Print whole section

R&D tax incentive transparency report 2022–23

Read our Research and development tax incentive (R&DTI) transparency report 2022–23 for recent data and observations.

Last updated 25 September 2025

Focus of the R&DTI report

Scope of the R&DTI report 2022–23, which entities and industries are included and what significant data was observed.

R&D population overview

See R&DTI data by expenditure and business population for 2022–23.

R&D industry overview

Data about the R&DTI according to industry and business population for 2022–23.

R&DTI compliance approach

QC 105518

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What this report details

Our reporting has 2 parts:

- Part 1 – the *Report of data about research and development tax incentive entities* (data report), published on Data.gov.au.
- Part 2 – this *Research and development tax incentive – transparency report* (analysis report), which provides an analysis of the data.

The *Report of data about research and development tax incentive entities 2022–23* provides information on companies that have claimed the R&D tax incentive (R&DTI) for the 2022–23 income year. It also includes information on those companies that have claimed or amended their claim to the R&DTI for the 2021–22 income year since 31 July 2024. It's the second data report we've published, and we'll continue to publish it annually. The next report is scheduled to be published in late September 2026.

The data report details data reported by companies in their company tax returns. The data for the 2022–23 income year was extracted as at 30 June 2025 with all data accurate at that time.

Section 3H of the Taxation Administration Act 1953 specifies the data we are required to report. Publishing this data:

- encourages voluntary compliance with the requirements of the R&DTI program
- increases public awareness of which companies have claimed the tax incentive.

Highlights

- The total amount of research and development (R&D) expenditure claimed for the 2022–23 income year is $16.2 billion.
- 12,956 companies claimed R&D expenditure for the 2022–23 income year.
- Public and multinational businesses invested the most in R&D in the 2022–23 income year, with a total of $8.7 billion claimed.
- Small businesses had the highest proportion of claimants, with a total of 6,016 claimants, making up 46% of the total population.
- The professional, scientific and technical services industry (which includes businesses such as scientific research, computer system design and accounting services) claimed more R&D expenditure than any other industry and made up 44% of the number of claims.
- Australian-owned companies accounted for 93% of this year's population, with 12,055 reporting R&D expenditure.

Interpreting the results

The *Report of data about research and development tax incentive entities 2022–23* identifies companies that claimed expenditure under the tax incentive for the 2022–23 income year. The total amount of R&D expenditure each company claimed is published.

If a company has adjusted their claim by requesting an amendment and it was processed by 30 June 2025, we've reported their original claim and their adjusted claim. There are 237 R&D companies that have their amended total R&D expenditure published for the 2022–23 income year. Commissioner-initiated amendments following a review or audit are not published. Legislation stipulates only amendments reported by companies will be published.

The data report will be published on an annual basis.

We do not disclose the amount of the tax incentive each R&D company received or whether it was refundable or non-refundable.

Some companies within the report are reported with a '0' dollar claim. This could be because:

- their feedstock adjustments are more than the notional deductions

- the R&D company adjusted the amount in their tax return – for these, we've published the original total R&D expenditure claimed and the '0' adjusted amount
- the R&D company did not provide information regarding total R&D expenditure.

Figures in this report have generally been rounded. This may result in differences between totals and sums of components in the charts and text compared to that in the data report.

QC 105518

R&D population overview

See R&DTI data by expenditure and business population for 2022–23.

Published 25 September 2025

Reported companies

There are 12,956 companies represented in the *Report of data about research and development tax incentive entities 2022–23*. They claimed a total of $16.2 billion in R&D expenditure for the 2022–23 income year. The report also includes an additional 179 companies that made R&D claims for the 2021–22 income year after the cut-off date for inclusion in last year's report.

Last year's *Report of data about research and development tax incentive entities* did not include approximately 850 companies that made R&D expenditure claims in the 2021–22 income year as they have a substituted accounting period for the 2021–22 income year beginning before 1 July 2021. This year's report includes those companies who have a substituted accounting period for the 2022–23 income year beginning before 1 July 2022.

Reported population

The *Report of data about research and development tax incentive entities* population includes:

- companies with an eligible expenditure greater than $20,000, and turnover of less than $20 million, who are eligible for the refundable offset
- companies with an eligible expenditure greater than $20,000, and turnover greater than $20 million, who are eligible for the non-refundable offset
- both Australian-owned and foreign-owned companies which are Australian residents for income tax purposes.

Total expenditure

Public and multinational businesses claimed the most R&D expenditure in the 2022–23 income year with a total of $8.7 billion. This was followed by privately owned and wealthy groups with $5 billion, and lastly small businesses with $2.4 billion in R&D expenditure claimed.

