

5 Administrative data for admitted patients

Introduction

Data in this chapter are derived from the National Hospital Morbidity Database at the Institute, the compilation of patient-level data for all separations from public and private hospitals in Australia. For each separation in the database, a range of administrative and related data elements was reported including patient accommodation status, hospital insurance status, compensable status, State or Territory of usual residence, type of episode of care and mode of separation. The tables in this chapter present separation, patient day, average cost weight and average length of stay statistics for these variables.

Data providers supplied information on each patient's accommodation status, which incorporates a distinction between patients who are and are not eligible for treatment in accordance with the Medicare agreements. 'Eligible' patients are further categorised as *Eligible public patients*, *Eligible private patients*, *Eligible Department of Veterans' Affairs patients* or *Eligible other patients*. These data are as supplied by the States and Territories and, in the case of Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) patients, a different kind of eligibility, to receive hospital treatment as a DVA patient, may not necessarily have been confirmed by DVA. Additional definitional material regarding these categories can be found in the *National Health Data Dictionary* (NHDC 1996).

Data on insurance status indicates whether a patient has hospital insurance; that is, insurance providing benefits related to charges for hospital accommodation and services. Insurance for benefits for ancillary services only is excluded. The *National Health Data Dictionary* specifies that the insurance status of the patient should be reported as 'Hospital insurance' or 'No hospital insurance'; however, some data providers also used a 'Not reported' category. Coding for extra detail for private hospital patients with hospital insurance is also specified in the dictionary. For these patients, information was to be collected on whether the insurance was from a basic table only, or included supplementary cover. Only two data providers supplied this information (neither fully) so it is not included in this report.

Insurance status should not be confused with whether the patient is admitted as a public, private or other type of patient. Individuals can elect to be admitted in public hospitals as public or private patients irrespective of their insurance status.

Data on the compensable status of each patient were also supplied, a compensable patient being defined as any person who is entitled to the payment of, or who has been paid, compensation, damages or other benefits (including a payment in settlement of a claim for compensation, damages or other benefits) in respect of the injury, illness or disease for which he or she is receiving care and treatment.

Compensable status reflects the status of the patient at the time of separation. The *National Health Data Dictionary* specifies that the compensable status of the patient should be reported as 'Compensable' or 'Not compensable'; however, some data providers also

used a 'Not reported' category. Western Australia was unable to supply compensable status data for its public psychiatric hospitals.

State or Territory of usual residence was provided for most separations and includes Other Territories and overseas areas of usual residence. This information is stored on the National Hospital Morbidity Database at a finer geographical level but this has not been included in tables in this report.

Type of episode of care was also reported for most separations. An episode of care is defined as a phase of treatment for an admitted patient. It may correspond to a patient's entire hospital stay, or the hospital stay may be divided into separate episodes of care of different types. In the latter case, a 'statistical separation' occurs between such episodes, and a new separation record is generated. Thus separations in the database for those States and Territories reporting episodes of care are actually for phases of treatment, not necessarily for entire hospital stays. Definitions of each type of care are contained in the *National Health Data Dictionary*. The classification for this data element is:

- acute care
- rehabilitation care
- palliative care
- non-acute care
- unqualified neonate
- other care.

A finer level of detail is specified within the rehabilitation and palliative care categories; however, as only two States supplied this extra information (only one fully), this detail was also excluded from the tables. Tasmania and the Australian Capital Territory did not supply data for this item except for unqualified neonates.

The mode of separation records the status of the patient (discharged, transferred, episode type change, died) at the time of separation and for some categories the place to which the person was discharged or transferred.

Highlights

Patient accommodation status

Eligible public patients accounted for 84% of separations from public hospitals (3,075,874) compared with 11% for eligible private patients (392,773) (Table 5.1). Eligible DVA patients made up the majority of the remainder. The two major categories were reversed in private hospitals with eligible public patients making up 2% of separations (39,603) and eligible private patients 86% (1,443,600). Overall 58% of separations were for eligible public patients (3,115,477) and 34% (1,836,373) for eligible private patients.

For both sectors combined there were 169 separations per 1,000 population for eligible public patients compared with 100 for eligible private patients (Table 5.2). The latter figure is underestimated because private hospital separations were not available for the Northern Territory or from private free-standing day hospital facilities in the Australian Capital Territory. The Northern Territory recorded the highest eligible public patient separation rate (248 per 1,000). The separation rate for eligible public patients in private hospitals in Tasmania (16.3 per 1,000) was markedly higher than those recorded for other States and Territories.

Table 5.3 presents the average cost weight of separations in each State and Territory by hospital sector and accommodation status. The table has been restricted to separations with an episode of care type of *acute* or *unspecified*. In all States and Territories with the exception of South Australia, the average cost weights for eligible private patients in public hospitals was higher than that for eligible public patients. In both public and private hospitals, DVA patients showed average cost weights one third higher than these hospitals' main patient groups of eligible public and eligible private patients respectively. More detail about the AN-DRG classification and cost weights is included in Chapter 10 and, in reference to the effects of the integration of public psychiatric services into public hospital systems, on page 4 in Chapter 4.

