



# 2025 community benefit report

Oregon acute care hospitals, fiscal year 2023

## What is community benefit?

Community benefit includes many types of health-related services that Oregon's community hospitals provide, without compensation, to address health needs in the community.

Some examples of these services are free or discounted health care through financial assistance and "charity care," financial or in-kind support for public health programs, health education, screening and prevention services, medical research, medical education, community health investments, and more.

## Hospitals are committed to improving the health of their communities.

Despite economic headwinds that resulted in 54% of hospitals reporting financial losses in FY 2023 and Medicaid reimbursement falling short of covering the cost of care by \$1 billion, hospitals maintained a high level of community benefit spending.

Because much of what influences our health happens outside of hospitals and doctors' offices, hospitals' community benefit programs often extend to our schools, workplaces, and neighborhoods.

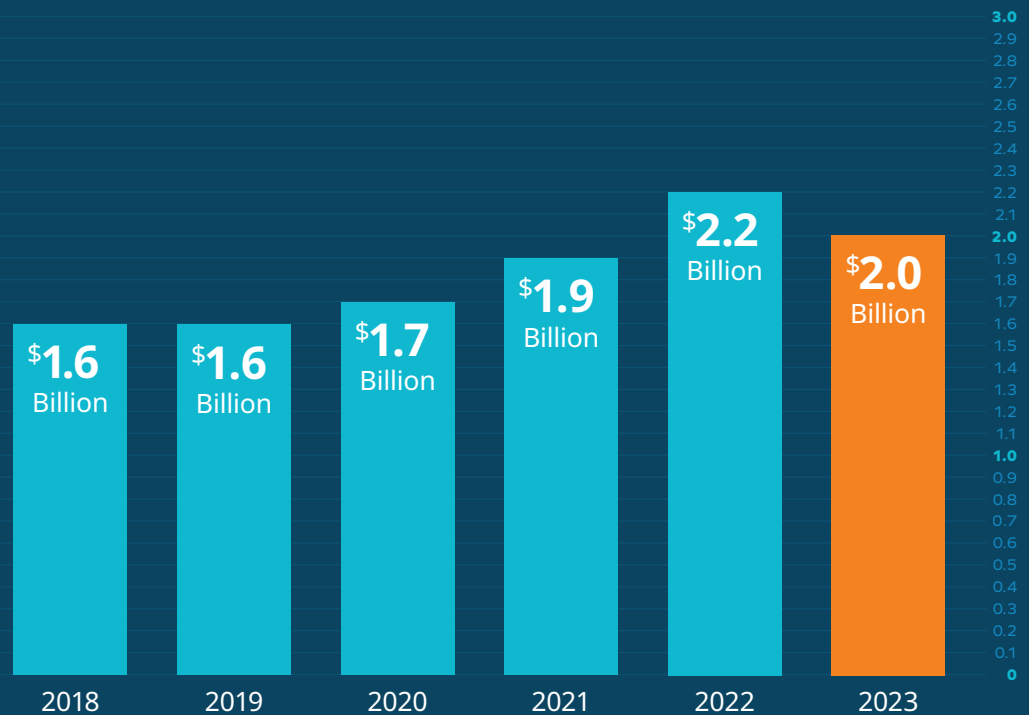


## Total community benefit spending has increased 29% from FY 2018 to FY 2023.

Even with an expansion of the Medicaid program (97% of Oregonians now have health care coverage), hospitals have increased their community benefit investment since 2018. By law, charity care means free or discounted health services provided to persons who cannot afford to pay and from whom a hospital has no expectation of payment (ORS 442.601).

