



# KENTUCKY

In the first half of 2023, Kentucky had 744 state hospital beds, 410 of which were fully staffed and online. This puts Kentucky at 9.1 online beds per 100,000 population. Kentucky additionally had 100 contract beds, 82 of which were staffed at the time of data collection. Forensic patients are treated at Kentucky Correctional Psychiatric Center, which had 40 online beds at the time of data collection.

## Kentucky's rank among the states

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

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

### Forensic Waitlist

In early 2023, 296 people were waiting in jail for a state hospital bed to open. This includes people waiting for inpatient evaluation, competency restoration, and all cases when a patient is charged with murder, as these patients are not evaluated in outpatient settings. Incarcerated individuals typically wait two to four weeks for outpatient evaluations, four to six months for inpatient restoration, and 10 to 12 months for inpatient evaluations.

### Length of Stay

The average length of stay for civil patients is between 11 and 19 days, while the average length of stay for forensic patients is 25 days. According to state officials, the longer length of stay for forensic patients is because Kentucky's outpatient evaluation process appropriately and successfully filters patients who do not need inpatient services.

### Kentucky's State Hospital System:

[The Kentucky Department for Behavioral Health, Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities](#) operates several facilities including four state hospitals for civil patients and one state hospital for forensic patients:

- [Appalachian Regional Health Psychiatric Center](#) (Hazard, KY)
- [Central State Hospital](#) (Louisville, KY)
- [Eastern State Hospital](#) (Lexington, KY)
- [Kentucky Correctional Psychiatric Center](#) (LaGrange, KY)
- [Western State Hospital](#) (Hopkinsville, KY)

The department additionally operates four intermediate care facilities for individuals with intellectual disabilities, two nursing facilities, and three intermediate care facility specialty clinics.