Budget Overview

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The Commonwealth’s $42 billion Stimulus Package

The Commonwealth’s Stimulus Package will result in $350M over four years flowing to the Territory for infrastructure works. Projects have already commenced in 2008-09, with the majority of work to be undertaken in 2009-10 and some continuing through to 2011-12. Funding also includes $76M for defence housing and $5M for local community infrastructure.

The following table sets out the expected infrastructure spending in the Territory.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2008-09 to 2011-12</th>
<th>$M</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Building the Education Revolution</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary Schools for the 21st Century</td>
<td>171.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National School Pride Program</td>
<td>15.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science and language centres</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Housing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stage One</td>
<td>7.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stage Two</td>
<td>52.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repairs to existing public housing</td>
<td>4.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Spots, Boom Gates</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black spots</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boom gates</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repairing regional roads</td>
<td>12.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Territory Government</td>
<td>271.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Defence housing</td>
<td>76.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community infrastructure</td>
<td>5.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Infrastructure</td>
<td>352.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The 2009-10 Budget is framed to protect Territory jobs and the economy during the global financial crisis. The Budget provides the largest infrastructure program delivered in the Territory’s history, aimed at stimulating the economy, creating and sustaining jobs and meeting the needs of Territorians, today and into the future. The Budget increases resources for frontline services and continues to provide strong support for the Territory lifestyle.

2009-10 Key Expenditure and Infrastructure

The Northern Territory Government Budget is $4.5 billion, with key funding commitments including:

- $1 billion for Health and Families;
- $808 million for Education and Training;
- $471 million for Local Government and Housing; and
- $279 million for Police, Fire and Emergency Services.

Budget highlights include a record Territory Government infrastructure investment of $1.3 billion for housing, roads, education and health facilities across the Territory.

In addition to new projects, major capital projects continuing in 2009-10 include:

- Tiger Brennan Drive extension;
- Strategic Indigenous Housing Infrastructure Program;
- Rosebery Primary and Middle schools;
- radiation oncology unit at Royal Darwin Hospital;
- Palmerston super clinic and early learning and care centre;
- first round of Nation Building and Jobs Plan projects;
- Darwin Business Park; and
- community, beef and mining roads.

General Government Budget Aggregates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year ended 30 June</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Operating revenue</td>
<td>$M</td>
<td>$M</td>
<td>$M</td>
<td>$M</td>
<td>$M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 051</td>
<td>4 218</td>
<td>4 253</td>
<td>4 368</td>
<td>4 352</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating expenses</td>
<td>$M</td>
<td>$M</td>
<td>$M</td>
<td>$M</td>
<td>$M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 951</td>
<td>4 002</td>
<td>4 137</td>
<td>4 246</td>
<td>4 273</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating result</td>
<td>$M</td>
<td>$M</td>
<td>$M</td>
<td>$M</td>
<td>$M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100</td>
<td>215</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>79</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fiscal balance</td>
<td>$M</td>
<td>$M</td>
<td>$M</td>
<td>$M</td>
<td>$M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 116</td>
<td>- 253</td>
<td>- 224</td>
<td>- 125</td>
<td>- 50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash outcome</td>
<td>$M</td>
<td>$M</td>
<td>$M</td>
<td>$M</td>
<td>$M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 17</td>
<td>- 201</td>
<td>- 180</td>
<td>- 98</td>
<td>- 30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net debt</td>
<td>$M</td>
<td>$M</td>
<td>$M</td>
<td>$M</td>
<td>$M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>969</td>
<td>1 174</td>
<td>1 336</td>
<td>1 415</td>
<td>1 425</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net financial liabilities</td>
<td>$M</td>
<td>$M</td>
<td>$M</td>
<td>$M</td>
<td>$M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 364</td>
<td>4 645</td>
<td>4 875</td>
<td>5 006</td>
<td>5 062</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Fiscal Strategy
The Northern Territory’s fiscal strategy has been substantially revised to take into consideration both national and Territory economic conditions that have resulted in falling revenues, and the Government’s commitment to increase investment spending to support jobs and maintain growth in the Territory.

The revised strategy includes temporary deficits to support the economy, with the commitment to return to surplus when the economy recovers.

The strategy also commits to increased infrastructure expenditure over the economic cycle, maintaining a competitive tax environment and ensuring the prudent management of debt.

Key Growth Forecasts
Economic growth forecasts are lower than those expected for 2008-09, however they still remain strong compared to the Australian indicators. The table below sets out actual outcomes for 2005-06 to 2007-08, an estimate for 2008-09 and forecasts for 2009-10 and 2010-11.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Growth Forecasts</th>
<th>2005-06</th>
<th>2006-07</th>
<th>2007-08</th>
<th>2008-09e</th>
<th>2009-10f</th>
<th>2010-11f</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>%</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Real GSP</td>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>5.2</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>4.1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3½</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resident employment</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>5.1</td>
<td>5.9</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>1½</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population¹</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>1½</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darwin CPI²</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>2½</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

e: estimate; f: forecast
¹ As at December, annual percentage change
² As at December, year on year percentage change

Infrastructure
Total infrastructure payments for 2009-10 will be $1299 billion, an increase of $414 million or 47 per cent more than 2008-09.

