

The COVID-19 pandemic has precipitated extraordinary challenges for hospitals and health systems and the communities they serve. As of February 2022, there have been nearly **80 million** confirmed COVID-19 cases, over **900,000** reported deaths from COVID-19, and over **4.5 million** inpatient admissions with COVID-19 in the United States. Since the onset of the pandemic hospitals and health systems have stood on the front lines in caring for America’s communities. In 2020, our hospital and health system workers treated 123 million people in emergency departments, provided 594 million outpatient visits, performed 25 million surgeries and delivered over 3.5 million babies. It has never been more apparent than during the ongoing pandemic that America’s hospitals and health systems are cornerstones in the communities they serve.

The role hospitals and health systems have played in providing health care to their communities — though vital — is only part of the story. With the pandemic **devastating** local economies, hospitals and health systems have been economic pillars that create jobs and purchase goods and services from others in their community. In 2020, hospitals:

- Employed **6.3 million** individuals. (see **Figure 1**).
- Purchased more than **\$1.1 trillion** in goods and services from other businesses.

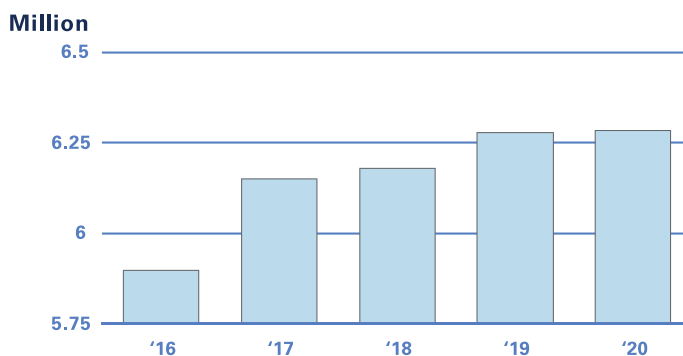
The goods and services hospitals purchase from other businesses create additional economic value for the community. When you add in these “ripple effects,” each hospital job supports nearly **two additional jobs**. Moreover, every dollar spent by a hospital supports \$2.30 of additional business activity. Overall, hospitals in 2020:

- Supported 17.6 million total jobs – roughly one out of eight jobs in the U.S. (see **Figure 2**).
- Supported \$3.6 trillion in economic activity.

Throughout the pandemic, hospitals have continued to face a range of financial and operational pressures, with **workforce-related challenges** among those most critical. As the omicron variant has surged, close to **one-fourth** of hospitals reporting data on staffing to the federal government have indicated that they are anticipating a critical staffing shortage. These workforce shortages have placed hospitals under enormous economic pressure to meet the demands created by the pandemic, and highlight the need to develop and implement longer-term solutions.

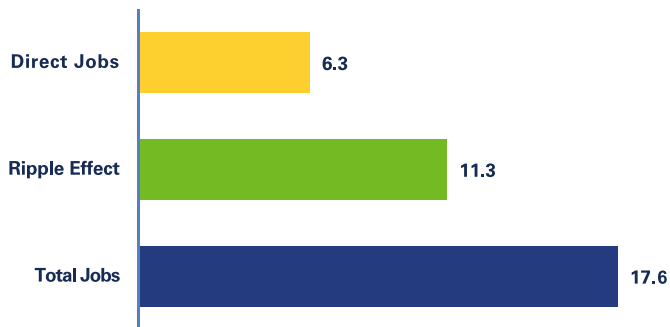
For more information on workforce resources by the AHA, please visit: aha.org/workforce-home.

Figure 1: Number of Full-time and Part-time Hospital Employees (in millions), 2016 - 2020



Source: Analysis of American Hospital Association Annual Survey data, 2020, for community hospitals.

Figure 2: Impact of Community Hospitals on U.S. Jobs (in millions), 2020



Source: Analysis, using BEA RIMS II multipliers based on 2012 national benchmark input-output data and 2018 regional data. These multipliers were first released in March 2021.

