

2 Overview of Australian hospitals

Introduction

This chapter describes the public and private hospital sectors in terms of the number of hospitals and the availability of hospital beds. Summary statistics for admitted and non-admitted patients are also presented for each sector. Information is included on the number of separations for patients and their aggregated and average length of stay, presented on the basis of the sector of the hospital and the type of hospital within the sector. Chapters 7 to 12 present information on the basis of characteristics of admitted patients and their hospital stays.

The summary information on public hospitals is derived from the National Public Hospital Establishments Database. Information on private hospitals has been provided by the states and territories for 2003–04 and is preliminary. The final data will be included in the Institute’s website when they become available from the ABS’s Private Health Establishments Collection. Summary statistics for private and public hospitals are presented at a national level for the years 1999–00 to 2003–04 and for states and territories for 2003–04.

Summary separation, patient day, average length of stay and average cost weight information is derived from the National Hospital Morbidity Database for public and private hospitals. National statistics for the years 1999–00 to 2003–04 and state and territory statistics for 2003–04 are presented.

The hospital sectors and types reported in this chapter are public acute hospitals, public psychiatric hospitals, private free-standing day hospital facilities and other private hospitals. Data are also presented for all public hospitals combined, all acute hospitals (that is, excluding public psychiatric hospitals), all private hospitals and all hospitals. For reasons of confidentiality, the patient-level data for private hospitals in Tasmania, the Australian Capital Territory and the Northern Territory have been suppressed. Also, private free-standing day hospital facilities were not separately identified for Tasmania. Therefore, totals for Australia for private free-standing day hospital facilities and other private hospitals do not include Tasmania. Further information on the hospitals included is provided in Appendix 4.

There is some variation between jurisdictions in how hospitals that predominantly provide public hospital services and that are privately owned and/or operated are reported. Most of these are reported as public hospitals and some are reported as private hospitals, as detailed in Appendix 4. This year, Hawkesbury Base and Port Macquarie hospitals in New South Wales were reported as public hospitals. They had been reported as private hospitals in previous years.

Also detailed in Appendix 4, there is some variation in the scope of the National Hospital Morbidity Database among the states and territories. There is also some variation in the way in which separations with *Newborn* care were reported and in the inclusion of periods of hospital in the home care, as described in Chapter 7 and Appendix 3. These variations should be considered when comparing states and territories, the public and private sectors, and reporting years.

Data on occasions of service for non-admitted patients in public hospitals, derived from the National Public Hospital Establishments Database, are also presented, as are similar data for private hospitals, provided from the ABS's Private Health Establishments Collection.

Hospitals and hospital beds

A range of data on hospitals, available beds, expenditure and revenue are presented in Table 2.1 for the period 1999-00 to 2003-04. Over the 4-year period, a number of jurisdictions changed from accounting on a cash basis to accrual accounting, and a number of other changes to reporting arrangements occurred so comparisons across years must be made with care.

There were 761 public hospitals and 543 private hospitals in 2003-04, compared with 748 public hospitals and 549 private hospitals in 2002-03 (Table 2.1). Changes in the numbers of hospitals can be due to changes in administrative or reporting arrangements and not necessarily to changes in the number of hospital campuses or buildings (see Appendix 4). For example, New South Wales made a number of changes to reporting arrangements between 2002-03 and 2003-04 such that there was an increase in reporting units although there was no change in the number of actual facilities.

Change in the number of available beds may be a more reliable indicator of shifts in the availability of hospital services than change in numbers of hospitals. However, the concept of an available bed is also becoming less important, particularly in the light of increasing same day hospitalisations, and the provision of hospital in the home care. The comparability of bed numbers can also be affected by the casemix of hospitals with, for example, different proportions of beds available for special and more general purposes. Public hospitals provided 53,327 beds (66.7% of the national total) in 2003-04, compared with 26,580 beds provided in private hospitals (33.3% of the national total).

Public sector bed numbers are the average number of beds available through the course of the year. Private sector data for 2003-04 were collated on a different basis from earlier years. Data for 1999-00 to 2002-03 are from the ABS's *Private Hospitals Australia 2002-03* (ABS 2004a) publication and from earlier editions of *Private Hospitals Australia*, which report numbers of beds on an average available beds basis. Data for 2003-04 were provided by the states and territories. Victorian private hospital beds were reported on an available bed basis. All other private hospital beds were reported on a licensed bed basis, which may overstate the number of beds available. These differences in reporting arrangements may make cross-year comparisons less valid.

Nationally, bed numbers in the public sector experienced a decrease from 52,947 in 1999-00 to 51,461 in 2001-02, and then increased to 53,327 in 2003-04. Over the same period, the private sector grew from 25,246 beds in 1999-00 to 27,407 in 2001-02 and fell to 26,580 in 2003-04.

Recurrent expenditure in 2003-04 was \$20.0 billion in current price terms. In current price terms (that is, not adjusted for inflation), recurrent expenditure increased by 9.3% from 2002-03 to 2003-04 for public hospitals. In constant price terms (that is, adjusted for inflation) (referenced to 2001-02), national expenditure was \$19.3 billion in 2003-04, and represented a real increase in expenditure of 5.4% over 2002-03. Total revenue for public hospitals increased by an average of 4.0% per year in constant price terms between 1999-00 and 2003-04.

Information on the number of hospitals and hospital beds available by state and territory is provided in Table 2.2 for both public and private hospitals. The number of available beds in hospitals ranged from 3.7 per 1,000 population in Victoria to 4.7 per 1,000 population in South Australia.

Admitted patients by sector and hospital type

Separations

There were 6,841,192 separations reported from public and private acute and psychiatric hospitals in 2003–04 (Table 2.4), an increase of 195,881 (2.9%) compared with 2002–03 (Table 2.3). Public hospital separations increased by 2.7% (112,526) compared with 2002–03 and there was a 3.4% (86,355) increase in separations reported for the private sector.

The increases in separations should be interpreted in the light of coverage changes (see Appendix 4). In the public sector, for Victoria, one hospital that was not included in 2002–03 was included in 2003–04, and one hospital included in 2002–03 was not included in 2003–04, resulting in approximately 3,000 extra separations in 2003–04. While there was no change in coverage for New South Wales, two hospitals were reported as public hospitals for 2003–04 and as private hospitals for 2002–03 (see Appendix 4). For the public sector, after adjusting for these changes (by adding the approximately 3,000 separations for the changing hospital, coverage in Victoria to the 2002–03 data and subtracting the 2003–04 separations for the two New South Wales hospitals from the 2003–04 data) the growth between 2002–03 and 2003–04 was 2.1%.

In the private sector, a small number of hospitals were missing data for short periods in 2002–03 and 2003–04 in Victoria and South Australia, however, coverage was essentially complete for both years for both states. There was no change in the coverage of private hospitals for Australian Capital Territory, the Northern Territory, Tasmania and Western Australia. The only change for New South Wales was due to the change of two hospitals from being reported as private to public.

By adjusting for the change in classification of the two New South Wales hospitals (by adding the 2003–04 separations to the private sector 2003–04 separations) and adjusting for coverage changes in Victoria, the apparent growth between 2002–03 and 2003–04 was 4.0% for all private hospitals. The total estimated growth for all hospitals was 2.8% after adjusting for changes in coverage (as above).

