**American Hospital Association Downloadable Press Kit**

  

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**About the AHA**

In September 1899, eight hospital superintendents met in Cleveland to discuss common concerns and interests. The result of this informal gathering was the establishment of the Association of Hospital Superintendents, an organization to facilitate discussion among hospital administrators. For approximately eight years, the Association served as a private club for hospital superintendents, excluding from membership assistant superintendents and others involved in running the hospital. In 1906, membership restrictions were changed to allow those executive officers next in authority below the superintendent to be associate members without vote, and the name was officially changed to the American Hospital Association. Personal membership remained the basis of the AHA until 1918 when the first institutional membership structure was adopted.

AHA represents and serves all types of hospitals, health care networks, and their patients and communities. Nearly 5,000 hospitals, health care systems, networks, other providers of care and 43,000 individual members come together to form the AHA.

**Vision:** The AHA vision is of a society of healthy communities, where all individuals reach their highest potential for health.

**Mission:** To advance the health of individuals and communities. The AHA leads, represents and serves hospitals, health systems and other related organizations that are accountable to the community and committed to health improvement.

**Frequently Requested Statistics**

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| AHA Hospital Statistics is published annually by Health Forum, an affiliate of the American Hospital Association. Additional details on AHA Hospital Statistics, including order information, are available at <https://www.aha.org/statistics/fast-facts-us-hospitals>  For further information or customized data and research, contact the AHA Resource Center at (312) 422-2050 or [rc@aha.org](mailto:rc@aha.org).   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Total Number of All U.S. Hospitals** | 6,210 | | Number of U.S. [**Community**](https://www.aha.org/statistics/fast-facts-us-hospitals#community)1 Hospitals | 5,262 | | Number of Nongovernment Not-for-Profit Community Hospitals | 2,968 | | Number of Investor-Owned (For-Profit) Community Hospitals | 1,322 | | Number of State and Local Government Community Hospitals | 972 | | Number of Federal Government Hospitals | 208 | | Number of Nonfederal Psychiatric Hospitals | 620 | | [**Other**](https://www.aha.org/statistics/fast-facts-us-hospitals#other)2 Hospitals | 120 | |  |  | | **Total Staffed Beds in All U.S. Hospitals** | 931,203 | | Staffed Beds in Community1 Hospitals | 798,921 | | **Total Admissions in All U.S. Hospitals** | 36,510,207 | | Admissions in Community1 Hospitals | 34,305,620 | | **Total Expenses for All U.S. Hospitals** | $1,060,933,249,000 | | Expenses for Community1 Hospitals | $966,204,239,000 | |  |  | | **Number of Rural Community****Hospitals** | 1,875 | | **Number of Urban Community****Hospitals** | 3,387 | |  |  | | **Number of Community Hospitals in a**[**System**](https://www.aha.org/statistics/fast-facts-us-hospitals#system)3 | 3,494 | | **Number of Community Hospitals in a**[**Network**](https://www.aha.org/statistics/fast-facts-us-hospitals#network)4 | 1,749 | |

1**Community** **hospitals**are defined as all nonfederal, short-term general, and other special hospitals. Other special hospitals include obstetrics and gynecology; eye, ear, nose, and throat; long term acute-care; rehabilitation; orthopedic; and other individually described specialty services. Community hospitals include academic medical centers or other teaching hospitals if they are nonfederal short-term hospitals.  Excluded are hospitals not accessible by the general public, such as prison hospitals or college infirmaries.

2**Other hospitals**include nonfederal long term care hospitals and hospital units within an institution such as a prison hospital or school infirmary. Long term care hospitals may be defined by different methods; here they include other hospitals with an average length of stay of 30 or more days.

3**System** is defined by AHA as either a multihospital or a diversified single hospital system. A multihospital system is two or more hospitals owned, leased, sponsored, or contract managed by a central organization. Single, freestanding hospitals may be categorized as a system by bringing into membership three or more, and at least 25 percent, of their owned or leased non-hospital preacute or postacute health care organizations. System affiliation does not preclude network participation.

4**Network** is a group of hospitals, physicians, other providers, insurers and/or community agencies that work together to coordinate and deliver a broad spectrum of services to their community.

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