



# County of San Diego

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## **Medical Director's Update for Base Station Physicians' Committee November 2015**

**AMR purchased Rural Metro (RM)** and has assumed some operations of the city of San Diego. RM for the first time in 20 years of operations had to pay a response non-compliance fine to the city. This fine totaled \$230,000. AMR is working hard with Rural Metro to improve response times over the contractual 12 minutes 90% of emergency calls. The compliance has improved. AMR will continue as the operator. RM cited several issues leading to its difficulties including problems hiring. The city has accepted the AMR Plan to Cure to improve response times.

See below for the tables with data. ALS transports remained high, above last year's average. Bypassed patients were the highest in the past 12 months. Total hours of EDs on bypass have been rising since last November.

**This year's edition of the Health Services Capacity Plan** was finalized and distributed. For 911 ambulance providers off load delay at the ED is defined as three (3) or more ambulances at any 3 EDs in a region with off load delays >30 minutes.

For units meeting the above criterion, or likely to, the crew should speak with the ED charge nurse about unloading the patient. They may want to involve their own supervisor. When this situation is met the crew should notify the EMS agency Duty Officer so they may contact hospital administration. The Duty Officer should not be called for situations that are resolved or about to be resolved. They should not be called after the unit has left the hospital.

EMS has been speaking with administration or medical staff of some facilities about the importance avoiding off load delays. These delays are usually related to "boarding" admitted patients. The prolonged ED stays of some mental health patients is an issue. EMCC has discussed this as well.

**Today's drill will extend this week with** simulation of anthrax release in the county, requiring distribution of antibiotics. There will be a full scale exercise on Thursday, with specific events Tuesday and Wednesday.

**The Sexual Assault Response Teams (SART)** is a standing EMS committee. Information was distributed to EDs recently on non-investigative reports when a victim will have an evidentiary examination but does not wish to pursue a law enforcement process. They have

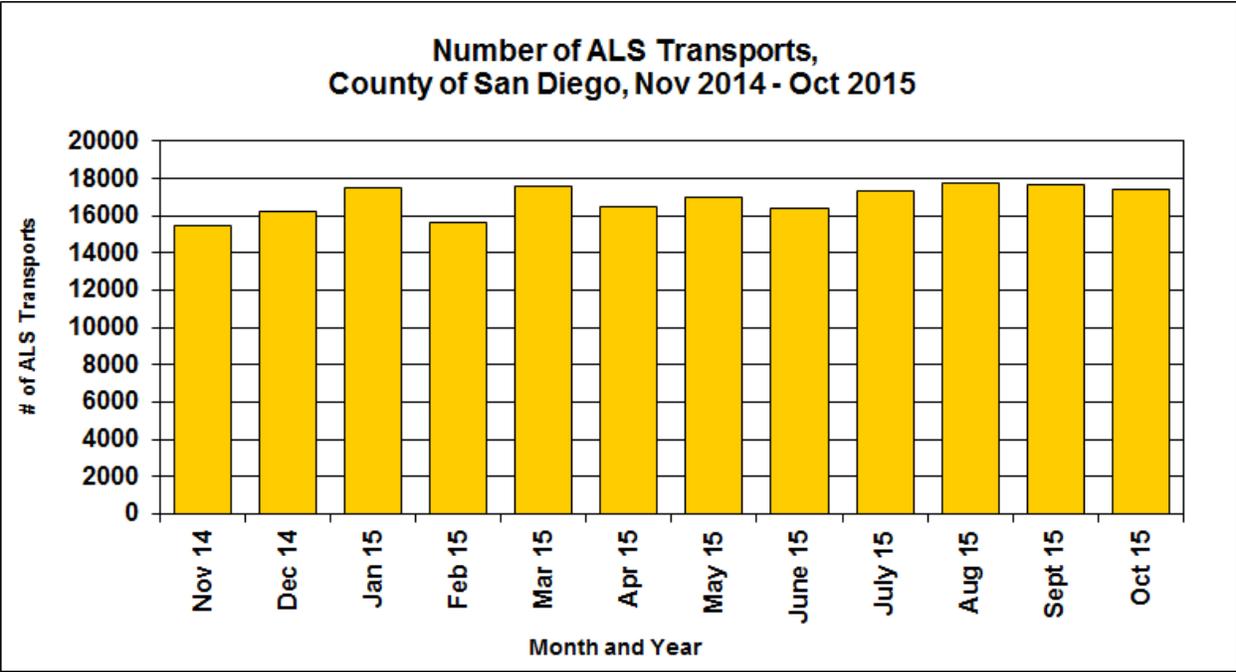
18 months before the kit of evidence will be destroyed. New prophylaxis regimens from the CDC were outlined.

