

8 Demographic profile for admitted patients

Introduction

This chapter presents a demographic profile of admitted patients who separated from hospital during 2003–04. Included is information on patients' sex, age, Indigenous status, and country of birth, together with information on the state, remoteness and socioeconomic advantage/disadvantage of their place of usual residence.

The age-standardised rates in this chapter were derived using 30 June 2003 population estimates for Indigenous peoples and other Australians (Table 8.7 and 8.8), country of birth groups (Table 8.10), Remoteness Areas (Table 8.12) and quintiles of socioeconomic advantage/disadvantage (Table 8.13) because 31 December (mid-year) population estimates were not available for these population groups. There will thus be small discrepancies between the age-standardised rates reported in these tables and the rates reported for state or territory of usual residence (Table 8.11) and those reported in Chapters 2, 4 and 7 which were based on 31 December 2003 estimates (see Appendix 3).

Age group and sex

Data on the sex of each patient were reported to the National Hospital Morbidity Database as male, female, indeterminate or not stated/inadequately described. The AIHW calculated the age of the patient by subtracting the date of birth from the date of admission. The 77 separations for patients who were not reported as male or female and the two separations for which age was not reported are included in the totals of tables in this chapter.

Changes between 1999–00 and 2003–04

The nationwide increases in separations (30.3%) and patient days (12.6%) in private hospitals between 1999–00 and 2003–04 were spread fairly evenly between females and males but were spread unevenly among age groups (Tables 8.1 and 8.4).

Private hospital separations increased by 30.5% for females and by 30.1% for males. Private hospital patient days increased by 11.9% for females and by 13.6% for males. Private hospital separations increased for all age groups, although the increases were relatively small for patients aged less than 1 year (2.4%) and for those aged 1–4 years (5.9%). The increases were most pronounced for patients aged 55 years and over, particularly for those aged 55–64 years (an increase of 54.3%). Private hospital patient days also increased for all age groups and were also most pronounced for patients aged 55–64 years (34.9%).

The markedly smaller increase in public hospital separations and patient days over this period was more attributable to males than to females and was almost entirely attributable to older patients, particularly those aged 75 years and over. Separations increased by 6.7% for

females and by 10.5% for males, and patient days increased by 0.6% for females and by 1.6% for males. Separations increased by 31.6% for patients aged 75–84 years and by 29.6% for those aged 85 years and over, but decreased for those aged between 1 and 34 years. Patient days decreased for patients aged between 1 and 54 years and for those aged 65–74 years.

Sex and age profiles in 2003–04

Nationally, separations per 1,000 population were higher for females than for males in all age groups from 15–54 years in 2003–04 (Figure 6 in 'Hospitals at a glance').

Females outnumbered males in separations from public hospitals (2,187,992 separations, 52.1% of total) and from private hospitals (1,458,442 separations, 55.2% of total) in 2003–04 (Tables 8.2 and 8.3). There were more females than males in all age groups from 15–44 years in separations from public hospitals and in all age groups from 15–54 years in separations from private hospitals. These age groups include the child-bearing ages for women. Females aged 85 years and over also outnumbered males of that age group in separations from both public and private hospitals.

Females also accounted for more patient days than did males (Tables 8.5 and 8.6). In public hospitals, they accounted for 52.4% (8,605,247) of patient days, and for more patient days than males in the age groups 15–44 years and 75 years and over. In private hospitals, females accounted for 58.0% (4,154,735) of patient days, and for more patient days than males in all age groups from 15 years.

Persons aged 55 years and over accounted for a large proportion of admitted patient activity across the combined sectors in 2003–04. They accounted for 23.2% of the estimated resident population at 31 December 2003 and contributed 49.6% of separations (3.4 million) and 60.7% of patient days (14.3 million) (Tables 8.2, 8.3, 8.5 and 8.6). Persons of this age also had more separations per 1,000 population than any age group other than children less than one year old. Persons aged 70 years and over had higher average lengths of stay than any age group other than children less than one year old (Figures 6 and 8 in 'Hospitals at a glance').

Indigenous status

Tables 8.7, 8.8 and 8.9 present summary statistics on hospital separations broken down by the 'Indigenous status' data element supplied by states and territories according to the *National Health Data Dictionary* definition (NHDC 2003). Information broken down by Indigenous status is also provided in Chapters 9 (*Principal diagnoses for admitted patients*) and 10 (*Procedures for admitted patients*).

In this publication, Indigenous status categories included as Indigenous were *Aboriginal but not Torres Strait Islander origin*, *Torres Strait Islander but not Aboriginal origin* and *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander origin*. The category reported as non-Indigenous was *Neither Aboriginal nor Torres Strait Islander origin*.

Age-standardised separation rates per 1,000 population are presented for the three Indigenous categories in aggregate and for persons not identified as Indigenous (i.e. persons reported as *Neither Aboriginal nor Torres Strait Islander origin* and persons for whom an Indigenous status was not reported), termed *Other persons*. Also presented are differentials in the separation rates between persons identified as Indigenous and those not identified as Indigenous. The differentials are expressed in terms of rate ratios—i.e. ratios of the

age-standardised rate for persons identified as Indigenous and the age-standardised rate for persons not identified as Indigenous. (A rate ratio greater than 1.0 indicates a higher separation rate for Indigenous persons than for persons not identified as Indigenous.)

These rates are influenced by the quality of the data on Indigenous status, which varied among the states and territories, as described below. A degree of caution is also recommended when making inter-jurisdictional comparisons of separation rates involving Tasmania, the Australian Capital Territory or the Northern Territory as all rates shown for these jurisdictions are based solely on public hospital data.

Tables 8.7 and 8.8 present counts of separations, overnight separations, separation rates per 1,000 population and rate ratios by Indigenous status, hospital sector and state and territory in 2003–04. There were 216,142 separations in 2003–04 for patients reported as Indigenous, with the largest numbers of separations being reported in Queensland, the Northern Territory, Western Australia and New South Wales. Nationally, 92.9% of separations of Indigenous persons were reported as *Aboriginal but not Torres Strait Islander origin*, 4.5% were reported as *Torres Strait Islander but not Aboriginal origin* and 2.6% were reported as *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander origin*. Queensland accounted for most separations of Indigenous persons reported as *Torres Strait Islander but not Aboriginal origin* and about half of separations reported as *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander origin*.

Nationally, 6.1% of separations of Indigenous persons in 2003–04 were from the private sector (13,121). In contrast, 37.9% of separations of persons reported as *Neither Aboriginal nor Torres Strait Islander origin* were from the private sector (2,420,159). Most separations of Indigenous persons from the private sector occurred in Western Australia and Queensland.

There were 665.3 separations per 1,000 population of Indigenous persons reported nationally in 2003–04. This was about twice the separation rate for other persons (331.9). About two-thirds of the difference between these rates was attributable to higher separation rates for Indigenous persons with a principal diagnosis of *Care involving dialysis (Z49)*, as reported in Table 9.23, and with a procedure of *Haemodialysis (Block 1060)*, as reported in Table 10.21. The Northern Territory reported the largest number of separations of Indigenous persons per 1,000 Indigenous population (1,141.7, public hospitals only), followed by Western Australia (928.1). The Northern Territory also reported the largest rate ratio for separations (4.8), indicating that the separation rate for Indigenous persons was 4.8 times the rate for persons not identified as Indigenous.

Nationally, about 45% of separations for patients reported as Indigenous in 2003–04 were for overnight stays (98,282) (Table 8.8). Some 1.4% of overnight separations of Indigenous persons in 2003–04 were from the private sector (1,354). In contrast, 30.8% of overnight separations of persons reported as *Neither Aboriginal nor Torres Strait Islander origin* were from the private sector (903,423).

There were 297.1 overnight separations of Indigenous persons reported nationally in 2003–04 per 1,000 Indigenous population. This was about twice the rate for other persons (152.0). Western Australia reported the largest number of overnight separations for Indigenous persons per 1,000 Indigenous population (442.0) and the largest rate ratio for overnight separations (2.9).

Table 8.9 presents data for separations by Indigenous status, age group and sex in 2003–04. Nationally, females accounted for a greater proportion of separations of persons reported as *Indigenous* (56.9%) than of persons reported as *Non-Indigenous* (53.1%). The age distribution of separations reported as *Indigenous* in 2003–04 peaked at lower age groups than the age

distribution for separations reported as *Non-Indigenous*. Whereas the age groups over 64 years featured prominently among separations of persons reported as *Non-Indigenous* (35.7% of total separations), they had relatively little representation among separations of those reported as *Indigenous* (9.6%). Separations of persons reported as *Indigenous* instead featured substantially higher representation of all age groups below 55 years of age than was the case for persons reported as *Non-Indigenous*.

Age-specific separation rates per 1,000 population for Indigenous males and females are compared in Figure 8.1 with those for other males and females. The rates for Indigenous males and females were higher than those for other males and females across all age groups. Separation rates for Indigenous persons for older age groups are subject to variability due to the relatively small populations in these age groups.

