

THE CRISIS AND CRISIS: A DISCUSSION ON BEHAVIORAL HEALTH STRATEGIES

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How do you feel about behavioral health boarding?

① Start presenting to display the poll results on this slide.

Disclosures

Disclosures

- I'm completely...

Disclosures

- I'm completely... utterly...

Disclosures

- I'm completely... utterly... indisputably...

Disclosures

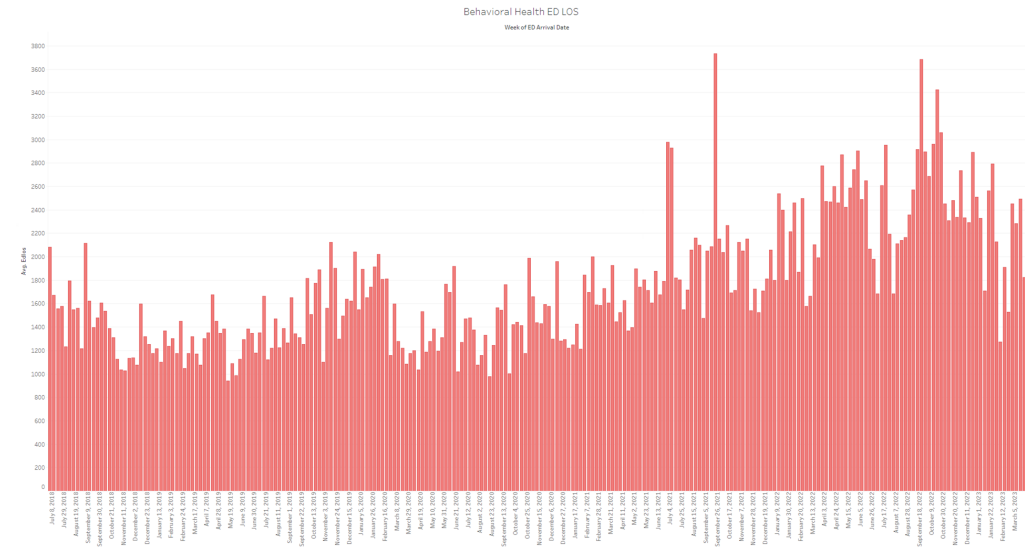
- I'm completely... utterly... indisputably...

Unqualified to give this lecture.

Disclosures

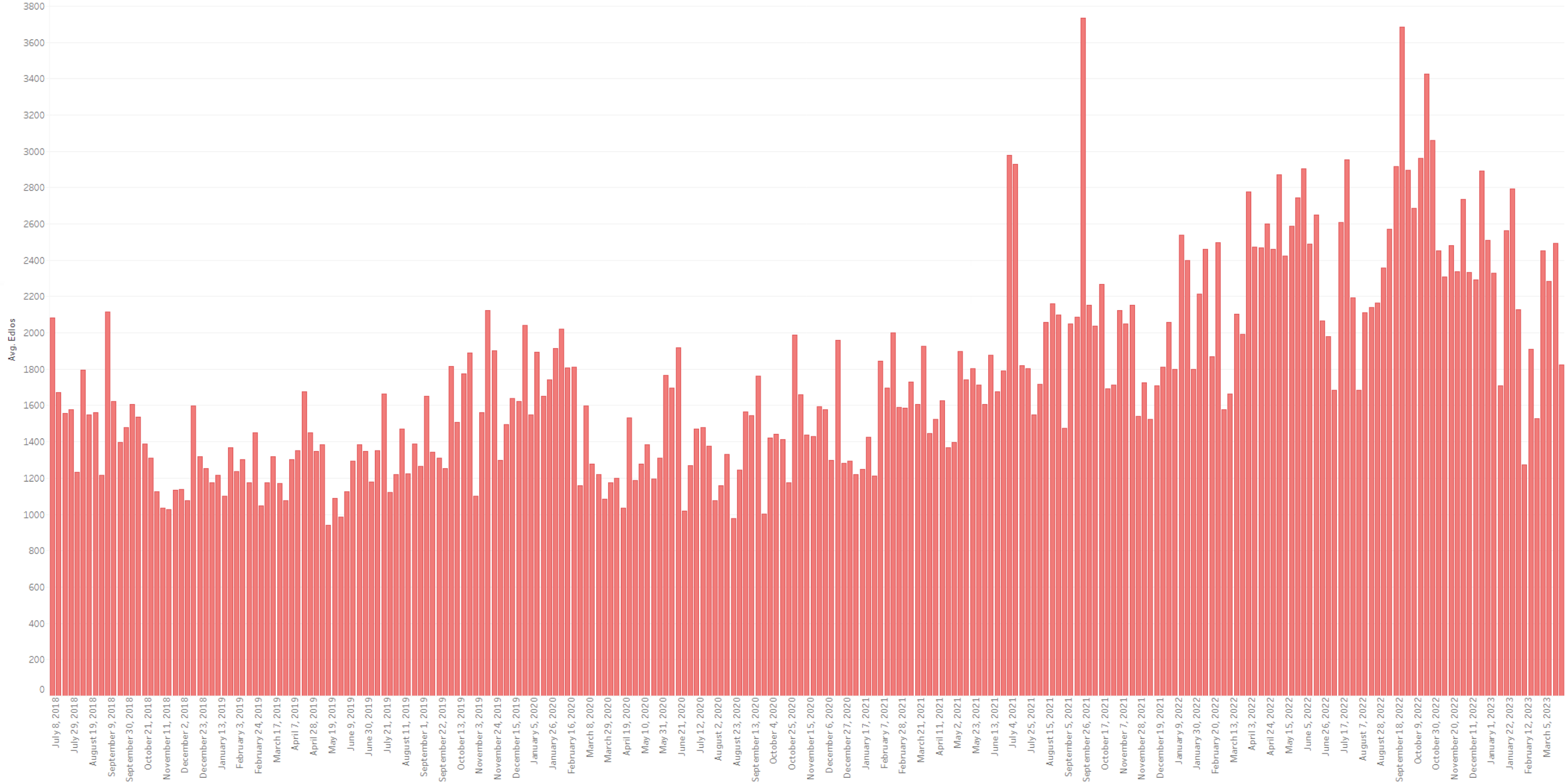
- I'm completely... utterly... indisputably...

