



# GEORGIA

In the first half of 2023, Georgia had 1,055 state hospital beds. This puts Georgia at 9.7 beds per 100,000 population.

## Forensic Patients

In Georgia, 641 beds (61%) are designated for the SMI population. However, an additional 21 civil beds are also occupied by forensic patients, meaning that 63% of all beds are occupied by forensic patients. 112 beds (11% of beds) are occupied by patients who are NGRI. While forensic patients stay in the hospital for an average of 1.2 years (454 days), civil patients stayed in the hospital for an average of 4.6 months (137 days),

## Georgia's rank among the states

**#27** in beds per 100,000 population

**#13** in percentage of beds occupied by forensic patients

## Forensic Waitlist

In early 2023, 409 people were waiting in jail for a state hospital bed to open. Incarcerated individuals had been waiting in jail for an average of 5.2 months (156 days) for a bed to open. While waiting in jail for a bed to open, people with severe mental illness can experience deterioration, worsening psychotic symptoms, and even death.

## Hospital Occupancy Rates

Hospital occupancy rates greater than 85% are indicative of bed shortages. In Georgia, state hospitals had an occupancy rate of 92% in March 2023. These high occupancy rates, along with long forensic waitlists, suggest that the state of Georgia does not have sufficient capacity to address the community need for state hospital beds.

## Georgia's State Hospital System:

The Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities operates five state hospitals located in Augusta, Columbus, Decatur, Milledgeville, and Savannah. You can find more information about them using the links below:

- [Central State Hospital \(Milledgeville, GA\)](#)
- [Georgia Regional Hospital \(Atlanta, GA\)](#)
- [Georgia Regional Hospital \(Savannah, GA\)](#)
- [West Central Regional Hospital \(Columbus, GA\)](#)
- [East Central Regional Hospital \(Augusta, GA and Gracewood, GA\)](#)