Quality of Indigenous status data

Variation in the number of Indigenous separations per 1,000 Indigenous population among the states and territories suggests that there was variation in the proportion of Indigenous persons who were identified as such in the hospital morbidity data collections and/or in the total population.

Overall, the quality of the data provided for Indigenous status in 2003–04 is considered to be in need of improvement, being considered acceptable by only South Australia, Western Australia and the Northern Territory. Data on Indigenous status in this chapter should therefore be interpreted cautiously. The report *Expenditures on health services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people 1998–99* (AIHW 2001b) employed under-enumeration factors for Indigenous identification in each state and territory except the Northern Territory. These factors are to be re-examined in a similar report for 2001–02 to be published by the AIHW later this year.

For 2003–04, the New South Wales Health Department reports that its data were in need of improvement. To address this issue, the department continues to be active in the implementation of initiatives aimed at improving the quality of Indigenous status information in hospital separations data. Departmental publications and circulars continue to be used to encourage a uniform approach to the identification of Indigenous patients in addition to providing a framework for continuous improvement in this data collection. To complement these strategies the New South Wales Health Department has developed and implemented its Collecting Patient Registration Information Training Program. This training program raises awareness of data items, including Indigenous status, that may relate to sensitive issues and reviews strategies that may assist in the collection of complete and accurate patient registration information. This training program is now implemented for public hospitals in all New South Wales Area Health Services.

The Victorian Department of Human Services reports that, despite data quality improvement in recent years, Indigenous status data for 2003–04 should be treated with some caution. Studies in Victoria have shown that data are more accurate if the hospital employs a Koori Hospital Liaison Officer (KHLO), particularly in regional hospitals, where the KHLOs are located in the main Koori communities. Indigenous status data are considered less reliable in tertiary hospitals drawing Indigenous patients from outside their local communities, and in private hospitals. From July 2004, the admitted patient funding supplement for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander admitted patients in public hospitals was increased from 10% to 30%. Hospitals in receipt of the supplement are obligated to

provide appropriate services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients and to improve the quality of data.

Queensland Health notes that for the 2003–04 financial year Indigenous status was not reported for 12% of hospital separations (1.7% for public hospital separations and 24% for private hospital separations). Overall, the available evidence suggests that the number of Indigenous separations is significantly understated in the Queensland hospital morbidity data because of non-reporting as well as misreporting of Indigenous status. Queensland Health continues to work on improving overall Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander identification in all mainstream administrative data collections.

The Western Australian Department of Health regards its Indigenous status data as being of an acceptable quality, although data from metropolitan hospitals are considered to be less accurate than data from remote areas. The department is planning on implementing a quality control check on this data element on an annual basis.

The South Australian Department of Health regards its 2003–04 Indigenous status data as suitable for inclusion in national statistical reports. The department conducted training in 2002–03 on how to ask and record the Indigenous status question. This training was based on a training package produced by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. A 30% loading for casemix payments is applied to separations for Indigenous patients in public hospitals in South Australia, and this acts as an incentive for improved identification.

The Tasmanian Department of Health and Human Services reports that the quality of Indigenous status data has continued to improve in 2003–04 in that it is now reported for most patients. However, some private hospitals do not collect Indigenous status data at all. The department is hoping to improve the reporting methods for private hospitals in future years.

ACT Health has been closely monitoring Indigenous status data in its public hospitals, and has noted a significant reduction in the number of records where Indigenous status was not reported. ACT Health is also preparing to conduct an investigation into why some Indigenous patients are not identified in both the admitted and non-admitted data collections, in order to introduce processes to improve the rate of Indigenous identification.

The Northern Territory Department of Health and Community Services reports that the quality of its 2003–04 Indigenous status data is considered to be acceptable. The department retains historical reporting of Indigenous status and individual client systems receive a report of individuals who have reported their Indigenous status as Aboriginal on one occasion and as Torres Strait Islander on another. System owners follow up on these clients. All management and statistical reporting, however, is based on a person's most recently reported Indigenous status.

Country of birth

In 2003–04, all states and territories supplied country of birth details coded to the Australian Bureau of Statistics' Standard Australian Classification of Countries (SACC) as specified in the *National Health Data Dictionary* version 12 (NHDC 2003).

Australian-born patients accounted for 74.3% (5,080,062) of total separations, 73.1% in the public sector and 76.1% in the private sector (Table 8.10). The age-standardised separation rate for Australian-born patients was higher (353.0 per 1,000 population) than that for the overseas-born population (278.4 per 1,000).

Country of birth groups differed markedly in the proportion of their total separations within the public sector. Some 60.5% of separations of Australian-born patients were in the public sector, as were over 75% of separations for patients born in Fiji, Other Oceania, Greece, the countries that comprised the former Yugoslavia, Cyprus, Lebanon, Turkey, Iraq, Cambodia, Philippines and Vietnam. Fewer than 50% of separations for patients born in Hong Kong and Macau, Japan, Canada, United States and South Africa were in the public sector.

Area of usual residence

The *National Health Data Dictionary* specifies that data on the usual residence of patients should be provided as the state or territory and the Statistical Local Area (SLA) of usual residence. Patients' SLAs have been assigned to Remoteness Areas to enable reporting of hospital separations by Remoteness Area of usual residence. Details of the data provided by states and territories and the mapping process conducted by the AIHW to assign 2003 SLA codes and Remoteness Area categories to separation records can be found in Appendix 3.

Patients' SLAs have also been assigned to categories of the Index of Advantage/Disadvantage, one of a set of Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas 2001 (termed 'SEIFA 2001') constructed by the Australian Bureau of Statistics based on data from the 2001 population census (ABS 2004b). SEIFA 2001 is discussed in more detail in Appendix 3.

Tables 8.11, 8.12 and 8.13 present selected separation statistics by hospital sector and same day status for each of state or territory of usual residence, Remoteness Area of usual residence and quintile of socioeconomic advantage/disadvantage. The age-standardised separation rates that are presented in these tables take account of the different age structures of the populations of the states and territories, Remoteness Areas and quintiles of socioeconomic advantage/disadvantage.

State or territory of usual residence

Table 8.11 presents the number of separations, the separation rate per 1,000 population, the standardised separation rate ratio (SRR) and the 95% confidence interval of the SRR for each state and territory of usual residence. The SRR is the separation rate for the population of interest divided by the separation rate for Australia as a whole. A standardised separation rate ratio of 1.00 indicates that the population of interest (for example, a specific state or territory) had a separation rate similar to the national separation rate, while a standardised separation rate ratio greater than 1.00 indicates that it had a rate larger than the national rate. The statistical significance of a given SRR is described by its corresponding 95% confidence interval. Appendix 3 provides more information on the standardised separation rate ratio.

Usual residents of the Northern Territory had the largest separation rate for public hospitals, 421.0 per 1,000 population. The SRR for usual residents of the Northern Territory in public hospitals was 2.03 – i.e. persons usually resident in the Northern Territory had a total separation rate in public hospitals that was 103% higher than the national rate. Among those jurisdictions for which information was published, usual residents of Queensland had the largest separation rate for private hospitals, 161.5 per 1,000 population. Usual residents of the Northern Territory had the largest overnight separation rate, 204.0 per 1,000 population.

Remoteness Areas

Table 8.12 presents the number of separations, the separation rate per 1,000, the SRR and the 95% confidence interval of the SRR for each Remoteness Area. Persons usually resident in very remote areas had 436.0 separations per 1,000 population, compared with 339.0 separations per 1,000 population nationwide. The SRR of 1.29 for persons usually resident in very remote areas indicates that their separation rate was 29% higher than the national separation rate. The 95% confidence interval applying to this SRR indicates that the difference in the separation rates was statistically significant.

The separation rate for public hospitals was also highest for usual residents of very remote areas (398.4 separations per 1,000 population), while the separation rate for private hospitals was highest for usual residents of major cities (142.4 separations per 1,000 population) and lowest for very remote areas (37.6 separations per 1,000 population).

Socioeconomic advantage/disadvantage

The Index of Advantage/Disadvantage (from SEIFA 2001) used in *Australian Hospital Statistics 2003–04* is categorised into quintiles containing approximately 20% of the total Australian population. Table 8.13 presents for each quintile the number of separations, the separation rate per 1,000, the SRR and the 95% confidence interval of the SRR.

Each quintile accounted for between 19% and 21% of total hospital separations. However, SRRs were statistically different among the quintiles, ranging from 1.04 for the most disadvantaged to 0.94 for the most advantaged.

Utilisation of the public and private hospital sectors was also not evenly spread across the quintiles. The most disadvantaged quintile accounted for 25.0% of separations from public hospitals and 14.8% of separations from private hospitals. In contrast, the most advantaged quintile accounted for 14.3% of separations from public hospitals and 27.0% of separations from private hospitals. Reflecting this, the SRRs for separations from public hospitals decreased progressively from 1.24 for the most disadvantaged quintile to 0.70 for the most advantaged quintile and the SRRs for separations from private hospitals increased progressively from 0.72 for the most disadvantaged quintile to 1.32 for the most advantaged quintile. The 95% confidence intervals applying to these SRRs indicate that the differences in separation rates were statistically significant in all cases.