Information on the 30 AR-DRGs with the largest changes in the number of separations in either the public or private sector (or both) between 1999–00 and 2003–04 is presented in Table 12.5.

The private sector accounted for 38.6% of the 6.84 million separations in 2003–04 (2,640,697), compared with 38.4% (2,554,342) in 2002–03. (If the two New South Wales hospitals had not been recategorised the proportion in 2003–04 would have been 38.9%.) Private free-standing day hospital facilities, excluding Tasmania, accounted for 486,386 or 18.4% of private sector separations in 2003–04, compared with 455,094 or 17.8% in 2002–03.

Same day and overnight separations

The proportion of admitted patients being treated on a same day basis, that is, admitted and separated on the same date, continued to increase in the year 2003–04 (Table 2.3). Same day separations have been distinguished from other separations in this report to illustrate the proportions of total separations which they represent, and also to demonstrate the effect on average lengths of stay when patients receiving this type of hospital care are classified as admitted. In most countries of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), same day patients are not counted as admitted patients, and therefore the reported average lengths of stay in OECD publication are greater than those calculated in this publication (OECD 2004).

In 2003–04, 3,711,467 separations were on a same day basis, an increase of 4.0%, compared with 2002–03 (Table 2.3). There was an increase of 2.8% in public hospitals and 5.5% in private hospitals. After adjusting for coverage change (which may not have been the same for same day and overnight separations) and the recategorisation of the two New South Wales hospitals, increases were 1.7% in the public sector and 5.3% in the private sector. Same day separations comprised 54.3% of separations overall, compared with 53.7% (3,568,902) in 2002–03, and there were increases in the proportions of same day patients in both public hospitals (from 48.9% to 49.0%) and private hospitals (from 61.5% to 62.6%).

There was some variation among the states and territories in the proportion of same day separations in 2003–04 (Table 2.4). For public hospitals, New South Wales (42.6%) and Queensland (48.7) each had a lower proportion than the national average (49.0%), whereas the Northern Territory (58.2%), the Australian Capital Territory (56.5%) and Victoria (54.9%) had markedly higher proportions. In the private sector, Queensland (64.0%), New South Wales (64.9%) and Victoria (63.2%) reported higher proportions than average (62.6%).

There was a 1.7% increase in overnight separations between 2002–03 and 2003–04, from 3,076,409 to 3,129,725. There was an increase of 2.5% in public hospitals (from 2,090,732 to 2,143,331), and a 0.1% increase in the private sector (from 985,677 to 986,394). After adjusting for coverage change (which may not have been the same for same day and overnight separations) and the recategorisation of the two New South Wales hospitals, changes were a 2.0% increase in the public sector and a 0.1% decrease in the private sector. Overnight separations for private free-standing day hospital facilities were mainly from sleep centres (mainly AR-DRG E63Z *Sleep apnoea*).

Separation rates

Unadjusted for coverage change, the age-standardised separation rate per 1,000 population increased by 1.0% between 2002–03 and 2003–04 for public acute hospitals (Table 2.3) and by 1.4% for private hospitals.

Among the states and territories, the Northern Territory reported the highest age-standardised public acute hospital separation rate in 2003–04 (428.9 per 1,000 population; Table 2.4). Private hospital separation rates ranged from 103.0 per 1,000 population in New South Wales to 167.8 per 1,000 population in Queensland. These rates relate to resident populations, and therefore do not take into account interstate and overseas patient flows.

These rates are likely to have been affected by whether or not separate episodes of care (see Glossary) within a hospital stay were counted as individual separations, the way in which hospital stays for patients aged 9 days or less on admission (*Newborn episodes*), and the

reporting of hospital in the home care (see Chapter 7 and Appendix 3 for details). Changes over time and differences between sectors and jurisdictions can also be affected by variation in admission practices. For example, in New South Wales public hospitals, there has been a gradual reclassification over recent years of chemotherapy patients from admitted patients to non-admitted patients (outpatients).

The age-standardised separation rate for public psychiatric hospitals varied widely, from 0.1 per 1,000 population in Victoria and Queensland, to 1.8 per 1,000 population in New South Wales. This variation reflects differences in the extent to which public psychiatric services have been provided in public acute hospitals and non-hospital facilities (AIHW 2005).

Average cost weight of separations

Average cost weights are presented for 2003–04 in Table 2.4, based on the version 4.2 AR-DRG (DHAC 2000) into which each separation was classified on the basis of demographic and clinical characteristics of the patient. Separations were only included where the care type was reported as *Acute*, or was not reported, or where the care type was *Newborn* and the separation had at least one qualified day. Thus separations for *Rehabilitation*, *Palliative care*, *Geriatric evaluation and management*, *Psychogeriatric care*, *Maintenance care*, *Other admitted patient care*, and *Newborn care* with no qualified days were excluded.

The average cost weight information provides a guide to the expected resource use for separations, with a value of 1.00 representing the theoretical average for all separations. Cost weights for 2002–03 (AR-DRG version 4.2) were used (DoHA 2004), as 2003–04 cost weights were not available at the time of publication of this report. In one part of Table 2.3 and Table 2.4, public sector cost weights were used for both public and private hospitals to enable comparison between the sectors on the same basis, as the public and private sector cost weights are not comparable. Data are also presented for private hospitals using private sector cost weights. Further information about the AR-DRG classification and cost weights is included in Chapter 12.

Table 2.4 indicates that, within the public sector, most states and territories had average cost weights fairly close to the national average (1.00) for public acute hospitals. The Northern Territory was a notable exception, with an average cost weight of 0.75. This reflects the high proportion of public hospital separations in the Northern Territory that were for *Admit for renal dialysis* (AR-DRG L61Z), an AR-DRG with a relatively low cost weight.

The validity of comparisons of average cost weights is limited by differences in the extent to which each jurisdiction's acute care psychiatric services are integrated into its public hospital system. For example, in Victoria, almost all public psychiatric hospitals are mainstreamed, and are therefore included in the public acute hospital data. Cost weights are of less use as a measure of resource requirements for these services because the relevant AR-DRGs are less homogeneous than for other acute services.

In Table 2.4, the average public cost weight for private free-standing day hospital facilities in 2003–04 was markedly lower (0.52) than for other private hospitals (1.02), reflecting the lesser complexity and day-only nature of most admissions in these hospitals in 2003–04. The average cost weights for the other private hospitals ranged from 0.95 in Western Australia to 1.10 in South Australia. Nationally, the average cost weight for private hospitals using private sector cost weights was 0.85.

Patient days

Patient days represent the number of full or partial day stays for patients who separated from hospital during the reporting period, and represent the aggregated length of stay for all patients (see Glossary). A total of 23,583,213 patient days was reported for 2003–04, 70% in the public sector and 30% in the private sector (Table 2.4).

There was an increase of 1.5% (235,559) in patient days for public acute hospitals in 2003–04, compared with 2002–03 (Table 2.3). For private hospitals, patient days increased by 0.7% (49,284), unadjusted for coverage change. Patient days for public acute and private hospitals combined (unadjusted for coverage change) increased by 1.3% (284,483), and for all hospitals combined they increased by 0.2% (42,416). Adjusting for coverage change (as detailed above), there was an increase of 1.0% for public acute hospitals and 1.7% for private hospitals.

