

NSW BUDGET 2026-27



Overview: Supporting families, securing our future





Regeneration

A long time ago in this place we know now as New South Wales, this place was known by many names. The names known by the people who tended the land and nurtured it as it nurtured them.

A great storm came. The wind whipped across the land. It stripped the trees of their seeds, throwing them into the air. Then came the rain, drumming across the land. It hurled the seeds to the ground. And still down came the rain. It flooded the land, until there was nothing but water. And the seeds tossing in the turbulent water.

Slowly, the storm subsided. The wind quieted. The rain gentled to a fine mist, burned away by the sun. In time, the seeds began to germinate in the water. In time, the seeds regrew the land. They regrew the bush flowers and the trees.

They regrew the people of New South Wales. The seeds regenerated the land and the people. The people who will walk together, hand-in-hand, to nurture the land as it nurtures them, to heal the land and the people affected by the storm, and to build a future where all the people who call this place New South Wales can prosper.

– Josie Rose | Gumbaynggirr Nation



Regeneration (2020)

Josie Rose is a Gumbaynggirr woman who expresses her contemporary Gumbaynggirr cultural heritage through art. For *Regeneration* her chosen medium is acrylic paint on canvas and the design embodies both creative and cultural expression. The inspiration for her artworks comes from a deep place of spiritual connection to her family, community, culture and respect for Mother Earth. Gumbaynggirr Country, on the Mid North Coast, is beautiful land with both freshwater and saltwater waterways which inspire her holistic connection to the Ancestors.

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are the First Peoples and Traditional Custodians of Australia, and the oldest continuing cultures in human history.

We pay respect to Elders past and present, and commit to respecting the lands we walk on and the communities we walk with.

We celebrate the deep and enduring connection of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to Country, and acknowledge their continuing custodianship of the land, seas and sky.

We acknowledge the ongoing stewardship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, and the important contribution they make to our communities and economies.

We reflect on the continuing impact of government policies and practices, and recognise our responsibility to work together with and for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, families and communities, towards improved economic, social and cultural outcomes.

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Foreword



Building a NSW where everyone can thrive

This Budget is about building a state working Australians can afford. One where we deliver on people's priorities through relief and reform.

In Budgets one, two, and three, we rebalanced public finances, and made major investments in housing, health, and education to begin rebuilding the public services people rely on. We also made hard decisions that curbed expense growth, stabilised debt and meant we now have billions more to invest in NSW's essential workers and services.

Now in our fourth Budget, despite NSW having experienced the greatest energy shock in half a century, we build on the progress we've made so far. Our investments in this Budget secure NSW's path to long-term growth and mean we are ready to meet the challenges of the future.

We are making record investment in public hospitals, so people can get the care they need close to home.

We are providing relief for the immediate cost-of-living pressures working families are facing today.

We are building a high-wage economy, which is vital for working families at a time of high interest rates.

To make sure every child gets the best start in life, we are delivering new and upgraded schools where they are needed most, and providing quality supports to children with additional developmental needs earlier in their developmental journey – when these supports matter most.

By investing heavily in the net zero transition, we are securing NSW's energy security and building our economy's future resilience while delivering thousands of new jobs.



Through our infrastructure program, we are building the roads, rail and homes that are needed for communities to be liveable and well-connected, and to support economic participation and opportunity.

Our strategy is working. NSW is experiencing an investment boom as private investment increases with the rise of renewable energy and AI-related infrastructure. This boosts our productivity and is a key reason why the NSW economy is growing.

We are determined to make sure NSW remains the premier state to raise a family, get an education, start a business, make a contribution, where hard work pays off.

We are building a NSW where everyone can thrive.

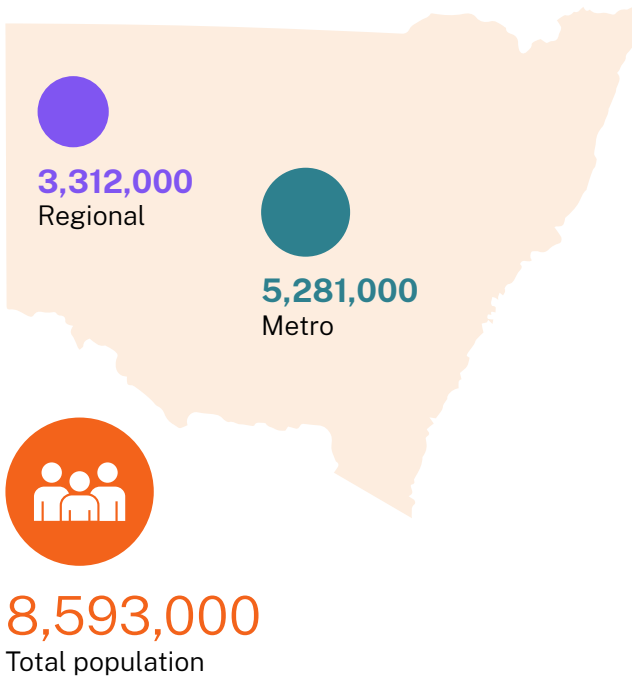
A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke.

The Hon Daniel Mookhey MLC
NSW Treasurer

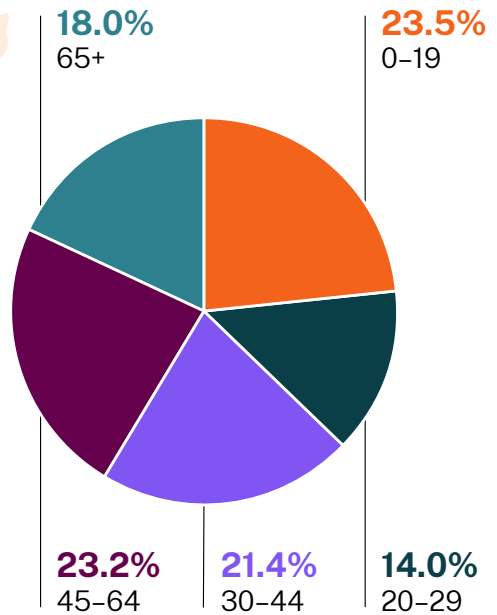
NSW snapshot



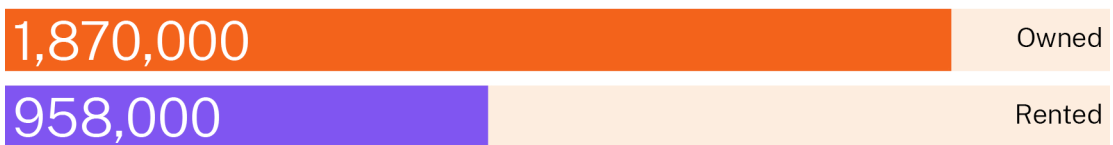
Population by area



Population by age

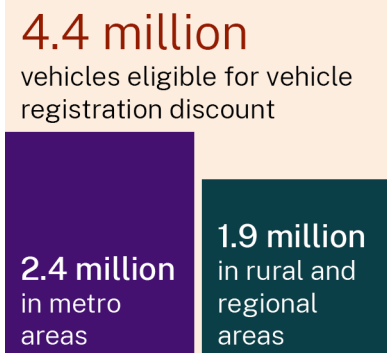


Share of occupied dwellings



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2021 Census

Fuel crisis



EV sales have increased from 3.3% of new light vehicle sales in 2022 to 13.2% as of April 2026



4.2 million monthly Opal customers



5,547 public electric vehicle charging ports

Data across this snapshot reflects the most recent 12-month period available. Time periods may vary.

