



## Health protection, preventive health and sport

### Summary of package

**In the 2023–24 Budget, the Government is investing \$1.1 billion to ensure the health of all Australians is better protected now and into the future through continuing investments in health protection, preventive health and sport.**

Everyone should have the opportunity to live a healthy life, regardless of their financial means, where they live or their background.

As well as social benefits, preventive health has enormous economic benefits. Every dollar invested in preventive health saves an estimated \$14.30 in healthcare and other costs. Up to 38% of the burden of disease could be prevented by reducing risk factors such as being overweight and obesity, physical inactivity, smoking and alcohol and other drug use.

Ensuring no Australian is left behind in getting the best opportunity to live a healthy life is a top priority for the Government.

This Budget takes the first key step towards establishing a world-class Australian Centre for Disease Control to better prepare Australia for future pandemics and health threats, signalling the Government's continued commitment to the protection and promotion of all Australians' health and wellbeing.

The 2023–24 Budget also includes additional investment in the health of women and babies, and support for low-income Australians, First Nations people and those with a chronic condition.

There are also continued efforts to end Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) transmission in Australia and to ease the burden of chronic illness.

The Budget also promotes healthy communities through sport with investments to maximise the benefits of Australia's 'Green and Gold Decade'.

### Total value of package

# \$1.1 billion

**\$738.6m**

**Health protection**

**\$378.8m**

**Preventive health**

**\$23.6m**

**Sport**

## Who benefits

**The 2023–24 Budget will help prepare Australia for future pandemics and health threats by taking the first key step towards a world-class centre for disease control. An interim Australian Centre for Disease Control (ACDC) will be established within the Department of Health and Aged Care (\$91.1 million) from 1 January 2024, led by the Australian Government Chief Medical Officer.**

This Budget is the beginning of a significant and long-term investment that will reduce illness, save lives and restrict social and economic disruption from future viruses and diseases. The ACDC will provide a national focal point for disease prevention and management to improve Australia's response to health emergencies and other public health challenges.

The National Medical Stockpile will be replenished and begin transitioning into the ACDC.

The Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) will receive long-term funding for activities aimed at protecting public health (\$61 million over 4 years) including:

- compliance and enforcement for products and companies outside the regulatory system
- managing medicines and medical device shortages
- providing information to consumers and healthcare professionals
- continued assistance to small and medium enterprises particularly those developing emerging technologies.

The National Immunisation Program (NIP) will be expanded, including the addition of the herpes zoster (shingles) vaccine Shingrix (\$446.5 million over 4 years). The inclusion of Shingrix will ensure continuation of a shingles vaccine on the program to increase coverage and reduce rates of vaccine preventable diseases. The vaccine will be available under the NIP for those aged 70 years, First Nations people aged 50 years and older and immunocompromised individuals at high risk of shingles infection aged 18 years and older.

An additional 360,000 eligible adult public patients will be able to receive dental treatment, improving their oral health and helping to increase access to public dental services (\$219.4 million). The funding will see services continue while longer-term, more fit-for-purpose funding arrangements are developed with states and territories.

First Nations peoples will benefit from a number of specific programs in this Budget to help close the gap in health and wellbeing outcomes including:

- funding to increase uptake of free annual First Nations People Health Checks, a national expansion of the Deadly Choices program, and expanding the Practice Incentives Program Indigenous Health Incentive (\$17.1 million over 4 years).
- a national expansion of the recently launched 'Strong Born' awareness campaign for Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (\$1.4 million over 2 years).
- further support for renal services, including dialysis, in First Nations communities (\$28.2 million).

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These are in addition to broader measures to improve healthcare, and dedicated funding to improve First Nations cancer outcomes and mental health supports.

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**The 2023–24 Budget includes measures to support equity in the healthcare system and improve the health of Australian women and girls (\$26.3 million over 4 years), including through the Australian Longitudinal Study on Women’s Health and Australian Institute of Health and Welfare National Maternity Data development project.**

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New mothers and babies will benefit from continued funding for donor breast milk bank services (\$6 million over 2 years), and ongoing support for the Australian Breastfeeding Association’s National Breastfeeding Helpline (\$4.8 million).

The Budget also continues the important public information campaign for routine childhood immunisation (\$3.4 million over 2 years). Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) prevention, diagnosis and support activities will be extended (\$5 million over 2 years).

Recognising that alcohol and illicit drug use is a major cause of preventable disease and illness in Australia, funding has been committed to a number of alcohol and drug prevention and treatment programs (\$33.6 million over 2 years) including:

- Alcohol and Drug Foundation
- Hello Sunday Morning
- SMART Recovery
- Drug and Alcohol Treatment Service Maintenance (DATSM)
- The Gulgul Nyugang Aboriginal Corporation – the Glen for Women to support First Nations women.





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**The Budget includes \$0.9 million to develop a 10 Year National Action Plan for the Health and Wellbeing of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex, Queer and Asexual (LGBTIQA+) people, and to establish an LGBTIQA+ Health Advisory Group.**

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The plan will provide a national framework to drive improvements in the health and wellbeing of LGBTIQA+ people and address the health disparities they experience.

Building on the HIV Taskforce, announced by the Government in December 2022, this Budget supports continued efforts to end HIV transmission in Australia by 2030. Additional funding will ensure access to HIV treatment for people who are ineligible for Medicare (\$10 million over 4 years), and to extend measures that support increased access to testing, treatment and information (\$3.2 million in 2023–24).

The Blood Borne Virus (BBV) and Sexually Transmissible Infection (STI) National Response will also be continued to increase prevention, early detection, treatment and care for hepatitis B, hepatitis C, syphilis and other STIs (\$6.6 million in 2023–24).

