

13 February 2019

**Hospital Morbidity Survey
Year 2017**

The number of hospital discharges increased by 0.4% in 2017

The hospital morbidity rate stood at 10,449 discharges per 100,000 inhabitants.

The highest number of hospital stays (14.7% of the total) was due to diseases of the circulatory system

In 2017, there were 4,862,352 hospital discharges, 0.4% more than in 2016. This is the fifth consecutive annual increase in the number of discharges.

By sex, hospital discharges increased by 1.0% for men and decreased by 0.2% for women (if pregnancy, childbirth and puerperium complications are excluded discharges increased by 1.1%).

Over half of the discharges corresponded to women (52.3%). Nevertheless, if those produced by pregnancy, childbirth and puerperium are excluded, this percentage is 47.4%.

By age group, the highest number of discharges were recorded in the 65-84 age group (33.3% of the total) followed by the 45-64 age group (23.4%).

Hospital discharges by age group and sex. Year 2017

	Total	Men	Women
TOTAL DISCHARGES	4,862,352	2,319,458	2,542,894
From 0 to 4 years old	235,319	134,155	101,164
From 5 to 24 years old	324,461	152,546	171,915
From 25 to 44 years old	964,966	279,100	685,866
From 45 to 64 years old	1,136,496	630,153	506,342
From 65 to 84 years old	1,620,546	890,910	729,636
85 years and older	580,564	232,593	347,971

The most common reason for patients' discharge was either cure or improvement (91.7% of total discharges). 3.9% corresponded to deaths and the rest to transfers to other centres or other causes.

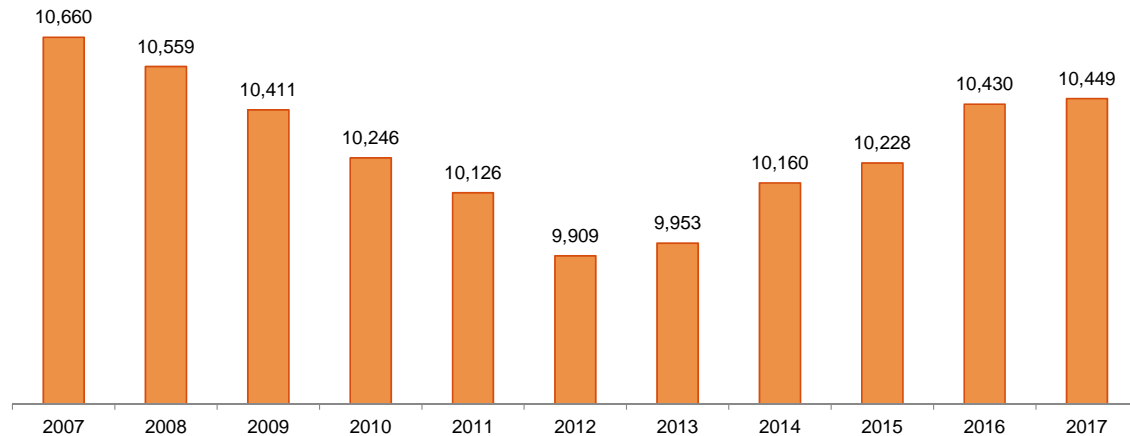
Discharges increased by 0.2% in public hospitals and by 0.7% in private hospitals. 72.5% of discharges corresponded to public hospitals¹.

62.3% of hospital discharges in 2017 were admitted as a matter of urgency².

With regard to the morbidity rate, in 2017 there were 10,449 discharges per 100,000 inhabitants, which represented an increase of 0.2% compared to the previous year.

Hospital discharges 2008-2017 series

Rates per 100,000 inhabitants



The male morbidity rate increased by 0.9% to 10,160 discharges per 100,000 men. For women, it decreased by 0.4% to 10,728 discharges per 100,000 women. However, if discharges due to *episodes of pregnancy, childbirth and puerperium* are excluded, the female rate grew by 0.8% and stood at 8,835 discharges per 100,000 women.

By age, the morbidity rate increased from five years, with the exception of women aged 45 to 64, whose rate decreased compared to the 25 to 44 age group.