Since 1993–94 there has been a decline in the numbers of separations and patient days recorded by eligible private patients in public hospitals (Table 5.5). The proportion of public hospital patient days attributable to private patients fell from 15% to 10% over this period. On the other hand, private hospitals increased their proportion of patient days attributable to eligible public patients from 0.4% to almost 3% over the same time. Private hospitals also showed steady growth in eligible DVA patients treated, increasing from 5% of patient days in 1993–94 to 10% in 1996–97. At least some of this would have been related to the sale of some DVA hospitals to the private sector over this period.

Insurance status

The supplied information indicates that 30% of separations in 1996–97 were for patients who had hospital insurance (1,580,897), 58% were not (3,066,701), with the remainder not reported (Table 5.6). Relatively few separations for patients in public hospitals were reported as having insurance (11%, 415,529), while in private hospitals 69% were reported as being insured (1,165,368).

Compensable status

Overall, around 2% of patients (123,386) were compensable in 1996–97 (Table 5.7). In the public sector, 1% of patients (47,117) fell into this category, while in the private sector 5% of patients (76,269) were compensable. Western Australia did not provide information regarding compensable status for public psychiatric hospitals.

State or Territory of usual residence

Table 5.8 indicates how many patients in each State and Territory were interstate residents. Overall, 98% of patients (5,211,456) resided in the State or Territory where they were treated. However, in the Australian Capital Territory, only about three-quarters of the patients treated were Australian Capital Territory residents (54,639), with the majority of the remainder resident in New South Wales (Table 5.9). This is mainly because the Australian Capital Territory acts as a referral centre for the surrounding districts, which include parts of New South Wales.

The average cost weight of separations in each State and Territory by each hospital sector and State or Territory of usual residence is presented in Table 5.10. As for Table 5.3, this table has been restricted to separations with an episode of care type of *acute* or *unspecified* (for more detail see Chapter 10, and page 4 in Chapter 4). Both New South Wales and Victorian public hospitals had average cost weights that were higher for interstate patients than for their own. Separations for Northern Territory residents had higher average cost weights for the public sector in several States, particularly Victoria and

South Australia, than in the Northern Territory, consistent with a tendency for movement of Territory residents with more complex treatment requirements to hospitals in other States. Tasmanian residents had higher average cost weights for treatment provided by the private sector in other States and Territories than in Tasmania.

Type of episode of care

For the hospitals for which this data element was reported, 90% of separations were classified as episodes of *Acute care*, 4% as *Unqualified neonates* and 2% as *Rehabilitation care*. There was some variation among the States and Territories for which data were supplied and between the public and private sectors (Table 5.11). For example, the proportion of public hospital separations that were for *Rehabilitation care* ranged from 0.5% (245) in the Northern Territory to 2.1% in New South Wales (26,635) and Queensland (14,640). Details of type of episode of care were not reported for Western Australian psychiatric hospitals.

Unqualified neonates (defined in the Glossary) are included in the National Hospital Morbidity Database for 1996–97, and have only been included in Tables 5.11 and 5.12. They account for an additional 193,498 separations, the majority (164,381, 85%) in the public sector, and as such will cause total separations in Table 5.11 to differ from those of other tables.

Average length of stay for episodes of acute care in private hospitals (3.2 days) was shorter than in public hospitals (3.8 days) (Table 5.12). In public hospitals the average length of stay for unqualified neonates was 3.3 days whilst in private hospitals it was 5.3 days. Palliative care was the only other type of episode of care where the average length of stay was longer for patients in private hospitals (14.9 days) than for public hospitals (13.4 days).

Mode of separation

The majority of patients (4,947,087, over 90%) were included in the *Other* category, suggesting that most people go home after separation from hospital. This was particularly the case in the private sector, where 97% of separations (1,630,908) were categorised as *Other*; in the public sector, this figure was 91% (3,316,179) (Table 5.13). The main difference between the sectors was that more patients were transferred to other hospitals in the public sector than in the private sector. There were also greater proportions of separations in the public sector for statistical discharges, deaths and the *Left against medical advice/discharge at own risk* category.

Table 5.1: Separations by accommodation status and hospital sector, States and Territories, 1996–97

