SimiTree

CLAIMS INSIGHT

Where Medicare Hospice Is Shrinking Fastest

Q1 2026 vs. Q1 2025 | Medicare FFS hospice patients | Minimum Q1 2025 baseline: 250 periods

SimiTree analyzed Medicare fee-for-service Hospice claims to identify county-level markets with the fastest year-over-year contraction in hospice patients. The rankings highlight markets where patient volume declined most sharply and where absolute losses may warrant closer attention.

#	County	Q1 2025	Q1 2026	YoY
1	**Los Angeles, CA**	28,531	21,558	**-24.4%**
2	**Rock, WI**	582	443	**-23.9%**
3	**Sumter, SC**	359	278	**-22.6%**
4	**Madison, IL**	732	594	**-18.9%**
5	**Onondaga, NY**	263	215	**-18.3%**
6	**Marion, OH**	279	232	**-16.8%**
7	**Passaic, NJ**	585	491	**-16.1%**
8	**Monroe, MI**	466	399	**-14.4%**
9	**Davidson, TN**	1,199	1,027	**-14.3%**
10	**Greene, TN**	279	239	**-14.3%**

WHAT STANDS OUT

- Tennessee appears twice in the Top 10 shrinking hospice markets.
- Los Angeles County, CA declined 24.4%, falling by 6,973 Medicare hospice patients year over year.
- Several other declines were meaningful in both rate and volume, including Davidson County, TN (-172) and Rock County, WI (-139).

WHY IT MATTERS

A falling county market can reflect changing referral patterns, utilization, demographics, access, or competitive dynamics. Looking at both the rate and absolute patient decline helps organizations identify markets that may warrant deeper referral and market analysis.

Source: SimiTree analysis of Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Medicare fee-for-service Hospice claims data, Q1 2025-Q1 2026. Analysis conducted using SimiTree proprietary methodologies. Rankings include counties with at least 250 Q1 2025 hospice patients. Medicare FFS claims do not represent total market volume.