

# 11A Emergency management — attachment

Definitions for the indicators and descriptors in this attachment are in section 11.9. Data in this Report are examined by the Emergency Management Working Group, but have not been formally audited by the Secretariat. A peer review process is also undertaken by the Emergency Management Working Group in the development of data definitions. Unsourced information was obtained from Commonwealth and State and Territory governments, with the assistance of the Australasian Fire Authorities Council and the Convention of Ambulance Authorities.

The data contained in this attachment may be subject to revision. The web page version of the Report contains the most up-to-date data where changes have occurred. This attachment can be found at [www.pc.gov.au/service/gsp/2001/attach11A.pdf](http://www.pc.gov.au/service/gsp/2001/attach11A.pdf). Users without Internet access can contact the Secretariat to obtain up-to-date versions of these tables (details inside front cover of the Report).

## 11A.1 All jurisdictions' data — fire services

### Descriptors

Table 11A.1 Sources of funding for fire services (1999-2000 prices)<sup>a</sup>

	<i>Unit</i>	<i>NSW<sup>b</sup></i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>Tas</i>	<i>ACT<sup>c</sup></i>	<i>NT<sup>d</sup></i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>1998-99</i>										
Government grants										
State government grants	%	14	15	21	29	25	6	77	100	21
Local government grants	%	12	6	–	8	9	–	–	–	7
Levies										
Levies on insurance companies	%	74	66	–	61	66	20	–	–	52
Levies on property owners	%	–	–	73	–	–	53	–	–	15
User charges	%	–	2	5	–	–	18	21	–	3
Other	%	–	11	1	–	1	3	2	–	3
Total <sup>c</sup>	%	100	99	100	99	101	100	100	100	100
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ million</b>	<b>368</b>	<b>265</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>1078</b>

Table 11A.1 Sources of funding for fire services (1999-2000 prices)<sup>a</sup>

	<i>Unit</i>	<i>NSW<sup>b</sup></i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>Tas</i>	<i>ACT<sup>c</sup></i>	<i>NT<sup>d</sup></i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>1999-2000</i>										
Government grants	%	17	22	18	43	–	9	70	95	21
Commonwealth government grants	%	–	–	–	1	–	0	–	4	0
State government grants	%	14	16	18	33	–	8	70	91	18
Local government grants	%	2	6	–	9	–	–	–	–	3
Levies	%	77	70	74	51	95	74	–	–	72
Levies on insurance companies	%	68	70	–	51	–	20	–	–	45
Levies on property owners	%	9	–	74	0	95	54	–	–	27
User charges	%	1	4	5	3	3	16	29	3	4
Other	%	5	3	2	3	2	1	1	2	3
Total	%	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
<b>Total (\$ million)</b>	<b>\$ million</b>	<b>421</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>1189</b>

<sup>a</sup> May not sum to 100 due to rounding errors.

<sup>b</sup> Excludes Rural Fire Service.

<sup>c</sup> For 1998-99, the sources of funds for the ACT includes funds for all four response agencies under the Emergency Services Bureau: the ACT Fire Brigade, the ACT Bushfire Service, the ACT Emergency Service and the ACT Ambulance Service.

<sup>d</sup> 1999-2000 data include a Commonwealth Government (National Heritage Trust) grant for a fire management research project. 'User charges' includes charges to landholders for aerial control burning and firebreaks. 'Other' includes sale of assets.

**na** Not available.

– Nil or rounded to zero.

Table 11A.2 **Reported fires and other primary incidents (number)**

	NSW <sup>a</sup>	Vic <sup>b</sup>	Qld <sup>c</sup>	WA <sup>c</sup>	SA <sup>d</sup>	Tas	ACT <sup>e</sup>	NT <sup>f</sup>	Total <sup>g</sup>
<b>1998-99</b>									
Fires	30 184	20 511	10 972	10 790	6 010	2 867	1 415	2 387	85 136
Alarm notification not involving fire	40 052	12 954	13 914	6 540	4 857	1 122	na	2 590	82 029
False reports	17 224	12 632	9 574	1 941	1 995	2 670	na	61	46 097
Other incidents	24 130	14 106	9 686	2 216	5 777	1 388	na	702	58 005
Total reports	111 590	60 203	44 146	21 487	18 639	8 047	9 410	5 740	279 262
<b>1999-2000</b>									
Fires and explosions	39 119	20 101	14 223	15 142	5 386	4 708	1 821	2 784	103 284
False alarms and good intent calls	61 467	24 417	23 701	8 705	7 279	3 787	5 781	2 756	137 893
Fire alarm system notification not involving fire	44 499	10 129	12 938	6 041	2 511	967	4 962	2 600	84 647
Other false alarms/false calls	16 968	14 288	10 763	2 664	4 768	2 820	819	156	53 246
Other incidents	34 266	13 351	12 501	2 582	6 451	1 303	1 911	157	72 522
Total incidents	134 852	57 869	50 425	26 429	19 116	9 798	9 513	5 697	313 699

<sup>a</sup> For 1998-99, excludes Rural Fire Service data, but includes NSW Fire Brigades' responses to calls outside their designated fire districts. For 1999-2000, includes both the Rural Fire Services and NSW Fire Brigades. The category 'other incidents' may include some false alarms and false calls as a result of differences in the reporting systems. Industrial bans mean the 1999-2000 incident data are based on extrapolated results.

<sup>b</sup> Industrial action and other problems resulted in non-classification and exclusion of 6312 (10 per cent of the State total) Country Fire Authority incidents in 1999-2000 for which details remain incomplete.

<sup>c</sup> Excludes the Queensland Rural Fire Service and WA Bush Fire Brigades.

<sup>d</sup> For 1998-99 and 1999-00 industrial disputation meant no metropolitan fire reports were completed for 149 days and 157 days respectively.

<sup>e</sup> For 1998-99, reported fires include both the ACT Bushfire Service and the ACT Fire Brigade. Other incidents and false reports include the ACT Fire Brigade only. Data have been extrapolated because industrial bans occurred. For 1999-2000, reported fires include both the ACT Bushfire Service and the ACT Fire Brigade. Other incidents and false reports include the ACT Fire Brigade only. Data have been extrapolated because industrial bans occurred.

<sup>f</sup> Excludes the NT Bush Fires Council.

<sup>g</sup> Total excludes the Queensland Rural Fire Service, WA Rural Fire Service and the NT Bush Fires Council.

na Not available.