Cash Allocations to Infrastructure Since 2001
Government’s Fiscal Strategy
Sustainable Service Provision
Target: Expenditure growth not to exceed revenue growth, excluding tied Commonwealth funding
› Assessment: Return budget to surplus once economy improves

Infrastructure for Economic and Community Development
Target: Maintain infrastructure investment at appropriate levels
› Assessment: Infrastructure spending of at least twice depreciation expenses on average over the current economic cycle and at least equal thereafter

Competitive Tax Environment
Target: Ensure that Territory taxes and charges are competitive with the average of the states and territories
› Assessment: Taxation effort below the state average

Prudent Management of Debt and Liabilities
Target: Reduce debt to pre-GFC levels once the economy rebounds
› Assessment: Once economy improves, debt levels to reduce on average by 5 per cent per annum of additional debt incurred since 2007-08

The fiscal outlook for the Territory has been substantially revised due to the global financial crisis (GFC) and its effect on the national and Territory economies.
Budget 2009 demonstrates strong economic and fiscal management by maintaining spending to protect Territory jobs while mapping a clear, staged return to a surplus budget over five years from 2009-10. This commitment is incorporated in a new fiscal strategy that has been developed with both short and medium term objectives, reflective of the current economic cycle.

The fiscal outlook in the 2009-10 Budget includes:
• significant operating surpluses maintained for all forward years, providing some level of capacity to invest in infrastructure;
• cash outcome and the accrual fiscal balance to be in deficit over the economic cycle but trending to improvement by 2012-13;
• substantial infrastructure investment in 2009-10 of $1299 million, an increase of $414 million from 2008-09; and
• the ratio of net debt and net financial liabilities to revenue in the general government sector to increase as a result of record infrastructure spends and prevailing economic conditions, but still remaining below 2001-02 levels.

Low Business Taxes
Tax reform has resulted in cumulative tax savings of $321 million since 2001. For businesses with wage costs of up to $5 million the Territory has the most competitive payroll tax scheme and small and medium businesses pay the lowest recurrent taxes.

Net Financial Liabilities and Net Debt to Revenue – General Government Sector

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Net debt (%)</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net financial liabilities (%)</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>116</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Budget Highlights

Infrastructure

Total infrastructure payments in 2009-10 will be $1299 million, including $276 million for repairs and maintenance, an increase in total infrastructure payments of 47 per cent. Budget sector capital works total $1077 million, $236 million higher than 2008-09. The program by functional area is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Functional Area</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Transport</td>
<td>$359.5M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>$231.5M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>$196.8M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land release and community infrastructure</td>
<td>$108.6M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>$81.7M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community safety</td>
<td>$51.9M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lifestyle and environment</td>
<td>$35.7M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>$10.9M</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Revenue

Territory revenue is expected to be $4.3 billion in 2009-10. This comprises 55 per cent GST revenue (lower than historic levels due to the reduced growth in the national GST pool), 25 per cent in specific purpose payments and national partnership agreements and 20 per cent Territory own-source revenue.

Taxation is the major source of the Territory’s own-source revenue, with the largest components, payroll tax and mining royalties, contributing 28 per cent each in 2009-10, with estimated revenue of $157 million and $160 million respectively, followed by taxes on property at 19 per cent.

Expenses

Expenses are expected to be $4.5 billion in 2009-10. The key functions of health, education and public order and safety comprise 60 per cent of the total with housing services now accounting for 13 per cent of expenses, reflecting new and upgraded housing, particularly in remote areas. Significant increases in 2009-10 include increased Commonwealth funding of $184 million largely related to health and education, and $70.3 million for new and expanded policy decisions predominantly relating to education, public safety, health and provision of Indigenous Essential Services to remote communities.

General Government Fiscal Aggregates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2008-09</th>
<th>2009-10</th>
<th>2010-11</th>
<th>2011-12</th>
<th>2012-13</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$M</td>
<td>$M</td>
<td>$M</td>
<td>$M</td>
<td>$M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating result ($M)</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>215</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fiscal balance ($M)</td>
<td>-116</td>
<td>-253</td>
<td>-224</td>
<td>-125</td>
<td>-50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash outcome ($M)</td>
<td>-17</td>
<td>-201</td>
<td>-180</td>
<td>-98</td>
<td>-30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: surplus (+), deficit (-)

New Intergovernmental Agreement

The Commonwealth and all states signed a new Intergovernmental Agreement on Federal Financial Relations (IGA), in December 2008.

The IGA establishes six National Agreements addressing the key service delivery areas of healthcare, school education, skills and workforce development, disability, housing, and Indigenous reform. It also provides for National Partnership agreements in these areas.

The IGA will be complemented by a new performance reporting framework which seeks to enhance public accountability for all governments within the new funding arrangements.

Fiscal Outlook

5
Stimulating Investment and Growth

The Commonwealth’s Stimulus Package released on 5 February 2009 included $21.5B for the states for education, social housing and road and rail infrastructure. The package will result in up to $500M flowing to the Territory over four years targeting schools, social and defence housing, roads, railway crossing safety and community infrastructure, as well as tax breaks for Territory businesses and stimulus bonuses for individuals. Energy efficiency rebates are also available.

The majority of construction work will be undertaken in 2009-10 and some will continue into 2011-12.

Investing in the Territory’s Infrastructure

The 2009-10 Budget infrastructure spending is the most significant in the Territory’s history, with an estimated expenditure of $1.3 billion. The program includes housing and essential services in remote areas, major school upgrades across the Territory, improved health facilities and enhanced road network:

- $322 million on Territory roads;
- $235 million for education and training infrastructure; and
- $101 million to upgrade and improve health facilities.

Roads funding provides for the continuation of the $89 million Tiger Brennan Drive extension, $11 million for the Berrimah Road rail overpass and a further $8 million for lane duplication and passing lanes. Other major roads projects include:

- $19 million for community, beef and mining roads across the Territory;
- $5 million for improvements on the Stuart, Barkly and Victoria highways;
- $5 million for overtaking lanes between Darwin and Katherine;
- $4.5 million to upgrade Jenkins Road; and
- $2 million for further work on the Tanami Road upgrade.

More than $1.4 billion will be spent over the next five years on essential utilities infrastructure across the Territory, including $301 million in 2009-10.

