



# TENNESSEE

## Nursing Home Trends

MARCH 2008

TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH



Data used to compile Tennessee Nursing Home Trends was

obtained from summary tabulations of the Joint Annual Report of Nursing Homes. Individual reports are completed each year by the licensed nursing homes in Tennessee and returned to the Division of Health Statistics for compilation and review. While the compiled information of all licensed nursing homes is quite detailed, data summarized for this report focuses on trends and changes in Tennessee nursing homes for the period 1997-2006.

As Tennessee's older adult population increases, the need for nursing home and other means of caring for the elderly has become an important issue. In 2006, 12.6 percent of Tennessee's population was 65 years and older. The 2006 estimated population 65 and older of 755,273 increased 9.8 percent over the State's 1997 population of 688,153 for this age group.

Joint Annual Reports of Nursing Homes were returned by 329 of the 335 nursing homes operating in Tennessee on December 31, 2006. Beginning in 2004, the two federal nursing homes, located in Tennessee, were excluded from the nursing home data reports. Five nursing homes reported data for less than a full year in 2006, and these nursing homes were also

excluded from the data reports. These exclusions along with one non-reporting facility will lower bed counts and utilization statistics on current data.

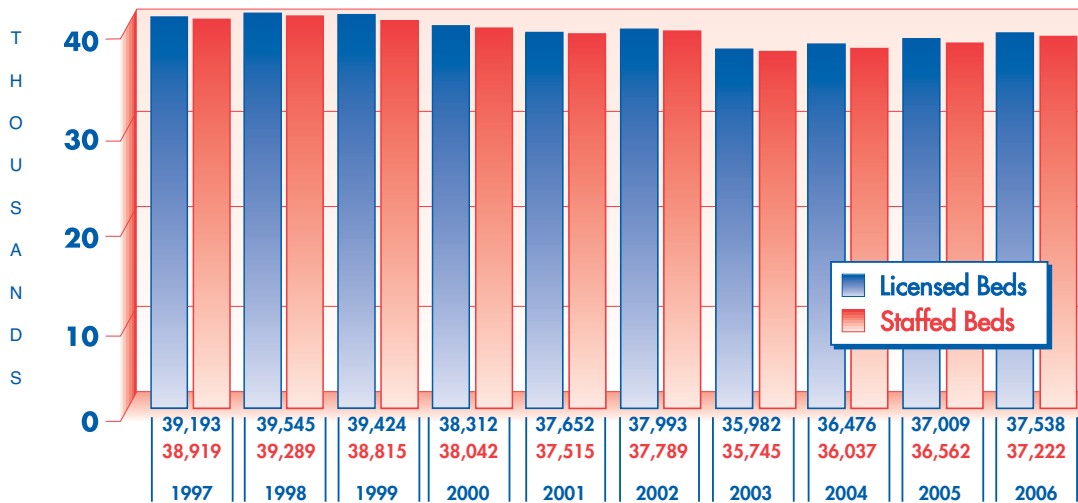
From 2005 to 2006, the number of non-profit nursing homes increased, while the number of for-profit nursing also increased. In 2001, the categories of limited partnership, limited liability partnership, limited liability corporation and limited liability company were added to the nursing home report. Data for 2001 - 2006 for these categories are included in the table below.

**NUMBER OF NURSING HOMES BY TYPE OF OWNERSHIP**  
Tennessee, 1997-2006

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
<b>TOTAL</b>	356*	362	357	349*	338	340*	324	323*	324*	329
<b>Non-profit</b>	81	86	82	80	61	62	70	68	64	69
Church related	10	12	11	11	17	20	36	40	35	35
Corporation/Association	71	71	68	66	44	42	30	24	25	29
Other Non-profit	-	3	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Limited Liability Company	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4	4	5
<b>For-Profit</b>	240	239	239	232	245	242	221	226	226	234
Individual	3	1	1	1	-	-	4	3	5	5
Partnership	48	38	37	37	7	6	4	4	6	3
Corporation/Association	189	200	201	194	156	147	109	118	108	105
Limited Partnership	-	-	-	-	29	30	33	28	25	27
Limited Liability Partnership	-	-	-	-	4	2	4	4	7	4
Limited Liability Corporation	-	-	-	-	49	57	67	69	75	90
<b>Government</b>	34	37	36	36	32	35	33	28	26	26
State	-	-	-	-	2	2	3	3	2	2
County	28	29	32	33	26	22	23	19	19	18
City	3	3	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
City-County	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hospital District	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Veterans Administration	1	3	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Other Government Agency	-	-	-	-	4	10	7	6	5	5

\*Total includes nursing homes with type of ownership not reported.

