

# QUEENSLAND BUDGET 2019-20

Budget Highlights

## Backing Queensland Jobs



# Message from the Treasurer

## In this Budget we back Queensland jobs.

Since 2015, 199,000 jobs have been created under the Palaszczuk Government. We have made job creation our number one priority and we are making good progress.

But we know there is more to do to create secure job opportunities to support Queenslanders and their families, particularly in our regional communities.

Budgets are fundamentally about choices and in this Budget we choose to stay the course by continuing to invest in job generating infrastructure and delivering better, essential frontline services for Queensland workers and their families.

This year the capital program will invest \$12.9 billion in essential infrastructure like better roads, hospitals and schools – part of a \$49.5 billion commitment over the next four years. In 2019-20 this investment will directly support 40,500 jobs across Queensland. And, importantly, 25,500 of these jobs will be in regions outside of Greater Brisbane.

We are proud of our track record on job creation. There is nothing more important to working Queenslanders than the opportunity and prosperity made possible through a decent job.

We also know that business-led growth is a vital component of overall economic success and, as a Government, it is imperative that we create an environment where businesses have confidence to invest and grow.

That's why one of the cornerstones of this Budget is an \$885 million payroll tax reform package that provides better incentives for businesses across the state – particularly small and medium business – to expand and create jobs.

The increase in the tax threshold to \$1.3 million means this: a business in Queensland can employ twice as many people as a business in Victoria before paying one dollar in payroll tax.

Finally, delivering world-class services like health care, quality education and transport options are vital to maintaining and protecting the quality of life we enjoy.

That's why the 2019-20 Budget maintains record spending to deliver these core services that are essential to meet the needs of our growing state. It also means more doctors, nurses, teachers, police and paramedics will be on the front line where they are needed, supporting our communities.

This is a Budget for all Queenslanders regardless of where you live in our state. So our choice is to back Queensland jobs, back Queensland businesses and back Regional Queensland.



**The Honourable Jackie Trad MP**

Deputy Premier  
Treasurer  
Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait  
Islander Partnerships



## Backing Queensland Jobs

Budget 2019-20

Jobs supported  
by infrastructure **40,500**

Total infrastructure  
program over four years **\$49.5B**

Total spend on  
road and transport  
infrastructure in  
2019-20 **\$5.6B**

Youth Justice  
investment  
over five years **\$332.5M**

Building our  
Regions program  
since 2015 **\$515M**

Education and  
Training in 2019-20 **\$14.9B**

Health in 2019-20 **\$18.5B**

Additional justice  
system investment  
over five years **\$847.9M**

Lowering cost of living **\$5.7B**

# Supporting Queensland businesses

Queensland's diversified economy provides a unique business environment that places the state ahead of the pack. The Palaszczuk Government continues to work with, and support, small, medium and large businesses to create employment opportunities and community prosperity.

More than 448,000 small to medium businesses call Queensland home. This Budget provides support for Queensland businesses through a number of initiatives including:

- Increased funding of **\$105 million** from 2018–19 to continue funding programs under the Advance Queensland initiative. New measures funded will include **\$45 million** for the Advance Queensland Industry Attraction Fund, **\$25 million** for the Research Infrastructure Co-Investment Funds, **\$19 million** for the Queensland Hydrogen Industry Development Strategy, **\$5 million** for Biofutures 2.0 and **\$4 million** in additional grant funding for the Advancing Small Business Queensland Strategy 2016–2020. This brings total funding for this initiative to **\$755 million**.
- Increased funding of up to **\$14 million** over two years to meet continued demand for the Back to Work program in South East Queensland in areas facing significant labour market challenges. This brings total funding under the Back to Work program to **\$383 million**. Since its inception in 2016–17, the Back to Work program has supported over 9,200 Queensland businesses to have the confidence to employ more than 19,000 eligible Queenslanders – with more than 12,500 of these being young people aged between 15 and 24, the majority of these in the state's regions.

- \$14.8 million** in 2019–20 has been allocated to the regional Business Energy Savers Program.

The **\$150 million** Advance Queensland Industry Attraction Fund continues to engage with companies to assist them to relocate or establish new projects, reinvest or expand in Queensland. A key objective of the Fund is for eligible recipients to focus on areas including sustainable employment; regional development; increased technology and innovation; and increased investment potential for the Queensland economy.

Two recent funding recipients are:

- Alliance Airlines which received support to expand its Queensland operation and establish a new base at Rockhampton. The project is expected to support up to **30 full-time jobs** in its first year and nearly double over the next five years.
- A multimillion-dollar Qantas pilot training academy is being established at Toowoomba's Wellcamp Airport. Up to 250 domestic and international student pilots a year are expected to train at the academy, creating up to **160 jobs** in training and support roles. This will be on top of hundreds of jobs created during the construction process.

## \$885 million business boost to back Queensland jobs

Queensland already has one of the most competitive payroll tax regimes in Australia. The 2019–20 Budget commits **\$885 million** over four years in a series of targeted payroll tax initiatives that will deliver lower taxes for an estimated 13,200 small and medium businesses.

The package includes:

- An increased exemption threshold – the payroll tax exemptions threshold is rising from **\$1.1 million** to **\$1.3 million** which will benefit employers with annual wages up to **\$6.5 million**.
- Regional payroll tax discount – from 1 July 2019 a 1% payroll tax discount will apply for eligible employers with 85% of their employees outside of South East Queensland.

- Employment growth rebate – for two years from 1 July 2019, Queensland employers that have increased their number of full-time employees will be eligible for a payroll tax rebate of the payroll tax paid for these additional employees, capped at **\$20,000** annually.
- Extension of apprentice and trainee rebate – building on the success of the 50% payroll tax rebate for apprentices and trainees, especially for employers in regional Queensland, this initiative will be extended until 30 June 2021.



# Investing in infrastructure

The State's population grew by more than 86,000 in the last 12 months. This increase was the highest annual rise in more than five years. To support our growing population, the Palaszczuk Government will continue to invest in key infrastructure needed to support communities across the state.

