

Alberta Official Statistics

Hospitalization Rates, Canada, Provinces and Territories

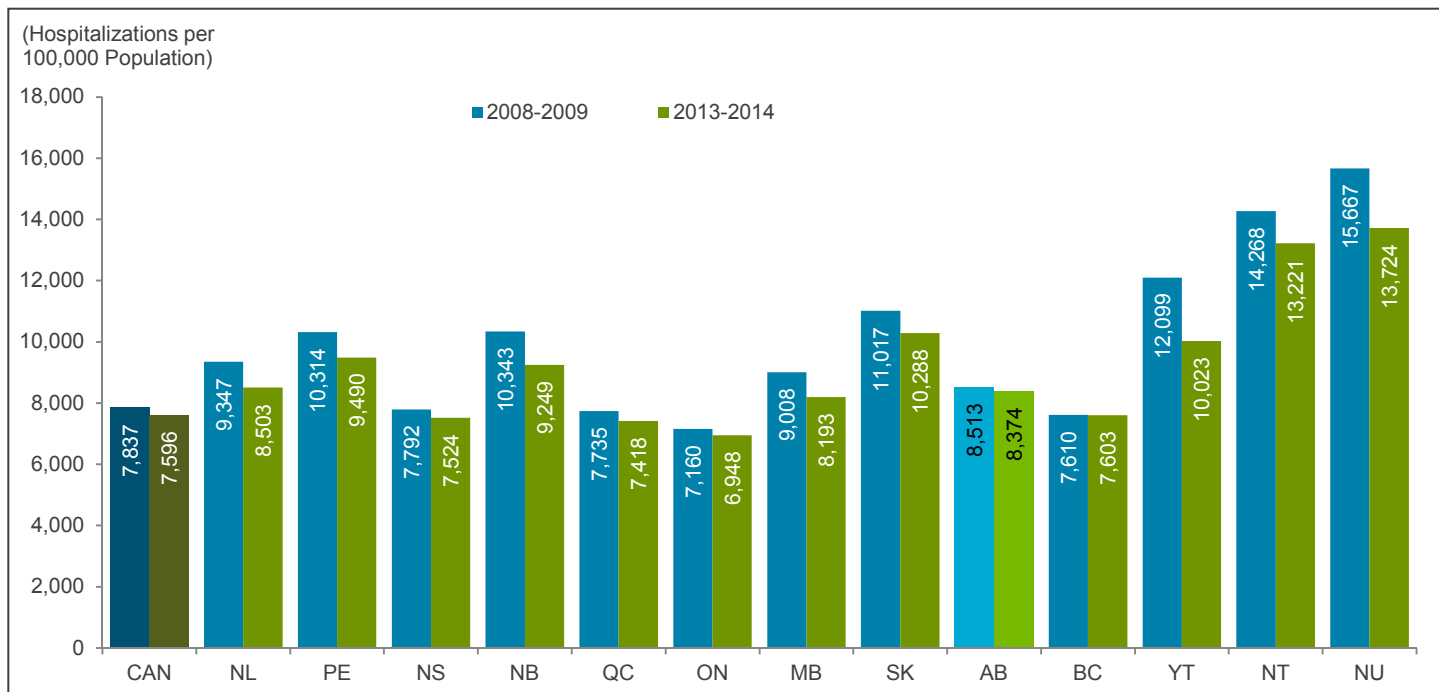
- Hospitalization represents the discharge (that is, release or death) of a person admitted to a hospital for at least one night. Hospitalization rates are an important measure of illness in the population and utilization of inpatient hospital services over time.
- Alberta's age-sex standardized hospitalization rate¹ declined 1.6% between 2008-2009 and 2013-2014 from 8,513 to 8,374 per 100,000 people. Alberta ranked ninth highest among provinces and territories in 2008-2009 and eighth highest in 2013-2014.
- In both 2008-2009 and 2013-2014, Alberta's hospitalization rate was higher than the Canadian rate.
- In 2013-2014, the hospitalization rate across Canada was highest in Nunavut (13,724 per 100,000), followed by the Northwest Territories (13,221 per 100,000), and then Saskatchewan (10,288 per 100,000). The lowest rate belonged to Ontario (6,948 per 100,000).

Note: Age-sex standardization is a statistical technique used to remove the effect of the age and sex distributions of two or more populations (for example, Ontario and Alberta) when comparing rates across different populations or for the same population over time.

¹ Age-sex standardized acute inpatient hospitalization rates for the province/territory of the patient at the time of discharge (numbers include residents of Canada only).

