



WISCONSIN

In the first half of 2023, Wisconsin had 450 staffed state hospital beds for adults with severe mental illness. This puts Wisconsin at 7.6 beds per 100,000 for the SMI population. Wisconsin state hospitals have an additional 26 beds for pediatric patients and 16 beds for geriatric patients. These beds are not included in total bed numbers for the SMI population.

Wisconsin's rank among the states

#39 in beds per 100,000 population
#7 in percentage of beds occupied by forensic patients

Forensic Patients. All of Wisconsin's adult beds appear to be designated for forensic patients. However, only 322 beds (72%) are occupied by forensic patients due to overflow from civil patients.

Forensic Waitlist. There are no forensic patients on the waitlist for forensic beds in the state hospital as incarcerated individuals are typically admitted directly to the Wisconsin Resource Center, which is the designated mental health service for the State's correctional incarcerated individuals. That being said, the average time spent on the waitlist for a forensic patient was 149 days for those with an NGRI status, 59 days for people under a treatment to competency commitment, and 18 days for people ordered for assessment of competency.

Patients Ready for Discharge. In May 2023, there were 35 people who are psychiatrically stabilized and ready for discharge with no receiving placement/facility/community resources willing to accept them. Many of these patients were geriatric.

Length of Stay. The length of stay for civil patients in WMHI in 2022 was approximately two weeks (14.8 days). The average length of stay for patients being restored to competency was approximately 3.4 months (102 days). This length of stay is longer than it was before COVID-19, in large part due to challenges with admission quarantine; pre-COVID, the average length of stay was approximately three months (90 days). For assessment of competency, the average length of stay is approximately 10 days. The length of stay for NGRI patients is somewhat difficult to determine as many patients stay in the hospital for "life".

Wisconsin's State Hospital System:

Wisconsin has two state hospitals: [Winnebago Mental Health Institute](#) and [Mendota Mental Health Institute](#). Wisconsin additionally has 100 beds online to assist in reducing the forensic waiting list through the [Wisconsin Resource Center](#) and [Sand Ridge Secure Treatment Center](#).