Table 2: Identifiable Commonwealth Expenditure on Indigenous Affairs 1968–69 to 1989–90

**($ millions—cash basis)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **1968–69**  | **1969–70**  | **1970–71**  | **1971–72**  | **1972–73**  | **1973–74**  | **1974–75**  | **1975–76**  | **1976–77**  | **1977–78**  | **1978–79**  |
| Main ATSI Agency (a) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Employment  | .. | 1.4 | 0.4 | 0.6 | 4.1 | 4.8 | 14.6 | 5.7 | 5.3 | 6.8 | 6.9 |
| Health  | 0.5 | 0.8 | 1.2 | 2.0 | 3.0 | 9.4 | 11.9 | 15.9 | 14.4 | 16.3 | 17.5 |
| Law and justice  | .. | .. | .. | .. | 0.7 | 1.2 | 2.7 | 3.7 | 3.7 | 3.9 | 4.2 |
| Housing  | 2.3 | 2.8 | 6.1 | 6.5 | 14.3 | 25.0 | 43.0 | 43.2 | 39.9 | 34.3 | 39.4 |
| Community infrastructure  | .  | 0.3 | 7.5 | 8.2 | 10.5 | 15.7 | 16.4 | 27.5 | 25.2 | 26.1 | 22.5 |
| Education (b) | 0.8 | 0.9 | 2.9 | 3.0 | 3.1 | 4.8 | 6.0 | 9.0 | 8.5 | 9.2 | 9.1 |
| Other  | 6.4 | 2.7 | 2.0 | 3.6 | 8.6 | 17.3 | 30.1 | 33.9 | 23.9 | 27.7 | 33.0 |
| **TOTAL**  | **10.1** | **8.9** | **20.0** | **24.0** | **44.3** | **78.3** | **124.8** | **138.9** | **121.0** | **124.3** | **132.6** |
| Other Commonwealth Agencies |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Employment, Education and Training  | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Housing  | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Other  | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| **TOTAL**  | **..** | **..** | **4.4** | **5.0** | **14.1** | **18.4** | **34.1** | **47.2** | **40.5** | **49.5** | **19.0** |
| GRAND TOTAL | 10.1 | 8.9 | 24.4 | 29.0 | 58.4 | 96.7 | 158.9 | 186.1 | 161.5 | 173.8 | 151.6 |
|  | **1979–80**  | **1980–81**  | **1981–82**  | **1982–83**  | **1983–84**  | **1984–85**  | **1985–86**  | **1986–87**  | **1987–88**  | **1988–89**  | **1989–90**  |
| Main ATSI Agency (a) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Employment  | 7.0 | 10.1 | 10.4 | 10.4 | 18.4 | 27.0 | 29.9 | 40.2 | 65.5 | 99.0 | 133.2 |
| Health  | 18.5 | 19.9 | 21.6 | 23.8 | 28.5 | 36.5 | 37.9 | 38.1 | 41.1 | 43.5 | 43.7 |
| Law and justice  | 5.0 | 5.0 | 6.5 | 8.0 | 10.9 | 12.1 | 12.9 | 13.2 | 14.7 | 17.0 | 19.6 |
| Housing  | 45.7 | 48.6 | 42.3 | 50.2 | 57.9 | 68.9 | 78.5 | 81.8 | 90.4 | 96.7 | 60.7 |
| Community infrastructure  | 18.4 | 13.3 | 21.7 | 24.8 | 32.1 | 35.2 | 34.8 | 49.1 | 45.5 | 69.3 | 78.0 |
| Education (b) | 8.8 | 9.9 | 11.0 | 12.2 | 14.0 | 15.4 | 15.7 | 16.0 | 12.4 | .. | .. |
| Other  | 37.3 | 52.6 | 55.2 | 68.6 | 81.0 | 86.1 | 85.4 | 93.6 | 107.8 | 124.5 | 172.9 |
| **TOTAL**  | **140.8** | **159.4** | **168.8** | **198.0** | **242.8** | **281.2** | **295.1** | **332.1** | **377.4** | **450.0** | **508.2** |
| Other Commonwealth Agencies |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Employment, Education and Training  | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 148.6 | 167.3 | 180.6 | 190.9 | 210.6 |
| Housing  | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 59.4 | 60.0 | 83.0 | 111.7 | 132.5 |
| Other  | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 4.4 | 24.8 | 15.1 | 24.9 | 22.9 |
| **TOTAL**  | **41.2** | **60.2** | **90.0** | **102.4** | **153.9** | **186.0** | **212.5** | **252.2** | **278.8** | **327.6** | **366.0** |
| GRAND TOTAL | 182.0 | 219.6 | 258.8 | 300.4 | 396.7 | 467.2 | 507.6 | 584.3 | 656.2 | 777.6 | 874.1 |

(a) Office of Aboriginal Affairs—1967–1971; Department of Aboriginal Affairs—1972–March 1990; Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission—March to June 1990.

(b) Function absorbed by other agencies from 1988–89.

Sources: Annual Report of the main ATSI agency, various years and, for the ‘Other Commonwealth Agencies’ data up to 1984–85, JC Altman and W Sanders, *From exclusion to dependence: Aborigines and the welfare state in Australia*, Discussion Paper No. 1/1991, Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research.