

## Regional rates for bypass graft surgery

The national average rate for coronary artery bypass graft surgery is 837 per million population. This rate varies across States, from 707 per million population in Tasmania to 1,010 per million population in South Australia (Table 11). It is important to note that two units in New South Wales and one unit in Queensland could not supply information for 1994. This would account for the fall in CABG rate from the previous year in those States.

CABG rate trends over the last decade are illustrated in Figure 7. Between 1985 and 1994 there has been at least a 70% increase in the rate of bypass graft surgery in Australia. This marked rise is only partly explained by changes in the size and age structure of the population over that period.

**Table 11: Regional<sup>a</sup> rates for coronary artery bypass graft operations (including operations with concomitant procedures), 1985–94**

	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994
	<b>(No. operations per million population)</b>									
NSW and ACT	582	583	665	659	733	793	834	766	851	832 <sup>b</sup>
Vic	424	418	499	505	562	602	699	730	802	930
Qld	358	440	457	481	482	507	548	565	732	691 <sup>b</sup>
SA and NT	629	624	668	689	700	716	872	1,013	1,036	1,010
WA	446	402	469	521	569	599	723	737	852	759
Tas	—	—	—	—	—	—	308	601	627	707
<b>Australia</b>	<b>495</b>	<b>502</b>	<b>568</b>	<b>578</b>	<b>625</b>	<b>666</b>	<b>730</b>	<b>738</b>	<b>829</b>	<b>837</b>

<sup>a</sup> Regional category refers to the location of the hospital where the procedure was performed.

<sup>b</sup> Two units in New South Wales and one unit in Queensland could not supply information for 1994. This would account for the fall in CABG rate from the previous year in those States.

**Notes:**

1. Concomitant procedures have been included in calculations for regional rates. Therefore, figures are different from those of some previous reports, in which concomitant procedures were not included in this table.
2. The rate is defined as the number of operations per million population for the year in question. Population data are provided by the Australian Bureau of Statistics, June quarter, Catalogue No. 3101.0.
3. Rates have been calculated to include the Australian Capital Territory population with New South Wales and the Northern Territory population with South Australia since those are the States where the vast majority of Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory residents are treated.
4. Rates for all years up to 1991 have been calculated to include half the Tasmanian population with Victoria and half with South Australia. This approximates the distribution of patients from Tasmania. The precise distribution is not known, so rates for Victoria and South Australia may not be exact over that period. However, they should reflect the general trend in CABGs in these States. In 1991 an open heart surgery unit began operating in Tasmania.

