



# Inpatient Readmission Rates Drop while ALOS Increases After the Closure of Mayview State Hospital

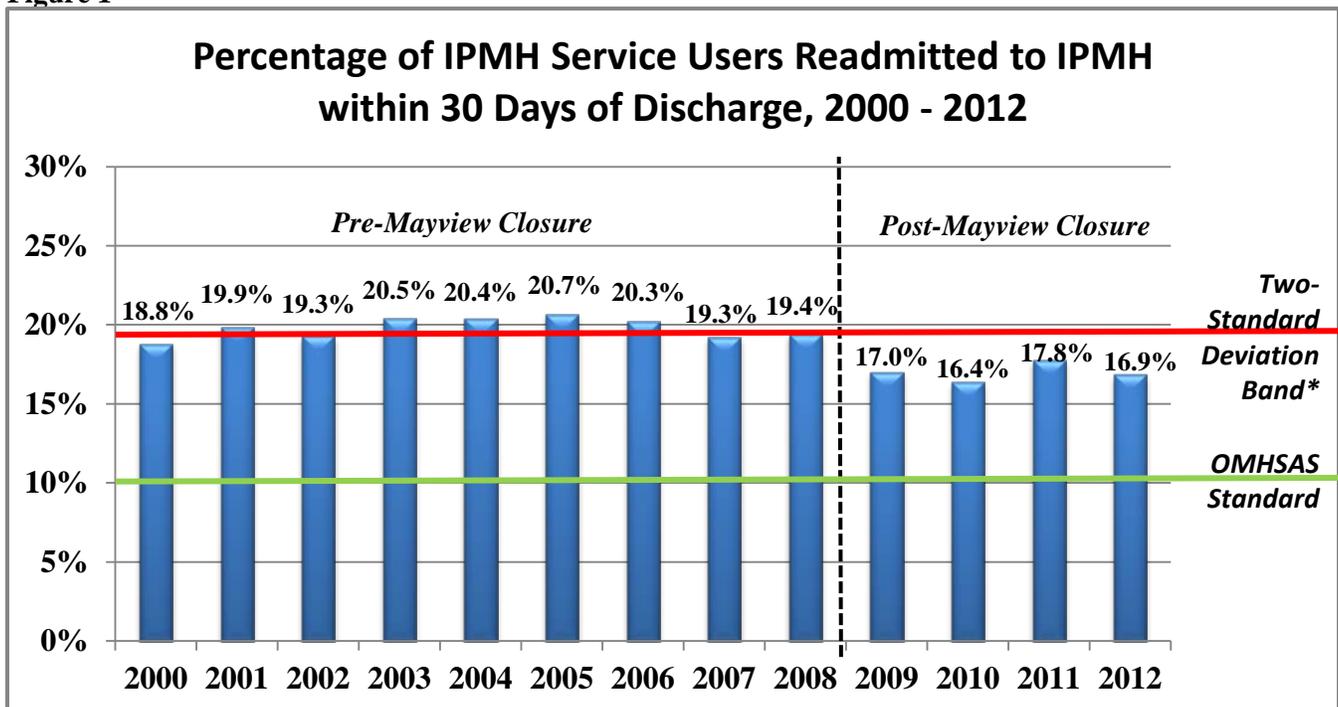
A fact sheet from Allegheny HealthChoices, Inc.

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There are many factors that can affect people being readmitted to inpatient hospital services. Anecdotal feedback continues to suggest that inpatient readmission rates are currently being driven by the closure of Mayview State Hospital; however, data suggests that inpatient readmission rates are at their lowest since 2000. Additionally, average length of stay at inpatient mental health facilities has increased. These findings, the respective decrease and increase, are both statistically significant.

Figure 1 displays the percentage of HealthChoices members who had readmissions to inpatient mental health services within 30 days of discharge from this level of care. This includes all HealthChoices members who were Medicaid eligible in Allegheny County and were discharged from an inpatient mental health facility between January 1, 2000 to June 30, 2012.<sup>1</sup>

