

2025-26 Victorian State Budget

Public Accounts and Estimates Committee

The Hon. Mary-Anne Thomas MP

Minister for Health

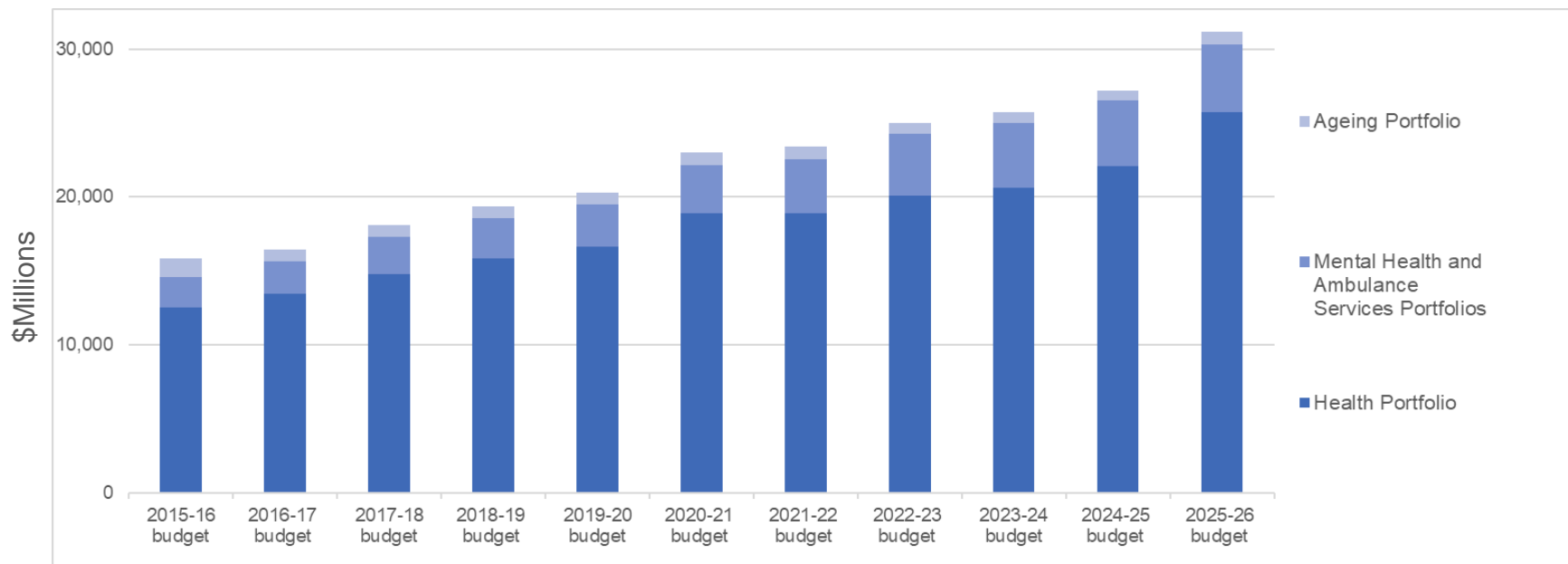
OFFICIAL



Department
of Health

Investing in Victoria's health system

Year on year portfolio increase



A stronger, more sustainable and collaborative health system

Key achievements from 2024-25:



Establishing 12 Local Health Service Networks in response to the Health Services Plan.

Reducing the gender health gap, with **15 new women's health clinics** announced to commence service delivery in 2025 and our **nation leading Inquiry into Women's Pain** which heard from over 13,000 voices



Roll out of the **new RSV Mother and Infant Protection Program**



Record performance in ensuring Victorians have timely access to planned surgery with **year-on-year improvements** to patients treated in time

Health services on track to **deliver 210,000 surgeries**, guided by the Planned Surgery Reform Blueprint



Introduced stronger and safer **nurse-to-patient and midwife-to-patient ratios**

Supported **400 new entrants to the General Practitioner workforce** and **108 Speech Pathologists and Occupational Therapists** to start their careers in rural or regional Victoria

Delivering free, accessible and lifesaving healthcare

The total investment in
Victoria's health system now
exceeds \$31 billion

This year, we are providing a boost of **\$9.3 billion** for public hospitals to deliver the world-class healthcare all Victorians deserve



Virtual Emergency Care



This budget provides **\$436.7 million** over four years to expand and make permanent the Victorian Virtual Emergency Department.