Jobs Strategy

In 2009-10, $5.13 million is provided to continue Jobs Plan 3, a $21.3 million four-year commitment to growing and developing a skilled Territory workforce and increasing job opportunities.

Continuing assistance will be provided to support employers to take on additional apprentices and trainees, including an additional $1 million per annum to support 10 000 trainees and apprentices to commence work, and for equipment to support their training.

The Territory Government will continue to support the workforce in rural areas by providing $0.5 million ongoing from 2009-10 for Regional Jobs Hubs in Nhulunbuy and Tennant Creek, providing a one-stop-shop for information on employment and training in the region.

The new Workforce Growth Unit will also be established, at a cost of $0.35 million, to attract skilled and unskilled labour from around Australia and overseas to the Territory.
Growing and Housing the Territory

Land Release and Affordable Housing

The Territory Government is committed to land development to meet the needs of our growing population. Planning has begun for the new city of Weddell, which will provide around 10,000 blocks of land.

The 2009-10 Budget provides:

- $20 million for headworks at Palmerston East to prepare for three new suburbs – this is additional to the headworks for Bellamack; and
- $10 million for industrial land development to meet the needs of industry, including $6 million to turn off land in Darwin Business Park North and $2.5 million for the common user area at East Arm.

The Territory Government will establish a new Affordable Housing Rental Company to provide quality and affordable rental to medium and low income households.

Other land release around the Territory includes:

- 35 new lots from released Crown land in Katherine;
- release of land in Mt Johns Valley with approval for private development in Alice Springs delivering up to 235 new housing lots from 2009; and
- 8 residential blocks auctioned in Tennant Creek with more industrial blocks and a major engineering study under way on other land.

Public and Social Housing

The 2009-10 Budget provides $23.4 million to increase the supply of social housing and improve the opportunities for all Territorians to gain long-term, secure accommodation, including:

- $10 million to build the Bellamack Seniors Village;
- $9.4 million to repair and maintain existing public housing dwellings; and
- $4 million to improve the appearance and amenity of, and reduce antisocial behaviour around, older style unit complexes.

Under the National Partnership agreements for Social Housing and Nation Building and Jobs Plan, a further $64 million will be invested over three years in urban social housing. The Territory Government will work with the Commonwealth to construct new and upgrade and repair existing dwellings. This includes:

- $7.1 million over two years to build 22 new houses, two bedroom units and duplexes in Darwin, Palmerston, Humpty Doo, Alice Springs and Tennant Creek; and
- $4.1 million over two years to repair and upgrade 175 public housing properties, including solar hot water unit installations and roof replacements.

Supporting Home Ownership

A new home purchase assistance scheme, Homestart NT, will be introduced from 1 June 2009 to assist more Territory families to buy their own home.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>New price cap</th>
<th>Old price cap</th>
<th>Increase</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$000</td>
<td>$000</td>
<td>$000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darwin and Palmerston</td>
<td>420</td>
<td>350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Katherine</td>
<td>267</td>
<td>225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennant Creek</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alice Springs</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>265</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Key elements of the old HomeNorth scheme such as the shared equity loan, fee assistance loan and low deposit continue with Homestart NT. Other housing assistance includes:

- First Home Owner Grant – $7,000 for Territorians purchasing or building their first home;
- First Home Owner Concession – saves Territorians purchasing their first home up to $15,515 on stamp duty; and
- Principal Place of Residence concession – up to $2,500 for other home buyers.
Remote Service Delivery

2009-10 Budget

Essential Services

In 2009-10, $18.9M will be invested in power, water and sewerage infrastructure in remote Indigenous communities, including:

- $2.4M to connect Yuelamu to the Yuendumu grid;
- $1.6M for a new power station at Alpurrurulam;
- $1M for water storage in Palumpa;
- $1.6M to repair existing water storage and extend power station at Waruwi;
- $0.65M to improve water storage in Ramingining;
- $0.5M for new bores at Rittarangu;
- $0.45M each for water sourcing at Beswick, Barunga and Alpurrurulam; and
- $0.42M to replace the tank in Wilora.

A total of $4.5M will fund upgrades to cyclone shelters.

The 2009-10 Budget reaffirms efforts to improve infrastructure and services for Territorians living in remote areas and to close the gap on Indigenous disadvantage.

Indigenous Housing

The joint Commonwealth and Territory five-year $672 million Strategic Indigenous Housing Infrastructure Program to improve housing and related infrastructure in 73 communities will continue to roll out in 2009-10, providing:

- $98.16 million to build up to 100 new houses including land servicing and associated infrastructure;
- $78.5 million to refurbish 730 existing homes; and
- $44.3 million for better tenancy and property management.

Government Employee Housing

In 2009-10, $33 million is provided for additional housing for teachers, nurses and police in remote areas to support delivery of Government services, including key Closing the Gap initiatives. This includes:

- $10 million to construct 14 new and replace four existing dwellings;
- $6 million to upgrade police and other agency priority housing;
- $10 million to construct 19 new Government employee houses in remote localities to support Closing the Gap initiatives; and
- $6 million for land servicing in remote communities.

Employment

The 2009-10 Budget also focuses on improving Indigenous employment and participation in industry and business, with:

- $2.25 million to support Indigenous employment by replacing 86 CDEP jobs with real jobs in the Northern Territory Public Sector;
- $2 million to match vocational education and training to job opportunities in remote communities;
- $1.04 million for Indigenous apprentices and rangers in remote areas;
- $0.5 million for Regional Jobs Hubs in Nhulunbuy and Tennant Creek;
- $1.6 million to support Indigenous businesses and employment in the tourism industry; and
- $0.6 million for start up and expansion of Indigenous businesses.

