

In Critical Condition

The Fragile State of Critical Access Hospitals

1,339 critical access hospitals (CAHs) across the country provide essential medical care to rural communities. Each CAH maintains 25 or fewer inpatient beds and the average CAH contributes over 150 jobs to the local economy. While their health care services have supported rural areas, CAHs are resting on shaky financial foundations.

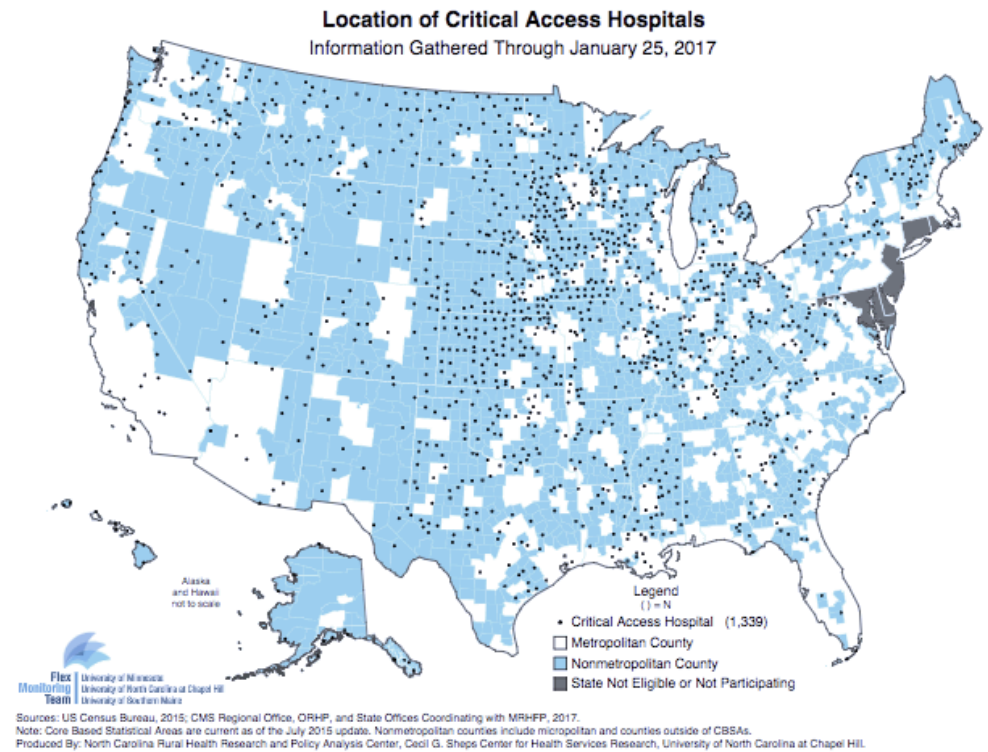
CAHs support both the health and economy of local communities

Annual services provided to patients include:

- **8 Million** patients treated in emergency departments
- **39 Million** outpatient visits
- **809,000** patients admitted
- **82,000** babies delivered

Economic Impact of CAHs

- **300,000** skilled healthcare jobs provided
- **\$7.1 Million** invested into local communities through wages, salaries, and benefits **per CAH**, on average
- **1.8 Million** reinvested as taxable retail sales **per CAH**, on average



However, almost **35%** of rural hospitals that have closed since 2010 were critical access hospitals. Many of the 673 remaining vulnerable hospitals are CAHs and if they close the devastating impact would cause **99,000 jobs** and **\$277 billion in GDP lost**.