

Information contained in each vote

The ENE describes in detail the planned spending in all national government votes over the MTEF period, which is government’s 3-year expenditure planning window. The Minister of Finance tables the ENE in Parliament alongside the main budget. It serves as the explanatory memorandum to the Appropriation Bill. Through the bill and the ENE, the executive seeks Parliament’s approval and adoption of its spending plans for the first year of the MTEF period. Once the president assents to the Appropriation Act and it has been published in a Government Gazette, funds allocated for the first year of the MTEF period are appropriated from the National Revenue Fund. As Parliament authorises expenditure annually, spending estimates for the 2 outer years of the MTEF period are not included in the Appropriation Bill. These estimates, or indicative allocations, form the basis of planning for the following year’s budget and the next MTEF period.

Information in the Appropriation Bill is presented by vote. A vote specifies the total amount appropriated to a department, including government components, where applicable. The main budget expenditure, determined by the fiscal stance adopted by government, includes direct charges against the National Revenue Fund, such as debt-service costs, the provincial equitable share and payments to the National Revenue Fund. Direct charges are spent in terms of section 213(2)b of the Constitution. They are not budgeted for in any vote or included in any appropriation act and therefore do not require parliamentary approval. To allow for expenditure related to emerging government policy priorities, main budget expenditure also includes a contingency reserve and any provisional allocations not appropriated to votes at the time of finalising the main budget. Similarly, this expenditure is not contained in the Appropriation Bill.

Each chapter in the ENE relates to a vote. Each vote contained in the ENE follows the following format:

Budget summary

This table shows the budgeted expenditure for the vote for the 3-year MTEF period.

R million	2026/27				Total	2027/28	2028/29
	Current payments	Transfers and subsidies	Payments for capital assets	Payments for financial assets		Total	Total
MTEF allocation							
Administration							
Programme name							
Subtotal							
Direct charge against the National Revenue Fund							
Item							
Total expenditure estimates							
Executive authority	Minister						
Accounting officer	Director-General/Chief Operating Officer						
Website	www.domain.gov.za						

The Estimates of National Expenditure is available at www.treasury.gov.za. Additional tables in Excel format can be found at www.treasury.gov.za and www.vulekamali.gov.za.

The **2026/27 total** shows the total allocation per programme and the total allocation for the vote for 2026/27, and corresponds with the information in the 2026 Appropriation Bill.

The total vote allocation to be appropriated by Parliament is categorised by economic classification, into **current payments**, **transfers and subsidies**, **payments for capital assets** and **payments for financial assets**.

Current payments are payments made by an institution for its operational requirements.

Transfers and subsidies are payments made by an institution for which it does not directly receive anything in return.

Payments for capital assets are payments made by an institution for an asset that can be used for more than 1 year and from which future economic benefits or service potential are expected to flow.

Payments for financial assets are mainly payments made by institutions as loans to public corporations or as equity investments in public corporations. Payments are reflected as expenditure rather than financing because

the purpose of the transaction is not profit oriented. This column is shown only in votes where such payments have been budgeted for. Payments for theft and losses are included in this category. As it is not possible to budget for these in advance, payments will appear in the historical information once they are known.

For **2027/28** and **2028/29**, expenditure estimates in the vote are shown for the 2 outer years of the MTEF period.

MTEF allocation shows the expenditure allocation for the upcoming financial year and the expenditure estimates for the 2 outer years of the MTEF period for each programme.

Direct charge against the National Revenue Fund is an amount withdrawn directly from the National Revenue Fund, as envisaged in section 213(2)(b) of the Constitution. It is not budgeted for in any vote and is not included in the Appropriation Bill. As such, it is shown as a separate item.

Total expenditure estimates is the sum of expenditure on programmes plus direct charges against the National Revenue Fund.

The last 3 rows of the table provide accountability information: the vote’s executive authority, accounting officer and website.

Vote purpose

The purpose of the vote captures a department’s mandate, objectives or administrative functions, as stated in the 2026 Appropriation Bill.

Mandate

The institution’s mandate, as contained in the relevant act(s) or policy document(s) that govern(s) the institution’s establishment and operations, is described.

Selected performance indicators

This table highlights a vote’s performance in terms of key indicators for the past 3 years, the current year and the projections for the MTEF period.

