



SENATOR THE HON KATY GALLAGHER
 Minister for Finance
 Minister for Women
 Minister for the Public Service

MEDIA RELEASE

**Australian Government General Government Sector
 Monthly Financial Statements for September 2023**

27 October 2023

KEY POINTS:

- The Monthly Financial Statements for September 2023 report the budget position against the expected monthly profile for the 2023-24 financial year through to 30 September 2023, based on the 2023-24 Budget estimate published in the 2023-24 Budget in May 2023.
- The underlying cash balance for the 2023-24 financial year to 30 September 2023 was a deficit of \$11.7 billion.
- The fiscal balance for the 2023-24 financial year to 30 September 2023 was a deficit of \$7.9 billion.

AGGREGATES(a)	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	Budget Profile	BUDGET
	2023-2024 September \$b	2023-2024 YTD September \$b	2023-2024 YTD September \$b	ESTIMATE* 2023-2024 FULL YEAR \$b
Receipts(b)	46.0	150.6	144.7	668.1
Payments(c)	50.7	162.4	162.4	682.1
Underlying cash balance	-4.6	-11.7	-17.7	-13.9
Headline cash balance	-2.5	-12.8	-18.1	-19.7
Revenue	46.3	154.9	146.5	680.4
Expenses	51.3	161.9	166.4	684.1
Net operating balance	-5.0	-7.0	-19.9	-3.7
Net capital investment	0.1	0.9	1.8	10.4
Fiscal balance	-5.1	-7.9	-21.7	-14.1
Total assets		790.7		804.2
Total liabilities		1,329.0		1,363.3
Net worth(d)		-538.3		-559.1
Net debt(e)		498.7		574.9

*As published in the 2023-24 Budget.

(a) Discrepancies in tables between totals and sums of components are due to rounding.

(b) Cash receipts for operating activities and sales of non-financial assets.

(c) Cash payments for operating activities, purchases of non-financial assets and principal payments of lease liabilities.

(d) Net worth is calculated as total assets minus total liabilities.

(e) Net debt is the sum of interest bearing liabilities less the sum of selected financial assets (cash and deposits, advances paid, and investments, loans and placements).

Monthly results are generally volatile due to timing differences between revenue and receipts, and expenses and payments. Care needs to be taken when comparing monthly or cumulative data across years and to full-year estimates, as revenue and receipts and expenses and payments vary from month to month.

FISCAL OUTCOMES

Underlying Cash Balance

The underlying cash balance for the financial year to 30 September 2023 was a deficit of \$11.7 billion.

- **Receipts**
Total receipts were \$6.0 billion higher than the 2023-24 Budget profile.
- **Payments**
Total payments were consistent with the 2023-24 Budget profile.

Net Operating Balance

The net operating balance for the financial year to 30 September 2023 was a deficit of \$7.0 billion.

Fiscal Balance

The fiscal balance for the financial year to 30 September 2023 was a deficit of \$7.9 billion.

Assets and Liabilities

As at 30 September 2023:

- net worth is negative \$538.3 billion;
- net debt is \$498.7 billion; and
- net financial liabilities are \$786.1 billion.

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Australian Government general government sector operating statement

