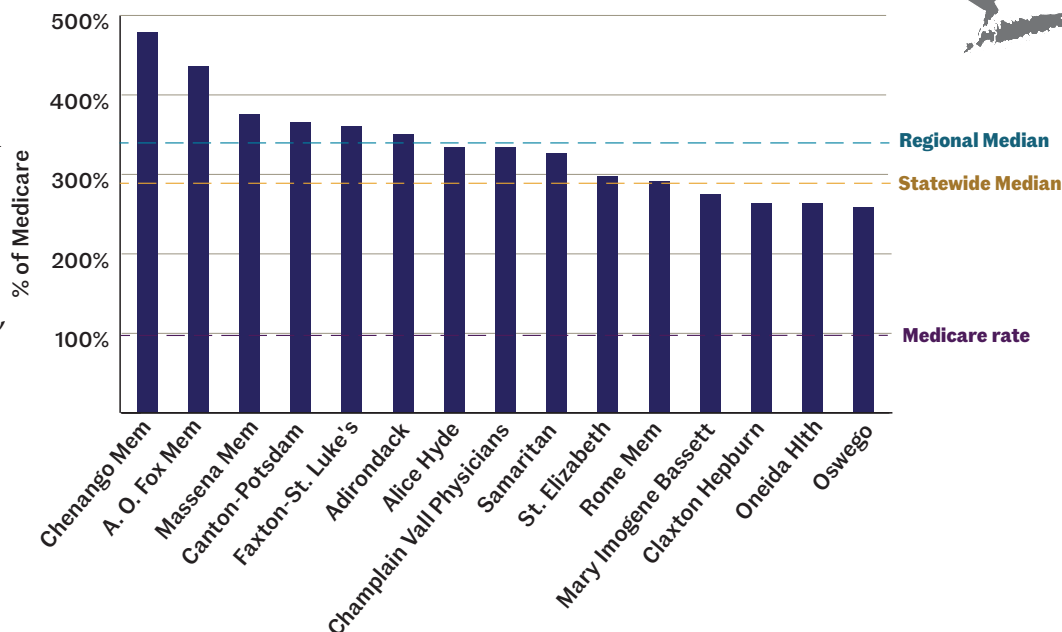


Why is Health Care So Unaffordable In the North Country and Mohawk Valley?

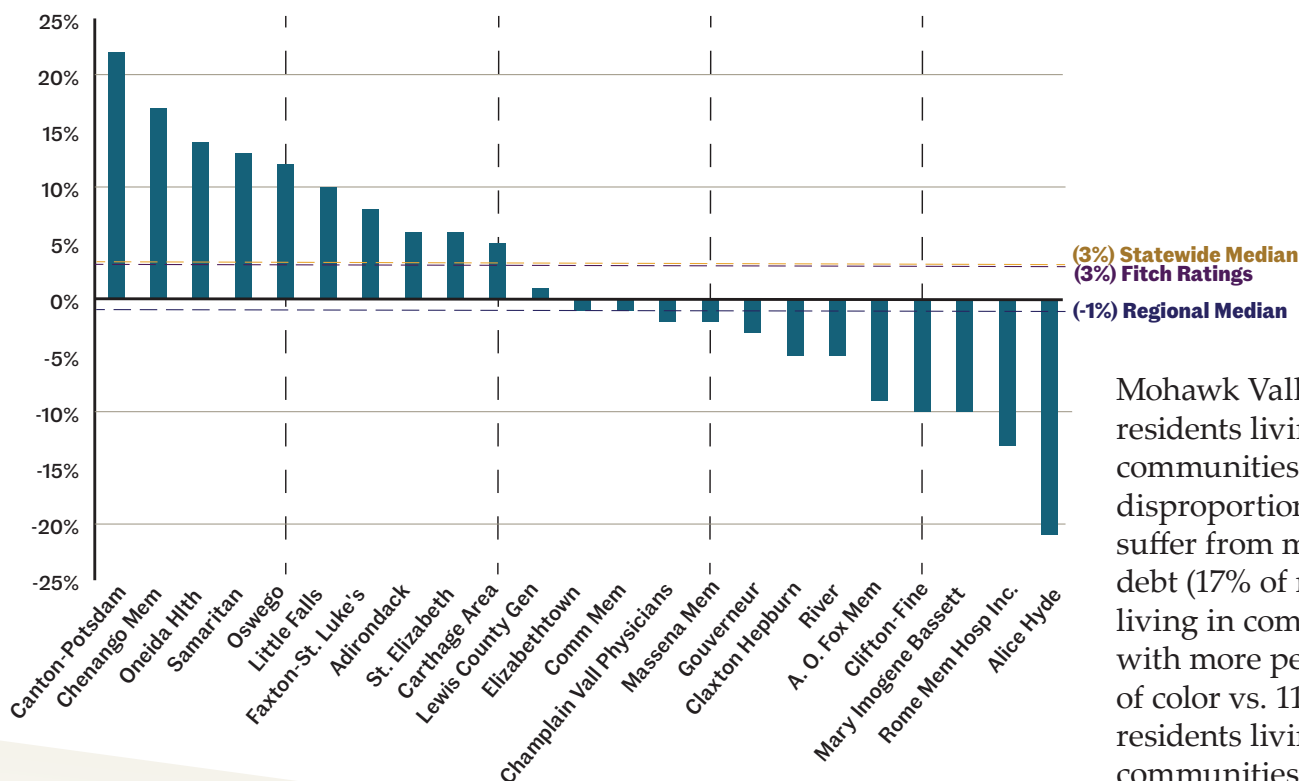
Hospital Commercial Prices in the North Country and Mohawk Valley