**The 2019–20 Budget includes a \$12.941 billion capital works program which will directly support 40,500 jobs across Queensland, with 25,500 of these jobs in regions outside Greater Brisbane. The State's capital program includes funding for hospitals, schools, social housing and cultural facilities, ensuring Queensland communities and families continue to enjoy an improved quality of life.**

- Capital expenditure for the health portfolio is **\$777.7 million** in 2019–20, including **\$78.6 million** as part of the Enhancing Regional Hospitals program and **\$40.7 million** as part of the Rural and Regional Infrastructure package. Projects are funded in locations including: Roma, Gladstone, Sarina, Blackall, Kingaroy, Townsville, Maryborough, Nambour, Mer (Murray) Island, Thursday Island and Atherton.
- Work will continue towards the completion of the **\$290 million** 25,000-seat North Queensland Stadium, delivered in partnership with Townsville City Council and the Australian Government. The opening is due prior to the start of the 2020 National Rugby League season.
- In 2019–20, the Government will deliver a **\$5.625 billion** investment in transformative transport infrastructure including continuation of

construction work on Cross River Rail, major upgrades to the M1 Pacific Motorway and the Bruce Highway; and ongoing work on the Smithfield Bypass project.

- During 2019–20, construction is due to commence on the section of the M1 Pacific Motorway between Varsity Lakes and Tugun at an estimated total cost of **\$1.03 billion**.
- Widening of the section of M1 between Eight Mile Plains and Daisy Hill from six to eight lanes is also expected to commence in mid-2020 at an estimated total cost of **\$749 million**.
- Work will continue on the construction of Cross River Rail - the 10.2km rail line between Dutton Park and Bowen Hills in Brisbane. The State Government has allocated **\$5.409 billion** for the project. The project includes four new underground train stations and two upgraded stations.
- The Queensland Government's energy and water portfolios will invest **\$2.66 billion** in 2019–20 to support the ongoing delivery of safe, secure, reliable and cost-effective energy and water supplies.
- The Government is investing **\$1.227 billion** in 2019–20 for the construction of new schools and education facilities, as well as significant enhancements to existing buildings.

- The Budget also includes ongoing investment in key infrastructure supporting the State's delivery of enhanced justice and public safety services, including **\$178 million** over three years on additional youth justice infrastructure.
- \$153.6 million** to upgrade dams and water supplies in South East Queensland.
- Investment in social housing in 2019–20 includes **\$479.3 million** of capital purchases and grants to construct new dwellings and upgrade existing properties, including in Indigenous communities.
- The Queensland Government will continue to work with the Australian Government to deliver significant Bruce Highway upgrades aimed at improving safety, flood resilience and capacity along its 1,700km length. The 2019–20 works include:
  - \$186 million** to widen the Bruce Highway from four to six lanes, Caloundra Road to the Sunshine Motorway.
  - \$108 million** to construct bridges and approaches on the Bruce Highway (Houghton River Floodplain) south of Giru between Horseshoe Lagoon and Palm Creek.
  - \$68.2 million** for the Cairns Southern Access Corridor Stage 3 (Edmonton to Gordonvale) and Stage 4 (Kate Street to Aumuller Street) projects.

- \$60 million** to construct Mackay Ring Road (Stage 1).
- \$29.1 million** for the Rockhampton Northern Access (Stage 1) widening from two to four lanes.
- \$160.8 million** over four years has been allocated for the Beerburum to Nambour North Coast Line railway duplication. The Australian Government has provided an initial \$390 million towards the project.
- The Government also remains committed to rebuilding regional communities impacted by the northern Queensland floods and other recent natural disasters, with a critical element of the Government's investment focused on improving existing infrastructure to improve the resilience of the state's communities.



# Backing jobs in our regions

Queensland is the most decentralised state in Australia. A key focus of the Palaszczuk Government is to support our regions through job creation measures and a range of community building programs.

**The 2019–20 Budget provides record funding for a range of critical infrastructure programs and initiatives designed to support the 1.55 million Queenslanders who live in the state's regions. Of the \$12.941 billion allocated for infrastructure projects in this Budget, around 60% of this funding is provided to projects outside of Greater Brisbane, supporting 25,500 jobs.**

- As part of the Building our Regions program, the Government has provided a boost of **\$70 million** for local government regional infrastructure projects. This will take the total funding allocated to the program to **\$515 million**. Already projects in the program have supported more than **2,400 jobs**.
- \$1.599 billion** in capital grants in 2019–20, including \$50 million as part of the Works for Queensland program for infrastructure in regional communities.
- The North West Minerals Province (NWMP) contains approximately 75% of Queensland's base metal and mineral endowment, including copper, lead, zinc, silver, gold and phosphate deposits. To promote mining exploration and investment in the NWMP, the Government is providing:
  - \$30 million** over two years to contribute towards the construction and operation of a new common

user terminal at the Port of Townsville which will increase the capacity for containerised freight on the Mount Isa Line.

- \$20 million** per annum to reduce below rail access charges for users on the Mount Isa Line.
- Port of Townsville Limited has commenced the Channel Capacity Upgrade project to widen the existing Platypus Channel and Sea Channel connection to allow larger vessels safe port access, at an estimated cost of **\$193.5 million**.
- \$12.1 million** has been allocated over five years for the Panama Disease Tropical Race 4 Program.
- \$14.3 million** over two years has been allocated to continue the Local Fare Scheme in Far North Queensland – an airfare subsidy program that aims to improve the standard of living of local residents in regional and remote low socio-economic Queensland communities by making air travel to neighbouring communities more affordable.
- \$50 million** in this Budget to continue the Works for Queensland program to support job-creating maintenance and minor infrastructure works across regional Queensland. This brings the total funding of this program to **\$600 million** over five years.

- \$55 million** towards the **\$225 million** Townsville water security plan.
- \$81.9 million** for Sunwater to carry out dam improvements and other infrastructure.
- Increased funding of **\$25 million** is being provided as part of the Jobs and Regional Growth Fund. This brings the total funding of this program to **\$175 million**.
- During 2019–20 the Queensland Rural and Industry Development Authority will administer Australian Government funding of \$300 million over three years for restocking, replanting and on-farm infrastructure grants to assist primary producers impacted by severe flooding.
- Up to **\$14 million** has been allocated to support the future of Mackay region's 140 plus year sugar industry and the jobs it supports.
- \$30 million** has been committed to establish a new Resources Community Infrastructure Fund, which will target improving economic and social infrastructure across Queensland's regional resources communities.
- The Queensland Government is continuing to support drought affected communities through the continuation of the Drought Assistance Package, as well as implementing Queensland drought reform with up to **\$74.6 million** available over four years.

