



2022-2023

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Government of
Northwest Territories

What are the Public Accounts?

The Public Accounts refer to the annual financial statements of the Government of the Northwest Territories (Government or GNWT) for a fiscal year which are guided by Public Sector Accounting Standards. The fiscal year for the GNWT is the 12-month period between April 1st to March 31st.

As at March 31st each year, the financial statements for the GNWT include the following disclosures:

- the **financial position** which provides information on the assets, liabilities, net debt, and accumulated surplus (deficit) at a point in time
- the **results of operations**, remeasurement gains and losses, and cash flows for the fiscal year
- any necessary **notes** to provide further details of certain items in the annual financial statements

The Public Accounts are made up of five sections:

Consolidated Financial Statements (Section I): Comprises the financial position and results of operations for all GNWT departments, revolving funds, public agencies, territorial corporations, and other related entities which collectively are referred to as the Government Reporting Entity (GRE). The statements and description found in **Section I** are listed below:

- *The Consolidated Statement of Financial Position* discloses the financial position of the Government including assets, liabilities, accumulated surplus or deficit, and the net debt position of the Government and is measured at March 31st.
- *The Consolidated Statement of Operations and Accumulated Operating Surplus* discloses financial information relating to revenues and expenses encompassing the results for a fiscal year.
- *The Consolidated Statement of Change in Net Debt* explains the change in net debt. It tracks the extent to which expenditures of the accounting period are met by the revenues recognized in operations for the period; and what the Government has spent to acquire tangible capital assets, inventories, and prepaid expenses.
- *The Consolidated Statement of Remeasurement Gains and Losses* discloses the unrealized gains and losses due to the change in fair value of financial instruments and do not affect the annual operating surplus on the Consolidated Statement of Operations and Accumulated Operating Surplus directly.
- *The Consolidated Statement of Cash Flow* discloses cash and cash equivalents balances at the beginning and end of the fiscal year as well as the sources and uses of cash and cash equivalents in operating, investing, financing and capital transactions during the fiscal year.

Non-consolidated Financial Statements (Section II): Comprises the financial position and results of operations for GNWT departments and revolving funds only. More detailed results of operations are disclosed in the supplementary schedules of these financial statements. These schedules disclose further details regarding the nature of revenues and expenses by department.

Other Entities and Boards (Section III and Section IV): Comprises the individual financial position and results of operations for all Education boards, Health Boards, Public Agencies, territorial corporations, and other related entities that are included in the GRE.

Background on GNWT Financial Reporting

Annual financial planning, management, and accountability within the GNWT involves the following two main processes:

- The government prepares the Capital Estimates and Main Estimates before the start of each fiscal year which forms the basis for annual operating and infrastructure spending, including expected revenues. Other public agencies and corporations are required to prepare annual operating plans that are tabled in the Legislative Assembly.
- The Consolidated Financial Statements (**Section I**) are audited by the Office of the Auditor General of Canada for each fiscal year and their Audit report is included at the beginning of **Section I** of the Public Accounts.
- The Non-consolidated Financial Statements (**Section II**) are unaudited and are prepared primarily for comparison to the Main Estimates.

To learn more

To learn more about the public accounts, or to access the full Financial Statements, visit the Department of Finance Website.

The information provided in the following sections is intended to assist readers of the Public Accounts in their assessment of the Government's financial health.

Annual Operating Surplus

The 2022-23 consolidated financial statements report an actual annual operating surplus of \$106.1 million, which is \$38.9 million or 26.8% lower than budgeted. The annual operating surplus is \$47.3 million or 80.5% higher than the prior year. The change in the surplus is based on changes in revenue and expenses which is explained in the next two points.

Total consolidated revenue in 2022-23 is \$2.8 billion, which is \$87.8 million or 3.2% higher than the original budget. The total consolidated revenue is \$169.8 million or 6.4% higher than the prior year. The increase in actual revenues is mainly due to a higher grant from Canada because of the Gross Expenditure Base increase; increased transfer payment revenue and increased corporate income taxes.

A **surplus** means that **revenues** were higher than **expenses** in the year

Total consolidated expenses in 2022-23 are \$2.7 billion, which is \$126.8 million or 4.9% higher than the original budget. The total consolidated expenses are \$122.5 million or 4.8% higher than the prior year. The increase in actual expenses is mainly due to the 2022 flood recovery assistance costs.

The Government spent approximately

- 53.0% of its budget on social programs: education, health, justice, and housing
- 21.2% of its budget on General government activities, including financial support provided to community governments and the Legislative Assembly
- 18.6% of its budget on infrastructure programs, not including capital infrastructure
- 7.2% of its budget on natural resources and economic development programs

Below are two key indicators during the 2022-23 fiscal year that have an impact on the Government spending and revenue earnings:

**NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
POPULATION**
44,678

March 31, 2023

Source: <https://www.statsnwt.ca>

**2022 GROSS DOMESTIC
PRODUCT**
\$4,254 2.9% 

Millions of Chained (2017) Dollars

Source: <https://www.statsnwt.ca>

The Government's budget

During the fiscal year, approved budget adjustments are completed through supplementary appropriations. The 2022-23 Consolidated Financial Statements report an actual annual operating surplus of \$106.1 million which is \$226.7 million higher than the revised budget of (\$120.6) million. The change is detailed below (noted*):

