

**Hospital Morbidity Survey. Year 2008**

**In 2008, there are more than 4.8 million inpatient admissions to hospital in Spain, 0.6% more than in 2007**

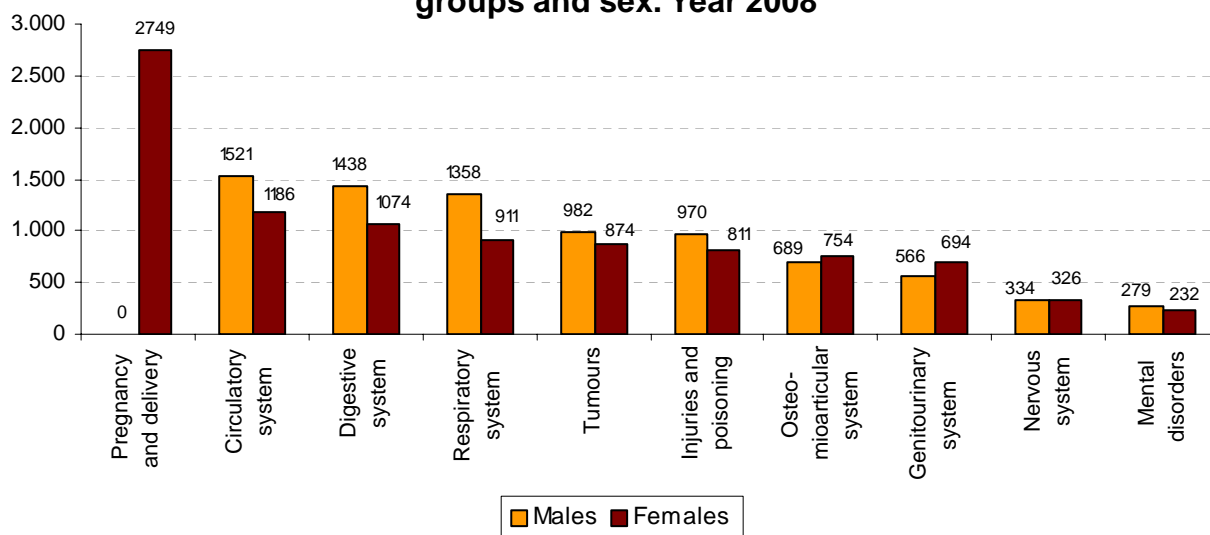
**Pregnancy and delivery and diseases of the circulatory system cause the most admissions**

4,814,039 inpatient hospital admissions were registered in 2008, that is, 0.6% more than in 2007. The number of admissions per 100.000 inhabitants stood at 10,559. This figure was 0.9% lower than the 10,660 from the year 2007, due to the greater relative growth experienced by the population.

Pregnancy, delivery and puerperium<sup>1</sup> maintained the rising trend of previous years, and registered the greatest number of admissions (13.2% of the total). They were followed by hospitalisations due to diseases of the circulatory system (12.8%), diseases of the digestive system (11.9%), diseases of the respiratory system (10.7%) and tumours (8.8%).

By most frequent diagnosis group, males had a higher rate of hospital admissions per 100,000 inhabitants than females in diseases of the circulatory, digestive and respiratory systems, tumours, injuries and poisoning, diseases of the nervous system and mental disorders.

**Admissions per 100,000 inhabitants, by most frequent diagnosis groups and sex. Year 2008**



<sup>1</sup> Within this group we included the diagnoses that lead to childbirth in any of its modalities (normal delivery, caesarean, premature delivery, etc.) and others, such as hypertension or haemorrhages that complicated pregnancy, delivery or the puerperium (the period from the convalescence of childbirth to the complete normality of the genital organs)

**Among females, the number one cause of hospitalisation corresponded to pregnancy, delivery and puerperium, with 24.5% of the total**, as compared with the 21.6% registered in the year 2000. The growing participation of this group in the total of hospital admissions was in accordance with the evolution of the number of births in Spain, which in 2008 reached its highest level since 1981.

The following causes of hospitalisation in females corresponded to the group of diseases of the circulatory system (10.6%), diseases of the digestive system (9.6%), diseases of the respiratory system (8.1%) and tumours (7.8%).

**Among males, the diseases that caused the highest number of hospitalisations were those of the circulatory system, with 15.4% of the total.** Next were the diseases of the digestive system (14.6%), diseases of the respiratory system (13.8%), tumours (9.9%) and injuries and poisoning (9.8%).

Females accounted for 53.8% of the total admissions. If we were to exclude admissions due to pregnancy, delivery and puerperium, the higher percentage of participation would correspond to males (53.2%), and the three large groups of diseases leading to the highest number of hospital admissions would coincide for both sexes (circulatory, digestive and respiratory systems).