Health and Family Services

Funding is provided in 2009-10 to improve the health and wellbeing of remote Territorians through targeted programs and enhanced service delivery, including:

- $2 million for teams of midwives and Aboriginal health workers in Darwin and Alice Springs to support Aboriginal women from remote communities to access birthing services in main centres;
Remote Service Delivery

Remote Infrastructure
Key projects in 2009-10 to improve infrastructure in remote areas include:

- $19M for community, beef and mining roads, including the Buntine, Plenty and Tanami highways, the Maryvale Road and a bridge on the Wollogorang Road over the McArthur River;
- $2.8m to complete the Territory’s total commitment of $11.8m for the fibre optic telecommunications link between Jabiru and Nhulunbuy and nine Arnhem Land communities;
- $2.5m to upgrade Lajamanu airstrip; and
- $1.7m for the Remote Aerodrome Safety Program to improve the safety and accessibility of aerodromes in remote and isolated communities.

Education
The 2009-10 Budget continues the focus on improving the educational outcomes of Indigenous students in remote areas, with:

- $2.4 million, an increase of $0.9 million, to support additional teachers in remote communities;
- $2 million, an increase of $0.5 million, for five mobile preschools servicing 25 communities;
- $6.25 million to upgrade schools at Angurugu, Gapuwiyak, Gunbalanya, Lajamanu and Numbulwar;
- $2 million for various homeland centre upgrades across the regions;
- $0.7 million, an increase of $0.2 million, for a child protection unit to provide specialist support to schools, including six school counsellors;
- $0.6 million to improve access to information technology in remote schools;
- $0.12 million to recruit and train more Indigenous teachers under the Chief Minister’s Wesley Lanhapuy Scholarship Program; and
- $0.2 million for two regional senior studies hostels.

Community Safety
The 2009-10 Budget continues initiatives to improve community safety in remote areas, including:

- $2.3 million to support additional police resources;
- $6.2 million for the Child Abuse Taskforce;
- $1.92 million for alcohol and treatment initiatives;
- a further $0.7 million for Family Violence Programs;
- a further $0.3 million for extra remote area corrections officers to supervise community-based offenders; and
- $0.62 million for community courts and witness assistance services.

In addition, $2 million is provided to convert the existing Numbulwar police post to a fully operational police station.

- $2 million to continue the implementation of e-Health initiatives aimed at supporting the secure and quick exchange of patient information between healthcare providers in different locations;
- $14.56 million for continued works and upgrades on health centres including Areyonga, Bulla, Minyerri, Milingimbi, Wadeye and the Jilkminggan and Ngukurr regions;
- additional funding of $2 million for care and case management services for children in care; and
- a further $1.3 million to expand chronic disease programs.
$191.7M for new and refurbished Indigenous housing in remote communities
$61.9M for government employee housing in remote areas
$54.8M for lifestyle and environment
$46M for community development including tenancy management and maintenance of Indigenous housing in remote areas

$25.9M for jobs and training
$22.9M for better schooling
$22.7M for new and upgraded social housing under the Nation Building and Jobs Plan package
$21.8M to support business
$12.5M for safer communities
$7M for railway level crossing upgrades
$5.8M for better health

$5.5M for Roads to Recovery
$4.5M for cyclone shelter upgrades
$3.5M for the Black Spot Program
$3M for urban arterial roads traffic management
$2M to upgrade various homeland learning centres
$2M for emergency accommodation for domestic violence victims

Katherine
- $75.1M for better schooling
- $4.4M for better health
- $4.5M for jobs and training
- $4.3M to support business
- $2.5M to upgrade the Lajamanu airstrip
- $1.8M for community development including $1M to assist low to middle income earners to purchase a home
- $1M for park and ride facilities for bus commuters from Darwin rural area

Territory-wide
- $25.9M for jobs and training
- $22.9M for better schooling
- $22.7M for new and upgraded social housing under the Nation Building and Jobs Plan package
- $21.8M to support business
- $12.5M for safer communities
- $7M for railway level crossing upgrades
- $5.8M for better health

$5.5M for Roads to Recovery
$4.5M for cyclone shelter upgrades
$3.5M for the Black Spot Program
$3M for urban arterial roads traffic management
$2M to upgrade various homeland learning centres
$2M for emergency accommodation for domestic violence victims

Darwin
- $718.7M for better health
- $238.1M for better schooling
- $182.3M for safer communities
- $24.7M for jobs and training including $17.7M for vocational education and training
- $21.8M for Primary Schools for the 21st Century
- $20.3M for lifestyle and environment
- $15.1M to continue the Darwin Waterfront redevelopment
- $12.4M for community development
- $6M for Tiger Brennan passing lanes

- $6M for staff accommodation at Royal Darwin Hospital
- $4.8M for Hidden Valley infrastructure – upgrades and dragstrip
- $3M for Dripstone Middle School – new science facilities
- $2.6M for National School Pride projects
- $2.6M to support business
- $2M for secure care facilities at Royal Darwin Hospital
- $2M for accommodation for radiation oncology patients and their carers

Palmerston and Litchfield
- $103M for better schooling
- $53.5M for continued works at Rosebery Primary and Middle schools
- $52.5M for safer communities
- $26.1M for Darwin Business Park works
- $21M for Doug Owston Correctional Facility headworks
- $26M for headworks for three new suburbs at Palmerston East
- $12.6M for community development
- $11.5M for lifestyle and environment
- $10.9M for better health including $1M for additional ambulance services

- $10M for the Bellamack Seniors Village
- $8.7M for Primary Schools for the 21st Century
- $7.6M for jobs and training
- $5M for the Palmerston Water Park
- $4M for a sewerage pump station for the new suburb of Johnston
- $4M for a new boat ramp in Palmerston
- $2.2M to support business
- $1.1M for National School Pride projects
- $1M for park and ride facilities for bus commuters from Darwin rural area