Health



228
public hospitals

1.2 million
incidents responded
to by NSW Ambulance

253
ambulance stations

↑ 70,895
nurses, an increase
of 6,556 since 2023

↑ 6,310
paramedics, an increase
of 986 since 2023

Emergency services



335
Fire and Rescue NSW
fire stations

7,066
Fire and Rescue NSW
firefighters

499
Fire and Rescue NSW
community fire units

4,617
Fire and Rescue NSW
community fire unit volunteers

1,999
NSW Rural Fire Service
brigades

69,013
NSW Rural Fire Service
volunteers

262
SES units in NSW

10,910
SES volunteers in NSW

Police



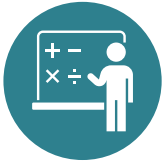
15,748
police officers

398
operational police stations

1,500,804
incidents attended

1,004
new police graduates

Education



2,216

public schools
and preschools

↑ 86,512

teachers, an increase
of 2,263 since 2023

778,403

public school and
preschool students

↑ 42,054

educational support staff,
an increase of 2,098 since 2023

Transport



22,929

train services per week

50,000+

bus services per week

23

train and metro lines

55

8-car Tangara set upgrades

600,000

daily train users

400,000

daily bus users

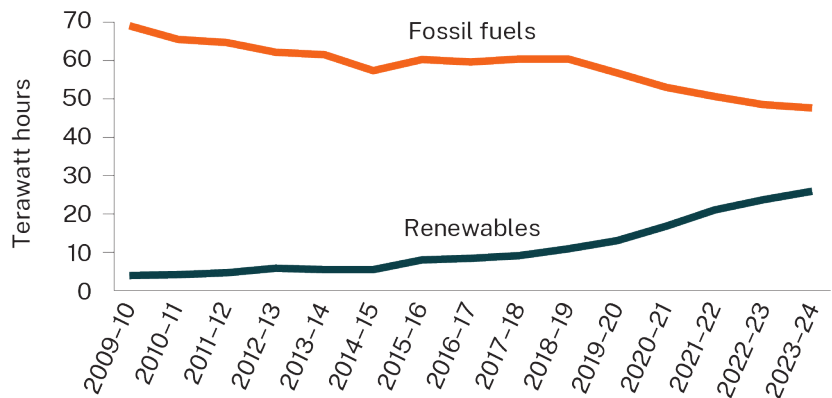
Energy



\$211 per year

potential savings in power bills under latest default market offer

Total NSW electricity generation



Sources: Australian Government, NSW Government

Relief now and reform for the future

1



Help now with the cost of living

Cost-of-living pressures remain the central challenge for households. Global conflict, supply-chain disruption and an energy shock have added fresh pressure since the start of the year.

Higher fuel costs are the most acute of these. They feed through to the price of transport, groceries and running a business, and they fall hardest on the families and tradespeople who have no choice but to drive.

This Budget delivers targeted relief to help households manage that cost: a 12-month Transport Affordability Package totalling **\$561.4 million**, putting money back in people's pockets where the pressure is greatest.



Cost-of-living relief in this Budget:

- \$100 off private vehicle registration.
- Reducing the weekly toll cap to \$50.
- Freezing Opal fares at 2025 prices.
- Helping households install energy-saving technology, through interest-free loans up to \$15,000 and other discounts.
- A \$1,000 cost-of-living payment for more than 120,000 NSW Government employees.
- Continued support for first home buyers, averaging more than \$20,400.
- Extending the 3-Year-Old Fee Relief in Long Day Care to the end of 2027.

Long-term reform to make NSW more secure

Relief today is matched by the work of rebuilding the essential services families rely on, and investing in a stronger economy for the future.

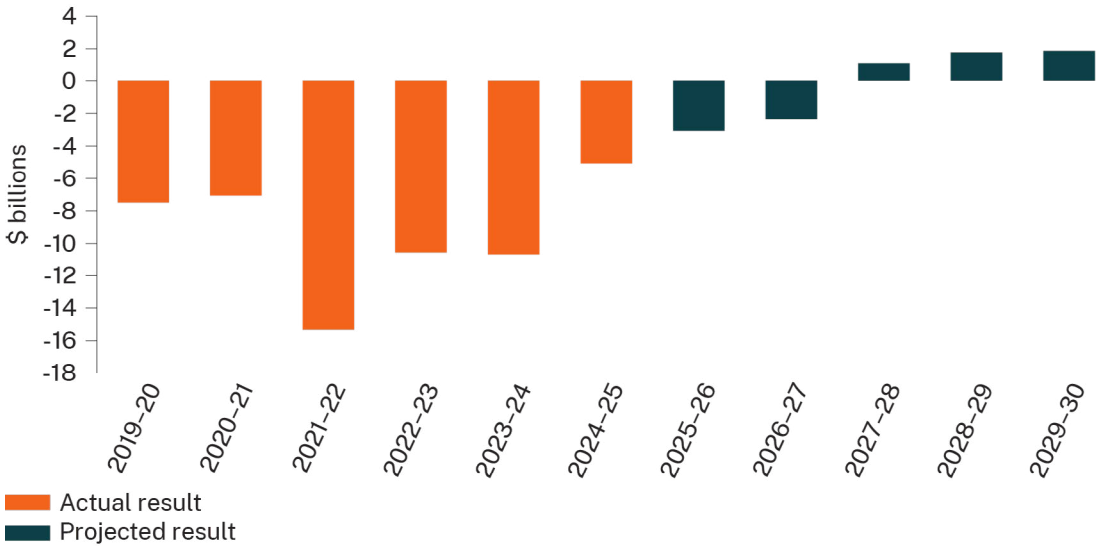


Health is the largest single commitment in this Budget: a historic \$10.3 billion increase in funding over four years, recruiting 9,000 more health workers, and an \$11.9 billion hospital building program delivering 32 new and upgraded hospitals, and 2,500 more beds and treatment spaces.

