Australian Bureau of Statistics

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BUSINESS INDICATORS

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

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CONTENTS

■ For further information about these and related statistics, contact Ria Percival on Canberra 02 6207 0311, or the National Information Service on 1300 135 070.

NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

ISSUE	*RELEASE DATE*
September 2000	22 September 2000
October 2000	27 October 2000
November 2000	24 November 2000
December 2000	22 December 2000
January 2001	29 January 2001
February 2001	26 February 2001

SYMBOLS AND OTHER USAGES

ACT	Australian Capital Territory
n.a.	not available
no.	number
n.p.	not available for publication
p	preliminary
. .	not applicable
*	Represents data with a standard error of greater than 25%. Caution should be exercised when using this data.
—	nil or rounded to zero

Dalma Jacobs
Regional Director, Australian Capital Territory

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

UPDATED SERIES

Series updated since the July 2000 issue are: average retail prices, building approvals, building commencements, consumer price index, housing finance, labour force, retail turnover, wage and salary earners and gross earnings. The feature article this month on pages 6 is Household Expenditure on Goods and Services in the ACT.

Labour force

At July 2000, the trend unemployment rate for the ACT fell by 0.1 percentage points to 5.2 over June 2000 (2%) and a decrease of 0.5 percentage points since July 1999. The July 2000 trend estimate of unemployed persons in the ACT was down 2% (to 9,100) over the previous month. Trend employment increased by 0.1% to 166,600 persons over this period but recorded a 4% increase over July 1999. The trend ACT participation rate decreased to 72.4%, while the national rate remained steady at 63.8%. Nationally, trend employment increased by 0.3% to 9,081,100 persons in July 2000, while the trend unemployment decreased by 1% (to 631,900 persons). The national trend unemployment rate fell 0.1 percentage points to 6.5%.

Housing finance

The trend number of dwelling units financed (including re-financing) in the ACT in June 2000 was 822, a decrease of 2% over the previous month. The trend estimate for the value of commitments in the ACT was $110 million, down 3% from the previous month. Re-financing of existing dwellings comprised 14% of the total value of dwelling units financed in June 2000, compared with 10% recorded in May 2000. Nationally, the trend number of dwelling units financed (including re-financing) during June 2000 was 5,556, compared with 5,749 in the previous month, while the trend estimate for the value of commitments decreased to $5,556 million (down 3.4%) from previous month.

Building approvals

The trend number of dwelling units approved in the ACT decreased by 4.5% to 168 dwelling units in June 2000. Nationally, the trend number of dwelling units approved decreased by 6.8% to 11,914 dwelling units in June 2000.

The value of non-residential building approvals in the ACT in June 2000 was $18.8 million, a decrease of $76.9 million over the previous month and an increase of $6.6 million over June 1999. Nationally, the value of non-residential building approvals for June 2000 was $990.5 million, a decrease of 7.2% over the previous month, and an increase of 0.3% over June 1999.

New motor vehicle registrations

The trend estimate for ACT new motor vehicle registrations in June 2000 was 1,008, down 3.5% over the previous month, and a fall of 10.6% since June 1999. Nationally, the trend for total new motor vehicle registrations in June 2000 decreased by 3.9% to 54,968 over May 2000, and was down 13.6% since June 1999.

Retail turnover

The trend estimate for retail turnover in the ACT for June 2000 was $247.5 million, an increase of 1.3% over the previous month and up 11.8% compared to June 1999. The national trend retail turnover was up 0.3% to $12,257.5 million since the previous month and was up 2.5% compared with the previous year.

Consumer price index

The ACT experienced an increase of 0.8% in the All Groups Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the June quarter 2000. This was equal to the national increase of 0.8% during the same period. The ACT annual CPI rate to June quarter 2000 recorded an increase of 3.6%, in the year ended June 2000 while the CPI for the weighted average of the eight capital cities recorded an increase of 3.2% for the same period.

Building commencements

The value of new houses commenced in the ACT in the March quarter 2000 was $56.1 million, up 5% from the previous quarter and up 45% from the March quarter 1998. Nationally, the value of new houses commenced in the March quarter 2000 recorded a 7% increase from the previous quarter and a 51% increase from a year ago.

