Five Most Frequent DRGs in Washington's Community Hospitals, 2010–2021:

Part VII – Inpatients by Accountable Communities of Health

ofmforecasting@ofm.wa.gov

Forecasting and Research

Health Care Research Center
The Office of Financial Management

Five Most Frequent DRGs in Washington's Community Hospitals, 2010-2021

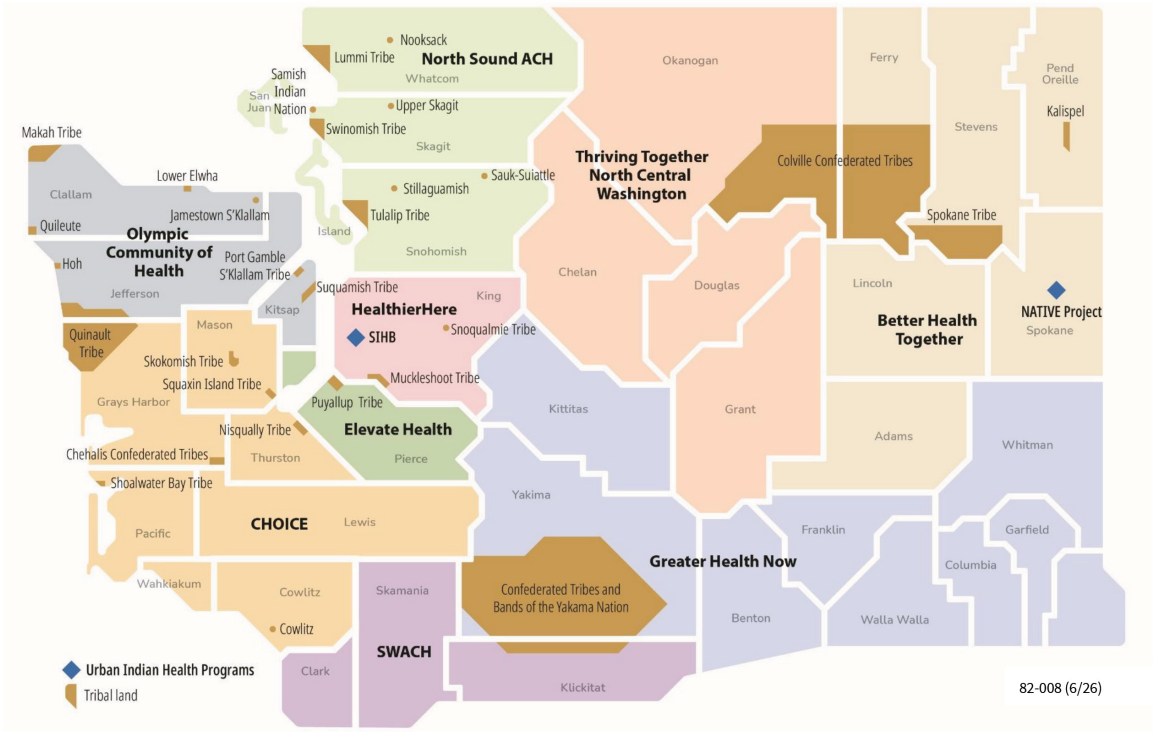
This is part seven of a seven-part report on changes in the medical conditions for which Washington residents received care in community hospitals from 2010 to 2021. For an explanation of how these conditions are classified, and the data source and methods used, see part one of the report, available on the OFM website.

Accountable Communities of Health

Better Health Together 4
CHOICE 8
Elevate Health 11
Greater Health Now 16
HealthierHere 20
North Sound ACH 23
Olympic Community of Health 27
SWACH 32
Thriving Together NCW 36

Part VII – Inpatients by Accountable Communities of Health

An Accountable Community of Health (ACH) is a regional coalition consisting of representatives from a variety of sectors who work together to improve population health. Each ACH represents a county or a group of adjacent counties. These are the nine ACHs:[1]



[1] This map was created by the Washington State Health Care Authority. See https://www.hca.wa.gov/about-hca/programs-and-initiatives/medicaid-transformation-project-mtp/accountable-communities-health-achs. Although the map includes locations for Urban Indian Health Programs, the activities of those programs are beyond the scope of this analysis.

Accountable Communities of Health

1. **Better Health Together:** (Adams, Ferry, Lincoln, Pend Oreille, Spokane and Stevens counties, and the Reservations of the Kalispel Tribe of Indians, Spokane Tribe of Indians and the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation)
2. **CHOICE** (Cowlitz, Grays Harbor, Lewis, Mason, Pacific, Thurston and Wahkiakum counties, and the sovereign nations of Chehalis, Cowlitz, Nisqually, Quinault, Shoalwater Bay, Skokomish and Squaxin Island Tribes)
3. **Elevate Health** (Pierce)
4. **Greater Health Now** (Asotin, Benton, Columbia, Garfield, Franklin, Kittitas, Walla Walla, Whitman, Yakima counties and the Yakama Nation)
5. **HealthierHere** (King)
6. **Thriving Together NCW** (Chelan, Douglas, Grant and Okanogan counties and the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation)
7. **North Sound ACH** (Island, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish and Whatcom counties, and the Lummi Nation, Nooksack Tribe, Upper Skagit Tribe, Samish Indian Nation, Swinomish Indian Tribal Community, Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians, Tulalip Tribes and Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe)
8. **Olympic Community of Health** (Clallam, Jefferson and Kitsap counties and the Sovereign Nations of Hoh, Jamestown S'Klallam, Lower Elwha Klallam, Makah, Port Gamble S'Klallam, Quileute and Suquamish)
9. **SWACH** (Southwest Washington ACH) (Clark, Klickitat and Skamania counties)

The data source contains a small number of patients from out of state or whose residence location is unknown. For our analysis of diagnosis-related groups (DRG) by ACH, we excluded those records.

Across the nine Accountable Communities of Health (ACHs), the top five DRGs exhibited both similarities and differences.

- In most years, the 1st and 2nd place DRGs were the same across all nine ACHs, and both were birth-related:
    - DRG 795 (normal newborn) ranked 1st consistently.
    - DRG N70 (vaginal delivery with or without sterilization or D&C, without CC/MCC) held 2nd place.

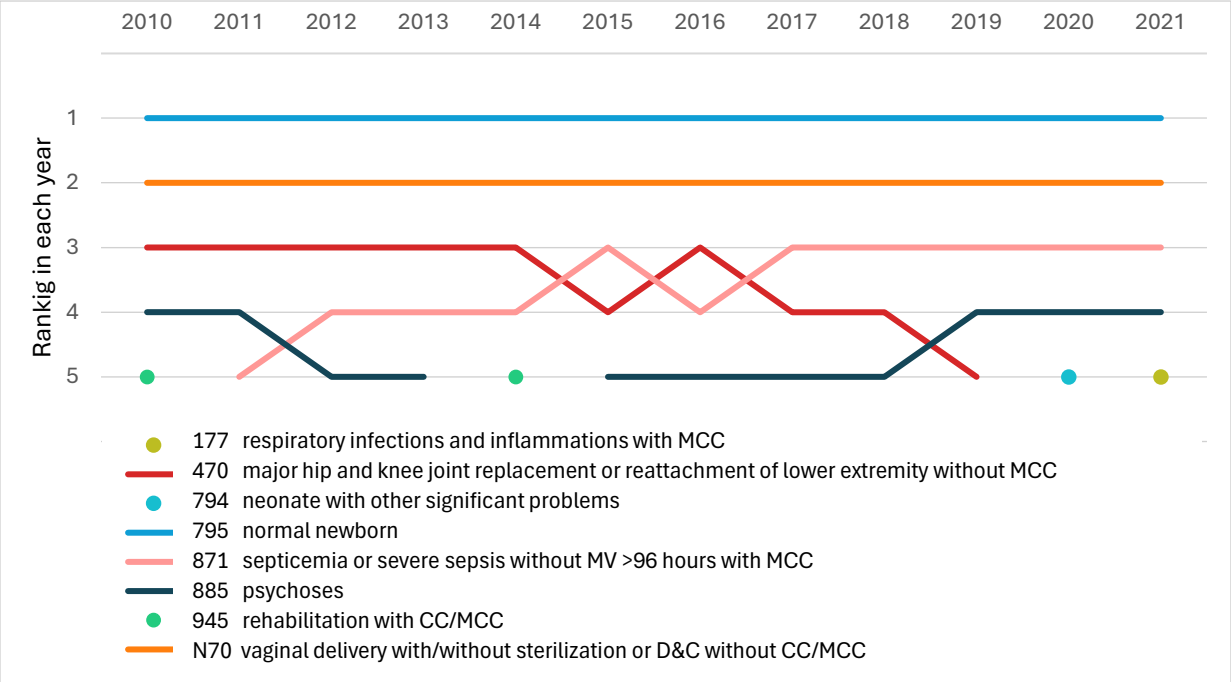
- DRG 470 (major hip and knee joint replacement or reattachment of lower extremity without MCC) was ranked 3rd across all ACHs until it dropped out of the top five in recent years. This decline was largely driven by:
    1. The shift of hip and knee replacement surgeries from hospitals to ambulatory surgery centers.
    2. The halt of elective surgeries in 2020 and 2021 during the COVID-19 pandemic, which affected most DRG 470 cases.
- Beyond these common top three DRGs, the 4th and 5th place rankings varied across the nine ACHs, reflecting regional differences in hospitalization trends.

Better Health Together

Better Health Together covers six counties in the northeast corner of the state. The top five DRGs for this ACH remained relatively stable over the years.

- DRG 795 (normal newborn) and DRG N70 (vaginal delivery with or without sterilization or D&C, without CC/MCC) consistently held the 1st and 2nd positions, respectively, every year.
- The other three DRGs maintained rankings between 3rd and 5th place in nearly all years, with only one or two exceptions.

Figure VII-1. Top five DRGs among persons in Better Health Together ACH discharged from Washington hospitals: 2010-2021



There were about 13,800 to 15,900 patients from Better Health Together in the top five DRGs. They accounted for 25-30% of the total hospital patients in this ACH.

Table VII-1. Number and percent of persons in Better Health Together ACH discharged from Washington hospitals by top five DRGs: 2010-2021

Better Health Together	Top 1st DRG			Top 2nd DRG			Top 3rd DRG			Top 4th DRG			Top 5th DRG		
	MS-DRG	N	% Total	MS-DRG	N	% Total	MS-DRG	N	% Total	MS-DRG	N	% Total	MS-DRG	N	% Total
2010	795	5,175	9.3%	N70	3,919	7.0%	470	1,895	3.4%	885	1,449	2.6%	945	1,354	2.4%
2011	795	4,999	9.4%	N70	4,015	7.5%	470	1,838	3.5%	885	1,535	2.9%	871	1,435	2.7%
2012	795	5,144	9.1%	N70	4,092	7.2%	470	2,112	3.7%	871	1,634	2.9%	885	1,392	2.5%
2013	795	5,041	9.2%	N70	4,112	7.5%	470	2,334	4.3%	871	1,816	3.3%	885	1,141	2.1%
2014	795	4,876	8.8%	N70	3,995	7.2%	470	2,407	4.4%	871	2,184	4.0%	945	1,245	2.3%
2015	795	4,984	8.8%	N70	3,951	7.0%	871	2,752	4.9%	470	2,554	4.5%	885	1,154	2.0%
2016	795	4,897	8.6%	N70	4,126	7.3%	470	2,832	5.0%	871	2,606	4.6%	885	1,152	2.0%
2017	795	4,612	8.2%	N70	4,012	7.1%	871	2,888	5.1%	470	2,884	5.1%	885	1,527	2.7%
2018	795	4,352	8.2%	N70	3,709	7.0%	871	2,911	5.5%	470	2,083	3.9%	885	1,461	2.8%
2019	795	4,282	7.9%	N70	3,563	6.6%	871	3,017	5.6%	885	2,475	4.6%	470	1,582	2.9%
2020	795	3,820	7.6%	N70	3,217	6.4%	871	2,850	5.7%	885	2,837	5.6%	794	1,553	3.1%
2021	795	3,725	7.3%	N70	3,317	6.5%	871	2,919	5.8%	885	2,709	5.3%	177	2,695	5.3%

177 = respiratory infections and inflammations with MCC
470 = major hip and knee joint replacement or reattachment of lower extremity without MCC
794 = neonate with other significant problems
795 = normal newborn
871 = septicemia or severe sepsis without MV >96 hours with MCC
885 = psychoses
945 = rehabilitation with CC/MCC
N70 = vaginal delivery with/without sterilization or D&C without CC/MCC

Two of Better Health Together's top five DRGs found in 2010 remained in the top five through 2021:

- DRG 795 (normal newborn) always in 1st place
- DRG N70 (vaginal delivery with/without sterilization or D&C without CC/MCC) always in 2nd place

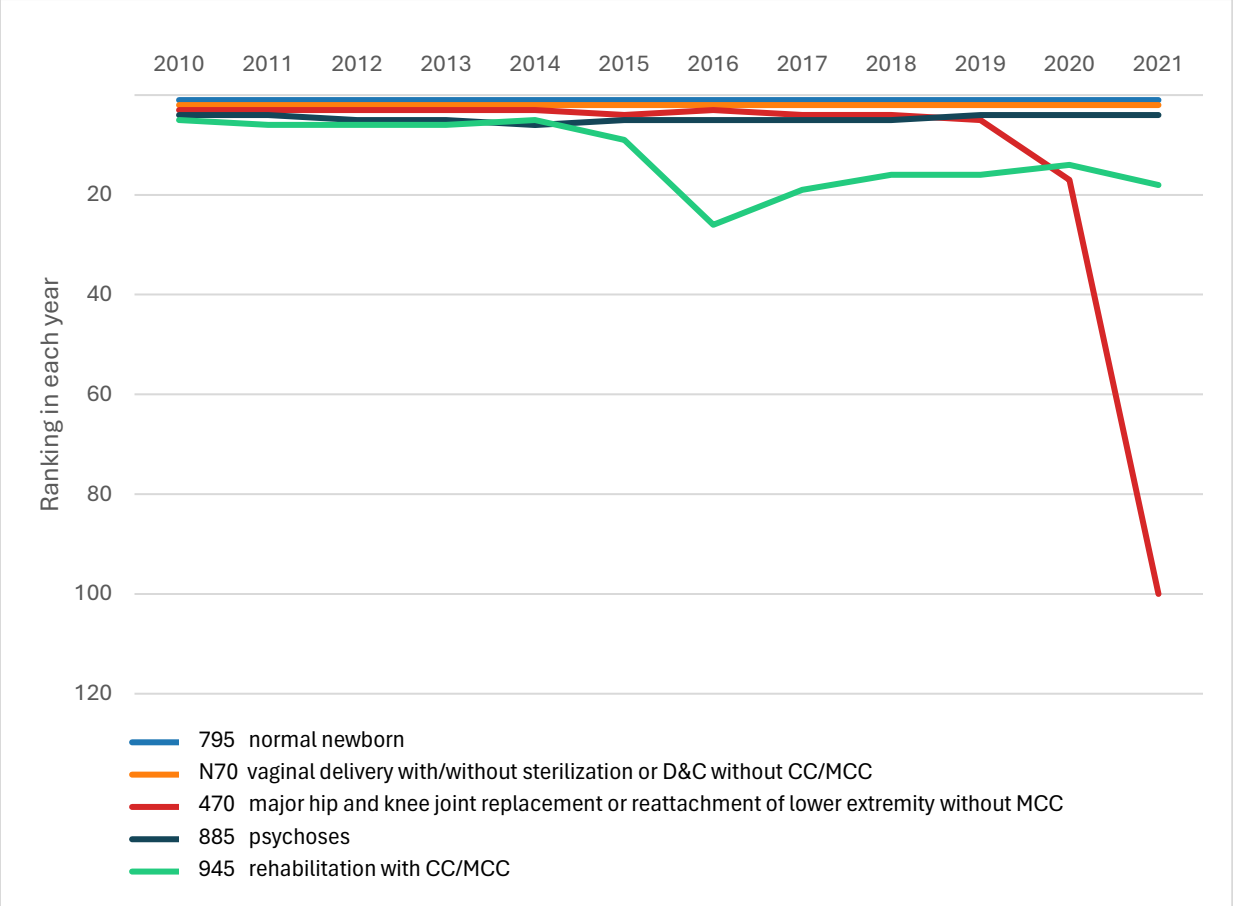
One DRG dropped out of the top five briefly but quickly moved up again:

- DRG 885 (psychoses) shifting between 4th place and 5th place except in 2014 when it dropped just outside the top five, to 6th place.

The remaining two DRGs fell out of the top five in the later years:

- DRG 470 (major hip and knee joint replacement or reattachment of lower extremity without MCC) dropped from 3rd place to 5th in 2019, then sharply fell to 17th in 2020 and 100th in 2021. The early decline reflected a shift toward outpatient/ambulatory surgery centers, while the steep drop during 2020–2021 was largely due to the pause in inpatient elective surgeries during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- DRG 945 (rehabilitation with CC/MCC) dropped from 5th place in 2010 to 9th in 2015 and remained out of the top five since.