Table [vote number].1 Performance indicators by programme and related outcome

Indicator	Programme	MTDP outcome	Audited performance			Estimated performance	MTEF targets		
			2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29

The table presents only a selected set of a department or entity’s performance indicators and is not intended to provide a comprehensive view of the institution’s performance. The table, however, contains key indicators linked to strategic and annual performance plans, as informed by government’s 2024-2029 medium-term development plan and ministerial delivery agreements. Managing, monitoring and measuring performance are integral to improving service delivery.

Footnotes are used in this table where there is no historical data available, where an indicator has been discontinued or a new one introduced, or where no projections are available. Reasons for revisions to targets from what was published in the 2025 ENE are contained in the annual performance plans of departments and entities. These include budget reductions, new focus areas or indicators, and changes requested by the executive authority and/or Parliament.

An **Indicator** is a measure that tracks progress towards meeting the target the department or entity has set. An indicator may measure inputs, activities, outputs and outcomes, or, in certain instances, explanatory information relating to the internal or external environment.

The **Programme** links the indicator to the programme associated with it.

The **outcome** links the indicator to 1 or more of the 27 outcomes within the 3 strategic priorities targeted by government aimed at driving inclusive growth and job creation, reducing poverty and tackling the high cost of living, and building a capable, ethical and developmental state.

The **Audited performance** column shows the achievements of the institution for the past 3 financial years.

The **Estimated performance** column shows what the institution expects to achieve in the current financial year.

The **MTEF targets** columns show what the institution expects to achieve over the MTEF period. Targets can be qualitative or quantitative. All quantitative indicators must have targets that are absolute values/numbers or percentages.

In the selected performance indicators table, a dash (–) accompanied by a footnote marker means that information is not available, usually because the indicator was introduced only in subsequent years. However, in all expenditure and revenue tables, a dash (–) indicates that information is either unavailable or equal to zero. Due to rounding off, the line item figures in tables may not necessarily add up to the total of the figures in the table.

Expenditure overview

This is a narrative discussion that provides an outline of what the institution aims to achieve over the medium term and how it plans to spend its budget in support of this. The discussion centres on the institution's primary focus areas, including its policy and spending focus (significant spending items and key service deliverables) over the period ahead, as contained in its planning documents and aligned with key government priorities and objectives. Significant increases or decreases in expenditure, including in the past, are explained in terms of the institution's performance targets, service delivery methods, policies, personnel profiles or any other applicable factors. The estimated average annual rates of increase or decrease are presented in the tables in nominal, not real, terms.

Expenditure trends and estimates

This table shows audited expenditure for the past 3 years, the adjusted appropriation for the current financial year and expenditure estimates over the MTEF period by programme and economic classification.

Table [vote number].2 Vote expenditure trends and estimates by programme and economic classification¹

Programmes											
1. Administration											
Programme	Audited outcome			Adjusted appropriation	Average growth rate (%)	Average: Expenditure/ Total (%)	Medium-term expenditure estimate			Average growth rate (%)	Average: Expenditure/ Total (%)
	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25				2025/26	2026/27	2027/28		
R million											
Programme 1											
Programme 2											
Programme 3											
Programme 4											
Programme 5											
Programme 6											
Programme 7											
Programme 8											
Programme 9											
Subtotal											
Direct charge against the National Revenue Fund											
Item											
Total											
Change to 2025 Budget estimate											
Economic classification											
Current payments											
Economic classification item											
Transfers and subsidies											
Economic classification item											
Payments for capital assets											
Economic classification item											
Payments for financial assets											
Total											

1. Tables with expenditure trends, annual budget, adjusted appropriation and audited outcome are available at www.treasury.gov.za and www.vulekamali.gov.za.

Expenditure is set out first by **Programme** and then by **Economic classification**. Expenditure is classified as current payments, transfers and subsidies, payments for capital assets and payments for financial assets. Where programme structures have been changed in recent years, expenditure and budgets have, to the extent possible, been reallocated to the new approved programme structure for all the years shown, for comparability.

Direct charge against the National Revenue Fund is an amount spent in terms of section 213(2)b of the Constitution, other than appropriation legislation, and that is not budgeted for in any programme in a particular vote and is not included in any appropriation act. These amounts are shown as separate items, such as spending on debt-service costs, the provincial equitable share and payments to the National Revenue Fund.

