

Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 3.4.3— Major causes of death, 2024

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Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 3.4.3—Major causes of death, 2024

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Indicator
Indicator type:	Indicator
Short name:	AHPF PI 3.4.3—Major causes of death, 2024
METEOR identifier:	787019
Registration status:	Health , Standard 02/02/2024
Description:	Age-standardised mortality rate by major cause of death, and for Indigenous people and Primary Health Network areas.
Indicator set:	Australian Health Performance Framework, 2024 Health , Qualified 21/02/2024

Collection and usage attributes

Computation description:	<p>Data is disaggregated by each International Classification of Diseases (ICD-10) chapter for underlying cause of death:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Certain infectious and parasitic diseases (A00–B99)• Neoplasms (cancer) (C00–D48)• Diseases of the blood and blood-forming organs and certain disorders involving the immune mechanism (D50–D89)• Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases (E00–E90)• Mental and behavioural disorders (F00–F99)• Nervous system diseases (G00–G99)• Diseases of the eye and adnexa (H00–H59)• Diseases of the ear and mastoid process (H60–H95)• Circulatory diseases (I00–I99)• Respiratory diseases (J00–J99)• Digestive diseases (K00–K93)• Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue (L00–L99)• Diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue (M00–M99)• Diseases of the genitourinary system (N00–N99)• Pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium (O00–O99)• Certain conditions originating in the perinatal period (P00–P96)• Congenital malformations, deformations and chromosomal abnormalities (Q00–Q99)• Symptoms, signs and abnormal clinical and laboratory findings, not elsewhere classified (R00–R99)• Coronavirus disease of 2019 (COVID-19) (U07.1, U07.2)• External causes of morbidity and mortality (V01–Y98)• All causes.
Computation:	<p>$(\text{Numerator} \div \text{Denominator}) \times 100,000$</p> <p>Rates are directly age-standardised to the 2001 Australian population. Presented per 100,000 population.</p>
Numerator:	Number of deaths

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

Person—underlying cause of death, code (ICD-10), ANN{.N}

Data Source

[AIHW National Mortality Database](#)

Guide for use

Data source type: Administrative by-product data

Denominator:

Total Australian population

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

Person—projected Indigenous population of Australia, total people N[N(7)]

Data Source

[ABS Indigenous estimates and projections \(2016 Census-based\)](#)

Guide for use

Data source type: Census-based data plus administrative by-product data

Data Element / Data Set

[Person—estimated resident population of Australia, total people N\[N\(7\)\]](#)

Data Source

[ABS Estimated resident population \(2021 Census-based\)](#)

Guide for use

Data source type: Census-based data plus administrative by-product data

Disaggregation:

2008 to 2021—Nationally, by underlying cause of death and sex.

2008 to 2021—State and territory, by underlying cause of death and sex.

2017 to 2021—Primary Health Network (PHN) by underlying cause of death and sex.

2017–2021 aggregated—Nationally, by Indigenous status, and underlying cause of death.

Some disaggregation may result in numbers too small for publication.

Disaggregation by Indigenous status will be based on data only from jurisdictions for which the quality of Indigenous identification is considered acceptable—New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia and Northern Territory.

Due to the small number of Indigenous deaths reported each year, 5-year combined data will be reported for Indigenous status disaggregation.

Disaggregation data elements:

Data Element / Data Set

Data Element

Person—underlying cause of death, code (ICD-10), ANN{.N}

Data Source

[AIHW National Mortality Database](#)

Guide for use

Data source type: Administrative by-product data

Data Element / Data Set

[Person—Indigenous status, code N](#)

Data Source

[AIHW National Mortality Database](#)

Guide for use

Data source type: Administrative by-product data

Data Element / Data Set

[Person—sex, code X](#)

Data Source

[AIHW National Mortality Database](#)

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 \(ASGS Edition 3\) N\(9\)](#)

Data Source

[AIHW National Mortality Database](#)

Guide for use

Data source type: Administrative by-product data

Used for disaggregation by state/territory and Primary Health Network.

