

# National Health Performance Authority, Healthy Communities: Expenditure on specialist attendances, 2011–12

## Identifying and definitional attributes

<b>Metadata item type:</b>	Indicator
<b>Indicator type:</b>	Indicator
<b>Short name:</b>	Expenditure on specialist attendances, 2011–12
<b>METEOR identifier:</b>	547090
<b>Registration status:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">National Health Performance Authority (retired)</a>, Superseded 27/03/2014</li></ul>
<b>Description:</b>	The average expenditure on non-hospital specialist attendances per person in a year.
<b>Indicator set:</b>	<a href="#">National Health Performance Authority: Healthy Communities: 2011–National Health Performance Authority (retired)</a> , Retired 01/07/2016

## Collection and usage attributes

<b>Population group age from:</b>	All ages
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**Computation description:** Specialist attendances in this indicator are non-hospital attendances.

Specialist attendances are Medicare benefit funded referred patient/doctor encounters, such as visits, consultations and attendances (including video conferencing), involving medical practitioners who have been recognised as specialists or consultant physicians for Medicare benefits purposes.

Specialist attendances comprise all items in Broad Type of Services Group 'C', as published in official MBS statistics by the Department of Human Services and the Department of Health.

Rates directly age-standardised to the 2001 Australian population.

Total services (attendances/visits – source MBS claims data).

Total Estimated Resident Population (ERP) as supplied by ABS.

In undertaking age standardisation of MBS data, the age of each person was determined from the last MBS service of any type, processed by the Department of Human Services in 2011–12. All MBS services for each individual processed in 2011–12, were attributed to the age in question.

For MBS data, Medicare Local and SA3 were determined having regard to the enrolment postcode for each person from the last MBS service of any type, processed by the Department of Human Services in 2011–12. All MBS services for each individual processed in 2011–12, were attributed to the postcode in question.

MBS postcode level data were allocated to Medicare Local and SA3 regions using concordance files provided by ABS.

Numerator based on Medicare (MBS) data provided by Department of Health for the financial year of processing, 2011–12.

Denominator – Estimated Resident Population at 30 June 2011 provided by ABS.

Presented per person.

Before MBS data are published by NHPA all confidential data cells are suppressed.

The current definition of confidential data is as follows:

- For number of MBS services and Medicare benefits expenditure:
  - if number of services is less than 6 or
  - if number of services is equal to or greater than 6 but
    - one provider provides more than 85% of services or two providers provide more than 90% of services or
    - one patient receives more than 85% of services or two patients receive more than 90% of services.
- If data on number of services is confidential, corresponding data on other measures such as MBS benefit paid is also regarded as confidential.

**Computation:** Numerator ÷ Denominator

Expenditure on specialist attendances

Expenditure on specialist attendances, age-standardised

**Numerator:** Total Medicare benefits expenditure for specialist attendances claimed through the Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS)

**Numerator data elements:**

**Data Element / Data Set**

[Person—age, total years N\[NN\]](#)

**Data Source**

[Medicare \(MBS\) data](#)

**Guide for use**

Data source type: Administrative by-product data

**Data Element / Data Set**

[Person—specialist MBS health assessment indicator, yes/no code N](#)

**Data Source**

[Medicare \(MBS\) data](#)

**Guide for use**

Data source type: Administrative by-product data

A count of Yes's is used for the numerator.

**Data Element / Data Set**

[Person—Medicare Benefits Schedule \(MBS\) benefit for specialist service, total Australian currency N\[N\(8\)\]](#)

**Data Source**

[Medicare \(MBS\) data](#)

**Denominator:**

Total estimated resident population (ERP)

**Denominator data elements:**

**Data Element / Data Set**

[Person—estimated resident population of Australia, total people N\[N\(7\)\]](#)

**Data Source**

[ABS Estimated resident population \(total population\)](#)

**Guide for use**

Data source type: Census-based plus administrative data

**Disaggregation:**

By Medicare Local catchment, Medicare Local peer groups and SA3

**Disaggregation data elements:**

**Data Element / Data Set**

[Address—statistical area, level 3 \(SA3\) code \(ASGS 2011\) NNNNN](#)

**Data Element / Data Set**

[Administrative health region—Medicare Local identifier, code AANNN](#)

**Data Element / Data Set**

[Administrative health region—Medicare Local peer group, code N](#)

**Comments:** Only non-hospital specialist attendances statistics are published as, in general terms, the MBS covers all services outside the hospital, except services to DVA beneficiaries and some compensation cases. For inpatient and approved day hospital services, the MBS system only captures services to private patients.

## Representational attributes

**Representation class:** Mean (average)  
**Data type:** Monetary amount  
**Unit of measure:** Currency  
**Format:** \$NN.NN

## Indicator conceptual framework

**Framework and dimensions:** [PAF-Efficiency](#)

## Data source attributes

**Data sources:**

Data Source
<a href="#">ABS Estimated resident population (total population)</a>
<b>Frequency</b>
Quarterly
<b>Quality statement</b>
<a href="#">ABS Estimated resident population (total population), QS</a>
<b>Data custodian</b>
Australian Bureau of Statistics
<b>Data Source</b>
<a href="#">Medicare (MBS) data</a>
<b>Frequency</b>
Annually
<b>Data custodian</b>
Department of Health

## Accountability attributes

**Reporting requirements:** National Health Performance Agreement - Performance and Accountability Framework

**Organisation responsible for providing data:** For MBS Department of Health  
For ERP Australian Bureau of Statistics

**Accountability:** National Health Performance Authority

## Source and reference attributes

**Submitting organisation:** National Health Performance Authority

**Reference documents:** National Health Performance Agreement - Performance and Accountability Framework

## Relational attributes

**Related metadata references:**

Has been superseded by [National Health Performance Authority, Healthy Communities: Expenditure on specialist attendances, 2012–13](#)

- [National Health Performance Authority \(retired\)](#), Retired 01/07/2016

Has been superseded by [National Health Performance Authority, Healthy Communities: Expenditure on specialist attendances, 2013–14](#)

- [National Health Performance Authority \(retired\)](#), Retired 01/07/2016