

Appendix A: Commonwealth Specific Purpose Payments to Other Levels of Government, Repayments of Advances, Advances and Interest Payments

This appendix provides information on estimated Commonwealth specific purpose payments to the States and local government together with details of repayments and interest on advances (loans) to the States. The majority of these advances were funded from borrowings made on behalf of the States.

Consistent with the reporting of other financial data in the 1999-2000 Budget Papers, data in this appendix have been prepared on an accrual accounting basis rather than a cash basis as in previous years. In relation to specific purpose payments, the main difference between the two accounting bases relates to the timing that payments are recognised. The change in treatment has had the most significant impact on payments in the education function which were previously reported on a calendar year basis but are now reported on a financial year basis.

In addition, the tables in this appendix report for the first time payments made by the Commonwealth general government sector rather than the more limited Commonwealth budget sector. This change involves the inclusion of payments to the States and local government made by the Australian National Training Authority.

TABLE A1: ESTIMATED SPECIFIC PURPOSE PAYMENTS TO THE STATES, REPAYMENTS OF ADVANCES, ADVANCES AND INTEREST PAYMENTS, 1998-99 TO 2002-03

This table provides information on Commonwealth specific purpose payments to the States together with details of repayments and interest on advances. The majority of these advances were funded from borrowings made on behalf of the States under the State Governments' Loan Council programme.

Details are classified as follows:

- specific purpose payments
 - current;
 - capital;
- repayments of advances (including repayments to the Debt Sinking Funds);
- details of new advances made; and
- interest on Commonwealth advances.

Specific purpose payment information is presented on a function basis, which aggregates payments directed towards like objectives and purposes. Specific purpose payments are further divided into those paid ‘to’ the States (by far the larger group by number) and those judged to be paid ‘through’ the States to other groups. Payments in the latter group are indicated within the table by (*) and separate totals for ‘to’ and ‘through’ are provided in the summary at the end of the table.

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**TABLE A2 AND A3: ESTIMATED SPECIFIC PURPOSE PAYMENTS
TO THE STATES, REPAYMENTS OF ADVANCES, ADVANCES AND
INTEREST PAYMENTS, 1998-99 AND 1999-2000**

Table A2 provides revised estimates for 1998-99 of each State’s share of the items included in Table A1. Some items that were reported in *Budget Paper No.3, Federal Financial Relations 1998-99*, are no longer classified as specific purpose payments, and therefore, are not included in this table. These include payments for the access programme and human rights.

Table A3 provides budget estimates for 1999-2000 of each State’s share of the items included in Table A1. As in other years the distribution of assistance for these years under some programmes is dependent upon the recipient government undertaking to participate in programmes or approve particular projects. For a few programmes, final decisions on the distribution of payments among the States have still to be taken by the Commonwealth; for others, the final distribution for 1999-2000 will not be settled until further data become available. In such cases, provisional or notional estimates of the distribution are included. This does not commit the Commonwealth to a particular level of funding or indicate that a State has agreed to participate in the programme.

Specific purpose payments ‘through’ the States are indicated in the tables by (*).

A summary of total payments ‘to’ and ‘through’ the States is provided at the end of each table.

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TABLES A4, A5 AND A6: ESTIMATED SPECIFIC PURPOSE PAYMENTS DIRECT TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES

These tables provide information on Commonwealth specific purpose payments to local government authorities on a function basis.

Table A4 provides information on estimated Commonwealth specific purpose payments to local government authorities for the years 1998-99 to 2002-03.

Table A5 provides revised estimates of the distribution of the specific purpose payments direct to local government authorities among the States for 1998-99.

Table A6 provides an indicative distribution of specific purpose payments direct to local government authorities among the States for 1999-2000. The actual distribution of some payments may change in light of factors such as revisions to estimates and national priorities.

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