Table 11A.3 **Fire staff, 1999-2000**

	<i>Unit</i>	<i>NSW<sup>a</sup></i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>SA<sup>b</sup></i>	<i>Tas</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>Total</i>
Firefighting staff	FTE	3 504	1 776	2 217	824	742	240	242	192	9 737
Permanent firefighters	FTE	3 037	1 776	2 025	824	722	240	242	142	9 008
Other firefighters	FTE	467	–	192	–	20	–	–	50	729
Support staff	FTE	447	759	350	198	95	159	56	44	2 108
Total	FTE	3 951	2 535	2 567	1 022	837	399	297	236	11 845
Volunteer firefighters	no.	68 893	65 166	44 000	20 047	16 640	4 901	514	1 940	222 101
<b>Total</b>	<b>FTE/no.</b>	<b>72 844</b>	<b>67 701</b>	<b>46 567</b>	<b>21 069</b>	<b>17 477</b>	<b>5 300</b>	<b>811</b>	<b>2 176</b>	<b>233 946</b>

<sup>a</sup> 'Other firefighters' includes volunteers.

<sup>b</sup> Most support staff are employed by the Emergency Services Administrative Unit, which provides strategic and support services to Country and Metropolitan fire services.

FTE = full time equivalent.

**na** Not available.

– Nil or rounded to zero.

## Effectiveness

### Outcomes

Table 11A.4 **Fire death rate (per 100 000 persons)<sup>a</sup>**

	<i>NSW<sup>b</sup></i>	<i>Vic<sup>b, c</sup></i>	<i>Qld<sup>d</sup></i>	<i>WA<sup>b</sup></i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>Tas<sup>b</sup></i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>Total</i>
1997-98 <sup>e</sup>	0.8	0.7	0.5	0.6	0.4	1.1	0.3	0.5	0.7
1998-99 <sup>f</sup>	1.1	0.5	0.9	0.3	0.9	2.8	–	0.5	0.8
1999-2000 <sup>f</sup>	0.8	0.4	1.3	0.5	1.2	0.6	–	2.1	0.7

<sup>a</sup> The small number of deaths means it is difficult to establish patterns and provide detailed analysis. The rates also fluctuate from year to year. This demonstrates the volatility of these numbers and therefore must be taken into account in any interpretation of data.

<sup>b</sup> Figures for 1999-2000 refer to total fires deaths and include deaths involving 'civilians' and operational staff.

<sup>c</sup> Excludes murders and suicides where a fire subsequently occurred.

<sup>d</sup> Data for 1999-2000 excludes murders and suicides where a fire subsequently occurred.

<sup>e</sup> Validated by State coroners for NSW, Victoria, Queensland, Tasmania and the ACT.

<sup>f</sup> Validated by State coroners for NSW, Victoria, Queensland, Tasmania, the ACT and the NT.

– Nil or rounded to zero.

Table 11A.5 **Fire injury rate (per 100 000 persons)<sup>a</sup>**

	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>Tas</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>Total</i>
1996-97	10.3	7.2	15.9	17.4	13.8	11.4	5.5	23.5	11.6
1997-98	11.1	7.9	9.6	19.6	12.2	8.1	3.2	33.2	11.0
1998-99 <sup>b</sup>	11.4	8.7	6.9	14.0	18.4	5.1	5.2	3.1	10.3

<sup>a</sup> Fire injuries are defined as the number of persons admitted to public and private hospitals. Excludes emergency department non-admitted casualties.

<sup>b</sup> Includes the number of hospital deaths as a result of fire. Earlier years data excludes such deaths.

Source: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW), 1997, 1998 and 1999, *Australian Hospital Statistics, 1997, 1998 and 1999*, AIHW cat. no. HSE 5 to 7, AIHW, Canberra.

Table 11A.6 **Median dollar loss from structural fires (1999-2000 dollars)<sup>a</sup>**

	<i>NSW<sup>b</sup></i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld<sup>c</sup></i>	<i>WA<sup>d</sup></i>	<i>SA<sup>e</sup></i>	<i>Tas</i>	<i>ACT<sup>f</sup></i>	<i>NT</i>
1997-98	4 073	2 037	1 018	2 037	3 055	5 092	5 092	na
1998-99	2 033	1 016	1 016	2 033	3 049	2 236	2 033	1 524
1999-2000	1 500	800	1 000	2 000	2 000	4 500	1 000	6 000

<sup>a</sup> Estimates have not been validated by the insurance industry or adjusted for interstate valuation differences.

<sup>b</sup> 1997-98 data include both NSW Fire Brigades and the Rural Fire Service. 1998-99 and 1999-2000 data exclude NSW Rural Fire Service data, but include responses to calls outside NSW Fire Brigades designated fire districts. An industrial ban means 1999-2000 data are derived from a sample representing 80 per cent of incident data.

<sup>c</sup> Excludes Rural Fire Service data.

<sup>d</sup> 1997-98 and 1998-99 data exclude Bush Fire Brigades.

<sup>e</sup> 1997-98 and 1999-2000 data exclude Country Fire Service.

<sup>f</sup> There is an inconsistency in the data reported for 1997-98. Industrial bans mean 1998-99 and 1999-2000 data are based on extrapolated results.

**na** Not available.



Table 11A.7 **Total property loss from structural fires (1999-2000 dollars per person)<sup>a, b</sup>**

	<i>NSW<sup>c</sup></i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld<sup>d</sup></i>	<i>WA<sup>e</sup></i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>Tas<sup>f</sup></i>	<i>ACT<sup>g</sup></i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>Average<sup>h</sup></i>
1997-98	27	19	14	19	15	50	10	na	22
1998-99 <sup>f</sup>	27	22	16	19	14	30	21	9	21
1999-2000 <sup>f</sup>	na	19	18	25	10	28	14	26	19

<sup>a</sup> Estimates have not been validated by the insurance industry or adjusted for interstate valuation differences.

<sup>b</sup> Rates have been adjusted to reflect the population covered by the data.

<sup>c</sup> 1997-98 data include both NSW Fire Brigades and the Rural Fire Service. 1998-99 data exclude NSW Rural Fire Service data, but include responses to calls outside NSW Fire Brigades designated fire districts.

<sup>d</sup> Excludes the Rural Fire Service.

<sup>e</sup> 1997-98 and 1998-99 data excludes Bush Fire Brigades.

<sup>f</sup> Includes both urban and rural fire services.

<sup>g</sup> Industrial bans mean 1998-99 and 1999-2000 data are based on extrapolated results.

<sup>h</sup> Average for Australia excludes rural fire service data for some years, and excludes NSW for 1999-2000 and NT for 1997-98.

