

Hospital Markets in Michigan *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 Michigan, the share of hospitals owned by a multi-hospital system rose substantially, from 52% in 2000 to 86% in 2026.

WHAT THIS ANALYSIS COVERS

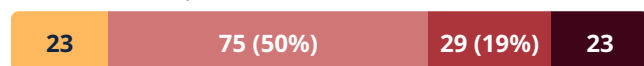
This analysis focuses on the state's 133 general short-term acute care (GSAC) hospitals — the facilities where most privately insured, Medicare, and Medicaid patients receive inpatient care, and where market concentration most directly affects the prices employers and workers pay. Each hospital's market 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 (133)** ● VA / Military ● Psychiatric / Behavioral ● Rehabilitation ● Children's Specialty

Market Concentration

Michigan's average hospital market HHI rose substantially from 4,635 in 2000 to 5,645 in 2026, an increase of about 1,000 points. By 2026, every hospital operated in a market with HHI above 1,800, the threshold the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) and Department of Justice (DOJ) consider “highly concentrated.” The number of monopoly hospitals rose from 23 in 2000 to 25 in 2026. Over the period, 22 hospitals closed and 5 opened, leading to a net loss of 17 hospitals. Sixty-seven transactions reshaped ownership. Nineteen of those transactions (28%) 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 | 150 hospitals overall



2026 | 133 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 MI Hospitals

Hospital Markets in Michigan

October 2026

Key Stats

SYSTEM OWNERSHIP

52% → 86%

78/150 → 114/133 part of system

AVG HHI INCREASE

+1,010

4,635 → 5,645

HOSPITALS LOST (NET)

-17

22 closed, 5 opened

RED ZONE TRANSACTIONS

19 of 67

28% in Red Zone

A Large Shift to System Ownership

Michigan saw one of the largest shifts toward system ownership in the country. The share of hospitals owned by a multi-hospital system rose from 52% to 86% between 2000 and 2026, as 36 hospitals became system-owned. The number of independent hospitals fell from 72 to 19. The largest systems are Corewell Health (21 hospitals), Ascension (14), and McLaren Health Care (13).

2000 | 150 hospitals overall

■ 78 in 20 systems □ 72 independents



2026 | 133 hospitals overall

■ 114 in 20 systems □ 19 independents

Michigan's Largest Systems

Twenty systems own 114 of Michigan's 133 hospitals; Corewell Health leads.

SYSTEM	HOSPITALS IN STATE	AVERAGE MARKET HHI	HOSPITALS WITH CONCENTRATION ABOVE 1,800 HHI
Corewell Health	21	4,858	21 of 21
Ascension Healthcare	14	3,671	14 of 14

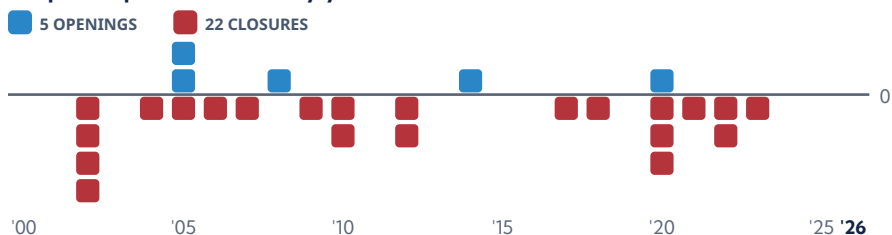
Average market HHI reflects the mean HHI across each system's hospitals within the state. HHI is calculated within a 30-minute travel radius of each facility. National hospital data typically lags by one to two years for new openings and recent ownership changes, so figures for 2024–2026 are preliminary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

System Ownership Rose Amid Extensive Transaction Activity

Michigan had a high number of transactions (67), with 19, or 28%, qualifying as “Red Zone” mergers. Many acquisitions occurred in the Detroit and Grand Rapids areas, where multiple hospitals remained within a 30-minute drive of each other.

Still, the high levels of merger activity, alongside a net loss of 17 hospitals, led to a substantial increase in the average HHI of about 1,000 points as hospital markets became more concentrated.

Hospitals opened & closed by year



Transactions by year

