Australian Bureau of Statistics

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# Australian Bureau of Statistics

## Section 1: Entity overview and resources

### 1.1 Strategic direction statement

The ABS is the central statistical authority for the Australian Government and serves as the national statistical agency, delivering services for state and territory governments. The ABS provides trusted independent impartial official statistics on the economy, society, population and the environment. The ABS works in partnership with providers of information and official bodies to collect, compile, analyse, integrate and distribute data and statistics. ABS has a central role in developing statistical standards, including through liaison with international organisations. The ABS is a trusted advisor on statistical matters to government, industry, and the wider Australian community.

The ABS’s purpose is to inform Australia’s important decisions by partnering and innovating to deliver relevant, trusted, objective data, statistics and insights. Our highest priorities are:

* the continued delivery of high quality official statistics on important matters;
* transforming the ABS for the future; and
* delivering new statistical solutions to maximise the value of public data.

To ensure it is best placed to deliver trusted world-class statistics and enable more effective yet continued safe and secure use of this national data resource, the ABS is fundamentally transforming across all aspects of the organisation. This includes improving key partnerships, making better use of its internal expertise, building public trust, strengthening relationships with providers of data, reshaping workforce capability and delivering re-engineered data collection and management capabilities. The Australian Government investment of $257 million over five years, from 2015 to 2020, to modernise ABS infrastructure has provided the foundation for the ABS to transform for the future. Key objectives of this modernisation are to become more efficient, reduce risks to the quality of statistical outputs, reduce red tape, improve the time to market and to be able to take advantage of opportunities to grow the business. The ABS is progressing its important transformation while also managing key risks around the quality and relevance of our core statistics.

### 1.2 Entity resource statement

Table 1.1 shows the total funding from all sources available to the entity for its operations and to deliver programs and services on behalf of the Government.

The table summarises how resources will be applied by outcome (government strategic policy objectives) and by administered (on behalf of the Government or the public) and departmental (for the entity’s operations) classification.

Information in this table is presented on a resourcing (that is, appropriations/cash available) basis, whilst the ‘Budgeted expenses by Outcome’ tables in Section 2 and the financial statements in Section 3 are presented on an accrual basis.

Table 1.1: Australian Bureau of Statistics resource statement — Budget estimates for 2018-19 as at Budget May 2018



Prepared on a resourcing (i.e. appropriations available) basis.

Note: All figures shown above are GST exclusive - these may not match figures in the cash flow statement.

1. Appropriation Bill (No. 1) 2018-19.
2. Excludes departmental capital budget (DCB). 2017-18 includes $80.5 million received through Advance to the Finance Minister (AFM). 2018-19 includes supplementation of $5.3 million for revenue recognised in 2017-18 but not appropriated in that year.
3. Estimated retained revenue receipts under section 74 of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* (PGPA Act).
4. Departmental capital budgets are not separately identified in Appropriation Bill (No.1) and form part of ordinary annual services items. Please refer to Table 3.5 for further details. For accounting purposes, this amount has been designated as a 'contribution by owner'. 2018-19 includes supplementation of $6.4m for departmental capital budgets recognised in 2017-18 but not appropriated in that year.
5. Appropriation Bill (No. 2) 2018-19.
6. 2018-19 includes supplementation of $6.4m for departmental capital budgets recognised in 2017-18 but not appropriated in that year.

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### 1.3 Budget measures

Budget measures in Part 1 relating to the Australian Bureau of Statistics are detailed in Budget Paper No. 2 and are summarised below.

Table 1.2: Entity 2018-19 Budget measures

Part 1: Measures announced since the 2017‑18 Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook (MYEFO)



Prepared on a Government Finance Statistics (fiscal) basis. Figures displayed as a negative (-) represent a decrease in funds and a positive (+) represent an increase in funds.

1. The lead entity for measure ‘Delivering Australia’s Digital Future - data sharing and release arrangements’ is the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet. The full measure description and package details appear in Budget Paper No. 2 under the Prime Minister and Cabinet portfolio.

Part 2: Other measures not previously reported in a portfolio statement



Prepared on a Government Finance Statistics (fiscal) basis. Figures displayed as a negative (-) represent a decrease in funds and a positive (+) represent an increase in funds.