Katherine
- $7.7M for Wollogorang Road – bridge over McArthur River
- $7M for the Bellamack Seniors Village
- $8.7M for Primary Schools for the 21st Century
- $7.6M for jobs and training
- $5M for the Palmerston Water Park
- $4M for a sewerage pump station for the new suburb of Johnston
- $4M for a new boat ramp in Palmerston
- $2.2M to support business
- $1.1M for National School Pride projects
- $1M for park and ride facilities for bus commuters from Darwin rural area
### Top End Rural
- $46.1M for better schooling
- $31.4M for better health
- $12.8M for Primary Schools for the 21st Century
- $9.9M for safer communities including support for youth rehabilitation camps
- $7.2M for jobs and training
- $6.3M for lifestyle and environment
- $5.1M to support business including $2.3M for a global Kakadu tourism campaign
- $2M for Fog Bay Road – seal between Cox Peninsula Road and Namarada Drive
- $2M for new and upgraded water storage capacity at Warruwi and Palumpa
- $1.5M for National School Pride projects
- $1.3M to upgrade Gunbalanya school
- $0.6M to extend the power station and upgrade fuel bunding at Warruwi
- $0.4M for community development

### East Arnhem
- $68.6M for better schooling
- $35.3M for better health
- $13.8M for Primary Schools for the 21st Century
- $10.1M for safer communities
- $6.8M for jobs and training including support for a Regional Job Hub in Nhulunbuy
- $3.4M for lifestyle and environment
- $3.1M for community development
- $2M to convert the Numbulwar police post to a police station
- $1.7M for National School Pride projects
- $1.5M to convert the Yilpara homeland centre into a school
- $1.3M each for school upgrades at Angurugu, Gapuwiyak and Numbulwar
- $1.2M for four high care respite beds at Gove District Hospital
- $0.7M to replace the ground level water tank at Ramingining

### Barkly
- $25M for better schooling
- $18.3M for better health
- $11.8M for safer communities
- $6.4M for lifestyle and environment
- $4.7M for Primary Schools for the 21st Century
- $4.3M for jobs and training
- $3M for a new multipurpose sports facility at Tennant Creek High School
- $2.5M for renal facilities
- $2M to support business
- $1.6M for a new power station at Alpurrurulam
- $1.3M for a Trade Training Centre in Tennant Creek
- $0.6M for National School Pride projects
- $0.5M for water sourcing at Alpurrurulam
- $0.2M for community development

### Central Australia
- $192.9M for better health
- $126.9M for better schooling
- $81M for safer communities
- $21.7M for new and continuing works at the Alice Springs Hospital including $2.5M for mental health secure care facilities
- $19.5M for lifestyle and environment
- $17.2M for Primary Schools for the 21st Century
- $16M for jobs and training
- $10.2M to support business including $2.1M for the Global Red Centre Way tourism campaign
- $9.9M for Tanami Road
- $8.4M for community development
- $7.6M for Plenty Highway
- $6M to upgrade Alice Springs police station
- $5.4M for Maryvale Road
- $4.7M on works for the youth hub and the middle school campuses at Gillen and Anzac Hill
- $4.5M to upgrade air-conditioning at Araluen
- $3.2M to upgrade the Ross Park primary school
- $3M for West MacDonnell visitor centre and facilities
- $2.1M for National School Pride projects
Education and Training

Nation Building and Jobs Plan
Under the Commonwealth’s Nation Building and Jobs Plan, every Territory primary school is able to bid for a large scale infrastructure project, and every school can bid for smaller projects, up to $0.2M. The Territory is likely to benefit from about $190M in school works. The 2009-10 Capital Works Program includes:

- $91M for Primary Schools of the 21st Century – major new infrastructure for primary, bush and special schools, such as libraries, multipurpose halls and new classrooms.
- $11M for National School Pride projects to refurbish and renew existing infrastructure and undertake minor building works.

Up to 500 new science labs and language centres will also be funded across Australia.

Building the Territory’s Schools
The 2009-10 Budget invests a further $130 million towards improving educational infrastructure across the Territory. New projects in 2009-10 include:

- $102 million for school capital works funded under Nation Building and Jobs Plan;
- $3.2 million for upgrades to Ross Park Primary School;
- $3 million to upgrade Dripstone Middle School science facilities;
- $3 million for a multipurpose sports facility at Tennant Creek High School;
- $2 million for various homeland centre upgrades;
- $1.6 million to construct new classrooms at Gumbalanya, Imanpa and Epenara schools and provide a new early years learning centre for Minyerri School. Centres are also being established in Palmerston and Wulagi;
- $1.3 million to construct the Tennant Creek Trade Training Centre;
- $1.25 million each for upgrades to facilities including teaching and learning areas at Angurugu, Gapuwiyak, Gumbalanya, Lajamanu and Numbulwar schools; and
- $0.28 million to upgrade Wadeye School oval.

In addition, works are continuing to construct the $54.5 million Rosebery Primary and Middle schools, which will open for the 2011 school year.

Education Initiatives
Further support for education initiatives includes:

- $2.4 million for 16 additional teachers to respond to increased enrolment and attendance;
- $1.7 million to continue support services that assist students with intellectual disabilities and students with high level behavioural and emotional difficulties;
- $1.05 million to increase Back to School Payments from $50 to $75 for every school student; and
- $0.7 million, an increase of $0.2 million, to provide specialist child protection support to remote schools including six additional school counsellors.

Partnerships with the Commonwealth
The Territory Government will work with the Commonwealth to implement a range of National Partnership agreements to improve educational outcomes in schools. In 2009-10, the Territory’s co-contribution is:

- $7.1M to establish service hubs in schools that coordinate the delivery of education, community and health services under the Low Socio-Economic Status School Communities partnership;
- $2.48M for the Literacy and Numeracy partnership to achieve sustained improvement in literacy and numeracy outcomes for all students; and
- $1.5M for the Productivity Places Program partnership for vocational education and training places.

