

Financial and Performance Outcomes 2024-25

Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action

26 November 2025

Kate Houghton PSM - DEECA Secretary



DEECA overview

- DEECA overview
- Economic transition and growth
- Emergency management
- First Peoples Self-Determination
- Achieving our outcomes in 2024-25
- Financial and Performance Outcomes 2024-25

DEECA at a glance

Our vision

Thriving, productive, and sustainable communities, environments, and industries.

Victorian Government strategic objectives

Our contribution is focused around these cross cutting themes:

- Economic transition and growth
- Environmental sustainability and climate action
- Aboriginal self-determination and first people
- Emergency management

Our impact

We are focused on delivering these outcomes for Victorians. Our actions may be local, but they contribute to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.



Agriculture and Forestry

Productive and sustainably used natural resources



Climate Action

Net-zero emissions, climate-ready economy and community



Earth Resources

Sustainable development of Victoria's earth resources



Emergency Management

Reduced impact of major bushfires and other emergencies



Energy

Reliable, sustainable and affordable energy services



Environment and Circular Economy

Healthy, resilient and biodiverse environment



Land Management

Productive and effective land management



Water

Safe, sustainable and productive water resources

Our organisational pillars

The foundations that guide and support the way we work.



High performance and delivery for Government



Aboriginal self-determination



Trusted leadership and inclusive culture



Strong engagement, partnerships, and service excellence

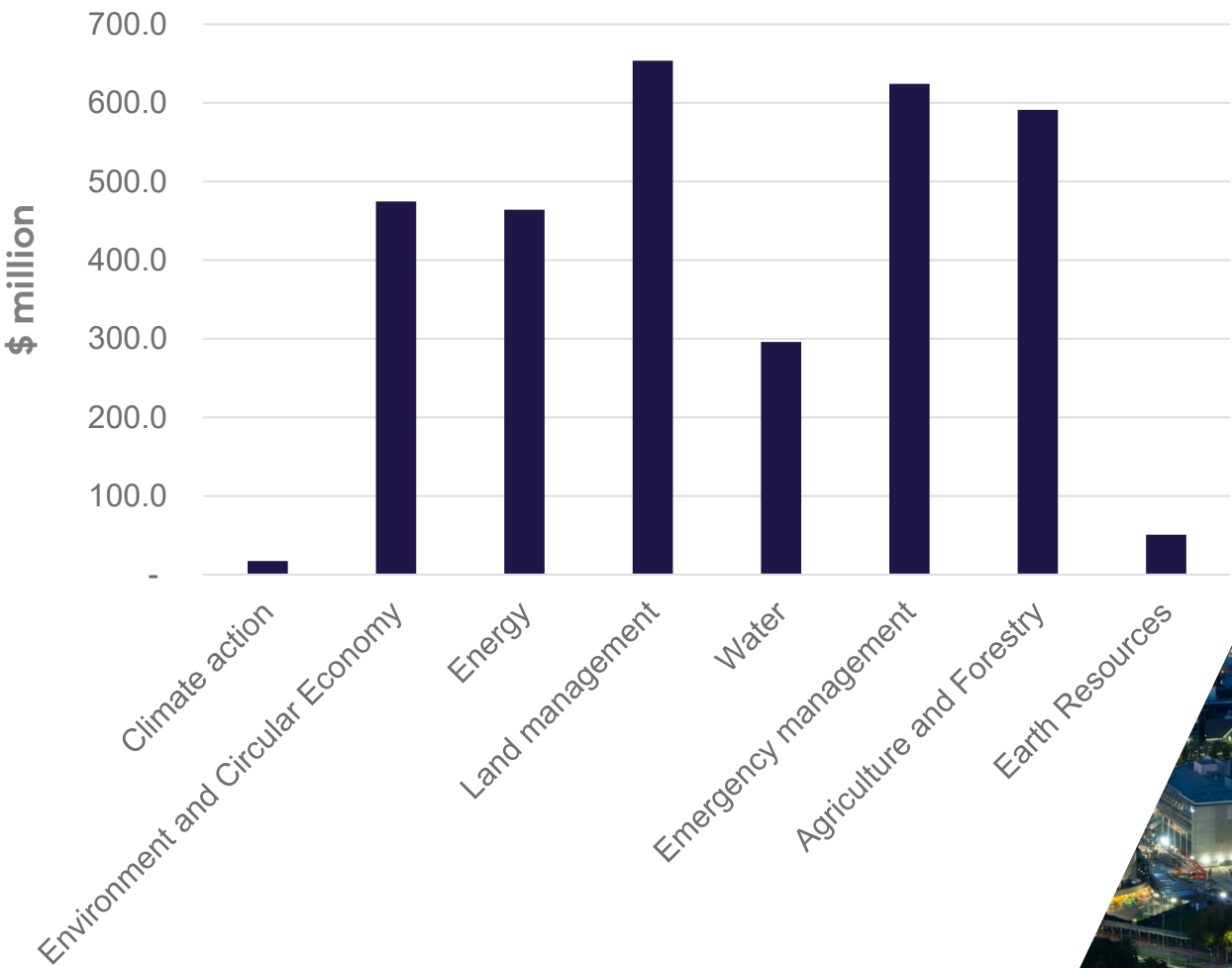


Empowered people with a One-DEECA mindset

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2024-25 expenditure by outcome (\$ million)