## Natural disaster recovery

Extreme weather events impacted 61 of the State's 77 local government areas in the past year, damaging infrastructure and disrupting homes, schools and businesses.

There have now been 84 disaster events in the past decade causing more than **\$15 billion** in damage to public infrastructure.

In addition to the more than **\$100 million** of direct assistance already provided to individuals and communities impacted by the 2018–19 disaster events, **\$254 million** in extraordinary assistance has been provided under the jointly funded Australian Government-Queensland Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements.

Thousands of jobs are being supported through recovery and rebuilding efforts as the Queensland Government works to help communities get back on track.

Further information is available in the 2019–20 Disaster Recovery budget paper at [www.budget.qld.gov.au](http://www.budget.qld.gov.au)



# Innovation and investment for the future

We live in an ever-changing world and the type of jobs and even industries of the next generation will be vastly different to the ones of today. In partnership with our business community, the Palaszczuk Government is investing in and imagining new, innovative ways of doing things to move forward as a state, a community and as individuals.

In 2019, the Government will release the comprehensive **Building our Innovation Economy – Advance Queensland Strategy**. Developed following extensive public consultation, the Strategy provides a blueprint to embrace the surge of innovative activities by researchers, business and government, and use these to our advantage to create sustainable jobs growth and solve some of the biggest challenges facing our state.

The Strategy outlines five priorities to shape the next phase of Advance Queensland – back our strengths, solve big challenges, build innovation in our regions, scale-up innovation and new skills and new jobs.

Research by CSIRO's Data61 has shown that if we successfully embrace innovation, Queensland's economy will be well placed to create one million jobs by 2038.

The 2019–20 Budget continues to support Queensland's innovation sector through a number of programs. These include:

- **\$19 million** over four years to support the Queensland Hydrogen Industry Strategy, reinforcing the Government's commitment to develop a world-class sustainable hydrogen industry, with Gladstone being a key focus for hydrogen development. Global demand for hydrogen is increasing with the market expected to reach US\$155 billion by 2022.

- Continued investment since 2015–16 in the **\$755 million** Advance Queensland initiative with additional funding of **\$105 million** from 2018–19, to foster innovation to create jobs and build a strong and diverse Queensland economy. Among the suite of programs is the Ignite Ideas Fund which has supported 270 Queensland businesses. These include businesses such as Skyborne Technologies, which is developing a ground-breaking unmanned aerial vehicle.



- **\$8.6 million** over two years to establish FibreCo, to improve internet speed in regional Queensland.
- **\$350,000** has been allocated for hosting the 2018 and 2019 World Congress of Drones, which follow the release of the Queensland Drones Strategy in 2018. Queensland continues to lead the way nationally in emerging drone technology.
- **\$25 million** over four years for the Queensland Government Research Infrastructure Co-Investment Fund for critical co-investment in facilities with partnerships and joint ventures designed to put our science facilities and researchers in a nation-leading position.
- **\$15 million** over seven years for the Defence Cooperative Research Centre for Trusted Autonomous Systems.
- **\$5 million** over four years for Biofutures, supporting delivery of the Biofutures 10-Year Roadmap and Action Plan.
- **\$1 million** over two years towards developing a Resource Recovery Industries Roadmap and Action Plan.

## Investing in innovative Queensland businesses

The Palaszczuk Government continues to back Queensland's start-up revolution through the **\$80 million** Business Development Fund.

During 2019–20 the Fund will continue to grow, supporting innovative businesses across Queensland and encouraging regional participation. To date 51 businesses have received total investment of **\$58 million** and 400 additional Queensland jobs have been created.

Among the innovative businesses to receive recent investments have been:

- **RedEarth Energy** which develops and manufactures innovative solar storage batteries.
- **Maxwell Plus**, a medical technology start-up rethinking the way we detect and diagnose disease, especially an advanced cancer detection software.
- **Implicit Bioscience** - a clinical-stage biotech drug development company focused on pioneering immunotherapy for a range of diseases.
- Cairns-based **Didgigo** which has secured international co-investment to further commercialise its innovative, tailored travel itinerary platform.
- **Verton Technologies** - produces devices that increase the safety, productivity and efficiency of hoisting operations.
- **Valti/Croomo** which has developed PrepL, an on-line interactive learner driver training module which has already changed the way new drivers start on their licence.

# Skills and training

The Palaszczuk Government is continuing the successful Free TAFE initiative that is providing young Queenslanders with the opportunity to study in one of 160 high priority courses for free in the 12 months after they graduate high school.



With Queensland's workforce projected to surpass 2.6 million by 2022, the Palaszczuk Government is focused on providing people with the right skills to drive a strong economic future with a focus on delivering jobs, supporting small business and an entrepreneurial culture. Building on the Skills and Industry Summit held in late 2018, the Budget outlines a number of programs and initiatives which support Queenslanders to be competitive and succeed in a modern and changing economy.

The key funding programs designed to skill Queenslanders for the jobs of the future include:

- **\$80 million** in 2019–20 as part of a **\$420 million**, six-year commitment to the Skilling Queenslanders for Work program. The Program helps eligible Queenslanders to develop skills, gain qualifications and provides direct assistance to enter and stay in the workforce. The initiative offers several programs that deliver training to improve skills and employment opportunities for Queenslanders.
- **\$105.8 million** in 2019–20 for upgrades and improvements in Queensland's training infrastructure. Key projects include the upgrade of TAFE campuses at Mount Gravatt, Gold Coast, Pimlico in Townsville, Alexandra Hills and Toowoomba. These upgrades aim to deliver the best possible learning environment to

support training providers, students and employers with high quality education and skills to meet industry needs.