Accommodation status	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Total
	Public hospitals								
Eligible public patient	997,975	762,456	573,765	301,009	280,169	64,712	49,842	45,946	3,075,874
Eligible private patient	165,419	88,355	66,893	29,950	30,167	5,825	4,847	1,317	392,773
Eligible Department of Veterans' Affairs patient	51,161	34,146	2,474	6,701	14,399	4,743	775	29	114,428
Eligible other patient	15,240	13,150	3,672	6,001	3,740	1,371	499	585	44,258
Ineligible patient	6,280	1,790	1,712	885	715	101	235	328	12,046
Not reported	0	0	0	2,515	0	0	0	73	2,588
Total	1,236,075	899,897	648,516	347,061	329,190	76,752	56,198	48,278	3,641,967
	Private hospitals								
Eligible public patient	18,227	1,946	1,132	10,094	479	7,725	0	n.a.	39,603
Eligible private patient	429,870	413,953	312,466	101,429	132,503	37,890	15,489	n.a.	1,443,600
Eligible Department of Veterans' Affairs patient	34,946	20,744	37,453	8,712	2,183	4,128	1,065	n.a.	109,231
Eligible other patient	20,518	21,589	9,675	6,264	7,436	5,000	657	n.a.	71,139
Ineligible patient	655	322	1,573	117	43	6	7	n.a.	2,723
Not reported	18,652	0	0	0	0	0	0	n.a.	18,652
Total	522,868	458,554	362,299	126,616	142,644	54,749	17,218	n.a.	1,684,948
	All hospitals								
Eligible public patient	1,016,202	764,402	574,897	311,103	280,648	72,437	49,842	45,946	3,115,477
Eligible private patient	595,289	502,308	379,359	131,379	162,670	43,715	20,336	1,317	1,836,373
Eligible Department of Veterans' Affairs patient	86,107	54,890	39,927	15,413	16,582	8,871	1,840	29	223,659
Eligible other patient	35,758	34,739	13,347	12,265	11,176	6,371	1,156	585	115,397
Ineligible patient	6,935	2,112	3,285	1,002	758	107	242	328	14,769
Not reported	18,652	0	0	2,515	0	0	0	73	21,240
Total separations	1,758,943	1,358,451	1,010,815	473,677	471,834	131,501	73,416	48,278	5,326,915

n.a. not available.

Table 5.2: Separations per 1,000 population by accommodation status and hospital sector, States and Territories, 1996-97

Accommodation status	NSW		Vic	Qld	Public hospitals				ACT	NT	Total
	NSW	Vic			WA	SA	Tas	ACT			
Eligible public patient	159.9	166.4	170.2	168.9	189.8	136.5	161.6	248.0	167.0		
Eligible private patient	26.5	19.3	19.8	16.8	20.4	12.3	15.7	7.1	21.3		
Eligible Department of Veterans' Affairs patient	8.2	7.5	0.7	3.8	9.8	10.0	2.5	0.2	6.2		
Eligible other patient	2.4	2.9	1.1	3.4	2.5	2.9	1.6	3.2	2.4		
Ineligible patient	1.0	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.2	0.8	1.8	0.7		
Not reported	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	1.4	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	0.4	0.1		
Total	198.1	196.4	192.4	194.8	223.0	161.9	182.2	260.6	197.7		
Private hospitals											
Eligible public patient	2.9	0.4	0.3	5.7	0.3	16.3	<0.1	n.a.	2.1		
Eligible private patient	68.9	90.4	92.7	56.9	89.8	79.9	50.2	n.a.	78.4		
Eligible Department of Veterans' Affairs patient	5.6	4.5	11.1	4.9	1.5	8.7	3.5	n.a.	5.9		
Eligible other patient	3.3	4.7	2.9	3.5	5.0	10.5	2.1	n.a.	3.9		
Ineligible patient	0.1	0.1	0.5	0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	n.a.	0.1		
Not reported	3.0	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	n.a.	1.0		
Total	83.8	100.1	107.5	71.1	96.6	115.5	55.8	n.a.	91.5		
All hospitals											
Eligible public patient	162.8	166.9	170.5	174.6	190.1	152.8	161.6	248.0	169.1		
Eligible private patient	95.4	109.6	112.5	73.7	110.2	92.2	65.9	7.1	99.7		
Eligible Department of Veterans' Affairs patient	13.8	12.0	11.8	8.6	11.2	18.7	6.0	0.2	12.1		
Eligible other patient	5.7	7.6	4.0	6.9	7.6	13.4	3.7	3.2	6.3		
Ineligible patient	1.1	0.5	1.0	0.6	0.5	0.2	0.8	1.8	0.8		
Not reported	3.0	<0.1	<0.1	1.4	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	0.4	1.2		
Total separations	281.8	296.5	299.8	265.8	319.6	277.4	238.0	260.6	289.1		

n.a. not available.

Table 5.3: Average cost weight of separations^(a) by accommodation status and hospital sector, States and Territories, 1996–97

Accommodation status	NSW							Total
	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	
	Public acute hospitals							
Eligible public patient	1.01	0.98	0.95	1.00	0.98	0.92	0.78	0.99
Eligible private patient	1.09	1.02	1.07	1.00	1.22	1.23	0.96	1.08
Eligible Department of Veterans' Affairs patient	1.37	1.02	1.38	1.42	1.22	2.11	2.47	1.37
Eligible other patient	1.44	1.75	1.38	1.61	1.76	1.67	1.72	1.56
Ineligible patient	1.37	1.34	1.22	1.25	0.97	1.03	0.79	1.35
Not reported	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	1.04	0.99	0.97	1.03	1.03	0.97	0.80	1.02
	Private hospitals							
Eligible public patient	0.98	1.57	0.91	0.93	0.97	..	n.a.	0.94
Eligible private patient	0.89	0.93	0.89	0.99	0.93	0.97	n.a.	0.93
Eligible Department of Veterans' Affairs patient	1.23	1.21	1.30	0.98	1.22	1.31	n.a.	1.24
Eligible other patient	0.88	0.86	0.85	0.91	0.98	1.12	n.a.	0.94
Ineligible patient	0.69	0.85	0.88	0.51	0.85	1.06	n.a.	0.95
Not reported	0.67	..	..	..	..	..	n.a.	0.67
Total	0.91	0.96	0.92	0.99	0.97	1.00	n.a.	0.94

(a) Separations for which the type of episode of care was reported as acute, or was not reported. For further details, see Chapter 10.

n.a. not available.

