

research accessibility monitoring strategic value rapid health evidence epidemiology translation trusted data NSW governance linkage responsive population systems transformation customer service evaluation capability quality public health information innovation training biostatistics open surveillance analytics collection sharing collaboration reporting statistical custodian

# CENTRE FOR EPIDEMIOLOGY AND EVIDENCE

Services and Programs



# FACTS ABOUT THE CENTRE

- There are over 54,000 users of HealthStats NSW.
- 1 billion anonymised records were released to researchers in 2018.
- We process over 100 million records each day to look for public health concerns in near real time.
- We provide access to 300 users to 9 terabytes of health data on a secure, analytics ready platform.
- Linked data are securely held in Registers and updated regularly.
- The Centre supported over 60 evaluations between 2015 and 2018.
- Our research and evaluation practice guides have been downloaded over 2,500 times.
- Over 550 staff participated in our evaluation training between 2015 and 2018.
- We have trained over 180 public health officers and over 100 biostatisticians, and supported around 30 Aboriginal population health trainees.

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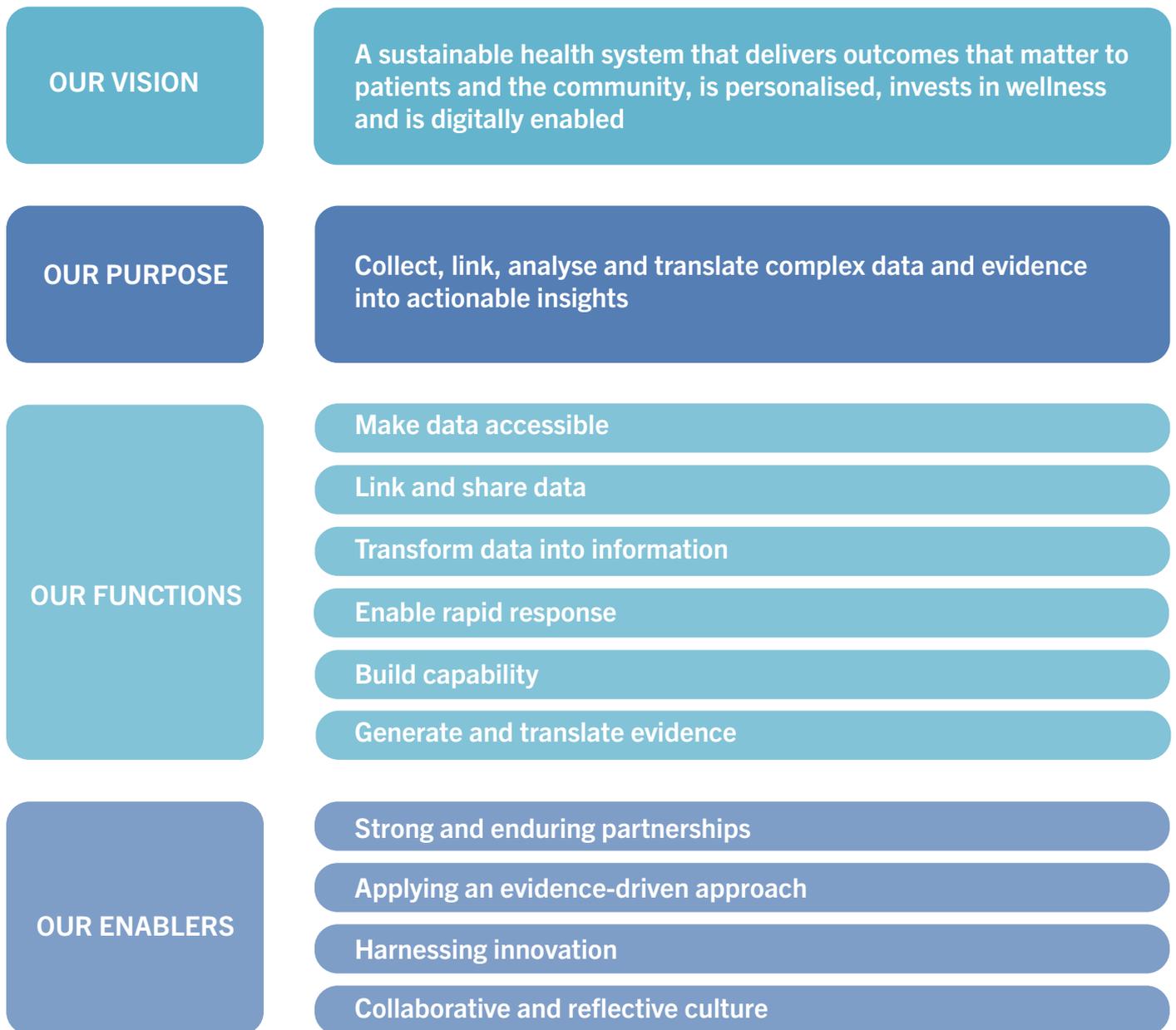
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# STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