**na** Not available.

Table 11A.8 **Total fire incidents (per 100 000 persons)<sup>a</sup>**

	<i>NSW<sup>b</sup></i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld<sup>c</sup></i>	<i>WA<sup>d</sup></i>	<i>SA<sup>c</sup></i>	<i>Tas<sup>e</sup></i>	<i>ACT<sup>f</sup></i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>Average<sup>g</sup></i>
1997-98	751	447	382	627	597	971	570	1 083	587
1998-99	529	440	352	601	404	608	459	1 256	480
1999-2000	610	431	405	813	361	1 001	590	1 392	548

<sup>a</sup> Population figures used to calculate the rates have been adjusted to represent population coverage by fire agencies. Population estimates for each Statistical Local Area was matched to the geographic areas covered by fire services.

<sup>b</sup> 1997-98 data include both NSW Fire Brigades and the Rural Fire Service. 1998-99 data exclude Rural Fire Service data, but include responses to calls outside NSW Fire Brigades designated fire districts. 1999-2000 figure includes both Rural Fire Service and NSW Fire Brigades data. An industrial ban means 1999-2000 data are derived from a sample representing 80 per cent of incident data.

<sup>c</sup> Excludes Queensland Rural Fire Service and SA Country Fire Service data respectively.

<sup>d</sup> 1997-98 and 1998-99 data exclude Rural Fire Service.

<sup>e</sup> Include urban and rural fire services.

<sup>f</sup> Industrial bans mean 1998-99 and 1999-2000 data are based on extrapolated results.

<sup>g</sup> Excludes NT Bush Fire Council, WA Bush Fire Brigades for 1997-98 and 1999-2000, and SA Country Fire Service.

*Prevention***Table 11A.9 Households with at least one fire safety measure<sup>a, b</sup>**

	<i>Unit</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>Tas</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>Australia</i>
1998-99 (November 1998 to August 1999)										
Estimated households with a fire safety measure	no.	1 930 422	1 644 395	1 087 115	558 531	532 896	169 790	95 732	41 900	6 060 781
Estimated households with a fire safety measure	%	82.8	94.9	85.8	81.3	92.0	91.9	88.7	81.0	87.3
Standard error	%	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.9	1.6	1.5	1.4	2.2	0.7
Total households	no.	2 332 703	1 733 220	1 267 188	687 130	579 496	184 833	107 945	51 725	6 944 240
1999-2000 (November 1999 to August 2000)										
Estimated households with a fire safety measure	no.	1 906 221	1 689 287	1 168 387	583 770	569 950	172 318	101 796	42 367	6 234 094
Estimated households with a fire safety measure	%	81.1	97.5	87.8	84.3	97.3	93.0	89.4	86.3	88.5
Standard error	%	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.9	1.6	1.5	1.4	2.2	0.7
Total households	no.	2 350 221	1 732 667	1 331 072	692 663	585 925	185 364	113 855	49 074	7 040 840

<sup>a</sup> Caution needs to be used where there are small differences in the results, which are affected by sample and estimate size (see section 11.8).

<sup>b</sup> The total number of households with at least one fire safety measure is smaller than the sum of the individual components (table 11A.11) because a number of households have more than one fire safety measure installed or followed.

Sources: ABS (1999 and 2000) cat. no. 4103.0.

Table 11A.10 **Households with a fire safety measure, by fire safety measure installed or followed<sup>a, b</sup>**

<i>Fire safety measure</i>	<i>Estimate</i>	<i>Standard error</i>	<i>Proportion</i>
	no.	%	%
1998-1999 (November 1998 to August 1999)			
Smoke alarm/smoke detector	4 651 670	0.7	67.0
Fire sprinkler system	73 521	11.3	1.1
Safety switch/circuit breaker	3 517 462	0.7	50.7
Fire extinguisher	1 711 335	1.4	24.6
Fire blanket	639 480	2.2	9.2
Fire evacuation plan	986 798	2.0	14.2
External water supply	774 820	2.2	11.2
Removal of external fuel sources	1 242 697	2.0	17.9
External sprinkler	1 117 803	2.0	16.1
Other fire safety measure	70 825	11.3	1.0
<b>Total households</b>	<b>6 944 240</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Table 11A.10 **Households with a fire safety measure, by fire safety measure installed or followed<sup>a, b</sup>**

<i>Fire safety measure</i>	<i>Estimate</i>	<i>Standard error</i>	<i>Proportion</i>
1999-2000 (November 1999 to August 2000)			
Smoke alarm/smoke detector	4 982 073	0.7	70.8
Fire sprinkler system	91 584	7.8	1.3
Safety switch/circuit breaker	3 767 686	0.7	53.5
Fire extinguisher	1 751 147	1.4	24.9
Fire blanket	737 989	2.2	10.5
Fire evacuation plan	1 051 962	2.0	14.9
External water supply	829 401	2.2	11.8
Removal of external fuel sources	1 294 525	2.0	18.4
External sprinkler	1 218 879	2.0	17.3
Other fire safety measure	59 527	11.3	0.8
<b>Total households</b>	<b>7 040 840</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>a</sup> Caution needs to be used where there are small differences in the results, which are affected by sample and estimate size (see section 11.8).

<sup>b</sup> The total number of households with at least one fire safety measure (table 11A.10) is smaller than the sum of the individual components because a number of households have more than one fire safety measure installed or followed.

Sources: ABS (1999 and 2000) cat. no. 4103.0.

*Preparedness***Table 11A.11 Households with an operational smoke alarm or smoke detector installed<sup>a, b</sup>**

	<i>Unit</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>Tas</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>Total</i>
1998-1999 (November 1998 to August 1999)										
Estimated households with a smoke alarm/detector	no.	1 383 100	1 562 314	687 990	327 416	451 732	146 008	74 699	18 411	4 651 670
Estimated households with a smoke alarm/detector	%	59.3	90.1	54.3	47.6	78.0	79.0	69.2	35.6	67.0
Standard error	%	1.7	1.4	2.5	3.4	1.6	2.4	2.3	4.0	0.7
Total households	no.	2 332 703	1 733 220	1 267 188	687 130	579 496	184 833	107 945	51 725	6 944 240
1999-2000 (November 1999 to August 2000)										
Estimated households with a smoke alarm/detector	no.	1 385 933	1 642 872	800 846	366 275	535 077	149 591	82 949	18 530	4 982 073
Estimated households with a smoke alarm/detector	%	59.0	94.8	60.2	52.9	91.3	80.7	72.9	37.8	70.8
Standard error	%	1.7	1.4	1.7	3.4	1.6	2.4	2.3	4.0	0.7
Total households	no.	2 350 221	1 732 667	1 331 072	692 663	585 925	185 364	113 855	49 074	7 040 840

<sup>a</sup> Caution needs to be exercised when comparing small differences in the results, which are affected by sample and estimate size (see section 11.8).

