



## A fit and healthy Australia

**\$1.3 billion**  
total package value

**\$71 million**  
for cancer prevention,  
screening and  
treatment

**\$43.9 million**  
towards eliminating  
HIV transmission

**\$494.2 million**  
for elite and  
community sport

## Summary

**The Australian Government has a vision for a fitter, healthier Australia. The 2024-25 Budget invests \$1.3 billion to prevent illness, detect disease earlier, treat chronic conditions and reaffirm the importance of community and elite sport in encouraging an active, healthy life.**

The Government is rebalancing the health system towards prevention to deliver better health for Australians and benefit our economy – now and for the future.

Almost 40% of disease could be prevented by reducing risky lifestyle factors. Every dollar invested in preventative health saves around \$14.30 in health care and other costs.

The Budget delivers more funding for cancer prevention, screening and support, including for bowel cancer, skin cancer and young people with cancer. A new roadmap will identify opportunities to improve outcomes for people with skin cancer.

With national consistency in newborn bloodspot screening now achieved for the first time, ending the screening lottery for parents and families, the Budget invests further funding to support more conditions being added to national screening programs in a safe and timely manner.

Investments in the Budget will further Australia's goal of eliminating HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) transmission by 2030 and begin to respond to the recommendations of the HIV Taskforce Report. There is more funding for pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) and an expansion of the national HIV self-test program.

There are investments in important alcohol treatment and prevention services, better nutrition programs and in organisations supporting people with chronic conditions.

The Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) will remain a destination for Australia's elite and emerging athletes with \$249.7 million to ensure its facilities are modern and fit-for-purpose at the national base in Canberra. It will help Australia remain a world leading sporting nation in the lead up to the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

The Budget also includes \$132.7 million for grassroots community and school sport to encourage participation and help Australians stay fit and healthy.

## Who benefits

### A healthy Australia

**All Australians will benefit from the Government's focus on a fit and healthy Australia. The Budget will help prevent illness, detect health issues sooner, treat chronic conditions and support a healthy active lifestyle through sport participation. Investing in good health now will reduce illness, disability and costly care in the future.**

Our love of the sun is still leading to skin cancer for too many. A national skin cancer prevention campaign (\$15 million) will reach groups most at risk, including men over 40 and young adults.

A targeted skin cancer screening program is one step closer, with funding included to develop a national skin cancer screening roadmap (\$10.3 million) and improve the collection of skin cancer data. The Melanoma Institute Australia will work with the sector to develop the roadmap, led by Australians of the Year Professor Georgina Long AO and Professor Richard Scolyer AO.

From 1 July 2024, Australians aged 45–49 will be able to join already eligible 50–74 year olds and screen for bowel cancer by requesting a free test kit. The risk of bowel cancer increases with age, but it can occur in younger people – often without symptoms. If found early, more than 90% of cases can be successfully treated. People who receive a positive screening result will be contacted to encourage appropriate follow-up care.

The Budget continues to further Australia's goal of eliminating HIV transmission by 2030, and supports the implementation of the HIV Taskforce's recommendations (\$40.3 million), including by expanding access to pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP).

More people in at-risk groups will get free HIV self-test kits through the expanded national HIV self-test mail-out program (\$2.5 million).

High-risk groups will get help from people with lived experience through a national multicultural peer navigation pilot program which will have a focus on prevention and testing (\$1 million).

---

**Communicable disease transmission, particularly blood borne viruses, STIs and vaccine preventable diseases, will be reduced by expanding testing, treatment and prevention, including extending access to point-of-care testing for First Nations people and rural and remote communities (\$126.5 million).**

---

Newborns and their families will benefit from continuing reforms to deliver world-class newborn bloodspot screening programs (\$25 million). Newborn bloodspot screening not only saves lives but delivers better outcomes through early intervention.