**Admissions by large groups of diseases and by sex (% of total admissions for each sex). Year 2008**

MALES	% of total male admissions	FEMALES	% of total female admissions	FEMALES (without considering pregnancy, delivery and puerperium)	% of total female admissions
Circulatory system	15.4	Pregnancy, delivery and puerperium	24.5	Circulatory system	14.0
Digestive system	14.6	Circulatory system	10.6	Digestive system	12.7
Respiratory system	13.8	Digestive system	9.6	Respiratory system	10.7
Tumours	9.9	Respiratory system	8.1	Tumours	10.3
Injuries and poisoning	9.8	Tumours	7.8	Injuries and poisoning	9.6

**Hospitalisations by age and by large groups of diseases**

The average age of persons admitted to hospital was 51.9 years old (53.8 for males and 50.2 for females).

**Persons aged 85 years of age and older accounted for 7.3% of total hospital admissions in 2008**, four tenths more than in 2007. The relative participation of this age group in the total hospitalisations has grown gradually in recent years, from 5.2% in the year 2000.

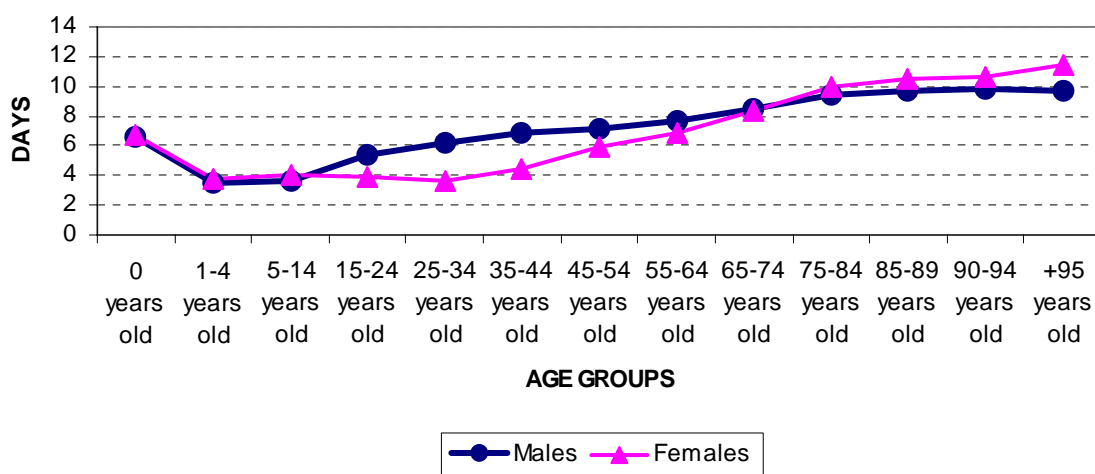
Likewise, worth noting was the increase, over the past two decades, in the percentage of participation of the oldest age groups (65-74, 75-84, 85 years old and over) over the total hospital admissions. These three age groups represented 38.3% of the total hospitalisations in 2008, as compared with 34.7% in the year 1998 and 22.6% in 1988.

### Hospital stays by sex, age and large groups of diseases

The **average stay per hospital admission was 6.96 days**, as compared with 7.20 days in 2007. By groups of diseases, the longest stays (without considering mental illness) corresponded to tumours (9.29 days) and diseases originating in the perinatal period (8.85 days).

By age, the longest average stay corresponded to the group of persons over 95 years old (10.95 days), followed by the group aged 90-94 years old (10.40 days) and the group aged 85-89 years old (10.16 days).

**Average stay by age and sex. Year 2008**



### Reasons for discharge and admissions via Accident and Emergency

The number of hospital admissions of persons admitted via Accident and Emergency represented 59.7% of the total admissions in 2008, as compared with 59.9% in 2007 and 59.7% in 2006.

By reason, 92.8% of the discharges were produced as a result of cure or improvement, 3.8% from death, 1.9% due to transfer to other centres and 1.5% due to other causes.

The **main causes of death in Spanish hospitals** were tumours (24.4% of the total), diseases of the circulatory system (22.4%), of the respiratory system (18.0%) and of the digestive system (8.9%).

### Hospitalisations by Autonomous Community

The highest number of hospital admissions per 100,000 inhabitants was recorded in Comunidad Foral de Navarra, followed by Illes Balears and Principado de Asturias.

The Autonomous Communities of Canarias, Andalucía, Castilla-La Mancha and the autonomous city of Melilla presented the lowest numbers of admissions per 100,000 inhabitants.

**Admissions per 100,000 inhabitants, by Autonomous Community of Hospitalisation. Year 2008**

<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10,559</b>		
Andalucía	9,027	Extremadura	10,362
Aragón	11,625	Galicia	10,965
Asturias (Principado de)	12,101	Madrid (Comunidad de)	10,640
Balears (Illes)	12,680	Murcia (Región de)	10,163
Canarias	9,000	Navarra (Comunidad Foral de)	12,781
Cantabria	10,193	País Vasco	11,673
Castilla y León	11,333	Rioja (La)	10,317
Castilla - La Mancha	9,342	Ceuta	9,722
Cataluña	11,688	Melilla	9,184
Comunitat Valenciana	10,254		

By **groups of diseases**, pregnancy, birth and puerperium caused the highest rate of hospital admissions in Andalucía, Canarias, Castilla-La Mancha, Comunitat Valenciana, Extremadura, Comunidad de Madrid, Región de Murcia and in the autonomous cities of Ceuta and Melilla.

