



– 2009 –

NATIONAL SUMMARY OF HOSPICE CARE

PEER REPORTS

SAMPLE

AGENCY TYPE

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National Summary of Hospice Care Agency Type

About this Report

This report is a secondary analysis of the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization's *National Summary of Hospice Care*. The main benefit of a stratified analysis is the ability to examine national statistics that are more closely aligned with your organization. Further, your hospice can compare characteristics with other types of hospice providers. This report contains the same comprehensive national estimates as the National Summary of Hospice Care, stratified by agency type. The following areas of hospice care are covered in the tables that within this report:

- Agency demographics;
- Patient demographics;
- Staffing management and delivery; and
- Payer mix, revenue and expenses.

Data Sources

The primary source of these findings are data provided by members who participate in NHPCO's *National Data Set* (n=991), a comprehensive annual survey supported by many of our state organization partners. National Data Set data are supplemented by NHPCO's membership database (n=7,448), state-mandated surveys (n=552), and Medicare certification data from the CMS Provider of Services file (n=3,352). In a small number of instances, based on substantial statistical evidence, data were imputed so as to obtain the most robust demographic results possible.

Data Interpretation

The tables that follow provide overall National estimates side-by-side with National estimates for Free-Standing agencies, Hospital-based agencies and, Home Health agencies. Analysis for hospices that are a part of nursing homes was not completed because of the limited number of NDS submissions from that type of agency. Where appropriate, percent distributions, agency means, and population means are reported. Percentile rankings, including the 25th, 50th (median) and 75th percentiles are included. Where appropriate, the percent differences between overall estimates and agency type estimates are provided. A percent difference is interpreted as the difference of the agency type estimate relative to the overall national estimate. The number of valid responses for each section is reported as an "N". Because multiple data sources were utilized and sometimes combined during analysis, response rates can differ considerably across and within sections. Further, because stratification reduces the number the group sizes, some sections have somewhat limited data. Consequently, results with smaller N's must be interpreted with caution as they may not be representative of all U.S. agencies that are within that comparison group. For this report, all results with an N less than five were suppressed.



Summary Tables

Table 1. Hospice Agency Demographics

	National		Agency Type								
	% of Agencies	N	Free Standing			Hospital Based			Home Health Agency		
			% of Agencies	N	% Difference from National	% of Agencies	N	% Difference from National	% of Agencies	N	% Difference from National
AGENCY OWNERSHIP											
Free Standing / Independent Hospice	57.6%	3,242	100.0%	1,869							
Part of a Hospital System	21.5%	3,242				100.0%	696				
Part of a Home Health Agency	19.5%	3,242							100.0%	632	
Part of a Nursing Home	1.4%	3,242									
INPATIENT SERVICES											
% Operating Inpatient Facility or Residence	21.7%	2,044									
TAX STATUS											
Voluntary / Not for Profit	49.0%	3,352									
Proprietary / For Profit	47.0%	3,352									
Government	4.0%	3,352									
GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION SERVED											
Mixed Urban and Rural	43.8%	1,798									
Primarily Rural	32.9%	1,798									
Primarily Urban	23.2%	1,798									
AVERAGE DAILY CENSUS*											
1 to 9 patients	14.6%	1,237									
10 to 25 patients	21.3%	1,237									
26 to 50 patients	21.9%	1,237									
51 to 100 patients	18.3%	1,237									
101 to 200 patients	12.9%	1,237									
> 200 patients	11.1%	1,237									
TOTAL PATIENT ADMISSIONS											
1 to 49	17.2%	2,630									
50 to 150	29.4%	2,630									
151 to 500	32.9%	2,630									
501 to 1,500	16.1%	2,630									
> 1,500	4.4%	2,630									

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* Total patient care days divided by 365.

NOTE: There were 366 days in 2008 because of the leap-year.

N = Number of hospice agencies with available data.

