



Administrator
National Health
Funding Pool

National Health Reform
Public Hospital Funding

Northern Territory Report
February 2018

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National Health Reform public hospital funding Northern Territory report – February 2018

This report is issued by the Administrator of the National Health Funding Pool under section 240 of the *National Health Reform Act 2011*.

This report is prepared on a cash basis. It shows monthly and year-to-date (YTD) National Health Reform (NHR) funding and payments for the Northern Territory for February 2018 as part of the *National Health Reform Agreement*.

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Local hospital networks and National Health Reform

A local hospital network (LHN) is an organisation that provides public hospital services in accordance with the Agreement. An LHN can contain one or more hospitals, and is usually defined as a business group, geographical area or community. Every Australian public hospital is part of an LHN.

Note: The term 'local hospital network' is a national term. Some states and territories use their own terminology to describe these networks, such as local health districts, health organisations, and hospital and health services.

Under the Agreement, LHNs receive funding for the following public hospital services:

- All admitted and non-admitted services
- All emergency department services provided by a recognised emergency department
- Other outpatient, mental health, sub-acute services and other services that could reasonably be considered a public hospital service.

Note: LHNs also receive funding from other sources, including the Commonwealth, states and territories, and third parties for the provision of other specific functions and services outside the scope of the Agreement, for example dental services, primary care, home and community care, residential aged care and pharmaceuticals. For further information on total funding to a particular LHN, contact the NT Department of Health to view the service agreement for that LHN.

Basis for National Health Reform payments – Northern Territory, February 2018

For the basis of the Commonwealth contribution to NHR funding, see [Basis of Commonwealth NHR funding, 2017-18](#).

The basis used to determine NHR payments to LHNs in the Northern Territory for February 2018 was advised by the NT Department of Health to be as follows:

The annual funding allocation for the Top End and Central Australia Health Services of Northern Territory is determined on a historical basis for both the activity based funding (ABF) and block service streams, supplemented by a level of growth based on Northern Territory Government Wage and Consumer Price Index parameters. Projected activity increases are not budgeted for and both local hospital networks are required to meet demand increases from within existing budgets supplemented by National Health Reform Agreement efficient growth payments.

Variations to monthly payments to the Northern Territory LHNs are made based on cash requirements. Cash requirements are impacted by the Northern Territory salary payment cycle and other monthly variations, such as contractual obligation payment cycles which the LHNs are engaged in.

Reference information

The financial information outlined in the following report is categorised as:

- *NHR funding* – when the Commonwealth or state or territory government pays NHR funding into a state pool account or state managed fund.
- *NHR payments* – when NHR funding that has been deposited into a state pool account or state managed fund is paid out of the state pool account by the Administrator, or is paid out of the state managed fund by the state or territory.

State pool account transactions

Table 1a – State pool account transactions – Northern Territory, February 2018

This table shows funding paid into the Northern Territory state pool account by the Commonwealth, the Northern Territory or other states/territories, and payments out of the state pool account to LHNs, the state managed fund, the NT Department of Health or the state pool accounts of other states/territories for February 2018.

NHR funding by source	Paid into state pool account (\$)	Paid out of state pool account				Total paid out (\$)
		To Local hospital networks (\$)	To State Managed Fund (\$)	To state health department (\$)	To state pool (other State) (\$)	
Commonwealth ABF funding	19,431,020	19,431,020				19,431,020
Commonwealth Block funding	1,676,933		1,676,933			1,676,933
Commonwealth Other funding	318,998			318,998		318,998
Total C'wealth funding	21,426,951	19,431,020	1,676,933	318,998		21,426,951
NT funding	24,527,608	24,526,583		0	0	24,526,583
Other state/territory funding	0		0	0		0
Total	45,954,559	43,957,603	1,676,933	318,998	0	45,953,534

See definitions and explanatory notes following table 1b.

Table 1b – State pool account transactions YTD – Northern Territory, February 2018

Following on from table 1a, this table shows year-to-date (YTD) funding paid into the Northern Territory state pool account by the Commonwealth, the Northern Territory or other states/territories, and payments out of the state pool account to LHNs, the state managed fund, the NT Department of Health or the state pool accounts of other states/territories as at February 2018.

NHR funding by source	Paid into state pool account (\$)	Paid out of state pool account				Total paid out YTD (\$)
		To Local hospital networks YTD (\$)	To State Managed Fund YTD (\$)	To state health department YTD (\$)	To state pool (other State) YTD (\$)	
Commonwealth ABF funding	155,427,764	155,427,764				155,427,764
Commonwealth Block funding	13,415,463		13,415,463			13,415,463
Commonwealth Other funding	2,572,382			2,572,382		2,572,382
Total C'wealth funding	171,415,609	155,427,764	13,415,463	2,572,382		171,415,609
NT funding	196,220,821	196,212,667		0	0	196,212,667
Other state/territory funding	0		0	0		0
Total	367,636,430	351,640,431	13,415,463	2,572,382	0	367,628,276

Commonwealth ABF funding represents Acute admitted, Non-admitted, Emergency department, Sub-acute, and Admitted mental health service categories, which are funded by the Commonwealth through the state pool account and subsequently paid to LHNs.