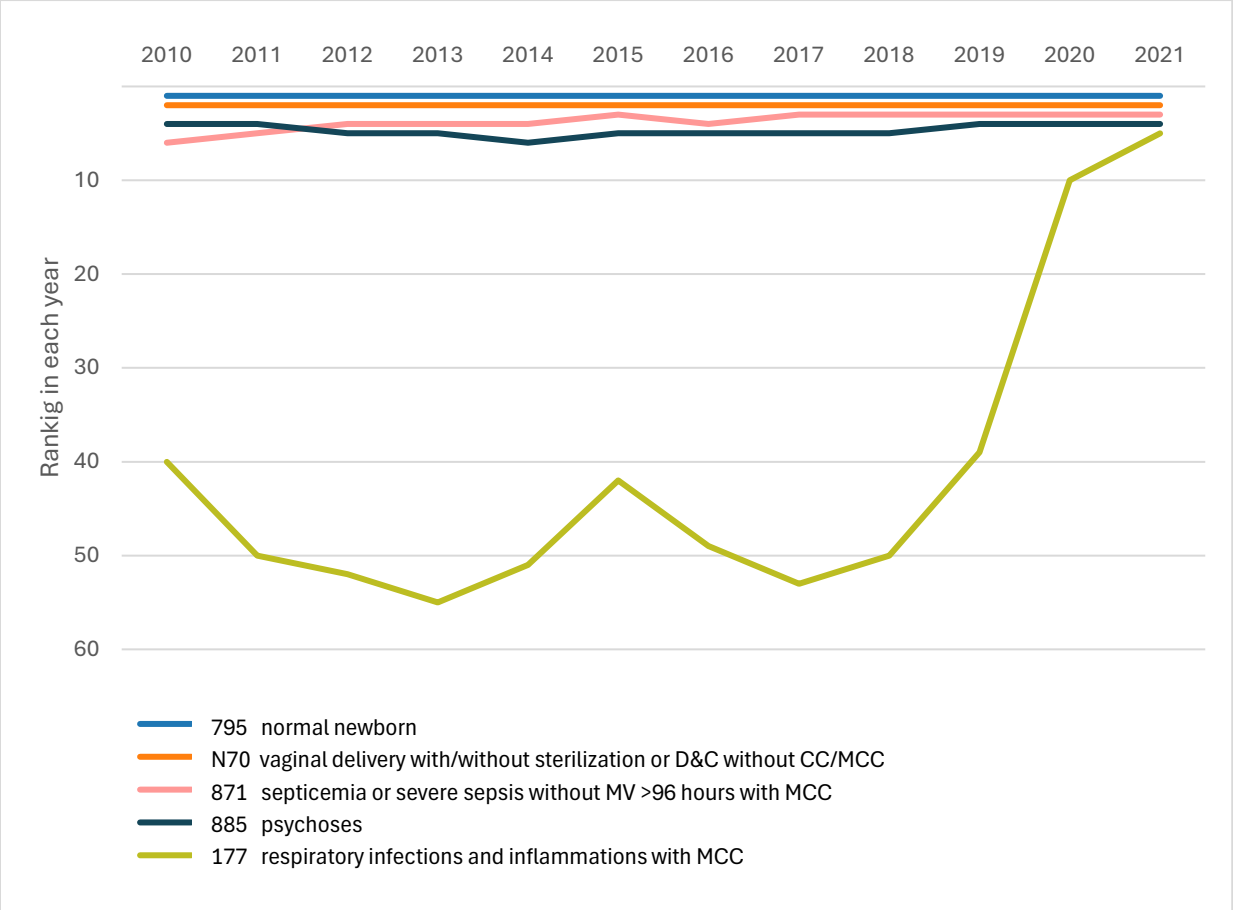
Figure VII-2. Top five DRGs in 2010 and their rank changes in subsequent years: persons in Better Health Together ACH, 2010-2021



Among the 2021 top five DRGs, only DRG 871 (septicemia or severe sepsis with mechanical ventilation over 96 hours) and DRG 177 (respiratory infections and inflammations with MCC) were not in the 2010 top five.

- DRG 871 narrowly missed the top five in 2010, ranking 6th place. In the following years, its position fluctuated between 3rd and 5th place, eventually settling at 4th place in 2021.
- DRG 177 ranked below 30th place from 2010 to 2019, standing at 39th place in 2019. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 and 2021, its ranking surged, landing at 5th place in 2021.

Figure VII-3. Prior rankings of 2021 top five DRGs:
persons in Better Health Together ACH discharged from Washington hospitals, 2010-2021

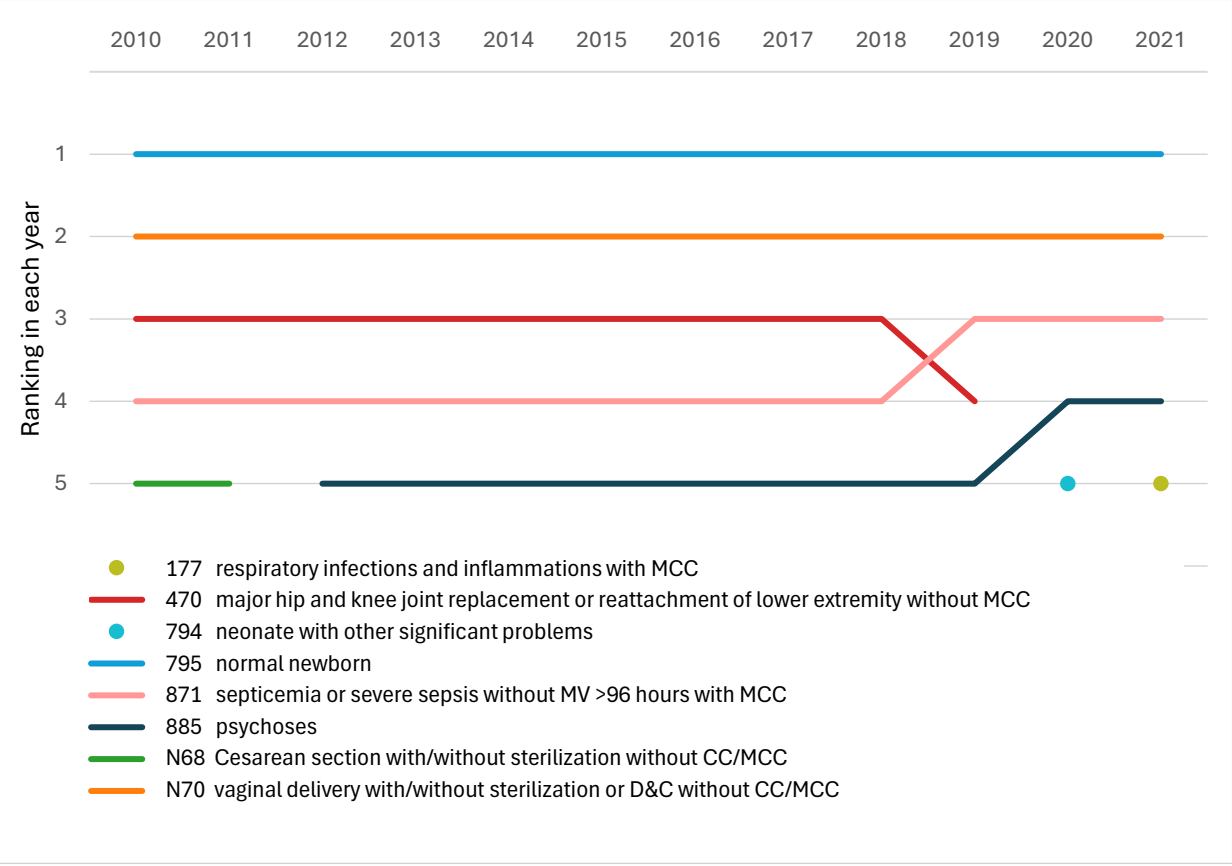


CHOICE

CHOICE ACH covers seven counties in western Washington, stretching from South Puget Sound to the Pacific Coast. The top five DRGs remained relatively consistent over the years.

- DRG 795 (normal newborn) and DRG N70 (vaginal delivery with or without sterilization or D&C, without CC/MCC) consistently held 1st and 2nd place, respectively, in all years.
- DRG 871 (septicemia or severe sepsis without mechanical ventilation over 96 hours, with MCC) ranked 4th from 2010 to 2018, then moved up to 3rd place for the remaining years.
- DRG 470 (major hip and knee joint replacement or reattachment of lower extremity without MCC) appeared in the top five every year except the last two.
- DRG 885 (psychoses) was absent from the top five in the first two years but remained within the top five afterward.

Figure VII-4. Top five DRGs among persons in CHOICE ACH discharged from Washington hospitals: 2010-2021



The number of patients in CHOICE's top five DRGs ranged from 12,400 to 14,000 each year. The share of patients in the top five DRGs ranged from 19% to 23%.

Table VII-2. Number and percent of persons in CHOICE ACH discharged from Washington hospitals by top five DRGs: 2010-2021

Choice	Top 1st DRG			Top 2nd DRG			Top 3rd DRG			Top 4th DRG			Top 5th DRG		
	MS-DRG	N	% Total	MS-DRG	N	% Total	MS-DRG	N	% Total	MS-DRG	N	% Total	MS-DRG	N	% Total
2010	795	4,318	5.6%	N70	3,295	5.6%	470	2,480	4.2%	871	1,295	2.2%	N68	1,181	2.0%
2011	795	4,331	5.5%	N70	3,234	5.5%	470	2,301	3.9%	871	1,400	2.4%	N68	1,199	2.0%
2012	795	4,195	5.2%	N70	3,014	5.2%	470	2,297	4.0%	871	1,759	3.0%	885	1,108	1.9%
2013	795	4,089	5.5%	N70	3,139	5.5%	470	2,628	4.6%	871	1,867	3.3%	885	1,132	2.0%
2014	795	4,343	5.9%	N70	3,268	5.9%	470	2,717	4.9%	871	2,412	4.3%	885	1,215	2.2%
2015	795	4,106	5.9%	N70	3,285	5.9%	470	2,757	4.9%	871	2,173	3.9%	885	1,335	2.4%
2016	795	4,195	5.9%	N70	3,383	5.9%	470	2,783	4.9%	871	2,161	3.8%	885	1,474	2.6%
2017	795	3,843	5.8%	N70	3,388	5.8%	470	2,877	5.0%	871	2,443	4.2%	885	1,439	2.5%
2018	795	4,016	5.6%	N70	3,278	5.6%	470	2,410	4.1%	871	2,388	4.1%	885	1,592	2.7%
2019	795	3,822	4.9%	N70	2,886	4.9%	871	2,664	4.5%	470	2,179	3.7%	885	1,920	3.3%
2020	795	3,499	5.2%	N70	2,751	5.2%	871	2,352	4.4%	885	2,289	4.3%	794	1,513	2.9%
2021	795	3,472	5.0%	N70	2,734	5.0%	871	2,559	4.7%	885	2,222	4.1%	177	2,057	3.8%

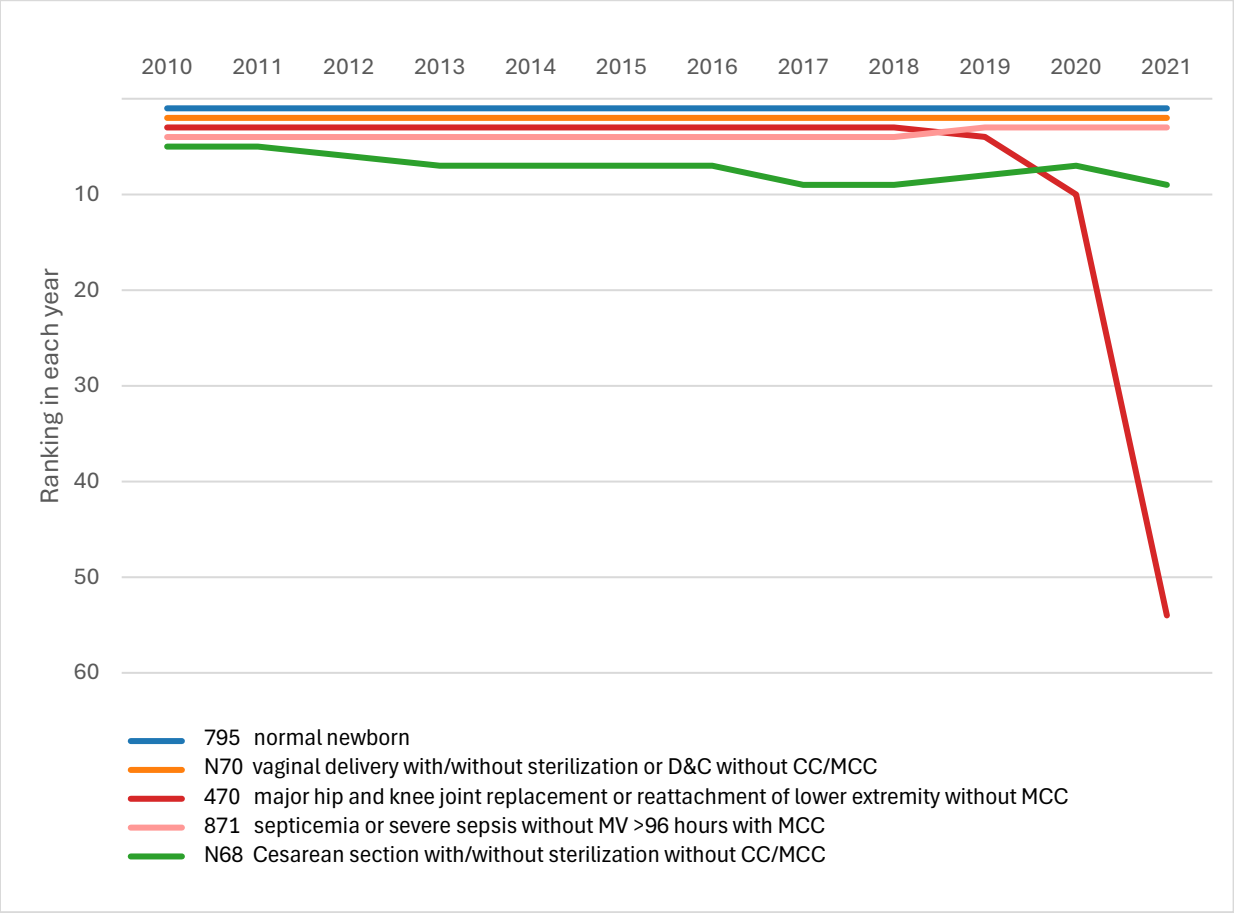
177 = respiratory infections and inflammations with MCC
470 = major hip and knee joint replacement or reattachment of lower extremity without MCC
794 = neonate with other significant problems
795 = normal newborn
871 = septicemia or severe sepsis without MV >96 hours with MCC
885 = psychoses
N68 = Cesarean section with/without sterilization without CC/MCC
N70 = vaginal delivery with/without sterilization or D&C without CC/MCC

In 2010, DRG 470 (major hip and knee joint replacement or reattachment of lower extremity without MCC) and DRG N68 (Cesarean section with or without sterilization, without CC/MCC) were the only two top five DRGs that did not remain in the top five in 2021.

- DRG 470 ranked 3rd through 2018 but began declining in 2019, falling from 4th place to 10th in 2020, and plummeting to 54th place in 2021. This drop was driven by:
    1. The shift of major hip and knee replacement procedures from inpatient to outpatient settings.
    2. The halt of elective surgeries—which included most DRG 470 cases—during the COVID-19 pandemic.

- DRG N68 held 5th place in 2010 and 2011 but steadily dropped after 2012, moving from 6th place to 9th place by 2021.

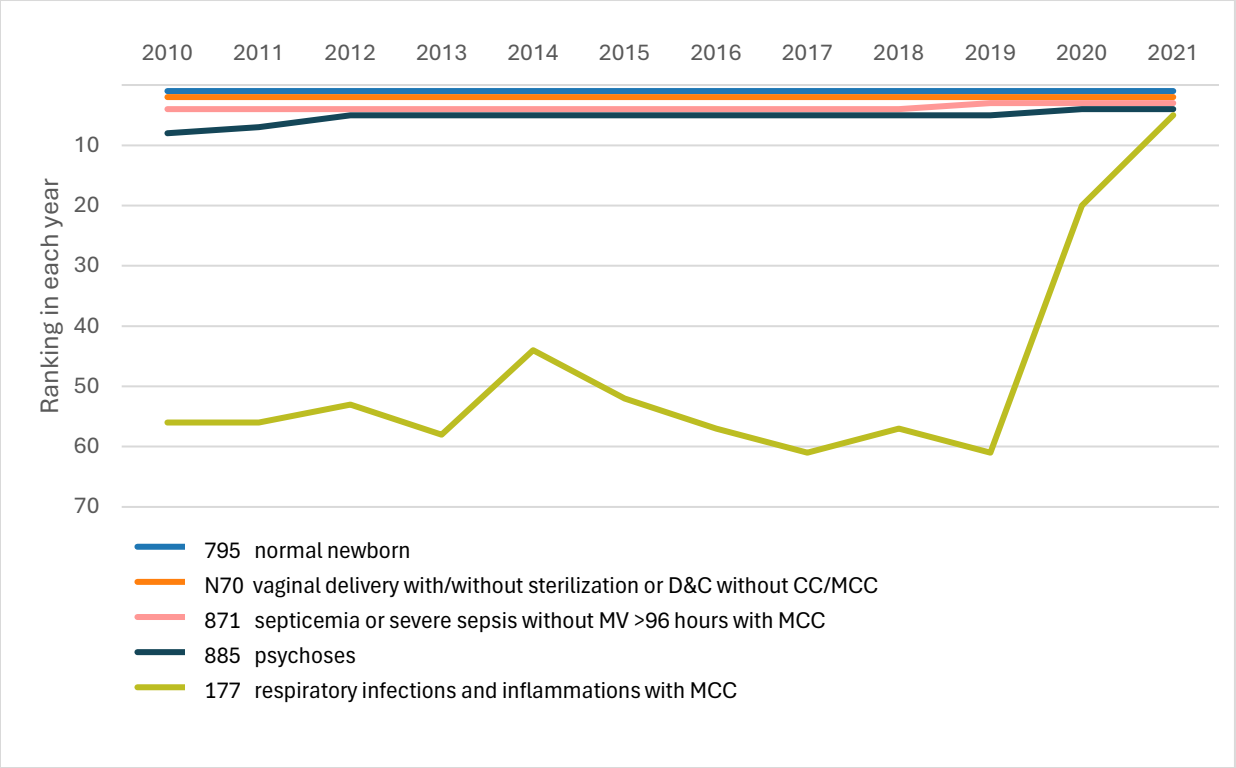
Figure VII-5. Top five DRGs in 2010 and their rank changes in subsequent years: persons in CHOICE ACH, 2010-2021



Among the top five DRGs in 2021, only DRG 885 (psychoses) and DRG 177 (respiratory infections and inflammations with MCC) were not in the 2010 top five.

