



**Australian
Communications
and Media Authority**

Commercial broadcasting transmitter licence fee schedule

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Introduction

This publication outlines the taxes that apply to transmitter licences associated with a commercial broadcasting licence. It includes:

- an overview of new tax arrangements
- the transmitter information required to calculate taxes
- how to calculate the taxes
- the amounts that will be imposed on transmitters in 2024–25.

Licensees must pay commercial broadcasting taxes before or on the due date, which is the 28th day after they receive a copy of their assessment.

About commercial broadcasting transmitter licence taxes

There are 3 types of fees that apply to transmitter licences:

1. Commercial broadcasting taxes for transmitters associated with a commercial broadcast service. Information about these taxes is in this publication.
2. Administrative charges to recover the direct costs of spectrum management – for example, fees associated with issuing an apparatus licence. Information about these fees is in the ACMA's [apparatus licence fee schedule](#).
3. For apparatus licences not associated with commercial broadcasting services, annual apparatus licence taxes to recover the indirect costs of spectrum management and provide incentives for efficient spectrum use. Information about these fees is in the ACMA's [apparatus licence fee schedule](#).

Adjustments for inflation

The legislation that enables the commercial broadcasting tax arrangements includes the implementation of an indexation factor to account for inflation, as measured by the annual change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the March quarter before the start of the new financial year. The CPI adjustment applied on 1 July 2024 for 2024–25 was 3.6%.¹

Commercial broadcasting tax rebates

The [Commercial Broadcasting \(Tax\) \(Transmitter Licence Tax Rebate\) Rules 2024](#) (2024 Rebate Rules) are now in force. Rebates are available to holders of commercial television and radio broadcasting licences that were previously eligible for transitional support payments and for rebates under the [Commercial Broadcasting \(Tax\) \(Transmitter Licence Tax Rebate\) Rules 2022](#) (2022 Rebate Rules).

The rebate amounts set out in the table in Item 7 of the 2024 Rebate Rules have been increased by 12.5% from the amounts that applicable licensees were eligible for under transitional support payments and the 2022 Rebate Rules. The 12.5% increase recognises the compound increase in the CPI across 2022–23 (5.1%) and 2023–24 (7.0%), which has resulted in increased CBT liabilities.

¹ This follows CPI adjustments of 1.9% in 2018–19, 1.3% in 2019–20, 2.2% in 2020–21, 1.1% in 2021–22, 5.1% in 2022–23 and 7.0% in 2023–24.

The 2024 Rebate Rules provide for 4 years of rebates:

- rebate period 1: 9 June 2024 to 8 June 2025
- rebate period 2: 9 June 2025 to 8 June 2026
- rebate period 3: 9 June 2026 to 8 June 2027
- rebate period 4: 9 June 2027 to 8 June 2028.

Please note that the abovementioned 2024 Rebate Rules and 2022 Rebate Rules are separate to the [Commercial Broadcasting \(Tax\) \(Transmitter Licence Tax Rebate\) Rules 2020](#) (COVID-19 Rebate Rules). The COVID-19 Rebate Rules were implemented during the COVID-19 pandemic and ended in February 2021.

Overview of commercial broadcasting taxes

The commercial broadcasting transmitter licence tax arrangements are enabled by the [Commercial Broadcasting \(Tax\) Act 2017](#) (the Tax Act). The Tax Act defines the tax arrangements and the licences that are affected by the arrangements.

The information required to calculate the individual transmitter tax amounts is set out in section 6 of the [Commercial Broadcasting \(Tax\) \(Individual Transmitter Amounts\) Determination 2017](#) (the Tax Determination). If the tax amount calculated using this information is more than the individual transmitter amount cap for that particular combination of spectrum band and maximum power factor outlined in section 9(1) of the Tax Act, the tax amount imposed will be equal to the cap.

The \$/kHz rates in section 6(5) of the Tax Determination and the individual transmitter amount caps in section 9(1) of the Tax Act represent the relevant amounts for the 2017–18 financial year (the year these tax arrangements started). These amounts are indexed to inflation for future years.