<sup>b</sup> The total number of households with at least one fire safety measure is smaller than the sum of the individual components (table 11A.11) because a number of households have more than one fire safety measure installed or followed.

Sources: ABS (1999 and 2000) cat. no. 4103.0.

*Response*Table 11A.12 **Fire response times (minutes)<sup>a</sup>**

	<i>NSW</i> <sup>b, c</sup>	<i>Vic</i> <sup>d</sup>	<i>Qld</i> <sup>b</sup>	<i>WA</i> <sup>e</sup>	<i>SA</i> <sup>b</sup>	<i>Tas</i> <sup>f</sup>	<i>ACT</i> <sup>b, g</sup>	<i>NT</i>
50th percentile								
1997-98	6.0	5.4	6.0	7.0	5.0	8.0	6.5	6.4
1998-99	6.0	5.3	6.0	7.0	5.6	7.8	7.0	6.2
1999-2000 <sup>g</sup>	6.0	5.4	6.0	7.0	5.3	7.8	7.0	6.2
90th percentile								
1997-98	11.0	8.8	12.6	13.0	8.0	19.0	11.7	9.0
1998-99	11.0	8.4	12.0	13.0	9.6	16.2	12.0	14.0
1999-2000 <sup>h</sup>	10.6	8.5	13.0	13.0	8.8	14.9	11.6	17.1

<sup>a</sup> Definitions of response times may vary from jurisdiction to jurisdiction. Also, some agencies use a manual system to calculate response time figures while other services retrieve the data from computer aided dispatch systems. Data relate to structural fires only.

<sup>b</sup> Data for 1997-98 and 1998-99 have been revised by including structural fires only, to maintain comparability with 1999-2000 data. Excludes Queensland Rural Fire Service and SA Country Fire Service respectively.

<sup>c</sup> An industrial ban means 1999-2000 data are derived from a sample representing 80 per cent of incident data.

<sup>d</sup> The Country Fire Authority records response times from the time the brigade receives an emergency call. Data for 1997-98 and 1998-99 have been amended by including structural fires only, to maintain comparability with 1999-2000 data.

<sup>e</sup> 1997-98 and 1998-99 data exclude Bush Fire Brigades.

<sup>f</sup> Data includes responses by both rural and urban fire services.

<sup>g</sup> Industrial bans mean 1998-99 and 1999-2000 data are based on extrapolated results.

Table 11A.13 Proportion of structural fires contained to the object or room of origin (per cent)

	<i>NSW</i> <sup>a</sup>	<i>Vic</i> <sup>b</sup>	<i>Qld</i> <sup>c</sup>	<i>WA</i> <sup>d</sup>	<i>SA</i> <sup>c</sup>	<i>Tas</i> <sup>e</sup>	<i>ACT</i> <sup>f</sup>	<i>NT</i>	<i>Average</i> <sup>g</sup>
1997-98	73.0	87.6	75.7	77.9	42.7	76.0	76.2	na	71.8
1998-99	76.9	87.0	76.5	78.3	82.2	64.4	66.6	40.0	69.0
1999-2000	73.9	90.1	76.1	69.3	78.8	65.4	77.4	60.0	78.2

<sup>a</sup> 1998-99 and 1999-2000 data exclude Rural Fire Service data, but include responses to calls outside NSW Fire Brigades designated fire districts. An industrial ban means 1999-2000 data are derived from a sample representing 80 per cent of incident data.

<sup>b</sup> Includes the Metropolitan Fire and Emergency Services Board and excludes the Country Fire Authority.

<sup>c</sup> Excludes Queensland Rural Fire Service and SA Country Fire Service respectively.

<sup>d</sup> 1997-98 and 1998-99 data exclude the Bush Fire Brigades.

<sup>e</sup> Data includes urban and rural fire services.

<sup>f</sup> 1997-98 data include ACT Fire Brigades only and exclude ACT Bush Fire Service. Industrial bans mean data for 1998-99 and 1999-2000 are based on extrapolated results.

<sup>g</sup> Average excludes rural fire services for some years.

**na** Not available.



## Efficiency

Table 11A.14 **Fire expenditure less non-government revenue, 1999-2000 (\$'000)**

	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld</i> <sup>a</sup>	<i>WA</i>	<i>SA</i> <sup>b</sup>	<i>Tas</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>NT</i> <sup>c</sup>	<i>Total</i>
Labour costs	257 997	166 078	140 928	56 172	51 730	19 859	17 754	12 503	723 021
Salaries and payments in the nature of salaries	243 410	158 074	134 785	56 172	44 794	18 638	17 754	11 713	685 340
Payroll tax	14 587	8 004	6 143	..	6 936	1 221	..	790	37 681
Capital costs	18 578	45 787	32 869	13 652	11 081	2 615	3 074	1 712	129 368
Depreciation	18 578	22 263	16 282	5 846	4 979	2 615	952	na	71 515
User cost of capital	na	23 524	16 587	7 806	6 102	na	2 123	1 712	57 854
Land	na	2 860	2 595	1 871	800	na	267	1 043	9 436
Other assets	na	20 664	13 992	5 935	5 302	na	1 856	670	48 418
Other costs <sup>d</sup>	132 206	69 325	47 307	33 153	41 709	9 859	5 107	4 186	342 852
Interest on borrowings	na	1 895	1 748	3 084	–	584	525	na	7 836
Total costs <sup>e</sup>	408 781	278 330	218 509	101 106	103 720	32 333	25 668	17 359	1 185 805
Revenue from non-government sources <sup>f</sup>	350 653	211 633	179 123	55 450	104 520	31 257	6 109	901	939 646
Total recurrent expenditure less non-government revenue	58 128	66 697	39 386	45 656	- 800	1 076	19 559	16 458	246 159

<sup>a</sup> Excludes Rural Fire Service.

<sup>b</sup> Payroll tax amount includes superannuation. 'Other costs' includes Emergency Services Administrative Unit costs.

<sup>c</sup> The NT uses cost based accounting; depreciation charges are not available.

<sup>d</sup> Includes the running, training and maintenance costs, but excludes interest on borrowings.

