Denver Health
2Q 2025 Report Out

November 5, 2025

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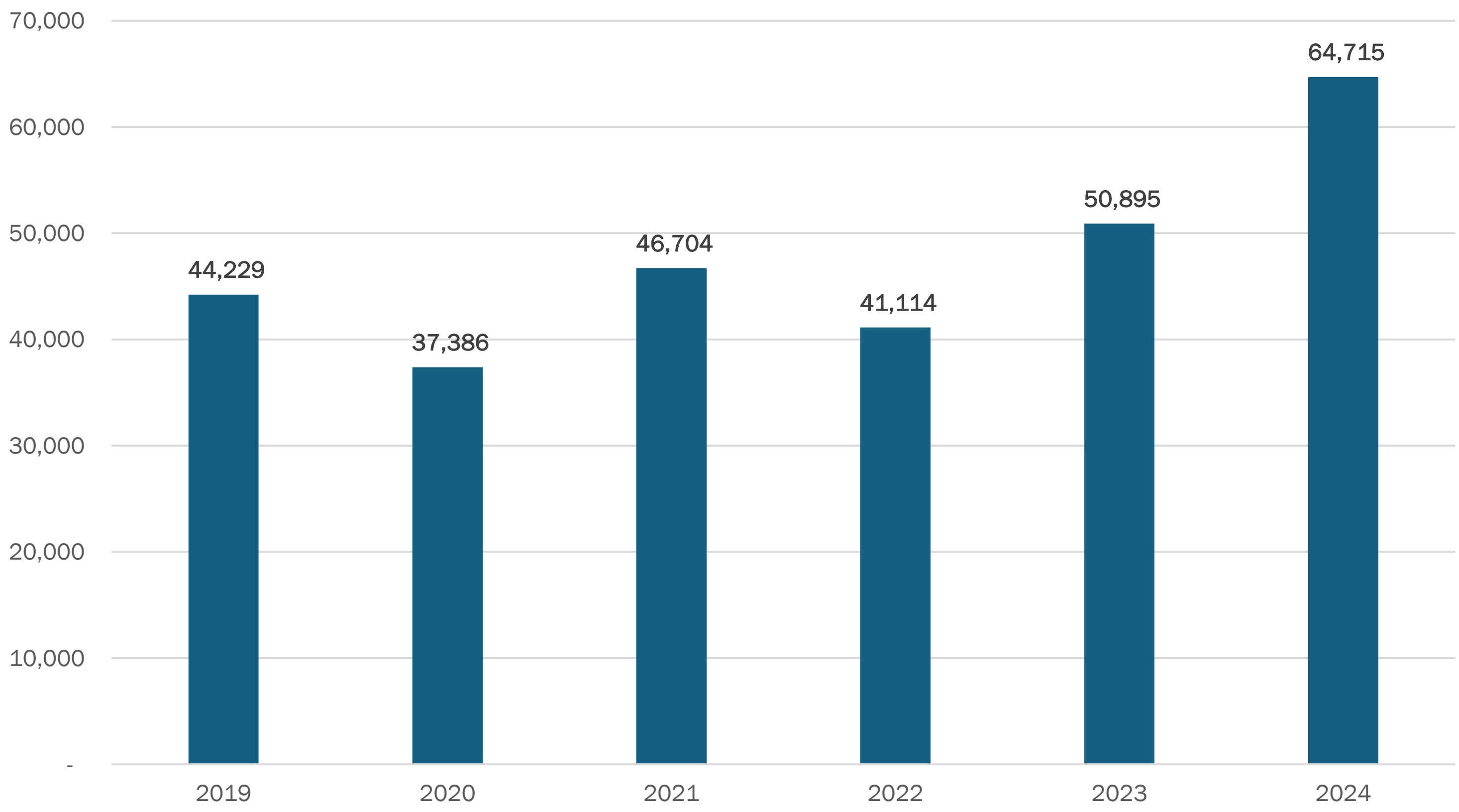
Denver Health 2Q Sales Tax: Protecting Essential Services for Our Community

Flat Funding, Rising Costs: MI Payment Frozen at $30M Since 1997

Denver voters approved the 2Q sales tax, projected to generate $65 million in 2025.

- **Preventing Cuts to Critical Services**
  - Denver Health faced an unsustainable explosion in uncompensated care costs, putting pressure on clinical operations and community programs.
  - The 2Q funding was necessary to stabilize the budget and avoid cuts to vital healthcare services that thousands of Denver residents depend on.
- **Stabilizing for Growth**
  - The goal for 2025 is to stabilize Denver Health's finances using 2Q funds.
  - By improving the funding of uncompensated care, Denver Health can focus on:
    - Expanding critical community health services,
    - Recruiting and retaining skilled staff, and
    - Meeting the growing needs of the city.

