

Exploring the health of culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) populations in Queensland: 2016–17 to 2019–20

Fact sheet 3: Overview of potentially preventable hospitalisations: chronic conditions.

Purpose of this factsheet: To provide a summary of key findings of chronic conditions.

This fact sheet is part of the Queensland Health CALD Data Report release. For more information, see the full report on the [Queensland Health website](#).



Background



The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) defines the CALD population mainly by country of birth, language spoken at home, English proficiency, or other characteristics (including year of arrival in Australia), parents' country of birth and religious affiliation.



Potentially preventable hospitalisations (PPH) are hospital admissions that potentially could have been prevented by timely and adequate health care in primary care and community-based care settings.



These include vaccine-preventable, chronic and acute health conditions.

A health condition is considered chronic when it is long lasting with persistent effects and the social and economic consequences can impact on a person's quality of life.

Most chronic conditions may be prevented through behaviour and lifestyle modification but can also be managed effectively through timely care to prevent deterioration and hospitalisation.



Please note: This report was developed to inform evidence-based health service planning and delivery. It should not be interpreted as performance indicators for the communities mentioned. The findings present an opportunity for further discussion and exploration to unpack underlying issues at community and system levels.



About the report

- The report explored PPH due to chronic conditions and compared the rates between overseas born and Australian-born populations in Queensland.
- The report analysed total (all) chronic conditions as well as selected chronic conditions: asthma, angina, Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), congestive heart failure, diabetes complications, hypertension, iron deficiency anaemia, rheumatic heart disease and bronchiectasis.
- Disparities in health outcomes were particularly visible when data were disaggregated by region and country of birth, compared to analysis by broad population categories.

Key findings: Analysis of total (all) chronic conditions at the level of region of birth



When compared to the Australian-born population, Queensland residents from the following regions had significantly higher rates of PPH due to chronic conditions:

- Other Oceania and Antarctica
- North African
- Middle East

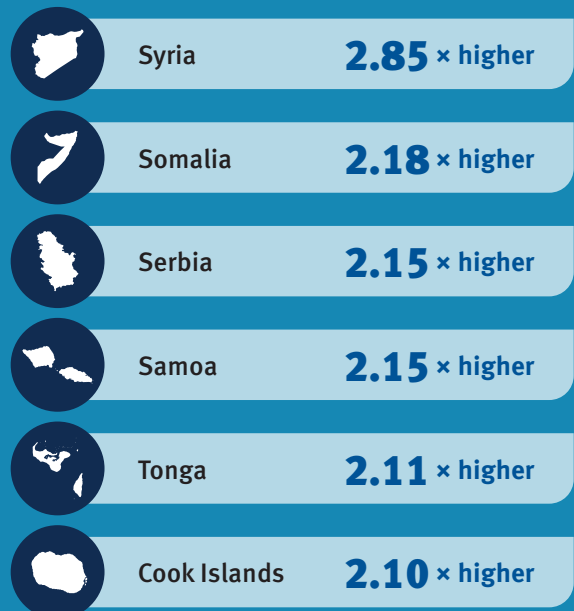
The naming of these regions is aligned with ABS classification.

Key findings: Analysis of total (all) chronic conditions at the level of country of birth



When compared to the Australian-born population, Queensland residents born in a number of countries had significantly higher rates of PPH due to chronic conditions.

Highest rates were seen in people from:





Key findings: Analysis of each chronic condition

Condition <i>(click hyperlink for more info about the condition including definition, symptoms and management)</i>	Definition	Regions of birth with significantly higher rates than Australian-born	Countries of birth with significantly higher rates than Australian-born
<u>Angina</u>	Characterised by chest pain or discomfort	Males from Other Oceania and Antarctica and Middle East	Pakistan, Serbia, Tonga, Cook Islands and Fiji
<u>Asthma</u>	Long-term lung condition caused by narrowing of the airways when they become inflamed	Other Oceania and Antarctica and New Zealand	Cook Islands, Tonga, Samoa, Fiji, Somalia and New Zealand
<u>Bronchiectasis</u>	Lung disease that occurs when the walls of the airways widen because of chronic inflammation and/or infection	Other Oceania and Antarctica Females from North African and Middle East	Colombia, Lebanon, Papua New Guinea and Samoa
<u>Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)</u>	Causes narrowing of the airways in the lung, making it difficult to breathe normally	Females from New Zealand	Serbia, Samoa and Scotland
<u>Congestive heart failure</u>	Condition where the heart begins to function less effectively in pumping blood around the body	Other Oceania and Antarctica, North African, Southern and Eastern Europe	People from a number of countries had significantly higher rates with top five being Syria, Serbia, Cook Islands, Ukraine and Samoa
<u>Diabetes complications</u>	Characterised by high levels of glucose in the blood, and has several complications affecting the whole body	Other Oceania and Antarctica, North African, Middle East, Southern and Central Asia	People from several countries had significantly higher rates with top five being Syria, Samoa, Cook Islands, Iraq and Eritrea
<u>Hypertension</u>	Characterised by high blood pressure	Other Oceania and Antarctica, North African, Middle East, and South-East Asia	Serbia, Poland, Hungary, Samoa, Fiji, Papua New Guinea and the Philippines



Key findings: Analysis for each chronic condition *(continued)*

Condition <i>(click hyperlink for more info about the condition including definition, symptoms and management)</i>	Definition	Regions of birth with significantly higher rates than Australian-born	Countries of birth with significantly higher rates than Australian-born
<u>Iron deficiency anaemia</u>	Nutritional disorder which occurs when iron stores in the body are very low	Other Oceania and Antarctica, North African, Middle East, Southern and Central Asia	People from a number of countries had significantly higher rates with top five being Israel, Serbia, Sudan, Peru and Pakistan
<u>Rheumatic heart disease</u>	Caused by damage to the valves of the heart from one or more episodes of acute rheumatic fever (autoimmune response to infection of the upper respiratory tract and possibly of the skin by bacteria)	Other Oceania and Antarctica, North African, and North American	Egypt and the United States of America

NESB – Non-English Speaking Background MESB – Mainly English Speaking Background CALD – Culturally and Linguistically Diverse

For more information email: multicultural@health.qld.gov.au



**Queensland
Government**