## 3 Funding of health expenditure in Australia

### 3.1 Broad trends

This section makes broad comparisons between government and non-government funding (as described in Section 1.2). Sections 3.2 and 3.3 will discuss in more detail the funding arrangements within the government and non-government sectors. Chapter 4 provides an analysis of funding of specific classes of health goods and services (including capital).
In 2003-04, government funding of health expenditure was $\$ 53.5$ billion, compared with $\$ 25.1$ billion for non-government sources (Table 11).
In the decade to 2003-04, funding of health expenditure by governments in Australia grew at a higher average annual real rate ( $5.6 \%$ ) than did total expenditure on health funded from all sources, which averaged $4.6 \%$ per year (Table 17).
As a consequence, the contribution of governments to the funding of total health expenditure increased from $66.4 \%$ in 1993-94 to $68.0 \%$ in 2003-04 (Table 12). However, between 2002-03 and 2003-04, the government contribution decreased by 0.8 percentage points, from $68.8 \%$ in 2002-03. The non-government contribution correspondingly rose from $31.2 \%$ to $32.0 \%$.

Table 11: Total health expenditure, current prices, by broad source of funds, 1993-94 to 2003-04 (\$ million)

| Year | Government |  |  | Non-government ${ }^{(a)}$ | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Australian Government ${ }^{(\mathrm{a})}$ | State/territory and local | Total |  |  |
| 1993-94 | 16,683 | 7,868 | 24,550 | 12,440 | 36,990 |
| 1994-95 | 17,551 | 8,460 | 26,010 | 13,205 | 39,216 |
| 1995-96 | 19,005 | 9,260 | 28,265 | 13,817 | 42,082 |
| 1996-97 | 19,809 | 10,391 | 30,200 | 15,096 | 45,296 |
| 1997-98 | 21,450 | 11,502 | 32,952 | 15,336 | 48,288 |
| 1998-99 | 23,693 | 11,291 | 34,984 | 16,456 | 51,440 |
| 1999-00 | 26,046 | 12,672 | 38,717 | 16,538 | 55,255 |
| 2000-01 | 28,826 | 13,970 | 42,795 | 18,840 | 61,635 |
| 2001-02 | 30,818 | 14,845 | 45,662 | 21,107 | 66,769 |
| 2002-03 | 33,467 | 16,352 | 49,819 | 22,632 | 72,452 |
| 2003-04 ${ }^{(\mathrm{b})}$ | 35,729 | 17,731 | 53,459 | 25,139 | 78,598 |

[^0]Table 12: Total health expenditure, current prices, by broad source of funds, as a proportion of total health expenditure, 1993-94 to 2003-04 (per cent)

| Year | Government |  |  | Non-government ${ }^{(a)}$ | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Australian Government ${ }^{(\mathrm{a})}$ | State/territory and local | Total |  |  |
| 1993-94 | 45.1 | 21.3 | 66.4 | 33.6 | 100.0 |
| 1994-95 | 44.8 | 21.6 | 66.3 | 33.7 | 100.0 |
| 1995-96 | 45.2 | 22.0 | 67.2 | 32.8 | 100.0 |
| 1996-97 | 43.7 | 22.9 | 66.7 | 33.3 | 100.0 |
| 1997-98 | 44.4 | 23.8 | 68.2 | 31.8 | 100.0 |
| 1998-99 | 46.1 | 21.9 | 68.0 | 32.0 | 100.0 |
| 1999-00 | 47.1 | 22.9 | 70.1 | 29.9 | 100.0 |
| 2000-01 | 46.8 | 22.7 | 69.4 | 30.6 | 100.0 |
| 2001-02 | 46.2 | 22.2 | 68.4 | 31.6 | 100.0 |
| 2002-03 | 46.2 | 22.6 | 68.8 | 31.2 | 100.0 |
| 2003-04 ${ }^{(\text {b }}$ | 45.5 | 22.6 | 68.0 | 32.0 | 100.0 |

(a) Expenditure has been adjusted for tax expenditures.
(b) Based on preliminary AIHW and ABS estimates.

Note: Components may not add to totals due to rounding.
Source: AIHW health expenditure database.

Table 13: Total health expenditure, by broad source of funds, as a proportion of GDP, 1993-94 to 2003-04 (per cent)

| Year | Government |  |  | Non-government ${ }^{(a)}$ | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Australian Government ${ }^{(a)}$ | State/territory and local | Total |  |  |
| 1993-94 | 3.7 | 1.8 | 5.5 | 2.8 | 8.3 |
| 1994-95 | 3.7 | 1.8 | 5.5 | 2.8 | 8.3 |
| 1995-96 | 3.8 | 1.8 | 5.6 | 2.8 | 8.4 |
| 1996-97 | 3.8 | 2.0 | 5.7 | 2.9 | 8.6 |
| 1997-98 | 3.8 | 2.1 | 5.9 | 2.7 | 8.6 |
| 1998-99 | 4.0 | 1.9 | 5.9 | 2.8 | 8.7 |
| 1999-00 | 4.2 | 2.0 | 6.2 | 2.7 | 8.9 |
| 2000-01 | 4.3 | 2.1 | 6.4 | 2.8 | 9.2 |
| 2001-02 | 4.3 | 2.1 | 6.4 | 3.0 | 9.4 |
| 2002-03 | 4.4 | 2.2 | 6.6 | 3.0 | 9.6 |
| 2003-04 ${ }^{(\text {b }}$ | 4.4 | 2.2 | 6.6 | 3.1 | 9.7 |

(a) Expenditure has been adjusted for tax expenditures.
(b) Based on preliminary AIHW and ABS estimates.

Note: Components may not add to totals due to rounding.
Sources: AIHW health expenditure database and ABS 2005.

Funding can also be expressed as a ratio of health expenditure to GDP. Over the decade from 1993-94 to 2003-04, the Australian Government increased its share from $3.7 \%$ to $4.4 \%$. For
state and territory and local governments, the ratio fluctuated around $2.0 \%$, while non-government sources increased their share of GDP, from $2.8 \%$ to $3.1 \%$ (Table 13).

## Total recurrent funding

Recurrent expenditure makes up around $95 \%$ of total health expenditure in Australia. Consequently, changes in recurrent health expenditure constitute the bulk of changes in total health expenditure in any period.
In real terms, recurrent funding of health grew by an average of 4.8\% a year from 1993-94 to 2003-04 (Table 16). The government sector's recurrent funding grew by $5.6 \%$ per year, while non-government recurrent funding grew by $3.3 \%$ (Tables 14 and 15). These growth rates are similar to those for total government (5.6\%) and total non-government funding ( $2.8 \%$ ) of health (Table 17).
Pharmaceuticals consistently experienced the greatest growth in total funding. Real growth in pharmaceuticals averaged 10.1\% between 1993-94 and 2003-04. Funding for public hospitals ( $4.2 \%$ ) and high-level residential care (3.8\%) were the next highest in terms of real growth in funding (Table 16).

## Government sector funding

Over the whole period under review, the area that attracted the most rapid real growth in government funding was private hospitals- $22.4 \%$ per year (Table 14). This was largely a transfer from the non-government sector (private health insurance funds) to the Australian Government brought about by the effect of the rebate to holders of private health insurance cover. The increased use of private hospital services by veterans funded by the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) also contributed to the rapid real growth in government funding. Further, there was some small discontinuity because of the inclusion of state funding of private hospital services, estimated at $\$ 321$ million in 2003-04.
The period from 1997-98 to 2002-03, during which the Australian Government's private health insurance incentives were being introduced and revised, saw growth in government recurrent funding of $5.9 \%$. Growth during that period was largely in two areas-private hospitals ( $21.3 \%$ per year) and other professional services ( $14.9 \%$ ), both of which were strongly influenced by changes to private health insurance arrangements. The other area that attracted strong growth in government funding after 1997-98 was expenditure on pharmaceuticals (13.0\%) (Table 14).

