



Death and hospitalisation rates by country of birth in Queensland #2: all-causes

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Key Findings

- The all-cause death rates among Queenslanders born in mainly-English speaking background (MESB) countries and non-English speaking background (NESB) countries were about 5% and 15% lower than for the Australian born group between 2003 and 2007, respectively.
- The all-cause hospitalisation rates among Queenslanders born in MESB and NESB were about 30% lower than for the Australian born group between 2003/2004 and 2007/2008.
- Those born in Oceania and Antarctica (excluding Australia and external territories, and New Zealand) were the only region of birth to have higher hospitalisation rates for both sexes than the Australian born population.
- Those born in all other overseas country of birth regions had similar or lower death and hospitalisation rates for both sexes compared to the Australian born population.

This is the second in a series of reports analysing death and hospitalisation rates in Queensland by country of birth and compares rates for all-causes. The data sources, definitions and methodological issues were described in the first report in the series¹.

Broad country of birth categories

There were 120,795 deaths due to all-causes in Queensland during the five year period 2003 to 2007. When adjustment was made for differences in the age profile of these populations, the all-cause death rate was about 6% lower for those born in MESB countries compared to the Australian born population, and 14% lower for those born in NESB countries (Figure 1a). While death rates were about 30% lower for females compared to males, the Australian born showed highest death rates among the broad country of birth category for both sexes.

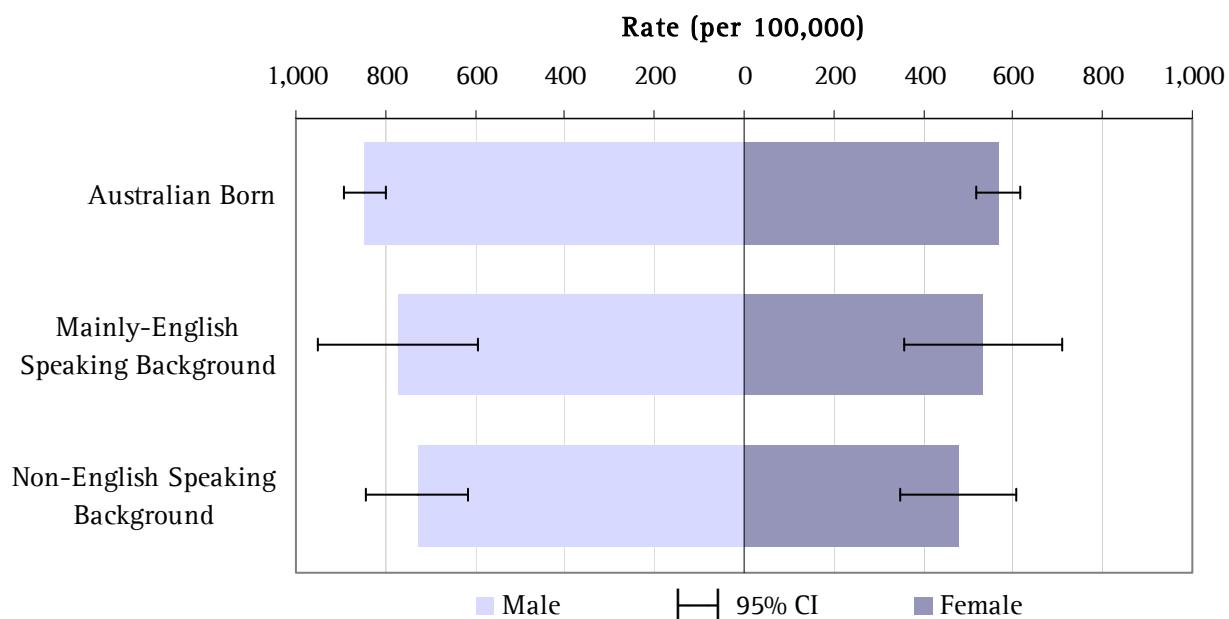
Between 2003/2004 and 2007/2008, there were 7.1 million hospitalisations due to all-causes. Compared to the Australian born population, the all-cause hospitalisation rate was about 30% lower for those born overseas (Figure 1b). The pattern was similar in non-English speaking and English speaking countries of birth for males and females and across all age groups.

Country of birth regions

In this series of reports, country of birth was classified into 14 regions as described in report #1¹. Death and hospitalisation rates for all-causes were compared between these regions in Figure 2. The all-cause death rates were similar or lower for all country of birth regions compared to the Australian born population in Queensland between 2003 and 2007 (Figure 2a).