Patient days in public psychiatric hospitals decreased from 919,139 in 2002–03 to 676,712 in 2003–04 (26.4%) (Table 2.4). As separations from public psychiatric hospitals can include some very long stay patients, and the pattern of these separations can vary over time, patient day counts can also fluctuate markedly for these hospitals.

Unadjusted for coverage change, the number of age-standardised patient days per 1,000 population for public acute and private hospitals combined decreased by 0.8% between 2002–03 and 2003–04 (Table 2.3). Public acute hospital patient days per 1,000 population decreased by 0.4%, unadjusted for coverage change, and private hospital patient days per 1,000 population decreased by 1.6%.

The Northern Territory reported the highest number of patient days per 1,000 population for public acute hospitals in 2003–04 (1,363.1 per 1,000 population; Table 2.4). The highest age-standardised population rate for patient days in private hospitals was reported by Queensland (467.9 per 1,000 population).

Average length of stay

The average length of stay for public acute and private hospitals combined decreased by 1.6% between 2002–03 and 2003–04 (Table 2.3). For private hospitals, the average length of stay was 2.6 days in 2003–04. The average length of stay for public psychiatric hospitals decreased from 55.1 days in 2002–03 to 39.6 days in 2003–04, reflecting the decreased patient days reported for these hospitals, as described above.

With same day separations excluded (as is the practice in most OECD countries), average lengths of stay in all hospitals combined decreased by 2.2% from 6.5 in 2002–03 to 6.3 days in 2003–04 (Table 2.3). For public psychiatric hospitals, the average length of stay decreased from 66.2 days in 2002–03 to 48.3 in 2003–04. The average lengths of stay are within the range of those reported for 1999 and 2000 average lengths of stay for acute care for other OECD countries (OECD 2004).

Relative stay index

Relative stay index (RSI) information is presented for the period 1999–00 to 2003–04 in Table 2.3. The RSI is calculated as the actual number of patient days for separations in selected AR-DRGs (version 4.2) divided by the expected number of patient days (based on national figures for the 5 years combined) and standardised for casemix. An RSI greater than

1 indicates that an average patient's length of stay is higher than would be expected given the casemix of the group of separations of interest. An RSI of less than 1 indicates that the length of stay was less than would have been expected. More details on the methods to calculate the RSIs are in Chapter 4 and Appendix 3.

In public hospitals, the directly standardised RSI in 2003–04 (0.96) was 1.4% lower than in 2002–03. Directly standardised RSIs were higher in private hospitals than in public hospitals for all years. For all hospitals, the RSI decreased from 1.03 in 1999–00 to 0.97 in 2003–04. This corresponds to an average annual decrease over the period of 1.1% for both public and private hospitals.

Non-admitted patients

Information on non-admitted patient occasions of service and group sessions provided by public acute and psychiatric hospitals for 2003–04 is provided in Table 2.5 by state and territory. Similar information from the ABS's Private Health Establishments Collection is presented for private hospitals for 2002–03 in Table 2.6. Data for private hospitals for 2003–04 were not available at the time of publication of this report.

The most common non-admitted patient occasions of service delivered to individuals through public acute hospitals in 2003–04 (Table 2.5) was *Other medical/surgical/obstetric*, followed by *Pathology* and *Accident and emergency services*. *Allied health* and *Community health* were also frequently provided services. These categories include services such as physiotherapy, speech therapy, dietary advice, baby clinics, aged care assessment teams and immunisation clinics.

In addition to the services provided to individuals, group sessions were delivered through public acute hospitals. These services include group activities conducted in the same categories against which individual non-admitted patient services are recorded.

Users of these data should note that there is considerable variation among states and territories and between reporting years in the way in which non-admitted patient occasions of service data are collected. Differing admission practices between the states and territories will also lead to variation among jurisdictions in the services reported in Table 2.5. States and territories may also differ in the extent to which these types of services are provided in non-hospital settings (such as community health centres), which are beyond the scope of this data collection.

There were differences in the scope of the data reported here for *Accident and emergency* and for other data on emergency department occasions of service reported in Chapter 5. The differences are discussed in Chapter 5.

Data on the number of non-admitted patient occasions of service provided through public psychiatric hospitals are also presented for New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland and Western Australia, the states or territories for which these data were supplied (Table 2.5). These services include emergency and outpatient care and outreach/community care provided to individuals or groups.

In 2002–03, private hospitals reported about 1,919,400 non-admitted patient occasions of service to the ABS's Private Health Establishments Collection, ranging from 57,800 for South Australia to 821,600 for Victoria. Nationally, there were about 481,000 non-admitted patient occasions of service reported for *Accident and emergency* in private hospitals (Table 2.6).