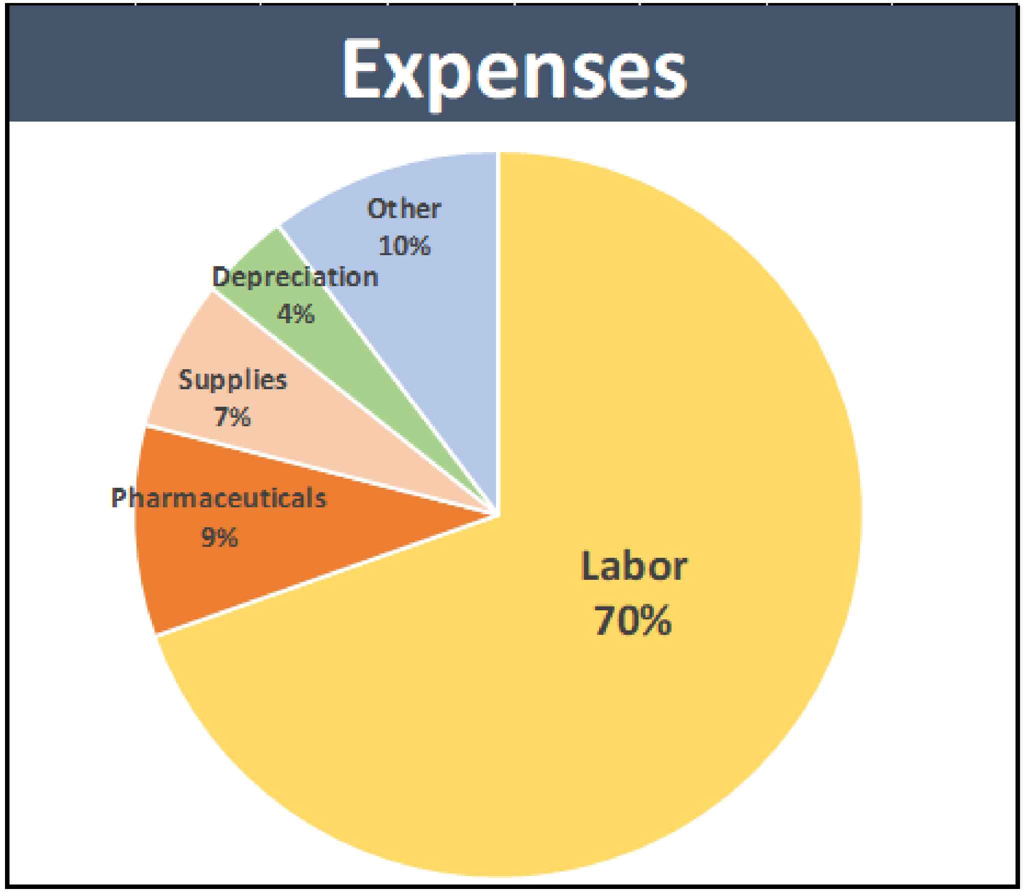
Uninsured Denver County Patients



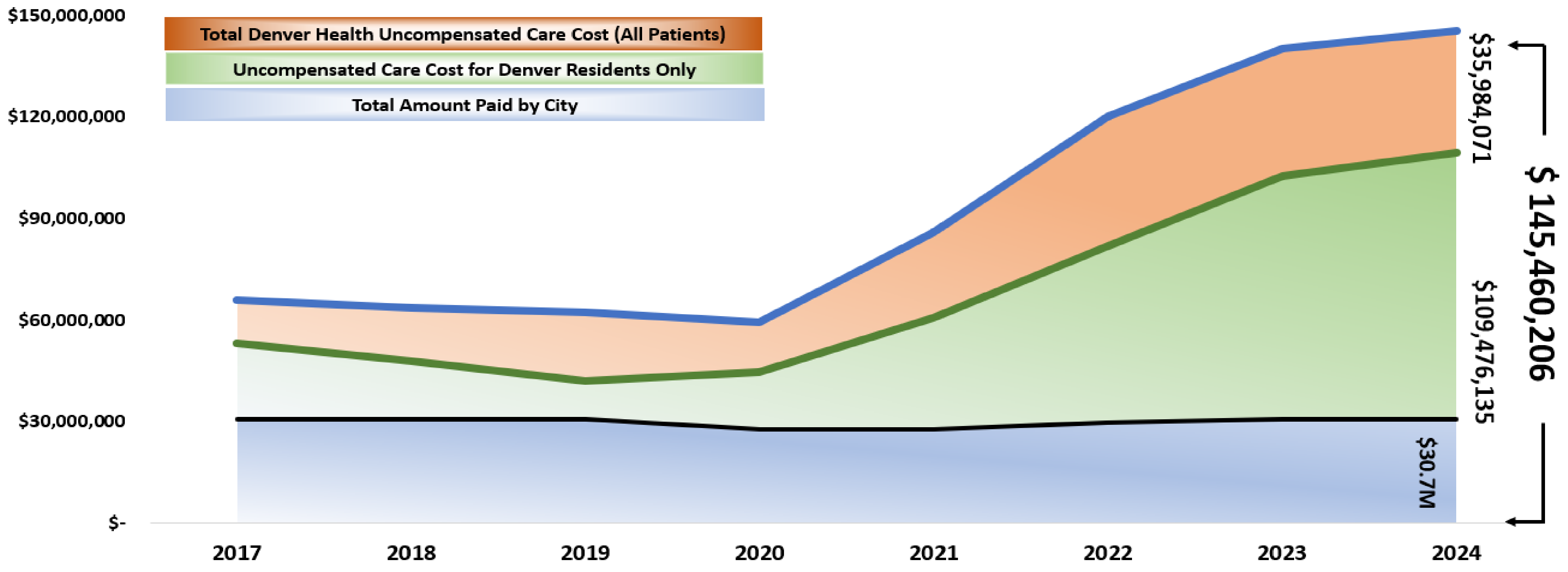
Denver Health Budget

Denver Health's 2025 budget is $1.5 Billion

2Q is 4% of Denver Health's total budget



Denver Health Medicaid, Medicare and Uninsured Uncompensated Care for Services



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Addressing the Burden of Uncompensated Care

- The Challenge of Uncompensated Care
  - Uncompensated care refers to:
    - Patients with no insurance coverage, and
    - Patients with insurance that does not cover the full cost of their care, leaving Denver Health to absorb the remainder.
- Supporting Our Workforce
  - 70% of Denver Health's costs are directly tied to staffing — the nurses, doctors, and frontline employees who provide care every day.
  - 7% Supplies
  - 9% Pharmaceuticals
- Denver Health's Unique Care Model
  - Denver Health operates a fully integrated care model, connecting medical care with essential social supports.
    - Food Bank Donations and Supporting WIC through federal closure

Emergency Medical Services

- **2Q Spend: $36.2M**
  - **Service Volumes**
    - **Budgeted Visits:** 428,798
    - **September YTD Visits:** 309,983

- **Trauma Surgery**
  - **Hybrid Operating Room (OR):**
    - Advanced surgical suite enabling simultaneous imaging and intervention
    - Ongoing investments in technology upgrades and maintenance
    - A true “wow factor” showcasing Denver Health’s innovation in trauma care
  - **Neurotrauma ICU & Stroke Center Development:**
