



AUSTRALIA'S CLIMATE CHANGE POLICIES

The Climate Change Authority has released a stocktake of Australia's climate change policies. It provides an overview of Australian and state and territory governments' policies to achieve emissions reductions. It also includes an overview of policies to adapt to climate change and contributions to international climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts. It is available at www.climatechangeauthority.gov.au.

This document is one of a series of stocktakes the Climate Change Authority is releasing in early 2019. The Authority welcomes your input on the accuracy and reliability of the information contained in the stocktakes, as well as receiving other relevant information.

The stocktakes, along with other research and analysis, will assist the Authority to update its advice to the Australian Government on policies to meet Australia's emissions reduction commitments under the Paris Agreement. The Authority has not analysed the effectiveness of policies in this document and will consult later in the year as it develops its approach to updating its advice.

Australia's emissions profile varies across the different states and territories, and emissions are concentrated in the four most populous states and the energy and transport sectors.

Breakdown of Australia's emissions by state and territory in 2015–16 and source in 2017–18

















Notes: Direct combustion is from fossil fuels to generate steam, heat or pressure (other than for electricity generation and transport), for example in liquefying natural gas. Agriculture includes emissions from livestock, fertilisers and crop residue. Fugitive emissions are released during extraction of fossil fuels. Industrial processes are non-energy related processes including emissions from hydrofluorocarbons. LULUCF: land use, land use change and forestry.

WHAT DOES THE STOCKTAKE SHOW?

The approach taken to reducing emissions varies across Australia's states and territories and the different sectors of the economy. The Australian and state and territory governments have all implemented a range of climate change policies, some in cooperation. These policies are intended to support Australia's emissions reduction targets under international agreements as well as state specific emissions reduction targets. Some policies, such as the Australian Government's Emissions Reduction Fund, operate across sectors of the economy and all states and territories, whereas other policies aim to tap into the unique emissions reduction opportunities of individual sectors. The majority of policies are concentrated in the energy sector, with fewer policies applying in other sectors.

The following table provides examples of some of the key climate change policies at the Australian and state and territory government levels.

KEY CLIMATE CHANGE POLICIES AT THE AUSTRALIAN AND STATE AND TERRITORY GOVERNMENT LEVELS

	 Australia	 QLD	 NSW	 VIC	 WA	 SA	 NT	 ACT	 TAS
 Energy	Renewable energy target, funding for low emissions technologies through CEFC & ARENA, National Energy Productivity Plan, support for small-scale renewables and storage, Emissions Reduction Fund	Renewable energy target, regulated feed in tariffs, energy efficiency funding, support for small-scale renewables and storage	Energy efficiency certificate scheme, support for small-scale renewables	Renewable energy target, energy efficiency certificate scheme, regulated feed in tariffs, support for small-scale renewables and storage	Regulated feed in tariffs, support for small-scale renewables	Renewable energy target, energy efficiency certificate scheme, support for small-scale renewables and storage	Renewable energy target, energy efficiency funding	Renewable energy target, regulated feed in tariffs, energy efficiency certificate scheme, support for small-scale renewables and storage	Renewable energy target, energy efficiency funding
 Industry	Safeguard mechanism, Emissions Reduction Fund								
 Transport	Fuel quality standards, tax discount for low emissions vehicles, support for electric vehicle charging infrastructure, consumer education, Emissions Reduction Fund	Biofuel mandate, registration incentive for low emissions vehicles, tax discount for low emissions vehicles, support for electric vehicle charging infrastructure, consumer education	Biofuel mandate, registration incentive for low emissions vehicles, support for electric vehicle charging infrastructure, consumer education	Registration incentive for low emissions vehicles, support for electric vehicle charging infrastructure, consumer education	Support for electric vehicle charging infrastructure, consumer education	Support for electric vehicle charging infrastructure, consumer education		Tax discount, registration incentive and preferential lane access for low emissions vehicles, support for electric vehicle charging infrastructure, consumer education	Support for electric vehicle charging infrastructure, consumer education
 Agriculture	Multiple benefit grants, research and development, Emissions Reduction Fund								
 Land	Emissions Reduction Fund, legislation preventing land clearing	Land Restoration & Aboriginal CarbonPlus Funds, legislation preventing land clearing	Legislation preventing land clearing, Biodiversity Conservation Trust	Legislation preventing land clearing	Legislation preventing land clearing	Carbon Sequestration Strategy, legislation preventing land clearing	Aboriginal Carbon Industry Strategy, legislation preventing land clearing	Legislation preventing land clearing	Legislation preventing land clearing

Note: Regulated feed in tariffs mandate a minimum price paid for electricity generated by small-scale solar and exported into the electricity grid. This table is not intended to be exhaustive. It provides an overview of some of the climate change policies at the Australian and state and territory government levels. For more information see the Climate Change Authority's stocktake of Australia's climate change policies.