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Behavioral Health ED LOS

Week of ED Arrival Date



CHAT GPT...

- Why has psychiatric boarding gone up in the Emergency department? Please give me a 10 item bulleted list, 5 to 7 words each, suitable for powerpoint.

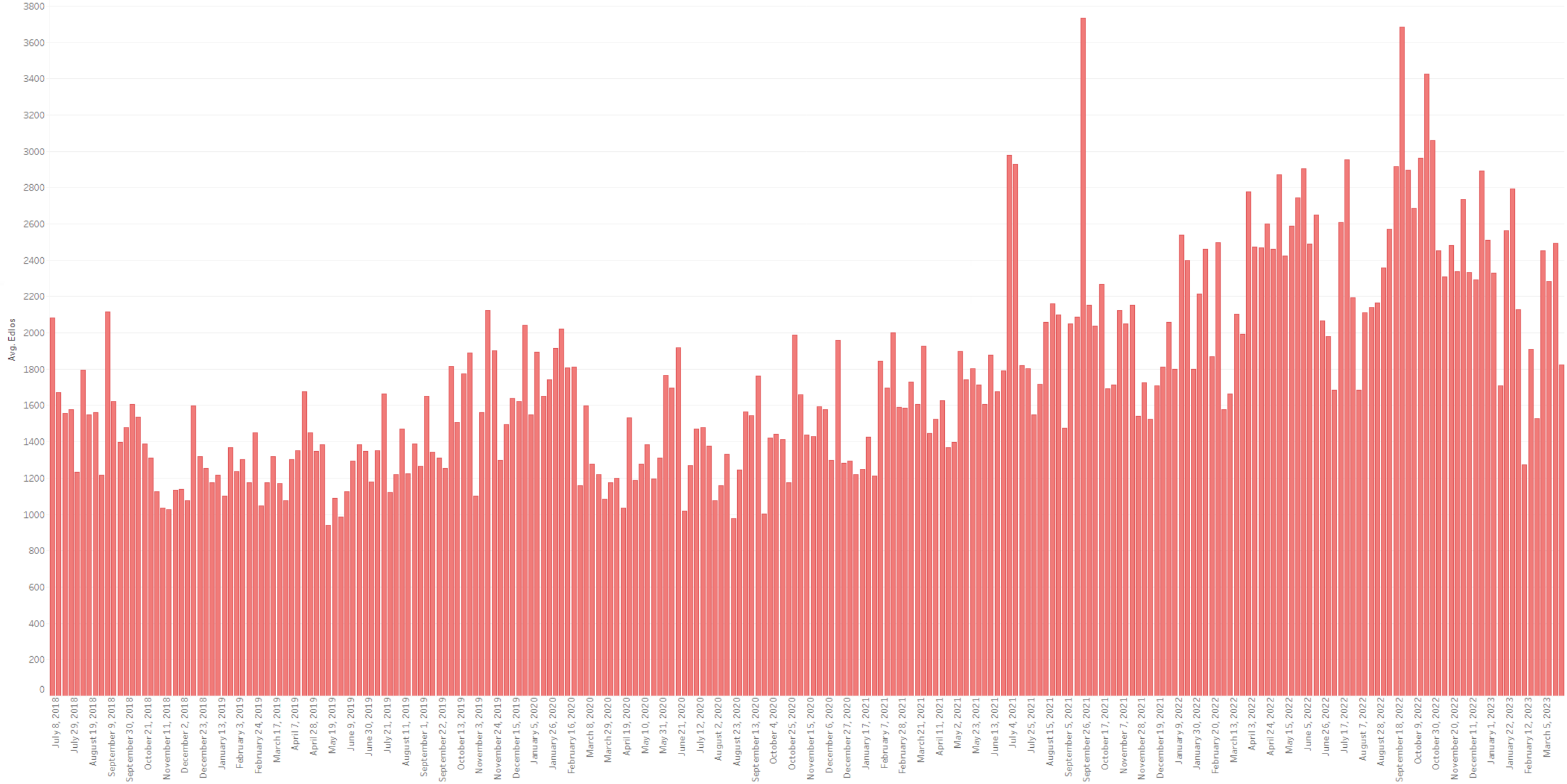
1. Mental health crisis on the rise
2. Lack of community mental health resources
3. Stigma surrounding mental illness persists
4. Insufficient access to outpatient care
5. Substance abuse and addiction
6. Limited availability of inpatient psychiatric beds
7. Increased demand for mental health services
8. Lack of funding for mental health care
9. Inadequate training for emergency department staff
10. Insurance barriers to accessing care.

