Naperville, Ill.—Illinois’ more than 200 hospitals and nearly 40 health systems are powerful economic drivers for their communities and for Illinois, generating a statewide economic impact of $117.7 billion annually from spending on payroll, supplies and services, and capital, according to a new report released today by the Illinois Health and Hospital Association (IHA).

Hospitals across Illinois serve their communities by providing lifesaving care; promoting community health and well-being; fostering neighborhood revitalization and enhancing public health and safety through community partnerships; and advancing health equity initiatives to ensure optimal health for all residents. The new report, “Illinois Hospitals and Health Systems: Essential to Illinois’ Economic Growth,” highlights these varied and important contributions while quantifying the hospitals’ economic impact.

Among the report’s key findings:

- One in 10 Illinois jobs is in healthcare.
- For every Illinois hospital job, 1.4 jobs are created in other sectors.
- For every $1 hospitals and health systems spend, an additional $1.40 is generated in the state and local economy.

“As strong community anchors, Illinois hospitals and health systems generate a tremendous amount of economic activity. They are major employers who provide good-paying jobs and large buyers of supplies and services,” said IHA President and CEO A.J. Wilhelmi. “Their impact on the economy comes in addition to the work of providing essential healthcare services, enhancing individual and community health and well-being, and addressing health disparities so all individuals can achieve optimal health.”

Estimates of Illinois hospitals’ economic benefits were based on the Regional Input-Output Modeling System II (RIMS-II) developed by the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA). The Final Demand multipliers, obtained from BEA RIMS-II, were applied to 2022/2023 Medicare cost report data of hospital jobs and spending to obtain the “ripple” effect of jobs and spending throughout the economy.
About IHA
The Illinois Health and Hospital Association, with offices in Chicago, Naperville, Springfield and Washington, D.C., advocates for Illinois’ more than 200 hospitals and nearly 40 health systems as they serve their patients and communities. IHA members provide a broad range of services—not just within their walls, but across the continuum of healthcare and in their communities. Reflecting the diversity of the state, IHA members consist of nonprofit, investor-owned and public hospitals in the following categories: community, safety net, rural, critical access, specialty and teaching hospitals, including academic medical centers. For more information, see team-iha.org. Like IHA on Facebook. Follow IHA on X.