



Ambulatory Surgery Center Facts

Ambulatory surgery centers (ASCs) are an integral and well-established part of our nation's healthcare system.

- An ambulatory surgery center is a healthcare facility that performs outpatient surgical procedures for patients who do not require an overnight hospital stay.
- Texas surgery centers are licensed by the Texas Department of State Health Services and most are Medicare-certified.
- The first U.S. surgery center opened in 1970, and today there are over 5,900 Medicare-certified ASCs in the United States.
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Almost 75% of all surgery today is performed on an outpatient basis. In 1980, that figure was only 15%.

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In Texas alone, there are 568 ASCs (via [Texas A&M \(Camp; Human Services\)](#)).

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There are 196,884 industry employees in the United States (via [BISWorld](#)).

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Common procedures in ASCs include cataract surgeries, gallbladder removal, tonsillectomy, endoscopy/colonoscopy, and minimally invasive gynecological surgery.

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The annual median number of surgical cases per operating room is 1,104; of procedures per procedure

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Sales for the industry came to \$128.5 billion in 2021, and in the past three years, the sector has grown

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The ownership structure of ASCs has broken down as follows: physician only - 60%, hospital-physician

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Surgery centers save the Medicare system over \$4.2 billion each year (via