

Glossary

Adjusted fees (government) nursing homes

Nursing homes either operated by or on behalf of a State or Territory Government and receiving a modified level of recurrent funding from the Commonwealth Department of Health and Family Services.

Admission day

The first day of a person's stay in a nursing home. In the case of a person transferring between homes, where the time between leaving one home and entering another is less than two days, it is the date of the initial admission. Permanent and respite admissions are treated separately. For example, if a person transfers from a respite stay to a permanent stay, a new permanent admission is created.

Geographic areas

The geographic areas are based on the classification developed by the Department of Primary Industries and Energy, and the Department of Human Services and Health (now the Department of Health and Family Services) in 1994. This classification categorises all statistical local areas (SLAs) in Australia according to their remoteness, with an index of remoteness being calculated for each SLA in non-metropolitan Australia. Remoteness is measured by population density and distances to large population centres. The structure of the classification is as follows:

Metropolitan areas

- Capital city State and Territory capital city statistical divisions
- Other metropolitan centre Urban centres of population 100,000 or more

Non-metropolitan zones

- Rural zone (Index of remoteness less than or equal to 10.5)
 - Large rural centres Urban centre population between 25,000 and 99,999
 - Small rural centres Urban centre population between 10,000 and 24,999
 - Other rural area Urban centre population under 10,000
- Remote zone (Index of remoteness greater than 10.5)
 - Remote centre Urban centre population 5,000 or over
 - Other remote area Urban centre population under 5,000

Government homes

Nursing homes either operated by or on behalf of a State or Territory Government.

Length of stay

The length of stay of a separated resident is based upon the time between the date of admission and the date of separation. For a current resident, it is the time between the date of admission and 30 June 1996. The admission day and the specified day (30 June 1996) are included but the separation day is excluded from the calculation of length of stay.

Nursing home for the aged

All nursing homes approved under the National Health Act other than nursing homes for disabled people. In this publication all references to nursing homes are to nursing homes for the aged. There have been a small number of young people with disabilities living the nursing homes for the aged.

Permanent admission

An admission to a nursing home for long-term care purposes. The term 'permanent' does not mean staying in a nursing home forever. In fact, many 'permanent admissions' leave the nursing homes alive after a short period of stay.

Permanent care

A nursing home resident is under permanent care if this resident entered a nursing home as a *permanent admission*.

Permanent resident

A nursing home resident who was admitted to a nursing home for long-term care purpose.

Private for profit nursing homes

Nursing homes operated by private-for-profit bodies or individuals.

Resident

A person living in a nursing home who is eligible for the payment of Commonwealth benefits or who has an entitlement to third party or workers' compensation insurance.

Resident Classification Instrument (RCI)

The RCI is forwarded to Commonwealth State offices by nursing homes for each resident admitted. On the basis of the information provided, residents are assigned to one of five service-need categories for the purpose of funding. Category 1 represents the highest level of care needs and category 5 the lowest. The RCI categories are used here to measure the level of dependency based on the assumption that the level of dependency positively relates to the level of care needs.

Respite admission

A short-term admission to a nursing home, usually in order to give a carer a 'respite' relief from the provision of care.

Respite care

A nursing home resident is under respite care if this resident entered a nursing home as a respite admission.

Respite resident

A nursing home resident who was admitted to a nursing home for respite care.

Separation

When a person is discharged from a nursing home and has not re-entered the same or another nursing home within two days.

Separation day

The last day of a person's stay in a nursing home; the day on which the person leaves the nursing home. In the case of a person transferring between homes, where the time between leaving one home and entering another is less than two days, this is not viewed as a separation.

Separation mode

The destination of a resident at separation, including death.

Transferred home

A nursing home for the aged which was previously deficit funded by the Commonwealth under the Nursing Homes Assistance Act and which had its approval transferred to the National Health Act from July 1987.

Transfer

Where a person leaves a nursing home on one day and is admitted into another within two days.

Usual housing status

Usual housing tenure prior to application for nursing home admission.

Reference

Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 1997. Population by age and sex, Australian States and Territories June 1992 to June 1997, Cat No. 3201.0. Canberra: ABS.