- Additional funding of **\$5.5 million** over three years for the Micro-Credentialing Pilot to support industry-led skills development designed to address emerging workforce skills requirements. The pilot will match industry skill needs with focused training for employees, and include options to develop skills, skill sets or knowledge that is required by industry, professional associations, or the community. The focused training will help businesses more easily adopt innovations and improve productivity whilst supporting lifelong learning for employees.
- **\$4.6 million** over five years for the Digital Engagement Strategy to improve online accessibility of vocational education and consumer training information for young people.
- **\$300,000** over two years to establish a Higher Level Apprenticeship Pilot, to provide opportunities to partner with industry to develop new pathways to layer specialised skills and knowledge with the traditional apprenticeship model.

- **\$1 million** in 2019–20 to deliver the Queensland Social Enterprise Strategy to support the further development and growth of the social enterprise sector in Queensland to create jobs, support inclusive and diverse workforce participation and deliver social impact outcomes.
- **\$9.6 million** over four years from 2018–19 for a Link & Launch initiative to help disengaged year 12 school completers engage in education, training or employment.
- **\$11.2 million** over four years for an expansion of the Regional Youth Engagement Hubs program to locate, case manage and re-engage early school leavers back into school and training.
- **\$16.6 million** over four years from 2018–19 for FlexiSpaces to support schools to provide innovative learning spaces to retain students at risk of disengagement.
- **\$199 million** for the User Choice - Apprentice and Trainee Training Subsidy which provides funding of between \$1,150 and \$50,720 to be used towards the costs of training and assessment for eligible Queensland apprentices and trainees.

- **\$193.7 million** for the Certificate III Guarantee Tuition Fee Subsidy which helps eligible Queenslanders obtain their first post-school Certificate III qualification to gain a job or to improve their employment status.
- **\$75 million** for the Higher Level Skills Tuition Fee Subsidy which subsidises the cost of tuition fees paid by eligible students and employers undertaking a priority Certificate IV, diploma or advanced diploma or industry endorsed skillset.



# A great start for our children

In a changing global environment, there are few things more important than providing our children with the best possible advantage to reach their full potential. The Palaszczuk Government continues to invest a record level of funding for education.

## \$721,000 in support for the Daniel Morcombe Foundation

Schools across Queensland have embraced the annual Day for Daniel child safety awareness event with last year's event attracting more than 700,000 participants.

The Budget will provide the Daniel Morcombe Foundation with **\$721,000** over three years to support the annual Day for Daniel, regarded as the largest child safety awareness event in Australia.

As Queensland Child Safety Ambassadors, Bruce and Denise Morcombe travel to schools across the state to inform and educate students, parents and educators about child safety.

The Daniel Morcombe Child Safety Curriculum, developed in partnership with the Department of Education and delivered to students in state and non-state schools from Prep to year 9, was provided in 435 state schools last year.

## The 2019–20 Budget delivers more teachers and teacher aides, as well as significant funding to enhance frontline education services and improve educational outcomes across the state. These include:

- Increased state funding of approximately **\$1.1 billion** over the forward estimates (approximately \$1.4 billion over calendar years 2019 to 2023) for Queensland state schools, as part of the five-year school funding agreement with the Australian Government.
- Increased funding of **\$532.6 million** over seven years from 2018–19 to expand the Building Future Schools Fund to a total of **\$1.3 billion**, to deliver world class learning environments for students, including new primary, secondary and special schools opening in 2020 and 2021.
- New schools being built under the Building Future Schools Fund include:
  - Special Schools* - Caboolture, Palmview
  - Primary Schools* - Ripley, Palmview, Pimpama
  - Secondary Schools* - Inner City North, Inner City South, Mango Hill, Caloundra South, Yarrabilba, Ripley, Coomera.
- For existing state schools, the Renewing Our Schools Program provides an additional **\$235 million** over four years to 2021–22 to enhance and upgrade facilities in identified state schools across the state.

In this Budget, the Government is also providing increased funding of **\$251.3 million** over three years from 2018–19 for the provision of additional facilities at existing state schools experiencing enrolment growth.

- **\$100 million** over four years for priority state school air-conditioning projects, including the replacement of air-conditioning units in schools in the Cooler Schools Zone and other priority school air-conditioning projects, which will be informed by a review of state school needs. This is in addition to existing funding of **\$23 million** in 2018–19 and **\$17 million** annually from 2019–20 for air-conditioning upgrades and maintenance, bringing total funding to **\$191 million** over five years.
- More than 1,000 teachers will be employed in 2019–20 as part of a four-year commitment to employ more than 3,700 teachers by 2021–22. This adds to the more than 4,800 teachers and around 1,400 teacher aides hired by the Palaszczuk Government since March 2015 to enhance learning outcomes and give our children a great start on their learning journey. **\$136.2 million** over four years from 2019–20 to ensure that there is optimal student to teacher ratios to support students with a disability.
- Increased funding of **\$30.4 million** over two years to support the continued provision of universal access to kindergarten for children in the year before school.
- Increased funding of **\$63.6 million** over four years and **\$18.7 million** per annum ongoing to continue

the provision of early childhood development programs and services to support children aged 0–5 years with significant educational support needs.

- Increased funding of **\$1.5 million** over five years to 2023–24 to expand the School Breakfast Program to additional schools across the state.
- Increased funding of **\$26.5 million** over two years to continue and enhance regulation of the early childhood sector.
- Increased funding of **\$167.6 million** over three years from 2020–21 and **\$56.6 million** per annum ongoing to support new senior assessment and tertiary entrance arrangements.

**\$14.9B**  
for Education  
and Training in  
2019–20



# Keeping Queenslanders healthy

The health and wellbeing of all Queenslanders is a key priority in the Budget with a record allocation ensuring doctors, nurses and support staff have the best facilities to deliver the world-class health care the community expects. This funding includes increased support for medical experts as well as having a focus on keeping Queenslanders healthy and active.