The Commonwealth will also provide $3.31M as part of the roll out of computer access to all students in years 9 to 12.
Alice Springs Middle School and Youth Hub

The 2009-10 Budget provides a targeted approach for getting young people in Alice Springs back to school and away from crime and other antisocial behaviour activities.

In 2009-10, work will commence to establish a dual campus Alice Springs Middle School comprising Gillen and Anzac Hill campuses, and a youth-focused service hub, to be located at Anzac Hill.

A total of $7.3 million will be spent over two years to upgrade and refurbish existing schooling infrastructure at the two campuses, with $4.73 million provided in 2009-10.

The youth hub aims to improve opportunities to get young people into mainstream education, training or employment, providing a centralised location for various Government youth-related programs and services, including case management, counselling and other specialised services. Existing youth support programs currently operating from the Anzac Hill campus will remain onsite. The youth hub will also link with recreation facilities and non-government youth support and care services.

A 30-bed accommodation facility for boarders will also be constructed on the site at a cost of $3.58 million, with works scheduled to begin in 2011.

Training

A key focus of the 2009-10 Budget is ensuring the long-term development of the Territory workforce through a range of skills and training development initiatives. The 2009-10 Budget provides:

- $60.3 million for Charles Darwin University, Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education and other service providers to deliver tertiary programs and vocational education and training;
- $1 million to support the commencement of 10 000 new apprentices between 2009 and 2012;
- $1 million for the NTPS Remote Workforce Development Strategy;
- $0.5 million to expand the Work Ready Program and $0.5 million to expand the Build Skills Program; and
- $0.5 million to provide 41 higher education scholarships.

Learn or Earn

To support increased education and employment opportunities for young Territorians, the Government will raise the compulsory school age to Year 10 and require all Territorians up to age 17 to be either working, training or in school. Schools and training providers will be resourced to support increased school and VET enrolments resulting from this reform.

The Government is also committed to supporting the COAG resolution that all unemployed people aged between 17 and 20 must either be in training or studying to receive the Commonwealth youth allowance.
Public Safety
The 2009-10 Budget reaffirms the Government’s commitment to combating antisocial behaviour, including:

- $3.35M to establish and maintain closed circuit television systems in the greater Darwin area; and
- $0.96M for information and referral services that provide help in accessing supported accommodation and return to home services, and for a night patrol service in the Darwin area.

In addition, $1.12M ongoing from 2009-10 will be provided to expand emergency accommodation and care options for young people at risk in Alice Springs.

Fire and Emergency Services

Additional resources are provided for police, fire and rescue services to enhance capacity to respond to incidents effectively and efficiently, including:

- Planning to commence for the new $12.3 million fire station at Berrimah to support our growing population and the East Arm area. A site will be secured in 2009-10, with design work to be undertaken in 2010-11 and construction to commence in 2011-12;
- $3.5 million over two years from 2009-10 to provide 20 extra firefighters (9 in Alice Springs and 11 in Darwin), with a further $0.28 million provided for training to enhance the capability of the Fire and Rescue Service;
- $0.75 million in continued support for Bushfire NT volunteers and brigades;
- Increased funding of $0.2 million per annum to advance upgrades and replacement of fire and rescue trucks; and
- $0.17 million per annum to maintain equipment to fulfil the Territory’s national security obligations with respect to chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosives and urban search and rescue incidents.

Police Resources

The 2009-10 Budget provides funding to improve Northern Territory Police capability and facilities, including upgraded police stations and replacing critical assets and equipment:

- The $9.3 million Safer Streets initiative continues in the 2009-10 Budget with an additional $5.1 million to deliver a further 25 uniform police officers to address crime and disorder in urban centres, bringing the total number of new police officers under this initiative to 60 since 2008. A further 10 police auxiliaries to support frontline police in the communications area is also provided as part of this initiative;
- $7.26 million to continue the expansion and upgrade of the police digital radio communications system;
- $6.2 million for the Child Abuse Taskforce;
- $6 million to upgrade the Alice Springs Police Station in 2009-10;
- $2.5 million to establish Police Beats in shopping precincts across...
Keeping Our Communities Safe

Domestic Violence

Reporting serious physical harm arising from domestic and family violence is mandatory in the Territory. $15M will be provided over three years from 2009-10 to support the delivery of crisis accommodation services, counselling services and public education and legal support for women and families threatened by, or exposed to, domestic violence including $2M for increased crisis accommodation facilities across the Territory.

In addition, the 2009-10 Budget includes:

- an additional $0.5M for continued development of integrated community family violence and support services in remote areas; and
- a further $0.2M to expand the Indigenous Family Violence Offender Program.

Custodial Services

Strategies to reduce re-offending and improve rehabilitation and reintegration outcomes continue in 2009-10, with increased funding of $0.5 million for expanded education courses and training delivery in correctional centres.

In addition, $2 million is provided to establish a prisoner work camp in the Barkly region, which will provide prisoners with life skills and work experience to help them secure employment and make a successful transition into the community when released.

A further $0.3 million is provided under Closing the Gap to increase the number of community corrections officers to supervise community based offenders, and an additional $0.2 million to support rehabilitation programs for sex offenders to break the cycle of offending.

Works to expand and improve correctional facilities continue in 2009-10 with:

- $21 million for headworks for the new Doug Owston Correctional Facility; and
- $1.4 million for stage 2 of construction of short and medium term accommodation for an additional 240 prisoners in Darwin and Alice Springs, with a further $2.29 million in 2009-10 for operational costs associated with increased prisoner numbers.

