

## BUDGET SUMMARY

NET PRESENTATION		
	1999-00 Estimate	2000-01 Budget
	\$M	\$M
Current Expenditure	1 808	1 803
Capital Expenditure	254	251
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>2 062</b>	<b>2 054</b>
<i>less</i>		
Territory Revenue	440	434
Commonwealth Grants	1 501	1 575
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>1 941</b>	<b>2 009</b>
<i>equals</i>		
Increase in Territory Debt	91	32
Decrease in Financial Assets	30	13
<b>Increase in Net Debt</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>45</b>

GROSS PRESENTATION		
	1999-00 Estimate	2000-01 Budget
	\$M	\$M
Outlays	3 082	2 957
Receipts	3 064	2 964
<b>Use of Balances</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>-7</b>

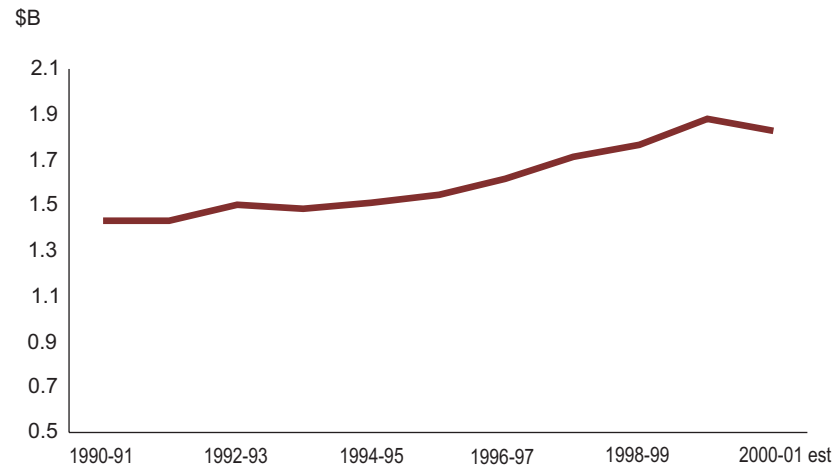
- Current expenditure to decrease marginally by 0.3% as a result of efficiency measures.
- One-off major capital item of \$33M in 1999-00. Underlying capital expenditure to increase by 14%.
- Significant revenue changes:
  - Territory revenue to decrease with abolition and reduction of some taxes associated with national tax reform, but
  - offset by significant growth in Commonwealth payments.
- Net debt to rise by \$45M in 2000-01.

# HIGHLIGHTS

- 2000-01 Budget complies with all five elements of the Fiscal Strategy.
- Expanded hospital and community health care programs, both capital and recurrent expenditures.
- Significant increase in education spending, from early childhood to information technology upgrade in schools and through to university, both capital and recurrent expenditures.
- Major boost to a range of law and order programs, both capital and recurrent expenditures.
- Commencement of the Adelaide to Darwin railway (including \$50M from the Territory Budget in 2000-01).
- Fastest growing economy in Australia.
- Lowest unemployment in Australia.
- Increased Capital Works Program including East Arm Port, regional roads including major works on the Alice Springs to Kings Canyon (Mereenie) loop road.
- Further reduction in pay-roll tax rate from 6.75% to 6.6%.
- Lower electricity costs for commercial users.
- Effect of national tax reform reflected in the Budget.
- Funds for a convention centre in Alice Springs.

# CURRENT EXPENDITURE

## CURRENT EXPENDITURE



- Current expenditure within the Fiscal Strategy.

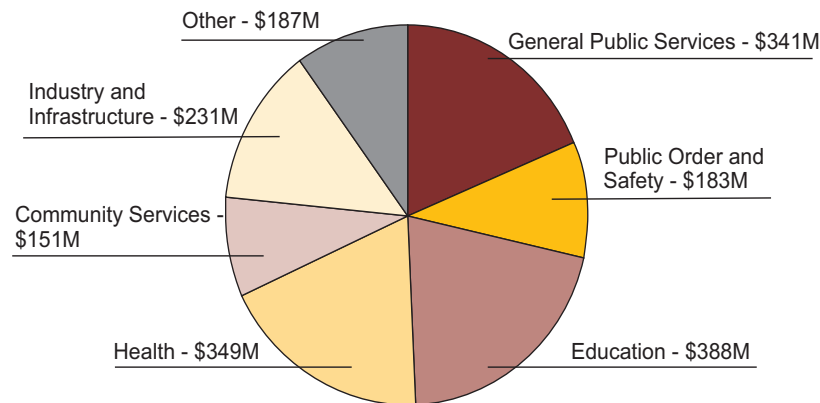
- Current expenditure to decline marginally by 0.3% due to:

- removal of embedded tax savings
- operational savings from communications outsourcing and efficiencies in information technology services

- one-off expenditures in 1999-00.

- In 2000-01, 50 per cent of the Budget will be spent on health, education and law and order.

## CURRENT EXPENDITURE BY FUNCTION 2000-01

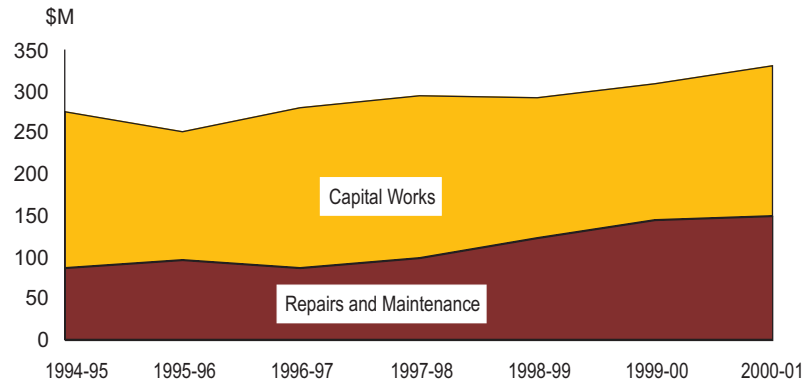


## CURRENT EXPENDITURE INITIATIVES

- Major ongoing investment in information technology in schools.
- \$7M over 3 years in support of the Northern Territory University.
- \$7M to cater for growth in demand for hospital services and \$3.4M for growth in schools.
- \$3.2M for expanded community health and family services.
- Establishment of the Aboriginal Interpreter Service.
- Comprehensive and coordinated Crime Prevention and Community Safety Program involving Government and the community.
- Expansion of diversionary programs for juvenile offenders.
- Commitment to 150 extra police has been met in this Budget.
- \$1.1M over 3 years for equipment to improve police officer safety.
- \$1.8M for improved court services.
- Major Projects Support Unit to help business capitalise on major economic developments such as the railway.
- \$7.7M for new First Home Owners Scheme.
- \$0.2M increase to marketing support for live cattle exports to the Philippines and Vietnam.
- Adjustments to pensioner concessions for water, sewerage and electricity.
- Increased resources for Bushfires Council.
- \$0.2M for volunteer bushfire brigades vehicle program (\$0.1M ongoing).
- \$4M for second year of a five-year geological survey initiative.

