



Child and Youth Crisis Contacts That Result in Admission to Psychiatric Hospital or Crisis Stabilization Settings: A Five-Year Picture - State Fiscal Years 2004 - 2008

The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Division of Children's Behavioral Health Services, provides community-based crisis services to any child who experiences a mental health crisis in Maine. These services are provided by nine provider agencies across the state and are available 24 hours, seven days a week.

The goals of crisis services include:

- Ensuring child wellbeing and safety;
- Providing a timely and effective response to resolving crises;
- Keeping children in their homes and community; and
- Connecting children and families to community services.

What is a Crisis Stabilization Unit (CSU)?

A Crisis Stabilization Unit provides short-term, out-of-home treatment for children experiencing a mental health crisis. Treatment focuses on resolving the immediate crisis situation so that children can be returned safely to their home and community. This service provides a safe, effective, and community - focused alternative to psychiatric hospitalization.

Since 2004, over one-third of child crisis contacts each month resulted in either admission to a psychiatric hospital or to a crisis stabilization setting. This Snapshot highlights the use of these two services for children who are referred as result of a crisis contact. The number and percent of crisis contacts with children that resulted in admission to a hospital or to a crisis stabilization unit between State Fiscal Years 2004 and 2008 are shown in the attached graph and table.

How does DHHS Collect Children's Crisis Data? The Children's Monthly Crisis Reporting System was started in 2001. Crisis providers collect information about the use of crisis services and send the data monthly to the DHHS Office of Quality Improvement. Information on the children who use crisis services, the kind of crises that occur, where in the community services are provided, and the result of the crisis response are reported.

- The results show that the average number of crisis contacts resulting in a hospital admission decreased from 123 to 114 between 2004 and 2008. This change reflects a 7 percent decline in hospital admissions since 2004.*
- The average number CSU admissions increased from 38 to 66 between 2004 and 2008 reflecting a 74 percent rise in CSU admissions.*
- When combined, the average number of hospital and CSU admissions increased by nearly 12 percent from 161 to 180 over the same time span.*

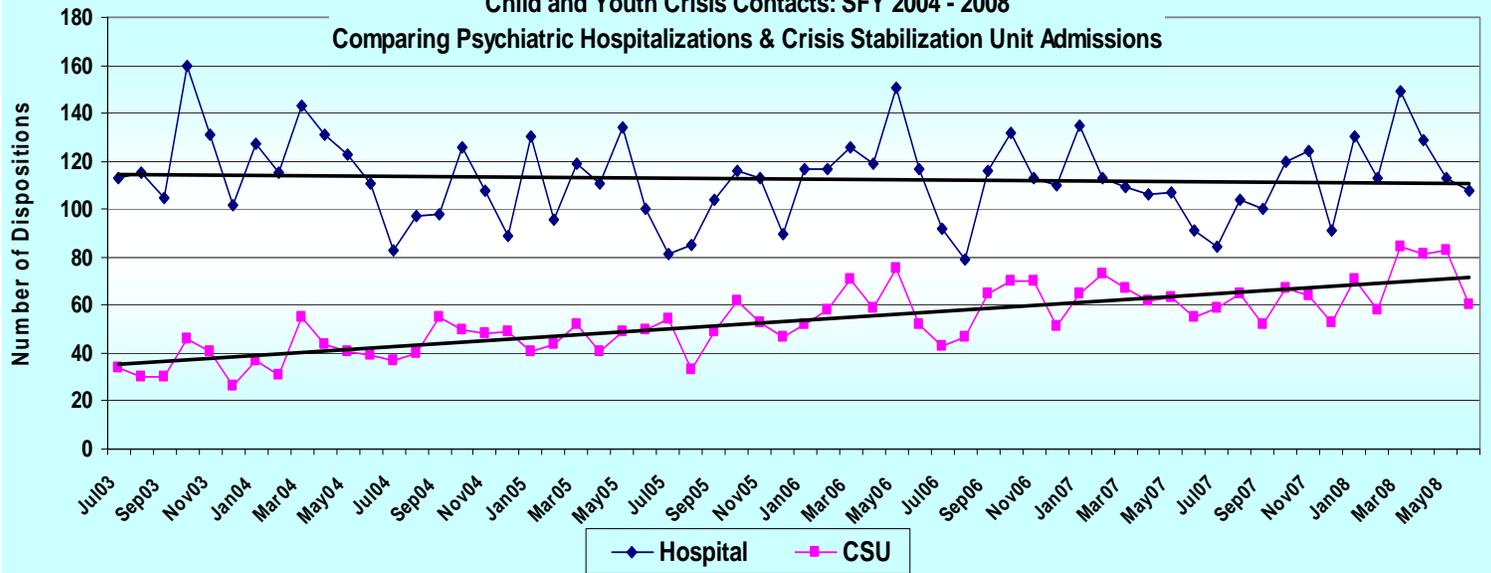
* Reported changes in service use were found to be statistically significant.

