

## **Methodological Notes**

a) Table 1 represents the number of involuntary psychiatric inpatient admissions by province/territory, 2023–2024.

Note:

Includes Involuntary Admission Certificates

Excludes Forensic Cases

b) Inclusion:

For Discharge Abstract Database (DAD) Involuntary psychiatric admission (Legal Status at admission = 20 or 21 for British Columbia, and 20 for all other provinces and territories) and for Ontario Mental Health Reporting System (Inpatient status at time of admission: 1 = application for psychiatric assessment and 4 = involuntary).

Involuntary psychiatric inpatient admissions to general hospitals and psychiatric hospitals.

Main Patient Service or Service Transfer Service is 64 (Psychiatry) or 65 (Paediatric Psychiatry).

c) Exclusion: Stillborn and cadaveric donor discharges

d) Data from Alberta has been excluded due to differences in data collection.

e) Due to differences in data collection, data from British Columbia should be interpreted with caution.

f) Data are based on facility geography, that is, where the hospital is located (i.e., may include non-Canadians or residents of other provinces/territories).

g) The year represents the fiscal year of discharge (e.g. for fiscal 2023–2024, discharges occurring between April 1, 2023 and March 31, 2024 inclusive).

h) Unless otherwise indicated, this product uses data provided by Canada's provinces and territories.

i) Results do not include data from the provinces of Quebec or Alberta.

j) Psychiatric facilities that do not report directly to DAD or OMHRS are not included.

k) The information provided in this document has been compiled and reviewed by our team of data experts to the best of their abilities. However, it is important to note that the data and definitions have not been reviewed by a clinician. In some cases, accurate interpretation of CIHI data may require consultation with a clinical expert.

### **Data Source:**

Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI):

Discharge Abstract Database (DAD) for 2023–2024

Ontario Mental Health Reporting System (OMHRS) for 2023–2024

About the Discharge Abstract Database:

The Discharge Abstract Database (DAD) managed by the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI) captures demographic, administrative and clinical data for hospital discharges (inpatient acute, chronic, rehabilitation) and day surgeries in Canada. For more information and documentation on the DAD, please visit the DAD metadata webpage.

<https://www.cihi.ca/en/types-of-care/hospital-care/acute-care/dad-metadata>

About the Ontario Mental Health Reporting System:

The Ontario Mental Health Reporting System (OMHRS) collects, analyzes and reports on data for clients receiving adult inpatient mental health care in Ontario, as well as some individuals receiving services in youth inpatient beds and selected facilities in other provinces. OMHRS data is collected using the standardized RAI–Mental Health (RAI-MH)© assessment instrument. For more information, please visit OMHRS metadata webpage

<https://www.cihi.ca/en/ontario-mental-health-reporting-system-metadata>

## **Definitions:**

Involuntary admission: An involuntary admission is based on criterion from the mental health act. In Canada, every province and territory has a mental health act, a law that regulates the administration of mental health care. The purpose of the act is to provide safeguards, supports, supervision and regulations for involuntary admissions into psychiatric care. There are jurisdictional variations among acts. For example, in Ontario, involuntary admissions are based on an examination by a physician and criteria for an involuntary psychiatric assessment includes detaining a person in a psychiatric facility for the purpose of care and treatment when a person is deemed at risk to harm themselves or others, or who are at risk of substantial physical and mental deterioration.

## **DAD legal status definitions according to provinces and territories**

**For Newfoundland and Labrador Legal status at admission 20** = First or second Certificate of Involuntary Admission (excludes forensic cases). Certification is specific to the Mental Health Care and Treatment Act (MHCTA). A patient can be admitted under one certificate or two certificates. Certification renewal is specific to admission orders. Patients admitted under a legal order in accordance with the MHCTA must be re-examined after 72 hours and a second signature is required to verify continued certification. Renewals after 30 days; would not happen on admission but could apply to transfers. Transfer patients have accompanying MHCTA documentation from the original admitting facility. A patient can be admitted to a hospital voluntarily and the status changed involuntarily under the MHCTA after admission. In this situation, the order must be found in the physician's orders and the applicable MHCTA forms for this patient must be completed and on the chart. Review board assessment would only take place if a patient has been fully certified under the MHCTA and the patient is challenging the certification. A patient would not be admitted for a review board assessment per se; rather this would only happen after admission.

