

Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 2.5.2— Waiting times for elective surgery: waiting times in days, 2020

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Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 2.5.2— Waiting times for elective surgery: waiting times in days, 2020

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Indicator
Indicator type:	Indicator
Short name:	AHPF PI 2.5.2—Waiting times for elective surgery: waiting times in days, 2020
METEOR identifier:	728351
Registration status:	Health! , Standard 13/10/2021
Description:	The median and 90th percentile length of time, in days, waited by patients for admission for elective surgery, in public hospitals.
Indicator set:	Australian Health Performance Framework, 2020 Health! , Standard 13/10/2021

Collection and usage attributes

Computation description: [Elective surgery](#) is defined in the National Elective Surgery Waiting Times Data Collection (NESWTDC). The NESWTDC includes data collected for patients on elective surgery waiting lists managed by public acute hospitals and/or state and territory health authorities, who are yet to be admitted to hospital and for patients who have been removed from an elective surgery waiting list (for admission or another reason). The NESWTDC includes the date the patient is listed for care and the date the patient is removed from the elective surgery waiting list (removal date).

Selected intended procedures are as defined in permissible values 001 to 017 in [Elective surgery waiting list episode—intended procedure, code NNN](#)

Waiting time as defined in [Elective surgery waiting list episode—waiting time \(at removal\), total days N\[NNN\]](#). Calculated by jurisdictions by subtracting the listing date for care from the removal date, minus any days the patient was waiting with a less urgent clinical urgency category than their clinical urgency category at removal, and excluding days where the patient was not ready for care.

Waiting times are calculated for patients whose reason for removal was:

1. Admitted as an elective patient for awaited procedure by or on behalf of this hospital or the state/territory.
2. Admitted as an emergency patient for awaited procedure by or on behalf of this hospital or the state/territory.

Analysis by state and territory based on location of service.

Analysis by remoteness and Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) Index of Relative Socio-Economic Disadvantage (IRSD) is based on usual residence of the person.

Presented as number of days.

Computation:

Number of days waited at 50th and 90th percentile.

Calculated overall and for each intended procedure.

The 50th and 90th percentiles have been rounded to the nearest whole number of days.

The calculation is where:

n is the number of observations and

p is the percentile value divided by 100,

then $n \times p = i + f$ (where i is an integer and f is the fractional part of $n \times p$).

If $n \times p$ is an integer, the percentile value will correspond to the average of the values for the i^{th} and $(i+1)^{\text{th}}$ observations.

If $n \times p$ is not an integer, the percentile value will correspond to the value for the $(i+1)^{\text{th}}$ observation.

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

[Elective surgery waiting list episode—waiting time \(at removal\), total days](#)
N[NNN]

Data Source

[National elective surgery waiting times data collection](#)

NMDS / DSS

[Elective surgery waiting times NMDS 2019–20](#)

Guide for use

Data source type: Administrative by-product data

Data Element / Data Set

[Elective surgery waiting list episode—reason for removal from a waiting list, code N](#)

Data Source

[National elective surgery waiting times data collection](#)

NMDS / DSS

[Elective surgery waiting times NMDS 2019–20](#)

Guide for use

Data source type: Administrative by-product data

Disaggregation:

2019–20—National.

Nationally, by (all not reported):

- intended procedure
- specialty of surgeon
- SEIFA IRSD deciles
- remoteness (Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) Remoteness Structure).

Nationally, by intended procedure, by (all not reported):

- Indigenous status
- peer group.

2019–20—State and territory.

2019–20—State and territory by urgency category (median only).

State and territory, by (all not reported):

- intended procedure
- specialty of surgeon
- SEIFA IRSD quintiles
- remoteness (ASGS Remoteness Structure).

State and territory, by intended procedure, by (all not reported):

- Indigenous status
- peer group.

Local Hospital Network, by (all not reported):

- urgency category
- specialty of surgeon
- intended procedure.

