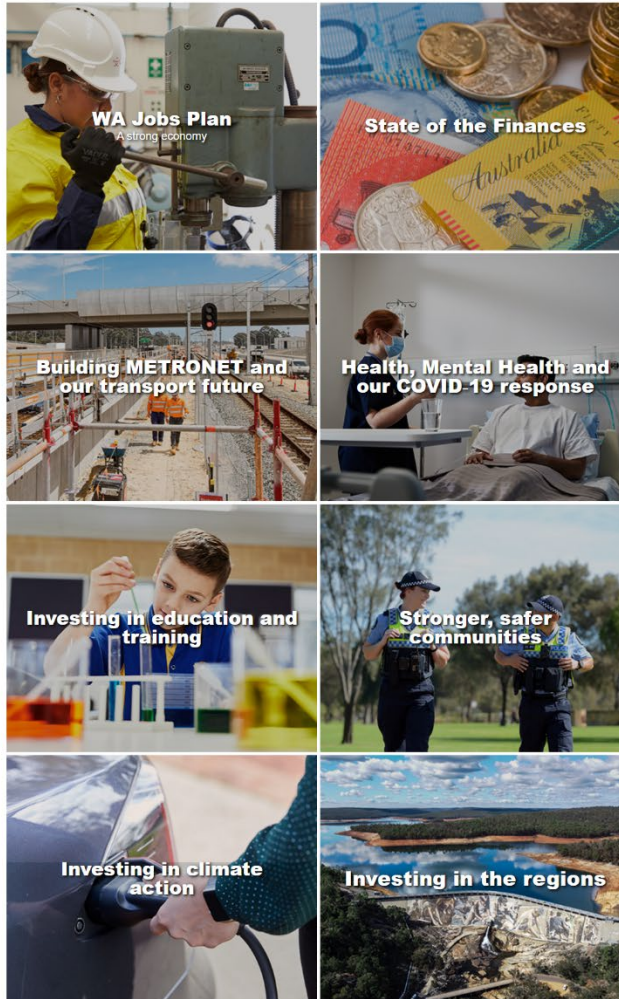




Your State Budget 2022-23



Page reviewed 12th May 2022

Acknowledgement of Country

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Home > [WA Jobs Plan](#)

WA Jobs Plan

A Strong Economy

Access the Fact Sheet to discover WA's strong economy and WA Jobs Plan.

WA's strong economy

State Budget confirms **the WA economy powers the nation**

WA's domestic economy has grown by 7.2% since the start of the pandemic. The strongest of all States

WA's strong economic and financial management has **reduced net debt in 2021-22 to a seven-year low**

At a glance

The 2022-23 State Budget confirms the WA economy powers the nation, with the Western Australia domestic economy growing by 7.2% over the two years of the pandemic, the strongest in the nation, and among the best performing in the world.

- The McGowan Labor Government's stable and responsible Budget management and safe handling of the pandemic has positioned Western Australia's economy and finances to be among the strongest in the world.
- WA's domestic economy has grown by 7.2% since the start of the pandemic, the strongest of all States and more than double the growth of the rest of the nation.
- WA is the only mainland State to record Gross State Product growth in 2019-20 and 2020-21 and contributed almost 40% of growth in the national economy over the two years.
- WA merchandise exports reached a record \$240 billion in 2021, accounting for more than half of Australia's exports.
- Western Australia's domestic economy is forecast to grow by 5.25% in 2021-22 and a further 4% in 2022-23, fuelled by household spending, business and government investment, and housing construction.
- Treasury forecasts that Gross State Product (which includes international trade) will grow by 3.75% in 2021-22 – the fastest rate of growth since 2013-14.
- The continued strength of WA's economy throughout the pandemic, including the uninterrupted operations of the resources sector, has provided valuable support to the national economy, resulting in billions in revenue flowing to the eastern States, including through company tax collections and the GST.
- WA's strong economic and financial management has reduced net debt in 2021-22 to a seven-year low.
- WA's strong surplus is being used to set up our State's long-term future, including another record health and mental health investment, supporting Western Australians with cost of living, climate action initiatives as well as record investment in infrastructure and a range of measures to diversify our economy and boost capacity.
- The McGowan's Government's Budget management is in stark contrast to the record deficits under the Liberals and Nationals.

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WA Jobs

WA's unemployment rate has declined to 3.4% in March 2022, the lowest in the nation and the lowest level in 13 years

81,000 additional jobs since February 2020, just before the COVID-19 pandemic began

WA's labour market participation rate is 70%. The highest participation on record for any State



Economic diversification

\$1.3 billion to further strengthen and diversify WA's economy to support sustainable, long-term growth

\$70 million boost to the tourism sector to attract more visitors, support local businesses and operators

\$180 million to support industry-led diversification proposals to create local jobs in new and emerging industries





State of the finances

Access the Fact Sheet to discover the State of the finances.

