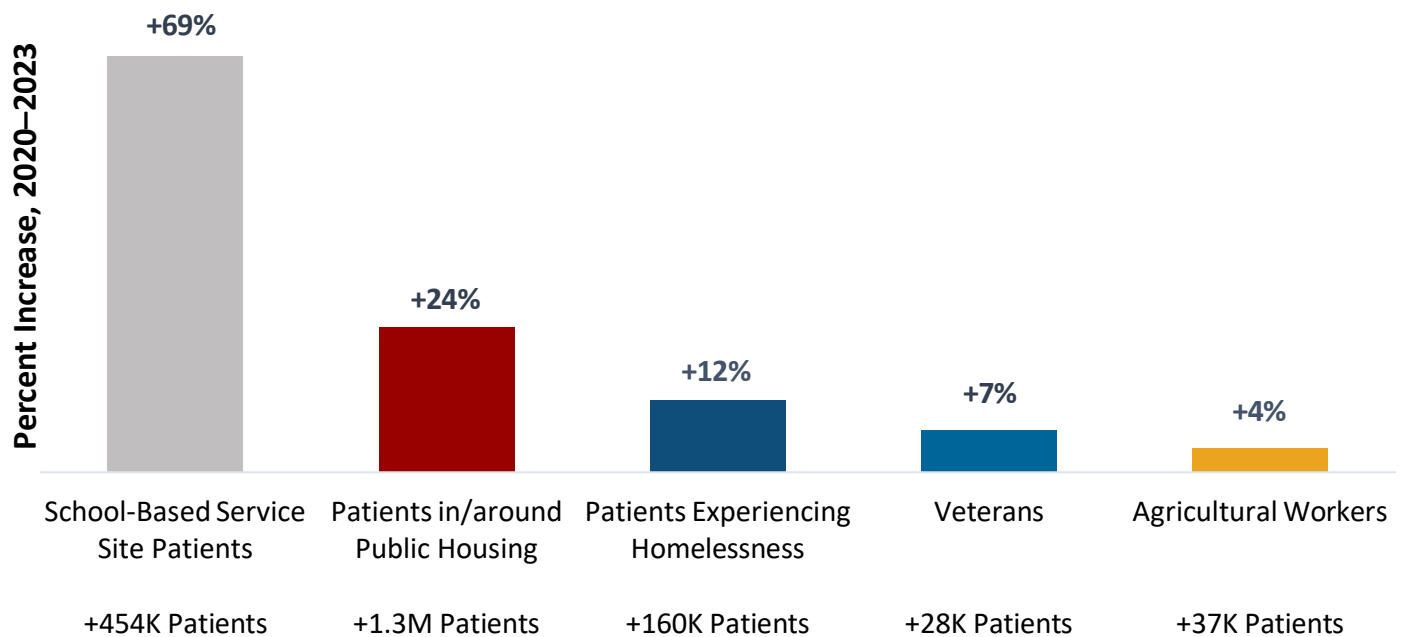
Health centers served **more than 31 million patients in 2023**, representing 2,686,444 additional patients, a 9% increase from 2020 (Figure 1).

[Figure 1: Trend in Total Patients, 2020-2023](#)



In 2023, health centers provided care to increasing numbers of patients from certain populations (Figure 2).

[Figure 2: Percent Increases in Patients from Certain Populations, 2020-2023](#)

