

**Table 2 – Proportion of total PBS/RPBS antidepressant prescriptions supplied by age group**

Patient age group	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
00 to 17 years	2.0%	2.0%	1.7%	1.5%	1.4%	1.3%	1.3%	1.3%	1.4%	1.5%	1.9%	2.0%	2.1%	2.2%	2.3%	2.5%
18 to 27 years	7.1%	7.2%	7.1%	6.6%	6.2%	5.8%	5.8%	6.0%	6.0%	6.3%	7.2%	7.3%	7.6%	7.8%	8.1%	8.2%
28 to 37 years	13.7%	13.7%	13.5%	12.6%	11.9%	10.9%	10.6%	10.6%	10.3%	10.5%	11.8%	11.8%	11.9%	11.8%	11.9%	11.9%
38 to 47 years	18.4%	18.4%	18.3%	17.3%	16.4%	15.5%	15.1%	15.3%	15.3%	15.7%	17.5%	17.4%	17.3%	17.0%	16.7%	16.3%
48 to 57 years	19.6%	19.6%	19.6%	18.9%	18.1%	17.4%	17.0%	16.9%	16.9%	17.5%	19.3%	19.2%	19.1%	18.9%	18.7%	18.5%
58 to 67 years	14.7%	15.1%	15.6%	17.1%	18.2%	19.3%	19.8%	19.8%	19.8%	19.7%	18.5%	18.4%	18.3%	17.9%	17.7%	17.6%
68 to 77 years	13.1%	12.6%	12.4%	13.2%	14.1%	15.1%	15.4%	15.2%	15.4%	14.8%	12.4%	12.7%	12.8%	13.4%	13.7%	14.1%
78 to 87 years	9.3%	9.3%	9.4%	10.2%	11.0%	11.9%	12.0%	11.7%	11.5%	10.7%	8.6%	8.4%	8.2%	8.1%	8.1%	8.1%
88+ years	2.2%	2.2%	2.3%	2.5%	2.7%	2.9%	3.1%	3.2%	3.4%	3.3%	2.7%	2.7%	2.7%	2.7%	2.7%	2.8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**Notes:**  
 Includes medicines with an Anatomical Therapeutic Chemical (ATC) classification of *N06A - Antidepressants*.  
 Includes patients with PBS and RPBS prescriptions, including under co-payment prescriptions\*, supplied from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2018 and processed on or before 9 January 2019.  
 Unique patient counts based on PBS data are not available prior to 1 July 2002.  
 Age of patient based on age at first supply of an antidepressant medicine during the relevant year. Ages grouped by 0-17 (under 18) and then 10 year age groups.  
 Excludes patients with unknown age.  
 \*Data on under co-payment scripts was collected from 1 April 2012.  
 \*\* Data prior to 2011-12 does not include under co-payment scripts and is therefore not comparable with data for 2011-12 and later years which includes under co-payment scripts. 2011-12 data includes under co-payment scripts for part of the year (from 1 April 2012). \*\*

**Source:**  
 PBS online data maintained by the Department of Health and sourced from the Department of Human Services.  
 Data extracted 10 January 2019.

- Data for under co-payment scripts was collected from 1 April 2012. Therefore, data for 2002-03 through to 2011-12 can not be compared with later years;
- Data is provided for all age groups and the proportional use of antidepressants per cohort;
- Information about gender and geographic location is not readily available;
- The supply of antidepressants from 2002-03 to 2017-18 indicates the number of prescriptions and the number of patients supplied antidepressants remained steady (with increases and decreases) from 2002-03 to 2010-11, and has increased since, noting the jump in 2011-12/2012-13 was due to the inclusion of under co-payment prescriptions;
- The supply of PBS/RPBS prescriptions for antidepressants and the number of patients have increased for all age groups since 2012-13, based on both the raw numbers and rates per 1,000 population;
- The younger age groups (0-17 and 18-27) have grown at a slightly faster rate than other age groups in recent years, with a slight increase in the number of younger people as a proportion of total antidepressant users (0-27 year olds represented 9.1 per cent of total antidepressant users in 2002-03 and 2012-13, increasing to 10.7 per cent in 2017-18).