

Denominator

Population ages 18 years and older in metropolitan area[†] or county. Discharges in the numerator are assigned to the denominator based on the metropolitan area or county of the patient residence, not the metropolitan area or county of the hospital where the discharge occurred.[‡] May be combined with diabetes short-term complications as a single indicator as a simple sum of the rates to form the Health People 2010 indicator (note that the AHRQ QI™ excludes transfers to avoid double counting cases).

[†] The term “metropolitan area” (MA) was adopted by the U.S. Census in 1990 and referred collectively to metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs), consolidated metropolitan statistical areas (CMSAs), and primary metropolitan statistical areas (PMSAs). In addition, “area” could refer to either 1) FIPS county, 2) modified FIPS county, 3) 1999 OMB Metropolitan Statistical Area, or 4) 2003 OMB Metropolitan Statistical Area. Micropolitan Statistical Areas are not used in the QI software.

[‡] The denominator can be specified with the diabetic population only and calculated with the SAS QI software through the condition-specific denominator at the state-level feature.