

Australian Atlas of Healthcare Variation 2018: Number of MBS-subsidised services for thyroid function tests per 100,000 people aged 18 years and over, 2016-17

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Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Indicator
Indicator type:	Indicator
Short name:	Thyroid function tests, 18 years and over, 2016-17
METEOR identifier:	709388
Registration status:	Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care, Standard 13/12/2018
Description:	Number of MBS-subsidised services for thyroid function tests per 100,000 people aged 18 years and over, age-sex standardised.
Indicator set:	Australian Atlas of Healthcare Variation 2018 Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care, Standard 13/12/2018

Collection and usage attributes

Population group age from:	18 years and over
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Computation description: Inclusion codes, description and additional requirements

MBS code	Description
66719	Thyroid function tests

For a full description of the MBS items included for this indicator see the last 2016-17 MBS schedule:

<http://www.mbsonline.gov.au/internet/mbsonline/publishing.nsf/Content/Downloads-201705>

Presented as a number of services per 100,000 people.

Rates are directly age-sex standardised, to the 2001 Australian population, using 5-year age groups: 18-24, 25-29, ... , 80-84, 85 and over.

For more information about age-standardisation in general see </content/index.phtml/itemId/327276>

A patient's age is calculated in years as the difference between the patient's date of birth and date of service, as recorded in the MBS claim. Date of birth and sex are as recorded on a patient's last processed claim for any service in the processing period.

Claim records are allocated to a financial year based on the date the service was provided to the patient. For example for 2016–17, the date of service is between 1 July 2016 and 30 June 2017.

Date of claim processing is between 1 July 2016 and 28 February 2018.

Analysis by Statistical Area Level 3 (SA3) 2016 is based on the patient's Medicare enrolment postcode at date of service, as recorded in the MBS claim.

Suppress data (number and rate) if at least one of the following conditions are met:

- the total denominator is less than 1,000
- the total numerator is less than 20
- number of services is less than 6
- number of patients is less than 6
- number of service providers is less than 6
- top service provider contributed more than 85% of services
- top two service providers contributed more than 90% of services.

Age-sex standardised rates are also suppressed where the denominator for at least one of the age-sex groups used to calculate the rate is below 30 and results of sensitivity analysis indicate that the rates are volatile. However, for SA3 data, if the volatility of the rate is not found to have a material impact on its decile, the rate is published with caution. For more information about the sensitivity analysis, see the [Technical supplement of the Third Atlas](#).

Computation: $100,000 \times (\text{Numerator} \div \text{Denominator})$

Numerator: Number of MBS-subsidised thyroid function tests, 18 years and over, 2016-17

Numerator data elements:

Data Element / Data Set

[Person—date of birth, DDMMYYYY](#)

Data Source

[Medicare \(MBS\) 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

Data Element / Data Set

[Person—sex, code A](#)

Data Source

[Medicare \(MBS\) data](#)

Data Element / Data Set

[Service event—date of Medicare service, DDMMYYYY](#)

Data Source

[Medicare \(MBS\) data](#)

Data Element / Data Set

[Service event—Medicare Benefits Schedule \(MBS\) item identifier, NN\[NNN\]](#)

Data Source

[Medicare \(MBS\) data](#)

Denominator:

Total population aged 18 years and over, as at 30 June 2016

Denominator data elements:

Data Element / Data Set

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

Data Source

[ABS Australian Demographic Statistics](#)

Guide for use

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

Disaggregation:

SA3 2016 by:

• remoteness (ASGS Remoteness structure 2016) and Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA 2016) Index of Relative Socioeconomic Disadvantage (IRSD 2016)

Primary Health Network (PHN) 2017

State and territory

State and territory by:

- age group (18-39 years, 40-69 years, 70 years and over)
- referral provider type (GP, endocrinologist, obstetrician and gynaecologist, and other)
- sex

Disaggregation data elements:

Data Element / Data Set

Address—statistical area, level 3 (SA3) code (ASGS 2016) NNNNN

Data Element / Data Set

Service/care provider—specialty of requesting provider, health professional derived specialty code NNNN

NMDS / DSS

Complete - Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) claim service detail

Guide for use

GPO postcodes 2001, 2124, 3001, 4001, 5001, 6843 excluded from the SA3 analysis but included in state/territory and national level analysis.

Data source type: Administrative by-product data

Used for disaggregation by Statistical Area Level 3.

Data Element / Data Set

[Person—date of birth, DDMMYYYY](#)

Data Element / Data Set

[Person—sex, code A](#)

Data Element / Data Set

[Address—Australian postcode, code \(Postcode datafile\) NNNN](#)

Representational attributes

Representation class: Rate
Data type: Integer
Unit of measure: Service event
Format: NN[NNNN]

Data source attributes

Data sources:**Data Source**[ABS Australian Demographic Statistics](#)**Frequency**

Quarterly

Data custodian

Australian Bureau of Statistics

Data Source[Medicare \(MBS\) data](#)**Frequency**

Annually

Data custodian

Department of Health

Accountability attributes

Methodology:

Statistical Area Level 3 (SA3s) are geographic areas defined in the ABS Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS). The aim of SA3s is to create a standard framework for the analysis of ABS data at the regional level through clustering groups of SA2s that have similar regional characteristics. There are 340 spatial SA3s covering the whole of Australia without gaps or overlaps. They are designed to provide a regional breakdown of Australia. SA3s generally have a population of between 30,000 and 130,000 people. There are approximately 78 with fewer than 30,000 people and 46 with more than 130,000 as at 30 June 2016. The Other Territories of Jervis Bay, Cocos (Keeling) Islands, Christmas Island and Norfolk Island are each represented by a SA3 in the 2016 ASGS. For further information see the ABS publication, Population by Age and Sex, Regions of Australia, 2016. ABS. cat. no. 3235.0.

Further information on the Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) can be found at <http://www.mbsonline.gov.au/internet/mbsonline/publishing.nsf/Content/Home>

Reporting requirements:

Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care

*The Third Australian Atlas of Healthcare Variation 2018***Organisation responsible for providing data:**

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Accountability:

Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care

Release date:

11/12/2018

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation:

Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care