Table 1. Hospice Agency Demographics (continued)

	National		Agency Type								
	% of Agencies	N	Free Standing			Hospital Based			Home Health Agency		
			% of Agencies	N	% Difference from National	% of Agencies	N	% Difference from National	% of Agencies	N	% Difference from National
CERTIFICATION & ACCREDITATION											
Medicare-certified Hospice Provider	93.0%	3,410									
Independently Accredited	69.5%	1,935									
Joint Commission (formerly JCAHO)	45.9%	1,935									
Community Health Accreditation Program	16.9%	1,935									
Accreditation Commission for Health Care	2.9%	1,935									
Other Accreditation(s)	4.9%	1,935									
STATE MEMBERSHIPS											
Member of a State Hospice Association	83.6%	2,681									
Member of a State Home Health Association	43.7%	1,614									
ADDITIONAL SERVICES*											
Formal Pediatric Palliative Care Programs with Specialized Staff											
% in operation	14.0%	2,420									
% in the planning phase	0.7%	2,420									
Service Delivery Programs Outside of Medicare Hospice Benefit Model											
% in operation	62.2%	2,386									
% in the planning phase	4.2%	2,386									
Palliative Consult Services (in any setting)											
% in operation	58.8%	1,099									
% in the planning phase	22.0%	1,099									
Palliative Care Services at Home / Inpatient Facility											
% in operation	64.9%	952									
% in the planning phase	13.8%	952									
Discharged Alive											
% in operation	56.3%	807									
% in the planning phase	11.5%	807									
Complementary Therapies (music therapy, art therapy, massage therapy, etc.)											
% in operation	84.5%	560									
% in the planning phase	13.6%	560									
Day Care Services for Hospice Patients											
% in operation	20.7%	92									
% in the planning phase	33.7%	92									

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* NHPCO membership survey data.

N = Number of hospice agencies with available data.



Table 2. Patient Volume

	National		Agency Type																	
	Agency Mean	N	Free Standing					Hospital Based					Home Health Agency							
			Agency Mean	25th%	Median	75th%	N	% Difference from National	Agency Mean	25th%	Median	75th%	N	% Difference from National	Agency Mean	25th%	Median	75th%	N	% Difference from National
PATIENT VOLUME																				
Total Patient Days	40,753	541																		
Daily Census	112.0	538																		
Unique Patients Served	530.3	765																		
Total Admissions	487.8	765																		
% Re-admissions	5.0%	378																		
Total Deaths	400.5	756																		

Table 3. Referrals

	National		Agency Type																	
	Agency Mean	N	Free Standing					Hospital Based					Home Health Agency							
			Agency Mean	25th%	Median	75th%	N	% Difference from National	Agency Mean	25th%	Median	75th%	N	% Difference from National	Agency Mean	25th%	Median	75th%	N	% Difference from National
REFERRALS																				
Percentage of Referrals Converted to Admissions	75.1%	564																		
Referral Source	% Total	N							% Total						% Total					
Physician	22.2%	644																		
Hospital	38.9%	644																		
Nursing Facility	20.6%	644																		
Self, Family, or Friend	8.4%	644																		
Other	7.9%	644																		
Home Health Agency	1.9%	644																		

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Table 4. Non-Death Discharges

	National		Agency Type																	
	Agency Mean	N	Free Standing					Hospital Based					Home Health Agency							
			Agency Mean	25th%	Median	75th%	N	% Difference from National	Agency Mean	25th%	Median	75th%	N	% Difference from National	Agency Mean	25th%	Median	75th%	N	% Difference from National
NON-DEATH (LIVE) DISCHARGE																				
Non-death Discharges As a Percentage of Total Discharges	19.2%	897																		
Reason for Non-death Discharge	% Total														% Total					
A. Hospice-initiated Discharge	52.9%	658																		
B. Patient-initiated Discharge	47.1%	658																		

N = Number of hospice agencies with available data.
 25th% = 25th percentile; Median = 50th percentile; 75% = 75th percentile.