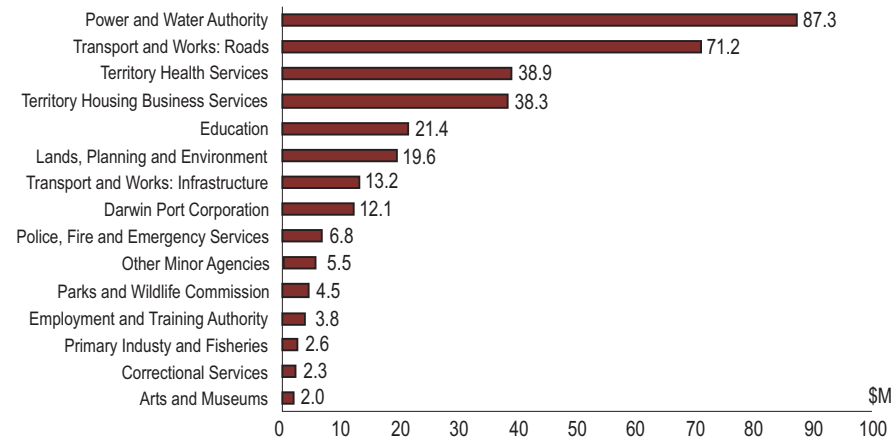
# CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

## CAPITAL WORKS AND REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE EXPENDITURE



Note: Excludes \$33 million for generating equipment at Channel Island Power Station in 1999-00.

## CAPITAL WORKS AND REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE EXPENDITURE



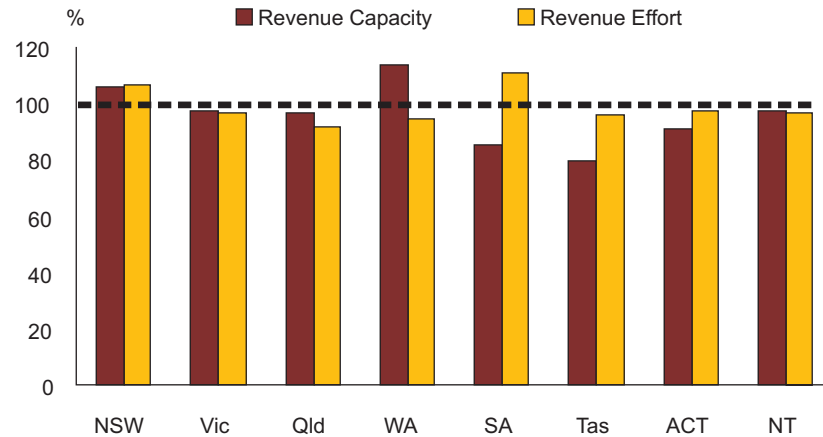
- Capital expenditure has been relatively constant over the past decade.
- Adjusting for a major one-off item in 1999-00 (\$33M), capital works to grow by \$12M in 2000-01.
- Capital expenditure initiatives include:
  - \$50M capital grant for the Adelaide to Darwin railway
  - further railway funding to be provided in a Special Appropriation Bill in mid 2000
  - HomeStart \$24M
  - \$1.6M over two years to redevelop the Land Administration Information System
  - capital works program to service population growth and stimulate construction and building industry activities
  - purchase of Owen Springs Station.

# CAPITAL EXPENDITURE INITIATIVES

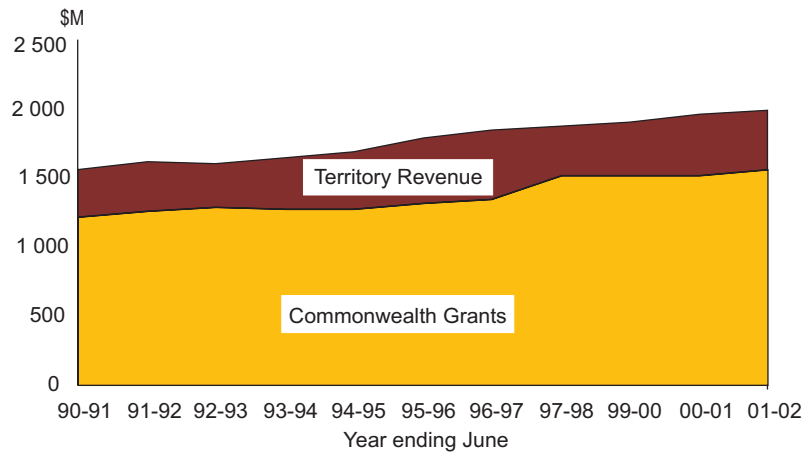
- East Arm Port wharf extensions and railway access (\$19M).
- Major hospital redevelopments in Alice Springs (totalling \$30M) and Darwin (totalling almost \$40M).
- \$14.9M for schools including \$9.2M for new Girraween primary school and \$1.3M for Palmerston Secondary Special School.
- Police forensic laboratory (\$5.6M).
- Redevelopment of Darwin Correctional Centre (\$5.3M) – stage 1 low security area.
- Palmerston residential headworks in Rosebery, Farrar, Gunn and Bakewell, totalling \$2.7M.
- \$1.8M to augment capacity at the Casuarina Zone substation and construct underground feeder to Casuarina Square.
- \$7.9M for essential services infrastructure in remote communities.
- Howard East Borefield (\$7.4M) to meet increased water supply demand in Darwin area.
- Expanded Territory housing programs (\$32M).
- Various works on the Stuart, Barkly and Victoria Highways, totalling \$12M.
- Acceleration of works on the Alice Springs to Kings Canyon tourist loop (\$6M).
- \$2M to complete seal on the Daly River Road.
- \$1.96M for road and subdivision works to release more farmland at Lambells Lagoon and Katherine- Daly Basin.
- \$2.2M works in parks and reserves.
- \$1.5M for continued Urban and Heritage Enhancement Program across the Territory.

# REVENUE

## REVENUE CAPACITY AND EFFORT



## TOTAL REVENUE



- Consistent with Fiscal Strategy, the Territory's revenue effort continues to be broadly comparable with the States.
- Total revenue will grow by 3.5% from \$1 941M in 1999-00 to \$2 009M in 2000-01.
- 2000-01 is the first year of tax reform changes:
  - Commonwealth grants have increased from 77% to 78% of total revenue
  - decline in Territory revenue due to removal of certain taxes
  - aggregate level of specific purpose payments to remain unchanged.

# REVENUE INITIATIVES

## ■ Pay-roll tax measures:

- pay-roll tax rate further reduced from 6.75% to 6.6%
- clarification that all labour hire firms pay pay-roll tax on payments to workers
- extend the payment date for pay-roll tax from 7<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> of each month to align with the Pay-As-You-Go due date
- no pay-roll tax to apply for work overseas beyond 6 months

## ■ Stamp duty changes:

- stamp duty on general insurance to increase from 8% to 10% (including indemnity insurance, with no change for life insurance)
- stamp duty on hiring arrangements to increase from 1.5% to 1.8% (including hire purchase arrangements)

- default assessment of stamp duty if a motor vehicle is not registered within 14 days of sale
- interest to be paid on refunds resulting from successful objections, across most tax types
- a range of integrity and anti-avoidance measures.

## ■ Charges:

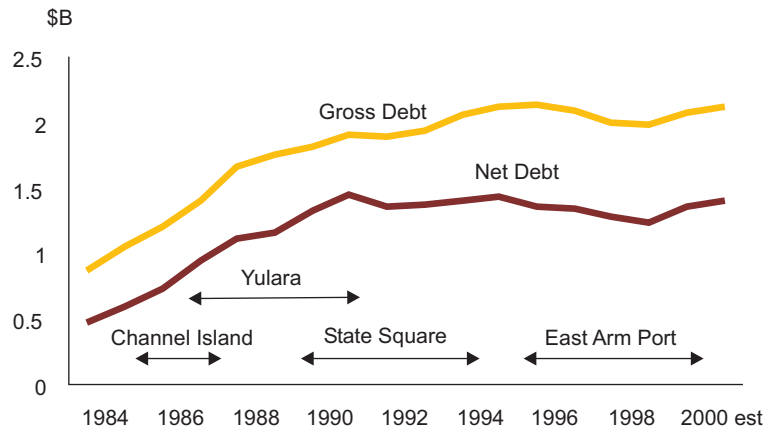
- water and sewerage charges to rise by 5% (average of less than 65 cents per household per week) - no GST to apply
- effective commercial electricity tariffs to reduce by 4.4%
- bus fares to increase by 20-30 cents per zone (remaining low by Australian standards).