1. The lead entity for measure ‘Treasury Portfolio – efficiencies’ is Treasury. The full measure description and package details appear in MYEFO under the Treasury portfolio.

## Section 2: Outcomes and planned performance

Government outcomes are the intended results, impacts or consequences of actions by the Government on the Australian community. Commonwealth programs are the primary vehicle by which government entities achieve the intended results of their outcome statements. Entities are required to identify the programs which contribute to government outcomes over the Budget and forward years.

Each outcome is described below together with its related programs. The following provides detailed information on expenses for each outcome and program, further broken down by funding source.

**Note:**

Performance reporting requirements in the Portfolio Budget Statements are part of the enhanced Commonwealth performance framework established by the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*. It is anticipated that the performance criteria described in Portfolio Budget Statements will be read with broader information provided in an entity’s corporate plans and annual performance statements – included in Annual Reports - to provide an entity’s complete performance story.

The most recent corporate plan for ABS can be found at: <http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/1005.0>

The most recent annual performance statement can be found in the latest Annual Report at: <http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/1001.0>

### 2.1 Budgeted expenses and performance for Outcome 1

|  |
| --- |
| Outcome 1:  Decisions on important matters made by governments, business and the broader community are informed by objective, relevant and trusted official statistics produced through the collection and integration of data, its analysis, and the provision of statistical information. |

#### Linked programs

Many programs rely on ABS statistics to inform decision making. Many ABS statistics rely on quality state, territory and commonwealth administrative data.

|  |
| --- |
| **Australian Tax Office (ATO)** |
| **Programs**   * Program 1.3 – Australian Business Register |
| **Contribution to Outcome 1 made by linked programs**  Program 1.3 – Australian Business Register provides essential infrastructure to the ABS operations of most ABS business surveys. |

##### Budgeted expenses for Outcome 1

This table shows how much the entity intends to spend (on an accrual basis) on achieving the outcome, broken down by program, as well as by Administered and Departmental funding sources.

Table 2.1: Budgeted expenses for Outcome 1



1. Estimated expenses incurred in relation to receipts retained under section 74 of the PGPA Act 2013.
2. Expenses not requiring appropriation in the Budget year are made up of depreciation expenses,amortisation expenses, resources received free of charge and an approved operating loss.

Note: Departmental appropriation splits and totals are indicative estimates and may change in the course of the budget year as government priorities change.

Table 2.2: Performance criteria for Outcome 1

Table 2.2 below details the performance criteria for each program associated with Outcome 1. It also summarises how each program is delivered and where 2018-19 Budget measures have created new programs or materially changed existing programs.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Outcome 1 – Decisions on important matters made by governments, business and the broader community are informed by objective, relevant and trusted official statistics produced through the collection and integration of data, its analysis, and the provision of statistical information. | | |
| **Program 1.1 – Australian Bureau of Statistics**  This program contributes to the outcome through delivery of high quality statistical information to inform Australia’s most important issues and through engaging with users within government, business and the community to ensure they have the confidence in the statistical resources available to enable them to make informed decisions. | | |
| **Delivery** | In 2018-19 and onwards, the ABS will:   1. provide high quality statistics, across key economic, population, social and environment subject matter areas that meet the needs of key users in government, business and the community 2. transform the ABS for the future by transforming ABS business systems and processes to improve their efficiency and the accessibility of information, and expand the range of statistical solutions available to users 3. deliver new statistical solutions to maximise the value of public data through increasing safe access to ABS microdata holdings and unlocking the potential of data sources by integrating data to create new datasets for statistical, policy and research purposes | |
| **Performance information** | | |
| **Year** | **Performance criteria** (a) | **Targets** |
| 2017-18 | Decision making by governments, business and the community is informed by high quality statistics. | ABS continues to produce key economic and population statistics with appropriate coverage, frequency and timeliness as assessed by the International Monetary Fund against the Special Data Dissemination Standard (b); except where the ABS has made an explicit decision not to do so, following consultation with stakeholders, based on Australian needs and circumstances. Forecast: On track. |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Performance information** | | |
| **Year** | **Performance criteria** (a) | **Targets** |
| 2018-19 | Decision making by governments, business and the community is informed by high quality statistics. | ABS continues to produce key economic and population statistics with appropriate coverage, frequency and timeliness as assessed by the International Monetary Fund against the Special Data Dissemination Standard (b); except where the ABS has made an explicit decision not to do so, following consultation with stakeholders, based on Australian needs and circumstances.  The Transformation Program is effectively implemented, to deliver contemporary systems that will better meet ABS's future needs.  The ABS creates new statistical solutions in collaboration with stakeholders to maximise the use of ABS’ data assets. |
| 2019-20 and beyond | As per 2018-19 | Same as 2018-19 |
| **Purposes** | The purpose that contributes to Program 1.1 – Australian Bureau of Statistics is:  to inform Australia’s important decisions by partnering and innovating to deliver relevant, trusted, objective data, statistics and insights. | |
| **Material changes to Program 1.1 resulting from the following measures:**  There are no budget measures that materially impact on the Program 1.1 – Australian Bureau of Statistics. | | |

