

Hospital Markets in Indiana *at a glance*

A snapshot of hospital market structure, concentration, and ownership across the state — and how they've changed since 2000. This analysis reflects data available through May 2026.

In Indiana, the share of hospitals owned by a system increased from 54% to 69% between 2000 and 2026. Nineteen of the state's 33 transactions qualified as “Red Zone” mergers.

WHAT THIS ANALYSIS COVERS

This analysis focuses on the state's 114 general short-term acute care (GSAC) hospitals — the facilities where most privately insured, Medicare, and Medicaid patients receive inpatient care, and where market concentration most directly affects the prices employers and workers pay. Each hospital's market is defined via a 30-minute travel radius around that facility. Within it, we measure concentration using the Herfindahl-Hirschman Index (HHI) — a standard antitrust metric calculated as the sum of the squared market shares of the owners in a market. HHI ranges from 0 (many small hospitals, low concentration) to 10,000 (a monopoly market, which has a single owner). Our hospital-centric HHI is a consistent analytical proxy for market concentration, not a legally defined antitrust market.

● **GSAC Hospitals (114)** ● VA / Military ● Psychiatric / Behavioral ● Rehabilitation ● Children's Specialty

Market Concentration

Indiana's average hospital market HHI rose from 4,504 to 4,882, an increase of 378 points. Most hospitals are in markets with an HHI above 1,800, the threshold the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) and Department of Justice (DOJ) consider “highly concentrated.” The number of monopoly hospitals increased slightly from 10 to 11. Over the period, 15 hospitals closed and 17 opened, leading to a net gain of 2 hospitals. Thirty-three transactions reshaped ownership. Nineteen of those transactions (58%) qualified as “Red Zone” mergers. A Red Zone merger raises at least one merging hospital's market HHI by over 100 points to above 1,800, which DOJ and FTC guidelines presume is likely to raise prices.

2000 | 112 hospitals overall



2026 | 114 hospitals overall



CONCENTRATION SCALE (IN HHI)

● **Low** (<1,000 HHI) ● **Moderate** (1,000 to <1,800) ● **High** (1,800 to <5,000) ● **Higher** (5,000 to <10,000) ● **Monopoly** (10,000 HHI)

Explore the data yourself

Our tool has three components. **The Market Explorer** tracks how hospital market concentration has evolved from 2000 to May 2026, drawing on ownership data from the AHA's Annual Survey, validated against state health department filings, SEC disclosures, and public reporting. **The Closures Explorer** tracks hospital closures and openings nationwide, each year since 2000. **The Forecast Lab** uses that same data to model how a proposed merger, closure, or opening would reshape a hospital market as it stood in 2026 — it models the scenarios you specify and does not identify potential mergers.

Note on the data: The tool uses a first-of-its-kind database that we built from scratch. We have done our best to gather and validate the data; however, if you notice an error (e.g., a hospital's name, a merger year) or if you have questions about our methodology, please notify us at HealthCareAffordabilityLab@yale.edu.

Health Care
Affordability Lab
at Yale

Explore Market Concentration at
Markets.HealthCareAffordabilityLab.org



QR code to IN Hospitals

Hospital Markets in Indiana

October 2026

Key Stats

SYSTEM OWNERSHIP

54% → 69%

61/112 → 79/114 part of system

RED ZONE TRANSACTIONS

19 of 33

58% in Red Zone

AVG HHI INCREASE

+378

4,504 → 4,882

HOSPITALS ADDED (NET)

+2

15 closed, 17 opened

Rising System Ownership

The share of Indiana hospitals owned by a multi-hospital system increased from 54% to 69% between 2000 and 2026. Over the same period, the number of system-owned hospitals increased from 61 to 79, and the number of independent hospitals declined from 51 to 35. The largest systems are Indiana University Health and Ascension (13 hospitals each), followed by Franciscan Health (12) and Community Health Systems (9).

2000 | 112 hospitals overall

61 in 18 systems 51 independents

54%

46%

2026 | 114 hospitals overall

79 in 17 systems 35 independents

69%

31%

Indiana's Largest Systems

Seventeen systems own 79 of Indiana's 114 hospitals; Indiana University Health and Ascension lead.

SYSTEM	HOSPITALS IN STATE	AVERAGE MARKET HHI	HOSPITALS WITH CONCENTRATION ABOVE 1,800 HHI
Indiana University Health	13	5,307	13 of 13
Ascension Healthcare	13	4,641	13 of 13
Franciscan Health	12	4,606	11 of 12
Community Health Systems	9	5,076	9 of 9

Average market HHI reflects the mean HHI across each system's hospitals within the state. HHI is calculated within a 30-minute travel radius of each facility. National hospital data typically lags by one to two years for new openings and recent ownership changes, so figures for 2024–2026 are preliminary and may not yet reflect all recent activity.

High Number of Mergers

Indiana experienced a high level of merger activity. Of the state's 33 transactions since 2000, 19 qualified as “Red Zone” mergers, a 58% share. Even so, average concentration increased only moderately (with average HHI increasing by 378) and remains lower than in many states because larger metropolitan areas such as Indianapolis and Fort Wayne retained a large number of hospitals with lower concentration.

