



## WISDOM Data Source Descriptions

### NH Uniform Hospital Discharge Data Set (UHDDS)

#### Methodology:

Inpatient and Emergency Department Acute Care Hospital Discharge data is collected under New Hampshire statute RSA 126:25 requiring all NH facilities to report discharge data to the NH Department of Health and Human Services. Records of discharges of NH residents that occurred in Massachusetts, Vermont, and Maine are obtained by the Department through interstate data exchange agreements with the agencies in those states responsible for collection of discharge data. Those agencies are the Center for Health Information and Analysis (CHIA) in Massachusetts, the Maine Health Data Organization, and the Vermont Department of Health. Discharge of NH residents from Maine, Massachusetts and Vermont hospitals are included in the dataset. Transfers of NH residents are also included in the dataset.

Limitations: Discharges are not de-duplicated. Many patients return repeatedly to the hospital for services. Multiple admissions for one person might falsely elevate the number of persons hospitalized. Hospital inpatient discharges may include in-state and out-of-state hospitalizations for NH residents. Only MA, ME, and VT out-of-state hospitals are included. Encrypted social security number is not available for discharges from ME or VT. MA uses a different encryption key than NH for encrypted social security number. Discharges from the NH Veterans Administration Hospital, other military hospitals and special facilities are not in the NH UHDDS. Due to small state population, counts and age-adjusted rates may not be feasible to display at the county levels.