- DRG 885 started at 8th place in 2010 and moved up to 7th place in 2011. Over the next eight years, it gradually climbed to 5th place, before rising further to 4th place in 2020 and 2021.
- DRG 177 ranked 56th in 2010, remaining relatively stable at 61st place in 2019. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, its ranking surged—jumping to 20th place in 2020 and further to 5th place in 2021.

Figure VII-6. Prior rankings of 2021 top five DRGs: persons in CHOICE ACH discharged from Washington hospitals, 2010-28



Elevate Health

Elevate Health, an ACH serving Pierce County, saw ten distinct DRGs appear in its annual top five from 2010 to 2021. Two DRGs consistently ranked in the top five throughout the entire period—and both were related to childbirth:

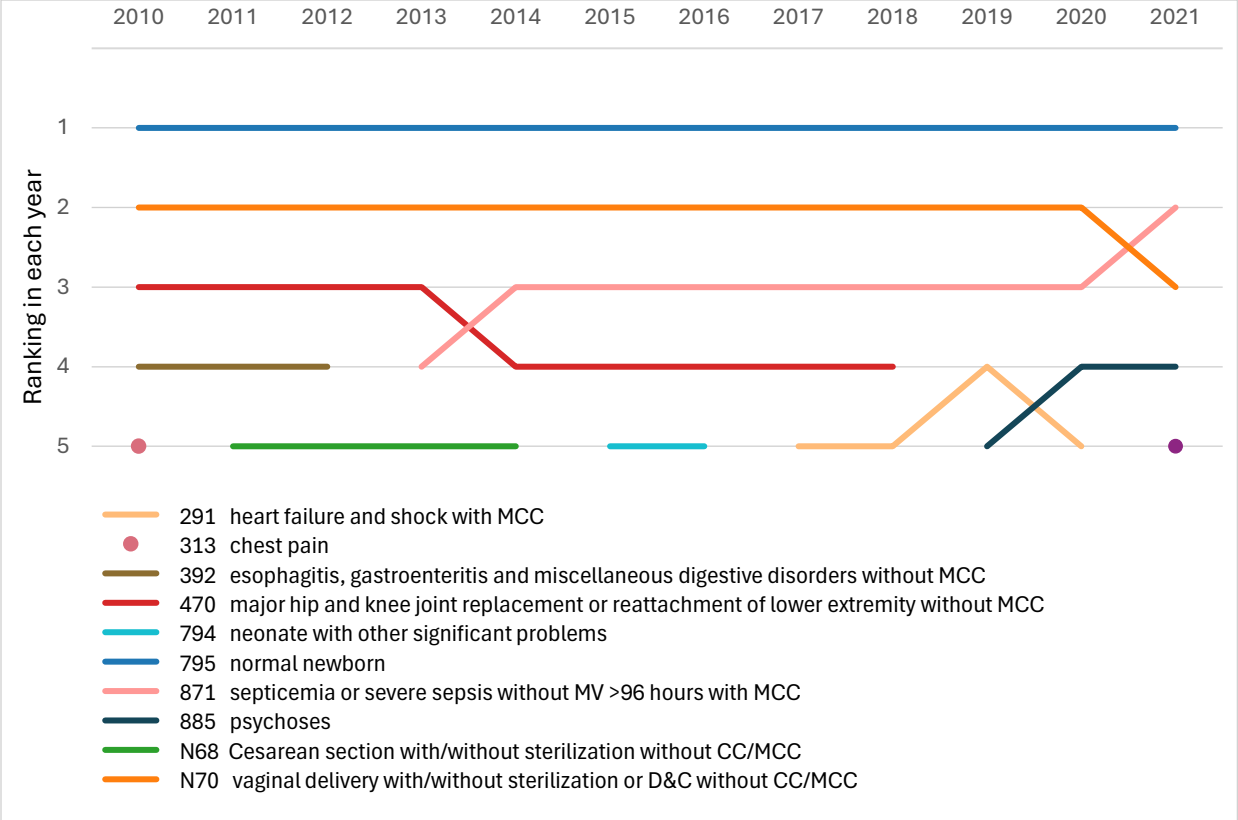
- DRG 795 (Normal newborn)
- DRG N70 (Vaginal delivery with/without sterilization or D&C without CC/MCC)

Two additional DRGs appeared in the top five for most of the years:

- DRG 470 (Major hip and knee joint replacement or reattachment of lower extremity without MCC)
- DRG 871 (Septicemia or severe sepsis without MV >96 hours with MCC)

The remaining six DRGs made brief appearances in the top five, each holding a spot for no more than three years.

Figure VII-7. Top five DRGs among persons in Elevate Health ACH discharged from Washington hospitals: 2010-2021



The number of patients in Elevate Health's top five DRGs ranged from 17,900 (2010) to 20,600 (2017). The share of total ACH inpatients represented by the top five DRGs ranged from 22% (2010) to 27% (2016).

Table VII-3. Number and percent of persons in Elevate Health ACH discharged from Washington hospitals by top five DRGs: 2010-2021

Elevate Health	Top 1st DRG			Top 2nd DRG			Top 3rd DRG			Top 4th DRG			Top 5th DRG		
	MS-DRG	N	% Total	MS-DRG	N	% Total	MS-DRG	N	% Total	MS-DRG	N	% Total	MS-DRG	N	% Total
2010	795	6,500	8.1%	N70	5,211	6.5%	470	2,260	2.8%	392	2,011	2.5%	313	1,878	2.3%
2011	795	6,831	8.5%	N70	5,150	6.4%	470	2,452	3.1%	392	1,997	2.5%	N68	1,699	2.1%
2012	795	6,824	8.5%	N70	5,171	6.4%	470	2,353	2.9%	392	1,908	2.4%	N68	1,660	2.1%
2013	795	6,592	8.5%	N70	5,059	6.5%	470	2,504	3.2%	871	2,195	2.8%	N68	1,578	2.0%
2014	795	6,726	8.9%	N70	5,526	7.3%	871	2,798	3.7%	470	2,660	3.5%	N68	1,673	2.2%
2015	795	6,667	8.6%	N70	5,369	6.9%	871	3,437	4.4%	470	2,734	3.5%	794	1,664	2.1%
2016	795	6,671	8.7%	N70	5,496	7.2%	871	3,720	4.8%	470	2,915	3.8%	794	1,761	2.3%
2017	795	6,259	8.0%	N70	5,260	6.7%	871	4,245	5.4%	470	2,831	3.6%	291	2,034	2.6%
2018	795	6,116	7.8%	N70	5,060	6.4%	871	4,229	5.4%	470	2,371	3.0%	291	2,212	2.8%
2019	795	6,117	7.7%	N70	4,694	5.9%	871	4,521	5.7%	291	2,441	3.1%	885	2,011	2.5%
2020	795	5,556	7.5%	N70	4,431	5.9%	871	4,347	5.8%	885	2,726	3.7%	291	2,273	3.0%
2021	795	5,132	6.5%	871	4,408	5.6%	N70	4,220	5.3%	885	2,818	3.6%	794	2,789	3.5%

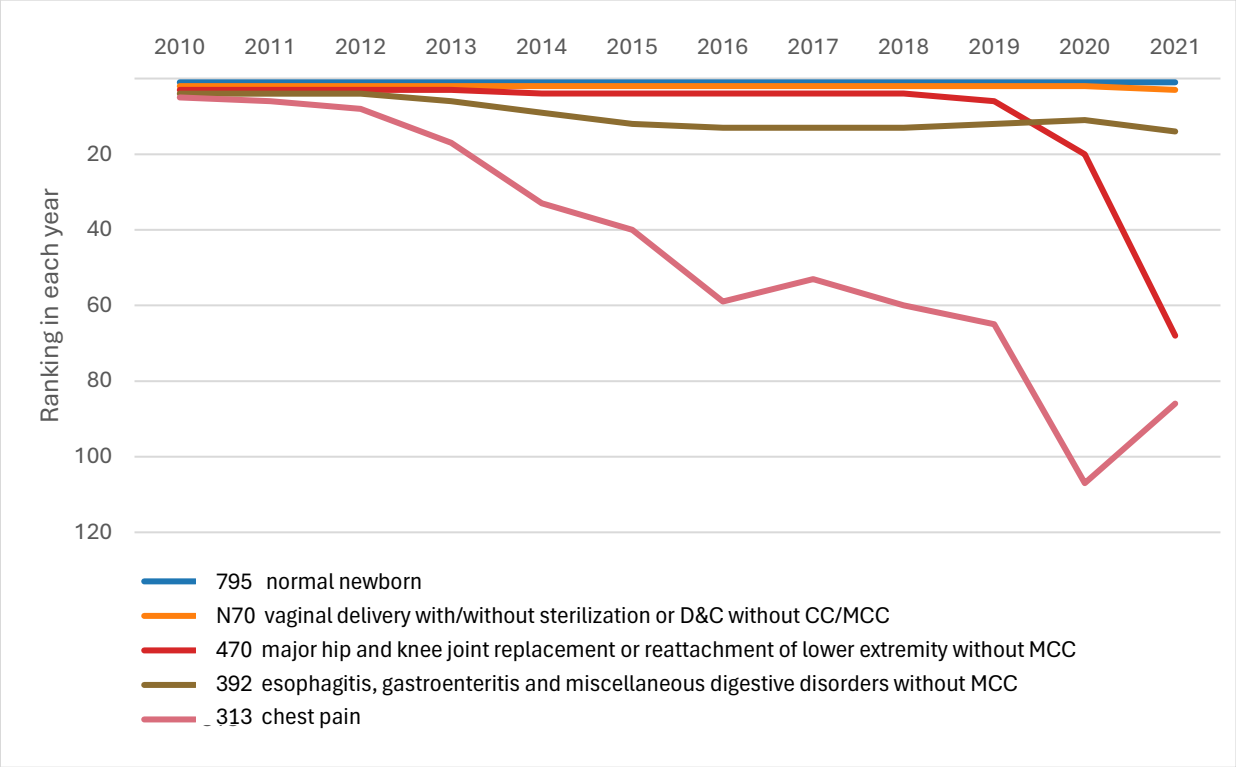
291 = heart failure and shock with MCC
313 = chest pain
392 = esophagitis, gastroenteritis and miscellaneous digestive disorders without MCC
470 = major hip and knee joint replacement or reattachment of lower extremity without MCC
794 = neonate with other significant problems
795 = normal newborn
871 = septicemia or severe sepsis without MV >96 hours with MCC
885 = psychoses
N68 = Cesarean section with/without sterilization without CC/MCC
N70 = vaginal delivery with/without sterilization or D&C without CC/MCC

Three DRGs that ranked in the top five in 2010 dropped out of the top five in subsequent years:

- DRG 470 (major hip and knee joint replacement or reattachment of lower extremity without MCC) held 3rd place from 2010 to 2013 and 4th place from 2014 to 2018. However, its ranking declined sharply from 6th place in 2018 to 20th in 2019 and 68th place in 2021. This downward trend was driven by:
    1. The shift of major hip and knee replacements from inpatient to outpatient settings.
    2. The halt of elective surgeries—which included most DRG 470 cases—during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- DRG 392 (esophagitis, gastroenteritis, and miscellaneous digestive disorders without MCC) ranked 4th for the first three years, then declined from 6th place in 2013 to 14th place by 2021.

- DRG 313 (chest pain) was in 5th place only in 2010, then gradually dropped—falling from 6th place in 2011 to 107th place in 2020, before rebounding to 86th place in 2021.
    - The initial decline in inpatient chest pain admissions was influenced by several factors, including: [2]
        - The shift of inpatient beds to observation units.
        - Insurance and hospital efforts to reduce readmissions.
        - Advancements in emergency care, allowing more chest pain cases to be managed without hospitalization.
        - Expanded primary care access through the ACA's Medicaid expansion and health insurance exchanges.
    - The later increase in inpatient chest pain admissions was largely due to the COVID-19 pandemic, which resulted in COVID-related cardiac complications.[3]

Figure VII-8. Top five DRGs in 2010 and their rank changes in subsequent years: persons in Elevate Health ACH, 2010-2021



[2] Aalam AA, Alsabban A, Pines JM. National trends in chest pain visits in US emergency departments (2006–2016). *Emergency Medicine Journal* 2020;**37:**696-699

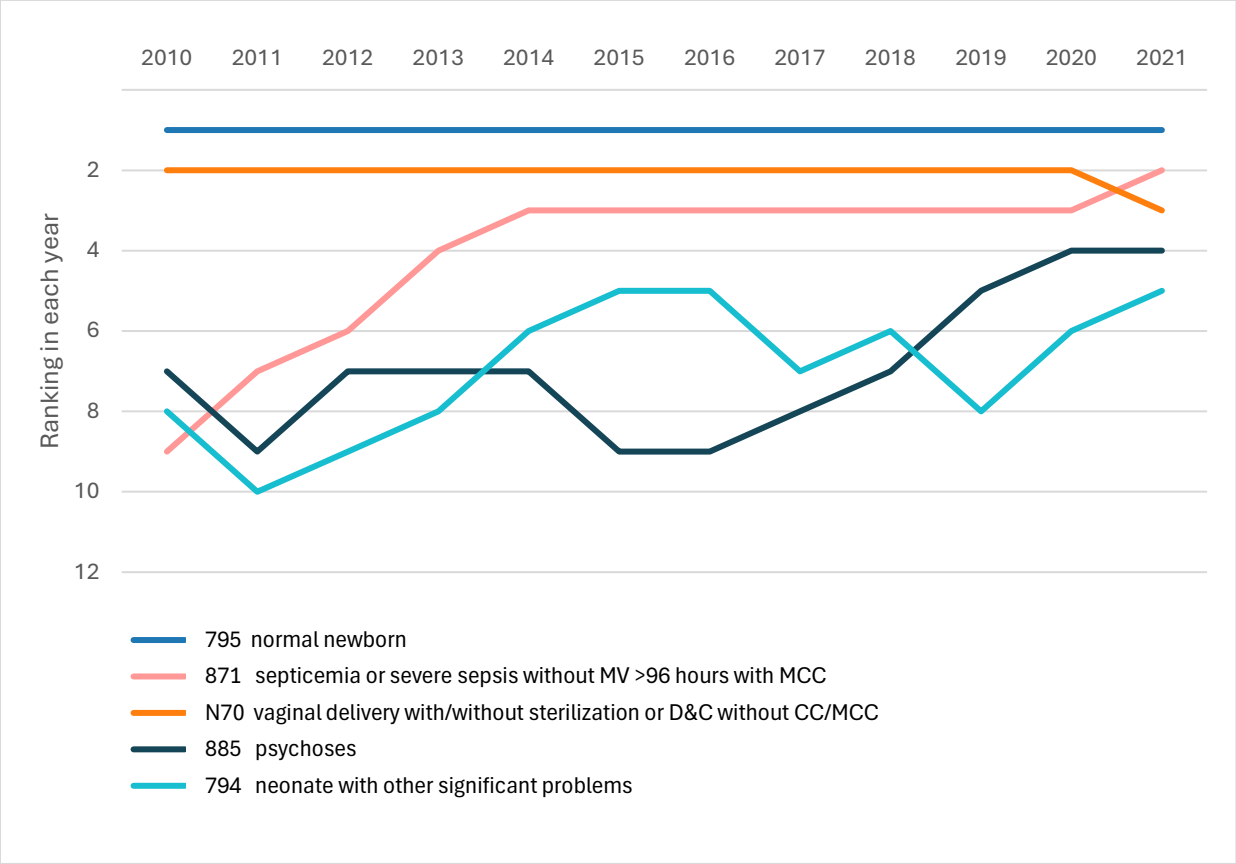
[3] Meille G, Owens PL, Decker SL, et al. COVID-19 Admission Rates and Changes in Care Quality in US Hospitals. *JAMA Netw Open*. 2024;7(5):

Among the top five DRGs in 2021, three were not in the top five in 2010, but their rankings did not change drastically:

- DRG 871 (septicemia or severe sepsis without mechanical ventilation over 96 hours, with MCC) moved up from 9th place in 2010 to 2nd place in 2021.
- DRG 885 (psychoses) climbed from 7th place in 2010 to 4th place in 2021.
- DRG 794 (neonate with other significant problems) shifted from 8th place in 2010 to 5th place in 2021.