Audited outcomes are presented as they appear in the institution’s annual financial statements. However, reallocations are made for any subsequent approved budget changes to the programme structure.

Adjusted appropriation shows the adjusted total amount voted in a financial year. Most changes are typically made at mid-year at the time of the adjustments budget, but could include any other money bills tabled during the financial year. These adjustments can be made only in terms of the circumstances listed in section 30 of the Public Finance Management Act (1999) and sections 5 and 6 of the Appropriation Act (2025). These adjustments are included in an adjustments appropriation bill(s), which Parliament approves before expenditure, in certain instances, can take place. Details of the adjustments are tabled in acts of Parliament and the accompanying Adjusted Estimates of National Expenditure, and other publications.

The **Average growth rate (%)** shows the growth rate per year, averaged over the 3-year period, as a percentage.

The **Average: Expenditure/Total (%)** shows the proportion of total institutional expenditure that an expenditure item comprises, averaged over the 3-year period, as a percentage.

The **Medium-term expenditure estimate** shows expenditure estimates for 2026/27, 2027/28 and 2028/29. The estimates for 2026/27 are the appropriations proposed in the 2026 Appropriation Bill considered by Parliament. The estimates for 2027/28 and 2028/29 are indicative allocations and will form the basis for planning the 2027 Budget and the next MTEF period.

The **Average growth rate (%)** is the growth rate per year, averaged over the 3-year period, expressed as a percentage.

Transfers and subsidies expenditure trends and estimates

This table shows the transfers and subsidies expenditure trends for the past 3 years, the revised expenditure estimate for the current financial year and expenditure estimates over the MTEF period by transfer item.

Table [vote number].3 Vote transfers and subsidies trends and estimates

	Audited outcome				Adjusted appropriation	Average growth rate (%)	Average: Expenditure/Total (%)	Medium-term expenditure estimate			Average growth rate (%)	Average: Expenditure/Total (%)
	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26				2026/27	2027/28	2028/29		
R thousand												
Households												
Social benefits												
Current												
Transfer name												
Departmental agencies and accounts												
Departmental agencies (non-business entities)												
Current												
Transfer name												
Households												
Other transfers to households												
Current												
Transfer name												
Provinces and municipalities												
Municipal bank accounts												
Current												
Transfer name												
Total												

The **Audited outcome** is presented as it appears in the institution’s annual financial statements.

Adjusted appropriation shows the adjusted total amount voted in a financial year. Most changes are typically made at mid-year at the time of the adjustments budget, but could include any other money bills tabled during the financial year. These adjustments can be made only in terms of the circumstances listed in section 30 of the Public Finance Management Act (1999) and sections 5 and 6 of the Appropriation Act (2025).

The **Average growth rate (%)** shows the growth rate per year, averaged over the 3-year period, as a percentage.

The **Average: Expenditure/Total (%)** shows the proportion of total institutional expenditure that an expenditure item comprises, averaged over the 3-year period, as a percentage.

The **Medium-term expenditure estimate** shows expenditure estimates for 2026/27, 2027/28 and 2028/29.

Personnel information

Personnel information relating to salary level bands is set out for a 5-year period. The number of posts, the cost to the institution and the average unit cost of a post are shown as estimated by the department.

Table [vote number].4 Vote personnel numbers and cost by salary level and programme¹

Programmes													Average growth rate (%)	Average: Salary level/ Total (%)
Number of posts estimated for 31 March 2026														
Number of funded posts	Number of posts additional to the establishment	Number and cost ² of personnel posts filled/planned for in funded establishment												
		Actual		Revised estimate		Medium-term expenditure estimate								
		2024/25		2025/26		2026/27		2027/28		2028/29		2025/26 - 2028/29	2026/27 - 2028/29	
Department name		Number	Unit cost	Number	Unit cost	Number	Unit cost	Number	Unit cost	Number	Unit cost			
Salary level														
1 – 6														
7 – 10														
11 – 12														
13 – 16														
Other														
Programme														
Programme 1														
Programme 2														
Programme 3														

1. Data has been provided by the department and may not necessarily reconcile with official government personnel data.

2. Rand million.

Details of total personnel numbers are provided by **Salary level** and **Programme**.

Number of funded posts refers to the number of posts in an institution’s establishment for which provision is made in its budget.

Number of posts additional to the establishment refers to posts that do not form part of the institution’s approved establishment but have been budgeted for.

