

Hospital Markets in Rhode Island *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.

By 2026, every Rhode Island hospital operated in a highly concentrated market. Six ownership transactions have occurred since 2000.

WHAT THIS ANALYSIS COVERS

This analysis focuses on the state's 12 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 (12)

● VA / Military

● Psychiatric / Behavioral

● Rehabilitation

● Children's Specialty

Market Concentration

In 2000, 10 of Rhode Island's 13 hospitals were in moderately concentrated markets and 3 were in highly concentrated markets. In 2026, every hospital operates in a market with "high" or "higher" concentration. Since 2000, the average hospital market HHI rose 25% to 2,810. Of the six hospital ownership transactions that occurred, two were "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 Department of Justice (DOJ) and Federal Trade Commission (FTC) guidelines presume is likely to raise prices. One hospital, Memorial Hospital in Pawtucket, closed in 2018.

2000 | 13 hospitals overall

2026 | 12 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 RI Hospitals

Hospital Markets in Rhode Island

October 2026

What's Changed?

AVG HHI CHANGE SINCE 2000

+25%

2,247 → 2,810

HOSPITALS CLOSED

1

Memorial Hospital (Pawtucket, 2018)

RED ZONE TRANSACTIONS

2 of 6

33% in Red Zone

Ten of Rhode Island's 12 hospital markets have grown more concentrated since 2000. Between 2000 and 2026, 9 of the 10 hospitals in moderately concentrated markets shifted into highly concentrated markets; the tenth, Memorial Hospital, closed in 2018.

HOSPITAL NAME	OWNER (2026)	GSAC BEDS	HHI 2026	CHANGE FROM 2000	NOTES
Newport Hospital	Lifespan Corporation 5-hospital system, 3 in RI	109	● 5,017	-379	Newport. Lifespan facilities are now Brown University Health; the tool reflects this at the next update.
Westerly Hospital	Yale New Haven Health 7-hospital system, 1 in RI	87	● 5,015	-189	Transaction — Was independent. Joined Yale New Haven Health 2016.
South County Hospital	Independent	97	● 3,369	+138	Wakefield.
Kent Hospital	Independent	298	● 2,403	+724	Warwick. Care New England facility.
Rhode Island Medical Center	Independent	351	● 2,354	+716	Cranston. State-operated facility.
Miriam Hospital	Lifespan Corporation 5-hospital system, 3 in RI	247	● 2,354	+716	Providence.
John E. Fogarty Memorial Hospital	Prime Healthcare Services 53-hospital system, 2 in RI	116	● 2,354	+716	North Smithfield. Was in Landmark Health System in 2000.
Our Lady of Fatima Hospital	CharterCare Health Partners 3-hospital system	62	● 2,354	+716	North Providence. Was in Prospect Medical Holdings; now CharterCare Health Partners.
Rhode Island Hospital	Lifespan Corporation 5-hospital system, 3 in RI	618	● 2,132	+802	Providence. Largest hospital in RI by beds.
Roger Williams Medical Center	CharterCare Health Partners 3-hospital system	86	● 2,132	+802	Providence. Was in Prospect Medical Holdings; now CharterCare Health Partners.
St. Joseph Hospital for Specialty Care	CharterCare Health Partners 3-hospital system	62	● 2,132	+802	Providence. Was in Prospect Medical Holdings; now CharterCare Health Partners.
Woonsocket Hospital	Prime Healthcare Services 53-hospital system, 2 in RI	245	● 2,107	+590	Woonsocket. Was in Landmark Health System in 2000.
Memorial Hospital of Rhode Island	Care New England Health System	152	—	—	Pawtucket. Closed 2018. Was independent in 2000; joined Care New England before closing.

Data from the Health Care Affordability Lab's Hospital Markets tool. HHI (Herfindahl-Hirschman Index) measures market concentration on a scale of 0–10,000. Hospital counts reflect general short-term acute care (GSAC) classification and may differ from state licensure totals. 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.

The percentage of hospitals operated by a health system in Rhode Island increased from 54% to 75% between 2000 and 2026. Lifespan Corporation, the state's largest system that rebranded as Brown University Health in 2024, operates 3 hospitals including Rhode Island Hospital. CharterCare Health Partners acquired 3 hospitals from Prospect Medical Holdings in 2026. Prime Healthcare Services owns 2 hospitals, and Yale New Haven Health expanded into the state by acquiring Westerly Hospital in 2016. Three hospitals remain independent.

2000 | 13 hospitals overall

7 in 3 systems 6 independents

54%

46%



2026 | 12 hospitals overall

9 in 4 systems 3 independents

75%

25%