

Has wait time for treatment in ERs increased?

Going to the emergency room is never fun. Especially when you consider how much time you spend there. I believe many of you had an experience of suffering in ER to receive immediate care. As you know, it is almost impossible to get immediate care unless you have suffered life-threatening injuries like as heart attacks. So I want to analyze how much the system has been improved over time.

Methods: I used five numerical summaries, chart, and graph to see the change of the average time spent in ER over time.

Results: The result that I expected to see was that the mean wait time in ER had been decreased over time. However, the result was different from what I expected.

From 2003 through 2009, the mean wait time in U.S. emergency departments (EDs) increased 25%, from 46.5 minutes to 58.1 minutes. Also, the average waiting time spent in ER had been increased 4.98 minutes from 2008. As the result of this study shows that the average time spent in ER has not been improved.

Average number of minutes spent in U.S. emergency departments

Rank	State	2009 Average Number of Minutes Waited	Change in Average No. of Minutes Waited from 2008 to 2009	Rank	State	2009 Average Number of Minutes Waited	Change in Average No. of Minutes Waited from 2008 to 2009
1	Iowa	175	-7	26	Massachusetts	244	-4
2	South Dakota	179	7	26	New Jersey	244	-3
3	North Dakota	187	1	26	Texas	244	-14
4	Nebraska	188	7	29	Connecticut	247	0
5	Minnesota	191	1	30	Alabama	248	0
6	Idaho	194	19	30	Michigan	248	-8
6	Montana	194	8	32	Georgia	249	-11
8	Wyoming	195	18	32	Kentucky	249	5
9	Wisconsin	197	1	34	Washington	250	0
10	Hawaii	204	-8	35	Alaska	256	6
10	Maine	204	3	35	North Carolina	256	-5
12	Vermont	207	5	37	Nevada	262	-66
13	Indiana	214	-5	37	Virginia	262	-1
14	West Virginia	215	13	39	Florida	264	3
15	Louisiana	225	-11	40	California	274	2
16	New Hampshire	227	23	40	South Carolina	274	0
16	Oregon	227	-12	42	Delaware	275	33
18	Tennessee	228	6	43	Rhode Island	284	3
19	Oklahoma	233	17	44	New Mexico	285	-8
20	Arkansas	234	18	45	Maryland	292	30
21	Missouri	236	3	46	Mississippi	296	41
22	Pennsylvania	237	-2	46	New York	296	18
23	Ohio	239	3	48	Arizona	329	19
24	Colorado	241	-1	49	Kansas	343	21
25	Illinois	241	-8	50	Utah	497	89