## Non-government funding

The area that attracted the fastest real growth in funding by non-government sources between 1993-94 and 2003-04 was pharmaceuticals-8.8\% per year (Table 15).
The only area of non-government funding to contract over that period was funding for private hospitals-down $2.4 \%$ per year.
Of the two broad periods looked at -1993-94 to 1997-98 and 1997-98 to 2002-03, growth in non-government funding was most rapid in the second, that is, between 1997-98 and 2002-03. It averaged $4.7 \%$ over this period, with much of the growth being driven by pharmaceuticals (10.3\%).

Between 2002-03 and 2003-04, total non-government funding of recurrent health expenditure grew, in real terms, by $5.2 \%$ compared with $4.4 \%$ growth for total funding of recurrent health expenditure (Tables 15 and 16).
Table 14: Government funding of recurrent health expenditure, constant prices ${ }^{(a)}$, by area of expenditure, and annual growth rates, 1993-94 to 2003-04

| Year | High-level residential care |  | Pharmaceuticals |  | Medical services |  | Other prof. services ${ }^{(c)}$ |  | Private hospitals |  | Public hospitals |  | Other ${ }^{(c)}$ |  | Total government recurrent expenditure |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Amount (\$m) | Growth (\%) | Amount (\$m) | Growth <br> (\%) | Amount (\$m) | Growth (\%) | Amount (\$m) | Growth (\%) | Amount (\$m) | Growth (\%) | Amount (\$m) | Growth (\%) | Amount (\$m) | Growth (\%) | Amount (\$m) | Growth <br> (\%) |
| 1993-94 | 2,545 | . | 1,931 | $\ldots$ | 7,071 |  | 301 |  | 300 |  | 11,736 |  | 4,546 |  | 28,430 |  |
| 1994-95 | 2,576 | 1.2 | 2,128 | 10.2 | 7,421 | 4.9 | 284 | -5.6 | 421 | 40.4 | 12,135 | 3.4 | 4,754 | 4.6 | 29,719 | 4.5 |
| 1995-96 | 2,737 | 6.2 | 2,554 | 20.1 | 7,780 | 4.8 | 303 | 6.6 | 479 | 13.7 | 12,690 | 4.6 | 5,170 | 8.8 | 31,714 | 6.7 |
| 1996-97 | 2,928 | 7.0 | 2,766 | 8.3 | 7,963 | 2.4 | 298 | -1.5 | 521 | 8.7 | 13,490 | 6.3 | 5,347 | 3.4 | 33,313 | 5.0 |
| 1997-98 | 3,188 | 8.9 | 2,832 | 2.4 | 8,132 | 2.1 | 311 | 4.2 | 850 | 63.2 | 14,424 | 6.9 | 5,769 | 7.9 | 35,504 | 6.6 |
| 1998-99 | 3,264 | 2.4 | 3,109 | 9.8 | 8,381 | 3.1 | 266 | -14.4 | 1,332 | 56.8 | 14,936 | 3.6 | 5,561 | -3.6 | 36,850 | 3.8 |
| 1999-00 | 3,377 | 3.5 | 3,548 | 14.1 | 8,840 | 5.5 | 304 | 14.4 | 1,774 | 33.2 | 15,242 | 2.0 | 6,861 | 23.4 | 39,947 | 8.4 |
| 2000-01 | 3,383 | 0.2 | 4,403 | 24.1 | 8,928 | 1.0 | 641 | 110.5 | 1,992 | 12.3 | 15,584 | 2.2 | 7,727 | 12.6 | 42,657 | 6.8 |
| 2001-02 | 3,469 | 2.6 | 4,734 | 7.5 | 9,228 | 3.4 | 630 | -1.7 | 1,931 | -3.0 | 16,295 | 4.6 | 7,970 | 3.1 | 44,257 | 3.8 |
| 2002-03 | 3,642 | 5.0 | 5,226 | 10.4 | 9,395 | 1.8 | 621 | -1.4 | 2,231 | 15.5 | 17,550 | 7.7 | 8,569 | 7.5 | 47,233 | 6.7 |
| 2003-04 ${ }^{(b)}$ | 3,815 | 4.7 | 5,684 | 8.8 | 9,827 | 4.6 | 603 | -2.9 | 2,269 | 1.7 | 18,189 | 3.6 | 8,774 | 2.4 | 49,160 | 4.1 |
| Average annual growth rate |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1993-94 to | 1997-98 | 5.8 |  | 10.1 |  | 3.6 |  | 0.8 |  | 29.7 |  | 5.3 |  | 6.1 |  | 5.7 |
| 1997-98 to | 2002-03 | 2.7 |  | 13.0 |  | 2.9 |  | 14.9 |  | 21.3 |  | 4.0 |  | 8.2 |  | 5.9 |
| 1993-94 to | 2003-04 | 4.1 |  | 11.4 |  | 3.3 |  | 7.2 |  | 22.4 |  | 4.5 |  | 6.8 |  | 5.6 |

[^1]Table 15: Non-government funding of recurrent health expenditure, constant prices ${ }^{(a)}$, by area of expenditure, and annual growth rates, 1993-94 to 2003-04

|  | High-I residentia | evel al care | Pharmac | euticals | Medical | ervices | Othe serv | prof. ces | Private h | ospitals | Public | ospitals | Oth |  | Total gover rec expe | nonment ent iture |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Year | Amount (\$m) | Growth <br> (\%) | Amount (\$m) | Growth (\%) | Amount (\$m) | Growth (\%) | Amount (\$m) | Growth (\%) | Amount <br> (\$m) | Growth (\%) | Amount (\$m) | Growth (\%) | Amount (\$m) | Growth (\%) | Amount (\$m) | Growth (\%) |
| 1993-94 | 781 | . | 2,197 | . | 1,954 | . | 1,965 | . | 4,294 |  | 1,243 |  | 4,785 |  | 17,220 |  |
| 1994-95 | 785 | 0.4 | 2,404 | 9.4 | 2,091 | 7.0 | 1,894 | -3.6 | 4,614 | 7.4 | 1,224 | -1.5 | 4,795 | 0.2 | 17,806 | 3.4 |
| 1995-96 | 813 | 3.7 | 2,337 | -2.8 | 2,176 | 4.1 | 1,790 | -5.5 | 4,689 | 1.6 | 1,251 | 2.2 | 4,856 | 1.3 | 17,911 | 0.6 |
| 1996-97 | 836 | 2.7 | 2,576 | 10.2 | 2,235 | 2.7 | 2,053 | 14.7 | 4,635 | -1.1 | 1,267 | 1.3 | 5,024 | 3.5 | 18,625 | 4.0 |
| 1997-98 | 866 | 3.7 | 2,937 | 14.0 | 2,162 | -3.2 | 1,768 | -13.9 | 4,111 | -11.3 | 1,164 | -8.2 | 4,909 | -2.3 | 17,917 | -3.8 |
| 1998-99 | 915 | 5.6 | 3,174 | 8.1 | 2,255 | 4.3 | 1,753 | -0.8 | 3,915 | -4.8 | 1,234 | 6.0 | 5,573 | 13.5 | 18,820 | 5.0 |
| 1999-00 | 741 | -19.0 | 3,476 | 9.5 | 2,423 | 7.5 | 1,667 | -4.9 | 3,534 | -9.7 | 1,213 | -1.7 | 5,299 | -4.9 | 18,352 | -2.5 |
| 2000-01 | 770 | 4.0 | 3,811 | 9.6 | 2,420 | -0.1 | 1,959 | 17.5 | 3,418 | -3.3 | 1,334 | 10.0 | 6,550 | 23.6 | 20,262 | 10.4 |
| 2001-02 | 810 | 5.2 | 4,466 | 17.2 | 2,560 | 5.8 | 2,107 | 7.6 | 3,609 | 5.6 | 1,462 | 9.6 | 7,088 | 8.2 | 22,101 | 9.1 |
| 2002-03 | 903 | 11.4 | 4,786 | 7.2 | 2,585 | 1.0 | 2,197 | 4.3 | 3,362 | -6.8 | 1,371 | -6.2 | 7,394 | 4.3 | 22,597 | 2.2 |
| 2003-04 ${ }^{\text {(b) }}$ | 994 | 10.1 | 5,108 | 6.7 | 2,765 | 6.9 | 2,435 | 10.8 | 3,367 | 0.2 | 1,445 | 5.4 | 7,649 | 3.5 | 23,762 | 5.2 |
| Average annual growth rate |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1993-94 to 1997-98 |  | 2.6 |  | 7.5 |  | 2.6 |  | -2.6 |  | -1.1 |  | -1.6 |  | 0.6 |  | 1.0 |
| 1997-98 to 2002-03 |  | 0.8 |  | 10.3 |  | 3.6 |  | 4.4 |  | -3.9 |  | 3.3 |  | 8.5 |  | 4.7 |
| 1993-94 to 2003-04 |  | 2.4 |  | 8.8 |  | 3.5 |  | 2.2 |  | -2.4 |  | 1.5 |  | 4.8 |  | 3.3 |