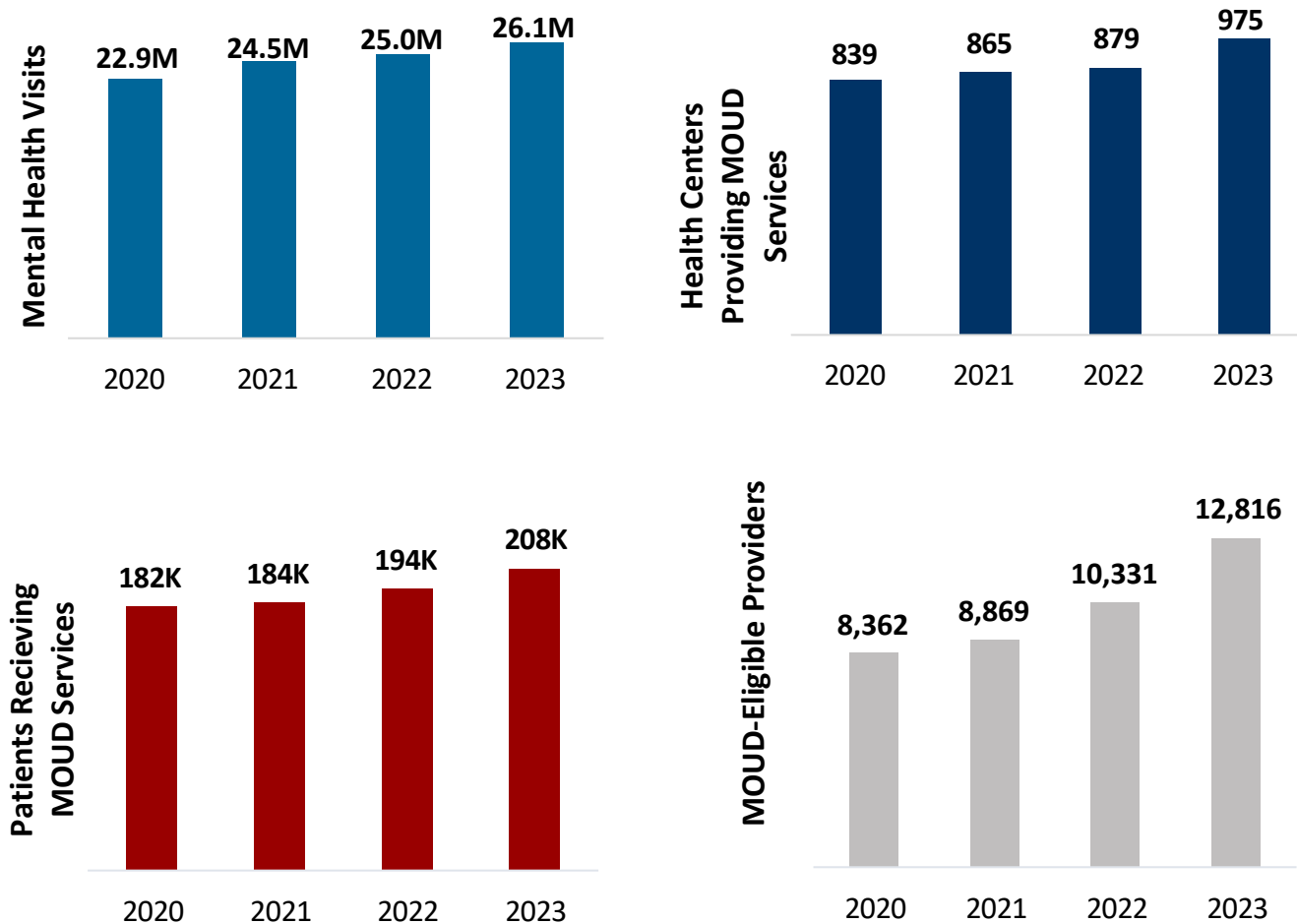


## Health centers respond to the needs of their communities and are providing increased access to care.

Health centers delivered primary care services to patients across 132.5 million total visits in 2023, representing a 16% increase from 2020. During 2023, the number of visits increased across all major service categories, including a 53% increase in other professional visits (e.g., nutritionists and speech therapists), a 14% increase in total mental health visits, and a 5% increase in total substance use disorder (SUD) visits from 2020. In 2023, 2.8 million patients accessed mental health services from a dedicated mental health provider, representing over 26 million visits (Figure 3). In addition, 72% of patients over 12 years old were screened for depression and received a follow-up plan if appropriate in 2023, which was a 7-percentage point improvement from 2020.