Hospital discharges by age group and sex. Year 2017

Rates per 100.000 inhabitants

	Total	Men	Women
TOTAL DISCHARGES	10,449	10,160	10,728
From 0 to 4 years old	11,091	12,280	9,828
From 5 to 24 years old	3,469	3,172	3,783
From 25 to 44 years old	7,414	4,259	10,612
From 45 to 64 years old	8,635	9,646	7,638
From 65 to 84 years old	21,768	26,524	17,858
85 years and older	40,478	48,206	36,560

¹ The public or private nature is determined by the body or legal entity on which the hospital depends (functional dependency), that is, the natural or legal person who exercises dominion or jurisdiction, hierarchical or functional, most immediately over the health establishment. The classification of functional dependency of hospitals with legal forms of management contemplated in Law 15/1997 of 25 April, on the authorisation of new forms of management in the National Health System, and in accordance with regional legislative developments, has been assigned to the corresponding Health Services of each Autonomous Community.

² Patients with urgent admission orders from a doctor are considered, regardless of whether they came from the emergency area or not.

Main diagnoses of hospital discharges

Diseases of the circulatory system (12.6% of the total) were the main diagnosis of patients discharged in 2017. Following this were *Diseases of the digestive system* (12.4%), and *Diseases of the respiratory system* (12.2%).

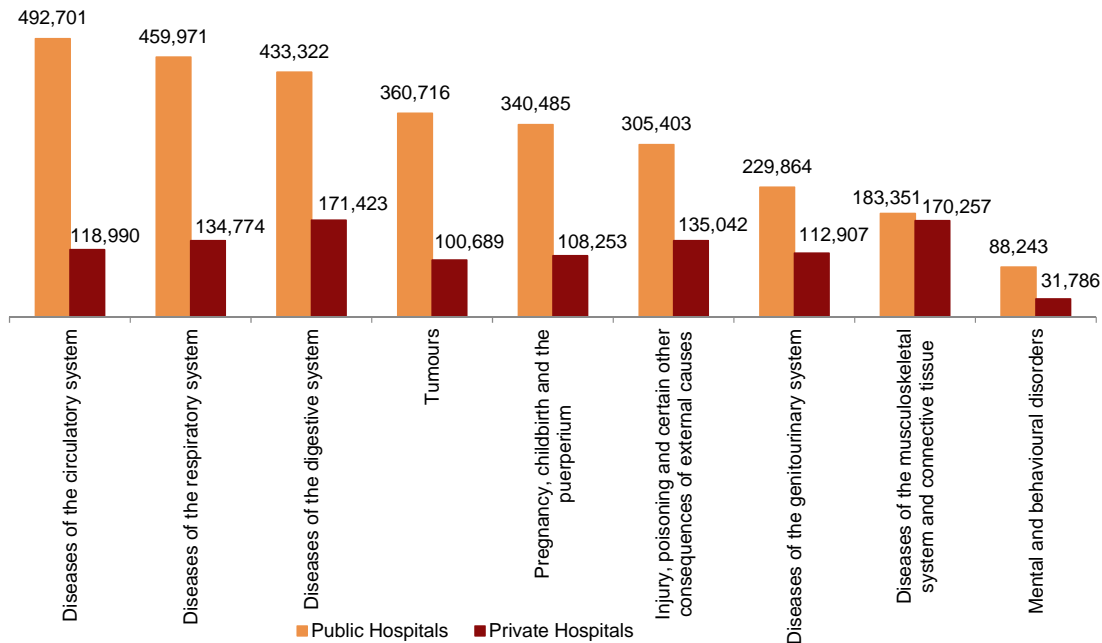
Discharges by disease groups according to the ICD-10 diagnostic classification. Year

	Number of discharges
TOTAL DISCHARGES	4,862,352
Diseases of the circulatory system	611,691
Diseases of the digestive system	604,745
Diseases of the respiratory system	594,745
Tumours	461,404
Pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium	448,738
Injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes	440,445
Diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue	353,608
Diseases of the genitourinary system	342,770
Symptoms, signs and abnormal findings	197,670
Mental and behavioural disorders	120,029
Diseases of the nervous system	117,084
Certain infectious and parasitic diseases	114,947
Factors influencing health status	104,720
Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases	84,933
Conditions originating in the perinatal period	67,214
Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue	53,163
Diseases of the blood and blood-forming organs	42,964
Congenital abnormalities	36,611
Diseases of the eye and adnexa	25,938
Diseases of the ear and mastoid process	22,906
Discharges without diagnosis	16,027

