

National Minimum Data Sets

A National Minimum Data Set is a core set of data elements agreed by the National Health Information Management Group for mandatory collection and reporting at a national level. One National Minimum Data Set may include data elements that are also included in another National Minimum Data Set. A National Minimum Data Set is contingent upon a national agreement to collect uniform data and to supply it as part of the national collection, but does not preclude agencies and service providers from collecting additional data to meet their own specific needs.

The *National Health Data Dictionary* contains definitions of data elements that are included in National Minimum Data Set collections in the health sector, including data elements used to derive some of the performance indicators required under Australian Health Care Agreements (bilateral agreements between the Commonwealth and State/Territory governments about funding and delivery of health services). The Dictionary also contains some data elements that are not currently included in any agreed National Minimum Data Set collection but have been developed and endorsed as appropriate national standards. That is, all data elements used in National Minimum Data Sets are included in the Dictionary, but not all data elements in the Dictionary are included in National Minimum Data Sets.

The National Health Data Dictionary, Version 11, identifies data elements from the following National minimum data sets:

- 1 Admitted patient care NMDS**
- 2 Admitted patient mental health care NMDS**
- 3 Admitted patient palliative care NMDS**
- 4 Alcohol and other drug treatment services NMDS**
(modified in NHDD version 11 from 1/07/2002)
- 5 Community mental health care NMDS**
- 6 Community mental health establishments NMDS**
- 7 Elective surgery waiting times NMDS**
(modified in NHDD version 11 from 1/07/2002)
- 8 Emergency Department waiting times NMDS**
- 9 Health labourforce NMDS**
- 10 Injury surveillance NMDS**
- 11 Perinatal NMDS**
- 12 Public hospital establishments NMDS**

Descriptions of those National Minimum Data Sets that have not been modified from version 10 follow.

NOTE: PAGE NUMBERS IN EACH NMDS REFER TO THE VERSION 10 BOOK
except where specified

Admitted patient care NMDS

Admin. status: CURRENT 1/07/2001 *Version number:* 2

Identifying and definitional attributes

Data record type: NATIONAL MINIMUM DATA SET

Start date: 1 July 1989

Scope: Episodes of care for admitted patients in all public and private acute and psychiatric hospitals, free standing day hospital facilities and alcohol and drug treatment centres in Australia. Hospitals operated by the Australian Defence Force, corrections authorities and in Australia's off-shore Territories may also be included. Hospitals specialising in dental, ophthalmic aids and other specialised acute medical or surgical care are included.

Statistical units: Episodes of care for admitted patients

Collection methodology: Data are collected at each hospital from patient administrative and clinical record systems. Hospitals forward data to the relevant State or Territory health authority on a regular basis (for example, monthly).

National reporting arrangements: State and Territory health authorities provide the data to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare for national collation, on an annual basis.

Periods for which data are collected and nationally collated: Financial years ending 30 June each year

<i>Data elements included:</i>	Activity when injured, version 2	page 272
	Additional diagnosis, version 4	page 130
	Admission date, version 4	page 285
	Admitted patient election status, version 1	page 116
	Area of usual residence, version 3	page 198
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	Country of birth, version 3	page 22
	Date of birth, version 3	page 23
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	Establishment number, version 3	page 186
	Establishment sector, version 3	page 203
	Establishment type, version 1	page 187
	External cause-admitted patient, version 4	page 274
	Funding source for hospital patient, version 1	page 120
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	Intended length of hospital stay, version 2	page 408
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	Major diagnostic category, version 1	page 153
	Medicare eligibility status, version 1	page 123
	Mental health legal status, version 5	page 126
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Data elements included (continued):	Mode of separation, version 3.....	page 377
	Number of days of hospital in the home care, version 1.....	page 379
	Number of leave periods, version 3.....	page 380
	Number of qualified days for newborns, version 2.....	page 420
	Person identifier, version 1.....	page 258
	Place of occurrence of external cause of injury, version 5.....	page 212
	Principal diagnosis, version 3.....	page 168
	Procedure, version 5.....	page 362
	Region code, version 2.....	page 191
	Separation date, version 5.....	page 388
	Sex, version 2.....	page 30
	Source of referral to public psychiatric hospital, version 3.....	page 310
	State identifier, version 2.....	page 202
	Total leave days, version 3.....	page 390
	Total psychiatric care days, version 2.....	page 428
	Urgency of admission, version 1.....	page 404

