

Response to question on notice

Questions on Notice Paper No 16

3 March 2026

Question No. 925

MR SHANE RATTENBURY MLA: To ask the Minister for Health —

1. Can the Minister provide the number of First Nations people who have accessed Urgent Care Clinics (including nurse-led walk-in centres) each year over the last 5 years, broken down by clinic name and location?
2. Will demographic data such as that referred to in part (1), and others such as age, sex, gender, or ethnicity, become publicly available; if so, by what date?

MS RACHEL STEPHEN-SMITH MLA - The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

1. The table below presents the number of walk-in centre presentations in the ACT, by Indigenous status and location, from 2020-21 to 2024-25.

The ACT walk-in centres became part of the national network of Medical Urgent Care Clinics from October 2023.

Table 1: Number of walk-in centre presentations in the ACT, by First Nations status and location, 2020-21 to 2024-25

	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
First Nations					
Belconnen	467	499	601	687	826
Gungahlin	370	353	517	538	607
Inner North	197	90	157	406	486
Tuggeranong	679	600	674	1,003	948
Weston Creek	91	232	446	535	654
Garran Surge Centre	n/a	88	26	n/a	n/a
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>1,804</i>	<i>1,862</i>	<i>2,421</i>	<i>3,169</i>	<i>3,521</i>
Non-Indigenous					
Belconnen	20,223	20,186	24,368	27,276	28,887
Gungahlin	16,939	16,455	20,632	24,299	24,840
Inner North	12,746	5,927	10,204	22,206	23,426
Tuggeranong	18,513	15,576	18,992	24,174	24,030
Weston Creek	4,248	11,757	19,775	24,012	29,037
Garran Surge Centre	n/a	4,112	1,543	n/a	n/a
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>72,669</i>	<i>74,013</i>	<i>95,514</i>	<i>121,967</i>	<i>130,220</i>
Total	74,473	75,875	97,935	125,136	133,741

Notes:

- 1. Data are sourced from the ACT Health Repository and accurate as at 12 March 2026. The Woden Medicare Urgent Care Clinic is not included in this data, as it is not operated by the Canberra Health Services.*
- 2. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Garran Surge Centre was established to provide care for individuals who tested positive for COVID-19. At various times during this period, some other walk-in centres were temporarily closed, operated with reduced hours, or were repurposed as COVID-19 testing clinics.*
- 3. The Digital Health Record (DHR) was implemented in the ACT on 12 November 2022. As such, data is not comparable between pre- and post-DHR data, as the data are drawn from different source systems.*
- 4. First Nations people include presentations for patients whose Indigenous status was reported as 'Aboriginal but not Torres Strait Islander origin', 'Torres Strait Islander but not Aboriginal origin' or 'Both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander origin'.*
- 5. Non-indigenous people include presentations for patients whose indigenous status was reported as 'Neither Aboriginal nor Torres Strait Islander origin' or 'Not stated/inadequately described'. As records with missing or inadequately described Indigenous status are reported under the non-indigenous group, presentations by First Nations people may be under reported.*

- 2. The government is committed to expanding data in the publicly available ACT Health Service Data Dashboard and is actively considering opportunities to include demographic information in future updates. Any expansion of reporting is informed by a careful assessment of data quality and privacy risks, particularly for small priority populations.*

Once demographic disaggregation is confirmed as appropriate for public reporting, it will be added to the dashboard as part of its ongoing expansion.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.



**Rachel Stephen-Smith MLA
Minister for Health**

Date: 31 / 3 / 26

This response required 6hrs 30mins to complete, at an approximate cost of \$643.83.