We are also investing in the schools, transport and secure work that build long-term prosperity:

- \$9.2 billion for more than 260 new and upgraded schools.
- \$6.5 billion to deliver thousands of electric buses and electric bus depots cutting our reliance on imported fuel and underpinning a revival of domestic bus manufacturing.
- Up to \$77 billion in private investment unlocked through the Electricity Infrastructure Roadmap, securing cheaper, cleaner power and 11,400 regional jobs over 10 years.
- \$5.2 billion across four major water infrastructure projects to unlock housing across Western Sydney.
- A 50 per cent funding increase across six frontline domestic and family violence programs, supporting victim-survivors.
- Continuing the biggest planning reforms in over 50 years, supported by a statewide \$116.7 billion infrastructure program upgrading the roads, rail and energy NSW needs.

Budget result from 2019–20 to 2029–30



Relief built for the road ahead

Since December last year, the global picture has become increasingly volatile and uncertain. The escalation of conflict in the Middle East in late February drove fuel prices sharply higher, and NSW Treasury estimates it will lower growth in gross state product by 0.2 per cent in 2026–27. These effects have coincided with the Reserve Bank of Australia’s three interest rate increases over the same period. Higher borrowing costs bite harder in NSW because our mortgages are larger.

The relief in this Budget is designed for the months ahead of us. NSW Treasury’s baseline assumes oil prices will stay elevated until at least September. Even after the immediate end of the conflict, NSW Treasury forecasts the damage already done to energy infrastructure means global supply shortages and their effects will persist throughout 2026 and potentially beyond. Persistently high fuel prices will continue dampening demand, and lifting costs for households and businesses through that period – the same period this package is designed to provide relief.

Putting household budgets first

Each year since 2023–24 the budget result has improved. This government’s spending restraint has brought it back towards balance after the \$15.3 billion COVID-19 deficit and the \$10.6 billion post-COVID-19 splurge the former government ran between 2021–22 and 2022–23.

After stepping up support for households this year, the state is projected to record a \$2.3 billion deficit in 2026–27, before returning to a \$1.1 billion surplus in 2027–28 and surpluses in the two years after. That return holds despite the fuel shock, underpinned by our disciplined expense growth: 1.8 per cent in 2024–25, and held to an average 2.7 per cent between 2025–26 and 2029–30.

In a year like this one, families’ budgets come before the state’s. We can offer relief today precisely because of the resilience we have built through three years of budget repair. We will continue to build that resilience in the years to come, so that we can respond to the conditions of tomorrow.

Debt down \$9.7 billion

As promised, gross debt is almost \$10 billion lower than the former government planned. By June 2026, gross debt will be \$178.5 billion. This is \$9.7 billion below the \$188.2 billion projected at the 2023 Pre-election Budget Update (PEBU), saving around \$400 million a year in interest expenses, money we are putting into essential workers and services.

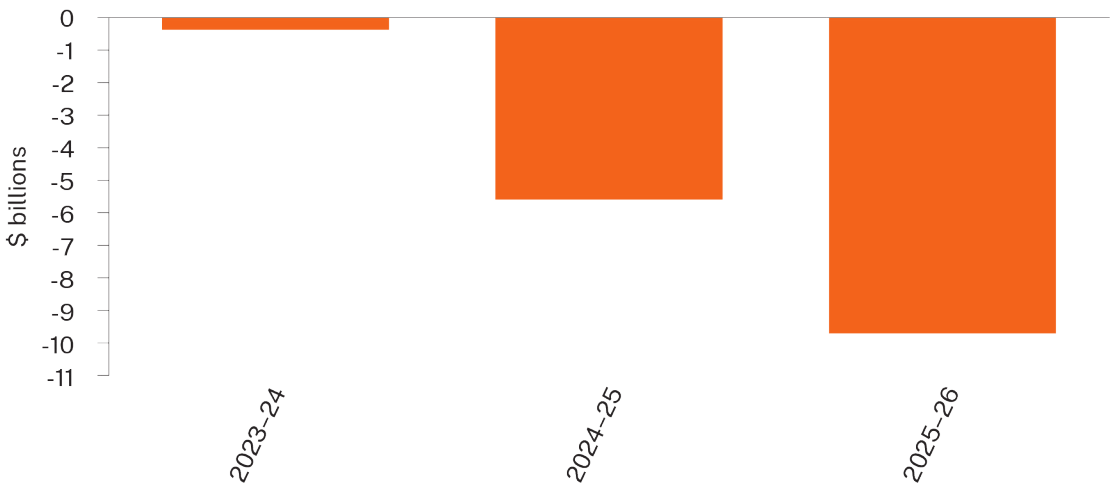
This has been achieved while the state's infrastructure program maintains significant levels of investment, while moderating debt and avoiding increasing costs for households through privatisation. Infrastructure investment is expected to exceed \$30 billion in 2026–27 – equating to average expenditure of \$82.7 million a day – on the roads, schools, hospitals, water infrastructure and public transport for today while preparing for the housing and jobs needed for tomorrow. The government's responsible budget management means the state's infrastructure investment, 83 per cent debt funded in the 2022–23 Budget, will be 53 per cent debt funded by the end of the forward estimates.



\$9.7 billion

lower than debt forecast at the 2023 Pre-election Budget Update

Gross debt by June 2026 is \$9.7 billion lower than forecast at 2023 PEBU



■ Gross debt change compared to 2023 Pre-election Budget Update forecast

Source: 2026–27 NSW Budget papers

Budget highlights

2



\$100
off rego

\$50
toll cap

2025
priced Opal fares

as part of a 12-month Transport Affordability Package, totalling **\$561.4 million**



\$10.3 billion

to increase health services – including higher wages, 9,000 extra health workers and 2,900 extra surgeries each year



\$9.2 billion

to help deliver more than 260 new and upgraded schools and co-located early learning, with more than a quarter in regional NSW



50% increase

in frontline domestic and family violence services funded by **\$184.1 million**



\$6.5 billion

to deliver thousands of new electric buses and electric bus depots



\$3.5 billion

additional funding for transport infrastructure and roads for Western Sydney



\$20,400

the average support received by 94,000 first home buyers since 2023, with around 30,000 more likely to benefit in 2026–27



\$557.1 million

for households to access energy-saving technologies, including \$480.0 million in interest-free loans and \$77.1 million in discounts



Building a better NSW

3



Health

3.1



Health and hospitals

Patients across NSW will benefit from a historic **\$10.3 billion** increase in health funding, delivered with the Australian Government, to grow the health workforce, expand hospital capacity and meet rising demand. This investment will deliver:

- **9,000** more health workers
- capacity for an extra **33,000** emergency department presentations each year
- **2,900** extra planned surgeries each year
- **\$20.4 million** over four years for post-operative care for children with cochlear implants.

Health workforce

- The largest pay increase for nurses and midwives in more than two decades with a further **\$2.9 billion** for higher wages and improved conditions.
- A **\$147.5 million** boost to the high cost, highly specialised therapy program.
- More flexible staffing across the health system through **\$26.5 million** for the NSW Health Locum Agency.