These relationships are evident in the proportion of public hospital patients within the separations of each quintile. Public hospital patients accounted for 72.8% of separations of the most disadvantaged quintile and 45.8% of separations of the most advantaged quintile.

The SRRs for same day separations and overnight separations were also unevenly spread across the quintiles. In particular, the SRRs for overnight separations ranged between 1.14 for the most disadvantaged quintile and 0.85 for the most advantaged quintile.

Additional data

Accompanying tables on the Internet at <http://www.aihw.gov.au/> provide information on separations and patient days by 5-year age group, sex, hospital sector and state/territory.

Table 8.1: Separations^(a), by age group, sex and hospital sector, Australia, 1999–00 to 2003–04

Sex	Age group	Private hospitals						Change 1999–00 to 2003–04 (per cent)	Public hospitals					Change 1999–00 to 2003–04 (per cent)
		1999–00	2000–01	2001–02	2002–03	2003–04	1999–00		2000–01	2001–02	2002–03	2003–04		
Females	Under 1	9,318	8,850	9,214	9,595	9,258	-0.6	48,864	49,877	49,476	50,390	50,915	4.2	
	1–4	11,540	12,244	12,943	13,056	12,058	4.5	61,017	59,676	60,539	59,432	59,733	-2.1	
	5–14	21,014	22,701	24,801	24,472	23,379	11.3	74,338	72,478	72,857	72,802	73,407	-1.3	
	15–24	73,459	80,712	90,632	97,741	97,019	32.1	214,697	208,925	207,080	205,778	208,854	-2.7	
	25–34	161,049	177,454	191,321	198,337	194,975	21.1	366,098	352,414	338,004	341,100	342,990	-6.3	
	35–44	158,248	179,190	198,574	206,013	207,169	30.9	253,058	250,489	243,342	245,907	248,931	-1.6	
	45–54	170,835	197,849	216,548	219,932	225,614	32.1	219,263	217,185	219,604	229,328	235,137	7.2	
	55–64	149,821	171,850	192,525	210,092	228,224	52.3	218,235	219,128	227,056	242,066	252,549	15.7	
	65–74	163,893	177,853	181,831	188,940	197,423	20.5	264,072	266,140	276,731	285,700	294,868	11.7	
	75–84	148,648	166,769	174,991	188,626	201,097	35.3	231,163	246,153	261,707	276,623	291,386	26.1	
85 and over	49,544	54,995	55,930	59,301	62,225	25.6	100,288	108,564	117,646	125,113	129,222	28.9		
<i>Total^(b)</i>		<i>1,117,373</i>	<i>1,250,468</i>	<i>1,349,310</i>	<i>1,416,105</i>	<i>1,458,442</i>	<i>30.5</i>	<i>2,051,096</i>	<i>2,051,066</i>	<i>2,074,080</i>	<i>2,134,266</i>	<i>2,187,992</i>	<i>6.7</i>	
Males	Under 1	13,954	13,463	13,845	14,559	14,546	4.2	67,341	67,474	66,718	66,301	68,181	1.2	
	1–4	17,294	19,099	19,346	19,052	18,469	6.8	88,886	85,607	85,831	83,661	83,513	-6.0	
	5–14	24,850	27,434	29,914	28,681	27,490	10.6	103,762	101,998	104,545	102,322	103,364	-0.4	
	15–24	53,122	57,339	60,025	61,957	61,252	15.3	124,427	121,951	122,260	121,617	123,882	-0.4	
	25–34	62,831	69,298	71,797	73,155	70,142	11.6	164,143	162,844	164,709	160,930	160,570	-2.2	
	35–44	92,113	105,524	113,515	115,043	114,299	24.1	193,764	191,786	192,823	195,062	197,796	2.1	
	45–54	137,641	159,568	169,145	170,766	172,515	25.3	222,642	222,027	228,439	235,614	243,516	9.4	
	55–64	148,219	173,228	196,748	214,421	231,790	56.4	254,180	256,603	268,294	288,892	300,080	18.1	
	65–74	170,823	182,317	187,264	199,316	212,264	24.3	328,091	326,927	339,739	355,597	358,240	9.2	
	75–84	157,684	179,505	184,988	198,897	212,448	34.7	217,255	232,514	251,427	274,884	298,531	37.4	
85 and over	30,068	34,624	36,720	42,356	47,000	56.3	57,179	60,977	66,469	71,580	74,792	30.8		
<i>Total^(b)</i>		<i>908,599</i>	<i>1,021,400</i>	<i>1,083,307</i>	<i>1,138,204</i>	<i>1,182,215</i>	<i>30.1</i>	<i>1,821,673</i>	<i>1,830,763</i>	<i>1,891,294</i>	<i>1,956,492</i>	<i>2,012,466</i>	<i>10.5</i>	
Persons ^(b)	Under 1	23,281	22,322	23,078	24,170	23,831	2.4	116,222	117,363	116,211	116,699	119,100	2.5	
	1–4	28,834	31,343	32,289	32,109	30,530	5.9	149,903	145,286	146,376	143,095	143,246	-4.4	
	5–14	45,864	50,136	54,716	53,153	50,873	10.9	178,101	174,476	177,406	175,125	176,773	-0.7	
	15–24	126,581	138,054	150,660	159,699	158,272	25.0	339,131	330,880	329,353	327,402	332,737	-1.9	
	25–34	223,883	246,754	263,120	271,494	265,118	18.4	530,244	515,262	502,717	502,033	503,562	-5.0	
	35–44	250,362	284,714	312,090	321,059	321,468	28.4	446,828	442,283	436,221	441,067	446,739	0.0	
	45–54	308,478	357,420	385,699	390,701	398,130	29.1	441,907	439,214	448,046	464,945	478,654	8.3	
	55–64	298,041	345,080	389,273	424,516	460,014	54.3	472,415	475,737	495,363	530,960	552,633	17.0	
	65–74	334,716	360,170	369,096	388,258	409,689	22.4	592,173	593,067	616,473	641,307	653,111	10.3	
	75–84	306,333	346,277	359,987	387,524	413,546	35.0	448,418	478,670	513,134	551,507	589,925	31.6	
85 and over	79,612	89,619	92,651	101,658	109,225	37.2	157,467	169,542	184,116	196,694	204,014	29.6		
<i>Total^(b)</i>		<i>2,025,989</i>	<i>2,271,891</i>	<i>2,432,659</i>	<i>2,554,342</i>	<i>2,640,697</i>	<i>30.3</i>	<i>3,872,815</i>	<i>3,881,875</i>	<i>3,965,512</i>	<i>4,090,969</i>	<i>4,200,495</i>	<i>8.5</i>	

(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 separations for which sex and/or age group were not reported.

Table 8.2: Separations^(a), by age group and sex, public hospitals, states and territories, 2003-04

Sex	Age group	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Total
Females	Under 1	17,950	14,462	8,572	3,343	4,056	645	735	1,152	50,915
	1-4	21,050	13,525	11,688	5,365	5,351	815	749	1,190	59,733
	5-14	24,789	17,472	14,436	6,990	6,569	1,192	919	1,040	73,407
	15-24	63,542	51,559	43,957	18,182	20,111	3,976	3,023	4,504	208,854
	25-34	109,485	97,419	60,874	28,298	30,372	5,979	4,833	5,730	342,990
	35-44	74,385	71,808	42,454	22,597	23,354	4,733	3,594	6,006	248,931
	45-54	62,511	68,657	40,769	24,111	20,381	5,121	4,255	9,332	235,137
	55-64	74,098	74,117	45,637	21,534	21,047	6,120	4,640	5,356	252,549
	65-74	95,419	86,116	46,693	24,858	26,264	5,673	6,175	3,670	294,868
	75-84	103,351	84,671	41,433	24,138	27,687	5,188	3,703	1,215	291,386
	85 and over	49,614	35,917	17,155	11,013	11,583	2,412	1,345	183	129,222
<i>Total^(b)</i>	<i>696,194</i>	<i>615,723</i>	<i>373,668</i>	<i>190,429</i>	<i>196,775</i>	<i>41,854</i>	<i>33,971</i>	<i>39,378</i>	<i>2,187,992</i>	
Males	Under 1	24,218	18,891	11,227	4,800	5,683	877	1,012	1,473	68,181
	1-4	29,139	18,909	16,502	7,526	7,529	1,126	1,171	1,611	83,513
	5-14	36,685	23,360	20,921	9,934	8,154	1,554	1,309	1,447	103,364
	15-24	39,328	30,822	24,960	11,390	10,969	2,400	2,081	1,932	123,882
	25-34	48,743	43,021	29,503	15,326	14,292	3,509	2,828	3,348	160,570
	35-44	58,321	53,879	36,215	19,215	18,236	3,271	3,958	4,701	197,796
	45-54	68,824	68,948	44,487	22,246	22,922	4,857	4,418	6,814	243,516
	55-64	86,171	88,429	54,012	26,002	26,779	6,318	6,804	5,565	300,080
	65-74	109,856	114,450	57,542	28,872	30,913	7,703	6,182	2,722	358,240
	75-84	101,015	89,927	41,402	25,265	29,207	6,146	4,584	985	298,531
	85 and over	27,007	21,167	10,574	6,241	7,649	1,303	711	140	74,792
<i>Total^(b)</i>	<i>629,307</i>	<i>571,803</i>	<i>347,345</i>	<i>176,817</i>	<i>182,334</i>	<i>39,064</i>	<i>35,058</i>	<i>30,738</i>	<i>2,012,466</i>	
Persons^(b)	Under 1	42,169	33,356	19,799	8,143	9,739	1,522	1,747	2,625	119,100
	1-4	50,189	32,434	28,190	12,891	12,880	1,941	1,920	2,801	143,246
	5-14	61,476	40,832	35,357	16,924	14,723	2,746	2,228	2,487	176,773
	15-24	102,871	82,381	68,917	29,572	31,080	6,376	5,104	6,436	332,737
	25-34	158,230	140,440	90,377	43,624	44,664	9,488	7,661	9,078	503,562
	35-44	132,718	125,687	78,669	41,812	41,590	8,004	7,552	10,707	446,739
	45-54	131,336	137,605	85,256	46,357	43,303	9,978	8,673	16,146	478,654
	55-64	160,273	162,546	99,649	47,536	47,826	12,438	11,444	10,921	552,633
	65-74	205,278	200,566	104,235	53,730	57,177	13,376	12,357	6,392	653,111
	75-84	204,374	174,598	82,835	49,403	56,894	11,334	8,287	2,200	589,925
	85 and over	76,621	57,084	27,729	17,254	19,232	3,715	2,056	323	204,014
Total^(b)	1,325,535	1,187,529	721,013	367,246	379,109	80,918	69,029	70,116	4,200,495	