WA State Budget 2022-23

State of the Finances

WA's finances and economy are leading the nation

Net debt expected to decline for the third consecutive year. **Now below \$30 billion**

Record \$33.9 billion investment in infrastructure to build WA's roads and rail, hospitals and schools

At a glance

- The State Budget confirms Western Australia's economy and finances are leading the nation.
- The State's finances remain in a strong and stable position because of WA's safe handling of the pandemic, achieving the soft landing as planned, and keeping WA's economy open and strong.
- A strong operating surplus of \$5.7 billion is expected in 2021-22 and a \$1.6 billion surplus in 2022-23.
- Net debt to decline for a third straight year to be less than \$30 billion for the first time since 2015 and almost \$14 billion lower than projected when Labor came into Government.
- This has been achieved, despite committing over \$11.2 billion to COVID-19 response measures and a record \$33.9 billion Asset Investment Program.
- This Budget continues WA's responsible financial management, while helping Western Australians with the cost of living, responding to climate change and investing in our future to keep our economy powering ahead.
- Budget management is in stark contrast to the record deficits under Liberals and Nationals.

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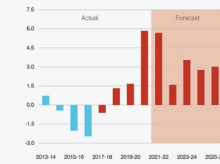
Strong Surplus & Debt Reduction

Net debt almost \$14 billion lower than projected under the previous Liberal-National Government

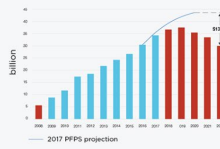
Saving \$2.5 billion in wasteful interest payments.

A strong operating surplus of \$5.7 billion is expected in 2021-22

General Government Operating Balance



Total Public Sector Net Debt



Key Budget Initiatives

Cost of living support for households with a **\$400 electricity credit** for every WA household

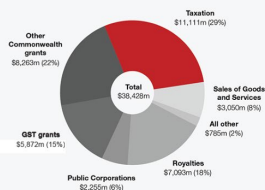
Record **\$2.5 billion** investment in the State's health and mental health systems

An additional **\$1.6 billion** to respond to COVID-19. Helping supporting frontline services, businesses and households

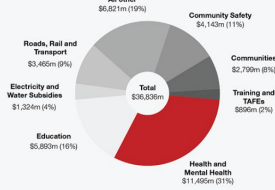


Where the money comes from and where it goes

2022-23 Revenue
General Government Sector



2022-23 Expenditure
General Government Sector





Home > METRONET and transport

Building METRONET and our Transport Future

Access the Fact Sheet to discover how this Budget is delivering a record investment in major transport projects.



**WA State Budget
2022-23**

Building METRONET and our transport future

- Record **\$6 billion** investment across METRONET
- \$9 billion** for major road projects and upgrades across WA
- \$1.7 billion** allocated to port projects
- Major **\$347 million** investment in pedestrian and cycling infrastructure




The McGowan Government is delivering landmark transport infrastructure right across Western Australia, creating an essential pipeline of work, local jobs and business opportunities – not to mention changing the way we get around our State.

From transformational public transport projects to essential port upgrades, building METRONET and our transport future strengthens and diversifies our State economy, while reducing the time stuck in traffic.

At a glance

The 2022-23 Budget contains substantial investments towards WA's economic future across all forms of transport.

This State Budget contains a multi-billion dollar transport investment. Since the last State Budget, more than 32 projects have been completed, which supported almost 3,400 jobs and apprenticeships for Western Australians.

From walking and cycling, to major international exports, the McGowan Labor Government's investment in transport continues to support WA's local workers and businesses, as well as our State's strong economic future, with:

- a record \$6 billion investment across METRONET, including two new projects;
- \$9 billion for major road projects and upgrades across WA;
- \$1.7 billion allocated to port projects; and
- a record \$347 million investment in pedestrian and cycling infrastructure.