Courts, Protecting Witnesses, Prosecutions

To further support the delivery of justice to the community, the 2009-10 Budget provides increased funding to Territory courts and criminal prosecution services, with:

- $2.3 million to address increasing court activity levels and strengthen security and safety measures at courts in Darwin and Alice Springs;
- $1.03 million for the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions to improve the prosecution of offenders and increase support for witnesses in remote and regional areas; and
- $0.52 million to boost resources for forensic science to assist police to solve crimes.

In addition, $0.4 million is provided to upgrade and install new in-court video recording and videoconferencing facilities to protect vulnerable witnesses and to streamline court processes.

the Territory, resulting in an additional 12 police officers and 6 police auxiliaries in 2009-10;

- $2.3 million to provide extra police in remote areas; and
- $2 million to convert the existing Numbulwar police post to a police station, including essential services for housing, a communications tower, boat shelter and generator.
Closing the Gap

In 2009-10 funding is provided to continue implementation of Closing the Gap initiatives, including:

- $3.6M for child health, therapeutic and residential care unit workers across the Territory;
- $2M to expand services to children in care;
- $1.8M for continued development of Aboriginal child protection and family support services in regional centres; and
- $1.3M to expand preventable chronic disease programs targeting diabetes, respiratory disease, kidney failure and hearing loss.

Improving the health and wellbeing of Territorians is a key priority in 2009-10, with significant investment in hospitals, primary health care and health infrastructure.

In 2009-10, $1.05 billion is provided for the Department of Health and Families including $421 million for Territory hospitals and $53 million for public health services.

Enhanced Health Services

In 2009-10, increased funding is provided to strengthen delivery of essential health services, including:

- $3 million to operate an after hours helicopter retrieval service in the Katherine region and a central coordination centre to enhance Top End aeromedical services; and
- $1.5 million for enhancements to urban and remote dental services, including additional dentists to reduce overall waiting times for public dental services. A further $0.75 million ongoing from 2010-11 will maintain increased dental services.

Health Services in Palmerston

The 2009-10 Budget includes Commonwealth funding of $10 million and an ongoing Territory Government commitment of $2 million per annum to construct and operate a dedicated health service hub that incorporates the Palmerston Super Clinic, after hours urgent care services and private services.

A further $0.96 million will establish additional ambulance services in and around Palmerston.

Additional Commonwealth funding of $2.1 million is provided to establish a new early childhood facility within the Palmerston Health Precinct to provide child care, early learning, health and family support services.

Improved Health Facilities

Major health upgrades and improvements in 2009-10 include:

- $56 million for continuing works to upgrade health facilities across the Territory, including $14.6 million to upgrade and construct remote health centres;
- $10.5 million for continuing works for the radiation oncology facility, with additional funding of $2 million in 2009-10 for short-term accommodation for oncology patients and carers;
- $7.3 million for Alice Springs Hospital for fire protection, air-conditioning, remediation and upgrades to emergency power, water and electrical systems;
- $4 million for Royal Darwin Hospital for upgrades to staff accommodation; and
- $2.45 million for renal facilities across the Territory.
Secure Care
Additional resources are provided for services and secure facilities for young people and adults with complex care needs.

The two-tier secure care facilities will enhance services for high risk young people and adults who may not be mentally ill, but have unstable or difficult behaviour, representing a risk of harm to themselves or others in the community:

- $4.5M in 2009-10 to prepare secure Tier One facilities at the Darwin and Alice Springs hospitals, providing short-term stabilisation and assessment services;
- $9.4M in 2010-11 to construct two 8-bed facilities in both Darwin and Alice Springs for adults and young people, providing secure accommodation complemented by professional therapeutic and transition services; and
- $3.26M in 2009-10 increasing to $11.43M ongoing from 2011-12 to provide 96 additional nursing, mental health and therapeutic care positions and to operate the facilities once fully established.

Hospital and Health Workforce Reform
The 2009-10 Budget directs $7.4 million in Commonwealth funding under the National Partnership Agreement on Hospital and Health Workforce Reform towards improving efficiency and capacity in Territory public hospitals through four key areas:

- $5.08 million to take the pressure off emergency departments;
- $1.25 million to expand sub-acute care including rehabilitation, geriatric and Hospital in the Home services;
- $1.09 million to develop nationally consistent funding models; and
- addressing health workforce shortages through increased training and recruitment.

Preventative Health
The Territory Government and the Commonwealth are working together to address the rising prevalence of lifestyle related chronic diseases. Additional Commonwealth funding of $3.36 million over six years from 2009-10 will be provided under the National Partnership Agreement on Preventive Health to promote and support physical activity and healthy eating in schools, childcare and family centres as well as other healthy living outcomes.

In addition, the 2009-10 Budget provides funding of $0.63 million to improve cardiac services under the Heart Health Plan.

E-Health
Increased funding of $2 million will continue the implementation of E-Health, a national healthcare records system allowing the secure and quick exchange of patient information between healthcare providers in different locations, building on existing eHealthNT initiatives.

Community Services
The 2009-10 Budget includes $171.26 million for community health services delivered through community care centres, rural health centres and services from clinics, schools and in the home and includes:

- $66.2 million for support services for frail aged people and people with a disability;
- $37.3 million for mental health services; and
- increased funding of $3.3 million for pensioner and carers concessions for motor vehicle registrations, drivers licences and utilities costs.
Major Events
The Northern Territory continues to attract key events. In 2009-10, $3.9M is provided to Northern Territory Major Events Company to support the staging of major sporting and cultural events across the Territory, including:

- $1.21M for Northern Territory sports awards;
- $1.1M for the V8 Supercars;
- $0.46M for the Bass in the Grass/Dust;
- $0.15M for the Veterans Golf Event;
- $0.10M for the Hottest 7’s Rugby Tournament;
- $50,000 for the Finke Desert Race; and
- $30,000 for the Barkly May Day Muster.

