Number of lumbar spinal decompression (excluding lumbar spinal fusion) hospitalisations per 100,000 people aged 18 years and over, 2012-13 to 2014-15 and 2015-16 to 2017-18

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# Number of lumbar spinal decompression (excluding lumbar spinal fusion) hospitalisations per 100,000 people aged 18 years and over, 2012-13 to 2014-15 and 2015-16 to 2017-18

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| Identifying and definitional attributes | |
| Metadata item type: | Indicator |
| Indicator type: | Indicator |
| Short name: | Lumbar spinal decompression (excluding lumbar spinal fusion) hospitalisations 18 years and over, 2012-13 to 2014-15 and 2015-16 to 2017-18 |
| METEOR identifier: | 724433 |
| Registration status: | [Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/18), Standard 27/04/2021 |
| Description: | Number of lumbar spinal decompression (excluding lumbar spinal fusion) hospitalisations per 100,000 people aged 18 years and over, age and sex standardised. |
| Indicator set: | [Australian Atlas of Healthcare Variation 2021](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/723541)  [Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/18), Standard 27/04/2021 |
| Data quality statement: | [Data quality statement: National Hospital Morbidity Database 2014–15](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/638202)  [AIHW Data Quality Statements](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/5), Standard 31/08/2016 |

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| Collection and usage attributes | |
| Population group age from: | 18 years and over |
| Computation description: | **Inclusion codes, description and additional requirement**   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **ICD-10-AM  (7th to 10th editions) diagnosis code** | **Description** | **Additional requirement** | | M43.16 | Spondylolisthesis Lumbar region | Principal diagnosis | | M43.17 | Spondylolisthesis Lumbosacral region | Principal diagnosis | | M48.06 | Spinal stenosis Lumbar region | Principal diagnosis | | M48.07 | Spinal stenosis Lumbosacral region | Principal diagnosis | | M51.0 | Lumbar and other intervertebral disc disorders with myelopathy | Principal diagnosis | | M51.1 | Lumbar and other intervertebral disc disorders with radiculopathy | Principal diagnosis | | M51.2 | Other specified intervertebral disc displacement | Principal diagnosis | | M54.16 | Radiculopathy Lumbar region | Principal diagnosis | | M54.17 | Radiculopathy Lumbosacral region | Principal diagnosis | | M54.4 | Lumbago with sciatica | Principal diagnosis | | M54.5 | Low back pain | Principal diagnosis | | M54.86 | Other dorsalgia Lumbar region | Principal diagnosis | | M54.87 | Other dorsalgia Lumbosacral region | Principal diagnosis | | M54.96 | Dorsalgia, unspecified Lumbar region | Principal diagnosis | | M54.97 | Dorsalgia, unspecified Lumbosacral region | Principal diagnosis |     **Inclusion codes, description and additional requirement**   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **ACHI (7th to 10th editions) procedure code** | **Description** | **Additional requirement** | | 90024-00 [48] | Decompression of lumbar spinal canal, 1 level | Include records with at least one of the listed procedures. A record with more than one of the listed procedures is only counted once. | | 90024-01 [48] | Decompression of lumbar spinal canal, >=2 levels | Include records with at least one of the listed procedures. A record with more than one of the listed procedures is only counted once. | | 40330-00 [49] | Spinal rhizolysis | Include records with at least one of the listed procedures. A record with more than one of the listed procedures is only counted once. | | 40303-00[51] | Discectomy for recurrent disc lesion, 1 level | Include records with at least one of the listed procedures. A record with more than one of the listed procedures is only counted once. | | 40303-01[51] | Discectomy for recurrent disc lesion, 2 levels | Include records with at least one of the listed procedures. A record with more than one of the listed procedures is only counted once. | | 48636-00 [52] | Percutaneous lumbar discectomy | Include records with at least one of the listed procedures. A record with more than one of the listed procedures is only counted once. | | 40300-00 [52] | Discectomy, 1 level | Include records with at least one of the listed procedures. A record with more than one of the listed procedures is only counted once. | | 40300-01 [52] | Discectomy, >= 2 levels | Include records with at least one of the listed procedures. A record with more than one of the listed procedures is only counted once. |   **Exclusion codes, description and additional requirement**   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **ICD-10-** **AM (7th** **to 10th** **editions)** **diagnosis** **code** | **Description** | **Additional** **requirement** | | A00-B99 | Certain infectious and    parasitic diseases | Value of the  condition onset  flag is 2  (Condition not  noted as arising  during the  episode of  admitted patient  care) | | C00-D48 | Neoplasms | Value of the  condition onset  flag is 2  (Condition not  noted as arising  during the  episode of  admitted patient  