

Statistics Weekly

Thursday, 20 January 1994

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statistics

Employment trend continues to rise

Trend estimates of employment increased throughout most of 1993 and in December 1993 stood at 7 840 000, 2.1 per cent higher than the December 1992 estimate. The December 1993 trend estimate of full-time employment (5 892 500) was the highest since May 1991. The trend estimate of unemployment fell slightly after increasing in the previous six months. The trend estimate of the unemployment rate was 10.9 per cent, after standing at 11.0 per cent in the previous four months while the trend participation rate was unchanged at 63.1 per cent.

Employment

The December 1993 seasonally adjusted estimate of employed persons was 7 852 600, an increase of 23 200 since November 1993. Full-time employment increased by 19 800 to 6 000 500, with the number of females employed full time increasing by 20 000 to 1 934 100. Male full-time employment remained steady at 4 066 400. Part-time employment rose slightly to 1 852 200.

Unemployment

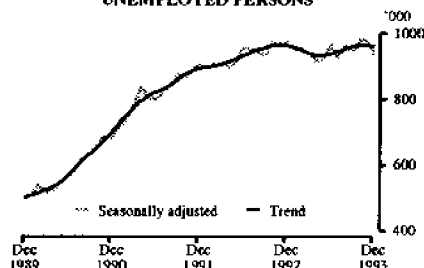
The seasonally adjusted estimate of unemployed persons in December 1993 was 937 400, a fall of 41 000 since November 1993. The number seeking full-time work fell by 25 400 to 784 700, mainly due to a fall of 19 800 in the number of females seeking full-time work. The number looking for part-time work decreased by 15 600 to 152 700, with falls of 7 100 and 8 500 respectively for males and females.

The seasonally adjusted estimate of the unemployment rate fell by 0.4 percentage points to 10.7 per cent in December 1993. For males, the unemployment rate fell by 0.3 percentage points to 11.0 per cent, while for females, the rate fell by 0.7 percentage points to 10.2 per cent.

EMPLOYED PERSONS



UNEMPLOYED PERSONS



LABOUR FORCE SURVEY ESTIMATES
Seasonally adjusted

	Employed			Un- employed	Unem- ployment rate — per cent —	Partici- pation rate
	Full-time workers	Part-time workers	Total			
	— '000 —					
1993						
July	5 917.8	1 817.3	7 735.1	924.3	10.7	62.4
August	5 908.9	1 820.7	7 729.6	963.5	11.1	62.6
September	5 916.8	1 857.9	7 774.7	947.2	10.9	62.7
October	5 964.4	1 842.6	7 807.0	982.0	11.2	63.1
November	5 980.7	1 848.8	7 829.5	978.4	11.1	63.2
December	6 000.5	1 852.2	7 852.6	937.4	10.7	63.0

Participation rate

The seasonally adjusted estimate of the labour force participation rate in December 1993 was 63.0 per cent, a decrease of 0.2 percentage points since November 1993. The participation rate decreased slightly for both males and females to 74.0 per cent and 52.4 per cent respectively.

For further information, order the publication *The Labour Force, Australia, Preliminary* (6202.0), or contact Heather Crawford on (06) 252 6525.

Small increase in export prices

The Export Price Index rose 0.1 per cent between October and November 1993.

Price increases were recorded for about 30 per cent of the items in the index. The main contributors to the index were wool (reflecting an increase in demand), gold and wheat.

These increases were partly offset by small price decreases for a wide range of items. The only decreases of significance were for aluminium and refined petroleum products.

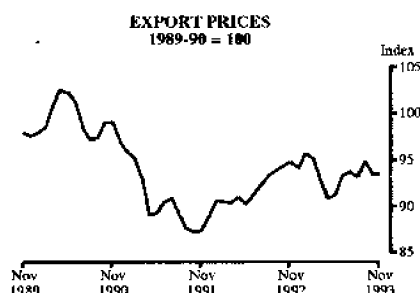
Between November 1992 and November 1993 the Export Price Index decreased by 1.3 per cent.

