

Emergency Department Length of Stay for Admitted Patients

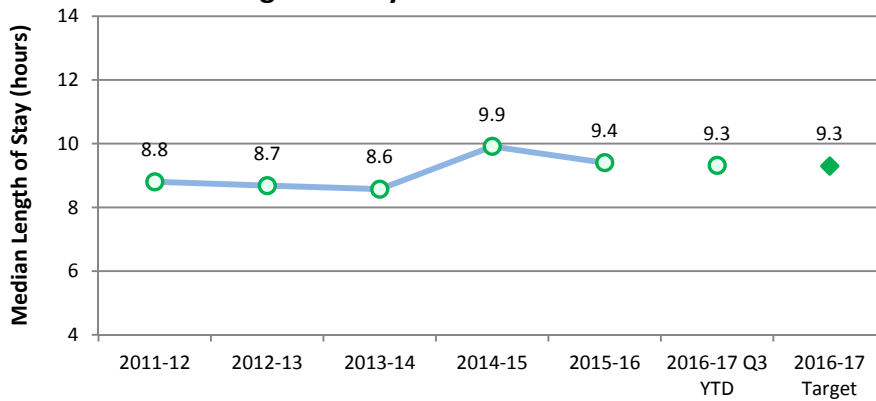
Measure Definition

The average patient's length of time (hours) in the emergency department before being admitted to a hospital bed at the busiest emergency departments. This is calculated as the median length of stay which means that 50 per cent of patients stay in the emergency department this length of time or less, before being admitted. This measure is the time between when a patient is assessed by a nurse in the emergency department until the time they are admitted.

Understanding this Measure

This measure reflects the performance of the entire system. It is influenced by our ability to manage complex patients in primary care, efficiencies in the emergency department, efficiencies and capacity in the acute care (when staying in hospital), better quality of care and integration with community services in reducing unplanned readmissions, timely placement of patients into continuing care (e.g., long-term care) and linking patients to the appropriate services in the community after a stay in hospital.

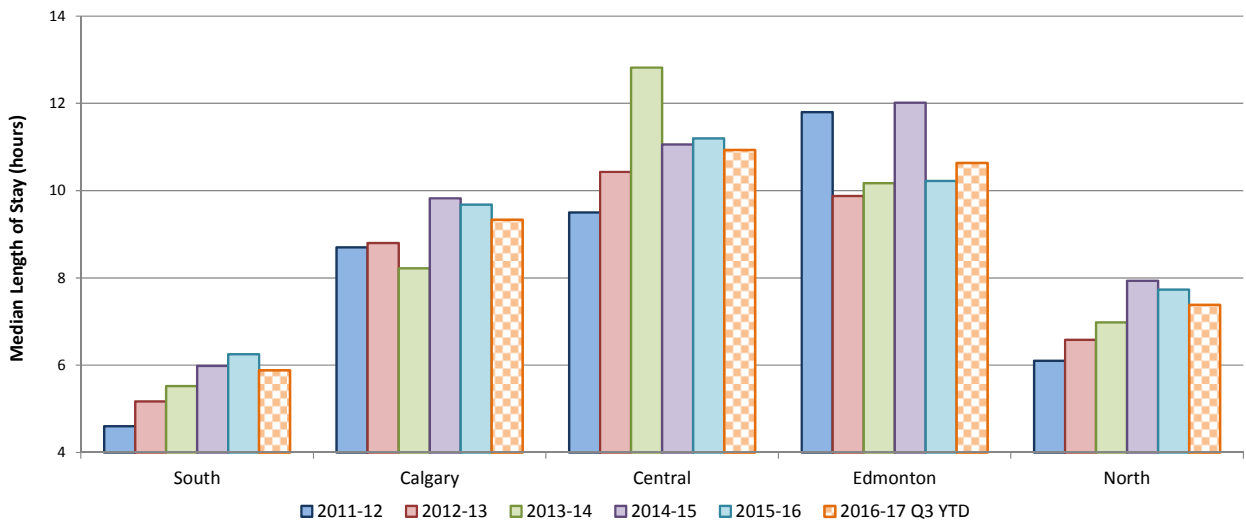
ED Length of Stay for Admitted Patients - Annual



How Do We Compare?

Alberta ranked 2nd best nationally out of five provinces in 2015-16.

ED Length of Stay for Admitted Patients - by Zone



ED Length of Stay for Admitted Patients

ACTIONS

CoACT implementation is underway in all zones which will demonstrate a positive impact on efficiency and emergency department (ED) flow.

South Zone continues to work with inpatient units on patient flow improvements to move patients into vacant inpatient beds when a bed becomes available.

Calgary Zone is opening a Mental Health Assessment Unit at Rockyview General Hospital to reduce the length of stay for admitted patients, particularly for those needing a short stay admission. Other initiatives to enhance patient flow between units and sites, and facilitate earlier discharges, include collaborating with mental health services, working with site management on inpatient units to reduce EIP (emergency inpatients) volumes, reviewing bed management processes, refining intake areas at all EDs and implementing discharge initiatives (e.g. 0900 on every unit and seven day/week discharges).