CHAT GPT...

- Tell me more about that first one?
 - Mental health crisis on the rise: There has been an increase in the number of individuals experiencing mental health crises in recent years, which has contributed to the rise in psychiatric boarding. Factors such as social isolation, economic uncertainty, and trauma have all been linked to the increase in mental health crises.

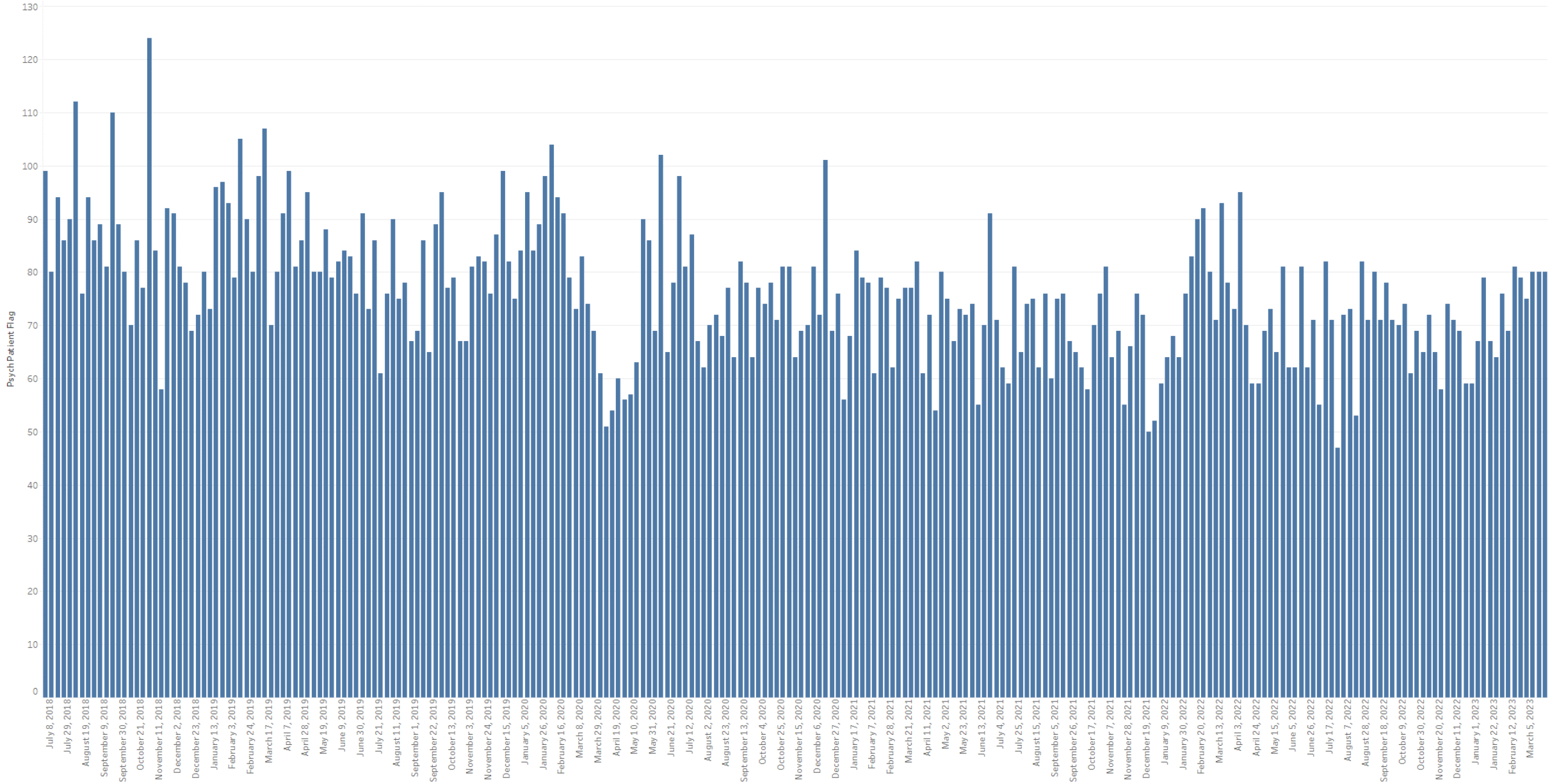
Behavioral Health ED LOS

Week of ED Arrival Date



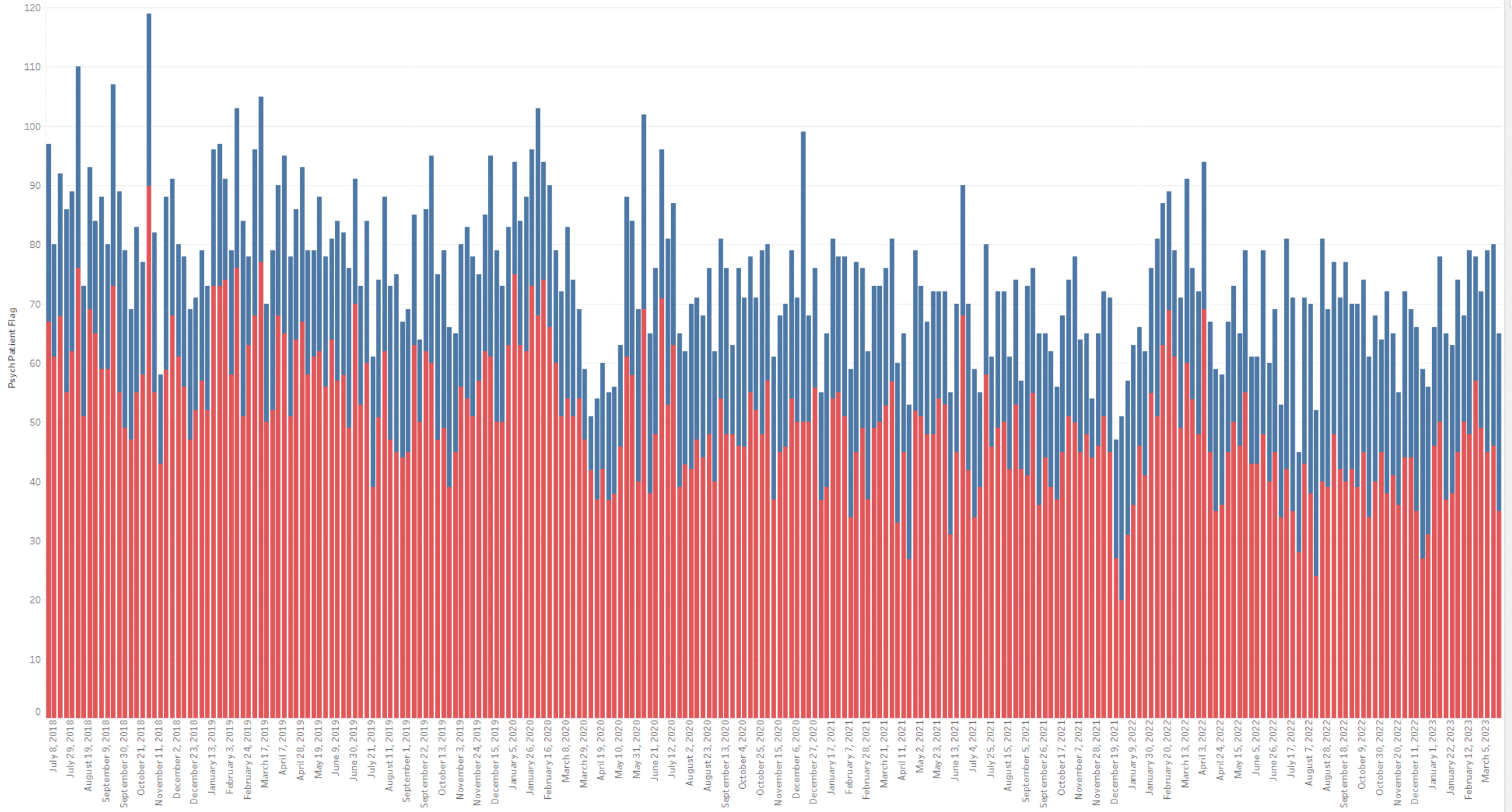
Behavioral Health Patients By Week

Week of ED Arrival Date



Behavioral Health Patients By Week And Dispo

Week of ED Arrival Date



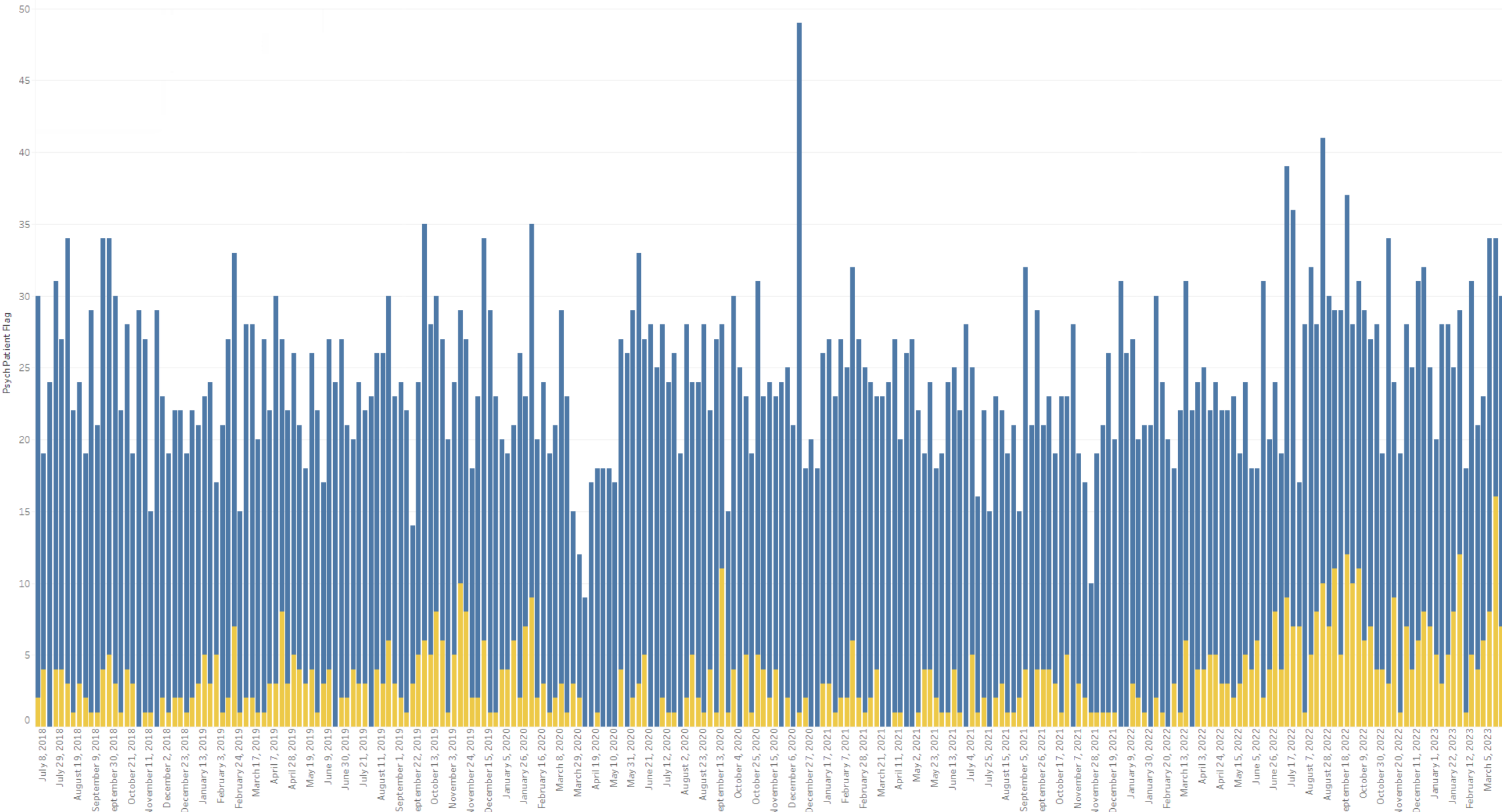
- Pending Psych Admis...
- Admission Confirmed
- Transfer
- Discharge

Behavioral Health Patients By Week Admission And Transfers

Week of ED Arrival Date

ED Disposition

- Pending Psych Admis...
- Admission Confirmed
- Transfer



Psychiatric Outpatient Services

- Loma Linda Health Policy Connection
 - <https://ihpl.llu.edu/blog/rise-emergency-department-visits-due-limited-access-behavioral-health-services>
- 67% of Health Systems Reporting An Increase In Volume


