National Health Performance Authority, Hospital Performance: Median waiting time for elective surgery 2012-13

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# National Health Performance Authority, Hospital Performance: Median waiting time for elective surgery 2012-13

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| Identifying and definitional attributes |
| Metadata item type: | Indicator |
| Indicator type: | Progress measure |
| Short name: | Median waiting time for elective surgery 2012-13 |
| METEOR identifier: | 532942 |
| Registration status: | [National Health Performance Authority (retired)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/8), Retired 01/07/2016 |
| Description: | Median [**waiting time**](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/531822) for [**elective surgery**](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/327226) in public hospitals. |
| Indicator set: | [National Health Performance Authority: Hospital performance: 2011-16](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/528408)       [National Health Performance Authority (retired)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/8), Retired 01/07/2016 |

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| Collection and usage attributes |
| Computation description: | Median [**waiting time**](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/531822) for [**elective surgery**](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/327226) in public hospitals. |
| Computation: | **n** (number of observations) x **p** (percentile value divided by 100) = **i** ([**integer**](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/528618)) + **f** (fractional part of n x p)* If n x p is an integer, then the percentile value will correspond to the average of the values for the ith and (i+1)th observations.
* If n x p is not an integer, then the percentile value will correspond to the value for the (i+1)th observation.
* For example, if there were 100 hospital separations, the median will correspond to the average time for the 50th and 51st observations. If there were 101 observations, the median will correspond to the time for the 51st observation.

Median waiting times are rounded to the nearest 0.5 whole number of days.Waiting times are calculated for patients whose reason for removal was:* **For surgical specialty and indicator procedures**:

 1. Admitted as an elective patient for awaited procedure by or on behalf of this hospital or the state/territory. * **For clinical urgency categories**:

 1. Admitted as an elective patient for awaited procedure by or on behalf of this hospital or the state/territory or2. Admitted as emergency patient for awaited procedure by or on behalf of this hospital or the state/territory. The calculation of waiting time excludes:* Any days the patient was waiting with a less urgent elective surgery urgency category than their urgency category at removal. When a patient's urgency category changes, existing NMDS business rules will apply.
* People who were transferred to another hospital’s elective surgery waiting list, were treated elsewhere but not on behalf of the hospital, were not contactable, died prior to receiving their surgery or declined surgery.

For the purposes of reporting by urgency category, patients are reported as the final urgency category they were when treated. |
| Numerator data elements: | **Data Element / Data Set**[Establishment—organisation identifier (Australian), NNX[X]NNNNN](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/269973)**Data Source**[National Elective Surgery Waiting Times Data Collection](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/395071)**NMDS / DSS**[Elective surgery waiting times (removals data) NMDS 2012-13](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/472497)**Data Element / Data Set**[Elective surgery waiting list episode—reason for removal from a waiting list, code N](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/471735)**Data Source**[National Elective Surgery Waiting Times Data Collection](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/395071)**NMDS / DSS**[Elective surgery waiting times (removals data) NMDS 2012-13](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/472497)**Data Element / Data Set**[Elective surgery waiting list episode—waiting time (at removal), total days N[NNN]](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/471744)**Data Source**[National Elective Surgery Waiting Times Data Collection](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/395071)**NMDS / DSS**[Elective surgery waiting times (removals data) NMDS 2012-13](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/472497) |
| Disaggregation: | Hospital, elective surgery [**urgency category**](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/532053), selected surgical specialties and indicator procedures |
| Disaggregation data elements: | **Data Element / Data Set**[Establishment—organisation identifier (Australian), NNX[X]NNNNN](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/269973)**Data Source**[National Elective Surgery Waiting Times Data Collection](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/395071)**NMDS / DSS**[Elective surgery waiting times (removals data) NMDS 2012-13](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/472497)**Data Element / Data Set**[Elective surgery waiting list episode—clinical urgency, code N](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/270008)**Data Source**[National Elective Surgery Waiting Times Data Collection](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/395071)**NMDS / DSS**[Elective surgery waiting times (removals data) NMDS 2012-13](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/472497)**Data Element / Data Set**[Elective surgery waiting list episode—surgical specialty (of scheduled doctor), code NN](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/270146)**Data Source**[National Elective Surgery Waiting Times Data Collection](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/395071)**NMDS / DSS**[Elective surgery waiting times (removals data) NMDS 2012-13](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/472497)**Data Element / Data Set**[Elective surgery waiting list episode—indicator procedure, code NN](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/472513)**Data Source**[National Elective Surgery Waiting Times Data Collection](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/395071)**NMDS / DSS**[Elective surgery waiting times (removals data) NMDS 2012-13](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/472497) |
| Comments: | Calculation of median waiting time: The median waiting time is calculated using an empirical distribution function with averaging in SAS@4. Using this method observations are sorted in ascending order. |
| Representational attributes |
| Representation class: | Median |
| Data type: | Real |
| Unit of measure: | Time (e.g. days, hours) |
| Format: | N[NN] |
| Indicator conceptual framework |
| Framework and dimensions: | [PAF-Effectiveness of access](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/554928)[PAF-Equity of access](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/554927)  |
| Data source attributes |
| Data sources: | **Data Source**[National Elective Surgery Waiting Times Data Collection](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/395071)**Frequency**Annual**Data custodian** Australian Institute of Health and Welfare  |
| Accountability attributes |
| Other issues caveats: | Waiting time is calculated by states and territories by subtracting the listing date for care from the removal date, minus any days the patient was not ready for care and/or waiting with a less urgent clinical urgency category than their clinical urgency category at removal.There are inconsistencies in application of urgency categories between and within states and territories which impact on the comparability of results. |
| Source and reference attributes |
| Submitting organisation: | NHPA |
| Relational attributes  |
| Related metadata references: | See also [National Health Performance Authority, Hospital Performance: Median waiting time for elective surgery 2011-12](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/527347)       [National Health Performance Authority (retired)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/8), Superseded 28/05/2014 |