**Over the years the EMS system** in the state has seen numerous law suits attempting to settle the rights and responsibilities of providers and local EMS agencies. The state and providers have been meeting to reach some middle ground. Apparently this has failed, as the California Fire Chiefs Association has gone to court, in federal court, to clarify anti-trust immunity for section "201" providers.

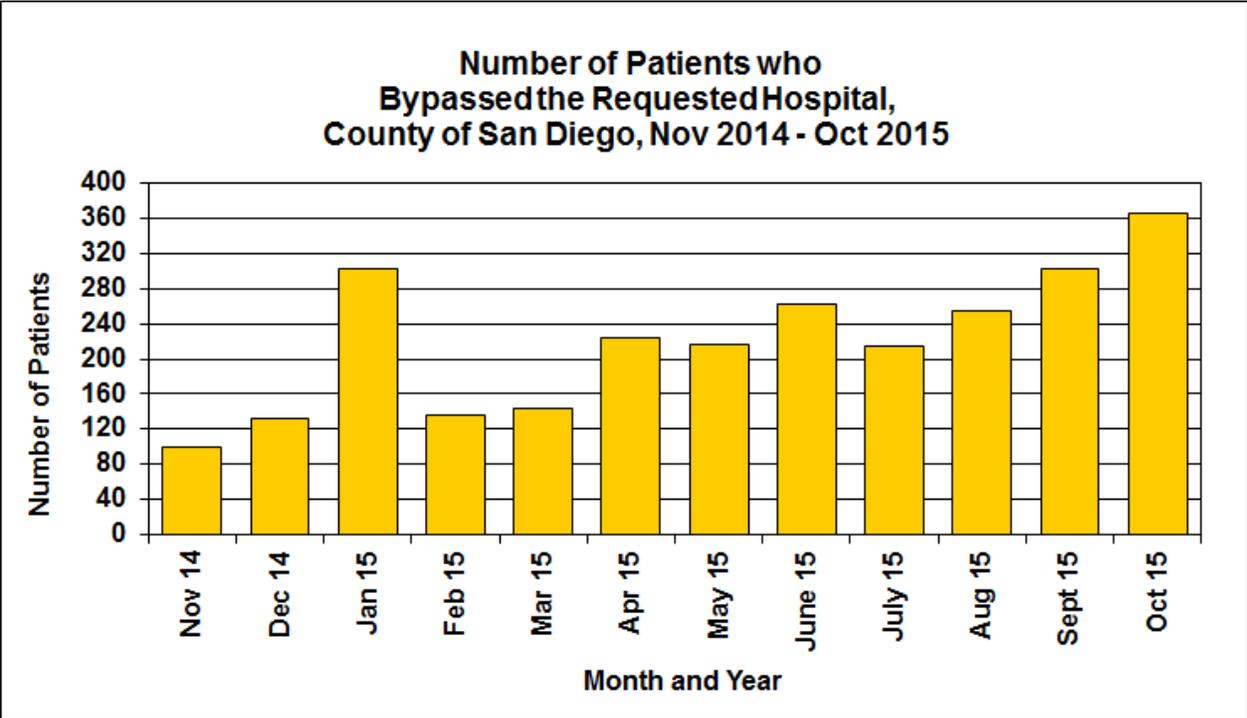
AHA released their ACLS at the recent AHA meeting. Upcoming meetings:

The Emergency Cardiovascular Care update will be in San Diego December 8-11. The National Association of EMS Physicians will be in San Diego also, January 14-16.

