

README

A description of the 5 hospice data files is included below. The first below is not section 508 compliant. However, the data from the first file is presented in the second and third files in a 508 compliant fashion. Therefore if a reader can view the first file, he or she would not need to review the second and third files. Additionally, the fourth file below includes 3 tabs: 2 show line graphs and the third shows the data table from which the graphs were built.

1. **Summary_1999-2009.xlsx:** This file shows the top 20 hospice diagnoses, the number of patients, and average length of stay for calendar years 1999 to 2009. This file must be printed with a landscape orientation on legal paper. This file is not 508-compliant, so we have created 508-compliant versions, with the identical data in 2 separate files: one with 1999 to 2003 data, and one with 2004 to 2009 data.
2. **Top_20_Summary_1999-2003.xlsx:** This file shows the top 20 hospice diagnoses, the number of patients, and average length of stay for calendar years 1999 to 2003. This file must be printed with a landscape orientation on legal paper.
3. **Top_20_Summary_2004-2009.xlsx:** This file shows the top 20 hospice diagnoses, the number of patients, and average length of stay for calendar years 2004 to 2009. This file must be printed with a landscape orientation on legal paper.
4. **Top_20_Charts_1998-2009.xlsx:** This file has 3 tabs. The tab labeled “Chart 1 Avg LOS Cancer” displays a line graph of the average length of stay from 1998 to 2009 for each cancer diagnosis in the top 20 diagnoses in 2009. The tab labeled “Chart 2 Avg LOS Non-Cancer” displays a line graph of the average length of stay from 1998 to 2009 for each non-cancer diagnosis in the top 20 diagnoses in 2009. The tab labeled “LOS data” is a data table showing average LOS from 1998 to 2009 for the top 20 diagnoses in 2009.
5. **Medicare_Hospice_Data_Top_20_2009.pdf:** This text file briefly summarizes the data tables and charts, and the trends observed.