

FY 2025 Hospital Outpatient Observation Data

Release Notes

Background

These release notes provide information for users of the FY 2025 Outpatient Observation Data (OOD). The data includes outpatient observation stays from Massachusetts acute care hospitals for the period of October 1, 2024 – September 30, 2025.

The Center for Health Information and Analysis (CHIA) made substantial changes to the FY 2025 data structure and elements. For further details, users of the data should consult the Fiscal Year 2025 OOD User Guide on CHIA's website at <https://www.chiamass.gov/case-mix-data>.

Data Notes

- Holy Family Hospital (Org Id 75) and Holy Family Hospital at Merrimack Valley (Org Id 11466), both formerly owned by Steward Health Care, transferred ownership to Lawrence General Hospital (Org Id 83) effective October 1, 2024. Under a system-wide rebranding, these campuses were renamed Merrimack Health Methuen Hospital and Merrimack Health Haverhill Hospital, while the parent facility changed its name to Merrimack Health Lawrence Hospital.
- Good Samaritan Medical Center – Brockton Campus (Org Id 62) and St. Elizabeth's Medical Center (Org Id 126), both formerly owned by Steward Health Care, transferred ownership to Boston Medical Center effective October 1, 2024. Following this transition, the facilities were renamed Boston Medical Center – South and Boston Medical Center – Brighton.
- Harrington Hospital (Org Id 68) changed its name to UMass Memorial Health – Harrington Hospital.
- Marlborough Hospital (Org Id 133) merged with UMass Memorial Medical Center and subsequently changed its name to UMass Memorial Health – Marlborough Hospital.
- Milford Regional Medical Center (Org Id 97) merged with UMass Memorial Health effective October 1, 2024, and subsequently changed its name to UMass Memorial Health – Milford Regional Medical Center.
- Morton Hospital (Org Id 99) and Saint Anne's Hospital (Org Id 114), both formerly owned by Steward Health Care, transferred ownership to Brown University Health (formerly Lifespan) effective October 1, 2024.

FY 2025 Provider-Specific Notes

Prior to releasing the FY 2025 OOD data, CHIA provides the hospitals with a profile of the data submitted. Providers may resubmit data or provide written feedback to CHIA. Below is a summary of some of the key feedback received.

- Anna Jaques Hospital (Org Id 1), Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital – Milton (Org Id 98), Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital – Needham (Org Id 53), Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital – Plymouth (Org Id 79), and Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center – East Campus (Org Id 10):
 - Noted reporting changes in workflow and classifications that affected data output across all Beth Israel Lahey Health (BILH) hospital sites due to the conversion to the “OneBILH” Epic platform. The health system is actively working to standardize the submission process.
- Baystate Noble Hospital (Org Id 106):
 - Noted efforts to streamline patient throughput reduced observation times and led to an overall decline in observation stays. Additionally, patient transfers to other facilities increased due to clinical needs and bed availability.
- Boston Children’s Hospital (Org Id 46):
 - Noted the transition to Epic in June 2024 resulted in data mapping challenges; FY 2025 data have been confirmed as accurate.
- Cambridge Health Alliance – Cambridge Hospital (Org Id 27) and Everett Hospital (Org Id 142):
 - Noted recent EHR system updates improved the accuracy of patient admission and discharge statuses, specifically regarding Source of Visit, Type of Visit, and Patient Departure Status.
- Cape Cod Hospital (Org Id 39) and Falmouth Hospital (Org Id 40):
 - Noted a significant volume of ‘Unknown’ values in Patient Sex at Birth reporting due to system updates and field mapping changes from the Patient Sex category used in prior years. Staff re-education was implemented to correct data capture workflows.
 - Noted system mapping updates reclassified Source of Admission data from the ‘Other’ category, resulting in increased reporting of Direct Physician Referral admissions.
- Emerson Hospital (Org Id 57):
 - Noted the increase in observation stays reflects changing payer authorization requirements.
- Mercy Medical Center – Springfield Campus (Org Id 119):
 - Noted the transition to Epic in November 2024 created initial data mapping and workflow challenges. Recent system updates successfully introduced standardized codes for Race, Ethnicity, and Hispanic Indicator.
- Merrimack Health Methuen Hospital (Org Id 75) and Merrimack Health Haverhill Hospital (Org Id 11466):

