

# National Healthcare Agreement: P46-Rates of services: Outpatient occasions of service, 2010 QS

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## Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Data Quality Statement
METEOR identifier:	393049
Registration status:	<a href="#">Health</a> , Superseded 08/06/2011

## Data quality

Data quality statement summary:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Variations in counting and classification practices and in admission practices and policies across jurisdictions may affect the comparability of these data.</li><li>• Interpretation of rates for jurisdictions should take into consideration cross-border flows, particularly in the ACT.</li></ul>
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Institutional environment:	<p>The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) has calculated this indicator. The data were supplied to the Institute by state and territory health authorities. The state and territory health authorities received these data from public and private hospitals. States and territories use these data for service planning, monitoring and internal and public reporting.</p>
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The Institute is an independent statutory authority within the Health and Ageing portfolio, which is accountable to the Parliament of Australia through the Minister. For further information see the AIHW website.

Hospitals may be required to provide data to states and territories through a variety of administrative arrangements, contractual requirements or legislation.

States and territories supplied these data under the terms of the National Health Information Agreement (see link).

[http://www.aihw.gov.au/committees/simc/final\\_nhia\\_signed.doc](http://www.aihw.gov.au/committees/simc/final_nhia_signed.doc)

Timeliness:	The reference period for this data set is 2007–08.
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Accessibility:	<p>The AIHW provides a variety of products that draw upon the National Public Hospital Establishment Database (NPHEd) data. Published products available on the AIHW website are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Australian hospital statistics</i> with associated Excel tables.</li><li>• Interactive data cube for public hospital establishments data</li></ul>
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Interpretability:	<p>Supporting information on the quality and use of the NPHEd is published annually in <i>Australian hospital statistics</i> (chapter 2 and technical appendixes), available in hard copy or on the AIHW website. Readers are advised to read caveat information to ensure appropriate interpretation of the performance indicator. Supporting information includes discussion of changes in service delivery that might affect interpretation of the published data. Metadata information for the NMDS for Public hospital establishments are published in the AIHW's online metadata repository (METeOR) and the <i>National health data dictionary</i>.</p>
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Relevance:	<p>The purpose of the NMDS for Public hospital establishments is to collect information on the characteristics of public hospitals and summary information on non-admitted services provided by them. The scope is public hospitals in Australia, including public acute hospitals, psychiatric hospitals, drug and alcohol hospitals and dental hospitals in all states and territories. The collection covers hospitals within the jurisdiction of the state and territory health authorities. Hence, public hospitals not administered by the state and territory health authorities (hospitals operated by the Department of Health and Ageing, or correctional authorities for example, and hospitals located in offshore territories) are not included. For 2007–08, essentially all public hospitals were included.</p>
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**Accuracy:** For 2007–08, coverage of the NPHED was essentially complete. The data are defined and/or documented in the NMDS for Public hospital establishments. However, differences in admission practices, counting and classification practices across jurisdictions may affect the comparability of these data. In addition, a patient may receive more than one outpatient occasion of service at the same attendance and this should be taken into consideration in the interpretation of these data.

Inaccurate responses may occur in all data provided to the AIHW, and the AIHW does not have direct access to jurisdictional records to determine the accuracy of the data provided. However, routine data quality checks are conducted by states and territories prior to submission to the AIHW. The AIHW then undertakes extensive validations on receipt of data. Data are checked for valid values, logical consistency and historical consistency. Potential errors are queried with jurisdictions, and corrections and resubmissions may be made in response to these edit queries. The AIHW does not adjust data to account for possible data errors.

**Coherence:** The information presented for this indicator is calculated using the same methodology as data published in *Australian hospital statistics 2007–08*.

## Source and reference attributes

**Submitting organisation:** Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

## Relational attributes

**Related metadata references:** Has been superseded by [National Healthcare Agreement: P146: Rates of services: Outpatient occasions of service, 2011 QS](#)  
[Health](#), Superseded 04/12/2012

**Indicators linked to this Data Quality statement:** [National Healthcare Agreement: P46-Rates of services: Outpatient occasions of service, 2010](#)  
[Health](#), Superseded 08/06/2011