



FINAL ISSUE

1996-97

EMBARGO: 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) FRI 19 SEPT 1997

Selected Agricultural Commodities

Australia

Preliminary

NOTES

ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

This publication contains preliminary estimates of selected agricultural commodities for the year ended 31 March 1997, together with comparative information for previous years. Preliminary State level statistics will be made available in publications to be released shortly. Final and more detailed statistics will be made available in publications to be released during the early part of 1998.

.....

SCOPE AND COVERAGE

The ABS excludes from the Census those establishments which make only a small contribution to overall agricultural production. Information is collected from establishments when their estimated value of agricultural operations (EVAO) is above a certain level. These levels have varied in past agricultural censuses, as follows:

- 1993-94 to present EVAO \$5,000 and over;
 - 1991-92 to 1992-93 EVAO \$22,500 and over;
 - 1986-87 to 1990-91 EVAO \$20,000 and over;
 - before 1986-87 EVAO \$2,500 and over.
-

RELIABILITY OF ESTIMATES

Preliminary estimates are based on forms received and processed at the point of estimation (approximately 75%). Data for the remainder of the population have been imputed and are reflected in the estimates.

.....

SYMBOLS AND OTHER USAGES

ABS Australian Bureau of Statistics
EVAO Estimated Value of Agricultural Operations
ha hectares
n.c. not collected
p preliminary
r figure or series revised since previous issue
t tonnes
— nil or rounded to zero

.....

REVISIONS TO FIGURES

The figures shown in this publication have been revised where necessary and as a consequence may not agree with similar data shown in previous publications.

.....

INQUIRIES

For further information about these statistics and the availability of related unpublished statistics, contact Lee Williams on Hobart (03) 6222 5939.

For information about other ABS statistics and services, please refer to the back of this publication.

W. McLennan
Australian Statistician

CONTENTS

.....

	Page
Summary of findings	4
TABLES	
1 Land use, years ended 31 March 1995, 1996 and 1997	7
2 Area of crops, years ended 31 March 1995, 1996 and 1997	7
3 Production of principal crops, years ended 31 March 1995, 1996 and 1997	8
4 Hay from pastures and grasses, years ended 31 March 1995, 1996 and 1997	8
5 Orchard fruit, years ended 31 March 1995, 1996 and 1997	9
6 Tropical and other fruit, years ended 31 March 1995, 1996 and 1997	10
7 Livestock numbers, at 31 March 1995, 1996 and 1997	11
8 Matings and lambings, years ended 31 March 1995, 1996 and 1997	12
9 Intended ewe matings, year ended 31 March 1998	12
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	
Explanatory notes	13

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

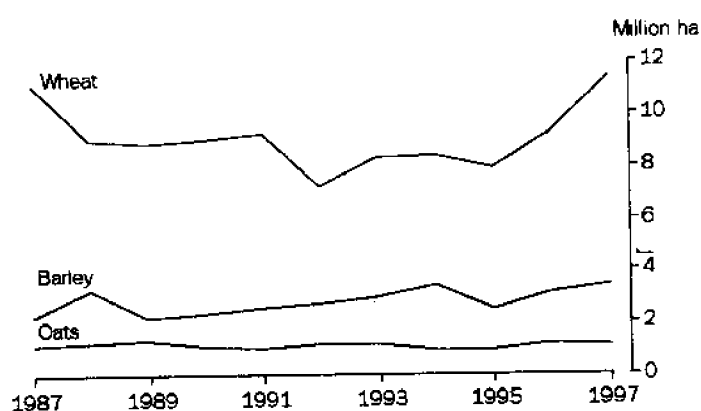
AREA OF CROPS

The area of wheat for grain sown in 1996-97 increased by 22.9% from the previous year to 11.3 million hectares. The largest rates of increase were in Queensland and New South Wales, up 68.6% and 42.4% respectively.

The area of oats for grain sown fell 4.2% to 1.1 million hectares. Plantings in New South Wales decreased 21.6% to 396,000 hectares.