Price changes for major commodity groups are shown below.

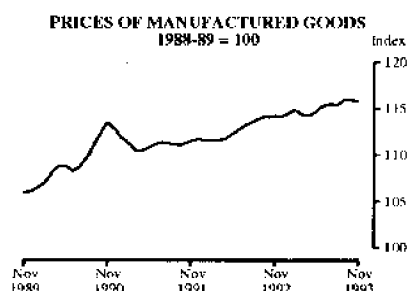
EXPORT PRICES, NOVEMBER 1993
Percentage change

Commodity group	From previous month	From corresponding month of previous year
Gold, diamonds and coin	3.0	15.8
Prepared food stuffs	0.3	11.8
Motor vehicles, aircraft and vessels	-0.2	5.9
Live animals and animal products	0.0	5.5
Machinery and appliances	-0.3	0.5
Vegetable products	1.8	0.1
Products of chemicals and allied industries	-0.5	0.0
Mineral products	-1.0	-4.6
Base metals	-2.3	-10.7
Wool and cotton fibres	3.4	-13.5
All groups	0.1	-1.3

For further information, order the publication *Export Price Index, Australia* (6405.0), or contact Peter Cordy on (06) 252 5541.



Small decrease in prices of manufactured goods



The price index of articles produced by manufacturing industry decreased by 0.1 per cent in November 1993.

The fall in the index was due mainly to lower prices for refined petroleum products, reflecting lower world oil prices and increased discounting. Small price falls were recorded for about one-quarter of the other items in the index.

These decreases were partly offset by small price increases for about one-third of the items in the index.

The Manufacturing Division index increased by 1.4 per cent between November 1992 and November 1993.

PRICES OF MANUFACTURED GOODS, NOVEMBER 1993
Percentage change

<i>Manufacturing sector</i>	<i>From previous month</i>	<i>From corresponding month of previous year</i>
Food, beverages and tobacco	0.0	3.7
Transport equipment	-0.2	3.1
Clothing and footwear	0.3	0.9
Other industrial machinery	-0.1	0.8
Fabricated metal products	-0.3	0.1
Chemicals and chemical products	0.2	-0.5
Basic metal products	0.2	-0.8
Petroleum products	-3.4	-7.7
<i>Total manufacturing</i>	<i>-0.1</i>	<i>1.4</i>

For further information, order the publication *Price Indexes of Articles Produced by Manufacturing Industry, Australia (6412.0)*, or contact Peter Cordy on (06) 252 5541.

Job vacancies and overtime both grow to November



The trend estimate of the number of job vacancies rose by 39.3 per cent to 39 400 in the twelve months to November 1993. Over the three months to November a rise of 9.7 per cent was recorded.

These movements continue the rise in the trend evident since the series troughed at 25 000 in August 1991. The trend estimate of job vacancies is now approximately half the level it was when it last peaked at 71 100 in February 1989.

AVERAGE WEEKLY OVERTIME HOURS PER
EMPLOYEE, AUSTRALIA
Trend series



The trend series estimate of average weekly overtime hours per employee in November 1993 was 1.22, a 1.2 per cent rise from August 1993. This continues the rise in the trend since August 1992.

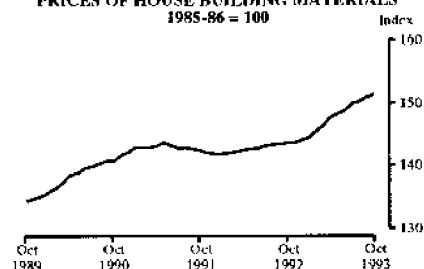
The trend estimate for the proportion of employees working overtime was estimated at 16.67 per cent, up 0.9 per cent from August 1993 and up 4.9 per cent from November 1992. This quarterly rise in trend estimates follows similar rises in the four preceeding quarters.

For further information, order the publication *Job Vacancies and Overtime, Australia* (6354.0), or contact Reg Gaul (09) 323 5304.