Notably, DRG 177 (respiratory infections and inflammations with MCC) did not move into the top five during the COVID-19 pandemic, unlike many other demographic groups and ACHs, where its ranking surged.

Figure VII-9. Prior rankings of 2021 top five DRGs:
persons in Elevate Health ACH discharged from Washington hospitals, 2010-2021

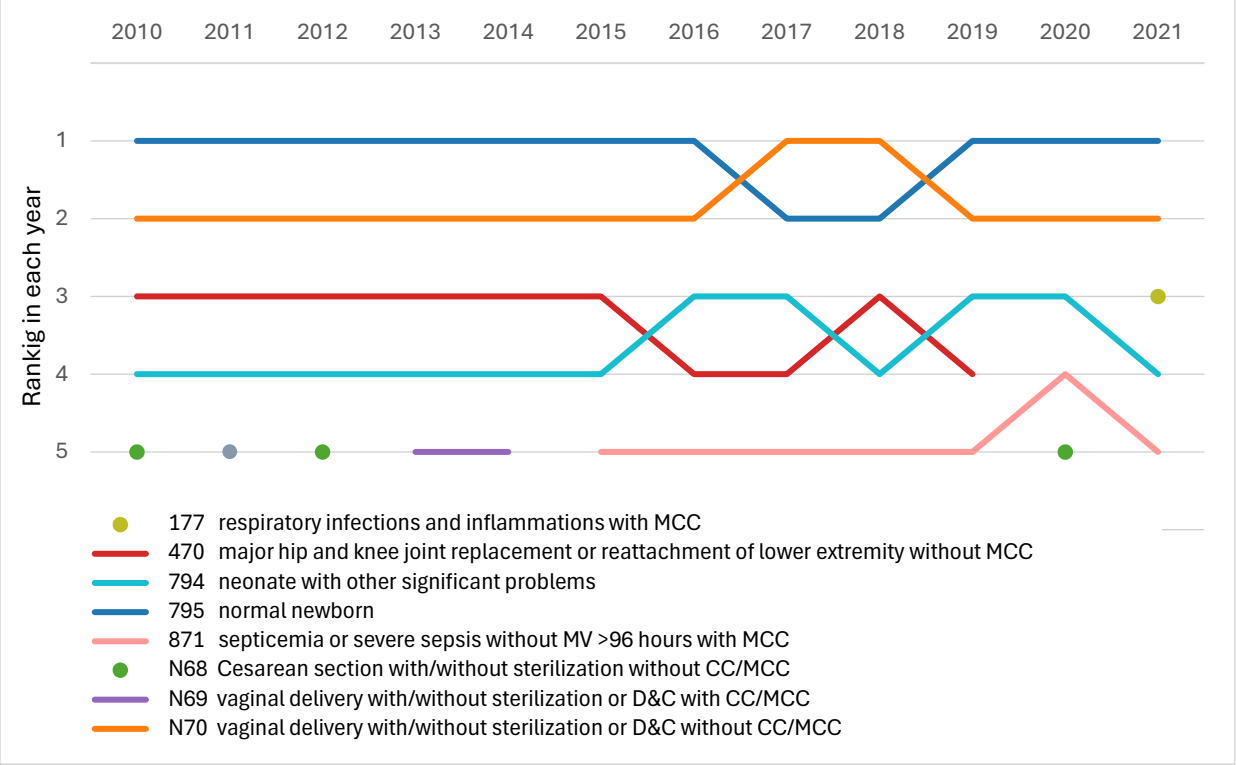


Greater Health Now

Greater Health Now ACH spans nine counties, covering the southeast corner of the state to the central region. The top five DRGs remained mostly stable, except for fluctuations in 5th place.

- DRG 795 (normal newborn) and DRG N70 (vaginal delivery with or without sterilization or D&C, without CC/MCC) consistently ranked 1st and 2nd place, respectively, in all years—except in 2017 and 2018, when their rankings were temporarily reversed.
- DRG 470 (major hip and knee joint replacement or reattachment of lower extremity without MCC) held 3rd place for most years before 2020 but dropped out of the top five in the last two years.
- DRG 794 (neonate with other significant problems) ranked 4th from 2010 to 2015. In the following years, it fluctuated between 3rd and 4th place before settling at 4th place again in 2021.

Figure VII-10. Top five DRGs among persons in Greater Health Now ACH discharged from Washington hospitals: 2010-2021



The number of patients in the top five DRGs in Greater Health Now was greater in the years leading up to 2017 (17,500-18,600) and was somewhat smaller afterwards (15,200-16,300). The share of the total inpatients in this ACH accounted for by those in the top five DRGs did not quite follow the same pattern. The share ranged from 26.8% (2019) to 30.4% (2016).

Table VII-4. Number and percent of persons in Greater Health Now ACH discharged from Washington hospitals by top five DRGs: 2010-2021

Greater Health Now	Top 1st DRG			Top 2nd DRG			Top 3rd DRG			Top 4th DRG			Top 5th DRG		
	MS-DRG	N	% Total	MS-DRG	N	% Total	MS-DRG	N	% Total	MS-DRG	N	% Total	MS-DRG	N	% Total
2010	795	7,270	10.9%	N70	6,139	9.2%	470	2,126	3.2%	794	1,658	2.5%	N68	1,418	2.1%
2011	795	7,158	10.8%	N70	5,849	8.9%	470	2,171	3.3%	794	1,640	2.5%	N69	1,486	2.3%
2012	795	6,747	10.6%	N70	5,648	8.9%	470	2,205	3.5%	794	1,651	2.6%	N68	1,402	2.2%
2013	795	6,458	10.5%	N70	5,589	9.1%	470	2,385	3.9%	794	1,756	2.8%	N69	1,379	2.2%
2014	795	6,661	10.9%	N70	5,746	9.4%	470	2,455	4.0%	794	1,907	3.1%	N69	1,445	2.4%
2015	795	6,589	10.7%	N70	5,726	9.3%	470	2,441	4.0%	794	2,031	3.3%	871	1,856	3.0%
2016	795	5,887	9.8%	N70	5,612	9.3%	794	2,502	4.1%	470	2,501	4.1%	871	1,869	3.1%
2017	N70	5,352	8.9%	795	4,671	7.7%	794	2,819	4.7%	470	2,661	4.4%	871	1,953	3.2%
2018	N70	4,937	8.5%	795	4,775	8.3%	470	2,409	4.2%	794	2,226	3.8%	871	1,952	3.4%
2019	795	5,204	8.6%	N70	4,676	7.7%	794	2,286	3.8%	470	2,107	3.5%	871	1,928	3.2%
2020	795	4,885	9.0%	N70	4,697	8.7%	794	2,205	4.1%	871	1,991	3.7%	N68	1,465	2.7%
2021	795	4,755	8.8%	N70	4,542	8.4%	177	2,637	4.9%	794	2,090	3.9%	871	1,977	3.7%

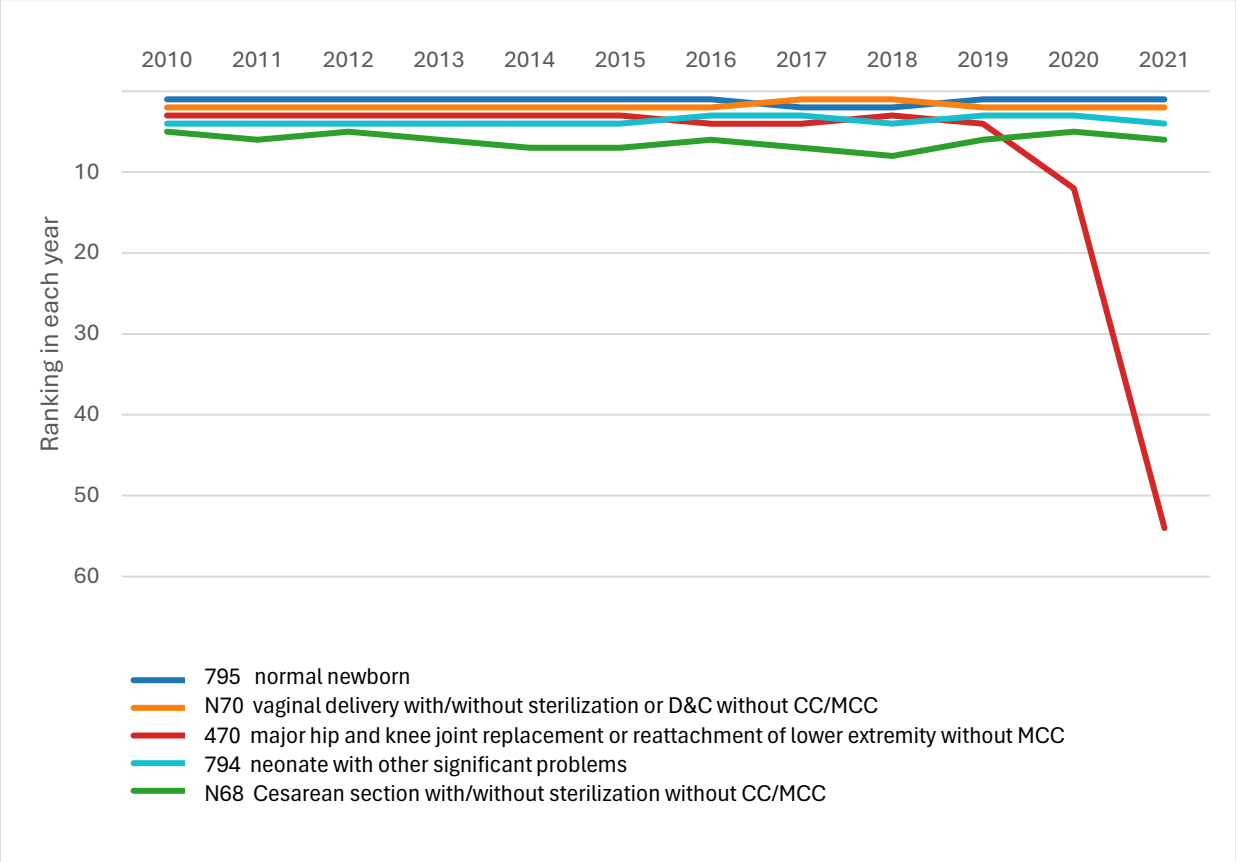
177 = respiratory infections and inflammations with MCC
470 = major hip and knee joint replacement or reattachment of lower extremity without MCC
794 = neonate with other significant problems
795 = normal newborn
871 = septicemia or severe sepsis without MV >96 hours with MCC
N68 = Cesarean section with/without sterilization without CC/MCC
N69 = vaginal delivery with/without sterilization or D&C with CC/MCC
N70 = vaginal delivery with/without sterilization or D&C without CC/MCC

Only DRG 470 (major hip and knee joint replacement or reattachment of lower extremity without MCC) and DRG N68 (Cesarean section with or without sterilization, without CC/MCC) were in the 2010 top five but did not remain in the 2021 top five.

- DRG 470 consistently ranked 3rd or 4th place from 2010 to 2019 but experienced a sharp decline in 2020 and 2021—falling from 12th place in 2020 to 54th place in 2021. This drop was primarily due to the halt of elective surgeries—including most DRG 470 cases—during the COVID-19 pandemic.

- DRG N68 ranked 5th place in 2010, briefly returned to 5th place in 2012 and 2020, but fluctuated between 6th and 8th place in the other years.

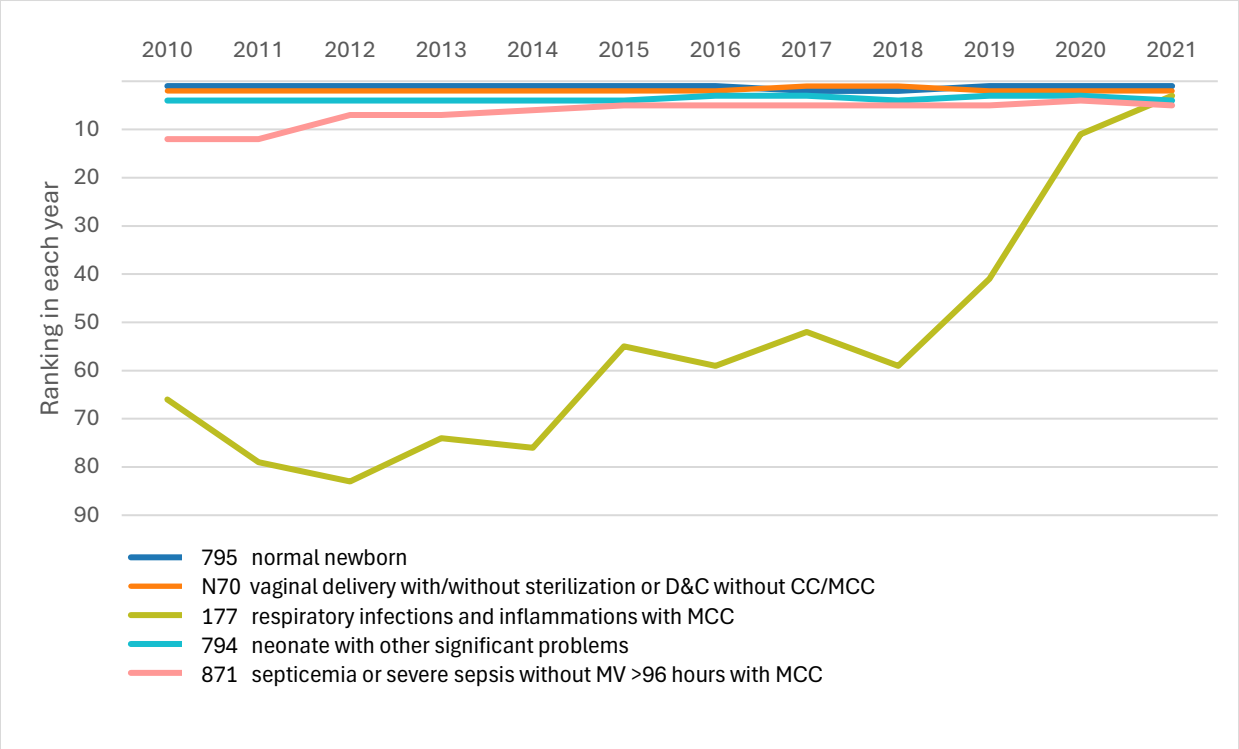
Figure VII-11. Top five DRGs in 2010 and their rank changes in subsequent years: persons in Greater Health Now ACH, 2010-2021



Among the 2021 top five DRGs, DRG 177 (respiratory infections and inflammations with MCC) and DRG 871 (septicemia or severe sepsis without mechanical ventilation over 96 hours, with MCC) were not in the 2010 top five.

- DRG 177 ranked 66th in 2010 and gradually climbed to 41st place by 2019. Its rise accelerated in 2020 and 2021, jumping to 11th place in 2020 and reaching 3rd place in 2021, largely due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- DRG 871 moved from 12th place in 2010 to 5th place by 2015, maintaining a top five position thereafter. The only exception was 2020, when it briefly climbed to 4th place before settling back at 5th place in 2021.

Figure VII-12. Prior rankings of 2021 top five DRGs:
persons in Greater Health Now ACH discharged from Washington hospitals, 2010-2021

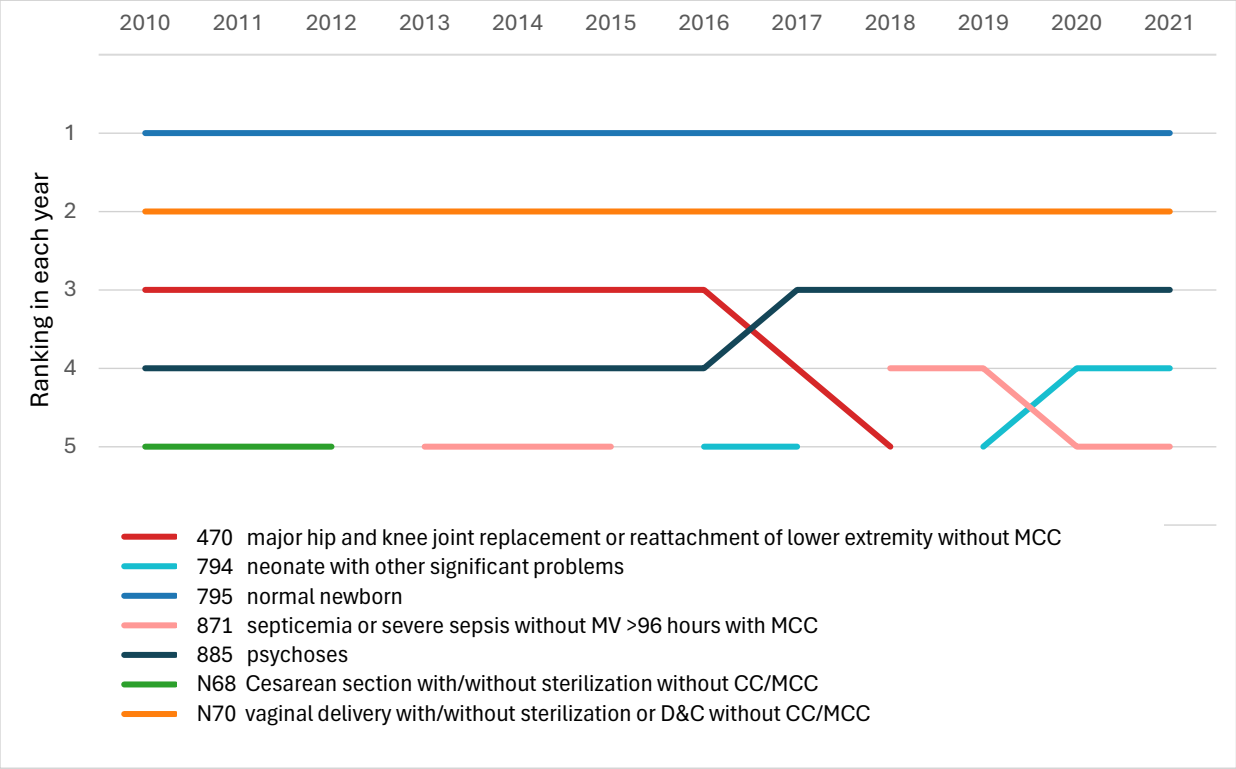


HealthierHere

HealthierHere ACH covers King County exclusively. The top five DRGs remained relatively stable, except for 5th place, which saw more variation.