Business population

The business population makeup of companies in the 2022–23 transparency report is:

- 46% (6,016) small businesses (companies that are carrying on a business with an aggregated turnover of less than $10 million)
- 35% (4,507) privately owned and wealthy groups (companies and their associated subsidiaries with an annual turnover of more than $10 million that aren't public groups or foreign owned)
- 19% (2,428) public and multinational businesses (publicly listed Australian and multinational companies).

The average claim per company in each business population is:

- public and multinational businesses – $3,599,102
- privately owned and wealthy groups – $1,111,133
- small businesses – $403,232.

Not-for-profit organisations aren't included in the breakdown and analysis as only 5 claimed the R&DTI in the 2022–23 income year. This number is too small to be evaluated.

Top 10 highest claims

Table 1 below details the top 10 companies across all industries according to their R&D expenditure claims in the 2022–23 income year.

Table 1: Top 10 highest claims of R&D expenditure in the 2022–23 income year (in order)

Company name	Company ABN	Total R&D expenditure ($)
ATLASSIAN AUSTRALIA 1 PTY LTD	98166799542	220,184,724
FORTESCUE LTD	57002594872	150,753,868
COCHLEAR LIMITED	96002618073	136,678,581
GOTW PTY LTD	31000392727	118,126,096 (amended to 117,672,586)
CSL LIMITED	99051588348	111,543,007
RESMED HOLDINGS PTY LTD	28003765133	106,731,383
CHEVRON AUSTRALIA HOLDINGS PTY LTD	60098079344	95,768,477
LANAI (AU) 1 PTY LTD	86652351909	80,945,334
RIO TINTO LIMITED	96004458404	73,157,842
GRINDING MEDIA PTY LTD	47615611759	68,814,589

QC 105518

R&D industry overview

Data about the R&DTI according to industry and business population for 2022–23.

Published 25 September 2025

Industry classification

The R&DTI is available to eligible R&D entities in any industry. Industry types are based on Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC) divisions. Companies self-classify when they lodge their company tax return. The ANZSIC divisions reflect the industry of the main business activity undertaken by the company and may not be the industry in which the R&D activity is undertaken.

Top 5 industries overall

The top 5 industries for which R&D expenditure was claimed for the 2022–23 income year (in order of expenditure claimed) are:

1. **Professional, scientific and technical services** – covering a broad range of businesses within those fields. The report includes scientific research, computer system design and accounting services within this industry.
2. **Manufacturing** – including businesses mainly engaged in the physical or chemical transformation of materials, substances or components into new products (except agriculture and construction). The report contains companies in furniture, metal, wood and chemical manufacturing.
3. **Mining** – including business that extract naturally occurring mineral solids (such as coal and ores), liquid minerals (such as petroleum) and gases (such as natural gas). The report includes companies involved exploration, extraction and other mining activities within this industry.

4. **Wholesale trade** – including businesses mainly engaged in purchase and on-selling, commission-based buying, and commission-based selling of goods, without significant transformation, to other businesses. The report contains grocery, machinery and vehicle wholesale traders.
5. **Information media and telecommunications** – covering a variety of businesses engaged in the creation, enhancing and storing of information products in the media, transmitting information products and providing transmission services. The report includes internet service providers, publishers and telecommunication service providers.

Table 2 and Graph 3 below provide a breakdown of the top 5 industries for which R&D expenditure was claimed by number of overall claimants.

Table 2: Top 5 industry by number of R&DTI claimants in the 2022–23 income year

Industry	Number of claimants
Professional, scientific and technical services	5,663
Manufacturing	2,638
Wholesale trade	734
Information media and telecommunications	621
Financial and insurance services	530
All other industries	2,770

Graph 3 – Top 5 industries by number of claimants in the 2022–23 income year

Table 3 and Graph 4 below provide a breakdown of the industries for which R&D expenditure was claimed by their total claim amount.

Table 3: Total R&DTI expenditure by industry in the 2022–23 income year

Industry	R&D expenditure ($)
Professional, scientific and technical services	6,193,638,114
Manufacturing	3,572,725,599
Mining	1,480,284,373
Wholesale trade	924,425,245
Information media and telecommunications	824,646,758
Financial and insurance services	797,903,089
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	398,962,437
Retail trade	349,338,588
Electricity, gas, water and waste services	327,447,204
Health care and social assistance	265,675,090
Construction	265,438,792
Transport, postal and warehousing	146,098,176
Arts and recreation services	142,002,992
Rental, hiring and real estate services	121,444,907
Administrative and support services	114,855,752
Education and training	85,111,141
Other services	69,528,511

Public administration and safety	62,722,154
Accommodation and food services	31,348,255
Special ATO Division (out of ANZSIC scope)	525,490

Graph 4 – Total R&DTI expenditure by industry in the 2022–23 income year

Top 5 industries – public and multinational businesses

The top 5 industries for public and multinational businesses (in order by number of claimants) are:

- professional, scientific and technical services, with a total of $2,817 million in R&D expenditure across 1,103 companies
- manufacturing, with a total of $2,011 million in R&D expenditure across 429 companies
- mining, with a total of $1,417 million in R&D expenditure across 282 companies
- wholesale trade, with a total of $571 million in R&D expenditure across 142 companies
- financial and insurance services, with a total of $445 million in R&D expenditure across 117 companies.

