



VAHHS is collecting point-in-time data on patients stuck in emergency departments<sup>1</sup> waiting transfer or discharge to mental health care—also called patient boarding. This data collection effort is a work in progress and may change over time as we refine data points or streamline collection efforts. This point-in-time data is collated and shared with the Department of Mental Health, hospital representatives, and other interested parties.

The VAHHS data collection process is described below:

**FREQUENCY—** Hospitals report manually to VAHHS on patients awaiting placement as of each Monday and Thursday morning.

**SCOPE—** The definition of the scope of this report includes all patients waiting for mental health care in Vermont emergency rooms. Data are collected on all patients waiting, regardless of legal status or insurance.

**STRUCTURE—** Hospitals report person-level data to VAHHS for comparison with DMH counts. Person-level records include age, legal status, Medicaid status, and reason for wait so data discrepancies with DMH can be identified easier.

**COMPARISON WITH DMH FIGURES –** The scope of data that VAHHS is collecting is more expansive than the data reported to DMH, as VAHHS is collecting data on all patients regardless of legal status and reason for waiting. Data differences in DMH counts and VAHHS counts of patients waiting is driven by voluntary patients and/or patients waiting for community placements not being reported to DMH. We will continue to work with DMH to identify reasons for data discrepancies.

<sup>1</sup> Most patients waiting for care are in the emergency department, however a very small number of hospitals place patients on medical surgical floors while waiting transfer to inpatient psychiatric units. These patients are included in our numbers as they are still boarding.



**Data for Monday, November 29, and Thursday, December 2**

**EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT IMPACT**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Mon, Nov 29, 2021</b>	<b>Thu, Dec 02, 2021</b>
Hospitals Reporting	12	11
Hospitals Reporting Patients Waiting	7	10
Total Hours of ED Waits Reported	4,134	1,796
Total People Waiting	37	31

**CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND ADULTS**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Mon, Nov 29, 2021</b>	<b>Thu, Dec 02, 2021</b>
<b>Hospitals Reporting</b>	12	11
<b>Hospitals Reporting patients waiting</b>	7	10
<b>Sum of hours</b>	4,134	1,796
<b>All Patients Waiting</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>31</b>
% Medicaid	54%	58%
% Voluntary	76%	84%
% Waiting for inpatient admission	81%	71%
Average Hours Waiting	112 hrs.	58 hrs.
Waiting less than 24 hours	8	18
Waiting 1-6 days	21	10
Waiting 7+ days	8	3
<b>Patients Waiting for Inpatient Care</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>22</b>
% Voluntary	70%	77%
Average Hours Waiting	127 hrs.	76 hrs.
Waiting less than 24 hours	5	10
Waiting 1-6 days	18	9
Waiting 7+ days	7	3
<b>Patients Waiting for Other Reasons</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>9</b>
% Voluntary	100%	100%
Average Hours Waiting	48 hrs.	13 hrs.
Waiting less than 24 hours	3	8
Waiting 1-6 days	3	1
Waiting 7+ days	1	0



**CHILDREN AND YOUTH**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Mon, Nov 29, 2021</b>	<b>Thu, Dec 02, 2021</b>
<b>Hospitals Reporting</b>	12	11
<b>Hospitals Reporting youth waiting</b>	3	4
<b>Sum of hours</b>	1,674	889
<b>All Youth Patients</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>7</b>
% Medicaid	70%	86%
% Voluntary	90%	100%
% Waiting for inpatient admission	80%	86%
<b>Average Hours Waiting</b>	<b>167 hrs.</b>	<b>127 hrs.</b>
Waiting less than 24 hours	1	1
Waiting 1-6 days	4	4
Waiting 7+ days	5	2
<b>Youth Waiting for Inpatient Care</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>
% Voluntary	88%	100%
<b>Average Hours Waiting</b>	<b>178 hrs.</b>	<b>146 hrs.</b>
Waiting less than 24 hours	1	0
Waiting 1-6 days	3	4
Waiting 7+ days	4	2
<b>Youth Waiting for Other Reasons</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
% Voluntary	100%	100%
<b>Average hours waiting</b>	<b>124 hrs.</b>	<b>16 hrs.</b>
Waiting less than 24 hours	0	1
Waiting 1-6 days	1	0
Waiting 7+ days	1	0



**ADULTS**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Mon, Nov 29, 2021</b>	<b>Thu, Dec 02, 2021</b>
<b>Hospitals Reporting</b>	12	11
<b>Hospitals Reporting adults waiting</b>	7	9
<b>Sum of hours</b>	2,460	907
<b>All Adult Patients</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>24</b>
% Medicaid	48%	50%
% Voluntary	70%	79%
% Waiting for inpatient admission	81%	67%
<b>Average Hours Waiting</b>	91 hrs.	38 hrs.
Waiting less than 24 hours	7	17
Waiting 1-6 days	17	6
Waiting 7+ days	3	1
<b>Adults Waiting for Inpatient Care</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>16</b>
% Voluntary	64%	69%
<b>Average Hours Waiting</b>	108 hrs.	50 hrs.
Waiting less than 24 hours	4	10
Waiting 1-6 days	15	5
Waiting 7+ days	3	1
<b>Adults Waiting for Other Reasons</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8</b>
% Voluntary	100%	100%
<b>Average Hours Waiting</b>	18 hrs.	13 hrs.
Waiting less than 24 hours	3	7
Waiting 1-6 days	2	1
Waiting 7+ days	0	0