The strategic framework of the Centre for Epidemiology and Evidence communicates our vision for improved population health outcomes, our roles and functions, and the enablers that support our work.

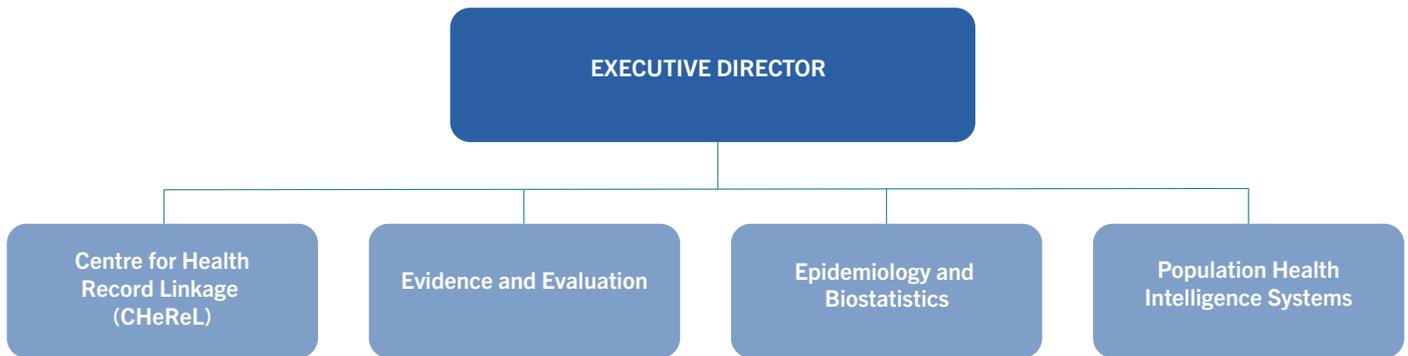


# WHO WE ARE

The Centre is a trans-disciplinary Branch within the Population and Public Health Division of the NSW Ministry of Health focused on the collection, linkage, analysis and translation of complex data, and research and evaluation evidence to directly impact the health of the population in NSW.

Our work supports the NSW Health Strategic Priorities. Further information is available at [www.health.nsw.gov.au](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au).

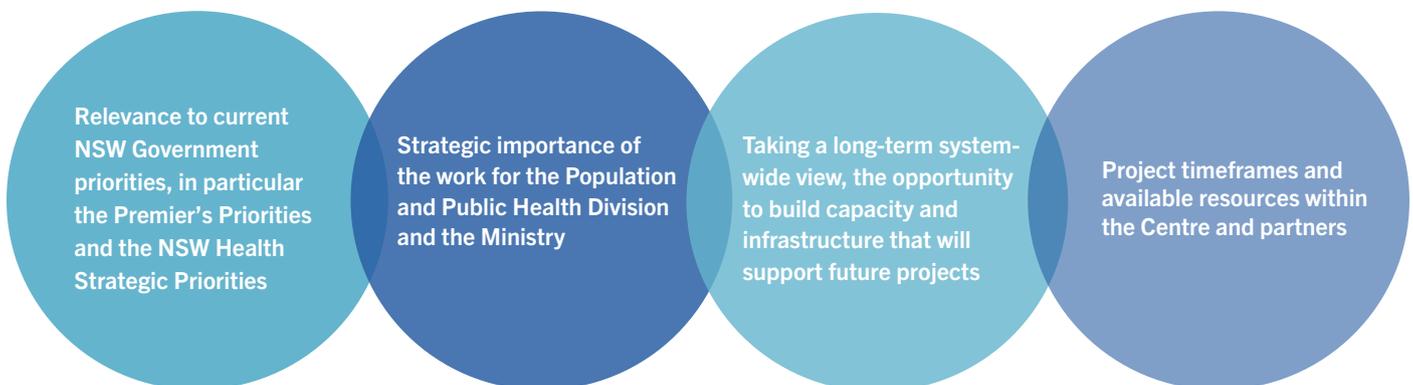
The Centre comprises four Units:

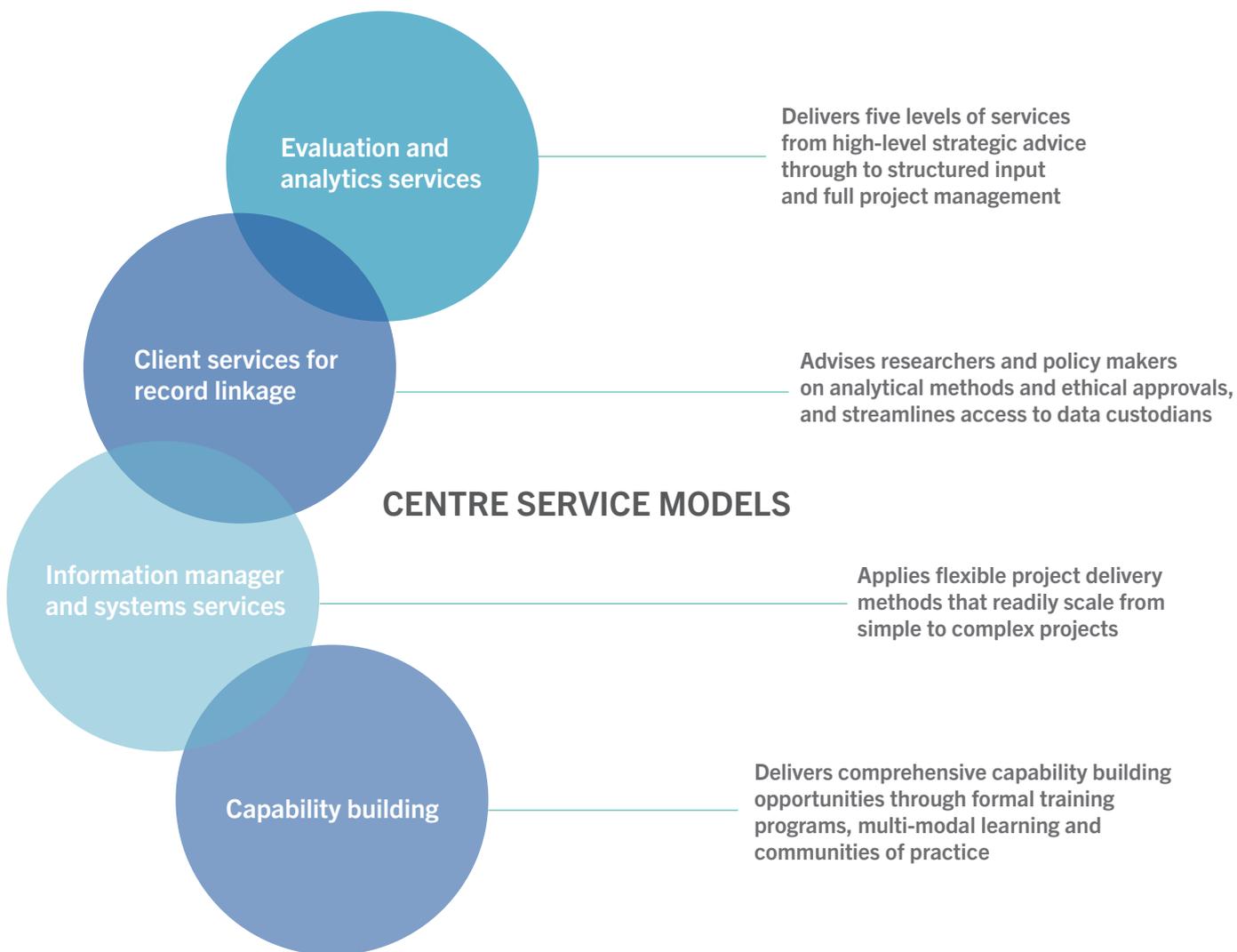


# SERVICE MODELS

We apply formal models to the delivery of our services to ensure our collaboration with a broad range of partners are transparent and effective. Our service domains include evaluation and analytics, data linkage, information management and systems, and capability building. Support across these domains ranges from strategic advice and structured input through to project management and project delivery.

## CENTRE PRIORITISATION CRITERIA





# CEE SERVICES AND PROGRAMS

## HEALTHSTATS NSW



HealthStats NSW is an open data website bringing together data from many sources to produce statistical information about the health of the NSW population. Users can view and download data and select indicators to produce tailored reports that provide insights into a wide range of health determinants and outcomes.

[www.healthstats.nsw.gov.au](http://www.healthstats.nsw.gov.au)

## POPULATION HEALTH DISEASE REGISTERS

The NSW Public Health Act 2010 enables the Secretary to establish public health or disease registers for a range of purposes including planning and evaluation of health programs, and measuring and monitoring health outcomes and risk factors. The Centre establishes and supports a range of ad hoc and ongoing registers.

## CENTRE FOR HEALTH RECORD LINKAGE (CHeReL)



The Centre for Health Record Linkage (the CHeReL) is dedicated to helping researchers, planners and policy makers' access linked data about people in NSW and the ACT. It provides comprehensive advisory services and hosts a secure, high-performing data linkage system that enables high-quality research and generates timely linked data to support service evaluation and inform policy decisions.

[www.cherel.org.au](http://www.cherel.org.au)

## EVALUATION AND RESEARCH

The Centre supports the evaluation of flagship initiatives across the Ministry and Pillars. Support is also provided for policy-relevant research projects, especially in the area of Aboriginal health.

The Centre provides training and guidance to build the research and evaluation capability of the NSW Health workforce and funds research groups that conduct policy and program relevant research.