## ■ More detail in Budget Paper No. 3.



# GROSS AND NET DEBT

## GROSS AND NET DEBT



## GROSS AND NET DEBT

	Gross Debt	Financial Assets	Net Debt
	\$M	\$M	\$M
<b>As at 30 June 1999</b>			
Consolidated Total	1 989	749	1 240
<b>As at 30 June 2000</b>			
Consolidated Total	2 080	719	1 361
<b>As at 30 June 2001</b>			
Consolidated Total	2 111	705	1 406

- The Territory Government's management of gross and net debt is within the Fiscal Strategy.
- After high growth needs during the 1980s and absorption of Commonwealth liabilities at Self-Government, gross and net debt have levelled off over the past decade.
- For the past three years, the Territory has not borrowed to meet infrastructure needs.
- Borrowing for economic infrastructure to resume from 1999-00.
- Net debt to rise by \$45M in 2000-01.

# FISCAL STRATEGY

The Northern Territory Government is committed to the long term viability of the Territory through sound financial management of the Territory's resources. The Government's core strategies and fiscal targets are:

- Current expenditure per capita will not increase in real terms;
- Infrastructure will be maintained at levels sufficient to meet the Territory's economic and social needs;
- The Territory's own source revenue effort will be broadly comparable to the States;
- Territory debt as a proportion of economic output will decline over time; and

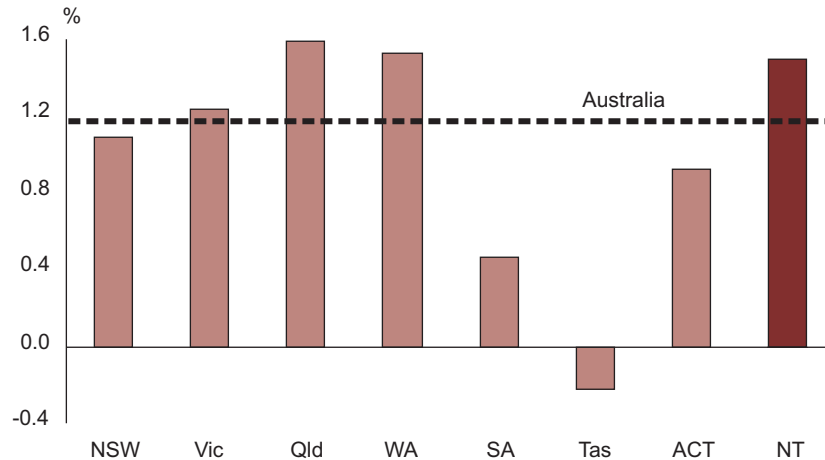
- Territory debt servicing as a proportion of total Territory revenue and Commonwealth grants will be broadly comparable to the States.

Provisos:

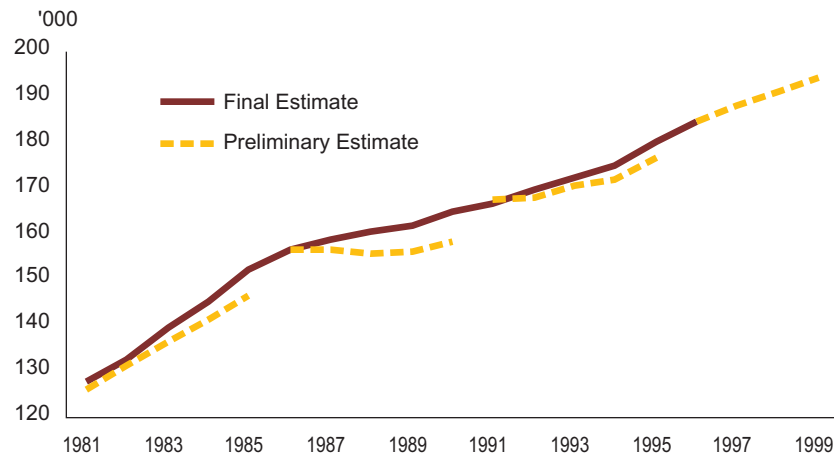
- In any given year, the percentage change in Commonwealth grants to the Northern Territory should not be significantly different to the change for the States;
- The Territory should receive adequate discretion in the application of funds to priorities determined by Territorians; and
- Assessment against the targets should exclude the budgetary impact of major one-off events, such as natural disasters.

# POPULATION

## POPULATION GROWTH



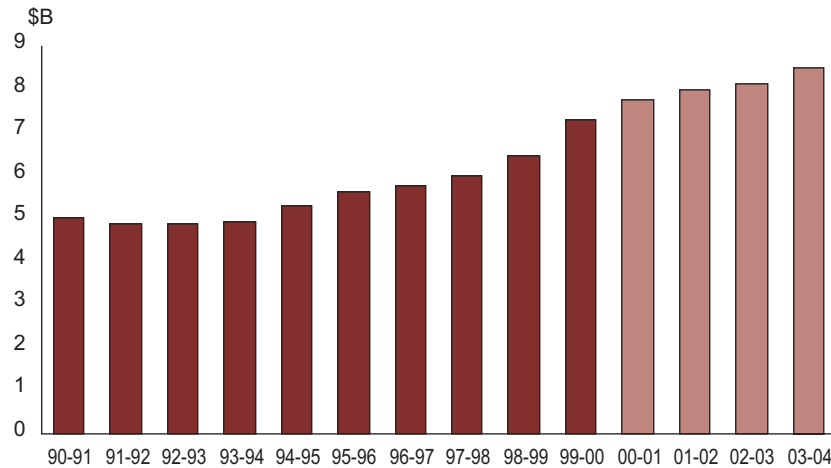
## POPULATION UNDERESTIMATION



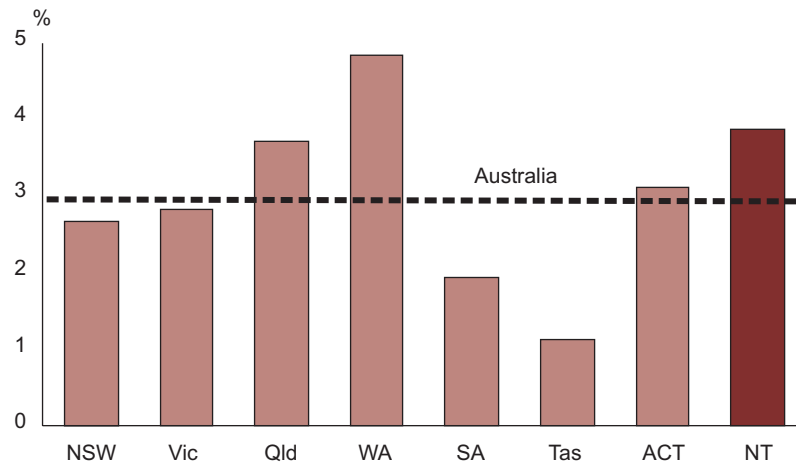
- The Territory population increased by an estimated 1.5% in 1999 to 194 200.
- In 1999, the Territory was estimated as the third fastest growing jurisdiction, after Queensland and Western Australia.
- Palmerston was again the fastest growing Territory centre, among the fastest in Australia.
- While the Australian Bureau of Statistics recorded gains from natural increase and overseas migration, interstate migration losses were estimated for the second year in a row.
- The Territory population is difficult to estimate because of the high rate of migration to and from the Territory. Since 1981, the preliminary estimates of the Territory population have been revised upwards after each Census. While estimates may have improved since 1996, an upward revision is still expected after the 2001 Census.

