

Emergency Department Length of Stay for Discharged Patients

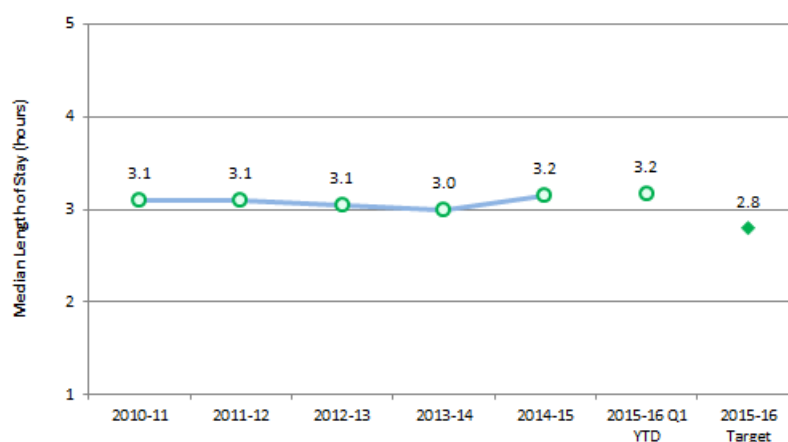
Measure Definition

The average patient's length of time (hours) in the ED from the time a patient is assessed by a nurse until the time they are discharged at the busiest 17 EDs. This is calculated as the median length of stay which means that 50 per cent of patients stay in the ED this length of time or less.

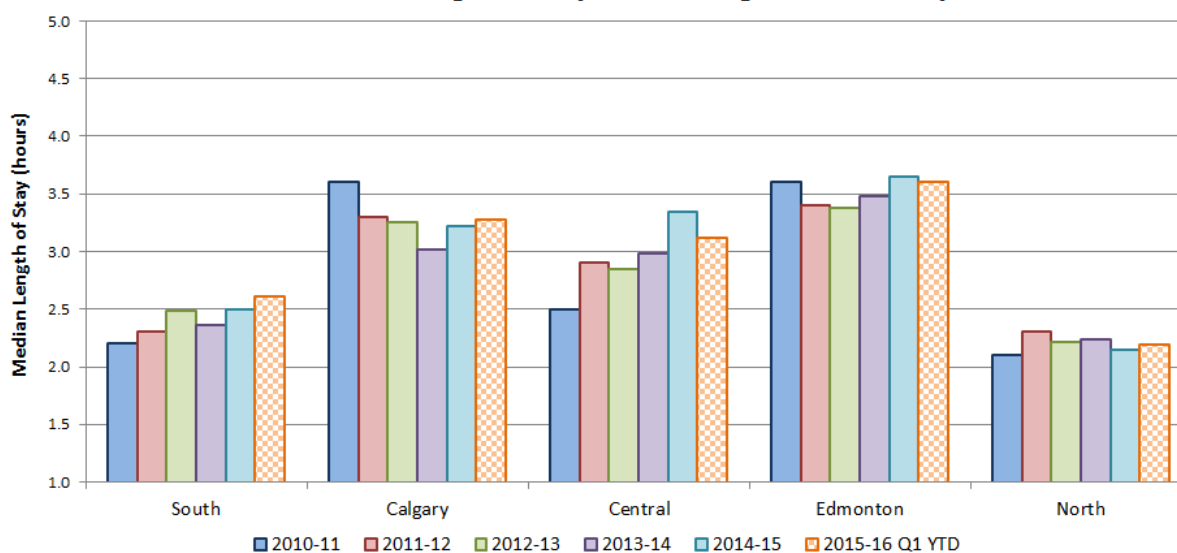
Understanding this Measure

Patients treated in an emergency department should be assessed and treated in a timely fashion. This measure focuses on the total time these patients are in the ED before being discharged home. Many patients seen in the emergency do not require admission to hospital. The length of stay in an ED is used to assess the timeliness of care delivery, overall efficiency, and accessibility of health services throughout the system.