Individual transmitter amounts, 2024–25

This section lists individual transmitter amounts for each combination of spectrum band, area density and maximum power factor.

Each amount below represents the lesser of the uncapped individual transmitter amount and individual transmitter amount cap in 2024–25. There is a separate table for each power factor.

The minimum tax is \$49.17 (rounded to \$49). Secondary transmitters will incur the minimum tax.

Table 1: Low-power transmitters

Spectrum band	Geographic location			
	High density	Medium density	Low density	Remote density
AM band	\$49.00	\$49.00	\$49.00	\$49.00
FM band	\$503.27	\$230.00	\$49.00	\$49.00
VHF band	\$23,188.00	\$11,445.00	\$210.00	\$49.00
UHF band	\$23,188.00	\$11,445.00	\$210.00	\$49.00

Table 2: Medium-power transmitters

Spectrum band	Geographic location			
	High density	Medium density	Low density	Remote density
AM band	\$453.00	\$207.00	\$49.00	\$49.00
FM band	\$5,036.27	\$2,305.00	\$52.00	\$49.00
VHF band	\$231,883.14	\$114,450.00	\$2,102.00	\$49.00
UHF band	\$231,883.14	\$114,450.00	\$2,102.00	\$49.00

Table 3: High-power transmitters

Spectrum band	Geographic location			
	High density	Medium density	Low density	Remote density
AM band	\$4,533.00	\$2,074.00	\$49.00	\$49.00
FM band	\$50,366.38	\$23,048.00	\$517.00	\$49.00
VHF band	\$2,318,836.36	\$1,144,502.00	\$21,024.00	\$49.00
UHF band	\$2,318,836.36	\$1,144,502.00	\$21,024.00	\$49.00

How to calculate commercial broadcasting taxes

1. Determine the transmitter information

Spectrum band

The transmitter will be operating in either the AM or FM band (for radio broadcasting), or the VHF or UHF band (for television broadcasting). The spectrum band that the transmitter is using will be one of:

- AM band (radio): frequency from 526.6 to 1606.5 kHz; bandwidth of 18 kHz
- FM band (radio): frequency from 87.5 to 108 MHz; bandwidth of 200 kHz
- VHF band (television): frequency from 174 to 230 MHz; bandwidth of 7 MHz
- UHF band (television): frequency from 520 to 694 MHz; bandwidth of 7 MHz.

Area density

The area density refers to the transmitter's location and whether the transmitter is located in a high, medium, low and remote-density area (for apparatus licence fees). Geographic area maps outlining the different density areas are in Appendix A.

Maximum power factor

The maximum power of a transmitter is measured using:

- volts CMF – for the AM band
- watts ERP – for the FM, VHF and UHF bands.

The level of maximum power will determine whether the transmitter is considered high, medium or low power. These categories differ depending on the spectrum band. The different power categorisation for each band is in Table 5. The maximum power factor is used in the formula to calculate individual transmitter amounts.

2. Determine the uncapped individual transmitter amount

Calculate the individual transmitter amount using the equation:

$$\text{\$/kHz rate} \times \text{bandwidth} \times \text{maximum power factor} = \text{individual transmitter amount}$$

and round the amount to the nearest dollar (50 cents is rounded up).

Table 4 shows the 2024–25 \$/kHz rate for the band (AM, FM, VHF or UHF) and area density (high, medium, low or remote) in which the transmitter operates.

Table 4: 2024–25 \$/kHz*

Spectrum band	Geographic location			
	High density	Medium density	Low density	Remote density
AM band	25.1834	11.5240	0.2583	0.0000
FM band	25.1834	11.5240	0.2583	0.0000
VHF band	33.1263	16.3500	0.3003	0.0000
UHF band	33.1263	16.3500	0.3003	0.0000

* The indexation factor applied on 1 July 2024 was 3.6%. \$/kHz rates from 2017–18 to 2024–25 are in Appendix B.

Multiply the applicable rate in Table 4 by the amount of bandwidth (in kHz) used by the transmitter in the relevant spectrum band:

- AM band: 18 kHz
- FM band: 200 kHz
- VHF/UHF band: 7,000 kHz.²

Multiply the new amount by the applicable maximum power factor in Table 5.