<sup>e</sup> Excludes the user cost of capital associated with land.

<sup>f</sup> 1999-2000 revenues from own sources (levies on insurance companies and property owners, user charges and fundraising and donations) have been used to impute cost estimates. For the NT, this includes charges to landholders for aerial control burning and firebreaks, and the sale of assets.

na Not available.

Table 11A.14 **Fire expenditure less non-government revenue, 1999-2000 (\$'000)**

	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld<sup>a</sup></i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>SA<sup>b</sup></i>	<i>Tas</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>NT<sup>c</sup></i>	<i>Total</i>
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.. Not applicable.

-Nil or rounded to zero.

Table 11A.15 **Fire expenditure per person<sup>a, b</sup>**

	<i>Unit</i>	<i>NSW<sup>c</sup></i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>SA<sup>d</sup></i>	<i>Tas<sup>c</sup></i>	<i>ACT<sup>e</sup></i>	<i>NT<sup>f</sup></i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>Total fire expenditure per person</i>										
1997-98										
Total	\$m	343.0	259.0	170.4	76.0	71.0	35.0	31.0	19.0	1004.4
Population	million	6.272	4.605	3.392	1.797	1.479	0.473	0.308	0.186	18.512
Per person	\$	54.0	56.0	50.2	42.0	47.0	74.0	99.0	99.0	54.3
1998-99										
Total	\$m	369.0	265.0	196.8	80.0	82.0	34.0	33.0	20.0	1079.8
Population <sup>g</sup>	million	5.707	4.660	3.452	1.794	1.487	0.471	0.308	0.189	18.1
Per person	\$	65.0	57.0	57.0	45.0	55.0	72.0	106.0	105.0	59.8
1999-2000										
Total	\$m	408.8	278.3	218.5	101.1	103.7	32.3	25.7	17.4	1185.8
Population <sup>g</sup>	million	5.771	4.712	3.512	1.861	1.493	0.470	0.310	0.193	18.3
Per person	\$	70.84	59.07	62.22	54.33	69.47	68.76	82.75	90.00	64.72
<i>Total fire expenditure less non-government revenue per person<sup>g</sup></i>										
1999-2000										
Total	\$m	58.1	66.7	39.4	45.7	- 0.8	1.1	19.6	16.5	246.2
Population <sup>g</sup>	million	5.771	4.712	3.512	1.861	1.493	0.470	0.310	0.193	18.3
Per person	\$	10.07	14.15	11.21	24.53	-0.54	2.29	63.06	85.32	13.44

<sup>a</sup> Totals may not add as a result of rounding.

<sup>b</sup> Expenditure data have been approximated using revenue data in 1997-98 and 1998-99.

<sup>c</sup> 1999-2000 expenditures exclude the user cost of capital

<sup>d</sup> The negative expenditure less non-government revenue per person is in part attributable to accounting treatment of the restructured entities.

<sup>e</sup> 1997-98 and 1998-99 expenditure data include expenditure for all four response agencies: the ACT Fire Brigade, the ACT Bushfire Service, the ACT Emergency Service and the ACT Ambulance Service.

<sup>f</sup> 1999-2000 expenditure data exclude depreciation charges.

Table 11A.15 **Fire expenditure per person<sup>a, b</sup>**

<i>Unit</i>	<i>NSW<sup>c</sup></i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>SA<sup>d</sup></i>	<i>Tas<sup>c</sup></i>	<i>ACT<sup>e</sup></i>	<i>NT<sup>f</sup></i>	<i>Total</i>
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<sup>g</sup> Population figures have been adjusted to represent population coverage by fire agencies.

<sup>h</sup> Revenue from own sources includes levies on insurance companies and property owners, user charges and fundraising and donations. For the NT, this includes

**na** Not available.

## 11A.2 All jurisdictions' data — ambulance services

### Descriptors

Table 11A.16 **Source of funds for ambulance services (current prices)**

	<i>Unit</i>	<i>NSW<sup>a</sup></i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>WA<sup>b</sup></i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>Tas</i>	<i>ACT<sup>c</sup></i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>1998-99</i>										
Transport fees										
Government hospitals	%	14	4	8	3	11	4	na	8	57
Private citizens	%	5	7	6	46	–	–	na	9	76
Insurance	%	–	6	1	3	1	6	na	2	18
Other	%	5	4	1	2	24	9	na	–	43
Total	%	24	21	16	55	36	19	na	17	187
Subscriptions/levies	%	–	22	30	1	21	–	na	5	82
Government contributions	%	72	52	47	26	39	81	na	51	368
Other	%	4	5	7	19	4	–	na	27	64
Total share	%	100	100	100	100	100	100	na	100	700
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ million</b>	<b>234</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>na</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>718</b>

Table 11A.16 Source of funds for ambulance services (current prices)

	<i>Unit</i>	<i>NSW<sup>a</sup></i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>WA<sup>b</sup></i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>Tas</i>	<i>ACT<sup>c</sup></i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>1999-2000</i>										
Government grants	%	76	56	54	22	45	77	86	67	59
Commonwealth Government grants	%	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
State and Territory government grants	%	76	56	54	22	45	77	86	67	59
Local government grants	%	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Subscription fees	%	–	21	27	3	18	–	3	5	14
Transport fees	%	22	20	12	59	33	18	10	12	22
Inter-hospital	%	13	3	7	9	7	9	–	–	8
Uninsured citizens	%	4	9	–	17	16	–	–	–	6
Insurance	%	4	5	–	31	2	9	–	–	5
Workers compensation	%	–	1	–	na	–	–	–	–	–
Other	%	1	2	5	3	7	–	10	12	3
Donations	%	–	–	1	1	–	–	–	–	–
Other	%	2	2	6	14	3	4	1	16	4
Total share	%	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ million</b>	<b>258</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>806</b>

<sup>a</sup> NSW does have a subscription scheme but funds are deposited to the consolidated revenue of NSW Treasury.

<sup>b</sup> For 1999-2000, subscription fees are for country region only; insurance transport fees includes those covered by private health insurance; and workers compensation transport fees are not separately identified and are included with the uninsured.

<sup>c</sup> For 1998-99, the sources of funds for the ACT Ambulance Service were included in the ACT Emergency Services Bureau data in table 11A.1 and could not be provided separately. Total source of funds in table 10A.2 includes funds for all four response agencies under the Emergency Services Bureau: the ACT Fire Brigade, the ACT Bushfire Service, the ACT Emergency Service and the ACT Ambulance Service.

na Not available.

– Nil or rounded to zero.

