

# 2025-26 Victorian State Budget

Public Accounts and Estimates Committee

**The Hon. Mary-Anne Thomas MP**

Minister for Health

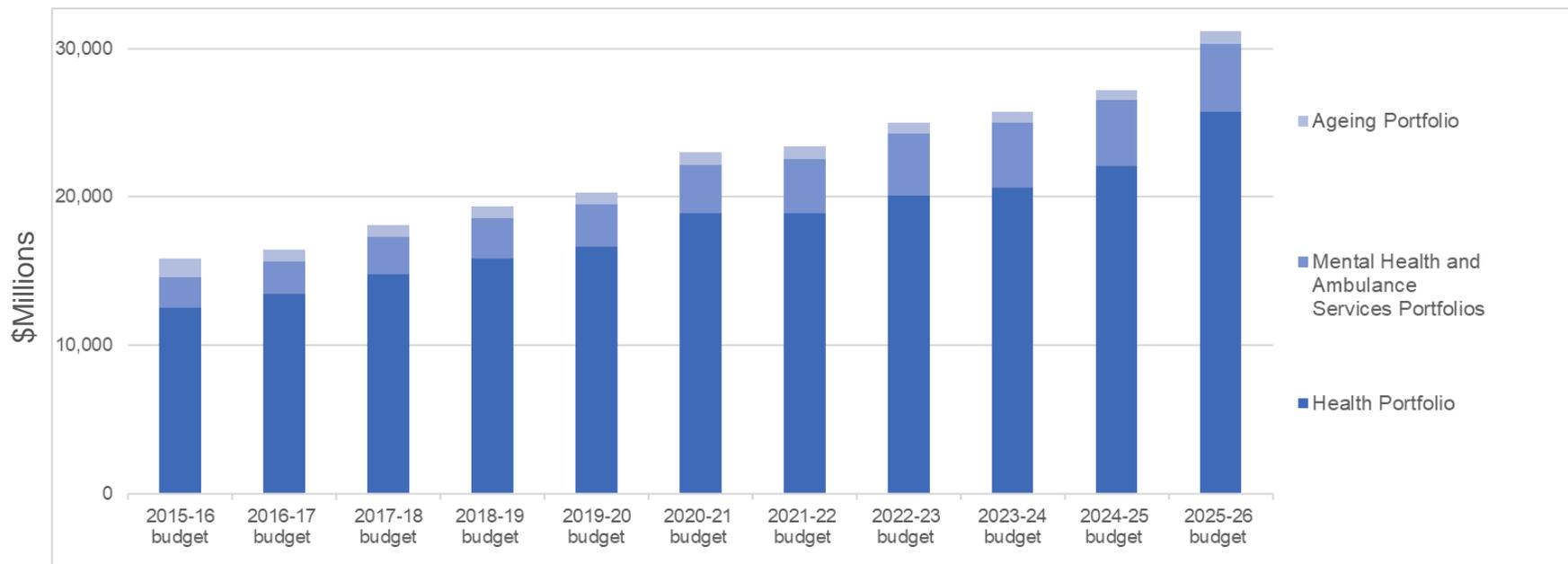
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Department  
of Health

# 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.

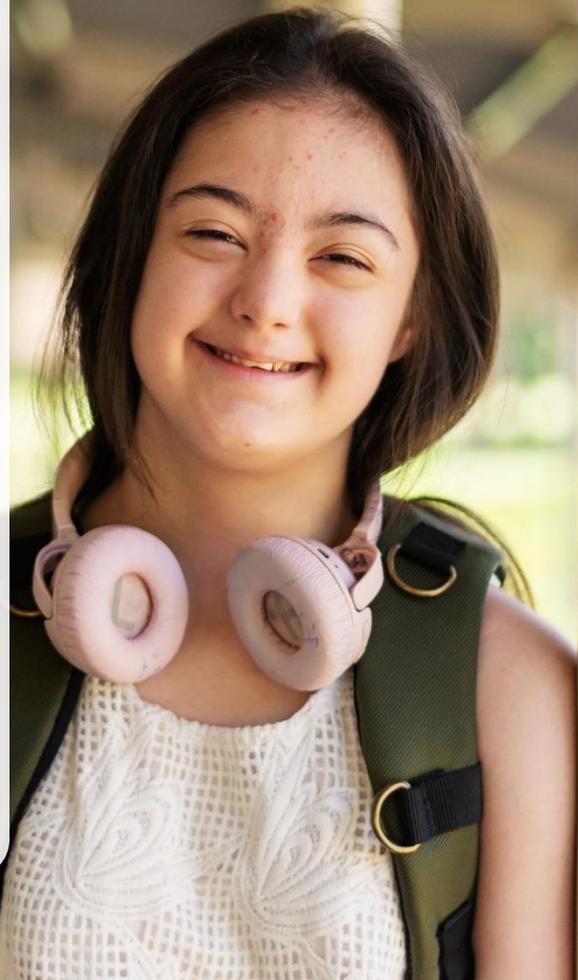
**\$58.4 million** over two years to improve patient flow and reduce ambulance ramping