## Total community benefit spending over time

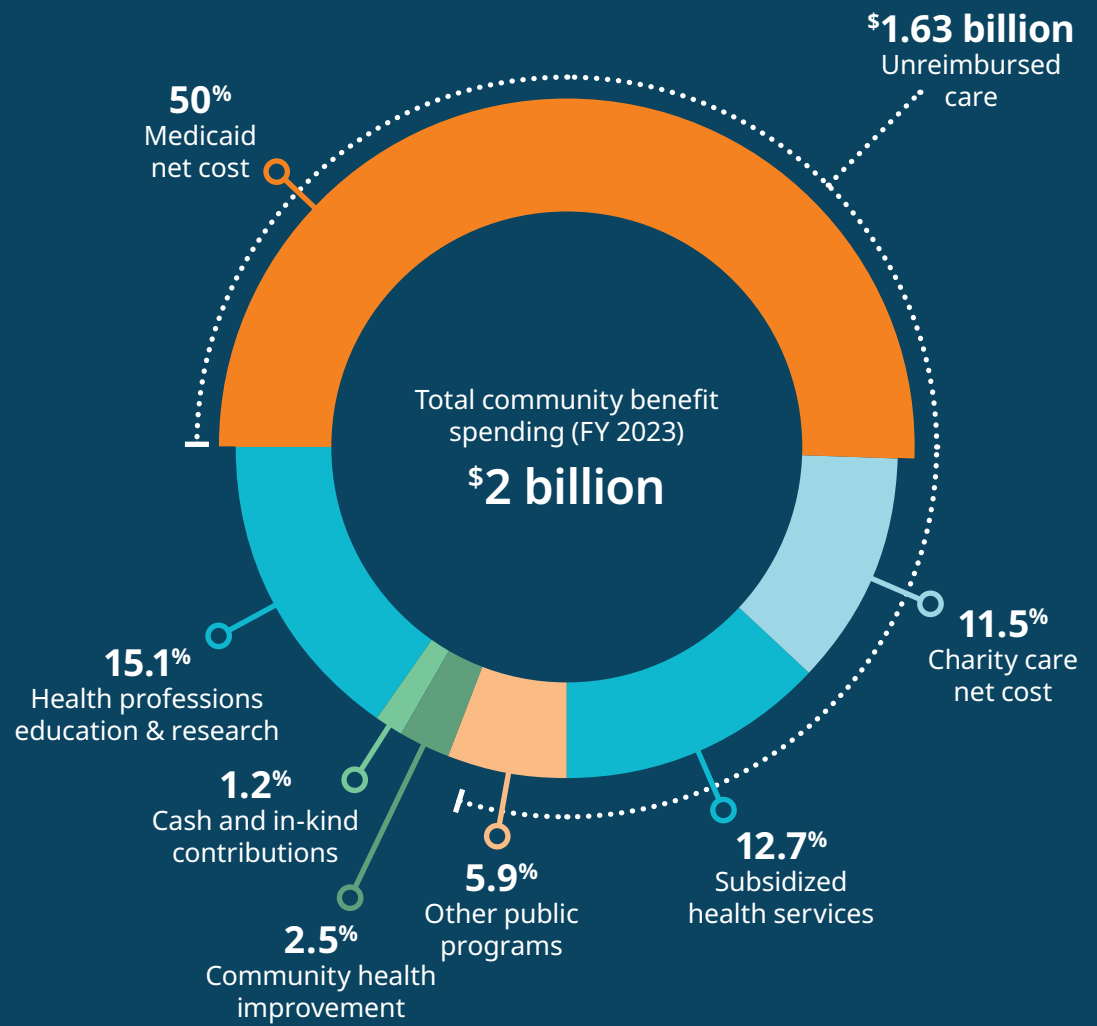
Community benefit spending has increased by 29% since 2018



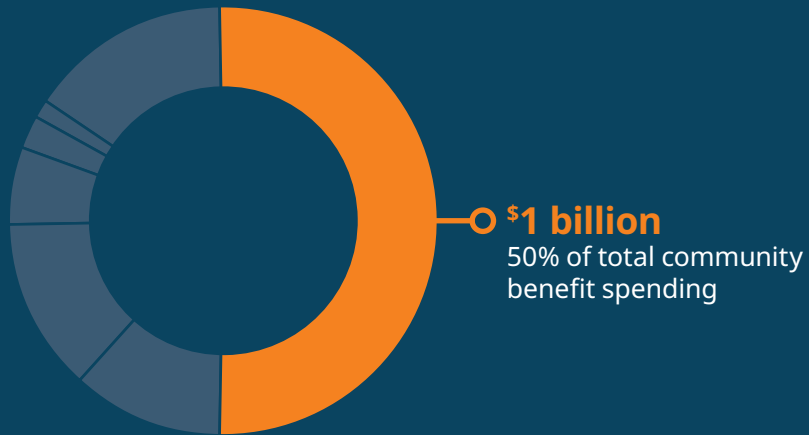
In FY 2023, Oregon hospitals provided \$1.63 billion in care that was not reimbursed.

