

NHCDC

21



The National Hospital Cost Data Collection (NHCDC) is an annual collection of hospital cost data at the line-item level. NHCDC data are provided to the Independent Hospital Pricing Authority (IHPA) from each jurisdiction's Department of Health.

The Round 21 NHCDC collected public hospital cost information for the 2016–17 financial year. [The NHCDC Cost Report](#) contains detailed summary tables of all reported figures.

What is the cost of Australia's emergency care patients?

Emergency care relates to all services provided to patients in a hospital's emergency department.

Emergency departments are dedicated hospital-based facilities specifically designed and staffed to provide 24 hour emergency care.

IHPA uses the Urgency Related Group (URG) classification system to classify emergency department care provided by Australian hospitals.



The national expenditure on emergency department patient activity was

\$5.10
billion

11.7%

This represents 11.7% of total hospital expenditure reported in Round 21 of the NHCDC.



Round 19
\$4.16 billion

Round 20
\$4.71 billion

Number of hospitals that submitted emergency department care cost data



Round 19

Round 20

Round 21

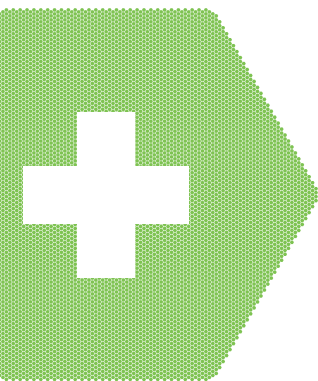
7,662,322

The data contains detailed cost information for 7,662,322 emergency department presentations.

Of these, 2,333,353 (30%) were subsequently admitted to hospital as either admitted acute care or admitted sub-acute patients.

Taken together, emergency department presentations accounted for 25.4% of all hospital patient activity reported in Round 21 of the NHCDC.

25.4
PERCENT



The Round 21 average cost per emergency department presentation was

\$666

Round 20 **\$652** | Round 19 **\$605**



In Round 21, the average cost per admitted ED presentation was \$969. The average cost per non-admitted ED presentation was \$533.

Results across Australia

NSW	R19	R20	R21
Total expenditure (\$)	1,295.6m	1,544.4m	1,639.3m
Avg cost of all ED presentations (\$)	576	648	660
Avg cost admitted ED presentations (\$)	1,116	965	924
Avg cost non-admitted ED presentations (\$)	377	533	561
Percent of ED presentations admitted to hospital	27	27	27

VIC	R19	R20	R21
Total expenditure (\$)	846.9m	884.7m	1,013.4m
Avg cost of all ED presentations (\$)	544	578	605
Avg cost admitted ED presentations (\$)	857	908	908
Avg cost non-admitted ED presentations (\$)	392	408	432
Percent of ED presentations admitted to hospital	33	34	36

QLD	R19	R20	R21
Total expenditure (\$)	960.9m	1,098.9m	1,201.0m
Avg cost of all ED presentations (\$)	660	663	652
Avg cost admitted ED presentations (\$)	955	942	940
Avg cost non-admitted ED presentations (\$)	531	539	524
Percent of ED presentations admitted to hospital	30	31	31

SA	R19	R20	R21
Total expenditure (\$)	275.1m	301.8m	321.1m
Avg cost of all ED presentations (\$)	615	655	660
Avg cost admitted ED presentations (\$)	867	908	898
Avg cost non-admitted ED presentations (\$)	500	529	543
Percent of ED presentations admitted to hospital	31	33	33

WA	R19	R20	R21
Total expenditure (\$)	485.3m	565.5m	603.4m
Avg cost of all ED presentations (\$)	656	765	838
Avg cost admitted ED presentations (\$)	877	1,239	1,417
Avg cost non-admitted ED presentations (\$)	577	620	654
Percent of ED presentations admitted to hospital	26	23	24

TAS	R19	R20	R21
Total expenditure (\$)	92.3m	97.0m	114.8m
Avg cost of all ED presentations (\$)	614	640	732
Avg cost admitted ED presentations (\$)	1,259	1,259	1,370
Avg cost non-admitted ED presentations (\$)	398	416	485
Percent of ED presentations admitted to hospital	25	27	28

NT	R19	R20	R21
Total expenditure (\$)	91.0m	94.8m	105.9m
Avg cost of all ED presentations (\$)	640	639	688
Avg cost admitted ED presentations (\$)	943	892	904
Avg cost non-admitted ED presentations (\$)	512	513	573
Percent of ED presentations admitted to hospital	30	33	35

ACT	R19	R20	R21
Total expenditure (\$)	110.9m	113.5m	101.4m
Avg cost of all ED presentations (\$)	854	838	705
Avg cost admitted ED presentations (\$)	1,585	1,460	1,052
Avg cost non-admitted ED presentations (\$)	578	578	541
Percent of ED presentations admitted to hospital	27	30	32