Table 11A.17 **Reported ambulance incidents and responses, 1999-2000<sup>a</sup>**

	<i>Unit</i>	<i>NSW<sup>b</sup></i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>WA<sup>c, d</sup></i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>Tas</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>Average<sup>e</sup></i>
Incidents										
Emergency incidents	%	64	42	30	27	32	55	46	28	45
Urgent incidents	%	10	19	29	27	34	30	32	46	20
Non-emergency incidents	%	25	39	39	45	34	15	22	26	33
Casualty room attendance	%	na	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	2
Total incidents	no.	655 190	450 815	429 660	136 016	129 174	40 875	19 071	17 574	1 878 375
Responses										
Emergency responses	%	na	50	30	27	37	55	47	28	39
Urgent responses	%	na	17	27	27	35	30	31	50	25
Non-emergency responses	%	na	33	41	46	28	15	21	22	36
Casualty room attendance	%	na	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	2
Total responses	no.	na	546 320	474 800	133 948	158 864	40 074	19 609	20 939	1 394 554

<sup>a</sup> An incident is defined as an event to which ambulance services responded.

<sup>b</sup> NSW activity data is understated by approximately 15 per cent due to changes in methods of recording and lost data due to industrial action.

<sup>c</sup> Separate statistics are not kept for incidents and responses. Numbers shown under incidents are cases.

<sup>d</sup> WA does not have a policy of automatically dispatching more than one unit to an incident unless advised of more than one patient.

<sup>e</sup> Average based on Queensland and WA, the only two jurisdictions that have casualty room attendance.

– Nil or rounded to zero.

na Not available.

Table 11A.18 **Ambulance staff numbers, 1999-2000**

	<i>Unit</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld</i> <sup>a</sup>	<i>WA</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>Tas</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>All salaried staff</i>	FTE	2 975	1 676	2 273	509	690	166	109	106	8 504
Ambulance operatives	FTE	2 262	1 512	1 811	375	523	153	83	72	6 790
Qualified ambulance officers	FTE	1 552	764	888	–	313	16	68	25	3 626
Advanced life support officers	FTE	375	261	289	242	95	91	–	21	1 374
Student ambulance officers	FTE	263	235	277	69	71	22	5	8	950
Operational administrative staff	FTE	23	214	238	44	10	24	7	7	567
Other ambulance operatives	FTE	49	38	119	20	34	–	3	11	274
Operational and business support staff	FTE	713	164	462	134	167	13	26	34	1 713
Operational support staff	FTE	563	10	217	52	78	13	11	5	949
Business and other support staff	FTE	150	154	245	82	89	–	15	29	764
<i>Volunteers/retained staff</i>	no.	–	370	363	3 627	1 478	436	–	29	6 303
Ambulance operatives	no.	–	370	363	3 627	1 400	436	–	29	6 225
Operational and business support	no.	–	–	–	–	78	–	–	–	78

<sup>a</sup> All staff in the 'Volunteer/retained' category are volunteers.

– Nil or rounded to zero.

FTE = full time equivalent.



## Effectiveness

### Outcomes

Table 11A.19 **Survival rate from out-of-hospital cardiac arrests, 1999-2000**

	<i>Unit</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld</i> <sup>a</sup>	<i>WA</i> <sup>b</sup>	<i>SA</i>	<i>Tas</i>	<i>ACT</i> <sup>c</sup>	<i>NT</i>	<i>Total</i>
Survivals from out-of-hospital cardiac arrest incidents	%	na	na	16	9	na	na	na	na	na
Total out-of-hospital cardiac arrest incidents	no.	na	na	na	89	na	na	na	na	89

<sup>a</sup> Percentage of patients in out-of-hospital cardiac arrest of presumed cardiac origin on whom resuscitation was attempted and who had vital signs on arrival at hospital.

<sup>b</sup> Data are bystander witnessed, out-of-hospital cardiac arrests, of presumed cardiac origin, where resuscitation was attempted and patient was in shockable rhythm. Data exclude all paramedic witnessed arrests and arrests where the patient was not in a shockable rhythm.

<sup>c</sup> Survival rate from out-of-hospital cardiac arrests calculated as 20.4 per cent over six year period to December 1999.

na Not available.

Table 11A.20 **Ambulance response times (minutes)**

	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic</i> <sup>a</sup>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>Tas</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>NT</i>
50th percentile								
1997-98	10	9	8	8	7	10	7	8
1998-99	10	9	9	8	7	10	6	na
1999-2000	9	8	8	8	7	10	7	26
90th percentile								
1997-98	17	14	16	15	13	22	11	15
1998-99	18	14	17	14	13	22	11	na
1999-2000	18	15	16	14	13	22	11	43

<sup>a</sup> 1997-98 and 1998-99 data include Metropolitan Ambulance Service only.

Table 11A.21 **Users' satisfaction with ambulance services<sup>a, b</sup>**

	<i>Unit</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>Tas</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>Total</i>
1998-99 (November 1998 to August 1999)										
Very satisfied	%	73.6	73.4	73.0	77.3	74.0	81.7	61.9	65.8	73.8
Satisfied	%	19.2	17.5	20.1	16.6	17.2	12.4	26.2	26.3	18.6
Neither very satisfied nor satisfied	%	7.2	9.0	6.9	6.1	8.8	5.9	11.9	7.9	7.6
Total persons	'000s	495.6	303.2	249.6	87.4	97.7	30.6	12.6	11.4	1 288.1
1999-2000 (November 1999 to August 2000)										
Very satisfied	%	76.3	69.9	80.0	68.4	78.6	72.4	75.6	74.7	75.1
Satisfied	%	19.4	22.5	15.1	25.0	17.3	18.8	20.1	14.7	19.4
Neither very satisfied nor satisfied	%	4.3	7.5	4.9	6.6	4.2	9.1	4.3	10.7	5.5
Total persons	'000s	451.5	269.8	279.5	119.3	102.7	35.1	16.4	7.5	1 281.6

<sup>a</sup> Among persons aged 18 years and over who had used an ambulance service in the last 12 months.

<sup>b</sup> Caution needs to be used where there are small differences in the results because they are affected by sample and estimate size (see section 10A.3).

na Not available.

Sources: ABS (1999 and 2000), cat. no. 4103.0.

