

# On a Page... 2015-16 Tax Transparency Report

## Australian Tax Office (ATO) publication

8 December 2017 | OAP 17-014

Grant Wardell-Johnson  
+61 2 9335 7128

James Gordon  
+61 2 9335 7616

### In a nutshell...

On 7 December 2017, the ATO published on [www.data.gov.au/dataset/corporate-transparency](http://www.data.gov.au/dataset/corporate-transparency) the 2015-16 corporate tax transparency report. The report includes 1693 Australian public and foreign owned with a total income of \$100M or more, and 350 Australian-owned resident private companies with an income of \$200M or more. The ATO has disclosed total income, taxable income and tax payable as evidenced in the taxpayers' income tax returns for the 2015-16 income year.

#### PIE CHART KEYS

##### Corporate taxpayers with:

Gross income > \$5Bn



Gross income from \$1Bn to \$5Bn



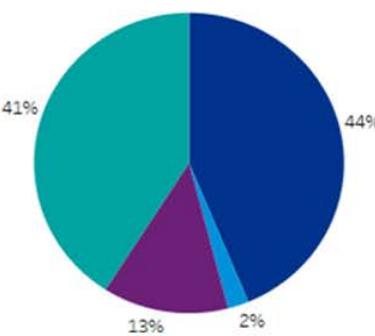
Gross income from \$250M to \$1Bn



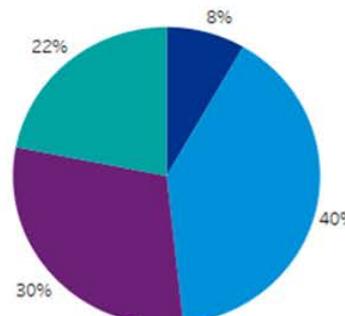
Gross income from \$100M to \$250M



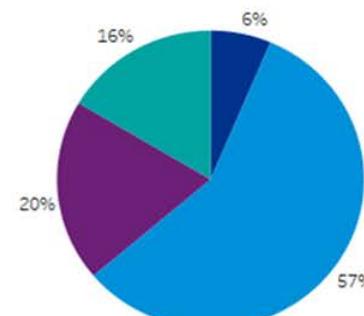
#### No. of companies: Total = 2043



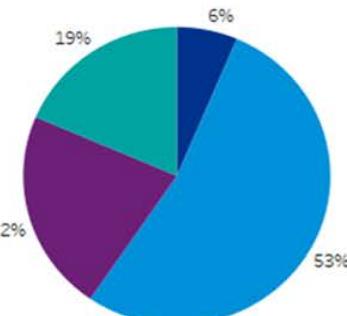
#### Income: Total = \$1,808 Bn



#### Taxable income: Total = \$172 Bn



#### Tax paid: Total = \$38 Bn



### Understanding the data

- This is the third year that the datasets have been released.
- Accompanying [ATO guidance](#) in respect of the transparency reports includes background information as to how the reports are produced, ATO corporate compliance activities as well as data-specific and sector-specific commentary.

### KPMG observations

- As has been the case since 2013-14, companies with gross income of more than \$5Bn paid a proportionately larger share of the aggregate tax paid, when compared to their share of aggregate income, although this proportion has been declining each year.
- The number of companies with sufficient gross income to be included in the report has increased by around 7%.
- The proportion of disclosed companies that did not pay income tax for 2015-16 has remained steady at around 36%. Of these entities, 30% utilised prior year losses to offset their taxable income.
- The aggregate tax paid has declined from approximately \$41.9Bn in 2014-15 to \$38.2Bn in 2015-16. However aggregate taxable income increased from \$169Bn to \$172Bn. This suggests that there may have been an increase in the offset of prior year losses and other offsets in 2015-16 tax returns.
- Foreign-owned and Australian public companies paid less tax in aggregate in 2015-16 than in 2014-15, however Australian private entities paid a slightly higher aggregate amount in 2015-16 than in the previous year.