



WASHINGTON

Washington’s rank among the states

#14 in beds per 100,000 population
#17 in percentage of beds occupied by forensic patients

In the first half of 2023, Washington had 1,034 staffed state hospital beds for adults with severe mental illness. This puts Washington at 13.3 available beds per 100,000 population. The occupancy of adult beds ranges from 83% in Eastern State Hospital to 84% in Western State Hospital.

Forensic Patients

603 state hospital beds (58%) are designated for forensic patients in Washington. There are an additional 101 beds in Eastern State Hospital designated for geropsychiatric patients, which are not included in total bed counts for the SMI population.

Forensic Waitlist

In 2022, there were 110 incarcerated individuals on the waiting list for a state hospital bed to open. In July 2023, Washington State was fined [\\$100 million](#) by the federal government for not providing sufficient competency restoration services to incarcerated individuals with severe mental illness who had been deemed incompetent to stand trial.

Washington’s State Hospital System:

The Department of Social and Health Services’ [Behavioral Health Administration](#) operates two hospitals for adults, one hospital for children, competency restoration services, and centers for sex offenders.

The two state hospitals for adults with severe mental illness are [Eastern State Hospital](#) (Medical Lake, WA; 367 beds) and [Western State Hospital](#) (Lakewood, WA; 726 beds). For more detailed information on patients served in Washington’s state hospital system and the system’s capacity for treatment, we recommend the Behavioral Health Administration’s 2022 Report “[BHA By the Numbers](#)”.