Health centers continued to address the increased need for substance use disorder services nationwide by increasing access to Medication for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD) services. An additional 136 health centers provided MOUD services, representing a 16% increase from 2020 (Figure 3). Furthermore, 25,950 additional patients received MOUD services and 4,454 additional providers were eligible to provide MOUD since 2020 (Figure 3).

Figure 3: Trend in Mental Health Visits, Health Centers Providing MOUD Services, Patients Receiving MOUD Services, and MOUD-Eligible Providers 2020-2023



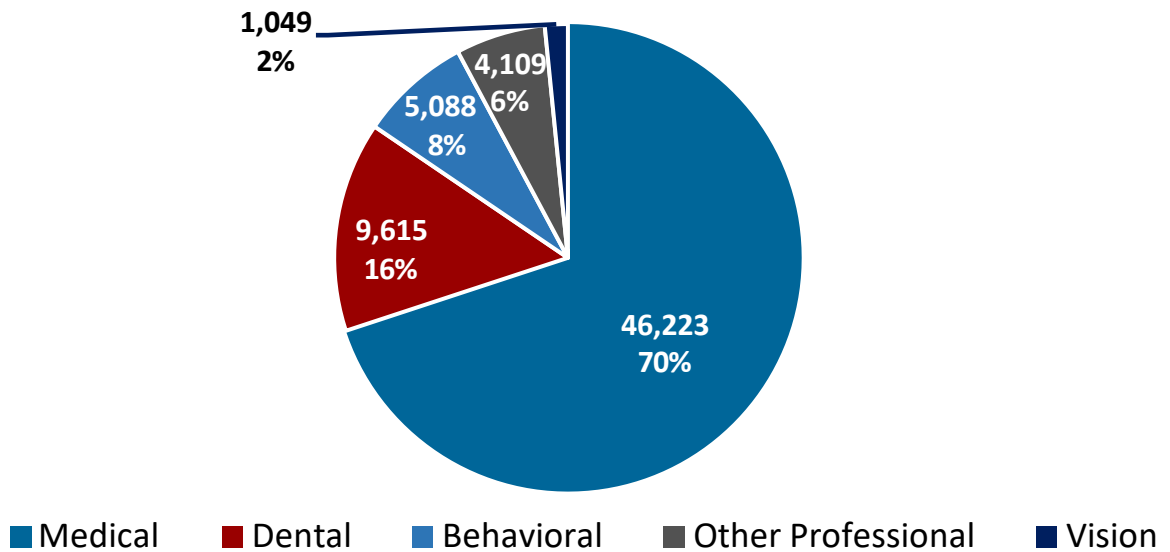
**Health centers are trusted providers of care. This success reflects the staff and workforce behind the care.**

Health centers hired additional service providers across all categories between 2020 and 2023, including a 49% increase in vision FTEs, a 36% increase in other health professional FTEs (e.g., nutritionists and speech therapists), and a 23% increase in mental health full-time equivalent staff (FTE).

In 2023, health centers also hired almost 2,800 community health workers (a 71% increase from 2020), over 5,000 eligibility assistance workers (a 17% increase from 2020), 750 Certified Nurse Midwives (6% increase from 2020), and nearly 1,400 obstetrician/gynecologists (6% increase from 2020), demonstrating their commitment to providing holistic care and improving maternal and child health in underserved communities.

In addition, health centers hosted more than 66,000 pre- and post-graduate trainees in 2023, a 12% increase from 2022. In particular, the number of medical trainees increased, including almost 6,000 medical assistants and over 3,000 physician assistants in 2023. There was also a 6% increase in other professional service trainees (nutritionists, speech therapists, and others) (Figure 4).

Figure 4: Total Pre- and Post-Graduate Trainees, 2023



### Clinical Quality Spotlights

Table 1 shows the 2023 UDS clinical quality measure (CQM) scores and the CQM trend since 2020. Of note, changes in UDS reporting requirements for CQMs to better align with other federal agency eCQM standards impacted (i.e., lowered) many CQM scores relative to previous years. However, overall, the CQMs are improving. HIV screening increased by a notable 16% from 2020.

