

IDENTIFYING INFORMATION	
<b>Name:</b>	<b>Patients who left without being seen (LWBS) by an emergency department doctor</b>
<b>Calculation:</b>	Percentage of patients who left without being seen (LWBS) = $\left( \frac{\text{Number of patients that LWBS during the reporting period}}{\text{Number of all emergency department visits during the reporting period}} \right) \times 100$ <b>Metric:</b> Percentage of emergency department patients that LWBS by an emergency department physician.
<b>Description:</b>	<b>LWBS:</b> Patients who decided to leave the emergency department before assessment or treatment by a physician occurred.
<b>Data source:</b>	National Ambulatory Care Reporting System (NACRS)
<b>Assumptions:</b>	All patients who present to the emergency department and decide to leave without being seen by a physician are given a final disposition of LWBS.
<b>Exclusions:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Patients who left the emergency department against medical advice (i.e., patients who decide to leave the emergency department after they had been assessed by a physician, but prior to treatment, and against medical advice) are not included in this measure.</li> <li>2. Results from May and June 2016 are not reported for the Northern Lights Regional Health Centre due to the forest fire that affected Fort McMurray and forced the closure of the Northern Lights Regional Health Centre.</li> </ol>
<b>Limitations:</b>	A very small percentage of patients present to the emergency department but leave before they were triaged or registered. These patients would not be captured. Therefore, results presented are a conservative estimate of actual rates of leaving the emergency department without being seen.

Alberta Health Services, Analytics. “Alberta Emergency Department (Urban) Operational & Performance Dashboard.” (2018) [Dashboard showing monthly and quarterly results for the percentage of patients who chose to leave the emergency department without being seen by an emergency department doctor, by facility]. *AHS Tableau Reporting Platform*. Retrieved from <https://tableau.ahs.ca>

\*For more information regarding visit dispositions, including LWBS status, please visit the NACRS Abstracting Manual, 2014-2015 Edition.<sup>14</sup>

<sup>14</sup> Canadian Institute for Health Information. NACRS Abstracting Manual, 2014-2015 Edition. Ottawa, ON: CIHI; 2014.