

68.0% Gap in Home Health Growth — ALEX Intelligence 2026

68.0% Gap in Home Health Growth — What's Driving It?

The fastest and slowest U.S. metro growth rates reveal a hidden healthcare divide.

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THE DATA

68.0%

Spread Between the Fastest and Slowest Growth in Home Health Providers (2022)

This gap compares Portland-South Portland, ME, and Youngstown-Warren, OH, as the extremes in U.S. metropolitan home health provider growth.

This 68.0% spread is not a function of population size or age demographics alone. Instead, it reflects the uneven distribution of healthcare infrastructure investment, regulatory alignment, and telehealth integration capacity across regions. The top performers—like Modesto and Madison—have leveraged regional health networks and public-private partnerships to scale home-based care rapidly.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, County Business Patterns 2019 and 2022, NAICS 6216 (Home health care services) · ALEX Intelligence computation

<https://alex-companies.com/data/2026-09-16-ai-healthcare-dive-6216-msa>



01

Growth Isn't Just Demand — It's Infrastructure

This suggests that AI-driven healthcare scaling is not just about algorithms or patient data—it's about the underlying operational and regulatory architecture. The real bottleneck is not clinical innovation, but the institutional capacity to deploy it at scale.



02

The Slowest Growth Is a Systemic Warning

This contrast reveals a second-order effect: regions with slow home health growth are not just underserved—they are being left behind in the AI healthcare transition. Without investment in digital infrastructure, even the most advanced AI diagnostics will fail to reach patients in these areas, creating a two-tier system.

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