2017

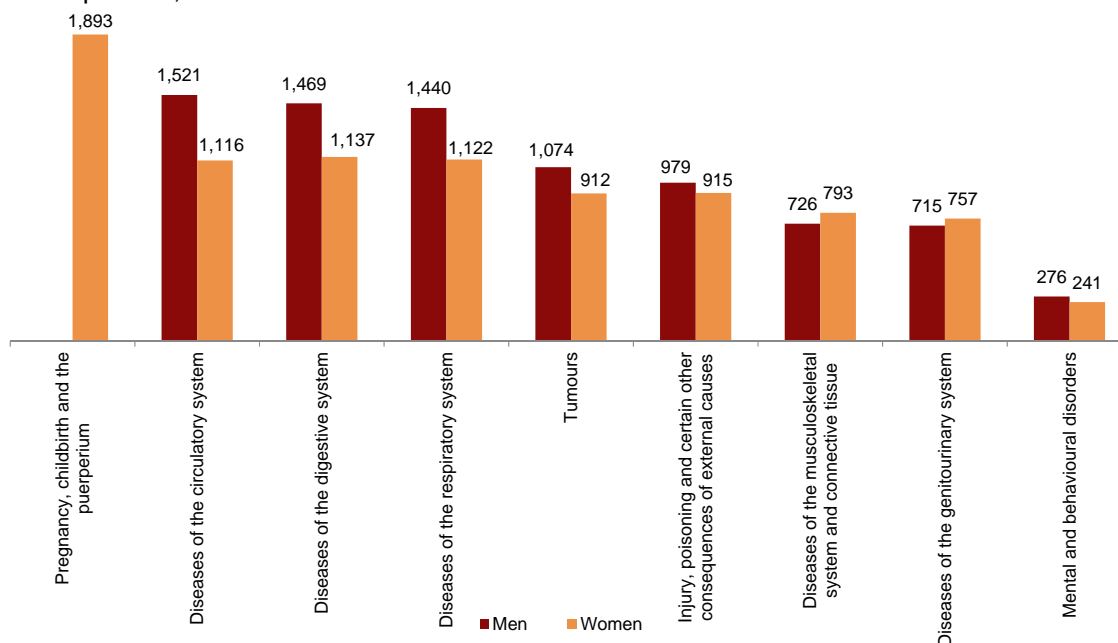
The main causes of hospitalisation in public hospitals were *circulatory diseases* (14.0%) and *respiratory diseases* (13.0%). In turn, in private hospitals the main causes of hospitalisation were *diseases of the digestive system* (12.8%) and those of the *musculoskeletal system and connective tissue* (12.7%).

Discharges by groups of most frequent diseases and type of hospital. Year 2017
Absolute values



By disease groups, the highest morbidity rates for men corresponded to *diseases of the circulatory system* (1,521 per 100,000 men) and those of the *digestive system* (1,469). For women they corresponded to *episodes of pregnancy, childbirth and puerperium* (1,893 per 100,000 women) and in *diseases of the digestive system* (1,137).

Discharges by groups of most frequent diseases and sex. Year 2017
Rates per 100,000 inhabitants



