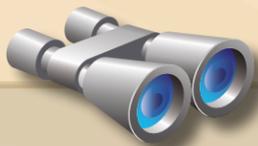
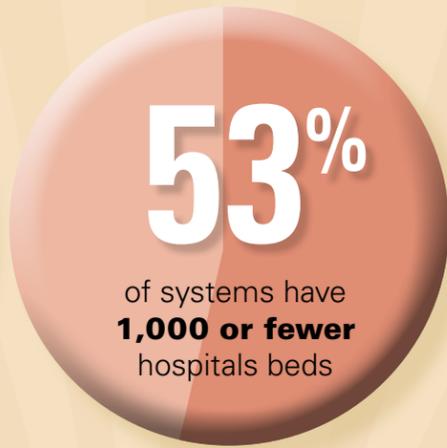
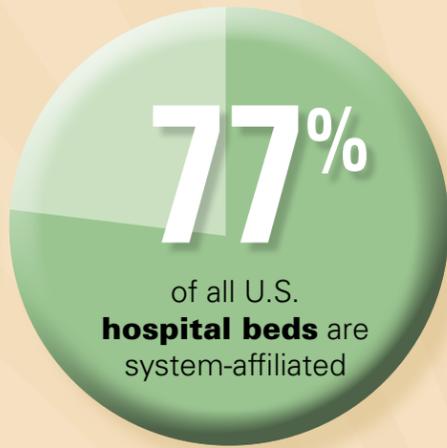


2025

FAST FACTS | U.S. Health Systems

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 = 397



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.



219 Number of systems with 1-5 hospitals

6 Number of systems with 100 or more hospitals

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



Total U.S. hospitals **6,093**

Total U.S. hospitals in systems **4,157**

Systems range in size from:

- ▶ **1-157 hospitals**
- ▶ **34-39,457 beds**



Total U.S. hospital beds **913,136**

Total U.S. hospital beds in systems **703,731**