		ACTUAL 2023-2024 September	ACTUAL 2023-2024 YTD September	Budget Profile 2023-2024 YTD September	BUDGET ESTIMATE* 2023-2024 FULL YEAR
	Note	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
Revenue					
Taxation revenue	1,2	42,699	141,754	134,934	629,729
Sales of goods and services		946	5,320	5,197	20,811
Interest income		689	2,141	1,558	9,426
Dividend and distribution income		604	1,401	1,628	6,913
Other		1,338	4,285	3,179	13,494
Total revenue		46,276	154,902	146,497	680,372
Expenses					
Gross operating expenses					
Wages and salaries(a)		2,028	6,249	6,654	26,260
Superannuation		755	2,333	1,912	7,608
Depreciation and amortisation		1,039	3,157	3,087	12,570
Supply of goods and services		15,000	44,955	45,651	188,790
Other operating expenses(a)		872	2,230	2,011	9,346
<i>Total gross operating expenses</i>		<i>19,694</i>	<i>58,924</i>	<i>59,315</i>	<i>244,575</i>
Superannuation interest expense		1,073	3,219	3,408	13,631
Interest expenses		1,939	6,390	6,661	27,762
Current transfers					
Current grants		13,424	47,528	49,528	203,464
Subsidy expenses		1,441	4,418	4,277	16,964
Personal benefits		12,751	39,685	40,346	154,254
<i>Total current transfers</i>		<i>27,616</i>	<i>91,631</i>	<i>94,151</i>	<i>374,682</i>
Capital transfers					
Mutually agreed write-downs		219	629	708	3,012
Other capital grants		712	1,072	2,198	20,423
<i>Total capital transfers</i>		<i>931</i>	<i>1,702</i>	<i>2,906</i>	<i>23,435</i>
Total expenses	3	51,252	161,866	166,440	684,085
Net operating balance		-4,976	-6,964	-19,943	-3,713
Other economic flows					
- included in operating result					
Net write-downs of assets		-86	-1,798	-1,278	-6,871
Assets recognised for the first time		24	53	50	232
Actuarial revaluations		-7	-5	5	19
Net foreign exchange gains		5	99	0	-62
Net swap interest received		109	133	-5	-16
Market valuation of debt		17,413	11,935	-2,239	-8,847
Other gains/(losses)		-4,628	-2,969	2,281	7,485
Total other economic flows		12,829	7,448	-1,186	-8,060
- included in operating result					
Operating result(b)		7,853	484	-21,129	-11,773
Non-owner movements in equity					
Revaluation of equity investments		0	0	0	-307
Actuarial revaluations		0	0	0	-227
Other economic revaluations		1,496	-454	-309	75
Total other economic flows - included in equity		1,496	-454	-309	-458
Comprehensive result					
- Total change in net worth		9,349	30	-21,438	-12,231
Net operating balance		-4,976	-6,964	-19,943	-3,713
Net acquisition of non-financial assets					
Purchases of non-financial assets		1,585	4,400	5,051	22,251
less Sales of non-financial assets		3	40	32	53
less Depreciation		1,039	3,157	3,087	12,570
plus Change in inventories		-471	-276	-181	803
plus Other movements in non-financial assets		5	7	0	0
Total net acquisition of non-financial assets		77	934	1,752	10,431
Fiscal balance (Net lending/borrowing)(c)		-5,053	-7,898	-21,695	-14,144

*As published in the 2023-24 Budget.

(a) Consistent with the Australian Bureau of Statistics' (ABS) Government Finance Statistics (GFS) classification, other employee related expenses are classified separately from wages and salaries under other operating expenses. Total employee expenses equal wages and salaries plus other operating expenses.

(b) Operating result under Australian Accounting Standards.

(c) The term fiscal balance is not used by the ABS.

Australian Government general government sector balance sheet

	ACTUAL as at 30 September 2023 \$m	BUDGET ESTIMATE* as at 30 June 2024 \$m
Assets		
Financial assets		
Cash and deposits	83,716	60,841
Advances paid	73,681	76,032
Investments, loans and placements	222,731	241,748
Other receivables	80,862	79,944
Equity investments		
Investments in other public sector entities	42,774	47,347
Equity accounted investments	5,795	4,575
Investments - shares	76,122	80,167
<i>Total financial assets</i>	<i>585,681</i>	<i>590,654</i>
Non-financial assets		
Land	13,548	13,168
Buildings	49,115	50,944
Plant, equipment and infrastructure	104,605	111,491
Inventories	12,725	12,010
Intangibles	12,017	12,791
Investment properties	232	205
Biological assets	5	16
Heritage and cultural assets	12,607	12,712
Assets held for sale	94	177
Other non-financial assets	21	16
<i>Total non-financial assets</i>	<i>204,970</i>	<i>213,530</i>
Total assets	790,652	804,184
Liabilities		
Interest bearing liabilities		
Deposits held	281	406
Government securities	827,460	902,988
Loans	31,529	31,007
Lease liabilities	19,583	19,073
<i>Total interest bearing liabilities</i>	<i>878,852</i>	<i>953,474</i>
Provisions and payables		
Superannuation liability(a)	315,045	282,487
Other employee liabilities	43,489	36,326
Suppliers payables	9,585	12,487
Personal benefits payables	3,368	4,008
Subsidies payables	806	901
Grants payables	2,514	2,658
Other payables	10,031	5,777
Provisions	65,304	65,151
<i>Total provisions and payables</i>	<i>450,141</i>	<i>409,795</i>
Total liabilities	1,328,993	1,363,269
Net worth(b)	-538,341	-559,085
<i>Net financial worth(c)</i>	<i>-743,312</i>	<i>-772,615</i>
<i>Net financial liabilities(d)</i>	<i>786,085</i>	<i>819,962</i>
<i>Net debt(e)</i>	<i>498,723</i>	<i>574,852</i>

*As published in the 2023-24 Budget.