Health Budget  
2019–20  
**\$18.5B**

## Jobs for Queenslanders

A key focus for the Palaszczuk Government has been boosting frontline health jobs across the state. Since March 2015 we have employed 5,988 nurses, 1,761 health practitioners, professionals and technicians, 2,020 doctors and 510 ambulance operatives. Projects at Logan and Caboolture will deliver 612 jobs each year during construction, and 336 beds in the health system. Around 100 jobs will be created at Roma, and 25 jobs in the Torres Strait. The new surgical, treatment and rehabilitation service in Herston will provide 184 new beds and employ 333 people throughout construction.



**This Budget provides a record \$18.5 billion in operating funding as well as a \$777.7 million capital program designed to maintain Queensland's first-class health service. This includes continued investment in new, and upgrades to existing health and ambulance facilities, as well as a range of community health, research and scientific services to meet the state's growing and ageing population.**

The Palaszczuk Government is investing in people as we deliver increased funding of **\$2 billion** over four years to support the ongoing growth in demand for health services and health infrastructure.

⊕ **\$956.9 million** for the Government's Building Better Hospitals Program. This program will help address growing demand by enhancing public hospital capacity and services in the South East Queensland growth corridor and includes projects at three major South East Queensland hospitals:

- ⊕ expansion of the Caboolture Hospital to increase its capacity by 130 beds
- ⊕ expansion of the Logan Hospital to deliver an additional 206 beds as well as expansion and refurbishment of the Logan maternity ward

- ⊕ staged redevelopment of the Ipswich Hospital including new mental health facilities for adults and older persons and a magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) suite to grow clinical capacity.
- ⊕ **\$78.6 million** for the Enhancing Regional Hospitals program which will include upgrades/redevelopments at Gladstone and Roma hospitals.
- ⊕ **\$116.8 million** over two years from 2021–22 and **\$59.3 million** annually from 2023–24 to continue the successful nurse navigators program. Nurse navigators ensure patients with chronic illnesses find the most appropriate care and assist to coordinate clinical services and reduce preventable hospital admissions.
- ⊕ **\$30.7 million** over two years from 2021–22 and **\$15.5 million** annually from 2023–24 to continue employing an additional 100 midwives to support maternity services across Queensland.
- ⊕ **\$16 million** over three years to purchase a new MRI machine and a computerised tomography (CT) scanner for Redcliffe Hospital.
- ⊕ **\$58.5 million** over four years from 2019–20, with ongoing funding of **\$15.3 million** annually, for community helicopter providers to support Queensland's Emergency Helicopter Network services.
- ⊕ The Government is providing additional funding of **\$25 million** over four years to fund initiatives under the Sport and Active Recreation Strategy 2019–2029.

This brings the total funding for the Strategy to **\$292.5 million** over four years.

The Strategy will address system-wide reform required to deliver both community benefit and achieve Advancing Queensland's Priorities targets.

- ⊕ Increased funding of **\$77.4 million** in 2020–21 to extend the Specialist Outpatient Long Wait Strategy. This Strategy will ensure patients continue to have timely access to specialist outpatients' appointments.
- ⊕ **\$80.1 million** over four years for a range of initiatives that better support suicide prevention under the Shifting Minds Suicide Prevention Flagship. These include increased investment in community mental health services, the establishment of the Way Back initiative to provide follow-up support after a suicide attempt and an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth mental health and wellbeing program.
- ⊕ A record **\$885.7 million** is being provided to the Queensland Ambulance Service in 2019–20 – up 10.7% from the previous year. An additional 200 ambulance operatives will be employed to continue to provide emergency medical care to Queenslanders. This Budget also allocates **\$55.7 million** for 2019–20 ambulance facility upgrades and for the supply of 122 new and replacement vehicles.

# Keeping our communities safe

The 2019–20 Budget delivers significant funding to keep Queenslanders safe through improved facilities, additional resources and the support our frontline services need to keep our communities safe.



## World class fire and emergency services

A record **\$740 million** Queensland Fire and Emergency Services Budget in 2019–20.

Additional firefighters and fire communication officers as part of the **\$29.5 million** over four years announced in the 2018–19 Budget to help the community prevent, prepare for, respond to and recover from the impacts of fire and emergency events.

**\$50 million** will be invested in new and replacement Rural Fire Brigade and Fire and Rescue service equipped vehicles.

### More police on the beat

An additional 436 police have joined the ranks as part of the Government's commitment to enhance frontline services.

A record **\$2.4 billion** Police operating budget in 2019–20 as well as **\$69.8 million** capital for new, upgraded and replacement police facilities. This includes **\$28 million** to continue work on the **\$52.2 million** Counter-Terrorism and Community Safety Training Centre at Wacol, **\$10.8 million** to complete the **\$11.5 million** new police facility at Arundel on the Gold Coast and **\$4.9 million** towards the **\$8.2 million** replacement facility at Pormpuraaw on Cape York Peninsula.

**\$2.3 million** over four years and **\$685,000** annually has been allocated to Queensland Police to maintain the focus on investigating online child exploitation materials.

An additional **\$847.9 million** investment across Queensland's justice system through a series of new and ongoing programs designed to enhance justice and safety outcomes.

A key focus will be historic changes to Queensland's youth justice system with the aim of helping keep communities safe and reduce reoffending.

The Palaszczuk Government has established a new Department of Youth Justice to support this focus. The Government has committed a total of more than **\$550 million** in Youth Justice reforms since 2017, including overall investment of **\$154.5 million** operating funding and **\$178 million** capital over five years as part of its Youth Justice investment package.

This funding will support a suite of initiatives aimed at preventing offending and reoffending, and keeping young people out of courts and custody, including:

- **\$27 million** over three years for an additional 16 new beds at the Brisbane Youth Detention Centre and **\$150 million** to construct a new 32-bed youth detention centre at Wacol.
- **\$27.5 million** over four years for the Restorative Justice Conferencing program in the youth justice system.
- Increased funding of **\$28.7 million** over four years to expand on the successful Transition to Success program and support young people to reconnect with education, training, employment and life skills.
- **\$33.5 million** over four years for the continuation and expansion of the Townsville Community Youth Response and to establish new locations in Cairns, Ipswich and Brisbane.

- **\$6.4 million** has been allocated over two years for an enhanced Youth and Family Wellbeing service for young people and their families at risk of entering the youth justice system.