## Sport

As we enter the ‘Green and Gold Decade’ and the lead up to the 2026 Commonwealth Games in Victoria and the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games in Brisbane, the Budget will support the development of a new National Sport Plan and a review of the *Australian Sports Commission Act 1989* (\$0.8 million in 2023–24). This will ensure a strategic approach to the investment and delivery of major sporting events across the next decade.

The Government will implement the Major Sporting Events Legacy Framework to ensure upcoming major international sporting events held in Australia deliver lasting social, economic and sporting benefits for all Australians (\$0.2 million in 2023–24). The budget will also support the Confederation of Australian Sport’s bid to host the World Masters Games 2029 (WMG) in Perth (\$5 million over 3 years). The WMG is one of the largest international, multi-sport participation events in the world with more than 35,000 athletes competing in more than 50 sports, including para-sports.

In the coming decade, Australia will showcase the excellence and popularity of women’s sport across an unprecedented sequence of international sporting events. Funding is being provided to advance the rights of women and girls, and broader human rights objectives, and for a talent and development program that will increase the number of female coaches, officials and administrators from grassroots through to elite level (\$2.1 million over 2 years).

Australia will  
**showcase the  
excellence and  
popularity of  
women’s sport**

Financial assistance will be given to thousands of junior competitors, coaches and officials to attend state, national and international sporting competitions through the Local Sporting Champions and Local Para Champions programs (\$8.3 million in 2023–24). These vital pathways for junior sportspeople have fostered many of our past Commonwealth Games, Olympic and Paralympic medallists.

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**There is critical funding for community sport initiatives including for Australian Surf Life Saving training (\$3.3 million), and an expansion of the The Big Issue Community Street Soccer Program, with funding for 25 community-based soccer programs nationally and an additional 5 women only programs (\$3.3 million).**

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RecLink, the not-for-profit group that works with local organisations to provide sport and recreation programs for people who may experience disadvantage, will be expanded to the Northern Territory and Australian Capital Territory (\$1.6 million over 3 years).

**Local champions  
will be supported  
to attend a  
range of events**



## Funding details

- Continuation of the National Incident Centre and Transition to the Australian Centre for Disease Control – \$26.9 million over 2 years
- Funding for the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) public good activities – \$61 million over 4 years
- Ensuring ongoing radiation protection and nuclear safety for all australians– \$9 million over 4 years
- Preparatory work for the implementation of new legislation to modernise the Nationally Harmonised Gene Technology Scheme: more effective delivery of regulation– \$3.2 million over 4 years
- Continuation of the childhood immunisation education campaign – \$3.4 million over 2 years
- Continuing investment in fetal alcohol spectrum disorder (FASD) prevention, diagnosis and support – \$5 million over 2 years
- Enhancing gender equity and strengthening women's health – \$26.3 million over 4 years
- Enhancing evidence and continuing support for male health – \$10.9 million over 2 years
- Increase uptake of First Nations Peoples' Health Checks and National Rollout of Deadly Choices – \$17.1 million over 4 years
- Expanding FASD awareness among First Nations communities – \$1.4 million over 2 years
- Better Renal Services for First Nations people – \$28.2 million
- Dengue and other disease mitigation through mosquito control in Tennant Creek – \$0.4 million in 2023–24
- Extension of alcohol and other drug activities – \$33.6 million over 2 years
- Engagement strategy to increase Covid-19 vaccination rates among culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) communities – \$4.7 million in 2023–24
- Preventive Health Reform – Continuation of a coordinated network of donor human milk bank services – \$6 million over 2 years
- Preventive Health Reform – evidence – \$6.3 million over 3 years
- Preventive Health Reform – Healthy Food Choices – \$3.2 million over 3 years
- Preventive Health Reform – information and support on chronic conditions – \$4.3 million over 2 years
- Preventive Health Reform – information and support on breastfeeding – \$5.3 million over 2 years
- 10 Year National Action Plan for LGBTIQ+ Health and Wellbeing and Establish LGBTIQ+ Health Advisory Group – \$0.9 million over 2 years

**First Nations  
Australians will  
benefit** from a number  
of specific programs in  
this Budget



- Funding for the regulation of medicinal cannabis – cost recovery model update – \$3 million in 2023–24
- Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (CJD) scheme – securing the long term future of the program – \$2.2 million over 5 years
- Good Friday Telethon – \$6 million over 3 years
- Implementation of the National Blood Borne Viruses and Sexually Transmissible Infections Strategies – Eliminating HIV in Australia – Phase 1 – \$13.2 million over 4 years
- National Blood Borne Viruses and Sexually Transmissible Infections Strategies – continuation of the National Response – \$6.6 million in 2023–24
- Long-term dental funding reform developmental work and interim funding – \$219.4 million
- Strategic Investment Model (Major Sporting Events Legacy Framework Implementation) – \$0.2 million in 2023–24
- Support for Surf Life Saving training – \$3.3 million in 2023–24
- The Big Issue – Community Street Soccer Program – \$3.3 million over 2 years
- Local Sporting Champions – \$8.3 million in 2023–24
- National Sport Plan and Review of the *Australian Sports Commission Act 1989* – \$0.8 million in 2023–24
- World Masters Games 2029 – \$5 million over 3 years
- Australian Sports Foundation – Cyber risk and critical funding – \$3.8 million in 2023–24
- FIFA Women's World Cup legacy – \$2.1 million over 2 years

All information in this publication  
is correct as at May 2023

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