Figure 1



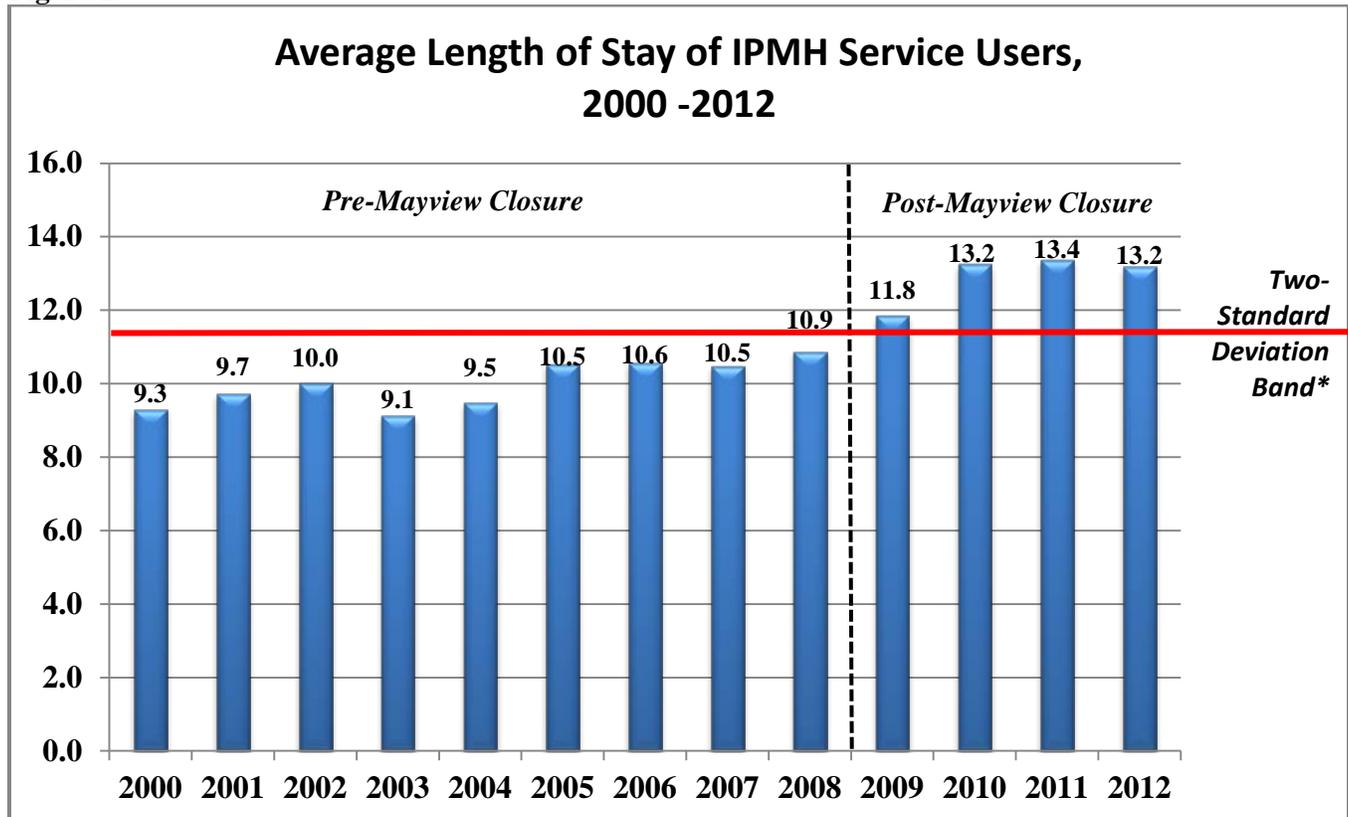
\*A two-standard deviation band is a statistical test that tests for differences across two phases. A statistically significant change has occurred if at least two successive data points in the post-Mayview closure phase fall below the red line, which represents a two-standard deviation figure of 18.4%.

The PA Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services established a standard benchmark of a 10% readmission rate to this level of care for all age groups. Although Allegheny County has not met this benchmark during the time period shown above, the lowest readmission rates have occurred between 2009 to the present year, 2012. Based on the data presented above, it does not appear that inpatient readmissions have increased with the closure of Mayview State Hospital. On the contrary, the statistically significant decrease coincides with the hospital's closure in December 2008.

<sup>1</sup> The data from 2000 to 2011 are represented in twelve month calendar year sequences. Data for 2012 includes data from January 1, 2012 to June 30, 2012.

Figure 2 displays the average length of stay of HealthChoices members who were discharged from an inpatient mental health facility. This includes all HealthChoices members who were Medicaid eligible in Allegheny County and were discharged from an inpatient mental health facility between January 1, 2000 to June 30, 2012.<sup>2</sup>

**Figure 2**



\*A two-standard deviation band is a statistical test that tests for differences across two phases. A statistically significant change has occurred if at least two successive data points in the post-Mayview closure phase fall above the red line, which represents a two-standard deviation figure of 11.3.

With the hospital’s closure in December 2008, it was expected that the average length of stay would experience an increase. While this increase is also statistically significant, evidence continues to find that providing behavioral health services in the community costs less than Mayview State Hospital.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>2</sup> The data from 2000 to 2011 are represented in twelve month calendar year sequences. Data for 2012 includes data from January 1, 2012 to June 30, 2012.

<sup>3</sup> This information was accessed at [http://www.ahci.org/Documents/Mayview2yr\\_0611-1\\_HiRes.pdf](http://www.ahci.org/Documents/Mayview2yr_0611-1_HiRes.pdf). For more information on the Mayview State Hospital closure, please go to [www.ahci.org](http://www.ahci.org) and click on the reports and projects tab.