# ECONOMIC GROWTH

**REAL GROSS STATE PRODUCT**



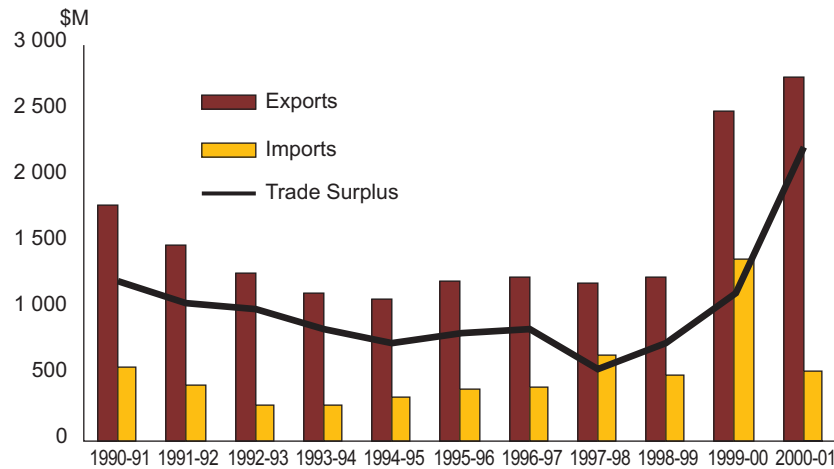
**FORECAST ANNUAL GROWTH 2000-01 TO 2003-04**



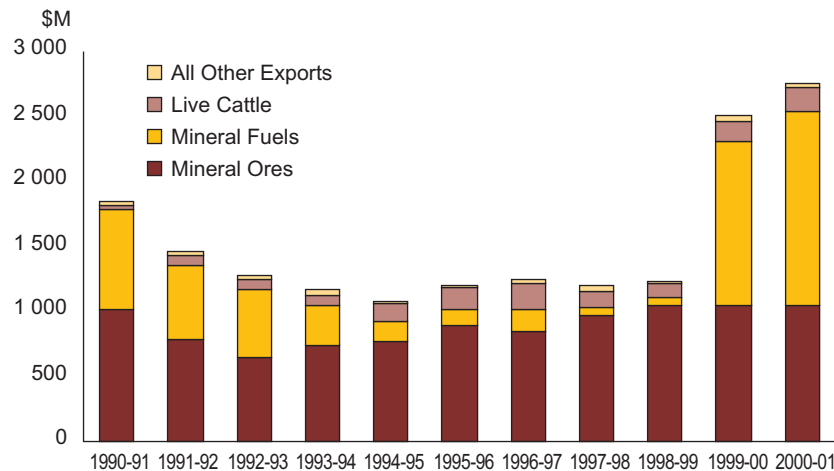
- The Territory economy is estimated to have grown by 12.8% in 1999-00, with half this growth relating to oil production. Underlying growth is estimated to be closer to around 6.0%.
- Growth of 6.4% is forecast for 2000-01, primarily driven by growth in household consumption expenditure and exports.
- Average growth of 3.9% is forecast over the short term, with sustainable growth expected to come from the tourism, retail, and business services industries. Growth is likely to be closer to 6.0% if falls in oil production are removed.
- The Adelaide to Darwin railway will reduce transport costs, improve the competitiveness of Territory businesses and provide a platform for the development of Darwin as a transport hub. Access Economics predicts that the construction phase will create 1 300 jobs.

# INTERNATIONAL TRADE

## INTERNATIONAL TRADE

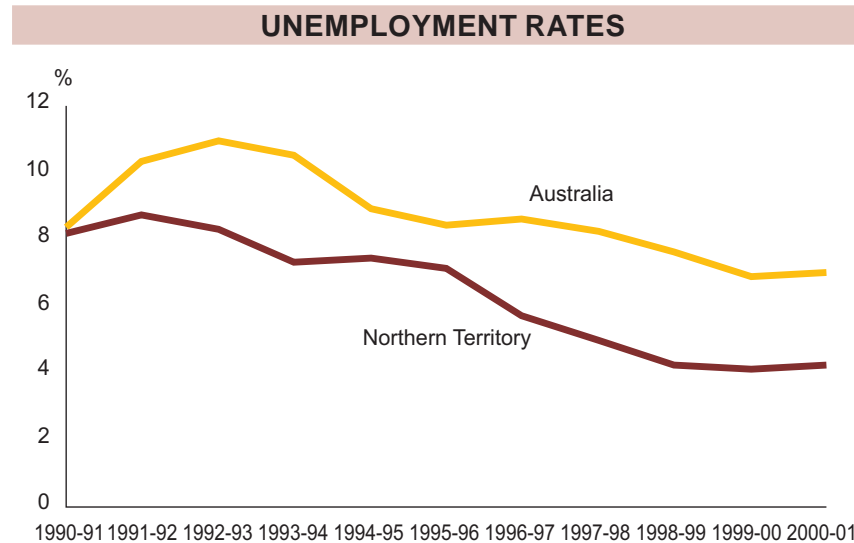
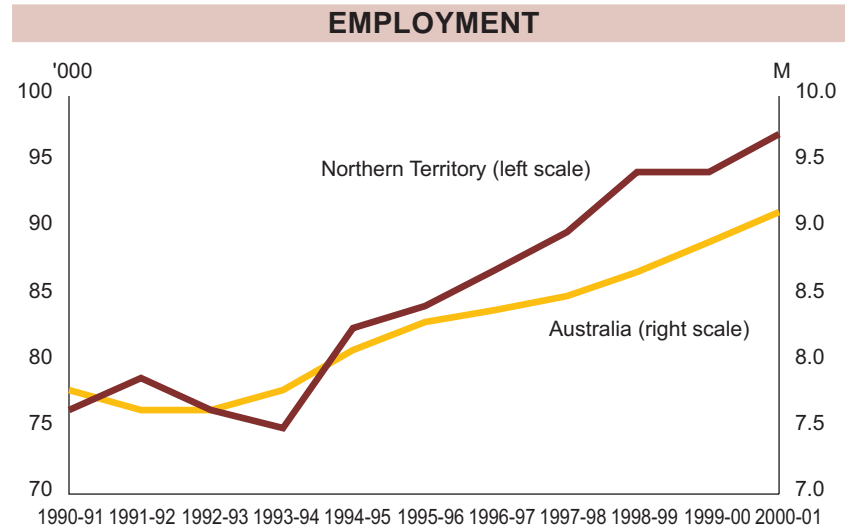


## EXPORTS



- The Territory continues to enjoy a large trade surplus with the value of exports almost double that of imports. Exports are estimated to have increased substantially in 1999-00, largely due to increases in offshore oil production and to a lesser extent, the continuing recovery in live cattle export markets.
- The Territory's largest export market is North East Asia, closely followed by North America. Together, these two areas account for just over half of all exports.
- Exports per capita are the highest of any jurisdiction.
- Imports grew significantly over 1999-00, following the importation of the *Northern Endeavour*, a production and storage vessel used in offshore oil production.
- Continuing high levels of oil, mineral and cattle exports are expected to further boost the Territory's trade surplus outlook.

