National Health Performance Authority, Healthy Communities: Specialist attendances, 2013–14

Exported from METEOR (AIHW's Metadata Online Registry)

National Health Performance Authority, Healthy Communities: Specialist attendances, 2013–14

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Indicator
Indicator type:	Indicator
Short name:	Specialist attendances, 2013–14
METEOR identifier:	620146
Registration status:	National Health Performance Authority (retired), Retired 01/07/2016
Description:	The average number of non-hospital specialist attendances per person in a year.
Indicator set:	National Health Performance Authority: Healthy Communities: 2011– National Health Performance Authority (retired), Retired 01/07/2016

Collection and usage attributes

Population group age from:	All ages

Computation description: Attendances included in this indicator are non-hospital specialist attendances.

Specialist attendances are Medicare benefit funded referred patient/doctor encounters, such as visits, consultations and attendances (including video conferencing), involving medical practitioners who have been recognised as specialists or consultant physicians for Medicare benefits purposes.

Specialist attendances comprise all items in Broad Type of Services Group 'C', as published in official MBS statistics by the Department of Human Services and the Department of Health.

Rates are directly age-standardised to the 2001 Australian population. In undertaking age standardisation of MBS data, the age of each person was determined from the last MBS service of any type, processed by the Department of Human Services in 2013–14. All MBS services for each individual processed in 2013–14, were attributed this age. For MBS data, Primary Health Network (PHN) and SA3 were derived from the enrolment postcode for each person from the last MBS service of any type, processed by the Department of Human Services in 2013–14. All MBS services for each individual processed in 2013–14 were attributed to this postcode. MBS postcode level data were allocated to PHN and SA3 regions using concordance files provided by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS).

SA3 level data for 2013-14 are not directly comparable to previous years due to a change in method for allocating post-office box (PO box) addresses to SA3 geographies. The change in method means that data for people with a PO box postcode recorded as their residential address may be included in SA3 totals.

Individual SA3 level data has been provided for the Northern Territory for 2013-14. Previously, this data was provided at the state level only.

Numerator - Medicare (MBS) data provided by Department of Health for the financial year of processing, 2013–14.

Denominator – Estimated Resident Population at 30 June 2013 provided by ABS.

Data elements used in computing the numerator were MBS item number, age of patient (based on age derived from the last MBS service processed for each individual in 2013–14) and patient enrolment postcode (based on the enrolment postcode from the last MBS service processed for each individual in 2013–14).

Presented as average per person.

Before MBS data are published by NHPA all confidential data cells are suppressed.

The current definition of confidential data is as follows:

- For number of MBS services:
  - if number of services is less than 6 or
    if number of services is equal to or greater than 6 but
    - one provider provides more than 85% of services
      or two providers provide more than 90% of services
      or
    - one patient receives more than 85% of services
      or two patients receive more than 90 % of services.
- If data on number of services is confidential,
  corresponding data on other measures such as MBS benefit paid is also regarded as confidential.

Computation: (Numerator ÷ Denominator)

Specialist attendances

Specialist attendances, age-standardised

For more information about age-standardisation, please see:

/content/index.phtml?itemId/327276

Numerator:	Number of specialist attendances (non-hospital) claimed through the Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS)

Numerator data elements:

```
┌─ Data Element / Data Set ──────────────────────────────────────┐
│                                                                 │
│  Person—age, total years N[NN]                                  │
│                                                                 │
│  Data Source                                                    │
│                                                                 │
│  Medicare (MBS) data                                            │
│                                                                 │
│  Guide for use                                                  │
│                                                                 │
│  Data source type: Administrative by-product data               │
│                                                                 │
└─────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────┘
```

```
┌─ Data Element / Data Set ──────────────────────────────────────┐
│                                                                 │
│  Person—specialist MBS health assessment indicator, yes/no code N │
│                                                                 │
│  Data Source                                                    │
│                                                                 │
│  Medicare (MBS) data                                            │
│                                                                 │
│  Guide for use                                                  │
│                                                                 │
│  Data source type: Administrative by-product data.              │
│                                                                 │
└─────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────┘
```

```
┌─ Data Element / Data Set ──────────────────────────────────────┐
│                                                                 │
│  Service event—Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) processing date, │
│  DDMMYYYY                                                        │
│                                                                 │
│  Data Source                                                    │
│                                                                 │
│  Medicare (MBS) data                                            │
│                                                                 │
│  Guide for use                                                  │
│                                                                 │
│  Data source type: Administrative by-product data               │
│                                                                 │
└─────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────┘
```

Denominator:	Total estimated resident population (ERP)

Denominator data elements:

```
┌─ Data Element / Data Set ──────────────────────────────────────┐
│                                                                 │
│  Person—estimated resident population of Australia, total people N[N(7)] │
│                                                                 │
│  Data Source                                                    │
│                                                                 │
│  ABS Estimated resident population (total population)           │
│                                                                 │
│  Guide for use                                                  │
│                                                                 │
│  Data source type: Census-based plus administrative data        │
│                                                                 │
└─────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────┘
```

Disaggregation:	By Primary Health Network areas

Disaggregation data elements:	**Data Element / Data Set** [Address—statistical area, level 3 (SA3) code (ASGS 2011) NNNNN](#)
	Data Element / Data Set [Administrative health region—Primary Health Network identifier, code AAANNN](#)
Comments:	The Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) has complete coverage of out-of-hospital specialist services with the exception of those involving eligible war veterans and their dependents. For in-hospital services, the MBS covers private services only. As MBS specialist attendances data do not include attendances involving public patients in hospital and public outpatients, MBS specialist attendances data have only been published for non-hospital specialist attendances.

Representational attributes

Representation class:	Mean (average)
Data type:	Real
Unit of measure:	Person
Format:	NNNN.N

Indicator conceptual framework

Framework and dimensions:	[PAF-Equity of access](#)

Data source attributes

Data sources:	**Data Source** [ABS Estimated resident population (total population)](#) **Frequency** Quarterly **Data quality statement** [ABS Estimated resident population (total population), QS](#) **Data custodian** Australian Bureau of Statistics
	Data Source [Medicare (MBS) data](#) **Frequency** Annually **Data custodian** Department of Health

Accountability attributes

Reporting requirements:	National Health Performance Agreement-Performance and Accountability Framework
Organisation responsible for providing data:	For MBS data Department of Health
	For ERP data Australian Bureau of Statistics
Accountability:	National Health Performance Authority
Release date:	19/11/2015

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation:	National Health Performance Authority
Reference documents:	National Health Performance Agreement-Performance and Accountability Framework

Relational attributes

Related metadata references:	Supersedes [National Health Performance Authority, Healthy Communities: Specialist attendances, 2011–12](#) [National Health Performance Authority (retired)](#), Superseded 27/03/2014
	Supersedes [National Health Performance Authority, Healthy Communities: Specialist attendances, 2012–13](#) [National Health Performance Authority (retired)](#), Retired 01/07/2016