**For Prince Edward Island Legal status at admission 20** = Form 1(a)— Involuntary Psychiatric Assessment; Form 1(b)— Involuntary Addiction Assessment; (Form 1(a) and Form 1(b) applicable to 72 hours); Form 2— Involuntary Admission; (Form 2 applicable to 28 days —certified); Form 4— Change of Status — Voluntary to Involuntary; Form 6— Certificate of Renewal for Involuntary Patient; Applicable to Community Mental Health Services, Inpatient Mental Health and Addiction Services.

**For Nova Scotia Legal status at admission 20** = Form 1—Detainment of Voluntary Patient (includes previously voluntary patients not involuntary); Form 2 — Medical Certificate for Involuntary Psychiatric Assessment — Part 1; Form 3— Medical Certificate for Involuntary Psychiatric Assessment — Part 2; Form 4— Declaration of Involuntary Admission.

**For New Brunswick Legal status at admission 20** = Form 1— Examination Certificate; Form 2.1—Application for admission of a person as an involuntary patient; Form 12— First Certificate of Detention; Form 13— Second Certificate of Detention; Form 14— Third or Subsequent; Certificate of Detention; Includes patients who were declared involuntary in another hospital's ED and were transferred to your ED.

**For Ontario Legal status at admission 20** = Form 1— Application by Physician for Psychiatric Assessment; Form 3— Certificate of Involuntary Admission; Form 4— Certificate of Renewal.

**For Manitoba Legal status at admission 20** = Form 4 — Application by Physician for Involuntary Psychiatric Assessment (completed prior to patient's arrival); Form 6— Involuntary Admission Certificate (valid for 21 days) \*Form 6 is not applicable to Legal Status Upon Arrival to ED data element except in extremely rare situations; Form 7— Renewal Certificate.

**For Saskatchewan Legal status at admission 20** = Form A— Certificate of Physician or Prescribed Health Professional that Psychiatric Examination is Required; Form G Certificate of Medical Practitioner for Compulsory Admission of a Person to a Mental Health Centre. Temporary Hold of Voluntary Patient by a Nurse in a Mental Health Centre (Section 30.1 of the Mental Health Services Act).

**For British Columbia Legal status at admission 20** = Form 4— Medical Certificate (involuntary admission); Form 6: Medical Report on Examination of Involuntary Patient (Renewal Certificate). **Legal status at admission 21** = Form 21— Director's Warrant (apprehension of involuntary patient on leave) (also known as Director's Warrant (Apprehension of Patient)).

**For Northwest Territories Legal status at admission 20** = Form 1—Notification of Patient Rights; Form 2— Certificate of Involuntary Assessment; Form 3— Certificate of Involuntary Admission; Form 4— Renewal Certificate.

**For Yukon and Nunavut Legal status at admission 20** = Admission to hospital for psychiatric assessment (24–72 hours based on jurisdiction) and renewals. A "Renewal" is considered when the initial assessment timeframe ends (24–72 hours based on jurisdiction) and there is a determination to continue the involuntary status (involuntary certificate is renewed)

## **OMHRS legal status definition for Ontario and Manitoba**

**Application for psychiatric assessment or order for psychiatric examination 1** = The person is admitted to and detained in a psychiatric facility for the purpose of assessment (e.g., Form 1 or Form 2 of the *Ontario Mental Health Act* completed by a physician or justice of the peace). Exclude forensic admissions. **Involuntary 4** = A person detained in a psychiatric facility under a Certificate of Involuntary Admission or a Certificate of Renewal (e.g., Form 3 or Form 4 of the *Ontario Mental Health Act*) or a Certificate of Continuation (Form 4A of the *Ontario Mental Health Act* Statute Law Amendment Act, 2015)

**Table 1: Number of involuntary psychiatric inpatient admissions by province/territory, 2023–2024**

Province/Territory	2023–2024
Newfoundland and Labrador	540
Prince Edward Island	591
Nova Scotia	1,283
New Brunswick	1,648
Ontario*	51,118
Manitoba*	2,592
Saskatchewan	2,514
British Columbia	22,030
Yukon	188
Northwest Territories	272
Nunavut	214
<b>Total</b>	<b>82,990</b>

**Notes:**

Counts represent the number of hospitalizations not the number of patients. The same patient may be captured more than once.

Results do not include data from the provinces of Quebec or Alberta.

\* includes data from both Discharge Abstract Database (DAD) and Ontario Mental Health Reporting System (OMHRS)

**Sources**

Discharge Abstract Database (DAD), 2023–2024, Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI)

Ontario Mental Health Reporting System (OMHRS), 2023–2024, Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI)

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