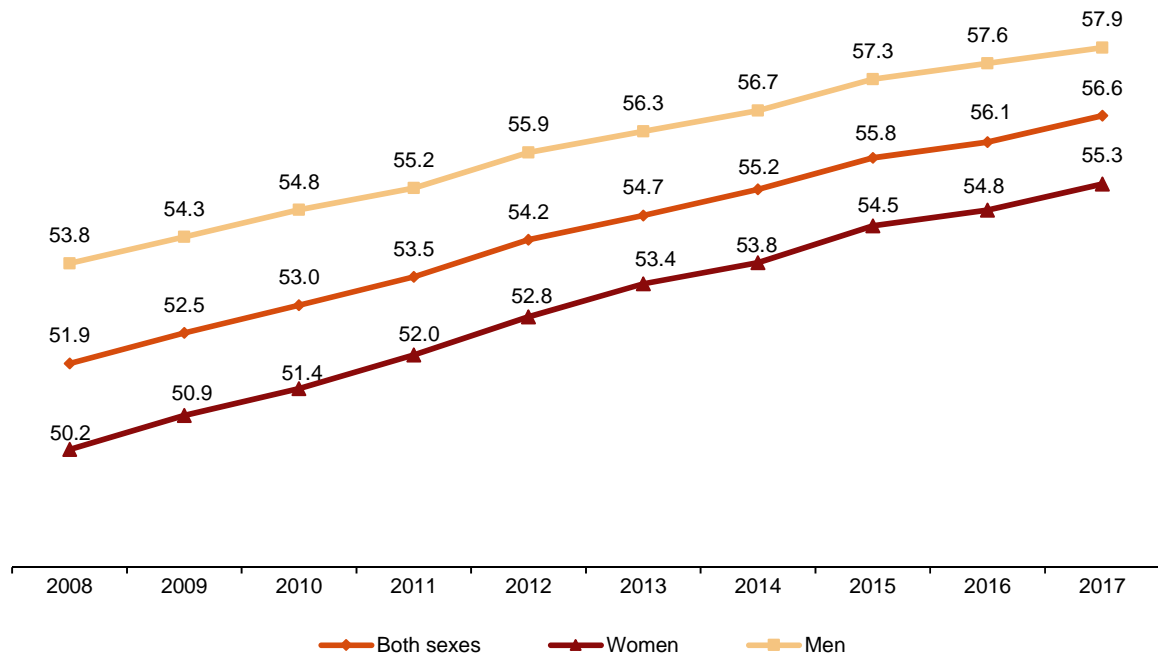
In 2017, a total of 187,586 people died in Spanish hospitals, 3.6% more than in 2016. The main causes of death were *tumours* (22.7% of the total), *diseases of the circulatory system* (20.4%) and those of the *respiratory system* (20.0%).

Average age of patients

In 2017, the average age of people discharged was 56.6 years old, which indicates an increase of 0.9% compared to the previous year.

The average age of men was 57.9 years old and that of women was 55.3 years old. If discharges due to *episodes of pregnancy, childbirth and puerperium* were excluded, the average age of women discharged would be 60.2.

Average age of patients by sex 2008-2017 series



By diagnostic group, *circulatory diseases* had the highest average age, both for men (69.3 years on average) and women (75.3 years). This was followed by *tumours* for men (66.3 years) and *injuries, poisoning and other consequences of external causes* for women (65.5 years).

Hospital stays

Total stays (i.e., the total number of days of hospitalization for patients discharged in 2017) reached 36.3 million, 7.5% more than in 2016.

71.7% of the total corresponded to the public network.

The groups of diseases that caused the most hospital stays were *diseases of the circulatory system* (14.7% of the total), *mental and behavioural disorders* (12.0%) and *diseases of the respiratory system* (11.7%).

The high percentage of hospital stays for *mental and behavioural disorders* compared to the low number of discharges with this diagnosis (2.5%) is due to the increased length of hospital stay in patients with this pathology.

In turn, *episodes of pregnancy, childbirth and puerperium*, were the fifth group of diseases with the most discharges in 2017, and the ninth in total hospital stays.

Total stays by groups of most frequent diseases. Year 2017

Absolute values (in number of days) and percentages

	Total stays	% of total stays
TOTAL DISCHARGES	36,335,121	100.0
Diseases of the circulatory system	5,355,492	14.7
Mental and behavioural disorders	4,356,285	12.0
Diseases of the respiratory system	4,255,993	11.7
Tumours	3,824,444	10.5
Injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes	3,707,255	10.2
Diseases of the digestive system	3,376,823	9.3
Diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue	1,752,185	4.8
Diseases of the genitourinary system	1,724,507	4.7
Pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium	1,378,213	3.8

The average stay per hospital discharge was 7.47 days (7.39 days in public hospitals and 7.70 days in private hospitals).

By most frequent disease groups, the longest average stays corresponded to *mental and behavioural disorders* (36.29 days), *diseases of the circulatory system* (8.76 days) and *traumatic injuries, poisoning and other consequences of external causes* (8.42 days).

