



South Australia

This fact sheet provides an overview of the major causes of change in relativities and the distribution of the GST pool since the 2020 Review.

Relativities and estimated GST distribution

South Australia's recommended GST revenue sharing relativity will decrease to 1.34719 in 2021-22, resulting in it receiving an estimated GST pool distribution of \$6,207 million.

This year is the first year of the legislated transition arrangements, moving from distributing the GST pool solely on the basis of the Commission's assessment of relative fiscal capacities, to new arrangements where States will be equalised to the fiscally stronger of New South Wales and Victoria.

Relativities, shares and estimated GST distributions, 2020-21 and 2021-22

	Relativities		GST shares		GST distribution		
	2020-21	2021-22	2020-21	2021-22	2020-21	2021-22	Change
			%	%	\$m	\$m	\$m
New South Wales	0.91808	0.95617	29.2	30.3	18,453	20,347	1,894
Victoria	0.95992	0.92335	25.1	24.1	15,876	16,220	344
Queensland	1.04907	1.05918	21.2	21.5	13,387	14,411	1,023
Western Australia	0.44970	0.41967	4.7	4.3	2,941	2,918	-23
South Australia	1.35765	1.34719	9.4	9.2	5,906	6,207	301
Tasmania	1.89742	1.96067	4.0	4.1	2,530	2,783	253
Australian Capital Territory	1.15112	1.16266	1.9	2.0	1,222	1,310	89
Northern Territory	4.76893	4.79985	4.5	4.4	2,835	2,984	149
Total	1.00000	1.00000	100.0	100.0	63,150	67,180	4,030

Note: The estimated GST pool distribution for 2021-22 was calculated by applying 2021 Update relativities to estimated State populations (as of December 2021) and the estimated GST pool for 2021-22 (which includes the \$600 million top-up).

Implementation of new arrangements, 2021-22

	Fiscal capacities (a)	Standard State (b)	Blended capacities (c)	Implement floor (d)	GST relativities
NSW	0.96451	0.90258	0.95617	n/a	0.95617
Vic	0.93169	0.86976	0.92335	n/a	0.92335
Qld	1.06753	1.00559	1.05918	n/a	1.05918
WA	0.32852	0.86359	0.41967	n/a	0.41967
SA	1.35554	1.29360	1.34719	n/a	1.34719
Tas	1.96901	1.90707	1.96067	n/a	1.96067
ACT	1.17101	1.10907	1.16266	n/a	1.16266
NT	4.80820	4.74626	4.79985	n/a	4.79985
Total	1.00000	1.00000	1.00000		1.00000

(a) Relative fiscal capacities refer to the previous arrangements.

(b) Standard State capacities refer to the new arrangements (equalising to the stronger of New South Wales or Victoria). Victoria was fiscally stronger than New South Wales in two assessment years. New South Wales was fiscally stronger than Victoria in one assessment year. For this reason, Western Australia's standard State capacity is not equal to that of either New South Wales or Victoria.

(c) The blended capacities are 5/6th relative fiscal capacities and 1/6th standard State fiscal capacities.

(d) No internal floor applies to 2021-22.

n/a not applicable.



Change in fiscal capacity

Under the new GST relativities, which include the transition arrangements, South Australia's share of the GST pool decreased from 9.4% to 9.2%. With pool growth, its GST pool entitlement in 2021-22 would rise by an estimated \$301 million, or 5.1%.

South Australia's GST pool requirement decreased. This was due to above average growth in the value of property sales and taxable payrolls, and revisions to wage costs. These changes were partly offset by Western Australia's increase in mining royalties, which reduced South Australia's relative capacity to generate mining revenue.

Change in estimated GST distribution from 2020-21 to 2021-22, South Australia

	\$m	\$pc
Change in population	-11	-6
Growth in GST pool	376	213
Changes in relative fiscal capacity		
Data revisions	25	14
State circumstances	-39	-22
Total	-13	-8
Transition to new arrangements (a)	-51	-29
Total change	301	170

Note: Table may not add due to rounding.

(a) This represents the difference between applying the GST relativities and relative fiscal capacities to the GST pool. It is not the basis of the 'no worse off' calculation, which is a State's relative fiscal capacity applied to the GST pool without the top-up.

Main changes for South Australia, 2021 Update

Data revisions

-\$62m **Wage costs.** Revisions to the ABS Characteristics of Employment Survey have decreased the estimates of wage costs in South Australia, decreasing the assessed cost of paying its public sector staff.

\$35m **Natural disaster relief.** In 2020 the Commission decided to include State-funded local government expenses, and also made a one-off adjustment to recognise that these expenses should have been included in 2019. The adjustment is not needed in 2021; this appears as a revision, and has increased South Australia's GST share.

Changes in State circumstances between 2016-17 and 2019-20

-\$122m **Property sales.** Above average growth in property sales increased South Australia's relative revenue raising capacity and reduced its GST share.

\$59m **Mining.** Faster growth in the value of mining production in Western Australia reduced South Australia's relative revenue raising capacity, increasing its GST share.

-\$35m **Taxable payrolls.** Above average growth in taxable payrolls increased South Australia's relative revenue raising capacity and reduced its GST share.

\$31m **Commonwealth payments.** South Australia's share of payments was lower in 2019-20 than in 2016-17, mainly due to its lower share of payments for road infrastructure and new investments under the Infrastructure growth package. This increased its GST share.

\$31m **Taxable land values.** South Australia is assessed as requiring above average GST revenue because of its low land tax capacity. Growth in land tax revenues increased its GST share.

For more information about these changes, see the 2021 Update report.