Supporting data element concepts:	Acute care for admitted patients, version 1.....	page 320
	Admission, version 3.....	page 284
	Admitted patient, version 1.....	page 248
	Episode of care, version 1.....	page 337
	Hospital, version 1.....	page 206
	Hospital boarder, version 1.....	page 251
	Hospital in the home care, version 1.....	page 339
	Live birth, version 1.....	page 265
	Neonate, version 1.....	page 159
	Newborn qualification status, version 2.....	page 347
	Patient, version 1.....	page 257
	Same-day patient, version 1.....	page 259
	Separation, version 3.....	page 387

Data elements in common with other NMDSs: See Appendix C

Scope links with other NMDSs: Episodes of care for admitted patients which occur partly or fully in designated psychiatric units of public acute hospitals or in public psychiatric hospitals:

- Admitted patient mental health care NMDS, version 2

Episodes of care for admitted patients where care type is palliative care:

- Admitted patient palliative care NMDS, version 2

Source organisation: National Health Information Management Group

Comments: Statistical units are entities from or about which statistics are collected or in respect of which statistics are compiled, tabulated or published.

Number of days of hospital in the home care data will be collected from all states and territories except Western Australia from 1 July 2001. Western Australia will begin to collect data from a later date.

◆ new in NMDS this version

∇ modified this version

Admitted patient mental health care NMDS

Admin. status: CURRENT 1/07/2001 *Version number:* 2

Identifying and definitional attributes

Data record type: NATIONAL MINIMUM DATA SET

Start date: 1 July 1997

Scope: The scope of this minimum data set is restricted to admitted patients receiving care in psychiatric hospitals or in designated psychiatric units in acute hospitals. The scope does not currently include patients who may be receiving treatment for psychiatric conditions in acute hospitals who are not in psychiatric units.

Statistical units: Episodes of care for admitted patients

Collection methodology: Data are collected at each hospital from patient administrative and clinical record systems. Hospitals forward data to the relevant State or Territory health authority on a regular basis (for example, monthly).

National reporting arrangements: State and Territory health authorities provide the data to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare for national collation, on an annual basis.

Periods for which data are collected and nationally collated: Financial years ending 30 June each year

Data elements included:

Additional diagnosis, version 4.....	page 130
Admission date, version 4.....	page 285
Area of usual residence, version 3	page 198
Care type, version 4.....	page 323
Country of birth, version 3.....	page 22
Date of birth, version 3	page 23
Diagnosis related group, version 1	page 148
Employment status–acute hospital and private psychiatric hospital admissions, version 2.....	page 64
Employment status–public psychiatric hospital admissions, version 2.....	page 65
Establishment identifier, version 3.....	page 184
Funding source for hospital patient, version 1.....	page 120
Indigenous status, version 3	page 26
Intended length of hospital stay, version 2.....	page 408
Major diagnostic category, version 1	page 153
Marital status, version 3	page 104
Mental health legal status, version 5.....	page 126
Mode of separation, version 3	page 377
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Person identifier, version 1	page 258

<i>Data elements included (continued):</i>	Previous specialised treatment, version 3page 305 Principal diagnosis, version 3page 168 Referral to further care (psychiatric patients), version 1.....page 386 Separation date, version 5page 388 Sex, version 2.....page 30 Source of referral to public psychiatric hospital, version 3page 310 Total leave days, version 3page 390 Total psychiatric care days, version 2.....page 428 Type of accommodation, version 2page 113 Type of usual accommodation, version 1page 115
<i>Supporting data element concepts:</i>	Admission, version 3page 284 Admitted patient, version 3page 248 Episode of care, version 1page 337 Hospital, version 1page 206 Hospital in the home care, version 1page 339 Patient, version 1page 257 Separation, version 3.....page 387
<i>Data elements in common with other NMDSs:</i>	See Appendix C
<i>Scope links with other NMDSs:</i>	Episodes of care for admitted patients which occur partly or fully in designated psychiatric units of public acute hospitals or in public psychiatric hospitals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Admitted patient care NMDS, version 2 - Admitted patient palliative care NMDS, version 2
<i>Source organisation:</i>	National Health Information Management Group
<i>Comments:</i>	Statistical units are entities from or about which statistics are collected or in respect of which statistics are compiled, tabulated or published. Number of days of hospital in the home care data will be collected from all States and Territories except Western Australia from 1 July 2001. Western Australia will begin to collect data from a later date.