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WA State Budget
2022-23

Record investment in **METRONET**

\$6 billion allocated for METRONET projects over the next four years

Funding for the new **Morrison Road Level Crossing Removal** in Midland

Investing in the **Canning Bridge Bus Interchange** relocation



WA State Budget
2022-23

Upgrading our roads

\$500 million to seal Tanami Road to the WA border

\$290 million for Thomas Road – South Western Highway to Tonkin Highway Dual Carriageway

\$250 million to deliver Stages 1 and 2 of the Pinjarra Heavy Haulage Deviation



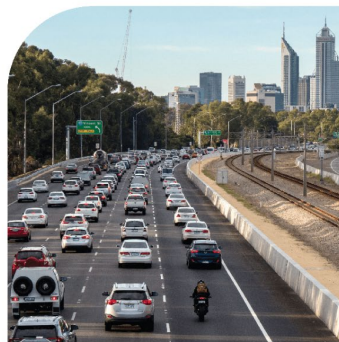
WA State Budget
2022-23

Investing in road safety

\$159 million additional funding for the Regional Road Safety Program

Funding allocated to the Safer Roads and Bridges program with **\$146 million** in regional WA and **\$16.2 million** in Perth and Peel

More than **\$118 million** from the Road Trauma Trust Account for a variety of road safety programs





Health, Mental Health and our COVID-19 response

Access the Fact Sheet to discover the investment in Health, Mental Health and COVID-19 response.

Record investment in health and mental health

- \$5.7 billion** invested in total in health and mental health since last Budget
- \$1.3 billion** of additional spending for WA Health on services and infrastructure
- \$995 million** for health-related spending in response to COVID-19
- \$181 million** boost for mental health services

The McGowan Labor Government is providing the biggest ever investment in the WA public health system, with a further record \$2.5 billion investment in health and mental health - towards significant targeted investments including measures to address emergency department pressures. This brings the total new investment to \$5.7 billion since the last budget.

Under the McGowan Government, WA Health's annual budget has grown from \$8.8 billion in 2016-17 to \$11.6 billion in 2021-22, a 30.9 per cent increase.

The 2022-23 State Budget features \$1.6 billion for WA's COVID-19 response in this budget, bringing investment to date to more than \$11.2 billion since the start of the pandemic, including \$1.7 billion towards business support.

At a glance

- \$1.6 billion in new COVID-19 response and recovery measures to keep WA safe,
- \$630 million in additional hospital services spending,
- \$252 million Emergency Department Reform Package with a suite of 17 initiatives,
- \$223 million new health infrastructure investment bringing total to \$1.6 billion, in addition to the \$1.8 billion new Women and Babies Hospital,
- \$181 million additional investments in mental health including \$47 million towards an immediate response to the Infants, Children and Adolescents Taskforce Report,
- \$158 million for health and mental health initiatives in WA's regions,
- Delivered 342 new beds with a total of 530 beds to be delivered by the end of the year, and
- Over the past two years to March 2022, the WA Health workforce has increased by 15.6 per cent, including an additional 1,456 nursing and 512 medical FTE (principally doctors).

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WA State Budget
2022-23

Boost to WA's COVID-19 response and recovery

Additional **\$1.6 billion** committed to pandemic response and recovery initiatives, which includes:

\$635 million to secure Rapid Antigen Tests and run the WA Free RAT Program

\$537 million for COVID-19 testing and monitoring, medical equipment, contact tracing, hotel quarantine and the vaccination roll out



WA State Budget
2022-23

Delivering the Emergency Department Reform Package

\$55.8 million to embed 24/7 registered nurses across 15 metropolitan and regional ED waiting rooms

\$74.1 million for innovative measures to free up our emergency departments

Total investment of **\$251.7 million** to improve access to emergency care and address the systemic causes of ambulance ramping



WA State Budget
2022-23

Investing in hospital infrastructure

\$1.8 billion allocated for new women and babies hospital

Additional **\$223.4 million** for health infrastructure projects

\$16.7 million for intensive care unit upgrades at Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital





Ongoing support for
**mental health,
alcohol and other
drug services**

Record \$1.3 billion for mental health, alcohol and other drug services, an almost 13 per cent increase since last Budget

\$18.5 million to expand the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service

\$3.5 million to support the development of a pilot alcohol-related violence prevention program at RPH ED





Investing in education and training

Access the Fact Sheet to discover the investment in education and training.

WA State Budget 2022-23

Investing in education and training

\$5.9 billion for WA schools

\$76.5 million boost to training to build a skilled workforce for the future

The McGowan Labor Government continues to invest in Western Australian schools to ensure all students, regardless of where they live, have the best possible opportunities to learn.

We are delivering on this by investing in high-quality infrastructure, increasing support for students with disabilities and additional learning needs and boosting the overall education budget for the benefit of all students.

This year's budget focuses on providing students with the best possible learning experiences to prepare Western Australians for the jobs of the future.

At a glance

The McGowan Government is increasing funding for WA education in the 2022-23 State Budget – delivering a total of almost \$6 billion for Western Australian schools. This includes new schools and facilities, support for students with disabilities and additional learning needs and keeping schools open and safe during the pandemic.

