

29 April 2021

**Hospital Morbidity Survey
Year 2019**

The number of hospital discharges decreased by 0.5% in 2019

The hospital morbidity rate stood at 10,347 discharges per 100,000 inhabitants.

Circulatory system diseases were the main cause of hospitalization (12.6% of the total)

In 2019, there were 4,873,767 hospital discharges, 0.5% less than in 2018. By sex, discharges decreased 0.2% in the case of men and 0.9% in women. If the *episodes of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium* are excluded, the decrease in the case of women was 0.5%.

More than half of hospital discharges corresponded to women (51.9%). However, if pregnancy, childbirth and puerperium are excluded, this percentage would be 47.4%.

By age group, the highest number of discharges corresponded to the range of 65 to 84 years (33.3% of the total) followed by 45 to 64 years (23.9%).

Hospital discharges by age group and sex. Year 2019

	Total	Men	Women
TOTAL DISCHARGES	4.873.767	2.344.850	2.528.917
From 0 to 4 years old	221.105	125.453	95.653
From 5 to 24 years old	325.664	152.891	172.774
From 25 to 44 years old	919.942	270.561	649.381
From 45 to 64 years old	1.166.652	645.832	520.819
From 65 to 84 years old	1.620.859	898.850	722.009
85 years and older	619.545	251.263	368.282

The most common reason for a patient's discharge was either cure or improvement (91.3% of the total). 3.8% of the discharges were due to deaths and the rest to transfers to other centres or other causes.

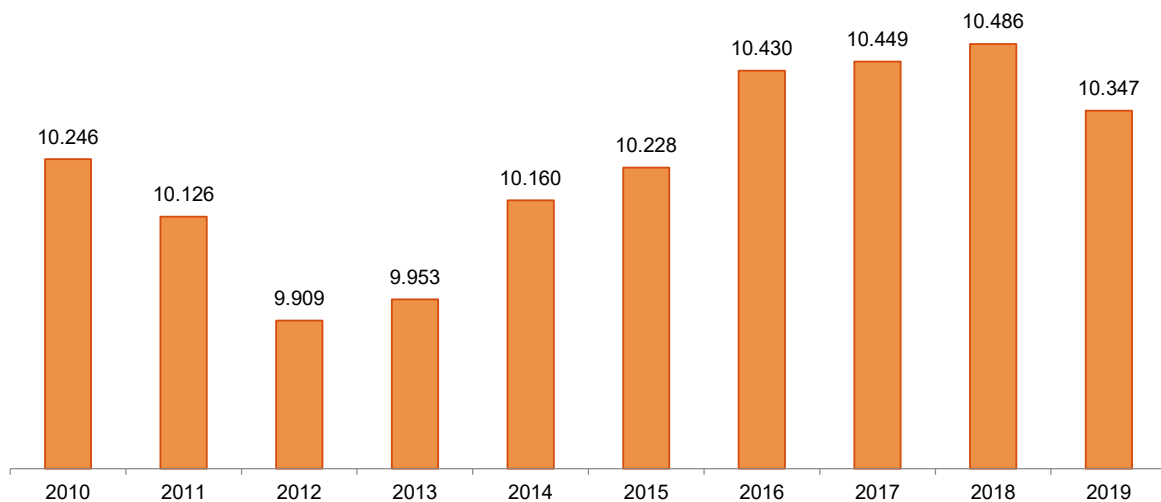
Discharges decreased by 0.6% in public hospitals and by 0.2% in private hospitals. 72.8% of discharges corresponded to public hospitals¹.

62.8% of hospital discharges for the year were admitted as a matter of urgency².

With regard to the morbidity rate, in 2019 there were 10,347 discharges per 100,000 inhabitants, which was an decrease of 1.3% compared to the previous year.

Hospital discharges 2010-2019 Series

Rates per 100,000 inhabitants



The male morbidity rate decreased by 1.0% and stood at 10,154 discharges per 100,000 men. That of women fell by 1.7%, to 10,531 discharges per 100,000 women. However, if discharges due to episodes of pregnancy, childbirth and puerperium are excluded, the female rate fell by 1.3% and stood at 8,808 discharges per 100,000 women.

By age group, the morbidity rate increased after five years of age, both for the total number of people and for men. In women, it increases from that age onwards, with the exception of the 45 to 64 age group.

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.

²Patients with an urgent admission order from a physician are considered, regardless of whether or not they come from the emergency room.

