Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 2.1.3c–Cancer screening rates, National Cervical Screening Program participation rate, 2024

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# Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 2.1.3c–Cancer screening rates, National Cervical Screening Program participation rate, 2024

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| Identifying and definitional attributes | |
| Metadata item type: | Indicator |
| Indicator type: | Indicator |
| Short name: | AHPF PI 2.1.3c–National Cervical Screening Program participation rate, 2024 |
| Synonymous names: | NCSP participation rate |
| METEOR identifier: | 778293 |
| Registration status: | [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Recorded 28/02/2024 |
| Description: | Rates of cervical screening for women in the national target age group during the [**defined 5 year period.**](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/748058) |
| Rationale: | In Australia, primary prevention of cervical cancer is through vaccination against human papillomavirus (HPV), which is the primary underlying cause of cervical cancer. Secondary prevention is by cervical screening, through the National Cervical Screening Program (NCSP), to detect and treat abnormalities while they are in the precancerous stage, prior to any possible progression to cervical cancer. Prior to 1 December 2017, detection of precancerous abnormalities through cervical screening used cytology from the Papanicolaou smear, or 'Pap test', as the screening test.  A renewed NCSP was introduced in 2017 that included a change from 2-yearly Pap tests for the target age group 20–69 to 5-yearly Cervical Screening Tests (CST) for the target age group 25–74. A CST is a human papillomavirus (HPV) test, followed by a liquid-based cytology (LBC) test if oncogenic (cancer-causing) HPV is found.  Participation is a major indicator of the performance of the NCSP. High participation in screening is required for the NCSP to achieve its aim of reducing cervical cancer incidence, morbidity and mortality, by detecting and treating cervical abnormalities that could otherwise develop into cervical cancer.  Participation is measured over a 5-year period in line with the current recommended screening interval. |
| Indicator set: | [Australian Health Performance Framework, 2024](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/788568)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Qualified 21/02/2024 |