.. not applicable.

Table 5.4: Patient days by accommodation status and hospital sector, States and Territories, 1996–97

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Total
Accommodation status									
Public hospitals									
Eligible public patient	4,492,636	3,075,589	2,839,005	1,137,254	1,231,947	402,221	190,888	173,236	13,542,776
Eligible private patient	833,843	352,410	242,668	118,641	127,712	25,952	21,148	3,247	1,725,621
Eligible Department of Veterans' Affairs patient	380,292	216,512	10,850	33,552	84,761	31,163	8,686	180	765,996
Eligible other patient	170,802	60,079	21,303	32,347	19,203	7,393	3,178	4,230	318,535
Ineligible patient	33,173	7,087	6,613	2,862	2,700	430	730	1,067	54,662
Not reported	0	0	0	124,010	0	0	0	127	124,137
Total	5,910,746	3,711,677	3,120,439	1,448,666	1,466,323	467,159	224,630	182,087	16,531,727
Private hospitals									
Eligible public patient	65,245	2,544	37,502	34,226	1,601	28,460	0	n.a.	169,578
Eligible private patient	1,302,616	1,419,860	1,045,154	318,473	503,414	135,056	54,550	n.a.	4,779,123
Eligible Department of Veterans' Affairs patient	143,867	122,860	225,307	71,688	9,455	21,661	5,389	n.a.	600,227
Eligible other patient	53,013	123,866	20,472	15,081	19,282	14,556	1,981	n.a.	248,251
Ineligible patient	1,404	1,431	4,305	215	50	9	17	n.a.	7,431
Not reported	29,488	0	0	0	0	0	0	n.a.	29,488
Total	1,595,633	1,670,561	1,332,740	439,683	533,802	199,742	61,937	n.a.	5,834,098
All hospitals									
Eligible public patient	4,557,881	3,078,133	2,876,507	1,171,480	1,233,548	430,681	190,888	173,236	13,712,354
Eligible private patient	2,136,459	1,772,270	1,287,822	437,114	631,126	161,008	75,698	3,247	6,504,744
Eligible Department of Veterans' Affairs patient	524,159	339,372	236,157	105,240	94,216	52,824	14,075	180	1,366,223
Eligible other patient	223,815	183,945	41,775	47,428	38,485	21,949	5,159	4,230	566,786
Ineligible patient	34,577	8,518	10,918	3,077	2,750	439	747	1,067	62,093
Not reported	29,488	0	0	124,010	0	0	0	127	153,625
Total patient days	7,506,379	5,382,238	4,453,179	1,888,349	2,000,125	666,901	286,567	182,087	22,365,825

n.a. not available.

Table 5.5: Separations and patient days by accommodation status, hospital sector and year, Australia, 1993–94 to 1996–97

Accommodation status	1993–94		1994–95		1995–96		1996–97	
	Separations	Patient days	Separations	Patient days	Separations	Patient days	Separations	Patient days
Public hospitals								
Eligible public patient	2,561,922	12,961,918	2,724,413	12,765,621	2,983,446	13,301,071	3,075,874	13,542,776
Eligible private patient	545,228	2,545,105	489,043	2,200,884	437,746	1,924,078	392,773	1,725,621
Eligible Department of Veterans' Affairs patient	143,588	1,090,721	115,033	785,975	110,061	776,588	114,428	765,996
Eligible other patient	21,362	120,820	33,615	382,391	46,001	348,219	44,258	318,535
Ineligible patient	4,350	19,362	10,595	47,924	11,406	46,856	12,046	54,662
Not reported	24,052	139,691	36,266	233,604	4,675	158,367	2,588	124,137
Total	3,300,502	16,877,617	3,408,965	16,416,399	3,593,335	16,555,179	3,641,967	16,531,727
Private hospitals								
Eligible public patient	4,156	19,392	22,317	97,920	36,814	156,375	39,603	169,578
Eligible private patient	962,002	3,576,816	1,113,348	3,957,500	1,365,827	4,909,980	1,443,600	4,779,123
Eligible Department of Veterans' Affairs patient	51,647	241,414	62,300	361,701	93,152	535,971	109,231	600,227
Eligible other patient	16,862	50,848	42,870	124,677	77,720	270,040	71,139	248,251
Ineligible patient	400	1,818	1,879	7,260	2,925	11,564	2,723	7,431
Not reported	278,257	1,227,075	217,575	857,574	1,036	8,580	18,652	29,488
Total	1,313,324	5,117,363	1,460,289	5,406,632	1,577,474	5,892,510	1,684,948	5,834,098
All hospitals								
Eligible public patient	2,566,078	12,981,310	2,746,730	12,863,541	3,020,260	13,457,446	3,115,477	13,712,354
Eligible private patient	1,507,230	6,121,921	1,602,391	6,158,384	1,803,573	6,834,058	1,836,373	6,504,744
Eligible Department of Veterans' Affairs patient	195,235	1,332,135	177,333	1,147,676	203,213	1,312,559	223,659	1,366,223
Eligible other patient	38,224	171,668	76,485	507,068	123,721	618,259	115,397	566,786
Ineligible patient	4,750	21,180	12,474	55,184	14,331	58,420	14,769	62,093
Not reported	302,309	1,366,766	253,841	1,091,178	5,711	166,947	21,240	153,625
Total separations/patient days	4,613,826	21,994,980	4,869,254	21,823,031	5,170,809	22,447,689	5,326,915	22,365,825