In Illes Balears and Comunidad Foral de Navarra, the group of diseases of the digestive system was the number one cause of admissions. On the other hand, diseases of the circulatory system produced the most hospital admissions in the eight remaining Autonomous Communities.

The Autonomous Communities with the longest **average stays** were Castilla y León (8.03 days), Cantabria (7.82 days), Galicia (7.82 days) and Principado de Asturias (7.80 days), whereas those with the shortest average stays were Illes Balears (5.72 days), Comunitat Valenciana (5.85 days) and the autonomous cities of Melilla (5.85 days) and Ceuta (5.96 days).

### International Data: Shortlist for diagnosis groups for international dissemination (Eurostat/OECD/WHO) of Hospital Morbidity data

With the hospital admissions information corresponding to the year 2005, for the first time, the Shortlist for diagnosis groups for international dissemination of Hospital Morbidity data was published, agreed upon by the main international institutions in this area (Eurostat, OECD and WHO), and which will allow for a homogeneous comparison of the figures and diagnoses among countries in coming years.

### Hospital admissions per 100,000 inhabitants for different countries and diagnosis groups<sup>2</sup>. Year 2007

Countries	All diagnoses	Diseases of the circulatory system	Diseases of the respiratory system	Diseases of the digestive system	Pregnancy and childbirth **
Germany	22,693	3,392	1,396	2,102	2,147
Canada *	8,429	1,140	730	914	2,521
<b>Spain</b>	<b>10,660</b>	<b>1,323</b>	<b>1,168</b>	<b>1,256</b>	<b>2,751</b>
United States *	12,632	1,996	1,170	1,177	3,087
France	27,377	2,278	1,256	3,219	4,075
Italy *	13,887	2,216	1,051	1,357	2,442
Portugal	10,803	1,306	965	1,081	1,933
United Kingdom	12,554	1,296	1,157	1,164	2,732
Turkey	10,486	1,183	1,203	930	2,959

\* Data corresponding to the year 2006 \*\* Pregnancy and childbirth per 100,000 women

### Average stay in days, for different countries and diagnosis groups<sup>2</sup>. Year 2007

Countries	All diagnoses	Diseases of the circulatory system	Diseases of the respiratory system	Diseases of the digestive system	Pregnancy and childbirth
Germany	10.0	10.4	9.0	7.4	4.8
Canada *	7.3	8.4	7.4	5.9	2.6
<b>Spain</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>8.3</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>3.2</b>
United States *	4.8	4.5	5.1	4.6	2.7
France	5.7	6.9	7.0	5.3	4.8
Italy *	6.8	7.7	7.9	6.8	4.1
Portugal	5.8	7.4	8.0	5.6	3.4
United Kingdom	8.0	10.5	7.5	6.2	2.4
Turkey	5.0	4.6	5.2	5.3	2.2

\* Data corresponding to the year 2006

<sup>2</sup> Source: OECD (Further information available on the website: <http://www.oecd.org/els/health/data>). The complete list of diagnoses included in the Eurostat/OECD/WHO Shortlist is published in tables 3.1-3.4 and 4.1-4.4 of the Hospital Morbidity Survey 2005-2008.

## Methodological note

The main objective of the Hospital Morbidity Survey is to ascertain the demographic-health features of the patients discharged who have been admitted to a hospital and have stayed there at least one night, as well as to provide information on a state and provincial level on the rate of visits and use of hospital resources during a reference year.

The Survey collects information by a sampling of 87% of both public and private Spanish hospitals in 2008, such that the number of patients collected directly from hospitals reaches 95% of total inpatient hospital admissions taking place annually in Spain.

Health information focuses on the main diagnosis stated in the hospital discharge report received by the patient, and which caused his or her admission according to the criteria of the clinical department or doctor who treated the patient. The features collected from the patient are as follows: sex, age, date admitted, date discharged, province of residence, type of admission and reason for discharge.

The Survey allows for determining the average stay for each type of diagnosis, ascertaining the scope of influence of hospitals according to the province of residence of the patient, and performing epidemiological studies of certain diseases.

As of the year 2005, we have microdata with a breakdown level of four digits in the main diagnosis, in accordance with the International Classification of Diseases. (ICD-9-MC). As of that same year, the publication includes the International Shortlist of Diagnosis Groups agreed upon by Eurostat, OECD and the WHO for the dissemination of Hospital Morbidity data.

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For further information see **INEbase-[www.ine.es](http://www.ine.es)** All press releases at: **[www.ine.es/prensa/prensa\\_en.htm](http://www.ine.es/prensa/prensa_en.htm)**

**Press office:** Telephone numbers: 91 583 93 63 / 94 08 – Fax: 91 583 90 87 - **[gprensa@ine.es](mailto:gprensa@ine.es)**

**Information area:** Telephone number: 91 583 91 00 – Fax: 91 583 91 58 – **[www.ine.es/infoine](http://www.ine.es/infoine)**

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