As part of a **\$3.5 million** total funding package, **\$1 million** over two years has been allocated for anti-cyberbullying initiatives in Queensland state schools, as part of the implementation of the recommendations of the Queensland Anti-Cyberbullying Taskforce.

**\$517.5 million** over four years to continue Queensland's family support and child protection reforms. This includes **\$14.6 million** to assist in implementation of the second Our Way Changing Tracks Action Plan and the development of first Breaking Cycles Action Plan to address the disproportionate representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in the child protection system.

The Palaszczuk Government has invested more than **\$328.9 million** over six years from 2015–16 to implement the recommendations from the Not Now, Not Ever: Putting an End to Domestic and Family Violence in Queensland report. An additional **\$1.5 million** over two years is being provided to respond to the needs of women with disability and their children, who experience domestic and family violence.



# Protecting our environment for the future

The Palaszczuk Government is taking action on climate change. The 2019–20 Budget continues to invest in the renewable energy industry and other initiatives designed to preserve our state's natural environment and invest in our environment for generations to come.

## This Budget continues to build on the commitment made to take real and enduring action on environmental protections outlined in the 2017 Queensland Climate Change Response.

The 2019–20 Budget continues to support the Palaszczuk Government's delivery of the record **\$330 million**, five-year allocation to protect the Great Barrier Reef. Ongoing initiatives include:

- The Joint Field Management Program for reef protection measures implemented by the Great Barrier Marine Park Authority and the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service and supported by State and Australian Governments. Funding activities focus on protecting the reef's values; building the resilience of reefs, islands and species; and supporting ecotourism opportunities in the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area.
- More than 40 partner organisations are delivering a series of water quality initiatives, with a strong focus on science and innovation and working with landholders to drive long-term change in land management practices to reduce nutrients, sediment and pesticides in waterways flowing to the Reef.

- **\$24.9 million** to help industry rejuvenate the Great Barrier Reef Island resorts and offer world-class experiences to visitors.

The Queensland Government has made significant progress in managing climate risk in Queensland. This includes the Queensland Climate Resilient Councils program which already has involved 39 local councils and has been extended to cover all 77 Queensland Councils.

Other environmental programs in the 2019–20 Budget include:

- **\$9 million** over three years is being provided to support local eradication of yellow crazy ants in, and areas adjacent, to the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area.
- **\$3.6 million** is provided to save Queensland's threatened koala population, including **\$2.1 million** to acquire a protected corridor in Noosa, and **\$1.5 million** to Moggill Koala Hospital and Daisy Hill Koala Centre.
- A total of **\$12.5 million** is being provided to improve amenities and visitor facilities under the Revitalising National Parks initiative.
- **\$6 million** over two years to provide continued management of problem crocodiles, supported by robust scientific research and evaluation of current control methods.

- **\$2.7 million** for rebates under the Solar for Rentals trial in Bundaberg, Gladstone and Townsville; and **\$4.8 million** for the Solar PV and Battery Storage program.

- **\$20 million** over two years is being provided to continue works on Torres Strait Island seawalls, which will protect infrastructure and communities from rising sea levels and coastal inundation.

## Waste management

- Commencing 1 July 2019, a levy on most commercial and industrial waste going into landfill will stop Queensland becoming a dumping ground for other states' waste. The levy will not impact households.
- **\$5 million** is being invested to implement waste reforms for Queensland under a new waste management and resource recovery strategy. This includes **\$4 million** to remove car bodies and scrap metal from islands in the Torres Strait; and **\$1 million** over two years for the development of a waste management data strategy for Queensland.

## Supporting renewable energy

During the 2019–20 financial year, the Queensland Government's renewable and low emissions electricity generator CleanCo Queensland will commence operations and trading in the national electricity market. CleanCo will assist in the provision of a cleaner, more affordable, sustainable and secure energy supply for Queensland.

**\$250 million** to CleanCo for renewable energy generation, is creating more jobs on top of the 4,000 Queensland jobs in the solar, wind and hydro sectors.

Alongside the Government's existing generation businesses, Stanwell and CS Energy, CleanCo will play a key role in the Government's clean energy future commitment to achieve 50% of the state's generation being from renewable sources by 2030 under the Queensland Renewable Energy Target.

# Supporting our communities

The Palaszczuk Government is supporting Queensland's communities and is delivering responsive services to all Queenslanders.

In the 2019–20 Budget, the Queensland Government is building better relationships with all our communities. Initiatives include:

- **\$6.9 million** over four years to develop and implement an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth mental health and wellbeing program as part of the Shifting Minds Suicide Prevention Flagship.
- **\$3.5 million** over two years to create Indigenous jobs and business growth through Indigenous tourism development in Queensland.
- An additional **\$25.2 million** over three years from 2020–21 and **\$8.6 million** annually from 2023–24 to expand the Deadly Choices Healthy Lifestyle Program for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders. The program will be delivered by the Government's newly-established health promotion body, Health and Wellbeing Queensland.
- **\$15.6 million** over four years to progress the Cape York Peninsula Tenure Resolution Program and National Park Joint Management with Traditional Owners.
- **\$9.9 million** over four years from 2019–20 to improve the operation and management of drinking water supplies in Indigenous communities to ensure public health is protected.

- **\$67.1 million** over four years to support the delivery of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Action Plan, including a **\$40 million** investment for capital works in remote Indigenous communities and a further **\$21 million** to develop place based community-led housing plans, provide tailored and holistic person-centred services and to strengthen the capacity of community housing providers.

- **\$4.5 million** over three years to Former Origin Greats Queensland to support an expansion of the Achieving Results Through Indigenous Education (ARTIE) Program into an additional 20 state primary schools across the state.

- **\$368,000** in 2019–20 to progress the legal recognition of Torres Strait Islander traditional child rearing practices.

- Eliminating elder abuse will be a key focus for the Budget with investment in a number of programs reaffirming the Palaszczuk Government's commitment to respond to, and prevent, the abuse of the state's seniors. **\$3.5 million** has been allocated for Seniors Legal and Support Services across the state.

The Government will also continue to support UnitingCare's Elder Abuse Prevention Unit, including their Helpline.

