

April 15, 2019

Richard Stavneak
Director
Joint Legislative Budget Committee
1716 West Adams
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Dear Mr. Stavneak:

In accordance with Laws 2018, Chapter 284, Section 19 please find the enclosed report on inpatient psychiatric treatment. Do not hesitate to contact me at (602) 417-4111, if you have any questions or would like additional information.

Sincerely,



Jami Snyder
Director

Cc: Matt Gress, Director, Governor's Office of Strategic Planning and Budgeting
Christina Corieri, Governor's Office, Senior Policy Advisor



**Report to the Director of the Joint Legislative Budget Committee
Regarding Inpatient Psychiatric Treatment Availability**

April 2019

Jami Snyder, Director

BACKGROUND

Laws 2016, Chapter 122, Section 32, requires the following:

- A. The Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System administration shall report to the director of the joint legislative budget committee on the availability of inpatient psychiatric treatment both for adults and for children and adolescents who receive services from the regional behavioral health authorities. The report shall include all of the following information:
 1. The total number of inpatient psychiatric treatment beds available and the occupancy rate for those beds.
 2. Expenditures on inpatient psychiatric treatment.
 3. The total number of individuals in this state who are sent out of state for inpatient psychiatric care.
 4. The prevalence of psychiatric boarding or the holding of psychiatric patients in emergency rooms for at least twenty-four hours before transferring the patient to a psychiatric facility.
- B. The report shall provide the information specified in subsection A of this section separately for adults who are at least twenty-two years of age and for children and adolescents who are twenty-one years of age or younger.

The report provides information regarding the availability of inpatient psychiatric treatment for both adults and children/adolescents who receive services from the Regional Behavioral Health Authorities (RBHAs). Standard data is for members aged 20 or less and then 21+; this deviates from the request above, but assures the most accurate reflection of the data that can be supplied. These data splits were applied for the calculations utilized for this reporting.

Table 1 and Table 2 show data from this year (State Fiscal Year 2018) as well as revised State Fiscal Year data from 2017. The Agency is committed to standardized data processes and has refined the data methodology that supports this report. Extensive validation efforts were conducted in order to provide the most accurate reflection of expenditures and services for both State Fiscal Year 2017 and 2018 represented in this report.

INPATIENT PSYCHIATRIC TREATMENT DATA

The legislation requires reporting on the following four areas:

1. *The total number of inpatient psychiatric treatment beds available and the occupancy rate for those beds.*

Based on calendar year 2017 (most recent available) data from the Uniform Accounting Reports (UAR), submitted to the Arizona Department of Health Services, there are 1,888 licensed psychiatric beds in Arizona. This is up from 1,847 in 2016, a 2.2 percent increase in available beds. Also per the UAR data, there was a total of 550,062 inpatient psychiatric patient days reported for the same timeframe, which averages to 1,507 beds utilized per day (79.8 percent occupancy).

2. *Expenditures on inpatient psychiatric treatment.*

Table 1 displays data for all psychiatric inpatient stays for AHCCCS members separately for adults who are at least twenty-one years of age and for children and adolescents who are twenty years of age or younger.

Table 1. Expenditures: Inpatient Psychiatric Treatment

	Members Less than 21 Years of Age	Members Aged 21 and Older
Total expenditures, SFY 2018	\$49,008,482	\$117,877,081
Total Expenditures, SFY, 2017	\$36,174,630	\$110,310,024

3. *The total number of individuals in this state who are sent out of state for inpatient psychiatric care.*

Table 2 displays data for all out-of-state psychiatric inpatient stays for AHCCCS members separately for adults who are at least twenty-one years of age and for children and adolescents who are twenty years of age or younger.

Table 2. Unique Members Receiving Inpatient Psychiatric Services Out of State

	Members Less than 21 Years of Age	Members Aged 21 and Older
Unique members with one or more psychiatric inpatient stay(s) out of state, SFY 2018	170	302
Unique members with one or more psychiatric inpatient stay(s) out of state, SFY 2017	136	261

4. *The prevalence of psychiatric boarding or the holding of psychiatric patients in emergency rooms for at least twenty-four hours before transferring the patient to a psychiatric facility.*

Table 3 displays data for all AHCCCS members who were in the emergency department (ED) for 24 hours or longer awaiting appropriate level of care related to behavioral health services separately for adults who are at least twenty-one years of age and for children and adolescents who are twenty years of age or younger.

Table 3. Prevalence of Psychiatric Boarding – SFY 2018

Members Less than 21 Years of Age	Members Aged 21 and Older
515	1,073

AHCCCS will continue to monitor and report on psychiatric inpatient utilization, bed availability, and how such access to care impacts members. With Federal restrictions on reimbursement of institutional services for members aged 21 through 64 at Institutions for Mental Disease (IMDs), development of facilities with greater than 16 beds must be carefully scrutinized.