[HOME](#) / [HEALTH POLICY CONNECTION](#) / [RISE IN EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT VISITS DUE TO LIMITED ACCESS TO BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES](#)


Rise in Emergency Department Visits due to
Limited Access to Behavioral Health Services

The Infinite Capacity Problem – A Healthcare Singularity

- The Emergency Department is a healthcare singularity.
 - We just keep adding...
 - Nothing ever comes out...
- Infinite Capacity
 - Finite Output

Dictionary
Definitions from [Oxford Languages](#) · [Learn more](#)

Search for a word 

 **sin·gu·lar·i·ty**
/ˌsɪŋɡjəˈlærədi/

See definitions in:

[All](#) [Physics](#) [Mathematics](#) [Technology](#)

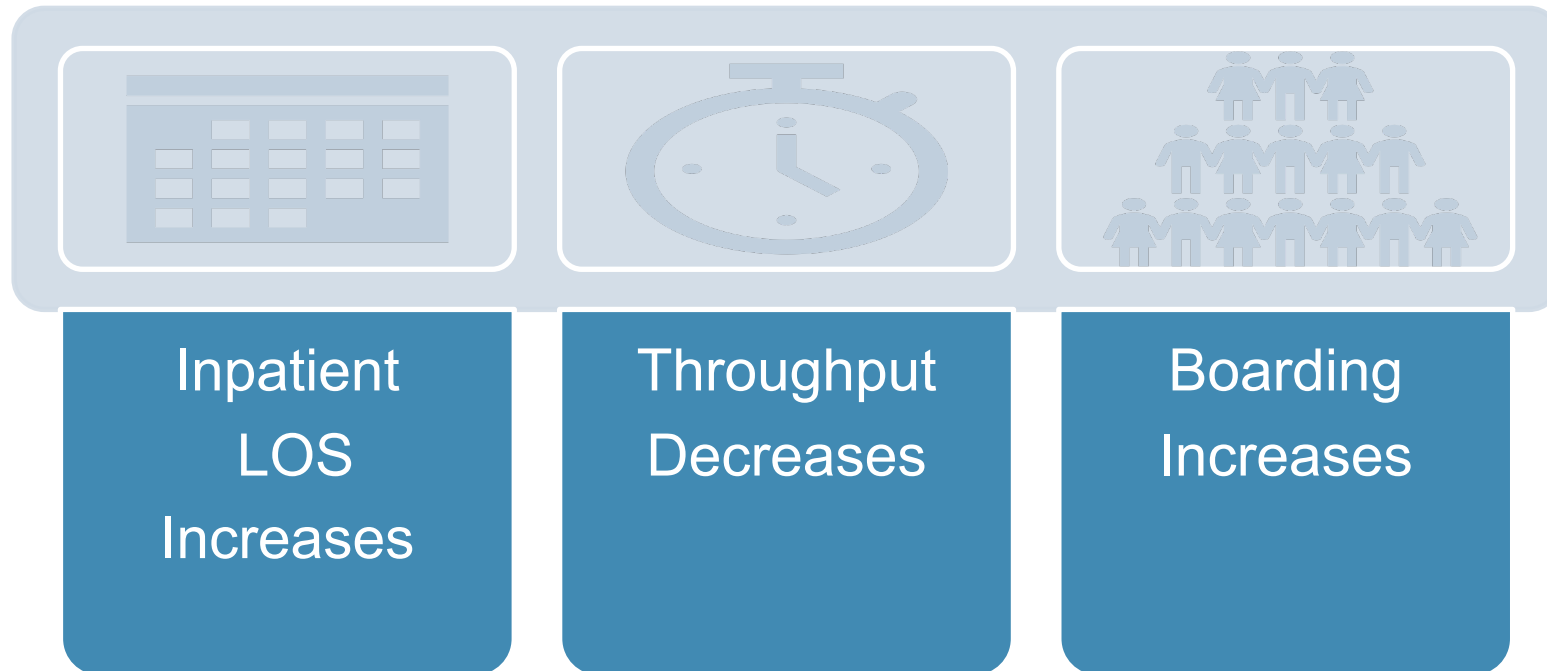
noun

1. the state, fact, quality, or condition of being singular.
"he believed in the singularity of all cultures"

Similar: [uniqueness](#) [distinctiveness](#) [difference](#) [individuality](#) [particularity](#)

2. **PHYSICS • MATHEMATICS**
a point at which a function takes an infinite value, especially in space-time when matter is infinitely dense, as at the center of a black hole.

The Healthcare Singularity...



Whole Health System Solutions

COMMENTARY

Emergency Department Crowding: The Canary in the Health Care System

The solution for this serious threat to ED staff and harm to patients cannot come from a single department, but through engagement of and ongoing commitment by leaders throughout the hospital and, more broadly, by those in the payer and regulatory segments of the health care system as well.

