# Balanced Budget

All hospitals are required to have a balanced budget. Sound financial management and a balanced budget reflect the outcomes, and lower rates of absenteeism. Bi-annual NCR Picker/Database reports on hospital financial performance indicate that this measure is significantly lower than the overall average for hospitals in the region. A balanced budget is one measure of access because the inability to discharge patients has an impact on the hospital’s capacity to accept new patients.

### Lost Time Injury Index

The lost time injury index is a measure of workplace safety. Causes of job-related lost time can include falls, epidemic outbreaks, and patient-related incidents. In addition, it has been suggested that there is an inverse relationship between employee absenteeism and staff engagement and commitment to an organization. This indicator focuses on client perceptions of the quality of care provided by the hospital, as measured by the Ontario Patient Outcome of Care (OPOC) Survey. Inpatient and outpatient results are reported separately, because the nature of the services is different. The survey is done annually and results are reported once a year.