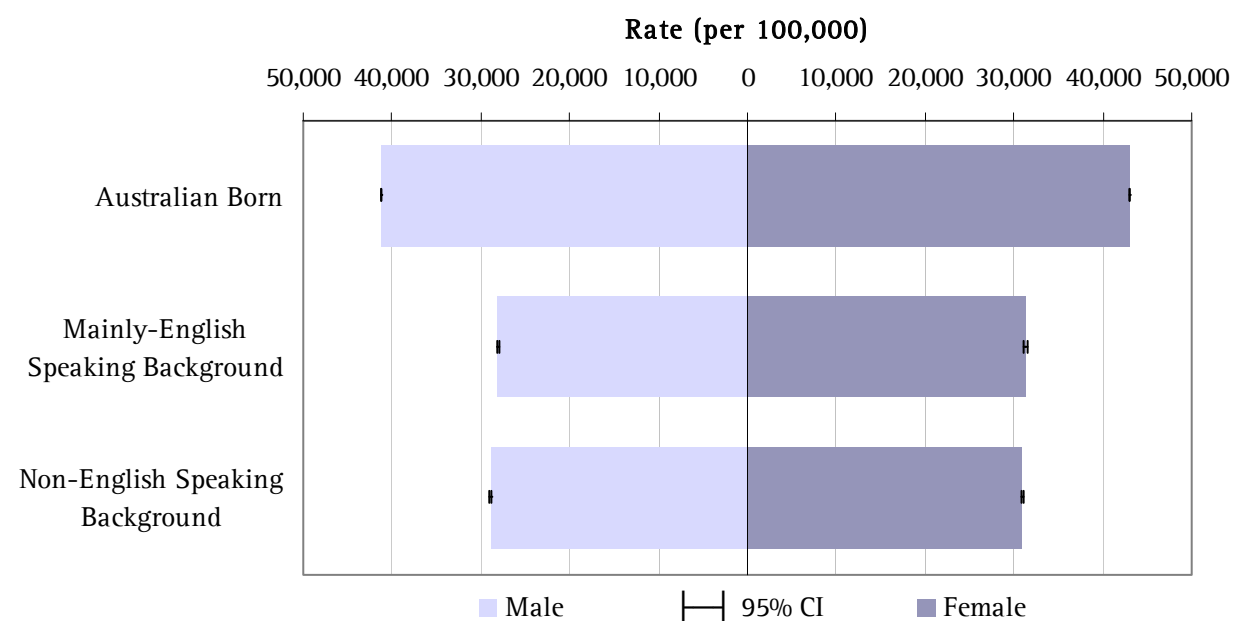
The only region with a higher overall all-cause hospitalisation rate than the Australian born population was Other Oceania and Antarctica region (excluding Australia and external territories, and New Zealand), with the rate about 15% higher than the Australian born rate. This was the only region with higher rates for males than females (male rate about 5% higher than the female rate) (Figure 2b). The all-cause hospitalisation rate for females born in the North African region was about 15% higher than the rate for Australian born females, although the male rate was about 10% lower than for Australian born males. All other regions showed significantly lower hospitalisation rates than the Australian born, except for females born in the Middle-Eastern region which was similar to the rate for Australian born females.

Figure 1a. Age-standardised rates of all-cause deaths by broad country of birth category and sex, Queensland, 2003-2007



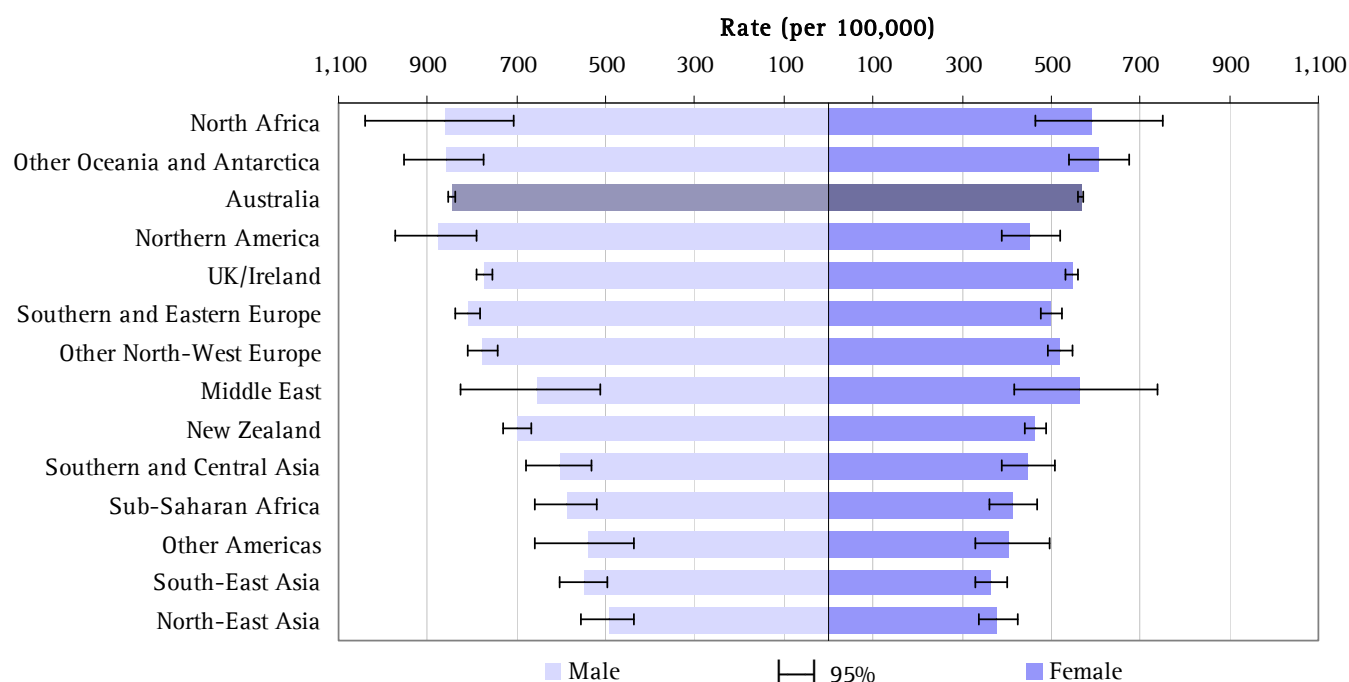
Source: Causes of Death, Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) (extracted 16/11/2010)