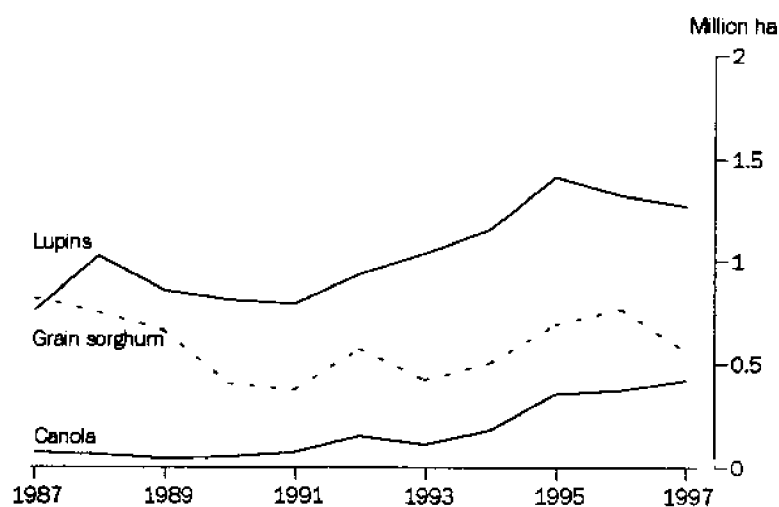
The area of barley for grain sown increased 9.6% to 3.4 million hectares. All States reported increases except Victoria which fell 5.0% to 596,000 hectares.

Wheat, oats and barley



Of the other major cereal crops, 65.6% more triticale was planted in 1996-97, grain sorghum plantings decreased 26.9%, while rice plantings increased by 19.7%. Other major crops to record an increase in area included sugar cane cut for crushing, up 6.4% to 401,000 hectares, and canola, up 11.4% to 420,000 hectares.

Selected crops



SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

PRODUCTION OF CROPS

Production of wheat for grain increased 43.6% in 1996-97 to a record 23.7 million tonnes. Strong recovery from the drought in Queensland resulted in a fourfold increase in production to 2.1 million tonnes, while good conditions in New South Wales resulted in production increasing to 8.7 million tonnes, almost double the 1995-96 level.

Production of oats for grain fell by 9.5% in 1996-97 to 1.7 million tonnes. New South Wales reported a 14.2% fall to 610,000 tonnes and Victoria a 20.1% fall to 313,000 tonnes.

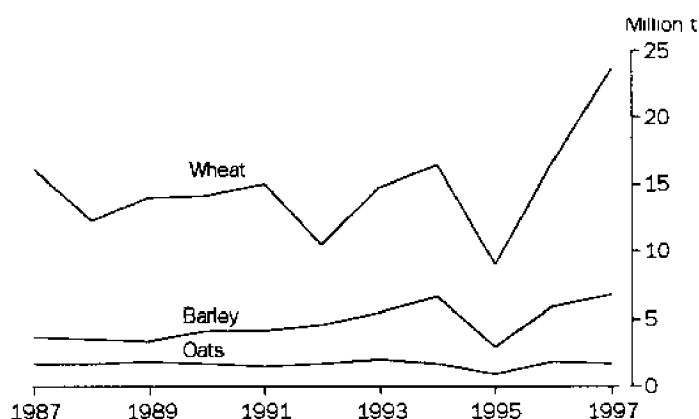
Barley production increased by 16.9% in 1996-97 to 6.8 million tonnes. South Australia was the State with the highest production, recording nearly 2.0 million tonnes.

Production of field peas decreased 12.5% to 464,000 tonnes, the majority of the decrease occurring in Victoria. Lupin production was unchanged, with most of the crop (83.8%) grown in Western Australia.

Canola increased 15.3% to 642,000 tonnes. New South Wales, with 340,000 tonnes, produced 53.0% of the total Australian crop.

Sugar cane cut for crushing increased 8.9% to 39.1 million tonnes, with 93.6% of total production being in Queensland.

Wheat, oats and barley



FRUIT

During the year ended 31 March 1997, the total number of orange trees increased 3.8% to nearly 8.0 million; production of oranges also increased, by 19.5% in 1996-97 to 528,000 tonnes. The number of mandarin trees increased 31.6% to 2.0 million; production of mandarins also increased, by 32.3% to 82,000 tonnes. The number of apple trees increased by 10.1% to 9.4 million.

