

Question on Notice
No. 1943
Asked on 26 November 2009

MRS CUNNINGHAM asked the Deputy Premier and Minister for Health (MR LUCAS) —

QUESTION:

With reference to the operational budget for each Queensland public hospital (listed separately)—

What was the operating funding per head of population in 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09?

ANSWER:

I thank the Honourable Member for Gladstone for her question.

Queensland's public hospitals do not have population catchments. Any Queenslander has a right to be treated in any public hospital in the State, regardless of where they live.

For example, the Children's Health Service District has been specifically established to treat children from all parts of Queensland.

Furthermore, districts such as Metro South and Metro North have a number of Statewide and super-specialty services (e.g. Spinal Injuries Unit at the Princess Alexandra Hospital and Burns Unit at the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital), which are established to provide services for the whole of Queensland.

Therefore, facilities do not have "resident populations" that can be used to calculate a ratio such as budget per capita.

Further, it is not reasonable to compare budgets between hospitals, given some hospitals have budgets to provide highly specialised or intensive care to patients referred from across Queensland.

I can however provide the Member with the following whole of Queensland funding data:

Whole of Queensland Health	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
Total Population	3.9M	4.03M	4.14M	4.24M	4.43M
Total QH Operating Funding	\$4.95B	\$5.93B	\$6.93B	\$7.7B	\$8.58B
Whole of QH Funding per Head of Population	\$1,261	\$1,471	\$1,675	\$1,818	\$1,936