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Thursday, March 11, 2021

Today's headlines:

- [Iowa hospitals generated 143,816 jobs, \\$8.6 billion in 2020](#)
 - [IHA releases latest hospital data trends](#)
 - [CMS offers special enrollment period informational forum](#)
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Iowa hospitals generated 143,816 jobs, \$8.6 billion in 2020

[Iowa's community hospitals generated 143,816 jobs that added nearly \\$8.6 billion to the state's economy](#), according to IHA's latest [Iowa hospital economic impact report](#). Iowa hospital employees also spent more than \$2.1 billion on retail sales and contributed more than \$126 million in state sales tax revenue.

The IHA report examined the jobs, income, retail sales and sales tax produced by hospitals and the rest of the state's health care sector. The report was compiled from hospital-submitted data on the American Hospital Association's Annual Survey of Hospitals and with software that other industries have used to determine their economic impact.

The report found that Iowa hospitals directly employed 76,169 people and created another 67,647 jobs outside the hospital sector in 2020. As an income source, hospitals provided more than \$5 billion in salaries and benefits and generated another \$3 billion through other jobs that depend on hospitals.

In all, Iowa's health care sector, which includes offices of physicians, dentists and other health practitioners, nursing home and residential care, other medical and health services, and pharmacies, contributed \$20 billion to the state economy and directly and indirectly provided 344,495 jobs, or 22% of the state's total non-farm employment.

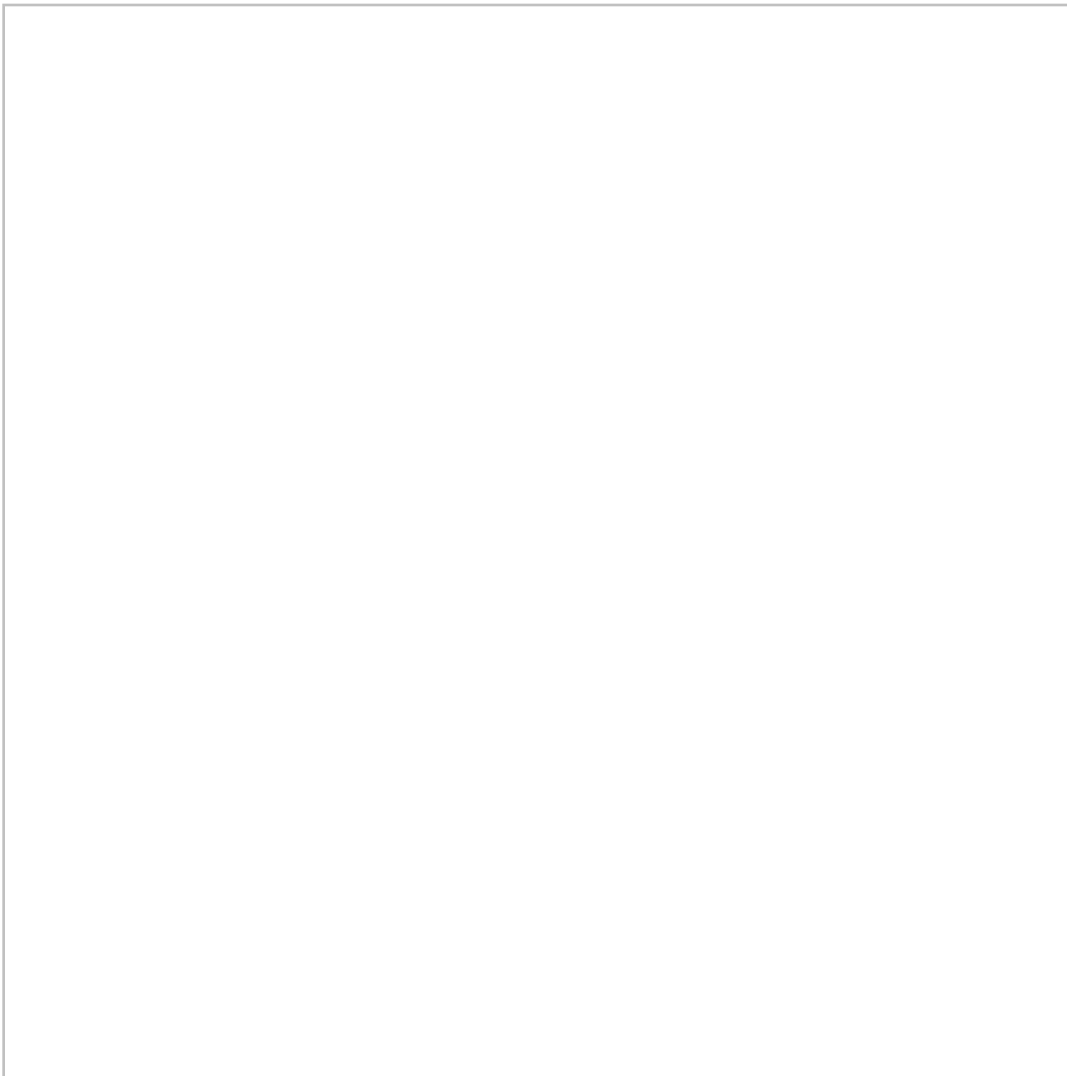
IHA this week provided hospitals with information to promote their economic impact data to local media and the community. Questions about the hospital economic impact can be directed to [Clara Stults](#) at IHA.

