

Appendix 5: Potentially preventable hospitalisations

The selected potentially preventable hospitalisations (PPHs) are those conditions where hospitalisation is thought to be avoidable if timely and adequate non-hospital care had been provided. Separation rates for PPHs therefore have potential as indicators of the quality or effectiveness of non-hospital care. A high rate of potentially preventable hospitalisation may indicate an increased prevalence of the conditions in the community or poorer functioning of the non-hospital care system. On the other hand it may indicate an appropriate use of the hospital system to respond to greater need. It is important to note that the list of PPHs is not comprehensive – there are other hospital admissions which may be preventable. The ICD-10-AM code specifications and the categories included for PPHs may therefore be subject to change in future reports.

Three broad categories for PPHs have been used in this report. These have been sourced from *The Victorian ambulatory care sensitive conditions study* (Department of Human Services Victoria 2002).

- **Vaccine-preventable.** Diseases that can be prevented with proper vaccination and include influenza, bacterial pneumonia, tetanus, measles, mumps, rubella, pertussis and polio. The conditions are considered to be preventable, rather than the hospitalisation.
- **Acute.** These conditions may not be preventable, but theoretically would not result in hospitalisation if adequate and timely care (usually non-hospital) had been received. These include complicated appendicitis, dehydration/gastroenteritis, pyelonephritis, perforated ulcer, cellulitis, pelvic inflammatory disease, ear nose and throat infections and dental conditions.
- **Chronic.** The conditions may be preventable through behaviour modification and lifestyle change, but they can also be managed effectively through timely care (usually non-hospital) to prevent deterioration and hospitalisation. These conditions include diabetes, asthma, angina, hypertension, congestive heart failure and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

A full description of all conditions presented in these tables, including ICD-10-AM codes, can be found in Table A1.9 accompanying this report on the Internet.

Tables A5.1, A5.2 and A5.3 present the number of separations, the proportion of residents treated in hospitals outside their state of residence and the age-standardised separation rates for each PPH condition for the state or territory (Table A5.1) or Remoteness Area of usual residence of the patient (Table A5.2) or the quintile of socioeconomic advantage/disadvantage (Table A5.3; see Appendix 1 for information on geographical data). These tables also include the standardised separation rate ratio (SRR) against the national total as well as the 95% confidence interval of the SRR. Statistics are presented for the total PPH rate, the rates for each of the three broad PPH categories as well as rates for individual conditions.

There were 676,526 selected potentially preventable hospitalisations in Australia in 2005–06, 9.3% of all separations, which translates to a rate of 32.0 per 1,000 population. The rates ranged from 21.9 per 1,000 population in the Australian Capital Territory to 47.3 per 1,000 population in the Northern Territory. The separation rate for *Vaccine-preventable* PPHs in the

Northern Territory was 3 times the national rate, and the separation rate for the Australian Capital Territory was 0.6 times the national rate.

Table A5.2 highlights that rates were higher for the more remote areas for most PPHs. For example, the rate for *Diabetes complications* in *Major cities* was 8.8 per 1,000 population, 9.9 for *Inner regional*, 13.4 for *Outer regional*, 25.2 for *Remote* and 28.0 for *Very remote* areas.

Table A5.3 presents these data by quintile of socioeconomic advantage/disadvantage using the SEIFA 2001 Index of Socio-Economic Advantage/Disadvantage (ABS 2004) of the statistical local area of the patient's usual residence (see Appendix 1). The *Most disadvantaged* quintile represents the areas containing the 20% of the population with the least advantage/most disadvantage and the *Most advantaged* quintile represents the areas containing the 20% of the population with the most advantage /least disadvantage.

For most PPHs the *Most disadvantaged* quintile has around one and a half times the hospital separation rate of the *Most advantaged* quintile, with the ratio of *Most disadvantaged* to *Most advantaged* being 1.6 for the total of all PPHs. Of the PPH categories, hospitalisation rates for *Angina*, *COPD*, *Diabetes complications*, *Rheumatic heart disease* and *Hypertension* were at least twice as common for the *Most disadvantaged* quintile than for the *Most advantaged* quintile.

There was no difference in separation rates for *Other vaccine-preventable conditions*, *Iron deficiency anaemia* and *Appendicitis with generalised peritonitis* between the *Most advantaged* and *Most disadvantaged* quintiles.

Table A5.1: Separation statistics^(a) for selected potentially preventable hospitalisations^(b), by state or territory of usual residence, all hospitals, 2005-06