Information is provided on the **Number** and **Cost** of posts filled or planned to be filled in the total establishment by salary level.

The **Unit cost** is calculated by dividing the cost by the number of posts.

The **Average growth rate (%)** shows the growth rate per year, averaged over the 3-year period, as a percentage.

The **Average: Salary level/Total (%)** shows the proportion of total posts per salary level band, on average over the period, as a percentage.

Personnel information is typically discussed in the expenditure overview, particularly in relation to performance and spending.

Departmental receipts

This table provides details of the revenue collected by the vote over a 7-year period.

Table [vote number].5 Departmental receipts by economic classification

	Audited outcome			Adjusted estimate	Revised estimate	Average growth rate (%)	Average: Receipt item/ Total (%)	Medium-term receipts estimate			Average growth rate (%)	Average: Receipt item/ Total (%)	
	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25					2025/26	2026/27	2027/28			2028/29
R thousand													
Departmental receipts													
Sales of goods and services produced by the department													
Sales by market establishments													
of which:													
Lower level classification Item													
Administrative fees													
of which:													
Lower level classification Item													
Other sales													
of which:													
Lower level classification Item													
Sales of scrap, waste, arms and other used current goods													
of which:													
Lower level classification Item													
Interest, dividends and rent on land													
Interest													
Dividends													
of which:													
Lower level classification Item													
Sales of capital assets													
Transactions in financial assets and liabilities													
National Revenue Fund receipts													
of which:													
Lower level classification Item													
Total													

Departmental receipts are set out by **Economic classification** item.

The **Audited outcome** is presented as it appears in the institution's annual financial statements.

The **Adjusted estimate** for 2025/26 shows the estimate of the institution's receipts published in the 2025 Adjusted Estimates of National Expenditure.

The **Revised estimate** shows the current estimate of institutional receipts for 2025/26.

The **Average growth rate (%)** shows the growth rate per year, averaged over the 3-year period, as a percentage.

The **Average: Receipt item/Total (%)** shows the proportion of total departmental receipts in a particular economic classification item, averaged over a 3-year period, as a percentage.

Information on each programme

Programme purpose

The purpose of each programme is stated as it is set out in the 2026 Appropriation Bill. The programme purpose outlines the programme's functions and activities, as per the approved budget programme structure. Programme 1 is usually the *Administration* programme, comprising the administrative functions and activities required to keep the department operating. It includes the ministry and deputy ministry, the director-general's office and central corporate services.

Objectives

Objectives are stated for each programme, with the exception of the *Administration* programme in most cases. A programme objective includes an explanation of its strategic intent, as well as of the specific interventions and time-bound progress measures for that objective. Objectives are broadly aligned with institutional strategic and annual performance plans, as informed by ministerial service delivery agreements and articulated in government’s 2024-2029 medium-term development plan.

Subprogrammes (per programme)

The key activities carried out by each subprogramme are described, usually with the exception of the *Administration* programme as it is typically standardised across all departments. Explanatory notes are provided on transfers to entities or partner organisations, and, where applicable, on subsidies, incentives or financial assistance programmes.

Expenditure trends and estimates (per programme)

The table for each programme sets out expenditure by subprogramme and economic classification item over a 7-year period.

Table [vote number].6 [Programme name] expenditure trends and estimates by subprogramme and economic classification

Subprogramme	Audited outcome			Adjusted appropriation	Average growth rate (%)	Average: Expenditure/ Total (%)	Medium-term expenditure estimate			Average growth rate (%)	Average: Expenditure/ Total (%)
	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25				2025/26	2026/27	2027/28		
R million					2022/23 - 2025/26		2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2025/26 - 2028/29	2026/27 - 2028/29
Subprogramme name											
Subprogramme name											
Subprogramme name											
Subprogramme name											
Subprogramme name											
Subprogramme name											
Subprogramme name											
Subprogramme name											
Total											
Change to 2025											
Budget estimate											
Economic classification											
Current payments											
Economic classification item											
Economic classification item of which:											
Economic classification item											
Economic classification item											
Economic classification item											
Transfers and subsidies											
Economic classification item											
Economic classification item											
Payments for capital assets											
Economic classification item											
Economic classification item											
Payments for financial assets											
Total											
Proportion of total programme expenditure to vote expenditure											
Details of transfers and subsidies											
Households											
Social benefits											
Current											
Transfer name											

Expenditure over the 7-year period is set out, first by **Subprogramme** then by **Economic classification**, as current payments, transfers and subsidies, payments for capital assets and payments for financial assets.

