Single Bed Certification (SBC) quarterly update

**July–September, 2019**

**General**

A Single Bed Certification (SBC) allows a person to be detained under the mental health criteria of the Involuntary Treatment Act when there are no available certified Evaluation and Treatment (E&T) facility beds. The detained person is able to temporarily receive involuntary inpatient mental health treatment services from a licensed facility that is not currently certified as an E&T facility for up to 30 days, under WAC 388-865-0500. The Behavioral Health Organization (BHO), Behavioral Health Administrative Support Organization (BH-ASO) or its designee (Designated Crisis Responder) must submit a written request for the SBC to the local state hospital. The SBC rule requires the facility named in the SBC be willing and able to provide timely and appropriate mental health treatment in order to not be considered boarding; which was found to be a violation of a person’s civil liberties in the Supreme Court decision, In re detention DW et al.

**Monthly SBC count**

![Monthly SBC Count Graph](image-url)
**Third quarter use of SBC**
The use of SBC continues to rise overall since December 2014. However, in the past couple of years there has been a leveling off of the total number of SBC used across the state each month. As a direct result of the practice in King County of using SBC for all detentions, King County continues to use about 400 more SBCs than any other region.

![Third Quarter use of Single Bed Certifications](image)

**SBCs by adult and youth for third quarter 2019**
The average percentage of youth in SBCs continues to decrease.

![SBCs by Adult and Youth for Third Quarter 2019](image)
Third quarter SBC use by legal criteria statewide

SBCs are also used when an E&T facility is unable to transfer its patient with an order for 90 or 180 days more restrictive involuntary treatment to one of the state hospitals. The SBC allows the E&T facility to provide long-term involuntary treatment temporarily. As proportionally consistent, most of the SBCs are for 90-day commitment orders for involuntary inpatient treatment.

Unavailable detention facility reports

When a Designated Crisis Responder determines a person meets criteria for involuntary inpatient treatment due to a mental disorder or a substance use disorder, but is unable to detain the person at risk due to the lack of an available bed at an E&T facility or a Secure Withdrawal Management and Stabilization facility, and the person cannot be served by the use of SBC, the Designated Crisis Responder is required to make a report to the authority within 24 hours stating they were unable to detain the person due to the lack of a certified involuntary inpatient treatment bed.
Statewide no bed reports by mental health and substance use numbers

In the third quarter of 2019 there were 34 no bed reports for substance use and 205 no bed reports for mental health.

* Excludes 15 records where the disorder type was not known. Data suppression was applied where the frequency of a data point was less than 11.
No bed reports by county

During the third quarter, Clark County had the least number of no bed reports with 11.

No Bed Reports by County for Third Quarter of 2019
(July to September)

* Data suppression was applied where the frequency of a data point was less than 11. "Other Counties" include Asotin, Cowlitz, Grant, King, Lincoln, Pacific, Pierce, Skagit, Thurston, Whatcom, and Yakima counties.