



Hospice & Palliative Care

Federation of Massachusetts

Revised 9/10/09

MASSACHUSETTS HOSPICE CARE FACT SHEET

- 62 member hospices provide care for terminally ill people in a range of settings including their own homes, nursing homes, assisted living facilities, acute care facilities, hospice residences and freestanding hospice general inpatient units
- Massachusetts has 6 residential hospice facilities located in Amherst, Cambridge, Cape Cod, Needham, Reading and Wayland.
- There are three free-standing hospice facilities located in Danvers, Worcester and Haverhill that provide general inpatient care, respite care and limited residential care.
- In 2007, Massachusetts hospices cared for approximately 21,258 patients (40% of all deaths in Massachusetts).
- The average length of stay for a hospice patient is 51 days.
- The median length of stay is 25 days.
- 37% of the patients hospice cared for had a length of stay of 7 or fewer days.
- 57 % of patients had a non-cancer diagnosis (e.g., congestive heart failure, Alzheimer's Disease, end stage pulmonary disease).
- 45 % of patients cared for died at home; 39% died in a skilled nursing facility.
- 11 hospice programs provided pediatric palliative care for 131 children with life-limiting illnesses and their families.

	2007	2006	1991
Number of patients cared for in MA	21,258	19,408	5,359
Average LOS	51 days	56 days	45 days
Median LOS	25 days	27 days	NK
% of Patients with Cancer Diagnosis	43%	47%	84%
% of Patients Who Died at Home	45%	51%	82%
% of Patients Who Died in a Nursing Home	39%	31%	2%
% of all MA Deaths Cared for by Hospice	40%	35.5%	10%

*Source: NHPCO National Data Set 2007
H&PCFM Membership Applications 2008*

Massachusetts Hospice Patients by Diagnosis

Diagnosis	2007 % of Total MA Hospice Patients	2006 % of Total MA Hospice Patients
Cancer	43%	47%
Dementia	17.4%	14%
Debility Unspecified	13%	18%
Heart	7.9%	7.5%
Lung	5.5%	6%
Stroke/Coma	2.6%	2%
Kidney	2.5%	2%
Other Motor Neuron	2.4%	.5%
Liver	1.9%	1%
HIV	.1%	.1%
ALS	.3%	.6%
Other	3.6%	1.8%

Massachusetts Hospice Patients by Site of Death

Location of Death	2007 % of Total MA Hospice Patients	2006 % of Total MA Hospice Patients
Home	45%	51%
Skilled Nursing Facility	39%	31%
Hospital	8.4%	11%
Residential Setting	2%	2%
Free-Standing Inpatient	5.6%	5.5%

Massachusetts Hospice Patients by Level of Care

Level of Care	2007 % of Total MA Patient Days	2006 % of Total MA Patient Days
Routine	96%	97%
Respite	.1%	.2%
Continuous Care	0%	.1%
General Inpatient	3.5%	2.8%

*Source: 2007 National Hospice & Palliative Care Organization National Data Set
13 of 62 Massachusetts hospices reporting*