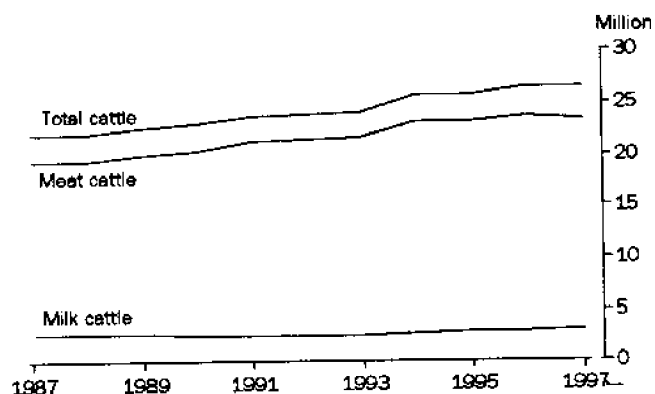
Production of all major stone fruits increased, with nectarines rising by 27.8% to 23,000 tonnes and plums and prunes rising 23.8% to 26,000 tonnes. Apricot production increased by 22.7% in 1996-97 to 27,000 tonnes, reversing a 26.7% decline in 1995-96.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

CATTLE

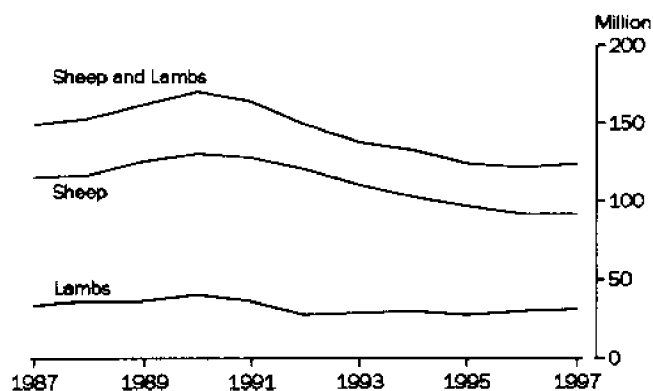
The number of milk cattle at 31 March 1997 increased by 9.2% from a year earlier to 3.1 million. The number of cows in milk and dry increased 8.6% to 2.0 million. Meat cattle numbers fell slightly, by 1.2% to 23.3 million. The number of cows and heifers one year and over also fell slightly, by 0.7% to 11.6 million. The Queensland meat cattle herd was the largest of any State with 10.1 million cattle and calves reported (43% of the total herd).

Milk and meat cattle



SHEEP AND LAMBS

The sheep and lamb flock at 31 March 1997 increased 1.8% to 123.3 million. The number of lambs and hoggets under one year rose 6.9% to 31.4 million, with a 7.0% increase in the number of lambs marked during the year.



1

LAND USE—Years ended 31 March

	AUST.		1997p								
	1995	1996r	1997p	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT
	'000 ha	'000 ha	'000 ha	'000 ha	'000 ha	'000 ha	'000 ha	'000 ha	'000 ha	'000 ha	'000 ha
Total area of establishments	463 349	465 221	471 135	62 109	12 987	153 987	57 634	112 178	2 137	70 045	58

2

AREA OF CROPS—Years ended 31 March

	AUST.		1997p								
	1995	1996r	1997p	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.		
	'000 ha	'000 ha	'000 ha	'000 ha	'000 ha	'000 ha	'000 ha	'000 ha	'000 ha		
Cereals for grain											
Barley	2 470	3 111	3 409	673	596	194	1 024	908	14		
Grain sorghum	687	770	563	126	—	435	—	2	—		
Oats	897	1 136	1 088	396	180	46	125	333	9		
Panicum and millet	44	23	25	2	3	19	—	—	—		
Rice	119	137	164	163	1	—	—	—	—		
Triticale	153	221	366	125	103	2	108	26	3		
Wheat	7 891	9 221	11 337	3 316	1 021	1 056	1 561	4 381	2		
Legumes for grain											
Chick peas	209	216	256	34	144	20	12	45	—		
Field peas	461	382	347	15	184	1	119	27	—		
Lupins	1 407	1 323	1 274	63	43	—	71	1 097	—		
Crops for hay											
Cereals	349	469	363	72	60	19	98	113	1		
Oilseeds											
Canola	356	377	420	179	99	—	37	106	—		
Safflower	30	40	35	11	18	—	5	—	—		
Soybeans	18	24	39	22	2	15	—	—	—		
Sunflower	136	82	137	43	2	91	—	—	—		
Vegetables for human consumption											
Onions — white and brown	5	5	5	1	1	1	1	—	1		
Potatoes	38	42	39	7	10	5	8	3	7		
Tomatoes	9	9	9	2	3	4	—	—	—		
Fruit											
Grapes	73	81	93	21	26	2	40	4	—		
Other crops											
Cotton	245	315	396	271	—	124	—	—	—		
Peanuts	13	21	25	1	—	24	—	—	—		
Sugar cane cut for crushing	363	377	401	19	—	381	—	1	—		
Tobacco	3	3	4	—	2	2	—	—	—		