Table 1: Clinical Quality Measures

Clinical Quality Measure	2023 UDS*	2020-2023 Trend
HIV Screening	48%	↑ 16%
Pediatric Dental Sealants	59%	↑ 10%
Hypertension Control	66%	↑ 8%
Breast Cancer Screening	52%	↑ 7%
Screening for Depression and Follow-up	72%	↑ 7%
Uncontrolled Diabetes**	29%	↓ -7%
Pediatric BMI Assessment and Counseling	72%	↑ 6%
Statin Therapy for Cardiovascular Disease	77%	↑ 5%
Cervical Cancer Screening	55%	↑ 4%
Colorectal Cancer Screening	41%	↑ 1%
Adult BMI Screening and Follow-up	67%	↑ 1%
Tobacco Use Screening and Cessation	85%	↑ 1%
Depression Remission	14%	-
Low Birth Weight**	9%	-

\*Each measure is the percent of eligible patients who received the service or experienced the outcome.

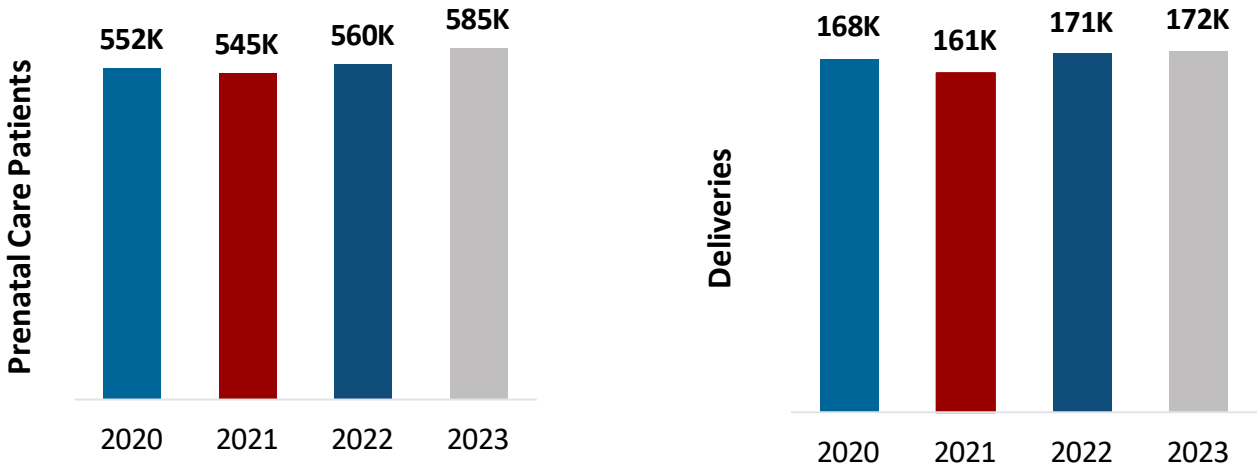
\*\*Inverse measure

- Represents a <0.5% change

### Supporting Maternal Health Needs

Health centers served 585,000 prenatal patients, representing a 6% increase from 2020, and supported 172,000 deliveries, a 2% increase from 2020 (Figure 5).