[www.health.nsw.gov.au/research/Pages/capability-building.aspx](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/research/Pages/capability-building.aspx)

## EVIDENCE TRANSLATION

The Centre facilitates the use of evidence in policy and practice through co-production of research, targeted evidence dissemination, increasing practitioners' skills in finding and using evidence, and supporting the scaling up of effective programs. Core funding is provided to the Sax Institute which aims to promote the use of research evidence in health policy. Evidence translation is also a key requirement for Prevention Research Support Program recipients.

[www.health.nsw.gov.au/research](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/research)

## ABORIGINAL POPULATION HEALTH TRAINING INITIATIVE



This postgraduate training program provides workplace-based training for Aboriginal people who have an undergraduate health-related qualification. Trainees gain public health experience through supervised workplace learning and part-time study towards a Master of Public Health degree. The program is delivered through partnerships between the Ministry and NSW health services.

[www.health.nsw.gov.au/training/aphti](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/training/aphti)

## POPULATION HEALTH INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (PHIMS)

The Population Health Information Management System (PHIMS) enables tracking of the quality and reach of the following programs:

- Healthy Children's Initiative (HCI), which aims to reduce overweight and obesity rates of children.
- Nutrition; supports healthy food strategies in Health facilities and school canteens.
- Tobacco control; monitors the implementation and enforcement of tobacco legislation and regulations.

## NSW PUBLIC HEALTH TRAINING PROGRAM



**NSW Public Health**  
Training Program

This postgraduate training program provides workplace-based training for people who have completed postgraduate studies in public health. Trainees develop public health competencies and professional networks while addressing strategic and operational priorities of the health system and working to improve the health of the people of NSW.

