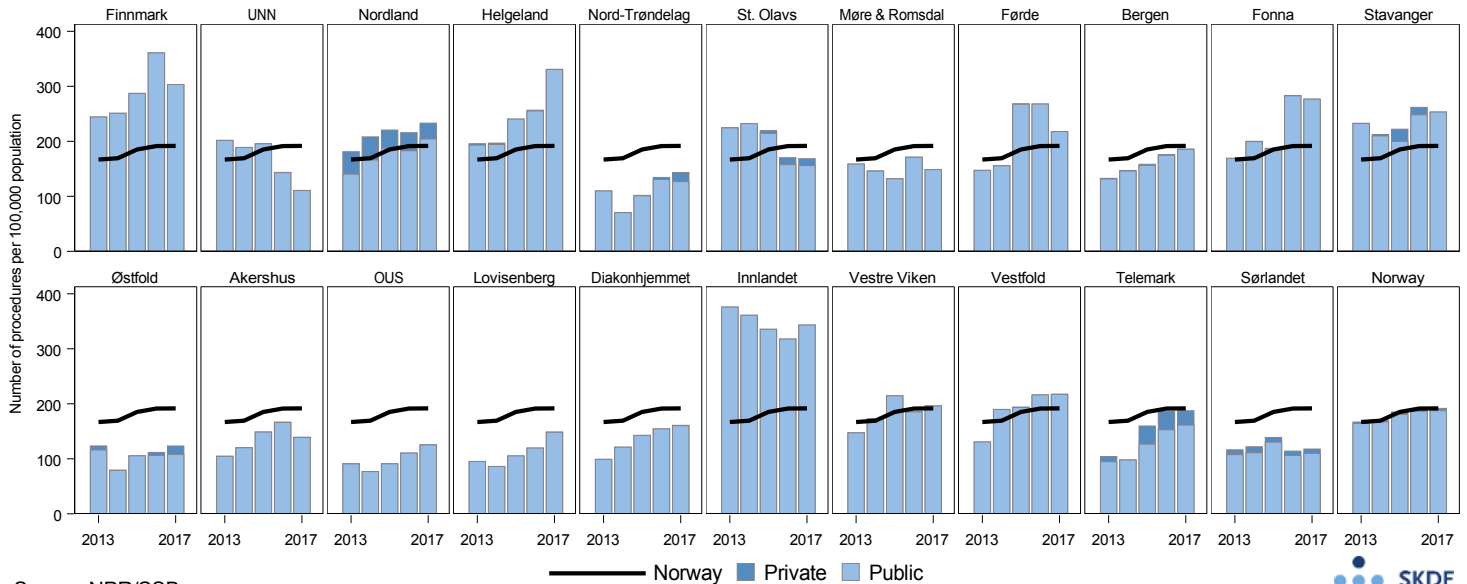


# Day surgery in Norway 2013–2017

## Haemorrhoids

Haemorrhoids are protrusions in the anal canal consisting of swollen veins and surrounding connecting tissue. Constipation, standing up for long periods of time, pregnancy and hard physical work predispose people to this condition. In addition to suppositories and ointments, haemorrhoids can also be treated by banding or by constricting the blood supply. Tying off and removing the vessels is another technique that is used, particularly for complicated cases.



Source: NPR/SSB

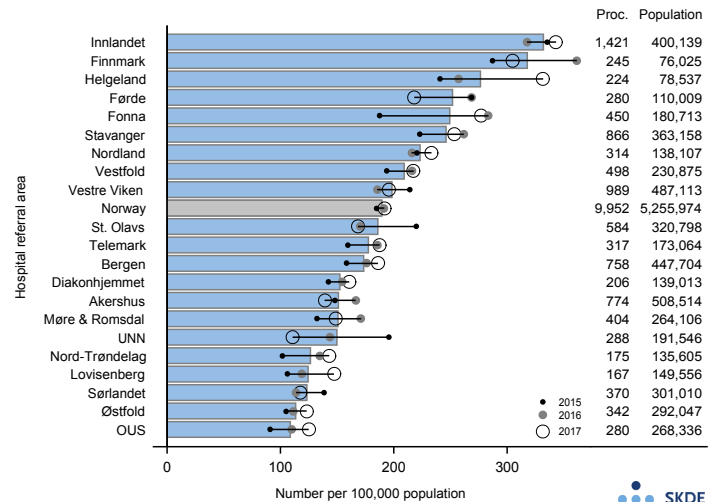
Haemorrhoids, development in the number of procedures per 100,000 population during the period 2013–2017, adjusted for gender and age. Broken down by hospital referral areas and public or private treatment providers.

### Development since 2013

The 2015 day surgery atlas showed a great variation in haemorrhoid procedures between hospital referral areas in Norway during the period 2011–2013. The population of Innlandet hospital referral area had significantly more procedures for haemorrhoids per 100,000 population than residents of the other hospital referral areas. If we exclude this area, the variation is still considerable. People living in Finnmark hospital referral area, which had the second highest rate, had 2.6 times as many procedures for haemorrhoids per 100,000 population as residents of Nord-Trøndelag, which had the lowest rate during the period 2011–2013. Very few procedures were performed by publicly funded private hospitals or specialists in private practice under public funding contracts. In 2013, nearly 8,500 procedures (adjusted rate: 167 per 100,000) were performed in Norway.

During the period 2015–2017, residents of Innlandet hospital referral area had over three times as many haemorrhoid procedures per 100,000 population as those resident in the OUS area.

Nationally, the number of procedures for haemorrhoids increased from 2013 to 2017. In 2017, just over 10,100 such procedures (adjusted rate: 192 per 100,000) were performed in Norway. The greatest increase was in Telemark hospital referral area, where the number of procedures per 100,000 population nearly doubled from 2013 to 2017. The number also increased for the hospital referral areas of Finnmark, Nordland, Helgeland, Førde, Fonna, Lovisenberg, Diakonhjemmet and Vestfold. There was a decrease in UNN, St. Olavs and Innlandet hospital referral areas. The majority of procedures for haemorrhoids took place at public hospitals during 2013–2017. Only in some hospital referral areas were a modest number of procedures performed by publicly funded private hospitals or specialists in private practice under public funding contracts.



Source: NPR/SSB

Number of procedures for haemorrhoids per 100,000 population, adjusted for gender and age. Average per year for the period 2015–2017.

### Comments

From 2013 to 2017, the number of procedures for haemorrhoids per 100,000 population increased in most hospital referral areas. The variation between hospital referral areas was also higher during the period 2015–2017 than during the period 2011–2013. There is no known geographical variation in the prevalence of haemorrhoids, nor is it likely that differences in patient preferences or chance can fully explain the observed variation. The variation is therefore deemed to be unwarranted.