

2025-26

Victorian State Budget

Public Accounts and Estimates
Committee

Hon. Harriet Shing MP
Minister for Ambulance Services

OFFICIAL



VICTORIA
State
Government

Department
of Health



Acknowledgment

TITLE

Bayi Dha-ang: Walk Strong
(Dhudhuroa language)

ARTIST ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Bitja (Dixon Patten Jnr)
Baylia Creative

TRIBES

Gunnai, Yorta Yorta, Gunditjmara,
Dhudhuroa/Jaithmathang, Djab Wurrung, Wemba
Wemba, Wadi Wadi, Barapa Barapa, Monero,
Wadawurrung.

Key achievements 2025-26



Department
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Key achievements 2025-26: Delivering care for Victorians

System-wide reform has lifted **ambulance performance to its highest level in over four years**, with consistent year-on-year improvement since the ***Standards for Safe and Timely Ambulance and Emergency Care*** were launched in February 2025

Code 1 (time-critical) response times remain some of the best when measured against comparable jurisdictions, despite record demand. We continue to outperform NSW and QLD on 3 of 4 response time indicators¹ and **lead the nation in cardiac arrest survival rates.**

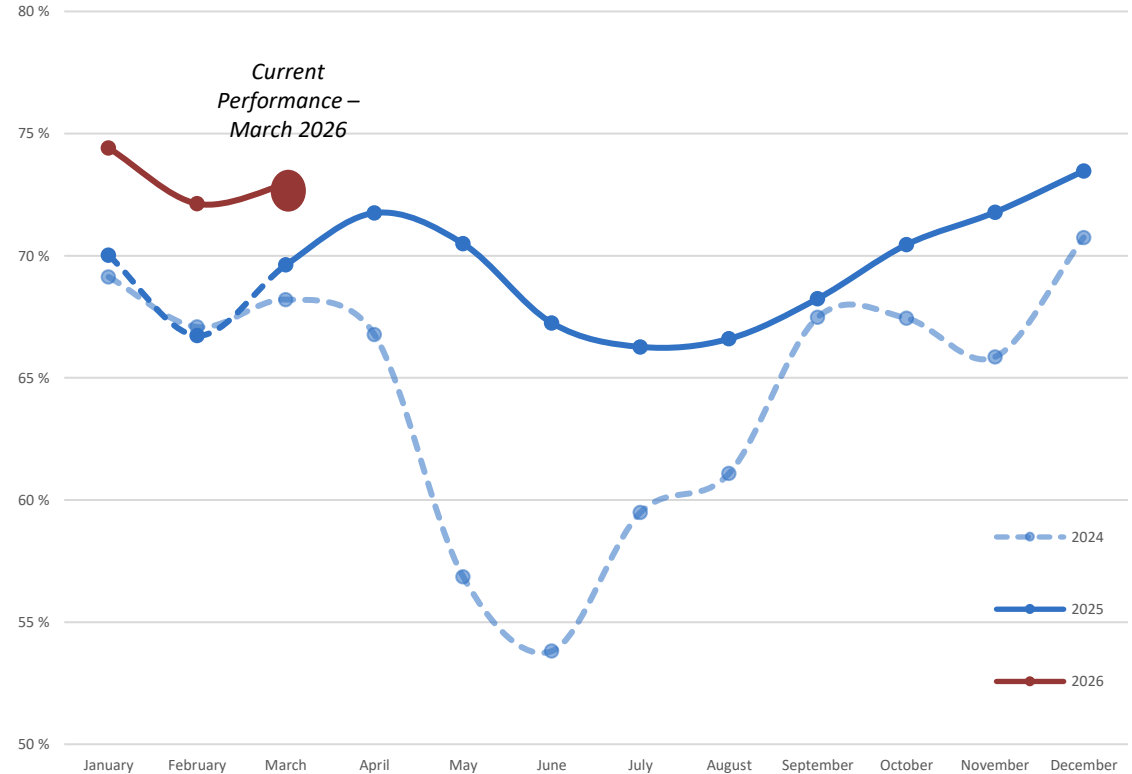


Figure 1 – Ambulance transfers within 40 minutes (Statewide)

1. Report on Government Services 2026

Key achievements 2025-26

Paving the way for best practice emergency care

Standards for Safety and Timely Ambulance and Emergency Care set out clear actions for AV and our public hospitals to improve the progression of care and reduce ramping

Taking pressure off ambulances with virtual and alternative care

A **\$437 million expansion** of the **Virtual Emergency Department** has diverted non-critical cases from emergency response, freeing ambulances for the most urgent cases



Key achievements 2025-26

Sustained investment in a skilled and specialised paramedic workforce

\$46 million to strengthen Victoria's paramedic workforce, with targeted growth in specialist roles such as Mobile Intensive Care Ambulance paramedics to support complex and high-acuity emergencies

Expanding ambulance coverage where it's needed most

\$84 million was invested to add new regional ambulance crews, peak-period capacity and additional 24-hour services, **improving statewide access to emergency care**



State Budget 2026-27



Department
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2026-27 budget: Ensuring our ambos are available for people who need them

To ensure our paramedics can provide better, faster care to those who need it most, **\$50.7 million** will be provided to services, including:



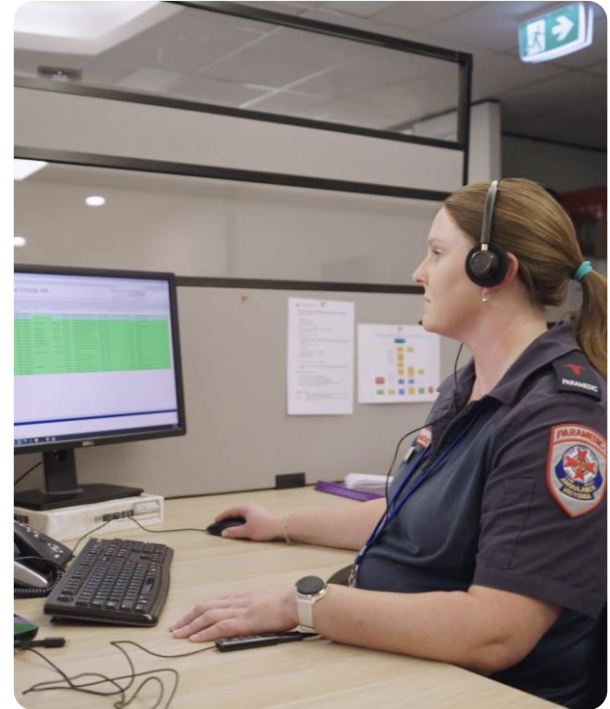
\$9.7m

to **improve call taking and dispatch accuracy** to free up ambulances for critical emergencies



\$28.6m

to **connect low-to-medium acuity patients with alternative care options**, reserving ambulance services for critically ill patients



The 2026-27 budget outcomes are ensuring our ambos are available for people who need them



\$10.4m

to continue a pilot improving the coordination of ambulance arrivals at emergency departments



\$2m

to support lower-urgency cases to get the support that meets their needs without sending an emergency ambulance



Thank you



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