

## Children's Mental Health Access

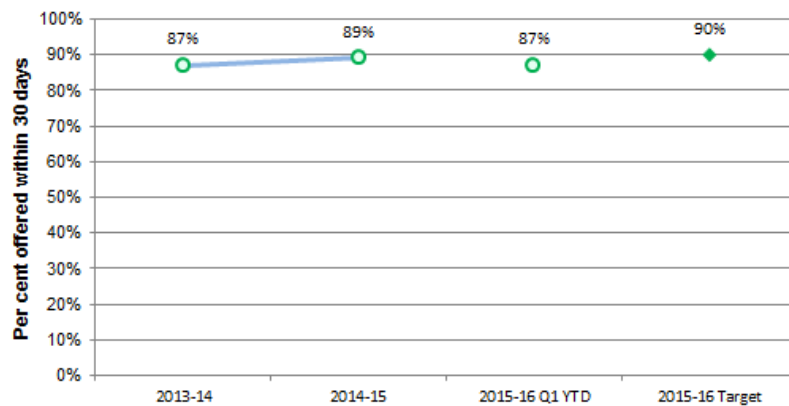
### Measure Definition

Percentage of children aged 0 to 17 years offered scheduled community mental health treatment within 30 days from referral.

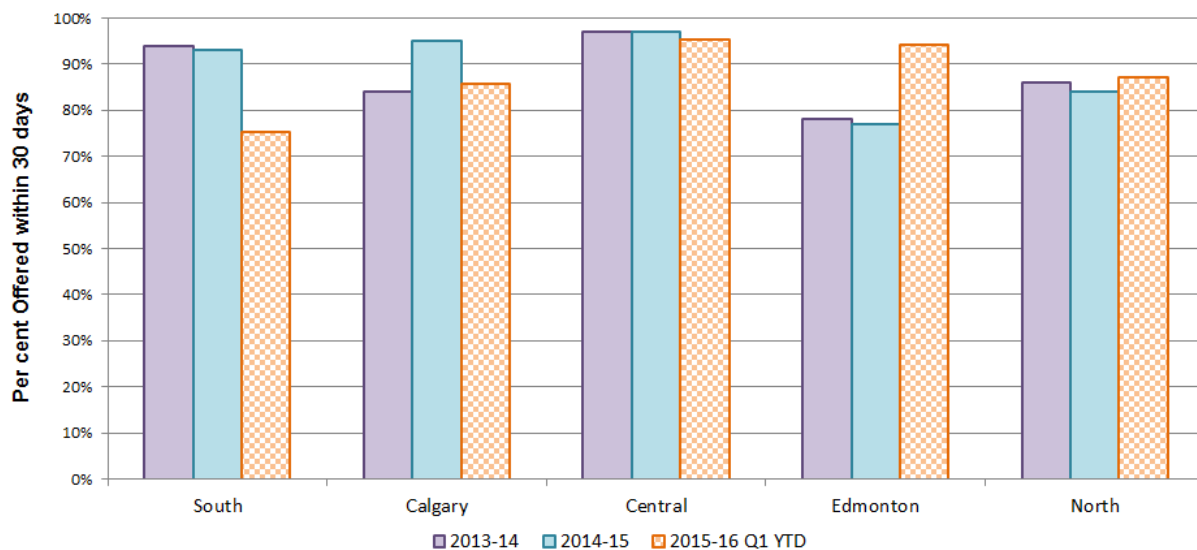
### Understanding this Measure

Delays in treating mental illness can have negative consequences, including exacerbation of the client's condition. Research has shown that the longer children wait for service, the more likely they are to not attend their first appointment. One of the strategies associated with Addiction and Mental Health is to improve how children and youth access addiction and mental health services. Monitoring the percentage of children who have symptoms or problems that require attention but are not considered urgent or emergent can help in identifying system delays and assessing service capacity, while ensuring that children most in need of treatment receive it immediately.

Children Offered Mental Health Services within 30 days - Annual



Children Offered Mental Health Services within 30 days - Zone



## Children’s Mental Health Access – Actions

<b>Provincial/ Strategic Clinical Network (SCN)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Completed research project related to enhancing mental well-being of youth.</li> </ul>
<b>South</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participating on two Regional Collaborative School Delivery committees to streamline access to children’s addiction mental health services.</li> <li>Review documentation processes with child/adolescent clinicians to ensure documenting both the ‘first available appointment offered’ vs. ‘scheduled appointment’. Some of the increased wait time for ‘first available appointment’ is attributed to inaccurate documentation practices.</li> <li>Assessment and identification of treatment supply within the system.</li> </ul>
<b>Calgary</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Brain health integration planning has been designated as a priority. The planning is well underway and will be completed by fall 2015. The plan will include future needs for children and youth requiring mental health care and treatment across the continuum of care.</li> </ul>
<b>Central</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participation on three Regional School Delivery collaboratives with the Regional Collaborative School Delivery Model – cross ministerial initiative school divisions, AHS AMH and Allied Health, and Child &amp; Family Services.</li> <li>Participation with Provincial AMH portfolio to explore possible enhancements to children’s AMH resources and supports in response to rural Quality Assurance Review.</li> </ul>
<b>Edmonton</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Strongest Families Institute is being utilized to manage some of the referrals (45 per month).</li> <li>Moved to a centralized intake system through eClinician which gives families more choice and offers the first available appointment.</li> </ul>
<b>North</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conducted monthly review of wait times and exploration of root causes to inform improvements occurred.</li> <li>Completed ARMHIS (Alberta Regional Mental Health Information System) handbook for clinicians.</li> <li>Continued work with provincial working group on improving data integrity.</li> <li>Launched zone working group to address wait times and access to children’s addiction and mental health services.</li> </ul>

### IN SUMMARY

Wait times for access to community mental health treatment services are used as an indicator of patient access to the health care system and reflect the efficient use of resources.

Currently, Alberta is the only province with access standards for children’s mental health. There is no comparable information from other provinces regarding the wait times for children to receive community mental health treatment.

## Children's Mental Health Access – Zone Details

Percentage of children aged 0 to 17 years offered scheduled community mental health treatment within 30 days from referral.

Children Offered Scheduled Mental Health Services within 30 days	2013-14	2014-15	Q1 YTD		Trend *	2015-16 Target
			2014-15 Last Year	2015-16 Current		
<b>Provincial</b>	<b>87%</b>	<b>89%</b>	<b>86%</b>	<b>87%</b>	<b>↑</b>	<b>90%</b>
South Zone	94%	93%	94%	75%	↓	n/a
Calgary Zone	84%	95%	94%	86%	↓	n/a
Central Zone	97%	97%	97%	95%	↓	n/a
Edmonton Zone	78%	77%	64%	94%	↑	n/a
North Zone	86%	84%	82%	87%	↑	n/a

\*Trend: ↑ Improvement → Stability ↓ Area requires additional focus

Number of new enrollments	2013-14	2014-15	Q1 YTD	
			2014-15 Last Year	2015-16 Current
<b>Provincial</b>	<b>7,164</b>	<b>7,947</b>	<b>2,088</b>	<b>2,200</b>
South Zone	1,394	1,697	406	408
Calgary Zone	1,442	1,257	461	518
Central Zone	1,125	1,257	349	334
Edmonton Zone	1,808	1,562	438	414
North Zone	1,395	1,616	434	526