- **\$62.7 million** over four years to continue state services to support people with disability, including to maintain quality and safeguards, ensure continuity of support for clients ineligible for the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) and to address increased workload and demand pressures related to the rollout of the NDIS. A further **\$61.9 million** over two years has been provided as a temporary measure to ensure clients are able to access critical supports while interface issues between the NDIS and mainstream services are resolved.

- Increased funding of **\$6.7 million** over two years to embed reforms to the Coal Mine Workers' Health Scheme, and other reforms to address resource work health issues following the re-identification of coal workers' pneumoconiosis in Queensland's mining sector.

- **\$20.9 million** over four years for a grant program to ensure the sustainability of Queensland's wheelchair accessible taxi fleet through replacement of aged vehicles and converting some conventional vehicles to wheelchair accessible vehicles.

- Increased funding of **\$1.5 million** per annum for Community Connect program workers to facilitate support and referrals for individuals and families to specialist services.

## Lowering cost of living

The Palaszczuk Government realises that cost of living pressures remain one of the biggest issues facing large sections of the Queensland community.

The 2019–20 Budget provides **\$5.7 billion** in concessions for electricity, water, transport, education and housing to reduce the cost of living, more than **\$76 million** over the Budget commitment in 2018–19.

Information about the available concessions can be found at [qld.gov.au/smartsavings](http://qld.gov.au/smartsavings)



- The Government has provided additional funding of **\$26 million** over four years to support Queensland's participation in the National Redress Scheme for survivors of institutional child sexual abuse.
- Improved swimmer safety is a key focus of **\$18.7 million** in funding to the Shark Control Program.

# Supporting Tourism and Events in Queensland

Tourism is one of Queensland's largest industry sectors contributing around \$25 billion to the State's economy with visitors exploring the state's natural wonders and cultural and artistic delights.

**This Budget delivers a range of programs and initiatives designed to attract visitors to Queensland and enhance the cultural and artistic highlights of Queensland. Some highlights include:**

- **\$35.7 million** over three years from 2018–19 for the Production Attraction Strategy, to help grow a pipeline of large-scale film and high-end television productions in Queensland (taking total funding to **\$85.7 million** since 2015–16). A further **\$9.5 million** over four years will support the growth of the screen industry, including a new Screen Investment Fund and support for the Post, Digital and Visual Effects incentive program and the Queensland video gaming industry.
- **\$2 million** in 2019–20 and **\$13.5 million** in total for Screen Queensland to establish and operate a screen production facility in Brisbane.
- **\$125 million** over four years as part of a **\$150 million** package to build a new performing arts theatre in Brisbane which will see Queensland Performing Arts Centre (QPAC) become Australia's largest performing arts centre with the potential to welcome an additional 300,000 visitors each year. The new theatre is due to open in 2022.

- The Government has committed **\$60 million** to support delivery of the Southport Spit Master Plan. The Master Plan secures the future of 138 hectares of green space, unlocks the potential for 1,800 new jobs, provides for more than 800 new short-term accommodation rooms, enhanced tourism and recreation opportunities, and creates vibrant community spaces.
- The Government is providing **\$21.4 million** over two years for the Global Tourism Hubs in Cairns and the Gold Coast to progress market approaches, and for the management of contractual obligations for the Queen's Wharf Brisbane Integrated Resort Development and for the Thorsborne, Cooloola and Whitsunday Ecotourism Trails Program.
- **\$35 million** has been allocated for an upgrade of the iconic Brisbane Cricket Ground – the Gabba – home of the Queensland Bulls, Brisbane Heat and Brisbane Lions. Funds will be used to upgrade public, corporate and media facilities, with completion in time for the stadium to host matches as part of the T20 World Cup in 2020 and to host the First Test of the Ashes Series against England in November 2021.
- **\$41.4 million** to the 94km Wangetti Trail ecotourism walk from Palm Cove north to Port Douglas. The trail will become an iconic international ecotourism experience with direct economic benefits to regional Queensland and Traditional Owners.

- **\$4 million** over two years to secure blockbuster exhibitions that are exclusive to Brisbane.
- **\$3 million** over three years for the Premier's Outback Events Program to further grow the tourism industry by providing new opportunities to attract visitors and further drive the economy in Outback Queensland.
- **\$2 million** over two years to develop an options assessment for an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Centre to celebrate and showcase artistry and cultural heritage of Traditional Owners.
- **\$9 million** over three years to host the 2020 World Science Festival and extend the festival in Brisbane and regionally, building on the success of the 2019 event held in March which attracted more than 200,000 participants from across Australia and internationally.
- An additional **\$1.3 million** over four years to progress the nomination of Quandamooka Country on North Stradbroke Island (Minjerribah), as a World Heritage Area. The nomination will help to enhance ecotourism opportunities and preserve environmental values of the island. A successful application would make this area Queensland's sixth World Heritage-listed natural wonder.



Artists impression of the \$35 million Gabba upgrade

- **\$131.1 million** over five years to increase prize money and support viability initiatives in the thoroughbred, greyhound and harness racing codes.
- **\$17.6 million** to support country racing in Queensland, taking total funding to **\$70.4 million**.

## Exports breaking records

Despite the Queensland economy facing a range of challenges, including a weaker and uncertain global economy, as well as being hit with a series of natural disasters, the State continues to break export records.

Australian Bureau of Statistics data released in early June showed that Queensland exported **\$85.2 billion** worth of merchandise overseas in the 12 months to April 2019, a rise of **\$12 billion** over the previous 12 months – a new high.

This was the 13th consecutive record breaking month for Queensland merchandise exports.

The State's **\$85.2 billion** in exports (in nominal terms) in the year to April was more than the value of goods exported overseas from New South Wales and Victoria combined during the same period.

Queensland's exports have grown strongly over the past few years – rising from the **\$45.2 billion** worth of exports in the year to April 2015.