Audited outcome is presented as it appears in the institution’s annual financial statements, with amounts reallocated for any subsequent approved changes to the budget programme structure.

Adjusted appropriation shows the adjusted total amount voted in a financial year. Most changes are typically made at mid-year at the time of the adjustments budget, but could include any other money bills tabled during the financial year. These adjustments can be made only in terms of the circumstances listed in section 30 of the Public Finance Management Act (1999) and sections 5 and 6 of the Appropriation Act (2025). These adjustments are included in an adjustments appropriation bill(s), which Parliament approves before expenditure, in certain instances, can take place. Details of the adjustments are tabled in acts of Parliament and the accompanying Adjusted Estimates of National Expenditure, and other publications.

The **Average growth rate (%)** shows the growth rate per year, averaged over a 3-year period, as a percentage.

The **Average: Expenditure/Total (%)** shows the proportion of total programme expenditure that a subprogramme or an expenditure item comprises, averaged over a 3-year period, as a percentage.

The **Medium-term expenditure estimate** shows programme expenditure estimates for the MTEF period. The estimates for 2026/27 are the appropriations proposed in the 2026 Appropriation Bill. The estimates for 2027/28 and 2028/29 are indicative allocations and will form the basis for planning the 2027 Budget and the next MTEF period.

Personnel information (per programme)

Personnel information relating to salary level bands is set out for a 5-year period. The number of posts, the cost to the institution and the average unit cost of a post are shown as estimated for the programme.

Programme personnel numbers and cost by salary level¹

Table [vote number].7 [Programme name] Administration personnel numbers and cost by salary level¹

Number of posts estimated for 31 March 2026		Number and cost ² of personnel posts filled/planned for in funded establishment											Average growth rate (%)	Average: Salary level/ Total (%)		
Number of funded posts	Number of posts additional to the establishment	Actual			Revised estimate			Medium-term expenditure estimate								
		2024/25		2025/26		2026/27		2027/28		2028/29		2025/26 - 2028/29			2026/27 - 2028/29	
		Number	Cost	Unit cost	Number	Cost	Unit cost	Number	Cost	Unit cost	Number	Cost	Unit cost	Number	Cost	Unit cost
Administration																
Salary level																
1 – 6																
7 – 10																
11 – 12																
13 – 16																
Other																

1. Data has been provided by the department and may not necessarily reconcile with official government personnel data.

2. Rand million.

Details of total personnel numbers are provided by **Salary level**.

Number of funded posts refers to the number of posts in a programme’s establishment for which provision is made in its budget.

Number of posts additional to the establishment refers to posts that do not form part of the programme’s approved establishment but have been budgeted for.

Information is provided on the **Number** and **Cost** of posts filled or planned to be filled in the total programme establishment by salary level.

The **Unit cost** is calculated by dividing the cost by the number of posts.

The **Average growth rate (%)** shows the growth rate per year, averaged over a 3-year period, as a percentage.

The **Average: Salary level/Total (%)** shows the proportion of the total programme posts per salary level band, on average over the period, as a percentage.

Programme personnel information is discussed in the expenditure overview, particularly in relation to performance and spending.

Entities

The information provided on entities is similar to what is reported for a department. However, as the basis of accounting used by entities is different to the basis used by departments, entities' statements of financial performance and financial position are provided.

Entity accounts are prepared using the accrual basis of accounting, whereas departmental accounts are prepared using the modified cash basis of accounting. In the accrual basis of accounting, a transaction is recorded whenever there is an economic event, regardless of when a cash transaction takes place. This basis of accounting also includes items that do not involve any flow of cash, such as adjustments to account for depreciation. In the modified cash basis of accounting, a transaction is recorded only if cash has been exchanged and at the time that this exchange takes place.

Information on each of the entities generally consists of:

- selected performance indicators relating to the entity's mandate
- an entity overview narrative that provides an outline of the entity's mandate, what it aims to achieve over the medium term and its planned spending in support of this
- expenditure trends and estimates by programme/objective/activity
- statements of financial performance, cash flow and financial position
- personnel numbers and cost by salary level.