

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Finance and Administration Portfolio

Department of Finance and Administration

Budget Estimates Hearings 2004-05 – 26 May 2004

Question: F6

Outcome 1, Output 1.1

Topic: Budget Spending

Hansard Page: F&PA19-21

Senator Conroy asked:

Do you keep any historical data, so we could compare how big a spend this was in one budget? ...I was wondering whether you keep any records of that so that we could easily make a comparison and see whether it was the biggest spend in any individual budget. ...I am looking to go back to 1996-97, obviously, the period of the Howard government. ...I want to make it clear that I am only interested in spending and outlays, not revenues or anything like that.

Answer:

A comparison of expenses since the election of the Howard Government in March 1996 is provided in Attachment A.

Prior to 1999, expenses were on a cash basis and covered the Budget sector only. After 1999, expenses are on an accrual basis and cover the General Government Sector.

IMPACT ON EXPENSES AS A RESULT OF GOVERNMENT POLICY DECISIONS ^(a)

DECISION PERIOD	IMPACT ON EXPENSES (\$m)					
	TOTAL	Revised	Budget	FY1	FY2	FY3
Post 95-96 Budget up to and including 95-96 Election ^(b)	2,013	231	552	614	616	*
Post 95-96 Election up to and including 96-97 Budget ^(c)	(12,626)	347	(2,929)	(5,197)	(4,847)	*
Total	(10,613)	578	(2,377)	(4,583)	(4,231)	*
Post 96-97 Budget up to and including 96-97 MYEFO ^(c)	1,269	1,020	(399)	237	263	148
Post 96-97 MYEFO up to and including 97-98 Budget ^(c)	(6,181)	57	(87)	(1,034)	(2,220)	(2,897)
Total	(4,912)	1,077	(486)	(797)	(1,957)	(2,749)
Post 97-98 Budget up to and including 97-98 MYEFO ^(c)	3,725	395	566	733	1,242	789
Post 97-98 MYEFO up to and including 98-99 Budget ^(c)	6,420	156	1,385	1,526	1,862	1,491
Total	10,145	551	1,951	2,259	3,104	2,280
Post 98-99 Budget up to and including 98-99 MYEFO ^(c)	(33,194)	886	2,479	(11,419)	(12,029)	(13,111)
Post 98-99 MYEFO up to and including 99-00 Budget ^(c)	4,841	(140)	965	1,295	1,472	1,249
Total	(28,353)	746	3,444	(10,124)	(10,557)	(11,862)
Post 99-00 Budget up to and including 99-00 MYEFO ^(c)	16,138	1,281	4,259	3,533	3,663	3,402
Post 99-00 MYEFO up to and including 00-01 Budget ^(c)	3,046	25	872	832	728	589
Total	19,184	1,306	5,131	4,365	4,391	3,991
Post 00-01 Budget up to and including 00-01 MYEFO ^(c)	1,726	596	321	254	297	258
Post 00-01 MYEFO up to and including 01-02 Budget ^(c)	16,890	1,467	2,767	3,303	4,569	4,784
Total	18,616	2,063	3,088	3,557	4,866	5,042
Post 01-02 Budget up to and including 01-02 MYEFO ^(c)	1,210	1,112	52	46	23	(23)
Post 01-02 MYEFO up to and including 02-03 Budget ^(c)	6,066	470	1,042	1,551	1,499	1,504
Total	7,276	1,582	1,094	1,597	1,522	1,481
Post 02-03 Budget up to and including 02-03 MYEFO ^(c)	2,263	464	393	449	498	459
Post 02-03 MYEFO up to and including 03-04 Budget ^(c)	7,094	732	1,729	1,238	1,298	2,097
Total	9,357	1,196	2,122	1,687	1,796	2,556
Post 03-04 Budget up to and including 03-04 MYEFO ^(c)	6,405	1,005	1,461	1,224	1,285	1,430
Post 03-04 MYEFO up to and including 04-05 Budget ^(c)	35,764	5,969	6,209	6,835	7,766	8,985
Total	42,169	6,974	7,670	8,059	9,051	10,415

(a) Data reflects estimates published in the Reconciliation Table of Budget Paper No. 1 for the periods, 1996-97, 1997-98, 1998-99, 1999-00, 2000-01, 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05.

(b) This row shows the impact of decisions made by the previous Government.

(c) Includes the public debt interest impact of underlying policy decisions.

(d) Includes total budgetary costs of A New Tax System (including the public debt interest effects). For all other policy decisions the public debt interest effects are included in parameter and other variations.

(e) Excludes the public debt net interest effect of policy measures.

* Information not available.

Note: Due to the methodological and data-source changes associated with the transition to accrual accounting for the Australian Government General Government Sector in 1999-00, time series data that encompass measures derived under both cash and accrual accounting should be used with caution. Prior to 1999, expenses were recorded on a cash basis and covered the Budget Sector only. After 1999, expenses are recorded on an accrual basis and cover the General Government Sector.