

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

7th Assembly

14/02/1995

33. State and Northern Territory Debt Comparisons

Mr. EDE to MINISTER for TREASURER

QUESTION

1. Has an update been prepared of State and Territory debt comparisons, as presented in Budget Paper No. 4 in Figures 2.7, 2.8, 2.9, 2.10, 2.11, 2.12, 2.13, 2.15 and 2.16, based on actual State and Territory budgets and State and Territory Treasurer's Annual Financial Statements for 1993-94.
2. If the answer to question 1 is no, why has an update not been prepared.
3. Has the Northern Territory's debt position, relative to the States and the Australian Capital Territory, deteriorated since the tabling of the 1994-95 Budget; if so, what are the reasons.

ANSWER

Answered on 10/05/95

1. All figures (except 2.7) have been updated for use by me so that I can satisfy myself that material changes have not occurred since the Budget. However, they have not been published by the Northern Territory Government as it would be costly and unproductive to publish a revised measure every time one number changes. We will continue to publish these statistics at least annually in the Budget process. All the information required to compile the figures is publicly available, either from the ABS, or by reference to the Treasurer's Annual Financial Statements.
2. Not applicable.
3. No. Using latest publicly available data, the net debt of the Northern Territory rose by 1.5% over the twelve months to 30 June 1994. By comparison, net debt of the six States and ACT rose by 2.3% over the same period.