Table 5: Maximum power of a transmitter*

Maximum power category	Spectrum band			
	AM band	FM band	VHF band	UHF band
Low	n/a	Not more than 150 watts ERP	Not more than 150 watts ERP	Not more than 600 watts ERP
Medium	Not more than 220 volts CMF	Greater than 150 watts ERP but not more than 15,000 watts ERP	Greater than 150 watts ERP but not more than 15,000 watts ERP	Greater than 600 watts ERP but not more than 60,000 watts ERP
High	Greater than 220 volts CMF	Greater than 15,000 watts ERP	Greater than 15,000 watts ERP	Greater than 60,000 watts ERP

*Maximum power factor for each level of power – low power: 0.1, medium power: 1, high power: 10.

For example:

- In 2024–25, the \$/kHz rate for a high-power FM band transmitter in a medium density location is 11.5240, as per Table 4.
- A transmitter operating in the FM band uses 200 kHz. The 200 kHz of bandwidth is multiplied by the \$/kHz rate of 11.5240 to equal 2,304.802.
- The maximum power factor for a high-power transmitter is 10. Therefore, the amount of 2,304.802 needs to be multiplied by 10, which equals \$23,048.02.
- This amount is rounded to the nearest dollar, leading to an uncapped individual transmitter amount of \$23,048.

² The bandwidth amounts can be found at section 6(7) of the Tax Determination.

3. Determine the individual transmitter amount cap

Each combination of maximum power factor and spectrum band has a cap that represents the highest amount of tax imposed on a transmitter with that combination. There is no specified rounding of capped amounts.

The individual transmitter amount caps for 2024–25 are in Table 6.

Table 6: 2024–25 individual transmitter amount caps

Spectrum band	Maximum power of the transmitter		
	Low	Medium	High
AM band	\$49.71	\$453.56	\$4,533.01
FM band	\$503.27	\$5,036.27	\$50,366.38
VHF band	\$23,188.19	\$231,883.14	\$2,318,836.36
UHF band	\$23,188.19	\$231,883.14	\$2,318,836.36

Individual transmitter amount caps from 2017–18 to 2024–25 are in Appendix B.

4. Compare the uncapped individual transmitter amount with its capped amount

The total tax imposed for an individual transmitter is **the lesser** of the uncapped individual transmitter amount and the individual transmitter amount cap. Ensure that the uncapped amount has been rounded before comparing with the individual transmitter amount cap.

For example:

- In 2024–25, the individual transmitter amount for a high-power FM band transmitter in a medium-density location is \$23,048.00, while the individual transmitter amount cap for a high-power FM band transmitter is \$50,366.38.
- The uncapped individual transmitter amount is lower, which means \$23,048.00 will be the amount of tax imposed for the transmitter.

Tax payments and late payment penalties

The ACMA will provide commercial broadcasting licensees with an estimate of their commercial broadcasting tax at least one week before making an assessment.

Please keep contact details current so we can send these estimates.

Payment due date

Payments are due and payable on the 28th day after the ACMA gives a copy of the assessment to the licensee. Please ensure invoices are included in a payment run by the payment due date.

While we will contact the licensee if there is an unpaid debt, the responsibility for making timely payments lies with commercial broadcasting licensees. We expect that licensees will contact the ACMA as soon as they are aware that their commercial broadcasting taxes will not be paid by the due date.

Late payment penalties

Section 205AF of the [Broadcasting Services Act 1992](#) (the BSA) automatically imposes late payment penalties on unpaid amounts of commercial broadcasting tax for each day payment is late, at a rate of 20% per year.

Late payment penalties are calculated and applied daily. For example, if a commercial broadcasting licensee has a \$100,000 commercial broadcasting tax assessment that remains unpaid after the payment due date, under section 205AF of the BSA, that licensee will have a late payment penalty of \$55 imposed each day until the amount of commercial broadcasting tax is paid.³

Remittal of late payment penalties

The ACMA may remit late payment penalties in part or in full. We will not usually remit late payment penalties unless we are satisfied that the delayed payment of the tax assessment was due to circumstances outside of the control of the commercial broadcasting licensee.