Table 5. Patient Demographics

	National		Agency Type									
	% of Agencies	N	Free Standing			Hospital Based			Home Health Agency			
			% of Agencies	N	% Difference from National	% of Agencies	N	% Difference from National	% of Agencies	N	% Difference from National	
PATIENT GENDER												
Female	53.8%	860										
Male	46.2%	860										
PATIENT AGE ON ADMISSION												
< 65 / 65 + years												
Less than 65 years	16.9%	591										
65+ years	83.1%	591										
Detailed Age Distribution												
0 - 24 years	0.4%	540										
< 1y (% of 0-24 y)	21.9%	519										
1 - 4y (% of 0-24 y)	19.8%	520										
5 - 14y (% of 0-24 y)	22.9%	522										
15 - 24y (% of 0-24 y)	35.4%	540										
25 - 34 years	0.4%	540										
35 - 64 years	16.3%	540										
65 - 74 years	16.3%	540										
75 - 84 years	28.7%	540										
85+ years	38.0%	540										
PATIENT ETHNICITY*												
Non-Hispanic or Latino origin	94.7%	834										
Hispanic or Latino origin	5.3%	834										
PATIENT RACE¹												
Asian, Hawaiian, Other Pacific Islander	1.9%	821										
American Indian or Alaskan Native	0.2%	819										
Black / African American	8.7%	832										
Multiracial or Other Race	8.7%	826										
White / Caucasian	80.5%	855										
SPECIAL POPULATIONS												
Veterans	6.1%	344										

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* Following U.S. Census guidelines, ethnicity and race are captured separately in the National Data Set. Ethnicity categorizes patients as Hispanic or non-Hispanic. Patients of Hispanic heritage may be of any race.

N = Number of hospice agencies with available data.



Table 6. Patient Demographics - Primary Diagnosis

	National		Agency Type									
	% of Agencies	N	Free Standing			Hospital Based			Home Health Agency			
			% of Agencies	N	% Difference from National	% of Agencies	N	% Difference from National	% of Agencies	N	% Difference from National	
Total Admissions by Primary Diagnosis												
Cancer	40.1%	577										
Non-Cancer Diagnoses	59.9%	577										
Heart Disease	11.5%	572										
Debility Unspecified	13.1%	558										
Dementia	11.2%	572										
Lung Disease	8.2%	570										
Stroke or Coma	3.8%	548										
Kidney Disease (ESRD)	3.0%	563										
Liver Disease	1.9%	557										
Non-ALS Motor Neuron	1.8%	552										
HIV / AIDS	0.4%	541										
Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS)	0.4%	538										
Other	4.5%	545										
Total Deaths by Primary Diagnosis												
Cancer	42.2%	799										
Non-Cancer Diagnoses	57.8%	799										
Heart Disease	11.1%	783										
Debility Unspecified	11.4%	707										
Dementia	11.1%	786										
Lung Disease	7.8%	772										
Stroke or Coma	4.0%	777										
Kidney Disease (ESRD)	3.0%	753										
Liver Disease	2.0%	747										
Non-ALS Motor Neuron	1.3%	644										
HIV / AIDS	0.4%	665										
Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS)	0.4%	678										
Other	5.4%	775										
Live Discharge Rate Per Diagnosis*												
Cancer	12.8%	534										
Non-Cancer Diagnoses	16.3%	391										
Heart Disease	19.7%	529										
Debility Unspecified	24.0%	524										
Dementia	19.6%	532										
Lung Disease	17.6%	525										
Stroke or Coma	11.6%	512										
Kidney Disease (ESRD)	9.5%	518										
Liver Disease	17.8%	520										
Non-ALS Motor Neuron	22.7%	511										
HIV / AIDS	21.8%	503										
Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS)	19.9%	502										
Other	19.1%	511										

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* Total live discharges for Disease XYZ divided by Total discharges (deaths + live discharges) for Disease XYZ.

N = Number of hospice agencies with available data.



Table 7. Length of Service (cont.)

	National		Agency Type																		
			Free Standing					Hospital Based					Home Health Agency								
	Agency Mean	N	Agency Mean	25th%	Median	75th%	N	% Difference from National	Agency Mean	25th%	Median	75th%	N	% Difference from National	Agency Mean	25th%	Median	75th%	N	% Difference from National	
LENGTH OF SERVICE (LOS)*																					
Average LOS (days)	69.0	1,359																			
Median LOS (days)	21.1	1,256																			
LOS BY TOTAL ADMISSIONS																					
Average LOS (days)																					
1 to 49 Admissions	71.5	170																			
50 - 150 Admissions	67.4	376																			
151 - 500 Admissions	68.1	462																			
501 - 1,500 Admissions	66.4	268																			
> 1,500 Admissions	72.4	83																			
Median LOS (days)																					
1 to 49 Admissions	37.2	153																			
50 - 150 Admissions	28.3	339																			
151 - 500 Admissions	24.9	427																			
501 - 1,500 Admissions	20.6	256																			
> 1,500 Admissions	18.2	81																			
LOS BY PRIMARY DIAGNOSIS (days)																					
Cancer	45.7	720																			
Non-Cancer Diagnoses	81.8	737																			
Heart Disease	70.8	710																			
Debility Unspecified	76.1	601																			
Dementia	93.6	710																			
Lung Disease	70.6	695																			
Stroke or Coma	47.1	601																			
Kidney Disease	28.6	640																			
Liver Disease	38.3	598																			
Non-ALS Motor Neuron	98.1	418																			
HIV / AIDS	40.7	270																			
ALS	89.1	350																			
Other Diagnoses	58.8	567																			

SAMPLE

* LOS estimate repeated from previous page.