Table 5.6: Separations by insurance status and hospital sector, States and Territories, 1996–97

Insurance status	NSW							NT	Total
	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT		
	Public hospitals								
Hospital insurance	190,654	108,241	56,657	0	37,330	16,197	5,074	1,376	415,529
No hospital insurance	964,447	773,747	584,891	0	262,569	50,861	51,124	46,426	2,734,065
Not reported	80,974	17,909	6,968	347,061	29,291	9,694	0	476	492,373
Total	1,236,075	899,897	648,516	347,061	329,190	76,752	56,198	48,278	3,641,967
	Private hospitals								
Hospital insurance	361,872	361,304	281,653	0	119,724	25,326	15,489	n.a.	1,165,368
No hospital insurance	152,072	94,753	68,915	0	11,071	4,096	1,729	n.a.	332,636
Not reported	8,924	2,497	11,731	126,616	11,849	25,327	0	n.a.	186,944
Total	522,868	458,554	362,299	126,616	142,644	54,749	17,218	n.a.	1,684,948
	All hospitals								
Hospital insurance	552,526	469,545	338,310	0	157,054	41,523	20,563	1,376	1,580,897
No hospital insurance	1,116,519	868,500	653,806	0	273,640	54,957	52,853	46,426	3,066,701
Not reported	89,898	20,406	18,699	473,677	41,140	35,021	0	476	679,317
Total separations	1,758,943	1,358,451	1,010,815	473,677	471,834	131,501	73,416	48,278	5,326,915

n.a. not available.

Table 5.7: Separations by compensable status and hospital sector, States and Territories, 1996–97

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Total
Compensable status									
Public hospitals									
Compensable	12,701	13,150	3,685	11,707	3,740	1,050	499	585	47,117
Not compensable	1,223,374	886,747	644,831	332,839	325,450	75,702	55,699	47,620	3,592,262
Not reported	0	0	0	2,515	0	0	0	73	2,588
Total	1,236,075	899,897	648,516	347,061	329,190	76,752	56,198	48,278	3,641,967
Private hospitals									
Compensable	19,338	21,589	9,708	14,766	7,436	2,775	657	n.a.	76,269
Not compensable	503,530	436,965	352,591	111,850	135,208	51,974	16,561	n.a.	1,608,679
Not reported	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	n.a.	0
Total	522,868	458,554	362,299	126,616	142,644	54,749	17,218	n.a.	1,684,948
All hospitals									
Compensable	32,039	34,739	13,393	26,473	11,176	3,825	1,156	585	123,386
Not compensable	1,726,904	1,323,712	997,422	444,689	460,658	127,676	72,260	47,620	5,200,941
Not reported	0	0	0	2,515	0	0	0	73	2,588
Total separations	1,758,943	1,358,451	1,010,815	473,677	471,834	131,501	73,416	48,278	5,326,915

n.a. not available.

Table 5.8: Separations by State or Territory of usual residence as a proportion of separations for the State or Territory and by hospital sector, States and Territories, 1996–97

State or Territory of usual residence	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Total
	Public hospitals								
New South Wales	1,215,451	11,935	8,842	314	1,581	126	12,523	193	1,250,965
Victoria	5,645	883,255	1,697	385	2,178	203	183	147	893,693
Queensland	6,614	780	633,379	213	230	64	90	197	641,567
Western Australia	375	374	212	345,045	204	32	29	722	346,993
South Australia	815	1,108	345	213	322,886	44	24	1,624	327,059
Tasmania	227	1,229	143	41	62	76,197	9	25	77,933
Australian Capital Territory	2,332	123	161	45	28	10	43,235	11	45,945
Northern Territory	227	115	345	164	1,535	6	15	45,103	47,510
Other Territories ^(a)	3,591	257	19	641	0	0	0	0	4,508
Not elsewhere classified ^(b)	793	721	3,373	0	486	70	82	256	5,781
Not reported	5	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	13
Total	1,236,075	899,897	648,516	347,061	329,190	76,752	56,198	48,278	3,641,967
	Private hospitals								
New South Wales	513,602	3,530	9,756	54	858	59	1,868	n.a.	529,727
Victoria	4,030	451,195	848	56	552	88	20	n.a.	456,789
Queensland	2,503	419	349,698	38	78	41	20	n.a.	352,797
Western Australia	141	124	114	126,212	51	14	5	n.a.	126,661
South Australia	155	277	160	22	140,361	12	5	n.a.	140,992
Tasmania	146	481	108	9	23	54,433	3	n.a.	55,203
Australian Capital Territory	1,384	136	87	14	17	7	11,404	n.a.	13,049
Northern Territory	131	156	291	44	582	5	12	n.a.	1,221
Other Territories ^(a)	145	1,118	0	167	0	0	1	n.a.	1,431
Not elsewhere classified ^(b)	631	1,118	1,237	0	122	90	1	n.a.	3,199
Not reported	0	0	0	0	0	0	3,879	n.a.	3,879
Total	522,868	458,554	362,299	126,616	142,644	54,749	17,218	n.a.	1,684,948