Licensees will be given an opportunity to make a submission to inform the ACMA's consideration of whether late payment penalties should be remitted.

³ Late payment penalties are calculated by: (a) multiplying the outstanding amount by the annual rate of 20% (e.g., 20% of \$100,000 is \$20,000); (b) dividing the 20% amount by 365 to find the penalty amount for a single day (e.g., \$20,000 divided by 365 equals \$54.79); and (c) rounding the daily penalty amount to the nearest dollar (e.g., \$54.79 is rounded up to \$55.00). The rounded daily amount is the late payment penalty imposed for each day that payment is late.

Other actions

If a licensee does not pay its assessed commercial broadcasting tax, under section 205AD of the BSA, the unpaid amount is a debt due to the ACMA on behalf of the Commonwealth. Similarly, under subsection 205AF(5) of the BSA, a late payment penalty is also a debt due to the ACMA on behalf of the Commonwealth. These debts may be recovered by the ACMA, on behalf of the Commonwealth, in:

- (i) the Federal Court; or
- (ii) the Federal Circuit Court; or
- (iii) a court of a state or territory that has jurisdiction in relation to the matter.

Contact information

- See our online information about [commercial broadcasting taxes](#).
- For information about commercial broadcasting taxes, email the Economics Advisory Section at spectrumpricing@acma.gov.au.
- For all other information, email the ACMA Customer Service Centre at info@acma.gov.au.

Appendix A: Geographic area maps

The following pages show maps and coordinates for each area.

High-density areas:

[Sydney/Wollongong](#)

[Melbourne/Geelong](#)

[Brisbane/Gold Coast](#)

Medium-density areas:

[Perth](#)

[Adelaide](#)

[Newcastle](#)

Low-density areas:

[East Australia low-density area](#)

[Western Australia low-density area](#)

[Tasmania low-density area](#)

[Darwin low-density area](#)

Remote density:

Elsewhere

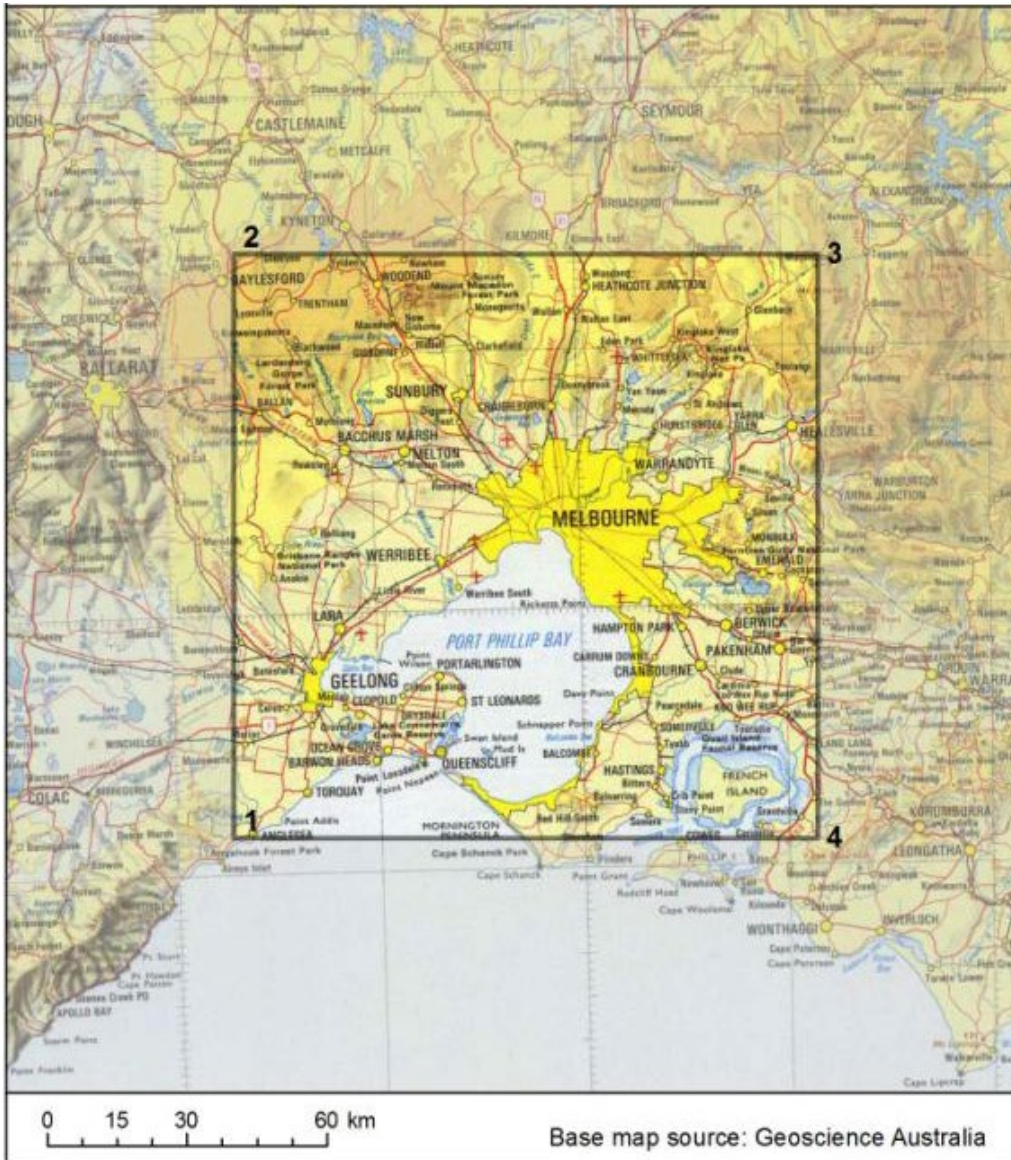
Sydney/Wollongong high-density area



Coordinates

Point number	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	56	230000	6230000
2	56	325000	6355000
3	56	391000	6307000
4	56	300000	6150000

Melbourne/Geelong high-density area



Coordinates

Point number	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	55	250000	5743000
2	55	250000	5868000
3	55	375000	5868000
4	55	375000	5743000

Brisbane/Gold Coast high-density area



Coordinates

Point number	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	56	510000	6860000
2	56	450000	6965000
3	56	490000	7040000
4	56	515000	7020000
5	56	570000	6880000
6	56	540000	6860000

