

## Northern Territory Budget Papers

The 2009-10 Budget was handed down on 5 May 2009.

### 2009-10 Budget Papers

#### Budget Paper No. 1 Budget Speech

The Treasurer's speech to the Legislative Assembly describes the Government's Budget strategy and key features of the 2009-10 Budget, together with the Bills presented to Parliament outlining appropriations for 2009-10 and new Commonwealth Appropriation for 2008-09.

#### Budget Paper No. 2 Fiscal and Economic Outlook

Meets the requirements of the *Fiscal Integrity and Transparency Act*. Includes a discussion of the Government's fiscal strategy, the fiscal and economic outlook for 2009-10 and the forward estimates period, an overview of expenditure and revenue initiatives in the Budget, and current issues in public finance from the Territory's perspective. The financial data provided meets the Territory's obligations under the UPF as agreed between governments.

#### Budget Paper No. 3 The Budget

Provides detailed information on the budgets of agencies and government business divisions in the Northern Territory budget sector, and focuses on the services and outputs delivered across Government. A summary of revenue information is also provided.

#### Budget Paper No. 4 The Infrastructure Program

Presents a summary of the Government's Infrastructure Program for all budget sector agencies, as well as detailed descriptions of 2009-10 capital projects for each agency. Expected committal dates for major projects in 2009-10 are also provided.

### Related Papers

#### Budget Overview

Key features of the 2009-10 Budget are outlined.

#### Regional Highlights

A regional overview of the Government's initiatives, programs and expenditures in the 2009-10 Budget.

#### Northern Territory Economy

A detailed assessment of the Territory economy, including recent performance and growth prospects, employment, population, trade, and Australian and international conditions. Includes chapters on the performance and outlook for major Territory industries.

#### Northern Territory Economy Overview

Presents a concise summary of the Northern Territory Economy book.

## Treasurer's Financial Statements

#### Treasurer's Annual Financial Report 2007-08

TAFR provides information about the financial performance and position of the Northern Territory Government in 2007-08. The TAFR reports under the accrual framework and provides information on a sectoral basis (General Government, Public Non Financial Corporations, Non Financial Public Sector, Public Financial Corporations and Total Public Sector) in accordance with the *Fiscal Integrity and Transparency Act* and the UPF Agreement. It also includes notes to the accounts for the Total Public Sector and provides an explanation of key variations on an agency by agency basis in an unaudited section.

#### 2008 Pre-Election Fiscal Outlook Report

The *Fiscal Integrity and Transparency Act* requires the public release of a Pre-Election Fiscal Outlook Report within ten days of the issue of a writ for an election. In accordance with this requirement, a report was released on Friday 1 August 2008. The report took into account non-policy changes and policy decisions made or commitments entered into after the 2008-09 Budget up to 29 July 2008. It also provided updated fiscal projections for 2008-09 to 2011-12 and preliminary information on the 2007-08 outcome.

#### 2008-09 Mid-Year Report

The *Fiscal Integrity and Transparency Act* requires the Territory to publish a report before the end of February that revises the current year's Budget projections and forward estimates. This interim report on the Territory's Budget position also satisfies

the Territory's UPF reporting obligations. The report provides updated information to enable an assessment of the Government's fiscal performance against the current fiscal strategy.

#### Treasurer's Quarterly Financial Reports

These reports provide statements that summarise the quarterly and year to date financial transactions, from a whole of government perspective on a UPF basis.

Reports were published for the quarters to 30 September 2008, 31 December 2008 and 31 March 2009. The June quarter results are to be incorporated into the 2008-09 TAFR.

## 2007-08 Annual Reports

- Legislative Assembly Members' Superannuation Trust
- Northern Territory Government and Public Authorities' Superannuation Scheme
- Northern Territory Police Supplementary Benefit Scheme
- Northern Territory Treasury
- Northern Territory Treasury Corporation
- NT Build
- Utilities Commission

## Other Publications

#### Territory Economic Review

This publication monitors the latest economic data on a monthly basis, and provides analysis of major Territory industries, consumption and investment, trade, external economic conditions, business sentiment, price and wage inflation, and other topical issues as they develop. The review also presents a range of relevant time series data and state by state comparisons of major economic indicators. There are about 11 editions each year.

#### Northern Territory Economic Briefs

Northern Territory economic briefs provide up-to-date analysis of the Territory economy and its performance in relation to the Australian economy. These briefs are prepared on a monthly, quarterly or annual basis. They are generally available on the day that data is released, and cover a broad range of economic and

social indicators. They draw on various sources of data, including the ABS and Access Economics.

#### Social Indicator Briefs

Released monthly, Northern Territory social indicator briefs provide the most recent key statistics about the Territory. They cover a broad range of social indicators such as population, family and community, health and welfare, education and training, employment, economic resources and other areas of social concern. The briefs draw on various sources of data including the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, the ABS and the National Centre for Vocational Education Research.

#### Indigenous Expenditure Review

The Territory has a large and geographically dispersed Indigenous population living in urban, rural and remote areas. The cost of delivering infrastructure and services to Indigenous Territorians, especially those in remote communities, can be significant. The 2006-07 Indigenous Expenditure Review analyses expenditure to this group and compares it to funding received by the Territory for Indigenous-related purposes.

#### Grocery Price Survey

The survey monitors grocery prices by measuring the cost of purchasing an average basket of goods at each major supermarket across the Territory and in comparable centres in north Queensland. The survey is conducted on a six-monthly basis and results are published on the Treasury website.

