

# Island Health Performance Measures

## Acute Care Occupancy



Year to Date Performance	105%	Performance Assessment	 Red
Island Health Target	Less than or equal to 95%	Performance is significantly outside acceptable range; take action and monitor progress.	

### What do we measure and why?

'Acute Care Occupancy' indicates the percentage of acute care hospital beds that are occupied by patients.

'Patient days' is the product of the number of patients in hospital, multiplied by the number of days they spent in hospital. For example, 2 patients in hospital for 7 days each =  $2 \times 7 = 14$  patient days.

'Acute Care Occupancy' is a measure of the average percentage of beds that were in use for the period. The measure is calculated by dividing the number of patient days by number of beds available x days in the period. It does not include newborns or patients in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU)

High occupancy means most of the hospital beds are full most of the time. If there are no unoccupied hospital beds available, then surgeries may have to be cancelled or hospital admissions delayed for people who need care. This has negative consequences for patient safety and can cause congestion in the emergency room as patients wait for an inpatient bed.

### What is the target?

Island Health has set a combined (all hospitals) occupancy target for 2018/19 of 95% or less. Greater than 98% would be flagged as red, being significantly outside the acceptable range and requiring action.

### How are we doing?

The 95% target was not met this year. Many hospitals occupancy rates 105% or higher, including the North Island Hospital Campbell River and Comox Valley sites, Cowichan District, Nanaimo Regional, Royal Jubilee, Saanich Peninsula, and Victoria General Hospitals.

### What actions are we taking?

Island Health is focusing the Patient Flow and Care Transitions strategy to put greater emphasis on community-based health and care, and to ensure services are available to our clients and patients outside of hospital.

This over-arching strategy will contribute to lowered occupancy by reducing avoidable hospital admissions, reducing the length of time patients stay in hospital, and reducing the number of people in hospital beds who do not require hospital-level acute care.