

Hospital Markets in Utah *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 Utah, hospital markets have become less concentrated since 2000, and the percentage of hospitals owned by a system rose from 77% to 79%. None of its three transactions qualified as Red Zone mergers.

WHAT THIS ANALYSIS COVERS

This analysis focuses on the state's 47 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 (47)** ● VA / Military ● Psychiatric / Behavioral ● Rehabilitation ● Children's Specialty

Market Concentration

Utah's hospital markets have become less concentrated since 2000, with average hospital market HHI falling from 7,112 to 6,573, a decrease of 539 points. Still, since 2000, every hospital has had 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 fell from 19 to 18. Over the period, no hospitals closed and eight opened, a net gain of eight hospitals. Three transactions reshaped ownership. None of those transactions 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 | 39 hospitals overall

2026 | 47 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 UT Hospitals

Hospital Markets in Utah

October 2026

Key Stats

AVG HHI DECREASED

-539

7,112 → 6,573

HOSPITALS OPENED

8

No hospitals closed

HOSPITALS AT 10,000 (MONOPOLY)

18 of 47

16 are the only hospital in their market

NUMBER OF TRANSACTIONS

3

since 2000 (0 Red Zone)

Ownership Shifts

The share of Utah hospitals owned by a multi-hospital system increased slightly from 77% to 79% between 2000 and 2026, while the number of independent hospitals moved from 9 to 10. The largest operators are Intermountain Health (21 hospitals) and HCA Healthcare (8), followed by CommonSpirit Health (5).

2000 | 39 hospitals overall

30 in 5 systems 9 independents

77%

23%

2026 | 47 hospitals overall

37 in 5 systems 10 independents

79%

21%

Utah's Largest Systems

Five systems own 37 of Utah's 47 hospitals; Intermountain Health and HCA Healthcare lead.

SYSTEM	HOSPITALS IN STATE	AVERAGE MARKET HHI	HOSPITALS WITH CONCENTRATION ABOVE 1,800 HHI
Intermountain Health	21	6,915	21 of 21
HCA Healthcare	8	4,386	8 of 8

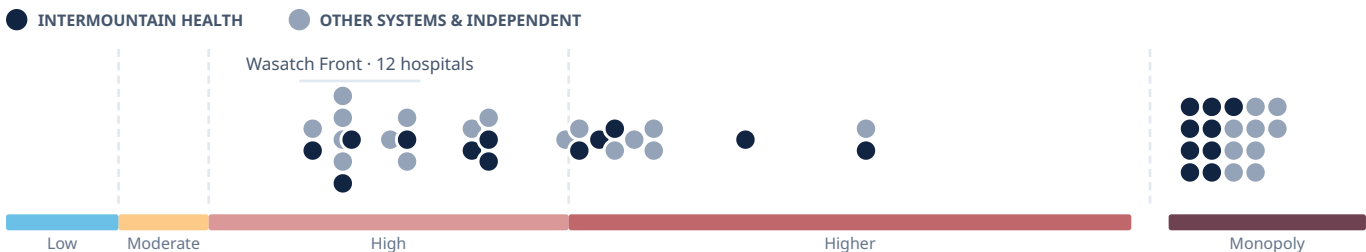
Average market HHI reflects the mean HHI across each system's hospitals within the state. HHI is calculated within a 30-minute travel radius of each facility. National hospital data typically lags by one to two years for new openings and recent ownership changes, so figures for 2024–2026 are preliminary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

Openings Reduce Local Market Concentration

Utah is one of the few states where concentration fell. Eight hospitals opened since 2000 and none closed, reducing concentration on net in local markets. When Blue Mountain Hospital opened, San Juan Health Service District's market fell from an HHI of 10,000 to 5,756, and when Cache Valley Hospital opened, Logan Regional's fell from 10,000 to 7,641. By contrast, Intermountain Health's Park City Hospital opened in a market where Intermountain already owned the only other hospital, so the HHI in that market remained at 10,000.

One System, Two Realities

Each dot is one of Utah's 47 hospitals, placed by its 2026 market HHI



Intermountain owns 21 of Utah's 47 hospitals and sits on both sides: 12 in the larger markets, 9 of the 18 monopolies.