About Townsville Hospital and Health Service
The Townsville Hospital and Health Service serves a population of more than 240,000
The Townsville HHS covers an area of more than 148,000 square kilometres, around 8.5 per cent of Queensland, and serves a population of more than 240,000. The catchment area and population of the Townsville HHS is more than 750,000 square kilometres and 650,000 people. The Townsville Hospital, the largest facility in the Townsville HHS, is the region’s only tertiary facility and serves as the main referral and teaching hospital north of Brisbane providing specialist services to north, north-west and far north Queensland. The Townsville HHS’s rural hospitals are pivotal to the delivery of health care to people living in rural and remote communities and offer general medicine, general surgery, obstetrics, emergency, outpatient and primary health services.

About Townsville Hospital and Health Service

The Townsville Hospital and Health Service area

Cardwell – offers visiting physiotherapy, increased oral health, visiting midwifery and Indigenous health services

Palm Island – mobile dental and community health vans commence; Beryl Castors Home and Community Care Centre opens

Magnetic Island – offers community and primary health care services

Ayr – currently the only rural facility offering planned birthing with 121 babies born during the year

Home Hill – offers haemodialysis to patients as part of a satellite renal care service

Richmond – upgrades completed of emergency generator, security and main switchboard

Hughenden – commences outreach cardiology clinics

Charters Towers – $2.3 million refurbishment of Eventide Aged Care Facility completed; $1.2 million fire compliance upgrade underway
Locations of our hospitals and community health campuses

- Ayr
- Cardwell
- Charters Towers
- Home Hill
- Hughenden
- Ingham
- Kirwan
- Magnetic Island
- North Ward
- Palm Island
- Richmond
- Townsville
- Vincent

Our residential aged care facilities

- Eventide (Charters Towers)
- Parklands (Townsville)

Specialty services

The Townsville HHS delivers a wide range of specialist services and operates the only tertiary hospital outside Queensland’s south-east corner. These specialty services include: cancer care, cardiology and cardiothoracic surgery, emergency medicine, gynaecology, hyperbaric medicine, specialist mental health care, neurology and neurosurgery, neonatal and paediatric intensive care, urology and vascular surgery.

Community health services

The Townsville HHS proudly boasts robust community health services across its facilities that support patients, clients and consumers in a non-acute setting. These services include alcohol, tobacco, drugs and other drug services, sexual health, public health, home and community care, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health services, mental health, oral health and older persons health services.

Demography

Between 2012 and 2026, the population in the Townsville HHS is projected to increase by approximately 31.7 per cent to 308,000 people. The projected increase is similar to the projected increase for Queensland of 31.6 per cent.

Of the Townsville HHS population in 2012, those aged zero–14 years accounted for 20.7 per cent, 15–64 years accounted for 67.7 per cent and 65 years and over accounted for 11.6 per cent. By 2026, the projections for the same age groupings are 19.9 per cent, 64.2 per cent and 15.9 per cent respectively.

In line with an ageing population, the number of people aged 65–84 years is projected to increase by 79.8 per cent by 2026, and those aged 85 years and over, projected to almost double – a projected increase of 99.9 per cent.

Within the current resident population, more than seven per cent is of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander origin, which is double the average for Queensland as a whole. Approximately 12 per cent identified themselves as born outside Australia.

The HHS treated 74,317 patients across all of our facilities during the year. Of these more than 86 per cent were Townsville HHS residents and 12 per cent were residents of other HHSs within our tertiary referral catchment area.

Redevelopment

The Townsville Hospital’s $437 million redevelopment was completed in April 2015. Stages 3 and 4 of the redevelopment delivered a new 66-bed ward block which included maternity and gerontology, expansion and upgrade of the Pathology Laboratory, Townsville Cancer Centre expansion and the Clinical Services Support Building (CSSB). The completion of CSSB included new and refurbished space for essential support services including kitchen, mortuary and medical records. The 45-bed Townsville Sub-Acute Care Unit opened with 30 beds in October 2014 increasing to 45 beds early in 2015. The Medium Secure Mental Health Unit is currently being refurbished. The final stage of The Townsville Hospital redevelopment program, which will be completed in 2017, includes a Planned Procedure Unit and upgraded central sterilising facilities.
The Townsville HHS recorded a two-year surplus from 2012 to 2014 in excess of $40 million to improve the health and well-being of our communities.

- **$3 million** Palm Island accommodation (and van enclosure)
- **$2.5 million** upgrade of renal and respiratory services
- **$500,000** Palm Island Mobile Health Clinic
- **$10 million** Research, Education and Clinical Trials Centre
- **$1 million** staff amenities initiative
- **$4 million** additional outpatient clinic space
- **$3 million** Palm Island community clinic
- **$3 million** sub-acute care development
- **$1.5 million** paediatric ward refurbishment
- **$13.8 million** IT digital hospital initiative (total value of $41 million)
HHS activity snap shot

- 5,840 staff
- 74,317 people admitted to our facilities
- 2,784 babies born
- 318,187 dispensed pharmaceuticals
- 2,659 newborn ‘healthy hearing’ screens
- 123,345 medical imaging examinations
- 116,708 presentations to emergency departments
- 8,250 elective and 5,757 emergency surgical procedures at The Townsville Hospital
- 348,320 outpatient appointments
- 15,708 BreastScreens performed
“With the click of a button, clinicians have immediate access to a patient’s history, allergies and hospital notes”