	Original Budget 2023	Supplemental Appropriations	Revised Budget 2023	Actual 2023	Actual 2022 Restated
Total Revenue	\$2,716,629	\$0	\$2,716,629	\$2,804,470	\$2,634,712
Total Expenses	\$2,571,648	\$265,562	\$2,837,210	\$2,698,396	\$2,575,924
Annual Operating Surplus (Deficit)	\$144,981	(\$265,562)	(\$120,581)	\$106,074	\$58,788

*Total consolidated revenue in 2022-23 is \$2.8 billion, which is \$87.8 million higher than the revised budget. There were no changes to the revenue budget through the supplementary appropriation process.

*Total consolidated expenses in 2022-23 are \$2.7 billion. This is \$138.8 million lower than the revised budget. The revised budget was increased to address the impact of the 2022 flooding costs; movement of projects previously classified as work performed on behalf of others; and increased health care costs.

note* If the public agencies that form part of the GRE had a revised budget that did not require tabling in the Legislative Assembly, it is not included in these notes.

Below are two additional key indicators during the 2022-23 fiscal year that have an impact on the Government spending and revenue earnings:

EMPLOYMENT RATE

68.2%



February, 2023, Source: <https://www.statsnwt.ca>

INFLATION RATE

2022 – 7.0%



Yellowknife, Source: <https://www.statsnwt.ca>

Financial Assets and Liabilities

In 2022-23, Financial Assets increased by \$61.3 million to \$752.7 million, mainly due to increased amounts due from the Government of Canada relating to flood recovery assistance.

Liabilities increased by \$150.1 million to \$2.4 billion. The most notable changes were an increase in short-term borrowing to support operations and an increase in accounts payable and accrued liabilities for overall increased costs and flooding assistance.

Non-Financial Assets

Non-financial Assets are primarily made up of tangible capital assets, such as, schools, hospitals, roads, of which \$4.0 billion are used to provide services to the public. Schedule A of the Public Accounts, **Section I** provides a summary of consolidated tangible capital assets by major category.

In 2022-23, the Government acquired \$365.9 million in tangible capital assets: \$86.6 million was added consisting of NT Hydro Corporation's power generating and distribution assets and equipment; \$52.0 million consisted of Housing NWT's public, homeownership rental and market rental units; \$27.8 million was added to the Mackenzie Valley Fibre Link project; \$21.1 million was added as refurbishment of Stanton Legacy Building, The remaining spend was for various roads and bridges, runways, community health centres, schools and equipment.

Financial Assets include things like cash and cash equivalents, investments, and receivables. They are the most liquid, meaning they are easier to use or convert into cash.

Financial Assets are used to pay for expenses.

Non-financial Assets are primarily made up of buildings, roads, bridges, equipment, etc. Non-financial Assets are more difficult to sell or convert to cash.

Liabilities are amounts the Government owes to others, like short-term loans, accounts payable and long-term debt.

Net Debt

Net debt increased by \$88.7 million during the 2022-23 fiscal year which was attributable to the continued investment in infrastructure and higher operating costs.

The Government is in a net debt position of \$1.6 billion.

*Net debt means that the government's **liabilities** are greater than its **financial assets** at the end of the year*

Change Over the Past Ten Years (in \$Millions)

Below are key financial indicators for the Government for the past ten (10) fiscal years.

Key Financial Indicators (\$M)	2013-14	2014-15*	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18*	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21*	2021-22*	2022-23
Revenue	\$1,776	\$2,032	\$2,029	\$2,076	\$2,093	\$2,038	\$2,124	\$2,499	\$2,635	\$2,805
Operating Expenses	\$1,697	\$1,928	\$1,901	\$1,901	\$1,932	\$2,033	\$2,201	\$2,409	\$2,576	\$2,698
Annual Operating Surplus(Deficit)	\$79	\$104	\$128	\$175	\$161	\$4	(\$77)	\$90	\$59	\$106
Acquisition of Tangible Capital Assets	\$168	\$443	\$360	\$368	\$314	\$280	\$270	\$270	\$261	\$366
Financial Assets	\$458	\$490	\$505	\$496	\$525	\$487	\$540	\$674	\$691	\$753
Liabilities	\$822	\$1,268	\$1,389	\$1,443	\$1,520	\$1,612	\$1,851	\$2,012	\$2,202	\$2,352
Net Debt	(\$364)	(\$777)	(\$883)	(\$948)	(\$995)	(\$1,125)	(\$1,311)	(\$1,338)	(\$1,510)	(\$1,599)
Tangible Capital Assets	\$2,139	\$2,646	\$2,878	\$3,118	\$3,320	\$3,453	\$3,565	\$3,673	\$3,772	\$3,962
Accumulated Surplus	\$1,786	\$1,890	\$2,018	\$2,193	\$2,354	\$2,358	\$2,281	\$2,371	\$2,302	\$2,409

*Years have information updated from subsequently issued Public Accounts