

2 Total expenditure on welfare services

Total expenditure on welfare services in current prices was \$13.7 billion in 2000–01, a nominal increase of \$1.8 billion over the two years from 1998–99. This accounted for 2.0% of GDP in both years. In real terms, growth averaged 5.9% per year between 1998–99 and 2000–01 (Table 2.1). Real growth in the first period (from 1998–99 to 1999–00) was higher than between 1999–00 and 2000–01 (8.5% compared to 3.4%).

Average per person expenditure on welfare services in current prices went from \$631 in 1998–99 to \$710 in 2000–01.

Table 2.1: Expenditure on welfare services and GDP, current and constant prices^(a), 1998–99 to 2000–01

	Current prices			Constant prices	
	Welfare services	GDP	Total welfare services expenditure as % of GDP	Welfare services	Growth rate (%)
Total (\$ million)					
1998–99	11,883	591,592	2.0	12,050	..
1999–00	13,073	629,212	2.1	13,073	8.5
2000–01	13,690	672,223	2.0	13,513	3.4
Average annual growth rate ^(b)					5.9
Per person (\$)					
1998–99	631	31,402		640	..
1999–00	686	33,027		686	7.3
2000–01	710	34,874		701	2.2
Average annual growth rate ^(b)					4.7

(a) Constant price welfare expenditure for 1998–99 to 2000–01 is expressed in chain volume measures, referenced to the year 1999–00.

(b) Growth rate is calculated using simple arithmetic growth formula.

Sources: Expenditure—AIHW database; GDP—ABS 2002a; Population—ABS 2001a; Deflator: General Government Final Consumption Expenditure (GFCE) Implicit Price Deflator—ABS unpublished data; Gross Fixed Capital Formation Chain Price Index—ABS unpublished data.