Gabor D. Kelen, MD, Richard Wolfe, MD, Gail D'Onofrio, MD, MS, Angela M. Mills, MD, Deborah Diercks, MD, Susan A. Stern, MD, Michael C. Wadman, MD, and Peter E. Sokolove, MD

September 28, 2021



Crisis Solutions – High Level

- Outpatient Availability
- Addiction Resources
- Early Discharge from Acute Psychiatric Settings
 - Often hampered by the same problems above!
- Hybrid Resources
 - Partial Hospital Programs/Day Programs
 - Group Homes

What Can You Do?

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What have you done to help relieve behavioral health boarding?

① Start presenting to display the poll results on this slide.

What Can You Do?

- The increase in length of stay leads to an increase reliance on transfers (if you even had the option not to transfer before).
- Transfers are a complex, error fraught process.
- High engagement is important.

Mental Health Huddle/Rounding

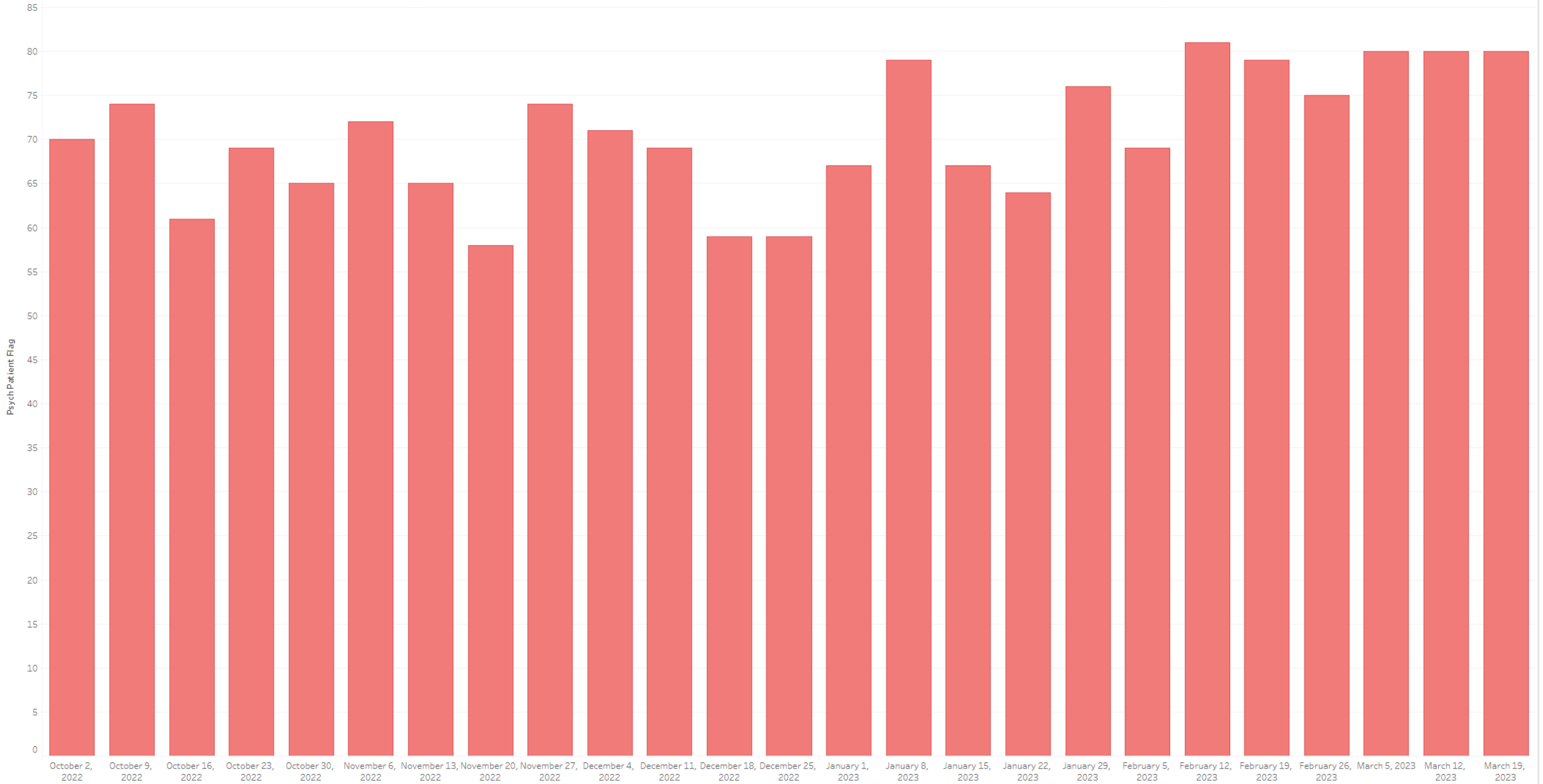
- Key Stakeholders
 - Local Mental Health Providers
 - Mental Health Screeners
 - Social Workers
 - Navigators
 - ED Physicians
 - ED Behavioral Health Champion
 - Nursing

