

Children's Mental Health Access

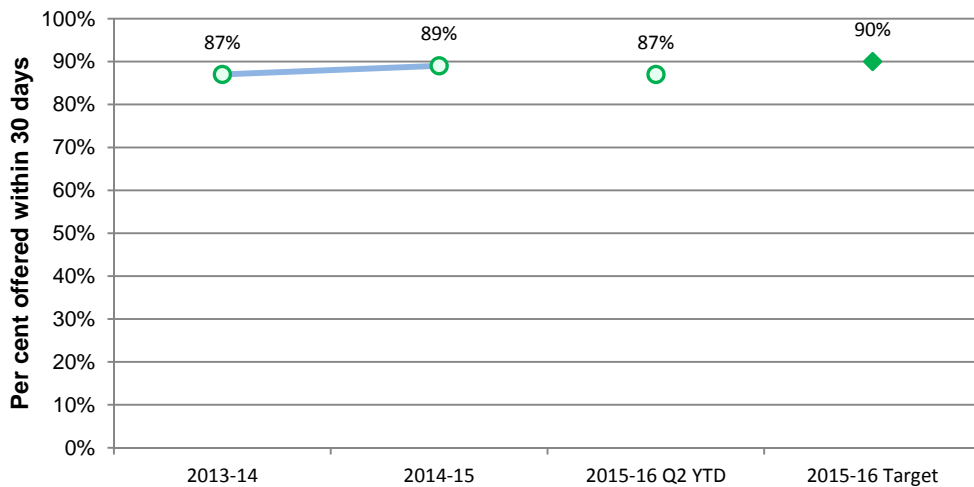
Measure Definition

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

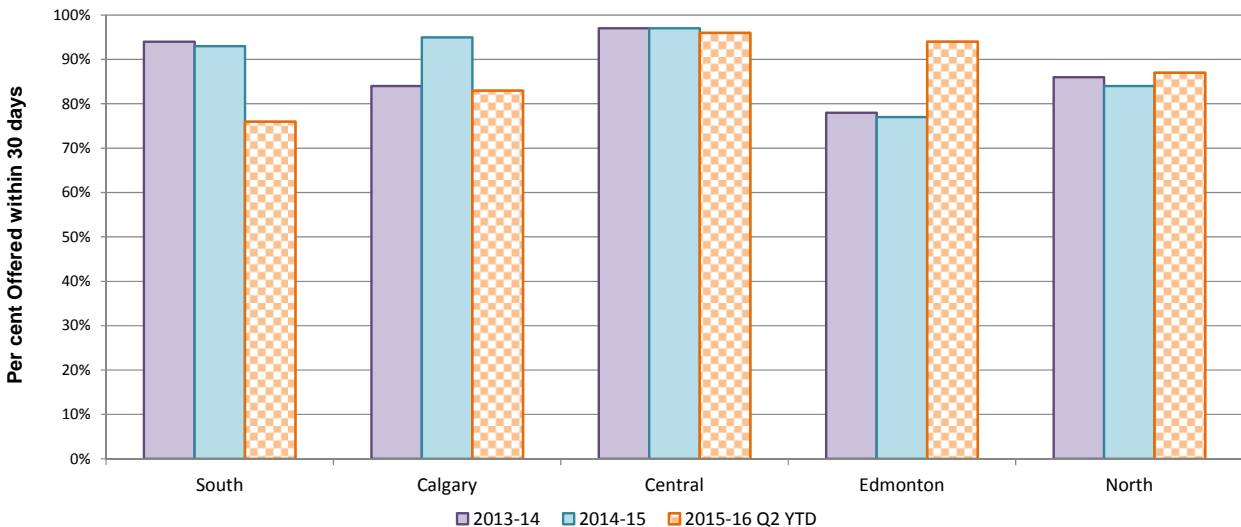
Understanding this Measure

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

Provincial/ Strategic Clinical Network (SCN)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Addiction & Mental Health (AMH) SCN conducted the Patient Journey Project to understand what is working well and to identify the gaps in delivery of addiction services for high risk youth who misuse alcohol. 59 youth were surveyed and results are currently being analyzed.
South	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participating on two Regional Collaborative School Delivery committees to streamline access to children’s addiction mental health services. 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. Assessment and identification of treatment supply within the system.
Calgary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brain Health integration planning has been designated as a priority due to the priority for children’s mental health. 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. Alberta Children’s Hospital Outpatient Principles in Practice were officially launched in September. A webpage is currently in development to share templates and tools across AHS and the work will be presented nationally at the Canadian Association of Pediatric Health Centers.
Central	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participation is continuing in 3 Regional School Delivery Collaboratives with the Regional Collaborative School Delivery Model - cross ministerial initiative school divisions, AHS AMH and Allied Health and Child and Family Services. Work continues with Provincial AMH portfolio to explore possible enhancements to children’s AMH resources and supports in response to a rural Quality Assurance Review.
Edmonton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Strongest Families Institute is being utilized to manage some of the referrals (45 per month). Planning underway for Children’s Mental Health Intake to integrate Youth Addiction Services, school-based referrals, and other specialized clinics so the capacity of all ambulatory services are utilized to accommodate a 45% increase in demand.
North	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participating on six Regional Collaborative School Delivery committees working to streamline access to children’s addiction mental health services. Continue spread of Alberta Access, Improvement, Measures (AIM) and AHS Improvement Way (AIW) process improvement implementation to three hub-and-spoke areas.

IN SUMMARY

Q2 year-to-date, provincial results have shown an improvement compared to the same period as last year.

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	Q2 YTD		Trend *	2015-16 Target
			2014-15 Last Year	2015-16 Current		
Provincial	87%	89%	85%	87%	↑	90%
South Zone	94%	93%	94%	76%	↓	n/a
Calgary Zone	84%	95%	94%	83%	↓	n/a
Central Zone	97%	97%	96%	96%	→	n/a
Edmonton Zone	78%	77%	65%	94%	↑	n/a
North Zone	86%	84%	81%	87%	↑	n/a

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

Number of new enrollments	2013-14	2014-15	Q2 YTD	
			2014-15 Last Year	2015-16 Current
Provincial	7,456	7,947	3,702	4,055
South Zone	1,450	1,697	730	802
Calgary Zone	1,465	1,257	824	960
Central Zone	1,170	1,257	577	595
Edmonton Zone	1,852	1,562	837	779
North Zone	1,519	1,616	734	919