Table 11A.22 **Non-users' satisfaction with ambulance services<sup>a</sup>**

	<i>Unit</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>Tas</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>Total</i>
1998-99 (November 1998 to August 1999)										
Very satisfied	%	35.2	23.4	40.7	35.5	35.8	35.5	31.8	27.3	33.1
Satisfied	%	38.1	39.7	37.3	36.8	37.0	37.6	41.0	43.1	38.2
Neither very satisfied nor satisfied	%	26.7	36.9	21.9	27.7	27.3	27.0	27.3	29.6	28.7
Total persons	'000	4 047.0	3 134.6	2 173.4	1 055.2	1 014.5	306.6	133.2	130.6	11 995.1
1999-2000 (November 1999 to August 2000)										
Very satisfied	%	31.6	29.1	42.9	39.1	38.7	34.7	26.6	28.7	34.2
Satisfied	%	36.9	39.9	37.3	34.4	33.4	38.4	41.4	45.4	37.4
Neither very satisfied nor satisfied	%	31.5	30.9	19.8	26.5	28.0	26.9	31.9	26.0	28.4
Total persons	'000	4 229.8	3 215.2	2 201.9	1 195.0	993.2	303.4	204.4	86.5	12 429.4

<sup>a</sup> Caution needs to be used where there are small differences in the results because they are affected by sample and estimate size (see section 10A.3).

Source: ABS (2000), cat. no. 4103.0.

## Efficiency

Table 11A.23 **Ambulance expenditure less non-government revenue, 1999-2000 (\$'000)**

	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>WA</i> <sup>a</sup>	<i>SA</i>	<i>Tas</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>Total</i>
Labour costs	192 571	116 080	109 291	28 425	40 911	10 814	6 336	5 376	509 804
Salaries and payments in the nature of salaries	192 571	116 080	104 175	28 425	40 911	10 102	6 336	5 376	503 976
Payroll tax	na	na	5 116	..	na	712	..	na	5 828
Capital costs	24 634	17 220	14 582	6 000	5 278	706	436	1 138	69 993
Depreciation costs	13 008	10 071	14 571	2 270	3 596	–	348	546	44 410
User cost of capital	11 626	7 149	11	3 730	1 682	706	88	592	25 583
Land	2 484	1 230	2	na	81	63	–	160	4 020
Other assets	9 142	5 919	9	3 730	1 601	643	88	432	21 563
Other costs <sup>b</sup>	57 518	74 662	51 198	23 480	16 768	3 811	2 409	2 662	232 508
Interest on borrowings	–	–	3	–	–	–	–	–	3
Total costs <sup>c</sup>	272 239	206 732	175 069	57 905	62 876	15 268	9 180	9 016	808 285
Revenue from non-government sources <sup>d</sup>	61 925	87 256	90 510	43 448	37 455	3 358	1 224	2 851	328 027
Total recurrent expenditure less non-government revenue	210 314	119 476	84 561	14 457	25 421	11 910	7 956	6 165	480 260

<sup>a</sup> Remuneration to volunteer/retained staff paid from metropolitan region; country analysis not available. All staff were exempt from payroll tax. Provisions for losses consisted of bad debts, pensioner concessions and benefit fund write-offs.

<sup>b</sup> Excludes interest on borrowings.

<sup>c</sup> Excludes the user cost of capital for land.

<sup>d</sup> Revenue from own sources includes subscription fees, transport fees and donations.

**na** Not available.

.. Not applicable.

Table 11A.24 **Ambulance expenditure per person<sup>a, b</sup>**

	<i>Unit</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld<sup>c</sup></i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>Tas<sup>d</sup></i>	<i>ACT<sup>e</sup></i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>Total ambulance expenditure per person</i>										
1997-98										
Total	\$m	228	166	160	45	50	13	na	8	670 <sup>f</sup>
Population	million	6.272	4.605	3.390	1.797	1.479	0.473	0.308	0.186	18.521
Per person	\$	36	36	47	25	34	27	na	43	36 <sup>f</sup>
1998-99										
Total	\$m	234	188	170	45	58	14	na	9	718 <sup>f</sup>
Population	million	6.342	4.660	3.456	1.831	1.487	0.471	0.308	0.189	18.747
Per person	\$	37	40	49	25	39	30	na	48	38 <sup>f</sup>
1999-2000										
Total	\$m	272	207	175	58	63	15	9	9	808
Population	million	6.412	4.712	3.512	1.861	1.493	0.470	0.310	0.193	18.967
Per person	\$	42.46	43.87	49.84	31.11	42.11	32.47	29.60	46.74	42.62
<i>Total ambulance expenditure less non-government revenue per person<sup>g</sup></i>										
1999-2000										
Total	\$m	210	121	85	14	26	12	8	6	484
Population	million	6.412	4.712	3.512	1.861	1.493	0.470	0.310	0.193	18.967
Per person	\$	32.80	25.62	24.08	7.77	17.08	25.46	25.65	32.79	25.53

<sup>a</sup> Totals may not add as a result of rounding.

<sup>b</sup> Expenditure data have been approximated using revenue data in 1997-98 and 1998-99.

<sup>c</sup> 1999-2000 expenditure data are provided on an accrual basis and include expenditure on administration of the ambulance subscription scheme, first aid training and clinic transport services. A full accrual breakdown of expenditure of emergency services is not available.

<sup>d</sup> Expenditure data are provided on a full accrual basis and exclude expenditure on administration of the ambulance subscription scheme, hospital based transport services, independent ambulance services, first aid training and clinic transport services.

Table 11A.24 **Ambulance expenditure per person**<sup>a, b</sup>

<i>Unit</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld</i> <sup>c</sup>	<i>WA</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>Tas</i> <sup>d</sup>	<i>ACT</i> <sup>e</sup>	<i>NT</i>	<i>Total</i>
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<sup>e</sup> For 1997-98 and 1998-99, the expenditure for the ACT Ambulance Service was included in the ACT Emergency Services Bureau data in table 10A.13 and could not be provided separately. Total expenditure in table 10A.13 includes expenditure for all four response agencies under the Emergency Services Bureau.

<sup>f</sup> Excludes the ACT.

<sup>g</sup> Revenue from own sources includes subscription fees, transport fees and donations.