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Total ^(c)
Vaccine-preventable conditions									
Influenza and pneumonia									
Separations ^(d)	3,718	2,125	2,229	1,331	928	231	108	258	10,939
Separations not within state of residence (%)	3	2	2	2	3	4	7	5	
Separation rate ^(e)	0.52	0.40	0.56	0.67	0.56	0.44	0.36	1.40	0.52
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	1.00	0.77	1.07	1.28	1.08	0.85	0.70	2.68	
95% confidence interval of SRR	0.97-1.04	0.74-0.80	1.03-1.12	1.21-1.35	1.01-1.15	0.74-0.95	0.57-0.83	2.35-3.01	
Other vaccine-preventable conditions									
Separations ^(d)	953	999	543	212	192	29	22	127	3,082
Separations not within state of residence (%)	1	0	1	0	2	12	5	2	
Separation rate ^(e)	0.14	0.19	0.13	0.10	0.12	0.06	0.07	0.63	0.15
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	0.93	1.30	0.90	0.70	0.81	0.41	0.45	4.22	
95% confidence interval of SRR	0.88-0.99	1.22-1.38	0.83-0.98	0.60-0.79	0.69-0.92	0.26-0.56	0.26-0.64	3.49-4.96	
Total vaccine-preventable conditions									
Separations ^(d)	4,670	3,119	2,765	1,542	1,115	260	130	382	13,999
Proportion of total separations ^(d) (%)	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	0.2
Separations not within state of residence (%)	1	0	1	0	2	12	5	2	
Separation rate ^(e)	0.66	0.59	0.69	0.77	0.68	0.50	0.43	2.01	0.67
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	0.99	0.89	1.03	1.15	1.02	0.75	0.64	3.00	
95% confidence interval of SRR	0.96-1.02	0.86-0.92	0.99-1.07	1.10-1.21	0.96-1.08	0.66-0.84	0.53-0.76	2.70-3.31	
Acute conditions									
Appendicitis with generalised peritonitis									
Separations ^(d)	1,041	870	575	394	251	57	57	63	3,310
Separations not within state of residence (%)	3	2	3	2	2	2	6	0	
Separation rate ^(e)	0.15	0.17	0.14	0.19	0.16	0.12	0.17	0.30	0.16
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	0.95	1.06	0.88	1.19	1.01	0.71	1.07	1.84	
95% confidence interval of SRR	0.89-1.01	0.99-1.14	0.81-0.95	1.07-1.31	0.89-1.14	0.53-0.90	0.80-1.35	1.39-2.30	
Cellulitis									
Separations ^(d)	11,219	8,527	6,488	3,024	2,472	598	430	848	33,643
Separations not within state of residence (%)	3	2	2	1	2	3	8	2	
Separation rate ^(e)	1.57	1.61	1.62	1.50	1.44	1.15	1.41	4.69	1.59
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	0.98	1.01	1.02	0.94	0.91	0.72	0.88	2.95	
95% confidence interval of SRR	0.97-1.00	0.99-1.03	0.99-1.04	0.91-0.98	0.87-0.94	0.67-0.78	0.80-0.97	2.75-3.14	

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Table A5.1 (continued): Separation statistics^(a) for selected potentially preventable hospitalisations^(b), by state or territory of usual residence, all hospitals, 2005–06

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Total ^(c)
Convulsions and epilepsy									
Separations ^(d)	11,449	7,467	6,048	2,913	2,561	753	497	636	32,357
Separations not within state of residence (%)	3	1	3	1	3	7	9	4	
Separation rate ^(e)	1.70	1.48	1.53	1.46	1.69	1.58	1.58	3.15	1.59
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	1.06	0.93	0.96	0.91	1.06	0.99	0.99	1.97	
95% confidence interval of SRR	1.04–1.08	0.91–0.95	0.93–0.98	0.88–0.95	1.02–1.10	0.92–1.06	0.90–1.07	1.82–2.13	
Dehydration and gastroenteritis									
Separations ^(d)	15,086	14,432	9,483	4,014	4,599	1,024	464	322	49,478
Separations not within state of residence (%)	3	1	2	1	1	2	10	10	
Separation rate ^(e)	2.12	2.74	2.36	1.98	2.72	1.98	1.49	1.94	2.34
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	0.90	1.17	1.01	0.85	1.16	0.85	0.63	0.83	
95% confidence interval of SRR	0.89–0.92	1.15–1.19	0.99–1.03	0.82–0.87	1.13–1.19	0.80–0.90	0.58–0.69	0.74–0.92	
Dental conditions									
Separations ^(d)	14,694	14,690	10,611	6,933	4,601	847	513	397	53,318
Separations not within state of residence (%)	4	1	1	0	0	2	3	5	
Separation rate ^(e)	2.20	2.97	2.67	3.47	3.05	1.78	1.66	1.79	2.65
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	0.83	1.12	1.01	1.31	1.15	0.67	0.63	0.67	
95% confidence interval of SRR	0.82–0.84	1.10–1.14	0.99–1.03	1.28–1.34	1.12–1.18	0.63–0.72	0.57–0.68	0.61–0.74	
Ear, nose and throat infections									
Separations ^(d)	11,067	6,783	6,982	3,198	3,620	586	356	517	33,142
Separations not within state of residence (%)	3	2	2	1	1	2	6	3	
Separation rate ^(e)	1.67	1.39	1.77	1.63	2.54	1.24	1.10	2.20	1.67
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	1.00	0.83	1.06	0.97	1.52	0.74	0.66	1.32	
95% confidence interval of SRR	0.98–1.02	0.81–0.85	1.04–1.09	0.94–1.01	1.47–1.57	0.68–0.80	0.59–0.73	1.20–1.43	
Gangrene									
Separations ^(d)	1,024	1,120	794	526	446	61	24	108	4,107
Separations not within state of residence (%)	5	1	2	0	0	2	20	1	
Separation rate ^(e)	0.14	0.21	0.20	0.26	0.24	0.11	0.08	0.64	0.19
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	0.73	1.08	1.03	1.35	1.28	0.60	0.41	3.36	
95% confidence interval of SRR	0.68–0.77	1.02–1.15	0.96–1.10	1.24–1.47	1.16–1.40	0.45–0.75	0.25–0.57	2.73–3.99	

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Table A5.1 (continued): Separation statistics^(a) for selected potentially preventable hospitalisations^(b), by state or territory of usual residence, all hospitals, 2005–06