- DRG 795 (normal newborn) and DRG N70 (vaginal delivery with or without sterilization or D&C, without CC/MCC) consistently ranked 1st and 2nd place, respectively, every year.
- DRG 885 (psychoses) held 4th place in the first half of the years, then moved up to 3rd place in the remaining years.
- DRG 470 (major hip and knee joint replacement or reattachment of lower extremity without MCC) remained in the top five every year except the last three, when it dropped out.

Figure VII-13. Top five DRGs among persons in HealthierHere ACH discharged from Washington hospitals: 2010-2021



The top five DRGs in HealthierHere accounted for 42,900 to 49,200 patients each year. The share representing the patients in the top five DRGs of the total HealthierHere patients did not change much, with a range of 28% to 30%.

Table VII-5. Number and percent of persons in HealthierHere ACH discharged from Washington hospitals by top five DRGs: 2010-2021

Healthier-Here	Top 1st DRG			Top 2nd DRG			Top 3rd DRG			Top 4th DRG			Top 5th DRG		
	MS-DRG	N	% Total	MS-DRG	N	% Total	MS-DRG	N	% Total	MS-DRG	N	% Total	MS-DRG	N	% Total
2010	795	17,457	10.8%	N70	12,655	7.8%	470	5,117	3.2%	885	4,810	3.0%	N68	4,567	2.8%
2011	795	17,663	10.8%	N70	12,438	7.6%	470	5,477	3.3%	885	5,089	3.1%	N68	4,555	2.8%
2012	795	16,758	10.5%	N70	12,132	7.6%	470	5,580	3.5%	885	5,264	3.3%	N68	4,411	2.8%
2013	795	16,610	10.4%	N70	12,538	7.9%	470	5,870	3.7%	885	5,037	3.2%	871	4,369	2.7%
2014	795	17,064	10.4%	N70	13,132	8.0%	470	6,400	3.9%	885	5,704	3.5%	871	5,147	3.2%
2015	795	17,119	10.2%	N70	13,378	7.9%	470	6,697	4.0%	885	6,004	3.6%	871	5,734	3.4%
2016	795	16,275	9.7%	N70	13,636	8.1%	470	6,782	4.0%	885	6,615	3.9%	794	5,890	3.5%
2017	795	15,140	9.0%	N70	13,508	8.0%	885	7,130	4.2%	470	6,911	4.1%	794	6,534	3.9%
2018	795	15,315	9.2%	N70	12,612	7.6%	885	7,810	4.7%	871	6,048	3.6%	470	6,030	3.6%
2019	795	14,575	9.1%	N70	10,989	6.9%	885	7,693	4.8%	871	6,101	3.8%	794	5,589	3.5%
2020	795	13,403	9.2%	N70	10,536	7.2%	885	7,686	5.3%	794	6,357	4.4%	871	5,933	4.1%
2021	795	12,560	8.6%	N70	9,941	6.8%	885	7,935	5.5%	794	6,755	4.6%	871	5,713	3.9%

470 = major hip and knee joint replacement or reattachment of lower extremity without MCC
794 = neonate with other significant problems
795 = normal newborn
871 = septicemia or severe sepsis without MV >96 hours with MCC
885 = psychoses
N68 = Cesarean section with/without sterilization without CC/MCC
N70 = vaginal delivery with/without sterilization or D&C without CC/MCC

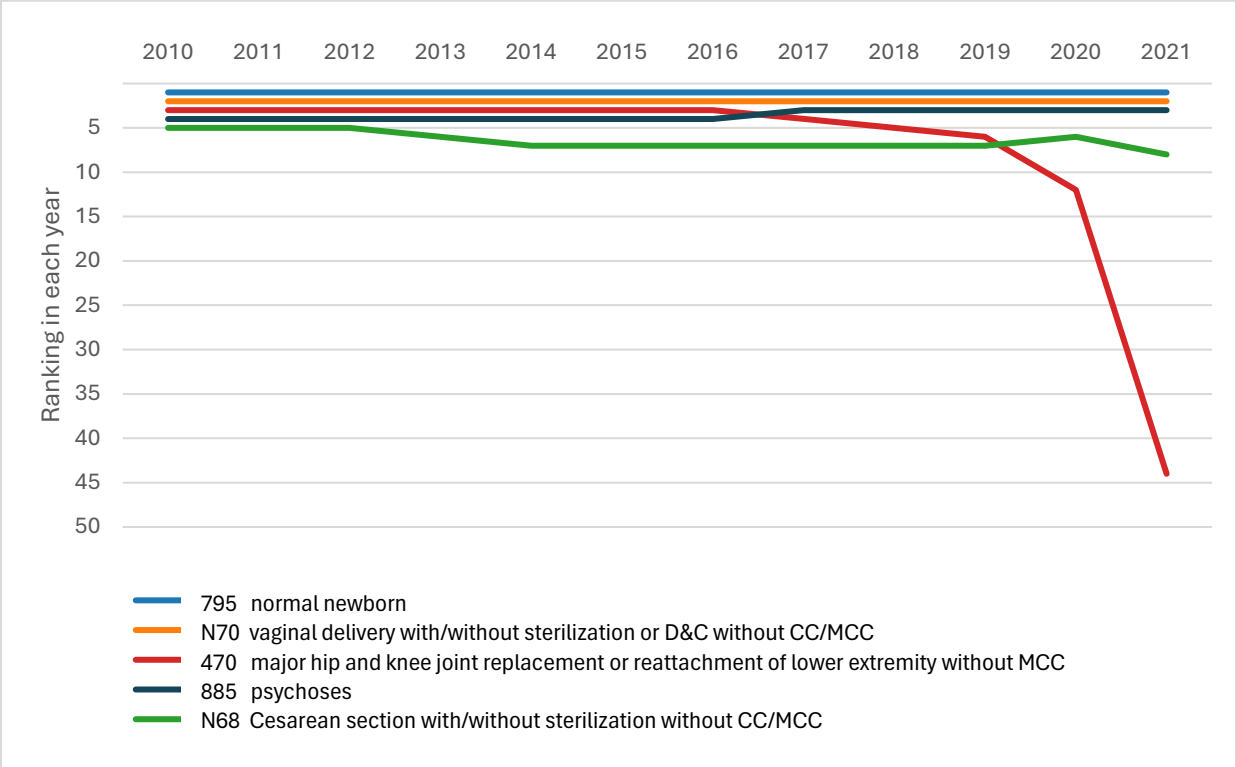
Two DRGs ranked in the top five in 2010 but did not remain in the 2021 top five:

- DRG 470 (major hip and knee joint replacement or reattachment of lower extremity without MCC) ranked 3rd place from 2010 to 2016, then gradually declined—moving from 4th place to 6th place between 2017 and 2019. In 2020 and 2021, its ranking fell sharply, dropping to 12th place in 2020 and 44th place in 2021. The decline in DRG 470's ranking was driven by:

    1. The shift of major hip and knee replacement procedures from inpatient to outpatient settings.
    2. The halt of elective surgeries—including most DRG 470 cases—in hospitals during the COVID-19 pandemic.

- DRG N68 (Cesarean section with or without sterilization, without CC/MCC) ranked 5th place for the first three years, then dropped out of the top five. However, its ranking remained relatively stable, never falling far—8th place in 2021 was its lowest position.

Figure VII-14. Top five DRGs in 2010 and their rank changes in subsequent years: persons in HealthierHere ACH, 2010-2021

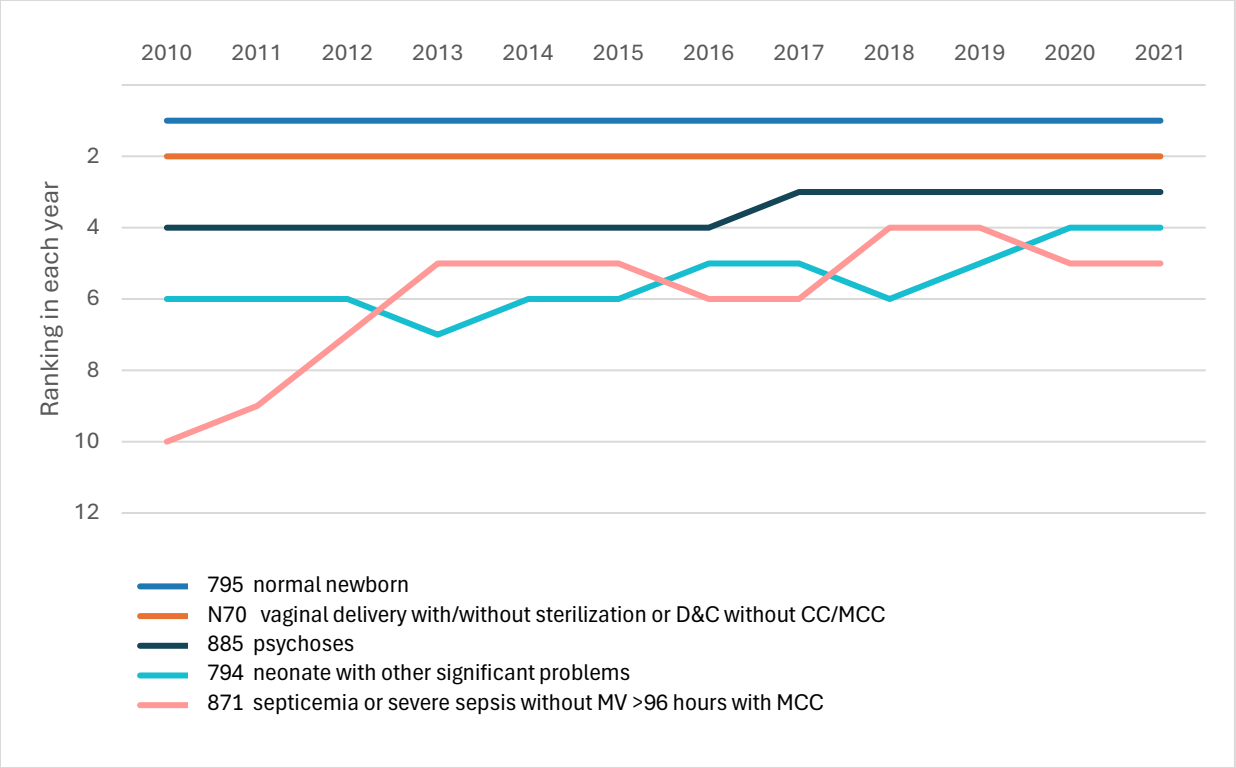


Among 2021's top five DRGs, two were not in the top five in 2010, but neither rose from a significantly lower ranking:

- DRG 794 (neonate with other significant problems) moved up from 6th place in 2010 to 4th place in 2021.
- DRG 871 (septicemia or severe sepsis without mechanical ventilation over 96 hours, with MCC) climbed from 10th place in 2010 to 5th place in 2021.

Additionally, it is worth noting that, in HealthierHere, DRG 177 (respiratory infections and inflammations with MCC) did not enter the top five during the COVID-19 pandemic, in contrast to this DRG's appearance in the top five in most of other ACHs and demographic groups.

Figure VII-15. Prior rankings of 2021 top five DRGs: persons in HealthierHere ACH discharged from Washington hospitals, 2010-2021

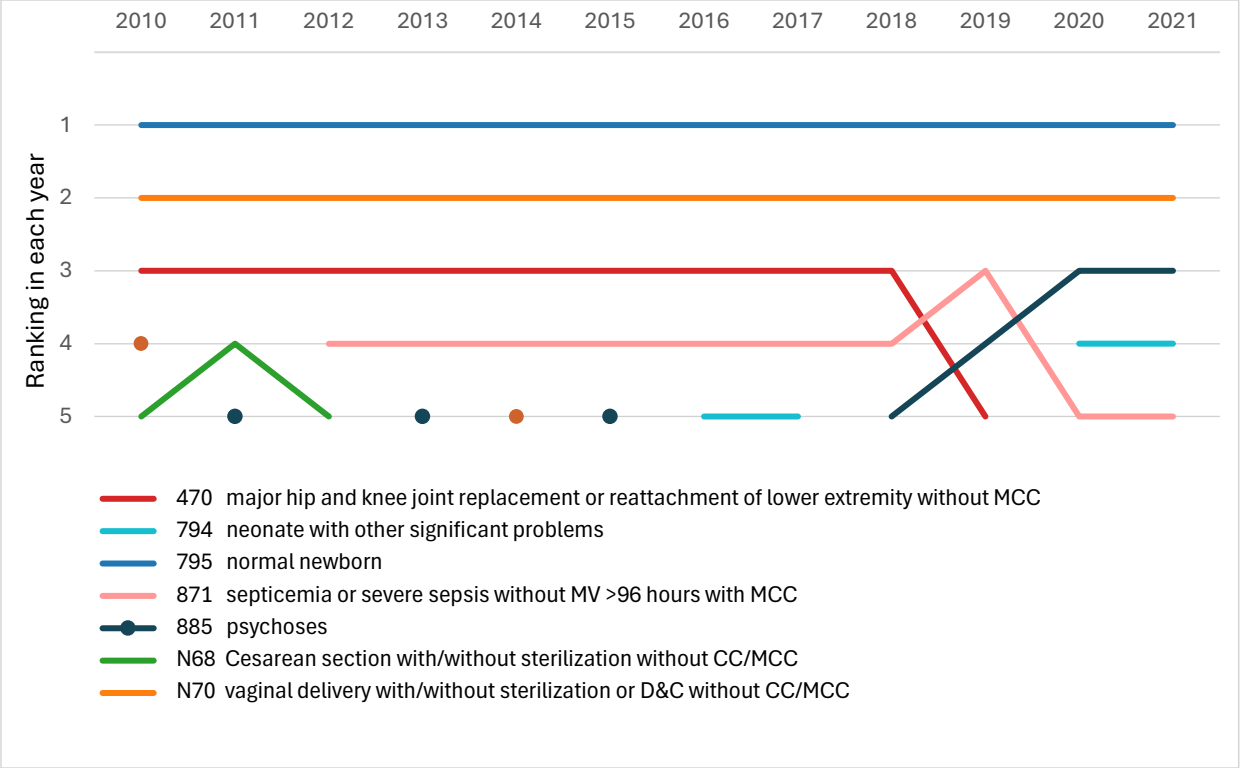


North Sound ACH

North Sound ACH covers five counties in the North Puget Sound region, directly north of King County. Over the years, a total of seven DRGs appeared in the top five at least once.

- Only two DRGs remained in the top five consistently, holding the same ranking each year:
  - DRG 795 (normal newborn) ranked 1st place every year.
  - DRG N70 (vaginal delivery with or without sterilization or D&C, without CC/MCC) held 2nd place every year.
- The 5th place saw the most movement, with five different DRGs occupying this position at least once between 2010 and 2021.

Figure VII-16. Top five DRGs among persons in North Sound ACH discharged from Washington hospitals: 2010-2021



The number of inpatients in the top five DRGs in North Sound ACH increased from 24,400 in 2010 to 28,300 in 2018 and tapered down since then to 24,900 in 2021. The share of the ACH's inpatients in the top five DRGs did not have a clear overall trend, except that it increased from 25% in 2010 to 27% in 2015 and dropped from that point back to 25% in 2019. In the last two years, it increased again to 26%.

