



## NORTH CAROLINA

In the first half of 2023, North Carolina had 474 total state hospital beds for adults with severe mental illness, 453 of which were staffed and ready for patients. This puts North Carolina at 4.2 staffed beds per 100,000 population.

North Carolina also has 65 beds for pediatric patients and 82 beds for geriatric patients, which are not included in total bed counts for the SMI population.

### North Carolina's rank among the states

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

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

**Forensic Beds.** North Carolina has 82 beds (18%) designated for forensic patients. There are an additional 109 civil beds occupied by forensic patients, bringing the total number of beds occupied by forensic patients to 191 (42%). 58 (13%) of these beds are occupied by NGRI patients.

**Forensic Waitlist.** While the hospital overall has an occupancy rate of 67%, all forensic beds were occupied at the time of data collection indicating that there are not enough forensic beds to meet the needs of North Carolinans. In addition to these high occupancy rates, there are 197 incarcerated individuals waiting in jail for a state hospital bed to open. These people wait an average of five months (149 days) for a bed to open.

**Length of Stay.** Civil patients stay in the hospital for 1.2 years (426 days) on average, while NGRI patients stay for 4.5 years (1,641 days) and patients being restored to competency stay an average of 1.1 years (390 days).

**Patients Ready for Discharge.** 173 patients were ready for discharge but unable to be discharged due to a lack of appropriate facilities. This means that 38% of beds in North Carolina are occupied by patients who could be discharged if appropriate facilities were available.

### North Carolina's State Hospital System:

[The Division of State Operated Healthcare Facilities](#) oversees and manages 13 state operated healthcare facilities. These include three State Psychiatric Hospitals, Alcohol and Drug Abuse Treatment Centers, Developmental Centers, Neuro-Medical Treatment Centers, and two Residential Programs for Children.