

PATIENTS DEPEND ON RURAL HOSPITALS

COMMUNITY

1 out of 5



people live in rural areas of the U.S.

14%



of total rural employment is attributed to the health sector.



These Americans are scattered over **90%** of the country.

Hospitals are the **LARGEST** or second **LARGEST EMPLOYER** in most **RURAL COMMUNITIES.**



CHALLENGES



Extreme distances, challenging geography, and **weather** complicate health care delivery.



Rural Americans are **older, poorer, and sicker** than their urban counterparts.



Millions of rural Americans have **limited access** to a **primary care provider**.

IMPACT OF CLOSURE



Patients **lose access** to timely and essential care.



Local economy experiences a **severe decline**.



Physicians, pharmacies, and other health providers will also leave the community.

IT'S TIME TO ACT

Medicare Dependent Hospital (MDH)
Payment and Low-Volume Hospital (LVH)
Adjustment will expire in September 2022.

The extension of these critical programs are key to the prevention of future hospital closures.



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