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Total ^(c)
Pelvic inflammatory disease									
Separations ^(d)	1,616	1,327	1,157	561	400	125	97	134	5,422
Separations not within state of residence (%)	4	1	1	1	2	0	18	3	
Separation rate ^(e)	0.24	0.26	0.29	0.28	0.27	0.28	0.29	0.60	0.27
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	0.90	0.98	1.09	1.03	1.00	1.04	1.07	2.23	
95% confidence interval of SRR	0.86–0.94	0.93–1.04	1.03–1.15	0.94–1.11	0.90–1.10	0.86–1.22	0.85–1.28	1.85–2.60	
Perforated/bleeding ulcer									
Separations ^(d)	1,742	1,437	835	533	479	132	79	34	5,274
Separations not within state of residence (%)	5	1	2	1	1	1	7	6	
Separation rate ^(e)	0.24	0.26	0.21	0.27	0.26	0.24	0.27	0.30	0.24
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	0.97	1.08	0.85	1.11	1.07	0.98	1.11	1.22	
95% confidence interval of SRR	0.92–1.01	1.02–1.14	0.80–0.91	1.01–1.20	0.97–1.16	0.81–1.15	0.87–1.36	0.81–1.64	
Pyelonephritis									
Separations ^(d)	15,134	12,534	8,810	4,014	3,423	824	621	443	45,830
Separations not within state of residence (%)	2	1	2	1	1	2	2	3	
Separation rate ^(e)	2.08	2.33	2.20	2.01	1.94	1.56	2.12	3.00	2.14
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	0.97	1.09	1.03	0.94	0.91	0.73	0.99	1.40	
95% confidence interval of SRR	0.95–0.99	1.07–1.11	1.01–1.05	0.91–0.97	0.88–0.94	0.68–0.78	0.91–1.06	1.27–1.53	
Total acute conditions									
Separations ^(d)	84,035	69,143	51,760	26,099	22,841	5,004	3,137	3,498	265,747
Proportion of total separations ^(d) (%)	3.8	3.5	3.6	3.6	3.9	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	3.6
Separations not within state of residence (%)	3	1	2	1	1	3	6	4	
Separation rate ^(e)	12.09	13.41	12.98	13.03	14.31	10.04	10.15	18.57	12.85
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	0.94	1.04	1.01	1.01	1.11	0.78	0.79	1.45	
95% confidence interval of SRR	0.94–0.95	1.04–1.05	1.00–1.02	1.00–1.03	1.10–1.13	0.76–0.80	0.76–0.82	1.40–1.49	
Chronic conditions									
Angina									
Separations ^(d)	12,100	10,346	10,196	3,153	3,182	1,031	369	404	40,811
Separations not within state of residence (%)	3	2	3	1	2	2	4	3	
Separation rate ^(e)	1.62	1.88	2.52	1.57	1.70	1.81	1.32	3.05	1.87
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	0.87	1.01	1.35	0.84	0.91	0.97	0.70	1.63	
95% confidence interval of SRR	0.85–0.88	0.99–1.03	1.32–1.37	0.81–0.87	0.88–0.94	0.91–1.03	0.63–0.78	1.48–1.79	

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Table A5.1 (continued): Separation statistics^(a) for selected potentially preventable hospitalisations^(b), by state or territory of usual residence, all hospitals, 2005–06

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Total ^(c)
Asthma									
Separations ^(d)	12,936	9,193	6,590	3,625	4,036	652	371	376	37,812
Separations not within state of residence (%)	1	2	4	1	2	3	5	3	
Separation rate ^(e)	1.96	1.88	1.67	1.84	2.79	1.38	1.17	1.71	1.90
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	1.03	0.99	0.88	0.97	1.47	0.73	0.62	0.90	
95% confidence interval of SRR	1.01–1.05	0.97–1.01	0.86–0.90	0.94–1.00	1.42–1.51	0.67–0.78	0.56–0.68	0.81–0.99	
Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease									
Separations ^(d)	19,072	13,724	11,152	4,937	5,799	1,456	501	749	57,422
Separations not within state of residence (%)	2	1	2	1	1	2	3	2	
Separation rate ^(e)	2.54	2.49	2.79	2.51	3.09	2.57	1.87	5.52	2.64
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	0.97	0.94	1.06	0.95	1.17	0.98	0.71	2.09	
95% confidence interval of SRR	0.95–0.98	0.93–0.96	1.04–1.08	0.92–0.98	1.14–1.20	0.93–1.03	0.65–0.77	1.94–2.24	
Congestive cardiac failure									
Separations ^(d)	13,773	11,773	7,673	3,841	3,810	965	448	338	42,648
Separations not within state of residence (%)	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	
Separation rate ^(e)	1.77	2.06	1.91	1.94	1.91	1.66	1.70	2.65	1.91
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	0.93	1.08	1.00	1.02	1.00	0.87	0.89	1.39	
95% confidence interval of SRR	0.91–0.95	1.06–1.10	0.98–1.03	0.99–1.05	0.97–1.03	0.82–0.93	0.81–0.97	1.24–1.54	
Diabetes complications									
Separations ^(d)	51,577	47,813	37,720	50,114	14,537	6,999	1,438	2,063	212,442
Separations not within state of residence (%)	7	9	9	25	8	13	5	14	
Separation rate ^(e)	7.01	8.82	9.39	24.74	8.09	12.75	5.14	14.30	9.87
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	0.71	0.89	0.95	2.51	0.82	1.29	0.52	1.45	
95% confidence interval of SRR	0.70–0.72	0.89–0.90	0.94–0.96	2.48–2.53	0.81–0.83	1.26–1.32	0.49–0.55	1.39–1.51	
Hypertension									
Separations ^(d)	2,212	1,310	1,456	426	537	136	45	39	6,167
Separations not within state of residence (%)	3	2	2	1	1	2	0	0	
Separation rate ^(e)	0.30	0.24	0.36	0.21	0.29	0.25	0.16	0.28	0.28
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	1.05	0.84	1.27	0.74	1.03	0.86	0.56	0.97	
95% confidence interval of SRR	1.01–1.09	0.80–0.89	1.21–1.34	0.67–0.81	0.94–1.12	0.72–1.01	0.39–0.72	0.67–1.28	

