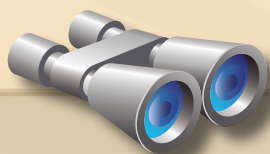
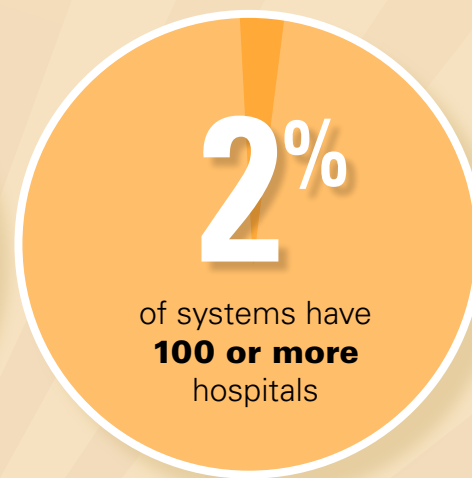
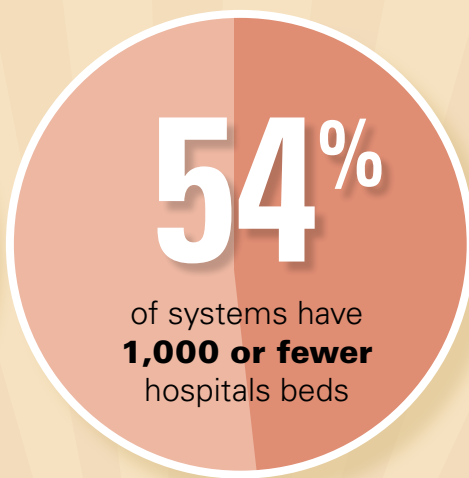
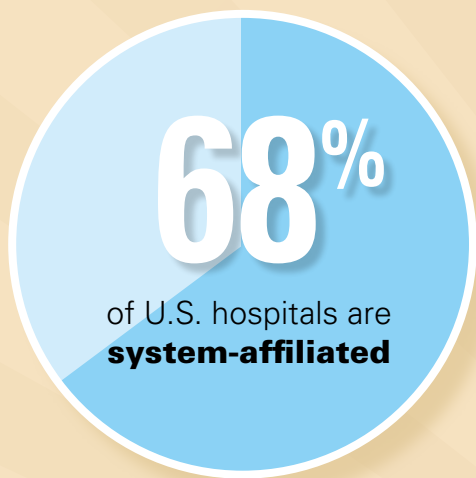


WHAT IS A HEALTH CARE SYSTEM? AHA has defined two types of health care systems, and both involve an ownership, lease, sponsorship or contract-management relationship with a central organization. A multihospital system involves two or more hospitals, while a single diversified hospital system involves one hospital and three or more pre- or post-acute health care organizations.

Total U.S. Health Systems = 404



A GLANCE BACK

► **In 1940**, there were at least 50 systems, all of them Catholic or other nonprofit organizations.

► **In 1960**, the first investor-owned system was identified.

► **In 1980**, the AHA conducted a survey and identified 267 systems.

Source: *Data Book on Multihospital Systems 1980-81*, AHA.



227 Number of systems with 1-5 hospitals

7 Number of systems with 100 or more hospitals

219 Number of systems with 1,000 or fewer hospital beds

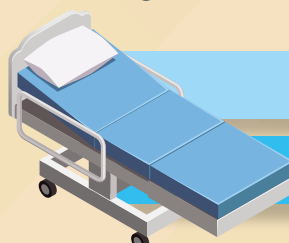


Total U.S. hospitals **6,120**

Total U.S. hospitals in systems **4,163**

Systems range in size from:

- **1-155 hospitals**
- **34-39,032 beds**



Total U.S. hospital beds **916,752**

Total U.S. hospital beds in systems **703,246**