Comments:

Most recent data available for 2024 Australian Health Performance Framework reporting:

- 2021
- Aggregated data 2017–2021 (Indigenous status).

Deaths registered in 2019 and earlier are based on the final version of cause of death data; deaths registered in 2020 are based on the revised version; and deaths registered in 2021 are based on the preliminary version. Revised and preliminary versions are subject to further revision by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS).

Deaths registered in 2021 have undergone a targeted preliminary revision to three causes of deaths: Other ill-defined and unspecified causes of mortality (R99); Exposure to unspecified factor (X59); Unspecified event, undetermined intent (Y34). A full revisions process will be undertaken in 2024. For further information please refer to ABS Causes of Death, Australia, 2021, methodology [Data quality: 2021 data considerations, Coroner certified deaths data](#) and [Technical note: Causes of death revisions, 2021 preliminary revision](#).

Data for the registration years 2013–2020 have been updated to include data quality and completeness activities conducted by the ABS. These include: additional Victorian death registrations in 2013–2016 that had not previously been included in the National Mortality Database; revisions to associated causes of death in Western Australia (2016–2020); and updates to deaths due to Other ill-defined and unspecified causes of mortality (R99) in the 2017 reference year. As a result, data may not equal previously published data for these years. For more detail, refer to [Technical note: Victorian additional registrations \(2013–2016\)](#), [Technical note: Updates to doctor certified causes of death data, Western Australia, 2016 to 2020](#) and [Data quality: Historical considerations in Causes of death, Australia methodology, 2021](#).

Since 2013, the ABS has applied a number of updates to the ICD-10 along with the implementation of the Iris Software for automated coding of causes of death data. Details of the impact of these changes on the mortality data are described in [ABS Implementation of the Iris Software: Understanding Coding and Process Improvements](#).

Prior to 2013, mortality data were coded using the ICD-10 2006 version; 2013–2017 data were coded using the ICD-10 2013 version; 2018 data were coded using the ICD-10 2016 version; 2019 data were coded using the ICD-10 2019 version; 2020 data were coded using ICD-10 2020 version; 2021 data were coded using ICD-10 2021 version.

Single year data will be reported for time series analysis.

Denominators used in the calculation of rates for the Indigenous population are ABS estimates (Series B, 2016 Census-based). Non-Indigenous estimates are only available for Census years; in the intervening years the population is calculated by subtracting the estimated Indigenous population from the total population Estimated Resident Population (ERP).

Indigenous and non-Indigenous analysis excludes records where Indigenous status was 'not stated'.

Due to the small number of Indigenous deaths reported each year, 5-year combined data will be reported for the current reporting period.

Data by remoteness and Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) Index of Relative Socio-Economic Disadvantage (IRSD) may be available, pending assessment of data quality.

Representational attributes

Representation class:	Rate
Data type:	Real
Unit of measure:	Person

Format: N[NN].N

Indicator conceptual framework

Framework and dimensions: [4. Deaths](#)

Data source attributes

Data sources:

Data Source

[ABS Indigenous estimates and projections \(2016 Census-based\)](#)

Frequency

Periodic

Data custodian

Australian Bureau of Statistics

Data Source

[AIHW National Mortality Database](#)

Frequency

Annual

Data custodian

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Data Source

[ABS Estimated resident population \(2021 Census-based\)](#)

Frequency

Quarterly

Data custodian

Australian Bureau of Statistics

Accountability attributes

Reporting requirements: Australian Health Performance Framework

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

Accountability: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Relational attributes

**Related metadata
references:**

Supersedes [Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 3.4.3—Major causes of death, 2021](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 02/02/2024

See also [Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 2.1.6—Potentially avoidable deaths, 2024](#)

[Health](#), Standard 02/02/2024

See also [Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 3.4.1—Infant and young child mortality rate, 2024](#)

[Health](#), Standard 02/02/2024

See also [Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 3.4.4—Mortality due to suicide, 2024](#)

[Health](#), Standard 02/02/2024