(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 separations for which sex and/or age group were not reported.

Table 8.3: Separations^(a), by age group and sex, private hospitals, states and territories, 2003–04

Sex	Age group	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Total
Females	Under 1	1,906	2,783	1,886	2,080	271	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	9,258
	1–4	3,388	2,036	3,163	1,982	1,055	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	12,058
	5–14	6,914	5,083	5,342	3,184	1,724	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	23,379
	15–24	24,694	26,851	22,316	12,644	6,050	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	97,019
	25–34	52,870	53,729	45,193	22,417	11,527	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	194,975
	35–44	55,094	58,827	46,520	23,347	13,642	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	207,169
	45–54	56,897	60,251	53,707	26,128	18,205	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	225,614
	55–64	60,826	58,054	54,961	24,661	20,102	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	228,224
	65–74	53,916	50,397	48,904	20,417	16,733	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	197,423
	75–84	56,647	51,867	50,457	16,856	17,834	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	201,097
85 and over	15,140	17,357	15,688	5,270	6,507	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	62,225	
<i>Total^(b)</i>		388,293	387,235	348,137	158,986	113,650	<i>n.p.</i>	<i>n.p.</i>	<i>n.p.</i>	1,458,442
Males	Under 1	3,326	4,027	2,769	3,053	842	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	14,546
	1–4	5,371	3,186	4,582	3,007	1,539	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	18,469
	5–14	8,263	5,625	6,349	3,912	1,957	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	27,490
	15–24	16,828	15,435	12,574	8,192	5,426	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	61,252
	25–34	19,809	18,733	13,993	8,933	5,311	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	70,142
	35–44	31,600	30,067	24,846	13,793	8,730	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	114,299
	45–54	47,310	42,952	40,585	19,213	15,071	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	172,515
	55–64	64,618	53,620	61,317	24,893	17,383	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	231,790
	65–74	58,782	52,336	53,600	22,345	16,895	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	212,264
	75–84	56,378	55,299	57,679	19,406	15,932	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	212,448
85 and over	11,567	12,265	13,616	4,460	3,474	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	47,000	
<i>Total^(b)</i>		323,852	293,545	291,910	131,207	92,560	<i>n.p.</i>	<i>n.p.</i>	<i>n.p.</i>	1,182,215
Persons^(b)	Under 1	5,232	6,836	4,655	5,133	1,114	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	23,831
	1–4	8,759	5,222	7,745	4,989	2,594	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	30,530
	5–14	15,177	10,708	11,691	7,096	3,681	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	50,873
	15–24	41,522	42,286	34,890	20,836	11,476	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	158,272
	25–34	72,679	72,462	59,186	31,350	16,838	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	265,118
	35–44	86,694	88,894	71,366	37,140	22,372	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	321,468
	45–54	104,207	103,203	94,292	45,341	33,276	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	398,130
	55–64	125,444	111,674	116,278	49,554	37,485	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	460,014
	65–74	112,698	102,733	102,504	42,762	33,628	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	409,689
	75–84	113,025	107,166	108,136	36,262	33,766	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	413,546
85 and over	26,707	29,622	29,304	9,730	9,981	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	109,225	
Total^(b)		712,145	680,806	640,047	290,193	206,211	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	2,640,697

(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 separations for which sex and/or age group were not reported.

n.p. Not published.

Table 8.4: Patient days^(a), by age group, sex and hospital sector, Australia, 1999–00 to 2003–04

Sex	Age group	Private hospitals						Change 1999–00 to 2003–04 (per cent)	Public hospitals					Change 1999–00 to 2003–04 (per cent)
		1999–00	2000–01	2001–02	2002–03	2003–04	1999–00		2000–01	2001–02	2002–03	2003–04		
Females	Under 1	48,921	46,202	47,551	49,147	49,177	0.5	272,131	278,373	274,566	271,864	280,198	3.0	
	1–4	15,083	15,945	17,827	16,970	16,040	6.3	122,359	120,203	117,847	116,731	114,982	–6.0	
	5–14	31,453	33,355	36,843	33,689	31,400	–0.2	167,839	162,023	161,989	160,672	162,719	–3.1	
	15–24	145,634	160,204	172,762	180,504	177,254	21.7	594,501	570,017	597,066	573,454	573,831	–3.5	
	25–34	461,594	492,060	523,066	527,129	510,115	10.5	1,070,067	1,007,001	1,040,244	1,008,202	967,866	–9.6	
	35–44	392,605	428,734	463,784	465,140	458,872	16.9	769,463	734,122	731,057	735,519	714,609	–7.1	
	45–54	404,896	442,671	476,638	467,528	468,395	15.7	705,816	654,608	654,918	666,269	666,456	–5.6	
	55–64	385,826	420,647	458,327	485,652	512,782	32.9	754,063	749,406	774,506	792,099	805,905	6.9	
	65–74	565,845	572,874	561,334	554,007	562,764	–0.5	1,215,681	1,165,624	1,174,344	1,176,845	1,183,186	–2.7	
	75–84	801,771	832,671	843,445	876,469	887,512	10.7	1,705,608	1,738,091	1,815,116	1,827,805	1,859,712	9.0	
85 and over	457,658	457,371	456,352	466,849	480,423	5.0	1,172,802	1,176,888	1,224,716	1,274,883	1,275,783	8.8		
Total ^(b)	3,711,290	3,902,741	4,057,929	4,123,084	4,154,735	11.9	8,551,041	8,356,549	8,566,505	8,604,419	8,605,247	0.6		
Males	Under 1	60,591	56,769	58,746	60,888	61,258	1.1	341,919	337,325	335,111	338,279	343,022	0.3	
	1–4	21,294	23,887	24,221	22,866	21,735	2.1	168,417	159,934	159,708	154,853	152,965	–9.2	
	5–14	36,205	39,327	42,512	38,582	36,315	0.3	213,434	205,170	207,282	220,909	206,388	–3.3	
	15–24	95,859	107,486	109,854	105,827	103,627	8.1	489,362	425,119	482,898	480,006	437,875	–10.5	
	25–34	120,137	129,271	136,219	131,682	121,139	0.8	630,818	622,284	677,669	665,699	619,246	–1.8	
	35–44	175,619	199,560	209,252	211,775	198,561	13.1	699,655	647,664	687,050	663,593	665,109	–4.9	
	45–54	302,606	330,438	342,693	339,416	327,110	8.1	780,599	751,172	724,407	772,767	791,616	1.4	
	55–64	363,405	406,523	442,881	476,330	497,966	37.0	983,294	929,881	965,135	988,066	1,016,710	3.4	
	65–74	534,315	538,322	529,380	539,507	550,144	3.0	1,495,756	1,375,491	1,404,330	1,426,389	1,408,281	–5.8	
	75–84	726,095	773,993	776,263	795,430	809,116	11.4	1,355,826	1,353,879	1,419,053	1,488,162	1,557,536	14.9	
85 and over	213,483	234,180	233,553	269,865	282,774	32.5	532,781	560,105	607,148	615,756	614,192	15.3		
Total ^(b)	2,649,609	2,839,757	2,905,574	2,992,169	3,009,745	13.6	7,691,960	7,368,445	7,669,989	7,814,558	7,812,941	1.6		
Persons ^(b)	Under 1	109,601	103,051	106,457	110,203	110,674	1.0	614,106	615,739	609,762	610,191	623,224	1.5	
	1–4	36,377	39,832	42,048	39,837	37,778	3.9	290,776	280,141	277,561	271,588	267,947	–7.9	
	5–14	67,658	72,683	79,356	72,271	67,719	0.1	381,274	367,193	369,284	381,582	369,109	–3.2	
	15–24	241,493	267,693	282,619	286,332	280,882	16.3	1,083,882	995,147	1,080,038	1,053,489	1,011,715	–6.7	
	25–34	581,736	621,333	659,287	658,814	631,255	8.5	1,700,890	1,629,295	1,717,918	1,673,963	1,587,120	–6.7	
	35–44	568,225	628,294	673,037	676,918	657,433	15.7	1,469,134	1,381,802	1,418,225	1,399,270	1,379,927	–6.1	
	45–54	707,504	773,114	819,337	806,947	795,506	12.4	1,486,417	1,405,785	1,379,355	1,439,039	1,458,073	–1.9	
	55–64	749,232	827,172	901,208	961,985	1,010,748	34.9	1,737,357	1,679,956	1,739,678	1,780,172	1,822,625	4.9	
	65–74	1,100,160	1,111,196	1,090,715	1,093,516	1,112,910	1.2	2,711,452	2,541,115	2,578,680	2,603,273	2,591,473	–4.4	
	75–84	1,527,868	1,606,667	1,619,716	1,671,900	1,696,629	11.0	3,061,434	3,092,020	3,234,169	3,315,967	3,417,292	11.6	
85 and over	671,141	691,551	689,906	736,724	763,197	13.7	1,705,583	1,737,008	1,831,865	1,890,640	1,889,975	10.8		
Total ^(b)	6,360,999	6,742,594	6,963,686	7,115,448	7,164,732	12.6	16,243,115	15,726,381	16,237,364	16,425,349	16,418,481	1.1		

