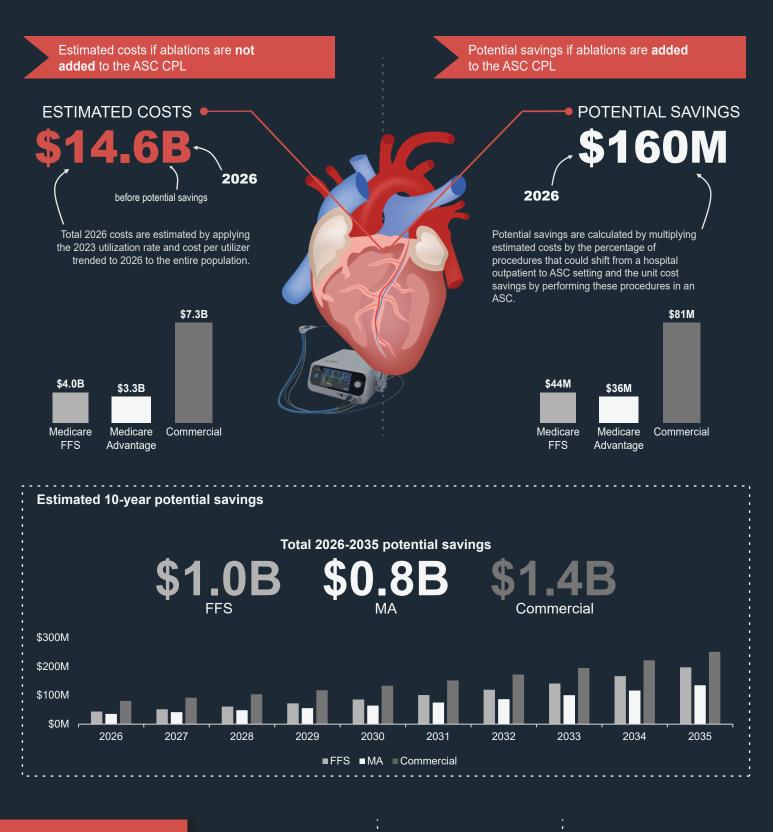
## **CARDIAC ABLATIONS IN SURGICAL CENTERS**

ESTIMATED COSTS, UTILIZATION, & PROJECTED SAVINGS

Atrial fibrillation (AFib) is the most common cardiac rhythm disorder. It increases the risk of heart failure, stroke and hospitalization.

A major treatment of AFib is cardiac ablation. Cardiac ablation is a minimally invasive treatment that aims to restore a patient's heart rhythm. Currently, cardiac ablation is only reimbursed by Medicare when performed in a hospital setting due to regulations from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). From 2022-2025, CMS has not accepted cardiac ablation codes for the Ambulatory Surgery Center (ASC) covered procedures list (CPL). Organizations such as the Heart Rhythm Society have provided data to CMS on the safety and efficacy of ablations performed in the ASC setting.









AFib-related total annual healthcare costs in the U.S. e projected to rise **\$175B** by 2050<sup>(3)</sup>

## DID YOU **KNOW?**

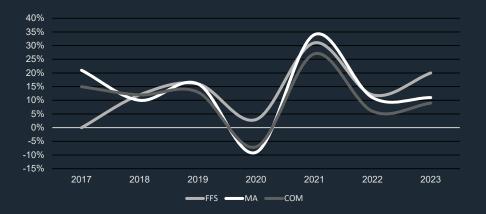
Americans have atrial fibrillation (AFib) as of 2019

strokes are caused by AFib





Year-over-year trend in outpatient visits per 1,000 for cardiac ablations



| ANALYSIS   |  |
|--|--|
| Cardiac ablation utilization<br>rose substantially across all<br>three lines of business<br>examined, with average<br>year-over-year utilization<br>trends of <b>10%</b> or higher<br>between 2017 and 2023. |  |

## References

1. Ko, D., Chung, M., Evans, P., Benjamin, E., & Helm, R. (2024). Atrial Fibrillation: A Review. JAMA 2. UpBeat. (n.d.). What is atrial fibrillation (AFib)?

3. Kazi, D. S., Moran, A. E., Virani, S. S., Vupputuri, S., Delles, C., Navar, A. M., ... & Yancy, C. W. (2024). Forecasting the economic burden of cardiovascular disease and stroke in the United States through 2050: A Presidential Advisory from the American Heart Association. Circulation, 150(4), 295–314. https://doi.org/10.1161/CIR.000000000001258

## Link to full report

The complete findings and details of our analysis are available in a Milliman report. For more information and references, please click here.