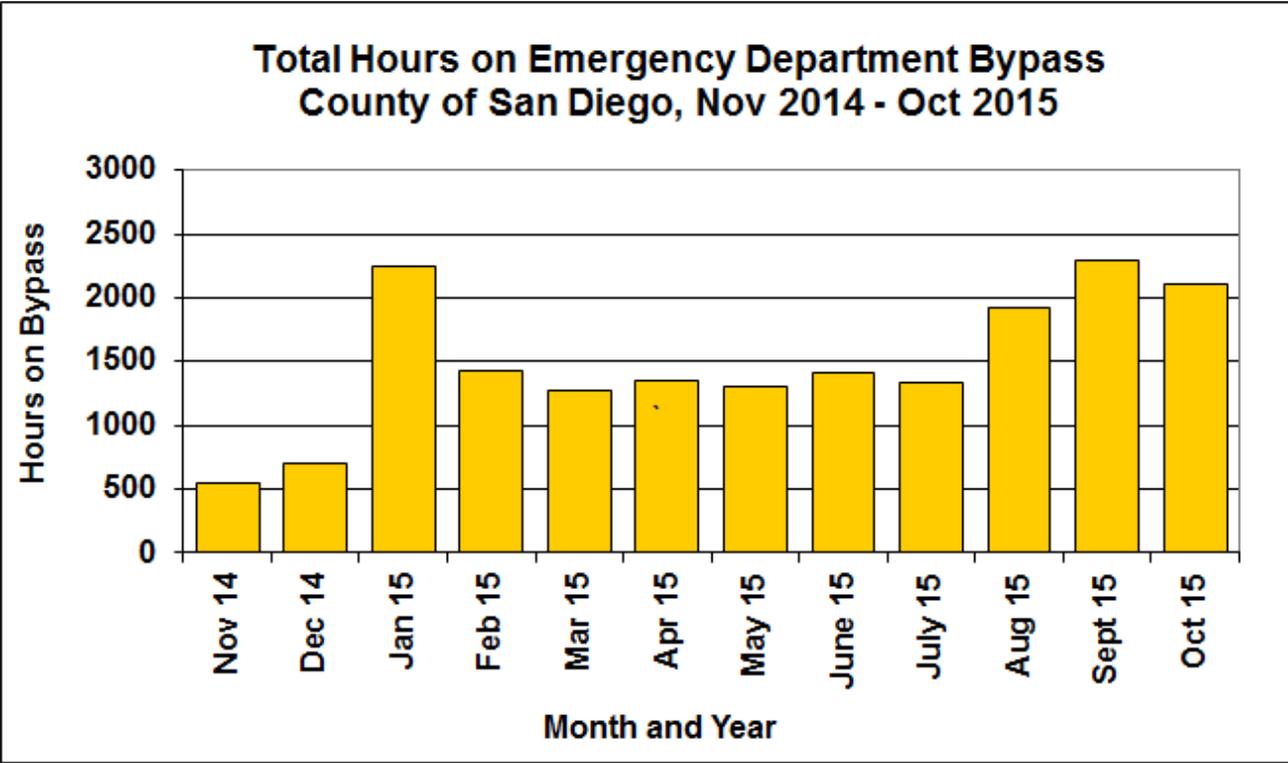
Several recent articles were released. An AHA Statement of Cardiac Arrest in Pregnant Patients was released. In addition, the ROC study group released a trial comparing continuous vs interrupted (30:2) chest compressions during CPR. Outcome was survival to hospital discharge among 23,711 patients. In patients with out-of-hospital cardiac arrest, continuous chest compressions during CPR performed by EMS providers did not result in significantly higher rates of survival or favorable neurologic function than did interrupted chest compressions.