Wage and salary earners

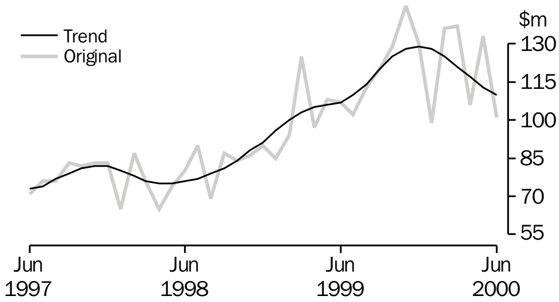
The trend number of wage and salary earners from the public and private sectors in the ACT was 151,900 persons in the February 2000, quarter an increase of 2,400 persons (up 2%) from the November 1999 quarter. This compares to a national increase of 38,800 persons (up 0.5%) in the same period. The proportion of private sector wage and salary earners in the ACT is around 55%. These figures exclude self-employed persons in jobs located in the private sector.

Gross earnings

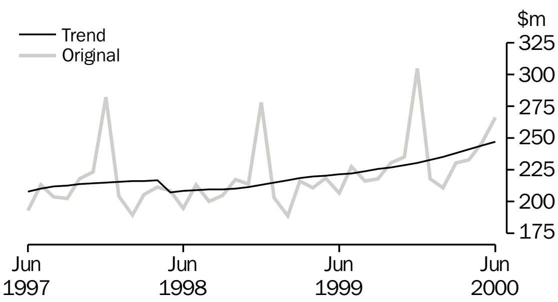
Gross earnings in the ACT for the public sector for the March quarter were $921.3 million, an increase of 13% on the previous figure, and up 5% compared to the corresponding quarter 1999. From the previous quarter, private sector gross earnings were up 7% to $604 million, and up 4% from the March quarter 1999. Nationally, public sector earnings were up 1% from the previous quarter, while private sector gross earnings were down 5%.

SELECTED BUSINESS INDICATORS

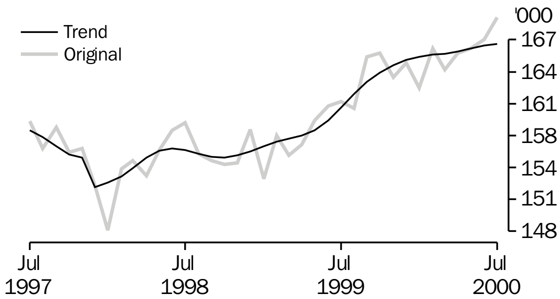
HOUSING FINANCE



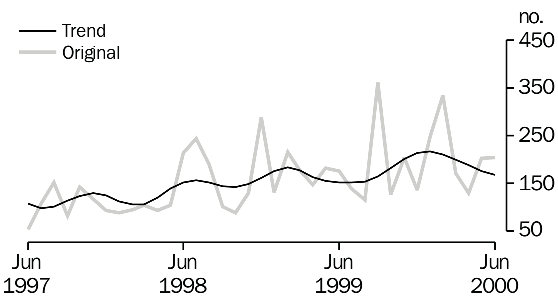
RETAIL TURNOVER



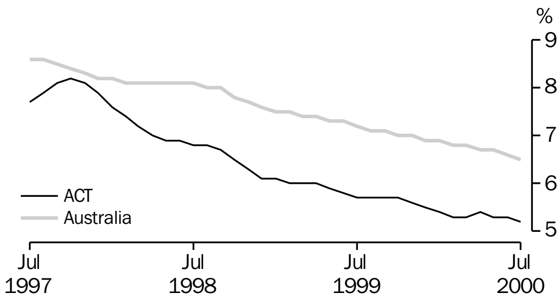
LABOUR FORCE—EMPLOYMENT



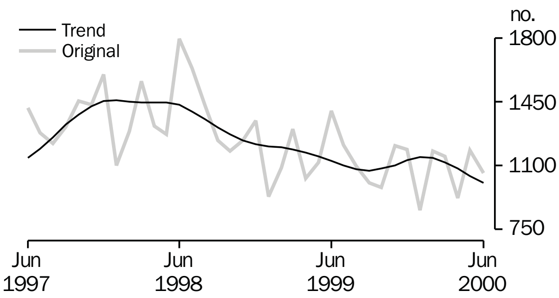
BUILDING APPROVAL—DWELLING UNITS APPROVED



