

National Health Performance Authority, Healthy Communities: Cost barriers to seeing a medical specialist, 2011–12

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Indicator
Indicator type:	Indicator
Short name:	Cost barriers to seeing a medical specialist, 2011–12
METEOR identifier:	548011
Registration status:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• National Health Performance Authority (retired), Superseded 19/03/2015
Description:	Percentage of people over 15 years of age who did not see or delayed seeing a medical specialist due to cost in the preceding 12 months.
Indicator set:	National Health Performance Authority: Healthy Communities: 2011– National Health Performance Authority (retired) , Retired 01/07/2016

Collection and usage attributes

Population group age from:	For this indicator an adult is defined as a person aged 15 years and over
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Computation description: Participants in Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Patient Experience Survey 2011–12 who reported that they did not see or delayed seeing a medical specialist due to cost in the preceding 12 months.

The numerator refers to the number of adults who did not see or delayed seeing a medical specialist due to cost in the preceding 12 months.

The numerator was calculated as the sum of calibrated sample weights for adults who responded that they did not see or delayed seeing a medical specialist due to cost and who were enumerated within the particular Medicare local catchment.

Population is limited to persons aged 15 years and over.

The denominator was calculated as the sum of calibrated sample weights for persons aged 15 years and over who were enumerated within the Medicare Local catchment.

Person level survey weights were calibrated to independent estimates of the population of interest, referred to as 'benchmarks'. Weights calibrated against population benchmarks ensure that the survey estimates conform to independently estimated distributions of the population, rather than to the distribution within the sample itself. These benchmarks account for the distribution of people across state and territory, age group, and sex categories. Note: These benchmarks have not been calibrated for Medicare Local geography.

Analysis by remoteness and Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) Index of Relative Socio-Economic Disadvantage (IRSD) is based on usual residence of the person.

The measure is presented as a percentage.

95% confidence intervals and relative standard errors are calculated for rates.

The National Health Performance Authority developed a suppression protocol to ensure robust reporting of these data at small areas. Data were suppressed based on the following rules:

- All point estimate percentages had a confidence interval width less than 20 percentage points.
- Point estimate percentages between 5% and 15% or between 85% and 95% were only included if their confidence interval width was less than 15 percentage points.
- Point estimate percentages that were less than or equal to 5% or greater than or equal to 95% were included if the confidence interval width was less than 10 percentage points.
- In addition to these constraints, five Medicare Local catchment areas were identified as having a small sample and potentially less robust estimates. These were Far West NSW, Great South Coast (Vic), Local Murray (Vic/NSW), Central and North West Queensland and Kimberley-Pilbara (WA). Point estimate percentages were only included where the confidence interval width was less than 10 percentage points.

Computation: $100 \times (\text{Numerator} \div \text{Denominator})$

Numerator: Number of people over 15 years of age who did not see or delayed seeing a medical specialist due to cost in preceding 12 months.

Numerator data elements: **Data Element / Data Set**

[Person—delayed visit to medical specialist due to cost, yes/no code N](#)

Data Source

[ABS Patient Experience Survey \(PEX\)](#)

Guide for use

Data source type: Survey

Denominator: Total number of adults aged 15 years and over who were enumerated within the Medicare Local catchment

Denominator data elements:

Data Element / Data Set

[Person—age, total years N\[NN\]](#)

Data Source

[ABS Patient Experience Survey \(PEX\)](#)

Disaggregation:

By Medicare Local catchments and Medicare Local peer groups

Disaggregation data elements:

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](#)

Representational attributes

Representation class: Percentage

Data type: Real

Unit of measure: Person

Format: N[NN].N

Indicator conceptual framework

Framework and dimensions: [PAF-Equity of access](#)

Data source attributes

Data sources: **Data Source**

[ABS Patient Experience Survey \(PEX\)](#)

Frequency

Annual

Data custodian

Australian Bureau of Statistics

Accountability attributes

Reporting requirements: National Health Performance Authority - Performance and Accountability Framework

Organisation responsible for providing data: Australian Bureau of Statistics

Accountability: National Health Performance Authority

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: National Health Performance Authority

Origin: Healthy Communities

Reference documents: National Health Performance Authority - Performance and Accountability Framework

Relational attributes

Related metadata references: Has been superseded by [National Health Performance Authority, Healthy Communities: Cost barriers to seeing a medical specialist, 2012–13](#)

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