Capacity for up to 1,750 calls per day by 2028–29, reducing pressure on the health system.



Investing in our health services

This budget also includes **\$634.3 million** to open and operationalise nine new or expanded hospitals – delivering even better care for local communities.

\$61.8 million for the Engineering Infrastructure Replacement Program

\$52.3 million for Victoria's Medical Equipment Replacement Program



Care when and where Victorians need it

\$48.2 million in more accessible care - closer to home, including the Community Pharmacist Statewide Program and Victoria's Urgent Care Clinics.

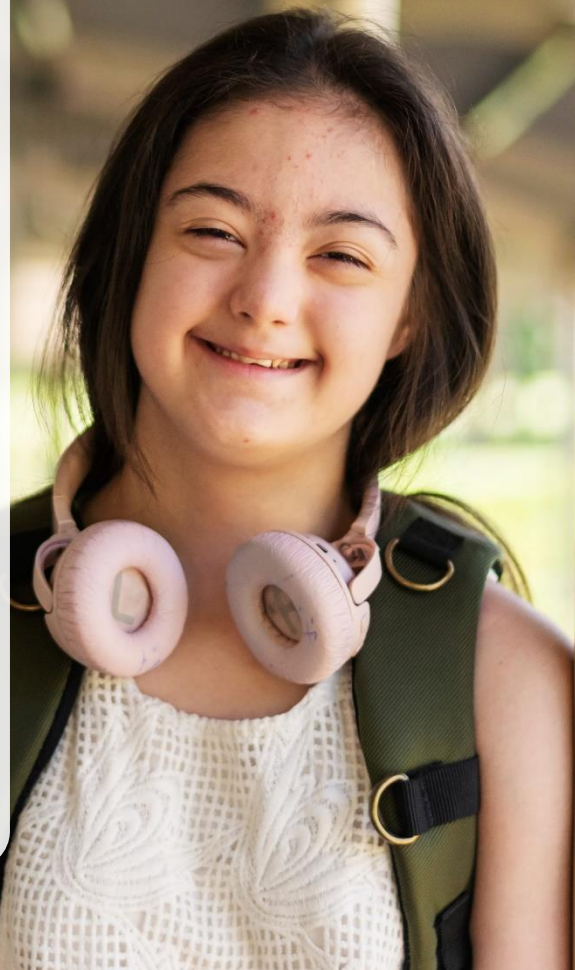
\$58.4 million over two years to improve patient flow and reduce ambulance ramping



Saving and improving lives

\$38.3 million to **protect Victorians** through continuation of the Local Public Health Unit Network, water regulation, Epidemic Thunderstorm Asthma Program and extreme weather alert system.

\$8.1 million to support the recently launched **Victorian Cancer Plan 2024-28** including better access to precision cancer care, clinical trials, and tailored support services for Aboriginal Victorians.



A healthcare worker, likely a nurse or midwife, is shown in profile, looking towards the right. She has dark hair tied in a bun and wears glasses. Her scrubs are grey with a colorful owl pattern. In the background, there are blue curtains and medical equipment, including a monitor and a stand with various tubes and wires.

Strengthening the workforce

\$95.1 million to keep building the healthcare worker pipeline including:

More registered undergraduate student of nursing and midwifery positions in our hospitals

Career building and transition support programs

Capability development for rural and regional nurses and midwives.

Prioritising women's health



\$5.6 million and **\$1.4 million** builds on our previous **\$170 million** investment to strengthen women's health outcomes and improve access to healthcare.



Supporting all Victorians

\$13 million to support Dandenong and District Aborigines Co-Operative Limited to upgrade to a **modern facility** to deliver clinical, social and wellbeing services

\$15.8 million for ten **Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations** to deliver antenatal and postnatal care

\$15.3 million for our **trans and gender diverse** communities to make sure they have the specialist healthcare they need

\$3.4 million to continue GP care and support health coordination for **asylum seekers and newly arrived refugees**



Thank you



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of Health