Table 2.1: Summary of hospitals, Australia, 1999–00 to 2003–04

	1999–00	2000–01	2001–02	2002–03	2003–04	% change ^(a)	
						Ave since 1999–00	Latest 2 years
Hospitals^(b)							
Public hospitals	748	749	746	748	761	0.4	1.7
Public acute hospitals	726	726	724	729	741	0.5	1.6
Public psychiatric hospitals	22	23	22	19	20	-2.4	5.3
Private hospitals	509	516	560	549	543	1.6	-1.1
Private free-standing day hospital facilities	207	217	246	248	247	4.5	-0.4
Other private hospitals	302	299	314	301	296	-0.5	-1.7
Public acute and private hospitals	1,235	1,242	1,284	1,278	1,284	1.0	0.5
<i>Total</i>	<i>1,257</i>	<i>1,265</i>	<i>1,306</i>	<i>1,297</i>	<i>1,304</i>	<i>0.9</i>	<i>0.5</i>
Available or licensed beds^(c)							
Public hospitals	52,947	52,410	51,461	52,200	53,327	0.2	2.2
Public acute hospitals	50,188	49,932	49,004	49,841	50,915	0.4	2.2
Public psychiatric hospitals	2,759	2,478	2,457	2,358	2,413	-3.3	2.3
Private hospitals	25,246	26,153	27,407	26,364	26,580	1.3	0.8
Private free-standing day hospital facilities	1,581	1,688	1,851	1,910	1,715	2.0	-10.2
Other private hospitals	23,665	24,465	25,556	24,454	24,866	1.2	1.7
Public acute and private hospitals	75,434	76,085	76,411	76,205	77,495	0.7	1.7
<i>Total</i>	<i>78,193</i>	<i>78,563</i>	<i>78,868</i>	<i>78,564</i>	<i>79,907</i>	<i>0.5</i>	<i>1.7</i>
Beds per 1,000 population							
Public hospitals	2.78	2.72	2.64	2.64	2.67	-1.0	0.9
Public acute hospitals	2.64	2.59	2.51	2.52	2.55	-0.9	0.9
Public psychiatric hospitals	0.14	0.13	0.13	0.12	0.12	-4.5	1.1
Private hospitals	1.33	1.36	1.40	1.33	1.33	0.1	-0.4
Private free-standing day hospital facilities	0.08	0.09	0.09	0.10	0.09	0.8	-11.3
Other private hospitals	1.24	1.27	1.31	1.24	1.24	0.0	0.4
Public acute and private hospitals	3.96	3.95	3.91	3.86	3.88	-0.6	0.5
<i>Total</i>	<i>4.11</i>	<i>4.08</i>	<i>4.04</i>	<i>3.98</i>	<i>4.00</i>	<i>-0.7</i>	<i>0.5</i>
Non-admitted occasions of service^(d) ('000)							
Public acute hospitals	34,759	40,099	39,523	40,706	43,622	5.8	7.2
Other private hospitals	1,820	1,814	1,748	1,919	n.a.	1.3	9.8
<i>Total</i>	<i>36,578</i>	<i>41,787</i>	<i>41,271</i>	<i>42,625</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>3.9</i>	<i>3.3</i>
Total recurrent expenditure, constant prices^(e) (\$ million)							
Public hospitals	16,167	16,608	17,441	18,316	19,299	4.5	5.4
Public acute hospitals	15,699	16,163	17,002	17,882	18,838	4.7	5.3
Public psychiatric hospitals	468	445	438	434	461	-0.4	6.2
Private hospitals	4,367	4,773	5,171	5,401	n.a.	7.3	4.4
Private free-standing day hospital facilities	180	196	227	254	n.a.	12.3	12.0
Other private hospitals	4,188	4,577	4,945	5,147	n.a.	7.1	4.1
<i>Total</i>	<i>20,534</i>	<i>21,381</i>	<i>22,612</i>	<i>23,718</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>4.9</i>	<i>4.9</i>
Total recurrent expenditure, current prices^(f) (\$ million)							
Public hospitals	14,647	15,545	16,848	18,316	20,013	8.1	9.3
Public acute hospitals	14,224	15,128	16,424	17,882	19,535	8.3	9.2
Public psychiatric hospitals	424	417	423	434	478	3.0	10.1
Private hospitals	3,957	4,467	4,996	5,401	n.a.	10.9	8.1
Private free-standing day hospital facilities	163	183	219	254	n.a.	16.0	15.9
Other private hospitals	3,794	4,284	4,777	5,147	n.a.	10.7	7.8
<i>Total</i>	<i>18,604</i>	<i>20,012</i>	<i>21,843</i>	<i>23,718</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>8.4</i>	<i>8.6</i>
Total revenue, constant prices^(e) (\$ million)							
Public hospitals	1,350	1,471	1,585	1,503	1,581	4.0	5.2
Public acute hospitals	1,329	1,447	1,565	1,484	1,559	4.1	5.1
Public psychiatric hospitals	22	23	20	19	22	0.5	14.8
Private hospitals	4,640	5,066	5,516	5,758	n.a.	7.5	4.4
Private free-standing day hospital facilities	211	240	271	301	n.a.	12.5	11.0
Other private hospitals	4,428	4,826	5,244	5,456	n.a.	7.2	4.0
<i>Total</i>	<i>5,990</i>	<i>6,537</i>	<i>7,101</i>	<i>7,261</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>6.6</i>	<i>2.3</i>
Total revenue, current prices^(f) (\$ million)							
Public hospitals	1,223	1,377	1,532	1,503	1,640	7.6	9.1
Public acute hospitals	1,204	1,355	1,512	1,484	1,617	7.7	9.0
Public psychiatric hospitals	20	22	19	19	23	4.0	19.0
Private hospitals	4,204	4,742	5,328	5,758	n.a.	11.1	8.1
Private free-standing day hospital facilities	192	224	262	301	n.a.	16.3	14.9
Other private hospitals	4,012	4,518	5,066	5,456	n.a.	10.8	7.7
<i>Total</i>	<i>5,427</i>	<i>6,118</i>	<i>6,860</i>	<i>7,261</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>10.2</i>	<i>5.9</i>

- (a) The average since 1999–00 is the average annual change between 1999–00 and the latest available year of data. The latest 2-year change is the change between the two latest available years of data. Some changes between the latest two years are due to changes in categorisation of two hospitals in New South Wales from the private to the public sector.
- (b) The number of hospitals reported can be affected by administrative and/or reporting arrangements and is not necessarily a measure of the number of physical hospital buildings or campuses. For example, in 2003–04 New South Wales increased the number of reporting public hospital units without changing the number of actual facilities. See Appendix 4 for more details.
- (c) For 2003–04 public, Victorian private and Northern Territory private hospital beds reported on an available bed basis and all other private hospital beds reported on a licensed beds basis. The comparability of bed numbers can be affected by the casemix of hospitals including the extent to which hospitals provide same day admitted patient services and other specialised services.
- (d) Excludes public psychiatric hospitals. Reporting arrangements have varied significantly across years.
- (e) Constant price values referenced to 2001–02. Constant price values are adjusted for inflation and are expressed in terms of prices in the reference year.
- (f) Current prices refer to amounts as reported, unadjusted for inflation. Current price amounts are less comparable between years than constant price amounts.
- Source: For 2002–03 and earlier years, private hospital data are sourced from ABS 2004 and earlier editions of *Private Hospitals Australia* (ABS cat. no 4390.0). For 2003–04, private hospital data are preliminary, sourced from the states and territories.

Table 2.2: Number of hospitals^(a) and available or licensed beds, by hospital sector and type, states and territories, 2003–04

	NSW	Vic ^(b)	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Total
Hospitals									
Public acute hospitals	221	143	174	92	79	24	3	5	741
Public psychiatric hospitals	10	1	4	1	1	3	0	0	20
<i>Total public hospitals</i>	<i>231</i>	<i>144</i>	<i>178</i>	<i>93</i>	<i>80</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>761</i>
Private free-standing day hospital facilities	93	58	50	14	25	2	4	1	247
Other private hospitals ^(c)	84	84	54	27	34	9	3	1	296
<i>Total private hospitals</i>	<i>177</i>	<i>142</i>	<i>104</i>	<i>41</i>	<i>59</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>543</i>
Total hospitals	408	286	282	134	139	38	10	7	1,304
Available or licensed beds^(d)									
Public acute hospitals	18,171	11,835	9,312	4,752	4,513	1,080	683	569	50,915
Public psychiatric hospitals	1,237	115	476	203	313	69	..	..	2,413
<i>Total beds available in public hospitals</i>	<i>19,408</i>	<i>11,950</i>	<i>9,788</i>	<i>4,955</i>	<i>4,826</i>	<i>1,149</i>	<i>683</i>	<i>569</i>	<i>53,327</i>
Private free-standing day hospital facilities	787	419	281	89	112	9	18	n.a.	1,715
Other private hospitals ^(c)	5,810	6,014	5,980	3,236	2,282	1,089	361	94	24,866
<i>Total beds available in private hospitals</i>	<i>6,597</i>	<i>6,432</i>	<i>6,261</i>	<i>3,325</i>	<i>2,394</i>	<i>1,098</i>	<i>379</i>	<i>94</i>	<i>26,580</i>
Total available beds	26,005	18,382	16,049	8,280	7,220	2,247	1,062	663	79,907
Available or licensed beds per 1,000 population									
Public acute hospitals	2.7	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.9	2.2	2.1	2.9	2.5
Public psychiatric hospitals	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	..	..	0.1
<i>Total beds available in public hospitals</i>	<i>2.9</i>	<i>2.4</i>	<i>2.5</i>	<i>2.5</i>	<i>3.2</i>	<i>2.4</i>	<i>2.1</i>	<i>2.9</i>	<i>2.7</i>
Private free-standing day hospital facilities	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	n.a.	0.1
Other private hospitals ^(c)	0.9	1.2	1.6	1.6	1.5	2.3	1.1	0.5	1.2
<i>Total beds in private hospitals</i>	<i>1.0</i>	<i>1.3</i>	<i>1.6</i>	<i>1.7</i>	<i>1.6</i>	<i>2.3</i>	<i>1.2</i>	<i>0.5</i>	<i>1.3</i>
Total beds per 1,000 population	3.9	3.7	4.2	4.2	4.7	4.7	3.3	3.3	4.0

(a) The number of hospitals reported can be affected by administrative and/or reporting arrangements and is not necessarily a measure of the number of physical hospital buildings or campuses. For example, in 2003–04 New South Wales increased the number of reporting public hospital units without changing the number of actual facilities. See Appendix 4 for more details.