    - Establishing a dedicated neurotrauma ICU for the sickest TBI patients
    - Foundation for future Stroke Center designation
    - Dependent on upcoming facility expansion approval
  - **Trauma Fellowship Program:**
    - Launching Denver Health’s first trauma fellowship
    - Strengthens training, professional development, and talent retention
    - Reinforces Denver Health’s role as a leader in trauma education and care

- **Workforce Investments Paramedics**
  - Improved Hiring Potential: Pay adjustments led to a 3x increase in paramedic applicants, improving recruitment and retention.
  - Enhanced Strategic Planning: Upgraded predictive modeling software supports better scenario planning and operational efficiency.
  - Expanded Clinical Leadership: Added Deputy Chief of Performance & Development and Assistant Chief of Clinical Performance to drive quality, innovation, and staff growth.

- **Other Investments (Outside Labor Budget)**
  - Ambulance Remounts: $1.54M (six units)
  - Paramedic Medical Equipment: $300K
  - Emergency Department Equipment: $308K

Primary Care

- **Projected 2Q Spend: $16.1M**
  - Service Volumes
    - Budgeted Visits: 1,108,741
    - September YTD Visits: 806,214

- **Access Expansion & Service Integration**
  - Medical-Dental Integration:
    - Added 2 new sites (Montbello & Lowry)
    - 3,451 combined visits since program launch in 2025
    - Dental hygienists available during medical visits
- **Expanded Dental Hours:**
  - OMC Dental & OMFS Clinics increased hours from 50 → 65 hours/week
  - Improves patient access and reduces wait times