care) | | V00-Y89 | External causes of    morbidity and mortality | Value of the  condition onset  flag is 2  (Condition not  noted as arising  during the  episode of  admitted patient  care) |   **Exclusion codes and description**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **ICD-10-AM  (7th to 10th editions)** **procedure code** | **Description** | | 40351-00 [47] | Anterior decompression of thoracolumbar spinal cord | | 48660-00 [1389] | Anterior spinal fusion, 1 level | | 48669-00 [1389] | Anterior spinal fusion, >=2 levels | | 48642-00 [1389] | Posterior spinal fusion, 1 or 2 levels | | 48645-00 [1389] | Posterior spinal fusion, >=3 levels | | 48648-00 [1389] | Posterolateral spinal fusion, 1 or 2 levels | | 48651-00 [1389] | Posterolateral spinal fusion, >=3 levels | | 48654-00 [1389] | Posterior spinal fusion with laminectomy, 1 level | | 48657-00 [1389] | Posterior spinal fusion with laminectomy, >=2 levels | | 48654-01 [1389] | Posterolateral spinal fusion with laminectomy, 1 level | | 48657-01 [1389] | Posterolateral spinal fusion with laminectomy, >=2 levels |     **Exclusion codes and description:**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Care type** | **Description** | | 7.3 | Newborn—unqualified days only | | 9.0 | Organ procurement—posthumous | | 10.0 | Hospital boarder |     The following codes are used for analysis by procedure type of lumbar spinal decompression (decompression via discectomy, decompression via laminectomy, other decompression). Other decompression includes records that fall outside the specifications below for discectomy  and laminectomy.  **Inclusion codes, description and additional requirement for** **decompression via discectomy**   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **ICD-10-** **AM (7th to** **10th** **editions)** **diagnosis code** | **Description** | **Additional** **requirement** | | M51.1 | Lumbar and other  intervertebral disc disorders with  radiculopathy | Principal diagnosis | | M51.2 | Other specified  intervertebral disc  displacement | Principal diagnosis |     **Inclusion codes, description and additional requirement for** **decompression via discectomy**   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **ACHI (7th** **to 10th** **editions)** **procedure** **code** | **Description** | **Additional** **requirement** | | 40330-00 [49] | Spinal rhizolysis | Include records  with at least one of  the listed procedures. A record with more  than one of the listed procedures is only  counted once. | | 40303-00 [51] | Discectomy for recurrent  disc lesion, 1 level | Include records  with at least one of  the listed procedures. A record with more  than one of the listed procedures is only  counted once. | | 40303-01 [51] | Discectomy for recurrent  disc lesion, 2 levels | Include records  with at least one of  the listed procedures. A record with more  than one of the listed procedures is only  counted once. | | 48636-00 [52] | Percutaneious lumbar  discectomy | Include records  with at least one of  the listed procedures. A record with more  than one of the listed procedures is only  counted once. | | 40300-00 [52] | Discectomy, 1 level | Include records  with at least one of  the listed procedures. A record with more  than one of the listed procedures is only  counted once. | | 40300-01 [52] | Discectomy, >=2 levels | Include records  with at least one of  the listed procedures. A record with more  than one of the listed procedures is only  counted once. |     **Inclusion codes, description and additional requirement for** **decompression via laminectomy**   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **ACHI (7th** **to 10th** **editions)** **diagnosis** **code** | **Description** | **Additional** **requirement** | | M43.16 | Spondylolisthesis Lumbar region | Principal  diagnosis | | M43.17 | Spondylolisthesis Lumbosacral region | Principal  diagnosis | | M48.06 | Spinal stenosis Lumbar region | Principal  diagnosis | | M48.07 | Spinal stenosis Lumbosacral region | Principal  diagnosis | | M54.16 | Radiculopathy Lumbar region | Principal  diagnosis |   **Inclusion codes, desciption and additional requirement for** **decompression via laminectomy**   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **ACHI (7th to 10theditions)**  **procedure code** | **Description** | **Additional**  **requirement** | | 90024-00 [48] | Decompression of lumbar spinal canal, 1 level | Include records with at least one of the listed procedures. A record with more than one of the listed procedures is only counted once. | | 40330-00 [49] | Decompression of lumbar spinal canal, >=2 levels | Include records with at least one of the listed procedures. A record with more than one of the listed procedures is only counted once. | | 40330-00 [49] | Spinal rhizolysis | Include records with at least one of the listed procedures. A record with more than one of the listed procedures is only counted once. |     Presented as number of hospitalisations per 100,000 people.  Rates are directly age and sex standardised, to the 30 June 2001 Australian population aged 18 years and over, using 5-year age groups: 18-24, 25-29, … , 80-84, 85 and over.  Indigenous and other Australian rates are directly age and sex standardised, to the 30 June 2001 Australian population aged 18 years and over, using 5-year age groups: 18-24, 25-29, …, 60-64, 65 and over.  