[^2]Table 16: Total funding of recurrent health expenditure, constant prices ${ }^{(a)}$, by area of expenditure, and annual growth rates, 1993-94 to 2003-04

| Year | High-level residential care |  | Pharmaceuticals |  | Medical services |  | Other prof. services ${ }^{(c)}$ |  | Private hospitals |  | Public hospitals |  | Other ${ }^{\text {c }}$ ( |  | Total recurrent expenditure |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Amount (\$m) | Growth <br> (\%) | Amount (\$m) | Growth (\%) | Amount (\$m) | Growth (\%) | Amount (\$m) | Growth (\%) | Amount (\$m) | Growth (\%) | Amount (\$m) | Growth (\%) | Amount (\$m) | Growth (\%) | Amount (\$m) | Growth (\%) |
| 1993-94 | 3,326 |  | 4,128 |  | 9,025 |  | 2,266 |  | 4,594 |  | 12,979 |  | 9,331 |  | 45,649 |  |
| 1994-95 | 3,361 | 1.1 | 4,532 | 9.8 | 9,512 | 5.4 | 2,178 | -3.9 | 5,035 | 9.6 | 13,359 | 2.9 | 9,549 | 2.3 | 47,525 | 4.1 |
| 1995-96 | 3,550 | 5.6 | 4,891 | 7.9 | 9,956 | 4.7 | 2,093 | -3.9 | 5,167 | 2.6 | 13,941 | 4.4 | 10,026 | 5.0 | 49,625 | 4.4 |
| 1996-97 | 3,764 | 6.0 | 5,342 | 9.2 | 10,198 | 2.4 | 2,351 | 12.3 | 5,156 | -0.2 | 14,757 | 5.9 | 10,371 | 3.4 | 51,938 | 4.7 |
| 1997-98 | 4,054 | 7.7 | 5,769 | 8.0 | 10,294 | 0.9 | 2,079 | -11.6 | 4,961 | -3.8 | 15,587 | 5.6 | 10,678 | 3.0 | 53,422 | 2.9 |
| 1998-99 | 4,179 | 3.1 | 6,284 | 8.9 | 10,635 | 3.3 | 2,019 | -2.8 | 5,247 | 5.8 | 16,170 | 3.7 | 11,135 | 4.3 | 55,670 | 4.2 |
| 1999-00 | 4,118 | -1.5 | 7,024 | 11.8 | 11,264 | 5.9 | 1,971 | -2.4 | 5,308 | 1.2 | 16,454 | 1.8 | 12,159 | 9.2 | 58,299 | 4.7 |
| 2000-01 | 4,153 | 0.9 | 8,214 | 16.9 | 11,347 | 0.7 | 2,600 | 31.9 | 5,410 | 1.9 | 16,918 | 2.8 | 14,277 | 17.4 | 62,919 | 7.9 |
| 2001-02 | 4,280 | 3.0 | 9,200 | 12.0 | 11,788 | 3.9 | 2,737 | 5.3 | 5,540 | 2.4 | 17,756 | 5.0 | 15,057 | 5.5 | 66,358 | 5.5 |
| 2002-03 | 4,545 | 6.2 | 10,011 | 8.8 | 11,980 | 1.6 | 2,818 | 3.0 | 5,593 | 1.0 | 18,920 | 6.6 | 15,963 | 6.0 | 69,830 | 5.2 |
| 2003-04 ${ }^{(\text {b) }}$ | 4,809 | 5.8 | 10,792 | 7.8 | 12,591 | 5.1 | 3,038 | 7.8 | 5,636 | 0.8 | 19,633 | 3.8 | 16,423 | 2.9 | 72,922 | 4.4 |
| Average annual growth rate |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1993-94 | 1997-98 | 5.1 |  | 8.7 |  | 3.3 |  | -2.1 |  | 1.9 |  | 4.7 |  | 3.4 |  | 4.0 |
| 1997-98 | -2002-03 | 2.3 |  | 11.7 |  | 3.1 |  | 6.3 |  | 2.4 |  | 4.0 |  | 8.4 |  | 5.5 |
| 1993-94 | 2003-04 | 3.8 |  | 10.1 |  | 3.4 |  | 3.0 |  | 2.1 |  | 4.2 |  | 5.8 |  | 4.8 |

(a) Constant price health expenditure for 1993-94 to 2003-04 is expressed in terms of 2002-03 prices. Not adjusted for general tax expenditures.
(b) Based on preliminary AIHW and ABS estimates.
(c) From 2000-01, it includes DVA funding and DoHA hearing services (audiology component) which was previously included in 'other'

### 3.2 Government sources of funds

In 2003-04, the Australian Government's funding of health expenditure was an estimated $\$ 35.7$ billion (Table 11). This was $45.4 \%$ of total funding for health by all sources of funds (Table 12 and Figure 5). State, territory and local government sources provided $22.6 \%$.


Sources: Table 11 and Table 18.

Figure 5: Estimated total health expenditure, current prices, by source of funds, 2003-04
Table 17: Total health expenditure, constant prices ${ }^{(a)}$, and annual growth rates, by broad source of funds, 1993-94 to 2003-04

| Year | Government |  |  |  |  |  | Non-government ${ }^{(b)}$ |  | Total |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Australian Government ${ }^{(b)}$ |  | State/territory and local |  | Total |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Amount (\$m) | Growth (\%) | Amount (\$m) | Growth (\%) | Amount (\$m) | Growth (\%) | Amount (\$m) | Growth (\%) | Amount (\$m) | Growth (\%) |
| 1993-94 | 20,490 | . | 9,640 | . | 30,130 | . | 17,982 | . | 48,112 | . |
| 1994-95 | 21,268 | 3.8 | 10,175 | 5.6 | 31,443 | 4.4 | 18,530 | 3.0 | 49,973 | 3.9 |
| 1995-96 | 22,510 | 5.8 | 10,938 | 7.5 | 33,448 | 6.4 | 18,641 | 0.6 | 52,089 | 4.2 |
| 1996-97 | 23,125 | 2.7 | 12,132 | 10.9 | 35,258 | 5.4 | 19,494 | 4.6 | 54,752 | 5.1 |
| 1997-98 | 24,639 | 6.5 | 13,173 | 8.6 | 37,811 | 7.2 | 18,804 | -3.5 | 56,615 | 3.4 |
| 1998-99 | 26,599 | 8.0 | 12,617 | -4.2 | 39,216 | 3.7 | 19,702 | 4.8 | 58,918 | 4.1 |
| 1999-00 | 28,684 | 7.8 | 13,859 | 9.8 | 42,543 | 8.5 | 19,313 | -2.0 | 61,857 | 5.0 |
| 2000-01 | 30,809 | 7.4 | 14,813 | 6.9 | 45,622 | 7.2 | 20,920 | 8.3 | 66,542 | 7.6 |
| 2001-02 | 31,825 | 3.3 | 15,336 | 3.5 | 47,162 | 3.4 | 22,345 | 6.8 | 69,507 | 4.5 |
| 2002-03 | 33,467 | 5.2 | 16,352 | 6.6 | 49,819 | 5.6 | 22,632 | 1.3 | 72,452 | 4.2 |
| 2003-04 ${ }^{(\mathrm{c})}$ | 34,774 | 3.9 | 17,134 | 4.8 | 51,908 | 4.2 | 23,786 | 5.1 | 75,695 | 4.5 |
| Average annual growth rate |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1993-94 to 1997-98 |  | 4.7 |  | 8.1 |  | 5.8 |  | 1.1 |  | 4.2 |
| 1997-98 to 2002-03 |  | 6.3 |  | 4.4 |  | 5.7 |  | 3.8 |  | 5.1 |
| 1993-94 to 2003-04 |  | 5.4 |  | 5.9 |  | 5.6 |  | 2.8 |  | 4.6 |

[^3]

Sources: Table 11 and Table 18.