- **Lowry Clinic Extended Hours:**
  - Added Saturday clinic and pharmacy
  - +8.5 hours/week, averaging 60 patients and 70 prescriptions per Saturday
  - ~5% increase in total visits during extended hours (Mon–Wed)

- **Community Outreach**
  - Warren Village Partnership:
    - On-site medical and behavioral health services at new Alameda campus
    - Supports single-parent families in Colorado's first supportive housing program
    - 126+ visits since launch

Pediatrics

- **Projected 2Q Spend: $2.2M**
  - Service Volumes
  - Budgeted: 4,198 Equivalent Days
  - September YTD: 3,010 Equivalent Days

- **Specialty Care Expansion**
  - Integrated Specialty Nurse Practitioner (NP):
    - Serves both Pediatric Neurology & Surgery Clinics
    - Doubled surgery clinic capacity and increased neurology appointments
    - Reduced referral-to-appointment wait times:
      - 77% shorter for surgery
      - 28% shorter for neurology

- **School-Based Health Centers (SBHCs)**
  - 3,360 visits | Estimated $782,880 value
  - Sandoval Campus: one of Denver's largest (2,000+ students)
    - Full clinic coming soon;
    - Added in-person behavioral health services – 80 visits since August

- **Foster Care Clinic – "Connections for Kids" (CFKC)**
  - Expanded to 2 new clinic locations
  - Added nurse care coordinator and child life specialist
  - Strengthens emotional and developmental support for foster youth

Mental Health

- **Projected 2Q Spend: $13.9M**
  - Service Volumes
  - Budgeted: 20,706 Census Days | 200,859 Visits
  - September YTD: 13,044 Census Days | 134,872 Visits
- **Integrated Medical and Psychiatric (IMAP) Inpatient Unit**
  - Capacity: 42 Adult Beds | 21 Adolescent Beds
  - 12-bed specialized unit for patients with co-occurring medical and psychiatric needs
- **Opening Date: Targeted for December 2025**
  - Purpose & Impact
    - Bridges the gap between medical and behavioral health care
    - Enables coordinated, multidisciplinary treatment within one setting
    - Improves outcomes by reducing delays and ensuring continuity of care
    - Expands inpatient access for high-need, complex patients
- **Behavioral Health Service Expansion (2025–2026)**
  - Advancing toward BHA Comprehensive Safety Net Status by adding:
    - Mental Health Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP)
    - Outpatient Competency Restoration (OCR)
    - Mental Health 27–65 Certifications

Alcohol and Substance Use

- **Projected 2Q Spend: $2.0M**
  - Budgeted Visits: 72,457
  - September YTD Visits: 46,024

- **Behavioral Health Case Management Team**
  - New team of 10 FTEs created to coordinate care and address housing, employment, benefits, and mental health needs for substance use disorder (SUD) patients.
  - 350 visits completed since launching in July.
  - Added walk-in intake hours (6:30–10:30 a.m.) to improve access.
  - No patients turned away since implementation.
  - Monthly SUD Intake Volumes
    - July: 88 intakes
    - August: 102 intakes
    - September: 77 intakes
- **Impact**
  - Expands access to integrated addiction and behavioral health treatment.
  - Strengthens continuity of care and reduces barriers for high-need patients.
  - Positions Denver Health as a regional leader in comprehensive recovery services.

Summary and Overview

- **Growth and Value Added (Sample Visit Data)**
  - General Internal Medicine (1,813 visits @ $253) → $458K
  - Family Medicine (4,065 visits @ $241) → $980K
  - Dental (4,506 visits @ $275) → $1.24M
  - Pediatrics: 1,277 visits @ $233/visit = $297,541

- **Next Year Projections**
  - State funding expected to tighten due to budget pressures
  - Federal Medicaid regulation changes create additional uncertainty
  - Potential impact on workforce expansion and program growth

- **Strategic Priorities for FY2026**
  - Southeast Clinic Opening
  - Integrated Medical and Psychiatric (IMAP) Inpatient Unit
    - Staffing Growth as census increases

Thank You!

Questions?

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Appendix

Projections – Spending Plan

- Sales Tax Projection from City for Year (2025)
  - **$65 Million**

- Total Budget Numbers by Category:
  - **EMS:** $36.2M (32% of total budget)
  - **Primary Care:** $16.1M (19% of total budget)
  - **Pediatrics:** $2.2M (23% of total budget)
  - **Mental Health:** $13.9M (24% of total budget)
  - **Alcohol and Substance Use:** $2M (21% of total budget)