Impact of Community Hospitals on U.S. Economy; All States, DC, and Total U.S., 2020

State Name	Number of Hospital Jobs (FT and PT)	Multiplier for Employment	Effect of Hospital Jobs on Total Jobs in State Economy	Percent of Total Employment Supported by Hospital Employment	Hospital Payroll and Benefits (\$ millions)	Multiplier for Earnings	Effect of Hospital Payroll and Benefits on Total Labor Expense (\$ millions)	Hospital Expenditures (\$ millions)	Multiplier for Output	Effect of Hospital Expenditures on Total Output in State Economy (\$ millions)
Alabama	101,320	2.0737	210,107.28	10.47%	\$5,938.74	1.7205	\$10,217.59	\$12,930.40	1.9438	\$25,134.10
Alaska	13,369	1.795	23,997.36	8.02%	\$1,073.05	1.4912	\$1,600.14	\$2,114.21	1.6422	\$3,471.95
Arizona	96,039	2.4408	234,411.99	8.15%	\$8,074.05	1.9081	\$15,406.09	\$18,346.35	2.1696	\$39,804.23
Arkansas	58,308	1.913	111,543.20	8.90%	\$3,766.16	1.6193	\$6,098.54	\$8,206.10	1.8075	\$14,832.53
California	603,932	2.2913	1,383,789.39	8.61%	\$63,537.82	1.907	\$121,166.62	\$129,601.64	2.1909	\$283,944.23
Colorado	86,414	2.392	206,702.29	7.79%	\$7,329.52	1.9628	\$14,386.39	\$16,568.86	2.2484	\$37,253.42
Connecticut	71,101	2.0752	147,548.80	9.26%	\$6,091.48	1.7578	\$10,705.78	\$14,318.41	1.9714	\$28,227.32
Delaware	29,984	1.9923	47,978.57	10.74%	\$2,444.20	1.5972	\$3,584.44	\$4,811.00	1.7728	\$6,993.41
District of Columbia	24,992	1.4417	43,155.85	5.83%	\$2,909.56	1.3179	\$3,834.51	\$5,489.05	1.3663	\$7,499.69
Florida	344,520	2.4062	828,984.02	9.76%	\$25,887.62	1.9127	\$49,515.25	\$58,893.85	2.1663	\$127,451.77
Georgia	169,099	2.5363	428,885.79	9.67%	\$13,187.96	1.989	\$26,230.85	\$29,262.26	2.2746	\$66,559.93
Hawaii	19,668	2.1239	41,772.87	8.00%	\$2,114.71	1.6824	\$3,557.79	\$4,831.66	1.9123	\$8,474.66
Idaho	28,979	2.1299	61,722.37	8.00%	\$2,010.95	1.6613	\$3,340.80	\$4,225.87	1.8523	\$7,827.57
Illinois	259,782	2.435	632,569.17	11.05%	\$19,902.92	2.0498	\$40,797.01	\$44,014.74	2.3959	\$105,454.91
Indiana	139,893	2.1474	300,406.23	9.87%	\$10,928.47	1.8339	\$20,041.72	\$26,045.79	2.1031	\$54,779.01
Iowa	74,225	1.9091	141,702.95	9.26%	\$5,111.13	1.6168	\$8,263.68	\$10,542.42	1.7998	\$18,974.25
Kansas	70,645	2.0143	142,300.22	10.36%	\$5,068.24	1.7281	\$8,756.43	\$10,171.63	1.9974	\$20,316.82
Kentucky	94,671	2.0615	195,164.27	10.46%	\$6,747.82	1.7346	\$11,700.04	\$15,233.04	1.9915	\$30,336.60
Louisiana	106,326	2.0492	215,834.04	11.81%	\$6,658.92	1.7039	\$11,350.80	\$16,123.26	1.8964	\$30,576.15
Maine	39,488	2.1723	85,779.78	14.06%	\$3,331.76	1.7192	\$5,727.96	\$6,534.87	1.9026	\$12,433.25
Maryland	109,549	2.0746	227,270.36	8.74%	\$7,916.74	1.921	\$14,187.59	\$17,107.09	2.0995	\$34,889.91
Massachusetts	203,088	2.161	438,873.17	12.99%	\$15,054.31	1.8416	\$27,724.02	\$33,831.16	2.093	\$70,808.63
Michigan	209,974	2.2546	473,407.38	11.44%	\$16,460.45	1.8426	\$30,330.02	\$35,909.52	2.0906	\$75,072.44
Minnesota	157,364	2.2886	360,143.25	12.80%	\$10,740.82	1.88	\$20,192.73	\$20,530.71	2.1498	\$44,136.92