Figure 6: Government sector financing of health expenditure, current prices, by source and type of funding, 2003-04

## Australian Government

In 2003-04 the Australian Government provided 66.8\% of estimated total government funding (Figure 6). This subsection provides more detail on the Australian Government's funding of recurrent expenditure. Funding for capital formation is discussed in Section 4.2.
The Australian Government's contribution to funding for health includes:

- payments through the DVA in respect of eligible veterans and their dependants
- specific-purpose payments (SPPs) to the states and territories for health purposes
- direct expenditure by the Australian Government on health programs (such as Medicare, PBS, higher level residential care subsidies)
- rebates and subsidies under the Private Health Insurance Incentives Act 1997
- taxation expenditures.

Health expenditure funded by private health insurance subsidies rose from zero (1996-97) to $\$ 2.5$ billion in 2003-04 (Table 18).

Table 18: Total health expenditure by the Australian Government, current prices, by type of expenditure, 1993-94 to 2003-04 (\$ million)

|  |  | General expenditure |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Year | DVA | Rebates of <br> health <br> to states | Direct <br> insurance <br> premiums | (a) <br> expend- <br> iture | Total | Non-specific <br> tax | expenditure |

(a) Includes rebates of health insurance premiums claimed through the taxation system.
(b) Based on preliminary AIHW estimates.

Note: Components may not add to totals due to rounding.
Source: AIHW health expenditure database.

## The Department of Veterans' Affairs

DVA funding of health is through its purchase of health goods and services on behalf of eligible veterans and their dependants. In 2002-03, its funding totalled $\$ 3,340$ million (Table 18). Nearly two-thirds of this ( $61.1 \%$ ) was for institutional services (mainly hospitals and high-level residential care services). In 2003-04, estimated funding by DVA was $\$ 3,561$ million.

## Other Australian Government sources of funding

## General expenditure

Expenditures recorded as 'general expenditure' are recurrent expenditures paid out of appropriations by the Australian Government. Most of those expenditures are administered by the Department of Health and Ageing (DoHA). They include:

- SPPs to the states and territories for health purposes
- payments of personal health benefits to individuals-for example, Medicare and pharmaceutical benefits
- subsidies and rebates under the Private Health Insurance Incentives Act 1997 (including amounts claimed through the taxation system)
- subsidies paid to providers of health services-for example, high-level residential care subsidies.


Figure 7: General recurrent outlays on health goods and services by the Australian Government (excluding DVA), current prices, by type of funding, 2002-03

Nearly one-third of all funding by the Australian Government was for medical services which, in 2002-03, accounted for $29.5 \%$ of all its general recurrent outlays on health (Figure 7).

Most of the SPPs by the Australian Government to state and territory governments recorded in the general recurrent outlays on health were provided under the AHCAs between these two levels of government. The payments were primarily directed to expenditure in the public hospital systems of the states and territories. Other SPPs that were regarded as expenditure on public hospitals included payments for high-cost drugs and blood transfusion services. A proportion of the $30 \%$ rebate on private health insurance was also included as funding by the Australian Government for public hospitals. In 2002-03, payments relating to public hospital care accounted for more than one-quarter ( $26.9 \%$ ) of total general recurrent outlays by the Australian Government for health.
The other two main areas for which the Australian Government provided funding were pharmaceuticals, which in 2002-03 accounted for $16.1 \%$ of general recurrent outlays, and high-level residential care subsidies, which accounted for $9.9 \%$.

## Rebates of health insurance contributions ( $30 \%$ rebate)

There are two methods for claiming the $30 \%$ rebate on private health insurance premiums (Table 18). The first involves a reduced premium being charged by the private health insurance fund (with a subsequent reimbursement to the fund by the Australian Government). The second is where the private health insurance fund charges the full (non-rebated) premium and the person paying the full premium claims the $30 \%$ rebate directly from the Australian Government through the taxation system.
During 2003-04, the total value of the $30 \%$ rebate was $\$ 2.5$ billion (Table 18).

## Non-specific tax expenditures

As explained above, the $30 \%$ rebate claimed through taxation was regarded as part of Australian Government tax expenditures from 1997-98 to 1999-00.
A second form of tax expenditure on health relates to a tax rebate of 20 cents in the dollar that can be claimed in respect of direct health expenditures that exceed a prescribed threshold (in 2003-04 that threshold was $\$ 1,500$ per taxpayer). That second form of tax expenditure is referred to in this publication as 'non-specific tax expenditures'. This is because they cannot be allocated to any particular area(s) of health expenditure (see Chapter 6).
In 2003-04, the total value of such tax expenditures was $\$ 291$ million (Table 18).

## State and territory governments and local government authorities

State and territory governments are the main providers of publicly provided health goods and services in Australia. Those goods and services are financed by a combination of SPPs from the Australian Government, funding by the states and territories out of their own fiscal resources, and funding provided by non-government sources (usually in the form of user fees).
In terms of the types of health goods and services funded by the states and territories and by local government authorities, spending on public hospitals dominates, accounting for $62.4 \%$ of recurrent funding provided by those government sources in 2002-03 (Figure 8).

In real terms, funding for health by state, territory and local governments increased, by an average of 5.9\% per year between 1993-94 and 2003-04, the annual growth having peaked at $10.9 \%$ in 1996-97 (Table 17).


Figure 8: Recurrent funding of health goods and services by state, territory and local governments' own resources, by broad areas of expenditure, current prices, 2002-03

### 3.3 Non-government sources of funds

Most non-government funding for health goods and services in Australia comes from out-of-pocket payments by individuals. This includes situations where individuals meet the full cost of a service or good as well as where they share the funding of goods and services with third-party payers-for example, private health insurance funds or the Australian Government. Funding by individuals accounted for $63.3 \%$ ( $\$ 15.9$ billion) of estimated non-government funding of health goods and services during 2003-04 (Table 19 and Figure 9). That proportion rose by 12.9 percentage points in the decade to 2003-04. Private health insurance funds provided $22.3 \%$ ( $\$ 5.6$ billion) in 2003-04, down from $32.8 \%$ in 1993-94. The remaining $14.4 \%$ ( $\$ 3.6$ billion) came from other non-government sources (mainly compulsory motor vehicle, third-party and workers' compensation insurers), which experienced a fall in their share of health funding, by 2.4 percentage points, in the decade to 2003-04.


Non-government funding, which averaged around $33 \%$ of total health expenditure each year between 1993-94 and 1996-97 and around 31\% between 1997-98 and 2001-02, was 32.0\% in 2003-04 (Table 12). The fall after 1996-97 was largely due to the influence of the Australian Government's subsidy for private health insurance. The effect of that subsidy is that the benefits paid for private health goods and services used by insured people became jointly funded by the Australian Government (through the contribution rebates) and the funds' members.