Average stays by groups of most frequent diseases and type of hospital. Year 2017

Number of days

	Average stays	Public hospitals	Private hospitals
TOTAL DISCHARGES	7.47	7.39	7.70
Mental and behavioural disorders	36.29	25.16	67.20
Diseases of the circulatory system	8.76	8.42	10.15
Injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes	8.42	8.47	8.30
Tumours	8.29	8.42	7.81
Diseases of the respiratory system	7.16	7.22	6.93
Diseases of the digestive system	5.58	6.25	3.90
Diseases of the genitourinary system	5.03	5.40	4.28
Diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue	4.96	5.82	4.02
Pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium	3.07	3.09	3.00

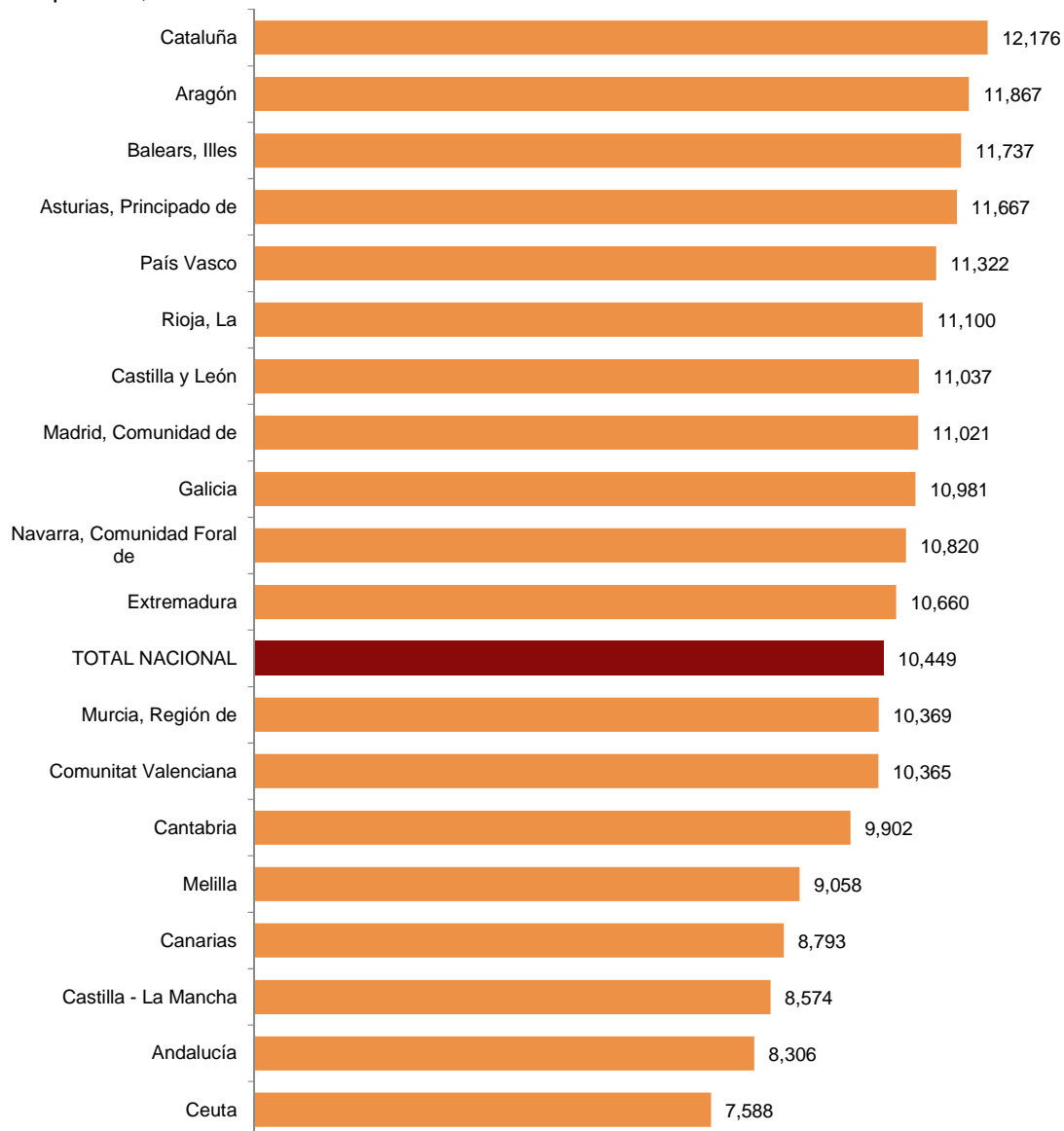
Hospital discharges by Autonomous Communities and Cities

In 2017, the Communities with the highest hospital discharge rates per 100,000 inhabitants were Cataluña (12,176), Aragón (11,867) and Illes Balears (11,737).