Hospital discharges by age group and sex. Year 2019

Rates per 100,000 inhabitants

	Total	Men	Women
TOTAL DISCHARGES	10.347	10.154	10.531
From 0 to 4 years old	10.864	11.982	9.680
From 5 to 24 years old	3.413	3.111	3.733
From 25 to 44 years old	7.262	4.255	10.292
From 45 to 64 years old	8.527	9.516	7.554
From 65 to 84 years old	21.220	25.973	17.282
85 years and older	40.262	47.940	36.296

Main diagnoses for hospital discharges

Diseases of the circulatory system (12.6% of the total) were the main diagnosis for hospital discharges in 2019 (this was followed by *diseases of the digestive system* (12.4%) and *diseases of the respiratory system* (12.3%)).

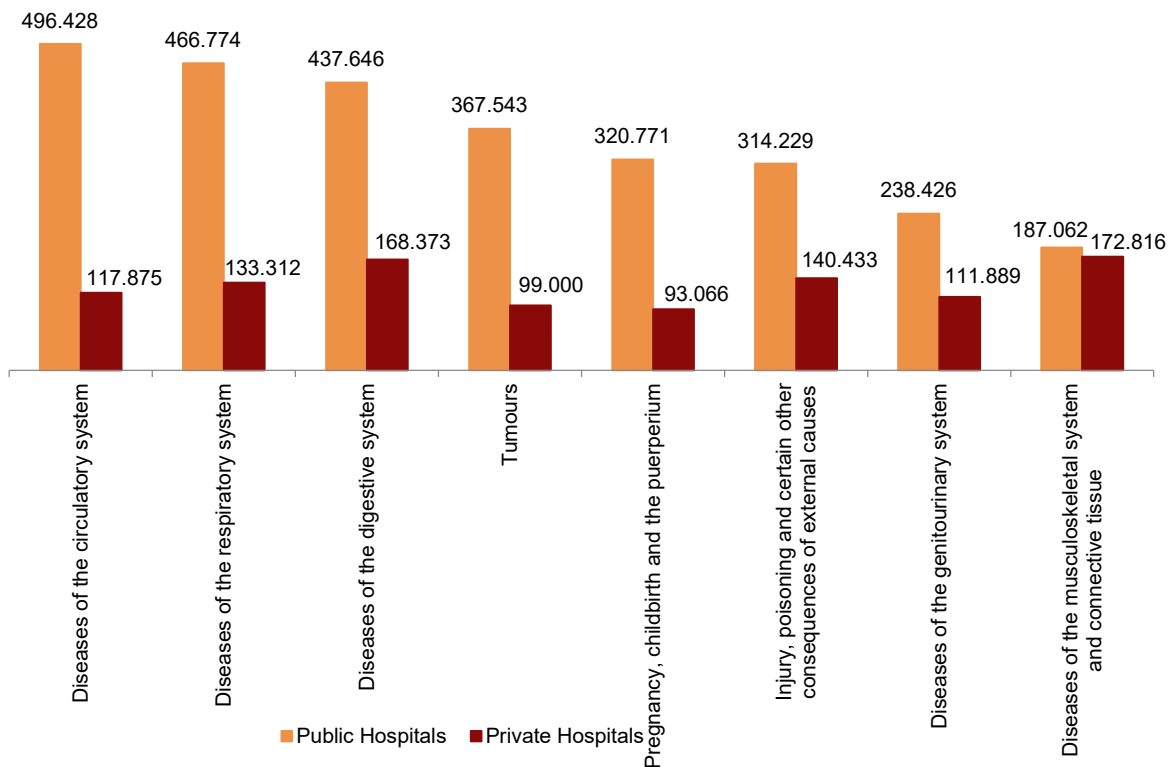
Discharges by disease groups, according to the ICD-10 CM classification. Year 2019

	Number of discharges
TOTAL DIAGNOSTICS	4.873.767
Diseases of the circulatory system	614.302
Diseases of the digestive system	606.019
Diseases of the respiratory system	600.086
Tumours	466.543
Injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes	454.661
Pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium	413.837
Diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue	359.877
Diseases of the genitourinary system	350.315
Symptoms, signs and abnormal findings	195.211
Diseases of the nervous system	121.335
Mental and behavioural disorders	117.955
Certain infectious and parasitic diseases	117.428
Factors influencing health status	117.317
Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases	88.222
Conditions originating in the perinatal period	59.754
Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue	56.557
Diseases of the blood and blood-forming organs	44.295
Congenital abnormalities	35.583
Diseases of the eye and adnexa	23.530
Diseases of the ear and mastoid process	22.605
Discharges without diagnosis	8.332

The main causes of hospitalization in public hospitals were *circulatory* (14.0% of the total), *respiratory* (13.2%) and *digestive* (12.3%) diseases.

