Environments that support health of Indigenous Queenslanders are not confined to the physical characteristics of the places where people live. The historical and cultural circumstances in which Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people exist in contemporary Australia significantly and adversely affects health.

Relationship to ancestral lands, seas, and waterways are fundamentally important for cultural and physical survival, and for wellbeing. These relationships are key enablers of health. Furthermore, the history of settlement in Australia has impacted on Indigenous Australians. Addressing the resulting health disparities will require an appreciation of the underlying causes that hinder the attainment of equitable health for Indigenous Queenslanders.

Improved health outcomes can be achieved through a stronger focus on prevention.

Data in this factsheet refers to Indigenous Queensland children aged 5–17 years and adults aged 18 years and older, unless otherwise noted.
Indigenous Queenslanders

Health service utilisation

116,000 hospitalisations (2015–16)

17% of Indigenous Queenslanders were admitted in the previous year

40% of all admissions for tests, procedures and investigations

8% for injury

7% for symptoms and signs

7% of female admissions for pregnancy and childbirth

Contributors to lifetime health and wellbeing

780 new cases of cancer diagnosed in 2014

2 in 3 cases were aged 45–74 years

19% had consulted a GP in the previous two weeks

65% had high cholesterol

20% had high blood pressure

Indigenous female cases

22% with breast cancer

14% with lung cancer

Indigenous male cases

19% with prostate cancer

17% with lung cancer

Antenatal visits in pregnancy

87% of mothers had 5 or more visits

65% of mothers had 8 or more visits

97% of children were fully immunised at five years of age (2017)

51% of children were active at least one hour every day

Life expectancy (2015–2017): Indigenous Queenslanders compared to non-Indigenous

7.8 years lower for males

6.7 years lower for females

More information, access to interactive data visualisations and detail on definitions and methods is available from the main report and the website: www.health.qld.gov.au/cho_report

For further information: Population_Epidemiology@health.qld.gov.au