(b) The count of public hospitals in Victoria is a count of the campuses which report data separately to the National Hospital Morbidity Database.

(c) Includes private acute and private psychiatric hospitals.

(d) For 2003–04 public, Victorian private and Northern Territory private hospital beds reported on an available bed basis and all other private hospital beds reported on a licensed beds basis. The comparability of bed numbers can be affected by the casemix of hospitals including the extent to which hospitals provide same day admitted patient services and other specialised services.

n.a. Not available

.. Not applicable.

Note: Private hospital data are preliminary, sourced from the states and territories.

Table 2.3: Summary of separation^(a), patient day and average length of stay statistics, by hospital type, Australia, 1999–00 to 2003–04^(b)

	1999–00	2000–01	2001–02	2002–03	2003–04	% change ^(c)	
						Ave since 1999–00	Since 2002–03
Separations ('000)							
Public hospitals	3,873	3,882	3,966	4,091	4,200	2.1	2.7
Public acute hospitals	3,855	3,864	3,949	4,074	4,183	2.1	2.7
Public psychiatric hospitals	18	18	17	17	17	-1.2	2.6
Private hospitals ^{(d)(e)}	2,026	2,272	2,433	2,554	2,641	6.8	3.4
Private free-standing day hospital facilities ^(e)	280	333	377	455	486	14.8	6.9
Other private hospitals ^(e)	1,746	1,939	1,985	2,031	2,086	4.6	2.7
Public acute & private hospitals ^(f)	5,881	6,136	6,382	6,629	6,824	3.8	2.9
Total	5,899	6,154	6,398	6,645	6,841	3.8	2.9
Overnight separations ('000)							
Public hospitals	2,106	2,086	2,076	2,091	2,143	0.4	2.5
Public acute hospitals	2,091	2,071	2,062	2,077	2,129	0.5	2.5
Public psychiatric hospitals	16	15	14	14	14	-2.7	0.7
Private hospitals ^{(d)(e)}	889	943	973	986	986	2.6	0.1
Private free-standing day hospital facilities ^(e)	2	3	4	4	3	7.0	-21.7
Other private hospitals ^(e)	886	940	937	951	953	1.8	0.3
Public acute & private hospitals ^(f)	2,979	3,014	3,035	3,063	3,116	1.1	1.7
Total	2,995	3,029	3,049	3,076	3,130	1.1	1.7
Same day separations ('000)							
Public hospitals	1,767	1,796	1,889	2,000	2,057	3.9	2.8
Public acute hospitals	1,764	1,793	1,887	1,997	2,054	3.9	2.8
Public psychiatric hospitals	2	3	3	3	3	7.4	11.6
Private hospitals ^{(d)(e)}	1,137	1,329	1,460	1,569	1,654	9.8	5.5
Private free-standing day hospital facilities ^(e)	278	330	373	451	483	14.8	7.1
Other private hospitals ^(e)	860	1,000	1,049	1,081	1,133	7.1	4.8
Public acute & private hospitals ^(f)	2,902	3,122	3,346	3,566	3,708	6.3	4.0
Total	2,904	3,125	3,349	3,569	3,711	6.3	4.0
Same day separations as a % of total							
Public hospitals	45.6	46.3	47.6	48.9	49.0	1.8	0.2
Public acute hospitals	45.8	46.4	47.8	49.0	49.1	1.8	0.2
Public psychiatric hospitals	13.3	17.7	15.7	17.0	18.5	8.7	8.8
Private hospitals ^{(d)(e)}	56.1	58.5	60.0	61.4	62.6	2.8	2.0
Private free-standing day hospital facilities ^(e)	99.2	99.2	99.0	99.1	99.4	0.1	0.2
Other private hospitals ^(e)	49.2	51.5	52.8	53.2	54.3	2.5	2.1
Public acute & private hospitals ^(f)	49.3	50.9	52.4	53.8	54.3	2.4	1.0
Total	49.2	50.8	52.3	53.7	54.3	2.5	1.0
Separations per 1,000 population							
Public hospitals	204.6	201.8	202.6	205.7	207.7	0.4	1.0
Public acute hospitals	203.7	200.9	201.8	204.8	206.8	0.4	1.0
Public psychiatric hospitals	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.9	-2.1	1.9
Private hospitals ^{(d)(e)}	108.4	119.8	125.1	129.0	130.9	4.8	1.4
Private free-standing day hospital facilities ^(e)	15.1	18.1	20.2	23.9	25.1	13.5	4.8
Other private hospitals ^(e)	93.5	98.9	104.7	105.1	105.8	3.1	0.6
Public acute & private hospitals ^(f)	311.3	319.3	326.9	333.9	337.7	2.1	1.1
Total	312.3	320.2	327.7	333.5	337.2	1.9	1.1

(continued)

Table 2.3 (continued): Summary of separation^(a), patient day and average length of stay statistics, by hospital type, Australia, 1999–00 to 2003–04^(b)