(a) Includes Cocos (Keeling) Islands, Christmas Island, Jervis Bay Territory.

(b) Includes resident overseas, at sea, no fixed address, n.a. not available.

Table 5.9: Separations by State or Territory of usual residence as a proportion of separations for the State or Territory and by hospital sector, States and Territories, 1996–97

State or Territory of usual residence	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Total
	Public hospitals								
New South Wales	98.3	1.3	1.4	0.1	0.5	0.2	22.3	0.4	34.3
Victoria	0.5	98.2	0.3	0.1	0.7	0.3	0.3	0.3	24.5
Queensland	0.5	0.1	97.7	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.4	17.6
Western Australia	0.0	0.0	0.0	99.4	0.1	0.0	0.1	1.5	9.5
South Australia	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	98.1	0.1	0.0	3.4	9.0
Tasmania	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	99.3	0.0	0.1	2.1
Australian Capital Territory	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	76.9	0.0	1.3
Northern Territory	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	93.4	1.3
Other Territories ^(a)	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	..	..	..	0.1
Not elsewhere classified ^(b)	0.1	0.1	0.5	..	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.5	0.2
Not reported	0.0	..	..	..	..	..	0.0	..	0.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
	Private hospitals								
New South Wales	98.2	0.8	2.7	0.0	0.6	0.1	10.8	n.a.	31.4
Victoria	0.8	98.4	0.2	0.0	0.4	0.2	0.1	n.a.	27.1
Queensland	0.5	0.1	96.5	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	n.a.	20.9
Western Australia	0.0	0.0	0.0	99.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	n.a.	7.5
South Australia	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	98.4	0.0	0.0	n.a.	8.4
Tasmania	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	99.4	0.0	n.a.	3.3
Australian Capital Territory	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	66.2	n.a.	0.8
Northern Territory	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.1	n.a.	0.1
Other Territories ^(a)	0.0	0.2	..	0.1	..	..	0.0	n.a.	0.1
Not elsewhere classified ^(b)	0.1	0.2	0.3	..	0.1	0.2	0.0	n.a.	0.2
Not reported	..	..	..	..	..	..	22.5	n.a.	0.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	n.a.	100.0

(a) Includes Cocos (Keeling) Islands, Christmas Island, Jervis Bay Territory.

(b) Includes resident overseas, at sea, no fixed address.

n.a. not available.

.. not applicable.

Table 5.10: Average cost weight of separations by State or Territory of usual residence and by hospital sector, States and Territories, 1996-97

State or Territory of usual residence	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Total
	Public hospitals								
New South Wales	1.04	1.12	1.37	1.11	1.54	0.95	1.18	1.04	1.04
Victoria	1.04	1.03	1.07	1.12	1.25	1.06	1.25	1.28	1.03
Queensland	1.10	1.32	0.98	0.86	0.92	1.03	1.50	0.92	0.98
Western Australia	1.20	2.75	1.49	0.97	1.02	0.95	1.01	1.05	0.97
South Australia	1.50	1.52	1.02	1.59	1.02	1.10	2.30	0.68	1.02
Tasmania	1.30	2.21	0.98	1.44	1.45	1.03	1.69	0.88	1.05
Australian Capital Territory	1.72	1.17	0.96	1.61	1.03	0.56	0.91	0.91	0.95
Northern Territory	1.34	2.72	1.41	1.35	2.22	0.78	0.77	0.79	0.85
Other Territories ^(a)	1.48	15.04	1.40	1.37	..	..	..	..	2.26
Not elsewhere classified ^(b)	1.05	2.34	1.42	..	1.37	1.62	2.05	0.96	1.47
Not reported	1.18	..	..	..	..	..	5.31	..	3.72
Total	1.04	1.04	0.99	0.97	1.03	1.03	0.97	0.80	1.02
Private hospitals									
New South Wales	0.91	1.16	1.20	1.01	1.09	0.91	1.20	n.a.	0.92
Victoria	0.83	0.96	1.02	0.96	1.10	1.16	0.96	n.a.	0.96
Queensland	0.73	1.13	0.95	1.15	0.97	1.14	1.26	n.a.	0.95
Western Australia	1.10	1.09	1.18	0.92	1.52	0.74	1.00	n.a.	0.92
South Australia	1.00	1.22	1.11	0.78	0.99	0.64	0.78	n.a.	0.99
Tasmania	1.12	1.48	1.23	1.24	1.05	0.97	1.07	n.a.	0.97
Australian Capital Territory	1.51	0.99	1.13	1.20	0.75	1.79	0.96	n.a.	1.02
Northern Territory	1.05	0.92	1.05	0.81	1.12	1.04	0.64	n.a.	1.05
Other Territories ^(a)	1.49	1.05	..	0.91	..	..	0.40	n.a.	1.08
Not elsewhere classified ^(b)	1.76	0.94	1.06	..	0.81	0.91	0.90	n.a.	1.14
Not reported	..	..	..	..	..	..	1.02	n.a.	1.02
Total	0.91	0.96	0.96	0.92	0.99	0.97	1.00	n.a.	0.94

