

**ACUTE CARE BED
NEED SERVICES**

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1. The following methodology should be used and the need for hospital beds should be projected four years into the future from the current year:

Using the latest utilization and patient origin data from the Joint Annual Report of Hospitals and the most current population projection series from the Department of Health, perform the following:

Step 1

Determine the current Average Daily Census (ADC) in each county.

$$\text{ADC} = \frac{\text{Patient Days}}{365 \text{ (366 in leap year)}}$$

Step 2

To determine the service area population (SAP) in both the current and projected year:

- a. Begin with a list of all the hospital discharges in the state, separated by county, and showing the discharges both by the county where the patient actually lives (resident discharges), and the county in which the patient received medical treatment.
- b. For the county in which the hospital is (or would be) located (service county), determine which other counties have patients who are treated in your county (resident counties). Treat all of the discharges from another state as if that whole state were a single resident county. The total discharges of residents from another state should be calculated from state population estimates and the latest National Center for Health Statistics southeastern discharge rates.
- c. For each resident county, determine what percent of their total resident discharges are discharged from a hospital in your service county (if less than one percent, disregard).
- d. For each resident county, apply the percentage determined above to the county's population (both projected and current). Add together the resulting numbers for all the resident counties and add that sum to the projected and current population of your service county. This will give you the service area population (SAP).

Step 3

Determine projected Average Daily Census as:

$$\text{Projected ADC} = \text{Current ADC} \times \frac{\text{Projected SAP}}{\text{Current SAP}}$$

Step 4

Calculate Projected Bed Need for each county as:

$$\text{Projected Need} = \text{Projected ADC} + 2.33 \times \bullet \text{Projected ADC}$$

However, if projected occupancy:

$$\text{Projected Occupancy} = \frac{\text{Projected ADC}}{\text{Projected Need}} \times 100$$

is greater than 80 percent, then calculate projected need:

$$\text{Projected Need} = \frac{\text{Projected ADC}}{.8}$$

2. New hospital beds can be approved in excess of the “need standard for a county” if the following criteria are met:
 - a) All existing hospitals in the projected service area have an occupancy level greater than or equal to 80 percent for the most recent Joint Annual Report. Occupancy should be based on the number of licensed beds that are staffed for two consecutive years.
 - b) All outstanding CON projects for new acute care beds in the proposed service area are licensed.
 - c) The Health Facilities Commission may give special consideration to acute care bed proposals for specialty health service units in tertiary care regional referral hospitals.