3

PRODUCTION OF PRINCIPAL CROPS—Years ended 31 March

	AUST.			1997p					
	1995	1996r	1997p	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.
	'000 t	'000 t	'000 t	'000 t	'000 t	'000 t	'000 t	'000 t	'000 t
Cereals for grain									
Barley	2 913	5 823	6 808	1 509	1 217	453	1 966	1 629	35
Oats	924	1 875	1 697	610	313	30	162	568	15
Rice	1 016	966	1 352	1 344	8	—	—	—	—
Triticale	182	469	718	335	186	6	144	38	9
Wheat	18 961	16 504	23 702	8 677	2 392	2 109	2 838	7 678	7
Legumes for grain									
Field peas	240	530	464	19	222	1	196	27	1
Lupins	1 076	1 559	1 559	95	53	—	103	1 307	—
Crops for hay									
Cereals	968	1 743	1 353	265	218	63	351	450	6
Oilseeds									
Canola	264	557	642	340	141	—	54	106	—
Safflower	15	26	21	9	9	—	3	—	—
Vegetables for human consumption									
Onions — white and brown	200	244	209	16	18	24	71	20	60
Tomatoes	340	371	408	118	165	112	3	10	1
Other crops									
Sugar cane cut for crushing	32 971	35 889	39 073	2 344	—	36 556	—	173	—

4

HAY FROM PASTURES AND GRASSES—Years ended 31 March

	AUST.			1997p					
	1995	1996r	1997p	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.
AREA ('000 ha)									
Cut for hay									
Lucerne	(a)177	(a)210	192	99	37	21	25	6	3
Other	(a)622	(a)827	766	105	411	17	86	95	51
Total	(b)915	(b)1 152	958	204	448	38	111	101	54
PRODUCTION ('000 t)									
Cut for hay									
Lucerne	(a)822	(a)989	937	435	187	183	94	23	13
Other	(a)2 115	(a)3 066	2 574	347	1 328	56	262	354	219
Total	(b)3 353	(b)4 496	3 511	782	1 515	239	356	377	232

(a) Excludes WA, NT and the ACT where items not collected separately.

(b) Includes WA NT and ACT.

	AUST.(a)			1997p					
	1995	1996r	1997p	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.
TREES SIX YEARS AND OVER ('000)									
Citrus									
Oranges	6 297	6 478	6 890	3 398	1 185	234	1 905	167	n.c.
Lemons and limes	383	403	418	113	107	90	93	14	n.c.
Mandarins	729	824	1 165	135	108	699	164	58	n.c.
Pome									
Apples	5 101	5 302	5 862	1 379	1 624	489	540	654	1 175
Pears (including nashi)	1 766	1 884	1 801	59	1 448	31	105	138	20
Stone									
Apricots	642	634	631	31	213	25	321	14	26
Nectarines	r 644	781	855	346	223	149	31	102	5
Peaches	r 1 247	1 296	1 449	477	612	165	115	76	4
Plums and prunes	r 905	902	922	385	170	124	99	142	2
TOTAL NUMBER OF TREES ('000)									
Citrus									
Oranges	7 684	7 701	7 996	3 932	1 393	282	2 179	208	n.c.
Lemons and limes	546	568	595	160	145	145	123	17	n.c.
Mandarins	r 1 417	1 489	1 960	214	148	1 234	266	98	n.c.
Pome									
Apples	7 989	8 543	9 404	2 149	2 688	875	923	1 096	1 670
Pears (including nashi)	2 032	2 082	1 997	74	1 530	43	141	186	23
Stone									
Apricots	923	906	852	45	280	39	417	27	43
Nectarines	r 1 407	1 738	1 927	790	494	278	80	262	24
Peaches	r 2 396	2 571	2 850	932	1 175	358	181	191	13
Plums and prunes	r 1 507	1 590	1 915	773	389	201	155	394	2
PRODUCTION ('000 t)(b)									
Citrus									
Oranges	517	442	528	233	88	18	183	6	n.c.
Lemons and limes	34	31	34	5	7	7	15	1	n.c.
Mandarins	59	62	82	6	5	52	17	1	n.c.
Stone									
Apricots	30	22	27	1	10	—	15	—	—
Nectarines	17	18	23	8	7	3	2	3	—
Peaches	r 59	60	70	15	42	3	7	2	—
Plums and prunes	r 21	21	26	11	5	2	4	4	—