Prices of home building materials continue to rise

Prices of materials used in house building rose 0.3 per cent from September to October 1993 continuing the trend of small monthly increases observed from February 1992.

PRICES OF HOUSE BUILDING MATERIALS
1985-86 = 100



The main contributors to the overall increase in October were timber (0.9%) and timber doors (3.3%). Regular price increases in timber and timber products have been recorded since early 1993, reflecting the diminished availability of imported softwoods.

In terms of annual movement, prices of materials used in house building increased by 5.4 per cent from October 1992 to October 1993. Increases for individual cities ranged from 2.1 per cent in Hobart and Perth to 12.4 per cent in Adelaide. The above average increase in Adelaide reflects higher relative usage of softwood in house construction in that city.

PRICES OF HOUSE BUILDING MATERIALS, OCTOBER 1993

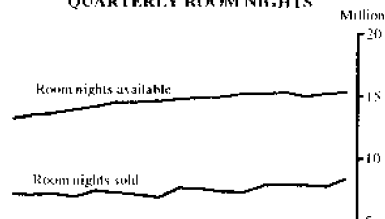
Percentage change

City	From previous month	From corresponding month of previous year
Sydney	0.2	4.5
Melbourne	0.4	6.7
Brisbane	0.3	3.7
Adelaide	1.1	12.4
Perth	0.1	2.1
Hobart	0.2	2.1
Weighted average of six State capitals	0.3	5.4
Canberra	0.3	5.1

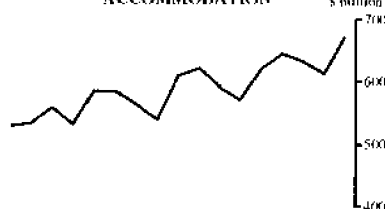
Improvement in hotel/motel occupancy rates sustained

TOURIST ACCOMMODATION Hotels, motels and guest houses

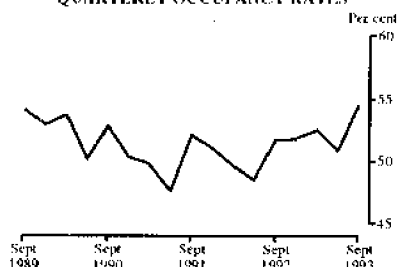
QUARTERLY ROOM NIGHTS



QUARTERLY TAKINGS FROM ACCOMMODATION



QUARTERLY OCCUPANCY RATES



Average room occupancy for hotels and motels in Australia was 54.5 per cent in the September quarter 1993, compared with 51.7 per cent in the September quarter 1992. This increase continued an improvement in occupancy rates which was also evident in the March and June quarters 1993 when compared with the same quarters in 1992.

Demand for accommodation in hotels and motels in the September quarter 1993 was 8.4 million room nights occupied, an increase of 6.7 per cent on the corresponding quarter of the previous year. The increase in demand exceeded the increase of 1.1 per cent in the supply of rooms available over the period.

Large increases in room occupancy rate were recorded for the Australian Capital Territory (up 7.6 percentage points on September quarter 1992), Northern Territory (7.4 percentage points), Western Australia (4.8 percentage points) and Queensland (4.5 percentage points). New South Wales, South Australia and Tasmania had smaller increases in room occupancy rate, while in Victoria the occupancy rate decreased by 1.0 percentage point.

Guest arrivals at hotels and motels increased by 4.9 per cent nationally, while average length of stay was unchanged at 2.0 days and ranged from 2.4 days for Queensland, 2.3 days for Western Australia and 2.1 days for Northern Territory to 2.0 days for Australian Capital Territory, 1.9 days for Tasmania and 1.8 days for New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia.

Takings from accommodation in the September quarter 1993 were \$672 million, an increase of 8.3 per cent over the comparable quarter in 1992, while average takings per room night increased from \$79 to \$80.

Persons employed at hotel and motel accommodation establishments increased by 2.9 per cent in the September quarter 1993 compared with the corresponding quarter of the previous year.