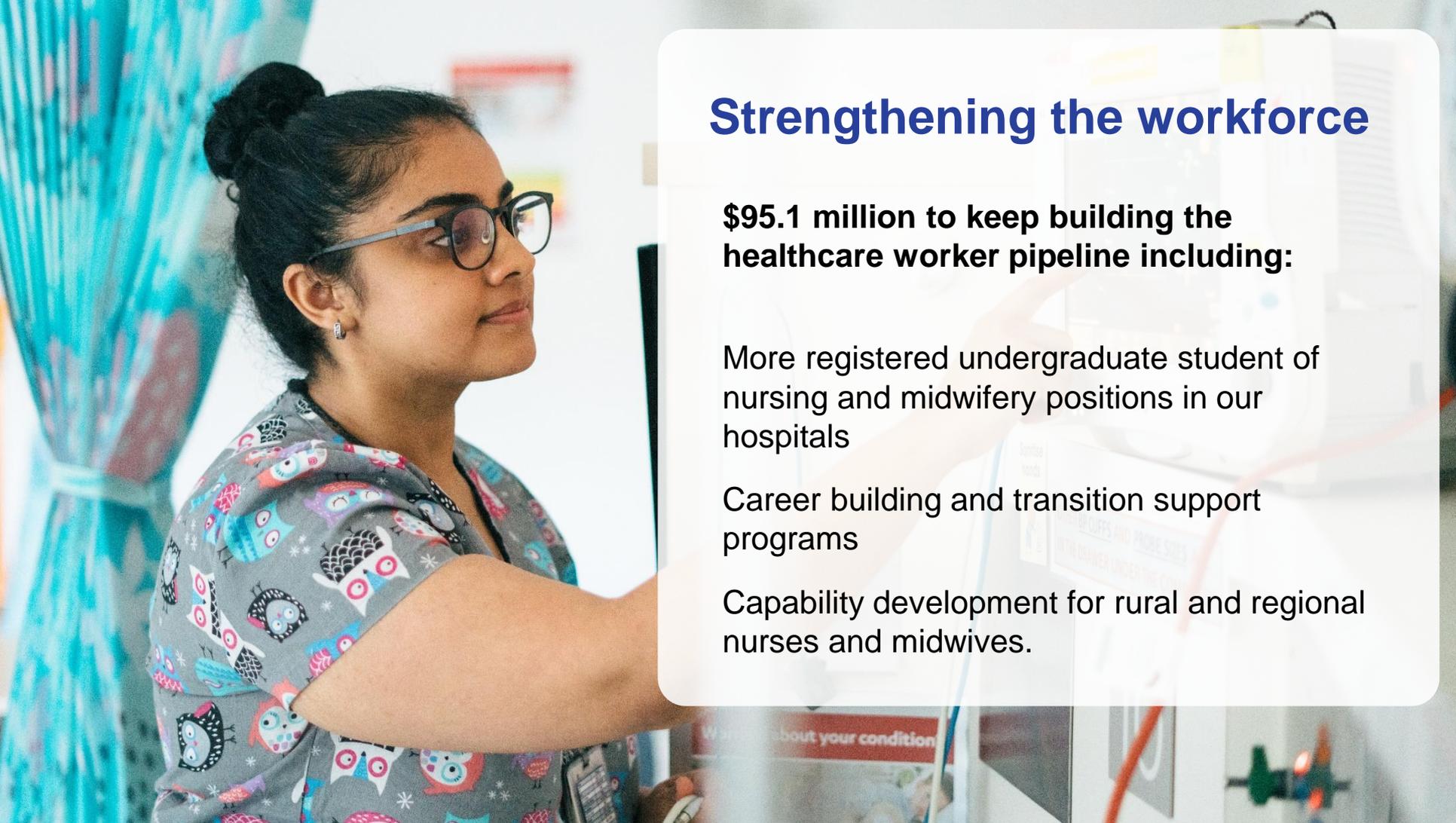


## Saving and improving lives

**\$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 back in a bun and is wearing glasses and colorful scrubs with an owl pattern. She is standing in a clinical setting, with a computer monitor and various medical equipment visible in the background. The background is slightly blurred, focusing attention on the worker.

## 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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