

1. FOREWORD

I am pleased to present the *2004 Report on Adult Health from the New South Wales Population Health Survey*, which provides information on health behaviours, health status, and access to health services for people aged 16 years and over.

In 2004, data for the New South Wales Population Health Survey were collected from February to December.

After describing the survey methods, this report presents information on health behaviours relating to alcohol, cancer screening, immunisation, injury prevention, nutrition, physical activity, sexual health, smoking, and sun protection. This is followed by a chapter on health status including self-rated health, asthma, diabetes, mental health, oral health, overweight and obesity, vision, hearing, and injury. Next there is a chapter on health services including difficulties in getting health care, and access to and satisfaction with emergency departments, hospital admissions, community health services, and public dental services.

The electronic version of this report, which contains additional information, can be accessed at www.health.nsw.gov.au. Indicators are presented for males and females by age, socioeconomic disadvantage, and geographic location, and are compared to previous years where possible. This is a descriptive report, and there is a wealth of other information in the survey dataset that may be of specific interest. We encourage as many people as possible to access the dataset through the Health Outcomes Information Statistical Toolkit (HOIST) or by request.

Further information can be obtained from the NSW Department of Health's Centre for Epidemiology and Research. Comments on the New South Wales Population Health Survey are welcome.

I thank all the individuals and organisations who contributed their time and expertise to assist in the development and conduct of the Survey in 2004.



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