



# Hospitals are healing Ohio

by advancing wellness and  
driving economic growth in  
the communities they serve.



**\$7.8B**  
**\$91.7B**

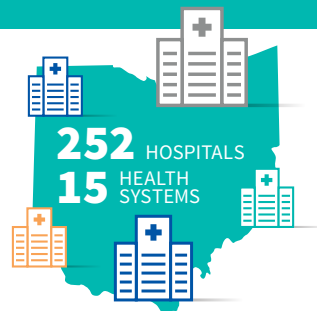
**Ohio hospitals contributed \$7.8 billion in community benefit and drove \$91.7 billion in economic impact while leading our state's COVID-19 response.**

# Ohio Hospitals

**Focus on Patient Education and Engagement to Make Our Communities Healthier, Safer and More Productive**

OHA and our member hospitals collaborate to support communities by:

- Providing high-quality and compassionate care
- Improving health outcomes
- Ensuring access to affordable care
- Advancing health education and research
- Responding to community-specific needs
- Creating and sustaining jobs



**The Ohio Hospital Association is the united voice of 252 hospitals and 15 health systems in Ohio.**

For 107 years, OHA has collaborated with our member hospitals to ensure a healthy Ohio.

## Ohio Hospitals Statewide Community Benefit Report

**Ohio hospitals' Net Community Benefit Increased 6% to \$7.8 billion.**

While leading the state's response to the devastating pandemic, Ohio hospitals and caregivers increased their overall outreach to provide vital wellness services, health education, immunization clinics, health screenings and family support services.

The results of the community investment by Ohio's nonprofit hospitals are measured annually in hospital- or health system-specific Community Benefit Reports. OHA aggregates the data for a statewide report. A national standard, set by the Catholic Health Association ([chausa.org](http://chausa.org)), defines what counts as community benefit. Nonprofit hospitals report their community benefit investments on Schedule H of their IRS 990 filing.

Source: Aggregated from self-reported member hospital surveys, fiscal 2020 Ohio hospital IRS 990 filings, and Medicare and Medicaid cost reports covering the same period. All figures reported at hospital-specific cost. DSH, or disproportionate share hospital payments, are supplemental payments for eligible hospitals that serve large numbers of Medicaid and other low-income patients.

	FY2019	FY2020	FY19-20 CHANGE
CHARITY CARE	\$559 million	\$675 million	21%
COMMUNITY BENEFIT ACTIVITIES	\$4.5 billion	\$4.8 billion	6%
MEDICAID LOSS	\$3.0 billion	\$3.1 billion	4%
MEDICAID DSH PAYMENT	(\$411 million)	(\$457 million)	11%
MEDICARE DSH PAYMENT	(\$327 million)	(\$350 million)	7%
NET COMMUNITY BENEFIT	\$7.4 billion	\$7.8 billion	▲ 6%
MEDICARE LOSS	\$1.3 billion	\$1.7 billion	26%
BAD DEBT	\$1.4 billion	\$1.3 billion	-4%
TOTAL UNCOMPENSATED CARE	\$10.1 billion	\$10.8 billion	▲ 7%

**\$10.8B**

### Total Uncompensated Care

Ohio hospitals provided \$10.8 billion in care for which no payment was received. This is up \$732 million from the year before.

**\$4.8B**

### Medicaid/Medicare Shortfalls

Government payer reimbursement rates are, on average, below the cost the hospital incurs to provide the service, resulting in payment shortfalls. Ohio hospitals recorded \$4.8 billion in Medicaid and Medicare losses.

**\$675M**

### Charity Care

Every Ohio hospital has a discount policy based on a patient's income and often provides reduced or free services. Hospitals also provide free basic care to the indigent or uninsured Ohioans through the Hospital Care Assurance Program. Ohio hospitals provided \$675 million in charity care, up 21%.

**\$1.3B**

### Bad Debt

The number of uninsured Ohioans has increased slightly, but the number of patients with high deductibles is contributing to a growing volume of people unable to pay hospital bills after the insurance reimbursement is received. Ohio hospitals had to manage and offset bad debt of \$1.3 billion.

# Community Benefit Investments Increased 153% Over Past Decade

From 2010 to 2020, Ohio hospitals increased their net community benefit from \$3.1 billion to \$7.8 billion, or 153% reflecting hospitals' deep investment in the communities they serve. Charity care began to decrease mid-decade with the expansion of Medicaid eligibility, but total uncompensated care increased 146%, driven in part by the growth of high-deductible insurance coverage.