### Number of Licensed and Staffed Beds Tennessee Nursing Homes, 1997-2006

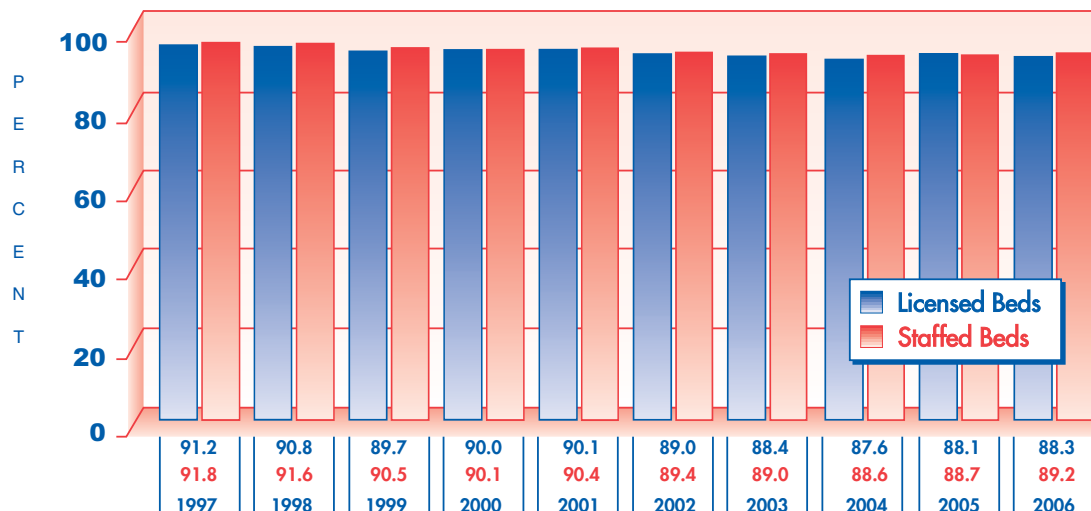


In 2006, there were 37,538 licensed beds and 37,222 staffed beds reported for Tennessee nursing homes. For the 10-year period 1997-2006 the highest number of licensed and staffed beds occurred in 1998.

**Licensed beds** - The maximum number of beds authorized by the state licensing agency or regulated by a federal agency.

**Staffed beds** - The total number of beds set up, staffed, and in use at the end of the reporting period. This number should be less than or equal to the number of licensed beds.

### Percent Occupancy for Licensed and Staffed Beds Tennessee Nursing Homes, 1997-2006



Percent occupancy is computed as the number of patient days of care divided by the number of bed days open for licensed or staffed beds, expressed as a percent. For the 10-year period 1997 through 2006, the percent occupancy for licensed and staffed beds fluctuated but generally declined. In 2006, the licensed occupancy was 88.3 percent and the staffed occupancy was 89.2 percent.

Admissions are the number of patients admitted to a facility during the reporting period, and discharges are the number of patients discharged plus all deaths. Nursing home admissions increased 2.0 percent from 77,932 in 2005 to 79,512 in 2006, while the reported number of discharges increased 0.4 percent from 76,558 to 76,862 over the same period. Discharge patient days are the total number of days of care rendered to patients discharged during the reporting period (including days of

**NURSING HOME ADMISSIONS, DISCHARGES AND DISCHARGE PATIENT DAYS**

Tennessee, 1997-2006

Year	Admissions	Discharges Including Deaths	Discharge Patient Days
2006	79,512	76,862	12,191,583
2005	77,932	76,558	12,625,789
2004	74,468	72,181	12,644,002
2003	69,488	75,567	11,049,876
2002	67,932	66,858	11,615,772
2001	60,023	61,412	10,558,426
2000	58,655	59,924	11,232,783
1999	58,836	59,181	11,699,782
1998	60,158	60,330	11,544,940
1997	58,380	58,386	12,091,990

**AVERAGE DAILY CENSUS, AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY RATE OF PATIENT TURNOVER**

Tennessee Nursing Homes, 1997-2006

Year	Average Daily Census	Average Length of Stay	Rate of Patient Turnover
2006	33,402	159	2.14
2005	34,591	165	2.13
2004	34,641	175	2.07
2003	30,274	146	1.94
2002	33,227	179	1.82
2001	33,270	182	1.62
2000	33,853	194	1.55
1999	35,162	204	1.53
1998	35,593	195	1.54
1997	35,199	211	1.50

care rendered prior to the beginning of the reporting period). The reported number of discharge patient days decreased 3.4 percent from 2005 to 2006.