TOURIST ACCOMMODATION, AUSTRALIA Hotels, motels and guest houses with facilities

	September quarter		Percentage change
	1992	1993	
Rooms available ('000)	165.1	167.0	1.1
Room nights occupied ('000)	7,836.3	8,360.5	6.7
Room occupancy rate (%)	51.7	54.5	n.a.
Guest arrivals ('000)	6,961.8	7,305.6	4.9
Average length of stay (days)	2.0	2.0	n.a.
Takings from accommodation (\$'000)	620.9	672.2	8.3
Employment (no. persons)	98,564	101,444	2.9

The number of holiday flats, units and houses available Australia wide for short-term letting increased by 3.7 per cent and unit nights occupied increased by 6.6 per cent. Therefore the unit occupancy rate rose from 53.7 to 55.3 per cent. Accommodation takings increased by 7.5 per cent to \$100 million.

Continued

For caravan parks, takings from accommodation increased by 5.6 per cent to \$104 million. Of total caravan park capacity available, 16.7 per cent was occupied by long-term residents, 14.9 per cent was permanently reserved but only casually occupied by its tenants and an average of 11.6 per cent was occupied by other short-term guests.

Visitor hostels (backpacker establishments) recorded a bed occupancy rate of 43.9 per cent in the September quarter 1993, compared with 43.7 per cent in the September quarter 1992. Takings from accommodation were \$11.5 million at an average of \$12 per guest night. The Northern Territory had the highest bed occupancy rate (60.7%) while Queensland accounted for 39.5 per cent of the takings from accommodation, followed by New South Wales with 21.8 per cent and Northern Territory with 17.2 per cent.

For further information, order the publication Tourist Accommodation, Australia (8635.0), or contact John Alexander on (07) 222 6215.

New service lets you ask questions on the topic of your choice

A focus on sport and recreation questions is a major theme of the second issue of *Population Survey Monitor*, published last week by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS).

The Population Survey Monitor (PSM) is a national quarterly household survey in which ABS clients pay to have their own specific topics added to a core set of information sought from respondents. Some highlights of each survey are published for general use, but of course a far greater bulk of information is available to those who fund their own questions. Clients include government agencies and non-profit organisations.

The latest PSM found that while seven million Australian adults watched sport on television last November, quite high percentages also participated in sport and recreational activities.

For instance 24.5 per cent of adult males and 15.3 per cent of adult females took part in some form of organised sport last November. An estimated 41 per cent of adults, or more than five million people, visited at least one botanical garden in the twelve months to November.

On the other hand 27.7 per cent of adult males and 22.3 per cent of adult females indicated that they currently smoke. Among other health-related topics covered, the survey found that 83.4 per cent of children aged 10 to 15 years ate at least one piece of fruit a day.

The PSM is a relatively inexpensive method of acquiring reliable, prompt data on a wide range of topics nominated by ABS clients. Potential users are advised that topics for the February 1994 survey have already been settled, but the closing date for topics to be included in the May survey is 8 April 1994.

Canberra captured in maps

The recently released Australian Bureau of Statistics publication, *Canberra... A Social Atlas*, is one of a series of eight 1991 Census capital city social atlases.

The social, economic and demographic characteristics of Canberra's population are pictorially presented in 45 colour maps under the broad categories of population, ethnicity, education, families, income, labour force and dwellings.

All maps are accompanied by a brief commentary highlighting the main features and trends in the data, including reference to data from Censuses held in 1976, 1981 and 1986.

The mapped region in the Canberra atlas includes the Canberra-Queanbeyan Metropolitan Area (including the New South Wales housing estate of Jerrabomberra).