Our strong budget management provides the capacity to invest in a fair education system. In this year's State Budget, WA students will benefit from:

- \$595 million to be invested in new and upgraded school facilities in 2022-23;
- \$54.6 million increase in support for students with disabilities and additional learning needs;
- \$42.5 million for COVID-19 measures in schools, in line with health advice;
- \$2.5 million to support phonics skill development for Year 1 students; and
- \$263.7 million funding increase for delivery of education this financial year.

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Investing in classroom learning

\$5.9 billion for WA schools

\$595 million for new and upgraded school facilities

\$54.6 million increase in support for students with disabilities and additional learning needs



Expanding our skilled workforce

\$76.5 million boost to training to build a skilled workforce for the future

\$38.4 million additional funding for *Lower fees, local skills* initiative

\$14.3 million to support training in WA's in-demand construction industry





Stronger, safer communities

Access the Fact Sheet to discover the investment to build strong, safe and fair communities.

WA State Budget 2022-23

Building strong, safe communities

- \$34.4 million** for family and domestic violence prevention and support measures
- \$114 million** to boost child protection and support services to help keep Western Australian children safe

At a glance

The McGowan Labor Government is using its strong budget position to invest in local and regional initiatives that support safe, strong and fair communities - no matter where you live.

The 2022-23 State Budget significantly invests in community safety and wellbeing with more funding for community service providers to support our most vulnerable and additional funding to enhance community safety, reduce family and domestic violence and support justice services.

The 2022-23 State Budget includes:

- \$408 million of additional funding towards housing and homelessness measures;
- \$160.1 million in new funding for community service providers and not-for-profits;
- \$106 million of additional funding to enhance policing and community safety;
- \$95.7 million funding boost to support Western Australians with disability;
- \$67 million increase for emergency services to keep Western Australians safe;
- \$40.4 million Kimberley Youth and Community Justice Response;
- \$34.4 million has been allocated to a range of family and domestic violence prevention and support measures;
- \$114 million to boost child protection and support services to help keep Western Australian children safe, and
- \$11.1m to expand the Target 120 program from 11 to 20 locations across WA.

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Enhancing community safety

\$106 million to enhance policing and community safety

\$67 million for emergency services to keep Western Australians safe

\$40.4 million to support young people and reduce youth crime in the Kimberley

\$11.1 million to expand the Target 120 program from 11 to 20 locations across WA



Support for fair and thriving communities

\$408 million for housing and homelessness measures

\$160.1 million in new funding for community service providers and not-for-profits

\$95.7 million to support people living with disability in Western Australia





Home > [Climate action](#)

Investing in climate action

Access the Fact Sheet to discover how this budget invests in sustainable WA jobs and industry innovation, while protecting and enhancing the State's unique environmental heritage values and assets, supporting our transition to net zero by 2050.

Investing in climate action

- \$500 million** boost to Climate Action Fund, taking the fund total to \$1.25 billion
- \$62 million** to power Rottnest Island with 75 per cent renewables
- Almost \$60 million** to accelerate the use of electric and hydrogen vehicles

At a glance

The McGowan Labor Government is committed to responding to climate change and setting up WA for a prosperous low-carbon future. This budget invests in sustainable WA jobs and industry innovation, while protecting and enhancing the State's unique environmental heritage values and assets, supporting our transition to net zero by 2050.

Our strong budget management gives us the capacity to deliver more funding to support new and exciting initiatives that will protect our environment, including:

- \$500 million boost to Climate Action Fund taking the total to \$1.25 billion;
- Almost \$60 million to accelerate the use of zero emission vehicles;
- \$62 million to power Rottnest Island with 75 per cent renewables and upgrade water assets;
- \$31 million for climate action research and planning; and
- \$30 million boost to Just Transition Plan to support the end of native logging in 2024.

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Accelerating electric vehicle use

\$36.5 million to fund rebates for Western Australians that buy a new electric or hydrogen fuel cell vehicle

\$22.6 million for new charging infrastructure to expand WA's electric vehicle charging network



Investing in our low-carbon future

\$31 million for climate action research and planning, including:

Implementing strategies to reduce emissions and transition the agriculture, freight and regional heavy transport industries to net zero

Developing a Carbon Farming Industry Development Plan





Regional Areas

Enter your location to find your regional fact sheet:

Or select your region:

[Great Southern >](#)

[Peel >](#)

[Gascoyne >](#)

[Pilbara >](#)

[Goldfields-Esperance >](#)

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