This investment came despite difficult financial conditions for hospitals, including sharply rising expenses and payments from health insurers that do not cover the cost of providing care.

## Community benefit spending (FY 2023)

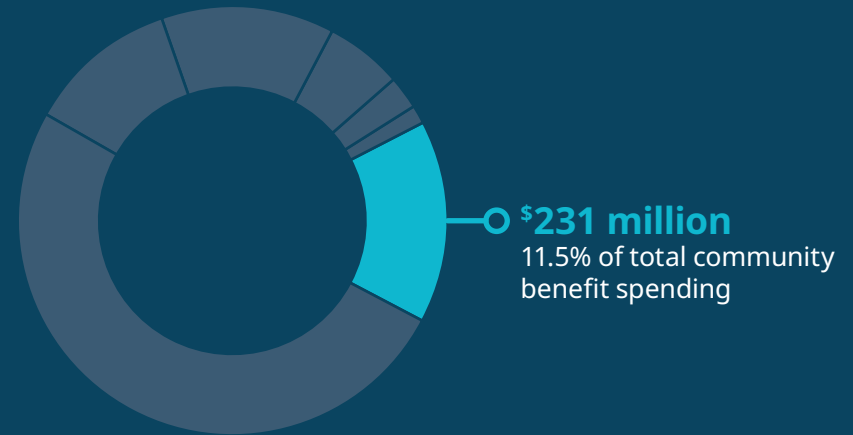


## Unreimbursed Medicaid



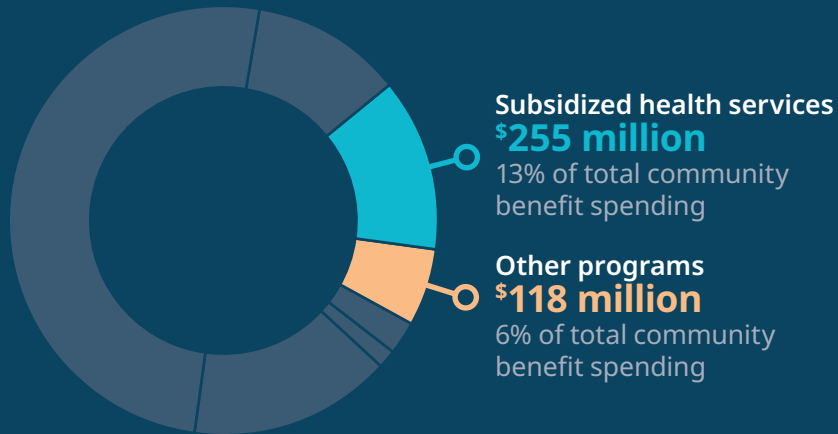
This category makes up the largest share of community benefit spending for a simple reason: the state's Medicaid program (known as the Oregon Health Plan) does not cover hospitals' cost of caring for patients. For every dollar of care provided, the state pays only 56 cents. Medicaid underpayment is \$1 billion, or 50% of total community benefit spending.

## Charity care



Charity care is free or discounted health care provided to patients according to financial assistance policies. Patients with a household income of up to 400% of the federal poverty level may qualify for financial assistance. This figure has declined as OHP membership has grown; OHP now covers one in three Oregonians.