N = Number of hospice agencies with available data.
25th% = 25th percentile; Median = 50th percentile; 75th% = 75th percentile.



Table 8. Location of Care

	National		Agency Type								
	% of Agencies	N	Free Standing			Hospital Based			Home Health Agency		
			% of Agencies	N	% Difference from National	% of Agencies	N	% Difference from National	% of Agencies	N	% Difference from National
PATIENT LOCATION ON ADMISSION											
Private Residence	49.2%	576									
Nursing Home	18.1%	569									
Acute Care Hospital (not operated by the hospice)	10.6%	540									
Free-Standing Hospice Inpatient Facility or Residence	9.1%	397									
Hospice-Run Inpatient Facility in Other's Facility	5.9%	509									
Assisted Living or Other Residential Facility	7.1%	551									
LOCATION OF DEATH											
Private Residence	40.1%	641									
Nursing Home	18.9%	634									
Free-Standing Hospice Inpatient Facility or Residence	14.4%	460									
Acute Care Hospital (not operated by the hospice)	10.1%	610									
Hospice-Run Inpatient Facility in Other's Facility	6.9%	573									
Assisted Living or Other Residential Facility	9.6%	612									

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Table 9. Level of Care

	National		Agency Type								
	% of Agencies	N	Free Standing			Hospital Based			Home Health Agency		
			% of Agencies	N	% Difference from National	% of Agencies	N	% Difference from National	% of Agencies	N	% Difference from National
LEVEL OF CARE											
Routine Home Care	95.9%	753									
General Inpatient Care	2.9%	747									
Continuous Care	1.0%	723									
Respite Care	0.2%	741									

N = Number of hospice agencies with available data.



Table 10. Payer Mix

	National		Agency Type								
	% of Agencies	N	Free Standing			Hospital Based			Home Health Agency		
			% of Agencies	N	% Difference from National	% of Agencies	N	% Difference from National	% of Agencies	N	% Difference from National
PATIENTS SERVED											
Percent of Patients Served by Payer											
Medicare Hospice Benefit	83.4%	816									
Managed Care or Private Insurance	8.6%	843									
Medicaid Hospice Benefit	4.9%	794									
Uncompensated or Charity Care	1.6%	483									
Self Pay	0.7%	643									
Other Payment Source	0.8%	791									
Medicare Patients as Percent of Total Patients, by Agency Tax Status											
Voluntary / Not for Profit	82.5%	448									
Proprietary / For Profit	85.8%	275									
Government	80.8%	34									
PATIENT CARE DAYS											
Percent of Patient Care Days by Payer											
Medicare Hospice Benefit	89.0%	836									
Managed Care or Private Insurance	4.8%	838									
Medicaid Hospice Benefit	4.3%	828									
Uncompensated or Charity Care	0.9%	599									
Self Pay	0.4%	789									
Other Payment Source	0.6%	783									
Medicare Days as Percent of Total Days, by Agency Tax Status											
Voluntary / Not for Profit	87.8%	447									
Proprietary / For Profit	91.4%	284									
Government	87.8%	34									

SAMPLE

N = Number of hospice agencies with available data.

