Australia’s health
2014
14th report in the Australia’s health series

Web snapshot
In-brief report
Australia has much to be proud of in many areas of health…

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Longer life expectancy</th>
<th>Smoking rates Falling</th>
<th>Abstaining from alcohol</th>
<th>Vaccination rates getting better</th>
<th>Lower death rates for cancer</th>
<th>Fewer heart attacks and strokes</th>
<th>Asthma and Injury deaths down</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feeling all right</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Longer life expectancy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Males</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Females</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Iceland</td>
<td>80.7</td>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>85.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>80.5</td>
<td>France</td>
<td>85.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>80.1</td>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>85.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>79.9</td>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>85.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Israel</td>
<td>79.9</td>
<td>Switzerland</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>79.7</td>
<td>Korea</td>
<td>84.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>79.4</td>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>84.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>79.4</td>
<td>Iceland</td>
<td>84.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>79.4</td>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>84.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>New Zealand</td>
<td>79.4</td>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>83.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: OECD 2013.
Australians aged 15 and over

- Poor: 4%
- Fair: 11%
- Good: 30%
- Excellent/Very good: 55%

Australians aged 65 and over

- Aged 65–74: 76%
- Aged 75+: 67%
  - Excellent/Very good/Good
Smoking rates falling

Abstaining from alcohol

Australian adults who smoke

1964: 43%
2010: 16%

Proportion of people abstaining from alcohol

2007: 10.1%
2010: 12.1%
Vaccinations rates getting better

Immunisation rates for vaccines in the national schedule 2008–2012
Lower death rates for cancer

17% is the fall in the death rate for all cancers between 1991 and 2011
Fewer heart attacks and strokes

Trends in rates of heart attacks, people aged 25 and over, Australia, 2007–2011
COPD/ Asthma Deaths down

Injury deaths down

- Transport injury: down 3.8%
- Thermal injury: down 3.3%
- Drowning: down 5.5%
- Suicide: down 3.2%
- Homicide: down 5.5%
Australia has some health worries...

- Chronic and lifestyle diseases
- Mental disorders
- Too much weight
- Diabetes on the rise
- Not eating well
- Some problems with alcohol and drugs
- Dementia numbers rising
Chronic and lifestyle diseases

Chronic diseases are the leading cause of illness, disability and death in Australia, accounting for 90% of all deaths in 2011.
Mental disorders

An estimated 3.2 million people have experienced a mental disorder in the previous 12 months.
Too much weight

Diabetes on the rise
The percentage of people aged 18 and over who ate the recommended daily intake of fruit and vegetables, by age group, 2011-12
Some problems with alcohol and drugs

People aged 18 and over who exceeded lifetime risk alcohol guidelines, 2001 to 2011-12

Illicit Drug use
Dementia numbers rising

3 in 5 people with dementia in Australia in 2014 are women
Health inequalities

Indigenous Australians
People living with a disability
People in lower socioeconomic situations
People in rural and remote areas

Smoking rates

- Outer regional and remote areas: 22%
- Major cities: 15%
Indigenous Australians

Health Gaps
Indigenous Australians compared with Non-Indigenous Australians

- End-stage kidney disease: \( \times 7 \)
- Diabetes: \( \times 3.3 \)
- Hospitalisations for respiratory conditions: \( \times 3 \)
- Obesity: \( \times 1.5 \)
- Cancer deaths rate: \( \times 1.5 \)
- Youth suicide—female: \( \times 5.9 \)
- Youth suicide—male: \( \times 4.4 \)
Health expenditure

In 2011-12:
$140.2 billion
9.5% GDP

Total health expenditure to GDP ratio, 1986–87 to 2011–12
What is driving rising health costs?

- Population growth
  - 1.6% growth per year
  - Upwards pressure on costs

- New technologies
  - New diagnostic and treatments
  - New pharmaceuticals

- Population ageing
  - Costs increase in older ages
  - 20 times higher per person
Want more information?

Available on line @

In-brief report

Web snapshot

Education resources

Developed by the Digital and Media Communications Team

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