IHA releases latest hospital data trends

IHA has collected Iowa hospital data trends for the COVID-19 pandemic period of March 2020-January 2021 as compared with March 2019-January 2020. For this report, 93 Iowa hospitals reported data:

- Acute discharges decreased 13.4% as acute patient days decreased 4.8%.
- Average length of stay increased 9.9%.
- Births decreased 7.1%.
- Charity care decreased 11.6%.
- Emergency department visits decreased 21.5%.
- Facility employment (excluding physicians) decreased 3.6%.
- Hospital-based ambulatory surgery visits decreased 18.3%.
- Inpatient admissions from the emergency department decreased 9%.
- Inpatient surgeries decreased 20.1%.
- Medicaid acute discharges decreased 11.9% and Medicaid acute patient days decreased 5.8%.
- Net patient revenue (collected charges) decreased 4.5%.
- Outpatient utilization decreased 8%.
- Total expenses increased 3.1%.
- Uncompensated care (bad debts) decreased 16.7%.

Contact [Allison Martin](#) at IHA with questions.



CMS offers special enrollment period informational forum

CMS Kansas City is offering a forum to provide an overview and answer questions about the [special enrollment period](#). The forum is scheduled from **10-11 am Tuesday, March 16**. Click [HERE](#) to register.

Beginning Feb. 15 and continuing through May 15, marketplaces using the HealthCare.gov platform can make the special enrollment period available to Marketplace-eligible consumers submitting new applications or updating existing applications.

For more information, email [Susan Horras](#) at IHA.

NewsStand

Iowa news

- [COVID-19 vaccine providers rely on truthful lowans as eligibility expands](#)
- [Governor says 1 million lowans will soon be COVID-19-vaccinated](#)
- [Iowa legislators seek tort reform](#)

National news

- [Two major telehealth orgs team up to expand virtual care training](#)
- [Hospitals urge lawmakers to prohibit certain insurance pharmacy policies](#)
- [The pandemic year one: Providers](#)

[struggle with loss of revenue](#)

