



# WESTERN AUSTRALIA

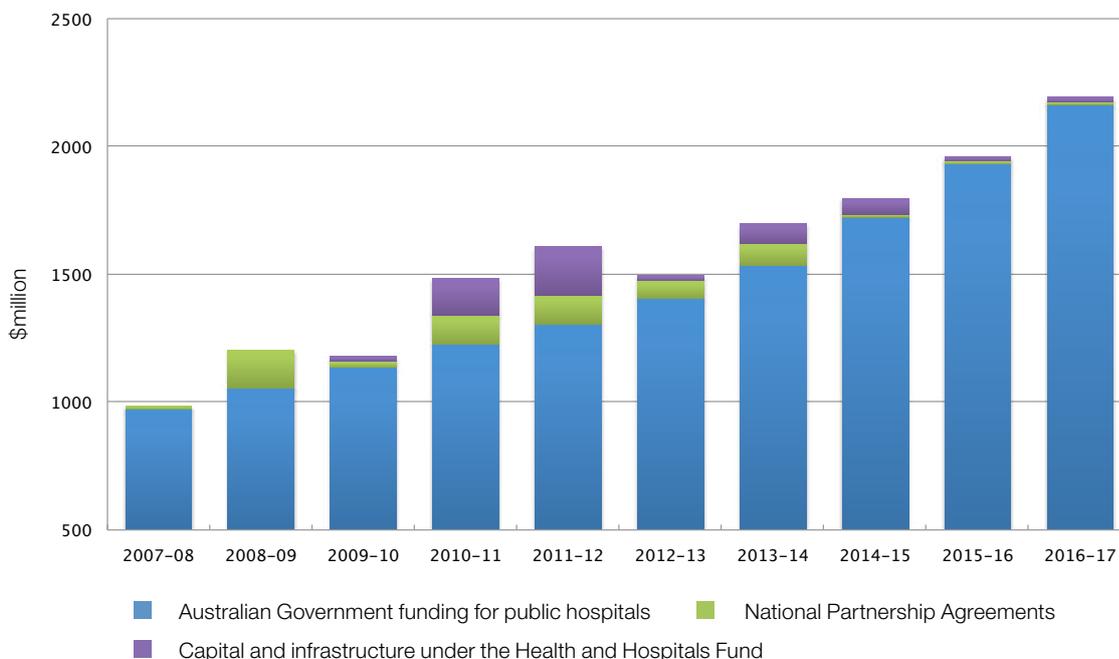
The Australian Government's 2013-14 Budget provides WA with a record \$1.9 billion for its health system. This means improved health and hospital facilities, more frontline services, and improved care for patients, where and when they need it.

## Record funding for hospitals

Funding for hospitals means more doctors, nurses and beds for patients — and better care. It also supports improvements in elective surgery and emergency department waiting times to help patients get treatment sooner. In this Budget, hospitals in WA will receive \$1.6 billion — \$635 million more than in 2007-08.

Since 2007, \$154.5 million has been targeted to improve emergency departments and \$141.7 million has been provided to reduce elective surgery waiting times.

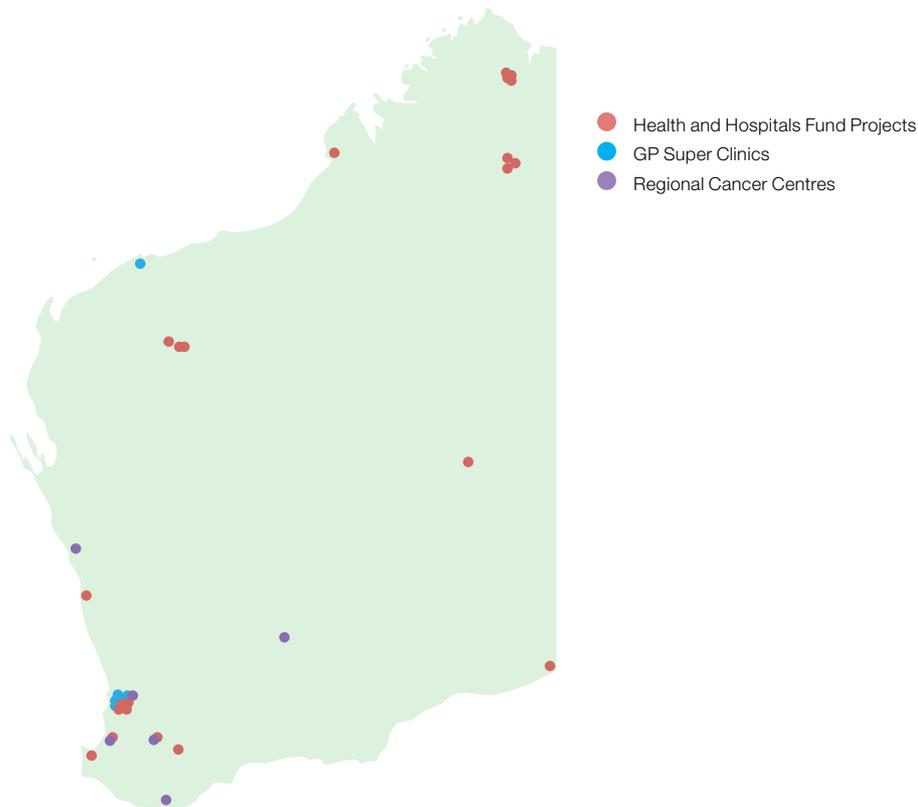
Australian Government funding to Western Australia for public hospitals, 2007-08 to 2016-17