Table 19: Non-government sector funding of total health expenditure, current prices, by source of funds, 1993-94 to 2003-04

| Year | Private health insurance funds ${ }^{(a)}$ |  | Individuals ${ }^{(6)}$ |  | Other non-government ${ }^{(\mathrm{c})}$ |  | All non-government sources ${ }^{(\mathrm{a})(\mathrm{b})(\mathrm{c})}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Amount (\$m) | Proportion (\%) | Amount (\$m) | Proportion (\%) | Amount (\$m) | Proportion (\%) | Amount (\$m) | Proportion (\%) |
| 1993-94 | 4,075 | 32.8 | 6,272 | 50.4 | 2,092 | 16.8 | 12,440 | 100.0 |
| 1994-95 | 4,201 | 31.8 | 6,702 | 50.8 | 2,303 | 17.4 | 13,205 | 100.0 |
| 1995-96 | 4,426 | 32.0 | 6,743 | 48.8 | 2,649 | 19.2 | 13,817 | 100.0 |
| 1996-97 | 4,700 | 31.1 | 7,541 | 50.0 | 2,856 | 18.9 | 15,096 | 100.0 |
| 1997-98 | 4,271 | 27.8 | 8,037 | 52.4 | 3,029 | 19.7 | 15,336 | 100.0 |
| 1998-99 | 3,855 | 23.4 | 9,312 | 56.6 | 3,290 | 20.0 | 16,456 | 100.0 |
| 1999-00 | 3,601 | 21.8 | 9,511 | 57.5 | 3,425 | 20.7 | 16,538 | 100.0 |
| 2000-01 | 4,123 | 21.9 | 11,463 | 60.8 | 3,254 | 17.3 | 18,840 | 100.0 |
| 2001-02 | 4,975 | 23.6 | 12,870 | 61.0 | 3,262 | 15.5 | 21,107 | 100.0 |
| 2002-03 | 5,268 | 23.3 | 14,230 | 62.9 | 3,135 | 13.9 | 22,632 | 100.0 |
| 2003-04 ${ }^{(\mathrm{d})}$ | 5,603 | 22.3 | 15,922 | 63.3 | 3,614 | 14.4 | 25,139 | 100.0 |

(a) Adjusted for private health insurance incentives subsidy and 30\% premium rebates claimed through the tax system for years from 1997-98 to 1999-00.
(b) Adjusted for non-specific tax expenditures.
(c) Includes expenditure on capital formation.
(d) Based on preliminary AIHW and ABS estimates.

Note: Components may not add to totals due to rounding.
Source: AIHW health expenditure database.


Source: Table 19.

Figure 10: Non-government sector funding of total health expenditure, current prices, by source of funds, 1993-94 to 2003-04

Table 20: Non-government sector funding of total health expenditure, by source of funds, constant prices ${ }^{(a)}$, and annual growth rates, 1993-94 to 2003-04

| Year | Private health insurance funds ${ }^{(b)}$ |  | Individuals ${ }^{(c)}$ |  | Other non-government ${ }^{(d)}$ |  | All non-government sources ${ }^{(b)(c)(d)}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Amount (\$m) | Growth (\%) | Amount (\$m) | Growth (\%) | Amount (\$m) | Growth (\%) | Amount (\$m) | Growth (\%) |
| 1993-94 | 6,445 |  | 8,924 |  | 2,613 | . | 17,982 |  |
| 1994-95 | 6,525 | 1.2 | 9,139 | 2.4 | 2,866 | 9.7 | 18,530 | 3.0 |
| 1995-96 | 6,528 | - | 8,834 | -3.3 | 3,279 | 14.4 | 18,641 | 0.6 |
| 1996-97 | 6,498 | -0.5 | 9,544 | 8.0 | 3,453 | 5.3 | 19,494 | 4.6 |
| 1997-98 | 5,537 | -14.8 | 9,686 | 1.5 | 3,581 | 3.7 | 18,804 | -3.5 |
| 1998-99 | 4,891 | -11.7 | 10,985 | 13.4 | 3,826 | 6.9 | 19,702 | 4.8 |
| 1999-00 | 4,402 | -10.0 | 11,007 | 0.2 | 3,904 | 2.0 | 19,313 | -2.0 |
| 2000-01 | 4,783 | 8.6 | 12,584 | 14.3 | 3,554 | -9.0 | 20,920 | 8.3 |
| 2001-02 | 5,376 | 12.4 | 13,544 | 7.6 | 3,425 | -3.6 | 22,345 | 6.8 |
| 2002-03 | 5,268 | -2.0 | 14,230 | 5.1 | 3,135 | -8.5 | 22,632 | 1.3 |
| 2003-04 ${ }^{(\text {e) }}$ | 5,240 | -0.5 | 15,114 | 6.2 | 3,433 | 9.5 | 23,786 | 5.1 |
| Average annual growth rate |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1993-94 to 1997 | -98 | -3.7 |  | 2.1 |  | 8.2 |  | 1.1 |
| 1997-98 to 2002 | -03 | -1.0 |  | 8.0 |  | -2.6 |  | 3.8 |
| 1993-94 to 2003 | -04 | -2.0 |  | 5.4 |  | 2.8 |  | 2.8 |

(a) Constant price health expenditure for 1993-94 to 2003-04 is expressed in terms of 2002-03 prices.
(b) Adjusted for private health insurance incentives subsidy and $30 \%$ premium rebates claimed through the tax system for years from 1997-98 to 1999-00.
(c) Adjusted for non-specific tax expenditures.
(d) Includes expenditure on capital formation.
(e) Based on preliminary AIHW estimates.

Note: Components may not add to totals due to rounding.
Source: AIHW health expenditure database.

## Individuals

In 2003-04, of the estimated $\$ 16.2$ billion out-of-pocket recurrent expenditure by individuals on health care goods and services (Figure 11):

- $31.4 \%$ was spent on pharmaceuticals
- $6.4 \%$ on PBS and Repatriation Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (RPBS) patient contributions
- $25.0 \%$ on other pharmaceuticals (see Glossary for a detailed definition)
- $20.1 \%$ on dental services
- $13.5 \%$ on aids and appliances
- $9.9 \%$ on medical services.

(a) Individuals' expenditure not adjusted for non-specific tax expenditures.

Source: Table A4.

Figure 11: Recurrent expenditure by individuals, in current prices, by area of expenditure, 2003-04

From 1997-98 to 2002-03, the main areas of real growth in individuals' out-of-pocket funding were for public hospitals, aids and appliances, pharmaceuticals, and dental services (Figure 12). Many of these increases resulted from increases in the ABS's estimates of HFCE over the period with the exception of public hospitals. These are, coincidentally, areas of expenditure for which substantial capped benefits are paid out of ancillary tables offered by health funds. There may be a relationship between the increasing health insurance coverage in recent years and an accompanying increase in out-of-pocket expenditure (where the costs of the goods or services exceed the maximum benefits paid by private health funds in a year). Changes to the type of health insurance cover offered may also affect out-of-pocket expenditure. For example, the introduction of in-hospital medical services no-gap cover schemes in August 2000 may be affecting the negative growth in out-of-pocket expenditure on private hospitals over the period.