The North Country and Mohawk Valley region is the largest and most sparsely populated region in New York. Residents are mostly served by small hospitals with under 100 beds.

Hospital prices are higher than the statewide average, although many hospitals struggle financially. A Brown University report found that North Country hospitals charge the highest average price for routine care, or 725% of Medicare (Mohawk Valley averaged 678%).

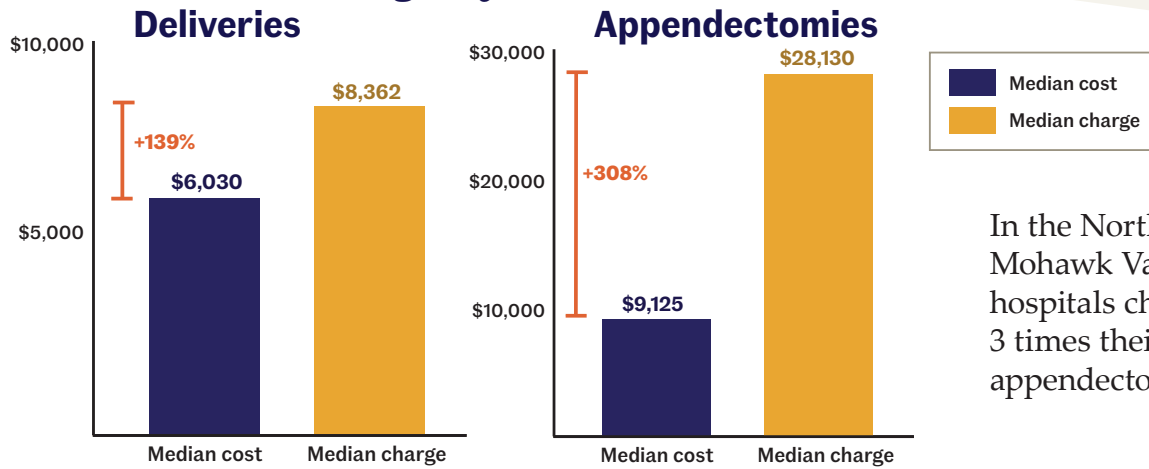


Hospital Operating Profit Margin in the North Country and Mohawk Valley



Mohawk Valley residents living in communities of color disproportionately suffer from medical debt (17% of residents living in communities with more people of color vs. 11% of residents living in communities with fewer people of color).