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Table A5.1 (continued): Separation statistics^(a) for selected potentially preventable hospitalisations^(b), by state or territory of usual residence, all hospitals, 2005–06

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Total ^(c)
Iron deficiency anaemia									
Separations ^(d)	6,282	7,965	3,500	2,539	1,814	585	215	192	23,109
Separations not within state of residence (%)	3	0	1	0	0	0	2	1	
Separation rate ^(e)	0.86	1.48	0.87	1.27	1.02	1.07	0.75	1.21	1.08
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	0.79	1.37	0.81	1.18	0.95	0.99	0.69	1.12	
95% confidence interval of SRR	0.77–0.81	1.34–1.40	0.78–0.84	1.13–1.22	0.91–0.99	0.91–1.07	0.60–0.79	0.97–1.28	
Nutritional deficiencies									
Separations ^(d)	47	48	21	20	5	0	3	7	152
Separations not within state of residence (%)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Separation rate ^(e)	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.03	0.01
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	0.91	1.27	0.71	1.36	0.47	0.00	1.41	3.68	
95% confidence interval of SRR	0.65–1.17	0.91–1.62	0.41–1.01	0.76–1.95	0.06–0.88	n.a.	-0.19–3.00	0.95–6.41	
Rheumatic heart disease^(f)									
Separations ^(d)	615	554	664	211	159	47	11	174	2,438
Separations not within state of residence (%)	9	1	1	1	2	7	10	57	
Separation rate ^(e)	0.08	0.10	0.17	0.11	0.09	0.08	0.04	0.82	0.11
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	0.74	0.89	1.45	0.92	0.77	0.73	0.37	7.15	
95% confidence interval of SRR	0.68–0.79	0.82–0.97	1.34–1.56	0.80–1.05	0.65–0.89	0.52–0.94	0.15–0.59	6.09–8.22	
Total chronic conditions									
Separations ^(d)	111,563	96,547	74,433	66,861	31,749	11,426	3,186	4,063	400,145
Proportion of total separations ^(d) (%)	5.0	4.9	5.2	9.4	5.4	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	5.5
Separations not within state of residence (%)	4	1	2	0	2	1	4	9	
Separation rate ^(e)	15.21	17.84	18.56	33.19	17.87	20.80	11.34	27.34	18.62
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	0.82	0.96	1.00	1.78	0.96	1.12	0.61	1.47	
95% confidence interval of SRR	0.81–0.82	0.95–0.96	0.99–1.00	1.77–1.80	0.95–0.97	1.10–1.14	0.59–0.63	1.42–1.51	
Total selected potentially preventable hospitalisations									
Separations ^(d)	199,288	168,000	128,310	94,043	55,427	16,631	6,434	7,832	676,526
Proportion of total separations ^(d) (%)	9.0	8.5	8.9	13.2	9.3	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	9.3
Separations not within state of residence (%)	3	1	2	0	2	2	5	6	
Separation rate ^(e)	27.83	31.70	32.07	46.76	32.71	31.23	21.86	47.29	31.98
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	0.87	0.99	1.00	1.46	1.02	0.98	0.68	1.48	
95% confidence interval of SRR	0.87–0.87	0.99–1.00	1.00–1.01	1.45–1.47	1.01–1.03	0.96–0.99	0.67–0.70	1.45–1.51	

(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) These conditions are defined using ICD-10-AMI codes in Table A1.9 accompanying this report on the Internet.

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

(d) Excludes multiple diagnoses for the same separation within the same group.

(e) Rate per 1,000 population was directly age-standardised as detailed in Appendix 1.

(f) *Rheumatic heart disease* includes acute rheumatic fever as well as the chronic disease.

n.p. Not published

Table A5.2: Separation statistics^(a) for selected potentially preventable hospitalisations^(b), by Remoteness Area of usual residence, all hospitals, 2005–06