Hospital, by (all not reported):

- urgency category
- specialty of surgeon
- intended procedure.

Some disaggregations may result in numbers too small for publication.

Disaggregation by peer group uses the peer group classification as described in the AIHW publication [Australian hospital peer groups](#) (AIHW 2015).

Disaggregation data elements:

Data Element / Data Set

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

Data Source

[National elective surgery waiting times data collection](#)

NMDS / DSS

[Elective surgery waiting times NMDS 2019–20](#)

Guide for use

Data source type: Administrative by-product data
Used for disaggregation by state/territory, peer group and Local Hospital Network.

Data Element / Data Set

[Elective surgery waiting list episode—clinical urgency, code N](#)

Data Source

[National elective surgery waiting times data collection](#)

NMDS / DSS

[Elective surgery waiting times NMDS 2019–20](#)

Guide for use

Data source type: Administrative by-product data

Data Element / Data Set

[Person—Indigenous status, code N](#)

Data Source

[National elective surgery waiting times data collection](#)

NMDS / DSS

[Elective surgery waiting times NMDS 2019–20](#)

Guide for use

Data source type: Administrative by-product data

Data Element / Data Set

[Elective surgery waiting list episode—surgical specialty \(of scheduled doctor\), code NN](#)

Data Source

[National elective surgery waiting times data collection](#)

NMDS / DSS

[Elective surgery waiting times NMDS 2019–20](#)

Guide for use

Data source type: Administrative by-product data

Data Element / Data Set

[Elective surgery waiting list episode—intended procedure, code NNN](#)

Data Source

[National elective surgery waiting times data collection](#)

NMDS / DSS

[Elective surgery waiting times NMDS 2019–20](#)

Guide for use

Data source type: Administrative by-product data

Comments: Most recent data available for 2020 Australian Health Performance Framework reporting: 2019–20.

For this indicator, the selected intended procedures are a subset of all procedures. In 2018–19, approximately 65% of waiting list removals did not fall into one of the selected intended procedures.

For 2018–19 data, the 2016 SEIFA IRSD quintile and decile data will be produced using the Australian Statistical Geography Standard 2016 geographical unit of Statistical Area Level 2.

The scope of the NESWTDC is patients on, or removed from, waiting lists for elective surgery which are managed by public acute hospitals.

Representational attributes

Representation class: Percentile
Data type: Real
Unit of measure: Time (e.g. days, hours)
Format: N[NNN]

Indicator conceptual framework

Framework and dimensions: [5. Accessibility](#)

Data source attributes

Data sources:

Data Source

[National elective surgery waiting times data collection](#)

Data custodian

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Accountability attributes

Reporting requirements: Australian Health Performance Framework

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

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Reference documents: AIHW 2015. Australian hospital peer groups. Health services series no. 66. Cat. no. HSE 170. Canberra: AIHW.

Relational attributes

Related metadata references:

Supersedes [Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 2.5.2–Waiting times for elective surgery: waiting times in days, 2019](#)

[Health!](#), Standard 09/04/2020

See also [Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 2.5.3–Waiting times for elective surgery: proportion admitted within clinically recommended time, 2020](#)

[Health!](#), Standard 13/10/2021

See also [Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 2.5.4–Waiting times for elective surgery: percentage waited more than 365 days, 2020](#)

[Health!](#), Standard 13/10/2021

See also [National Healthcare Agreement: PI 20a–Waiting times for elective surgery: waiting times in days, 2020](#)

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

See also [National Healthcare Agreement: PI 20a–Waiting times for elective surgery: waiting times in days, 2022](#)

[Health!](#), Standard 24/09/2021

See also [National Healthcare Agreement: PI 20b–Waiting times for elective surgery: proportion seen on time, 2020](#)

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

See also [National Healthcare Agreement: PI 20b–Waiting times for elective surgery: proportion seen on time, 2022](#)

[Health!](#), Standard 24/09/2021