(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 separations for which sex and/or age group were not reported.

Table 8.5: Patient days^(a), by age group and sex, public hospitals, states and territories, 2003–04

Sex	Age group	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Total
Females	Under 1	92,578	72,824	50,139	21,535	23,597	4,634	5,554	9,337	280,198
	1–4	41,780	24,538	20,018	11,016	9,152	1,558	1,540	5,380	114,982
	5–14	55,339	35,110	32,502	17,337	13,365	2,784	2,467	3,815	162,719
	15–24	201,828	125,111	108,297	53,059	50,251	13,243	8,345	13,697	573,831
	25–34	342,739	247,024	153,261	89,779	82,506	19,109	15,780	17,668	967,866
	35–44	245,213	182,293	113,405	67,967	63,970	15,430	10,824	15,507	714,609
	45–54	209,650	173,137	113,720	65,382	60,392	15,917	10,734	17,524	666,456
	55–64	268,078	209,487	144,198	66,826	70,308	22,597	13,559	10,852	805,905
	65–74	431,196	326,600	172,490	95,004	102,186	28,846	18,592	8,272	1,183,186
	75–84	678,129	526,712	236,603	153,847	198,375	37,894	22,496	5,656	1,859,712
	85 and over	492,160	347,176	166,415	106,061	124,898	24,723	12,949	1,401	1,275,783
<i>Total^(b)</i>		3,058,690	2,270,012	1,311,048	747,813	799,000	186,735	122,840	109,109	8,605,247
Males	Under 1	111,860	87,480	61,066	26,635	31,763	6,337	7,059	10,822	343,022
	1–4	54,354	31,224	28,043	15,147	12,823	2,671	2,204	6,499	152,965
	5–14	73,621	43,735	40,850	21,947	15,517	3,369	2,785	4,564	206,388
	15–24	142,433	99,827	82,530	52,888	38,569	8,794	5,965	6,869	437,875
	25–34	202,568	133,972	134,791	60,247	56,086	12,420	7,738	11,424	619,246
	35–44	223,372	149,981	131,876	62,514	60,121	11,540	10,862	14,843	665,109
	45–54	274,801	190,233	138,699	70,271	71,226	18,053	11,705	16,628	791,616
	55–64	341,157	262,263	190,265	81,695	84,762	23,407	17,753	15,408	1,016,710
	65–74	502,401	387,569	212,787	111,442	129,330	33,068	20,986	10,698	1,408,281
	75–84	570,753	433,083	206,577	117,402	170,211	34,811	19,177	5,522	1,557,536
	85 and over	225,128	169,757	79,221	51,996	69,005	11,838	6,121	1,126	614,192
<i>Total^(b)</i>		2,722,448	1,989,124	1,306,705	672,184	739,414	166,308	112,355	104,403	7,812,941
Persons^(b)	Under 1	204,439	160,307	111,205	48,170	55,360	10,971	12,613	20,159	623,224
	1–4	96,134	55,762	48,061	26,163	21,975	4,229	3,744	11,879	267,947
	5–14	128,962	78,845	73,352	39,284	28,882	6,153	5,252	8,379	369,109
	15–24	344,270	224,938	190,827	105,947	88,820	22,037	14,310	20,566	1,011,715
	25–34	545,315	380,996	288,052	150,026	138,592	31,529	23,518	29,092	1,587,120
	35–44	468,794	332,274	245,281	130,481	124,091	26,970	21,686	30,350	1,379,927
	45–54	484,452	363,370	252,419	135,653	131,618	33,970	22,439	34,152	1,458,073
	55–64	609,245	471,750	334,463	148,521	155,070	46,004	31,312	26,260	1,822,625
	65–74	933,603	714,169	385,277	206,446	231,516	61,914	39,578	18,970	2,591,473
	75–84	1,248,926	959,795	443,180	271,249	368,586	72,705	41,673	11,178	3,417,292
	85 and over	717,288	516,933	245,636	158,057	193,903	36,561	19,070	2,527	1,889,975
Total^(b)		5,781,428	4,259,139	2,617,753	1,419,997	1,538,414	353,043	235,195	213,512	16,418,481

(a) Patient days for 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 patient days for which sex and/or age group were not reported.

Table 8.6: Patient days^(a), by age group and sex, private hospitals, states and territories, 2003–04

Sex	Age group	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Total
Females	Under 1	10,838	14,329	13,337	7,230	911	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	49,177
	1–4	5,044	2,239	4,447	2,699	1,092	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	16,040
	5–14	10,286	6,276	7,453	4,132	1,903	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	31,400
	15–24	45,737	44,775	39,895	25,918	11,624	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	177,254
	25–34	139,802	134,109	109,492	65,892	33,266	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	510,115
	35–44	119,491	124,823	99,598	57,481	33,371	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	458,872
	45–54	118,168	122,219	106,846	57,113	40,156	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	468,395
	55–64	133,738	127,664	120,493	56,873	48,452	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	512,782
	65–74	149,358	144,407	136,694	59,995	48,580	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	562,764
	75–84	231,928	234,983	220,929	86,290	76,396	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	887,512
	85 and over	115,377	129,822	125,421	48,966	44,315	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	480,423
<i>Total^(b)</i>	<i>1,079,768</i>	<i>1,085,646</i>	<i>984,605</i>	<i>472,589</i>	<i>340,066</i>	<i>n.p.</i>	<i>n.p.</i>	<i>n.p.</i>	<i>4,154,735</i>	
Males	Under 1	13,181	17,877	16,004	9,168	1,633	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	61,258
	1–4	6,126	3,453	6,028	3,695	1,577	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	21,735
	5–14	11,897	6,938	8,770	4,857	2,151	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	36,315
	15–24	26,584	28,094	21,017	14,431	8,581	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	103,627
	25–34	33,846	34,121	23,685	15,050	8,720	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	121,139
	35–44	53,655	53,543	42,711	23,658	15,153	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	198,561
	45–54	88,778	80,499	78,618	36,406	28,101	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	327,110
	55–64	137,491	113,912	131,862	52,334	39,066	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	497,966
	65–74	146,065	137,248	138,598	59,394	44,550	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	550,144
	75–84	197,630	209,310	231,814	80,431	57,285	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	809,116
	85 and over	64,646	71,262	84,595	33,846	19,005	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	282,774
<i>Total^(b)</i>	<i>779,899</i>	<i>756,257</i>	<i>783,702</i>	<i>333,270</i>	<i>225,822</i>	<i>n.p.</i>	<i>n.p.</i>	<i>n.p.</i>	<i>3,009,745</i>	
Persons^(b)	Under 1	24,019	32,444	29,341	16,398	2,545	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	110,674
	1–4	11,170	5,692	10,475	6,394	2,669	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	37,778
	5–14	22,183	13,214	16,223	8,989	4,054	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	67,719
	15–24	72,321	72,869	60,912	40,349	20,205	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	280,882
	25–34	173,648	168,230	133,177	80,942	41,986	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	631,255
	35–44	173,146	178,366	142,309	81,139	48,524	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	657,433
	45–54	206,946	202,718	185,464	93,519	68,257	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	795,506
	55–64	271,229	241,576	252,355	109,207	87,518	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	1,010,748
	65–74	295,423	281,655	275,292	119,389	93,130	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	1,112,910
	75–84	429,558	444,293	452,743	166,721	133,681	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	1,696,629
	85 and over	180,023	201,084	210,016	82,812	63,320	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	763,197
Total^(b)	1,859,667	1,842,141	1,768,307	805,859	565,889	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	7,164,732	

(a) Patient days for 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 patient days for which sex and/or age group were not reported.

n.p. Not published.