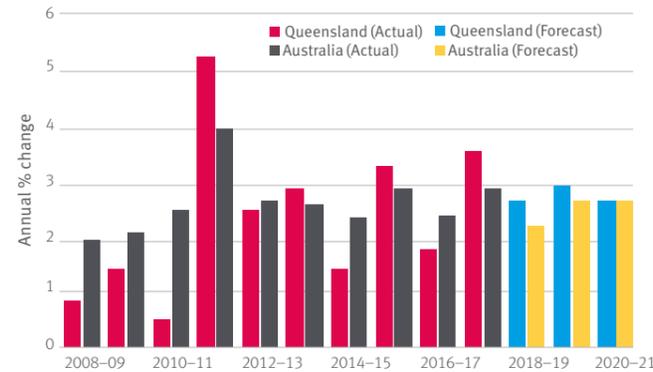
To remain competitive, especially in the face of changing global trading patterns and markets, the Government will work to ensure the best conditions and support are provided for our export industries so that they can continue to innovate along with the world economies we trade with.

Looking ahead, Queensland's overseas export volumes are expected to grow over the forecast period (refer to graph).

## Economic Overview

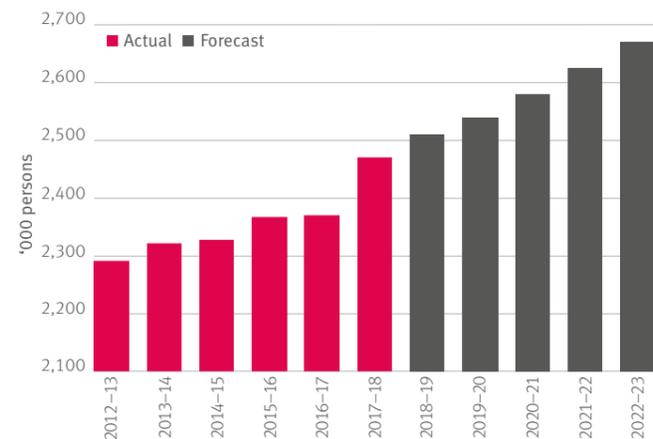
### Queensland economic growth

In a challenging and uncertain global environment, Queensland's economic growth is still forecast to exceed Australia's in 2018–19 and 2019–20.



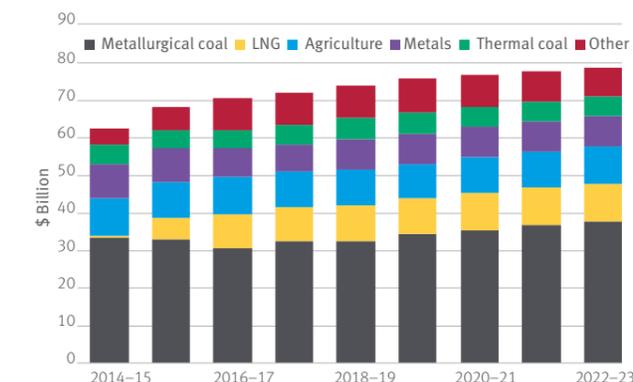
### Queensland employment growth

A record 97,700 jobs were created in 2017–18. Ongoing solid job growth in Queensland is forecast over the five years to 2022–23.



### Queensland's overseas goods exports

Sustained high prices have boosted coal and LNG export revenues. Queensland's overseas exports volumes are expected to grow over the forecast period.



## Fiscal Outlook

The 2019–20 Budget demonstrates the Government's commitment to supporting job creation, investing in the regions and delivering the infrastructure and frontline services Queensland needs, in a financially sustainable manner. The commitment to frontline services is apparent in the 56% of State operating expenditure that is being directed to health and education in 2019–20.

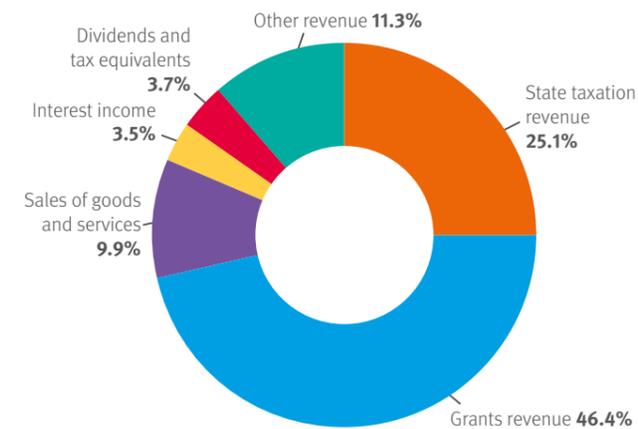
Net operating surpluses are projected in each year of the forward estimates. This is being achieved despite downward revisions to transfer duty revenue as well as a reduction in Queensland's share of GST revenue from the Australian Government.

The State is also facing the upfront cost of recovery efforts following the North and Far North Monsoon Trough event, which are estimated at around **\$1.3 billion**.

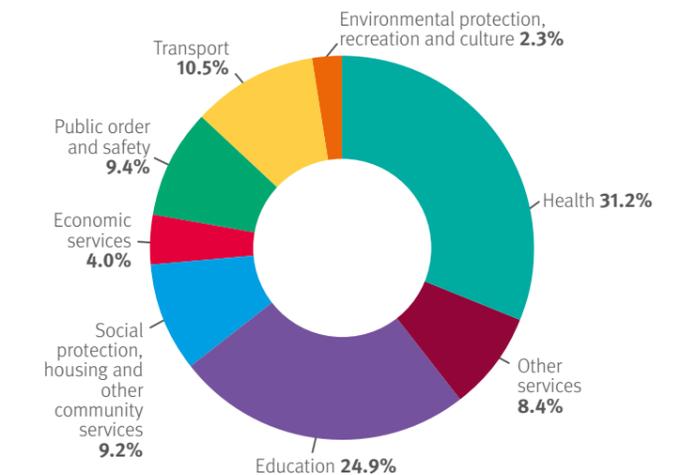
The size of the State's infrastructure investment program has increased in each year since 2015–16. The four year **\$49.5 billion** program incorporated into the 2019–20 Budget is being supported by a combination of operating cashflows and borrowings.

The Government's sustainable management of borrowings means that key measures of financial strength, such as the debt to revenue ratio, will remain significantly stronger across the forward estimates than they were in 2012–13.

### 2019–20 Revenue



### 2019–20 Expenses



# QUEENSLAND BUDGET 2019–20