Population estimates at 31 December are calculated as an average of the 30 June population estimates before and after the relevant December to derive a midpont (31 December) population estimate.  For more information about age-standardisation in general see glossary item [**Age-standardised rate.**](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/327276)  Analysis by Statistical Area Level 3 (SA3) 2016 is based on:   * Statistical Area Level 2 (SA2) 2011 of usual residence of the patient for 2012-13 to 2016-17, converted to SA3 (ASGS 2016) equivalents through an ABS concordance file * SA2 2016 of usual residence of the patient for 2017-18.   Suppress data (number and rate) if at least one of the following conditions are met:  •  the total denominator is less than 1,000  •  the total numerator is less than 10  ​Age and sex standardised rates are also suppressed where the denominator for at least one of the age and sex groups used to calculate the rate is below 30 and results of sensitivity analysis indicate that the rates are volatile. However, for SA3 data, if the volatility of the rate is not found to have a material impact on its decile, the rate is published with caution. For more information about the sensitivity analysis, see the [Technical Supplement of the Fourth Atlas](https://safetyandquality.gov.au/publications-and-resources/resource-library/fourth-atlas-2021-technical-supplement).  Consequential suppression may be applied to preserve confidentialised data. |
| Computation: | 100,000 × (Numerator ÷ Denominator) |
| Numerator: | Number of lumbar spinal decompression (excluding lumbar spinal fusion) hospitalisations aged 18 years and over, 2012-13 to 2014-15 and 2015-16 to 2017-18. |
| Numerator data elements: | **Data Element / Data Set**  [Episode of admitted patient care—admission date, DDMMYYYY](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/269967)  **Data Source**  [National Hospital Morbidity Database (NHMD)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/394352)  **Guide for use**    **NMDS/DSS** Admitted patient care NMDS 2012-13 to 2017-18  Data source type: Administrative by-product data    **Data Element / Data Set**  [Episode of care—principal diagnosis, code (ICD-10-AM 9th edn) ANN{.N[N]}](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/588987)  **Data Source**  [National Hospital Morbidity Database (NHMD)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/394352)  **NMDS / DSS**  [Admitted patient care NMDS 2016-17](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/612171)  **Guide for use**    Data source type: Administrative by-product data    **Data Element / Data Set**  [Episode of admitted patient care—procedure, code (ACHI 9th edn) NNNNN-NN](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/589101)  **Data Source**  [National Hospital Morbidity Database (NHMD)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/394352)  **NMDS / DSS**  [Admitted patient care NMDS 2015-16](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/588909)  **Guide for use**    Data source type: Administrative by-product data    **Data Element / Data Set**  [Episode of admitted patient care—procedure, code (ACHI 9th edn) NNNNN-NN](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/589101)  **Data Source**  [National Hospital Morbidity Database (NHMD)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/394352)  **NMDS / DSS**  [Admitted patient care NMDS 2016-17](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/612171)  **Guide for use**    Data source type: Administrative by-product data    **Data Element / Data Set**  [Person—sex, code A](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/602450)  **Data Source**  [National Hospital Morbidity Database (NHMD)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/394352)  **Guide for use**    **NMDS/DSS** Admitted patient care NMDS 2012-13 to 2017-18  Data source type: Administrative by-product data    **Data Element / Data Set**  [Episode of admitted patient care—procedure, code (ACHI 10th edn) NNNNN-NN](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/641379)  **Data Source**  [National Hospital Morbidity Database (NHMD)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/394352)  **NMDS / DSS**  [Admitted patient care NMDS 2017-18](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/641349)  **Guide for use**    Data source type: Administrative by-product data    **Data Element / Data Set**  [Episode of admitted patient care—condition onset flag, code N](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/651997)  **Data Source**  [National Hospital Morbidity Database (NHMD)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/394352)  **Guide for use**    **NMDS/DSS** Admitted patient care NMDS 2012-13 to 2017-18  Data source type: Administrative by-product data    **Data Element / Data Set**  [Episode of care—principal diagnosis, code (ICD-10-AM 10th edn) ANN{.N[N]}](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/680976)  **Data Source**  [National Hospital Morbidity Database (NHMD)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/394352)  **NMDS / DSS**  [Admitted patient care NMDS 