Mississippi	60,034	1.9334	116,069.74	10.28%	\$4,000.52	1.5981	\$6,393.22	\$8,383.44	1.7801	\$14,923.37
Missouri	149,562	2.2388	334,839.41	11.96%	\$11,134.79	1.8378	\$20,463.51	\$25,145.24	2.1118	\$53,101.73
Montana	29,181	1.994	58,186.91	12.15%	\$2,153.05	1.5802	\$3,402.25	\$4,330.46	1.7347	\$7,512.05
Nebraska	47,861	2.0037	95,899.09	9.59%	\$3,637.54	1.7225	\$6,213.94	\$7,619.13	1.9208	\$14,634.82
Nevada	35,778	2.1854	78,189.24	6.11%	\$3,007.97	1.6732	\$5,032.94	\$6,567.29	1.8684	\$12,270.33
New Hampshire	37,916	1.999	75,794.08	11.68%	\$3,183.45	1.7798	\$5,665.90	\$6,111.39	1.9521	\$11,990.05
New Jersey	154,501	2.2986	355,136.00	9.14%	\$13,373.82	1.923	\$25,717.86	\$27,652.70	2.2396	\$61,990.98
New Mexico	41,344	2.0462	84,598.09	10.66%	\$2,849.77	1.5964	\$4,549.37	\$6,259.56	1.7846	\$11,170.81
New York	488,410	2.0488	1,000,654.41	11.33%	\$51,250.33	1.7225	\$88,278.69	\$95,472.97	1.9757	\$188,625.94
North Carolina	188,422	2.3371	440,361.06	9.92%	\$13,940.11	1.8955	\$26,423.47	\$30,721.14	2.1671	\$66,575.79
North Dakota	24,618	1.7305	42,601.45	10.27%	\$2,305.39	1.529	\$3,524.95	\$4,404.45	1.697	\$7,474.36
Ohio	309,816	2.2903	709,571.58	13.34%	\$23,610.97	1.8832	\$44,464.18	\$48,655.26	2.1604	\$105,114.82
Oklahoma	64,756	2.0956	135,702.67	8.35%	\$4,585.09	1.7437	\$7,995.03	\$10,846.61	1.9515	\$21,167.16
Oregon	68,290	2.2161	151,337.47	8.24%	\$6,746.91	1.7499	\$11,806.42	\$13,973.84	1.9724	\$27,562.00
Pennsylvania	293,376	2.2461	658,951.83	11.61%	\$21,013.99	1.919	\$40,325.84	\$49,992.42	2.209	\$110,433.25
Rhode Island	27,707	2.0086	45,609.28	9.75%	\$1,885.72	1.7097	\$3,224.01	\$3,907.30	1.9182	\$7,494.98
South Carolina	77,003	2.3094	177,830.73	8.49%	\$6,080.01	1.8448	\$11,216.40	\$13,589.35	2.1185	\$28,789.03
South Dakota	29,473	1.8223	53,708.65	12.38%	\$2,414.35	1.5523	\$3,473.33	\$4,514.35	1.7076	\$7,709.70
Tennessee	132,511	2.3007	304,868.06	10.63%	\$9,630.21	1.9588	\$18,863.65	\$21,266.35	2.2592	\$48,044.93
Texas	410,211	2.6045	1,068,394.55	8.66%	\$33,952.43	2.0947	\$71,120.16	\$78,014.23	2.4412	\$190,448.34
Utah	52,068	2.3053	120,032.36	7.71%	\$3,700.34	1.8684	\$6,913.71	\$8,862.01	2.1616	\$19,156.13
Vermont	18,498	1.9572	36,204.29	12.44%	\$1,591.13	1.6138	\$2,567.77	\$2,879.39	1.7555	\$5,057.66
Virginia	131,365	2.1259	279,268.85	7.17%	\$9,892.00	1.8025	\$17,830.33	\$23,044.12	2.0515	\$47,275.01
Washington	117,548	2.0382	239,586.33	7.31%	\$11,629.84	1.7086	\$19,870.74	\$24,645.68	1.9532	\$48,137.94
West Virginia	48,517	1.8685	90,654.01	13.28%	\$3,389.16	1.5517	\$5,258.96	\$7,469.89	1.678	\$12,534.48
Wisconsin	130,843	2.1174	277,046.97	9.23%	\$9,780.82	1.7899	\$17,448.00	\$21,920.79	2.0196	\$44,271.23
Wyoming	11,532	1.7441	20,112.96	7.33%	\$862.55	1.4543	\$1,254.58	\$1,102.28	1.5847	\$2,770.28
United States	6,286,911	2.8048	17,633,327.97	12.38%	\$513,516.73	2.4031	\$1,234,932.05	\$1,107,282.38	3.2896	\$3,626,068.13

Source: Analysis, using BEA RIMS II multipliers based on 2012 national benchmark input-output data and 2018 regional data. These multipliers were first released in March 2021.