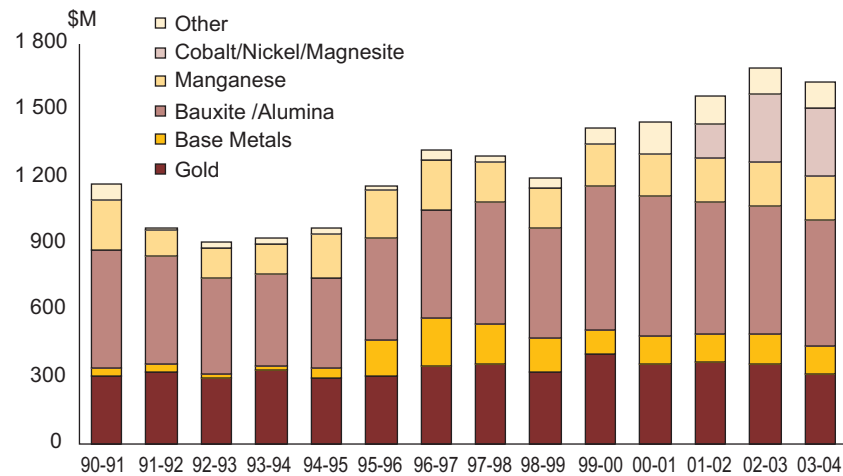
# LABOUR MARKET



- Territory employment growth has outpaced national growth since 1993-94 by more than 50% and this trend is set to continue. The flat result reported in 1999-00 is at odds with solid economic growth and appears to be a correction after the very rapid increase reported in 1998-99. Defence force numbers increased by 590 over the year, but are not included in these figures.
- The Territory unemployment rate at 4.1% continued to be lower than the national average in 1999-00 and was generally lower than any jurisdiction, a trend that has been evident throughout the 1990s.
- The longer term outlook for employment growth is positive as projects such as the Adelaide to Darwin railway commence and onshore gas activity becomes a reality. The defence presence, new mines and further growth in rural and tourism activity will contribute to growth.

# MINING

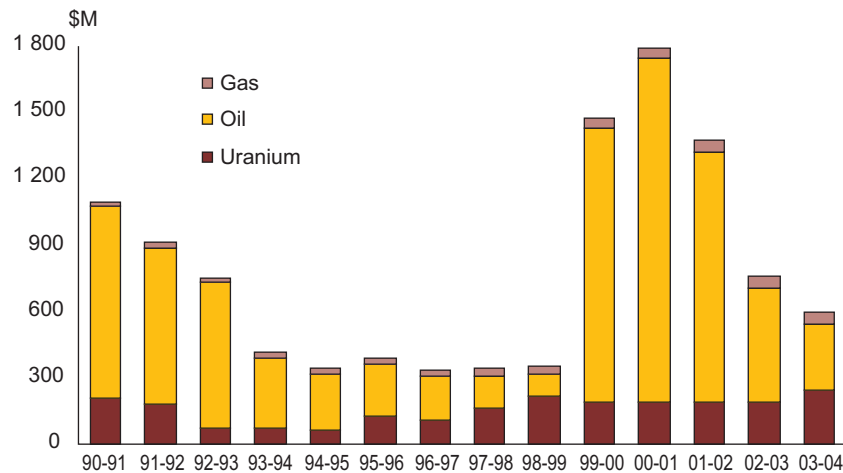
## MINERAL PRODUCTION AND PROCESSING



- The mining industry is the Territory's largest contributor to Gross State Product (GSP), directly accounting for 13.8% of the economy, more than triple the national proportion.

- In 1998-99, mineral production and processing was valued at \$1 190M. In 1999-00, output is estimated to increase to \$1 420M, largely due to increases in the value of gold, bauxite, alumina and diamond production.

## ENERGY PRODUCTION

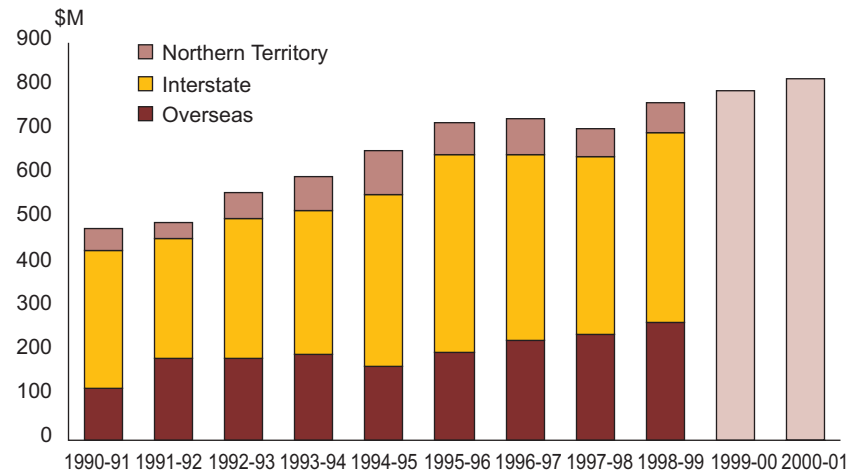


- Two new mines, producing cobalt/nickel and magnesite, are expected to start production in 2002.

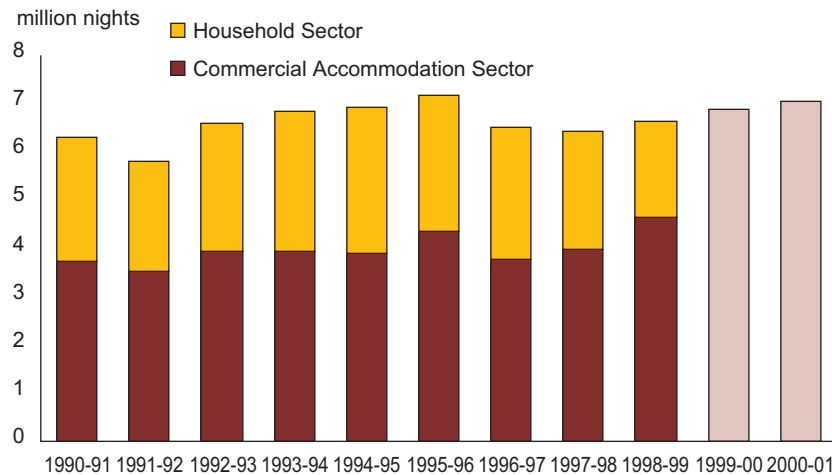
- 1999-00 oil production has increased to over \$1 200M due to the commencement of production from the Laminaria/Corallina field in the Timor Sea . Production from the Bayu-Undan field is expected from late 2003.