It builds on previous reforms that have ensured – for the first time in 60 years – there is an agreed national list of current screening conditions, specific funding to achieve consistency across Australia, and a streamlined pathway to consider more conditions for screening.



---

**To meet the growing need for services for young people with cancer, the Government is providing additional funding for Canteen's Youth Cancer Service Program (\$6.9 million).**

---

The Budget continues support for men's health, with funding for the highly successful Men's Sheds movement (\$6.1 million) and education and training for health professionals (\$2.1 million). This increased funding to train health professionals to better engage and treat men, will support men's mental and physical health. Funding to provide information, and increase awareness and support available to men and boys on key health issues, will continue through the Male Health Initiative (\$3.4 million).

Those struggling with, or at risk from, harmful alcohol and illicit drug use will benefit from extended funding for 20 treatment and prevention services. This includes the Alcohol and Drug Foundation's Good Sports program which is helping 3 million participants across 11,500 clubs and 120 sporting codes.

---

**Good nutrition is vital to maintaining health and wellbeing. Australians will be supported to eat better and food supply will be improved through funding for the Healthy Food Partnership and the Branded Food Database (\$1.4 million).**

---

Funding for research at the Australian Prevention Partnership Centre will help deliver a solid evidence base for policymakers in preventative health (\$1.1 million).

The National COVID-19 Vaccine Program will continue to enable vaccinations to prevent severe COVID-19 disease (\$598.9 million).



## Case study

Jai is a 46-year-old father, working 2 jobs to cope with the financial strain of rent and the growing cost of living. He recently stopped smoking, but still drinks more than he should, finds it hard to eat well and doesn't have much time for exercise.

Jai's doctor has talked to him about his lifestyle and the increased risk he has of cancer.

Jai wants to be around for his son, Bailey, so he starts to make some changes.

He gets advice on reducing his alcohol intake through a Government-supported prevention and treatment services, starts to eat better and joins Bailey on runs as he trains for a cross country race at school.

Jai's doctor tells him that at 46 years of age he is eligible to take part in the free bowel cancer screening program. Jai registers, receives a test kit in the mail, collects a sample and sends it back.

If Jai receives a positive test result and doesn't follow-up with his doctor, he will be contacted to encourage him to seek appropriate follow-up care. If Jai does have bowel cancer, he's increased the chance of finding and successfully treating it early.

Bailey also gets \$500 to attend the national cross country championships through the Local Sporting Champions program, which is receiving \$17 million through the 2024-25 Budget.



## A fit Australia

**The 2024–25 Budget reaffirms how important an active lifestyle is to the health and wellbeing of Australians. It includes a \$494.2 million funding boost for sport. More than 2 million Australians each year will continue to have access to the Government's free sports programs.**

Programs that deliver health and social benefits to individuals and communities and help families with the cost of living include:

- Sporting Schools (\$62.9 million)
- Local Sporting Champions (\$17 million)
- Participation Grants Program (\$17.3 million)
- Water and Snow Safety (\$34.2 million)

The Budget delivers \$34.2 million to support the continuation of the Water and Snow Safety Program, which will reduce water and snow related injuries and deaths. This funding includes vital safety equipment and training for surf clubs affiliated with Surf Life Saving Australia.

---

**Elite and emerging athletes will be supported to be as successful as possible when representing Australia on the world stage through new facilities at the AIS in Canberra (\$249.7 million).**

---

The funding, to be provisioned while a detailed business plan is finalised, will help deliver:

- an accessible multi-storey accommodation facility
- a multi-sports dome to provide an all-weather, multi-sport indoor training facility with integrated facilities for testing and analysis
- a new high-performance training and testing centre.

This will help ensure our high-performance athletes have access to world-class facilities that strengthen Australia's position as a world-leading sporting nation in the lead up to the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

The Government will continue to deliver anti-doping and integrity functions and enhance the reputation and standing of sporting contests and of sport overall through further investment in Sport Integrity Australia (\$57.4 million).