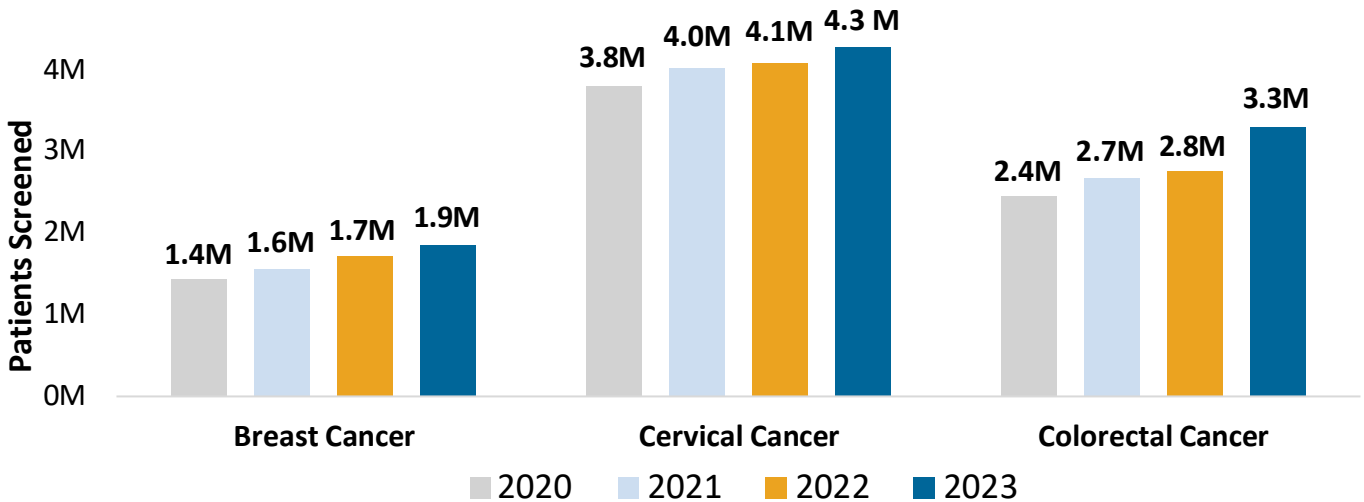
Figure 5: Trend in Prenatal Care Patients and Deliveries, 2020-2023



### Increasing Cancer Screening

In 2023, health centers leveraged Fiscal Year 2023 Accelerating Cancer Screening funding to screen more patients for breast, cervical, and colorectal cancers (Figure 6). These increases included 414,000 additional patients screened for breast cancer, 470,000 additional patients screened for cervical cancer, and 858,000 additional patients screened for colorectal cancer from 2020.

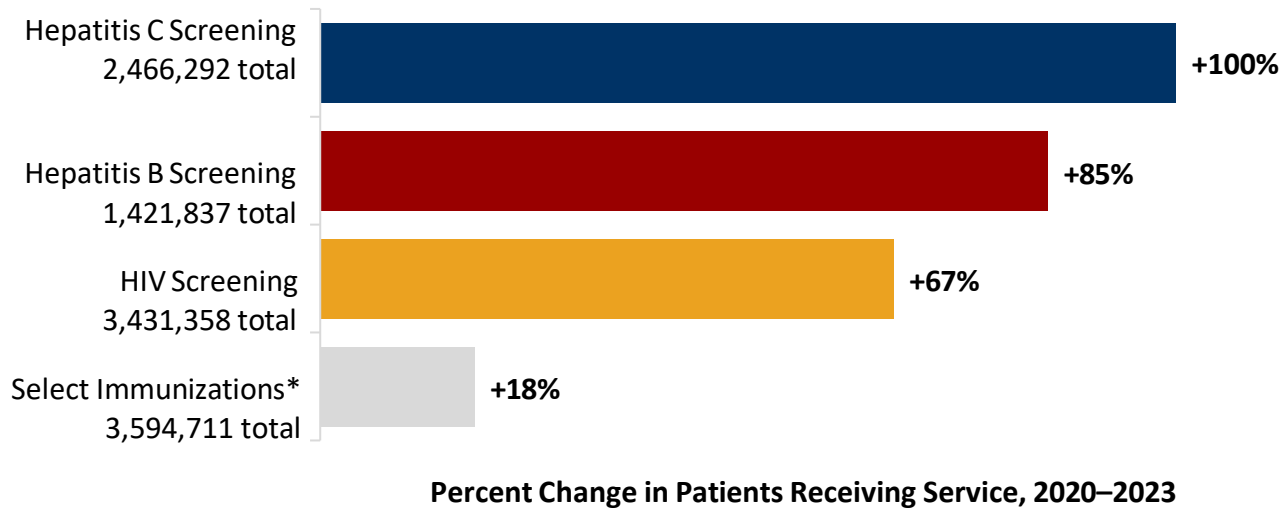
Figure 6: Trends in Cancer Screening, 2020-2023



## Infectious Disease Screening and Prevention

Health centers screened nearly 2.5 million patients for hepatitis C and 1.4 million patients for hepatitis B in 2023, representing notable 100% and 85% increases between 2020 and 2023. HIV screenings increased by 67% from 2020. Health centers also provided almost 3.6 million patients with routine immunizations, an 18% increase from 2020 (Figure 7).