(a) For budget reporting purposes, a discount rate of 5.0 per cent determined by actuaries is used to value the superannuation liability. This reflects the average annual rate estimated to apply over the term of the liability and it reduces the volatility in reported liabilities that would occur from year to year if the spot rates on long-term government bonds were used. Consistent with Australian Accounting Standards, the superannuation liability for the 2023-24 Monthly Financial Statements was calculated using the spot rates on long-term government bonds as at 30 June 2023 that best matched each individual scheme's liability duration. These rates were between 4.0 and 4.4 per cent per annum.

(b) Net worth equals total assets minus total liabilities.

(c) Net financial worth equals total financial assets minus total liabilities.

(d) Net financial liabilities equals total liabilities less financial assets other than investments in other public sector entities.

(e) Net debt is the sum of interest bearing liabilities less the sum of selected financial assets (cash and deposits, advances paid, and investments, loans and placements).

Australian Government general government sector cash flow statement^(a)

	ACTUAL 2023-2024 September \$m	ACTUAL 2023-2024 YTD September \$m	Budget Profile 2023-2024 YTD September \$m	BUDGET ESTIMATE* 2023-2024 FULL YEAR \$m
Cash receipts from operating activities				
Taxes received	42,696	138,055	132,175	616,275
Receipts from sales of goods and services	781	4,906	5,276	20,792
Interest receipts	744	2,712	2,125	7,654
Dividends, distributions and income tax equivalents	758	1,607	1,625	6,889
Other receipts	1,034	3,187	3,324	14,255
Total operating receipts	46,012	150,467	144,525	665,865
Cash payments for operating activities				
Payments for employees(b)	-3,226	-10,598	-10,629	-41,669
Payments for goods and services	-15,804	-48,745	-47,084	-188,258
Grants and subsidies paid	-15,609	-54,471	-56,590	-246,189
Interest paid	-631	-1,252	-995	-21,052
Personal benefit payments	-12,658	-40,156	-40,448	-153,940
Other payments(b)	-825	-2,499	-1,983	-8,541
Total operating payments	-48,753	-157,721	-157,729	-659,649
Net cash flows from operating activities	-2,741	-7,255	-13,204	6,216
Cash flows from investments in non-financial assets				
Sales of non-financial assets	17	170	162	2,277
Purchases of non-financial assets	-1,718	-3,988	-4,011	-19,861
Net cash flows from investments in non-financial assets	-1,701	-3,817	-3,849	-17,584
Net cash flows from investments in financial assets for policy purposes	2,166	-1,079	-400	-5,795
Net cash flows from investments in financial assets for liquidity purposes	-820	-2,291	-1,633	-17,073
Cash flows from financing activities				
Borrowing (net)	414	9,005	17,892	35,363
Other financing (net)	4	-560	-566	-4,651
Net cash flows from financing activities	418	8,445	17,326	30,712
Net increase/(decrease) in cash held	-2,678	-5,997	-1,761	-3,523
GFS cash surplus(+)/deficit(-)(c)	-4,442	-11,072	-17,053	-11,368
<i>plus</i> Principal payments of lease liabilities(d)	-207	-648	-637	-2,550
Equals underlying cash balance(e)	-4,649	-11,720	-17,690	-13,918
<i>plus</i> Net cash flows from investments in financial assets for policy purposes	2,166	-1,079	-400	-5,795
Equals headline cash balance	-2,483	-12,799	-18,090	-19,713

*As published in the 2023-24 Budget.

(a) A positive number denotes a cash inflow; a negative number denotes a cash outflow.

(b) Consistent with the ABS GFS classification, other employee related payments are classified separately from wages and salaries under other payments.

(c) GFS cash surplus/deficit equals net cash flows from operating activities and investments in non-financial assets.

(d) 'Net cash flows from financing activities for leases' has been renamed to 'principal payments of lease liabilities'. Principal payments of lease liabilities, which are financing cash payments, are deducted in the calculation of the underlying cash balance to maintain consistency of measure following the implementation of AASB 16.

(e) The term underlying cash balance is not used by the ABS.

