## FAST FACTS U.S. Health Systems

**WHAT IS A HEALTH CARE SYSTEM?** AHA has defined two types of health care systems, and both involve an ownership, lease, sponsorship or contract-management relationship with a central organization. A multihospital system involves two or more hospitals, while a single diversified hospital system involves one hospital and three or more pre- or post-acute health care organizations.

## Total U.S. Health Systems = 404

of U.S. hospitals are system-affiliated

of all U.S.
hospital beds are
system-affiliated

of systems have

1,000 or fewer
hospitals beds

of systems have
100 or more
hospitals



## A GLANCE BACK

- ▶ In 1940, there were at least 50 systems, all of them Catholic or other nonprofit organizations.
- ▶ In 1960, the first investor-owned system was identified.
- In 1980, the AHA conducted a survey and identified 267 systems.

Source: Data Book on Multihospital Systems 1980-81, AHA.



227

Number of systems with 1-5 hospitals

7

Number of systems with 100 or more hospitals

219

Number of systems with 1,000 or fewer hospital beds



Total U.S. hospitals

6,120

▶ 1-155 hospitals

Total U.S. hospitals in systems

4,163

**■ 34–39,032 beds** 

Systems range in size from:

Total U.S. hospital beds

916,752

Total U.S. hospital beds in systems

703,246

