

Vermont Mental Health Performance Indicator Project
Agency of Human Services, Department of Health, Division of Mental Health
108 Cherry Street, Burlington, Vermont 05401

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

FROM: John Pandiani and Joan Mongeon

DATE: October 27, 2006

RE: VSH and General Hospital Psychiatric Caseload Size and Overlap: 1990-2004

This week's PIP updates analyses first published in the American Journal of Public Health in 1998.¹ The original analysis focused on the unduplicated number of adult Vermont residents (age 21+) who received inpatient psychiatric services in the Vermont State Hospital and in general hospitals in Vermont during 1990-1994 and the unduplicated number served in both settings during that time period. The current report applies the same analysis to the years 1995-1999 and 2000-2004.

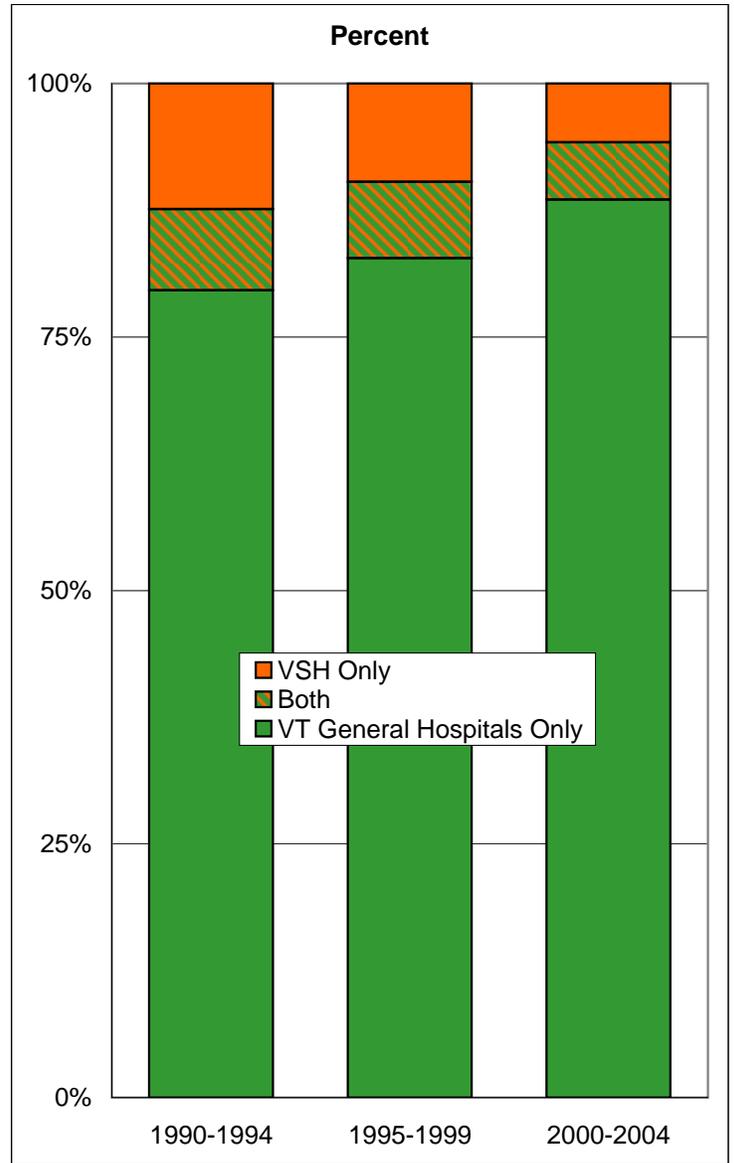
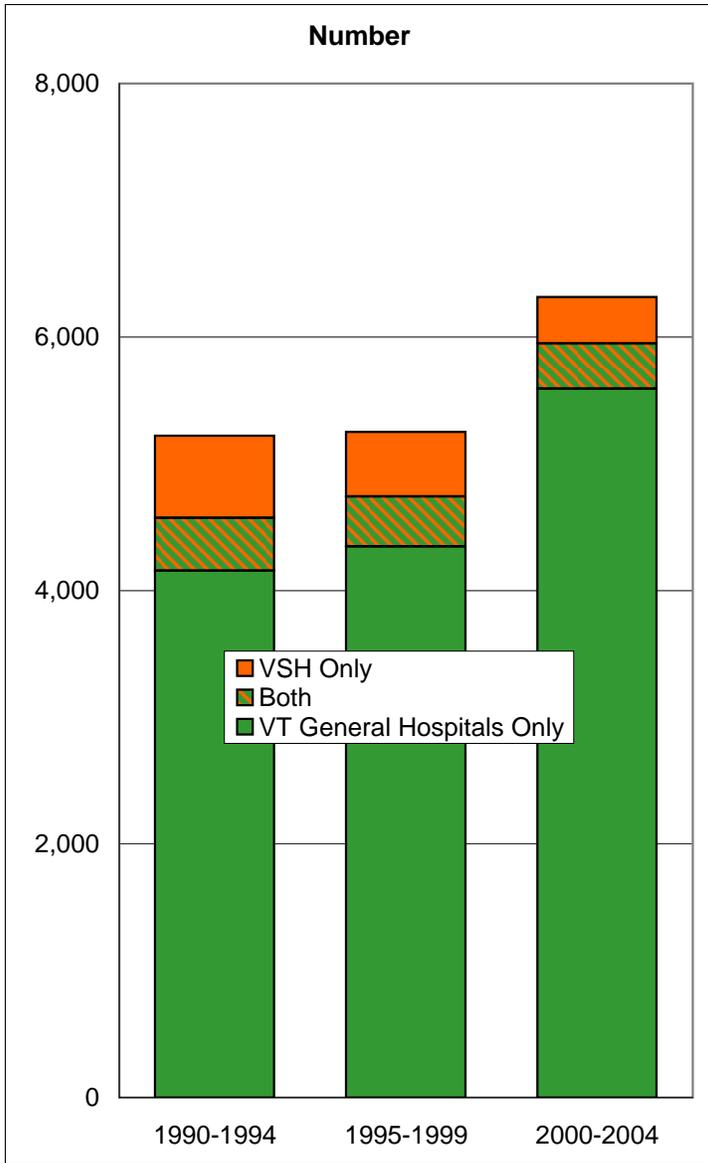
The analysis reported here focused on anonymous extracts from the Vermont State Hospital database and the Vermont Hospital Discharge database maintained by the Vermont Department of Health for each of the time periods under examination. Each data set includes the date of birth, gender, and county of residence for all Vermont residents with a psychiatric inpatient episode during the study periods. Because these data sets do not include unique person identifiers, Probabilistic Population Estimation was used to determine the unduplicated counts of individuals served as well as the unduplicated number of individuals shared by both data sets.

