

Domain 3 – Health status

How healthy are Australians? Is it the same for everyone? What are the best opportunities for improvement?

The health status domain reflects the status of individuals, cohorts and populations in terms of conditions, functioning and well-being. It includes impairments, disabilities and handicaps that are a consequence of disease. Health can be measured and described, for example, by the incidence and prevalence of conditions across the community, providing an overall picture of the health of the community, and representing the outcomes of all the factors that shape our health.

Dimensions of this framework

- **[1. Health conditions](#)**

Health conditions such as low birthweight, cancer, diabetes, infections, injury or psychological distress can impose significant costs on society in terms of health system use, days off work because of illness or to care for people who are ill, and reduced quality of life. The incidence and prevalence of conditions across the community can provide an overall picture of the health of the community, representing the outcomes of all the factors that shape our health.

Indicators in this framework

- [Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 3.1.4–Incidence of end-stage kidney disease, 2019 Health](#), Standard 09/04/2020
- [Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 3.1.5–Hospitalisation for injury and poisoning, 2019 Health](#), Standard 09/04/2020
- [Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 3.1.2–Incidence of selected cancers, 2019 Health](#), Standard 09/04/2020
- [Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 3.1.6–Proportion of babies born with low birthweight, 2019 Health](#), Standard 09/04/2020
- [Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 3.1.1–Incidence of heart attacks \(acute coronary events\), 2019 Health](#), Standard 09/04/2020
- [Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 3.1.2–Incidence of selected cancers, 2020 Health](#), Standard 13/10/2021
- [Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 3.1.6–Proportion of babies born with low birthweight, 2020 Health](#), Standard 02/12/2020
- [Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 3.1.4–Incidence of end-stage kidney disease, 2020 Health](#), Standard 13/10/2021
- [Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 3.1.5–Hospitalisation for injury and poisoning, 2020 Health](#), Standard 13/10/2021
- [Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 3.1.1–Incidence of heart attacks \(acute coronary events\), 2020 Health](#), Standard 13/10/2021

- **[2. Human function](#)**

Chronic diseases, residual injuries, permanent damage or defects from birth can impair how well a person functions day to day. How people experience and cope with a disability can be greatly affected by the opportunities and services provided for them. Human function can be measured by alterations to body structure or function (impairment), activity limitations and restrictions in participation. Severe or profound core activity limitation can be measured by calculating the percentage of people who 'sometimes' or 'always' need help with core activities of daily living (mobility, self-care or communication). The likelihood of having a severe or profound core activity limitation generally increases with age.

Indicators in this framework

- [Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 3.2.1–Severe or profound core activity limitation, 2019 Health](#), Standard 09/04/2020

- [Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 3.2.1–Severe or profound core activity limitation, 2020 Health](#), Standard 01/12/2020

• **3. Wellbeing**

Physical, mental and social wellbeing is affected by an individual's perceptions, emotions and behaviour as well as their ease of movement and levels of any discomfort. Mental health is fundamental to the wellbeing of individuals, their families and the community as a whole. Wellbeing can be measured by self-assessed health status and the prevalence of psychological distress in the population.

Indicators in this framework

- [Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 3.3.2–Self-assessed health status, 2019 Health](#), Standard 09/04/2020
- [Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 3.3.1–Proportion of adults with very high levels of psychological distress, 2019 Health](#), Standard 09/04/2020
- [Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 3.3.2–Self-assessed health status, 2020 Health](#), Standard 13/10/2021
- [Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 3.3.1–Proportion of adults with very high levels of psychological distress, 2020 Health](#), Standard 13/10/2021

• **4. Deaths**

It is important to examine trends and patterns in life expectancy, mortality rates in infants and children, deaths due to suicide and major causes of death. This can help evaluate health strategies and guide policy-making. Examining causes of death provides further insight into the events contributing to deaths, reflecting changes in behaviours, exposures to disease or injury, social and environmental circumstances, data coding practices as well as impacts of medical and technological advances.

Indicators in this framework

- [Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 3.4.4–Mortality due to suicide, 2019 Health](#), Standard 09/04/2020
- [Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 3.4.1–Infant and young child mortality rate, 2019 Health](#), Standard 09/04/2020
- [Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 3.4.2–Life expectancy, 2019 Health](#), Standard 09/04/2020
- [Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 3.4.3–Major causes of death, 2019 Health](#), Standard 09/04/2020
- [Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 3.4.2–Life expectancy, 2020 Health](#), Standard 13/10/2021
- [Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 3.4.3–Major causes of death, 2020 Health](#), Standard 13/10/2021
- [Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 3.4.4–Mortality due to suicide, 2020 Health](#), Standard 13/10/2021
- [Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 3.4.1–Infant and young child mortality rate, 2020 Health](#), Standard 13/10/2021