

## FUNCTIONS OF THE STATE MENTAL HOSPITAL

**TABLE 2. Number of Resident Patients, Total Admissions, Net Releases, and Deaths in U.S. State and County Mental Hospitals During 1950-1980<sup>a</sup>**

Year	Hospitals	Resident Patients at End of Year	Patient Admissions <sup>b</sup>	Net Patient Releases <sup>c</sup>	Patient Additions <sup>d</sup>	Patient Discontinuations	Deaths <sup>e</sup>
1950	322	512,501	152,286	99,659	—	—	41,280
1955	275	558,922	178,003	126,498	—	—	44,384
1960	280	535,540	234,791	192,818	—	—	49,748
1965	290	475,202	316,664	288,397	—	—	43,964
1970	315	337,619	384,511	386,937	—	—	30,804
1975	313	193,436	376,156	384,520	433,529	442,096	13,401
1976	300	170,619	—	—	413,559	421,461	10,922
1977	298	159,523	—	—	414,703	415,314	9,716
1978	284	153,544	—	—	406,407	404,031	9,080
1979	280	145,616	—	—	406,259	404,300	7,830
1980	275	137,810	—	—	398,451	395,165	7,108

<sup>a</sup>This table is a condensation of a table recently published elsewhere (18).

<sup>b</sup>From 1950 to 1975 NIMH collected information on inpatient admissions (admissions and readmissions) to state and county mental hospitals. Beginning in 1976 only information on the number of *additions* is available.

<sup>c</sup>For all years net releases were obtained by totalling the number of resident patients at the beginning of the year and the admissions and subtracting from the total number of deaths and resident patients at the end of the year.

<sup>d</sup>From 1971 to the present NIMH has collected information on inpatient additions to state and county mental hospitals on its annual Inventory of Mental Health Facilities. Additions differ from admissions because returns from leave are included, as well as admissions and readmissions.

<sup>e</sup>The ratio of net releases to admissions is an indication of whether the patient population is increasing or decreasing. A ratio of more than 1 indicates a decreasing patient population, a ratio of less than 1 an increasing population. Subsequent to 1975, a measure of gain or loss of patient population is the ratio of discontinuations plus deaths to additions. If this ratio is less than 1, the patient population is increasing; if it is greater than 1 the patient population is decreasing.