

**OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS**

1600 Ninth Street, Room 151  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**PRESS RELEASE**

Release Date: August 10, 2015  
For Immediate Release

Contact: Ralph Montano  
Information Officer  
Phone: (916) 654-2410  
E-Mail: ralph.montano@dsh.ca.gov

**State Hospital Patient Data Now Available**

SACRAMENTO - New data about patients in California's state hospitals is the latest addition to the California Health and Human Services' [Open Data Portal](#) for health, Pam Ahlin, director of the Department of State Hospitals (DSH), announced today. Data sets that describe age demographics for patients with mental illness in state hospitals from 2009 – 2014, and the criminal commitment type of patients from 1995 – 2013, are the department's first contributions to the data portal.

"Open data encourages efficiency and new thinking in government," Ahlin said. "There is a wealth of information in this data."

The data has been aggregated and information that could identify patients has been removed to protect patient privacy.

DSH provides mental health services to nearly 7,000 patients in five state hospitals, three psychiatric facilities that are located within prisons, and community programs. Patients are mandated for treatment by a criminal or civil court judge.

Launched last year, the data portal contains more than 100 datasets from the California Department of Public Health, Department of Health Care Services, Department of Managed Health Care, Department of Rehabilitation and Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development.

###