



WA Data Linkage Branch

Hospital Morbidity Data Collection: linkage quality statement

Overview

The WA Data Linkage Branch (DLB) receives data for linkage from a wide variety of data collections. The quality of DLB's linkages is dependent on the quality and completeness of the data received. DLB's Data Quality Statements provide information about linkage quality, as well as the data attributes affecting that quality.

DLB started routinely linking Hospital Morbidity Data Collection (HMDC) data in 1996. The HMDC data set is updated and linked monthly. As a core data set, HMDC data is routinely linked to other data sets. This means that HMDC data is continuously subject to standard linkage quality checks.

Hospital Morbidity Data Collection

Linkage quality metrics:

Separation date range	1970 – previous month
Total number of unique records	26,290,364
Total linkage proportion	96.5%
Linkage proportion of records with reasonable demographic information*	98%

* For the purpose of linkage, "reasonable demographic information" means complete demographic fields of given names, surnames, date of birth, and address.

Factors affecting linkage and/or use of data:

- 81.5% of the unlinked records have no given name data.
- 81.4% of the unlinked records have no surname data.
- 80% of the unlinked records have no address data.
- Linkage rate for HMDC data is good, likely due to the routine linkage to other datasets, regular data updates, and monthly feedback.

Contact

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