(a) Includes Cocos (Keeling) Islands, Christmas Island, Jervis Bay Territory.

(b) Includes resident overseas, at sea, no fixed address.

n.a. not available.

.. not applicable.

Table 5.11: Separations by type of episode of care and hospital sector, States and Territories, 1996–97

Type of episode of care	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT ^(a)	Total
Public hospitals									
Acute care	1,190,225	872,811	627,687	337,861	324,667	n.a.	n.a.	47,454	3,400,705
Rehabilitation care	26,635	18,180	14,640	4,566	2,695	n.a.	n.a.	245	66,961
Palliative care	9,082	2,565	1,453	241	889	n.a.	n.a.	43	14,273
Non-acute care	7,585	6,341	3,876	1,667	939	n.a.	n.a.	536	20,944
Unqualified neonates	58,825	38,202	32,458	14,637	13,074	3,513	2,204	1,468	164,381
Other care	0	0	860	211	0	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	1,071
Not reported	2,548	0	0	2,515	0	76,752	56,198	0	138,013
Total	1,294,900	938,099	680,974	361,698	342,264	80,265	58,402	49,746	3,806,348
Private hospitals									
Acute care	507,915	451,818	353,939	125,436	141,386	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	1,580,494
Rehabilitation care	9,280	6,563	5,515	19	758	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	22,135
Palliative care	387	21	665	1,079	361	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	2,513
Non-acute care	1,898	152	710	26	139	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	2,925
Unqualified neonates	13,165	68	8,747	5,868	241	1,028	n.a.	n.a.	29,117
Other care	0	0	1,470	56	0	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	1,526
Not reported	3,388	0	0	0	0	54,749	17,218	n.a.	75,355
Total	536,033	458,622	371,046	132,484	142,885	55,777	17,218	n.a.	1,714,065
All hospitals									
Acute care	1,698,140	1,324,629	981,626	463,297	466,053	n.a.	n.a.	47,454	4,981,199
Rehabilitation care	35,915	24,743	20,155	4,585	3,453	n.a.	n.a.	245	89,096
Palliative care	9,469	2,586	2,118	1,320	1,250	n.a.	n.a.	43	16,786
Non-acute care	9,483	6,493	4,586	1,693	1,078	n.a.	n.a.	536	23,869
Unqualified neonates	71,990	38,270	41,205	20,505	13,315	4,541	2,204	1,468	193,498
Other care	0	0	2,330	267	0	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	2,597
Not reported	5,936	0	0	2,515	0	131,501	73,416	0	213,368
Total separations	1,830,933	1,396,721	1,052,020	494,182	485,149	136,042	75,620	49,746	5,520,413

(a) For the Northern Territory Acute care includes Other care, and psychiatric care has been included in Non-acute care.
n.a. not available.

Table 5.12: Average length of stay (days) by type of episode of care and hospital sector, States and Territories, 1996–97

