

MID-YEAR ECONOMIC AND FISCAL OUTLOOK

2013-14

DECEMBER 2013

STATEMENT BY

THE HONOURABLE J. B. HOCKEY MP
TREASURER OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

AND

SENATOR THE HONOURABLE MATHIAS CORMANN
MINISTER FOR FINANCE OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

FOR THE INFORMATION OF HONOURABLE MEMBERS

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Manager
Communications
The Treasury
Langton Crescent Parkes ACT 2600
Email: medialiasion@treasury.gov.au

Internet

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NOTES

(a) The following definitions are used in this Mid-year Fiscal and Economic Outlook (MYEFO):

- 'real' means adjusted for the effect of inflation;
- real growth in expenses and payments is calculated by the Consumer Price Index (CPI) as the deflator;
- the Budget year refers to 2013-14, while the forward years refer to 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17; and
- one billion is equal to one thousand million.

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

- estimates under \$100,000 are rounded to the nearest thousand;
- estimates \$100,000 and over are generally rounded to the nearest tenth of a million;
- estimates midway between rounding points are rounded up; and
- the percentage changes in statistical tables are calculated using unrounded data.

(c) For the budget balance, a negative sign indicates a deficit while no sign indicates a surplus.

(d) The following notations are used:

-	nil
na	not applicable (unless otherwise specified)
\$m	millions of dollars
\$b	billions of dollars
nfp	not for publication
(e)	estimates (unless otherwise specified)
(p)	projections (unless otherwise specified)
NEC/ nec	not elsewhere classified

- (e) The Australian Capital Territory and the Northern Territory are referred to as 'the Territories'. References to the 'States' or 'each State' include the Territories. The following abbreviations are used for the names of the States, where appropriate:

NSW	New South Wales
VIC	Victoria
QLD	Queensland
WA	Western Australia
SA	South Australia
TAS	Tasmania
ACT	Australian Capital Territory
NT	Northern Territory

- (f) In this paper the term Commonwealth refers to the Commonwealth of Australia. The term is used when referring to the legal entity of the Commonwealth of Australia.

The term Australian Government is used when referring to the Government and the decisions and activities made by the Government on behalf of the Commonwealth of Australia.

FOREWORD

The *Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook 2013-14* (MYEFO) has been prepared in accordance with the *Charter of Budget Honesty Act 1998*. The Charter requires that the Government provide a mid-year budget report which provides updated information on the Government's fiscal position.

Consistent with these requirements:

- **Part 1: Overview** — contains summary information on the key fiscal and economic indicators and outlook.
- **Part 2: Economic outlook** — discusses the domestic and international economic forecasts and projections that underpin the budget estimates.
- **Part 3: Fiscal outlook** — provides a discussion of the fiscal outlook, in addition to a summary of the factors explaining variations in the cash flow statement, the operating statement and the balance sheet since the 2013 Pre-Election Economic and Fiscal Outlook (PEFO). This part includes discussion of the sensitivity of the budget estimates to changes in economic parameters, confidence intervals around forecasts, expenses by function, tax expenditures, payments to the States, and a debt statement.
- **Appendix A: Policy decisions taken since the 2013-14 Budget** — provides details of decisions taken since the 2013-14 Budget that affect revenue, expense and capital estimates.
- **Appendix B: Australian Government Budget Financial Statements** — provides financial statements for the general government, public non-financial corporations and total non-financial public sectors.
- **Appendix C: Statement of risks** — provides details of general developments or specific events that may have an impact on the fiscal position, and contingent liabilities which are costs the government may possibly face, some of which are quantified.
- **Appendix D: Historical Australian Government data** — provides historical data for the Australian Government's key fiscal aggregates.

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