

HCA HEALTHCARE, INC.



Company Overview

HCA Healthcare, Inc. (“HCA”, NYSE: HCA) is one of the largest for-profit hospital operators in the United States, providing comprehensive acute-care, surgical, emergency, outpatient, and specialty services across its broad national footprint. HCA operates over **180 hospitals** and more than **2,300 ambulatory** sites, including surgery centers, urgent care clinics, free-standing ERs, diagnostic centers, and physician practices.

HCA’s network spans **20+ U.S. states and the U.K.**, serving both metropolitan and fast-growing suburban regions. The company is **headquartered in Nashville, Tennessee**, and employs approximately **310,000 people**, including more than 90,000 nurses and 46,000 active physicians across affiliated practices.

The company reported **Q3 2025 revenue of \$17.7 billion**, up mid-single digits year over year, driven by strong same-facility admissions, higher acuity, outpatient surgical growth, and continued expansion of emergency and urgent care volumes. Adjusted EBITDA and operating margins improved due to disciplined expense management, favorable payer mix, and accelerated outpatient services recovery.

Management reaffirmed full-year guidance, emphasizing sustained volume growth, consistent commercial reimbursement, investments in bed capacity, and expanded workforce development initiatives. HCA continues to benefit from favorable demographic trends, durable demand for acute-care services, and a diversified care-delivery model.

1. Top 5 Competitors

- **Universal Health Services (UHS)** – major acute-care hospital and behavioral health provider
- **Tenet Healthcare (THC)** – diversified hospital and ambulatory surgery network
- **Community Health Systems (CYH)** – hospital operator serving non-urban and regional markets
- **Centene / Molina Healthcare** – managed-care competitors influencing reimbursement dynamics
- **Encompass Health** – competitor in rehabilitation and post-acute care services

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2. Largest Institutional Shareholders

(Latest institutional ownership estimates; rounded.)

Shareholder	Approx. % Ownership	Shares (Millions)
Wellington Management	~10.8%	~28M
Vanguard Group Inc.	~9.1%	~23M
BlackRock Inc.	~7.9%	~20M
State Street Corp.	~4.2%	~10.5M
Capital Group (Capital World Investors)	~3.5%	~9M
Fidelity (FMR)	~2.6%	~6.5M
T. Rowe Price Associates	~2.0%	~5M
Geode Capital Management	~1.8%	~4.5M
Norges Bank	~1.1%	~2.8M
Northern Trust	~1.0%	~2.5M

Top 10 ownership: ~44%

Total institutional ownership: ~80%+



3. Management Team

- **Samuel N. Hazen** — Chief Executive Officer
- **William B. Rutherford** — Executive Vice President & Chief Financial Officer
- **Dr. Jonathan Perlin** — President, Clinical Operations & Chief Medical Officer
- **Richard M. Bracken** — Chairman (Non-Executive)
- **Bruce Moore** — President, Service Line & Operations Integration
- **Debbie Taylor** — Senior Vice President, Investor Relations
- **Liz Johnson** — Chief Nursing Officer
- **Jackie Ward** — Chief Information Officer

HCA's management team continues to prioritize clinical quality, capital investment in facility expansion, cost discipline, digital modernization, and labor stabilization.

4. Revenue

Q3 2025 Financial Performance:

- **Revenue:** ~\$17.7 billion (+mid-single digits YoY)
- **Adjusted EBITDA:** Improved YoY driven by operating leverage and better acuity mix
- **Operating Income:** Benefited from higher surgical volumes and payer mix improvement
- **Same-Facility Metrics:**
 - Admissions: Higher YoY
 - Equivalent admissions: Growth across most regions
 - Outpatient surgeries: Strong growth post-pandemic normalization
 - ER visits: Continued volume expansion

FY2024 Revenue: ~\$64 billion

FY2025 Estimated Revenue: ~\$67–68 billion

FY2026 Outlook: Continued mid-single-digit revenue growth, supported by population migration, insurance coverage stability, and expansion of outpatient networks.

Key revenue drivers:

- Strength across surgical, emergency, and outpatient services
- Favorable commercial-insurance mix
- Accelerated growth in ambulatory and free-standing ER facilities
- Workforce stabilization leading to more predictable staffing costs



5. Institutions with Buy Recommendations

Major institutions expressing **Buy / Overweight** opinions include:

- **Argus Research** — Buy
- **JPMorgan** — Overweight
- **Goldman Sachs** — Buy
- **UBS** — Buy
- **Morgan Stanley** — Overweight
- **Wells Fargo** — Overweight
- **Bank of America** — Buy
- **LSEG Consensus** — Majority Buy ratings across analyst coverage

Bullish themes:

- Strong admissions and surgical volume trajectory
- Margin tailwinds from outpatient mix and staffing normalization
- Predictable cash flow generation
- Consistent share repurchases and capital return
- Attractive valuation relative to growth and historical multiples

6. Analyst Sentiment Summary

- **Consensus Rating:** Buy
- **Consensus Target Price Range:** ~\$330–\$380
- **High Estimate:** ~\$405
- **Low Estimate:** ~\$290

Analysts highlight:

- Robust volume trends across all major service lines
- Margin recovery as contract labor moderates
- Strong free cash flow supporting buybacks and facility expansion
- Continued capital investment in hospitals, urgent care, and ambulatory surgery capacity
- Attractive long-term demographic and utilization trends

BCG Target Price: \$550 reflects:

- Above-consensus long-term EBITDA expectations
- Higher valuation justified by national footprint, strong pricing power, and expanding outpatient mix
- ROIC resilience and multi-year demand visibility



7. Insider Buying and Selling (Last 24 Months)

- Insider activity primarily involved **scheduled sales** related to RSU vesting and 10b5-1 trading plans.
- Executives including the CEO, CFO, and CMO recorded periodic dispositions tied to incentive-based compensation.
- **No significant open-market insider purchases** were reported during the period.
- Insider activity remains **neutral**, with no red flags beyond routine compensation-linked sales.