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Child and Youth Crisis Contacts: SFY 2004 - 2008

Comparing Psychiatric Hospitalizations & Crisis Stabilization Unit Admissions



Total and Percent of Children's Crisis Contacts Resulting in Hospital or Crisis Stabilization Unit Admission

STATE OF MAINE STATE FISCAL YEARS 2004-2008

		Jul03	Aug03	Sep03	Oct03	Nov03	Dec03	Jan04	Feb04	Mar04	Apr04	May04	Jun04	SFY 2004 Average
HOSPITAL	Hospital Total	113	115	105	160	131	102	127	115	143	131	123	111	123
	Hospital Percent	26%	30%	23%	26%	24%	22%	25%	23%	20%	24%	23%	26%	
Crisis Stabilization Unit	CSU Total	34	30	30	46	41	26	37	31	55	44	41	39	38
	CSU Percent	8%	8%	6%	7%	8%	6%	7%	6%	8%	8%	8%	9%	
GRAND TOTAL		435	383	462	623	541	462	514	491	709	540	536	425	
		Jul04	Aug04	Sep04	Oct04	Nov04	Dec04	Jan05	Feb05	Mar05	Apr05	May05	Jun05	
HOSPITAL	Hospital Total	83	97	98	126	108	89	130	96	119	111	134	100	
	Hospital Percent	25%	26%	24%	26%	22%	22%	28%	27%	25%	24%	27%	26%	
Crisis Stabilization Unit	CSU Total	37	40	55	50	48	49	41	44	52	41	49	50	
	CSU Percent	11%	11%	13%	10%	10%	12%	9%	12%	11%	9%	10%	13%	
GRAND TOTAL		328	375	415	493	485	400	470	358	467	461	491	390	
		Jul05	Aug05	Sep05	Oct05	Nov05	Dec05	Jan06	Feb06	Mar06	Apr06	May06	Jun06	
HOSPITAL	Hospital Total	81	85	104	118	113	90	117	117	126	119	151	117	
	Hospital Percent	26%	28%	23%	24%	25%	24%	25%	27%	23%	24%	27%	26%	
Crisis Stabilization Unit	CSU Total	54	33	49	62	53	47	52	58	71	59	75	52	
	CSU Percent	17%	11%	11%	13%	12%	13%	11%	14%	13%	12%	13%	11%	
GRAND TOTAL		316	308	452	485	454	369	460	428	558	498	562	457	
		Jul06	Aug06	Sep06	Oct06	Nov06	Dec06	Jan07	Feb07	Mar07	Apr07	May07	Jun07	
HOSPITAL	Hospital Total	92	79	116	132	113	110	135	113	109	106	107	91	
	Hospital Percent	27%	24%	27%	27%	24%	25%	28%	25%	22%	21%	20%	23%	
Crisis Stabilization Unit	CSU Total	43	47	65	70	70	51	65	73	67	62	63	55	
	CSU Percent	13%	14%	15%	14%	15%	12%	14%	16%	13%	13%	12%	14%	
GRAND TOTAL		340	335	429	492	479	435	474	451	498	494	546	400	
		Jul07	Aug07	Sep07	Oct07	Nov07	Dec07	Jan08	Feb08	Mar08	Apr08	May08	Jun08	SFY 2008 Average
HOSPITAL	Hospital Total	84	104	100	120	124	91	130	113	149	129	113	108	114
	Hospital Percent	24%	29%	26%	22%	24%	21%	22%	25%	22%	21%	19%	24%	
Crisis Stabilization Unit	CSU Total	59	65	52	67	64	53	71	58	84	81	83	60	66
	CSU Percent	17%	18%	13%	12%	12%	12%	12%	13%	13%	13%	14%	14%	
GRAND TOTAL		343	364	390	546	525	440	600	458	670	621	592	441	