Table 8.7: Separations^(a), by Indigenous status^(b) and hospital sector, states and territories, 2003–04

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Total
Public hospitals									
Aboriginal but not Torres Strait Islander origin	38,026	8,384	43,939	37,033	14,364	1,682	1,476	44,366	189,270
Torres Strait Islander but not Aboriginal origin	762	154	7,873	79	63	47	12	108	9,098
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander origin	821	624	2,231	203	58	50	50	616	4,653
Neither Aboriginal nor Torres Strait Islander origin	1,277,014	1,178,367	654,784	329,931	354,166	74,394	65,176	25,010	3,958,842
Not reported	8,912	0	12,186	0	10,458	4,745	2,315	16	38,632
<i>Total</i>	<i>1,325,535</i>	<i>1,187,529</i>	<i>721,013</i>	<i>367,246</i>	<i>379,109</i>	<i>80,918</i>	<i>69,029</i>	<i>70,116</i>	<i>4,200,495</i>
Private hospitals									
Aboriginal but not Torres Strait Islander origin	578	94	2,914	7,234	408	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	11,471
Torres Strait Islander but not Aboriginal origin	71	19	502	32	13	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	650
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander origin	92	119	625	99	11	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	1,000
Neither Aboriginal nor Torres Strait Islander origin	710,715	680,574	482,364	282,828	202,876	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	2,420,159
Not reported	689	0	153,642	0	2,903	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	207,417
<i>Total</i>	<i>712,145</i>	<i>680,806</i>	<i>640,047</i>	<i>290,193</i>	<i>206,211</i>	<i>n.p.</i>	<i>n.p.</i>	<i>n.p.</i>	<i>2,640,697</i>
All hospitals									
Aboriginal but not Torres Strait Islander origin	38,604	8,478	46,853	44,267	14,772	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	200,741
Torres Strait Islander but not Aboriginal origin	833	173	8,375	111	76	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	9,748
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander origin	913	743	2,856	302	69	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	5,653
Neither Aboriginal nor Torres Strait Islander origin	1,987,729	1,858,941	1,137,148	612,759	557,042	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	6,379,001
Not reported	9,601	0	165,828	0	13,361	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	246,049
Total	2,037,680	1,868,335	1,361,060	657,439	585,320	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	6,841,192
Separation rate ^(c) for Indigenous persons per 1,000	410.3	464.0	683.2	928.1	826.2	144.3	864.6	1,141.7	665.3
Separation rate ^(c) for other persons per 1,000	294.2	368.5	350.1	326.1	355.4	163.7	232.4	239.6	331.9
Separation rate ^(c) for all persons per 1,000	295.9	368.9	357.0	340.8	360.7	162.8	235.6	428.9	337.2
Rate ratio ^(d)	1.4	1.3	2.0	2.8	2.3	0.9	3.7	4.8	2.0

(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) Identification of Indigenous patients is not considered to be complete and completeness varies among the jurisdictions. See the text of Chapter 8 for further detail.

(c) The rates were directly age-standardised as detailed in Appendix 3, and the separation rate for other persons includes *Not reported*. Rates for Tasmania, the Australian Capital Territory and the Northern Territory are for public hospitals only. Indigenous population data are available at <http://www.aihw.gov.au/>.

(d) The rate ratio is equal to the separation rate for Indigenous persons divided by the separation rate for other persons (which includes *Not reported*).

n.p. Not published.

Table 8.8: Overnight separations^(a), by Indigenous status^(b) and hospital sector, states and territories, 2003–04

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Total
Public hospitals									
Aboriginal but not Torres Strait Islander origin	21,615	3,552	20,123	20,689	6,840	805	402	16,409	90,435
Torres Strait Islander but not Aboriginal origin	283	105	3,446	56	44	27	6	61	4,028
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander origin	540	331	1,069	154	40	37	36	248	2,455
Neither Aboriginal nor Torres Strait Islander origin	733,318	531,177	339,326	165,093	180,936	36,955	28,535	12,599	2,027,939
Not reported	4,777	0	6,216	0	3,641	2,800	1,026	14	18,474
<i>Total</i>	<i>760,533</i>	<i>535,165</i>	<i>370,180</i>	<i>185,992</i>	<i>191,501</i>	<i>40,624</i>	<i>30,005</i>	<i>29,331</i>	<i>2,143,331</i>
Private hospitals									
Aboriginal but not Torres Strait Islander origin	64	37	393	249	161	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	1,011
Torres Strait Islander but not Aboriginal origin	24	10	72	1	3	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	121
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander origin	42	27	100	32	3	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	232
Neither Aboriginal nor Torres Strait Islander origin	249,767	250,204	171,843	118,649	86,027	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	903,423
Not reported	91	0	57,935	0	1,294	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	81,607
<i>Total</i>	<i>249,988</i>	<i>250,278</i>	<i>230,343</i>	<i>118,931</i>	<i>87,488</i>	<i>n.p.</i>	<i>n.p.</i>	<i>n.p.</i>	<i>986,394</i>
All hospitals									
Aboriginal but not Torres Strait Islander origin	21,679	3,589	20,516	20,938	7,001	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	91,446
Torres Strait Islander but not Aboriginal origin	307	115	3,518	57	47	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	4,149
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander origin	582	358	1,169	186	43	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	2,687
Neither Aboriginal nor Torres Strait Islander origin	983,085	781,381	511,169	283,742	266,963	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	2,931,362
Not reported	4,868	0	64,151	0	4,935	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	100,081
Total	1,010,521	785,443	600,523	304,923	278,989	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	3,129,725
Separation rate ^(c) for Indigenous persons per 1,000	229.2	198.3	283.4	442.0	394.7	69.0	220.5	413.0	297.1
Separation rate ^(c) for other persons per 1,000	145.5	154.5	155.1	151.8	168.8	83.1	101.5	116.3	152.0
Separation rate ^(c) for all persons per 1,000	146.7	154.7	158.1	158.8	171.5	82.6	102.0	165.8	154.4
Rate ratio ^(d)	1.6	1.3	1.8	2.9	2.3	0.5	1.6	2.5	2.0

(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) Identification of Indigenous patients is not considered to be complete and completeness varies among the jurisdictions. See the text of Chapter 8 for further detail.

(c) The rates were directly age-standardised as detailed in Appendix 3, and separation rate for other persons includes *Not reported*. Rates for Tasmania, the Australian Capital Territory and the Northern Territory are for public hospitals only. Indigenous population data are available at <http://www.aihw.gov.au/>.

(d) The rate ratio is equal to the separation rate for Indigenous persons divided by the separation rate for other persons (which includes *Not reported*).

n.p. Not published.

Table 8.9: Separations^(a), by Indigenous status^(b), age group and sex, Australia, 2003–04

Age group	Indigenous			Non-Indigenous			Not reported			Total		
	Males	Females	Persons ^(c)	Males	Females	Persons ^(c)	Males	Females	Persons ^(c)	Males	Females	Persons ^(c)
Under 1	4,998	4,058	9,056	75,451	54,526	130,008	2,278	1,589	3,867	82,727	60,173	142,931
1–4	5,761	4,419	10,180	93,938	65,886	159,824	2,283	1,486	3,772	101,982	71,791	173,776
5–14	5,701	4,729	10,430	121,766	89,277	211,044	3,387	2,780	6,172	130,854	96,786	227,646
15–24	6,652	16,861	23,513	171,790	279,705	451,495	6,692	9,307	16,001	185,134	305,873	491,009
25–34	10,712	19,573	30,285	212,043	499,714	711,758	7,957	18,678	26,637	230,712	537,965	768,680
35–44	17,914	19,434	37,349	283,014	417,896	700,911	11,167	18,770	29,947	312,095	456,100	768,207
45–54	20,195	22,531	42,726	379,970	416,916	796,886	15,866	21,304	37,172	416,031	460,751	876,784
55–64	13,086	18,760	31,846	496,234	441,234	937,468	22,550	20,779	43,333	531,870	480,773	1,012,647
65–74	6,029	9,634	15,663	543,931	465,279	1,009,210	20,544	17,378	37,927	570,504	492,291	1,062,800
75 and over	2,074	3,020	5,094	611,036	659,359	1,270,395	19,661	21,551	41,221	632,771	683,930	1,316,710
Total^(c)	93,122	123,019	216,142	2,989,174	3,389,793	6,379,001	112,385	133,622	246,049	3,194,681	3,646,434	6,841,192

(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) Identification of Indigenous patients is not considered to be complete and completeness varies among the jurisdictions. See the text of Chapter 8 for further detail.

(c) Includes separations for which sex and/or age group were not reported.

