

## Emergency Department Length of Stay for Discharged Patients

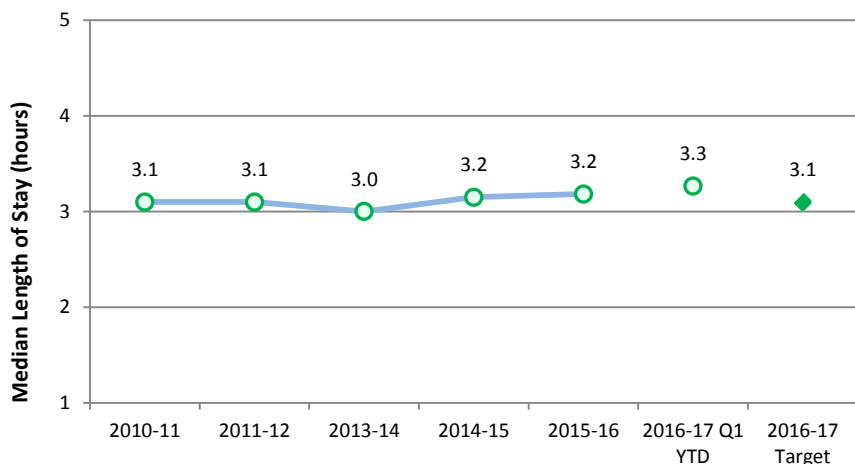
### Measure Definition

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 department 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.

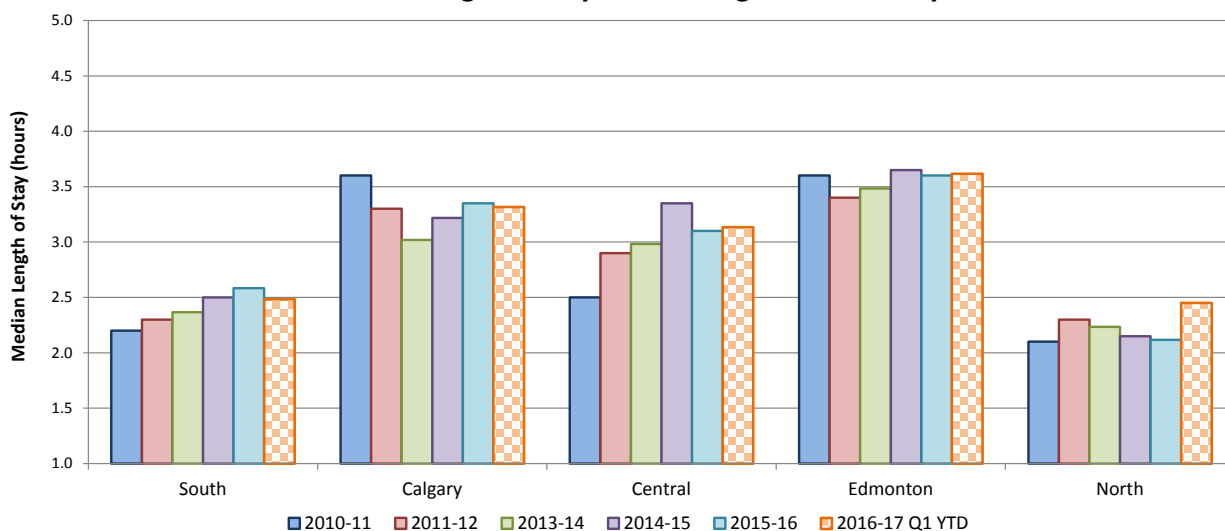
ED Length of Stay for Discharged Patients - Annual



### How Do We Compare?

Alberta ranked 4<sup>th</sup> best nationally out of five provinces in 2015-16.

ED Length of Stay for Discharged Patients - by Zone



NOTE: North Zone data for Q1 has been impacted due to the wildfires in Q1 resulting in the temporary closure of a hospital.

## ED Length of Stay for Discharged Patients

### **ACTIONS**

South Zone is fully implementing the “bed to chair” strategy which will help decrease initial time to physician and overall length of stay.

Calgary Zone is collaborating with mental health services to reduce assessment and disposition time, using transfer coordinators to facilitate discharges, providing patients with “Know Your Options” information, continuing Primary Care Network (PCN) referrals from triage and refining intake areas at all EDs to improve flow.