 **5,984**
staff

 **86**
locations

 **\$12.2b**
assets

 **\$3.2b**
expenditure

Economic transition and growth

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DEECA plays a critical role in driving and enabling economic activity in Victoria, supporting prosperity and helping communities across the State to thrive

Enabling \$35 billion in investment in renewable energy by 2035

- Supported Victorians to install more than 76,000 solar PV, hot water and battery systems through the Solar Homes Program.
- Released Our Plan for Victoria's Electricity Future in August 2024 to guide the state's future electricity system and investment opportunities to 2035.
- Supported new renewable generation by investing in strengthening Victoria's energy grid, and efficient environmental assessments.

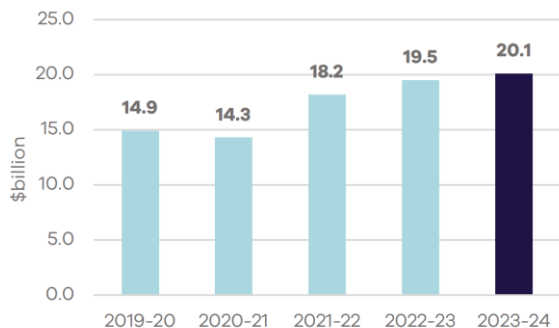
Fostering growth in emerging and strategic industries

- Expanded Victoria's plantation timber estate, with 1.1 million seedlings planted during the winter planting season.
- Launched a new Critical Minerals Roadmap in December 2024 to help develop Victoria's critical minerals industry, with at least \$200 billion worth of these minerals in Victoria.
- Boosted recycling markets through continuation of the Container Deposit Scheme, resulting in the return of almost 2 billion containers since its launch in November 2023.
- Identified options to invest in water efficiency, integrated water management, expand desalination, and maximise use of recycled water and harvested stormwater through the Water Security Plan.

Supporting and growing Victoria's agriculture industry and economic contribution

- Delivered high impact research and innovation aimed at improving productivity and farm profitability, including breeding wheat varieties with improved heat tolerance.
- Made a significant contribution to the state's economy, with agriculture sector value reaching over \$20 billion.
- Exceeded the state's \$20 billion food and fibre export target, 6 years ahead of schedule, and exported a total of \$20.1 billion worth of food and fibre products in 2023-24.

Indicator: Value of Victorian food and fibre exports



Emergency Management

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Bushfire preparedness and response

- Suppressed 1,371 bushfires impacting 251,731 hectares of public land.
- Supported Forest Fire Management Victoria in containing 91.8% of bushfires to less than 5 hectares in size.

Biosecurity and natural disaster emergencies impacting agriculture

- Responded to 2 separate detections of H7 avian influenza impacting 12 poultry farms, enabling eradication.
- Responded to the detection of tomato brown rugose fruit virus.

Energy supply disruptions

- Ensured 24/7, 365-day preparedness through an energy emergency workforce consisting of 76 personnel in 2024-25.
- Oversaw 7 activations of the State Energy Emergency Management Team for potential energy supply disruptions.

Water sector emergencies

- Ensured 24/7, 365-day preparedness through a water emergency workforce of 36 personnel in 2024-25.

Recovery support

- Led recovery efforts: 14 slips repaired, 225 kilometres of road restored and 3 campgrounds remediated.



First Peoples Self-Determination

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Partnering with Traditional Owners and Aboriginal Victorians

Through Pupangarli Marnmarnepu, DEECA has formalised its commitment to support self-determination and embeds self-determination in our work.

Actions delivered in 2024-25

- Implemented agreements with Traditional Owners, including supporting:
 - 4 Recognition and Settlement Agreements
 - one Traditional Owner Land Management Agreement
 - 2 Co-operative Management Agreements
 - 7 Native Title Determinations.
- Supported the State's participation in Statewide Treaty negotiations.
- Commenced work on a new First Peoples Workforce Strategy for the department.
- Increased the number of suppliers that are a Victorian Aboriginal business, engaging 41 Aboriginal businesses during 2024-25.
- Continued DEECA's partnership with Traditional Owners through the Statewide Caring for Country Partnership Forum.
- Recognised and implemented the decisions that Traditional Owners make over cultural fire practices through supporting the delivery of 26 cultural burns.

