

TRAVEL TIME TO PRIMARY CARE PHYSICIANS IN ARKANSAS

SEPTEMBER
2025

More than one-third of Arkansans live in health professional shortage areas.¹ In recent years, there has been a slight decrease in the rate of primary care physicians (PCPs) to Arkansans. For example, in 2019, there were 9.4 active^a PCPs per 10,000 residents in Arkansas, but by 2022 the rate had decreased to 9.3 active PCPs per 10,000 residents. As of 2022, about 38% of Arkansas PCPs had fewer than 150 active days — defined as days when a physician provided evaluation and management services to at least two patients — during the year. Decreases in available PCPs reduce access and increase travel times for patients, which are associated with lower use of preventive services, delays in treatment, and worse health outcomes.² ACHI reviewed health insurance claims data for 2022 to estimate patients' travel times to PCPs in Arkansas.

Percentages of Arkansans Traveling 30+ or 60+ Minutes to a PCP

**30 Minutes
or More**

30%
n=295,727

**60 Minutes
or More**

12%
n=115,140

"n" = Number of Patients

Median Minutes Traveled to PCPs in Arkansas, by PCP Specialty

General Practice 22

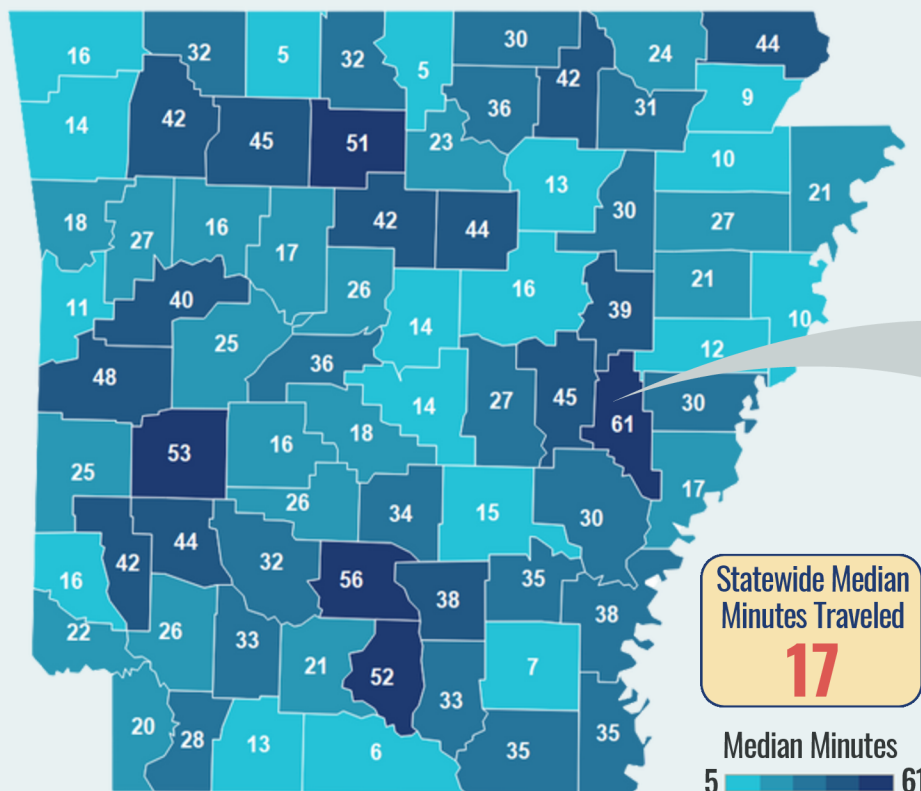
Geriatric Medicine 22

Internal Medicine 22

Pediatric Medicine 16

Family Practice 18

Median Minutes Traveled to PCPs in Arkansas, by County of Residence



Monroe County

- The median time traveled to a PCP by Monroe County residents was 61 minutes (62 minutes for adults and 54 for children).
- In 2022, there were 12 PCPs in Monroe County, with 6 of the 12 seeing patients on fewer than 11 days.

¹⁻² For references: achi.net/publications/travel-time-pcp

^aTo be considered "active," a PCP must have seen at least two patients on the same day at least once during the year.

Data sources: Arkansas Healthcare Transparency Initiative's All-Payer Claims Database, Arkansas State Medical Board licensure files.