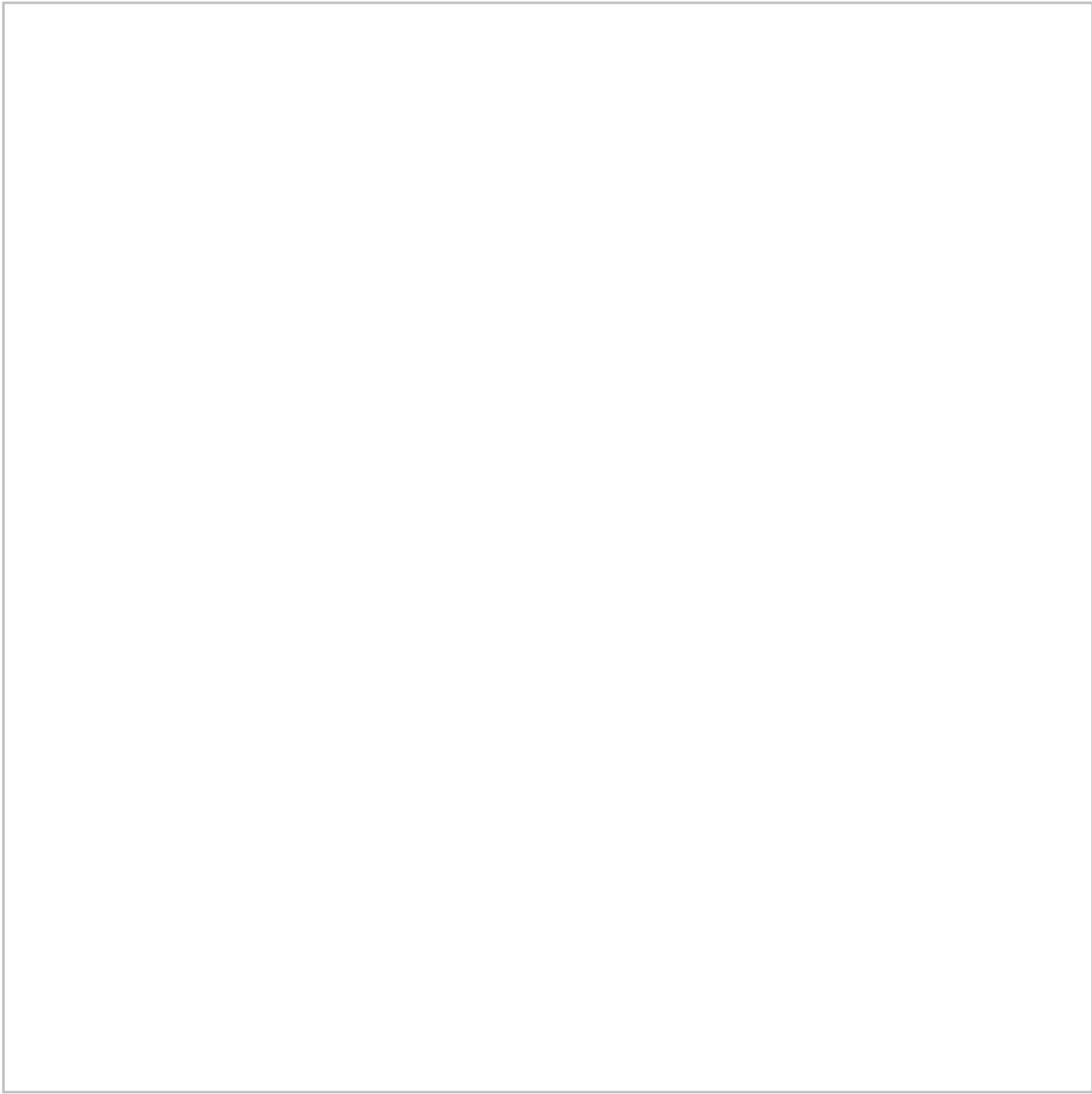
Click [HERE](#) to read daily NewsStand postings.

Upcoming events

- [Common Life Safety Code Deficiencies](#): Tuesday, March 16.
- [Critical Access and Rural Hospital Forum](#): Wednesday, March 24-Thursday, March 25.
- [Iowa Hospitals' Innovation During COVID-19](#): Tuesday, March 30-Thursday, April 1.
- [Special Governance Issues for Public Hospitals](#): Tuesday, March 30
- [Hospital Regulatory Webinar Series: EMTALA Parts 1-3](#): Monday, April 5-Monday, April 19.
- [Iowa Association for Healthcare Quality Virtual Spring Conference](#): Tuesday, April 13-Thursday, April 15.
- [IHA Virtual Governance Forum](#): Thursday, April 22-Friday, April 23.
- [Iowa Society for Health Care Human Resources Association Virtual Spring Conference](#): Wednesday, April 28-Thursday, April 29.
- [Hospital Regulatory Webinar Series: Infection Prevention and Antibiotic Stewardship](#): Tuesday, May 4.
- [Governance Webinar Series](#): Tuesday, May 11-Tuesday, Nov. 16.
- [Hospital Regulatory Webinar Series: Swing-bed Fundamentals](#): Tuesday, June 22.

Hospital jobs site connects hospitals with qualified candidates

Are you looking for qualified health care professionals for your Iowa hospital? [HospitalCareers.com](#) can help. This website connects thousands of nurses, providers and other hospital jobseekers with Iowa hospitals each year and is a main resource for jobseekers looking for work in health care.



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