Table VII-6. Number and percent of persons in North Sound ACH discharged from Washington hospitals by top five DRGs: 2010-2021

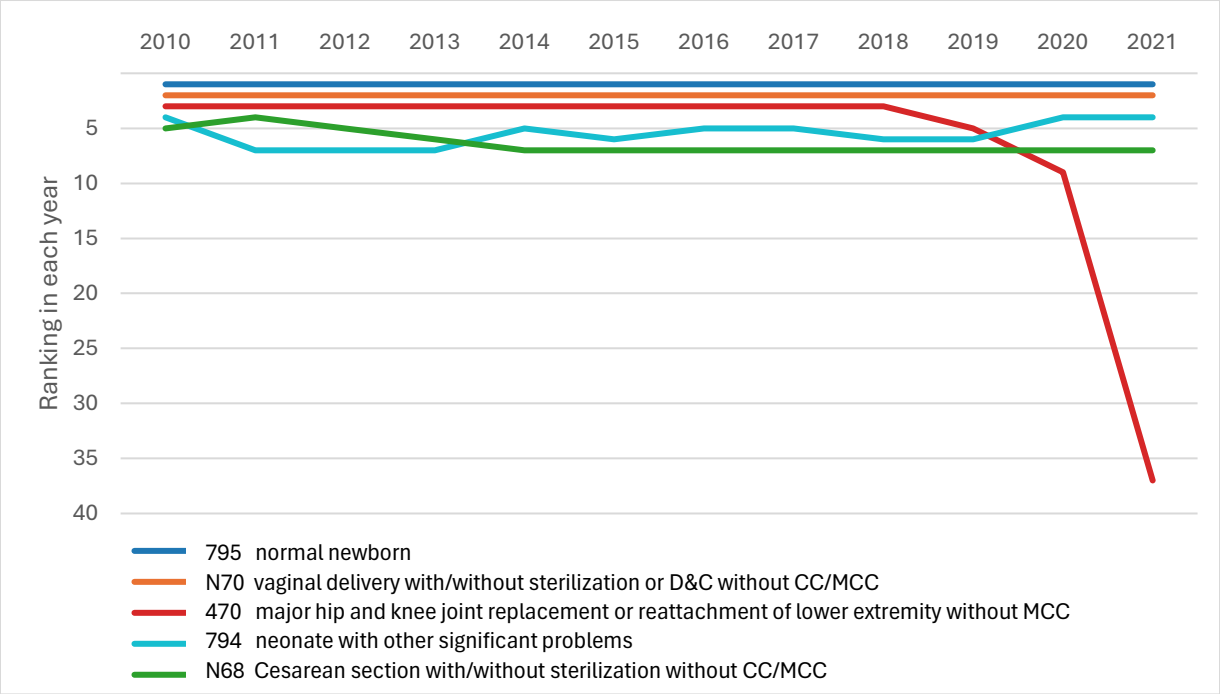
North Sound ACH	Top 1st DRG			Top 2nd DRG			Top 3rd DRG			Top 4th DRG			Top 5th DRG		
	MS-DRG	N	% Total	MS-DRG	N	% Total	MS-DRG	N	% Total	MS-DRG	N	% Total	MS-DRG	N	% Total
2010	795	8,871	9.0%	N70	7,119	7.2%	470	3,713	3.8%	794	2,363	2.4%	N68	2,328	2.4%
2011	795	9,139	9.2%	N70	6,880	6.9%	470	3,936	4.0%	N68	2,459	2.5%	885	2,437	2.5%
2012	795	9,355	9.5%	N70	6,876	7.0%	470	3,947	4.0%	871	2,437	2.5%	N68	2,341	2.4%
2013	795	9,154	9.4%	N70	6,959	7.1%	470	4,053	4.2%	871	3,133	3.2%	885	2,152	2.2%
2014	795	9,030	9.2%	N70	7,139	7.2%	470	4,356	4.4%	871	3,466	3.5%	794	2,340	2.4%
2015	795	9,066	9.0%	N70	7,378	7.3%	470	4,625	4.6%	871	3,590	3.6%	885	2,599	2.6%
2016	795	8,932	8.6%	N70	7,625	7.3%	470	4,893	4.7%	871	3,572	3.4%	794	2,923	2.8%
2017	795	8,213	7.7%	N70	7,693	7.2%	470	4,921	4.6%	871	3,935	3.7%	794	3,490	3.3%
2018	795	8,199	7.8%	N70	7,245	6.9%	470	4,365	4.1%	871	3,742	3.6%	885	3,418	3.2%
2019	795	7,799	7.6%	N70	6,455	6.3%	871	3,761	3.7%	885	3,736	3.7%	470	3,620	3.5%
2020	795	7,384	7.8%	N70	5,935	6.3%	885	4,346	4.6%	794	3,604	3.8%	871	3,237	3.4%
2021	795	7,495	7.8%	N70	5,931	6.2%	885	4,286	4.5%	794	3,821	4.0%	871	3,373	3.5%

470 = major hip and knee joint replacement or reattachment of lower extremity without MCC
794 = neonate with other significant problems
795 = normal newborn
871 = septicemia or severe sepsis without MV >96 hours with MCC
885 = psychoses
N68 = Cesarean section with/without sterilization without CC/MCC
N70 = vaginal delivery with/without sterilization or D&C without CC/MCC

Three DRGs ranked in the top five in 2010 but eventually dropped out in later years.

- DRG 470 (major hip and knee joint replacement or reattachment of lower extremity without MCC) held 3rd place through 2018 before gradually declining—dropping to 5th place in 2019, 9th place in 2020, and 37th place in 2021. This decline was driven by:
    1. The shift of major hip and knee replacement procedures from inpatient to outpatient settings.
    2. The halt of elective surgeries—which included most DRG 470 cases—in hospitals during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- DRG N68 (Cesarean section with or without sterilization, without CC/MCC) ranked 5th place in 2010 before dropping out of the top five in 2013, landing in 6th place. It continued declining slightly, settling at 7th place for the remaining years.

Figure VII-17. Top five DRGs in 2010 and their rank changes in subsequent years: persons in North Sound ACH, 2010-2021

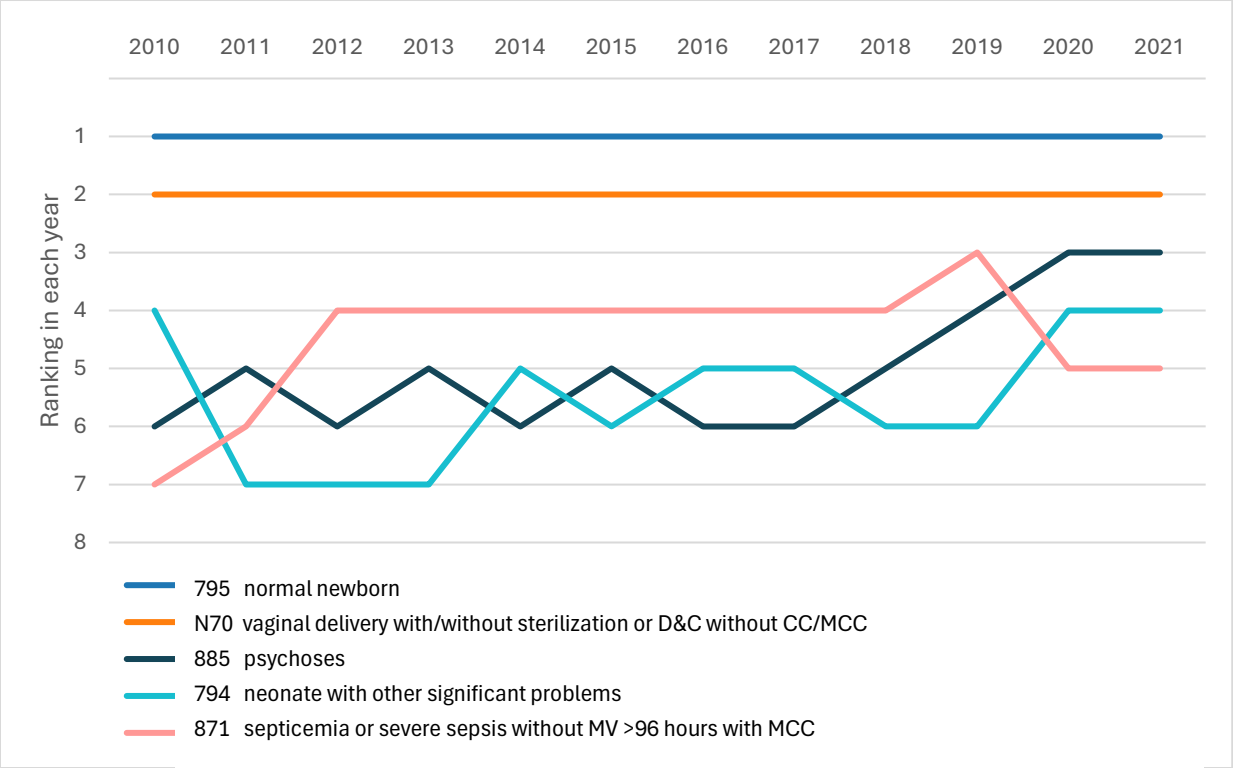


Among the top five DRGs in 2021, three were not consistently in the top five in previous years, though none had significant ranking jumps:

- DRG 885 (psychoses) moved from 6th place in 2010 to 3rd place in 2021.
- DRG 794 (neonate with other significant problems) started at 4th place in 2010, fluctuated between 5th and 7th place from 2011 to 2019, and returned to 4th place in 2020 and 2021.
- DRG 871 (septicemia or severe sepsis without mechanical ventilation over 96 hours, with MCC) climbed from 7th place in 2010 to 5th place in 2021, but spent several years ranked 4th place in between.

Notably, DRG 177 (respiratory infections and inflammations with MCC), which frequently ranked in the top five in 2020 and 2021 for many demographic groups and ACHs, did not enter the top five for North Sound ACH.

Figure VII-18. Prior rankings of 2021 top five DRGs:
persons in North Sound ACH discharged from Washington hospitals, 2010-2021

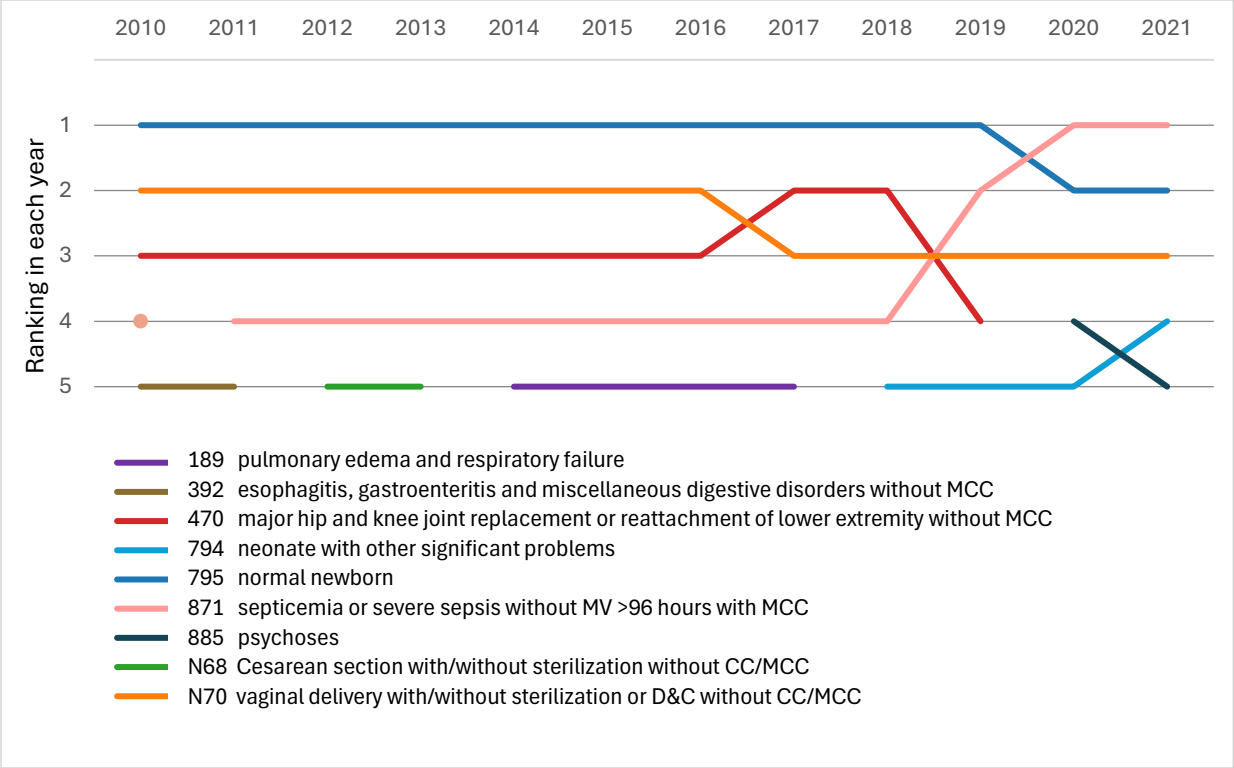


Olympic Community of Health

Olympic Community of Health ACH covers three counties in the northwest corner of the state. Four DRGs remained in the top five in almost all years, showing relative stability.

- DRG 795 (normal newborn) held 1st place from 2010 to 2019, before dropping to 2nd place in 2020 and 2021.
- DRG N70 (vaginal delivery with or without sterilization or D&C, without CC/MCC) ranked 2nd place from 2010 to 2016, then declined slightly to 3rd place in the remaining years.
- DRG 470 (major hip and knee joint replacement or reattachment of lower extremity without MCC) remained in the top five every year except the last two, when it dropped out.
- DRG 871 (septicemia or severe sepsis without mechanical ventilation over 96 hours, with MCC) was absent only in the first year but remained in the top five thereafter.

Figure VII-19. Top five DRGs among persons in Olympic Community of Health discharged from Washington hospitals: 2010-2021



The number of patients in the top five DRGs in Olympic Community of Health increased from 6,200 in 2010 to 8,000 in 2017, but it decreased afterwards to 6,500 in 2021. The share of the patients in the top five DRGs as a percent of the total inpatients had a similar pattern. It increased from 20% in 2010 to 26% in 2017 and decreased since then to 23% in 2021.

Table VII-7. Number and percent of persons in Olympic Community of Health discharged from Washington hospitals by top five DRGs: 2010-2021

Olympic Community of Health	Top 1st DRG			Top 2nd DRG			Top 3rd DRG			Top 4th DRG			Top 5th DRG		
	MS-DRG	N	% Total	MS-DRG	N	% Total	MS-DRG	N	% Total	MS-DRG	N	% Total	MS-DRG	N	% Total
2010	795	2,047	6.6%	N70	1,558	5.0%	470	1,415	4.6%	N68	603	1.9%	392	529	1.7%
2011	795	2,166	7.0%	N70	1,679	5.5%	470	1,495	4.9%	871	608	2.0%	392	545	1.8%
2012	795	2,066	7.0%	N70	1,613	5.5%	470	1,403	4.7%	871	704	2.4%	N68	511	1.7%
2013	795	2,001	6.9%	N70	1,569	5.4%	470	1,520	5.3%	871	864	3.0%	N68	480	1.7%
2014	795	2,195	7.3%	N70	1,715	5.7%	470	1,597	5.3%	871	1,141	3.8%	189	607	2.0%
2015	795	2,182	7.2%	N70	1,700	5.6%	470	1,671	5.5%	871	1,240	4.1%	189	746	2.4%
2016	795	2,099	6.9%	N70	1,779	5.8%	470	1,711	5.6%	871	1,282	4.2%	189	702	2.3%
2017	795	1,950	6.2%	470	1,922	6.1%	N70	1,781	5.7%	871	1,669	5.3%	189	697	2.2%
2018	795	1,786	5.9%	470	1,717	5.6%	N70	1,657	5.4%	871	1,616	5.3%	794	794	2.6%
2019	795	1,803	5.9%	871	1,755	5.8%	N70	1,473	4.8%	470	1,433	4.7%	794	751	2.5%
2020	871	1,654	6.0%	795	1,638	5.9%	N70	1,421	5.1%	885	879	3.2%	794	783	2.8%
2021	871	1,662	5.9%	795	1,646	5.8%	N70	1,360	4.8%	794	917	3.3%	885	883	3.1%

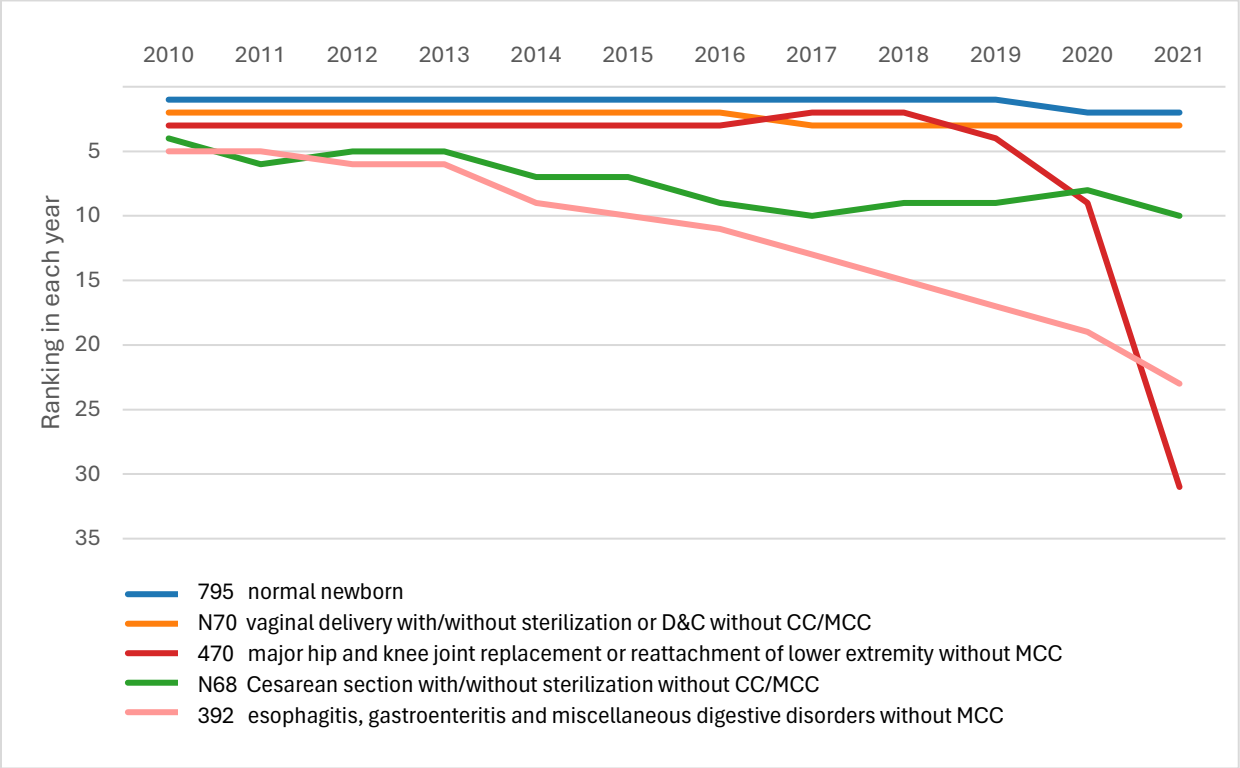
189 = pulmonary edema and respiratory failure
392 = esophagitis, gastroenteritis and miscellaneous digestive disorders without MCC
470 = major hip and knee joint replacement or reattachment of lower extremity without MCC
794 = neonate with other significant problems
795 = normal newborn
871 = septicemia or severe sepsis without MV >96 hours with MCC
885 = psychoses
N68 = Cesarean section with/without sterilization without CC/MCC
N70 = vaginal delivery with/without sterilization or D&C without CC/MCC

Three DRGs ranked in the top five in 2010 but dropped out by 2021:

- DRG 470 (major hip and knee joint replacement or reattachment of lower extremity without MCC) held 3rd place from 2010 to 2016, then briefly moved up to 2nd place in 2017 and 2018 before declining to 4th place in 2019. Its ranking fell sharply in the next two years—dropping to 9th place in 2020 and 31st place in 2021, largely due to the halt of elective surgeries (including most DRG 470 cases) in hospitals during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- DRG N68 (Cesarean section with or without sterilization, without CC/MCC) ranked 4th place in 2010, but steadily declined, reaching 10th place in 2021.