	Major cities	Inner regional	Outer regional	Remote	Very remote	Total ^(c)
Vaccine-preventable conditions						
Influenza and pneumonia						
Separations ^(d)	6,414	2,374	1,482	355	304	10,939
Separation rate ^(e)	0.47	0.51	0.69	1.14	1.75	0.53
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	0.90	0.97	1.31	2.17	3.32	
95% confidence interval of SRR	0.88–0.92	0.93–1.01	1.24–1.38	1.94–2.40	2.95–3.69	
Other vaccine-preventable conditions						
Separations ^(d)	2,337	393	191	73	83	3,082
Separation rate ^(e)	0.17	0.09	0.09	0.23	0.46	0.15
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	1.15	0.61	0.61	1.51	3.10	
95% confidence interval of SRR	1.10–1.20	0.55–0.67	0.52–0.70	1.16–1.86	2.43–3.77	
Total vaccine-preventable						
Separations ^(d)	8,736	2,766	1,671	428	383	13,999
Proportion of total separations(%)	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.2
Separation rate ^(e)	0.64	0.60	0.78	1.37	2.19	0.67
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	0.96	0.90	1.16	2.04	3.27	
95% confidence interval of SRR	0.94–0.98	0.86–0.93	1.11–1.22	1.85–2.24	2.94–3.60	
Acute conditions						
Appendicitis with generalised peritonitis						
Separations ^(d)	2,143	635	426	57	47	3,310
Separation rate ^(e)	0.16	0.15	0.21	0.18	0.25	0.16
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	1.00	0.94	1.31	1.13	1.56	
95% confidence interval of SRR	0.96–1.04	0.86–1.01	1.19–1.44	0.83–1.42	1.12–2.01	
Cellulitis						
Separations ^(d)	19,776	7,529	4,342	999	957	33,643
Separation rate ^(e)	1.44	1.65	2.04	3.18	5.71	1.61
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	0.89	1.02	1.27	1.98	3.55	
95% confidence interval of SRR	0.88–0.91	1.00–1.05	1.23–1.30	1.85–2.10	3.32–3.77	
Convulsions and epilepsy						
Separations ^(d)	19,610	6,919	3,948	1,039	792	32,357
Separation rate ^(e)	1.47	1.64	1.94	3.15	4.37	1.60
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	0.92	1.03	1.21	1.97	2.73	
95% confidence interval of SRR	0.91–0.93	1.00–1.05	1.17–1.25	1.85–2.09	2.54–2.92	

(continued)

Table A5.2 (continued): Separation statistics^(a) for selected potentially preventable hospitalisations^(b), by Remoteness Area of usual residence, all hospitals, 2005–06

	Major cities	Inner regional	Outer regional	Remote	Very remote	Total ^(c)
Dehydration and gastroenteritis						
Separations ^(d)	30,254	11,328	6,276	996	569	49,478
Separation rate ^(e)	2.18	2.52	2.99	3.31	3.78	2.36
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	0.92	1.07	1.27	1.40	1.60	
95% confidence interval of SRR	0.91–0.93	1.05–1.09	1.24–1.30	1.32–1.49	1.47–1.73	
Dental conditions						
Separations ^(d)	32,547	12,582	6,493	1,049	638	53,318
Separation rate ^(e)	2.47	2.98	3.12	3.08	3.12	2.66
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	0.93	1.12	1.17	1.16	1.17	
95% confidence interval of SRR	0.92–0.94	1.10–1.14	1.14–1.20	1.09–1.23	1.08–1.26	
Ear, nose and throat infections						
Separations ^(d)	19,176	7,241	4,899	1,062	730	33,142
Separation rate ^(e)	1.48	1.75	2.42	3.13	3.50	1.68
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	0.88	1.04	1.44	1.86	2.08	
95% confidence interval of SRR	0.87–0.89	1.02–1.07	1.40–1.48	1.75–1.98	1.93–2.23	
Gangrene						
Separations ^(d)	2,531	838	448	133	152	4,107
Separation rate ^(e)	0.18	0.18	0.21	0.42	0.96	0.19
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	0.95	0.95	1.11	2.21	5.05	
95% confidence interval of SRR	0.91–0.98	0.88–1.01	1.00–1.21	1.83–2.59	4.25–5.86	
Pelvic inflammatory disease						
Separations ^(d)	3,328	1,183	611	124	171	5,422
Separation rate ^(e)	0.24	0.30	0.32	0.40	0.92	0.27
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	0.89	1.11	1.19	1.48	3.41	
95% confidence interval of SRR	0.86–0.92	1.05–1.17	1.09–1.28	1.22–1.74	2.90–3.92	
Perforated/bleeding ulcer						
Separations ^(d)	3,557	1,119	524	54	18	5,274
Separation rate ^(e)	0.25	0.23	0.23	0.20	0.15	0.25
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	1.00	0.92	0.92	0.80	0.60	
95% confidence interval of SRR	0.97–1.03	0.87–0.97	0.84–1.00	0.59–1.01	0.32–0.88	

(continued)

Table A5.2 (continued): Separation statistics^(a) for selected potentially preventable hospitalisations^(b), by Remoteness Area of usual residence, all hospitals, 2005–06

	Major cities	Inner regional	Outer regional	Remote	Very remote	Total ^(c)
Pyelonephritis						
Separations ^(d)	30,311	9,325	4,736	818	614	45,830
Separation rate ^(e)	2.18	2.00	2.21	2.78	4.12	2.17
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	1.00	0.92	1.02	1.28	1.90	
95% confidence interval of SRR	0.99–1.02	0.90–0.94	0.99–1.05	1.19–1.37	1.75–2.05	
Total acute conditions						
Separations ^(d)	163,137	58,678	32,688	6,330	4,687	265,747
Proportion of total separations(%)	3.4	3.8	4.2	5.6	5.7	3.6
Separation rate ^(e)	12.05	13.38	15.68	19.80	26.87	12.95
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	0.93	1.03	1.21	1.53	2.07	
95% confidence interval of SRR	0.93–0.94	1.02–1.04	1.20–1.22	1.49–1.57	2.02–2.13	
Chronic conditions						
Angina						
Separations ^(d)	22,413	11,813	5,459	659	437	40,811
Separation rate ^(e)	1.61	2.38	2.40	2.23	3.13	1.89
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	0.85	1.26	1.27	1.18	1.66	
95% confidence interval of SRR	0.84–0.86	1.24–1.28	1.24–1.30	1.09–1.27	1.50–1.81	
Asthma						
Separations ^(d)	24,107	7,780	4,418	903	561	37,812
Separation rate ^(e)	1.87	1.84	2.13	2.69	3.02	1.91
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	0.98	0.96	1.12	1.41	1.58	
95% confidence interval of SRR	0.97–0.99	0.94–0.98	1.08–1.15	1.32–1.50	1.45–1.71	
Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease						
Separations ^(d)	33,341	14,089	7,780	1,313	864	57,422
Separation rate ^(e)	2.40	2.80	3.43	4.72	6.69	2.67
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	0.90	1.05	1.28	1.77	2.51	
95% confidence interval of SRR	0.89–0.91	1.03–1.07	1.26–1.31	1.67–1.86	2.34–2.67	
Congestive cardiac failure						
Separations ^(d)	26,190	10,041	5,180	711	506	42,648
Separation rate ^(e)	1.83	1.98	2.30	2.63	3.96	1.94
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	0.94	1.02	1.19	1.36	2.04	
95% confidence interval of SRR	0.93–0.95	1.00–1.04	1.15–1.22	1.26–1.46	1.86–2.22	