Type of episode of care	NSW							Vic	Qld	WA	Public hospitals			ACT	NT ^(a)	Total
	NSW	NSW	NSW	NSW	NSW	NSW	NSW				SA	Tas	SA				Tas	ACT
Acute care	4.1	3.6	3.7	3.6	3.6	3.7	3.6	3.7	3.6	3.7	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	3.4	3.8	
Rehabilitation care	14.8	17.8	6.6	14.8	14.8	6.6	14.8	29.0	14.8	29.0	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	27.4	14.4	
Palliative care	12.4	18.7	11.8	15.2	10.8	11.8	15.2	10.8	15.2	10.8	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	15.9	13.4	
Non-acute care	57.9	31.9	149.3	19.3	190.9	149.3	19.3	190.9	19.3	190.9	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	22.4	68.9	
Unqualified neonates	3.2	3.6	3.0	3.5	3.2	3.0	3.5	3.2	3.5	3.2	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.2	3.3	
Other care	..	..	120.1	5.5	..	..	5.5	..	..	..	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	..	97.5
Not reported	23.0	..	..	49.3	..	..	49.3	..	..	..	6.1	4.0	4.0	..	6.3
Total	4.7	4.1	4.7	4.1	4.4	4.7	4.1	4.4	4.1	4.4	6.0	4.0	4.0	3.8	4.5	
Private hospitals																
Acute care	2.9	3.3	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.6	3.4	3.6	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	3.2	
Rehabilitation care	10.3	24.8	7.5	19.4	18.8	7.5	19.4	18.8	19.4	18.8	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	14.2	
Palliative care	11.0	24.0	20.0	13.3	14.3	20.0	13.3	14.3	13.3	14.3	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	14.9	
Non-acute care	2.9	136.6	80.5	12.8	71.9	80.5	12.8	71.9	12.8	71.9	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	32.0	
Unqualified neonates	5.3	4.3	5.4	5.2	5.0	5.4	5.2	5.0	5.2	5.0	5.1	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	5.3	
Other care	..	..	1.6	5.2	..	1.6	5.2	..	..	..	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	1.7
Not reported	6.7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3.6	3.6	3.6	n.a.	3.8
Total	3.1	3.6	3.7	3.5	3.7	3.7	3.5	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.6	3.6	n.a.	3.5	
All hospitals																
Acute care	3.8	3.5	3.6	3.5	3.7	3.6	3.5	3.7	3.5	3.7	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	3.4	3.6	
Rehabilitation care	13.6	19.7	6.9	14.8	26.7	6.9	14.8	26.7	14.8	26.7	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	27.4	14.4	
Palliative care	12.3	18.8	14.4	13.7	11.8	14.4	13.7	11.8	13.7	11.8	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	15.9	13.7	
Non-acute care	46.9	34.4	138.6	19.2	175.5	138.6	19.2	175.5	19.2	175.5	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	22.4	64.4	
Unqualified neonates	3.6	3.6	3.5	4.0	3.2	3.5	4.0	3.2	4.0	3.2	3.6	3.1	3.1	3.2	3.6	
Other care	..	..	45.3	5.5	..	45.3	5.5	..	..	..	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	41.2
Not reported	13.7	..	..	49.3	..	..	49.3	..	..	..	5.1	3.9	3.9	..	5.4
Total	4.2	4.0	4.4	4.0	4.2	4.4	4.0	4.2	4.0	4.2	5.0	3.9	3.9	3.8	4.2	

(a) For the Northern Territory Acute care includes Other care, and psychiatric care has been included in Non-acute care.

n.a. not available.

.. not applicable.

Table 5.13: Separations by mode of separation and hospital sector, States and Territories, 1996–97

Mode of separation	Public hospitals							Total	
	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT		NT
Discharge/transfer to an(other) acute hospital	61,721	39,343	25,650	12,160	14,328	2,158	1,564	1,289	158,213
Discharge/transfer to a nursing home	13,920	7,780	5,215	2,254	6,119	741	575	140	36,744
Discharge/transfer to an(other) psychiatric hospital	1,782	0	606	963	828	0	7	5	4,191
Discharge/transfer to other health care accommodation ^(a)	2,636	200	1,803	700	1,122	1,045	98	1,831	9,435
Statistical discharge-type change	11,214	6,480	8,152	366	3,322	667	23	28	30,252
Left against medical advice/discharge at own risk	10,037	3,244	4,744	2,804	1,996	416	119	1,142	24,502
Statistical discharge from leave	4,501	0	509	1,193	238	0	178	1	6,620
Died	21,233	13,328	8,652	3,561	4,688	1,396	554	347	53,759
Other ^(b)	1,109,031	827,453	593,185	323,060	296,549	70,329	53,080	43,492	3,316,179
Not reported	0	2,069	0	0	0	0	0	3	2,072
Total	1,236,075	899,897	648,516	347,061	329,190	76,752	56,198	48,278	3,641,967
	Private hospitals								
Discharge/transfer to an(other) acute hospital	6,581	10,109	5,080	1,415	4,458	375	290	n.a.	28,308
Discharge/transfer to a nursing home	1,317	1,734	1,486	255	2,064	29	68	n.a.	6,953
Discharge/transfer to an(other) psychiatric hospital	111	0	11	32	35	0	0	n.a.	189
Discharge/transfer to other health care accommodation ^(a)	329	4	731	101	113	11	17	n.a.	1,306
Statistical discharge-type change	534	441	954	24	82	47	0	n.a.	2,082
Left against medical advice/discharge at own risk	896	235	208	107	86	179	4	n.a.	1,715
Statistical discharge from leave	135	0	3	62	999	0	0	n.a.	1,199
Died	2,225	3,684	3,388	1,230	1,300	383	74	n.a.	12,284
Other ^(b)	510,740	442,343	350,438	123,390	133,507	53,725	16,765	n.a.	1,630,908
Not reported	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	n.a.	4
Total	522,868	458,554	362,299	126,616	142,644	54,749	17,218	n.a.	1,684,948

(a) Includes mothercraft hospitals and hostels recognised by the Commonwealth Department of Health and Family Services, unless this is the usual place of residence.

(b) Includes discharge to usual residence/own accommodation/welfare institution (including prisons, hostels and group homes providing primarily welfare services).

n.a. not available.