

# National Healthcare Agreement: PI 20a– Waiting times for elective surgery: waiting times in days, 2016

## Identifying and definitional attributes

<b>Metadata item type:</b>	Indicator
<b>Indicator type:</b>	Progress measure
<b>Short name:</b>	PI20a–Waiting times for elective surgery: waiting times in days, 2016
<b>METEOR identifier:</b>	598742
<b>Registration status:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Health</a>, Superseded 31/01/2017</li></ul>
<b>Description:</b>	Median and 90th percentile waiting times for elective surgery in public hospitals, including by indicator procedure.
<b>Indicator set:</b>	<a href="#">National Healthcare Agreement (2016)</a> <a href="#">Health</a> , Superseded 31/01/2017
<b>Outcome area:</b>	<a href="#">Hospital and Related Care</a> <a href="#">National Health Performance Authority (retired)</a> , Retired 01/07/2016 <a href="#">Health</a> , Standard 07/07/2010
<b>Quality statement:</b>	<a href="#">National Healthcare Agreement: PI 20a-Waiting times for elective surgery: waiting time in days, 2016 QS</a> <a href="#">Health</a> , Superseded 31/01/2017

## Collection and usage attributes

**Computation description:** [Elective surgery](#) as defined in the National Elective Surgery Waiting Times Data Collection.

Indicator procedure as defined in [Elective surgery waiting list episode—indicator procedure, code NN](#).

Waiting time as defined in [Waiting time at removal from elective surgery waiting list](#). Calculated by jurisdictions by subtracting the listing date for care from the removal date, minus any days the patient was waiting with a less urgent clinical urgency category than their clinical urgency category at removal, and excluding days where the patient was not ready for care.

Waiting times are calculated for patients whose reason for removal was:

1. *Admitted as an elective patient for awaited procedure by or on behalf of this hospital or the state/territory.*
2. *Admitted as emergency patient for awaited procedure by or on behalf of this hospital or the state/territory.*

Analysis by state and territory based on location of service.

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

Presented as number of days.

**Computation:**

Number of days waited at 50th and 90th percentile.

Calculated overall and for each indicator procedure.

**Numerator data elements:**

**Data Element / Data Set**

[Elective surgery waiting list episode—reason for removal from a waiting list, code N](#)

**Data Source**

[National Hospital Morbidity Database \(NHMD\)](#)

NMDS / DSS

[Admitted patient care NMDS 2013-14](#)

**Guide for use**

Data source type: Administrative by-product data

**Data Element / Data Set**

[Elective surgery waiting list episode—reason for removal from a waiting list, code N](#)

**Data Source**

[National elective surgery waiting times data collection](#)

NMDS / DSS

[Elective surgery waiting times \(removals data\) NMDS 2013-15](#)

**Guide for use**

Data source type: Administrative by-product data

**Data Element / Data Set**

[Elective surgery waiting list episode—waiting time \(at removal\), total days N\[NNN\]](#)

**Data Source**

[National Hospital Morbidity Database \(NHMD\)](#)

NMDS / DSS

[Admitted patient care NMDS 2013-14](#)

**Guide for use**

Data source type: Administrative by-product data

**Data Element / Data Set**

[Elective surgery waiting list episode—waiting time \(at removal\), total days N\[NNN\]](#)

**Data Source**

[National elective surgery waiting times data collection](#)

NMDS / DSS

[Elective surgery waiting times \(removals data\) NMDS 2013-15](#)

**Guide for use**

Data source type: Administrative by-product data

**Denominator:**

Not applicable

**Disaggregation:**

2014–15—State and territory, by:

- peer group

2014–15—State and territory, by indicator procedure, by (not reported):

- peer group

2014–15—State and territory, by indicator procedure (and total), by:

- Indigenous status

2011–12, 2012–13 (revised for new hospital peer groups), 2013–14 (revised for new hospital peer groups and following jurisdiction provision of elective surgery waiting times cluster data to the National Hospital Morbidity Database (NHMD))—State and territory, by indicator procedure (and total), by (not reported):

- peer group

2013–14 (revised following jurisdiction provision of elective surgery waiting times cluster data to the NHMD)—State and territory, by indicator procedure (and total), by:

- Indigenous status

2013–14 (revised following jurisdiction provision of elective surgery waiting times cluster data to the NHMD)—State and territory, by:

- remoteness (Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) Remoteness Structure)
- 2011 SEIFA IRSD quintiles

2013–14—Nationally, by (all not reported):

- 2011 SEIFA IRSD deciles
- selected indicator procedures (cataract extraction, cholecystectomy, coronary artery bypass graft, cystoscopy) by 2011 SEIFA IRSD quintiles
- indicator procedure, by peer group, by Indigenous status, by remoteness (ASGS Remoteness Structure).

2011–12 (revised for new hospital peer groups)—Nationally, by (not reported):

- indicator procedure, by peer group, by Indigenous status, by remoteness (Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC) Remoteness Structure).