(continued)

Table A5.2 (continued): Separation statistics^(a) for selected potentially preventable hospitalisations^(b), by Remoteness Area of usual residence, all hospitals, 2005–06

	Major cities	Inner regional	Outer regional	Remote	Very remote	Total ^(c)
Diabetes complications						
Separations ^(d)	120,988	48,775	30,489	8,027	4,097	212,442
Separation rate ^(e)	8.81	9.92	13.43	25.15	28.00	9.97
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	0.88	0.99	1.35	2.52	2.81	
95% confidence interval of SRR	0.88–0.89	0.99–1.00	1.33–1.36	2.47–2.58	2.72–2.89	
Hypertension						
Separations ^(d)	2,818	1,566	1,351	266	159	6,167
Separation rate ^(e)	0.20	0.32	0.61	0.95	1.14	0.29
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	0.69	1.10	2.10	3.28	3.93	
95% confidence interval of SRR	0.66–0.72	1.05–1.16	1.99–2.22	2.88–3.67	3.32–4.54	
Iron deficiency anaemia						
Separations ^(d)	15,890	4,848	2,007	209	152	23,109
Separation rate ^(e)	1.15	1.01	0.91	0.72	1.03	1.09
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	1.06	0.93	0.83	0.66	0.94	
95% confidence interval of SRR	1.04–1.07	0.90–0.95	0.80–0.87	0.57–0.75	0.79–1.10	
Nutritional deficiencies						
Separations ^(d)	111	19	14	1	6	152
Separation rate ^(e)	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.02	0.01
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	2.00	
95% confidence interval of SRR	0.81–1.19	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	
Rheumatic heart disease^(f)						
Separations ^(d)	1,313	514	332	93	185	2,438
Separation rate ^(e)	0.10	0.10	0.15	0.30	0.98	0.12
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	0.83	0.83	1.25	2.50	8.17	
95% confidence interval of SRR	0.79–0.88	0.76–0.91	1.12–1.38	1.99–3.01	6.99–9.34	
Total chronic conditions						
Separations ^(d)	233,051	94,242	54,202	11,808	6,646	400,145
Proportion of total separations(%)	4.9	6.1	7.0	10.4	8.0	5.5
Separation rate ^(e)	16.96	19.33	24.12	38.09	45.57	18.82
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	0.90	1.03	1.28	2.02	2.42	
95% confidence interval of SRR	0.90–0.90	1.02–1.03	1.27–1.29	1.99–2.06	2.36–2.48	

(continued)

Table A5.2 (continued): Separation statistics^(a) for selected potentially preventable hospitalisations^(b), by Remoteness Area of usual residence, all hospitals, 2005–06

	Major cities	Inner regional	Outer regional	Remote	Very remote	Total ^(c)
Total potentially preventable hospitalisations						
Separations ^(d)	402,936	155,023	88,106	18,453	11,573	676,526
Proportion of total separations(%)	8.4	10.1	11.4	16.2	14.0	9.3
Separation rate ^(e)	29.51	33.18	40.38	58.91	73.72	32.28
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	0.91	1.03	1.25	1.82	2.28	
95% confidence interval of SRR	0.91–0.92	1.02–1.03	1.24–1.26	1.80–1.85	2.24–2.33	

(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) These conditions are defined using ICD-10-AM codes in Table A.1.9 accompanying this report on the Internet.

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

(d) Excludes multiple diagnoses for the same separation within the same group.

(e) Rate per 1,000 population was directly age-standardised as detailed in Appendix 1.

(f) *Rheumatic heart disease* includes acute rheumatic fever as well as the chronic disease.

Table A5.3: Separation statistics^(a) for selected potentially preventable hospitalisations^(b), by quintile of socioeconomic advantage/disadvantage^(c), all hospitals, 2005–06

