# 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 2024–25.

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

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 2023‑24 | 2024‑25 | 2024‑25 | Change on |
|  | Outcome | Estimate at | Outcome | 2025‑26 |
|  |  | 2025‑26 |  | Budget |
|  |  | Budget |  |  |
|  | $m | $m | $m | $m |
| **General public services** |  |  |  |  |
| Legislative and executive affairs | 2,125 | 2,335 | 2,406 | 71 |
| Financial and fiscal affairs | 10,666 | 10,364 | 10,764 | 400 |
| Foreign affairs and economic aid | 7,141 | 8,760 | 7,488 | ‑1,272 |
| General research | 3,947 | 4,775 | 4,346 | ‑429 |
| General services | 1,359 | 1,240 | 1,748 | 508 |
| Government superannuation benefits | 6,325 | 5,578 | 6,136 | 558 |
| **Total general public services** | **31,563** | **33,052** | **32,887** | **‑165** |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **Defence** | **45,103** | **49,344** | **47,785** | **‑1,559** |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **Public order and safety** |  |  |  |  |
| Courts and legal services | 1,827 | 1,811 | 1,944 | 133 |
| Other public order and safety | 5,912 | 6,967 | 6,573 | ‑394 |
| **Total public order and safety** | **7,739** | **8,778** | **8,517** | **‑261** |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **Education** |  |  |  |  |
| Higher education | 10,788 | 11,515 | 11,399 | ‑116 |
| Vocational and other education | 2,237 | 2,638 | 2,325 | ‑313 |
| Schools | 29,122 | 31,082 | 31,071 | ‑12 |
| *Non‑government schools* | *18,021* | *19,370* | *19,372* | *1* |
| *Government schools* | *11,101* | *11,712* | *11,699* | *‑13* |
| School education – specific funding | 1,122 | 956 | 905 | ‑51 |
| Student assistance | 4,434 | 16,972 | 4,848 | ‑12,124 |
| General administration | 308 | 340 | 354 | 14 |
| **Total education** | **48,011** | **63,503** | **50,901** | **‑12,602** |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **Health** |  |  |  |  |
| Medical services and benefits | 38,593 | 42,027 | 41,957 | ‑70 |
| Pharmaceutical benefits and services | 19,430 | 22,036 | 21,414 | ‑622 |
| Assistance to the states for public hospitals | 27,855 | 30,221 | 30,217 | ‑4 |
| Hospital services | 1,136 | 1,180 | 1,092 | ‑88 |
| Health services | 14,018 | 15,152 | 31,259 | 16,107 |
| General administration | 4,334 | 5,105 | 4,946 | ‑159 |
| Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health | 1,224 | 1,345 | 1,363 | 18 |
| **Total health** | **106,589** | **117,067** | **132,249** | **15,182** |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **Social security and welfare** |  |  |  |  |
| Assistance to the aged | 94,849 | 102,448 | 101,767 | ‑681 |
| Assistance to veterans and dependants | 11,002 | 10,724 | 22,016 | 11,292 |
| Assistance to people with disabilities | 78,996 | 85,606 | 86,338 | 732 |
| Assistance to families with children | 44,107 | 48,873 | 48,193 | ‑680 |

