

TARGET

1

Shorter stays in emergency departments

95% of patients to be admitted, discharged, or transferred from an emergency department within six hours.

LEAD MINISTER

Hon Simeon Brown, Minister of Health

LEAD AGENCIES

Ministry of Health, Director-General of Health, Audrey Sonerson

Health New Zealand, Chief Executive, Dr Dale Bramley

TARGET DELIVERY PERFORMANCE - QUARTER ENDING JUNE 2025

Target	Baseline (September 2023)	Current (March 2025)	Status
95%	68.0%	74.2%	 Feasible

PROGRESS TOWARDS TARGET

Proportion of patients to be admitted, discharged, or transferred from an emergency department within six hours



TARGET DELIVERY ACTIONS

The Government is committed to providing timely, high-quality healthcare for all New Zealanders. Improved quarterly results and improved results compared with the same quarter in the prior year.

Patient demand is increasing. In the quarter ending March 2025, there were 12,000 more patients presenting to emergency departments compared with the same quarter in the prior year. Despite the increased demand, 22,000 more patients were admitted, discharged or transferred in under six hours compared with the same quarter in the prior year.

The Minister of Health is focused on driving action to ensure that all New Zealanders have access to timely high-quality healthcare. Improvements across the whole system of care are needed to reduce the unacceptable wait times at emergency departments.

The Minister of Health has announced further actions for making immediate improvements to the delivery of public health services. This includes:

- Reestablishment of the Health New Zealand Board, with new appointments to drive its priority of ensuring timely, quality healthcare for all New Zealanders.
- Enabling primary care to treat more patients in the community by updating GP funding to better reflect patient needs, setting a new health target for faster GP access and backing GP training and retention.
- Budget 2025 is investing \$164 million over four years to expand urgent and after-hours healthcare services across the country. This means 98 per cent of New Zealanders will be able to receive in-person urgent care within one hour's drive of their homes.
- Increasing the size of the workforce to support timely care of patients in hospital. Several targeted international advertising campaigns are underway for roles.
- The New Zealand Health Plan has been tabled in Parliament, and an updated Health Delivery Plan released for the year ahead.

HOW TO FIND OUT MORE

Health agencies will report on progress each quarter. National and regional results will be published so New Zealanders will be able to see how their local hospital is performing. Performance information about the health system is available at the Health New Zealand and Ministry of Health websites www.tewhatauora.govt.nz and www.health.govt.nz. For more information on the Government Targets go to www.dpmc.govt.nz

* Where data is sourced from National Collections, previous results may differ depending on the date of extraction as data is revised and updated live. Due to a new patient management system in Auckland District, results published may show slight variations in future reports.