- DRG 392 (esophagitis, gastroenteritis, and miscellaneous digestive disorders without MCC) ranked 5th place in 2010 and 2011, then dropped out of the top five for all remaining years, landing at 23rd place in 2021.

Figure VII-20. Top five DRGs in 2010 and their rank changes in subsequent years: persons in Olympic Community of Health, 2010-2021

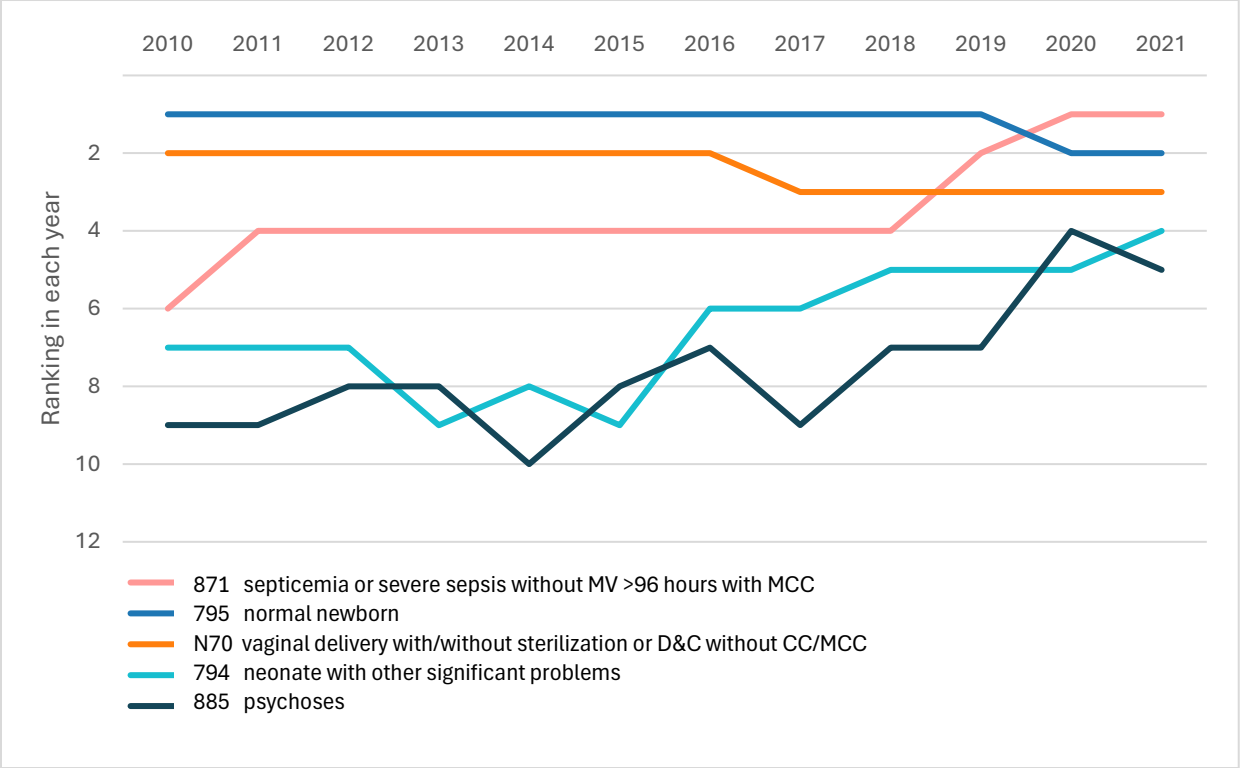


Among the top five DRGs in 2021, three were not in the top five in 2010, but their rankings only moved up a few positions:

- DRG 871 (septicemia or severe sepsis without mechanical ventilation over 96 hours, with MCC) climbed from 6th place in 2010 to 1st place in 2021.
- DRG 794 (neonate with other significant problems) rose from 7th place in 2010 to 4th place in 2021.
- DRG 885 (psychoses) advanced from 9th place in 2010 to 5th place in 2021.

Notably, DRG 177 (respiratory infections and inflammations with MCC), which ranked in the top five in 2020 and 2021 for many demographic groups and ACHs, did not enter the top five for Olympic Community of Health.

Figure VII-21. Prior rankings of 2021 top five DRGs:
persons in Olympic Community of Health discharged from Washington hospitals, 2010-2021

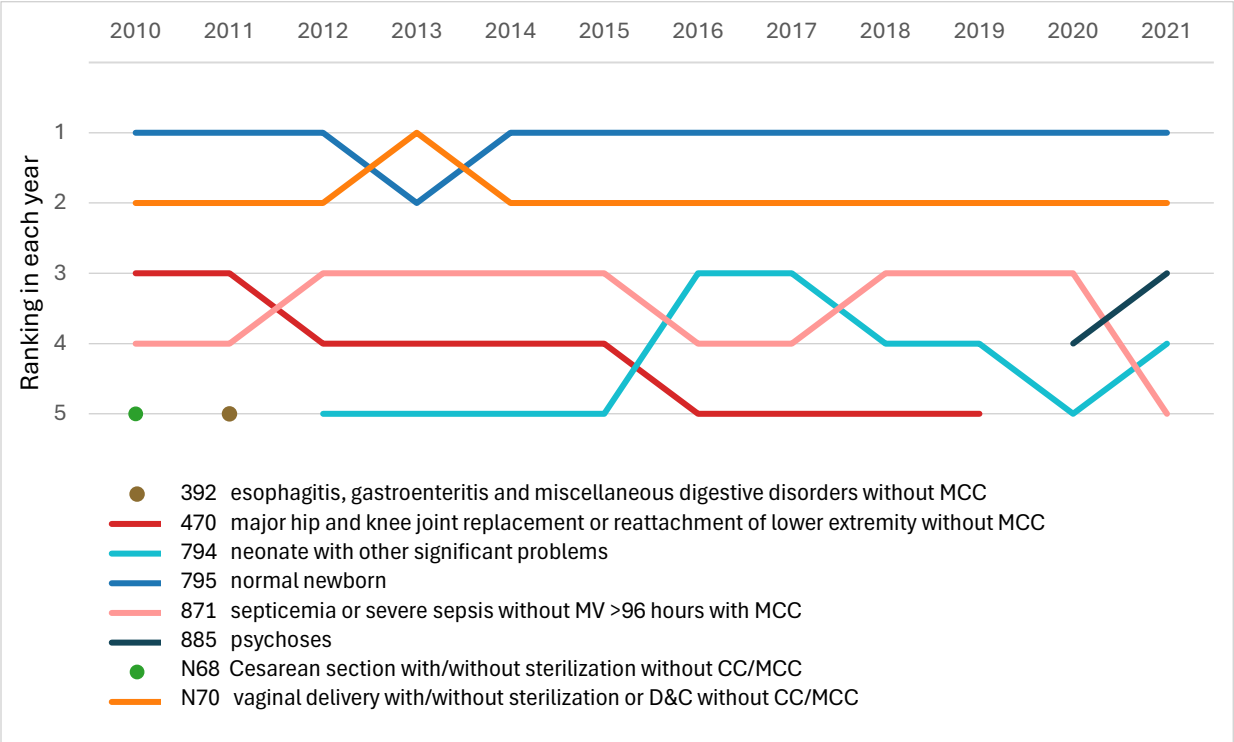


SWACH

SWACH ACH is in the southwest corner of the state and includes three counties. The top five DRGs remained largely stable, with three DRGs appearing in the top five every year, while two DRGs were absent for two years.

- DRG 795 (normal newborn) and DRG N70 (vaginal delivery with or without sterilization or D&C, without CC/MCC) consistently ranked 1st and 2nd place, except in 2013, when their rankings were briefly reversed.
- DRG 871 (septicemia or severe sepsis with mechanical ventilation over 96 hours) ranked 4th place in 2010, later fluctuating between 3rd and 4th place, before settling at 5th place in 2021.
- DRG 470 (major hip and knee joint replacement or reattachment of lower extremity without MCC) was absent from the top five in the last two years.
- DRG 794 (neonate with other significant problems) was absent from the top five in the first two years but remained in the top five afterward.

Figure VII-22. Top five DRGs among persons in SWACH discharged from Washington hospitals: 2010-2021



The number of SWACH patients in the top five DRGs varied little over time, ranging from 7,900 (2013) to 9,700 (2016). These patients accounted for 25% (2013) to 30% (2020) of total inpatients in SWACH.

Table VII-8. Number and percent of persons in SWACH discharged from Washington hospitals by top five DRGs: 2010-2021

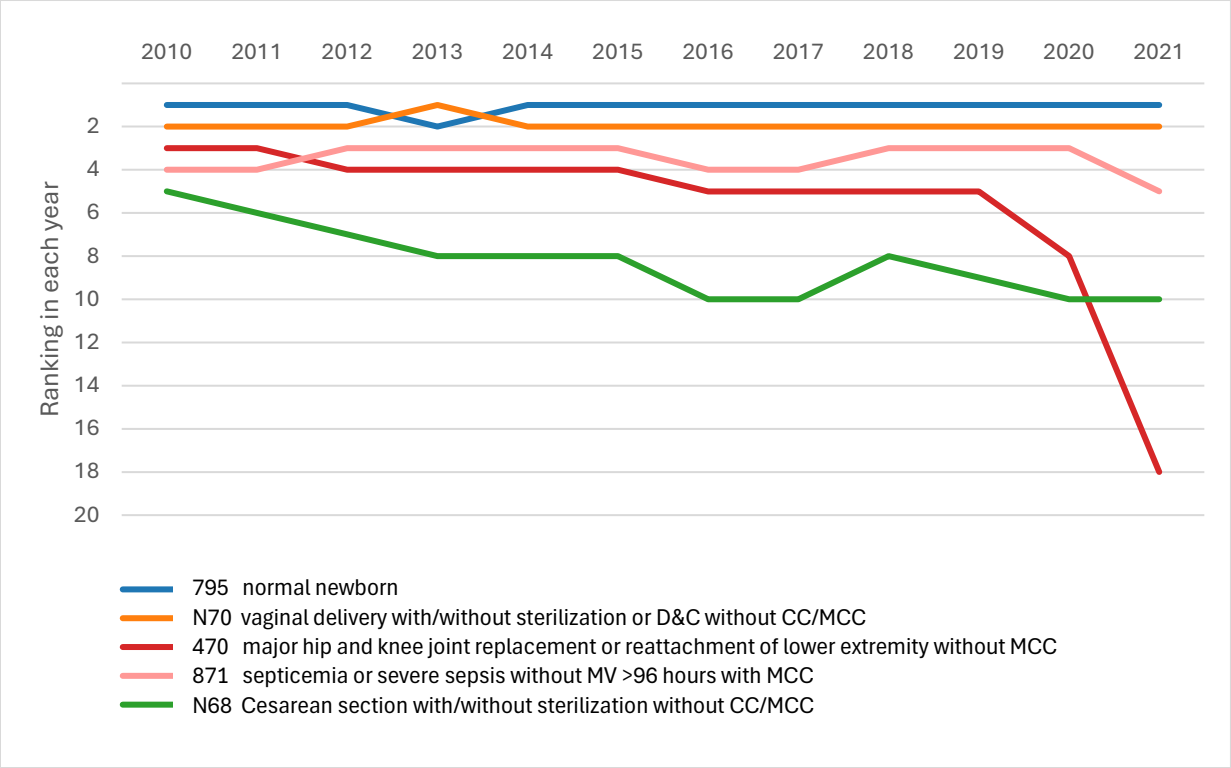
SWACH	Top 1st DRG			Top 2nd DRG			Top 3rd DRG			Top 4th DRG			Top 5th DRG		
	MS-DRG	N	% Total	MS-DRG	N	% Total	MS-DRG	N	% Total	MS-DRG	N	% Total	MS-DRG	N	% Total
2010	795	3,941	11.1%	N70	2,899	8.1%	470	1,060	3.0%	871	894	2.5%	N68	858	2.4%
2011	795	3,918	10.9%	N70	2,958	8.2%	470	1,001	2.8%	871	960	2.7%	392	845	2.3%
2012	795	3,259	9.5%	N70	2,790	8.1%	871	956	2.8%	470	889	2.6%	794	816	2.4%
2013	N70	2,596	8.0%	795	2,585	8.0%	871	965	3.0%	470	939	2.9%	794	829	2.6%
2014	795	2,992	8.9%	N70	2,823	8.4%	871	1,200	3.6%	470	1,061	3.2%	794	795	2.4%
2015	795	3,029	9.2%	N70	2,784	8.5%	871	1,400	4.3%	470	1,188	3.6%	794	951	2.9%
2016	795	3,159	9.5%	N70	2,844	8.6%	794	1,354	4.1%	871	1,222	3.7%	470	1,127	3.4%
2017	795	2,978	8.9%	N70	2,794	8.4%	794	1,342	4.0%	871	1,278	3.8%	470	1,210	3.6%
2018	795	2,957	9.0%	N70	2,640	8.0%	871	1,485	4.5%	794	1,194	3.6%	470	1,152	3.5%
2019	795	3,091	9.1%	N70	2,488	7.3%	871	1,637	4.8%	794	1,257	3.7%	470	1,180	3.5%
2020	795	2,758	8.9%	N70	2,271	7.3%	871	1,485	4.8%	885	1,420	4.6%	794	1,248	4.0%
2021	795	2,662	8.6%	N70	2,268	7.3%	885	1,475	4.7%	794	1,398	4.5%	871	1,339	4.3%

392 = esophagitis, gastroenteritis and miscellaneous digestive disorders without MCC
470 = major hip and knee joint replacement or reattachment of lower extremity without MCC
794 = neonate with other significant problems
795 = normal newborn
871 = septicemia or severe sepsis without MV >96 hours with MCC
885 = psychoses
N68 = Cesarean section with/without sterilization without CC/MCC
N70 = vaginal delivery with/without sterilization or D&C without CC/MCC

Two DRGs ranked in the top five in 2010 but did not remain in the 2021 top five:

- DRG 470 (major hip and knee joint replacement or reattachment of lower extremity without MCC) dropped from 3rd place in 2010 to 5th place in 2016, where it remained until 2020. In 2020 and 2021, it declined further—falling to 8th place in 2020 and 18th place in 2021, primarily due to the halt of elective surgeries (including most hip and knee replacement cases under DRG 470) in hospitals during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- DRG N68 (Cesarean section with or without sterilization, without CC/MCC) ranked 5th place in 2010 but dropped out of the top five in subsequent years. Despite fluctuating rankings, its lowest position was 10th place, which was also its ranking in 2021.

