

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**  
**Question on notice**

See tabled paper

**Thursday, 7 May 2015**

3123. Hon Adele Farina to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Health.

For each hospital in the South West region with an Emergency Department (ED):

- (a) what were the ED attendances for each of the years 2012-13 and 2013-14;
- (b) what were the ED admissions for each of the years 2012-13 and 2013-14;
- (c) what were the number of ambulance attendances for each of the years 2012-13 and 2013-14; and
- (d) what were the ED triage attendances and waiting times for each triage category for each of the years 2012-13 and 2013-14?

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**Answer**

(a-d) [See tabled paper no]

A number of generally smaller Emergency Services including some sites in the broader South West Health Region have median waiting times of zero for all triage categories. At some sites this is due to recording identical times for the time of triaging and the time seen by the nurse. The subsequent subtraction of triage time from the time seen by the nurse yields a figure of zero for the waiting time to be seen. Where this occurs in more than 50% of cases the median will be zero.

The time that the nurse sees the patient is intended to represent the time that the nurse commences treatment. Where treatment follows directly after triage a small or no waiting time is expected and for Emergency Services with low activity most patients will be able to be seen immediately after triage.

The rollout of the WebPAS patient administration system is expected to lead to opportunities for further training and review of accurate data entry practises. The completion of WebPAS deployment in the South West occurred 13 May 2015.

All data are preliminary and subject to change.

Data Source: Emergency Department figures have been sourced from the Emergency Department Data Collection which is populated from EDIS, WebPAS and HCARE.

Table 1. South West Health Region emergency department attendances, admissions and ambulance attendances, 2012-13 and 2013-14

Hospital	(a) attendances		(b) admissions		(c) ambulance attendances	
	2012-2013	2013-2014	2012-2013	2013-2014	2012-2013	2013-2014
Augusta Hospital	963	992	165	136	104	93
Bunbury Hospital	35983	38366	7881	8522	5367	5952
Busselton Hospital	18266	19543	1819	1434	1393	1432
Collie Hospital	6133	6242	795	782	388	353
Margaret River Hospital	5508	5854	575	594	269	228
Donnybrook Hospital	2144	2018	100	79	154	155
Harvey Hospital	2387	2380	324	288	269	306
Nannup Hospital	729	813	16	15	37	35
Pemberton Hospital	1294	1233	101	93	50	57
Boyup Brook Soldiers Memorial Hospital	757	646	67	42	59	72
Warren Hospital	7013	6352	501	527	242	254
Bridgetown Hospital	4064	3967	445	441	133	163

Table 2. South West region emergency department triage attendances and median waiting times for each triage category, 2012-13 and 2013-14

Hospital/Triage		2012-2013		2013-2014	
		ED Attendance	Median ED Wait Time (mins)	ED Attendance	Median ED Wait Time (mins)
Augusta Hospital	1	N/A	0	N/A	0
	2	N/A	0	N/A	0
	3	282	0	239	0
	4	441	0	518	0
	5	183	0	167	0
Bunbury Hospital	1	190	0	218	0
	2	3548	2	3882	2
	3	12905	14	13907	15
	4	15970	24	17009	26
	5	3370	24	3350	28
Busselton Hospital	1	55	0	74	0
	2	1196	0	1544	0
	3	4974	0	5443	0
	4	9576	0	9856	0
	5	2465	0	2626	0
Collie Hospital	1	23	0	28	0
	2	279	0	312	0
	3	1248	0	1488	0
	4	3241	0	3177	0
	5	1342	0	1237	0
Margaret River Hospital	1	11	0	13	0
	2	330	0	276	0
	3	1632	0	1895	0
	4	3136	0	3302	0
	5	399	0	368	0
Donnybrook Hospital	1	19	0	17	0
	2	231	0	374	0
	3	610	0	516	0
	4	906	0	749	1
	5	378	5	362	5
Harvey Hospital	1	27	0	17	0
	2	287	0	304	0
	3	905	0	1111	0
	4	1009	0	835	0
	5	159	0	113	0
Nannup Hospital	1	N/A	0	N/A	0
	2	N/A	0	N/A	0
	3	142	0	185	0
	4	371	0	428	0
	5	176	0	161	0
Pemberton Hospital	1	8	0	N/A	0
	2	63	0	N/A	0

	3	271	0	314	0
	4	659	0	578	0
	5	293	0	275	0
<b>Boyup Brook Soldiers Memorial Hospital</b>	1	N/A	0	N/A	0
	2	N/A	0	N/A	0
	3	122	0	148	0
	4	383	0	225	0
	5	213	0	222	0
<b>Warren Hospital</b>	1	19	0	9	0
	2	208	0	182	0
	3	1086	2	1265	0
	4	2926	5	2893	2
	5	2774	8	2003	5
<b>Bridgetown Hospital</b>	1	19	0	12	0
	2	178	0	160	0
	3	785	0	871	0
	4	2604	0	2414	0
	5	478	0	510	0

**Notes:**

- The standard performance indicator 'median wait time to be seen by triage category' has been calculated for this question.
- Not applicable (N/A) = in order to protect patient confidentiality and decrease the potential for the identification of individuals, Cells with a value of less than 5 have been suppressed. Consequential confidentiality has also been applied to necessary Cells.
- Triage 1 = Resuscitation: recommended time is immediate (within seconds). A time interval of less than or equal to 2 minutes is used to identify Triage 1 patients that were seen within time – this is the Australian Standard.
- Triage 2 = Emergency: recommended time is within 10 minutes.
- Triage 3 = Urgent: recommended time is within 30 minutes.
- Triage 4 = Semi-urgent: recommended time is within 60 minutes.
- Triage 5 = Non-urgent: recommended time is within 120 minutes.