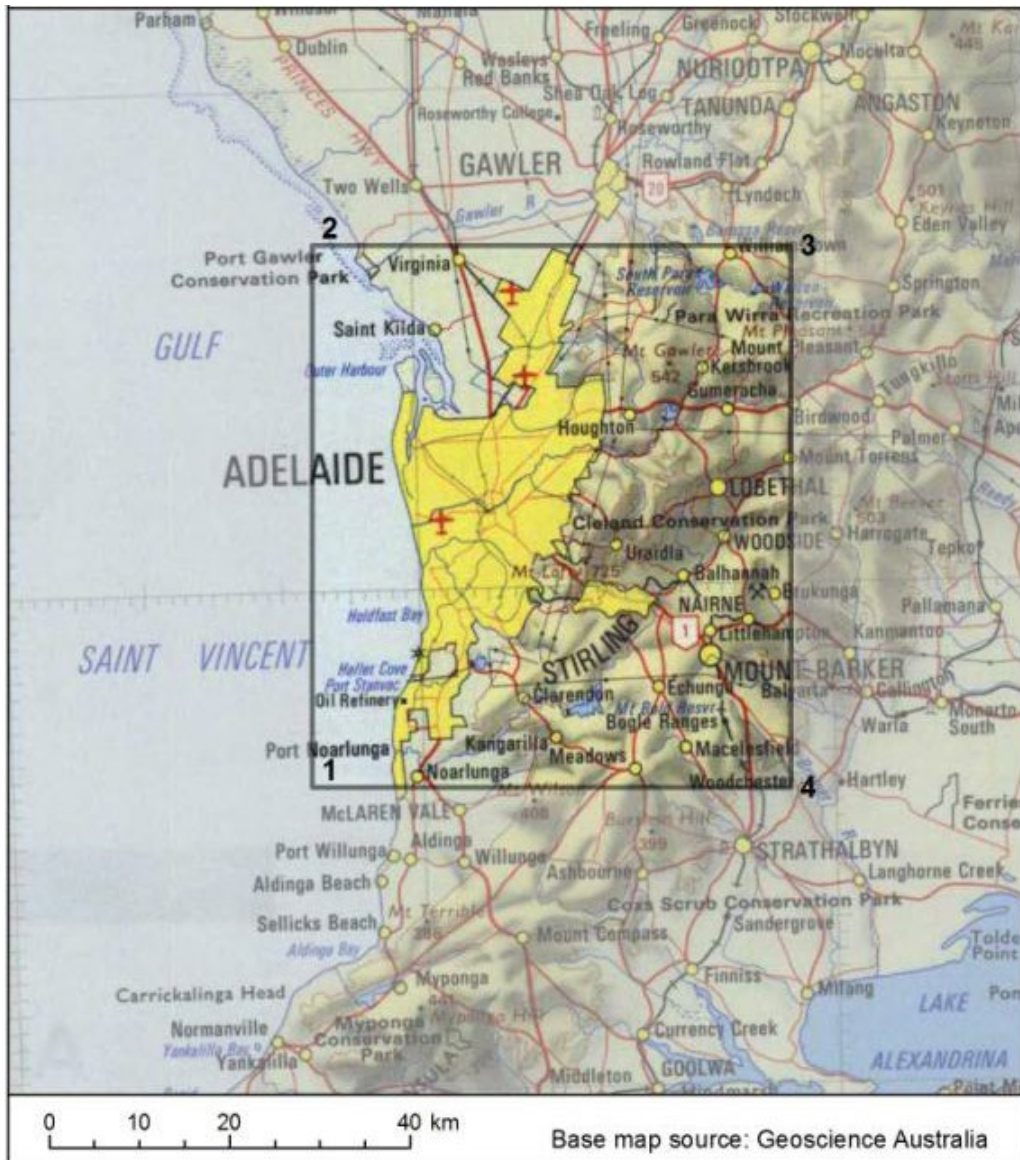
Perth medium-density area



Coordinates

Point number	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	50	370000	6420000
2	50	370000	6490000
3	50	425000	6490000
4	50	425000	6420000

Adelaide medium-density area



Coordinates

Point number	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	54	260000	6102250
2	54	260000	6162250
3	54	313000	6162250
4	54	313000	6102250

Newcastle medium-density area



Coordinates

Point number	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	56	325000	6355000
2	56	378000	6403000
3	56	410000	6381000
4	56	441000	6381000
5	56	391000	6307000

East Australia low-density area



Coordinates

Point number	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	55	285979	8230029
2	55	289466	7897969
3	55	394745	7898866
4	55	395390	7788199
5	55	552303	7788433
6	55	551965	7677763
7	55	603933	7677519
8	55	601715	7345403
9	56	194772	7342512
10	56	197180	7231690
11	56	298153	7233553
12	56	303332	6901175
13	56	204955	6899158

Point number	Zone	Easting	Northing
14	56	207728	6788292
15	55	694822	6790354
16	55	688928	6457804
17	55	594458	6459115
18	55	593418	6348256
19	55	500000	6348700
20	55	500000	6237831
21	55	361472	6236817
22	55	363117	6125916
23	54	682517	6125116
24	54	684711	6236028
25	54	315289	6236028
26	54	313152	6346924
27	54	266429	6345924
28	54	263828	6456821
29	53	688928	6457804
30	53	677963	5903244
31	54	322037	5903244
32	54	324396	5792283
33	54	412201	5793699
34	54	413407	5682733
35	55	413407	5682733
36	55	414639	5571749
37	55	500000	5572227
38	55	500000	5683208
39	55	673192	5681306
40	55	675604	5792283
41	56	324396	5792283
42	56	317483	6125116
43	56	408746	6126487
44	56	407650	6237380
45	56	500000	6237831
46	56	500000	6459552
47	56	594458	6459115
48	56	601715	7345403
49	56	500000	7345764
50	56	500000	7456471
51	56	295007	7455073
52	56	292110	7676544
53	56	188106	7674916
54	56	186073	7785698
55	55	709244	7787262
56	55	710534	7897969
57	55	500000	7899165
58	55	500000	8231059