Admitted patient palliative care NMDS

Admin. status: CURRENT 1/07/2001 *Version number:* 2

Identifying and definitional attributes

Data record type: NATIONAL MINIMUM DATA SET

Start date: 1 July 2000

Scope: The scope of this data set is admitted patients receiving palliative care in all public and private acute hospitals, and free standing day hospital facilities. Hospitals operated by the Australian Defence Force, correctional authorities and Australia's external Territories are not currently included.

Palliative care patients are identified by the data element 'Care type'.

Statistical units: Episodes of care for admitted patients

Collection methodology:

National reporting arrangements: State and Territory health authorities provide the data to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare for national collation, on an annual basis.

Periods for which data are collected and nationally collated: Financial years ending 30 June each year

<i>Data elements included:</i>	Additional diagnosis, version 4	page 130
	Admission date, version 4.....	page 285
	Area of usual residence, version 3	page 198
	Care type, version 4	page 323
	Country of birth, version 3.....	page 22
	Date of birth, version 3	page 23
	Establishment identifier, version 3	page 184
	Funding source for hospital patient, version 1	page 120
	Indigenous status, version 3	page 26
	Mode of admission, version 4.....	page 301
	Mode of separation, version 3	page 377
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	Previous specialised treatment, version 3.....	page 305
	Principal diagnosis, version 3.....	page 168
	Separation date, version 5.....	page 388
	Sex, version 2	page 30

◆ new in NMDS this version

∇ modified this version

Supporting data element concepts:	Admission, version 3page 284
	Admitted patient, version 3page 248
	Episode of care, version 1page 337
	Hospital, version 1page 206
	Hospital in the home care, version 1page 339
	Patient, version 1page 257
	Separation, version 3page 387

Data elements in common with other NMDSs: See Appendix C

Scope links with other NMDSs: Episodes of care for admitted patients which occur partly or fully in designated psychiatric units of public acute hospitals or in public psychiatric hospitals:

- Admitted patient care NMDS, version 2
- Admitted patient mental health care NMDS, version 2

Source organisation: National Health Information Management Group

Comments: Statistical units are entities from or about which statistics are collected or in respect of which statistics are compiled, tabulated or published.

Number of days of hospital in the home care data will be collected from all States and Territories except Western Australia from 1 July 2001. Western Australia will begin to collect data from a later date.

Community mental health care NMDS

Admin. status: CURRENT 1/07/2001 *Version number:* 2

Identifying and definitional attributes

Data record type: National Minimum Data Set

Start date: 1 July 2000

End date:

Latest evaluation date:

Scope: Patient level data: Data required for reporting by specialised psychiatric services that deliver ambulatory services, in both institutional and community settings. It does not extend to services provided to patients who are in general (non-specialised) care who may be receiving treatment or rehabilitation for psychiatric conditions.

The data provided through the Community mental health care NMDS supplements that reported for psychiatric and acute care hospitals through the Admitted patient mental health care NMDS.

Statistical units: Service contact dates

Collection methodology:

National reporting arrangements: State and Territory health authorities provide the data to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare for national collation, on an annual basis.

Periods for which data are collected and nationally collated: Financial years ending 30 June each year

Data elements included:

Area of usual residence, version 3	page 198
Country of birth, version 3.....	page 22
Date of birth, version 3	page 23
Establishment identifier, version 3.....	page 184
Marital status, version 3	page 104
Indigenous status, version 3	page 26

<i>Data elements included (continued):</i>	Mental health legal status, version 5page 126
	Person identifier, version 1page 258
	Principal diagnosis, version 3.....page 168
	Service contact date, version 1.....page 365
	Sex version 2page 30
<i>Supporting data element concepts:</i>	Service contact, version 1page 364
<i>Data elements in common with other NMDSs:</i>	See Appendix C
<i>Scope links with other NMDSs:</i>	
<i>Source organisation:</i>	National Health Information Management Group
<i>Comments:</i>	Statistical units are entities from or about which statistics are collected or in respect of which statistics are compiled, tabulated or published
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Community mental health establishments NMDS

Admin. status: CURRENT 1/07/2000 *Version number:* 1

Identifying and definitional attributes

Data record type: NATIONAL MINIMUM DATA SET

Start date: 1 July 1998

End date:

Latest evaluation date:

Scope: Data required for reporting by specialised psychiatric services that deliver ambulatory services, in both institutional and community settings and/or community-based residential care. It does not extend to services provided to patients who are in general (non-specialised) care who may be receiving treatment or rehabilitation for psychiatric conditions.