#### Employers' Guide to Payroll Tax in the Northern Territory

An aid to employers who may have a liability for payroll tax, the guide comprehensively explains the basic provisions of the *Payroll Tax Act* and gives examples of how to calculate payroll tax. The guide was updated to take into account Budget changes and the new harmonised payroll tax provisions.

#### Stamp Duty Lodgement Guide

The guide sets out taxpayer lodgement and information requirements for assessing certain duties imposed under the *Stamp Duty Act*. It is updated as necessary.

### TRMeR Manual

The TRMeR Instruction Manual was designed to provide information on how to access and use the TRMeR system for payroll tax returns. The manual was updated to reflect enhancements made to the TRMeR system. Although primarily designed to assist employers in the lodgement of their monthly and annual adjustment returns, TRMeR can also be used for a range of other functions, such as payment of liability by direct debit utilising the Northern Territory Government online banking facility, updating contact details, calculating the general exemption deduction, viewing lodgement and payment history and communicating with the Territory Revenue Office.

### First Home Owner Concession Guide and Application Form

The first home owner concession provides Territorians buying their first home or land to build their first home with a concession on the stamp duty payable. The guide provides information on the concession and also informs applicants of the eligibility criteria. An application form is available with the guide.

### First Home Owner Boost and Application Form

The First Home Owner Boost is a Commonwealth initiative administered by the Territory Revenue Office. Boost provides a temporary increase of \$14 000 for a new home or \$7000 for an established home to the \$7000 First Home Owner Grant (provided by the Territory). Boost is effective for the period 14 October 2008 to 31 December 2009 but the amounts will halve to \$7000 and \$3500 respectively from 1 October 2009. The guide provides information on the grant and also informs applicants of the eligibility criteria they must meet. An application form is available with the guide.

### Buildstart Guide and Application Form

The guide and application form were developed for the commencement of the Territory's Buildstart scheme from 27 October 2008. The guide provides information on the grant and also informs applicants of the eligibility criteria they must meet. An application form is available with the guide.

### Commissioner's Guidelines

The Commissioner for Territory Revenue issues Commissioner's Guidelines on specific topics to provide guidance on the Commissioner's interpretation of various provisions of legislation administered by the Commissioner, or details of administrative policies, practices or procedures utilised by the Territory Revenue Office in administering those laws.

Six guidelines were issued in 2008-09 on a variety of topics addressing aspects of fuel subsidies, payroll tax, stamp duty and general administration.

### Revenue Circulars

Revenue circulars are an information system intended to provide timely advice to taxpayers and their advisers of new developments to the revenue laws administered by the Commissioner of Territory Revenue. As such, the circulars are current as at the date of issue, but are not updated to reflect developments that supersede the information provided in an earlier circular.

Six circulars were issued in 2008-09, covering various aspects of home incentives schemes, payroll tax, stamp duty and general administration.

### Payroll Tax Rulings

The Commissioner for Territory Revenue issued 33 Payroll Tax Rulings as part of the adoption of the payroll tax harmonisation provisions from 1 July 2009. These rulings are largely consistent with those issued in the other states that have fully harmonised their payroll tax legislation.

### Territory Revenue Office Forms

Adoption of the harmonised payroll tax provisions also resulted in changes to many of the Territory's payroll tax forms. The Territory Revenue Office adapted 49 of its forms to enable them to be completed online, then printed and lodged.

### Northern Territory Government and Public Authorities' Superannuation Scheme 2007-08 Report to Members

The report provides summary information to NTGPASS members on the management, investment performance and financial position of the scheme in 2007-08, and on current superannuation issues. It is issued with annual member account statements. Similar reports are prepared for members of LAMS and NTPSBS.

### Member Investment Choice Booklet

The booklet provides NTGPASS members with information about the different options available to them for investing their superannuation contribution balances. As well as providing details on the benefits of each option, the booklet also outlines what benefits are available through being an NTGPASS member.

### Allocated Pensions Booklet

NTGPASS allocated pensions allow members who have retired from the public sector to receive their superannuation benefit as a pension, with the flexibility to withdraw lump sums if required. The booklet provides information on allocated pensions and explains how the pension product works.

### NTGPASS Newsletter

Fact sheets and two newsletters were developed in response to the global financial crisis to assist members understand the impact of negative returns on their superannuation accounts.

### Territory Bonds Prospectus

Aimed at prospective holders of Territory Bonds, this publication provides background on Territory Bonds, and outlines the terms and conditions. An application form is attached.

The papers and publications listed are available online at [www.nt.gov.au/ntt](http://www.nt.gov.au/ntt)

The Budget Papers can also be obtained from [www.budget.nt.gov.au](http://www.budget.nt.gov.au)

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## Websites

Northern Territory Treasury  
[www.nt.gov.au/ntt](http://www.nt.gov.au/ntt)

Northern Territory Budget  
[www.budget.nt.gov.au](http://www.budget.nt.gov.au)

Northern Territory Superannuation Office  
[www.nt.gov.au/ntt/super](http://www.nt.gov.au/ntt/super)

Northern Territory Treasury Corporation  
[www.territorybonds.nt.gov.au](http://www.territorybonds.nt.gov.au)

Territory Revenue Office  
[www.revenue.nt.gov.au](http://www.revenue.nt.gov.au)

Utilities Commission  
[www.utilicom.nt.gov.au](http://www.utilicom.nt.gov.au)

NT Build  
[www.ntbuild.com.au](http://www.ntbuild.com.au)