

# Vermont Mental Health Performance Indicator Project

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 Walter Ochs

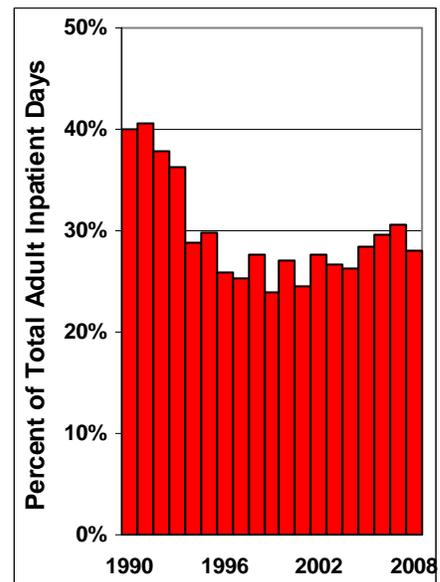
DATE: May 27, 2011

RE: Involuntary Mental Health and Total Inpatient MH/SA Days: 1990–2008

This week's brief report complements our May 6 Report<sup>1</sup> regarding adult "Involuntary Inpatient Mental Health Services" by providing information regarding the proportion of all Vermont inpatient mental health and substance abuse (MH/SA) patient days that were involuntary during 1990-2008. This report was prepared in response to a comment from Bill McMains, Medical Director at the Vermont Department of Mental Health, that, "Seeing involuntary inpatient use as a percentage of total inpatient use would help us understand if there is growth or not of involuntary bed use...."

This report is based on analysis of five databases: the Vermont Department of Mental Health data set of involuntary hospitalizations, the Vermont State Hospital database, the Uniform Hospital Discharge Data Base maintained by the Vermont Department of Health, and database extracts provided by the Brattleboro Retreat and the VA Medical Center in White River Junction.

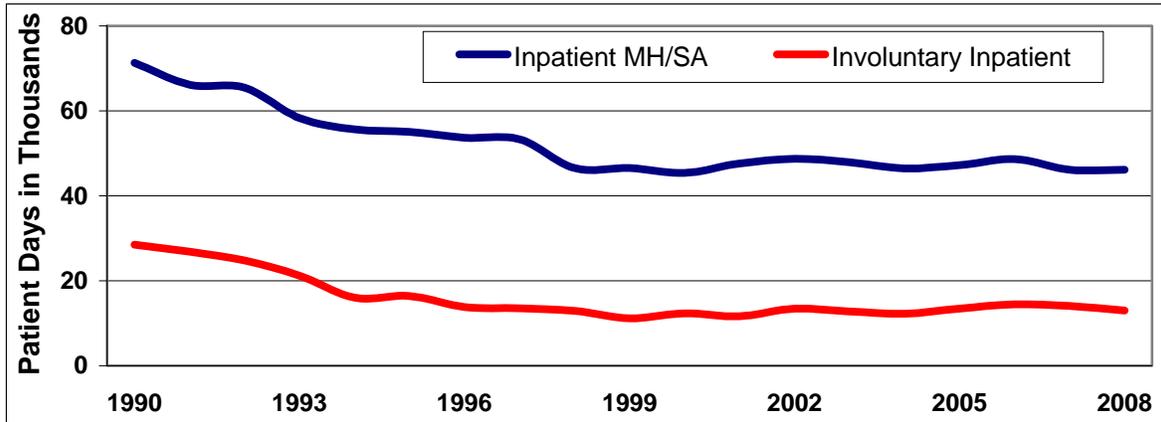
As you will see, the total numbers of Vermont inpatient MH/SA days and the numbers of involuntary patient days both decreased substantially during the study period. The total number of inpatient MH/SA days decreased from more than 60,000 per year during 1990-1992, to less than 50,000 during 1998-2008, and the number of involuntary inpatient days decreased from more than 20,000 during 1990-1993 to less than 15,000 during 1996-2008. The proportion of all patient days that were involuntary also decreased from 40% and 41% during 1990 and 1991, to between 29% and 38% during 1992-1995, before decreasing again to between 24% and 28% during 1996-2005, and increased slightly to 28% and 31% during 2006-2008.



As always, we look forward to your questions and comments about these findings, and your suggestions for further analyses of data regarding involuntary inpatient treatment in Vermont. As always, we can be reached at [pip@ahs.state.vt.us](mailto:pip@ahs.state.vt.us) or 802-241-4049.

<sup>1</sup> [http://mentalhealth.vermont.gov/sites/dmh/files/pip/DMH-PIP\\_May\\_6\\_2011.pdf](http://mentalhealth.vermont.gov/sites/dmh/files/pip/DMH-PIP_May_6_2011.pdf)

## Adult Involuntary Inpatient Days & Total Inpatient MH/SA Days: CY1990-2008



Year	Total MH/SA Days	Involuntary Days	
		#	%Total
1990	<b>71,340</b>	28,514	40%
1991	<b>66,192</b>	26,876	41%
1992	<b>65,462</b>	24,771	38%
1993	<b>58,358</b>	21,219	36%
1994	<b>55,636</b>	16,055	29%
1995	<b>55,062</b>	16,402	30%
1996	<b>53,674</b>	13,877	26%
1997	<b>53,283</b>	13,504	25%
1998	<b>46,529</b>	12,907	28%
1999	<b>46,556</b>	11,144	24%
2000	<b>45,368</b>	12,284	27%
2001	<b>47,574</b>	11,621	24%
2002	<b>48,779</b>	13,475	28%
2003	<b>47,890</b>	12,805	27%
2004	<b>46,433</b>	12,218	26%
2005	<b>47,235</b>	13,452	28%
2006	<b>48,676</b>	14,430	30%
2007	<b>46,127</b>	14,072	31%
2008	<b>46,185</b>	12,988	28%

Analysis is based on extracts from the Vermont Uniform Hospital Discharge Data Set (VUHDDS), Vermont State Hospital (VSH) Treatment Episode Database, White River Junction VA, Brattleboro Retreat, and the Vermont designated community hospital involuntary inpatient data set. Total Inpatient mental health and substance abuse (MH/SA) days based on all days for inpatient MH/SA at Vermont general hospitals, VSH, White River Junction VA, and the Brattleboro Retreat. Involuntary days include days reported in the designated hospital involuntary data as well as all episodes of care at VSH with a legal status at admission of emergency, revocation of conditional release, revocation of orders of non-hospitalization or involuntary court commitment for 90 days. Analysis includes patient days for adults aged 18 and over during 1990 - 2008.