

performance

Balancing our investment in health: a commitment to health-enhancing environments

strategy 12

Balance our investment in health to reflect our commitment to health-enhancing environments and communities, consistent with the Queensland Government's priorities

Key achievements

- Released the *Smart State: Health 2020 Directions Statement (Health 2020)*, the State Government's vision for a healthy population and sustainable health system for the 21st century. While acute treatment services will remain the largest part of Queensland Health's business, *Health 2020* recognises the need to strengthen our approach to population health through seven key directions:
 - taking a wider perspective on health
 - target areas for health improvement
 - involving communities in better health and health care

- developing an integrated, patient-centred health system
- shaping our future health care workforce
- Smart State research and technology
- Paying for health in 2020

Health 2020 is available at <http://www.health.qld.gov.au/Health2020/>
More information about *Health 2020* and its relationship to Queensland Health's Integrating Strategy and Performance process can be found on page 2

- Invested an additional \$1 million in the *Eat Well Queensland for a Healthier State* program in the form of additional public health, community nutrition and

Indigenous child health and nutrition positions.

- Commenced the Cape York Food Supply Project, a study of the quality, variety and pricing of food available in certain Cape communities. On average, the Healthy Food Access Basket was found to be 30 per cent more expensive in the studied communities than in Cairns

- Introduced and enforced the *Tobacco and Other Smoking Products Act* to reduce the incidence of smoking among young people and their exposure to passive smoking. From January to May 2003, 176 infringement notices were issued to people who sold tobacco to young people

- Launched a new website for the Poisons Information Centre which answers most common questions about poisons. The new site can be visited at <http://www.health.qld.gov.au/PoisonsInformationCentre/homepage.htm>

- Relocated the Mareeba Community Health Service and Indigenous Health Worker team to the Mareeba Hospital building. This has improved integration with inpatient units, ensuring a smoother transition for patients as they move back into their communities. The move has also increased opportunistic visits to community and Indigenous services by patients and visitors to the hospital

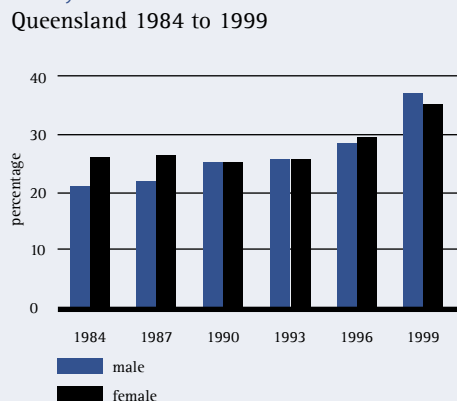
- Collocated Queensland Health's Sexual Health Services with Alcohol and Drug Services at Biala, the City Community Health Centre in Brisbane. This will enhance service integration and collaboration by increasing and streamlining referral processes between the two services, and increase opportunities for collaboration between the two services, particularly for clients with blood-borne viruses and other sexually transmitted diseases

- Opened the new Labrador Child Health Centre on the Gold Coast. This

fact file

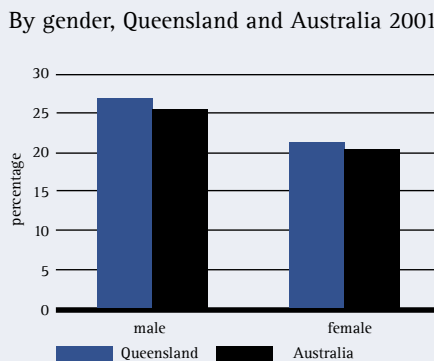
Stemming the increasing trend of smoking among young people is a priority for Queensland Health. Over one fifth of Queensland females aged 14 and over and one quarter of Queensland males aged 14 and over smoke

Year 11 and 12 students who reported smoking in the previous week to survey
Queensland 1984 to 1999



Source: Centre for Health Promotion and Cancer Prevention Research, University of Queensland

Tobacco use: proportion of the population aged 14 years and over who are current smokers
By gender, Queensland and Australia 2001



Source: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2002. 2001 National Drug Strategy Household Survey: State and Territory supplement. AIHW cat. no. PHE 37. Canberra: AIHW (Drug Statistics Series No. 10)



purpose-built facility caters for about 15 families and other clients from surrounding communities, and offers positive parenting, sleep management and a fussy eaters program and a new parents group. The Centre also offers a day-stay centre to allow parents to work one-to-one with a nurse on complex parenting issues

- Integrated Adult Mental Health services with other services at the Pine Rivers Community Health Centre, allowing clients access to a full range of community health services in the one location
- Coordinated Queensland's response to Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) in keeping with Commonwealth and World Health Organisation recommendations. A SARS action plan for future preparedness was also developed and implemented
- Advised government, business, industry and community bodies on public health issues such as local area planning, radiation policy, disaster management, and the impact of large infrastructure projects
- Improved food safety through other initiatives including fact sheets for retail traders, restaurants, caterers and the meat, seafood and baking sectors; *Label Buster*, a guide to the labelling provisions of the new Food Standards code; and *Food Safety Matters*, a teaching resource for secondary schools
- Established a whole-of-government steering committee on Indigenous environmental health which will address public health issues in Indigenous communities

Outlook

- Implement a wide range of strategies to progress the *Health 2020* agenda. These strategies are expected to be endorsed in early 2003-04

- Invest \$500,000 in a three-year project to enhance health literacy and local capacity in Pormpuraaw, Kowanyama, Lockhart River and Napranum. The project will use the Internet and touch-screen technology to reduce diabetes, alcohol use and musculoskeletal problems. It will also include training for health workers; databases on alcohol use, arthritis and injuries; expand the Ferret patient information and recall system; and information technology training for community members
- Conduct a cold chain survey for scheduled vaccinations in all Queensland Health facilities. Vaccines and some other drugs must be stored and transported at a prescribed temperature to maintain their effectiveness, and this is known as a cold chain. The survey will involve on-site inspections to identify and correct breaches of cold chain maintenance
- Introduce a new system to regulate pest management technicians in Queensland. From enactment of the legislation in September 2003, pest controllers will be known nationally as pest management technicians
- Upgrade existing licensing services relating to the implementation of the *Radiation Safety Act*, pest management and other poisons. The introduction of a single licensing system is expected to improve the efficiency with which these functions are undertaken

Smart State:
Health 2020 —
a vision for a
sustainable
health system