From 2005 to 2006, the average daily census, and average length of stay decreased, while the rate of patient turnover slightly increased. The average daily census is calculated as the number of patient days of care divided by the number of days in the calendar year. The average length of

stay is calculated as the number of discharge patient days divided by the number of discharges. The rate of patient turnover is the number of admissions divided by the number of staffed beds.

Patient census data is reported for December 31 of each indicated year. The number of nursing home patients is given by 5-year age group, as well as by gender.

**NUMBER OF NURSING HOME PATIENTS BY GENDER AND AGE**

Tennessee, 1997-2006

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Total	35,736	36,012	35,571	33,806	33,698	33,697	32,839	33,255	33,113	33,495
Male	9,395	9,597	9,383	8,950	9,053	9,327	9,034	9,467	9,395	9,424
Female	26,341	26,415	26,188	24,856	24,645	24,370	23,805	23,788	23,718	24,071
Age Group										
Under 60	1,995	2,105	2,173	2,271	2,309	2,557	2,584	2,637	2,814	2,666
60-64	1,064	1,100	1,202	1,130	1,221	1,242	1,270	1,388	1,453	1,577
65-69	1,767	1,854	1,813	1,792	1,910	1,913	1,847	2,026	2,048	2,076
70-74	3,162	3,252	3,046	2,913	3,077	3,023	2,966	2,976	3,001	3,069
75-79	5,334	5,297	5,140	5,073	4,909	4,932	4,670	4,750	4,566	4,541
80-84	7,071	6,964	6,840	6,637	6,757	6,670	6,574	6,648	6,558	6,519
85-89	8,162	8,098	7,512	7,057	6,823	6,723	6,531	6,458	6,496	6,713
90-94	4,846	5,174	5,195	4,859	4,719	4,578	4,440	4,371	4,280	4,370
95-99	1,747	1,845	1,848	1,756	1,732	1,700	1,610	1,633	1,585	1,633
100+	354	323	351	354	313	330	347	368	312	331

Totals may include patients with age unknown.

The number of admissions to Tennessee nursing homes increased 36.2 percent, while the number of discharges increased 31.6 percent during the time period of 1997-2006. This is much greater than what any increase in elderly population would indicate. At the same time, the average length of stay dropped by 24.6 percent, while the rate of patient turnover increased by 42.7 percent, and the average daily census decreased by 5.1 percent. This indicates that nursing home services in Tennessee are now being used by more persons for shorter episodes of care.

Many persons are now entering

nursing homes for convalescence, then are leaving for home or other settings. This can be attributed to the fact that more hospitals are discharging patients, especially the elderly patients, to the less medically intense nursing home setting for a longer recuperation period after initial acute care treatment. In fact, many hospitals have converted excess bed capacity into skilled nursing unit beds licensed as nursing home beds. The situation is further reflected in hospital statistics which have shown a decrease in utilization over this same time frame.

Percent occupancy for Tennessee nursing homes remained high over the

1997-2006 time period, fluctuating between 87 to 92 percent. High occupancy is typical for the nursing home industry and appears to be invariant with changes occurring in resource capacity.

The Department of Health will continue to collect nursing home data through its Joint Annual Report of Nursing Homes. This data and those from other reports will be monitored as changes in the delivery of health care in Tennessee evolve. More detailed utilization statistics and data on individual nursing homes are publicly available through the Division of Health Statistics or visit our website at the address indicated below.

POPULATION AGED 65 AND OLDER

1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
688,153	693,448	698,274	703,311	710,181	717,574	725,369	733,549	742,205	755,273

**NOTE:** The population estimates for Tennessee used to calculate the rates in this report were based on figures prepared from the 2000 census in August 2003 by the Division of Health Statistics. These population figures may result in rates that differ from those published in previous time periods.

Please visit the Tennessee Department of Health Web site: [tennessee.gov/health](http://tennessee.gov/health)

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