The following graph shows the breakdown of the top 5 industries for public and multinational businesses by number of overall claimants.

Graph 5 – Top 5 industries by number of claimants for public and multinational businesses in the 2022–23 income year

Top 5 industries – privately owned and wealthy groups

The top 5 industries for privately owned and wealthy groups (in order by number of claimants) are:

- professional, scientific and technical services, with a total of $2,138 million in R&D expenditure across 1,738 companies
- manufacturing, with a total of $1,159 million in R&D expenditure across 1,072 companies
- wholesale trade, with a total of $270 million in R&D expenditure across 319 companies
- financial and insurance services, with a total of $270 million in R&D expenditure across 220 companies
- information, media and telecommunications, with a total of $212 million in R&D expenditure across 194 companies.

The following graph shows the breakdown of the top 5 industries for privately owned and wealthy groups by number of overall claimants.

Graph 6 – Top 5 industries by number of claimants for privately owned and wealthy groups in the 2022–23 income year

Top 5 industries – small businesses

The top 5 industries for small businesses (in order by number of claimants) are:

- professional, scientific and technical services, with a total of $1,238 million in R&D expenditure across 2,820 companies
- manufacturing, with a total of $402 million in R&D expenditure across 1,136 companies
- information, media and telecommunications, with a total of $122 million in R&D expenditure across 340 companies
- wholesale trade, with a total of $83 million in R&D expenditure across 273 companies
- retail trade, with a total of $82 million in R&D expenditure across 247 companies.

The following graph shows the breakdown of the top 5 industries for small businesses by number of overall claims.

Graph 7 – Top 5 industries by number of claimants for small businesses in the 2022–23 income year

QC 105518

R&DTI compliance approach

How we engage with industry to ensure compliance with the R&DTI program.

Last updated 25 September 2025

Compliance focus

We're focused on ensuring the integrity of the research and development tax incentive (R&DTI) program. We work closely with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources (DISR), on behalf of Industry Innovation and Science (IISA), to jointly administer the program.

The ATO and DISR regularly conduct compliance reviews and audits of R&D companies registered R&D activities and claims to ensure the ongoing integrity of the R&DTI program. While it is a self-assessment program, we have sophisticated systems in place to identify non-compliance. This includes a focus on larger businesses and high-expenditure claims, as well as those claims brought into focus through our risk-based approaches, including possible fraudulent claims.

In line with our general compliance approach for the tax and superannuation systems, we focus on making it easy for people to comply and hard for them not to.

R&D company engagement

In continuing to ensure R&D companies get it right, we regularly engage with them through information sessions, emails, the publication of taxpayer alerts, updated web content and news articles related to the program.

We have published 2 Taxpayer Alerts – TA 2023/4 *Research and development activities delivered by associated entities* and TA 2023/5 *Research and development activities conducted overseas for foreign related entities* to warn companies and advisers about our concerns regarding incorrect R&DTI arrangements which were used to:

- claim the R&D tax offset in situations where it would not otherwise be available
- artificially increase the amount of the R&D tax offset claimed.

We encourage R&D companies and their advisers to read any of our new material or guidance and consider if they need to contact us or make a voluntary disclosure by amending their R&DTI claim.

Our specific compliance approaches across the entire R&D population include:

- risk-based R&D claim reviews
- focussing on anyone, including tax agents, who may be promoting arrangements to access the R&DTI to those who would be ineligible. We have information to help you get R&D claims right which includes details about promoter penalty laws
- the general anti-avoidance rule of Part IVA of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1936* now includes R&D tax offsets as a tax benefit for Part IVA from 1 July 2021.

For assurance that large corporations are complying with the R&DTI program, we engage with them through the following programs:

- Top 100 population
- Top 500 population
- Top 1,000 population
- Next 5,000 program

We focus on assuring the tax compliance of corporate populations. More information on how we engage with them through our population programs is at Tax Avoidance Taskforce.

Due to strict taxpayer privacy and secrecy information laws, the *Report of data about research and development tax incentive entities 2022–23* does not contain any information regarding our compliance activities.

QC 105518

Our commitment to you

We are committed to providing you with accurate, consistent and clear information to help you understand your rights and entitlements and meet your obligations.

If you follow our information and it turns out to be incorrect, or it is misleading and you make a mistake as a result, we will take that into account when determining what action, if any, we should take.

Some of the information on this website applies to a specific financial year. This is clearly marked. Make sure you have the information for the right year before making decisions based on that information.

If you feel that our information does not fully cover your circumstances, or you are unsure how it applies to you, contact us or seek professional advice.

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