# TOURISM

## TOURISM EXPENDITURE



## VISITOR NIGHTS

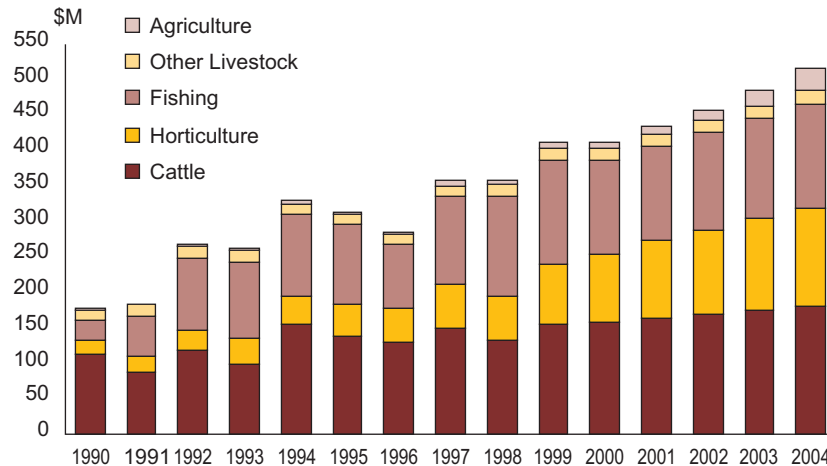


- The tourism industry accounts for about 6.4% of Territory GSP, a higher proportion than in any State or Territory.
- Record levels of tourism expenditure were recorded over the 1998-99 year. Growth was strongest for overseas tourist expenditure, while domestic tourist expenditure also increased but at a lower rate.
- Visitor nights increased marginally over 1998-99 due mainly to the international visitor component.
- Visitors to Darwin associated with the East Timor peacekeeping and relief effort have provided a useful bonus for the 1999-00 off-season.
- The Territory's most popular national park in 1999 was Uluru–Kata Tjuta National Park with 372 000 visitors.



# RURAL INDUSTRIES AND FISHERIES

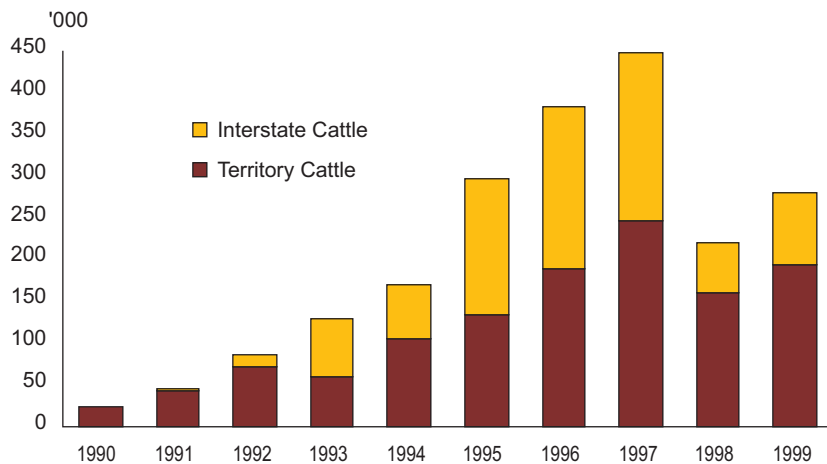
## RURAL INDUSTRIES AND FISHERIES PRODUCTION



- Territory rural industries and fisheries account for 3.8% of GSP. The industry has significant flow on benefits to other sectors of the economy and is important in a regional context.

- The value of production for 1999 was \$412M, a 15% increase over 1998. The increase was driven by the recovery in cattle production and exports, and strong growth in the value of mango production (up 94%) and fisheries production.

## LIVE CATTLE EXPORTS THROUGH DARWIN

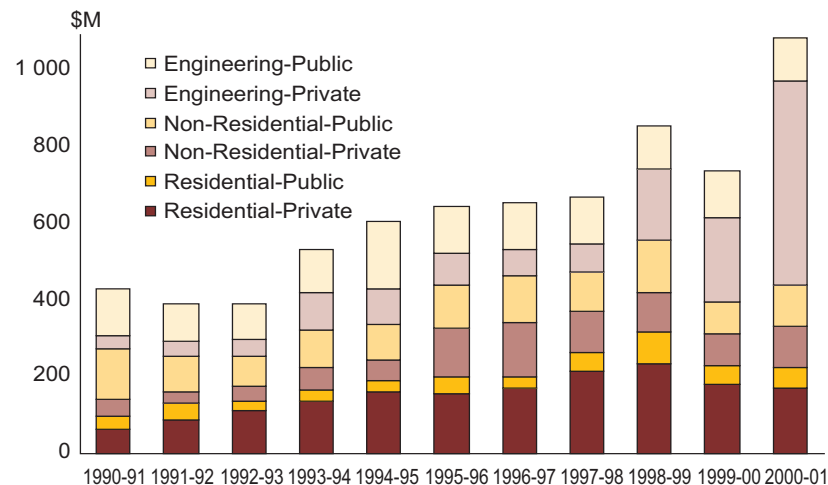


- Recovery of South East Asian economies should see strong live cattle export growth continue.

- Stage Two of the Ord River Irrigation Project, half of which is in the Territory, is expected to commence sugar production in 2002.

# HOUSING AND CONSTRUCTION

## VALUE OF CONSTRUCTION WORK DONE



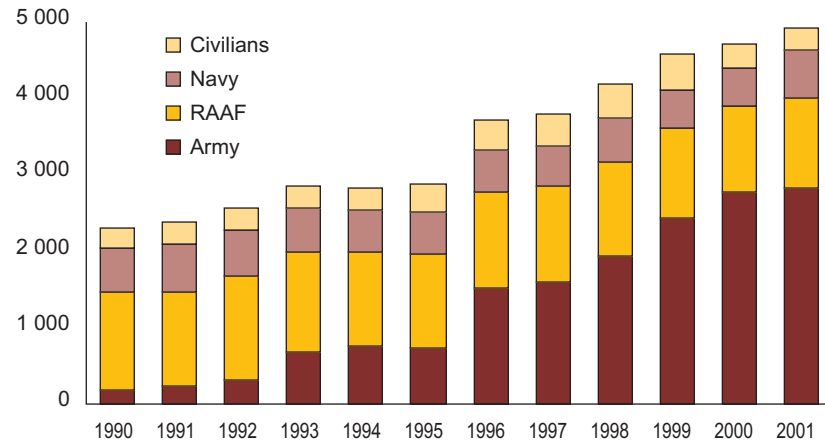
## HOUSING AFFORDABILITY



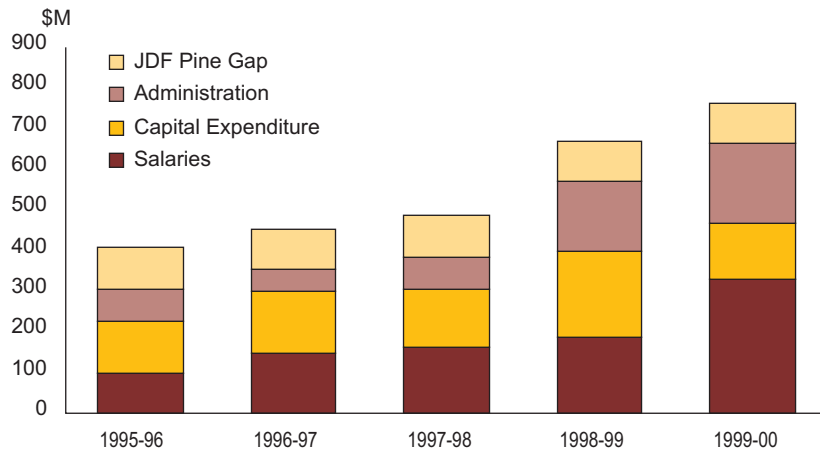
- The Territory's housing and construction industry contributes just under 7% to total GSP, comparable to the national average.
- The Territory housing industry has sustained very high levels of activity over most of the late 1990s, with activity now dropping back down to more sustainable levels.
- Residential construction activity is likely to remain flat over the short term while demand catches up with the current excess in supply.
- Private engineering work is currently at a very high level, primarily because of work in the Timor Sea. Construction of the railway and further developments of offshore oil reserves offer scope for further growth over the short and medium term. These projects should help offset the expected downturn in residential construction.
- Territory housing is now the most affordable in Australia, primarily due to higher Territory incomes.

