

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.

1 State of Arkansas
2 93rd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2021
4

As Engrossed: H3/29/21

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1689

5 By: Representatives Vaught, Gazaway, M. Gray
6

For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO CREATE THE ARKANSAS LEGISLATIVE STUDY ON
9 MENTAL AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

11 TO CREATE THE ARKANSAS LEGISLATIVE STUDY
12 ON MENTAL AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH.
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14 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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17 SECTION 1. TEMPORARY LANGUAGE. DO NOT CODIFY. Arkansas Legislative
18 Study on Mental and Behavioral Health – Creation – Duties.

19 (a)(1) The Senate Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor and
20 the House Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor shall meet to
21 conduct the Arkansas Legislative Study on Mental Health.

22 (b)(1) The Chair of the Senate Committee on Public Health, Welfare,
23 and Labor and the Chair of the House Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and
24 Labor shall call the first meeting for the purpose of beginning the study
25 within sixty (60) days of the effective date of this act.

26 (2) The Senate Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor
27 and the House Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor shall meet at
28 least one (1) time every two (2) months in order to conduct the study but may
29 meet more often at the call of the Chair of the Senate Committee on Public
30 Health, Welfare, and Labor and the Chair of the House Committee on Public
31 Health, Welfare, and Labor.

32 (c) The purpose of the study is to assess the strengths and weaknesses
33 of the mental and behavioral health resources and care currently available in
34 the State of Arkansas and to recommend legislation to the General Assembly
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1 regarding best practices and improvements within the area of mental and
2 behavioral health care for consideration during the 2023 Regular Session.

3 (d) In order to achieve the purpose of this section, the Senate
4 Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor and the House Committee on
5 Public Health, Welfare, and Labor shall study the following:

6 (1) Access to and availability of mental and behavioral health
7 care within this state;

8 (2) Existing mental and behavioral healthcare facilities in this
9 state;

10 (3) Medicaid programs regarding mental and behavioral health and
11 other public and private medical reimbursements for mental and behavioral
12 healthcare providers and facilities within and without this state;

13 (4) Best practices for provision of mental ad behavioral health
14 services;

15 (5) Mental and behavioral health programs in other states;

16 (6) The utilization and financial condition of the crisis
17 stabilization units and the Arkansas State Hospital;

18 (7) Transportation of mental and behavioral health patients in
19 Arkansas;

20 (8) The rate of deaths by suicide of school-aged children in
21 this state;

22 (9) Mental health screenings and suicide prevention measures for
23 children in kindergarten through grade twelve (K-12); and

24 (10) Other matters related to mental and behavioral health
25 services.

26 (e)(1) On or before December 1, 2022, the Senate Committee on Public
27 Health, Welfare, and Labor and the House Committee on Public Health, Welfare,
28 and Labor shall file with the Legislative Council a final written report of
29 their activities, findings, and recommendations.

30 (2) Upon filing, the Arkansas Legislative Study on Mental and
31 Behavioral Health shall be complete.

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33 /s/Vaught
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Arkansas Inpatient Psychiatric Facility Information

June, 2018

Inpatient Psychiatric Facilities	Town/City	Ages Served	# Licensed Psych Beds	Actual Beds	Average Census	Notes
Arkansas Health Center (state's nursing home)	Benton	Adults	290	290	247	
Arkansas State Hospital	Little Rock	Adolescent (13-18 years); Adults	321	220 (DHS)	200-205 (DHS)	
Ashley County Medical Center	Crossett	Typically adults 45 years and older	8	8	4-5 beds	
Baptist Health Medical Center - Hot Spring County	Malvern	Adults	24	24	19-20 beds	
Baptist Health Medical Center - Little Rock	Little Rock	-	33	-	Unknown	*Two different facilities licensed under Baptist Health
		Seniors	16	16	10-16 beds	
Baxter Regional Medical Center	Mountain Home	Seniors (55+)	35	19	10-14 beds	* Two units located in the same facility
		Adults (18+)		16	8 beds	
Bradley County Medical Center	Warren	Seniors	8	8	Unknown	
Centers for Youth and Families	Little Rock	Children and Adolescents (5-19 years)	49	49	90-95%	
Centers for Youth and Families	Monticello	Children and Adolescents (5-19 years)	23	23	20 beds	
CHI St. Vincent Infirmary	Little Rock	Adults (18-63 years)	52	-	Unknown	

