

# KPIs for Australian Public Mental Health Services: PI 17aJ – Involuntary hospital treatment, 2021

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# KPIs for Australian Public Mental Health Services:

## PI 17aJ – Involuntary hospital treatment, 2021

### Identifying and definitional attributes

<b>Metadata item type:</b>	Indicator
<b>Indicator type:</b>	Indicator
<b>Short name:</b>	MHS PI 17aJ: Involuntary hospital treatment, 2021
<b>METEOR identifier:</b>	739902
<b>Registration status:</b>	<a href="#">Health</a> , Superseded 16/09/2022
<b>Description:</b>	The percentage of separations with specialised mental health care days where the consumer has a <a href="#">mental health legal status</a> of 'involuntary'.
<b>Rationale:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Every jurisdiction in Australia has legislation to enable people with mental illness to be treated involuntarily under certain conditions. This means treatment for mental illness, including medication, restraint, seclusion and therapeutic interventions, can be provided without the individual's consent, either in hospital or in the community.</li><li>• Monitoring the proportion of involuntary treatment is an important step in understanding the use of restrictive practices in Australian public hospitals.</li></ul>
<b>Indicator set:</b>	<a href="#">Key Performance Indicators for Australian Public Mental Health Services (Jurisdictional level version) (2021)</a> <a href="#">Health</a> , Superseded 16/09/2022

### Collection and usage attributes

<b>Computation description:</b>	Coverage/Scope:  State/territory public admitted patient mental health service units. Only public hospitals are in scope for this indicator.  Methodology: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reference period for 2021 performance reporting: 2019–20.</li><li>• Patient days are for all separations that ended within the reference period.</li><li>• <a href="#">Mental health legal status</a> is defined for this indicator as: 'Whether a person is treated on an involuntary basis under the relevant state or territory mental health legislation'.</li><li>• Involuntary patients are persons who are compulsorily treated in hospital or in the community under relevant state and territory legislation for the purpose of assessment or provision of appropriate treatment or care. All types of treatment orders are in scope for this indicator, regardless of the setting of the treatment order. For example, admitted patients who are under a community treatment order are in scope for the numerator of this indicator.</li></ul> Presented as a: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• percentage</li><li>• number.</li></ul>
<b>Computation:</b>	Number  $(\text{Numerator} \div \text{Denominator}) \times 100$
<b>Numerator:</b>	Number of separations in public hospitals occurring within the reference period with specialised mental health care days that are involuntary.

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

Specialised mental health service—number of separations in public hospitals with specialised mental health care days that are involuntary

**Data Source**

[State/territory admitted patient data](#)

**Guide for use**

Number of psychiatric care days greater than 0.

This data element is used to identify episodes of care where specialised mental health care have been received.

**Denominator:**

Total number of separations with specialised mental health care days in public hospitals occurring within the reference period

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

Specialised mental health service—number of separations in public hospitals

**Data Source**

[State/territory admitted patient data](#)

**Guide for use**

Number of psychiatric care days greater than 0.

This data element is used to identify episodes of care where specialised mental health care have been received.

**Disaggregation:**

Service variables: acute/non-acute units, and target population.

Consumer attributes: age, sex, and Indigenous status.

Disaggregated data excludes missing or not reported data.

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

Admitted mental health service—admitted patient care program type

**Data Source**

[State/territory admitted patient data](#) 2019–20

**Guide for use**

Data source type: Administrative by-product data

**Data Element / Data Set****Data Element**

Admitted mental health service—target population

**Data Source**

[State/territory admitted patient data](#) 2019–20

**Guide for use**

Data source type: Administrative by-product data

Target population refers to the [target population](#) of the service unit.

**Data Element / Data Set****Data Element**

Person—age

**Data Source**

[State/territory admitted patient data](#) 2019–20

**Guide for use**

Data source type: Administrative by-product data

**Data Element / Data Set****Data Element**

Person—Indigenous status

**Data Source**

[State/territory admitted patient data](#) 2019–20

**Guide for use**

Data source type: Administrative by-product data

**Data Element / Data Set****Data Element**

Person—sex

**Data Source**

[State/territory admitted patient data](#) 2019–20

**Guide for use**

Data source type: Administrative by-product data

**Comments:**

Most recent data available for reporting: 2019–20. This indicator refers to the inpatient setting only.

## Representational attributes

**Representation class:** Percentage

**Data type:** Real

**Unit of measure:** Episode

**Format:** N[NN.NN]

## Indicator conceptual framework

**Framework and dimensions:** [Safety](#)

## Data source attributes

**Data sources:****Data Source**

[State/territory admitted patient data](#)

**Frequency**

Annual

**Data custodian**

State/territory health authorities

## Accountability attributes

**Organisation responsible for providing data:** Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

**Other issues caveats:** The use of involuntary treatment is governed by either legislation (a Mental Health Act or equivalent) or mandatory policy within each state and territory. The definitions used within the legislation and policies vary between jurisdictions including, but not limited to, forensic-related legislation that applies to admitted patient mental health services. These variations should be recognised in the interpretation of the indicator.

## Source and reference attributes

**Submitting organisation:** Australian Institute of Health and Welfare on behalf of the National Mental Health Performance Subcommittee

## Relational attributes

**Related metadata references:** Has been superseded by [KPIs for Australian Public Mental Health Services: PI 17aJ – Involuntary hospital treatment, 2022](#)  
[Health](#), Superseded 06/09/2023

See also [KPIs for Australian Public Mental Health Services: PI 17bJ – Involuntary patient days, 2021](#)  
[Health](#), Superseded 16/09/2022