(a) Includes NT and ACT.

(b) Pome production not yet available.

AUST.(a)		1997p							
	1995	1996r	1997p	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.
BEARING AREA (ha)									
Tropical									
Bananas	8 281	8 893	10 311	3 217	n.c.	6 492	n.c.	455	n.c.
Papaws	320	316	420	8	n.c.	394	n.c.	15	n.c.
Pineapples	3 209	2 824	2 676	3	n.c.	2 673	n.c.	—	n.c.
Other									
Raspberries	r 167	172	184	28	94	3	5	2	52
Strawberries	r 584	637	718	39	237	240	73	101	24
TOTAL AREA (BEARING AND NOT YET BEARING) (ha)									
Tropical									
Bananas	9 807	10 815	12 668	3 722	n.c.	7 902	n.c.	829	n.c.
Papaws	521	505	579	14	n.c.	538	n.c.	22	n.c.
Pineapples	r 5 225	4 697	4 675	3	n.c.	4 671	n.c.	—	n.c.
Other									
Raspberries	r 196	202	203	32	105	3	7	2	54
Strawberries	r 723	801	939	52	302	331	94	126	28
PRODUCTION (t)									
Tropical									
Bananas	208 102	220 047	214 319	40 128	n.c.	156 484	n.c.	13 230	n.c.
Papaws	6 225	5 726	7 228	75	n.c.	6 847	n.c.	295	n.c.
Pineapples	r 138 503	127 864	124 906	12	n.c.	124 894	n.c.	—	n.c.
Other									
Raspberries	r 399	370	396	30	226	7	5	3	125
Strawberries	8 532	10 808	11 635	217	3 644	3 753	1 293	2 577	146

(a) Includes NT and ACT.

	AUST.(a)			1997p						
	1995r	1996r	1997p	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
Cattle(b)										
Milk(c)										
Cows in milk and dry	1 821	1 884	2 046	245	1 271	201	106	75	148	1
Other milk cattle	919	923	1 020	152	578	101	58	53	78	—
Total(c)	2 740	2 808	3 067	397	1 849	302	164	128	226	1
Meat										
Bull and bull calves intended for service	555	553	522	119	62	220	29	43	11	39
Cows and heifers 1 year and over	11 213	11 667	11 581	2 963	1 219	4 903	541	984	249	716
Heifers and other calves under 1 year	5 806	5 768	6 065	1 829	720	2 240	299	551	172	250
Other cattle 1 year and over	5 418	5 581	5 118	1 127	518	2 708	180	281	103	199
Total	22 991	23 569	23 287	6 038	2 519	10 071	1 049	1 859	536	1 204
Total cattle and calves(c)	25 731	26 377	26 354	6 435	4 368	10 373	1 213	1 987	762	1 205
Breeding ewes 1 year and over	n.c.	57 182	58 625	20 938	10 212	4 532	7 139	14 046	1 703	n.c.
Lambs and hoggets under 1 year	26 830	29 410	31 432	11 576	5 427	2 215	3 694	7 360	1 141	n.c.
All other sheep	n.c.	34 524	33 276	10 959	7 213	3 732	2 938	7 093	1 302	n.c.
Total sheep and lambs	120 862	121 116	123 333	43 473	22 852	10 479	13 771	28 499	4 146	n.c.
Pigs	2 653	2 526	2 684	798	508	666	381	304	24	4

(a) Includes ACT.