ED Length of Stay for Discharged Patients - Annual



ED Length of Stay for Discharged Patients - by Zone



ED Length of Stay for Discharged Patients – Actions

Provincial/ Strategic Clinical Network (SCN)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emergency Department SCN/ Health Professions Strategy and Practice (HPSP) have partnered to provide a standardize approach to nursing education and orientation for all emergency departments. The Emergency Nursing Provincial Educational Program will provide equal education from one site to another and reduce educator's time in the classroom.
South	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with Primary Care Networks (PCNs) on complex high-needs patients using ED. Identify high-frequency users to ED with mental health and/or addiction issues. Continue to work with EMS and continuing care sites to decrease ED utilization. Exploring options to expand Home Care capacity across the zone.
Calgary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intake processes at all sites being reviewed and refined to ensure continued improvement of early access to physician assessment and treatment. PCN referral processes to link patients who may be appropriate for PCN support and ongoing follow up vs. utilizing ED services. Implement renal colic pathway to support reduction of CT use for renal colic patients, as well as potentially reducing admission rates based on best practices for ED care – linked with Choosing Wisely campaign.
Central	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refresh approach to ED quality improvement initiatives utilizing CQI supports and oversight to improve and streamline ED flow. Optimize the Home Care nurse resources dedicated to the ED to avoid admission by enhancing short and long term home supports for clients. A joint initiative between EMS, Continuing Care and Palliative Care, working on improving end of life care and reducing transport of palliative care clients to the ED, where that care could be supported in the home.
Edmonton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activities planned for ED avoidance required for non-emergency business to be moved out of Royal Alexandra Hospital (RAH) ED. Expand the Inner City Support Team in-reach to the RAH ED. Extend hours of the CREMS team (Crisis Response & EMS). Reduce wait times in community with EMS/ED Transfer of Care project.
North	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue implementation of the Triple Aim project in Grande Prairie – focused on improving access and flow (e.g. physician discharge improvements due to increased community supports).

IN SUMMARY

Albertans can seek alternative ways to get treatment before going to the ED, such as visiting your family physician, going to a walk-in clinic and using other community services.

Use the AHS web site to access ED Wait Times www.albertahealthservices.ca/4770.asp as well as "Know Your Options" www.albertahealthservices.ca/7581.asp to learn when to go to the ED and what options you have for a shorter wait time.

AHS is committed to working with communities to focus more on health promotion and prevention of chronic diseases, disabilities, and injuries. This will help improve quality of life while reducing disparities in health and the impact on individuals, families, communities, and the overall health care system.

ED Length of Stay for Discharged Patients – Zone and Site Details

The average patient's length of time (hours) in the ED from the time a patient is assessed by a nurse until the time they are discharged at the busiest 17 EDs. This is calculated as the median length of stay which means that 50 per cent of patients stay in the ED this length of time or less.

ED LOS Discharged - Busiest Sites	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	Q1 YTD		Trend *	2015-16 Target
				2014-15 Last Year	2015-16 Current		
Provincial	3.1	3.0	3.2	3.1	3.2	↓	2.8
South Zone Total	2.5	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.6	↓	2.5
Chinook Regional Hospital	2.6	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.4	↑	2.5
Medicine Hat Regional Hospital	2.4	2.3	2.7	2.6	2.9	↓	2.4
Calgary Zone Total	3.3	3.0	3.2	3.1	3.3	↓	3.0
Alberta Children's Hospital	2.3	2.2	2.4	2.3	2.3	→	2.3
Foothills Medical Centre	4.0	3.7	3.8	3.8	3.9	↓	3.3
Peter Lougheed Centre	3.7	3.6	3.7	3.6	3.6	→	3.2
Rockyview General Hospital	3.5	3.1	3.4	3.2	3.6	↓	3.1
South Health Campus	N/A	2.8	3.3	3.1	3.4	↓	3.0
Central Zone Total	2.9	3.0	3.4	3.3	3.1	↑	2.8
Red Deer Regional Hospital Centre	2.9	3.0	3.4	3.3	3.1	↑	2.8
Edmonton Zone Total	3.4	3.5	3.7	3.7	3.6	↑	3.0
Grey Nuns Community Hospital	3.1	3.3	3.3	3.5	3.2	↑	2.9
Misericordia Community Hospital	3.3	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.1	↑	3.0
Northeast Community Health Centre	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.3	3.1	↑	3.0
Royal Alexandra Hospital	4.4	5.1	5.5	5.5	5.3	↑	3.4
Stollery Children's Hospital	2.3	2.3	2.7	2.7	3.0	↓	2.3
Sturgeon Community Hospital	3.0	2.9	3.3	3.3	3.3	→	2.9
University of Alberta Hospital	4.6	4.9	5.7	5.5	5.6	↓	3.4
North Zone Total	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	→	2.1
Northern Lights Regional Health Centre	2.1	2.1	1.8	1.8	1.9	↓	2.1
Queen Elizabeth II Hospital	2.3	2.4	2.7	2.7	2.6	↑	2.3

N/A: No results available. South Health Campus opened February 2013.

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

ED Discharges from ED - Busiest Sites	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	Q1 YTD	
				2014-15 Last Year	2015-16 Current
Provincial	832,699	892,057	878,559	226,340	219,461
South Zone	76,322	76,902	75,132	18,760	19,044
Calgary Zone	255,767	307,564	308,414	79,701	77,250
Central Zone	47,743	45,682	46,310	11,873	11,367
Edmonton Zone	327,842	338,229	328,131	85,591	82,539
North Zone	125,025	123,680	120,572	30,415	29,261