2017-18](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/641349)  **Guide for use**    Data source type: Administrative by-product data    **Data Element / Data Set**  [Hospital service—care type, code N[N]](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/711010)  **Data Source**  [National Hospital Morbidity Database (NHMD)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/394352)  **Guide for use**    **NMDS/DSS** Admitted patient care NMDS 2012-13 to 2017-18  Data source type: Administrative by-product data    **Data Element / Data Set**  [Person—date of birth, DDMMYYYY](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/287007)  **Data Source**  [National Hospital Morbidity Database (NHMD)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/394352)  **Guide for use**    **NMDS/DSS** Admitted patient care NMDS 2012-13 to 2017-18  Data source type: Administrative by-product data    **Data Element / Data Set**  [Episode of care—principal diagnosis, code (ICD-10-AM 7th edn) ANN{.N[N]}](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/391326)  **Data Source**  [National Hospital Morbidity Database (NHMD)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/394352)  **NMDS / DSS**  [Admitted patient care NMDS 2012-13](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/466132)  **Guide for use**    Data source type: Administrative by-product data    **Data Element / Data Set**  [Episode of admitted patient care—procedure, code (ACHI 7th edn) NNNNN-NN](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/391349)  **Data Source**  [National Hospital Morbidity Database (NHMD)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/394352)  **NMDS / DSS**  [Admitted patient care NMDS 2012-13](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/466132)  **Guide for use**    Data source type: Administrative by-product data    **Data Element / Data Set**  [Episode of admitted patient care—procedure, code (ACHI 8th edn) NNNNN-NN](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/514040)  **Data Source**  [National Hospital Morbidity Database (NHMD)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/394352)  **NMDS / DSS**  [Admitted patient care NMDS 2013-14](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/491555)  **Guide for use**    Data source type: Administrative by-product data    **Data Element / Data Set**  [Episode of admitted patient care—procedure, code (ACHI 8th edn) NNNNN-NN](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/514040)  **Data Source**  [National Hospital Morbidity Database (NHMD)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/394352)  **NMDS / DSS**  [Admitted patient care NMDS 2014-15](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/535047)  **Guide for use**    Data source type: Administrative by-product data    **Data Element / Data Set**  [Episode of care—principal diagnosis, code (ICD-10-AM 8th edn) ANN{.N[N]}](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/514273)  **Data Source**  [National Hospital Morbidity Database (NHMD)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/394352)  **NMDS / DSS**  [Admitted patient care NMDS 2013-14](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/491555)  **Guide for use**    Data source type: Administrative by-product data    **Data Element / Data Set**  [Episode of care—principal diagnosis, code (ICD-10-AM 8th edn) ANN{.N[N]}](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/514273)  **Data Source**  [National Hospital Morbidity Database (NHMD)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/394352)  **NMDS / DSS**  [Admitted patient care NMDS 2014-15](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/535047)  **Guide for use**    Data source type: Administrative by-product data    **Data Element / Data Set**  [Episode of care—principal diagnosis, code (ICD-10-AM 9th edn) ANN{.N[N]}](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/588987)  **Data Source**  [National Hospital Morbidity Database (NHMD)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/394352)  **NMDS / DSS**  [Admitted patient care NMDS 2015-16](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/588909)  **Guide for use**    Data source type: Administrative by-product data |
| Denominator: | Sum of population aged 18 years and over as at:   * 31 December 2012, 31 December 2013 and 31 December 2014 * 31 December 2015, 31 December 2016 and 31 December 2017. |
| Denominator data elements: | **Data Element / Data Set**  [Person—estimated resident population of Australia, total people N[N(7)]](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/388656)  **Data Source**  [ABS Australian Demographic Statistics](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/657459)  **Guide for use**    Data source type: Census based plus administrative by-product data.    **Data Element / Data Set**  [Person—estimated resident population of Australia, total people N[N(7)]](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/388656)  **Data Source**  [ABS Indigenous estimates and projections (2016 Census-based)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/719790)  **Guide for use**    Data source type: Census based plus administrative by-product data.    **Data Element / Data Set**  [Person—estimated resident population of Australia, total people N[N(7)]](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/388656)  **Data Source**  [ABS Regional Population by Age and Sex, Australia](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/724384)  **Guide for use**    Data source type: Census based plus administrative by-product data. |