A **future of healthcare** package will reduce pressure on clinicians, improve patient flow and scale health innovations, including:

Delivered



Accessible healthcare

- GP prescribing for ADHD medications to enable earlier diagnosis and ongoing care closer to home, reducing specialist wait times and travel burdens for families across the state.
- Eligible pharmacists can now prescribe the oral contraceptive pill, and treat UTIs and selected skin conditions, reducing pressure on GPs and hospitals.
- Payroll tax changes supporting GP services to sustain bulk billing and improve access to primary care.

- **\$38.7 million** to implement AI scribe technology for 6,000 clinicians.
- **\$35.7 million** for an Aged Care Reform package to free up beds across the state.

Health infrastructure

The Budget continues investment in new and upgraded hospitals across the state.

- **\$11.9 billion** in capital investment over four years, delivering 32 new and upgraded hospitals, and 2,500 additional hospital beds and treatment spaces.
- **\$400.0 million** for critical hospital maintenance.

Mental health

- Critical mental health and suicide prevention services maintained statewide worth **\$64.8 million**, in partnership with the Australian Government.
- Immediate crisis support through Lifeline services funded with **\$43.3 million**.
- Stronger mental health peak bodies and community-managed services with **\$4.3 million**, to support consumer, carer and community voices.

Regional health

- Additional **\$67.4 million** to continue delivering three new helicopter bases.
- **\$9.9 million** for robotic surgery research and capability at Orange Health Service.
- **\$1.0 million** to plan for future paediatric oncology services in Hunter New England and the North Coast.
- **\$71.7 million** for Isolated Patients Travel and Accommodation Assistance.
- New maternity unit at Grafton Hospital worth **\$20.0 million**.

Ending privatisation



Northern Beaches Hospital is now publicly owned, with all 494 beds and more than 1,800 staff transferred to NSW Health.

Education

3.2



New and upgraded schools

Students and parents will benefit from new and upgraded schools funded by the NSW Government in this Budget.

- Statewide, **\$9.2 billion** will support the delivery of new and upgraded schools in priority growth areas and precincts.
- In Western Sydney, **\$4.1 billion** will be invested in school infrastructure projects, including 12 additional new schools and major school upgrades.
- In regional NSW, investments in new and upgraded schools will be worth more than **\$2.3 billion**.

To thrive tomorrow, our school-age children need the high-quality, fit-for-purpose schools and public education we have funded in this Budget.

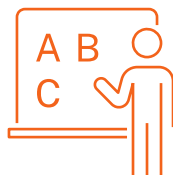
Early learning, supporting parents and children

Younger children and their parents will benefit from:

- Extending the 3-Year-Old Fee Relief in Long Day Care to the end of 2027 for **\$42.6 million**.
- Co-located public early learning at a further 17 public schools – bringing the total to 25, on top of the existing promise to deliver 100 public preschools by 2027.

TAFE and skills

The Budget is helping people get ahead and into great jobs with an investment of **\$3.4 billion** in skills and TAFE. We are also continuing to rebuild TAFE with a **\$233.2 million** capital investment in campus upgrades, maintenance and revitalisation.



Delivered



- 10 school upgrades in the past 12 months and 60 since March 2023.
- 98 school upgrades underway or about to commence.
- Two preschools opened – Gulyangarri in 2024 and Blackett in 2026.

Apprenticeships

- The Fresh Start for Local Government Apprentices, Trainees and Cadets program currently has 988 employed participants with 35 completions from traineeships and cadetships, with a 41 per cent increase in total council apprentices, trainees and cadets over the 12 months to 30 June 2025.
- Successfully delivered on our commitment to hire 1,000 NSW Government apprentices and trainees – more than 50 per cent of these roles have been in regional communities.
- Western Sydney and Blue Mountains have recorded the largest increase with 270 additional apprentices and trainees. Among regional areas, Hunter and Central Coast recorded 114 additional apprentices and trainees, followed by 110 in the North Coast and Mid North Coast, 109 in Western NSW and 96 in the Riverina.

25,000

teachers and support staff made permanent since 2023

3,300

TAFE teachers made permanent since 2023

71%

reduction in teacher vacancies

50%

reduction in merged and cancelled classes

Transport and roads

3.3



Relief for motorists and commuters

As global uncertainty puts upward pressure on fuel prices, the NSW Government is delivering practical relief to help families with the everyday cost of getting around.

The Transport Affordability Package helps people with unavoidable daily costs, whether they drive to work, use toll roads or rely on public transport.

For the next 12 months people will benefit from:

- \$100 off car registration
- lowering the toll cap to \$50 a week
- freezing Opal fares at 2025 prices.

And **\$2.6 million** will upgrade FuelCheck and enforce accurate fuel price reporting.

Lower public transport fares and tolls are part of the NSW Government's effort to put downward pressure on inflation.

Building for the long term

The government is continuing to invest in the roads and public transport needed to make NSW more resilient, connected and productive for decades to come.

Parramatta Light Rail

- New light rail services in Western Sydney with **\$2.4 billion** of new investment for Parramatta Light Rail stage 2.

Electric buses

- The government will deliver thousands of new electric buses to reduce our reliance on foreign fuels, meet the needs of the growing community and provide a cleaner, greener way to travel. The New Electric Bus program will support domestic manufacturing by providing pipeline certainty with **\$6.5 billion** to build new electric buses and electric bus depots over 10 years.

Safety

- Improved road safety across NSW through an additional investment of **\$212.5 million**.

Better connections

- A new Bankstown bus interchange to support thousands of new homes, and improve connectivity to the Sydney Metro and Bankstown Hospital for **\$46.5 million**.
- **\$400.0 million** in partnership with the Australian Government for Windsor Road upgrades at Rouse Hill to improve capacity, reduce congestion and ensure safe access to the new Rouse Hill Hospital.
- An additional **\$400.0 million** for the Fifteenth Avenue upgrade and **\$200.0 million** for the Elizabeth Drive upgrade, bringing total NSW investment to **\$1.4 billion** in a **\$2.4 billion** project funded with the Australian Government.
- More wheelchair accessible taxis supported by **\$15.0 million**.

Rail reliability

- Record annual investment in heavy rail maintenance of **\$2.1 billion** for signalling, systems, maintenance and station upgrades.
- **\$121.6 million** to strengthen incident response and service recovery across the Sydney Trains network by expanding the Rail Operations Centre and establishing rapid incident response teams.

Regional corridor upgrades

Supporting regional economic development and the net zero transition through **\$291.4 million** in 2026–27. Upgrades will make roads safer and more efficient, improve connectivity, freight and productivity, and support the transportation of oversize components to renewable energy zones (REZ), including:

- **\$120.0 million** for Euston to Tocumwal, supporting the South West REZ.
- **\$8.1 million** for Muswellbrook to Armidale (Phase 1), supporting New England REZ.
- **\$145.3 million** for Newcastle to Dubbo (Phase 2), supporting the Central West Orana REZ.
- **\$18.0 million** for Muswellbrook to Armidale (Phase 2), supporting the New England REZ.

Housing and planning

3.4



The Minns government is turning around the housing pipeline after years of decline under the former government.