## Subsidized health services and other programs



### Subsidized health services

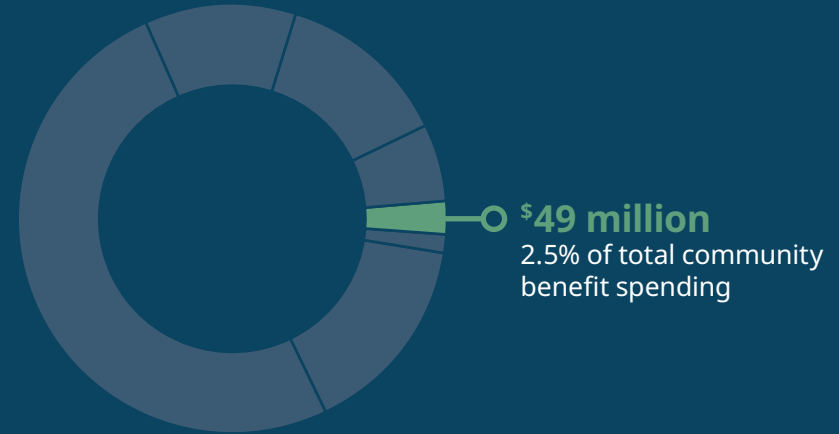


### Other programs



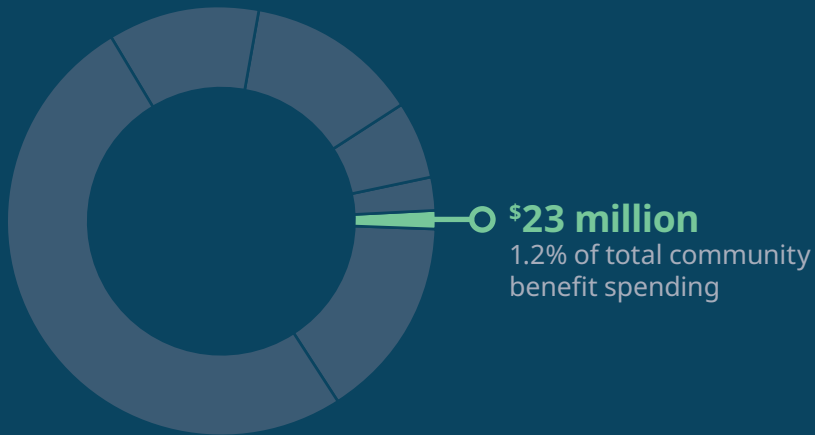
Hospitals address other gaps in government programs where payment to hospitals also does not cover the cost of care.

## Community health improvement

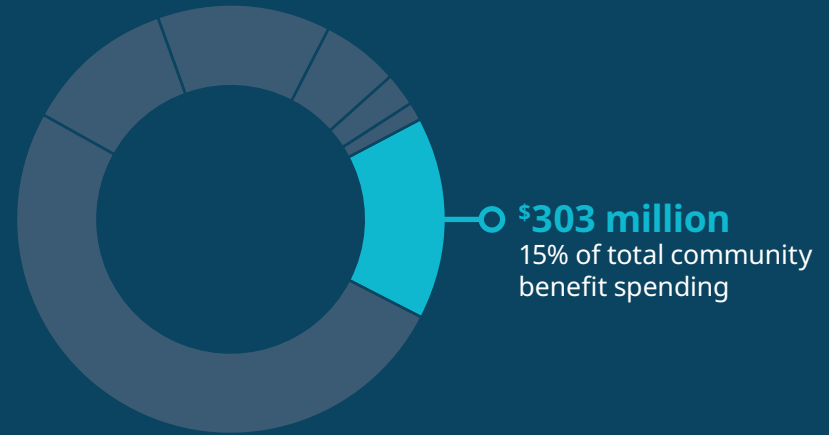


These efforts are designed to improve community health through programs targeted to specific local needs, often identified by a community health needs assessment. They include prevention programs, screenings, education events, and support groups.

## Cash and in-kind contributions



## Health professions education research



Funds and services include grants, scholarships, food, equipment, and meeting space for individuals or groups in the community.

\$269 million was spent preparing future health care professionals by providing a clinical setting for training, internships, vocational experience, and residencies.

An additional \$34 million went to clinical and community health research as well as studies on health care delivery, with results being shared outside the hospital.