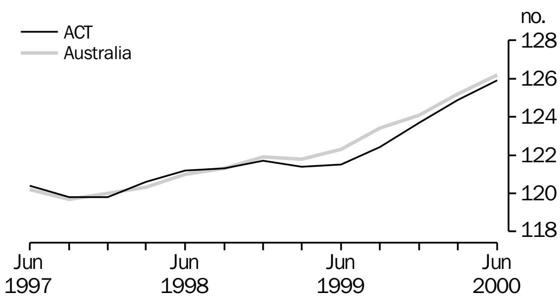
LABOUR FORCE—TREND UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



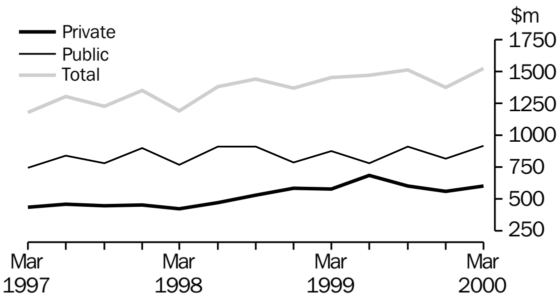
NEW MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS



CONSUMER PRICE INDEX



GROSS EARNINGS, BY SECTOR—ORIGINAL



FEATURE ARTICLE

HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE ON GOODS AND SERVICES IN THE ACT

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

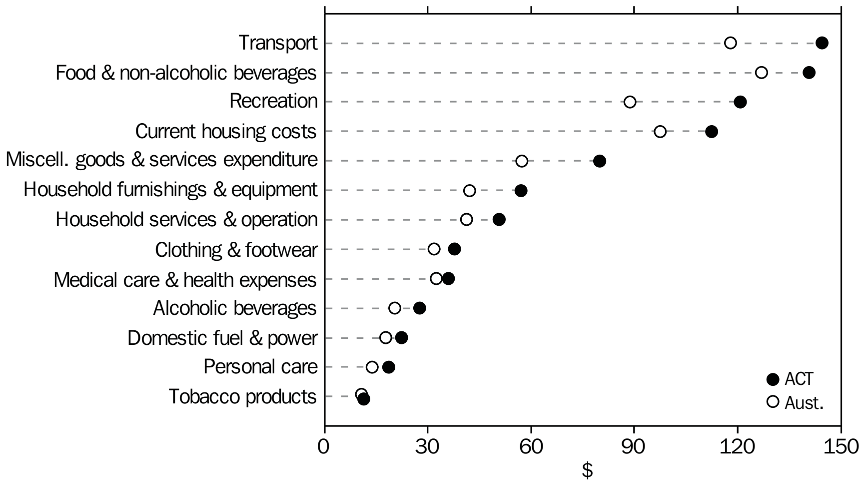
In the 12 months to June 1999, Canberra households spent an average of $860 each week on goods and services. This is an increase of 16% since the previous survey which was conducted in 1993–94. Part of this increase over the five years can be attributed to inflation and the price of goods and services as measured by the consumer price index (CPI) which rose by 12%. Over the same period, average weekly household income in Canberra increased $100 (10%) and the average household size remained steady at 2.56 persons.

In 1998–99, the largest broad categories of household expenditure were:

- transport—with average household expenditure of $144 per week, representing 17% of total household expenditure on goods and services;
- food and non-alcoholic beverages—$141 per week (16% of total); and
- recreation—$121 per week (14% of the total).

These categories together account for just under half (47%) of household expenditure on goods and services. The fourth highest category was current housing costs (selected dwelling), with average weekly household expenditure of $112 per week, representing 13% of the total.

AVERAGE WEEKLY HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE



Source: Household Expenditure Survey.

Changes in expenditure

The overall increase in average weekly household expenditure on goods and services between 1993–94 and 1998–99 was $118 or 16%. Over the same period the price of goods and services, as measured by the CPI, rose by 12%.

Changes in expenditure *continued*

The broad expenditure categories recording the largest increases in average weekly expenditure were:

- alcoholic beverages, up $9 or 48%;
- miscellaneous goods and services, up $23 or 40%;
- tobacco products, up $4 or 32%; and
- household services and operation, up $11 or 28%.

Broad categories which experienced a decrease in average weekly expenditure over the period 1993–94 to 1998–99 were superannuation and life insurance (–29% to $36) and clothing and footwear (–15% to $38).

Household characteristics

The level and pattern of expenditure differs between households, reflecting characteristics such as income, household composition, household size and location and is also highly related to the social and demographic characteristics of household members.

In 1998–99, households in the lowest income quintile (the lowest 20% of households when ranked according to income) spent an average $403 per week on goods and services, compared with $1,338 by households in the highest income quintile.