Through the biggest planning reforms in over 50 years, record investment in social housing and creation of the Housing Delivery Authority, this government is delivering a long-term plan for more homes – faster and in well-connected communities close to essential services.

Major projects

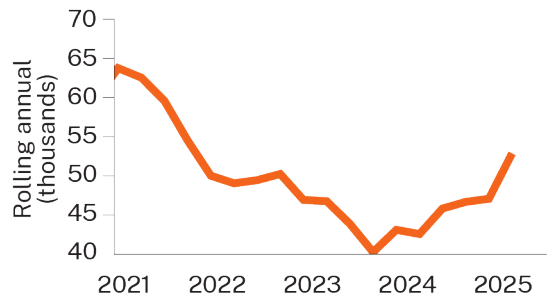
- **\$5.2 billion** across four major water infrastructure projects to unlock housing across Western Sydney.
- An initial investment of **\$31.1 million** to support delivery of up to 8,500 new homes in **Bays West**.
- An EOI to establish a **Modern Methods of Construction** facility – an advanced construction manufacturing facility that will scale prefabrication, automate processes, reduce build costs, accelerate delivery of high-quality homes and improve sustainability.

Delivered



- More than 94,000 first home buyers have saved an average **\$20,400** each under reforms this government introduced in July 2023.
- 876,500 completed work orders to repair and maintain social homes from 2023 to 2025.
- 1,534 new and replacement social homes have been built under the Building Homes for NSW program.
- Stronger renter protections for more than 2.3 million renters, including no-grounds eviction reform, fee-free ways to pay rent, limits on rent increases and easier pet approvals.
- Smart Rental Bonds from mid-2026, allowing tenants to digitally transfer a bond from one lease to another.

New housing commencements in NSW



Even faster approvals

- **\$32.3 million** to fund:
 - an improved building approvals system for the NSW Planning Portal
 - a Modern Methods of Construction Regulatory Framework to decrease cost of construction
 - pilots of enhanced dispute resolution and trialling AI to streamline licensing.
- Expansion of the **\$1.0 billion** Pre-Sale Finance Guarantee, with an extra **\$80.0 million** to underwrite community housing provider projects. This will speed up the start of residential and community housing development projects with approved finance in the National Housing Accord period.
- **\$52.1 million** for the creation of the Development Coordination Authority to deliver and coordinate cross-agency advice as the key point of contact for NSW planning matters.
- **\$24.9 million** to improve the planning system and support housing delivery.
- Faster planning and housing decisions through **\$8.7 million** to maintain Land and Environment Court capacity.

Helping with homelessness

- **\$39.0 million** for the Temporary Accommodation program which provides short-term emergency accommodation for people experiencing or at risk of rough sleeping or homelessness, or who cannot safely remain in their home.
- **\$4.5 million** to support three North Coast homelessness service centres.

Businesses and jobs

3.5



Alongside cost-of-living relief for households, the NSW Government is supporting businesses today while investing in the industries, jobs and skills that will drive long-term economic growth.

Supporting business today

- The government has legislated workers compensation reforms, including a two-year premium rate freeze, avoiding **\$4.1 billion** of forecast insurance cost growth. This helps the 340,000 employers covered by the insurer.
- Support for businesses affected by the Great Western Highway closure through a **\$3.6 million** assistance package, including grants, concierge services and tourism support.
- Quicker and more efficient resolution of workplace disputes with **\$20.8 million** for the Industrial Relations Commission.

Investing in future industries and jobs

- Up to **\$77 billion** in private investment supported through the Electricity Infrastructure Roadmap, supporting thousands of construction and ongoing jobs across regional NSW.
- Local manufacturing jobs through **\$225.0 million** to produce the materials and products needed by emerging low-carbon industries.
- Faster delivery of investment projects with **\$2.9 million** for targeted Investment Delivery Authority rounds and regulatory support.
- A **\$37.0 million** small business advisory program to succeed Business Connect.

Electric buses

The NSW Government will invest in thousands of new buses to reduce our reliance on foreign fuels, meet the needs of the growing community and underpin a revival in domestic manufacturing. The New Electric Bus program will support domestic manufacturing in NSW by providing certainty with **\$6.5 billion** to build new electric buses and electric bus depots over 10 years.

Local Jobs First Commission

For the first time in NSW, a new Local Jobs First Commission will support the government to prioritise local workers and businesses in government procurement, backed by **\$6.4 million** in funding.

TAFE

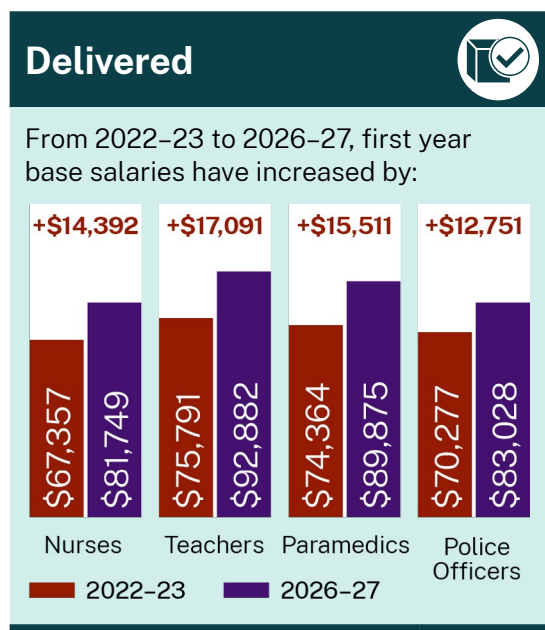
An investment of **\$31.9 million**, with the Australian Government, to continue works to establish three TAFE Manufacturing Centres of Excellence.

Rebuilding essential services and a high-wage economy

A strong economy depends on attracting, retaining and rewarding the workers who deliver essential services.

- A **\$1,000** cost-of-living payment will be provided for more than 120,000 NSW Government employees, because annual growth in the Sydney consumer price index exceeded 4 per cent between the March quarter 2025 and 2026.
- Record pay increases are helping attract and retain frontline workers after a decade of wage caps.

Real wages have grown on average since March 2023, after falling over the previous 12 years.



Energy and climate change

3.6



Alongside immediate cost-of-living relief on tolls, public transport fares and vehicle registrations, the NSW Government is investing to strengthen energy security, reduce exposure to global energy shocks and build the industries that will power the state's future prosperity.

Cheaper energy

- Lower household energy costs through **\$480.0 million** in interest-free loans and **\$77.1 million** in discounts under the Home Energy Saver program.
- Lower energy costs through **\$7.2 million** for energy efficiency upgrades, particularly in regional NSW.