Figure VII-23. Top five DRGs in 2010 and their rank changes in subsequent years: persons in SWACH, 2010-2021

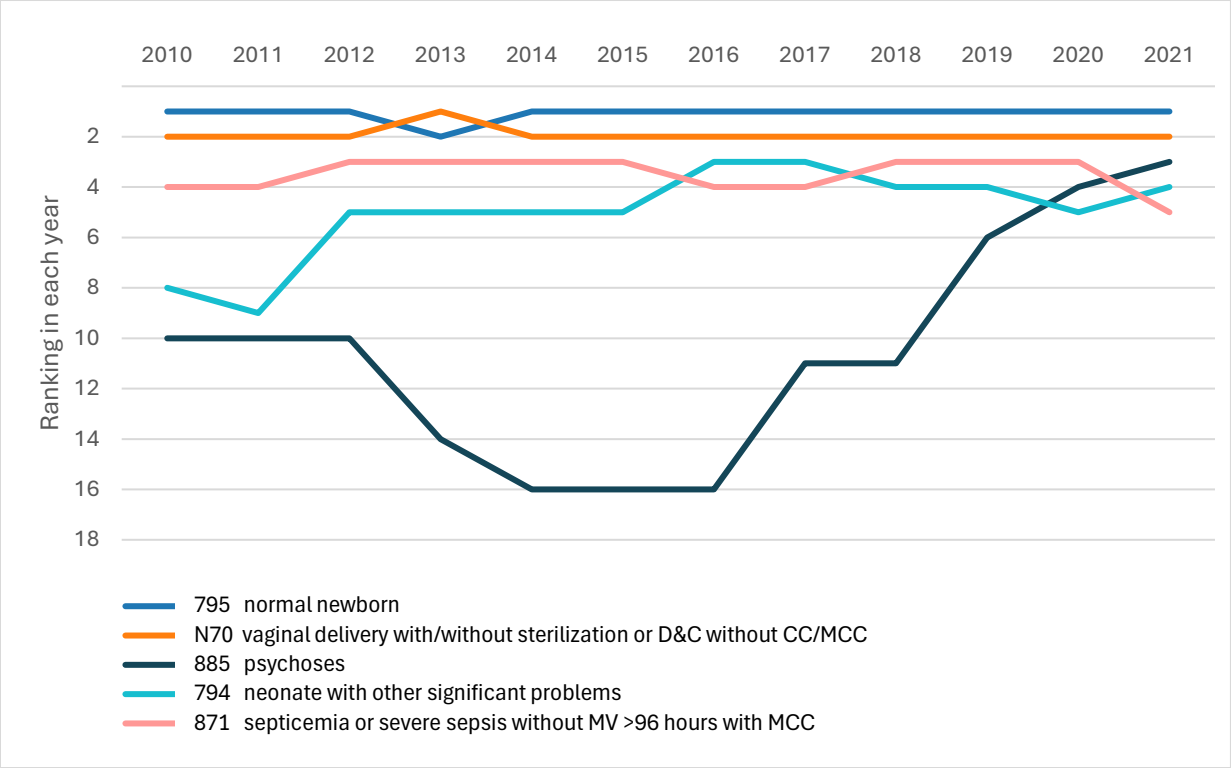


Among the top five DRGs in 2021, two were not in the top five in 2010, but their rankings only shifted a few positions upward:

- DRG 885 (psychoses) climbed from 10th place in 2010 to 3rd place in 2021, though it briefly dropped to 16th place for a few years in between.
- DRG 794 (neonate with other significant problems) moved from 8th place in 2010 to 4th place in 2021, maintaining a steady upward trajectory.

Additionally, SWACH ACH was another case in which DRG 177 (respiratory infections and inflammations with MCC) did not rank in the top five in the last two years, unlike its pattern in many other patient groups and ACHs.

Figure VII-24. Prior rankings of 2021 top five DRGs:
persons in SWACH discharged from Washington hospitals, 2010-2021

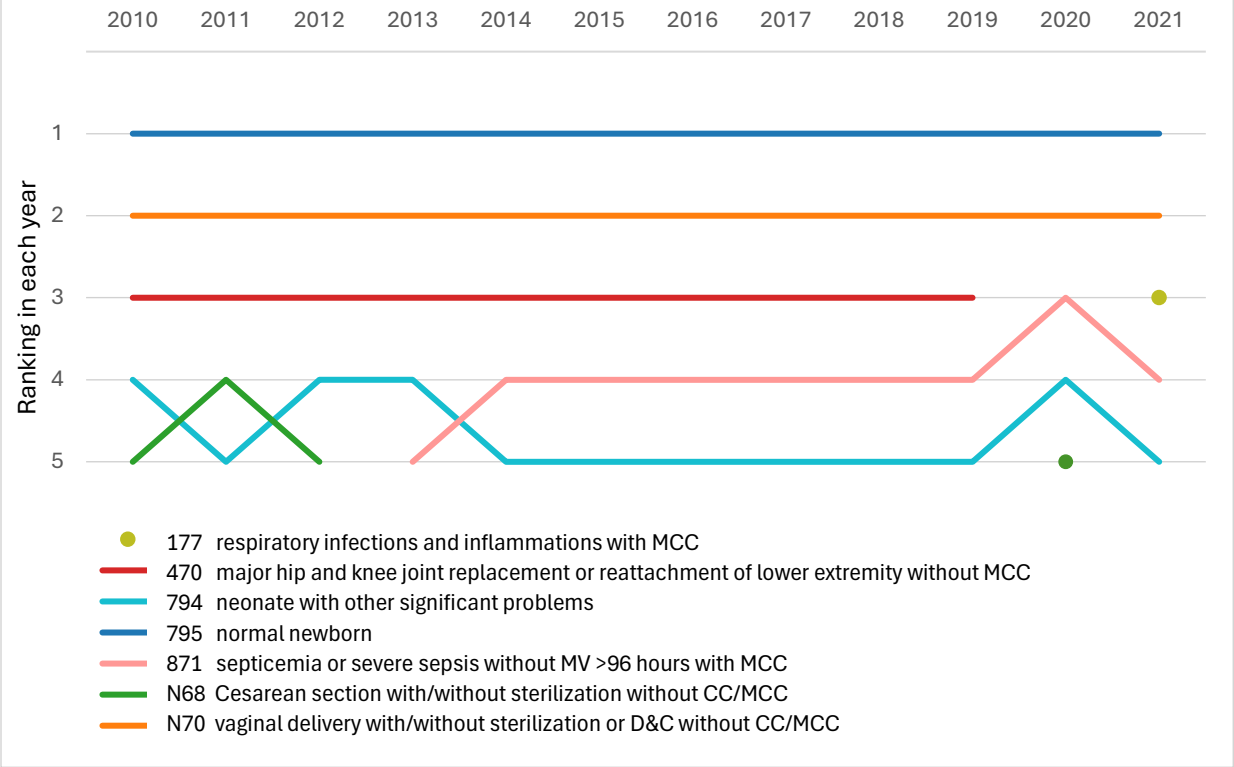


Thriving Together NCW

Thriving Together North Central Washington (NCW) ACH covers four counties. In this ACH, three DRGs consistently ranked in the top five every year, showing remarkable stability.

- DRG 795 (normal newborn) and DRG N70 (vaginal delivery with or without sterilization or D&C, without CC/MCC) maintained 1st and 2nd place, respectively, in all years.
- DRG 794 (neonate with other significant problems) started at 4th place, fluctuated between 4th and 5th place throughout the years, and ultimately settled at 5th place in 2021.

Figure VII-25. Top five DRGs among persons in Thriving Together NCW ACH discharged from Washington hospitals: 2010-2021



There were only slight changes in the number of patients in the top five DRGs in Thriving Together NCW. The number ranged from 5,300 (2020) to 6,800 (2017). The share of total inpatients in the top five DRGs ranged from 17% (2020) to 21% (2017).

Table VII-9. Number and percent of persons in Thriving Together NCW ACH discharged from Washington hospitals by top five DRGs: 2010-2021

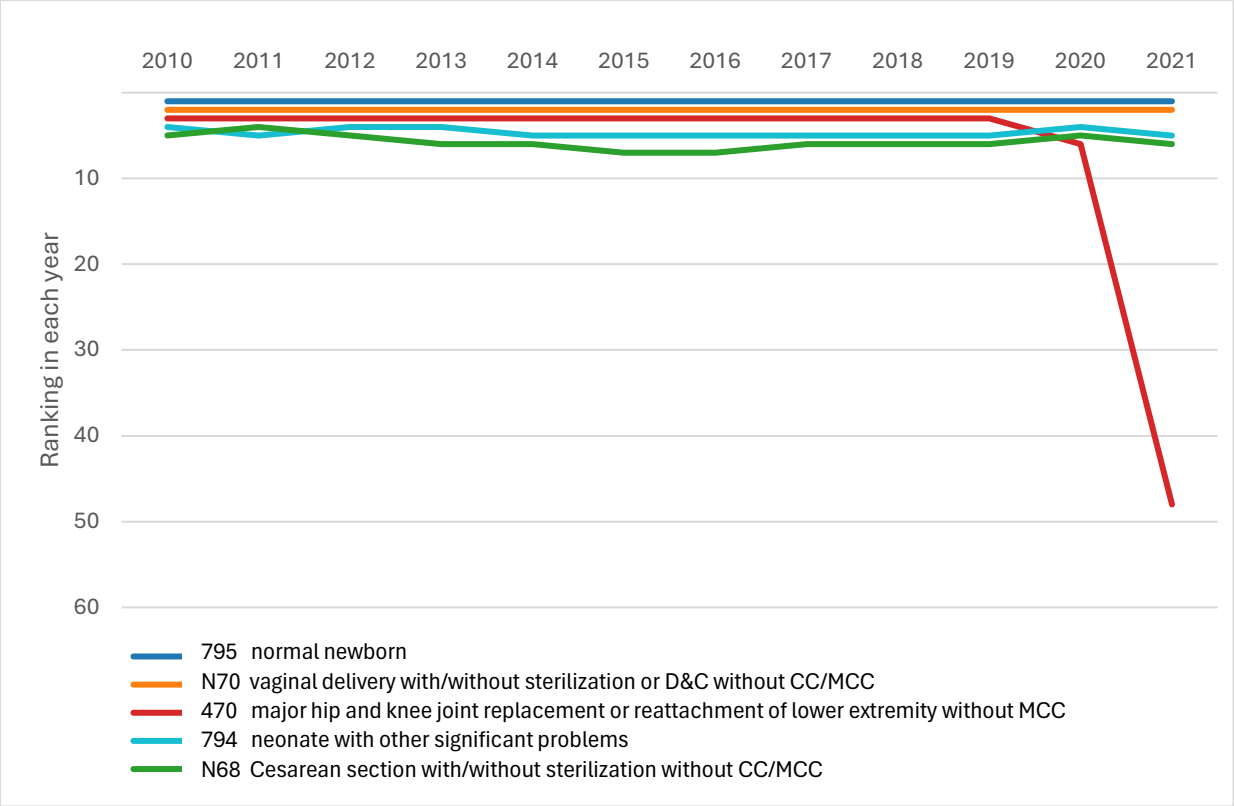
Thriving Together North Central Washington	Top 1st DRG			Top 2nd DRG			Top 3rd DRG			Top 4th DRG			Top 5th DRG		
	MS-DRG	N	% Total	MS-DRG	N	% Total	MS-DRG	N	% Total	MS-DRG	N	% Total	MS-DRG	N	% Total
2010	795	2,484	7.0%	N70	1,967	5.5%	470	872	2.4%	794	738	2.1%	N68	688	1.9%
2011	795	2,444	6.8%	N70	1,896	5.3%	470	909	2.5%	N68	637	1.8%	794	630	1.7%
2012	795	2,316	6.7%	N70	1,762	5.1%	470	909	2.6%	794	632	1.8%	N68	613	1.8%
2013	795	2,097	6.5%	N70	1,623	5.0%	470	1,024	3.2%	794	600	1.9%	871	566	1.8%
2014	795	2,302	6.9%	N70	1,670	5.0%	470	1,093	3.3%	871	638	1.9%	794	524	1.6%
2015	795	2,265	6.9%	N70	1,721	5.2%	470	1,253	3.8%	871	692	2.1%	794	649	2.0%
2016	795	2,096	6.3%	N70	1,707	5.2%	470	1,275	3.9%	871	693	2.1%	794	660	2.0%
2017	795	2,030	6.1%	N70	1,883	5.6%	470	1,250	3.7%	871	893	2.7%	794	776	2.3%
2018	795	2,071	6.3%	N70	1,840	5.6%	470	1,294	3.9%	871	798	2.4%	794	685	2.1%
2019	795	2,099	6.2%	N70	1,723	5.1%	470	1,001	3.0%	871	722	2.1%	794	659	1.9%
2020	795	1,946	6.3%	N70	1,589	5.1%	871	660	2.1%	794	645	2.1%	N68	500	1.6%
2021	795	1,849	6.0%	N70	1,539	5.0%	177	1,067	3.4%	871	691	2.2%	794	689	2.2%

177 = respiratory infections and inflammations with MCC
470 = major hip and knee joint replacement or reattachment of lower extremity without MCC
794 = neonate with other significant problems
795 = normal newborn
871 = septicemia or severe sepsis without MV >96 hours with MCC
N68 = Cesarean section with/without sterilization without CC/MCC
N70 = vaginal delivery with/without sterilization or D&C without CC/MCC

In Thriving Together NCW ACH, two DRGs ranked in the top five in 2010 but dropped out by 2021:

- DRG 470 (major hip and knee joint replacement or reattachment of lower extremity without MCC) held 3rd place from 2010 to 2019 before declining to 6th place in 2020 and 48th place in 2021.
    - This sharp decline was primarily due to the halt of elective surgeries—including most DRG 470 procedures—in hospitals during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- DRG N68 (Cesarean section with or without sterilization, without CC/MCC) ranked 5th place in 2010, appearing in 5th place three times throughout the 2010-2021 period. However, when it dropped out of the top five, it remained relatively close, fluctuating between 6th and 7th place.

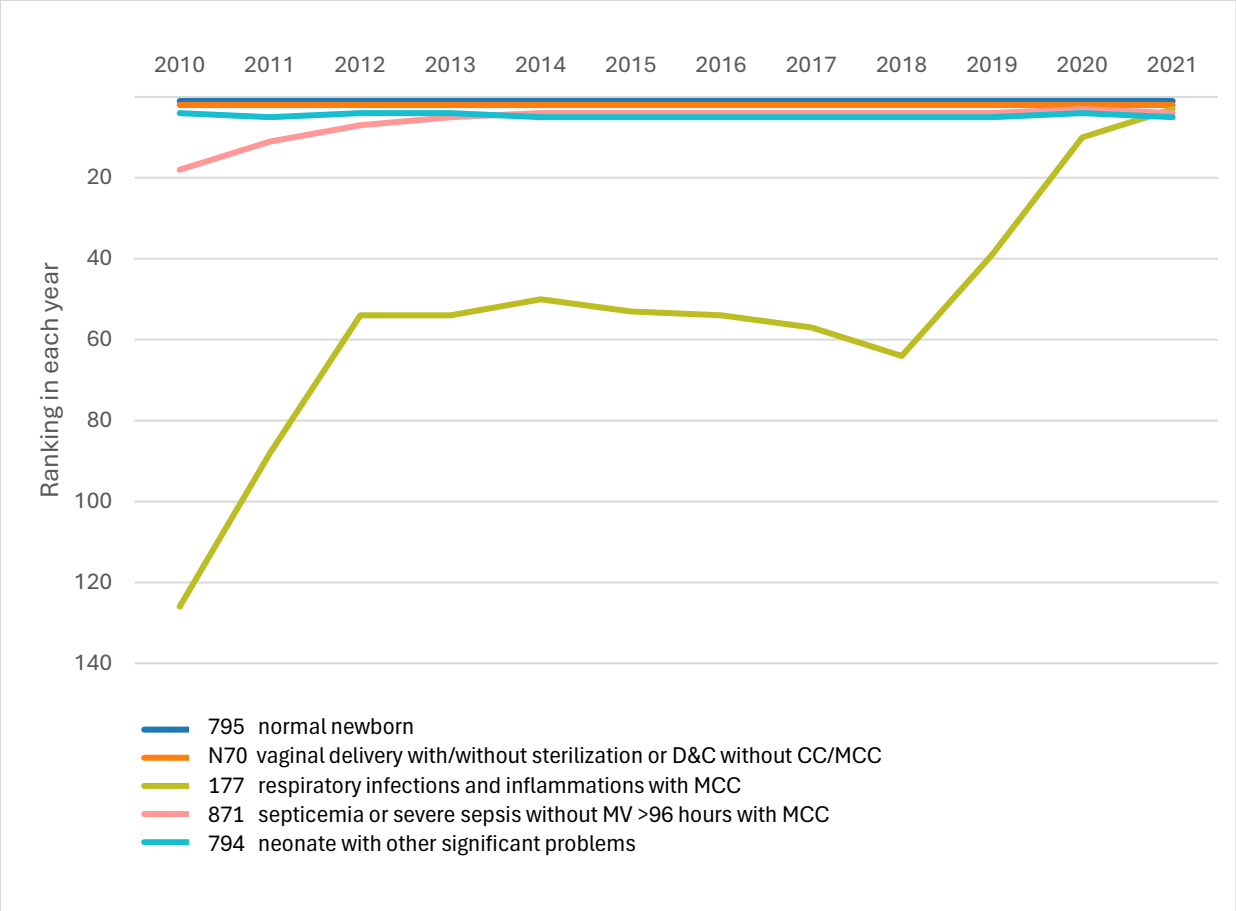
Figure VII-26. Top five DRGs in 2010 and their rank changes in subsequent years: persons in Thriving Together NCW ACH discharged from Washington hospitals, 2010-2021



Among the top five DRGs in 2021, two were not in the top five in 2010, though their trajectories differed significantly:

- DRG 177 (respiratory infections and inflammations with MCC) saw a dramatic rise—from 126th place in 2010 to 3rd place in 2021.
    - While its rapid ascent from 39th place in 2019 to 3rd place in 2021 was clearly driven by the COVID-19 pandemic, its earlier rise—from 128th place to 39th place before the pandemic—was unusual compared to other ACHs.
    - The pre-pandemic increase suggests respiratory infections and inflammations may have been an escalating health issue in the north-central region, though the exact reasons remain unclear.
- DRG 871 (septicemia or severe sepsis with mechanical ventilation over 96 hours) had a more moderate climb, moving from 18th place in 2010 to 5th place in 2021.

Figure VII-27. Prior rankings of 2021 top five DRGs:
persons in Thriving Together NCW ACH discharged from Washington hospitals, 2010-2021



The data source and methods section for this report can be found at the end of Part I.