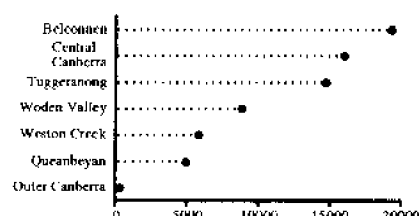
Some of the findings included in the atlas are:

- ☐ the highest proportions of 0-4 year olds were evident in most suburbs of Tuggeranong; Charnwood in Belconnen; and Harman in Outer Canberra;
- ☐ suburbs with the highest percentage of people aged 55-64 years were Dickson, Campbell and Yarralumla in Central Canberra, and Pearce in Woden Valley;
- ☐ suburbs with a high proportion of their population born in South-East Asia also tended to be those with high proportions speaking Vietnamese, high proportions not fluent in the English language and high proportions of recent arrivals;
- ☐ couples with dependent children represented more than 62 per cent of all families in most of the suburbs in Tuggeranong, and in several suburbs in north and east Belconnen;
- ☐ the highest ratio of tradespersons to all employed people occurred in Queanbeyan, followed by suburbs in Tuggeranong;
- ☐ suburbs where mothers represented a high proportion of the labour force largely coincided with suburbs with high proportions of homes being purchased, notably most of Tuggeranong, north-west Belconnen and parts of Weston Creek;
- ☐ the highest proportions of unemployed people occurred in Belconnen (notably Kaleen, Florey, Evatt and Holt); and
- ☐ proportions of more than 50 per cent of people living in medium to high density housing in 1991 occurred in Kingston, Barton, Reid, Braddon and City.

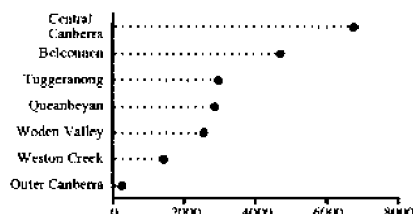
All Australia's capital city atlases include a common core set of maps to enable comparisons between cities, as well as other maps presenting special features of each city.

For further information, order the publication *Canberra... A Social Atlas* (2840.8) or contact Bill Sims on (06) 207 0285.

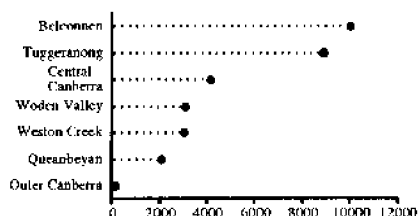
NUMBER OF PEOPLE BORN OVERSEAS BY STATISTICAL SUBDIVISION

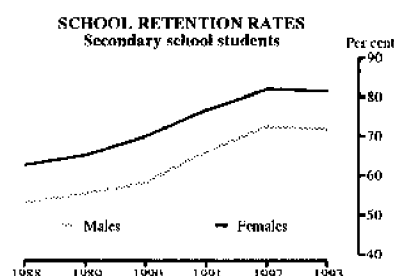


NUMBER OF LOW INCOME HOUSEHOLDS IN STATISTICAL SUBDIVISIONS



NUMBER OF MOTHERS IN THE LABOUR FORCE IN STATISTICAL SUBDIVISIONS





School retention rates level off

Preliminary results from the 1993 Australia-wide schools census show a levelling off in the apparent retention rate of students remaining to Year 12.

After significant rises in recent years, the 1993 rate of 76.6 per cent is a slight fall from the 77.1 per cent recorded in 1992.

1993 also saw a slight fall in the number of full-time students, down 591 from the 3 098 966 recorded in 1992.

Over the year since the 1992 census, student numbers at government schools fell by 6 027 (0.3%) to 2 228 056. At non-government schools there was a rise of 5 436 (0.6%) to 870 319.

The census also showed that there were 9 865 schools operating in 1993, 92 fewer than in 1992. These comprised 7 366 government schools, a decline of 82 since 1992, and 2 499 non-government schools, 10 less than in 1992.

The full-time equivalent of school staff in July 1993 totalled 251 483 — a rise of 1 828 since 1992. The percentage fall in full-time equivalent school staff in government schools was 0.1 per cent. In non-government schools, staff increased by 2.9 per cent.

SCHOOLS, JULY 1993

	Government schools	Non-government schools	All schools
Schools	7 366	2 499	9 865
Students	2 228 056	870 319	3 098 375
Teaching staff (FTE)	146 637	55 274	201 911
Non-teaching staff (FTE)	34 434	15 138	49 572

The annual schools census is the result of cooperation between the Australian Bureau of Statistics and Commonwealth, State and Territory education authorities through the Australian Education Council. More detailed information covering States and Territories will be published in *Schools, Australia* (4221.0).