Meanwhile, the main reasons for hospitalization in private hospitals were *diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue* (13.0% of the total), those of the *digestive system* (12.7%) and *injuries, poisonings and other consequences from external causes* (10.6%).

Discharges by groups of most frequent diagnoses and type of hospital. Year 2019
Absolute Values

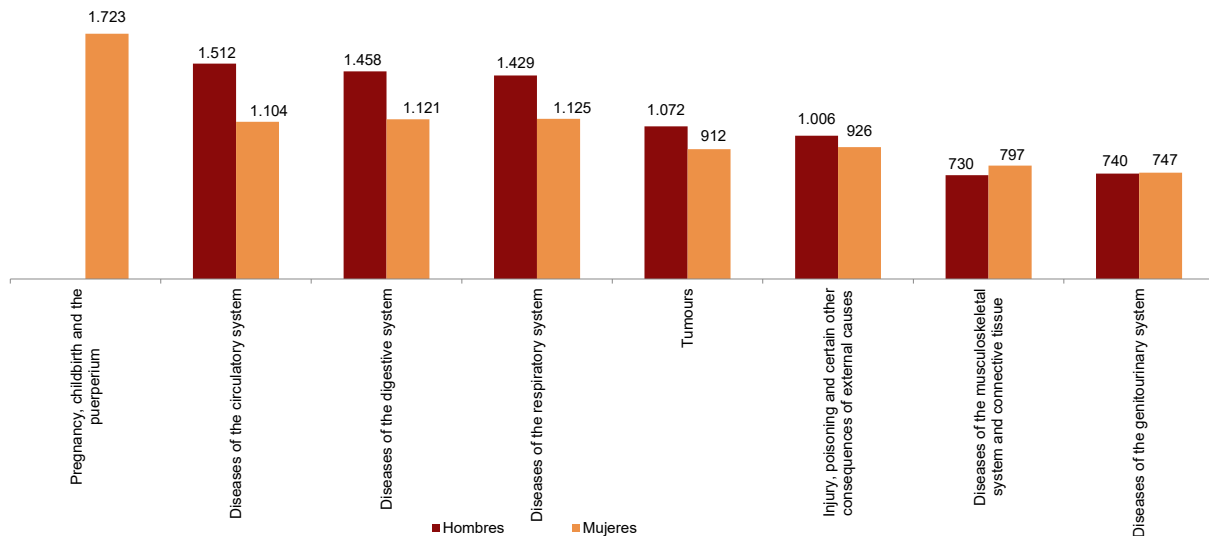


By diagnoses groups, the highest morbidity rates for men were *diseases of the circulatory system* (1,512 per 100,000 men) and those of the *digestive system* (1,458).

In the case of women, the highest rates were for the *episodes of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium* (1,723 per 100,000 women) and *respiratory diseases* (1,125).

Diagnoses by groups of most frequent diagnoses and sex. Year 2019

Rates per 100,000 inhabitants



In 2019, a total of 187,393 people died in Spanish hospitals, 2.1% less than in the previous year. The main causes of death were *tumours* (22.0% of the total), *circulatory system diseases* (20.1%) and *respiratory diseases* (19.2%).

Average age of patients

The average age of people discharged in 2019 was 57.2 years, which was an increase of 0.3% over the previous year.

The average age of men was 58.5 years old and that of women was 55.9 years old. If discharges due to *pregnancy, childbirth and puerperium* were excluded, the average age in women would be 60.5 years.

By diagnosis group, circulatory diseases had the highest average age, both for men (average age of 69.6 years) and women (75.6 years).

Next were, in the case of men, *tumours* (66.6 years) and *diseases of the genitourinary system* (63.0 years). And, in the case of women, *injuries, poisonings and other consequences of external causes* (65.5 years) and *respiratory diseases* (62.7 years).

Hospital stays

Total stays (i.e., the total number of days of hospitalization for patients discharged in 2019) reached 39.6 million, 2.4% less than in 2018.

Of the total, 68.8% corresponded to the public network.

