

National Health Performance Authority, Hospital Performance: Total National Weighted Activity Unit (NWAU), 2016

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Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Indicator
Indicator type:	Indicator
Common name:	Total National Weighted Activity Unit (NWAU) for 2012-13 and 2013-14
Short name:	Total NWAU 2012-13 and 2013-14
METEOR identifier:	635556
Registration status:	National Health Performance Authority (retired) , Retired 01/07/2016
Description:	Total National Weighted Activity Units (NWAU), developed by the Independent Hospital Pricing Authority (IHPA), measures total hospital activity using a common unit of activity, termed NWAU.
Indicator set:	National Health Performance Authority: Hospital performance: 2011-16 National Health Performance Authority (retired) , Retired 01/07/2016
Outcome area:	Hospital and Related Care National Health Performance Authority (retired) , Retired 01/07/2016 Health! , Standard 07/07/2010

Collection and usage attributes

Computation description: NWAU are calculated for each acute admitted separation in accordance with the Independent Hospital Pricing Authority's National Efficient Price Determination 2015-16. Total NWAU is calculated by tallying NWAU for patients whose treatment was eligible for Activity Based Funding under the National Health Reform Agreement (NHRA) and who were admitted and discharged within the same financial year.

For more information on computation methods for an NWAU see:
<https://www.ihoa.gov.au/publications/national-pricing-model-technical-specifications-2015-16>

Inclusion criteria:

- Care type (</content/index.phtml/itemId/270174>):
 - 1.0 (Acute care)
 - 7.0 (Newborn care)

- Funding source (</content/index.phtml/itemId/472033>):
 - 01 (Health service budget, not covered elsewhere)
 - 02 (Health service budget, due to eligibility for Reciprocal Health Care Agreement)
 - 08 Other hospital or public authority (contracted care)
 - 09 (private health insurance)
 - 13 (Self-funded)

Exclusion criteria:

- Error Australian Refined-Diagnosis Related Group (AR-DRG)
- Admitted and discharged in different financial years (eg. Work-in-Progress)
- Patient records where there is no match between the National Hospitals Data Cost Collection and the Admitted Patient Care National Minimum Data Set

Computation: Sum of NWAU for acute admitted patients who were admitted and discharged within the same financial year.

Numerator: Number of NWAU

Disaggregation: Hospital
Peer Group

Disaggregation data elements:

Data Element / Data Set

[Establishment—organisation identifier \(Australian\), NNX\[X\]NNNNN](#)

Data Element / Data Set

[Hospital—hospital peer group, modified code N](#)

Comments: The NWAU is the national unit for counting hospital service activity, based on the complexity of patients and legitimate variations in costs. The 'average' hospital service is equivalent to one NWAU. More intensive and expensive activities are funded by multiples of NWAUs, and simpler and less expensive activities are funded by fractions of an NWAU.

In accordance with the funding arrangements between the Commonwealth and Local Hospital Networks patients whose services are not eligible Activity Based Funding under the NHRA are excluded from the calculation of total NWAU such as patients funded by the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) or motor vehicle accident insurance. For more information on eligible patients see: </content/index.phtml/itemId/339080>

For the purpose of the Total NWAU measure, only the activity of acute admitted patients are counted.

Representational attributes

Representation class: Count
Data type: Integer
Unit of measure: Service event

Indicator conceptual framework

Framework and dimensions: [PAF-Efficiency](#)

Accountability attributes

Reporting requirements: National Health Performance Authority - Performance and Accountability Framework
Organisation responsible for providing data: Independent Hospital Pricing Authority
Release date: 28/04/2016

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: National Health Performance Authority
Origin: Hospital Performance

Relational attributes

Related metadata references: Supersedes [National Health Performance Authority, Hospital Performance: Total National Weighted Activity Unit \(NWAU\), 2015](#)
[National Health Performance Authority \(retired\)](#), Retired 01/07/2016