Central Zone - Red Deer Regional Hospital has a joint initiative with emergency medical services (EMS), continuing care and palliative care, to improve end of life care and reduce transport of palliative care clients to the ED, where that care could be supported in the home.

Edmonton Zone is completing the Porter Lean project, optimizing surge plan and incorporating Emergency Disposition and Consult (EDC) physician role.

North Zone continues to implement Emergency Department quality improvement/flow projects as well as identify and address barriers to discharge (e.g., placement, diagnostics, etc.).

### **SUMMARY**

The 2016-17 target was achieved in Edmonton Zone in Q1.

South, Calgary and Central Zones have improved or stay the same from the same period as last year.

Provincial and North Zone results have been impacted by the temporary closure of Northern Lights Regional Hospital and displacement of the population in Fort McMurray due to the wildfires in Q1.

### **DID YOU KNOW**

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.

The **Know Your Options** campaign provides information on when a visit to the ED is appropriate, and when someone should consider another treatment option when emergency care is not needed.

## ED Length of Stay for Discharged Patients

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	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	Q1 YTD		Trend	2016-17 Target
				2015-16 Last Year	2016-17 Current		
Trend: ★ Achieved Target, ✓ Stable or better than prior period, ✕ Area requires additional focus							
Provincial	3.0	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.3	✕	3.1
South Zone Total	2.4	2.5	2.6	2.6	2.5	✓	2.4
Chinook Regional Hospital	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.4	2.6	✕	2.3
Medicine Hat Regional Hospital	2.3	2.7	2.8	2.9	2.4	★	2.6
Calgary Zone Total	3.0	3.2	3.4	3.3	3.3	✓	3.1
Alberta Children’s Hospital	2.2	2.4	2.4	2.3	2.6	✕	2.3
Foothills Medical Centre	3.7	3.8	4.1	3.9	4.0	✕	3.5
Peter Lougheed Centre	3.6	3.7	3.7	3.6	3.5	✓	3.4
Rockyview General Hospital	3.1	3.4	3.6	3.6	3.6	✓	3.2
South Health Campus	N/A	3.3	3.6	3.4	3.4	✓	3.0
Central Zone Total	3.0	3.4	3.1	3.1	3.1	✓	3.0
Red Deer Regional Hospital Centre	3.0	3.4	3.1	3.1	3.1	✓	3.0
Edmonton Zone Total	3.5	3.7	3.6	3.6	3.6	★	3.6
Grey Nuns Community Hospital	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.2	3.3	✕	3.1
Misericordia Community Hospital	3.2	3.2	3.1	3.1	3.5	✕	3.0
Northeast Community Health Centre	3.2	3.2	3.0	3.1	3.0	★	3.0
Royal Alexandra Hospital	5.1	5.5	5.1	5.3	5.0	★	5.0
Stollery Children’s Hospital	2.3	2.7	2.7	3.0	2.7	✓	2.6
Sturgeon Community Hospital	2.9	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.5	✕	3.0
University of Alberta Hospital	4.9	5.7	5.5	5.6	5.5	✓	5.2
North Zone Total	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.2	2.5	✕	2.0
Northern Lights Regional Health Centre <sup>+</sup>	2.1	1.8	1.9	1.9	N/A	N/A	1.7
Queen Elizabeth II Hospital	2.4	2.7	2.5	2.6	2.5	★	2.5

<sup>+</sup> North Zone results have been impacted by the temporary closure of Northern Lights Regional Hospital and displacement of the population in Fort McMurray due to the wildfires in Q1.

ED Discharges from ED - Busiest Sites	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	Q1 YTD	
				2015-16 Last Year	2016-17 Current
<b>Provincial</b>	<b>892,057</b>	<b>878,560</b>	<b>870,633</b>	<b>190,200</b>	<b>194,380</b>
South Zone	76,902	75,132	75,144	19,043	18,634
Calgary Zone	307,564	308,414	304,203	77,250	78,275
Central Zone	45,682	46,311	45,710	11,368	11,657
Edmonton Zone	338,229	328,131	331,564	82,539	85,814
North Zone <sup>+</sup>	123,680	120,572	114,012	N/A	N/A

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