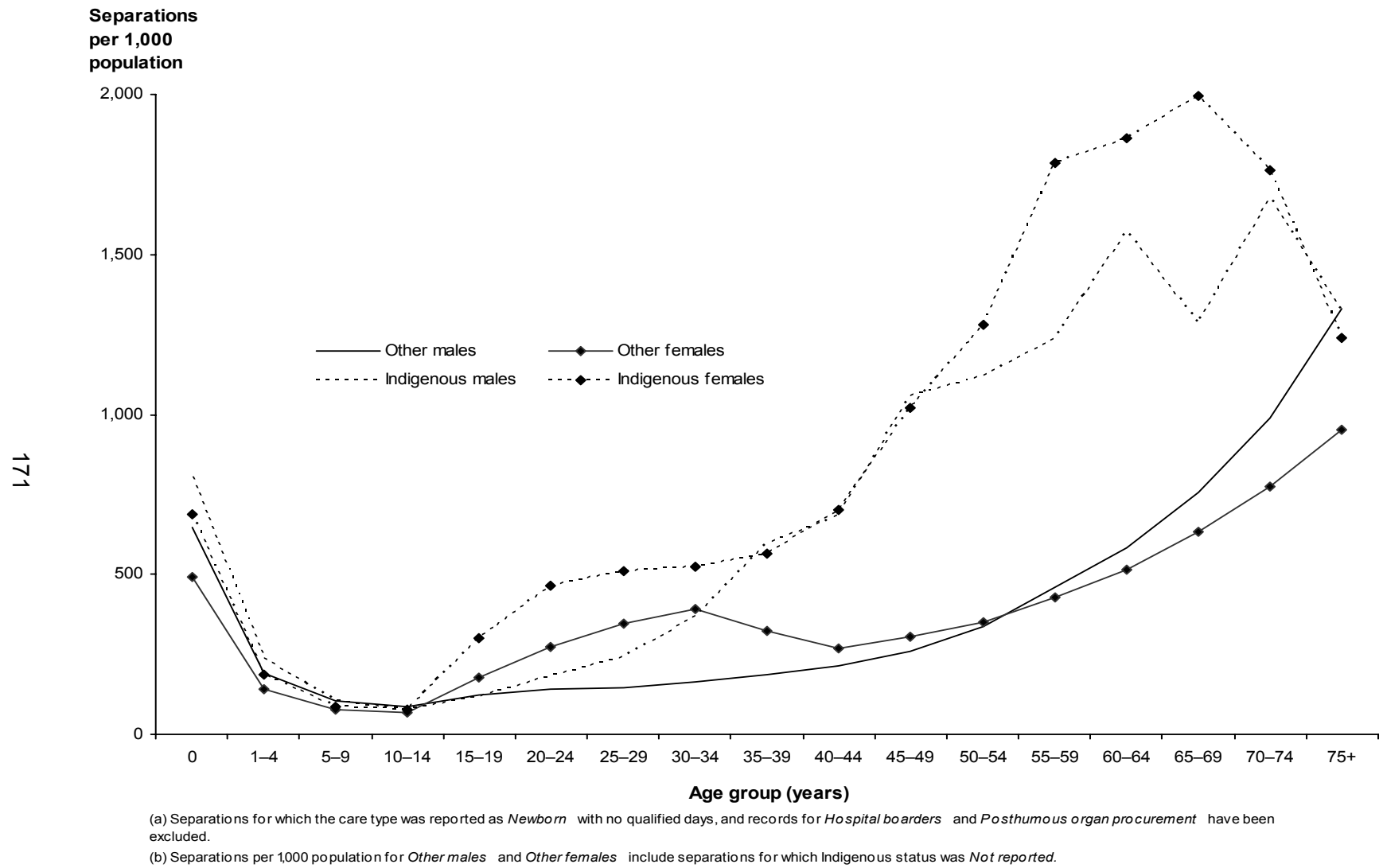


Figure 8.1: Separations^(a) per 1,000 population, by age group, sex and reported Indigenous status^(b), all hospitals, Australia, 2003-04

Table 8.10: Separations^(a), by selected country/region of birth and hospital sector, Australia, 2003–04

Country/region	Separations			Separations per 1,000 population ^(b)		
	Public hospitals	Private hospitals	All hospitals	Public hospitals	Private hospitals	All hospitals
Australia	3,071,003	2,009,059	5,080,062	210.6	142.3	353.0
New Zealand	69,023	35,379	104,402	175.8	85.2	261.0
Papua New Guinea	4,485	3,054	7,539	230.8	155.4	386.2
Fiji	13,090	4,044	17,134	294.7	83.5	378.2
Other Oceania	16,175	3,058	19,233	515.6	92.6	608.2
<i>Oceania (including Australia)</i>	<i>3,173,776</i>	<i>2,054,594</i>	<i>5,228,370</i>	<i>210.5</i>	<i>140.5</i>	<i>351.0</i>
United Kingdom & Ireland	278,417	178,476	456,893	168.5	103.6	272.0
Greece	57,663	16,779	74,442	235.5	82.9	318.3
Italy	100,142	51,918	152,060	221.3	114.1	335.5
Malta	19,521	6,939	26,460	238.7	90.4	329.2
Former Yugoslavia	56,247	15,303	71,550	199.3	52.3	251.6
Former USSR and Baltic States	21,165	7,652	28,817	216.6	96.7	313.3
Hungary	9,067	6,053	15,120	187.1	110.3	297.4
Poland	20,890	10,532	31,422	185.4	91.7	277.1
Romania	3,666	1,823	5,489	195.5	96.0	291.5
France	4,631	2,805	7,436	211.7	118.6	330.3
Germany	31,577	18,706	50,283	174.4	94.5	268.9
Netherlands	26,913	15,069	41,982	179.3	98.7	278.0
Cyprus	8,266	2,687	10,953	271.2	83.9	355.1
Other Europe and the former USSR	33,243	18,395	51,638	203.9	104.8	308.7
<i>Europe (total)</i>	<i>671,408</i>	<i>353,137</i>	<i>1,024,545</i>	<i>188.0</i>	<i>97.4</i>	<i>285.3</i>
Lebanon	26,995	6,145	33,140	312.8	61.6	374.4
Turkey	10,917	2,280	13,197	304.0	54.6	358.7
Iran	3,975	1,627	5,602	193.1	66.0	259.1
Iraq	8,034	989	9,023	264.8	34.8	299.6
Egypt	12,898	6,640	19,538	236.5	107.6	344.2
Other Middle East and North Africa	11,075	4,093	15,168	259.7	93.3	353.0
<i>Middle East and North Africa (total)</i>	<i>73,894</i>	<i>21,774</i>	<i>95,668</i>	<i>276.0</i>	<i>75.2</i>	<i>351.3</i>

(continued)

Table 8.10 (continued): Separations^(a), by selected country/region of birth and hospital sector, Australia, 2003–04

Country/region	Separations			Separations per 1,000 population ^(b)		
	Public hospitals	Private hospitals	All hospitals	Public hospitals	Private hospitals	All hospitals
Indonesia	4,872	3,313	8,185	99.4	67.6	167.0
Cambodia	5,520	1,079	6,599	219.0	37.5	256.4
Malaysia	9,731	9,423	19,154	125.0	105.3	230.3
Philippines	20,551	6,017	26,568	195.7	47.2	242.8
Singapore	3,717	3,428	7,145	117.1	96.3	213.4
Vietnam	31,576	8,234	39,810	184.6	40.8	225.4
China	25,990	12,717	38,707	136.5	63.5	200.1
Hong Kong & Macau	7,321	7,417	14,738	142.9	117.8	260.7
Japan	2,780	3,068	5,848	122.6	126.7	249.2
India	19,978	11,410	31,388	160.5	87.2	247.7
Sri Lanka	12,478	7,023	19,501	188.3	101.3	289.6
Other Asia	25,744	10,535	36,279	189.3	70.8	260.1
<i>Asia (total)</i>	<i>170,258</i>	<i>83,664</i>	<i>253,922</i>	<i>160.5</i>	<i>73.8</i>	<i>234.3</i>
Canada	4,132	4,416	8,548	139.8	138.2	278.0
USA	8,847	9,073	17,920	165.5	151.0	316.6
Other North America	145	73	218	299.4	144.0	443.4
<i>North America (total)</i>	<i>13,124</i>	<i>13,562</i>	<i>26,686</i>	<i>157.8</i>	<i>146.8</i>	<i>304.6</i>
Argentina	2,310	1,183	3,493	178.3	81.7	260.1
Chile	6,001	2,075	8,076	227.4	64.7	292.1
The Caribbean	1,187	1,042	2,229	238.8	188.3	427.0
Other South America and Central America	9,353	3,622	12,975	209.9	72.2	282.1
<i>South and Central America, and the Caribbean (total)</i>	<i>18,851</i>	<i>7,922</i>	<i>26,773</i>	<i>211.3</i>	<i>79.0</i>	<i>290.2</i>
Mauritius	4,669	2,304	6,973	209.1	100.2	309.3
South Africa	11,195	11,548	22,743	130.0	118.6	248.6
Other Africa excluding North Africa	10,250	6,376	16,626	191.3	120.0	311.3
<i>Africa excluding North Africa (total)</i>	<i>26,114</i>	<i>20,228</i>	<i>46,342</i>	<i>163.2</i>	<i>114.2</i>	<i>277.4</i>
Overseas (total)	1,076,422	545,822	1,622,244	189.0	89.5	278.4
Not stated or inadequately described	53,070	85,816	138,886
Total	4,200,495	2,640,697	6,841,192	209.3	130.7	340.0

(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) The rates were directly age-standardised as detailed in Appendix 3.

