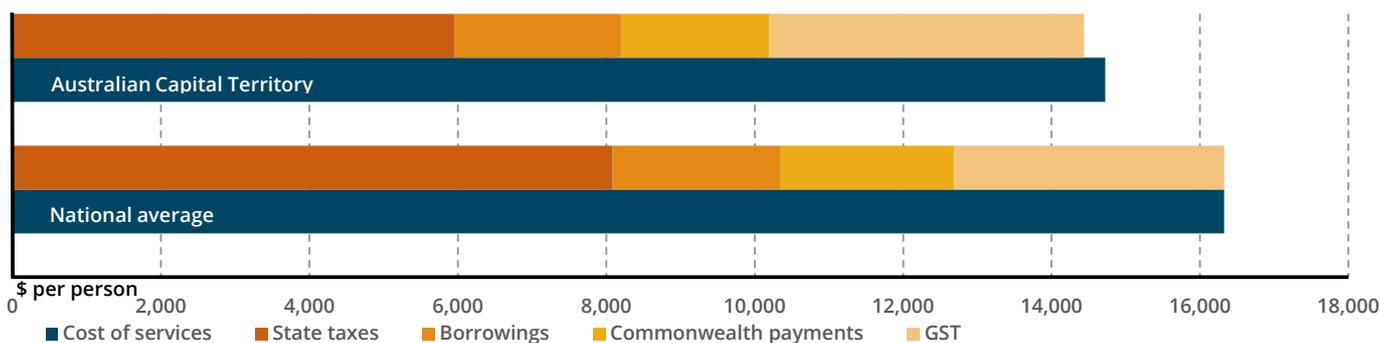




Australian Capital Territory

The ACT will receive around \$2.1 billion in GST in 2026–27, \$110 million more than in 2025–26. The change reflects the ACT’s assessed GST needs, changes in population and its share of the growth in the GST pool. It also reflects the 2018 GST distribution legislation.

GST distribution in 2026–27



How the ACT compares with other states and territories

The ACT’s capacity to raise revenue from its own taxes is lower than the national average.



The ACT does not raise any revenue from mining royalties.



The ACT’s ability to raise revenue from land tax is below the national average.

The characteristics of the people living in the ACT mean that the costs of providing government services are lower than the national average.



The ACT has no outer regional or remote population, compared with the national average of 9.8%, making it less costly to provide services.



Service use and costs are higher for those living with economic disadvantage. The ACT’s population is the least disadvantaged compared with the national average.

Overall, the below-average revenue-raising capacity of the ACT outweighs its below-average cost of providing services. It therefore receives a per person GST distribution above the national average.

Key factors that changed the ACT's GST distribution since 2025–26



-\$64 million

A decrease in coal and iron ore prices reduced revenue for Queensland and Western Australia. This increased their GST distribution and reduced it for other states, including the ACT.



+\$46 million

An above-average fall in the value of property transfers in the ACT reduced its relative revenue-raising capacity, increasing its GST distribution.



-\$30 million

A downward revision to the size of states' net financial liabilities reduced assessed liabilities per person. An upward revision to the ACT's population growth rate, towards the national average, further reduced its assessed liabilities per person. Together, these revisions reduce the ACT's GST distribution.



+\$28 million

A significant downward revision to New South Wales' natural disaster relief expenses reduced its expenditure need and decreased its GST distribution. This increases the GST distribution of other states, including the ACT.



+\$28 million

Revisions to data that previously misclassified some hospital activity have increased assessed costs in major cities. As a result, the assessed health expenditure needs of states with relatively larger major city populations increased, including the ACT, increasing their GST distribution.



+\$25 million

The ACT had a smaller share of national population growth, decreasing its relative ability to service liabilities and increasing its GST distribution.

For further information see <https://www.cgc.gov.au/reports-for-government/2026-update/>