In contrast, the Autonomous City of Ceuta (7,588), Andalucía (8,306) and Castilla-La Mancha (8,574) presented the lowest rates.

Hospital discharges by Autonomous Communities and Cities of hospitalisation. Year 2017

Rate per 100,000 inhabitants



By type of hospital, the highest percentages of discharges corresponding to public hospitals were in Castilla - La Mancha (93.1%), Extremadura (92.2%) and Castilla y León (88.7%), and also in the Autonomous Cities of Ceuta and Melilla, where all discharges occurred in public centres.

In contrast, the Communities with the highest percentage of hospital discharges in the private network were Cataluña (50.0%), Illes Balears (36.4%) and Canarias (35.2%).

Discharges by Autonomous Communities and Cities of hospitalisation and type of hospital.

	Total discharges	Public Hospitals (%)	Private Hospitals (%)
NATIONAL TOTAL	4,862,352	72.5	27.5
Cataluña	907,169	50.0	50.0
Comunidad de Madrid	716,887	66.5	33.5
Andalucía	697,960	75.1	24.9
Comunitat Valenciana	510,985	82.0	18.0
Galicia	296,874	79.2	20.8
Castilla y León	267,463	88.7	11.3
País Vasco	245,409	82.8	17.2
Canarias	190,203	64.8	35.2
Castilla - La Mancha	174,308	93.1	6.9
Aragón	156,138	82.5	17.5
Región de Murcia	152,804	80.9	19.1
Illes Balears	135,909	63.6	36.4
Principado de Asturias	120,165	81.9	18.1
Extremadura	114,392	92.2	7.8
Comunidad Foral de Navarra	69,353	76.3	23.7
Cantabria	57,525	86.8	13.2
La Rioja	34,677	88.0	12.0
Melilla	7,682	100.0	-
Ceuta	6,449	100.0	-

Year 2017

Absolute values and percentages, as compared with the total for each Community

Methodological note

The Hospital Morbidity Survey (HMS) provides information on hospital discharges with hospitalisation based on the main diagnosis associated with the discharge. **Hospital discharge is considered to be the procedure by which a patient admitted to a Health Centre or Establishment ceases to occupy a hospital bed, whether due to cure, improvement, death, transfer or voluntary discharge.**

The main objective of the HMS is to know the demographic and health characteristics of patients who have been admitted to a hospital and have stayed at least one night, as well as to have information at the national, Autonomous Community and province level on the frequency and use of hospital resources in the reference year.

The health information focuses on the main diagnosis contained in the hospital discharge report received by the patient and which has led to his or her admission according to the criteria of the clinical service or physician who attended the patient. The characteristics that are collected from the patient are the following: sex, age, date of admission, date of discharge, province of residence, type of income and reason for discharge.

In 2016, a change of classification was carried out in general, specialised, public and private hospitals, and the results of the survey were published according to the International Classification of Diseases (ICD-10 CM) (in previous years, the ICD-9 CM was used).

In 2017, this new classification (ICD-10 CM) applies to hospitals with medium- and long-term stays and those dealing with mental health and drug addiction treatment, which may mean that diagnostic data from this date onwards may not always be comparable with those from previous years.

Type of operation: annual continuous survey.

Population scope: hospital discharges occurring in the national territory.

Geographical scope: the entire national territory.

Reference period of the results: the calendar year.

Reference period of the information: date on which the discharge occurs.

Collection method: transcription of administrative document.

For more information you can access the methodology at:

<https://www.ine.es/daco/daco42/sanitarias/notaemh16.pdf>

And the standardised methodological report at:

<https://www.ine.es/dynt3/metadatos/es/RespuestaDatos.html?oe=30414>

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