Figure 1b. Age-standardised rates of all-cause hospitalisations by broad country of birth category and sex, Queensland, 2003/2004-2007/2008



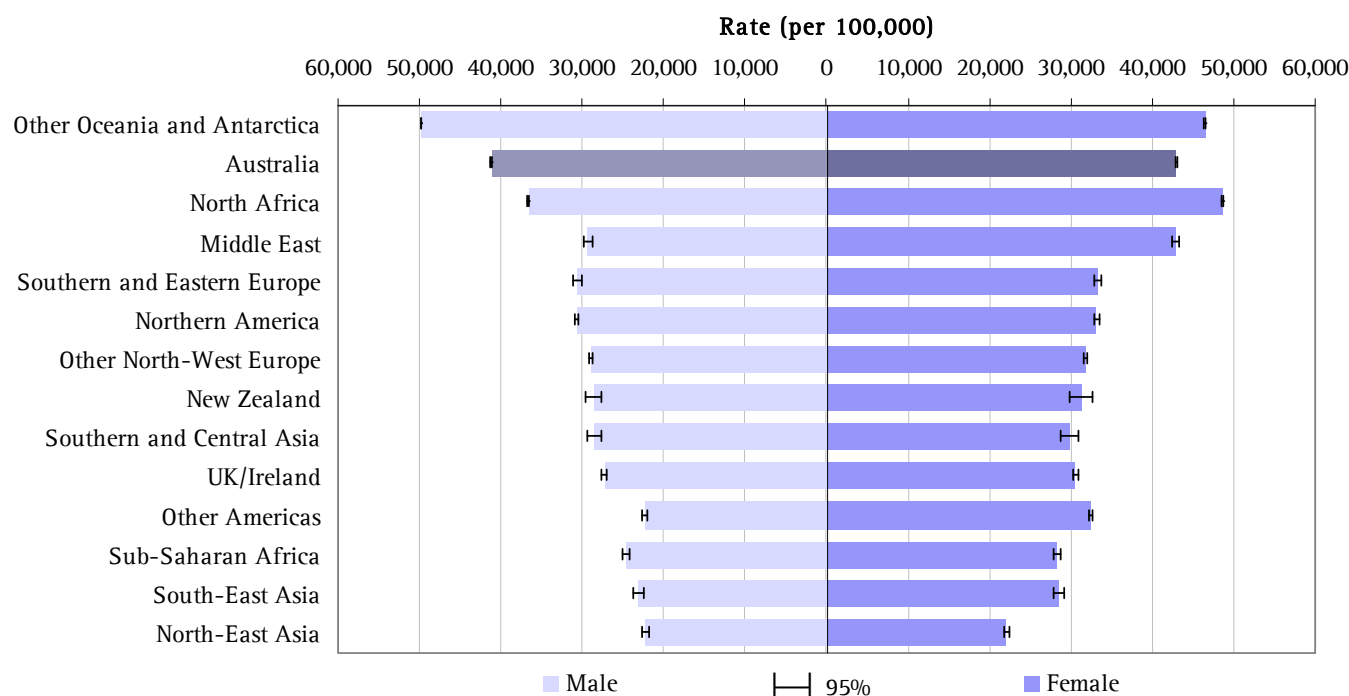
Source: Queensland Hospital Admitted Patient Data Collection, Queensland Health

Figure 2a. Age-standardised rates of all-cause deaths by region of birth and sex, Queensland, 2003-2007



Source: Causes of Death, Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) (extracted 16/11/2010)

Figure 2b. Age-standardised rates of all-cause hospitalisations by region of birth and sex, Queensland, 2003/2004-2007/2008



Source: Queensland Hospital Admitted Patient Data Collection, Queensland Health

References

1. Endo T, Jardine A, Watson, M, Bright M, Macleod S. Death and hospitalisation rates by country of birth in Queensland #1: introduction, data sources and definitions. (In print): Queensland Health, June 2011