| Disaggregation: | SA3 2016  Remoteness (ASGS Remoteness structure 2016)  Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA 2016) Index of Relative Socioeconomic Disadvantage (IRSD 2016)  Primary Health Network (PHN) 2017  State and territory by:  •  Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status  •  Patient funding status  •  Procedure type (decompression via discectomy, decompression via laminectomy, other decompression) |
| Disaggregation data elements: | **Data Element / Data Set**  [Establishment—sector, code N](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/269977)  **Data Source**  [National Hospital Morbidity Database (NHMD)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/394352)  **Guide for use**    For more information about the patient funding status, see the [Technical Supplement of the Fourth Atlas](https://safetyandquality.gov.au/publications-and-resources/resource-library/fourth-atlas-2021-technical-supplement)  Data source type: Administrative by-product data    **Data Element / Data Set**  [Episode of admitted patient care—procedure, code (ACHI 10th edn) NNNNN-NN](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/641379)  **Data Source**  [National Hospital Morbidity Database (NHMD)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/394352)  **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 2016) N(9)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/659725)  **Data Source**  [National Hospital Morbidity Database (NHMD)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/394352)  **Guide for use**    Data source type: Administrative by-product data    **Data Element / Data Set**  [Episode of care—principal diagnosis, code (ICD-10-AM 10th edn) ANN{.N[N]}](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/680976)  **Data Source**  [National Hospital Morbidity Database (NHMD)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/394352)  **Guide for use**    Data source type:Administrative by-product data    **Data Element / Data Set**  [Person—Indigenous status, code N](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/723676)  **Data Source**  [National Hospital Morbidity Database (NHMD)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/394352)  **Guide for use**    Data source type: Administrative by-product data    **Data Element / Data Set**  [Episode of admitted patient care—patient election status, code N](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/326619)  **Data Source**  [National Hospital Morbidity Database (NHMD)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/394352)  **Guide for use**    Data source type: Administrative by-product data    **Data Element / Data Set**  [Episode of care—principal diagnosis, code (ICD-10-AM 7th edn) ANN{.N[N]}](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/391326)  **Data Source**  [National Hospital Morbidity Database (NHMD)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/394352)  **Guide for use**    Data source type: Administrative by-product data    **Data Element / Data Set**  [Episode of admitted patient care—procedure, code (ACHI 7th edn) NNNNN-NN](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/391349)  **Data Source**  [National Hospital Morbidity Database (NHMD)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/394352)  **Guide for use**    Data source type: Administrative by-product data    **Data Element / Data Set**  [Episode of admitted patient care—procedure, code (ACHI 8th edn) NNNNN-NN](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/514040)  **Data Source**  [National Hospital Morbidity Database (NHMD)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/394352)  **Guide for use**    Data source type: Administrative by-product data    **Data Element / Data Set**  [Episode of care—principal diagnosis, code (ICD-10-AM 8th edn) ANN{.N[N]}](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/514273)  **Data Source**  [National Hospital Morbidity Database (NHMD)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/394352)  **Guide for use**    Data source type: Administrative by-product data    **Data Element / Data Set**  [Episode of care—source of funding, patient funding source code NN](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/553314)  **Data Source**  [National Hospital Morbidity Database (NHMD)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/394352)  **Guide for use**    Data source type: Administrative by-product data    **Data Element / Data Set**  [Episode of care—principal diagnosis, code (ICD-10-AM 9th edn) ANN{.N[N]}](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/588987)  **Data Source**  [National Hospital Morbidity Database (NHMD)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/394352)  **Guide for use**    Data source type: Administrative by-product data    **Data Element / Data Set**  [Episode of admitted patient care—procedure, code (ACHI 9th edn) NNNNN-NN](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/589101)  **Data Source**  [National Hospital Morbidity Database (NHMD)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/394352)  **Guide for use**    Data source type: Administrative by-product data |
