

WA-ACEP Update

American College of
Emergency Physicians®

WASHINGTON CHAPTER

ADVANCING EMERGENCY CARE 

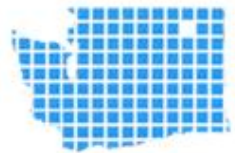


Washington State Psychiatric Boarding Survey

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Overview

- The purpose of the survey was to evaluate the extent of psychiatric boarding at a “Point in Time” -- at 8 am on two different dates -- to obtain a snapshot of the issue.
- Survey Dates:
 - Monday, July 28
 - Thursday, Aug. 28

Questions Asked

- How many adult patients are in your ED with a primary psychiatric complaint at this time?
How many patients under the age of 18 are in your ED with a primary psychiatric complaint?
- Of those waiting on an admission, how many hours have each of them been in your ED since the “decision to admit?”
- How many licensed beds are in your ED?

July 28 Results

- 44 EDs responded = 45% of all Washington emergency departments
- 44% had at least 1 psych patient in the ED
- Total number of boarders: 59
- Total number of hours boarded: 960.16
- Maximum length of stay for an individual patient: 6 days
- Overall, 75% of boarders had stayed 0-24 hours, 6% had stayed 25 – 72 hours, 19% had stayed 73 hours or longer

August 28 Results

- 66 EDs responded = 68% of all Washington emergency departments.
- 43% had at least 1 psych patient in the ED
- Total number of boarders: 76
- Total number of hours boarded: 842.67
- Maximum length of stay for an individual patient: 70 hours
- Overall, 76% of boarders had stayed 0-24 hours, 19% had stayed 25 – 72 hours, 5% had stayed 73 hours or longer.

Feb. 2, 2015 Results

- 46 EDs responded = 48% of all Washington emergency departments.
- 12 had at least 1 adult psych patient in the ED
- 3 had at least 1 psych patient under 18
- Total number of hours boarded: 316
- Maximum length of stay for an individual patient: 76 hours
- 50% of boarders (12) were in the ED for >24 hours
- Overall, 14% of boarders had stayed 0-24 hours, 71% had stayed 25 – 72 hours, 14% had stayed 73 hours or longer.

March 5, 2015 Results

- 48 EDs responded = 50% of all Washington emergency departments.
- 20 had at least 1 adult psych patient in the ED
- 2 had at least 1 psych patient under 18
- Total number of hours boarded: 308
- Maximum length of stay for an individual patient: 53 hours
- Average time a patient had been held in the ED was 12.67 hours
- Overall, 88% of boarders had stayed 0-24 hours, 12% had stayed 25 – 72 hours, 0% had stayed 73 hours or longer.