

## Hospitals

Hospitals play a vital role in Wyoming's health care system and economy. The state currently has twenty-six acute-care community hospitals, one state psychiatric hospital, one private behavioral health hospital, two Veterans Affairs hospitals, and one federal hospital located within Yellowstone National Park. (See Figure 91 below for a distribution map illustrating the distribution of Wyoming's hospitals.)

Table 44<sup>54</sup> reports Wyoming's hospital bed capacity by facility, including a breakdown of the percentage of occupied beds and swing beds at each facility. The occupancy rate is calculated by dividing the actual total resident days of care (average daily census) by the total available resident days of care. Nine hospitals saw over 40% percent of their beds occupied on average last year, with Wyoming Behavioral Institute, a psychiatric hospital, witnessing more than a 70% occupancy rate.

Figure 92 displays by county Wyoming's average hospital beds per 1,000 population. The state average is 2.7, only one-tenth of a percentage point below the national average of 2.8<sup>55</sup>. Figure 92 contains data on "community hospitals,"<sup>56</sup> including data on Critical Access Hospitals, a special designation from the Federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services that requires the hospital to provide 24-hour emergency care, maintain an average length of stay of no longer than ninety-six hours, and provide no more than twenty-five beds for acute inpatient care.

Twenty-two Wyoming hospitals—thirteen Critical Access Hospitals—have "swing bed" agreements, which under the Social Security Act (SSA) allows hospitals to use their beds for acute care or skilled nursing facility care. Figure 92 relies solely on the number of beds licensed by the State of Wyoming Office of Healthcare Licensing and Surveys, which does not differentiate between acute and skilled nursing facility beds when licensing hospitals with swing bed status.

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<sup>54</sup> Data for Table 42 was drawn from the State of Wyoming's Office of Healthcare Licensing and Surveys (OHLS) Retrieved on September 19, 2007 from <http://wdh.state.wy.us/ohls/index.html>.

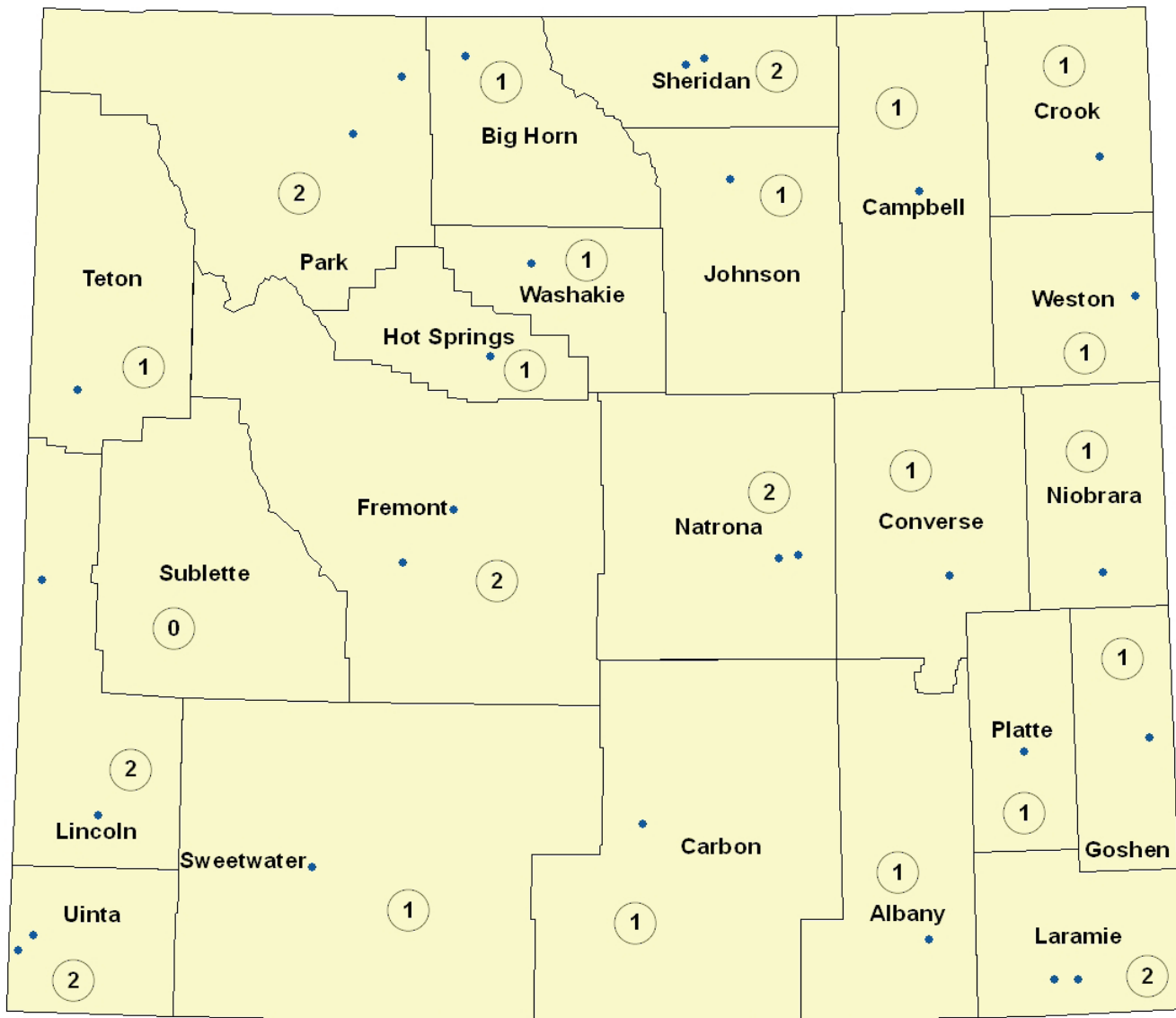
<sup>55</sup> Data for Figure 91 was drawn from: the State of Wyoming's Office of Healthcare Licensing and Surveys (OHLS), retrieved on September 19, 2007 from <http://wdh.state.wy.us/ohls/index.html>, and from the Kaiser Family Foundation, Trends and indicators in the changing health care marketplace, retrieved September 19, 2007 from <http://kff.org/insurance/7031/ti2004>.