1. New or modified performance criteria that reflect new or materially changed programs are shown in *italics.*
2. The Special Data Dissemination Standard (SDDS) is produced and managed by the International Monetary Fund (IMF). The IMF monitors and reports on how well countries comply with SDDS requirements for the range of statistics produced and the coverage, frequency, and timeliness of the statistics that are produced. The statistics required by the SDDS include national accounts, labour force, unemployment, consumer price inflation and estimates of resident population. The latest information on Australia's compliance with the SDDS is available on the IMF website: <http://dsbb.imf.org/Pages/SDDS/SOOCtyCtgList.aspx?ctycode=AUS>.

## Section 3: Budgeted financial statements

Section 3 presents budgeted financial statements which provide a comprehensive snapshot of entity finances for the 2018-19 budget year, including the impact of budget measures and resourcing on financial statements.

### 3.1 Budgeted financial statements

#### 3.1.1 Differences between entity resourcing and financial statements

The entity resource statement is prepared on a cash basis and provides a view of cash/appropriations resources available to the ABS whilst the financial statements are prepared on an accrual basis.

#### 3.1.2 Explanatory notes and analysis of budgeted financial statements

The ABS is budgeting for an approved operating loss in 2017-18 before returning to a budgeted break even result in 2018-19.

### 3.2. Budgeted financial statements tables

Table 3.1: Comprehensive income statement (showing net cost of services) for the period ended 30 June



Table 3.1: Comprehensive income statement (showing net cost of services) for the period ended 30 June (continued)

Note: Impact of net cash appropriation arrangements



1. From 2010-11, the Government introduced net cash appropriation arrangements where Bill 1 revenue appropriations for the depreciation/amortisation expenses of non-corporate Commonwealth entities (and select corporate Commonwealth entities) were replaced with a separate capital budget (the Departmental Capital Budget, or DCB) provided through Bill 1 equity appropriations. For information regarding DCBs, please refer to Table 3.5 Departmental Capital Budget Statement.

Prepared on Australian Accounting Standards basis.

Table 3.2: Budgeted departmental balance sheet (as at 30 June)



\*‘Equity’ is the residual interest in assets after deduction of liabilities.

Prepared on Australian Accounting Standards basis.

Table 3.3: Departmental statement of changes in equity — summary of movement (Budget year 2018-19)



Prepared on Australian Accounting Standards basis.

Table 3.4: Budgeted departmental statement of cash flows (for the period ended 30 June)



Prepared on Australian Accounting Standards basis.

Table 3.5: Departmental capital budget statement (for the period ended 30 June)



1. Includes both current Bill 2 and prior Act 2/4/6 appropriations.
2. Does not include annual finance lease costs. Includes purchases from current and previous years’ Departmental capital budgets (DCBs).

Prepared on Australian Accounting Standards basis.

Table 3.6: Statement of asset movements (Budget year 2018‑19)



1. ‘Appropriation equity’ refers to equity injections appropriations provided through Appropriation Bill (No. 2) 2018-19.
2. ‘Appropriation ordinary annual services’ refers to funding provided through Appropriation Bill (No. 1) 2018-19 for depreciation/amortisation expenses, DCBs or other operational expenses.

Prepared on Australian Accounting Standards basis.