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June, 2018

Inpatient Psychiatric Facilities	Town/City	Ages Served	# Licensed Psych Beds	Actual Beds	Average Census	Notes
Conway Regional Medical Center	Conway	Seniors	11	11	No average census available but stays fairly busy	
Delta Family	Hamburg		23	23	No average census available but can significantly fluctuate.	
Five Rivers Medical Center	Pocahontas	Seniors (55+)	14	14	This used to average 10-12; now averages 5-6 due to staff shortage	
Forrest City Medical Center	Forrest City	Seniors	18	14	7 beds	
Jefferson Regional Medical Center	Pine Bluff	Adults (18+)	18	18	Unknown	
Johnson Regional Medical Center	Clarksville	Seniors	20	20	15-18 beds	
Levi Hospital	Hot Springs	Adults	37	22	Typically stay close to or at full capacity	
Mena Regional Health System	Mena	Seniors	12	12	10-12 beds	
Millcreek of Arkansas	Fordyce	Children and Adolescents (6-17 years)	111	111	Unknown - Can fluctuate significantly	
National Park Medical Center	Hot Springs	Seniors (65+)	17	17	11-12 beds	

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North Arkansas Regional Medical Center	Harrison	Seniors (55+)	32	14	Staffing allows for about 9 beds	
North Metro Medical Center	Jacksonville	Seniors (55+)	31	30	25-31 beds	
Northwest Medical Center	Springdale	Adults (18-64 years)	29	43	43 beds	
Piney Ridge Center	Fayetteville		97	102	95-102 beds	
Pinnacle Pointe Behavioral Healthcare System	Little Rock	Child and adolescents (5-17 years)	127	127	Stay at full capacity during school year.	
Rivendell Behavioral Health Services of Arkansas	Benton	Children (4-12 years); Adolescents (13-18 years); Adults	80	80	Unknown	
River Valley Medical Center	Dardanelle	Seniors	10	10	Stays at full capacity	
Riverview Behavioral Health	Texarkana	Children (5-12); Adolescents (13-17); Adults, Seniors	62	62	May - average was 44 beds; but typically around 30 beds.	
Saline Memorial Hospital	Benton	Adults; Seniors	29	-	Unknown	
Sparks Regional Medical Center	Fort Smith	Seniors	23	-	Unknown	

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Springwoods Behavioral Health Services	Fayetteville	Adolescents (12-17 years); Adults; Seniors	80	80	Unknown; Senior unit is currently down which lowered the rate	
St. Bernard's Medical Center	Jonesboro	Adults Seniors	62	32	Close to capacity	
				28		
St. Mary's Regional Medical Center	Russellville	Adults	19	19	Typically stays full	
The BridgeWay	North Little Rock	Children (4-12 years); Adolescents (13-17 years); Adults; Seniors	113	113	Unknown	
Trinity Behavioral Healthcare	Warm Springs		92	-	Unknown	*Includes Out of State Beds; Haven't confirmed if facility is still active. No contact information available.
UAMS Medical Center	Little Rock	Children (2-12 years); Adults	40	40	Unknown	
United Methodist Behavioral Hospital	Maumelle	Children and Adolescents (3-17 years)	60	60	Unknown	
United Methodist Children's Home	Bono	Children and Adolescents (6-17 years)	28	28	Usually within 80-90% capacity	
	Little Rock					
Unity Health Harris Medical Center	Newport	Seniors	12	12	9-11 beds	
Valley Behavioral Health System	Barling	Children (4-17 years); Adults	114	114	80-90 beds	

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Vantage Point of Northwest Arkansas	Fayetteville	Child/Adolescent (5-17 years); Adults; Seniors	114	114	Unknown		
Wadley Regional Medical Center at Hope	Hope	Seniors (65+)	12	12	8 beds		
White County Medical Center	Searcy	Adolescents (12-17 years)	49	11	Stays close to or at full capacity most of the time	* White Cty has three facilities. However, only two facilities have psych beds. The 30 licensed beds includes 18 beds included in the facility with 49 licensed beds in Searcy and the remaining 12 are at the Newport facility. These licensed beds are considered PPS (prospective payment system) beds, which is related to Medicare billing. The PPS bed counts can sometimes count licensed beds twice.	
		Adults		20	Stays close to or at full capacity most of the time		
		Seniors (55+)		18	Senior unit can vary		
		-		-			
		Unknown		12	Unknown		
White River Medical Center	Batesville	Adults (18-55 years)	40	24	Around 75%		

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Inpatient Psychiatric Facilities	Town/City	Ages Served	# Licensed Psych Beds	Actual Beds	Average Census	Notes
Woodridge Behavioral Care	West Memphis	Children and Adolescents (6-17 years); Seniors (55+); Female children and adolescents (6-17 years)	54	52	No average census available, but all facilities typically stay fairly close to capacity	
	Forrest City	Male children and adolescents (6-17 years); Sex Rehab Program - Males 12-17 years	51	48		
	Springdale	Adolescents (6-17 years)	28	28		*Previously known as Ozark Guidance
Youth Home	Little Rock	Adolescents (12-17 years)	70	70	88%	
Total Licensed Psych Beds*			2,747			

Note: Actual Beds is the number of beds stated by the facility.

Note: Licensed Psychiatric Beds taken from Department of Health, DHS, and the Health Permitting Agency

Note: Total Licensed Psych Beds excludes duplicates at White County Medical Center