## Reporting on Stroke Care with KHN / InvestigateTV Data

Read our methodology: <https://khn.org/news/article/methodology-how-we-reported-on-rural-stroke-care/>

View the code for this analysis: <https://github.com/khnews/2021-delta-appalachia-stroke-access>

### Data files:

Populations\_Within\_Certified\_Stroke\_Care.xlsx : provides the percent of population by state within a 45-minute drive of each type of stroke care (see details below).

If you use this data, please credit “analysis by Kaiser Health News”

CDC\_Stroke\_Death\_Rates\_by\_County.xlsx : provides a rate of stroke deaths per 100,000 people for each county in the United States (including territories), from the [CDC Atlas of Heart Disease and Stroke.](https://nccd.cdc.gov/DHDSPAtlas/Reports.aspx)

## Overview:

**Strokes in the U.S.:** According to CDC data, someone has a stroke in the United States every 40 seconds. Someone dies from a stroke every four minutes. More national statistics available here [from the CDC.](https://www.cdc.gov/stroke/facts.htm)

**Access to Stroke Care:** Hospitals can choose to apply for specialized stroke certification through different organizations. The most popular certifications are through the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association, DNV and HFAP. There are four levels of certified stroke centers: Comprehensive Stroke Centers, Thrombectomy-Capable Stroke Centers, Primary Stroke Centers and Acute Stroke Ready hospitals. We categorized the first two as “Advanced-Care Stroke Certified” and the last two as “Basic-Care Stroke Certified.” You can learn the [specifics of each type here](https://www.jointcommission.org/-/media/tjc/documents/accred-and-cert/certification/certification-by-setting/stroke/dsc-stroke-grid-comparison-chart.pdf).

Here is a breakdown of the Basic-care and Advanced-care certifications:

Table

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