

admissions increased by 35,500, or 0.9%, bringing the number of admissions per 1,000 population to 171.5. A study of Table 5.5 reveals that admissions to public general hospitals increased by 2.3% from 1972 to reach nearly 3.5 million in 1973, and another 1.5% increase between 1973 and 1974 brought the number to over 3.5 million; the number of patient admissions increased to 157.6 per 1,000 population in 1973 and remained at that figure in 1974.

Admissions to public mental hospitals totalled approximately 57,200 in 1973, an increase from 1972 of 3.3%, and from 1973 to 1974 decreased by 2.5% to 55,800; the rate per 1,000 population increased from 2.5 in 1972 to 2.6 in 1973 and decreased again to 2.5 in 1974. Over the same period, admissions to public tuberculosis sanatoria dropped by 26.0% to 2,278 in 1973 and again by 46.5% to 1,219 in 1974, the rate per 1,000 population remaining at 0.1 from 1972 to 1974. The average daily population in all Canadian hospitals decreased by 1.3% in 1973 and by 2.0% in 1974. Public general hospitals made up more than one half (56.7%) of the 1974 average daily population compared with 53.9% in 1973 and 52.9% in 1972. Public mental hospitals, second largest, accounted for 25.7% of the 1974 average daily population as against 27.7% in 1973 and 28.6% in 1972.

The average length of stay of adults and children in public general hospitals decreased from 9.7 days in 1972 to 9.4 days in 1973, and then increased again slightly to 9.5 days in 1974 (Table 5.6). Average length of stay was significantly correlated to bed capacity in general hospitals, in 1973 rising from 6.7 days in the 1- to 24-bed group of non-teaching general hospitals to 11.1 days in full-teaching general hospitals in the 1-499-bed group, and in 1974 rising from 6.9 days to 11.8 days in these hospital groups, a reflection of the fact that larger hospitals tend to provide more diversified and complex services. Provincially, average length of stay for public general hospitals as a group ranged in 1973 from 8.3 days in Prince Edward Island to 10.2 days in Quebec and in Nova Scotia, and in 1974 from 7.8 days in Prince Edward Island to 10.5 days in Quebec. Within the allied special group of hospitals there was considerable variation in the average length of stay, extending in 1974 from 8.5 days (8.1 in 1973) for pediatric hospitals to 10.0 days (9.7 in 1973) for the "other" group (maternity, neurological, orthopaedic, cancer hospitals, etc.) and then climbing sharply to 41.8 days (41.6 in 1973) for the convalescent/rehabilitation hospitals and to 218.2 days (211.7 in 1973) for chronic/extended care hospitals. Average length of stay for public general and allied special hospitals as a whole declined from 11.1 days in 1972 to 10.8 days in 1973, and then increased to 11.0 days in 1974.

Table 5.7 shows that there were almost 330,000 full-time employees (excluding paid medical staff in general and allied special hospitals) in the Canadian hospital industry as a whole in 1974, an increase of 6,400 full-time personnel from 1973 and of 6,600 from 1972. General hospitals as a group employed 192.0 full-time personnel per 100 rated beds in 1974, not much change from the group ratios of 191.7 and 192.6 recorded in 1973 and 1972, respectively. Provincially, this ratio varied from 140.0 in Saskatchewan to 242.0 in Newfoundland in 1974 and from 140.3 to 229.2 in these provinces in 1973. Taken as a group, general and allied special hospitals reported a ratio of 180.0 full-time personnel per 100 rated beds in 1974 compared to 178.9 in 1973 and 179.3 in 1972. In mental hospitals there were 97.3 full-time personnel per 100 rated beds in 1974, up from the 91.1 reported in 1973 and the 86.2 reported in 1972, while in tuberculosis sanatoria this ratio was 143.1 in 1974 as compared to 101.4 in 1973 and 100.5 in 1972.

Table 5.8 displays the revenues and expenditures of operating public general hospitals for the reporting years 1973 and 1974. From 1972 to 1973, revenues for these hospitals increased by 13.0% to \$2,710.2 million, and from 1973 to 1974 increased by 23.9% to \$3,359.1 million. Expenditures in 1974 were \$3,409.4 million, representing a 23.8% increase from the 1973 figure of \$2,753.7 million, which was a 12.8% increase from 1972. Salaries and wages accounted for 69.9% of expenditures in 1974 and 69.5% in 1973, while medical and surgical supplies