



# Broadband Delivers Telehealth in Rural Communities

## Did you know?

According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), **rural Americans are older and face more adverse health disparities** than their counterparts in urban areas. These include a greater likelihood of: heart disease, cancer, unintentional injury, chronic lower respiratory disease and stroke.



Of those children who face mental, behavioral and developmental disorders, those in rural areas face **more community and family challenges** than their urban counterparts.



Fatalities from unintentional injury are about **50% higher** in rural areas, partly due to a greater risk of death from motor vehicle crashes and opioid overdoses.

## The Bottom Line

These challenges highlight the need for **additional attention and resources** to improve health in rural America.

## Rural health by the numbers



of U.S. residents live in rural areas.

[US Census and USDA]



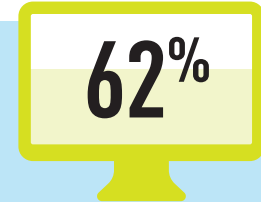
of primary health care provider shortage areas are in rural counties.

## Transforming care through telehealth



59% of consumers have used telehealth, of which 80% report satisfaction with their experiences.

[Consumer Technology Association]



of mental health patients completed recent appointments virtually.

[McKinsey]

## Going the distance for health care



Rural Americans travel approximately **20 miles for primary care and more than 40 miles for specialty care** following rural hospital closures.

[U.S. Government Accountability Office]



## Data Supports More Telehealth

Rural telehealth can deliver **real savings** for medical facilities.

On average, each medical facility stands to save over **\$37,500 annually**. This significant figure encompasses avoiding travel expenses, lost wages, and hospital costs.

[Anticipating Economic Returns of Rural Telehealth. SRC]

The telehealth industry is expected to grow to **\$787B** by 2028.

[Grand View Research]

Ensure your community has access to this valuable tool. Visit [www.smartruralcommunity.org](http://www.smartruralcommunity.org) for more information and details.