The diagnostic groups that caused the most hospital stays were *mental and behavioural disorders* (15.1% of the total), *circulatory system diseases* (14.1%) and *respiratory diseases* (11.0%).

The high percentage of hospital stays due to *mental and behavioural disorders* compared to the small number of discharges with this diagnosis (2.4%) is due to the longer period of hospitalization in patients with this pathology.

On the other hand, the *episodes of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium* were the sixth group of diagnoses with the most discharges in 2019, and the tenth in total hospital stays.

Total stays by most frequent diagnostic groups. Hospital Discharges 2019

Year 2016 Absolute values (in number of days) and percentages

	Total stays	% of total stays
TOTAL DIAGNOSTICS	39.584.782	100,0
Mental and behavioural disorders	5.965.518	15,1
Diseases of the circulatory system	5.572.561	14,1
Diseases of the respiratory system	4.358.304	11,0
Injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes	3.878.480	9,8
Tumours	3.811.756	9,6
Diseases of the digestive system	3.393.696	8,6
Diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue	1.847.084	4,7
Diseases of the genitourinary system	1.795.764	4,5
Diseases of the nervous system	1.358.100	3,4
Pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium	1.278.217	3,2

The average stay per hospital discharge was 8.1 days (7.7 days in public hospitals and 9.3 days in private hospitals).

For more frequent diagnostic groups, the longer average stays corresponded to *mental and behavioural disorders* (50.6 days), *diseases of the nervous system* (11.2 days) and *circulatory system diseases* (9.1 days).

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

Hospital Discharges 2019

Average number of days

	Average stays	Public hospitals	Private hospitals
TOTAL DIAGNOSTICS	8,1	7,7	9,3
Mental and behavioural disorders	50,6	31,9	104,4
Diseases of the nervous system	11,2	9,2	15,5
Diseases of the circulatory system	9,1	8,5	11,4
Injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes	8,5	8,4	8,9
Tumours	8,2	8,2	7,9
Diseases of the respiratory system	7,3	7,2	7,3
Diseases of the digestive system	5,6	6,2	4,0
Diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue	5,1	5,9	4,3
Diseases of the genitourinary system	5,1	5,4	4,7
Pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium	3,1	3,1	3,0

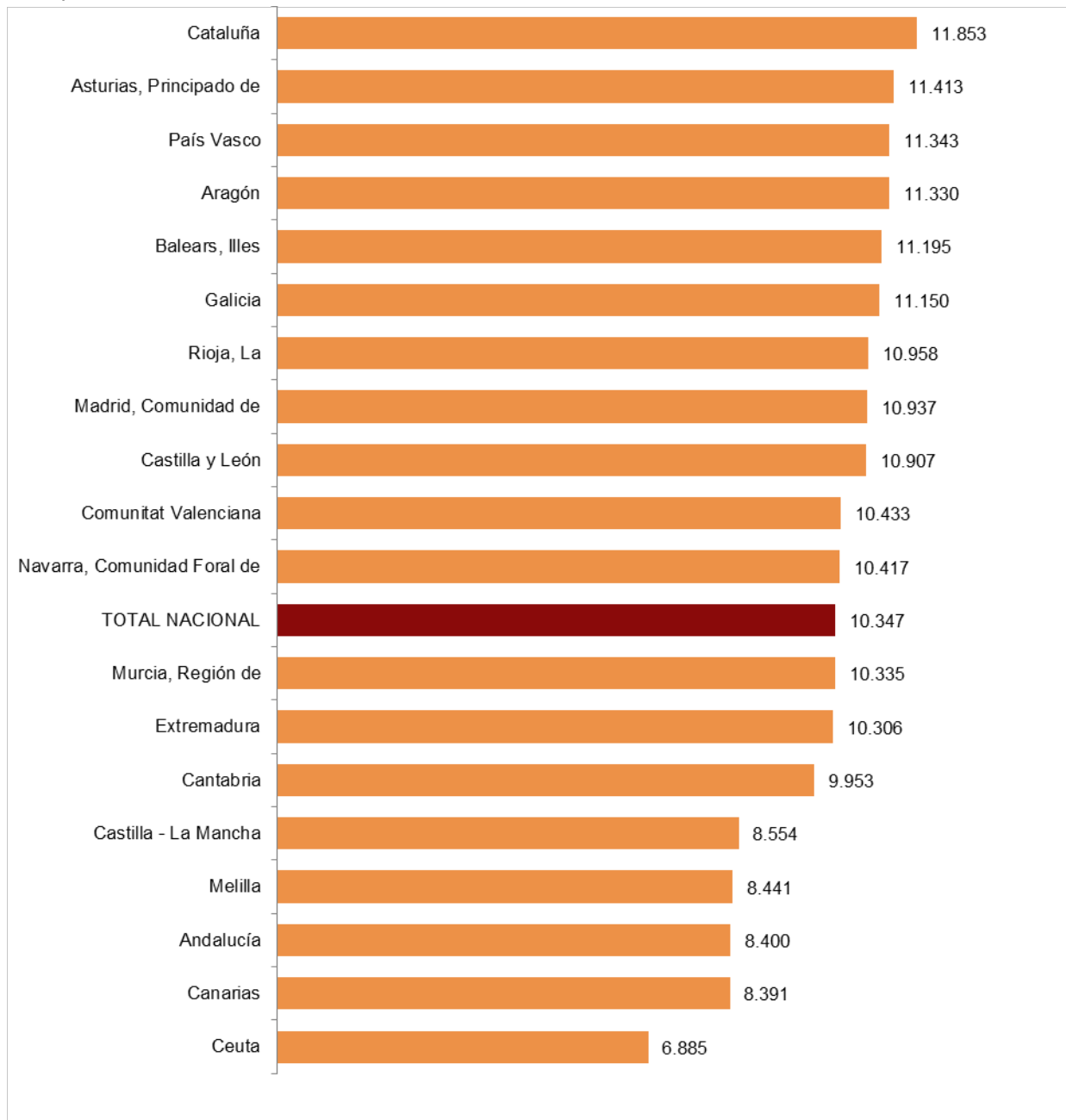
Hospital discharges by Autonomous Communities and Cities