The data provided through the NMDS-Community Mental Health Establishments supplements that reported for psychiatric and acute care hospitals through the NMDS-Admitted Patient Mental Health Care.

Statistical units: Establishment level data.

Collection methodology:

National reporting arrangements: State and Territory health authorities provide the data to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare for national collation, on an annual basis.

Periods for which data are collected and nationally collated: Financial years ending 30 June each year

Data elements included:

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Establishment sector, version 2	page 203
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Geographical location of establishment, version 2	page 200
Interest payments, version 1	page 230
Non-salary operating costs, version 1	page 232
Number of available beds for admitted patients, version 2	page 444
Payments to visiting medical officers, version 1	page 235
Region code, version 2.....	page 191
Salaries and wages, version 1	page 237
Separations, version 2	page 426
State identifier, version 2.....	page 202

◆ new in NMDS this version

∇ modified this version

<i>Supporting data element concepts:</i>	Patient, version 2..... page 257
	Separation, version 3 page 387
<i>Data elements in common with other NMDSs:</i>	See Appendix C
<i>Scope links with other NMDSs:</i>	
<i>Source organisation:</i>	National Health Information Management Group
<i>Comments:</i>	Statistical units are entities from or about which statistics are collected or in respect of which statistics are compiled, tabulated or published.

Emergency Department waiting times NMDS

Admin. status: CURRENT 1/07/2000 Version number: 1

Identifying and definitional attributes

Data record type: NATIONAL MINIMUM DATA SET

Start date: 1 July 1999

End date:

Latest evaluation date:

Scope: The scope of this data set is to be negotiated between Commonwealth and State/Territory Government health authorities. It is likely that data will only be required for reporting by metropolitan hospitals and larger rural/regional hospitals.

Statistical units:

Collection methodology:

National reporting arrangements: State and Territory health authorities provide the data to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare for national collation, on an annual basis.

Periods for which data are collected and nationally collated: Financial years ending 30 June each year

Data elements included:

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Time of commencement of service event, version 2.....	page 366
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Triage category, version 1	page 402
Type of visit to Emergency Department, version 2	page 314

◆ new in NMDS this version

∇ modified this version

<i>Supporting data element concepts:</i>	Patient, version 1page 257 Patient presentation at Emergency Department, version 2page 304
<i>Data elements in common with other NMDSs:</i>	See Appendix C
<i>Scope links with other NMDSs:</i>	
<i>Source organisation:</i>	National Health Information Management Group
<i>Comments:</i>	Statistical units are entities from or about which statistics are collected or in respect of which statistics are compiled, tabulated or published.

Health labour force NMDS

Admin. status: CURRENT 1/07/2000 Version number: 1

Identifying and definitional attributes

Data record type: NATIONAL MINIMUM DATA SET

Start date: 1 July 1989

End date:

Latest evaluation date:

Scope: The scope of this set of data elements is all health occupations. National collections using this data set have been undertaken for the professions of medicine, nursing, dentistry pharmacy, physiotherapy and podiatry, using labour force questionnaires in the annual renewal of registration to practice.

Statistical units:

Collection methodology:

National reporting arrangements: State and Territory health authorities provide the data to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare for national collation, on an annual basis.

Periods for which data are collected and nationally collated: Financial years ending 30 June each year

Data elements included:

Classification of Health labourforce job, version 1.....	page 62
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Hours on-call (not worked) by medical practitioner, version 2.....	page 68
Hours worked by health professional, version 2.....	page 69
Hours worked by medical practitioner in direct patient care, version 2.....	page 71
Principal area of clinical practice, version 1.....	page 73
Principal role of health professional, version 1.....	page 75
Profession labour force status of health professional, version 1.....	page 77
Total hours worked by medical practitioner, version 2.....	page 81
Type and sector of employment establishment, version 1.....	page 204

<i>Supporting data element concepts:</i>	Health labour force, version 1page 67
<i>Data elements in common with other NMDSs:</i>	See Appendix C
<i>Scope links with other NMDSs:</i>	
<i>Source organisation:</i>	National Health Information Management Group
<i>Comments:</i>	Statistical units are entities from or about which statistics are collected or in respect of which statistics are compiled, tabulated or published.

Injury surveillance NMDS

Admin. status: CURRENT 1/07/2000 Version number: 1

Identifying and definitional attributes

Data record type: NATIONAL MINIMUM DATA SET

Start date: 1 July 1989

End date:

Latest evaluation date:

Scope: The scope of this minimum data set is patient level data from selected emergency departments of hospitals and other settings.