	1999–00	2000–01	2001–02	2002–03	2003–04	% change ^(c)	
						Ave since 1999–00	Since 2002–03
Average public cost weight of separations^(g)							
Public hospitals	1.04	1.02	1.00	1.00	1.00	–0.8	0.5
Public acute hospitals	1.03	1.01	1.00	1.00	1.00	–0.8	0.6
Public psychiatric hospitals	1.96	1.78	1.87	1.88	1.79	–2.2	–4.5
Private hospitals ^{(d)(e)}	0.97	0.94	0.94	0.93	0.93	–1.1	–0.5
Private free-standing day hospital facilities ^(e)	0.54	0.52	0.53	0.52	0.52	–1.0	–0.7
Other private hospitals ^(e)	1.04	1.02	1.02	1.02	1.02	–0.4	–0.0
Public acute & private hospitals ^(f)	1.01	0.99	0.98	0.97	0.97	–1.0	0.2
Total	1.01	0.99	0.98	0.97	0.97	–1.0	0.1
Average private cost weight of separations^(h)							
Private hospitals ^{(d)(e)}	0.89	0.86	0.86	0.86	0.85	–1.0	–0.2
Private free-standing day hospital facilities ^(e)	0.39	0.37	0.38	0.37	0.37	–0.8	–0.0
Other private hospitals ^(e)	0.97	0.95	0.96	0.97	0.97	–0.1	0.3
Patient days ('000)							
Public hospitals	16,243	15,726	16,237	16,425	16,418	0.3	–0.0
Public acute hospitals	15,087	15,010	15,223	15,506	15,742	1.1	1.5
Public psychiatric hospitals	1,156	716	1,015	919	677	–12.5	–26.4
Private hospitals ^{(d)(e)}	6,361	6,743	6,964	7,115	7,165	3.0	0.7
Private free-standing day hospital facilities ^(e)	280	333	377	455	486	14.8	6.9
Other private hospitals ^(e)	6,081	6,410	6,366	6,450	6,468	1.6	0.3
Public acute & private hospitals ^(f)	21,448	21,753	22,186	22,622	22,907	1.7	1.3
Total	22,604	22,469	23,201	23,541	23,583	1.1	0.2
Patient days per 1,000 population^(h)							
Public hospitals	865.1	820.0	827.8	821.1	804.9	–1.8	–2.0
Public acute hospitals	804.2	782.8	775.9	774.7	771.3	–1.0	–0.4
Public psychiatric hospitals	60.9	37.1	51.9	46.4	33.6	–13.8	–27.6
Private hospitals ^{(d)(e)}	342.4	356.8	357.0	356.9	351.3	0.6	–1.6
Private free-standing day hospital facilities ^(e)	15.1	18.1	20.2	23.9	25.1	13.5	4.8
Other private hospitals ^(e)	327.4	336.7	334.9	331.8	325.2	–0.2	–2.0
Public acute & private hospitals ^(f)	1,144.5	1,134.9	1,133.0	1,131.6	1,122.6	–0.5	–0.8
Total	1,205.4	1,172.0	1,182.5	1,175.6	1,153.9	–1.1	–1.8
Average length of stay (days)							
Public hospitals	4.2	4.1	4.1	4.0	3.9	–1.7	–2.6
Public acute hospitals	3.9	3.9	3.9	3.8	3.8	–1.0	–1.1
Public psychiatric hospitals ^(d)	64.4	40.1	60.9	55.1	39.6	–11.5	–28.2
Private hospitals ^{(d)(e)}	3.1	3.0	2.9	2.8	2.7	–3.6	–2.6
Private free-standing day hospital facilities ^(e)	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0
Other private hospitals ^(e)	3.5	3.3	3.2	3.2	3.1	–2.9	–2.4
Public acute & private hospitals ^(f)	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.4	3.4	–2.1	–1.6
Total	3.8	3.7	3.6	3.5	3.4	–2.6	–2.7
Average length of stay, excluding same day separations (days)							
Public hospitals	6.9	6.7	6.9	6.9	6.7	–0.6	–2.9
Public acute hospitals	6.4	6.4	6.5	6.5	6.4	0.2	–1.2
Public psychiatric hospitals ^(d)	74.1	48.6	72.1	66.2	48.3	–10.1	–27.0
Private hospitals ^{(d)(e)}	5.9	5.7	5.7	5.6	5.6	–1.3	–0.7
Private free-standing day hospital facilities ^(e)	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0
Other private hospitals ^(e)	5.9	5.8	5.7	5.6	5.6	–1.3	–0.9
Public acute & private hospitals ^(f)	6.2	6.2	6.2	6.2	6.2	–0.3	–1.0
Total	6.6	6.4	6.5	6.5	6.3	–0.9	–2.2

(continued)

Table 2.3 (continued): Summary of separation^(a), patient day and average length of stay statistics, by hospital type, Australia, 1999–00 to 2003–04^(b)

	1999–00	2000–01	2001–02	2002–03	2003–04	% change ^(c)	
						Ave since 1999–00	Since 2002–03
Indirectly standardised relative stay index⁽ⁱ⁾							
Public hospitals	1.00	1.00	0.99	0.97	0.96	..	..
Public acute hospitals	0.99	0.99	0.98	0.97	0.95	..	..
Public psychiatric hospitals ^(d)	1.28	1.28	1.31	1.32	1.33	..	..
Private hospitals ^{(d)(e)}	1.08	1.07	1.04	1.02	1.00	..	..
Private free-standing day hospital facilities ^(e)	0.75	0.76	0.74	0.75	0.74	..	..
Other private hospitals ^(e)	1.10	1.08	1.05	1.04	1.02	..	..
Public acute & private hospitals ^(f)	1.02	1.02	1.00	0.98	0.97	..	..
Total	1.02	1.02	1.00	0.99	0.97	..	..
Directly standardised relative stay index^(j)							
Public hospitals	1.01	1.01	0.99	0.98	0.96	-1.1	-1.3
Public acute hospitals	1.01	1.00	0.99	0.97	0.96	-1.1	-1.3
Public psychiatric hospitals ^(d)	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.
Private hospitals ^{(d)(e)}	1.11	1.10	1.08	1.08	1.06	-1.1	-1.5
Private free-standing day hospital facilities ^(e)	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.
Other private hospitals ^(e)	1.12	1.11	1.09	1.09	1.07	-1.1	-1.7
Public acute & private hospitals ^(f)	1.02	1.02	1.00	0.99	0.97	-1.3	-1.6
Total	1.03	1.02	1.00	0.99	0.97	-1.3	-1.5

- (a) Separations for which the care type was reported as *Newborn* with no qualified days, and records for *Hospital boarders* and *Posthumous organ procurement* have been excluded.
- (b) For 1999–00 to 2003–04, data on separations and patient days for public patients, private patients and other categories of patients in the public and private sector are presented in Table 7.1.
- (c) Annual average change, not adjusted for changes in coverage and recategorisation of two hospitals in New South Wales from the private to the public sector.
- (d) Includes private psychiatric hospitals. Coverage of private hospitals is incomplete for some states and territories. See Appendix 4 for details.
- (e) The hospital type was not specified for Tasmanian private hospitals reporting to the National Hospital Morbidity Database for 2000–01, 2001–02, 2002–03 and 2003–04. Thus, data for Tasmania are included in the total for private hospitals but not the private hospital subcategories.
- (f) Excludes public psychiatric hospitals.
- (g) AR-DRGs version 4.2 and public national cost weights 2002–03 were used for all rows in Average public cost weight of separations.
- (h) AR-DRGs version 4.2 and private national cost weights for 2002–03 were used for all rows in Average private cost weight of separations.
- (i) Relative stay index based on all hospitals combined for the 5-year period using the indirect method. The indirectly standardised relative stay index is not technically comparable between cells but is a comparison of the hospital group with the 5-year average based on the casemix of that group. See Appendix 3 for details on the methodology.
- (j) Relative stay index based on all hospitals combined for the 5-year period using the direct method. The directly standardised relative stay index is comparable between cells. See Appendix 3 for details on the methodology.
- .. Not applicable.
- n.p. Not published, because there were too few AR-DRGs in the group.

