

Vermont Mental Health Performance Indicator Project

Vermont Agency of Human Services, Department of Mental Health
103 South Main Street, Waterbury Vermont 05671

TO: Vermont Mental Health Performance Indicator Project
Advisory Group and Interested Parties

FROM: John Pandiani and Brennan Martin

DATE: February 26, 2010

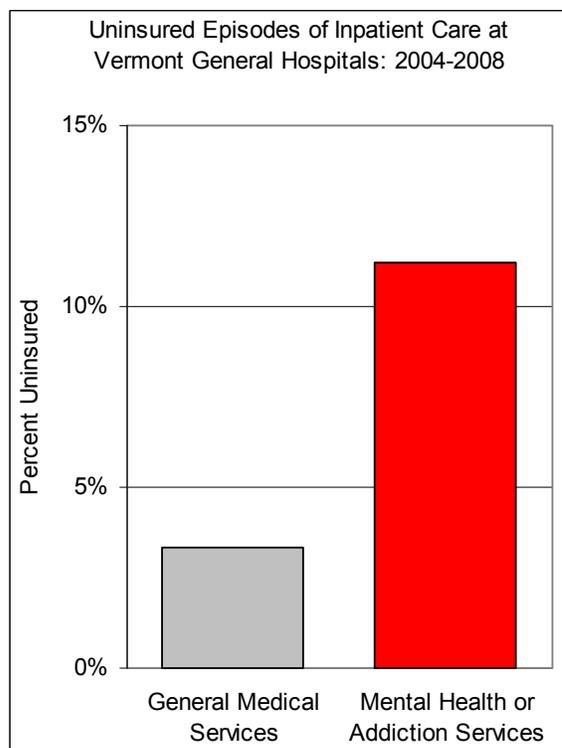
RE: Uninsured Vermont General Hospital Episodes: CY2004 - 2008

This week's brief report expands on our December 18, 2009 report that provided information regarding the proportion of general hospital episodes of inpatient care for mental health or addiction services provided to uninsured patients and the proportion of general medical episodes of care that were provided to uninsured patients. The earlier report focused on calendar year 2008. This report, which was requested by Nick Emlen, Mental Health Coordinator for the Vermont Council of Developmental and Mental Health Services, adds years 2004 through 2007 to that original analysis.

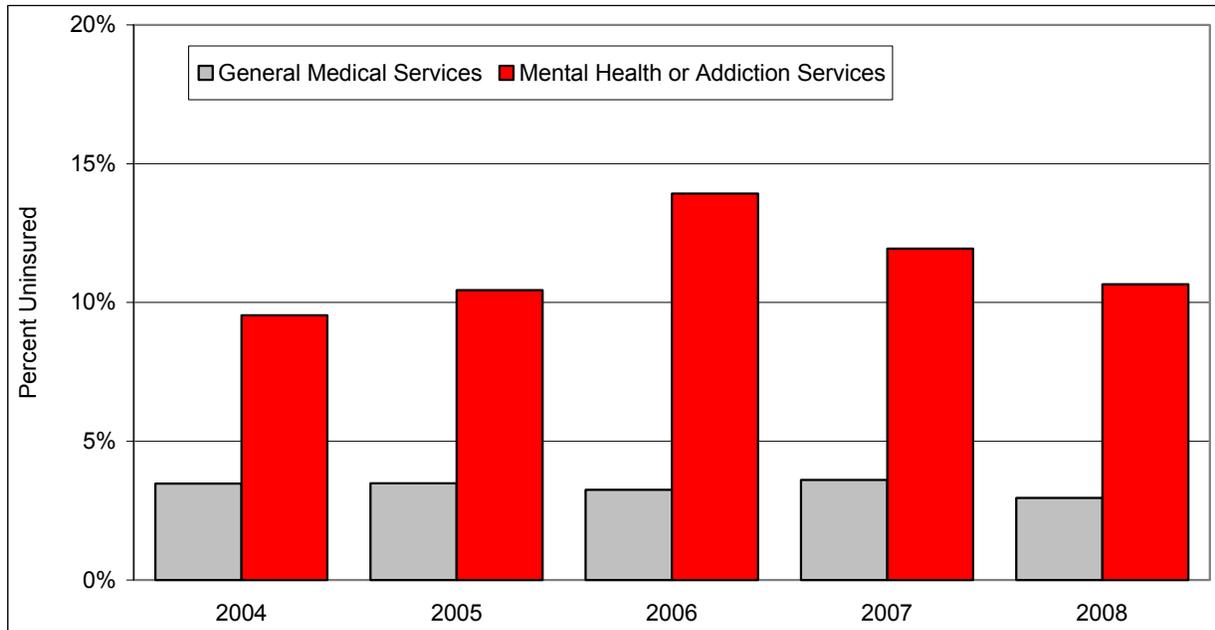
All findings are based on analysis of anonymous extracts from the Uniform Hospital Discharge Data Set maintained by the Vermont Department of Health. This analysis compares all episodes with a major diagnostic category of mental health or substance abuse with all other episodes. Uninsured episodes of care include those reported as "self pay" or "no charge".

As you will see, episodes of inpatient care for mental health or addiction services were 3.3 times more likely than episodes of general medical services to be uninsured for the five year period as a whole (11.2% and 3.4% respectively). The relative rate of uninsured care for episodes of mental health or addiction services ranged from a low of 2.7 times the general medical rate in 2004 to a high of 4.3 times the general medical rate in 2006.

We look forward to your suggestions for further analysis of these data. Please send your questions, comments, and interpretation of these findings to 802-241-4049 or pip@vdh.state.vt.us.



Uninsured Episodes of Inpatient Care at Vermont General Hospitals General Medical Services and Mental Health or Addiction Services 2004 - 2008



	General Medical Services			Mental Health or Addiction Services			Relative Rate
	Total Episodes	Uninsured		Total Episodes	Uninsured		
		#	%		#	%	
2004	37,117	1,289	3.5%	2,927	279	9.5%	2.7
2005	37,465	1,306	3.5%	2,662	278	10.4%	3.0
2006	36,773	1,195	3.2%	2,506	349	13.9%	4.3
2007	37,321	1,345	3.6%	2,338	279	11.9%	3.3
2008	37,534	1,108	3.0%	2,524	269	10.7%	3.6
Total	186,210	6,243	3.4%	12,957	1,454	11.2%	3.3

Information is derived from the Vermont Uniform Hospital Discharge Data Set maintained by the Vermont Department of Health. Episodes of inpatient care for mental health or addiction services include those with MDC codes of 19 or 20. Uninsured episodes of care include those where primary payer was reported as "Self Pay" or "No Charge".

Relative Rate is the uninsured rate of hospitalizations for mental health or addiction services divided by the uninsured rate of hospitalizations for general medical services hospitalizations. An relative rate of 2.0 indicates that hospitalizations for mental health or addiction services are twice as likely to be uninsured as hospitalizations for general medical services.