Household income also affects the composition of a household's weekly expenditure. For example, food and non-alcoholic beverages accounted for 19% (or $67) of the expenditure on goods and services of households in the lowest income quintile. In comparison, although the highest income quintile group spent almost 3 times more ($195), the proportion of total expenditure was similar at 16%.

Characteristics of households most likely to be in the lowest income quintile were:

- lone person households (44%); or
- those with main source of income from government pensions and allowances.

Characteristics of households most likely to be in the highest income quintile were:

- couples with dependent children only (43%); or
- those with employee income (88%).

Household characteristics *continued*

Households with a level of weekly expenditure on goods and services significantly below the average of $860 for all households included:

- households renting their dwelling from a state or territory housing authority ($540);
- households in which the reference person was 65 years and over ($506);
- households relying on government pensions and allowances as their major source of income ($344);
- lone person households ($496); and

Other households (comprising those who occupy a dwelling under a life tenure scheme; a rent/buy scheme; or rent-free) with a total average weekly expenditure of $350.

In contrast, households in which the level of expenditure on goods and services was significantly above the average included:

- households purchasing their home, with an average weekly expenditure of $1,018;
- couple, one family households with children; for example households consisting of a couple with their dependent and non-dependent children only, had an average weekly expenditure of $1,319;
- households in which the reference person was a full time employee, with an average weekly expenditure of $1,003; and
- households in which the reference person was aged 45 to 54 years, with an average weekly expenditure of $957.

Housing costs

Household characteristics can also help to explain the variation in the composition of expenditure. For example, housing costs accounted for only 5% of total expenditure on goods and services of those households without a mortgage, while households renting from other than a state or territory housing authority spent 19% of their total expenditure on housing.

1 BUSINESS EXPECTATIONS, TRADING PERFORMANCE, OPERATING INCOME(a)

	ACT	*Aust.*
	%	%
Short-term		
Dec qtr 1997–Mar qtr 1998	–1.1	–0.3
Mar qtr 1998–Jun qtr 1998	–0.1	1.7
Jun qtr 1998–Sep qtr 1998	2.7	1.1
Sep qtr 1998–Dec qtr 1998	3.5	1.6
Dec qtr 1998–Mar qtr 1999	–2.7	–0.9
Mar qtr 1999–Jun qtr 1999	0.4	1.8
Jun qtr 1999–Sep qtr 1999	1.4	1.8
Sep qtr 1999–Dec qtr 1999	1.9	2.4
Dec qtr 1999–Mar qtr 2000	–5.4	–0.7
Mar qtr 2000-Jun qtr 2000	1.5	1.6
Jun qtr 2000-Sep qtr 2000	–3.6	0.8
Medium-term		
Dec qtr 1997–Dec qtr 1998	2.9	3.0
Mar qtr 1998–Mar qtr 1999	2.6	2.6
Jun qtr 1998–Jun qtr 1999	6.9	2.7
Sep qtr 1998–Sep qtr 1999	7.5	2.9
Dec qtr 1998–Dec qtr 1999	2.6	2.7
Mar qtr 1999–Mar qtr 2000	1.7	2.3
Jun qtr 1999–Jun qtr 2000	5.7	3.3
Sep qtr 1999–Sep qtr 2000	2.8	2.7
Dec qtr 1999–Dec qtr 2000	0.1	1.8
Mar qtr 2000–Mar qtr 2001	1.6	2.5
Jun qtr 2001-Jun qtr 2002	–2.6	1.5

(a) These data are all expectations and are not subsequently revised.