Building the industries of the future

- Up to **\$77.0 billion** in private investment supported through the Electricity Infrastructure Roadmap, supporting thousands of construction and ongoing jobs across regional NSW.
- Stronger domestic manufacturing through **\$225.0 million** for low-carbon industrial products.
- Faster delivery of major energy and fuel security projects with **\$2.9 million** for targeted Investment Delivery Authority rounds.
- Expanded logistics and industrial capacity at the Port of Newcastle, building on the government's existing **\$115.5 million** commitment to the Newcastle Port Logistics Precinct.

Energy security and resilience

A more reliable and secure electricity system with **\$2.5 billion** in continued funding via the Transmission Acceleration Facility, including **\$224.8 million** for new transmission infrastructure, supporting 2.5 gigawatts of network capacity by 2029.

- An investment of **\$291.4 million** in 2026–27 in regional roads to support the transportation of equipment to REZs.
- **\$6.5 billion** for electric buses to reduce our reliance on fossil fuels and free up diesel for farmers.
- Better planning and coordination of the state's future energy system through **\$18.7 million** for the Energy Corporation of NSW.
- Supporting the construction of NSW REZs, with **\$14.0 million** invested in local and regional infrastructure.

Supporting net zero

The transition to net zero is helping attract investment, create jobs and strengthen the long-term competitiveness of the NSW economy.

Delivered



- 21,000 energy-saving upgrades to 11,000 social housing dwellings.
- NSW is already on track to achieve 75 per cent of the 2030 renewable energy target of generating at least 12 gigawatts of renewable energy.
- 1.16 million rooftop solar PV installations across NSW, mostly on residential and small business properties.
- NSW emissions declined from 120.5 megatonnes in 2022–23 to 106.2 megatonnes in 2023–24, representing a 29.7 per cent decline compared to 2005 levels.
- A \$211 potential saving per household on energy bills under the latest default market offer.

Environment and nature

3.7



The government is investing in the environment that we live off and the nature that we love.

Supporting primary industries and communities

Investments to support farmers, primary industries and community resilience:

- Safer beaches with **\$86.6 million** for shark mitigation, including shark nets, SMART drumlines, tagged shark listening stations, drones, education and research.
- Delivery of drought support with business planning, coaching and capability building through the Farm Business Resilience program, in partnership with the Australian Government.
- Animal welfare enforcement with **\$13.7 million** for the RSPCA and Animal Welfare League, and for the establishment of the Office of Animal Welfare.
- Feral animal control programs through **\$16.3 million** targeting feral pigs and support for priority regional pest management efforts across the state.
- Modern equipment for Soil Conservation Services with **\$6.0 million** to replace ageing heavy machinery.

Protecting nature

Investments to protect and restore the NSW natural environment:

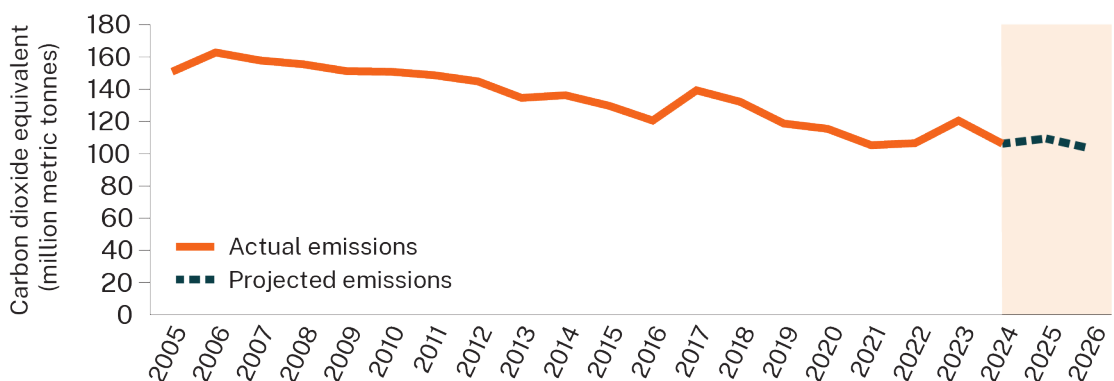
- Recovery of threatened species protection with **\$195.2 million**.
- Keeping national parks open, safe and accessible with **\$130.0 million** of new and improved infrastructure to give families more affordable outdoor experiences.
- Tourism jobs and investment with **\$6.0 million** supporting businesses in the Great Koala National Park region.

The environment where we live

Investments in the environment:

- **\$53.0 million** for biodiversity land acquisitions and conservation measures, supporting environmental protection and housing delivery in greenfield areas.
- Ecosystem restoration and implementation of the NSW Nature Strategy through **\$26.0 million**.
- Protecting and celebrating heritage with **\$8.0 million** for delivery of the NSW Heritage Strategy and the Blue Plaques program.

NSW emissions



Source: Data up to 2024 based on Australian Government data. For 2025 and 2026, the trend is based on NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water projections.

Caring for communities

3.8



A landmark 50 per cent funding increase for frontline domestic and family violence services

The government is making a landmark **\$184.1 million** investment in frontline services that help thousands of women and children escaping violence stay safe. The funding injection will be rolled out across six programs.

- **\$76.1 million** for the Safer Pathway program to provide coordinated support for victim-survivors across NSW.
- **\$54.0 million** for the Staying Home Leaving Violence program and the Integrated Domestic and Family Violence Services program to help women and children remain safely in their homes after violence, and provide intensive care management for high-risk families.
- **\$19.3 million** for Men's Behaviour Change programs to reduce and prevent violent and abusive behaviour.
- **\$17.5 million** to support the Domestic Violence Response Enhancement program for after-hours assistance to people experiencing domestic and family violence.
- **\$17.2 million** for the Specialist Workers for Children and Young People program, providing support and trauma-informed services for children and young people escaping violence.

An additional **\$6.3 million** will support frontline services and long-term reform through continuation of the Common Approach to Risk Assessment and Safety (CARAS), and implementation of the NSW Aboriginal Domestic Family and Sexual Violence Plan and Court Support program. This investment package is complemented by **\$4.9 million** for improving victim-survivor experiences in court.

Community workers will also receive a 4.75 per cent pay increase, as per the Fair Work Commission determination.

This builds on the previous budget allocation of **\$5.1 billion** for social homes, with 50 per cent prioritised for victim-survivors of domestic and family violence.

Thriving Kids

NSW will contribute **\$631.9 million** over five years to deliver the Australian Government's Thriving Kids program for new early intervention supports for children 8 years and under with developmental delay and/or autism who have low-to-moderate support needs. This is part of a **\$1.1 billion** package co-funded with the Australian Government that was committed to under the national reforms agreed in February 2026.

Community wellbeing

- Youth engagement and community programs with **\$3.6 million** for Police Citizens Youth Clubs (PCYC) NSW.
- Protecting older people and adults with disability from abuse and neglect with **\$4.0 million** for the Ageing and Disability Commission.
- Creating a lasting memorial, supporting wellbeing and recovery, and building community resilience in the wake of the Bondi terrorist attack, with an extra **\$8.3 million** support package.