Arafura Games
In 2009, the Territory Government supports emerging athletes of the Asia-Pacific and beyond as the Territory hosts the Arafura Games, incorporating the Oceania Paralympic Championships.

Environment and Resource Management
The 2009-10 Budget includes a range of measures to manage and preserve the Territory’s natural resources and protect the environment, including:

- $4.5 million to upgrade air-conditioning at the Araluen Centre for Arts and Entertainment as part of the Solar Cities program;
- $2.1 million for initiatives to support businesses and households to respond to climate change;
- $0.64 million to develop and implement the Strategic Weed Management Program to manage high risk weeds; and
- $0.6 million to link parks and conservation areas, to protect biodiversity as part of the Arafura to Alice Eco-link.

The Territory Government is also investigating the viability of a ‘cash for containers’ recycling scheme to reduce litter.

Parks Infrastructure
To complement the $9.3 million Tourism Stimulus Response Package and enhance the overall experience for visitors, additional funding of $2 million per year for the next four years will be provided for infrastructure projects to improve the amenity of Territory parks and reserves.

Improvements include new boardwalks, toilet blocks, fencing to protect parks from feral animals, improved access roads and solar lighting.

Other new Territory parks infrastructure projects to be undertaken in 2009-10 include:

- $1.5 million for the West MacDonnell Visitor Centre and facilities;
- $1 million for redevelopment at Litchfield National Park; and
- $1 million to upgrade utilities at Nitmiluk National Park.

Sport and Recreation
The 2009-10 Budget includes $30 million to encourage involvement in sport and recreational pursuits.

Key highlights in 2009-10, including major upgrades to sporting facilities:

- $5 million for a new Palmerston Water Park;
- $2.4 million to manage and operate Leanyer Recreation Park;
- $2.24 million to support the Northern Territory Institute of Sport;
- $1.82 million for the Sport and Recreation Facility Development Grants Program to build and upgrade sporting infrastructure;
Enhancing Darwin and Regional Centres

The 2009-10 Budget includes funding to landscape town and city streets, including:

› $2M for the Capital Cities Project, with landscaping, awnings, bus parking and disembarkation points for tourist accommodation;
› $0.4M for Alice Springs central business district beautification;
› $0.55 million for a new public address system at TIO Stadium;
› $0.2 million for the Territory Thunder to participate in the Queensland AFL competition;
› $0.18 million to secure National Basketball League matches; and
› $50 000 to support the Northern Territory Netball Team to continue participation in the Australian Netball League competition.

Recreational Fishing

The 2009-10 Budget continues investment in fishing infrastructure across the Top End, with:

› $4 million to upgrade the Palmerston (Elizabeth River) boat ramp to include a security compound and lighting, floating pontoon and power and water; and
› $1 million for other fishing infrastructure.

A community-based working group will also be formed to develop a strategic plan for the future of recreational fishing. The Recreational Fishing Strategic Development Plan process will examine a broad range of matters including research, education and enforcement needs, and development opportunities such as artificial reefs, infrastructure and new access opportunities.

Community, Arts and Culture

In supporting the contribution community groups make to the Territory, the 2009-10 Budget provides:

› $3.87 million for public library services across the Territory;
› $1 million to promote cultural and linguistic diversity and improve multicultural community facilities;
› $0.53 million to support film industries across the Territory;
› $0.26 million for the Battery Hill Mining and Nyinkka Nyunyu Art centres;
› $0.23 million to support Territory music, writing and dance through peak organisations;
› a further $0.22 million to the Northern Territory show societies;
› an additional $0.16 million for the Environment Centre of the Northern Territory and Arid Lands Environment Centre; and
› $0.15 million for touring Indigenous art.
Power and Water Infrastructure

Investment continues in 2009 to build the Territory’s power, water and sewerage infrastructure including:

- $126M for Weddell Power Station;
- $55.7M for Larrakeyah outfall closure;
- $52M for Owen Springs Power Station;
- $30M for a new water storage tank in Berrimah;
- $30M for Owen Springs to Lovegrove 66kV line;
- $19.6M to raise the Darwin River Dam wall; and
- $18.5M for Lee Point Zone substation and 66kV line.

The Territory economy is forecast to increase by 2 per cent in 2009-10, with the downturn in the Australian and world economy constraining expenditure on goods and services by households and businesses and limiting demand for, and the value of, the Territory’s mineral and energy exports.

Resident employment is estimated to increase by 1.5 per cent in 2009-10, with fewer employment opportunities expected in the retail sector and mining industry but this should be offset by growth in residential construction, particularly that associated with the Strategic Indigenous Housing Infrastructure Program (SIHIP), and the Nation Building and Jobs Plan.

Population growth is estimated to be 1.8 per cent in 2009, with net interstate migration returning towards longer run averages following the completion of major projects and high-rise residential complexes around the Darwin central business district.

Inflation in the Territory is estimated to be 2.6 per cent in 2009, down from 4.0 per cent in 2008. Deteriorating economic conditions in Australia and the world into 2009-10, and lower crude oil prices, are expected to reduce consumption and keep inflation within the Reserve Bank of Australia target range of 2 to 3 per cent.

Wages are estimated to increase by 3.8 per cent in 2009, marginally lower than in recent years.

Household, business and public sector consumption is estimated to increase by 2.5 per cent in 2009-10, with a lower rate of private sector consumption expected due to deteriorating economic conditions and increased household saving. Low interest rates, higher household incomes and confidence about the prospects for the Territory economy are expected to underpin private consumption growth in the short term.

Increased demand for government services, and spending through SIHIP and the Territory Government’s $1.3 billion infrastructure program and increasing numbers of Defence personnel, are expected to increase public sector consumption and investment.

Key Growth Forecasts

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1 As at December, annual percentage change
2 As at December, year on year percentage change

e: estimate; f: forecast