Young people in Queensland
status, trends and disparities

The transition from childhood to adult maturity is a challenging time for young people. The direct influence of parents and schools diminishes as young people progress through the teenage years and into their twenties.

Finding a place in society is stressful for many young people and can lead to mental health issues. Peer support, positive social environments and pathways to employment can help. Online social environments may undermine the growing independent identity of young people.

The environment can be shaped to help young people make positive choices for health and wellbeing, such as encouraging healthy food choices, discouraging risky behaviours and affordable transport systems providing connectivity and active transport.

The health of Queenslanders 2018
Report of the Chief Health Officer Queensland

Data in this factsheet refers to Queenslanders aged 15–29 years, unless otherwise noted.
Quality education and training, accessible jobs and services, affordable housing and recreational opportunities to empower young people with a sense of belonging, health and wellbeing.

Health service utilisation

- 249,000 hospitalisations (2015–16)
- 37% of female admissions for pregnancy and childbirth
- 23% of male admissions for injuries
- 15% of young people were admitted in the previous year
- 460 new cases of cancer diagnosed in 2014
- 1 in 4 with melanoma
- Average GP visits per year
  - 3.2 visits for 15–24 years
  - 3.7 visits for 24–34 years

Contributors to lifetime health and wellbeing

- 70% never smoked (18–29 years)
- Young males aged 18–29 years decreased alcohol consumption
- Attractive, visible, safe public spaces provide positive opportunities for socialising
- 59% were healthy weight by measurement (18–29 years)
- 561,000 employed
- 71% active on most days in the past week (18–24 years)
- 59% were healthy weight by measurement (18–29 years)
- 110,000 living with disability
- 1 in 12 young people (15–34 years)

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
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