# **Oregon Acute Care Hospitals:** Financial & Utilization Trends Q4 2021

Transparent reporting on the financial health of Oregon hospitals and trends in the use of hospital services helps policymakers and the public understand the role of hospitals in driving health care costs, responding to emergencies like the COVID-19 pandemic, and meeting the needs of their communities. This summary analysis accompanies the fourth quarter 2021 update of the Oregon Hospital Financial and Utilization Dashboard, OHA's interactive dashboard for hospital financial and utilization data.\*

Hospital Financial & Utilization Dashboard Click here to explore



# **Key Terms**

#### **Net Patient Revenue**

Money a hospital receives from providing health care services to patients.

#### **Total Operating Revenue**

The sum of net patient revenue and other operating revenue, which is money a hospital receives from services not related to patient care such as grants, gift shop sales, cafeteria sales, or federal CARES Act funds.

#### **Total Operating Expense**

All expenses incurred from operating the hospital, including patient care, supplies, salaries, etc.

#### **Operating Margin**

The sum of net patient revenue and other operating revenue (including CARES Act and other grant funds) minus total expenses.

## **Total Margin**

The net sum of all revenue sources (operating and non-operating) minus all expenses. This includes investment income.



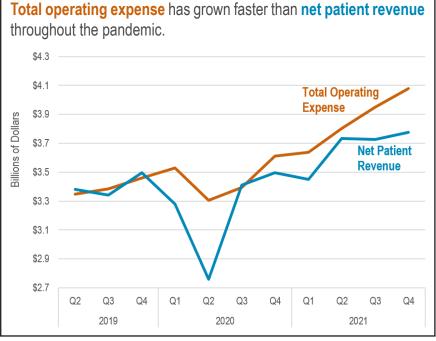
# • Statewide operating margin (profit) fell 85.5 •

Key Takeaways Compared with Q4 2020:

- percent to \$26.0 million. Year-to-date (Q1-Q4 2021) fell to \$249.1 million (-47.9%) total.
- Statewide net patient revenue rose 8.0 percent to \$3.77 billion. Year-to-date rose to • \$14.68 billion (+13.4%) total.
- Statewide total operating revenue rose 8.3 percent to \$4.10 billion. Year-to-date rose to \$15.72 billion (+9.8%) total.
- Statewide total operating expense rose 12.9 percent to \$4.08 billion. Year-to-date rose to \$15.47 billion (+11.7%).
- Statewide total margin fell 75.5 percent to \$101.1 million. Yearto-date fell to \$649.8 million (-25.6%).

# Operating expenses rise above pre-pandemic amounts as net patient revenue returns to longer-term trends.

While revenue trends return to pre-pandemic levels, expenses continue to increase. Statewide total operating expense was \$4.08 billion in Q4, a 12.9 percent increase compared with Q4 2020. Year-to-date operating expense was \$15.47 billion, up \$1.63 billion (+11.7%) compared with the same period in 2020.



Hospital Financial & Utilization Trends Summary - Q4 2021

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#### Net patient revenue

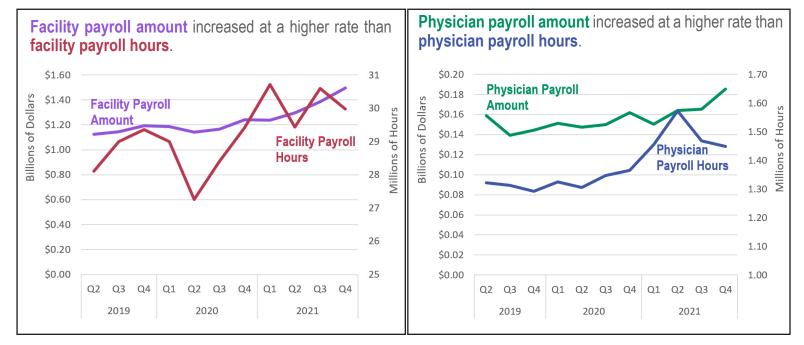
(NPR) has returned to expected levels after the Delta wave passed and is in line with pre-pandemic trends. Statewide **NPR** rose 8.0 percent compared with Q4 2020 to \$3.77 billion. Year-to-date NPR is \$14.68 billion. a 13.4 percent increase from the same period in 2020.

# Payroll impacts operating expense.

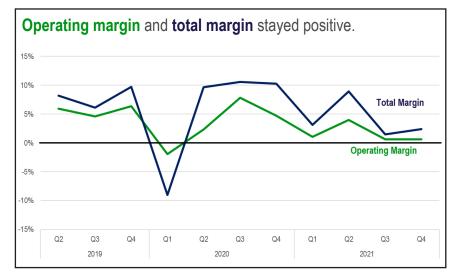
In 2021, expenses overall have increase and payroll expenses are a driving factor. Facility payroll hours are W-2 wage employees only, which excludes contract employees such as traveling nurses.

Compared with Q4 2020:

- Statewide facility payroll hours rose 1.9 percent and had an increase of facility payroll amount of 20.6 percent, to \$1.49 billion. Year-to-date facility payroll amount rose to \$5.41 billion (+14.4%) total.
- Statewide physician payroll hours rose 6.1 percent and had an increase of physician payroll amount of 14.5 percent, to \$185.5 million. Year-to-date physician payroll amount rose to \$665.0 million (+8.9%) total.



# Fourth quarter operating margins remain low due to expense growth.



Due to the larger growth of expenses, the fourth quarter operating margins are down from the previous year. Statewide **operating margin** (**profit**) fell to \$26.0 million in the 4th quarter (-85.5%) and \$249.1 million in 2021 (-47.9%) year-to-date. Higher operating margins seen in 2020 were partially due to provider relief funds from the CARES Act, which offset revenue losses due to the early part of the pandemic.

**Total margin**, which includes investment income, fell 75.5 percent to \$101.1 million from Q4 2020. Year-to-date **total margin** fell \$223.8 million (-25.6%) compared with the same period in 2020

### same period in 2020.



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