2 BUSINESS INDICATORS

	Unit	ACT Latest figure	ACT % change from Previous period	ACT % change from Same period previous year	Aust. Latest figure	Aust. % change from Previous period	Aust. % change from Same period previous year
POPULATION, VITAL AND LABOUR							
POPULATION, Dec qtr 99	'000	311.2	0.1	0.9	18 871.8	0.3	1.3
Natural increase	no.	660	1.9	–12.2	31 389	15.2	–1.5
Net migration	no.	–231	278.7	–67.2	27 429	–21.1	158.3
Total increase	*no.*	*429*	*–26.9*	*793.8*	*58 818*	*–5.1*	*38.5*
LABOUR FORCE, Jul 00							
Original Series							
Employed	'000	169.2	1.3	5.2	9 154.6	1.1	3.7
Unemployed	'000	7.3	–18.9	–16.1	576.5	–5.3	–7.6
Unemployment rate	%	4.1	–1.0	–1.0	5.9	–0.4	–0.7
Participation rate	%	72.7	0.1	1.2	63.9	0.3	0.9
Long-term unemployed, Jun 00	no.	2 194	5.6	–16.5	168 291	–7.8	–12.2
Long-term unemployed as percentage of total unemployed		24.3	3.1	–7.4	27.7	–0.7	–1.8
Trend series							
Employed	'000	166.6	0.1	3.9	9 081.1	0.3	3.3
Unemployed	'000	9.1	–2.2	–6.2	631.9	–1.0	–7.2
Unemployment rate	%	6.0	–0.1	–0.5	7.4	–0.1	–0.7
Participation rate	%	72.4	–0.1	0.7	63.8	—	0.7
WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS							
Number employed—Trend series, Feb qtr 00							
Public sector	'000	68.8	0.3	3.8	1 466.5	0.8	1.3
Private sector	'000	83.1	2.7	4.8	5 721.6	0.5	0.1
Total	*'000*	*151.9*	*1.6*	*4.3*	*7 188.1*	*0.5*	*0.4*
Gross earnings—Original series, Mar qtr 00							
Public sector	$m	786.5	–14.1	–13.0	15 046.0	–1.6	–1.1
Private sector	$m	586.9	10.7	29.6	46 897.6	5.1	10.8
Total	*$m*	*1 373.5*	*–5.0*	*1.2*	*61 943.6*	*3.4*	*7.7*
JOB VACANCIES, May qtr 00	'000	3.0	–23.1	25.0	106.8	–5.2	20.1
INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES IN PROGRESS, Apr 00							
Working days lost	'000	0.0	–100.0	—	28.0	–38.5	23.9
Days lost per '000 employees (year ended Apr 00)	no.	29.0	–3.3	–14.7	72.0	—	–2.7
BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION							
HOUSING FINANCE, Jun 00							
Secured commitments to individuals for							
Original Series							
Construction of dwellings	$m	10.0	–37.5	–16.7	610.0	–23.3	–35.7
Purchase of new dwellings	$m	5.0	66.7	25.0	248.0	6.4	–3.9
Purchase of established dwellings	$m	72.0	–17.2	–6.5	4 722.0	–15.9	–7.0
Re-financing	$m	14.0	16.7	—	1 159.0	–9.0	18.0
Total housing commitments	*$m*	*101.0*	*–14.4*	*–5.6*	*5 581.0*	*–16.0*	*–11.2*
Seasonally adjusted series							
Total housing commitments	*$m*	*102.0*	*–8.1*	*–5.6*	*5 171.0*	*–14.4*	*–12.4*
Trend series							
Dwelling units financed	no.	822	–2.5	–3.1	41 268	–2.2	–7.0
Total housing commitments	*$m*	*110.0*	*–2.7*	*2.8*	*5 556.0*	*–3.4*	*–4.6*
BUILDING APPROVALS, Jun 00							
Original series							
Dwelling units	no.	204	0.5	15.9	10 872	–25.6	–25.1
Value of new residential	$m	27.0	–6.3	28.0	1 330.8	–29.3	–20.5
Value of residential alterations and additions	$m	2.6	–48.0	–10.3	248.6	–29.2	–2.2
Value of non-residential	$m	18.8	–80.4	54.1	990.5	–7.2	0.3
Value of total building	*$m*	*48.4*	*–62.6*	*34.1*	*2 569.9*	*–22.1*	*–11.8*
Trend series							
Dwelling units	no.	168	–4.5	10.5	11 914	–6.8	–13.5