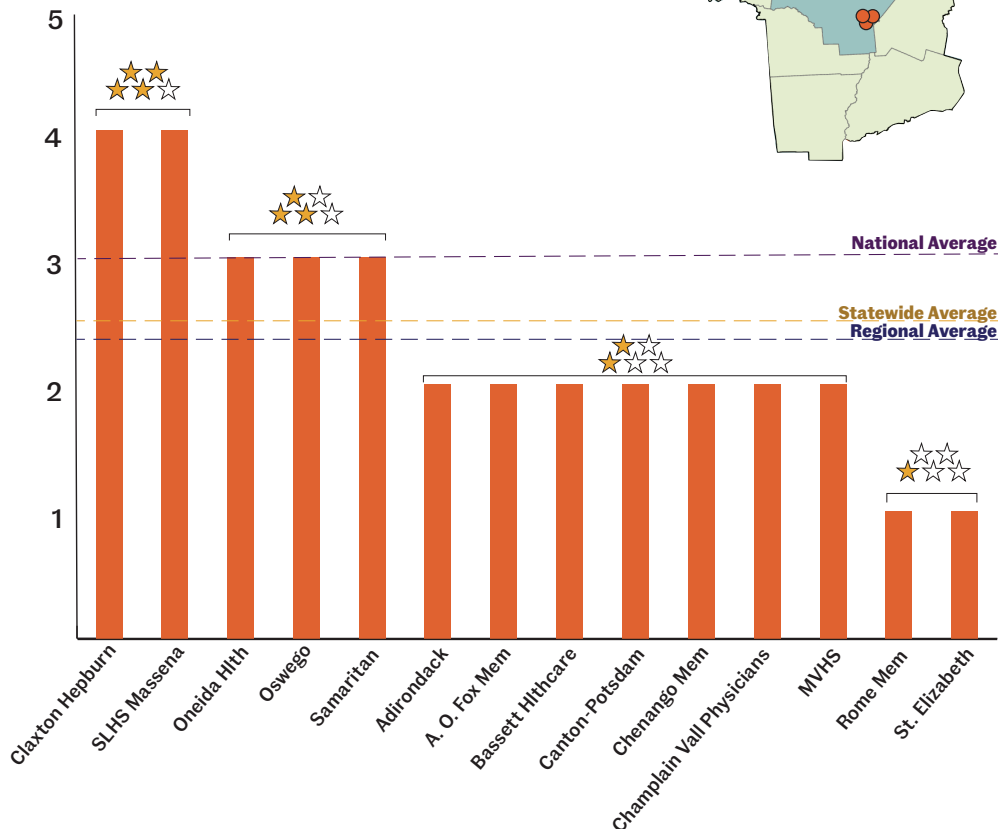
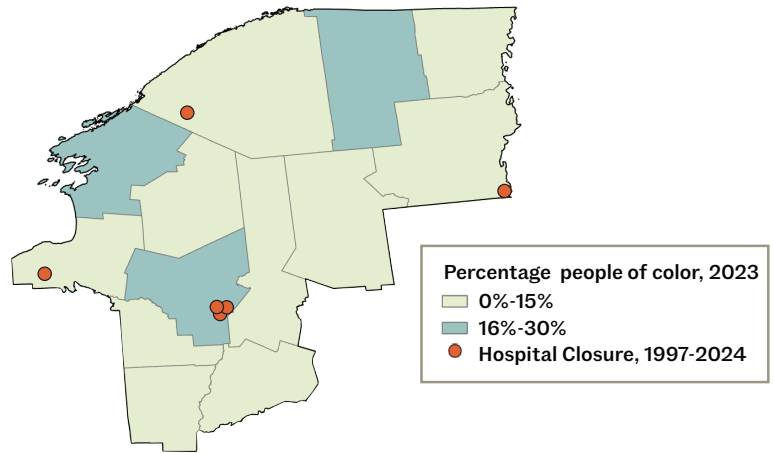
Median Costs and Charges by Procedure



In the North Country and Mohawk Valley region, hospitals charge over 3 times their costs for appendectomies.

Hospital Closures in the North Country and Mohawk Valley

Six hospitals in the region have closed since 1997. Closures, consolidation, and restructuring have hit hospitals in the North Country and Mohawk Valley the hardest: the region has lost over a third (33.7%) of its beds since 2000. These closures have occurred in counties with higher medical debt rates.



CMS Quality Ratings for Hospitals in the North Country and Mohawk Valley

Quality of hospital care is slightly below the average for New York. North Country and Mohawk Valley hospitals struggle on key measures like mortality and safety of care.

New York policymakers should consider a range of policy options—many of which have been adopted by other states—to address the unaffordability, lack of access, and low quality that plague the State's health care system. Read the full report, *Why is Health Care in New York So Unaffordable and What Can be Done to Fix It?* to learn more about how New York can address its lack of transparency, high prices, and uneven quality of care at cssny.org.