


Year to Date Performance	100	Performance Assessment	 Yellow
Island Health Target	Less than or equal to 94	Performance is outside acceptable range; monitor and take action as appropriate.	

What do we measure and why?

Hospital Standardized Mortality Ratio (HSMR) is used to assess the number of deaths that occur in acute care hospitals.

The ratio compares the actual number of deaths with the expected number of deaths [(observed deaths ÷ expected deaths) x 100]. The expected number of deaths is based on deaths that occur in hospitals across Canada.

The HSMR adjusts for factors that affect in-hospital mortality rates, such as patient age, sex, health condition, number of health conditions, length of time spent in hospital, and severity of illness at hospital admission.

Both palliative care patients and medical assistance in dying (MAID) cases are excluded from HSMR calculations.

What is the target?

The 2023/24 Island Health target for HSMR is 94 or lower (which was the lowest BC value in recent years).

Lower values are better.

How are we doing?

As of August 2023, Island Health's overall HSMR was not meeting target. Partial year results should be viewed with caution.

What actions are we taking?

The Canadian Institute for Health Information sets national standards, including how HSMR values are calculated. A significant update to the HSMR methodology recently occurred which has affected results. Island Health continues to reinforce understanding of this metric and identify appropriate triggers and action plans.