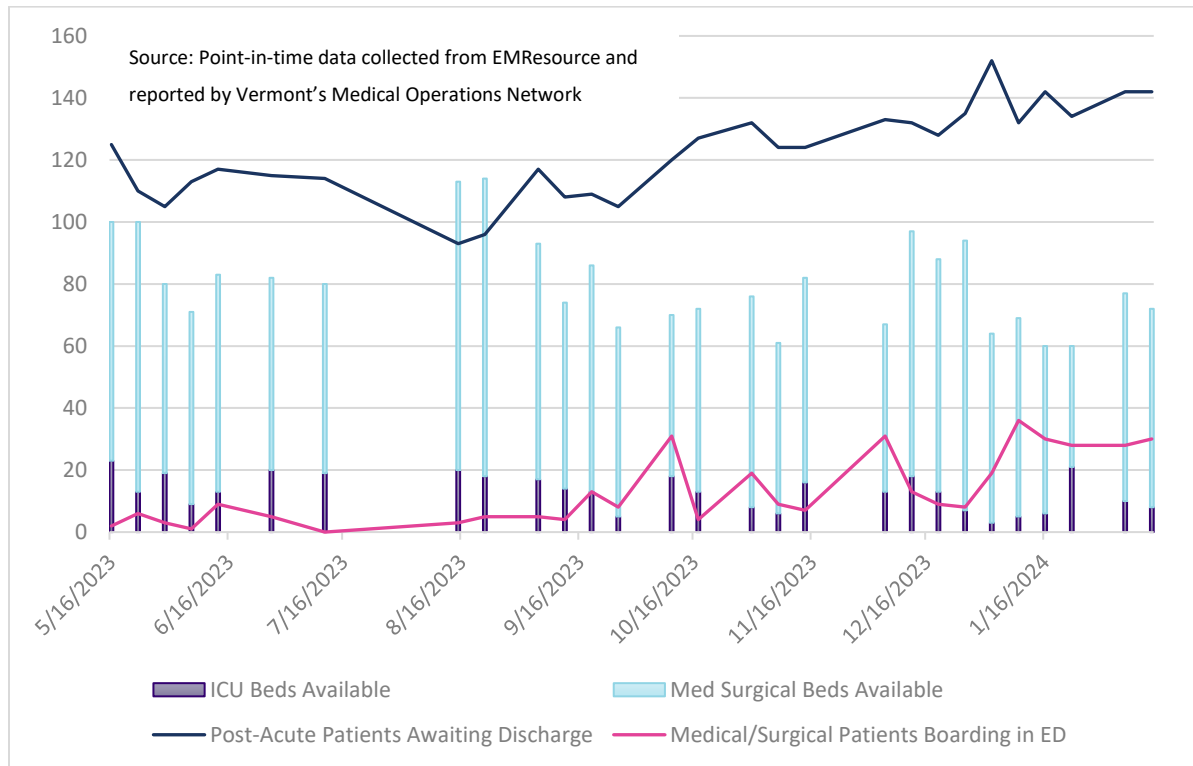




Lack of post-hospital placement is damaging to patients, health care providers, and the health care system

- Patients waiting in hospitals due to lack of placement are at an increased risk of complications and death.¹ These patients are often our most vulnerable Vermonters.
- In the last month, hospitals have regularly seen prolonged waits for 30 medical/surgical patients in emergency departments. The number of medical/surgical patients waiting has surpassed the number of patients waiting for mental health services.
- Health care providers throughout the system are suffering moral injury because patients are not receiving the right level of care.
- Many hospitals do not receive reimbursement for patients who are ready for discharge, increasing health care costs for Vermonters.

As hospital capacity decreases, the number of patients waiting increases



Strengthen our post-acute care system across the continuum

While the Administration’s budget proposal and initiatives help, more resources for both community services and skilled nursing facilities are needed to stabilize the health care system.

¹ Rosman, M., Rachminov, O., Segal, O. *et al.* Prolonged patients’ In-Hospital Waiting Period after discharge eligibility is associated with increased risk of infection, morbidity and mortality: a retrospective cohort analysis. *BMC Health Serv Res* 15, 246 (2015). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12913-015-0929-6>