[www.health.nsw.gov.au/training/phot](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/training/phot)

## POPULATION HEALTH SURVEYS

The NSW Population Health Survey Program collects data on NSW residents regarding their health and health-related risk factors. The Program consists of the NSW Population Health Survey, which targets over 15,000 respondents every year, and the NSW School Students Health Behaviours Survey, which targets high school students from over 100 schools every three years.

[www.health.nsw.gov.au/epidemiology/Pages/population-health-surveys.aspx](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/epidemiology/Pages/population-health-surveys.aspx)

## ANALYTICS ASSIST



Analytics Assist connects people, data and information. It's a one-stop-shop for statewide data

analytics across NSW Health, combining an information hub on the intranet with an analytics advisory service. Analytics Assist makes it easy for NSW Health staff to find key reports, open data, applications, platforms, training and analytics experts.

[analyticsassist.health.nsw.gov.au](http://analyticsassist.health.nsw.gov.au)

## SAPHaRI PLATFORM



Secure Analytics for Population Health Intelligence and Research (SAPHaRI) is an analytics platform designed for statistical analysis of population-health data. Teams within NSW Health are enabled to use sensitive data, while minimising privacy risks, to support delivery of insights that drive innovation in health care, policy and planning.

[nswhealth.sharepoint.com/sites/NSWH-SAPHaRI](http://nswhealth.sharepoint.com/sites/NSWH-SAPHaRI)

## NSW BIOSTATISTICS TRAINING PROGRAM



**NSW Biostatistics**  
Training Program

This postgraduate training program provides workplace-based training for people who have completed undergraduate study in statistics and are committed to a career in biostatistics. Trainees gain experience through supervised workplace learning and part-time study towards a Master of Biostatistics at the University of Sydney.

[www.health.nsw.gov.au/training/botp](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/training/botp)

## NOTIFIABLE CONDITIONS INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (NCIMS)



The Notifiable Conditions Information Management System (NCIMS) provides state-wide data capture, management and reporting of Scheduled Medical Conditions, including reporting from child care centres, schools, aged care facilities, hospitals and testing laboratories, to the public health network. Information is used in disease incident management, contact exposure, prevention and management of disease spread, outbreak management.

## RAPID SURVEILLANCE - PHREDSS



Rapid surveillance provides timely ambulance, emergency department, mortality and drug and alcohol

intelligence to inform policy, program development and research. The Public Health Rapid Emergency and Disease Syndromic Surveillance (PHREDSS) system operates 7 days a week to deliver capability to rapidly respond to emerging public health issues and provide timely advice and support to public health incidents as they emerge.

[epi.moh.health.nsw.gov.au/intranet/PHREDSS/](http://epi.moh.health.nsw.gov.au/intranet/PHREDSS/)

# THE CENTRE'S PRINCIPLES

The Centre's principles form the basis for our way of working—how we perform our roles and achieve our strategic functions.



# THE CENTRE'S CULTURE

The Centre's culture is underpinned by the CORE values of NSW Health:

- C**ollaboration
- O**penness
- R**espect
- E**mpowerment.

Within the Centre, our behaviours express and add to the CORE values.

## CENTRE CULTURE STATEMENT

We implement an evidence-driven approach.

We aim for continuous improvement including celebrating success and reflecting on our experiences.

We take a long-term strategic and system-wide approach.

We invest in partnerships, and we collaborate with our customers to achieve their goals.

We are a learning team and value the development of skills and practices

We respect and support diversity and value shared goals.

We empower staff to contribute their best work and actively challenge current ways of working.

We maintain an equity focus in everything we do.

We are a trans-disciplinary team including:

- Information technologists
- Epidemiologists
- Biostatisticians
- Data managers
- Clinicians
- Educators
- People managers
- Project managers
- Researchers
- Evaluators, and
- Engineers.

Some of our staff have affiliations with universities.

# PARTNERS AND STAKEHOLDERS

The Centre works with a large and broad range of partners and stakeholders. Our partners and stakeholders work with us to identify areas of emerging interest and assist us in determining how to prioritise our work. We have a strong reputation for responsiveness to the needs of our partners and stakeholders.

The Centre maintains strategic partnerships including, but not limited to, those shown below.

