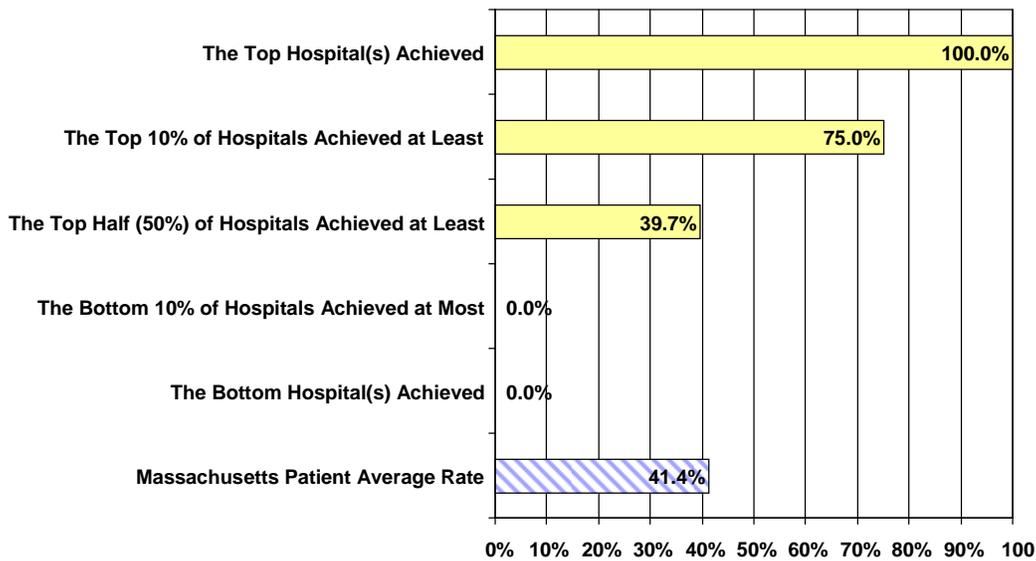


Brain Imaging

7. Percentage of eligible ischemic stroke patients who had brain imaging completed within 25 minutes from arrival at MA PSS hospital Emergency Department.

In order for patients to be treated with IV-tPA, brain imaging needs to be completed to confirm the type of stroke that the patient is experiencing. Timely brain imaging is key to good stroke care and completion within 25 minutes of hospital arrival is considered an ideal [benchmark](#). The following graph shows the percentage of eligible patients who had brain imaging completed within 25 minutes from arrival at a MA PSS hospital Emergency Department in 2007 and 2008.

Fig. 7. Percent of eligible* patients who had brain imaging completed within 25 minutes from arrival



Note: Eligible patients consist of ischemic stroke patients who arrived at the ED within 2 hrs of last known well and had no contraindications for IV-tPA use. In Massachusetts, 1,067 eligible patients arrived at 68 hospitals in 2007 and 2008. 2 hospitals had no eligible patients and were excluded from the analysis.

The hospitals are distributed as follows: The top 10% = 7 hospitals, the top 50% = 33 and the bottom 10% = 7.

What does this graph show?

This graph shows that the top hospital completed brain imaging within 25 minutes from the time the patient arrived at the ED for all of their eligible patients. The top 10% (7 hospitals) completed brain imaging within 25 minutes of ED arrival for 75% to 100%. The top 50% (33 hospitals) completed brain imaging within 25 minutes of ED arrival for 39.7% to 100% of their eligible patients. The bottom 10% (7 hospitals) did not image any eligible patients within 25 minutes of ED arrival. Two hospitals had no eligible patients visit their Emergency Department. Overall 41.4% of 1,067 eligible patients had a brain image completed within 25 minutes of ED arrival in Massachusetts.