2012–13 (revised for new hospital peer groups), 2013–14 (revised for new hospital peer groups and following jurisdictional provision of elective surgery waiting times cluster data to the NHMD)—Nationally, by (not reported):

- indicator procedure, by peer group, by Indigenous status, by remoteness (ASGS Remoteness Structure).

Some disaggregations may result in numbers too small for publication.

Disaggregation by peer group uses the peer group classification as described in *Admitted patient care 2013–14: Australian hospital statistics*.

**Disaggregation data elements:**

**Data Element / Data Set**

[Establishment—organisation identifier \(Australian\), NNX\[X\]NNNNN](#)

**Data Source**

[National Hospital Morbidity Database \(NHMD\)](#)

**NMDS / DSS**

[Admitted patient care NMDS 2013-14](#)

**Guide for use**

Data source type: Administrative by-product data

Used to derive hospital peer group

**Data Element / Data Set**

[Establishment—organisation identifier \(Australian\), NNX\[X\]NNNNN](#)

**Data Source**

[National elective surgery waiting times data collection](#)

**NMDS / DSS**

[Elective surgery waiting times \(removals data\) NMDS 2013-15](#)

**Guide for use**

Data source type: Administrative by-product data  
Used for disaggregation by state/territory and to derive hospital peer group

**Data Element / Data Set**

[Person—Indigenous status, code N](#)

**Data Source**

[National Hospital Morbidity Database \(NHMD\)](#)

**NMDS / DSS**

[Admitted patient care NMDS 2013-14](#)

**Guide for use**

Data source type: Administrative by-product data

**Data Element / Data Set**

[Person—Indigenous status, code N](#)

**Data Source**

[National elective surgery waiting times data collection](#)

**NMDS / DSS**

[Elective surgery waiting times \(removals data\) NMDS 2013-15](#)

**Guide for use**

Data source type: Administrative by-product data

**Data Element / Data Set**

[Person—area of usual residence, statistical area level 2 \(SA2\) code \(ASGS 2011\) N\(9\)](#)

**Data Source**

[National Hospital Morbidity Database \(NHMD\)](#)

**NMDS / DSS**

[Admitted patient care NMDS 2013-14](#)

**Guide for use**

Data source type: Administrative by-product data

Used for disaggregation by state/territory, remoteness and SEIFA IRSD

**Data Element / Data Set**

[Elective surgery waiting list episode—indicator procedure, code NN](#)

**Data Source**

[National Hospital Morbidity Database \(NHMD\)](#)

**NMDS / DSS**

[Admitted patient care NMDS 2013-14](#)

**Guide for use**

Data source type: Administrative by-product data

**Data Element / Data Set**

[Elective surgery waiting list episode—indicator procedure, code NN](#)

**Data Source**

[National elective surgery waiting times data collection](#)

**NMDS / DSS**

[Elective surgery waiting times \(removals data\) NMDS 2013-15](#)

**Guide for use**

Data source type: Administrative by-product data

**Comments:**

Most recent data available for 2016 National Healthcare Agreement performance reporting: 2014–15.

Indicator procedures are a subset of all procedures, e.g. in 2007–08, approximately 65% of removals did not fall into one of the defined indicator procedures.

For 2013–14 data, the 2011 SEIFA IRSD quintile and decile data will be produced using the Australian Statistical Geography Standard geographical unit of Statistical Area Level 2.

The scope of the National Elective Surgery Waiting Times Data Collection is patients removed from waiting lists for elective surgery which are managed by public acute hospitals.

Note that previously for this indicator disaggregations by public hospital peer group were calculated using the peer group classification method as reported in *Australian hospital statistics 2010–11*.

## 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:** [Accessibility](#)

## Data source attributes

**Data sources:** **Data Source**  
[National Hospital Morbidity Database \(NHMD\)](#)  
**Frequency**  
Annual  
**Data custodian**  
Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

**Data Source**  
[National elective surgery waiting times data collection](#)  
**Data custodian**  
Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

## Accountability attributes

**Reporting requirements:** National Healthcare Agreement  
**Organisation responsible for providing data:** Australian Institute of Health and Welfare  
**Further data development / collection required:** Specification: Final, the measure meets the intention of the indicator.

## Relational attributes

**Related metadata references:** Supersedes [National Healthcare Agreement: PI 20a-Waiting times for elective surgery: waiting times in days, 2015](#)

- [Health](#), Superseded 08/07/2016

Has been superseded by [National Healthcare Agreement: PI 20a-Waiting times for elective surgery: waiting times in days, 2017](#)

- [Health](#), Superseded 30/01/2018

See also [National Healthcare Agreement: PI 20b-Waiting times for elective surgery: proportion seen on time, 2016](#)

- [Health](#), Superseded 04/08/2016

See also [National Healthcare Agreement: PI 32-Patient satisfaction/experience, 2016](#)

- [Health](#), Superseded 31/01/2017