# DEFENCE

## DEFENCE PERSONNEL



## DEFENCE EXPENDITURE



- The strategic build-up of defence in the Top End will lift the number of full time personnel stationed in the Territory from 2 370 in 1991 to 4 900 by June 2001.
- The most significant component of the expansion was the relocation of the Army 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade to Darwin which, when complete, will have lifted the number of Army personnel from 190 in 1990 to over 2 800 by 2001.
- The creation of the Patrol Boat Group, located in Darwin, will see an expansion of the naval base to accommodate four more patrol boats by the end of 2001.
- Expenditure by defence in the Territory is estimated at \$762M in 1999-00, up 14% on the \$670M in 1998-99.
- Defence is estimated to have grown from around 10% of GSP in 1994 to around 12% in 1998-99, making it the second largest industry after mining.

# INTRODUCTION

This section brings together some of the key policy initiatives that are included in this year's Budget. They are derived from the Program Statements in *Budget Paper No. 2*.

Some of these initiatives do not require additional funding, but rather explain how available resources and programs have been refocused with *Foundations for Our Future*.

This is not a complete list of all activities of Government but it brings together Budget initiatives with some of the changes, both fine tuning and more significant, in the way programs are provided.

A number of initiatives could have been included in more than one Foundation category. However, an effort has been made to classify the initiatives by the primary objective.

Only those initiatives which directly impact on Territory

residents and business have been included. Therefore, initiatives designed to enhance efficiency in the operation of the public sector have been excluded.

The initiatives have been classified to one of the six *Foundations for Our Future* categories. These are:

1. to preserve and build on the lifestyle of all Territorians;
2. to build on a successful resource-based economy;
3. to become the supply, service and distribution centre for the Region;
4. to foster partnerships in Aboriginal development;
5. to diversify the economy through service industry growth; and
6. to encourage strong regions and communities.

## FOUNDATION ONE: LIFESTYLE

- Increased resource levels for education.
- Develop and implement an ongoing program for the expansion of interactive information technology into Territory teaching and learning.
- Develop and implement strategies to improve the recruitment and retention of teachers and educators.
- Introduce the Northern Territory Curriculum Framework in schools to provide a more streamlined and flexible curriculum framework, which will produce agreed outcomes for students more effectively.
- Continue the development of a Government strategic plan for youth suicide prevention.
- Additional allocation for non-government organisations funded by Territory Health Services to cover increased demand for services.
- Construct the Palmerston Health Precinct.
- Redevelop the Alice Springs Hospital, including provision of a private wing, upgrading and modifications to existing facilities throughout the main ward block, and external works including landscaping, walkway and roadworks.
- Commence the redevelopment of the Royal Darwin Hospital, including construction of a two storey clinical services building to accommodate a new emergency department, operating theatres including a same day procedure, intensive, coronary and high dependency care units. The new facility also includes an upgraded imaging department, private GP and specialist Medical Centre, central sterilising department, lecture theatre and a retail facility.
- A comprehensive and coordinated Crime Prevention and Community Safety Program, involving Government and the community.
- Coordinate, manage and report on the outcomes of a major evaluation of the Domestic Violence Strategy.

## FOUNDATION ONE: LIFESTYLE

- Further develop CRIMS statistical data by the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions.
- Develop a Web site to improve accessibility to courts information for the public and legal practitioners.
- Continue the upgrade of police radio communications systems.
- Continue the recruitment drive to maintain the Government's stated aim of 150 additional police personnel.
- Construct a new forensic laboratory at the Peter McAulay Centre.
- Implement the first stage of CrimTrac which entails installation of LiveScan and DeadScan fingerprint units in Darwin and Alice Springs.
- Purchase equipment to improve police officer safety.
- Introduce a register to assist in preventing the re-birthing of stolen vehicles.
- Commence the staged redevelopment of the Darwin Correctional Centre, with construction of a new low security area to begin in 2000-01.
- Link vehicle registration databases of all motor vehicle registries around Australia to assist in preventing registration of stolen vehicles.
- Develop and implement targeted road safety strategies for over-represented road user groups, such as Aboriginal people and interstate and international visitors.
- Continue to facilitate the production of quality, and affordable, serviced urban residential land and the provision of the necessary support services in Palmerston to cater for the strong growth being experienced.
- Essential infrastructure for the old Alice Springs Gaol required for redevelopment concepts to be realised.

## FOUNDATION ONE: LIFESTYLE

- A jointly funded program with the Commonwealth will be conducted to collect and dispose of unwanted and unregistered farm chemicals.
- Contractors who collect, store, transport, treat or dispose of certain wastes (essentially hazardous wastes) will be licensed.
- Review of bus service requirements for public and school transport in the Darwin rural area.
- Policy advice and development related to the continuing implementation of *Housing 2003*.
- Increased program of new construction and upgrades to existing Territory Housing properties as part of *Housing 2003*.
- Six core coaching positions confirmed at Northern Territory Institute of Sport (NTIS).
- Forge strong links between NTIS and interstate sports institutes and research bodies.
- Fund a joint research position between the Northern Territory University's Science, Information Technology and Education faculty and NTIS in the development of research and coaching curricula.
- Upgrade technical equipment at the Araluen Centre to meet the needs of national and international touring productions.
- Establish a dedicated arts marketing development position for Alice Springs with joint funding from the Australia Council.
- Improve storage facilities for Territory museum biological collections.
- Integration and dissemination of Territory museum databases.
- Manage Film Works – a joint/collaborative research project with the University of Sydney focusing on the film works of Professor TGH Strehlow.

## FOUNDATION ONE: LIFESTYLE

- Develop a portable audio interpretation system in the Alice Springs Desert Park to provide visitors with information on the species held in the Park.
- Develop visitor facilities in Limmen National Park at the Southern Lost City and Limmen River Crossing.
- Upgrade animal holding facilities in the Alice Springs Desert Park to enhance the collection and improve visitor experience.
- The Territory Wildlife Park is to undertake breeding programs of endangered species, such as the bandicoot, golden-backed tree rats and flat-headed frogs. The Territory Wildlife Park Web site will be developed to enhance access to information on these programs.
- Finalise the draft and commence *A Vision for the Future: Development Plan for Recreational Fishing in the Northern Territory 2000-2010*.
- Close the Darwin Harbour/Shoal Bay area to commercial fishing operators to improve opportunities for recreational fishers.
- Preserve, restore and enhance Government House and the Administrator's Offices.
- Continue a program to reduce the number of feral animals damaging the natural features of the Gregory National Park.
- Major expansion of Keep River National Park in the Victoria River region.
- Quarterly Grocery Prices Survey.
- Introduce a new First Home Owners Scheme and solar hot water rebates for first home buyers.
- Coordinate, manage and report on a new strategic policy framework for Territory women from 2000.
- Implement the *Animal Welfare Act*.