As you will see, the unduplicated number of Vermont adults with a psychiatric hospitalization in a Vermont general or State Hospital was largely unchanged during the first two time periods under examination, but increased substantially (+20%) between 1995-1999 and 2000-2004. This increase, however, was concentrated in the population of individuals whose only psychiatric hospitalizations occurred in general hospitals. During this same time period, the unduplicated number of individuals whose only psychiatric hospitalizations occurred in the Vermont State Hospital decreased by 43% and the unduplicated number who had episodes of hospitalization in both general hospitals and the State Hospital decreased by 14%.

We look forward to your interpretations of these findings and your suggestions for future analysis of these very rich data sets to pip@vdh.state.vt.us or call 802-863-7249.

¹ <http://www.ajph.org/cgi/content/abstract/88/3/448>

Vermont Adults Receiving Inpatient Psychiatric Care



Vermont Adults

	General Hospitals Only		Both		State Hospital Only	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
1990 - 1994	4,156 ± 38	79.6% ± 1.0%	417 ± 18	8.0% ± 0.4%	647 ± 21	12.4% ± 0.4%
1995 - 1999	4,348 ± 39	82.8% ± 1.1%	395 ± 19	7.5% ± 0.4%	509 ± 20	9.7% ± 0.4%
2000 - 2004	5,593 ± 49	88.5% ± 1.1%	357 ± 18	5.7% ± 0.3%	366 ± 19	5.8% ± 0.3%

Information for this analysis is derived from the Vermont State Hospital database and the Hospital Discharge data set. Because these data sets do not share unique person identifiers, Probabilistic Population Estimation was used to determine the unduplicated number of individuals represented in each data set as well as the unduplicated number of individuals shared by both data sets.