Disaster response and recovery

Support for communities recovering from natural disasters and other major events.

- Restoring essential public assets damaged by natural disasters and other events through **\$910.9 million**, including Australian Government co-contributions.
- **\$470.1 million** over 10 years for the transfer of the state's rural firefighting fleet from local councils to the NSW Rural Fire Service.

Justice and community safety

3.9



This Budget is helping to keep communities safe by strengthening frontline policing, disrupting organised crime, and investing in a faster, more effective justice system.

Keeping communities safe

- Investing **\$108.8 million** in the newest technology and upgrades to fight crime and transform NSW Police's digital infrastructure and capability.
- Protect public safety through **\$94.3 million** for an Australian-first specialist armed response command with 250 police officers, 28 civilian staff, high performance rapid response vehicles and a 24/7 operations centre.
- Stronger community engagement through **\$26.9 million** for 30 additional police multicultural liaison officers.
- Tougher firearms regulation with **\$42.8 million** over 10 years for the NSW Firearms Registry to strengthen checks, process licence renewals and upgrade systems.
- Greater capacity to disrupt organised crime and confiscate proceeds of crime with **\$17.4 million** for the NSW Crime Commission.
- After successfully attesting 349 new police officers in May 2026, police recruitment will be further boosted with **\$2.5 million** to support recruitment-focused communications and marketing.

A stronger justice system

- Better support for victims with **\$8.5 million** to establish an independent Victims of Crime Commissioner.
- Expanded compliance capacity for the Office of the Children's Guardian to oversee child-related organisations with **\$6.0 million**.
- Legal support for the Royal Commission on Antisemitism and Social Cohesion through **\$4.7 million**.
- Modernising court technology with **\$3.0 million** to replace the Lawcodes legacy system.

Reducing reoffending and improving outcomes

- Expanded video court facilities across metropolitan and regional NSW through **\$6.5 million**.
- Improved inmate wellbeing and safety with **\$4.8 million** for upgrades to the Offender Telephone System.
- Reducing youth reoffending with **\$3.8 million** for the Short-Term Remand program.
- Addressing community safety with **\$2.2 million** to coordinate regional youth crime services.

Preparing for future emergencies

Investments to strengthen emergency services and prepare for future emergencies:

- Enhance bushfire and emergency response to better protect communities by transferring ownership and management of the state's red fleet from councils to the NSW Rural Fire Service, while maintaining the state's partnership with councils.
- **\$470.1 million** over 10 years for the transfer of the state's rural firefighting fleet from local councils to the NSW Rural Fire Service.
- New emergency services facilities and firefighters for Western Sydney through **\$22.2 million** for a new fire station, fire appliance and 20 firefighters at Marsden Park.
- Better preparedness for Sydney Metro incidents with **\$18.2 million** for firefighter training and specialist equipment.
- More effective emergency warnings with **\$17.7 million** to transition to the national AusAlert system.
- A new replacement fire station at Engadine for **\$9.9 million**.

First Nations

3.10



This Budget invests **\$154.2 million** to improve outcomes for First Nations people in NSW.

Closing the Gap

This Budget invests **\$45.3 million** to support Closing the Gap commitments.

- Keeping Aboriginal children safely connected to family and community through **\$11.8 million** for Aboriginal Child and Family Advocacy and Support services.
- Better justice outcomes for Aboriginal women and young people through **\$10.5 million** for Aboriginal Legal Service bail support programs.
- Increasing Aboriginal ownership of water with **\$10.7 million** for the first phase of the NSW Aboriginal Water Strategy.
- More culturally safe mental health services through **\$9.3 million** delivered by Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations and local health districts.
- Community-led solutions with **\$3.0 million** for projects developed by local Aboriginal organisations.

Land, water and housing

This Budget invests **\$96.7 million** to improve land, water and housing outcomes for First Nations people.

- Delivering native title commitments and strengthening partnerships with Traditional Owners with an investment of **\$74.9 million**.
- Providing critical housing and tenancy support, community programs and sector development initiatives for Aboriginal people through **\$9.9 million** under the Strong Family, Strong Communities strategy.

- Air conditioning and passive energy upgrades for properties managed by the Aboriginal Housing Office through **\$6.9 million**, benefiting more than 600 tenants.
- Planning future improvements to housing, infrastructure and living standards in discrete Aboriginal communities through **\$5.0 million**.

Economic, cultural and social outcomes

This Budget invests **\$12.2 million** to support First Nations economic, cultural and social outcomes.

- Dedicated First Nations education and cultural programs through investment of **\$4.0 million**.
- Continued delivery of commitments from the Unfinished Business Report through investment of **\$2.4 million**.
- Support for Aboriginal Regional Alliances through investment of **\$2.1 million**.
- Support for growth of the Aboriginal business sector through investment of **\$1.6 million**.
- Consultation with Aboriginal communities on treaty or other formal agreements through investment of **\$1.5 million**.
- Aboriginal cultural heritage reforms through investment of **\$600,000**.
- Continuing the **\$194.0 million** funding in previous Budgets for the First Steps Strategy to support greater enrolments of First Nations children in the two years before starting school.

Culture and sport

3.11



The government is investing in arts, culture, sport and the night-time economy to continue to foster vibrant communities, attract visitors and support creative industries across NSW.

Tourism and the visitor economy

- Supporting a vibrant night-time economy, including in Western Sydney, with **\$25.0 million** for the Office of the 24-Hour Economy Commissioner.

Sport

Investments to support community sport:

- Planning for the redevelopment of the WIN Sports and Entertainment Precinct through **\$17.0 million**.
- Continued support for State Sporting Organisations through **\$7.0 million**.



Arts, culture and creative industries

Investments to support cultural institutions, artists and creative industries:

- Supporting the contemporary music sector through **\$29.3 million**.
- Opening up more of the State Library of NSW rooftop and bar through a **\$22.5 million** redevelopment, finally improving public access to a treasured public venue.
- **\$26.8 million** to deliver the Creative Communities Policy, including supporting Western Sydney and regional NSW arts and culture strategies.
- Infrastructure and operational support for major cultural institutions, including the Australian Museum, Museums of History NSW, Art Gallery of NSW and State Library of NSW.
- Supporting multicultural communities with **\$8.0 million** for Multicultural NSW services and community programs.
- **\$4.6 million** uplift for the Arts and Culture Funding program.
- The Naala Nura courtyard garden project at the Art Gallery of NSW through **\$4.6 million**.

NSW is the country's top destination for visitors, visitor nights and expenditure.

Visitor spending increased by **\$4.6 billion** to **\$60.4 billion** in the 12 months to December 2025. Over the same period:

127.4 million

NSW international and domestic visitors, an increase of 5.6 million

224.2 million

visitor nights stayed, an increase of 4.8 million nights

84.0 million

domestic day trip visitors, an increase of 5.4 million, which drove total visitor growth

\$15.0 billion

in international visitor expenditure from 105.9 million nights stayed, record highs for both

Cost-of-living support

4



The government is helping households with everyday costs now, while making longer-term reforms to ease pressure on housing, energy, transport and essential services.

