

## Rural Hospital Outmigration Data

**Rural Hospital Concern** – Some have raised concerns that if SC repeals CON it will harm rural hospitals. If ASCs are allowed to come into rural counties, they will siphon off the lucrative outpatient procedures from the hospital and leave them to provide emergency care, which loses money.

**Response** – According to the outmigration data for rural counties, rural hospitals are currently in that position. A large percentage of in-county residents are receiving emergency care at the rural hospital, and the lucrative procedures are already leaving the local hospital for another hospital – as much as 80-90%. An ASC that comes into the county will not alter the percentage receiving emergency care. The ASC will likely not siphon off the procedures being done at the hospital; it will attempt to capture the patients who are leaving the county. This **may actually bring business back to the local hospital** and county (not to mention jobs, tax revenue from these for-profit entities, construction, etc) because these patients will still need labs, imaging, physical therapy, etc. It is very common for hospitals to joint venture with physicians or private entities to build ASCs, and if that’s the case, the hospital could receive revenue from the returning patients.

**Overall Sentiment** – Rural healthcare is an issue across the country, but the Mercatus data shows that based on the experience of other states, repealing CON may increase the number of rural providers in the state, both hospitals and ambulatory surgery centers, not decrease them. While repealing CON in South Carolina will not fix the rural healthcare issue, it does not appear that it will make it worse.

### Rural Counties

<u>County<sup>1</sup></u>	<u>Hospital</u>	<u>ER Outmigration</u>	<u>Outpatient Procedure Outmigration</u>
Pickens 55 Beds	Prisma and AnMed	38.1% (35,235 in county, 21,670 went outside of county)	82.7% (3,631 in county, 17,416 went outside of county)
Chester 82 beds	MUSC Health Chester Medical Center	40% (12,909 in county, 8,606 went outside of county)	76.9% (968 procedures in county, 3,230 went outside of county)
Dillon 79 beds	McLeod Health Dillon	20.1% (18,887 in county, 4,749 went outside of county)	82.7% (671 procedures in county, 3,198 went outside of county)
Marion 124 beds	MUSC Health Marion Medical Center	33.6% (15,209 in county, 7,706 went outside of county)	71.2% (1,506 procedures in county, 3,724 went outside of county)
Orangeburg 286 beds	Regional Medical Center/County	29.1% (34,551 in county, 14,215 went outside of county)	70.5% (3,258 procedures in county, 7,778 went outside of county)
Abbeville 25 beds	Abbeville Area Medical Center	37.5% (7,028 in county, 4,223 went outside of county)	78.9% (1,072 in county, 4,003 went outside of county)

<sup>1</sup> All data is 2020 and taken from the South Carolina Revenue and Fiscal Affairs website.

Allendale 25 beds	Allendale County Hospital	23.6% (5,472 in county, 1,687 went outside of county)	95.3% (47 in county, 943 went outside of county)
Jasper 41 beds	Coastal Carolina Hospital	27.8% (10,463 in county, 4,033 went outside of county)	66.5% (861 in county, 1,709 went outside of county)
Edgefield 25 beds	Edgefield County Healthcare	38.2% (4,521 in county, 2,794 went outside of county)	72.9% (416 in county, 1,119 went outside of county)
Union 85 beds	Union Medical Center	25% (14,320 in county, 4,773 went outside of county)	92.8% (300 in county, 3,862 went outside of county)
Hampton 32 beds	Hampton Regional Medical Center	49.4% (8,389 in county, 8,196 went outside of county)	75.7% (861 in county, 2,689 went outside of county)
Chesterfield 59 beds	McLeod Health Cheraw	27.8% (11,965 in county, 4,606 went outside of county)	68.7% (1,007 in county, 2,206 went outside of county)
Clarendon 81 beds	McLeod Health Clarendon	24.4% (13,578 in county, 4,383 went outside of county)	81.3% (951 in county, 4,124 went outside of county)
Newberry 90 beds	Newberry County Hospital	25.7% (15,682 in county, 5,430 went outside of county)	80.2% (1,379 in county, 5,591 went outside of county)
Laurens 76 beds	Prisma Health Laurens County Hospital	39.8% (21,444 in county, 14,178 went outside of county)	78.2% (2,479 in county, 8,876 went outside of county)
Williamsburg 25 beds	Williamsburg Regional Hospital	59.9% (7,746 in county, 11,577 went outside of county)	83.2% (926 in county, 4,586 went outside of county)