Western Australia low-density area



Coordinates

Point number	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	50	204955	6899158
2	50	226201	6122830
3	50	408746	6126487
4	50	409871	6015575
5	50	590129	6015575
6	50	595369	6559624
7	50	404620	6559624
8	50	401674	6902384

Tasmania low-density area



Coordinates

Point number	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	55	373275	5493447
2	55	374996	6393531
3	55	473608	5394569
4	55	474609	5128061
5	55	660350	5126166
6	55	668969	5492606

Darwin low-density area



Coordinates

Point number	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	52	662841	8590035
2	52	744293	8589447
3	52	744992	8672441
4	52	663306	8672997

Appendix B: \$/kHz tables and individual transmitter amount caps

This appendix lists the \$/kHz rates and individual transmitter amount caps from 2017–18 to 2024–25, in reverse order.

\$/kHz amounts

Table 7: 2024–25 \$/kHz*

Spectrum band	Geographic location			
	High density	Medium density	Low density	Remote density
AM band	25.1834	11.5240	0.2583	0.0000
FM band	25.1834	11.5240	0.2583	0.0000
VHF band	33.1263	16.3500	0.3003	0.0000
UHF band	33.1263	16.3500	0.3003	0.0000

* The indexation factor applied on 1 July 2024 was 3.6%.

Table 8: 2023–24 \$/kHz*

Spectrum band	Geographic location			
	High density	Medium density	Low density	Remote density
AM band	24.3083	11.1236	0.2494	0.0000
FM band	24.3083	11.1236	0.2494	0.0000
VHF band	31.9752	15.7819	0.2899	0.0000
UHF band	31.9752	15.7819	0.2899	0.0000

*The indexation factor applied on 1 July 2023 was 7.0%.

Table 9: 2022–23 \$/kHz*

Spectrum band	Geographic location			
	High density	Medium density	Low density	Remote density
AM band	22.7181	10.3959	0.2330	0.0000
FM band	22.7181	10.3959	0.2330	0.0000
VHF band	29.8833	14.7494	0.2709	0.0000
UHF band	29.8833	14.7494	0.2709	0.0000

*The indexation factor applied on 1 July 2022 was 5.1%.

Table 10: 2021–22 \$/kHz*

Spectrum band	Geographic location			
	High density	Medium density	Low density	Remote density
AM band	21.6157	9.8914	0.2217	0.0000
FM band	21.6157	9.8914	0.2217	0.0000
VHF band	28.4332	14.0337	0.2578	0.0000
UHF band	28.4332	14.0337	0.2578	0.0000

*The indexation factor applied on 1 July 2021 was 1.1%.

Table 11: 2020–21 \$/kHz*

Spectrum band	Geographic location			
	High density	Medium density	Low density	Remote density
AM band	21.3805	9.7838	0.2193	0.0000
FM band	21.3805	9.7838	0.2193	0.0000
VHF band	28.1239	13.8810	0.2550	0.0000
UHF band	28.1239	13.8810	0.2550	0.0000

* The indexation factor applied on 1 July 2020 was 2.2%.

Table 12: 2019–20 \$/kHz*

Spectrum band	Geographic location			
	High density	Medium density	Low density	Remote density
AM band	20.9202	9.5732	0.2146	0.0000
FM band	20.9202	9.5732	0.2146	0.0000
VHF band	27.5185	13.5822	0.2495	0.0000
UHF band	27.5185	13.5822	0.2495	0.0000

* The indexation factor applied on 1 July 2019 was 1.3%.

Table 13: 2018–19 \$/kHz*

Spectrum band	Geographic location			
	High density	Medium density	Low density	Remote density
AM band	20.6518	9.4503	0.2119	0.0000
FM band	20.6518	9.4503	0.2119	0.0000
VHF band	27.1653	13.4079	0.2463	0.0000
UHF band	27.1653	13.4079	0.2463	0.0000

* The indexation factor applied on 1 July 2018 was 1.9%.