.. Not applicable.

Table 8.11: Selected separation statistics^(a), by same day status, hospital sector^(b) and state and territory of usual residence, 2003–04

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Total ^(b)
All separations									
Separations	2,086,525	1,852,375	1,332,588	656,958	579,691	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	6,819,504
Separations not within state of residence (%)	4	1	1	0	1	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	
Proportion of separations public patients (%)	53	56	49	59	57	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	55
Separation rate ^(c)	302.9	365.7	349.5	340.5	357.2	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	336.2
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	0.90	1.09	1.04	1.01	1.06	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	
95% confidence interval of SRR	0.90–0.90	1.09–1.09	1.04–1.04	1.01–1.01	1.06–1.06	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	
Same day separations									
Separations	1,058,369	1,073,922	744,391	352,941	304,421	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	3,700,806
Separations not within state of residence (%)	5	1	1	0	1	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	
Proportion of separations public patients (%)	47	54	44	59	55	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	51
Separation rate ^(c)	153.7	212.4	194.7	182.2	188.0	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	182.3
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	0.84	1.17	1.07	1.00	1.03	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	
95% confidence interval of SRR	0.84–0.84	1.17–1.17	1.07–1.07	1.00–1.00	1.03–1.03	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	
Overnight separations									
Separations	1,028,156	778,453	588,197	304,017	275,270	71,771	36,230	35,404	3,118,698
Separations not within state of residence (%)	4	1	1	1	1	3	8	8	
Proportion of separations public patients (%)	60	59	57	60	59	56	59	78	59
Separation rate ^(c)	149.3	153.3	154.8	158.4	169.2	144.5	122.1	204.0	153.9
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	0.97	1.00	1.01	1.03	1.10	0.94	0.79	1.33	
95% confidence interval of SRR	0.97–0.97	1.00–1.00	1.01–1.01	1.03–1.03	1.10–1.10	0.93–0.95	0.78–0.80	1.32–1.34	
Public hospitals									
Separations	1,348,719	1,171,198	716,051	366,889	376,957	82,110	53,898	68,829	4,186,474
Separations not within state of residence (%)	4	1	2	1	1	2	5	4	
Proportion of separations public patients (%)	82	89	90	91	87	81	91	96	87
Separation rate ^(c)	196.3	231.8	188.0	190.8	234.5	165.3	183.3	421.0	207.0
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	0.95	1.12	0.91	0.92	1.13	0.80	0.89	2.03	
95% confidence interval of SRR	0.95–0.95	1.12–1.12	0.91–0.91	0.92–0.92	1.13–1.13	0.79–0.81	0.88–0.90	2.01–2.05	
Private hospitals									
Separations	737,806	681,177	616,537	290,069	202,734	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	2,633,030
Separations not within state of residence (%)	5	1	1	0	0	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	
Proportion of separations public patients (%)	1	0	2	19	1	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	3
Separation rate ^(c)	106.7	134.0	161.5	149.7	122.6	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	129.2
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	0.83	1.04	1.25	1.16	0.95	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	
95% confidence interval of SRR	0.83–0.83	1.04–1.04	1.25–1.25	1.16–1.16	0.95–0.95	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	

(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 other territories and excludes overseas residents and unknown state of residence.

(c) Rates per 1,000 population were directly age-standardised as detailed in Appendix 3.

n.p. Not published.

Table 8.12: Selected separation statistics^(a), by same day status, hospital sector^(b) and Remoteness Area of usual residence, Australia^(c), 2003–04

	Major cities	Inner regional	Outer regional	Remote	Very remote	Total ^(b)
All separations						
Separations	4,473,852	1,419,897	727,113	111,700	70,082	6,819,504
Proportion of separations public patients (%)	51	57	65	76	89	55
Separation rate ^(c)	337.3	329.2	352.9	367.7	436.0	339.0
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	1.00	0.97	1.04	1.08	1.29	
95% confidence interval of SRR	1.00–1.00	0.97–0.97	1.04–1.04	1.07–1.09	1.28–1.30	
Same day separations						
Separations	2,549,158	714,312	349,038	49,762	30,320	3,700,806
Proportion of separations public patients (%)	48	52	62	76	88	51
Separation rate ^(c)	192.6	164.5	167.8	160.8	191.2	183.8
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	1.05	0.89	0.91	0.87	1.04	
95% confidence interval of SRR	1.05–1.05	0.89–0.89	0.91–0.91	0.86–0.88	1.03–1.05	
Overnight separations						
Separations	1,924,694	705,585	378,075	61,938	39,762	3,118,698
Proportion of separations public patients (%)	56	61	67	76	89	59
Separation rate ^(c)	144.7	164.8	185.1	206.9	244.8	155.1
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	0.93	1.06	1.19	1.33	1.58	
95% confidence interval of SRR	0.93–0.93	1.06–1.06	1.19–1.19	1.32–1.34	1.56–1.60	
Public hospitals						
Separations	2,579,896	908,131	536,764	90,142	64,562	4,186,474
Proportion of separations public patients (%)	87	85	86	89	96	87
Separation rate ^(c)	194.9	212.6	261.4	297.2	398.4	208.6
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	0.93	1.02	1.25	1.42	1.91	
95% confidence interval of SRR	0.93–0.93	1.02–1.02	1.25–1.25	1.41–1.43	1.90–1.92	
Private hospitals						
Separations	1,893,956	511,766	190,349	21,558	5,520	2,633,030
Proportion of separations public patients (%)	2	5	6	23	7	3
Separation rate ^(c)	142.4	116.6	91.5	70.5	37.6	130.3
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	1.09	0.89	0.70	0.54	0.29	
95% confidence interval of SRR	1.09–1.09	0.89–0.89	0.70–0.70	0.53–0.55	0.28–0.30	

(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 unknown remoteness area and excludes overseas residents and unknown state of residence.

(c) Rates per 1,000 population were directly age-standardised as detailed in Appendix 3.

Table 8.13: Selected separation statistics^(a), by same day status, hospital sector and quintile of socioeconomic advantage/disadvantage^(b), Australia^(c), 2003–04

	Most disadvantaged	Second most disadvantaged	Middle quintile	Second most advantaged	Most advantaged	Total^(c)
All separations						
Separations	1,437,861	1,366,398	1,340,205	1,348,347	1,310,621	6,819,504
Proportion of separations public patients (%)	67	61	57	50	37	55
Separation rate ^(d)	351.9	349.0	332.2	342.9	319.3	339.0
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	1.04	1.03	0.98	1.01	0.94	
95% confidence interval of SRR	1.04–1.04	1.03–1.03	0.98–0.98	1.01–1.01	0.94–0.94	
Same day separations						
Separations	720,745	716,880	722,613	770,386	762,168	3,700,806
Proportion of separations public patients (%)	63	58	53	46	34	51
Separation rate ^(d)	175.1	182.6	179.0	196.3	186.7	183.8
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	0.95	0.99	0.97	1.07	1.02	
95% confidence interval of SRR	0.95–0.95	0.99–0.99	0.97–0.97	1.07–1.07	1.02–1.02	
Overnight separations						
Separations	717,116	649,518	617,592	577,961	548,453	3,118,698
Proportion of separations public patients (%)	70	64	62	54	42	59
Separation rate ^(d)	176.8	166.4	153.2	146.6	132.6	155.1
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	1.14	1.07	0.99	0.95	0.85	
95% confidence interval of SRR	1.14–1.14	1.07–1.07	0.99–0.99	0.95–0.95	0.85–0.85	
Public hospitals						
Separations	1,046,935	929,200	860,778	742,817	600,310	4,186,474
Proportion of separations public patients (%)	89	87	87	88	81	87
Separation rate ^(d)	258.0	237.9	213.5	189.3	147.0	208.6
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	1.24	1.14	1.02	0.91	0.70	
95% confidence interval of SRR	1.24–1.24	1.14–1.14	1.02–1.02	0.91–0.91	0.70–0.70	
Private hospitals						
Separations	390,926	437,198	479,427	605,530	710,311	2,633,030
Proportion of separations public patients (%)	7	5	4	3	0	3
Separation rate ^(d)	93.9	111.1	118.8	153.6	172.3	130.3
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	0.72	0.85	0.91	1.18	1.32	
95% confidence interval of SRR	0.72–0.72	0.85–0.85	0.91–0.91	1.18–1.18	1.32–1.32	

(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) Based on a mapping of the Statistical Local Area of each patient's usual residence to the Australian Bureau of Statistics SEIFA 2001 Index of Socioeconomic Advantage/Disadvantage.

(c) Includes unknown residence area and excludes overseas residents and unknown state of residence.

(d) Rates per 1,000 population were directly age-standardised as detailed in Appendix 3.