Commonwealth Block funding represents Non-admitted Mental health, Small rural hospitals, Teaching, training & research, and Other non-admitted categories, which are funded by the Commonwealth and paid to the state managed fund.

Commonwealth Other funding represents other amounts funded by the Commonwealth, transacted through the state pool account and subsequently paid to state or territory health departments. This currently represents the Commonwealth contribution to public health.

NT funding represents funding contributions paid by the Northern Territory into its own state pool account, and subsequently paid to LHNs within the state, to the Northern Territory health department and/or to other state pool accounts.

Other state/territory funding represents contributions paid to Northern Territory by other states and territories for cross-border activity.

Note: The grey shaded areas in these tables reflect cells that are not applicable for a particular 'paid out' column. For example, Commonwealth block funding is only paid to state managed funds and not to local hospital networks or state or territory health departments.

NHR funding and payments shown in these tables include GST where applicable. For more information, see [National Health Reform funding and payments](#).

State managed fund transactions

Table 2a – State managed fund transactions – Northern Territory, February 2018

This table shows funding paid into the Northern Territory state managed fund by the Commonwealth and the Northern Territory, and payments out of the state managed fund to LHNs and other provider organisations for February 2018.

NHR funding by source	Paid into state managed fund (\$)	Paid out of state managed fund		
		To local hospital networks (\$)	To Other (\$)	Total paid out (\$)
Commonwealth Block funding	1,676,933			1,676,933
State/territory Block funding	49,407,250			49,407,250
Total	51,084,183	51,084,183	0	51,084,183

See explanatory notes below table 2b.

Table 2b – State managed fund transactions YTD – Northern Territory, February 2018

Following on from table 2a, this table shows year-to-date (YTD) funding paid into the Northern Territory state managed fund by the Commonwealth and the Northern Territory, and YTD payments out of the state managed fund to LHNs and other provider organisations as at February 2018.

NHR funding by source	Paid into state managed fund YTD (\$)	Paid out of state managed fund YTD		
		To local hospital networks YTD (\$)	To Other YTD (\$)	Total paid out YTD (\$)
Commonwealth Block funding	13,415,463			13,415,463
State/territory Block funding	395,258,000			395,258,000
Total	408,673,463	408,673,463	0	408,673,463

Block funding represents Non-admitted mental health, Small rural hospitals, Teaching, training & research, and Other non-admitted categories.

Commonwealth Block funding represents Commonwealth block funding contributions paid into the state managed fund from the state pool account, and block payments out of the state managed fund to LHNs and other provider organisations.

State/territory Block funding represents Northern Territory block funding contributions into the state managed fund, and block payments out of the state managed fund to LHNs and other provider organisations.

Note: The grey shaded areas in these tables reflect that these block payments cannot at this stage be identified by funding source (state, territory or Commonwealth contribution).

NHR funding and payments shown in these tables include GST where applicable.

For more information, see [National Health Reform funding and payments](#).

NHR funding and payments by service category

Table 3 – NHR funding and payments by service category – Northern Territory, February 2018

This table shows NHR funding and payments by service category on both a monthly and year-to-date (YTD) basis for the Northern Territory for February 2018. NHR funding and payments are separated into the following service categories – activity-based funding (ABF), block funding, and other funding.

Service category	NHR funding (\$)	NHR payments (\$)	NHR funding YTD (\$)	NHR payments YTD (\$)
ABF				
Acute admitted	30,619,919	30,619,919	244,946,104	244,946,104
Admitted mental health	1,954,463	1,954,463	15,634,858	15,634,858
Sub-acute	1,299,768	1,299,768	10,397,578	10,397,578
Emergency department	5,264,513	5,264,513	42,113,009	42,113,009
Non-admitted	4,818,941	4,818,941	38,548,883	38,548,883
Total ABF (Pool)	43,957,603	43,957,603	351,640,431	351,640,431
Block				
Small rural hospitals	6,712,909	6,704,509	53,703,272	53,636,070
Teaching, training & research	1,179,849	1,278,588	9,438,795	10,228,700
Non-admitted mental health	772,828	682,490	6,182,625	5,459,922
Other non-admitted services	42,418,596	42,418,596	339,348,771	339,348,771
Total Block (SMF)	51,084,183	51,084,183	408,673,463	408,673,463
Other				
Public health funding	318,998	318,998	2,572,382	2,572,382
Overdeposit	0	0	0	0
Cross border	0	0	0	0
Interest	1,024	0	8,154	0
Total Other (Pool)	320,023	318,998	2,580,536	2,572,382
Grand Total	95,361,809	95,360,784	762,894,430	762,886,276

Total ABF (Pool) is an aggregate of both Commonwealth and state or territory NHR funding and payments for activity-based funding (ABF) which is transacted through the state pool account.