	Most disadvantaged	Second most disadvantaged	Middle quintile	Second most advantaged	Most advantaged	Total ^(d)
Vaccine-preventable conditions						
Influenza and pneumonia						
Separations ^(e)	2,711	2,342	2,193	1,809	1,874	10,939
Separation rate ^(f)	0.64	0.57	0.51	0.45	0.47	0.53
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	1.21	1.07	0.97	0.86	0.89	0.00
95% confidence interval of SRR	1.17–1.26	1.03–1.12	0.93–1.01	0.82–0.90	0.85–0.93	0.0
Other vaccine-preventable conditions						
Separations ^(e)	711	549	549	557	711	3,082
Separation rate ^(f)	0.17	0.14	0.13	0.14	0.17	0.15
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	1.17	0.91	0.86	0.92	1.15	0.00
95% confidence interval of SRR	1.08–1.26	0.83–0.99	0.79–0.93	0.84–1.00	1.07–1.24	0.0
Total vaccine-preventable						
Separations ^(e)	3,412	2,887	2,740	2,366	2,579	13,999
Proportion of total separations (%)	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Separation rate ^(f)	0.81	0.70	0.64	0.59	0.64	0.67
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	1.20	1.04	0.95	0.87	0.95	0.00
95% confidence interval of SRR	1.16–1.24	1.00–1.08	0.91–0.99	0.84–0.91	0.91–0.99	0.0
Acute conditions						
Appendicitis with generalised peritonitis						
Separations ^(e)	656	663	623	703	663	3,310
Separation rate ^(f)	0.16	0.17	0.15	0.18	0.17	0.16
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	1.00	1.01	0.89	1.08	1.02	0
95% confidence interval of SRR	0.93–1.08	0.94–1.09	0.82–0.96	1.00–1.16	0.94–1.10	0
Cellulitis						
Separations ^(e)	8,268	7,133	6,630	5,932	5,641	33,643
Separation rate ^(f)	1.96	1.73	1.55	1.46	1.34	1.61
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	1.22	1.08	0.96	0.91	0.83	0
95% confidence interval of SRR	1.19–1.25	1.05–1.10	0.94–0.99	0.89–0.93	0.81–0.85	0
Convulsions and epilepsy						
Separations ^(e)	7,892	6,781	6,782	5,762	5,092	32,357
Separation rate ^(f)	2.01	1.70	1.59	1.44	1.30	1.60
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	1.25	1.06	0.99	0.90	0.81	0
95% confidence interval of SRR	1.22–1.28	1.03–1.09	0.97–1.01	0.88–0.92	0.79–0.83	0

(continued)

Table A5.3 (continued): Separation statistics^(a) for selected potentially preventable hospitalisations^(b), by quintile of socioeconomic advantage/disadvantage^(c), all hospitals, 2005–06

	Most disadvantaged	Second most disadvantaged	Middle quintile	Second most advantaged	Most advantaged	Total ^(d)
Dehydration and gastroenteritis						
Separations ^(e)	11,854	10,483	9,064	9,319	8,705	49,478
Separation rate ^(f)	2.83	2.57	2.12	2.28	2.03	2.36
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	1.20	1.09	0.90	0.97	0.86	
95% confidence interval of SRR	1.18–1.22	1.07–1.11	0.88–0.92	0.95–0.99	0.84–0.88	
Dental conditions						
Separations ^(e)	10,931	11,846	10,790	9,917	9,825	53,318
Separation rate ^(f)	2.75	2.98	2.52	2.51	2.55	2.66
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	1.04	1.12	0.95	0.94	0.96	
95% confidence interval of SRR	1.02–1.05	1.10–1.14	0.93–0.97	0.92–0.96	0.94–0.98	
Ear, nose and throat infections						
Separations ^(e)	8,303	7,507	6,919	5,719	4,662	33,142
Separation rate ^(f)	2.12	1.90	1.62	1.46	1.26	1.68
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	1.26	1.13	0.97	0.87	0.75	
95% confidence interval of SRR	1.24–1.29	1.11–1.16	0.94–0.99	0.85–0.89	0.73–0.77	
Gangrene						
Separations ^(e)	1,013	965	764	812	548	4,107
Separation rate ^(f)	0.23	0.23	0.18	0.20	0.13	0.19
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	1.20	1.19	0.92	1.04	0.65	
95% confidence interval of SRR	1.13–1.28	1.11–1.26	0.86–0.99	0.97–1.11	0.60–0.70	
Pelvic inflammatory disease						
Separations ^(e)	1,244	1,068	1,173	1,069	864	5,422
Separation rate ^(f)	0.34	0.28	0.28	0.26	0.20	0.27
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	1.25	1.03	1.03	0.96	0.76	
95% confidence interval of SRR	1.18–1.32	0.97–1.10	0.97–1.09	0.90–1.02	0.71–0.81	
Perforated/bleeding ulcer						
Separations ^(e)	1,228	1,080	1,051	968	945	5,274
Separation rate ^(f)	0.27	0.25	0.25	0.24	0.22	0.25
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	1.10	1.03	1.00	0.97	0.88	
95% confidence interval of SRR	1.04–1.16	0.97–1.09	0.94–1.06	0.91–1.03	0.83–0.94	

(continued)

Table A5.3 (continued): Separation statistics^(a) for selected potentially preventable hospitalisations^(b), by quintile of socioeconomic advantage/disadvantage^(c), all hospitals, 2005–06