Table 2.4: Summary of separation^(a), average cost weight, patient day and average length of stay statistics, by hospital type, states and territories, 2003-04

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Total
Separations									
Public hospitals	1,325,535	1,187,529	721,013	367,246	379,109	80,918	69,029	70,116	4,200,495
Public acute hospitals	1,313,637	1,187,116	720,605	365,647	376,527	80,712	69,029	70,116	4,183,389
Public psychiatric hospitals	11,898	413	408	1,599	2,582	206	..	..	17,106
Private hospitals ^{(b)(c)}	712,145	680,806	640,047	290,193	206,211	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	2,640,697
Private free-standing day hospital facilities ^(b)	163,722	104,838	147,309	33,574	36,943	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	486,386
Other private hospitals ^(b)	548,423	575,968	492,738	256,619	169,268	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	2,086,348
Public acute & private hospitals	2,025,782	1,867,922	1,360,652	655,840	582,738	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	6,824,086
Total	2,037,680	1,868,335	1,361,060	657,439	585,320	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	6,841,192
Overnight separations									
Public hospitals	760,533	535,165	370,180	185,992	191,501	40,624	30,005	29,331	2,143,331
Public acute hospitals	751,485	534,754	369,776	184,418	189,194	40,422	30,005	29,331	2,129,385
Public psychiatric hospitals	9,048	411	404	1,574	2,307	202	..	..	13,946
Private hospitals ^{(b)(c)}	249,988	250,278	230,343	118,931	87,488	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	986,394
Private free-standing day hospital facilities ^(b)	2,689	0	0	406	0	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	3,095
Other private hospitals ^(b)	247,299	250,278	230,343	118,525	87,488	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	953,458
Public acute & private hospitals	1,001,473	785,032	600,119	303,349	276,682	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	3,115,779
Total	1,010,521	785,443	600,523	304,923	278,989	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	3,129,725
Same day separations									
Public hospitals	565,002	652,364	350,833	181,254	187,608	40,294	39,024	40,785	2,057,164
Public acute hospitals	562,152	652,362	350,829	181,229	187,333	40,290	39,024	40,785	2,054,004
Public psychiatric hospitals	2,850	2	4	25	275	4	..	..	3,160
Private hospitals ^{(b)(c)}	462,157	430,528	409,704	171,262	118,723	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	1,654,303
Private free-standing day hospital facilities ^(b)	161,033	104,838	147,309	33,168	36,943	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	483,291
Other private hospitals ^(b)	301,124	325,690	262,395	138,094	81,780	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	1,132,890
Public acute & private hospitals	1,024,309	1,082,890	760,533	352,491	306,056	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	3,708,307
Total	1,027,159	1,082,892	760,537	352,516	306,331	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	3,711,467
Same day separations as a % of total									
Public hospitals	42.6	54.9	48.7	49.4	49.5	49.8	56.5	58.2	49.0
Public acute hospitals	42.8	55.0	48.7	49.6	49.8	49.9	56.5	58.2	49.1
Public psychiatric hospitals	24.0	0.5	1.0	1.6	10.7	1.9	..	..	18.5
Private hospitals ^{(b)(c)}	64.9	63.2	64.0	59.0	57.6	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	62.6
Private free-standing day hospital facilities ^(b)	98.4	100.0	100.0	98.8	100.0	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	99.4
Other private hospitals ^(b)	54.9	56.5	53.3	53.8	48.3	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	54.3
Public acute & private hospitals ⁽ⁱ⁾	50.6	58.0	55.9	53.7	52.5	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	54.3
Total	50.4	58.0	55.9	53.6	52.3	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	54.3

(continued)

Table 2.4 (continued): Summary of separation^(a), average cost weight, patient day and average length of stay statistics, by hospital type, states and territories, 2003–04

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Total
Separations per 1,000 population^(d)									
Public hospitals	192.9	235.0	189.3	191.0	235.9	162.8	235.6	428.9	207.7
Public acute hospitals	191.1	235.0	189.2	190.2	234.2	162.4	235.6	428.9	206.8
Public psychiatric hospitals	1.8	0.1	0.1	0.8	1.7	0.4	..	..	0.9
Private hospitals ^{(b)(c)}	103.0	133.9	167.8	149.8	124.8	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	130.9
Private free-standing day hospital facilities ^(b)	23.7	20.7	38.5	17.2	22.0	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	25.1
Other private hospitals ^(b)	79.3	113.2	129.3	132.5	102.8	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	105.8
Public acute & private hospitals	294.1	368.8	356.9	340.0	359.0	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	337.7
Total	295.9	368.9	357.0	340.8	360.7	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	337.2
Average public cost weight of separations^(e)									
Public hospitals	1.07	0.96	0.99	0.98	1.01	1.05	0.97	0.75	1.00
Public acute hospitals	1.07	0.96	0.99	0.97	0.99	1.04	0.97	0.75	1.00
Public psychiatric hospitals	1.43	3.00	1.62	2.62	2.82	2.08	..	..	1.79
Private hospitals ^{(b)(c)}	0.96	0.90	0.91	0.89	0.99	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	0.93
Private free-standing day hospital facilities ^(b)	0.58	0.45	0.52	0.44	0.47	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	0.52
Other private hospitals ^(b)	1.08	0.99	1.02	0.95	1.10	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	1.02
Public acute & private hospitals	1.03	0.94	0.95	0.93	0.99	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	0.97
Total	1.03	0.94	0.95	0.94	1.00	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	0.97
Average private cost weight of separations^(f)									
Private hospitals ^{(c)(d)}	0.88	0.84	0.83	0.82	0.92	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	0.85
Private free-standing day hospital facilities ^(c)	0.45	0.30	0.36	0.32	0.35	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	0.37
Other private hospitals ^(c)	1.02	0.94	0.97	0.88	1.04	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	0.97
Patient days									
Public hospitals	5,781,428	4,259,139	2,617,753	1,419,997	1,538,414	353,043	235,195	213,512	16,418,481
Public acute hospitals	5,436,534	4,228,759	2,505,036	1,351,623	1,438,891	332,219	235,195	213,512	15,741,769
Public psychiatric hospitals	344,894	30,380	112,717	68,374	99,523	20,824	..	..	676,712
Private hospitals ^{(c)(d)}	1,859,667	1,842,141	1,768,307	805,859	565,889	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	7,164,732
Private free-standing day hospital facilities ^(b)	163,722	104,838	147,309	33,574	36,943	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	486,386
Other private hospitals ^(b)	1,695,945	1,737,303	1,620,998	772,285	528,946	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	6,467,910
Public acute & private hospitals	7,296,201	6,070,900	4,273,343	2,157,482	2,004,780	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	22,906,501
Total	7,641,095	6,101,280	4,386,060	2,225,856	2,104,303	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	23,583,213
Patient days per 1,000 population^(a)									
Public hospitals	828.0	830.0	691.1	748.8	914.8	695.3	837.8	1,363.1	804.9
Public acute hospitals	777.1	824.0	662.2	714.4	850.8	654.7	837.8	1,363.1	771.3
Public psychiatric hospitals	50.9	6.0	28.9	34.4	64.0	40.6	..	..	33.6
Private hospitals ^{(c)(d)}	265.3	357.3	467.9	423.8	330.8	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	351.3
Private free-standing day hospital facilities ^(b)	23.7	20.7	38.5	17.2	22.0	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	25.1
Other private hospitals ^(b)	241.6	336.6	429.4	406.5	308.8	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	325.2
Public acute & private hospitals	1,042.4	1,181.3	1,130.1	1,138.1	1,181.6	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	1,122.6
Total	1,093.3	1,187.4	1,159.0	1,172.6	1,245.6	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	1,153.9

(continued)

Table 2.4 (continued): Summary of separation^(a), average cost weight, patient day and average length of stay statistics, by hospital type, states and territories, 2003–04

