# 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 | 2023-24 | 2023-24 | Change on |
|  | Outcome | Estimate at | Outcome | 2024-25 |
|  |  | 2024-25 |  | Budget |
|  |  | 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 |
| *Non-government schools* | *16,705* | *18,116* | *18,021* | *-95* |
| *Government schools* | *10,292* | *11,099* | *11,101* | *2* |
| 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 | 2023‑24 | 2023‑24 | Change on |
|  | Outcome | Estimate at | Outcome | 2024‑25 |
|  |  | 2024‑25 |  | Budget |
|  |  | 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 | 2023-24 | 2023-24 | Change on |
|  | Outcome | Estimate at | Outcome | 2024-25 |
|  |  | 2024-25 |  | Budget |
|  |  | 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 |
| *Vocational and industry training* | *4,580* | *2,984* | *2,999* | *15* |
| *Labour market assistance to job seekers* |  |  |  |  |
| *and industry* | *2,129* | *2,326* | *2,164* | *-162* |
| *Industrial relations* | *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 |
| *Interest on Commonwealth* |  |  |  |  |
| *Government's behalf* | *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 |
| *General revenue assistance –* |  |  |  |  |
| *states and territories* | *87,618* | *92,107* | *91,305* | *-802* |
| *Local government assistance* | *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** |