

D. Glossary

Term	Meaning
Audit	This is an official examination and verification of accounts and records, especially of financial accounts.
Audit, financial	Depending on the audit subject (consolidated fund, public sector entity, ministerial expenditure, and whole-of-government financial statements), the Auditor-General must give an opinion as to whether public money was recorded, managed, and protected properly. Usually this involves auditing the financial statements and preparing an audit opinion.
Audit, performance	A performance audit may consider all or any particular activities of a public sector entity and may be conducted as a separate audit or as part of another audit, including an audit of another public sector entity. The audit's objective includes deciding whether the objectives of the public sector entity are being achieved economically, efficiently, and effectively, and in compliance with all relevant laws.
Audit opinion	An audit opinion will generally address whether the Auditor-General has received all the information and explanations the role requires. It will also generally address whether the Auditor-General considers the financial statements have been properly drawn up and are accurate and compliant with prescribed requirements to give a true and fair view of an entity's financial operations and position.
Auditor-General	In Queensland, the Auditor-General is appointed by the Governor in Council for a fixed, non-renewable term of seven years.
<i>Auditor-General Act 2009</i>	This is the Queensland law that establishes the position of the Queensland Auditor-General and the Queensland Audit Office, confers the functions and powers necessary to carry out independent audits of the Queensland public sector and related entities, provides for the strategic review of the Queensland Audit Office, and provides for the independent audit of the Queensland Audit Office (published at www.legislation.qld.gov.au).
Financial statements	The Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) defines financial statements as comprising: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a statement of financial position as at the end of the period • a statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income for the period • a statement of changes in equity for the period • a statement of cash flows for the period • notes, comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information • comparative information in respect of the preceding period.
Forward work plan	Section 38A of the <i>Auditor-General Act 2009</i> requires the publication of a strategic audit plan (which we title as a forward work plan) of proposed audits over a three-year period, reviewed and updated annually and published at www.qao.qld.gov.au .
Full-time equivalents (FTE)	This is the total headcount adjusted for the impact of part-time working arrangements.
Headcount	This is the total number of permanent employees, temporary employees, and contracted-in and seconded-in resources. It excludes employees seconded-out and on leave without pay.

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Minimum Obligatory Human Resource Information (MOHRI) FTE	This is the total number of permanent employees and temporary employees who are either full time or part time. It excludes employment agency or contracted-in resources, and employees seconded-out or on leave without pay for longer than eight weeks.
Parliamentary committees	The <i>Parliament of Queensland (Reform and Modernisation) Amendment Act 2011</i> established portfolio committees to cover all areas of government activity, and examine appropriation bills, other legislation, and public accounts and public works. Parliament generally refers the Auditor-General's reports to a relevant parliamentary committee for review and response.
Public sector entity	The <i>Auditor-General Act 2009</i> defines a public sector entity as a department, a local government, a statutory body, a government owned corporation or a controlled entity.
Queensland Audit Office (QAO)	The Queensland Audit Office gives parliament independent assurance over public sector performance, financial management, and accountability, and assists it in understanding whether entities are delivering their services effectively, efficiently, economically, and in accordance with legislative requirements.
Reports to parliament	Under section 54 of the <i>Auditor-General Act 2009</i> (the Act), the Auditor-General may prepare a report on any audit conducted under the Act. The Act requires the Auditor-General to report to the Legislative Assembly on auditing standards, and on audits of the consolidated fund accounts or public sector entities, those requested by the Legislative Assembly, and audits of matters relating to property held by a public sector entity. These reports are published at www.qao.qld.gov.au upon tabling in parliament.