Total Block (SMF) is an aggregate of both Commonwealth and state or territory NHR funding and payments for block funding which is transacted through the state managed fund (SMF).

Total Other (Pool) represents other funding and payments transacted through the state pool account, including public health funding, overdeposits, cross-border funding and payments, and interest.

State and territory cross-border payments can either be:

- Paid to the relevant state or territory's LHNs – included within ABF and/or block payments in the above table, or
- Reimbursed to the relevant state or territory where the state or territory's LHNs are already being funded for the cost of treating cross-border patients – shown in the Cross-border row under Other in the above table.

NHR funding and payments shown in these tables include GST where applicable.

For more information, see [National Health Reform funding and payments](#).

NHR contributions by local hospital network

Table 4a – NHR contributions by local hospital network – Northern Territory, February 2018

This table shows NHR contributions (from state, territory and Commonwealth sources) made to each LHN in the Northern Territory during February 2018.

NHR contributions to LHNs are separated into an activity-based funding (ABF) component and a block component.

Local hospital network	ABF component (ex GST) (\$)	Block component (ex GST) (\$)	Total NHR payments (ex GST) (\$)
Central Australia Health Service	16,048,926	12,711,708	28,760,634
Top End Health Service	27,908,677	38,372,475	66,281,153
Total	43,957,603	51,084,183	95,041,786

See explanatory notes below table 4b.

Table 4b – NHR contributions by local hospital network YTD – Northern Territory, February 2018

This table shows YTD NHR contributions (from state, territory and Commonwealth sources) made to each LHN in the Northern Territory as at February 2018.

NHR contributions to LHNs are separated into an activity-based funding (ABF) component and a block component.

Local hospital network	ABF component YTD (ex GST) (\$)	Block component YTD (ex GST) (\$)	Total NHR payments YTD (ex GST) (\$)
Central Australia Health Service	128,384,668	101,693,660	230,078,328
Top End Health Service	223,255,763	306,979,803	530,235,566
Total	351,640,431	408,673,463	760,313,894

NHR contributions in this table are GST exclusive to enable comparability of NHR payments in each LHN report.

Note: This table excludes GST. The majority of government funding to LHNs is not subject to GST. However in some cases hospital funding to non-government entities does attract GST, for example, denominational hospitals, privately and commercially owned health facilities, or any other non-government third party provider of health services or related supplies.

For more information, see [National Health Reform funding and payments](#).

Estimated monthly, YTD and annual activity

States and territories provide service volume *estimates* at the start of each financial year, and if required, can continue to refine these estimates during the course of the year. These *estimates* form the basis of monthly reporting of service volumes until *actual* service numbers become available. These estimates are expressed as National Weighted Activity Units (NWAU).

States and territories provide estimated annual NWAU to the Administrator as a basis for determining the Commonwealth activity-based funding. Current month NWAU estimates accumulate through the year-to-date (YTD) NWAU, to be equal to the annual NWAU at the end of the financial year.

States and territories may also provide activity information relating to the delivery of other public hospital functions funded.

Table 5 – Estimated monthly, YTD and annual NWAU by local hospital network – Northern Territory, February 2018

This table shows estimated state or territory hospital activity for activity-based funding services expressed as NWAU for February 2018, the associated cumulative year-to-date (YTD), and total estimated annual NWAU for each LHN in the Northern Territory.

Local hospital network	Estimated NWAU delivered in current month	Estimated NWAU delivered YTD	Estimated annual NWAU 2017-18
Central Australia Health Service	4,249	33,933	51,377
Top End Health Service	7,991	66,601	101,471
Total	12,240	100,534	152,848

An NWAU is a measure of health service activity expressed as a common unit. It provides a way of comparing and valuing each public hospital service, whether they are admissions, emergency department presentations or outpatient episodes, by weighting them for their clinical complexity. The average hospital service is worth one NWAU – the most intensive and expensive activities are worth multiple NWAU, the simplest and least expensive are worth fractions of an NWAU.

Monthly NHR payments relate to the cash needs of public hospitals and do not necessarily reflect the volume of services to be delivered in the month.

For more information on the NWAU calculation, see [Calculation of NWAU](#).