For further information, order the publication *Schools, Australia, Preliminary* (4220.0), or contact John Sever on (06) 252 6304.

This week in brief...

□ Personal finance

The provisional trend estimate for personal finance commitments for November 1993 was \$1 992.2 million, an increase of \$41.2 million (2.1%) on October 1993 and an increase of \$296.0 million (17.5%) on November 1992.

The trend estimates for fixed loan facilities increased by \$25.2 million (2.1%) and commitments under revolving credit facilities increased by \$16.0 million (2.2%) on October 1993.

❑ Commercial finance

The provisional trend estimate for commercial finance commitments for November 1993 was \$8 165.8 million, an increase of \$343.1 million (4.4%) on October 1993 and an increase of \$1 418.8 million (21.0%) on November 1992.

The November 1993 trend estimate for commitments under fixed loan facilities increased by \$162.0 million (4.6%). The trend estimate for commitments under revolving credit facilities increased by \$181.1 million (4.2%).

❑ Lease finance

The provisional trend estimate for lease finance commitments for November 1993 was \$492.0 million, an increase of \$8.8 million (1.8%) on October 1993 and up \$98.3 million (25.0%) on November 1992.

These series are available on subscription to a special data service. For further information, contact Mark Dennis on (06) 252 7117.

❑ Overseas arrivals and departures

The trend estimate for overseas visitors for October increased 0.5 per cent over September 1993, despite a fall of 3.3 per cent in the seasonally adjusted estimate. The actual number of overseas visitors for October 1993 was 267 200 an increase of 17 per cent when compared with October 1992 (229 300).

Arrivals from Korea more than doubled compared to the same month last year. Thailand, which had recorded a 32 per cent decrease in September, showed a marked increase of 75 per cent in October. Increases were also apparent for Taiwan (54%), the Federal Republic of Germany (38%), the United Kingdom (18%) and the United States of America (11%).

Japan was the major source country of visitors (19% of the total), followed by New Zealand (18%), and the United Kingdom and the United States of America (both 10%). These four countries accounted for 58 per cent of all visitor arrivals.

The trend estimate of resident departures for October 1993 recorded an increase of 0.2 per cent from the September 1993 figure. the number of actual departures of Australian residents for October 1993 was 176 900.

The main destinations for Australian residents in October 1993 were New Zealand (15% of the total), the United States of America (14%), Indonesia (10%), the United Kingdom (8%) and Hong Kong (6%).

Source: Overseas Arrivals and Departures, Australia, October 1993 (3401.0).

❑ Award rates of pay

Over the 12 months to November 1993, the weekly award rates of pay index for full-time adult employees rose by 0.8 per cent. For full-time adult males and full-time adult females the indexes rose by 0.8 per cent and 0.9 per cent respectively.

The largest movements over the period for full-time adult females occurred in the recreation, personal and other services industry (2.5%), and in the public administration and defence industry (2.3%). For full-time adult males the largest increases occurred in the public administration and defence industry (2.3%), and in the recreation, personal and other services industry (1.3%).

In terms of occupation groups, the largest increases for full-time adult females were for plant and machine operators, and drivers (2.2%) and tradespersons (1.7%).

Source: Award Rates of Pay Indexes, Australia, November 1993 (6312.0).

Inquiries

The ABS supplies a wide range of statistical information:

- ☐ through its bookshops
- ☐ by mail order
(including subscription)
- ☐ by facsimile
- ☐ electronically.

To order any of the publications mentioned in *Statistics Weekly* or to inquire about the statistics and services available from the ABS, contact Information Services at any of the offices listed below. An Information Consultancy Service in each office provides assistance of a more extensive or complex nature.