In real terms, average out-of-pocket health expenditure per person grew by $4.2 \%$ a year in the decade from 1993-94 to 2003-04 (Table 21). Over this period, the area of out-of-pocket expenditure that had the most rapid real growth was aids and appliances, at $9.6 \%$ per year. Other areas of expenditure that showed high real growth rates were ambulance and pharmaceuticals at $9.2 \%$ and $7.6 \%$ per annum respectively. In contrast, average per person
out-of-pocket expenditure on hospitals declined over this decade at $2.3 \%$ per annum. This was due to an average decline in per person out-of-pocket expenditure on private hospitals.
Table 21: Average out-of-pocket recurrent health expenditure per person, constant prices ${ }^{(a)}$, and annual growth rates, by area of expenditure, 1993-94 to 2003-04

|  | Hospitals |  | High-level residential care |  | Ambulance and other (nec) |  |  | Medical services |  |  |  | Dental services |  |  | Other professional services |  |  | Pharmaceuticals |  |  | Aids and appliances |  | Total recurrent expenditure |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Year | Amount (\$) | Growth (\%) | Amount (\$) | Growth A (\%) | Amount (\$) |  | Growth (\%) |  | mount (\$) |  | Gowth (\%) |  | (\$) | Growth (\%) | Amount (\$) |  | Growth (\%) |  | mount (\$) | Growth (\%) | Amount (\$) | Growth (\%) | Amount (\$) | Growth (\%) |
| 1993-94 | 39 | . | 44 | . | 8 |  |  |  | 68 |  |  |  | 111 | .. | 77 |  |  |  | 120 | . | 42 |  | 509 |  |
| 1994-95 | 43 | 11.3 | 44 | -0.7 | 5 |  | -39.5 |  | 69 |  | 2.1 |  | 112 | 0.6 | 69 |  | -10.1 |  | 130 | 8.3 | 43 | 2.6 | 515 | 1.2 |
| 1995-96 | 27 | -37.6 | 45 | 2.3 | 8 |  | 52.0 |  | 71 |  | 3.1 |  | 109 | -2.2 | 65 |  | -7.0 |  | 124 | -4.6 | 45 | 3.7 | 493 | -4.3 |
| 1996-97 | 31 | 13.1 | 45 | 0.4 | 8 |  | 5.4 |  | 72 |  | 0.7 |  | 112 | 2.0 | 79 |  | 21.6 |  | 135 | 9.3 | 46 | 2.5 | 526 | 6.8 |
| 1997-98 | 26 | -16.3 | 46 | 3.1 | 8 |  | -0.3 |  | 71 |  | -1.1 |  | 110 | -1.3 | 367 |  | -14.4 |  | 154 | 13.9 | 48 | 3.2 | 529 | 0.6 |
| 1998-99 | 44 | 72.5 | 47 | 2.1 | 21 |  | 158.6 |  | 74 |  | 4.8 |  | 111 | 0.5 | 563 |  | -6.3 |  | 164 | 6.7 | 65 | 36.0 | 593 | 12.1 |
| 1999-00 | 41 | -7.1 | 39 | -17.7 | 13 |  | -38.1 |  | 78 |  | 5.4 |  | 110 | -0.8 | 60 |  | -5.0 |  | 177 | 8.1 | 68 | 4.5 | 588 | -0.9 |
| 2000-01 | 41 | -0.9 | 40 | 2.7 | 15 |  | 19.0 |  | 75 |  | -3.9 |  | 129 | 17.5 | 72 |  | 20.3 |  | 192 | 8.2 | 100 | 47.6 | 664 | 12.9 |
| 2001-02 | 38 | -6.7 | 41 | 3.9 | 18 |  | 18.3 |  | 72 |  | -4.5 |  | 147 | 13.8 | - 76 |  | 5.1 |  | 222 | 15.7 | 92 | -8.2 | 705 | 6.3 |
| 2002-03 | 30 | -20.0 | 46 | 10.1 | 20 |  | 10.0 |  | 72 |  | 0.4 |  | 150 | 2.4 | 80 |  | 5.3 |  | 235 | 5.8 | 101 | 9.6 | 733 | 3.9 |
| 2003-04 ${ }^{\text {(b) }}$ | 31 | 1.3 | 50 | 8.8 | 20 |  | 1.2 |  | 72 |  | 0.5 |  | 154 | 2.4 | 49 |  | 12.0 |  | 248 | 5.7 | 106 | 5.3 | 770 | 5.0 |
| Average annual growth rate |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1993-94 to 1997-98 |  | -9.9 |  | 1.3 |  |  | -0.9 |  |  |  | 1.2 |  |  | -0.3 |  |  | -3.4 |  |  | 6.5 |  | 3.0 |  | 1.0 |
| 1997-98 to 2002-03 |  | 3.4 |  | -0.3 |  |  | 19.9 |  |  |  | 0.4 |  |  | 6.4 |  |  | 3.5 |  |  | 8.8 |  | 16.1 |  | 6.7 |
| 1993-94 to 2003-04 |  | -2.3 |  | 1.2 |  |  | 9.2 |  |  |  | 0.7 |  |  | 3.3 |  |  | 1.5 |  |  | 7.6 |  | 9.6 |  | 4.2 |

[^4]
## Private health insurance

Funding by private health insurance funds is chiefly directed at private hospital services. During 2003-04, private hospitals accounted for $48.6 \%$ of the $\$ 5.6$ billion in funding provided by health insurance funds (Figure 13). Other major areas of expenditure that received funding were dental services ( $12.6 \%$ ), administration ( $10.4 \%$ ) and medical services ( $9.7 \%$ ).


## General benefits and administration

Gross health benefits paid through the health insurance funds in 2003-04 amounted to $\$ 7,290$ million-up $\$ 535$ million from $\$ 6,755$ million in 2002-03 and up $\$ 1,009$ million since 2001-02 (Table 22). A further $\$ 843$ million was used to fund administration during 2003-04; this showed a steady increase from $\$ 804$ million in 2001-02 and $\$ 825$ million in 2002-03.
The position of the health insurance funds overall continued to improve in 2003-04, after experiencing a net operating loss, before abnormals and extraordinary items, of $\$ 32$ million in 2001-02 (Table 23).
Table 22: Expenditure on health goods and services funded through health insurance funds, current prices, 2001-02 to 2003-04 (\$ million)

| Area of expenditure | 2001-02 |  |  | 2002-03 |  |  | 2003-04 |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Gross benefits paid | $\underset{\text { Premates }}{ }{ }^{(2)}$ | benefits paid | Gross benefits paid | Premium rebates ${ }^{(2)}$ | Net benefits paid | Gross benefits paid | Premium rebates ${ }^{(\text {a) }}$ | Net benefits paid |
| Expenditure |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Hospitals | 3,783 | 1,124 | 2,659 | 4,058 | 1,238 | 2,820 | 4,407 | 1,371 | 3,036 |
| Public (non-psychiatric) | 375 | 112 | 264 | 411 | 125 | 285 | 458 | 142 | 316 |
| Private | 3,407 | 1,013 | 2,395 | 3,648 | 1,113 | 2,535 | 3,949 | 1,228 | 2,721 |
| Ambulance | 127 | 38 | 89 | 133 | 40 | 92 | 130 | 40 | 89 |
| Medical services | 598 | 178 | 415 | 700 | 213 | 486 | 789 | 245 | 543 |
| Other health professionals | 420 | 125 | 295 | 470 | 143 | 327 | 499 | 155 | 343 |
| Pharmaceuticals | 64 | 19 | 45 | 75 | 23 | 52 | 71 | 22 | 49 |
| Aids and appliances | 330 | 98 | 232 | 341 | 104 | 237 | 367 | 114 | 253 |
| Community and public health | 1 | - | - | 1 | -- | -- | 1 | - | 1 |
| Dental services | 960 | 285 | 674 | 977 | 298 | 679 | 1,027 | 319 | 708 |
| Total health benefits and levies | 6,281 | 1,866 | 4,410 | 6,755 | 2,061 | 4,694 | 7,290 | 2,268 | 5,023 |
| Health administration | 804 | 239 | 565 | 825 | 252 | 573 | 843 | 262 | 581 |
| Direct expenditure on health goods and services | 7,085 | 2,105 | 4,975 | 7,580 | 2,312 | 5,268 | 8,133 | 2,530 | 5,603 |
| Items not included in estimates on health goods and services |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Non-health ancillaries | 72 | 21 | 50 | 73 | 22 | 51 | 46 | 14 | 31 |
| Outstanding claims adjustment | 42 | 12 | 30 | -1 | -- | -1 | 91 | 28 | 63 |