Daily Huddles

- Started Once A Day Remote
- Then moved to in-person
 - This allowed nursing to be involved
- Now Twice A Day

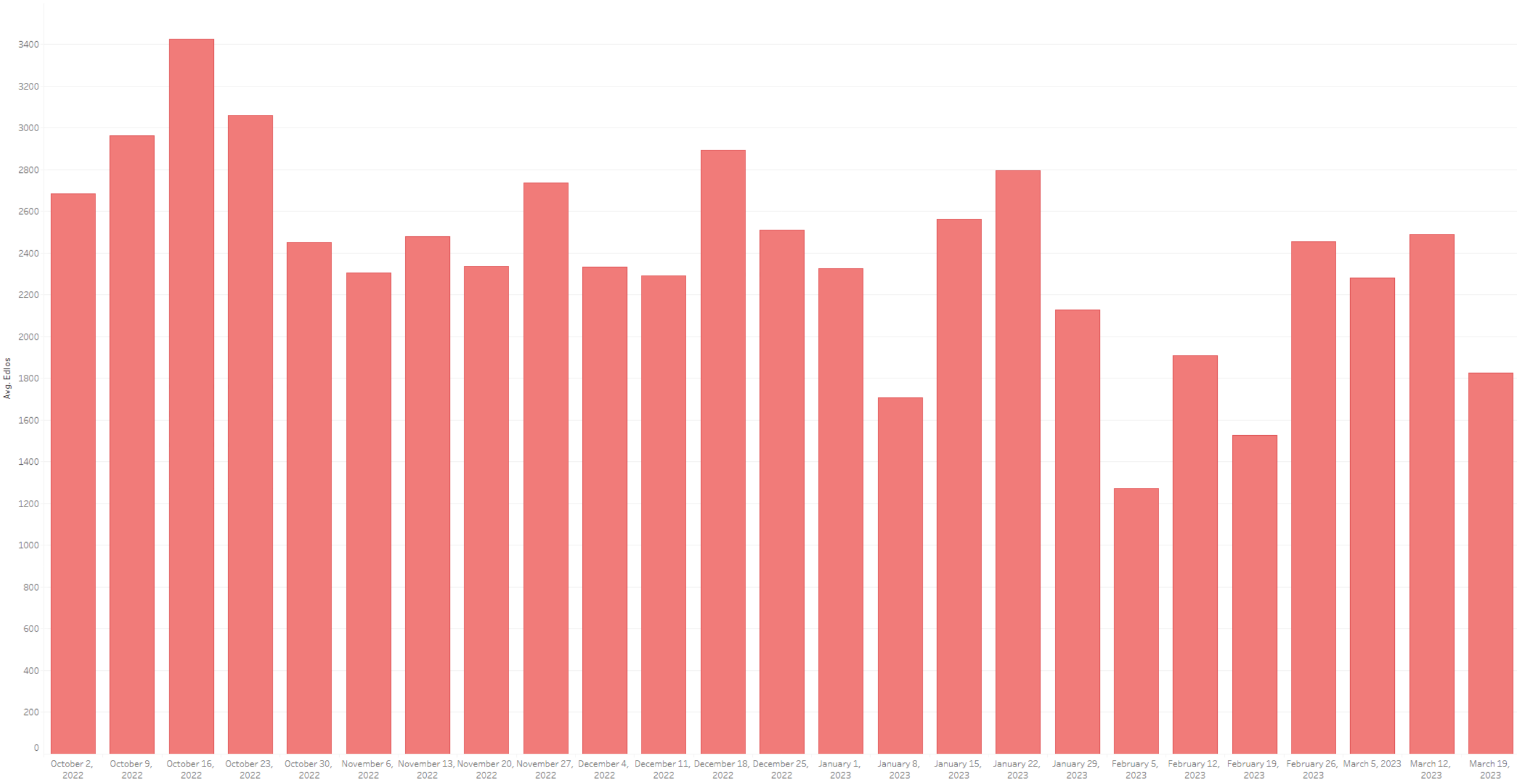
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Observation For Behavioral Health

- July 2019 CPT Assistant
 - Subsequent care to behavioral health patients...
 - Observation Codes
 - Initial Day: 99221-99223
 - Subsequent Days: 99231-99233
 - Discharge Day: 99238-99238
 - Helps to engage ED physicians in ongoing management
 - Improve Quality
 - Improve Operations

Questions?