

# Back to business

What you need to know – tax changes and business tips



Australian Government  
Australian Taxation Office

## Changes to managing activity statements

From 1 July this year, if you or your registered agent lodges your activity statement via an electronic channel, you will no longer receive a paper activity statement for the next reporting period – instead, it will become available in an electronic channel.



If you lodge your activity statement via a registered agent, you're encouraged to discuss this change with your agent the next time you make contact to determine how to manage your activity statement obligations in the future.



### Due dates

**28 July**  
for quarterly paper activity statements

**11 August**  
for quarterly online activity statements

**21<sup>st</sup> of the month**  
if you report monthly

➤ To help you manage this change, go to **[ato.gov.au/Business/Activity-statements](http://ato.gov.au/Business/Activity-statements)**



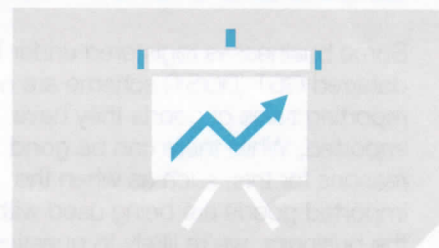
### We're reducing paper

From Quarter 1 2014–15, we're going to stop sending you a paper version of the 'GST calculation worksheet for BAS' with your BAS mail pack as part of our continuing efforts to reduce the carbon footprint of the tax and superannuation systems. An electronic (and printable) version of the worksheet is available at **[ato.gov.au/Calculators-and-tools/GST-for-BAS](http://ato.gov.au/Calculators-and-tools/GST-for-BAS)**

## Want to see how you fare against others in your industry?

Check out our recently updated small business benchmarks at **[ato.gov.au/Business/Small-business-benchmarks](http://ato.gov.au/Business/Small-business-benchmarks)** to compare your business performance and recordkeeping against others.

We use the benchmarks to protect honest businesses from unfair competition by flagging businesses that are far outside the benchmarks.



### Did you know?

Some businesses flagged as being outside the benchmark have an incorrect business industry code on their tax return or the Australian Business Register.

To check if your code is correct, refer to the Business industry code tool at **[ato.gov.au/Calculators-and-tools/Business-industry-code-tool](http://ato.gov.au/Calculators-and-tools/Business-industry-code-tool)**



## Changes to PAYG withholding annual reporting

Do you lodge your PAYG withholding annual report using disks or USB flash drives?



If so, you will need to lodge your annual report online using the file transfer facility on our Business Portal at [ato.gov.au/businessportal](http://ato.gov.au/businessportal) – or use Standard Business Reporting (SBR) enabled accounting or payroll software.

To use the online services, you need an AUSkey. You can find more information about lodging online at [ato.gov.au/online services](http://ato.gov.au/online services)

## Dealing with property for your business?



We have a suite of products and tools that can assist you to meet your GST, income tax and capital gains tax obligations, and help you understand and utilise available concessions.

Check them out at [ato.gov.au/property](http://ato.gov.au/property)

### Worth a look



More online at [ato.gov.au/worthalook](http://ato.gov.au/worthalook)

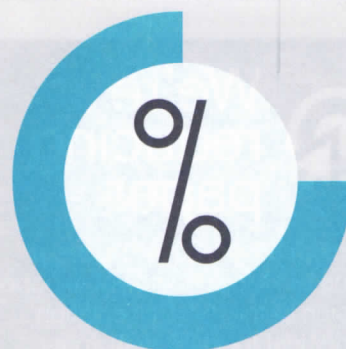
- Are you operating a home-based business? Check out some important things you should know about capital gains tax (CGT) when you sell your home.
  - You can easily lodge an activity statement with no business activity by phoning us on **13 72 26**, available 24/7.
  - New privacy laws have started, with the main changes relating to what we do when we collect personal information.
  - In 2014, businesses that lodge their income tax returns electronically must provide Australian financial institution account (FIA) details.
  - When you ring us, you'll find some things have changed if you want to access business records.
- For more on any of these stories, visit [ato.gov.au/worthalook](http://ato.gov.au/worthalook)

## Deferred GST scheme

Some businesses registered under the deferred GST (DGST) scheme are not reporting sales of goods they have imported. While there can be good reasons for this, such as when the imported goods are being used within the business, we're likely to question any mismatches we identify.

We've also found some businesses have not reported their importations as acquisitions, which means they have not claimed GST credits they could be entitled to.

If you are participating in the DGST scheme, we encourage you to check that you are reporting correctly.



### WHAT NEXT?



More information

Go to [ato.gov.au/backtobusiness](http://ato.gov.au/backtobusiness) or phone us on **13 28 66**



Feedback

Go to [backtobusiness@ato.gov.au](mailto:backtobusiness@ato.gov.au)

For security and privacy reasons, we are unable to respond to any enquiries about tax matters.