[^5]Table 23: Health insurance funds reported expenses and revenues, current prices, 2001-02 to 2003-04 (\$ million)

|  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Operating expenses and revenue of funds | 2001-02 | 2002-03 | 2003-04 |
| Expenses |  |  |  |
| Total cost of benefits ${ }^{(a)}$ | 6,459 | 6,953 | 7,525 |
| State levies (ambulance) | 99 | 102 | 105 |
| Management expenses | 804 | 826 | 852 |
| Total expenses (not including provision adjustments) | 7,362 | 7,881 | 8,482 |
| Revenue |  |  |  |
| Contributions income | 7,266 | 7,885 | 8,637 |
| Other revenue | 66 | 194 | 296 |
| Total revenue | 7,331 | 8,079 | 8,932 |
| Operating profit (loss) before abnormals and extraordinary items | (32) | 196 | 447 |

[^6]Table 24: Expenditure on health goods and services and administration through private health insurance funds, constant prices ${ }^{(a)}$, and annual growth rates, 1993-94 to 2003-04

| Year | Gross payments through health insurance funds |  | Reimbursement for rebates allowed by funds |  | Rebates through taxation system |  | Net payments from health insurance funds resources |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Amount (\$m) | Growth (\%) | Amount (\$m) | Growth (\%) | Amount (\$m) | Growth (\%) | Amount (\$m) | Growth (\%) |
| 1993-94 | 6,445 |  | . | . | . |  | 6,445 |  |
| 1994-95 | 6,525 | 1.2 | . | . | . |  | 6,525 | 1.2 |
| 1995-96 | 6,528 | - | . | . | . |  | 6,528 | - |
| 1996-97 | 6,498 | -0.5 |  | . |  |  | 6,498 | -0.5 |
| 1997-98 | 6,059 | -6.8 | 319 |  | 203 |  | 5,537 | -14.8 |
| 1998-99 | 6,099 | 0.7 | 984 | 208.2 | 225 | 10.6 | 4,891 | -11.7 |
| 1999-00 | 6,294 | 3.2 | 1,662 | 68.9 | 229 | 2.1 | 4,402 | -10.0 |
| 2000-01 | 7,100 | 12.8 | 2,118 | 27.4 | 200 | -12.9 | 4,783 | 8.6 |
| 2001-02 | 7,626 | 7.4 | 2,080 | -1.8 | 170 | -14.7 | 5,376 | 12.4 |
| 2002-03 | 7,580 | -0.6 | 2,146 | 3.2 | 166 | -2.3 | 5,268 | -2.0 |
| 2003-04 ${ }^{(\text {b }}$ | 7,626 | 0.6 | 2,217 | 3.3 | 169 | 1.7 | 5,240 | -0.5 |
| Average annual growth rate |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1993-94 to 1997 | -98 | -1.5 |  | . |  | $\ldots$ |  | -3.7 |
| 1997-98 to 2002 | -03 | 4.6 |  | 46.4 |  | -3.9 |  | -1.0 |
| 1993-94 to 2003 | -04 | 1.7 |  | . |  | . |  | -2.0 |

(a) Constant price health expenditure for 1993-94 to 2003-04 is expressed in terms of 2002-03 prices.
(b) Based on preliminary AIHW estimates.

Note: Components may not add to totals due to rounding.
Source: AIHW health expenditure database.

The initial effect of the introduction of the Australian Government subsidy in 1997 was a sharp drop in net funding by health insurance funds in each year up to 1999-00, followed by a recovery after the introduction of the lifetime health cover arrangements in the September quarter of 2000. Net expenditure in real terms was almost constant in 2002-03 and 2003-04, at $\$ 5,268$ million and $\$ 5,240$ million respectively. However, this was still below the 1997-98 level of \$5,537 million (Table 24 and Figure 14).
In 2003-04, it was estimated that health insurance funds spent on average $\$ 605$ per person covered on health (in 2002-03 prices). Fund members in South Australia on average attracted the highest amount per person covered (\$706) while people in the Australian Capital Territory attracted the least per person covered (\$370). When comparing average annual growth rates in constant prices over the period 1996-97 to 2003-04, all states and territories recorded reductions in the amount spent through health insurance. Fund members in Victoria had the greatest decline in their per person expenditure of $10.1 \%$ per annum (Table 25).

Table 25: Average expenditure on health insurance funds per person ${ }^{(a)}$ covered, constant prices, ${ }^{(b)}$ by state and territory, 1996-97 to 2003-04 (\$)

| Period | NSW | Vic | Qld | WA | SA | Tas | ACT | NT | Australia |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 1996-97 | 1,069 | 1,136 | 1,087 | 960 | 1,191 | 1,082 | 533 | 616 | 1,075 |
| 1997-98 | 941 | 1,012 | 943 | 855 | 1,051 | 940 | 478 | 539 | 947 |
| 1998-99 | 847 | 898 | 883 | 764 | 956 | 784 | 451 | 510 | 854 |
| 1999-00 | 641 | 716 | 687 | 637 | 773 | 632 | 389 | 401 | 671 |
| 2000-01 | 534 | 538 | 574 | 535 | 638 | 595 | 340 | 336 | 547 |
| 2001-02 | 607 | 566 | 667 | 623 | 734 | 679 | 365 | 401 | 615 |
| 2002-03 | 600 | 552 | 650 | 634 | 724 | 656 | 362 | 378 | 606 |
| 2003-04 ${ }^{\text {(c) }}$ | 602 | 539 | 663 | 635 | 706 | 664 | 370 | 383 | 605 |
| Average annual growth rate |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1996-97 to 1997-98 | -11.9 | -10.9 | -13.2 | -10.9 | -11.7 | -13.1 | -10.2 | -12.5 | -11.8 |
| 1997-98 to 2002-03 | -8.6 | -11.4 | -7.2 | -5.8 | -7.2 | -6.9 | -5.4 | -6.9 | -8.5 |
| 1996-97 to 2003-04 | -7.9 | -10.1 | -6.8 | -5.7 | -7.2 | -6.7 | -5.1 | -6.6 | -7.9 |

(a) Based on annual mean resident population.
(b) Constant price health expenditure for 1996-97 to 2003-04 is expressed in terms of 2002-03 prices.
(c) Based on preliminary AIHW estimates.

Source: AIHW health expenditure database.

(a) Constant price health expenditure for 1993-94 to 2003-04 is expressed in terms of 2002-03 prices.

Note: Up to 1996-97, gross payments through the funds equal net payments from health insurance funds' resources.
Source: Table 24.

Figure 14: Funding of health goods and services by private health insurance funds, constant prices ${ }^{(a)}$, 1993-94 to 2003-04

In 2002-03, males aged 65 years or over with private health insurance cover for hospital care attracted average out-of-pocket expenditures that were substantially higher than those for females in the same age groups with similar types of insurance cover (Figure 15). For all other age categories, out-of-pocket expenditures by females were higher than for males. The greatest difference between the sexes, when it came to out-of-pocket expenditure on hospital services, was in the age category 20-44 years. Females in this category spent, on average, more than twice the rate of males. This reflects the additional out-of-pocket outlays on hospital services faced by women in their child-bearing years.


## Injury compensation insurers

Worker's compensation insurers and third-party motor vehicle insurers comprise the funding for injury compensation insurers. In 2003-04 injury compensation insurers spent (in 2002-03 prices), $\$ 1,822$ million on health goods and services. Workers' compensation insurers and third-party motor vehicle insurers accounted for $\$ 1,114$ million and $\$ 708$ million respectively of this expenditure. Over the period 1993-94 to 2003-04 expenditure by workers' compensation insurers rose on average by $3.9 \%$ per year while the annual increase over this decade was $5.9 \%$ for third-party insurers (Table 26).

