

Appendix A: Expenses by Function and Sub-function

Table A.1 sets out Australian Government general government sector expenses by function and sub-function for 2023–24.

Table A.1: Australian Government general government sector expenses by function and sub-function

	2022-23 Outcome	2023-24 Estimate at 2024-25 Budget	2023-24 Outcome	Change on 2024-25 Budget
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
General public services				
Legislative and executive affairs	1,685	2,052	2,125	73
Financial and fiscal affairs	9,187	10,378	10,666	288
Foreign affairs and economic aid	7,522	7,282	7,141	-141
General research	3,695	4,063	3,947	-116
General services	1,110	1,260	1,359	99
Government superannuation benefits	6,912	6,407	6,325	-82
Total general public services	30,111	31,442	31,563	121
Defence	41,436	45,128	45,103	-25
Public order and safety				
Courts and legal services	1,814	1,827	1,827	-1
Other public order and safety	5,698	6,133	5,912	-221
Total public order and safety	7,513	7,960	7,739	-221
Education				
Higher education	10,428	10,918	10,788	-130
Vocational and other education	2,234	2,351	2,237	-114
Schools	26,998	29,215	29,122	-93
<i>Non-government schools</i>	<i>16,705</i>	<i>18,116</i>	<i>18,021</i>	<i>-95</i>
<i>Government schools</i>	<i>10,292</i>	<i>11,099</i>	<i>11,101</i>	<i>2</i>
School education – specific funding	1,082	1,182	1,122	-59
Student assistance	3,925	5,132	4,434	-698
General administration	264	301	308	7
Total education	44,932	49,099	48,011	-1,087
Health				
Medical services and benefits	36,224	38,777	38,593	-184
Pharmaceutical benefits and services	18,569	20,131	19,430	-701
Assistance to the states for public hospitals	25,821	27,853	27,855	2
Hospital services	956	1,100	1,136	36
Health services	15,844	13,860	14,018	157
General administration	4,147	4,460	4,334	-126
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health	1,119	1,235	1,224	-11
Total health	102,680	107,416	106,589	-827
Social security and welfare				
Assistance to the aged	82,946	95,306	94,849	-457
Assistance to veterans and dependants	8,105	7,666	11,002	3,336
Assistance to people with disabilities	69,126	80,401	78,996	-1,405
Assistance to families with children	38,399	44,381	44,107	-273

Table A.1: Australian Government general government sector expenses by function and sub-function (continued)

	2022-23 Outcome	2023-24 Estimate at 2024-25 Budget	2023-24 Outcome	Change on 2024-25 Budget
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
Social security and welfare (continued)				
Assistance to the unemployed and the sick	14,006	14,737	14,859	122
Other welfare programs	2,370	1,621	1,622	1
Assistance for Indigenous Australians nec	2,735	3,279	2,853	-427
General administration	5,224	4,951	4,896	-56
Total social security and welfare	222,911	252,342	253,184	842
Housing and community amenities				
Housing	4,994	4,305	3,979	-327
Urban and regional development	1,518	1,620	1,430	-190
Environment protection	1,840	2,029	1,574	-456
Total housing and community amenities	8,352	7,955	6,982	-973
Recreation and culture				
Broadcasting	1,690	1,688	1,689	2
Arts and cultural heritage	1,813	1,992	2,041	49
Sport and recreation	573	594	597	3
National estate and parks	565	776	761	-15
Total recreation and culture	4,641	5,050	5,088	38
Fuel and energy	9,093	13,273	12,988	-284
Agriculture, forestry and fishing				
Wool industry	55	68	51	-17
Grains industry	200	272	235	-37
Dairy industry	59	58	55	-2
Cattle, sheep and pig industry	239	258	252	-6
Fishing, horticulture and other agriculture	463	508	464	-44
General assistance not allocated to specific industries	41	45	44	-1
Rural assistance	306	406	326	-81
Natural resources development	773	1,089	851	-238
General administration	1,234	1,364	1,275	-89
Total agriculture, forestry and fishing	3,371	4,068	3,554	-514
Mining, manufacturing and construction	5,167	5,968	5,123	-844
Transport and communication				
Communication	1,580	1,775	1,654	-121
Rail transport	2,532	3,082	2,852	-230
Air transport	349	434	368	-66
Road transport	6,969	8,859	8,380	-479
Sea transport	484	499	503	4
Other transport and communication	253	279	284	5
Total transport and communication	12,166	14,928	14,041	-887

Table A.1: Australian Government general government sector expenses by function and sub-function (continued)

	2022-23 Outcome	2023-24 Estimate at 2024-25 Budget	2023-24 Outcome	Change on 2024-25 Budget
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
Other economic affairs				
Tourism and area promotion	204	198	192	-6
Total labour and employment affairs	7,410	6,308	6,094	-214
<i>Vocational and industry training</i>	4,580	2,984	2,999	15
<i>Labour market assistance to job seekers and industry</i>	2,129	2,326	2,164	-162
<i>Industrial relations</i>	701	998	931	-67
Immigration	3,405	3,836	3,367	-470
Other economic affairs nec	3,380	3,669	3,838	169
Total other economic affairs	14,399	14,011	13,490	-521
Other purposes				
Public debt interest	22,242	22,547	22,504	-43
<i>Interest on Commonwealth Government's behalf</i>	22,242	22,547	22,504	-43
Nominal superannuation interest	12,336	13,374	13,375	1
General purpose inter-government transactions	92,076	92,917	94,607	1,690
<i>General revenue assistance – states and territories</i>	87,618	92,107	91,305	-802
<i>Local government assistance</i>	4,458	810	3,301	2,491
Natural disaster relief	3,600	1,392	1,913	521
Contingency reserve	0	2,200	0	-2,200
Total other purposes	130,254	132,430	132,399	-31
Total expenses	637,025	691,070	685,857	-5,214