** Insufficient data.



Table 11. Paid Staff Distribution and Turnover

	National		Agency Type								
	% of Agencies	N	Free Standing			Hospital Based			Home Health Agency		
			% of Agencies	N	% Difference from National	% of Agencies	N	% Difference from National	% of Agencies	N	% Difference from National
Distribution of Home Hospice FTEs*											
Clinical (direct patient care)	65.5%	352									
Nursing	30.7%	351									
Hospice Aides	18.1%	349									
Social Services	9.0%	351									
Physicians (excludes volunteers)	2.2%	348									
Chaplains	3.9%	347									
Other Clinical	2.1%	337									
Nursing (indirect clinical)	8.1%	347									
Non-clinical (administrative/general)	22.4%	352									
Bereavement	4.2%	352									
Distribution of Total FTEs*											
Clinical (direct patient care)	65.2%	413									
Nursing	28.9%	413									
Hospice Aides	17.9%	411									
Social Services	8.1%	413									
Physicians (excludes volunteers)	3.5%	410									
Chaplains	4.4%	398									
Other Clinical	2.1%	400									
Nursing (indirect clinical)	7.7%	413									
Non-clinical (administrative/general)	22.7%	413									
Bereavement	4.4%	413									
Turnover rate within each Discipline[#]											
Clinical (direct patient care)	25.5%	355									
Nursing	29.6%	352									
Hospice Aides	22.9%	347									
Social Services	21.3%	339									
Physicians (excludes volunteers)	11.0%	331									
Chaplains	15.8%	325									
Other Clinical	6.5%	322									
Nursing (indirect clinical)	13.5%	332									
Non-clinical (administrative/general)	17.0%	344									
Bereavement	12.1%	340									
All Staff	22.8%	355									

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* FTE = full-time employee (1 FTE is equivalent to 2,080 hours per year or 40 hours per week). Totals may not equal sum of components due to independent rounding.

Total Discipline Separations divided by Total Discipline Non-PRN Employees.

N = Number of hospice agencies with available data.



Table 14. Staff Management

	National		Agency Type																	
			Free Standing					Hospital Based					Home Health Agency							
	Agency Mean	N	Agency Mean	25th%	Median	75th%	N	% Difference from National	Agency Mean	25th%	Median	75th%	N	% Difference from National	Agency Mean	25th%	Median	75th%	N	% Difference from National
Patient Caseload*																				
Nurse Case Manager	10.8	476																		
Social Services	24.0	476																		
Home Health Aide	9.8	459																		
Chaplains	32.7	466																		
Paid Home Hospice Hours per Patient Day[#]																				
Clinical	2.3	442																		
Nursing	1.1	442																		
Hospice Aides	0.6	436																		
Social Services	0.3	441																		
Physicians	0.1	434																		
Chaplains	0.1	431																		
Other Clinical	0.1	422																		
Nursing (indirect clinical)	0.3	434																		
Non-Clinical	0.7	437																		
All Staff (Clinical and Non-Clinical)	3.7	430																		
Average Daily Census per FTE[%]																				
Clinical	2.5	484																		
Nursing	5.8	480																		
Hospice Aides	9.7	476																		
Social Services	20.3	479																		
Physicians	48.3	474																		
Chaplains	36.7	462																		
Other Clinical	31.8	452																		
Nursing (indirect clinical)	20.5	472																		
Non-Clinical	8.7	464																		
All Staff (Clinical and Non-Clinical)	1.6	484																		

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* Typical number of patients that staff member is responsible for at one time.

((Number of FTEs multiplied by #080 hours) divided by Total Patient Days).

% Agency daily census divided by Total employees (non-PRN)). Interpreted as the number of patients per FTE.

N = Number of hospice agencies with available data.

25th% = 25th percentile; Median = 50th percentile; 75th% = 75th percentile.



Table 15. Service Delivery - Home Hospice Visits

	National		Agency Type																	
			Free Standing							Hospital Based							Home Health Agency			
	Agency Mean	N	Agency Mean	25th%	Median	75th%	N	% Difference from National	Agency Mean	25th%	Median	75th%	N	% Difference from National	Agency Mean	25th%	Median	75th%	N	% Difference from National
VISITS PER PATIENT																				
Visits per Home Care Admission, by Discipline*																				
Clinical (direct patient care)	66.6	488																		
Nursing	26.7	487																		
Home Health Aides	27.8	485																		
Social Services	6.3	486																		
Paid Physicians	0.6	412																		
Chaplains	3.3	472																		
Other Clinical	0.8	455																		
Days Between Visits, by Discipline[£]																				
Clinical (direct patient care)	1.5	728																		
Nursing	3.5	727																		
All Other Clinical Staff	2.9	727																		
VISITS PER STAFF MEMBER																				
Visits per Week, by Discipline[#]																				
Clinical (direct patient care)	14.0	435																		
Nursing	12.9	432																		
Home Health Aides	20.6	419																		
Social Services	11.1	427																		
Paid Physicians	7.1	313																		
Chaplains	14.5	377																		
Other Clinical	9.9	236																		
Visits per 8-hour Day, by Discipline[¥]																				
Clinical (direct patient care)	2.8	435																		
Nursing	2.6	432																		
Home Health Aides	4.1	419																		
Social Services	2.2	427																		
Paid Physicians	1.4	313																		
Chaplains	2.9	377																		
Other Clinical	2.0	236																		