<sup>56</sup> According to the Kaiser Family Foundation, community hospitals represent 85% of all U.S. hospitals and do not include Federal Hospitals, long-term care hospitals, psychiatric hospitals, institutions for the mentally retarded, alcoholism and other chemical dependencies. See <http://kff.org/insurance/7031/ti2004>.

**Table 44: Wyoming Hospital Capacity by Hospital**

Hospital Name	City/Town	Licensed Beds	Occupancy %	Swing Bed Occupancy %
<b>Total</b>		<b>1423</b>		
Campbell County Memorial Hospital	Gillette	90	36%	NA
Cheyenne Regional Medical Center	Cheyenne	190	67%	NA
Crook County Medical Services District	Sundance	16	15%	3%
Evanston Regional Hospital	Evanston	42	22%	5%
Hot Springs County Memorial Hospital	Thermopolis	25	26%	20%
Iverson Memorial Hospital	Laramie	99	28%	5%
Johnson County Healthcare Center	Buffalo	25	25%	27%
Lander Valley Medical Center	Lander	72	32%	NA
Memorial Hospital of Carbon County	Rawlins	35	24%	1%
Memorial Hospital of Converse County	Douglas	25	41%	25%
Memorial Hospital of Sweetwater County	Rock Springs	99	20%	NA
Niobrara Health & Life Center	Lusk	24	22%	34%
North Big Horn Hospital District	Lovell	15	16%	12%
Platte County Memorial Hospital	Wheatland	25	26%	30%
Powell Valley Healthcare	Powell	25	26%	10%
Riverton Memorial Hospital	Riverton	70	19%	1%
Saint Johns Medical Center	Jackson	52	48%	NA
Sheridan Memorial Hospital	Sheridan	88	31%	23%
South Big Horn County Hospital	Basin	6	12%	NA
South Lincoln Hospital District	Kemmerer	16	17%	24%
Star Valley Medical Center	Afton	16	25%	13%
Torrington Community Hospital	Torrington	25	48%	56%
West Park Hospital	Cody	25	49%	10%
Weston County Health Services	Newcastle	25	20%	13%
Washakie Medical Center	Worland	25	47%	16%
Wyoming Behavioral Institute	Casper	70	72%	NA
Wyoming Medical Center	Casper	190	53%	NA
Wyoming State Hospital	Evanston	165	42%	NA

Figure 91: Wyoming Hospital Distribution Map N=29<sup>57</sup>



<sup>57</sup> **Note:** Points on the map indicate hospital locations and the numbers surrounded by circles indicate the total number of hospitals in the county.

**Figure 91: Wyoming Hospital Capacity Compared to National Average (Per 1,000 Population)**

