

# IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT'S BUDGET INITIATIVES

A core function of the Department is to implement the Australian Government's Budget initiatives to help improve health and ageing in Australia, while maintaining a level of transparency of accountability and disclosure. This is in line with the Australian Government's commitment to effective program and service implementation.

The Department actively monitors its performance in implementing initiatives announced each Budget, using the following criteria:

- Implemented – the initiative was achieved by the planned implementation date;
- On Track – the initiative is 'on track' to meet the planned implementation date; and
- Slipping – the initiative is experiencing unavoidable delays and will not meet the planned implementation date.

The following chart depicts the implementation status of all initiatives over the four year Budget period from 2002-03. Overall, the Department has performed well, having successfully implemented 348 out of 393 initiatives (88.5 per cent), with 35 currently 'on track' (9 per cent). Due to complexities beyond the control of the Department, there was a minor increase in the number of slipping measures over the last two years (2.5 per cent).

**Graph 1 - Implementation Status of 2002-03 to 2005-06 Initiatives**



Source: The Department of Health and Ageing.