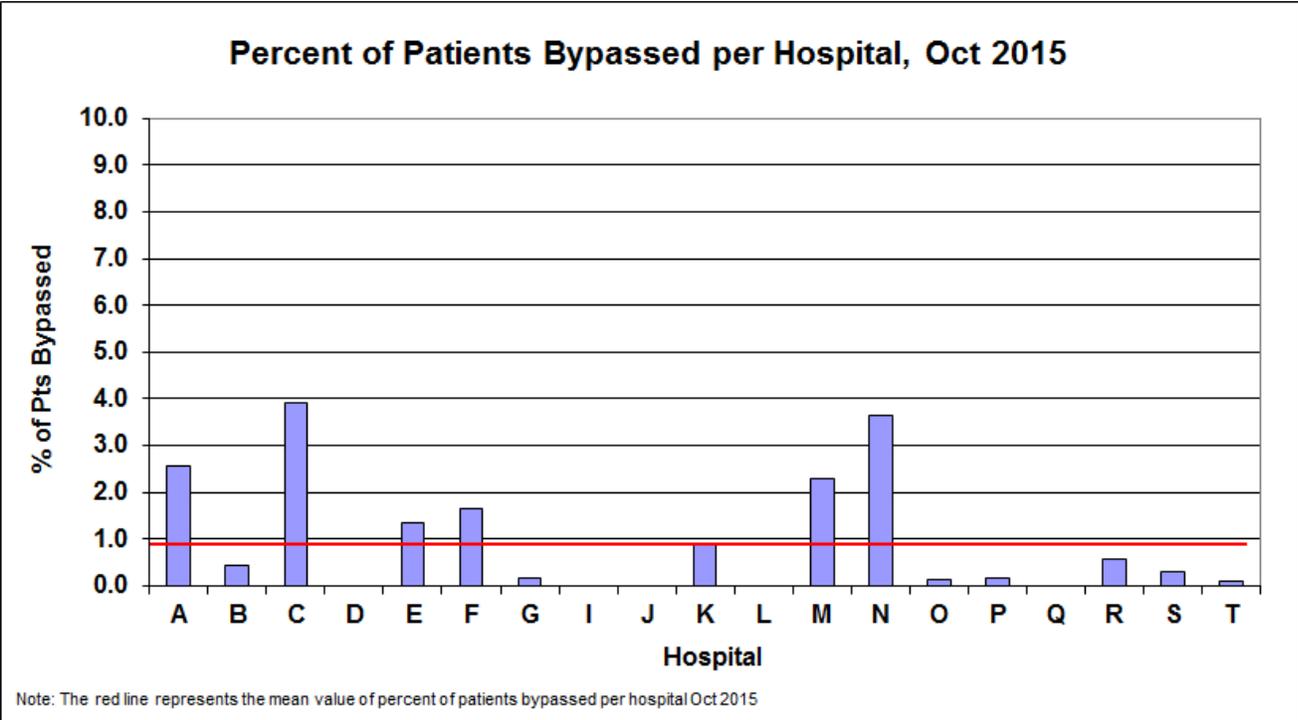
Source: County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency, Emergency Medical Services, MICN Records, Nov 2014 –Oct 2015 Note: Numbers based on Run Outcomes of Transport by Unit and Transport by Other