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* Total discipline home hospice visits divided by Total home, nursing facility, and residential admissions.

£ (Total days of routine care + continuous care) divided by Total discipline visits.

(Total discipline home hospice visits / Total discipline home hospice FTEs) divided by 52.

¥ (Total discipline home hospice visits / Total discipline home hospice FTEs) divided by 260.

N = Number of hospice agencies with available data.

25th% = 25th percentile; Median = 50th percentile; 75th% = 75th percentile.



Table 16. Agency Revenue and Expenses

	National			Agency Type				Hospital Based			Home Health Agency				
	Agency Mean	Median	N	Agency Mean	Median	N	% Difference from National	Agency Mean	Median	N	% Difference from National	Agency Mean	Median	N	% Difference from National
REVENUE AND EXPENSE DISTRIBUTIONS															
(Not-for profit agencies only)															
Percent of Total Revenue															
Hospice Service	86.5%	91.9%	347												
Fundraising & Contributions	6.3%	3.2%	347												
Other Revenue	7.2%	1.7%	347												
Percent of Total Expenses															
Hospice Service	91.1%	97.5%	328												
Fundraising & Contributions	1.7%	0.3%	328												
Other Expenses	7.2%	0.0%	328												

N = Number of hospice agencies with available data.

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Table 17. Inpatient Facilities or Residential Units

INPATIENT FACILITY STATUS	National		Agency Type			Free Standing		Hospital Based		Home Health Agency	
	% of Agencies	N	% of Agencies	N	% Difference from National	% of Agencies	N	% Difference from National	% of Agencies	N	% Difference from National
Percent of Agencies with Facilities											
% Operating Inpatient Facility or Unit	21.7%	2,044									
Facility Location											
Freestanding	64.4%	863									
In Hospital	22.4%	863									
In Nursing Home	5.1%	863									
Other	8.1%	863									
Level of Care Provided											
Acute or General Inpatient	47.7%	872									
Mixed (acute/general and residential)	36.9%	872									
Residential	15.4%	872									
INPATIENT LEVEL OF CARE MIX	% of Patients		% of Patients			% of Patients			% of Patients		
Percent of Total Admissions¹											
General Inpatient Care	85.3%	186									
Residential or Routine Care	9.0%	147									
Inpatient Respite Care	5.7%	138									
Percent of Total Deaths											
General Inpatient Care	90.4%	156									
Residential or Routine Care	8.5%	146									
Inpatient Respite Care	1.2%	139									
Percent of Live Discharges¹											
General Inpatient Care	65.3%	151									
Residential or Routine Care	16.4%	139									
Inpatient Respite Care	18.4%	136									
Percent of Patients Served											
General Inpatient Care	83.0%	151									
Residential or Routine Care	10.7%	143									
Inpatient Respite Care	6.4%	136									
Percent of Total Days											
General Inpatient Care	69.2%	182									
Residential or Routine Care	26.2%	145									
Inpatient Respite Care	4.6%	139									
INPATIENT LENGTH OF SERVICE (days)											
Average LOS											
General Inpatient Care	9.0	124									
Residential or Routine Care	25.2	105									
Inpatient Respite Care	5.8	72									
INPATIENT STAFFING											
Percent of Total Inpatient FTEs											
Clinical	83.0%	177									
Nursing	41.7%	177									
Social Services	3.5%	172									
Health Aides	30.2%	177									
Physicians	2.5%	164									
Chaplains	2.3%	162									
Other Clinical	2.7%	160									
Non-clinical	14.5%	175									

SAMPLE

¹ Admission and live discharge data include transfers in level-of-care regardless if the patient remains with the same hospice organization.

N = Number of hospice agencies with available data.

Note: This section contains small cell counts; results should be interpreted with caution.