Source: Australian Government Budget Papers, Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing figures.  
 Note: Australian Government funding for public hospital services includes Public Health funding allocations.  
 Health and Hospitals Fund figures include payments to Western Australia for other health services.

Patients are better able to get a hospital bed — with an additional 135 sub-acute beds to be delivered by the end of 2013-14. WA's health and hospital infrastructure is expanding through \$435.8 million in investments under the nation-building Health and Hospitals Fund. This includes \$255.7 million for the Fiona Stanley Hospital and \$180.1 million to develop the Midland Health Campus.

### Western Australia – funding to Health and Hospitals Fund projects, GP Super Clinics and Regional Cancer Centres



## Improving frontline health care

Primary care is the part of the health system which Western Australians use the most. This Budget provides \$41.5 million (an increase of \$4.7 million on 2012-13) to support the state's Medicare Locals, part of the Government's national network of primary health care organisations that are playing a central role in improving the primary health care system. Medicare Locals plan, coordinate and deliver health services for local communities, making it easier for people to access the health care they need, including after hours, mental health and immunisation support.

Since 2007 the Australian Government has spent \$43.2 million to improve primary care infrastructure in WA. \$33.7 million has been provided for six GP Super Clinics, of which so far Midland is completed and operational. Two early services without construction are

### Construction of the Fiona Stanley Rehabilitation Centre



at Karratha and Northam. A total of \$4.9 million has been allocated to upgrade facilities, improve training and expand allied health services within general practice settings.

In addition, since 2007, the Australian Government has provided \$59.8 million for a range of primary health care support in WA, including better access to after-hours GP services.

## World Leading Cancer Care

The Australian Government is building a world-class cancer care system to ensure that people get the best treatment available. In this Budget, a new national \$226 million cancer care package, funded by the Australian Government over four years, will ensure that Western Australians get top quality cancer care and support across a range of cancers — including prostate, breast, lung, bowel and cervical cancers. Youth Cancer Networks are also being funded to support young people fighting cancer.

Since 2007, the Australian Government has invested a record \$65 million to provide better cancer facilities for Western Australians. This includes \$22.3 million to strengthen existing cancer services in regional WA, \$23.4 million for the South West Health Campus Comprehensive Cancer Centre at Bunbury, \$6 million for better access to radiation oncology at Bunbury and \$13.3 million for digital mammography equipment.

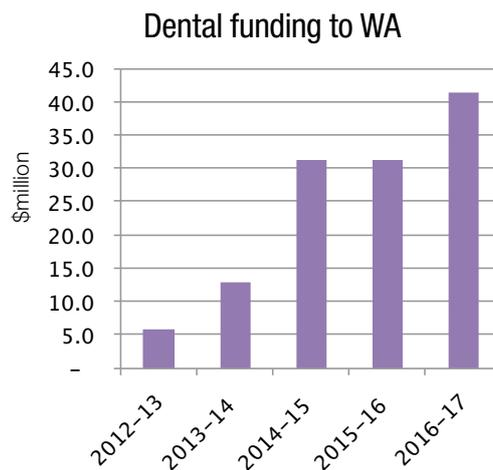
## More doctors

More doctors are training to be GPs and specialists in WA. In 2012, 287 GPs were in training compared with 175 in 2007. More doctors means easier access for patients. There were 78 training positions in 2012, with 15 more beginning in 2013 – a total of 93 positions for doctors to train as specialists.

## Dental

The Government is providing \$13 million to WA in 2013-14 to cut public dental waiting lists. This is part of the Australian Government's \$4.6 billion investment in sweeping dental health reforms across the nation.

As part of the reforms, our 'Grow Up Smiling' initiative will deliver dental services for kids and teenagers from 1 January 2014. This will mean that for future generations it will be as easy to see a dentist as it is now to see a doctor.



**Australian Government**

**[www.health.gov.au](http://www.health.gov.au)**

All information in this document is current as at May 2013