## FOUNDATION TWO: RESOURCE-BASED ECONOMY

- Pursue major resource development projects in the primary resources sector including petroleum, minerals and agribusiness.
- Work with the proponents of major petroleum projects to develop the Timor Sea as a world class petroleum production region, bring gas onshore to major projects, and realise benefits for local industries and employment growth.
- Promote Darwin as a regional supply and service centre for both the Timor Sea, and mining and petroleum operations in Eastern Indonesia.
- Provide assistance to enable Territory business to develop and play a major role in projects, such as the construction of the Adelaide to Darwin railway and the progression of the Timor Sea oil and gas fields.
- Accelerate maintenance at Stokes Hill Wharf, and within the Frances Bay area associated with fishing industry activities.
- Second full year of the five year exploration initiative, developing the Territory's geological database to attract mining and onshore petroleum exploration investment.
- Implement recommendations of the *Mine Management Act* review.
- Complete the implementation of the Titles Management System.
- Planning and essential studies for potential agribusiness development of the Katherine-Daly Basin.
- Facilitate the commencement of construction of Ord River Irrigation Area Stage 2.
- Expand beef cattle exports to the Philippines and Vietnam.
- Program to eradicate Parkhurst resistant ticks.
- Implement the *Development Plan for Offshore Tropical Snappers*.

## FOUNDATION THREE: SERVICE, SUPPLY AND DISTRIBUTION CENTRE

- Commence construction of the Adelaide to Darwin railway during the second half of 2000.
- Commence operations at East Arm Port.
- East Arm Port Stage 2A: commence the bulk liquids berth, railway access and reclamation embankment, and extend the existing wharf by 110 metres.
- Undertake further studies that will assist in developing Darwin as a supply, service and distribution centre for the Region.
- Develop a service industry export strategy, with an information technology, communications and e-Commerce focus.
- Open new markets and expand existing markets for Territory exporters and investors.
- Trade development and promotional activities to support the Port's development and the Adelaide to Darwin railway.
- Place shipping schedules on the Internet.
- Provide a landing for a second tug at East Arm Port.
- Explore potential representative arrangements for the Territory in East Malaysia (Sabah) and Thailand.
- Develop the Northern Territory Education and Training Authority's lead role in employment initiatives, especially to support major projects such as the Adelaide to Darwin railway.
- Install evaporative cooling on Sets 4 and 5 at Channel Island Power Station.
- Install a third feeder to Casuarina Square and augmentation at Casuarina Zone substation.
- Develop the first stage of Howard East Borefield.

## FOUNDATION FOUR: ABORIGINAL DEVELOPMENT

- Continue the coordinated care trials operated conjunctively between Territory Health Services and local communities in the Tiwi Islands and Katherine West regions.
- Provide additional health services under the remote communities incentive funding.
- Develop, implement, manage and report on the Aboriginal Interpreter Service.
- Trial a range of innovative approaches in various schools to improve educational outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.
- Territory wide, implement the Employment and Training Strategy 2000-02, especially relating to services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and regional communities.
- New resources to expand services to communities to develop, implement and monitor the operation of local Law and Order plans.
- Progress the Aboriginal Court Orderly Pilot.
- Encourage Aboriginal business development via the Aboriginal Economic Development Model.
- Develop and implement strategic water supply management plans for remote communities.
- Implement a pilot project to enable Aboriginal communities to develop greater ownership and involvement in utility services operation.
- Extend the availability and operational condition of strategic Aboriginal roads involving direct community contracting.
- Build on the localised achievements to facilitate a wider and continuing direct Aboriginal involvement in the construction industry.
- Sponsor whole of government data collections covering Aboriginal people with a view to developing collaborative projects with the Australian Bureau of Statistics in 2001-02.
- Improve delivery of sport and recreational services to Aboriginal communities.

## FOUNDATION FIVE: SERVICE INDUSTRY GROWTH

- Redevelop the Land Administration Information System to meet the emerging needs of industry, the community and Government.
- Build awareness and facilitate the implementation of e-Business by Territory businesses.
- Enhance the frameworks which will facilitate further development of commercial practices in Government Business Divisions.
- Establish Territory Business Centres as the business gateway for the delivery of high quality support, information and advisory services.
- Continue to pursue opportunities to increase the amount of defence work undertaken by private enterprise in the Territory.
- Continue outsourcing and evaluation of contracted Government legal services.
- Market the Top End and Central Australia as distinct, yet complementary year round holiday destinations.
- Funding for a convention centre in Alice Springs with meeting capacity for 500 people and banquet capacity for 500-700 people.
- Further gravelling and sealing of the Alice Springs to Kings Canyon (Mereenie) tourist loop.
- Promote the Territory as a business-oriented and leisure tourism destination.
- Facilitate the development of a strong, competitive and professional tourism industry through the introduction of industry accreditation.
- Enhance the Tourist Commission's Web site to improve access to information about the Territory and its tourism products.
- Pursue opportunities with the private sector to implement the recommendations of the *Tourism Development Masterplan 2000-2005*.
- Complete a new Tourism and Hospitality training facility at the Grevillea Drive campus of Centralian College to replace the Gillen House complex.

## FOUNDATION SIX: STRONG REGIONS

- Continue support for regional economic development committees in Central Australia, Barkly, Katherine and Darwin.
- As part of the Major Projects Support Unit, establish and coordinate a Rail Task Group to achieve maximum outcomes for Territory business from the construction of the Adelaide to Darwin railway.
- Commence Government capital works directly related to the rail project and associated work such as fencing, road works and community development (the latter being particularly associated with Aboriginal communities).
- Recognise the significance of Ti Tree as a regional service and horticulture centre and develop serviced residential land to accommodate the associated population growth.
- A major program to address the irrigation and nutrition needs of the table grape industry in Central Australia.
- Continue the *Alice in 10* initiative to provide walkways, stormwater drainage controls and landscape rehabilitation in the Todd River near the central business district.
- Improve broadcasting services in known 'black spots' in the Territory.
- Improve the telecommunications to remote areas in the Territory.
- Support the Katherine Region Online project.
- Establish an Office of Communications, Science and Advanced Technology in Alice Springs.
- Central Australian Internet Advocate program.
- Continue development of video conferencing facilities in courts throughout the Territory to improve remote services.
- Upgrade remote police stations across the Territory commencing with Papunya and Yuendumu.

## FOUNDATION SIX: STRONG REGIONS

- Continue the program of cell upgrades in rural police stations (Pt Keats and Katherine) to meet the requirements of the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody.
- Implement a wide range of diversionary program options for juvenile offenders.
- Commitment to maintaining the Juvenile Holding Facility in Alice Springs.
- Administer Commonwealth funded Young Offenders Placement Program pilot project aimed at minimising re-offending.
- Additional ongoing resources for the fire reduction program undertaken by the Bushfires Council and to improve the vehicle fleet for the Bushfires Council Volunteer brigades.
- Establish a consortium with peak hospitality organisations to promote and provide new apprenticeships in hospitality in the Centre.
- Memorandum of Understanding between Alice Springs Town Council and Centralian College to provide training for Council outdoor staff.
- Provide structured support for people with disabilities who reside in rural and isolated areas.
- Responsive Government employee housing, including establishing amenity and design standards in remote area housing.
- Continue to implement the local government reform and development agenda.
- Develop detailed proposals for policy and structural reform for local government councils.
- Expand education programs and services in Territory museums.
- License municipal waste landfill operations in Darwin, Katherine, Tennant Creek and Alice Springs.
- Expand the Anti-Discrimination Commission's educational activities outside Darwin.