

## **Year 2004 Connecticut Hospitalizations**

In 2004 there were 316,282 hospitalizations of Connecticut residents in Connecticut hospitals (Table H-1), not including those related to pregnancy and birth, with total charges of over six and a half billion dollars. The hospitalization rate for all conditions besides pregnancy and birth increased 0.5% from the previous year to 8,366 per 100,000 residents of all ages. The lowest rate was for ages 5-14 and the highest for ages 65 and older. Overall, the median charge per hospital stay increased 9.2% to \$12,897 (unadjusted for inflation) and the median length of stay was three days. Among listed conditions and procedures, the longest median stays were for leukemia and amputation with diabetes, and the highest median charges were for non-fatal spinal injury and leukemia.

The leading diagnosis for all ages combined, as well as for ages 45-64 and for 65 and older, was diseases of the heart (Table H-5). Respiratory diseases was the leading cause of hospitalization for ages 0-4; while mental disorders was the leading cause for ages 5-14, 15-24, and 25-44. Among black residents, mental disorders was the leading cause of hospitalization for all ages, and digestive diseases was the leading cause of hospitalization among Hispanic residents (Table H-2).

The age-adjusted heart disease rate among blacks was actually higher than the rates for (higher-ranked) mental disorders, respiratory diseases, or digestive diseases. (Ranks are based upon counts, not rates). Differing top rankings reflect the younger average age of black residents compared to white residents, which is compensated for by age-adjustment.

The most common type of injury among males and females, whites, blacks, and Hispanics, was an unintentional fall (Tables H-3, H-4). Risk increased with age. Hospitalization rate ratios between the sexes and race/ethnicity groups appear in Tables H-6 and H-7. High male to female, black to white, and Hispanic to white ratios occurred within many conditions, such as HIV/AIDS, amputation with diabetes, and firearms injury. High female to male ratios marked a few conditions, such as cholelithiasis (gallstones), and high white to black ratios were present for some conditions, such as appendicitis.

Hospitalizations related to pregnancy and birth (Tables H-1 and H-2) were not used in rankings or rate ratios. In 2004 there were 85,967 such discharges, with charges of more than 600 million dollars. For the most accurate record of births, many of which occur outside the hospital, see tables in Vital Statistics.