Table 26: Expenditure by injury compensation insurers, constant prices ${ }^{(a)}$, and annual growth rates, 1993-94 to 2003-04

| Year | Workers' compensation insurers |  | Third-party insurers |  | Total injury insurers |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Amount (\$m) | Growth (\%) | Amount (\$m) | Growth (\%) | Amount (\$m) | Growth (\%) |
| 1993-94 | 762 |  | 400 |  | 1,162 |  |
| 1994-95 | 859 | 12.7 | 493 | 23.4 | 1,352 | 16.3 |
| 1995-96 | 884 | 2.9 | 459 | -6.8 | 1,343 | -0.6 |
| 1996-97 | 870 | -1.6 | 507 | 10.3 | 1,377 | 2.5 |
| 1997-98 | 845 | -2.8 | 473 | -6.6 | 1,319 | -4.2 |
| 1998-99 | 917 | 8.5 | 550 | 16.1 | 1,467 | 11.3 |
| 1999-00 | 947 | 3.2 | 555 | 0.9 | 1,502 | 2.3 |
| 2000-01 | 938 | -0.9 | 500 | -9.9 | 1,438 | -4.3 |
| 2001-02 | 945 | 0.7 | 646 | 29.4 | 1,591 | 10.7 |
| 2002-03 | 971 | 2.8 | 638 | -1.4 | 1,609 | 1.1 |
| 2003-04 ${ }^{(\text {b })}$ | 1,114 | 14.7 | 708 | 11.0 | 1,822 | 13.3 |
| Average annual growth rate |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1993-94 to | 97-98 | 2.6 |  | 4.3 |  | 3.2 |
| 1997-98 to | 02-03 | 2.8 |  | 6.1 |  | 4.1 |
| 1993-94 to | 03-04 | 3.9 |  | 5.9 |  | 4.6 |

(a) Constant price health expenditure for 1993-94 to 2003-04 is expressed in terms of 2002-03 prices.
(b) Based on preliminary AIHW estimates.

Note: Components may not add to totals due to rounding.
Source: AIHW health expenditure database.

### 3.4 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander funding, 2001-02

In July 2005, the AIHW published Expenditures on health for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, 2001-02. These statistics provide a different slice of the health expenditure data for 2001-02 presented in this publication (although there will be some slight differences in aggregates because of revisions to data since July 2005).
Estimated expenditure on health services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people for 2001-02 was, on average, \$3,901 per Indigenous person (Table 27). Governments were responsible for $92.7 \%$ ( $\$ 3,614$ per person) of this funding. The non-government sector contributed $7.3 \%$ or $\$ 287$ per person.
By way of comparison, government funding for health for all Australians in 2001-02 was estimated at $68.4 \%$ of total funding (Table 12).
In 2001-02, the three areas of expenditure that attracted the highest spending for Indigenous Australians were:

- public (non-psychiatric) hospitals (\$1,774 per person)
- community health services (\$959 per person)
- medical services (\$217 per person).

The first two of these service types-public (non-psychiatric) hospitals and community health services- together accounted for most ( $70.1 \%$ ) of the recurrent expenditure on health for Indigenous Australians during 2001-02. By way of contrast, total expenditure (for all Australians) on these services represented less than one-third ( $30.8 \%$ ) of recurrent health expenditure (Table A2).
This reflects the much higher reliance that Indigenous people place on these largely publicly funded health services to meet their health needs and their much lower use of privately funded health goods and services.

Table 27: Recurrent expenditure on health for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, per person, current prices, by service type and broad sources of funding, 2001-02 (\$)

| Area of expenditure | Government |  |  | Non-government | Total recurrent expenditure |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Australian Government | State/territory and local | Total |  |  |
| Hospitals | 769.64 | 1,030.65 | 1,800.29 | 52.46 | 1,852.75 |
| Public (non-psychiatric) | 756.12 | 975.81 | 1,731.93 | 41.94 | 1,773.87 |
| Public (psychiatric) | -- | 51.41 | 51.41 | 2.38 | 53.79 |
| Private | 13.52 | 3.43 | 16.94 | 8.14 | 25.08 |
| High-level residential care | 66.57 | 25.51 | 92.08 | 16.75 | 108.83 |
| Ambulance and other (nec) | 27.51 | 103.82 | 131.33 | 5.63 | 136.95 |
| Total institutional | 863.72 | 1,159.98 | 2,023.71 | 74.83 | 2,098.54 |
| Medical services | 184.35 | - | 184.35 | 32.85 | 217.19 |
| Other health professionals | 14.43 | - | 14.43 | 22.33 | 36.76 |
| Pharmaceuticals ${ }^{(a)}$ | 78.49 | 3.24 | 81.73 | 62.63 | 144.36 |
| Benefit-paid items | 77.57 | - | 77.57 | 14.63 | 92.20 |
| All other items | 0.92 | 3.24 | 4.16 | 48.00 | 52.16 |
| Aids and appliances ${ }^{(b)}$ | 3.06 | 1.46 | 4.52 | 29.99 | 34.51 |
| Other non-institutional | 495.95 | 712.53 | 1,208.48 | 50.54 | 1,259.03 |
| Community health and other | 365.74 | 593.00 | 958.74 | 0.56 | 959.30 |
| Public health ${ }^{(c)}$ | 68.00 | 90.15 | 158.15 | - | 158.15 |
| Dental services | 3.29 | - | 3.29 | 44.31 | 47.59 |
| Health administration ${ }^{(\mathrm{d})}$ | 58.92 | 29.39 | 88.31 | 5.67 | 93.99 |
| Other health services ${ }^{(\text {e }}$ | 42.53 | 54.45 | 96.99 | 13.46 | 110.44 |
| Total non-institutional | 818.82 | 771.68 | 1,590.50 | 211.79 | 1,802.29 |
| Total recurrent expenditure | 1,682.54 | 1,931.66 | 3,614.20 | 286.63 | 3,900.83 |
| Share of total funding (\%) | 43.1 | 49.5 | 92.7 | 7.3 | 100.0 |

(a) The Northern Territory was the only jurisdiction to report funding on pharmaceutical expenditure.
(b) Four jurisdictions reported funding of aids and appliances expenditure: New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland and the Australian Capital Territory.
(c) Includes public health research. No public health research was reported for Queensland.
(d) State and territory health administration includes Queensland, Western Australia, South Australia and Tasmania. The other states and territories distributed administration across areas of expenditure.
(e) Includes research other than public health research. No state research was reported for Tasmania.

Note: Components may not add to totals due to rounding.
Source: AIHW 2005b.


[^0]:    (a) Expenditure has been adjusted for tax expenditures.
    (b) Based on preliminary AIHW and ABS estimates.

    Note: Components may not add to totals due to rounding.
    Source: AIHW health expenditure database.

[^1]:    (a) Constant price health expenditure for 1993-94 to 2003-04 is expressed in terms of 2002-03 prices. Not adjusted for general tax expenditures
    (b) Based on preliminary AIHW and ABS estimates.
    (c) From 2000-01, it includes DVA funding and DoHA hearing services (audiology component) which was previously included in 'other'. Note: Components may not add to totals due to rounding.

[^2]:    (a) Constant price health expenditure for 1993-94 to 2003-04 is expressed in terms of 2002-03 prices. Not adjusted for general tax expenditures
    (b) Based on preliminary AIHW and ABS estimates.

    Note: Components may not add to totals due to rounding.

[^3]:    (a) Constant price health expenditure for 1993-94 to 2003-04 is expressed in terms of 2002-03 prices,
    (b) Expenditure has been adjusted for tax expenditures.
    (c) Based on preliminary AIHW and ABS estimates.

    Note: Components may not add due to rounding.
    Source: AIHW health expenditure database.

[^4]:    (a) Constant price health expenditure for 1993-94 to 2003-04 is expressed in terms of 2002-03 prices. Not adjusted for general tax expenditures (b) Based on preliminary AIHW estimates.

    Note: Components may not add to totals due to rounding.

[^5]:    (a) Premium rebate is pro-rated across all categories (including change in provisions for outstanding claims).

    Note: Components may not add due to rounding.
    Sources: PHIAC A quarterly reports; Department of the Treasury, Tax Expenditures Statement, various years.

[^6]:    (a) Includes adjustment to provisions for outstanding claims.

    Note: Components may not add to totals due to rounding.
    Sources: PHIAC Annual Reports: Operations of the Registered Health Benefits Organisations 2001-02 to 2003-04.