	Most disadvantaged	Second most disadvantaged	Middle quintile	Second most advantaged	Most advantaged	Total ^(d)
Pyelonephritis						
Separations ^(e)	10,405	9,573	9,059	8,654	8,115	45,830
Separation rate ^(f)	2.42	2.30	2.12	2.13	1.89	2.17
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	1.11	1.06	0.98	0.98	0.87	0
95% confidence interval of SRR	1.09–1.13	1.04–1.08	0.96–1.00	0.96–1.00	0.85–0.89	0
Total acute conditions						
Separations ^(e)	61,755	57,076	52,829	48,834	45,035	265,747
Proportion of total separations (%)	4.0	3.8	3.7	3.5	3.2	3.6
Separation rate ^(f)	15.08	14.09	12.36	12.15	11.09	12.95
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	1.16	1.09	0.96	0.94	0.86	0.00
95% confidence interval of SRR	1.16–1.17	1.08–1.10	0.95–0.96	0.93–0.95	0.85–0.86	0.0
Chronic conditions						
Angina						
Separations ^(e)	12,155	10,165	7,715	6,551	4,198	40,811
Separation rate ^(f)	2.63	2.36	1.80	1.62	0.96	1.89
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	1.39	1.25	0.95	0.86	0.51	0
95% confidence interval of SRR	1.37–1.42	1.22–1.27	0.93–0.97	0.84–0.88	0.49–0.53	0
Asthma						
Separations ^(e)	9,324	8,117	8,131	6,908	5,289	37,812
Separation rate ^(f)	2.34	2.04	1.91	1.77	1.47	1.91
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	1.22	1.07	1.00	0.93	0.77	0.00
95% confidence interval of SRR	1.20–1.25	1.04–1.09	0.98–1.02	0.91–0.95	0.75–0.79	0.0
Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease						
Separations ^(e)	16,754	13,045	11,472	9,123	6,994	57,422
Separation rate ^(f)	3.55	3.01	2.69	2.29	1.63	2.67
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	1.33	1.13	1.01	0.86	0.61	0
95% confidence interval of SRR	1.31–1.35	1.11–1.15	0.99–1.03	0.84–0.88	0.60–0.63	0
Congestive cardiac failure						
Separations ^(e)	10,850	9,195	8,433	7,222	6,930	42,648
Separation rate ^(f)	2.31	2.10	1.97	1.76	1.51	1.94
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	1.19	1.08	1.01	0.91	0.78	0
95% confidence interval of SRR	1.17–1.21	1.06–1.11	0.99–1.04	0.88–0.93	0.76–0.80	0

(continued)

Table A5.3 (continued): Separation statistics^(a) for selected potentially preventable hospitalisations^(b), by quintile of socioeconomic advantage/disadvantage^(c), all hospitals, 2005–06

	Most disadvantaged	Second most disadvantaged	Middle quintile	Second most advantaged	Most advantaged	Total ^(d)
Diabetes complications						
Separations ^(e)	56,887	48,167	45,886	36,725	24,719	212,442
Separation rate ^(f)	12.34	11.25	10.76	9.17	5.94	9.97
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	1.24	1.13	1.08	0.92	0.60	0.00
95% confidence interval of SRR	1.23–1.25	1.12–1.14	1.07–1.09	0.91–0.93	0.59–0.60	0.0
Hypertension						
Separations ^(e)	2,009	1,461	1,003	845	843	6,167
Separation rate ^(f)	0.45	0.34	0.23	0.21	0.20	0.29
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	1.55	1.19	0.81	0.73	0.69	0
95% confidence interval of SRR	1.48–1.61	1.13–1.25	0.76–0.86	0.68–0.77	0.64–0.73	0
Iron deficiency anaemia						
Separations ^(e)	4,657	4,900	4,407	4,674	4,469	23,109
Separation rate ^(f)	1.04	1.16	1.03	1.15	1.05	1.09
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	0.96	1.07	0.95	1.06	0.96	0
95% confidence interval of SRR	0.93–0.98	1.04–1.10	0.92–0.98	1.03–1.09	0.93–0.99	0
Nutritional deficiencies						
Separations ^(e)	35	27	40	27	22	152
Separation rate ^(f)	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	1.17	0.88	1.25	0.92	0.74	0
95% confidence interval of SRR	0.78–1.56	0.55–1.22	0.86–1.64	0.57–1.26	0.43–1.05	0
Rheumatic heart disease^(g)						
Separations ^(e)	753	462	432	429	361	2,438
Separation rate ^(f)	0.17	0.11	0.10	0.11	0.09	0.12
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	1.50	0.94	0.87	0.94	0.76	0.00
95% confidence interval of SRR	1.39–1.60	0.85–1.03	0.79–0.95	0.85–1.03	0.68–0.84	0.0
Total chronic conditions						
Separations ^(e)	107,001	90,280	82,779	68,828	51,075	400,145
Proportion of total separations (%)	6.9	6.0	5.7	4.9	3.7	5.5
Separation rate ^(f)	23.48	21.16	19.39	17.17	12.22	18.82
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	1.25	1.12	1.03	0.91	0.65	0.00
95% confidence interval of SRR	1.24–1.26	1.12–1.13	1.02–1.04	0.91–0.92	0.64–0.66	0.0

(continued)

Table A5.3 (continued): Separation statistics^(a) for selected potentially preventable hospitalisations^(b), by quintile of socioeconomic advantage/disadvantage^(c), all hospitals, 2005–06

	Most disadvantaged	Second most disadvantaged	Middle quintile	Second most advantaged	Most advantaged
Total potentially preventable hospitalisations					
Separations ^(e)	171,269	149,436	137,661	119,457	98,291
Proportion of total separations (%)	11.1	10.0	9.5	8.5	7.1
Separation rate ^(f)	39.17	35.77	32.24	29.77	23.86
Standardised separation rate ratio (SRR)	1.21	1.11	1.00	0.92	0.74
95% confidence interval of SRR	1.21–1.22	1.10–1.11	0.99–1.00	0.92–0.93	0.73–0.74

(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) These conditions are defined using ICD-10-AM codes in Table A1.9 accompanying this report on the Internet.

(c) Based on the ABS SEIFA 2001 Index of Advantage/Disadvantage score for the statistical local area of the patient's usual residence.

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

(e) Excludes multiple diagnoses for the same separation within the same group.

(f) Rate per 1,000 population was directly age-standardised as detailed in Appendix 1.

(g) *Rheumatic heart disease* includes acute rheumatic fever as well as the chronic disease.