- Noted data reporting changes due to the transfer of ownership from Steward Health Care to Lawrence General Hospital.
- MetroWest Medical Center – Framingham Campus (Org Id 49) and Saint Vincent Hospital (Org Id 127):
 - Noted a decrease in outpatient surgeries resulted in fewer elective post-op patient observation stays.
- Signature Healthcare Brockton Hospital (Org Id 25):
 - Noted a shift in Patient Race reporting from 'Other' to 'Unknown' in Quarters 3 and 4; the data mapping logic is currently under review.
- South Shore Hospital (Org Id 122):
 - Noted an overall increase in observation stays, specifically for walk-in and self-referred patients, driven by an October 2024 Observation Level of Care (LOC) initiative that transitioned eligible patients from the emergency department to observation status.
- Southcoast Health Hospitals Group – Charlton Memorial Hospital Campus (Org Id 123), St. Luke's Hospital Campus (Org Id 124), and Tobey Hospital Campus (Org Id 145):
 - Noted an internal review of EDFlagCode reporting is underway, and system updates are expected to be in effect for FY 2026.
- UMass Memorial Hospitals:
 - Noted an internal review process, designed to ensure the correct level of care for all admitted patients based on appropriate clinical documentation, resulted in small shifts from observation to inpatient status across hospitals.

The following hospitals resubmitted data prior to finalizing the FY 2025 OOD release available in September 2026.

- Athol Memorial Hospital (Org Id 2) resubmitted Quarters 1 and 2 and Heywood Hospital (Org Id 73) resubmitted Quarters 1, 2 and 3 to correct Source of Visit.
- Baystate Franklin Medical Center (Org Id 5), Baystate Medical Center (Org Id 4), Baystate Noble Hospital (Org Id 106), and Baystate Wing Campus (Org Id 139) resubmitted all quarters to correct Patient Race, Ethnicity and Hispanic Indicator.
- Berkshire Medical Center – Berkshire Campus (Org Id 7), Fairview Hospital (Org Id 8), and North Adams Regional Hospital (Org Id 21965) resubmitted all quarters to correct Hispanic Indicator; Fairview Hospital also corrected its Patient Ethnicity reporting.
- Boston Medical Center – Menino Pavilion Campus (Org Id 16) resubmitted all quarters to update patient billing information including Payer Type and Payer Source.
- Cape Cod Hospital (Org Id 39) and Falmouth Hospital (Org Id 40) resubmitted all quarters to correct Patient Sex at Birth.
- Lowell General Hospital (Org Id 85), Lowell General Hospital – Saints Campus (Org Id 115), MelroseWakefield Hospital (Org Id 141), and Tufts Medical Center (Org Id 104) resubmitted all quarters to update Type of Visit to include trauma visits.

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- Mercy Medical Center – Springfield Campus (Org Id 119) resubmitted Quarter 2 to correct Primary Payer Source, Patient Race, Ethnicity and Hispanic Indicator.
 - Morton Hospital (Org Id 99) and Saint Anne’s Hospital (Org Id 114) resubmitted Quarter 4 to correct Source of Visit, Type of Visit and Patient Departure Status.
 - New England Baptist Hospital (Org Id 103) resubmitted Quarters 1, 2, and 3 to correct Type of Visit.
 - Shriner’s Hospital for Children – Boston (Org Id 6963) resubmitted Quarters 3 and 4 to correct Source of Visit and Patient ZIP code.

End User Support

For more information about specific data elements, facility reporting, or other questions about the data, please contact CHIA by emailing CaseMix.data@chiamass.gov.