**na** Not available.

Table 11A.25 **Communications and dispatching systems**

	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>Tas</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>NT</i>
Development stage	Operating <sup>a</sup>	Operating <sup>b</sup>	Operating	Currently implementing	Currently investigating	Operating	Operating	Operating
Agency involvement	Fire Brigades	Metropolitan Fire and Emergency Services Board	Fire and Rescue Authority	Police	Metropolitan Fire Service	Fire Service	Fire Brigade	Fire and Rescue
	Rural Fire Service	Country Fire Authority	Ambulance Service		Country Fire Service	Ambulance Service	Ambulance	Emergency Service
		Metropolitan Ambulance Service			Ambulance Service		Bushfire Service	St John Ambulance
		State Emergency Service			State Emergency Service		Territory Emergency Service	
		Police			Police			Police
Future agency involvement	Complete	Complete	Complete	Fire and Emergency Service	Complete	na	Complete <sup>c</sup>	Complete
				St John Ambulance				
Coverage	Statewide	Melbourne metropolitan	Statewide <sup>d</sup>	Greater Perth	Statewide	Statewide for each service	Territorywide	Darwin emergency response area
		Inner country		metropolitan				

<sup>a</sup> A computer aided dispatch system is being implemented for ambulance services in NSW. NSW Fire Brigades operate a communications and dispatch system for both the Fire Brigades and the Rural Fire Service.

<sup>b</sup> Further development includes technological enhancement of mobile data terminals for all services and an automatic vehicle location system for police, the State Emergency Service and fire services. (The Metropolitan Ambulance Service is already using an automatic vehicle location system)



Table 11A.25 **Communications and dispatching systems**

	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>Tas</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>NT</i>
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<sup>c</sup> Common computer aided dispatch for all four agencies to be implemented.

<sup>d</sup> The Premier computer aided dispatch system covers approximately 15 500 square kilometres of urban and rural areas in and around Brisbane. Regional computer aided dispatch systems operate in a range of locations across the State. Some more remote areas receive calls and dispatch locally for the ambulance service.

**na** Not available.

*Sources*: State and Territory emergency management departments.

Table 11A.26 Selected fire risk management/mitigation strategies<sup>a, b</sup>

	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>Tas</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>NT</i>
Community awareness and fire education programs	Child fire education programs	Community fire awareness programs	Community fire safety and awareness programs  School education programs	Community fire education programs	Community fire safe programs. Community fireguard fire safety education for junior and primary schools.	na	Conducts community awareness fire education programs through: Fire Ed (primary school fire safety education) and the Community Liaison Safety Program (CLASP).	Community fire awareness programs  School education programs Hazard abatement programs
Smoke alarm legislation	Mandatory legislation for new homes or homes undergoing major renovations	Mandatory for all homes	Mandatory legislation for hard-wired smoke alarm installation in all new households and homes undergoing major renovations	na	Mandatory legislation for all homes.	na	Mandatory legislation for new homes or homes undergoing major renovations	Mandatory legislation for hard-wired smoke detector installation in all new households and homes undergoing major renovations
Bushfire risk management strategies	Implementation of bushfire risk management plans	Creation of commercial plantation industry brigades (Forestry Industry Brigades)	Developing bushfire risk management profile  Commenced Statewide training program in incident control  Rural brigade classification and resource allocation system based on risk analysis	na	Comprehensive State-wide bushfire prevention planning process with a local government focus.  State-wide consultation with government land management agencies and utilities on bushfire  Mandatory consultation by State and local planning authorities with CFS for new residential and tourist developments	na	Includes Land Managers' Fuel Management Plan, Bushfire Council Working Groups (eg urban interface) and works with major landholders and developers over risk management.	Implementation of hazard reduction plans

<sup>a</sup> This table does not provide an exhaustive list of fire risk management/mitigation strategies across jurisdictions.

<sup>b</sup> Some jurisdictions also operate ambulance risk management/mitigation strategies.

na Not available.

Sources: State and Territory emergency management departments.

Table 11A.27 Treatment of assets by emergency management agencies

		NSW	Vic	Qld <sup>a</sup>	WA	SA	Tas <sup>b</sup>	ACT <sup>c</sup>	NT <sup>d</sup>
Revaluation method <sup>e</sup>	Land	Deprival or market	Deprival or market	Deprival	Market	na	Deprival	Market	na
	Buildings		Deprival or market	Deprival	Market	na	Deprival	Market	na
	Other assets		Deprival or market	Deprival	..	na	na	na	na
Frequency of revaluations	Land, buildings	5 years	1-5 years	5 years	3 years	3 years	na	5 years	na
	Other assets	5 years	1-5 years	5 years	3 years	3 years	na	na	na
Useful asset lives <sup>f, g</sup>	Buildings	30–40 years	12-66 years	25-80 years	40-50 years	20-30 years	33-100 years	30-40 years	40 years
	Specialist equipment	9–20 years	2–50 years	2–20 years	4–25 years	1–20 years	5–16 years	10 years	5–10 years
	IT equipment	3–5 years	3–5 years	3–5 years	2–20 years	9–20 years	4–25 years	4 years	na
	Other vehicles	5-15 years	2–20 years	5–10 years	5–15 years	6–10 years	5–10 years	7–15 years	5–15 years
	Office equipment <sup>h</sup>	10 years	2–20 years	3–20 years	5–12 years	10 years	3–10 years	7 years	na
	Other equipment	5–20 years	3–20 years	3–20 years	5 years	5 years	3–10 years	10 years	na
Threshold capitalisation levels (\$)	Buildings	5 000	All	5 000	1 000	na	1000– 5000	2 000	na
	IT equipment	5 000	1 000	5 000	1 000	na	na	na	na
	Other assets	5 000	1 000	5 000	1 000	na	1000–5000	2 000	na

<sup>a</sup> Recognition threshold for revaluation of assets is \$500 000.

<sup>b</sup> Declining balance method of depreciation used in contrast to the straight-line method of other jurisdictions.

Table 11A.27 **Treatment of assets by emergency management agencies**

	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld</i> <sup>a</sup>	<i>WA</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>Tas</i> <sup>b</sup>	<i>ACT</i> <sup>c</sup>	<i>NT</i> <sup>d</sup>
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<sup>c</sup> Treatment includes all four response agencies: the ACT Fire Brigade, the ACT Bushfire Service, the ACT Emergency Service and the ACT Ambulance Service.

<sup>d</sup> Services report under cash based accounting. Those items reported are for St John Ambulance Service.

<sup>e</sup> Market value is the current (net) value market selling price or exchange value; deprival value may be either the depreciated replacement cost of an asset of a similar service potential or the stream of its future economic benefits. For some jurisdictions, office equipment includes furniture and fittings.

<sup>f</sup> Estimated as 1/depreciation rate.

<sup>g</sup> Asset lives for some assets have been grouped with other classifications. For some jurisdictions, other equipment includes information technology.

<sup>h</sup> For some jurisdictions, office equipment includes furniture and fittings.

**na** Not available.

Sources: Department annual reports.