

Estimates of National Expenditure 2025

**National Treasury
Republic of South Africa**



ISBN: 978-1-77997-932-2
RP: 212/2025

The 2025 Estimates of National Expenditure is compiled with the latest available information from departmental and other sources. Some of this information is unaudited or subject to revision.

Published by the National Treasury

For more information, contact:

Communications Directorate
National Treasury
Private Bag X115
Pretoria
0001
South Africa
Tel: +27 12 315 5944
E-mail: media@treasury.gov.za

The Estimates of National Expenditure e-publications for individual votes are available on www.treasury.gov.za. Also included are tables containing information on programme specific personnel expenditure, conditional grants to provinces and municipalities, public private partnerships and information on donor funding. Expenditure information at the level of site service delivery is included, where appropriate.

Foreword

Despite South Africa's ongoing challenges, the 2025 Budget marks a pivotal step towards achieving a balanced and equitable economic future. It emphasizes economic growth through strategic infrastructure investments, while stabilising public finances and supporting vulnerable households.

The updated version of the ENE publication highlight shifts from the March proposals, though policy priorities and departmental baselines remain broadly unchanged. Expenditure is highly redistributive, with substantial allocations to the social wage, including health, education, social protection, housing, public transport, and employment programmes. Government is committed to improving spending efficiency, protecting the vulnerable, and increasing infrastructure spending to support future growth and service delivery.

Main budget non-interest expenditure increased by a net R4.5 billion in 2024/25 compared to the 2024 projection, mainly due to rollovers, troop deployment in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, debt repayment for the Gauteng Freeway Improvement Project, and extended COVID-19 social relief grants. These increases were partially offset by unspent funds, underspending, and drawdowns of the contingency reserve and provisional allocations.

Proposed medium-term revisions to main budget non-interest spending show a net increase of R74.4 billion compared to the 2024 Budget. This includes spending additions partially offset by reductions in provisional allocations and a drawdown of the contingency reserve. Relative to the March 2025 Budget, medium-term revisions are R67.6 billion lower due to reversed provisional allocations in line with the revised fiscal and revenue position.

Accordingly, consolidated government spending is projected to increase at an average annual rate of 5.4 percent, from R2.4 trillion in 2024/25 to R2.81 trillion in 2027/28. Notably, 61 percent of total non-interest spending over the three-year period is allocated to supporting the social wage. Public employment programmes will see an increase of R4.5 billion in 2025/26. The 2025 Budget also adds R33.7 billion for public infrastructure projects the three-year period.

No new reductions are proposed over the medium term, but the budget addresses spending pressures through additional allocations amounting to R180.1 billion. This includes provisional allocations of R41.3 billion for frontline service delivery departments.

As the 2025 Budget accommodates the costs of the first three-year public service wage agreement since 2018, additional allocations were required for employee compensation. The government aims to implement the early retirement incentive announced in the 2024 Medium-term Budget Policy Statement to rationalise and rejuvenate the public service. This initiative is expected to motivate 15 000 public service employees to apply for early retirement in 2025/26 and 2026/27, with R5.5 billion allocated to support the programme.

This budget lays the foundation for sustainable growth by addressing immediate spending pressures while prioritising investments in infrastructure and providing social support. It strikes a balance between expenditure and incremental revenue adjustments to stabilise the economy while providing essential social assistance to those in need.



Dr Duncan Pieterse
Director-General: National Treasury

Contents

Introduction.....	i
Information contained in the chapters of the Estimates of National Expenditure	xxix
1 The Presidency	1
2 Parliament	11
3 Cooperative Governance	13
4 Government Communication and Information System	33
5 Home Affairs	49
6 International Relations and Cooperation	69
7 National School of Government.....	85
8 National Treasury	93
9 Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation	153
10 Electricity and Energy	167
11 Public Service and Administration	195
<i>Centre for Public Service Innovation *</i>	210
12 Public Service Commission	217
13 Public Works and Infrastructure	229
14 Statistics South Africa.....	257
15 Traditional Affairs.....	273
16 Basic Education	283
17 Higher Education.....	305
18 Health.....	339
19 Social Development	373
20 Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities	395
21 Civilian Secretariat for the Police Service.....	413
22 Correctional Services.....	423
<i>Judicial Inspectorate for Correctional Services *</i>	437
23 Defence	445
24 Independent Police Investigative Directorate.....	475
25 Justice and Constitutional Development	485
26 Military Veterans.....	509
27 Office of the Chief Justice.....	517
28 Police	527
29 Agriculture.....	543
30 Communications and Digital Technologies	567
31 Employment and Labour	605
32 Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment	631
33 Human Settlements	671
34 Mineral and Petroleum Resources	703
35 Science, Technology and Innovation	731
36 Small Business Development	771
37 Sport, Arts and Culture.....	785
38 Tourism	825
39 Trade, Industry and Competition	841
40 Transport.....	911
41 Water and Sanitation	971
42 Land Reform and Rural Development	1005

* These are government components within votes