Statistical units:

Collection methodology:

National reporting arrangements: State and Territory health authorities provide the data to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare for national collation, on an annual basis.

Periods for which data are collected and nationally collated: Financial years ending 30 June each year

Data elements included:

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Bodily location of main injury, version 1.....	page 137
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External cause–human intent, version 4.....	page 276
Narrative description of injury event, version 1.....	page 280
Nature of main injury–non-admitted patient, version 1.....	page 156
Place of occurrence of external cause of injury, version 5.....	page 212

Supporting data element concepts: Nil

Data elements in common with other NMDSs: See Appendix C

Scope links with other NMDSs:

Source organisation: National Health Information Management Group

Comments: Statistical units are entities from or about which statistics are collected or in respect of which statistics are compiled, tabulated or published.

◆ new in NMDS this version

∇ modified this version

Perinatal NMDS

Admin. status: CURRENT 1/07/2000 Version number: 1

Identifying and definitional attributes

Data record type: NATIONAL MINIMUM DATA SET

Start date: 1 July 1997

End date:

Latest evaluation date:

Scope: The scope of this minimum data set is all births in Australia in hospitals, birth centres and the community. The data set includes information on all births, both live and stillborn, of at least 20 weeks gestation or 400g birth weight.

Statistical units:

Collection methodology:

National reporting arrangements: State and Territory health authorities provide the data to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare for national collation, on an annual basis.

Periods for which data are collected and nationally collated: Financial years ending 30 June each year

Data elements included:

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Date of birth, version 3	page 23
Establishment identifier, version 3	page 184
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Gestational age, version 1	page 150
Indigenous status, version 3	page 26
Infant weight, neonate, stillborn, version 3	page 152
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◆ new in NMDS this version

∇ modified this version

<i>Data elements included (continued):</i>	Separation date, version 5.....page 388
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<i>Supporting data element concepts:</i>	Birthweight, version 1page 136
	Gestational age, version 1page 151
	Live birth, version 1page 265
	Neonatal death, version 1page 281
	Neonate, version 1page 159
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<i>Data elements in common with other NMDs:</i>	See Appendix C
<i>Scope links with other NMDs:</i>	
<i>Source organisation:</i>	National Health Information Management Group
<i>Comments:</i>	Statistical units are entities from or about which statistics are collected or in respect of which statistics are compiled, tabulated or published.

Public hospital establishments NMDS

Admin. status: CURRENT 1/07/2000 Version number: 1

Identifying and definitional attributes

Data record type: NATIONAL MINIMUM DATA SET

Start date: 1 July 1989

End date:

Latest evaluation date:

Scope: The scope of this data set is establishment-level data for public acute and psychiatric hospitals, including hospitals operated for or by the Department of Veterans' Affairs, and alcohol and drug treatment centres. From version 9 Patient-level data remains in the new NMDS called Admitted patient care. These new NMDS replace the version 8 NMDS called Institutional health care. Similar data for private hospitals and free standing day hospital facilities is collected by the Australian Bureau of Statistics in the Private Health Establishments Collection. Hospitals operated by the Australian Defence Force, corrections authorities and Australia's external Territories are not currently included. Hospitals specialising in dental, ophthalmic aids and other specialised acute medical or surgical care are included.

Statistical units: Public hospital establishments

Collection methodology: Data are collected at each hospital from patient administrative and clinical record systems. Hospitals forward data to the relevant State or Territory health authority on a regular basis (for example, monthly).

National reporting arrangements: State and Territory health authorities provide the data to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare for national collation, on an annual basis.

Periods for which data are collected and nationally collated: Financial years ending 30 June each year

Data elements included:

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◆ new in NMDS this version

∇ modified this version

Data elements included (continued):	Establishment type, version 1.....page 187
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	Overnight-stay patient, version 2page 256
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	Same-day patient, version 1.....page 259
	Separation, version 3page 387
Data elements in common with other NMDSs:	See Appendix C
Scope links with other NMDSs:	Episodes of care for admitted patients which occur partly or fully in designated psychiatric units of public acute hospitals or in public psychiatric hospitals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Admitted patient care NMDS, version 1 - Admitted patient mental health care NMDS, version 1 - Admitted patient palliative care NMDS, version 1

**Source
organisation:**

National Health Information Management Group

Comments:

Statistical units are entities from or about which statistics are collected or in respect of which statistics are compiled, tabulated or published.