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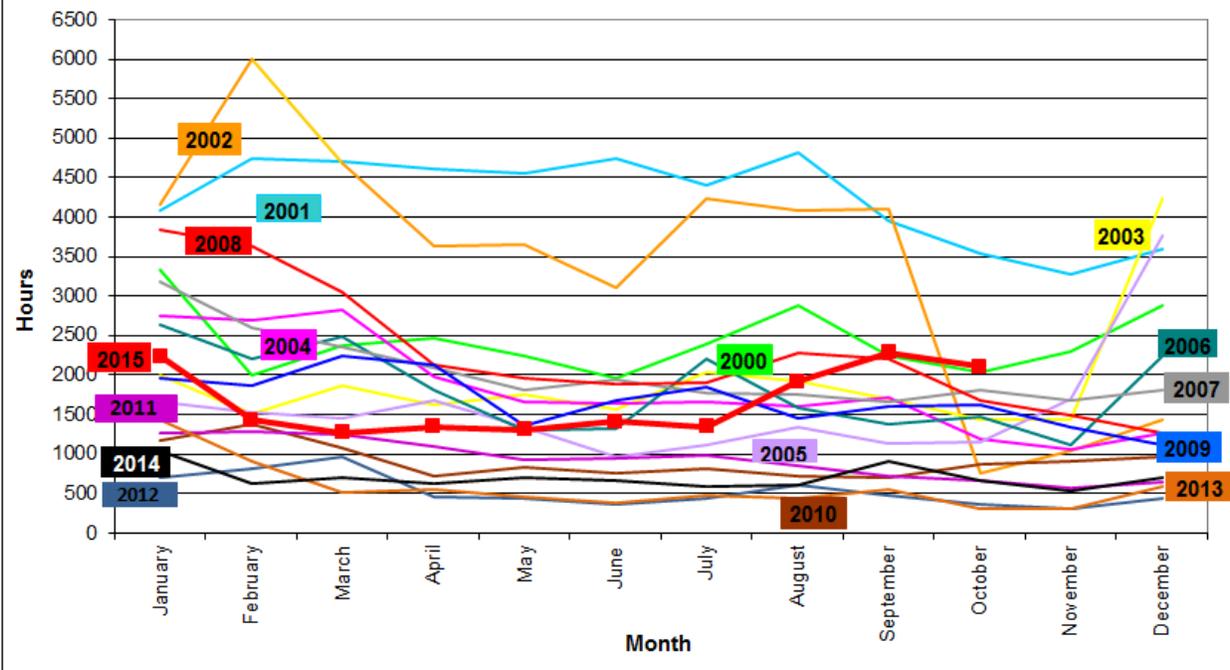


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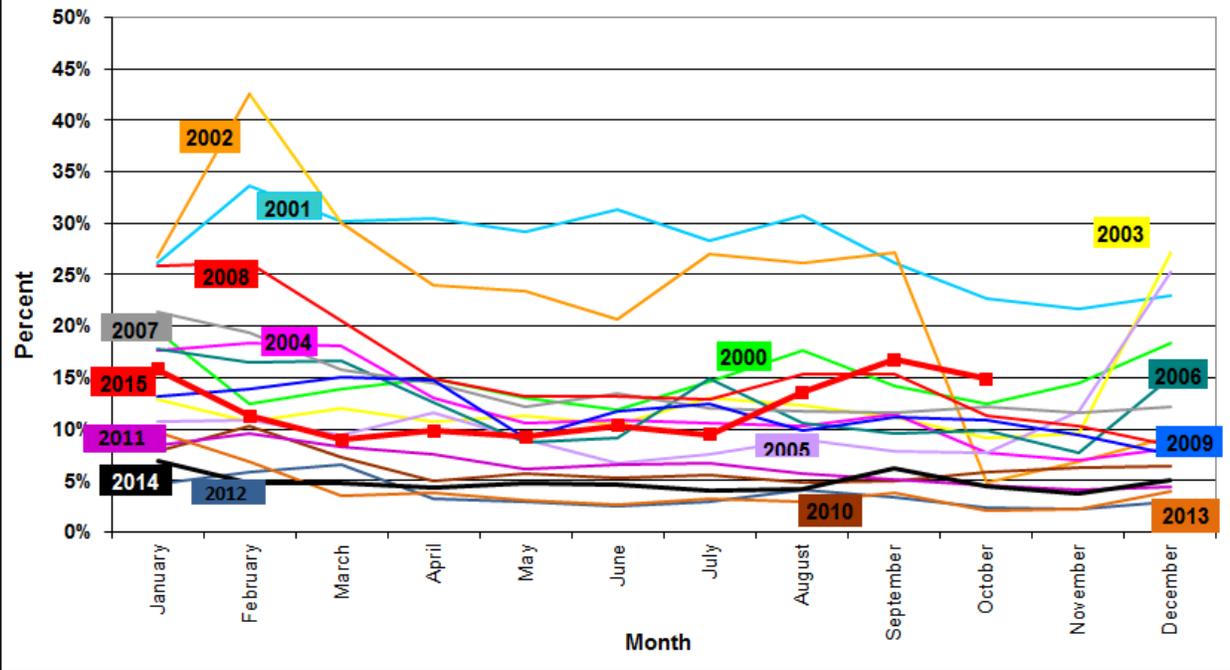
Source: County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency, Emergency Medical Services, MICN Records, Oct 2015  
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### Total Hours on ED Saturation by Month and Year, San Diego County, Jan 2000 - Oct 2015