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

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 2023‑24 | 2024‑25 | 2024‑25 | Change on |
|  | Outcome | Estimate at | Outcome | 2025‑26 |
|  |  | 2025‑26 |  | Budget |
|  |  | Budget |  |  |
|  | $m | $m | $m | $m |
| **Social security and welfare** |  |  |  |  |
| **(continued)** |  |  |  |  |
| Assistance to the unemployed and |  |  |  |  |
| the sick | 14,859 | 16,458 | 16,728 | 270 |
| Other welfare programs | 1,622 | 1,760 | 1,703 | ‑57 |
| Assistance for Indigenous Australians nec | 2,853 | 3,386 | 3,031 | ‑356 |
| General administration | 4,896 | 5,646 | 5,704 | 58 |
| **Total social security and welfare** | **253,184** | **274,901** | **285,479** | **10,578** |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **Housing and community amenities** |  |  |  |  |
| Housing | 3,979 | 12,039 | 3,297 | ‑8,742 |
| Urban and regional development | 1,430 | 3,521 | 2,821 | ‑700 |
| Environment protection | 1,574 | 2,562 | 2,211 | ‑351 |
| **Total housing and community** |  |  |  |  |
| **amenities** | **6,982** | **18,122** | **8,330** | **‑9,793** |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **Recreation and culture** |  |  |  |  |
| Broadcasting | 1,689 | 1,781 | 1,792 | 11 |
| Arts and cultural heritage | 2,041 | 2,348 | 2,531 | 183 |
| Sport and recreation | 597 | 937 | 809 | ‑127 |
| National estate and parks | 761 | 793 | 834 | 41 |
| **Total recreation and culture** | **5,088** | **5,859** | **5,966** | **108** |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **Fuel and energy** | **12,988** | **16,437** | **14,954** | **‑1,484** |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **Agriculture, forestry and fishing** |  |  |  |  |
| Wool industry | 51 | 62 | 46 | ‑16 |
| Grains industry | 235 | 292 | 269 | ‑23 |
| Dairy industry | 55 | 58 | 60 | 2 |
| Cattle, sheep and pig industry | 252 | 272 | 261 | ‑11 |
| Fishing, horticulture and other agriculture | 464 | 630 | 521 | ‑108 |
| General assistance not allocated to |  |  |  |  |
| specific industries | 44 | 50 | 46 | ‑4 |
| Rural assistance | 326 | 394 | 299 | ‑95 |
| Natural resources development | 851 | 1,313 | 849 | ‑463 |
| General administration | 1,275 | 1,391 | 1,449 | 58 |
| **Total agriculture, forestry and fishing** | **3,554** | **4,461** | **3,801** | **‑660** |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **Mining, manufacturing and construction** | **5,123** | **5,866** | **4,937** | **‑930** |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **Transport and communication** |  |  |  |  |
| Communication | 1,654 | 1,922 | 1,723 | ‑198 |
| Rail transport | 2,852 | 4,112 | 4,245 | 133 |
| Air transport | 368 | 488 | 412 | ‑76 |
| Road transport | 8,380 | 8,568 | 8,957 | 389 |
| Sea transport | 503 | 509 | 499 | ‑10 |
| Other transport and communication | 284 | 381 | 407 | 26 |
| **Total transport and communication** | **14,041** | **15,980** | **16,244** | **264** |

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

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 2023‑24 | 2024‑25 | 2024‑25 | Change on |
|  | Outcome | Estimate at | Outcome | 2025‑26 |
|  |  | 2025‑26 |  | Budget |
|  |  | Budget |  |  |
|  | $m | $m | $m | $m |
| **Other economic affairs** |  |  |  |  |
| Tourism and area promotion | 192 | 197 | 196 | 0 |
| Total labour and employment affairs | 6,094 | 6,104 | 5,425 | ‑679 |
| *Vocational and industry training* | *2,999* | *2,599* | *2,113* | *‑485* |
| *Labour market assistance to job seekers* |  |  |  |  |
| *and industry* | *2,164* | *2,395* | *2,268* | *‑127* |
| *Industrial relations* | *931* | *1,111* | *1,044* | *‑67* |
| Immigration | 3,367 | 3,963 | 3,758 | ‑206 |
| Other economic affairs nec | 3,838 | 3,799 | 3,516 | ‑282 |
| **Total other economic affairs** | **13,490** | **14,063** | **12,895** | **‑1,167** |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **Other purposes** |  |  |  |  |
| Public debt interest | 22,504 | 23,940 | 23,868 | ‑72 |
| *Interest on Commonwealth* |  |  |  |  |
| *Government’s behalf* | *22,504* | *23,940* | *23,868* | *‑72* |
| Nominal superannuation interest | 13,375 | 14,241 | 14,250 | 9 |
| General purpose inter‑government |  |  |  |  |
| transactions | 94,607 | 97,382 | 99,937 | 2,555 |
| *General revenue assistance –* |  |  |  |  |
| *states and territories* | *91,305* | *96,280* | *97,288* | *1,008* |
| *Local government assistance* | *3,301* | *1,102* | *2,649* | *1,547* |
| Natural disaster relief | 1,913 | 1,506 | 7,071 | 5,565 |
| Contingency reserve | 0 | ‑1,747 | 0 | 1,747 |
| **Total other purposes** | **132,399** | **135,322** | **145,126** | **9,804** |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **Total expenses** | **685,857** | **762,756** | **770,071** | **7,315** |