

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

Fact sheet 8: Overview of health outcomes for people from African regions.

Purpose of this factsheet: To provide a summary of key findings highlighted in this report for people from African regions (North African and Sub-Saharan Africa regions).

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](#).



Countries included in this region



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.

The ABS categorises the countries of the world into nine major groups. However, for the purpose of this report, these groups were further classified into three broad categories based on country of birth:

- Australian born
- Born outside Australia and from a country with a mainly English speaking background (MESB)
- Born outside Australia and from a country with a non-English speaking background (NESB).

The assignment of MESB and NESB population groups were based on a person's self-reported country of birth, regardless of whether English was their first or preferred language, or their length of residence in Australia.

The three broad categories mentioned above were further disaggregated into 14 regions and countries. For more info, see Appendix B of the [full report](#) (page 92).



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.

Countries included in African regions (North African and Sub-Saharan Africa regions):



North African region

1. Algeria
2. Egypt
3. Libya
4. Morocco
5. South Sudan
6. Spanish North Africa
7. Sudan
8. Tunisia
9. Western Sahara

Sub-Saharan Africa region

10. Angola
11. Benin
12. Botswana
13. Burkina Faso
14. Burundi
15. Cameroon
16. Cape Verde
17. Central African Republic
18. Chad
19. Comoros

20. Congo
21. Democratic Republic of Congo
22. Republic of Cote D'Ivoire
23. Djibouti
24. Equatorial Guinea
25. Eritrea
26. Ethiopia
27. Gabon
28. Gambia
29. Ghana
30. Guinea
31. Guinea-Bissau
32. Kenya
33. Lesotho
34. Liberia
35. Madagascar
36. Malawi
37. Mali
38. Mauritania
39. Mauritius
40. Mayotte

41. Mozambique
42. Namibia
43. Niger
44. Nigeria
45. Reunion
46. Rwanda
47. Sao Tome and Principe
48. Senegal
49. Seychelles
50. Sierra Leone
51. Somalia
52. South Africa
53. Southern and East Africa, nec
54. St Helena
55. Swaziland
56. Tanzania
57. Togo
58. Uganda
59. Zambia
60. Zimbabwe

Key findings: Analysis at the level of region of birth



Potentially preventable hospitalisations (PPH) rate

When compared to the Australian-born population, people from **North African region** had:



3.20 × higher rate of vaccine-preventable conditions



1.28 × higher rates of chronic conditions



Lower rates of acute conditions

Top 10 PPH conditions seen in people from North Africa

Other vaccine-preventable conditions

9.4 × higher than Australian-born population

Rheumatic heart disease

2.99 × higher than Australian-born population

Pelvic inflammatory disease

2.77 × higher than Australian-born population

Bronchiectasis

1.82 × higher than Australian-born population

Iron deficiency anaemia

1.69 × higher than Australian-born population

Hypertension

1.53 × higher than Australian-born population

Convulsions and epilepsy

1.49 × higher than Australian-born population

Congestive cardiac failure

1.46 × higher than Australian-born population

Diabetes complications

1.37 × higher than Australian-born population

Ear, nose and throat infections

1.32 × higher than Australian-born population

When compared to the Australian-born population, people from **Sub-Saharan Africa region** had:



1.12 × higher rate of vaccine-preventable conditions



Lower rates of chronic conditions



Lower rates of acute conditions

Only one significantly higher PPH condition seen in people from **Sub-Saharan Africa**

Other vaccine-preventable conditions

2.39 × higher than Australian-born population

The naming of these regions is aligned with ABS classification.



Hospitalisation rate (all causes)

When compared to the Australian-born population, females from **North African region** had **1.07 × higher** rates of hospitalisations than Australia-born population.



Potentially avoidable deaths rate (all causes)

When compared to the Australian-born population, people from African regions did not reveal any significant findings for potentially avoidable death rates than Australia-born population.

Key findings: Analysis at the level of country of birth



Potentially preventable hospitalisations (PPH) rate

Compared to the Australian-born population, people from the following countries in African regions had significantly higher rates of PPH (all causes)



Somalia (Sub-Saharan Africa) **2.38** × higher



Eritrea (Sub-Saharan Africa) **1.75** × higher



Sudan (North African) **2.25** × higher

Compared to the Australian-born population, people from the following countries in African regions had significantly higher rates of:

Vaccine-preventable conditions



Chronic conditions

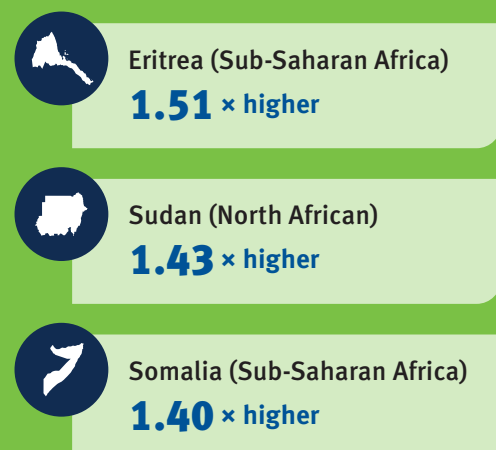


Acute conditions



Hospitalisation rate (all causes)

Compared to the Australian-born population, people from these countries in African regions had significantly higher rates of hospitalisations (all causes)



Potentially avoidable deaths rate (all causes)

Compared to the Australian-born population, people from these countries from the African regions did not reveal any significant findings of potentially avoidable deaths (all causes).



Definitions

This study analysed and reported on the following health outcomes/variables:

- **Potentially preventable hospitalisations (PPH)** – 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 condition** – infectious condition for which a vaccine exists. They are classified into vaccine-preventable influenza and pneumonia and *other vaccine-preventable conditions* such as *whooping cough*, *acute poliomyelitis*, *varicella (chicken pox)*, *measles*, *tetanus*, *mumps* and *rubella*.
 - **Chronic condition** – a long lasting health condition with persistent effects and their social and economic consequences can impact on peoples’ quality of life. Most may be prevented through behaviour and lifestyle modification but can also be managed effectively through timely care to prevent deterioration and hospitalisation. This report analysed selected chronic conditions: *asthma*, *angina*, *Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)*, *congestive heart failure*, *diabetes complications*, *hypertension*, *iron deficiency anaemia*, *rheumatic heart disease* and *bronchiectasis*.
- **Acute condition** – health condition that develops suddenly and lasts for a limited time. Hospitalisation can be prevented with timely and adequate care (usually non-hospital). This report analysed selected acute conditions: *Urinary tract infections (UTI)*, gangrene, *pelvic inflammatory disease (PID)*, *perforated/ bleeding ulcer*, *convulsions*, *dental conditions*, *ear, nose and throat (ENT) infections*, *cellulitis*.
- The study also analysed rates of hospitalisation, deaths, and potentially avoidable deaths.
- For definitions of these variables, see appendix C and D in the *full report*.

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

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



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