Mirring – DEECA's cultural identity

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Healthy, resilient and biodiverse environment

- Established 7 funding agreements to revegetate and restore approximately 600 hectares of land and secured 17 private land sites to deliver approximately 3,160 hectares of restored native vegetation.
- Undertook 320 patrols to support the survival of hooded plover fledglings and launched Taskforce Ironbark in July 2024 to disrupt the illegal commercial firewood trade.
- Continued roll out of Victoria's 4-stream household waste and recycling system. As at 30 June 2025, 59 of 79 councils offer food organics and garden organics services, 41 have glass services and 28 have all 4 streams.
- Delivered environmental research through the Arthur Rylah Institute, supporting biodiversity and agricultural outcomes.

Net zero emission, climate-ready economy and community

- Published Victoria's second climate science report in November 2024 and updated the interactive Victoria's Future Climate Tool.



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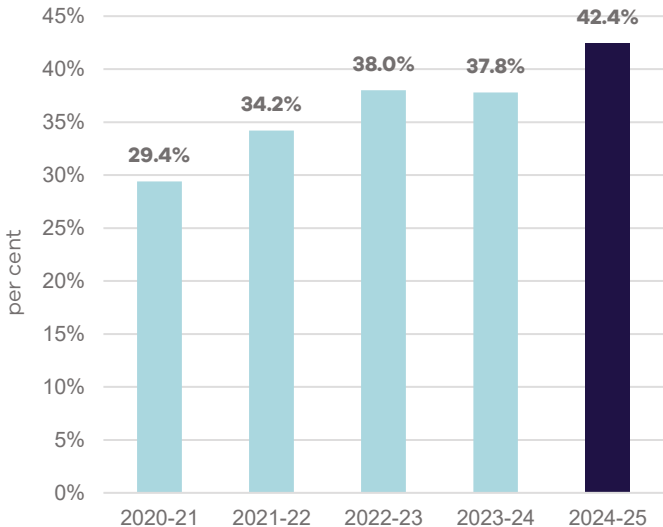
Productive and effective land management

- Completed 4 local parks, playgrounds and dog parks with 52 further projects underway as at 30 June 2025.
- Supported community groups and volunteers working to protect and enhance Victoria's 2,000 kilometres of coastline with more than 8,000 participants involved in Coastcare activities during 2024-25.
- Restored native forests through 373 hectares of site preparation, 354 hectares sown, and established a seedbank inventory system enabling management of more than \$10 million of seed assets.

Reliable, sustainable and affordable energy services

- Support Victoria's renewable energy transition which saw Victoria exceeding its 2025 target of 40% of the state's electricity generation being sourced from renewables, with the 2024-25 result reaching 42.4%.
- Announced new electrification and efficiency standards and regulations for Victorian buildings in June 2025 to reduce energy bills and emissions.
- Supported 283,000 Victorian households and businesses to upgrade to discounted energy efficient products and services through the Victorian Energy Upgrades program, and access more than \$440 million in savings.

Indicator: Relative share of Victoria's energy sourced from renewables



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Reduced impact of major bushfires and other emergencies on people, property and the environment

- Delivered planned burning and other bushfire risk-reduction activities covering an area of 109,938 hectares, including 270 burns across 92,473 hectares.
- Improved 2,237 kilometres of strategic fire access roads to ensure safer and more efficient emergency access.
- Led recovery efforts after major emergencies including the December 2023 to January 2024 flood and storm event, which in 2024-25 included 14 slips repaired, 225 kilometres of road restored and remediation at 3 campgrounds.

Safe and sustainable water resources

- Assisted more than 1,600 households in vulnerable and hardship situations and community housing properties in reducing water use and water bills.
- Undertook on-ground works and watering programs at 288 waterway sites to maintain or improve their environmental condition. This included 4,542 hectares of waterway vegetation works such as tree planting, weed and pest animal control and fencing alongside waterways.
- Released water entitlements to Traditional Owners, with 9.8 gigalitres of water entitlements being held by Traditional Owner or Aboriginal organisations as at 30 June 2025.

Photo credit: Cassie Elder

Achieving our outcomes in 2024-25

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Productive and sustainably used natural resources

- Delivered 230 farm action plans to accelerate action to reduce emissions and adapt to climate change.
- Committed more than 1,850 grants in 2024-25 to support on-farm drought management improvements with most grants (65%) used for on-farm water infrastructure improvements.
- Delivered engagement services to more than 2,000 farming businesses during 2024-25 to support climate adaptation, seasonal risk management, emissions calculation, emissions reduction and carbon farming.
- Supported Victoria's farmers to manage the impacts of drought with the roll out of an initial \$69 million package of support in 2024-25, with a total package of \$144 million provided to November 2025.

Sustainable development of Victoria's earth resources

- Approved Victoria's first new sand quarry near Melbourne in more than 20 years, estimated to contain more than 13 million tonnes of sand to support construction across Victoria.
- Launched the Statewide Reserve Inventory in December 2024, enabling accurate forecasting of material availability and better investment decision making for industry.
- Approved 2 key mineral sand project milestones, progressing development of the critical minerals industry in Victoria.



Photo credit: Tracey Marsden



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