Note 1: Income Tax

	ACTUAL 2023-2024 September \$m	ACTUAL 2023-2024 YTD September \$m	Budget Profile 2023-2024 YTD September \$m	BUDGET ESTIMATE* 2023-2024 FULL YEAR \$m
Individuals and other withholding taxes				
Gross income tax withholding	24,252	72,457	69,235	289,300
Gross other individuals	3,545	16,809	14,776	73,600
<i>less</i> Refunds	4,129	18,870	19,558	37,000
Total individuals and other withholding taxation	23,668	70,397	64,454	325,900
Fringe benefits tax	23	1,005	803	3,500
Company tax	9,961	31,270	30,516	131,100
Superannuation fund taxes	772	3,336	3,697	16,620
Petroleum resource rent tax	-92	250	618	2,770
Total income taxation revenue	34,333	106,258	100,087	479,890

*As published in the 2023-24 Budget.

Note 2: Indirect Tax

	ACTUAL 2023-2024 September \$m	ACTUAL 2023-2024 YTD September \$m	Budget Profile 2023-2024 YTD September \$m	BUDGET ESTIMATE* 2023-2024 FULL YEAR \$m
Goods and services tax	4,505	20,446	20,561	89,080
Wine equalisation tax	84	269	285	1,160
Luxury car tax	98	334	216	860
Excise duty	2,242	7,252	7,319	30,090
Customs duty	624	4,437	3,973	17,270
Other indirect tax	812	2,759	2,493	11,379
Total indirect taxation revenue	8,366	35,496	34,847	149,839

*As published in the 2023-24 Budget.

Note 3: Total expenses by function

	ACTUAL 2023-2024 September \$m	ACTUAL 2023-2024 YTD September \$m	BUDGET ESTIMATE* 2023-2024 FULL YEAR \$m
Expenses by function			
General public services	2,367	6,695	29,126
Defence	3,321	10,021	42,850
Public order and safety	589	2,042	7,434
Education	2,327	11,293	48,258
Health	7,940	25,663	106,538
Social security and welfare	20,489	64,255	250,280
Housing and community amenities	241	972	7,940
Recreation and culture	388	1,246	4,776
Fuel and energy	881	2,599	13,006
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	312	737	5,156
Mining, manufacturing and construction	329	961	5,022
Transport and communication	705	1,213	17,508
Other economic affairs	1,115	3,271	12,447
Other purposes			
Public debt interest	1,823	5,660	22,611
Nominal superannuation interest	1,073	3,219	13,631
General purpose inter-government transactions	7,337	21,956	95,947
Natural disaster relief	16	62	1,610
Contingency reserve	0	0	-56
Total expenses	51,252	161,866	684,085

*As published in the 2023-24 Budget.

NOTES:

AASB 1049 *Whole of Government and General Government Sector Financial Reporting (AASB 1049)*

The Australian Government monthly financial statements have been prepared on a basis consistent with the Budget as required under section 47 of the Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013. The statements are prepared in accordance with AASB 1049, which require treatment based on the Australian Bureau of Statistics' (ABS) Government Finance Statistics (GFS) except where Australian Accounting Standards (AAS) provide a better conceptual treatment for specific items. Departures are limited to complying with either ABS GFS or AAS.

Taxation revenue

While total tax collections are known with certainty at the end of each month, the distribution across the relevant heads of revenue cannot be finalised until all business activity statements are received and processed. The outcomes for some revenue items provided in this statement are therefore estimates, in accordance with the best judgement of the Commissioner of Taxation, and subject to revision. The taxation revenue items not affected are: petroleum resource rent tax, excise duty, customs duty, other taxes and individuals refunds.

Style conventions

Figures in tables and generally in the text have been rounded. Discrepancies in tables between totals and sums of components are due to rounding.

International Monetary Fund Special Data Dissemination Standards

The Government is committed to releasing the monthly financial statements in a timely fashion and will endeavour to do so in accordance with International Monetary Fund (IMF) Special Data Dissemination Standards (SDDS). Under these standards the timeframe for releasing the monthly financial statements is by the end of the following month. Australia applies a special flexibility option which allows it to publish late the last and first month of a financial year.

In accordance with the IMF SDDS, the approximate date of release of the data on debt guaranteed by the Australian Government (central government), is given on the IMF's Data Dissemination Advance Release Calendar <http://dsbb.imf.org>. Monthly and quarterly data on debt guaranteed by the Australian Government (central government) that meet the coverage and timeliness requirements of the SDDS are published on the Australian Office of Financial Management website at <https://www.aofm.gov.au/data-hub>.

Electronic access to monthly financial statements

The Australian Government general government sector monthly financial statements and the historical series are available in electronic format at:

<http://data.gov.au/dataset/australian-government-general-government-sector-monthly-financial-statements-tables-and-data>