Table 14: 2017–18 \$/kHz*

Spectrum band	Geographic location			
	High density	Medium density	Low density	Remote density
AM band	20.2667	9.2741	0.2079	0.0000
FM band	20.2667	9.2741	0.2079	0.0000
VHF band	26.6588	13.1579	0.2417	0.0000
UHF band	26.6588	13.1579	0.2417	0.0000

*The \$/kHz rates for 2017–18 are outlined in section 6(5) of the Tax Determination.

Individual transmitter amount caps

The individual transmitter amount caps for 2017–18 are outlined in section 9(1) of the Tax Act. For subsequent years, the individual transmitter amount caps are increased by the same indexation factor as the \$/kHz table for the given year.

Table 15: 2024–25 individual transmitter amount caps

Spectrum band	Maximum power of the transmitter		
	Low	Medium	High
AM band	\$49.71	\$453.56	\$4,533.01
FM band	\$503.27	\$5,036.27	\$50,366.38
VHF band	\$23,188.19	\$231,883.14	\$2,318,836.36
UHF band	\$23,188.19	\$231,883.14	\$2,318,836.36

Table 16: 2023–24 individual transmitter amount caps

Spectrum band	Maximum power of the transmitter		
	Low	Medium	High
AM band	\$47.98	\$437.80	\$4,375.49
FM band	\$485.78	\$4,861.26	\$48,616.20
VHF band	\$22,328.42	\$223,825.42	\$2,238,259.03
UHF band	\$22,328.42	\$223,825.42	\$2,238,259.03

Table 17: 2022–23 individual transmitter amount caps

Spectrum band	Maximum power of the transmitter		
	Low	Medium	High
AM band	\$44.84	\$409.16	\$4,089.24
FM band	\$454.00	\$4,543.23	\$45,435.70
VHF band	\$20,918.15	\$209,182.64	\$2,091,830.87
UHF band	\$20,918.15	\$209,182.64	\$2,091,830.87

Table 18: 2021–22 individual transmitter amount caps

Spectrum band	Maximum power of the transmitter		
	Low	Medium	High
AM band	\$42.66	\$389.31	\$3,890.81
FM band	\$431.97	\$4,322.77	\$43,230.92
VHF band	\$19,903.09	\$199,032.01	\$1,990,324.33
UHF band	\$19,903.09	\$199,032.01	\$1,990,324.33

Table 19: 2020–21 individual transmitter amount caps

Spectrum band	Maximum power of the transmitter		
	Low	Medium	High
AM band	\$42.20	\$385.07	\$3,848.48
FM band	\$427.27	\$4,275.74	\$42,760.55
VHF band	\$19,686.54	\$196,866.48	\$1,968,668.97
UHF band	\$19,686.54	\$196,866.48	\$1,968,668.97

Table 20: 2019–20 individual transmitter amount caps

Spectrum band	Maximum power of the transmitter		
	Low	Medium	High
AM band	\$41.29	\$376.78	\$3,765.64
FM band	\$418.07	\$4,183.70	\$41,840.07
VHF band	\$19,262.76	\$192,628.65	\$1,926,290.58
UHF band	\$19,262.76	\$192,628.65	\$1,926,290.58

Table 21: 2018–19 individual transmitter amount caps

Spectrum band	Maximum power of the transmitter		
	Low	Medium	High
AM band	\$40.76	\$371.94	\$3,717.31
FM band	\$412.70	\$4,130.01	\$41,303.13
VHF band	\$19,015.56	\$190,156.61	\$1,901,570.17
UHF band	\$19,015.56	\$190,156.61	\$1,901,570.17

Table 22: 2017–18 individual transmitter amount caps

Spectrum band	Maximum power of the transmitter		
	Low	Medium	High
AM band	\$40	\$365	\$3,648
FM band	\$405	\$4,053	\$40,533
VHF band	\$18,661	\$186,611	\$1,866,114
UHF band	\$18,661	\$186,611	\$1,866,114