Central Zone is coordinating with acute hospital flow activities, CoACT, TeamCARE, Patient First, and Transition of Care initiatives to sustain and support a collaborative care model.

Edmonton Zone is working on optimizing the rapid transfer unit and medicine observation unit, improving inpatient discharge processes, implementing an ED surge trigger plan, optimizing surge protocol and EIP triggers, incorporating Emergency Disposition and Consult (EDC) physician role, improving physician consult times and eliminating 'consult bumping.'

North Zone has identified opportunities for length of stay efficiencies in inpatient units (ALOS/ELOS) to enhance flow from the emergency department including increasing Continuing Care Capacity in Boyle, Edson, High Prairie, and Grande Prairie (Mackenzie Place).

SUMMARY

Increases in occupancy, average length of stay, demand in emergency and percentage of patients requiring alternate levels of care have all contributed to wait times for patients who are ultimately discharged from emergency departments. Combined, these factors reduce the ability to transfer patients who need to be admitted into the hospital from the emergency departments to inpatient units, and reduce the spaces available to treat patients quickly.

Provincial, South and North Zones achieved target for Q3 YTD. Calgary and Central Zones demonstrated improvement from the same period as last year.

In the Edmonton Zone, University of Alberta Hospital and Stollery Children Hospital have seen an increase in site occupancy and activity in ED and in-patient units. As a result, the sites are experiencing patients waiting longer in the ED for beds. Sites are implementing more proactive surge protocols, isolation co-horting and quality initiatives related to service processes and patient experience.

DID YOU KNOW

Other initiatives are underway including operationalizing in-progress bed movement process to move patients to vacant beds in a more timely fashion.

The Emergency Strategic Clinical Network is committed to developing and supporting a system-wide approach to the delivery of emergency care for Albertans that is appropriate, patient-focused, timely, safe, and aligned with quality standards. To achieve this, they work with a diverse group of people and clinical services to ensure they have input from all stakeholders.

ED Length of Stay for Admitted Patients

The average patient's length of time (hours) in the emergency department before being admitted to a hospital bed at the busiest emergency departments.

ED LOS Admitted - Busiest Sites	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	Q3 YTD		Trend	2016-17 Target
				2015-16 Last Year	2016-17 Current		
Trend: ★ Achieved Target, ✓ better or ⇔ stable than prior period*, ✗ Area requires additional focus							
Provincial	8.6	9.9	9.4	9.2	9.3	★	9.3
South Zone Total	5.5	6.0	6.3	6.1	5.9	★	5.9
Chinook Regional Hospital	6.0	6.0	6.2	6.1	6.4	⇔	5.9
Medicine Hat Regional Hospital	5.1	5.9	6.3	6.2	5.5	★	5.9
Calgary Zone Total	8.2	9.8	9.7	9.4	9.3	✓	8.9
Alberta Children's Hospital	6.3	6.8	6.5	6.3	6.3	★	6.4
Foothills Medical Centre	8.0	8.9	8.8	8.6	8.9	⇔	8.5
Peter Lougheed Centre	9.1	11.5	11.5	11.0	10.9	✓	9.9
Rockyview General Hospital	8.6	11.1	10.5	10.1	9.4	★	10.1
South Health Campus	N/A	10.2	11.5	11.1	11.2	✓	8.0
Central Zone Total	12.8	11.1	11.2	11.2	10.9	✓	10.8
Red Deer Regional Hospital Centre	12.8	11.1	11.2	11.2	10.9	✓	10.8
Edmonton Zone Total	10.2	12.0	10.2	10.1	10.6	⇔	10.2
Grey Nuns Community Hospital	16.8	23.5	20.7	19.5	21.8	✗	16.0
Misericordia Community Hospital	12.5	17.0	12.5	12.2	14.3	✗	12.0
Royal Alexandra Hospital	9.9	11.5	9.8	9.8	10.0	⇔	9.8
Stollery Children's Hospital	7.4	8.6	7.4	7.4	7.2	★	7.6
Sturgeon Community Hospital	20.5	28.4	18.6	18.6	19.0	⇔	15.0
University of Alberta Hospital	9.1	10.4	9.0	8.8	9.6	✗	8.6
North Zone Total	7.0	7.9	7.7	7.7	7.4	★	7.8
Northern Lights Regional Health Centre	5.9	6.3	6.3	6.2	5.7	★	6.0
Queen Elizabeth II Hospital	8.6	11.0	11.4	11.0	10.4	★	10.6

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

* "Stable" trend indicates when current period performance (Q3 year-to-date) is within 5% from the same time period as last year.

ED Admissions from ED - Busiest Sites	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	Q3 YTD	
				2015-16 Last Year	2016-17 Current
Provincial	133,310	137,390	140,357	104,196	106,070
South Zone	11,656	11,939	11,598	8,655	9,154
Calgary Zone	54,634	56,732	58,036	42,974	44,346
Central Zone	8,815	9,254	9,730	7,197	7,229
Edmonton Zone	50,644	51,858	53,521	39,847	40,307
North Zone	7,561	7,607	7,472	5,523	5,034