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Total
Average length of stay (days)									
Public hospitals	4.4	3.6	3.6	3.9	4.1	4.4	3.4	3.0	3.9
Public acute hospitals	4.1	3.6	3.5	3.7	3.8	4.1	3.4	3.0	3.8
Public psychiatric hospitals ^(g)	29.0	73.6	276.3	42.8	38.5	101.1	..	..	39.6
Private hospitals ^{(c)(d)}	2.6	2.7	2.8	2.8	2.7	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	2.7
Private free-standing day hospital facilities ^(b)	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	1.0
Other private hospitals ^(b)	3.1	3.0	3.3	3.0	3.1	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	3.1
Public acute & private hospitals	3.6	3.3	3.1	3.3	3.4	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	3.4
Total	3.7	3.3	3.2	3.4	3.6	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	3.4
Average length of stay, excluding same day separations (days)									
Public hospitals	6.9	6.7	6.1	6.7	7.1	7.7	6.5	5.9	6.7
Public acute hospitals	6.5	6.7	5.8	6.3	6.6	7.2	6.5	5.9	6.4
Public psychiatric hospitals ^(g)	37.8	73.9	279.0	43.4	43.0	103.1	..	..	48.3
Private hospitals ^{(c)(d)}	5.6	5.6	5.9	5.3	5.1	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	5.6
Private free-standing day hospital facilities ^(b)	1.0	..	..	1.0	..	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	1.0
Other private hospitals ^(b)	5.6	5.6	5.9	5.4	5.1	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	5.6
Public acute & private hospitals	6.3	6.4	5.9	6.0	6.1	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	6.2
Total	6.5	6.4	6.0	6.1	6.4	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	6.3

(a) Separations for which the care type was reported as *Newborn* with no qualified days, and records for *Hospital boarders* and *Posthumous organ procurement* have been excluded.

(b) Includes private psychiatric hospitals. Coverage of private hospitals is incomplete for some states and territories. See Appendix 4 for details.

(c) The hospital type was not specified for Tasmanian private hospitals. Thus, data for Tasmanian hospitals are included in the total for private hospitals, but not for the private hospital subcategories.

(d) Figures are directly age-standardised to the Australian population as detailed in Appendix 3.

(e) Separations for which the care type was reported as *Acute*, or as *Newborn* with qualified patient days, or was *Not reported*. Public national cost weights were used for all rows under Average public cost weight of separations.

(f) Separations for which the care type was reported as *Acute*, or as *Newborn with qualified patient days*, or was *Not reported*. Private national cost weights were used for all rows in Average private cost weight of separations.

(g) Caution should be used with average length of stay data for public psychiatric hospitals. The figures include a small percentage of long stay patients who can affect the average markedly.

n.p. Not published.

.. Not applicable.

Table 2.5: Non-admitted patient occasions of service^(a), by type of non-admitted patient care, public acute and psychiatric hospitals, states and territories, 2003–04

Type of non-admitted patient care	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT ^(b)	Total ^(c)
Public acute hospitals									
Individual occasions of service									
Accident & emergency	1,986,084	1,289,206	1,247,886	579,746	460,843	101,103	97,145	102,219	5,864,232
Dialysis	18,034	..	0	..	..	..	..	..	18,034
Pathology	2,394,551	759,419	2,430,084	625,935	..	197,924	33,982	73,054	6,514,949
Radiology & organ imaging	782,272	613,142	764,914	355,690	249,868	69,118	62,506	58,183	2,955,693
Endoscopy & related procedures	12,546	..	4,006	..	..	..	..	..	16,552
Other medical/surgical/obstetric	4,068,709	1,485,288	2,205,453	566,367	853,808	253,485	204,816	100,276	9,738,202
Mental health	1,014,267	631,837	86,227	37,418	21,913	1,651	4,819	..	1,798,132
Alcohol & drug	1,012,755	24,792	72,822	..	..	..	..	..	1,110,369
Dental	832,325	165,386	357,913	10,638	6,858	2,014	..	..	1,375,134
Pharmacy	919,904	388,672	673,714	169,127	..	63,052	513	25,846	2,240,828
Allied health	1,582,352	1,080,488	548,395	902,585	224,423	124,525	10,190	11,828	4,484,786
Community health	2,070,159	308,620	172,258	890,351	..	43,031	7,238	..	3,491,657
District nursing ^(d)	2,542,335	200,660	66,844	179,544	..	..	..	..	2,989,383
Other outreach	425,127	3,954	110,997	142,450	324,779	..	16,440	..	1,023,747
Total individual occasions of service	19,661,420	6,951,464	8,741,513	4,459,851	2,142,492	855,903	437,649	371,406	43,621,698
Group sessions									
Other medical/surgical/obstetric	38,464	n.a.	5,665	10	5,652	n.a.	1,837	n.a.	51,628
Mental health	25,794	n.a.	2,236	2,118	1,588	n.a.	1,869	n.a.	33,605
Alcohol & drug	5,347	n.a.	0	0	..	n.a.	..	n.a.	5,347
Allied health	43,816	n.a.	9,941	13,251	6,971	n.a.	1,101	n.a.	75,080
Community health	56,873	n.a.	2,982	39,896	..	n.a.	..	n.a.	99,751
District nursing	7,455	n.a.	184	2,739	..	n.a.	..	n.a.	10,378
Other outreach	7,831	n.a.	1,590	2,600	113,839	n.a.	77	n.a.	125,937
Other	461	n.a.	0	..	..	n.a.	..	n.a.	461
Total group sessions	186,041	37,838	22,598	60,614	128,050	n.a.	4,884	n.a.	440,025
Public psychiatric hospitals									
Emergency & outpatient individual sessions	158,929	3,766	206	5,293	n.a.	n.a.	..	..	168,194
Emergency & outpatient group sessions	5,904	0	0	332	n.a.	n.a.	..	..	6,236
Outreach/community individual sessions	3,068	0	0	0	n.a.	n.a.	..	..	3,068
Outreach/community group sessions	0	0	0	0	n.a.	n.a.	..	..	0
Total services	167,901	3,766	206	5,625	n.a.	n.a.	..	..	177,498

(a) Reporting arrangements have varied significantly across years and across jurisdictions.

(b) Radiology figures for the Northern Territory are underestimated and pathology figures relate only to 3 of the 5 hospitals.

(c) Includes only those states and territories for which data are available.

(d) Justice Health (formerly known as Corrections Health) in New South Wales reported 1,421,528 district nursing occasions of services. Their services may not be typical of district nursing.

n.a. Not available.

.. Not applicable.

Table 2.6: Non-admitted patient occasions of service ('000), by type of non-admitted patient care, private hospitals, states and territories, 2002-03

Type of non-admitted patient care	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Total
Accident and emergency ^(a)	80.0	113.0	110.1	41.7	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	481.0
Outpatient services ^(b)	273.2	686.7	189.4	11.8	35.4	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	1,202.3
Other non-admitted services ^(c)	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	162.3
Other	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	73.9
Total	511.1	821.6	308.0	57.8	144.9	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	1,919.4

(a) Including hospitals which do not have a formal accident and emergency unit but which treated accident and emergency patients during the year.

(b) Includes *Dialysis, Radiology and organ imaging, Endoscopy, Pathology, Other medical/surgical/diagnostic, Psychiatric, Alcohol and drug, Dental, Pharmacy and Allied health services.*

(c) Includes *Community health services, District nursing services and Non-medical and social services.*

n.a. Not available for publication but included in totals where applicable.

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics' Private Health Establishments Collection, unpublished data.