(b) Excludes domesticated buffaloes in the NT which at 31 March 1996 were estimated to be 8,850.

(c) Excludes house cows.

8

MATINGS AND LAMBINGS—Years ended 31 March

		AUST.(a).....			1997p					
	Unit	1995	1996r	1997p	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.
Mating intentions at start of season	'000	56 832	51 900	52 917	18 600	9 198	3 830	6 408	13 311	1 538
Actual matings	'000	52 528	50 874	52 844	18 807	9 250	3 712	6 472	13 002	1 565
Actual matings to intended matings	%	92.4	98.0	99.9	101.1	100.6	96.9	101.0	97.7	101.8
Lambs marked	'000	37 943	39 186	41 943	15 482	7 824	2 446	5 370	9 403	1 390
Lambs marked to actual matings	%	72.2	77.0	79.4	82.3	84.6	65.9	83.0	72.5	88.8

(a) Includes the ACT but not the NT where lambing information is not collected.

9

INTENDED EWE MATINGS—Year ended 31 March 1998p

	Unit	Aust.(a)	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.
Number of ewes mated or intended to be mated to								
Merino rams	'000	37 772	13 099	4 917	3 920	4 317	10 528	965
Other breeds	'000	17 916	6 859	4 787	246	2 502	2 838	670
Total	'000	55 689	19 958	9 704	4 167	6 819	13 366	1 635
Merino rams mated to total mated	%	67.8	65.6	50.7	94.1	63.3	78.8	59.0
Other breeds mated to total mated	%	32.2	34.4	49.3	5.9	36.7	21.2	41.0

(a) Includes the ACT but not the NT where lambing information is not collected.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

1 Users may also wish to refer to the following priced publications which are available on request:

Agricultural Industries, Financial Statistics, Australia (Cat. no. 7507.0)

Value of Agricultural Commodities Produced, Australia (Cat. no. 7503.0)

2 The ABS has more detailed agricultural statistics on floppy disk and CD-ROM. AgStats on floppy disk offers a wide range of data aggregated at smaller geographic areas than those generally available in printed publications, together with an easy-to-use interrogation facility. A smaller range of commodities are available on the CD-ROM product the Integrated Regional Data Base (IRDB).

3 Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products* (Cat. no. 1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Release Advice* (Cat. no. 1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the following few days. The Catalogue and Release Advice are available from any ABS office.

ROUNDING

4 Where the figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

5 Unless indicated otherwise, Australian totals include data for all States and both Territories.

For more information . . .

The ABS publishes a wide range of statistics and other information on Australia's economic and social conditions. Details of what is available in various publications and other products can be found in the ABS Catalogue of Publications and Products available from all ABS Offices.

ABS Products and Services

Many standard products are available from ABS bookshops located in each State and Territory. In addition to these products, information tailored to the needs of clients can be obtained on a wide range of media by contacting your nearest ABS Office. The ABS also provides a Subscription Service for standard products and some tailored information services.

National Dial-a-Statistic Line

0055 86 400

Steady.com P/L: premium rate 25c/20 secs.

This number gives 24-hour access, 365 days a year, for a range of important economic statistics including the CPI.

Internet

<http://www.abs.gov.au>

A wide range of ABS information is available via the Internet, with basic statistics available for each State, Territory and Australia. We also have Key National Indicators, ABS product release details and other information of general interest.

Sales and Inquiries

client.services@abs.gov.au

National Mail Order Service
Subscription Service

(02) 6252 5249
1800 02 0608

Information Inquiries

Bookshop Sales

CANBERRA	(02) 6252 6627	(02) 6252 0326
SYDNEY	(02) 9268 4611	(02) 9268 4620
MELBOURNE	(03) 9615 7755	(03) 9615 7755
BRISBANE	(07) 3222 6351	(07) 3222 6350
PERTH	(09) 360 5140	(09) 360 5307
ADELAIDE	(08) 8237 7100	(08) 8237 7582
HOBART	(03) 6222 5800	(03) 6222 5800
DARWIN	(08) 8943 2111	(08) 8943 2111



Client Services, ABS, PO Box 10, Belconnen ACT 2616

Produced by the Australian Bureau of Statistics
© Commonwealth of Australia 1997

Recommended retail price: \$15.00



2711200007963

ISSN 0726-4976