Housing and renting

Support for renters, first home buyers and households facing housing stress:

- Stronger protections for more than 2.3 million renters, including a ban on no-grounds evictions, fee-free ways to pay rent, limits to rent increases to once a year and easier pet approvals.
- Established the Rent Check website so renters can check whether the rent they are being asked to pay is fair.
- Smart Rental Bonds from mid-2026, allowing tenants to digitally transfer a bond from one rental property to another.
- More than 94,000 first home buyers supported through transfer duty exemptions and concessions, with average savings of around \$20,400.
- A \$10,000 First Home Owner Grant for eligible buyers of newly built homes.
- Rent Choice, Advance Rent, Bond Loan and other programs to help eligible people take up a private lease, including people escaping domestic violence.
- Up to \$250 off council rates and waste charges for eligible pensioners through pensioner council rates and water rebates.

Energy and water bills

Support to help households reduce power and water costs:

- **\$557.1 million** in interest-free loans and discounts to install energy technologies under the NSW Home Energy Saver program.
- Energy efficiency upgrade schemes through an additional **\$7.2 million** to help households and businesses save energy and reduce bills, particularly in regional areas.
- Ongoing support for households through continued energy social programs.

- Energy Accounts Payment Assistance for people experiencing short-term hardship, crisis or emergency.
- Energy rebates for eligible concession card holders, Family Tax Benefit recipients, seniors and people who rely on medical or life support equipment.
- Water rebates for eligible pensioners, Department of Veterans' Affairs card holders and community organisations.
- A \$250 front-loader washing machine through the Washing Machine Exchange program for eligible households.
- Around 30 per cent off the upfront cost of small-scale battery systems through the Cheaper Home Batteries program, administered by the Australian Government.
- An average discount of up to \$500 through the Virtual Power Plan incentive.

Health costs

Support to make healthcare more affordable and accessible:

- More bulk-billing appointments through the Bulk-Billing Support Initiative, which provided GP clinics with an estimated **\$9 million** in payroll tax savings in 2025–26.
- Up to six fully bulk-billed GP clinics across regional NSW, expected to open by mid-2027, administered by the Australian Government.
- Assistive technology for people with short-term or ongoing health needs through the Aids and Equipment program.
- Free ambulance services for eligible concession card holders and victim-survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence or child abuse.
- Baby bundles for new parents, with essential items to support early health and development.
- Free dental care for children at participating schools through the NSW Health Primary School Mobile Dental Clinics program.



- Travel and accommodation assistance for patients who need to travel long distances for treatment not available locally.
- Free glasses and vision aids for financially disadvantaged residents through the NSW Spectacles program.
- Free parking at rural and regional public hospitals.
- A pre-IVF fertility testing rebate of \$250 which helps eligible NSW residents cover the costs of fertility testing and \$2,000 through the fertility treatment rebate for eligible fertility treatments.
- The M5 South-West Cashback Scheme for eligible private, pensioner and charitable vehicle use.
- Daily, weekend and weekly Opal travel caps for adults, children, young people and concession holders.
- School Student Transport Scheme support for eligible students travelling by bus, rail, ferry, coach or private vehicle where no public transport is available.
- Concessional driver licence renewal fees for eligible concession holders.
- Motor vehicle registration exemptions for eligible concession card holders, including pensioners.
- Taxi Transport Subsidy Scheme support, covering 50 per cent of a taxi fare up to \$60 for eligible residents who cannot use public transport because of severe and permanent disability.
- A \$100 vehicle registration rebate for registered first- and second-year apprentices.
- Lower toll costs for privately registered caravans, boats and horse floats through the Large Towed Recreational Vehicle Toll Rebate.

Transport

Support for drivers, toll road users, commuters, students and people with a disability:

- Toll relief through the weekly toll cap, allowing eligible private motorists to claim rebates on toll spending above the cap, up to the fair-use limit.
- A temporary reduction in the weekly toll cap to \$50 (from \$60) in 2026–27.
- A \$100 discount on private vehicle registrations (excluding caravans and trailers) in 2026–27, benefiting the owners of around 4.4 million vehicles.

Education and training costs

Support for families, apprentices, trainees and people building skills:

- Up to \$4,456 in fee relief for parents and carers of children aged 3 to 5 years in community and mobile preschools in 2026.
- Up to \$2,563 in preschool fee relief for children aged 3 to 5 years attending eligible long day care preschool programs in 2026.
- Subsidised vocational education and training for in-demand skills through the Smart and Skilled program.
- Fee concessions for Australian Government welfare beneficiaries and people with disability.
- Travel and accommodation support for apprentices and new entrant trainees who need to travel more than 120 km (round trip) for training.
- Bert Evans Scholarships for apprentices facing hardship who demonstrate capability and commitment in vocational education.

Improved pay and conditions for essential workers

Support for public sector workers and essential service workers:

- A **\$1,000** cost-of-living payment will be provided for more than 120,000 NSW Government employees, because annual growth in the Sydney consumer price index exceeded 4 per cent between the March quarter 2025 and 2026.
- Better pay and conditions for nurses and midwives through the largest pay increase in decades, with increases of between 16 per cent and 28 per cent over three years.
- Supporting workforce stability in critical service areas including health, education and transport through the NSW Government's Fair Pay and Bargaining Policy.





Sport, recreation and culture

Support to help families and concession holders participate in community life:

- Two \$50 Active and Creative Kids vouchers for eligible families, available twice a year.
- Discounted entry to national parks for eligible concession holders, including pensioners and veterans.
- Fishing licence exemptions for First Nations people, young people and eligible concession card holders.
- Free general admission to the Australian Museum, Museums of History NSW, Art Gallery of NSW and Powerhouse Museum, as well as discounted entry to paid exhibitions for concession card holders.
- Free entry for support people at participating venues and events through the NSW Companion Card.

Other concessions and fee relief

Other support to reduce household and service costs:

- Free Working with Children Checks for volunteers, including students on professional placement, potential adoptive parents and authorised carers.
- Free National Disability Insurance Scheme worker checks for volunteers.
- Reduced or waived court fees where a person's capacity to pay may limit access to justice.
- Free Will and Power of Attorney preparation through the NSW Trustee and Guardian for eligible pensioners.
- A 0.5 per cent land tax early payment discount where the full amount is paid before the notice of assessment due date.

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NSW Treasury

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2026–27 NSW Budget publications include:

Budget Paper No.01 Budget Statement

Budget Paper No.02 Performance and Wellbeing Statement

Budget Paper No.03 Infrastructure Statement

Budget Paper No.04 Agency Financial Statements

Budget Paper No.05 Appropriation Bills

Overview: Supporting families, securing our future

Regional NSW: Supporting families, securing our future

Western Sydney: Supporting families, securing our future

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