**\$3.1**  
BILLION  
2010

**\$7.8**  
BILLION  
2020

## Hospitals Are Major Economic Catalysts, Healing Ohio's Economy and Expanding Community Outreach

### IN 2022, OHIO HOSPITALS:

DIRECTLY EMPLOY OVER  
**251,700**  
OHIOANS

PAY  
**\$20.7 BILLION**  
IN DIRECT WAGES

INDIRECTLY  
SUPPORT ANOTHER  
**272,000**  
OHIO JOBS

### COMMUNITY BENEFIT ACTIVITIES



Clinical/community research and studies



Free/discounted prescriptions and supplies



Health professional education



Meals and nutrition services



Community health education



Immunization clinics



Health screenings



Family support services

### Hospitals Expanding Their Role Advancing Community Wellness

Ohio hospitals invested more than \$4.8 billion in community benefit activities to improve the health of the local citizens, neighborhoods and communities they serve in 2020, up \$278 million from 2019—all while battling a pandemic.

Community benefit activities include providing free or discounted medically necessary care and screening services, working to improve public health through wellness and nutrition activities, educating medical professionals and conducting research to fight disease.

The arrival of COVID-19 in 2020 further heightened hospitals' obligation to help their neighbors. Hospitals served as community and regional hubs for testing, treatment and vaccinations.

## Hospitals Adapted, Created New Programs to Serve the Community in 2020

Ohio hospitals adapted and expanded community programs while leading COVID response. Many of the innovative approaches remain and will drive wellness outreach in future years. Read more Ohio hospital community benefit stories at [ohiohospitals.org/community-benefit](https://ohiohospitals.org/community-benefit).



### Health System Addresses the Pandemic's Negative Impact on Substance Use Recovery

With facilities closed and the community on lockdown, people in recovery were disconnected from their care/support systems, and many relapsed. Emergency calls for overdoses in the Chillicothe area increased nearly 40% in 2020.

Adena Health System, which received a grant the prior year to expand Ross County's Hope Partnership Project through the Ross Community Opioid Response Program, redirected staff and funding for consortium providers to stay connected to each other and to those in recovery via technology. Other connectivity tools launched by HPP member organizations include a peer recovery campaign aimed at relapse prevention and the relaunch of a 2-1-1 resource hotline to connect families and a user ready for change to treatment resources.





## Hospital Converts Community Luncheon Program to Holiday Dinner Drive Thru

For more than 20 years, The Bellevue Hospital has hosted a Mature Audience Luncheon monthly for those 55 years of age and older. The luncheon averaged 80 to 100 attendees per month with the hospital's Nutritional Services team providing the meal for \$3. The program provides those "young at heart" a hot meal, a place to socialize and an opportunity for the hospital to share information about wellness programs, services and local resources. Before the pandemic, TBH was planning to expand the event to include another luncheon every other month in the Clyde area.

With this audience being at the highest risk, the hospital paused the in-person luncheons in March 2020 but by fall was able to coordinate a drive-thru event to provide holiday meals to 250 individuals.

## Health System, County Take the Hospital to the People

Hamilton County Board of Commissioners, in partnership with UC Health, in 2020 unveiled the 513 Relief Bus, a mobile effort designed to provide COVID-19 vaccines and social services to the community by "meeting people where they are."

The UC Health/Hamilton County partnership addressed two challenges: providing assistance to those hit hard financially by the pandemic and distributing the vaccine to as many people as possible, especially in communities where COVID-19 was having a disproportionate impact. UC Health nurses and pharmacists provided vaccinations on the bus, while Hamilton County Jobs and Family Services staff offered economic relief through cash assistance; help with food, rent and utilities; assistance finding jobs; registering for Medicaid and securing child care. All vaccines and relief services were offered free.



## Health System Helps Move Clients from Crisis to Self-Sufficiency

The Mercy Health Partnership Program provides support services for uninsured/underinsured patients or those at risk for losing their coverage. Three licensed social workers serve the Cincinnati Region and take referrals from ambulatory and acute providers. The program helps individuals maintain their care through prescription benefits and co-pay support while providing case management and community connections to help move clients from a state of crisis to self-sufficiency. In 2020, the Partnership had 2,426 encounters with Cincinnati area residents and filled 1,518 prescriptions for the uninsured and underserved.



### 2021 Ohio Hospital Patient Encounters: 36.9 million

**30.5 million** outpatient

**1.4 million** inpatient

**5 million** treated and released from ERs

The exponential growth in outpatient treatment options is lowering overall health care costs and reflects hospitals' expanding role in providing wellness services.



### Ohio Hospitals Serve the Needs of Patients 24/7/365

OHA leverages data and expertise to be the leader in influencing health policy, driving quality improvement initiatives and advocating for economic sustainability to serve our diverse membership.

OHA staff works with hospital members and government officials to lead statewide and regional hospital preparedness and response for public health emergencies, natural disasters, mass-casualty events and national events held in Ohio.



### Ohio Is the Home of Internationally Renowned Hospitals for Adults, Children

Patients traveled to Ohio for care in 2021 from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands and more than 100 countries abroad.