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Editor

Rad Leovic
(06) 252 6104

Statistics Weekly
20 January 1994

Order from the following:

Expected releases over the fortnight to 25 January

- 20** Housing Finance for Owner Occupation, Australia, November 1993 (5609.0; \$11.00)
- 25** Consumer Price Index, December Quarter 1993 (6401.0; \$12.00)
Price Indexes of Materials Used in Manufacturing Industries, Australia, November 1993 (6411.0; \$11.00)
Import Price Index, Australia, November 1993 (6414.0; \$8.50)
Manufacturing Production, Australia, December 1993, Preliminary (8301.0; \$11.00)
Registrations of New Motor Vehicles, Australia, December 1993, Preliminary (9301.0; \$12.00)
- 28** Price Index of Materials Used in Building Other Than House Building, Eight Capital Cities, November 1993 (6407.0; \$11.00)
Price Index of Materials Used in House Building, Six State Capital Cities and Canberra, November 1993 (6408.0; \$8.50)

Selected releases: 12 to 18 January

General

Australian Capital Territory Business Indicators, December 1993 (1303.8; \$7.50)

Census of Population and Housing

Information Paper: 1991 Census — Socio-economic Indexes for Areas, 1991 (2912.0; \$20.00)

National accounts, Finance and Foreign trade

Information Paper: Foreign Trade, Aust.: Data Confidentiality, 1994 (5487.0; free) — *new issue*

Labour statistics and Prices

The Labour Force, Aust. — Preliminary Data on Floppy Disk, December 1993 (6271.0; \$66.30)

Award Rates of Pay Indexes, Aust., November 1993 (6312.0; \$13.00)

Price Indexes of Copper Materials, Aust., December 1993 (6410.0; \$5.50)

Price Indexes of Articles Produced by Manufacturing Industry, Aust., November 1993 (6412.0; \$11.00)

Price Indexes of Materials Used in Coal Mining, Aust., November 1993 (6415.0; \$11.00)

The Labour Force, Qld, November Qtr 1993 (6201.3; \$16.50)

Agriculture

Home Production of Selected Foodstuffs, Aust., April 1992 (7110.0; \$20.00)

Manufacturing, Mining, Energy, Service industries, Building and construction

Building Activity, Aust., September Qtr 1993 (8752.0; \$14.50)

Engineering Construction Activity, Aust., September Qtr 1993 (8762.0; \$11.00)

Dwelling Unit Commencements Reported by Approving Authorities, Qld, October 1993 (8741.3; \$11.00)

Retail Industry, Small Area Statistics, WA, 1991–92 (8623.5; \$15.00)

Dwelling Unit Commencements, WA, October 1993 (8741.5; \$11.00)

Building Approvals, Tas., November 1993 (8731.6; \$11.00)

Transport

Motor Vehicle Registrations, Aust., November 1993 (9303.0; \$12.00)

