



Falls in older Australians aged 65 and over 2019–20

Falls accounted 133,000 hospitalisations and 5,000 deaths among older Australians.

Falls caused **77% of all injury hospitalisations.**

133,000



Falls

40,000



Other causes

\$2.3 billion was spent on treating fall injuries for those aged 65 and over.



Older Australians were:



8 times as likely to be hospitalised and



68 times as likely to die

from a fall than those aged 15 to 64.

2 in 3 fall hospitalisations were for females.



5 in 10 hospitalised falls occurred in the **home**.



2 in 10 hospitalised falls occurred in **residential aged care facilities**.

Hospitalised falls commonly:

- occurred on the **same level (60%)**, such as a slip, trip, or stumble
- involved a **fracture (50%)**
- involved injuries to the **head (29%)** and **hip and thigh (20%)**.

Older Australians stayed in hospital **2.4 times** longer than younger people.

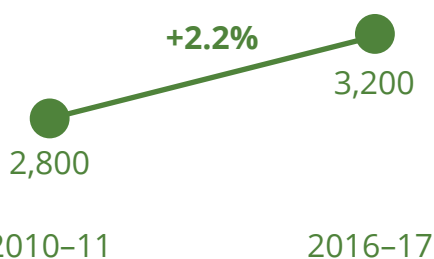
15 to 64

3.9 days

65+

9.5 days

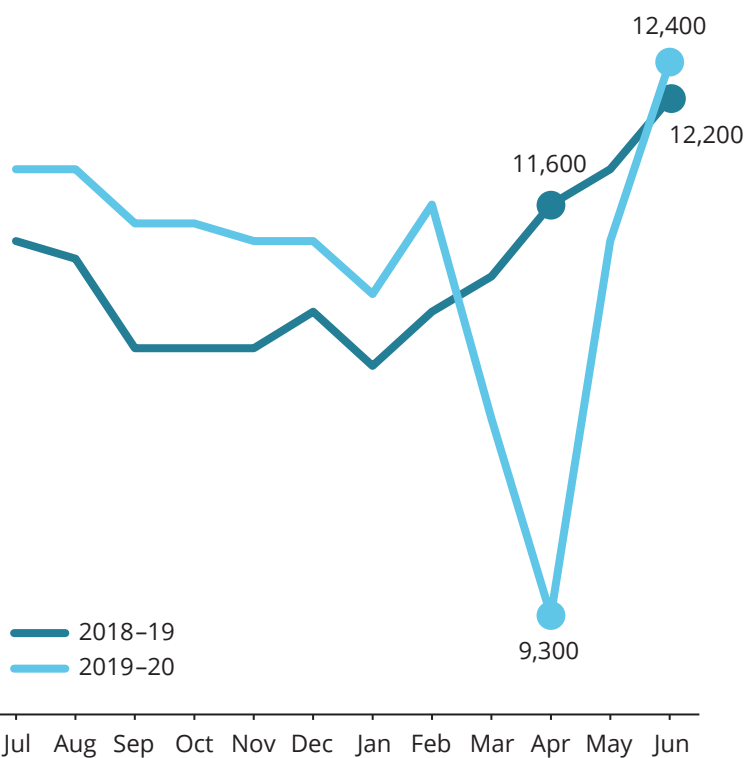
2.2% increase in hospitalisation rates* from 2010–11 to 2016–17.



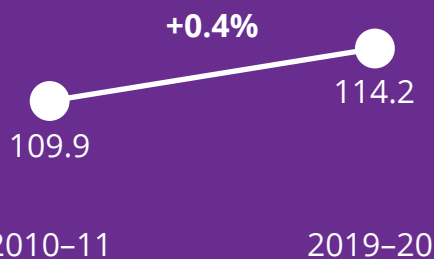
* Rate is per 100,000 population.

25% fewer fall hospitalisations in April 2020 than April 2019.

By June 2020, with eased COVID-19 restrictions, **fall hospital admissions returned** to pre-pandemic levels.



Small increase in death rates* from 2010–11 to 2019–20.



* Rate is per 100,000 population.

Full report, *Falls in older Australians 2019–20 hospitalisations and deaths among people aged 65 and over.* See www.aihw.gov.au/injury

Source: AIHW National Hospital Morbidity Database and AIHW National Mortality Database.