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| Collection and usage attributes | |
| Population group age from: | 25 years |
| Population group age to: | 74 years |
| Computation description: | The denominator is adjusted to exclude the estimated number of women who have had a hysterectomy, using national hysterectomy fractions.  Age-standardised rates are directly age-standardised to the 2001 Australian population.  Analysis by Primary Health Network (PHN), remoteness and Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) Index of Relative Socio-Economic Disadvantage (IRSD) is based on postcode and Statistical Area Level 2 of residential address at the time of screening.  Presented as a percentage. |
| Computation: | (Numerator ÷ Denominator) × 100 |
| Numerator: | Number of women aged 25–74 who have been screened in a 5-year period. |
| Numerator data elements: | **Data Element / Data Set**  **Data Element**    [A1 Participant identifier, identifier X[X(19)]](https://www.aihw.gov.au/getmedia/b381ba0a-86f6-4603-baa8-66c0f3e4db22/18262.pdf.aspx?inline=true)    **Data Source**  [National Cervical Screening Program](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/394276)  **Guide for use**    Data source type: National Cancer Screening Register Count is of individual participants, not tests.    **Data Element / Data Set**  **Data Element**    [B4 date of birth](https://www.aihw.gov.au/getmedia/b381ba0a-86f6-4603-baa8-66c0f3e4db22/18262.pdf.aspx?inline=true)    **Data Source**  [National Cervical Screening Program](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/394276)  **Guide for use**    Data source type: Registry    **Data Element / Data Set**  **Data Element**    H1 HPV test type    **Data Source**  [National Cervical Screening Program](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/394276)  **Guide for use**    Data source type: Registry If multiple tests within a [defined 5 year period](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/748058), the first screening test is counted.    **Data Element / Data Set**  **Data Element**    H4 Reason for HPV test    **Data Source**  [National Cervical Screening Program](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/394276)  **Guide for use**    Data source type: Registry Only includes C1 or C2. |
| Denominator: | Population of women aged 25–74 in each state and territory, geographic region, socio-economic status and Australia, using Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) estimated resident population (ERP) for females at 30 June, averaged over the relevant 5 years by age group and adjusted for the estimated proportion of women who have had a hysterectomy |
| Denominator data elements: | **Data Element / Data Set**  **Data Element**    Proportion of women within the target population who have had a hysterectomy    **Data Source**  [National Hospital Morbidity Database (NHMD)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/394352)  **Guide for use**    Data source type: Administrative by-product National hysterectomy fractions derived from the AIHW National Hospital Morbidity Database are used to adjust the population to exclude the estimated number of women who have had a hysterectomy. See Appendix C (Data sources) in [National Cervical Screening Program monitoring report 2023](https://www.aihw.gov.au/getmedia/24a90b13-3a38-49b2-8f51-1711f61ba2d4/aihw-can-157.pdf?v=20231129123308&amp;inline=true) (AIHW 2023).    **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 Estimated resident population (2016 Census-based)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/704699)  **Guide for use**    Data source type: Census based and administrative by-product data |
| Disaggregation: | 2018–2022—Nationally by   * 5-year age group (25–29 to 70–74 and totals for the 25–70) * Remoteness area (Australian Statistical Geography Standard Remoteness Structure) * Socio-economic status (SEIFA IRSD quintile).   2018–2022 state and territory.  2018–2022 Primary Health Network (PHN).  Data are presented as numbers of participants and participation rates (percentage) including age-specific and age-standardised rates.   * National age-standardised rates are provided for women aged 25–74. * State and territory age-standardised rates are provided for women aged 25–74.   Some disaggregation may result in numbers too small for publication.  Disaggregation by socio-economic status and by remoteness area use the 2016 version of SEIFA. |
| Disaggregation data elements: | **Data Element / Data Set**  **Data Element**    [A14 Woman—Residential Australian state/territory name, code {AA[A]}](https://www.aihw.gov.au/getmedia/b381ba0a-86f6-4603-baa8-66c0f3e4db22/18262.pdf.aspx?inline=true)    **Data Source**  [National Cervical Screening Program](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/394276)  **Guide for use**    Data source type: Registry Used for disaggregation by state and territory.    **Data Element / Data Set**  **Data Element**    [A15 Woman—residential Australian postcode, {NNNN}](https://www.aihw.gov.au/getmedia/b381ba0a-86f6-4603-baa8-66c0f3e4db22/18262.pdf.aspx?inline=true)    **Data Source**  [National Cervical Screening Program](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/394276)  **Guide for use**    Data source type: Registry Used for disaggregation by PHN, Statistical Area Level 3, Statistical Area Level 2, remoteness and SEIFA IRSD.    **Data Element / Data Set**  **Data Element**    [B4 Date of birth](https://www.aihw.gov.au/getmedia/b381ba0a-86f6-4603-baa8-66c0f3e4db22/18262.pdf.aspx?inline=true)    **Data Source**  [National Cervical Screening Program](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/394276)  **Guide for use**    Data source type: National Cancer Screening Register Used for disaggregation by age group. |
| Comments: | Most recent data available for 2024 Australian Health Performance Framework reporting: 2018–2022. These are the first 5-year screening completed period. |
| Representational attributes | |
| Representation class: | Percentage |
| Data type: | Real |
| Unit of measure: | Person |
| Format: | NN.N |
| Indicator conceptual framework | |
| Framework and dimensions: | [1. Effectiveness](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/721641) |
| Data source attributes | |
| Data sources: | **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**  [National Cervical Screening Program](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/394276)  **Frequency**  Annual  **Data custodian**    Department of Health and Ageing    **Data Source**  [ABS Estimated resident population (2016 Census-based)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/704699)  **Frequency**  Quarterly  **Data custodian**    Australian Bureau of Statistics |
| Accountability attributes | |
| Reporting requirements: | Australian Health Performance Framework |
| Organisation responsible for providing data: | Department of Health and Aged Care |
| Accountability: | Australian Institute of Health and Welfare |
| Source and reference attributes | |
| Submitting organisation: | Australian Institute of Health and Welfare |
| Reference documents: | AIHW (Australian Institute of Health and Welfare) (2022). *National Cervical Screening Program data dictionary: version 1.*1. Cat. no. CAN 146, Canberra <https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports/cancer-screening/ncsp-cervical-screening-data-dictionary-v1-1/summary>  AIHW (2022). *National Cervical Screening Program monitoring report 2023*. Cat. no. CAN 157. Canberra [https://www.aihw.gov.au/getmedia/24a90b13-3a38-49b2-8f51-1711f61ba2d4/aihw-can-157.pdf?v=20231129123308&inline=true](https://www.aihw.gov.au/getmedia/24a90b13-3a38-49b2-8f51-1711f61ba2d4/aihw-can-157.pdf?v=20231129123308&amp;inline=true) |
| Relational attributes | |
| Related metadata references: | Supersedes [Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 2.1.3c–Cancer screening rates, National Cervical Screening Program participation rate, 2021](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/772770)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Standard 07/09/2023 |