

Mental health services in Australia 2003–04

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Foreword

Mental Health Services in Australia 2003–04 is a detailed annual report on Australia's mental health services and is the seventh of its kind in the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare's Mental Health Series.

As previously, the report includes data from the Institute's National Hospital Morbidity Database, National Community Mental Health Care Database, National Community Mental Health Establishments Database and National Public Hospital Establishments Database. These databases are compiled each year with the assistance of the state and territory health authorities.

A wide range of other data is also included, to provide a picture of the range of mental health-related services provided in the health and community services sectors. Information is presented on private psychiatrist services, on mental health-related care provided by general practitioners and on mental health-related disability support services funded by the Commonwealth, State/Territory Disability Agreement. Included for the first time is information on mental health-related supported accommodation services from the AIHW's Supported Accommodation Assistance Program National Data Collection.

Timeliness is an important quality for statistical reports so the Institute is continuing to work to make gains in the timeliness of *Mental Health Services in Australia*. This year publishing has taken place in December rather than in the first quarter of the following year. This represents a welcome improvement in timeliness, for which the contributions of data providers and reviewers are much appreciated.

An electronic version of this report can be found on the Institute's website. It is accompanied by a suite of statistical information that is not included in the hard-copy form of this publication, including an interactive cube of data from the National Hospital Morbidity Database on patients who received specialised psychiatric care in Australia's hospitals.

The Institute will continue to work with the data providers and other stakeholders to maintain timeliness and to improve the quality and usefulness of this report. Comments from readers are always welcome.

I congratulate all those who have collaborated and worked so hard to present such a comprehensive picture of Australia's mental health services.

Richard Madden
Director
December 2005

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Abbreviations

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ADHD	attention deficit hyperactivity disorder
AHMAC	Australian Health Ministers' Advisory Council
AIHW	Australian Institute of Health and Welfare
ALOS	average length of stay
AR-DRG	Australian Refined Diagnosis Related Group
ASA	American Society of Anesthesiologists
ATC	Anatomical Therapeutic Chemical classification
BEACH	Bettering the Evaluation and Care of Health
CBT	cognitive behaviour therapy
CSTDA	Commonwealth State/Territory Disability Agreement
CSTDA NMDS	Commonwealth State/Territory Disability Agreement National Minimum Data Set
DHA	Department of Health and Ageing
ECT	electroconvulsive therapy
FTE	full-time equivalent
HIC	Health Insurance Commission
ICD-10-AM	International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems, 10th Revision, Australian Modification
ICPC-2	International Classification of Primary Care, 2nd edition
K10	Kessler 10 Scale of Psychological Distress
LCL	lower confidence limit
NCMHED	National Community Mental Health Establishments Database
NCMHCD	National Community Mental Health Care Database
NHDD	<i>National Health Data Dictionary</i>
NHMD	National Hospital Morbidity Database
NMDS	National Minimum Data Set
NMHWG	National Mental Health Working Group
NPHEd	National Public Hospital Establishments Database
NSMHS	National Survey of Mental Health Services
NSMHW	National Survey of Mental Health and Wellbeing
PBS	Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme
PHEC	Private Health Establishments Collection
RANZCP	Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists
RFE	reason for encounter

RPBS	Repatriation Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme
SAAP	Supported Accommodation Assistance Program
SDAG	Survey of disability, Ageing and Carers
UCL	upper confidence limit