

Province of Alberta ICU Average Utilization 2020



- Grey area is the number of funded beds available per dataset.
- Yellow area is the average number of ICU beds used per month per dataset.
- Red area is the average number of ICU beds occupied by Covid patients per GOA website.
 - This area is also part of the yellow area and is not separated from it.
- Green line is the actual number of ICU beds occupied by Covid patients per GOA website.
- Other than November/December the average number of Covid beds required in ICU was negligible.

At no point throughout the year was the average number of beds above capacity of "budgeted" beds.

Source: Data from Justice Centre FOIP Request to AHS







- The above graph represents the average utilization in ICU for the previous 5 years per the FOIP dataset.
 - Starting in March, through to July there was a distinct difference (lower) in utilization.
 - December was the only month to see a distinct difference (higher) than the previous 5 years.

Source: Data from Justice Centre FOIP Request to AHS





- The above chart represents the maximum number of ICU beds required at some point in each month.
 - Dataset does not provide for the number of days the ICU was in this position. It only indicates a minimum of 1 day.
 - For the 5 year period 2016-2020:
 - Lowest maximum utilization was April July 2020
 - Highest maximum utilization was December 2020

Source: Data from Justice Centre FOIP Request to AHS



Province of Alberta Actual ICU Utilization - With Modeling Built In

On April 8 the Government of Alberta released a model in which they stated the following was being done:

Building Acute Care Capacity

- AHS plans to have 2,250 COVID-19 designated acute care beds by the end of April:
 - As of April 3, 2020, 1,935 are available for COVID patients; and
 - New COVID dedicated spaces are being brought online.

And;

Building ICU Capacity

• AHS plans to be able to increase ICU capacity by 1081 beds for COVID-19 patients by the end of April, if necessary.

Source: https://www.alberta.ca/assets/documents/covid-19-case-modelling-projection.pdf



The next chart was taken from the original model presented on April 8, 2020. It is for illustrative purposes only to show what the Government based its original lockdown measures on. The probable model assumes that this would be the outcome only "with" the restrictions that were announced.



Source: https://www.alberta.ca/assets/documents/covid-19-case-modelling-projection.pdf



There was an elevated model and an extreme model included. The 2,250 Acute Care Beds and 1,081 ICU beds were driven from those estimates. The chart that follows is the Elevated scenario, an Extreme Scenario was not provided in terms of hospitalizations and critical care needs.



Source: https://www.alberta.ca/assets/documents/covid-19-case-modelling-projection.pdf



The next chart shows the updated modeling that was provided on April 28. The Government had already seen that the numbers (cases, hospitalizations and deaths) was greatly exaggerated and provided new estimates. No revision, or statement, was ever made relating to number of Acute Care Beds or ICU Beds.



Source:

https://www.alberta.ca/assets/documents/covid-19-case-modelling-projection-april-28.pdf

- Original model was presented on April 8 and 1,081 additional ICU beds were based on the elevated model (412 critical care beds required).
- Revised model was presented on April 28 and critical care was now estimated to be approximately 175 in probable model by middle of May, elevated was still showing approximately 250 requiring care.
- For illustration purposes we built in 500 additional ICU beds, which is less than the ratio the GOA used (412/1081 = 2.62 to 1 verses 250/500 = 2 to 1).



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