Key national indicators	Period	Units	Latest figure available		Percentage change (a) on		
			Original	Seasonally adjusted	Previous period	Corresponding period last year	
National accounts							
Gross domestic product (GDP(A)) at 1989-90 prices	September qtr 93	\$m	n.a.	96 123	0.3	3.2	
International accounts							
Balance on current account (b)	November 93	\$m	-1 475	-1 162	10	12	
Balance on merchandise trade (b)	"	"	-222	197	43	82	
Balance on goods and services (b)	"	"	-248	80	—	—	
Merchandise exports	"	"	5 475	5 438	—	5	
Merchandise imports	"	"	-5 697	-5 241	-1	3	
Net foreign debt	September qtr 93	\$m	177 805	n.a.	3.5	8.1	
Net foreign liabilities	"	"	239 057	n.a.	6.6	14.6	
Consumption and investment							
Retail turnover at current prices	November 93	\$m	8 636	8 471	2.1	5.6	
New capital expenditure at current prices	September qtr 93	"	6 368	6 495	3.5	6.9	
New motor vehicle registrations	November 93	no.	50 108	48 813	7.4	7.5	
Production							
Manufacturers' sales at 1989-90 prices	September qtr 93	\$m	36 435	35 751	1.6	8.3	
Dwelling unit approvals	November 93	no.	16 161	14 879	-0.3	4.6	
Building approvals	"	\$m	2 209	2 092	6.1	5.3	
Building work done at 1989-90 prices	September qtr 93	"	6 433	6 268	3.1	5.0	
Prices							
Consumer price index	September qtr 93	1989-90 = 100.0	109.8	n.a.	0.5	2.2	
Articles produced by manufacturing industry	November 93	1988-89 = 100.0	115.8	n.a.	1.4	-0.1	
Materials used in manufacturing industries	October 93	1984-85 = 100.0	127.6	n.a.	-0.4	-0.2	
Labour force and demography							
Employed persons	December 93	'000	7 939.5	7 852.6	0.3	2.5	
Participation rate †	"	%	63.7	63.0	-0.2	0.4	
Unemployment rate †	"	"	10.7	10.7	-0.4	-0.6	
Job vacancies	November qtr 93	'000	38.2	38.9	5.1	31.0	
Average weekly overtime per employee	"	hours	1.30	1.22	1.7	8.0	
Estimated resident population	March qtr 93	million	17.6	n.a.	0.3	1.0	
Short-term overseas visitor arrivals	October 93	'000	267	251	-3.3	14.5	
Incomes							
Company profits before income tax	September qtr 93	\$m	5 283	5 073	10.6	21.9	
Av. weekly earnings, full-time adults; ordinary time	August qtr 93	\$	602.40	n.a.	0.8	2.8	
Financial markets							
Interest rates (c) (monthly average)							
90-day bank bills †	November 93	% per annum	4.80	n.a.	—	-1.05	
10-year Treasury bonds †	"	"	6.80	n.a.	-0.30	-2.35	
Exchange rate — \$US (c)	November 93	per \$A	0.6649	n.a.	1	-4	

(a) Based on seasonally adjusted figures where available. (b) For percentage changes, a minus sign indicates an increase in the deficit; no sign means a decrease in the deficit or an increase in the surplus. (c) Source: Reserve Bank of Australia.

NOTES: † = change is shown in terms of percentage points. n.a. = not available.

			Percentage change from same period previous year							
Key State indicators	Period	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
New capital expenditure*	September qtr 93	-8.8	25.4	-5.6	27.1	16.8	6.8	n.a.	n.a.	6.1
Retail turnover (trend estimate)	November 93	1.8	5.0	4.5	6.5	9.5	4.4	n.a.	4.6	4.4
New motor vehicle registrations†	November 93	7.3	12.5	-0.6	3.2	12.3	30.6	4.6	2.4	7.5
Number of dwelling unit approvals*	November 93	4.6	-0.3	19.9	6.9	30.6	-4.5	-26.7	-41.1	4.6
Value of total building work done	September qtr 93	0.4	4.1	9.2	10.3	20.9	13.3	1.1	-6.9	5.6
Employed persons*	December 93	2.5	0.6	3.6	1.9	4.9	3.9	1.2	2.4	2.5
Capital city consumer price index	June qtr 93	1.8	1.8	2.5	2.7	1.1	2.2	1.5	2.2	1.9
Av. weekly earnings (full-time adult ordinary time)	August qtr 93	3.0	2.1	5.2	3.6	-0.1	2.7	2.6	3.4	2.8
Population	June qtr 93	0.8	0.3	2.7	0.4	1.2	0.4	0.7	1.6	1.0
Room nights in licensed hotels and motels, etc.	September qtr 93	6.3	0.1	9.1	2.4	9.0	5.4	18.4	12.0	6.7

* Seasonally adjusted except for NT and ACT. † Seasonally adjusted.

Figures have been taken from a variety of ABS publications. Copies may be obtained from Information Services (see page 11). Some of the figures shown are preliminary, some final, and some are revisions of previously published figures. Users should check the latest relevant publication or with the ABS Information Services if the status of the statistic is important. The ABS should be acknowledged as the source when reproducing or quoting any part of this publication.