[Figure 7: Percent Changes in Patients Receiving Infectious Disease Services, 2020-2023](#)



\*Select immunizations include hepatitis A, haemophilus influenzae B (HiB), and measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR), among others.

## Methods

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The 2023 UDS dataset includes data from January 1 to December 31, 2023. Health centers report their data to HRSA via the [Electronic Handbooks](#) in fulfillment of UDS reporting requirements, and HRSA works with health centers to review and validate these data.

## Acknowledgements

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HRSA thanks the health centers and partners for their work to support the health care needs of communities throughout the United States and for the innovative ways they have provided preventive and primary care to patients.

## Additional Resources

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- [2023 UDS Data](#): The complete 2023 UDS dataset is available on [data.hrsa.gov](https://data.hrsa.gov).
- [2023 UDS Manual](#): View the 2023 UDS Manual for data definitions and additional information.
- [Archived Resources](#): View archived resources to learn more about past UDS reporting years.

## Appendix

**Figure 1 Data Table: Trend in Total Patients, 2020-2023**

Total	2020	2021	2022	2023
Patients	28,590,897	30,193,278	30,517,276	31,277,341

**Figure 2 Data Table: Percent Increases in Patients from Certain Populations, 2020-2023**

Patient Population Group	Percent Change in Patients, 2020-2023	Increase in Patients, 2020-2023	Total Patients, 2023
School-based Service Site Patients	69 %	454,120	1,112,671
Patients in/around Public Housing	24 %	1,259,433	6,447,050
Patients Experiencing Homelessness	12 %	159,179	1,447,033
Veterans	7 %	28,203	404,837
Agricultural Workers	4 %	36,982	1,014,726

**Figure 3 Data Table: Trend in Mental Health Visits, Health Centers Providing MOUD Services, Patients Receiving MOUD Services, and MOUD-eligible Providers, 2020-2023**

Total	2020	2021	2022	2023
Mental Health Visits	22,890,367	24,460,774	25,035,381	26,138,191
Health Centers Providing MOUD Services	839	865	879	975
Patients Receiving MOUD Services	181,896	184,379	193,986	207,846
MOUD-eligible Providers	8,362	8,869	10,331	12,816

**Figure 4 Data Table: Total Pre- and Post-Graduate Trainees, 2023**

Service Category	Total Trainees, 2023
Medical	46,223
Dental	9,615
Behavioral	5,088
Other Professional	4,109
Vision	1,049

**Figure 5 Data Table: Trend in Prenatal Care Patients and Deliveries, 2020-2023**

Measure	2020	2021	2022	2023
Prenatal Patients	551,990	544,611	559,559	585,135
Deliveries	168,323	161,487	171,037	172,009

**Figure 6 Data Table: Trends in Cancer Screening, 2020-2023**

Service Category	2020	2021	2022	2023
Patients Screened for Breast Cancer	1,438,426	1,557,112	1,719,755	1,851,976
Patients Screened for Cervical Cancer	3,807,992	4,025,004	4,084,322	4,278,162
Patients Screened for Colorectal Cancer	2,448,976	2,680,583	2,769,337	3,306,873

**Figure 7 Data Table: Percent Changes in Patients Receiving Infectious Disease Services, 2020-2023**

Service	Total Patients, 2023	Percent Change in Patients, 2020-2023
Hepatitis C Screening	2,466,292	100.24%
Hepatitis B Screening	1,421,837	84.5%
HIV Screening	3,431,358	67.48%
Select Immunizations	3,594,711	18.19%