| Representational attributes | |
| Representation class: | Rate |
| Data type: | Integer |
| Unit of measure: | Episode |
| Format: | N[NNNN] |
| Data source attributes | |
| Data sources: | **Data Source**  [ABS Australian Demographic Statistics](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/657459)  **Frequency**  Quarterly  **Data custodian**    Australian Bureau of Statistics    **Data Source**  [National Hospital Morbidity Database (NHMD)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/394352)  **Frequency**  Annual  **Data custodian**    Australian Institute of Health and Welfare    **Data Source**  [ABS Indigenous estimates and projections (2016 Census-based)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/719790)  **Frequency**  Periodic  **Data custodian**    Australian Bureau of Statistics    **Data Source**  [ABS Regional Population by Age and Sex, Australia](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/724384)  **Frequency**  Annually  **Data custodian**    Australian Bureau of Statistics |
| Accountability attributes | |
| Methodology: | Statistical Area Level 3 (SA3s) are geographic areas defined in the ABS Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS). The aim of SA3s is to create a standard framework for the analysis of ABS data at the regional level through clustering groups of SA2s that have similar regional characteristics. There are 340 spatial SA3s covering the whole of Australia without gaps or overlaps. They are designed to provide a regional breakdown of Australia. SA3s generally have a population of between 30,000 and 130,000 people. There are approximately 78 with fewer than 30,000 people and 46 with more than 130,000 as at 30 June 2016. The Other Territories of Jervis Bay, Cocos (Keeling) Islands, Christmas Island and Norfolk Island are each represented by a SA3 in the 2016 ASGS. For further information see the [ABS publication, Population by Age and Sex, Regions of Australia, 2016.](https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/DetailsPage/3235.02016?OpenDocument)    The scope of the NHMD is episodes of care for admitted patients in all public and private acute and psychiatric hospitals, free-standing day hospital facilities and alcohol and drug treatment centres in Australia. Hospitals operated by the Australian Defence Force, corrections authorities and in Australia’s off-shore territories are not in scope, but some are included. |
| Reporting requirements: | Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care  *Australian Atlas of Healthcare Variation 2021* |
| Organisation responsible for providing data: | Australian Institute of Health and Welfare |
| Accountability: | Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care |
| Release date: | 28/04/2021 |
| Source and reference attributes | |
| Submitting organisation: | Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care |
| Relational attributes | |
| Related metadata references: | See also [ABS Estimated resident population (total population), QS](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/449216)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Standard 08/06/2011  See also [ABS Indigenous experimental estimates and projections, QS](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/449223)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Standard 08/06/2011  [Indigenous](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/6), Standard 11/09/2012  See also [Australian Atlas of Healthcare Variation: Number of lumbar spinal decompression (excluding lumbar spinal fusion) hospitalisations per 100,000 people aged 18 years and over, 2012-13 to 2014-15](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/640142)  [Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/18), Standard 07/06/2017  See also [Data quality statement: Admitted Patient Care 2015-16](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/723825)  [AIHW Data Quality Statements](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/5), Standard 27/11/2019  See also [Data quality statement: Admitted Patient Care 2016-17](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/724186)  [AIHW Data Quality Statements](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/5), Standard 27/11/2019  See also [Data quality statement: Admitted Patient Care 2017-18](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/724188)  [AIHW Data Quality Statements](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/5), Standard 27/11/2019  See also [Data quality statement: National Hospital Morbidity Database 2013–14](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/611030)  [AIHW Data Quality Statements](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/5), Standard 03/06/2015  See also [Data quality statement: National Hospital Morbidity Database 2014–15](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/638202)  [AIHW Data Quality Statements](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/5), Standard 31/08/2016 |