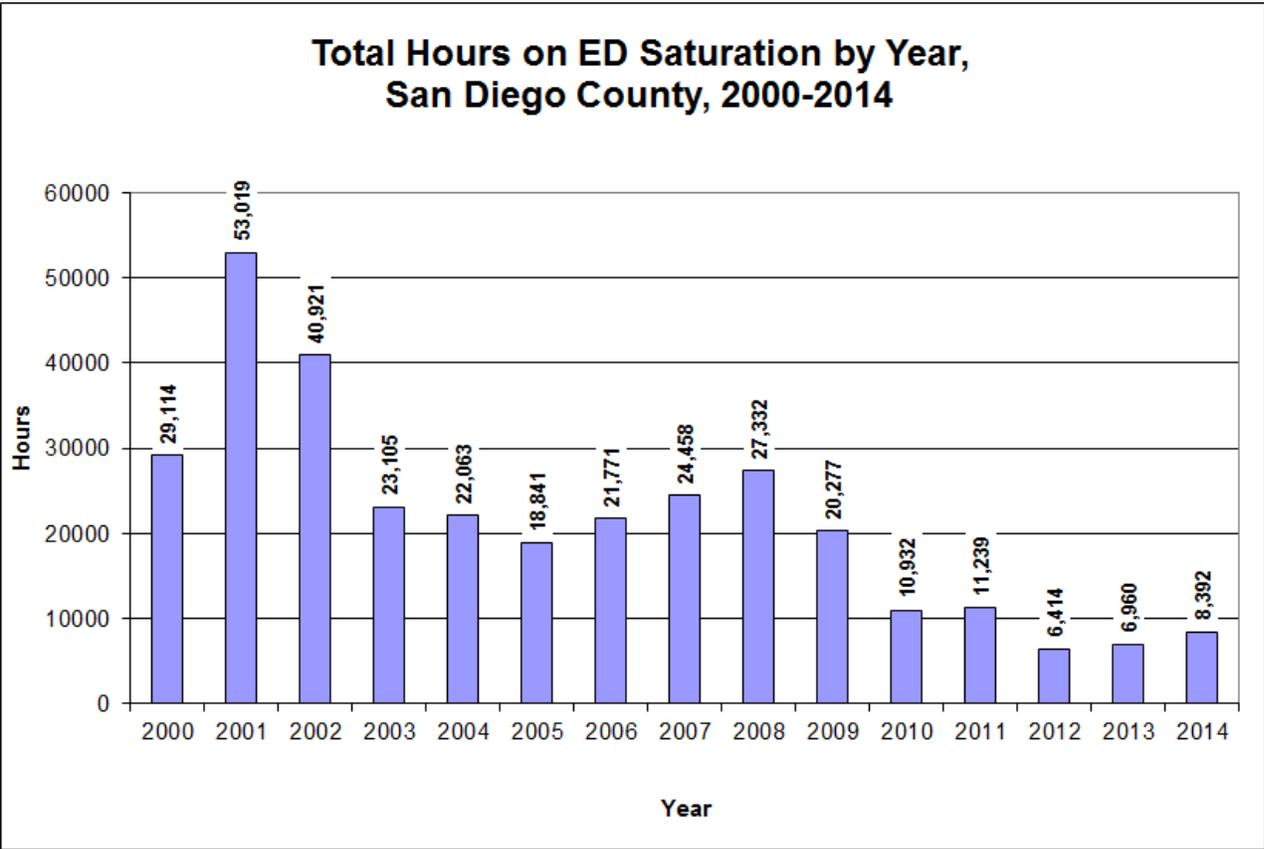


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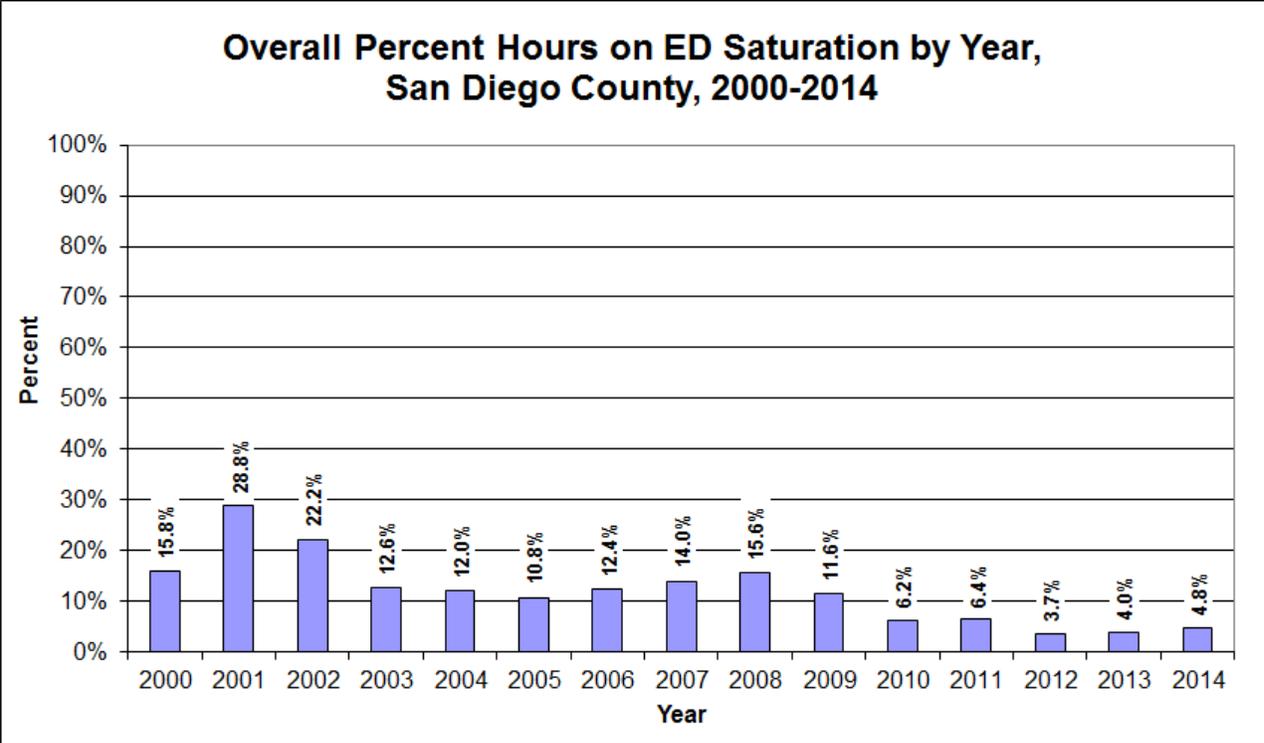
### Overall Percent Hours on ED Sat Per Month and Year San Diego County, Jan 2000 - Oct 2015



Source: County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency, Emergency Medical Services, MICN Records, Jan 2000 – Oct 2015



Source: County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency, Emergency Medical Services, MICN Records, 2000 – 2014



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