The communities with the highest hospital discharge rates per 100,000 inhabitants in 2018 were Cataluña (11,853), Principado de Asturias (11,413) and País Vasco (11,343).

On the other hand, the autonomous city of Ceuta (6,885), Canarias (8,391) and Andalucía (8,400) presented the lowest rates.

Hospital discharges by autonomous communities and cities of hospitalization. Year 2019

Rate per 100,000 inhabitants



By type of hospital, the highest percentages of discharges corresponding to public hospitals were in Castilla - La Mancha (92.6%), Extremadura (91.3%) and Castilla y León (89.6%), in addition to the autonomous cities of Ceuta and Melilla, where the entirety of discharges were in public centers.

On the contrary, the communities with the highest percentage of hospital discharges in the private network were Cataluña (47.9%), Illes Balears (36.2%) and the Canarias (33.7%).

Discharges by Autonomous Communities and Cities of hospitalization and type of hospital. Year 2019

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

	Total discharges	Public Hospitals (%)	Private Hospitals (%)
NATIONAL TOTAL	4.873.767	72,8	27,2
Cataluña	902.042	52,1	47,9
Comunidad de Madrid	731.325	66,6	33,4
Andalucía	709.675	74,9	25,1
Comunitat Valenciana	521.615	80,3	19,7
Galicia	300.931	79,1	20,9
Castilla y León	262.060	89,6	10,4
País Vasco	247.502	83,5	16,5
Canarias	186.301	66,3	33,7
Castilla - La Mancha	174.390	92,6	7,4
Región de Murcia	154.517	81,3	18,7
Aragón	150.046	82,3	17,7
Illes Balears	134.127	63,8	36,2
Principado de Asturias	116.417	82,1	17,9
Extremadura	109.537	91,3	8,7
Comunidad Foral de Navarra	67.975	75,9	24,1
Cantabria	57.912	87,0	13,0
La Rioja	34.455	88,3	11,7
Melilla	7.124	100,0	0,0
Ceuta	5.816	100,0	0,0

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 classification change was carried out in general and specialized hospitals, public and private, and since that date the results of the survey are published according to the International Classification of Diseases (ICD-10-MC) (in prior years ICD-9-MC was used). In 2018, some of the codes for this classification were updated.

Type of operation: annual survey.

Population scope: hospital discharges occurring in the national territory.

Geographical scope: the entire national territory.

Reference period for the results: the calendar year.

Reference period for the information: date on which hospital discharge occurs.

Collection method: Transcript of administrative document.

For more information the methodology can be accessed at:

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

The standardized methodological report is at:

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

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