Hospitalization Rates, Canada

Provinces and Territories



Sources: Canadian Institute for Health Information, Discharge Abstract Database; Hospital Morbidity Database; Ontario Mental Health Reporting System; ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux du Québec

Title	Hospitalization Rates, Canada, Provinces and Territories
Alternative Title	
Creator	Office of Statistics and Information
Category	Health
Abstract	This Alberta Official Statistic describes Canada and the provinces and territories' hospitalization rates for 2000-2001 to 2013-2014.
Full Description	Hospitalization represents the discharge (that is, release or death) of a person admitted to a hospital for at least one night. Hospitalization rates are an important measure of illness in the population and utilization of inpatient hospital services over time.
Time Coverage YYYY-MM-DD – YYYY-MM-DD	2000-04-01 to 2014-03-31
Spatial Coverage	Canada, Provinces, Territories
Data Source	Canadian Institute for Health Information, Discharge Abstract Database; Hospital Morbidity Database; Ontario Mental Health Reporting System; ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux du Québec
Risk Considerations	
Usage Considerations	<p>Methodology</p> <p>The direct standardization process was used; the October 1, 2001, post-censal fiscal year Canadian population estimates were used as the standard population for the time periods presented.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Age–sex specific rates were calculated for five-year age (<1 to 90+) and gender (male or female) groups for each province/territory and for Canada: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Numerator for rate = number of discharges in that age–sex group of residents of a particular province/territory (for provincial/territorial rates) or of Canada (for national rates) in the fiscal year of interest Denominator for rate = number of people in that age–sex group of residents of a particular province/territory (for provincial/territorial rates) or of Canada (for national rates) in the fiscal year of interest Age–sex specific rates were then multiplied by the age–sex specific population in the standard population. The results of step 2 then summed for each province/territory or for Canada. The results of step 3 then divided by the total population of Canada from the standard population. The results of step 4 then multiplied by 100,000 to give the age–sex standardized discharge rate per 100,000 population of the province/territory of interest. Geography represents the province or territory in which the patient resided at the time of discharge. Therefore, statistics presented in this table include residents of Canada only. <p>Important Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prior to 1999–2000, Nunavut submitted its acute inpatient hospitalization data to Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI) as part of the Northwest Territories. In the Inpatient Hospitalizations: Volumes, Length of Stay, and Standardized Rates report, inpatient hospitalizations prior to 1999–2000 that were captured under Northwest Territories from the region that is now represented as Nunavut were isolated for trending purposes.

- In 2002–2003, Nunavut did not submit discharge data to CIHI. As such, Canadian figures for 2002–2003 do not include Nunavut and are not comparable with figures from other fiscal years.
- One hospital in New Brunswick did not submit four periods of data in 2004–2005
- Two hospitals in Alberta did not submit two periods of data in 2005–2006 and a third hospital did not submit three periods; one hospital in Alberta did not submit three periods of data in 2006–2007.
- One Quebec hospital did not submit two periods of data in 2005–2006.
- Two hospitals in Ontario did not submit any period of data in 2009–2010 or 2010–2011.
- Quebec data from 2006–2007 to 2009–2010 was sourced from MED-ECHO. Prior to 2006–2007 and in 2010–2011, Quebec data was sourced from the HMDB. As of 2006–2007, the submission of information on adult inpatient mental health beds in Ontario migrated from the DAD to OMHRS. To facilitate the comparison of data over time at the Ontario and pan-Canadian levels, 2006–2007 to 2010–2011 data from OMHRS was incorporated into the inpatient hospitalization data.
- There is some inconsistency from year to year between provinces/territories in newborn coding. In some provinces/territories, “newborns” includes those born in the reporting facility and those born outside the reporting facility but admitted to that facility within 24 hours of birth.
- Therefore, the figures presented here exclude
 - ★ All newborns born in the reporting facility; and
 - ★ Some newborns born outside the reporting facility but admitted to that facility within 24 hours of birth.
 This will result in a slight undercount of discharges used in the numerator of the age-standardized discharge rate.

Interpretation

- Age–sex standardization is a statistical technique used to remove the effect of the age and gender distributions of two or more populations (for example, Ontario and Alberta) when comparing rates across different populations or for the same population over time.
- Age–sex standardized rates in this table can be compared with each other.
- Age–sex standardized rates in this table cannot be compared with other rates calculated outside this Official Statistic.
- The terms “hospitalization” and “discharge” are used interchangeably in this document.
- These statistics reflect the number of hospitalizations (or discharges), which is somewhat higher than the number of individuals hospitalized, since individuals with multiple hospitalizations during a single year would be counted more than once in the totals.

There are methodological differences in how the numerator and denominator are calculated:

- Numerator for rate = number of discharges in that age–sex group of residents of a particular province/territory (for provincial/territorial rates) or of Canada (for national rates) in the fiscal year of interest. Therefore, the same person could be included more than once if he or she were discharged more than once in the same province/territory in the fiscal year of interest

- Denominator for rate = number of persons in that age–sex group of residents of a particular province/territory (for provincial/territorial rates) or of Canada (for national rates) in the fiscal year of interest. Therefore, the same person could be included only once in the same province/territory in the fiscal year of interest.
- Because of these methodological differences, the age–sex standardized rates will be higher than if the numerator considered each person only once.

Supporting Documents

[Discharge Abstract Database](#)

[Inpatient Hospitalizations: Volumes, Length of Stay and Standardized Rates - Metadata](#)

Related Products

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