

National Healthcare Agreement: PI 11—Proportion of adults with very high levels of psychological distress, 2018

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National Healthcare Agreement: PI 11–Proportion of adults with very high levels of psychological distress, 2018

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Indicator
Indicator type:	Progress measure
Short name:	PI 11–Proportion of adults with very high levels of psychological distress, 2017
METEOR identifier:	658513
Registration status:	Health! , Superseded 19/06/2019
Description:	Proportion of adults with very high levels of psychological distress.
Indicator set:	National Healthcare Agreement (2018) Health! , Superseded 16/06/2019
Outcome area:	Prevention Health! , Standard 07/07/2010

Collection and usage attributes

Computation description:	<p>Derived from the Kessler Psychological Distress Scale, with higher scores indicating a higher level of distress; lower scores indicate a low level of distress.</p> <p>A ten item scale is currently employed by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) in general population collections (i.e. K10), while a modified five item scale is included in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population collections (K5).</p> <p>Total scores from the K10 scale will be grouped as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 10–15 Low;• 16–21 Moderate;• 22–29 High; and• 30–50 Very high. <p>Total scores from the K5 scale will be grouped as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 5–11 Low/moderate; and• 12–25 High/very high. <p>Presented as a percentage. Rates are directly age-standardised to the 2001 Australian population. 95% confidence intervals and relative standard errors calculated for rates.</p>
Computation:	$100 \times (\text{Numerator} \div \text{Denominator})$
Numerator:	Number of people aged 18 years or over with a very high distress score as measured by the Kessler Psychological Distress Scale.

Numerator data elements:

Data Element / Data Set

Person—age

Data Source

[ABS 2014-15 National Health Survey \(NHS\)](#)

Guide for use

Data source type: Survey

Data Element / Data Set

Person—Kessler Psychological Distress Scale score

Data Source

[ABS 2014-15 National Health Survey \(NHS\)](#)

Guide for use

Data source type: Survey

Data Element / Data Set

Person—age

Data Source

[ABS 2014-15 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey \(NATSISS\)](#)

Guide for use

Data source type: Survey

Data Element / Data Set

Person—Kessler Psychological Distress Scale score

Data Source

[ABS 2014-15 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey \(NATSISS\)](#)

Guide for use

Data source type: Survey

Denominator:

Population aged 18 years or over.

Denominator data elements:

Data Element / Data Set

Person—age

Data Source

[ABS 2014-15 National Health Survey \(NHS\)](#)

Guide for use

Data source type: Survey

Data Element / Data Set

Person—age

Data Source

[ABS 2014-15 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey \(NATSISS\)](#)

Guide for use

Data source type: Survey

Disaggregation:

State and territory by sex.

Nationally by:

- remoteness (Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) Remoteness Structure)
- 2011 Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) Index of Relative Socio-Economic Disadvantage (IRSD) quintiles and deciles
- sex by 2011 SEIFA IRSD quintiles
- remoteness (Major cities, other) by 2011 SEIFA IRSD deciles.
- disability status

Grouped high/very high levels of psychological distress—State and territory by:

- Indigenous status
- remoteness (ASGS Remoteness Structure)
- 2011 SEIFA IRSD quintiles
- disability status

Grouped high/very high levels of psychological distress—Nationally by:

- sex by remoteness (ASGS Remoteness Structure)
- remoteness (ASGS Remoteness Structure) by 2011 SEIFA IRSD deciles

Some disaggregations may result in numbers too small for publication.

Disaggregation data elements:

Data Element / Data Set

Person—disability status

Data Source

[ABS 2014-15 National Health Survey \(NHS\)](#)

Guide for use

Data source type: Survey

Data Element / Data Set

Person—Indigenous status

Data Source

[ABS 2014-15 National Health Survey \(NHS\)](#)

Guide for use

Data source type: Survey

Data Element / Data Set

[Person—sex, code N](#)

Data Source

[ABS 2014-15 National Health Survey \(NHS\)](#)

Guide for use

Data source type: Survey

Data Element / Data Set

[Person—area of usual residence, statistical area level 2 \(SA2\) code \(ASGS 2011\) N\(9\)](#)

Data Source

[ABS 2014-15 National Health Survey \(NHS\)](#)

Guide for use

Data source type: Survey

Used for disaggregation by state/territory, remoteness and SEIFA

Data Element / Data Set

[Person—area of usual residence, statistical area level 2 \(SA2\) code \(ASGS 2011\) N\(9\)](#)

Data Source

[ABS 2014-15 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey \(NATSISS\)](#)

Guide for use

Data source type: Survey

Used for disaggregation by state/territory

Comments: Most recent data available for the 2018 National Healthcare Agreement performance reporting: 2014–15 (total population, non-Indigenous: NHS); 2014–15 (Indigenous only: NATSISS).

NO NEW DATA FOR 2018 REPORTING.

National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey (NATSISS) or National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey (NATSIHS) data may be used for analysis, dependent upon which survey is most recent.

The modified K5 scale from the 2014–15 NATSISS was used with the corresponding 5 questions from the 2014–15 NHS to compare the psychological distress levels of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Indigenous peoples.

Representational attributes

Representation class: Percentage

Data type: Real

Unit of measure: Person

Format: N[NN].N

Data source attributes

Data sources:

Data Source

[ABS 2014-15 National Health Survey \(NHS\)](#)

Frequency

Every 3 years

Data custodian

Australian Bureau of Statistics

Data Source

[ABS 2014-15 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey \(NATSISS\)](#)

Frequency

Every 6 years

Data custodian

Australian Bureau of Statistics

Accountability attributes

Reporting requirements: National Healthcare Agreement

Organisation responsible for providing data: Australian Bureau of Statistics

Further data development / collection required: Specification: Final, the measure meets the intention of the indicator.

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Australian Bureau of Statistics

Reference documents: ABS (Australian Bureau of Statistics) 2012. Information Paper: Use of the Kessler Psychological Distress Scale in ABS Health Surveys, Australia, 2007–08. ABS cat.no. 4817.0.55.001. Canberra: ABS.

Relational attributes

Related metadata references:

Supersedes [National Healthcare Agreement: PI 11–Proportion of adults with very high levels of psychological distress, 2017](#)

[Health!](#), Superseded 30/01/2018

Has been superseded by [National Healthcare Agreement: PI 11–Proportion of adults with very high levels of psychological distress, 2019](#)

[Health!](#), Superseded 13/03/2020