



# Australian Population Association

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## Australia's Health 2004

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### Abstract

Every two years, the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare delivers a report card on the health of Australians and the system that manages, supports and improves its level. The report also provides insights into trends and population differentials, and compares Australia with other developed countries.

International comparisons show that Australians enjoy good health and that the underlying trends are broadly in step with improvements occurring in other developed countries. However, significant inter-population differences in health outcomes persist within Australia. An ageing population combined with increasing morbidity and disability in later years of life will necessitate provision of ample health care services in future.

Does the Australia's Health 2004 report card provide sufficient insight into what will happen to the health of Australians in coming years? Are the current time series sufficiently robust to allow us to monitor current and project future trends? The presentation will seek to focus on anticipated improvements in population health such as reduced severity and reduced impact of chronic diseases.

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