2 BUSINESS INDICATORS *continued*

		ACT			Aust.		
			% change from			% change from	
	Unit	Latest figure	Previous period	Same period previous year	Latest figure	Previous period	Same period previous year
BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION *continued*							
BUILDING COMMENCEMENTS, Mar qtr 00							
New houses	no.	373	–5.8	30.9	31 296	4.4	39.7
Value of houses commenced	$m	56.1	5.3	45.3	41 430.0	966.2	1 411.0
Value of non-residential building commenced	$m	88.8	155.9	–31.7	2 693.7	–9.6	–5.7
Value of total commencements	*$m*	*189.5*	*30.2*	*–11.0*	*8 924.9*	*–2.0*	*19.8*
PRICE INDEXES							
Established house price index, Mar qtr 00		140.0	2.9	8.9	131.3	1.8	5.7
ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION (Mar qtr 00)							
Private sector							
Value of work commenced	$m	47.0	331.2	–0.8	3 026.9	19.1	9.9
Value of work done	$m	44.0	157.3	249.2	2 564.4	–13.8	–2.3
Value of work yet to be done	$m	23.3	17.7	–46.2	5 384.8	10.4	–1.7
Value of work done by public sector	$m	23.4	–2.1	–20.4	1 854.9	0.3	11.4
PRICES, WAGES AND CONSUMER SPENDING							
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX , Jun qtr 00							
Food(a)		131.1	0.4	2.2	130.2	0.9	1.9
Housing(a)		100.6	1.6	6.2	101.2	0.5	4.8
Transportation(a)		136.4	0.8	6.4	132.1	1.5	7.5
All groups(a)		125.9	0.8	3.6	126.2	0.8	3.2
AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS, Feb 00							
Original series							
Males	$	962.0	0.9	8.9	824.5	1.7	4.5
Females	$	809.6	–2.2	4.0	691.4	1.2	3.5
Persons	*$*	894.4	–0.4	6.4	775.0	1.5	4.1
Trend series							
Males	$	966.1	3.0	9.1	820.7	1.3	3.7
Females	$	817.7	1.3	5.6	689.6	1.0	3.5
Persons	*$*	*901.9*	*2.2*	*7.4*	*772.0*	*1.2*	*3.6*
WAGE COST INDEX, Mar qtr 00							
Public sector(b)		106.3	0.5	1.8	108.5	0.6	2.5
Private sector(b)		107.2	0.9	3.4	107.5	0.7	2.9
Total(b)		106.6	0.6	2.4	107.7	0.7	2.8
RETAIL TURNOVER, Jun 00							
Original series							
Food retailing	$m	91.3	1.9	18.9	4 768.8	0.1	4.5
Department stores	$m	29.3	8.5	48.0	1 165.8	10.8	30.3
Hospitality and services	$m	38.6	7.5	19.9	2 037.1	2.0	5.6
All other retailing	$m	106.9	14.3	36.7	4 576.2	10.3	19.1
Total	*$m*	*266.1*	*8.2*	*28.6*	*12 547.9*	*4.9*	*11.7*
Trend series							
Food retailing	$m	n.p.	–100.0	–100.0	4 898.2	0.2	1.3
Department stores	$m	26.2	0.8	10.1	1 097.1	0.5	5.9
Hospitality and services	$m	36.9	1.9	9.2	2 087.6	–0.1	1.7
All other retailing	$m	184.4	96.8	119.3	4 174.6	0.5	3.6
Total	*$m*	*247.5*	*1.3*	*11.8*	*12 257.5*	*0.3*	*2.5*

(a) Base year: 1989–90 = 100.0.

(b) Base of each index: September quarter 1997 = 100.0.

	Unit	ACT Latest figure	ACT % change from Previous period	ACT % change from Same period previous year	Aust. Latest figure	Aust. % change from Previous period	Aust. % change from Same period previous year
TOURISM AND TRANSPORT							
HOTELS, MOTELS AND GUEST HOUSE ACCOMMODATION, Mar qtr 00							
Original series							
Room nights	'000	271.3	–0.7	12.5	10 088.0	–3.1	5.2
Takings at current prices	$m	25.8	–2.9	5.7	1 112.4	3.2	6.6
Guest arrivals	'000	199.9	–7.7	–5.2	7 931.0	–4.6	4.4
Guest nights	'000	443.7	–4.1	–3.2	18 037.0	–2.5	5.4
Room occupancy rate	%	60.9	–2.2	3.3	58.2	–1.5	0.1
NEW MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS, Jun 00							
Motor vehicles	no.	1 060	–10.5	–24.3	60 880	–5.1	–23.4
Seasonally adjusted motor vehicles	no.	847	–25.8	–25.4	50 044	–15.2	–23.0
Trend motor vehicles	no.	1 008	–3.5	–10.6	54 968	–3.9	–13.6
STATE ACCOUNTS							
STATE ACCOUNTS, Dec qtr 99(a)							
Trend series (chain volume measure)(b)							
Household final consumption expenditure	$m	1 629	0.7	3.0	89 911	1.1	4.3
General government final consumption expenditure	$m	2 833	2.6	9.9	27 739	1.2	5.7
Private gross fixed capital formation	$m	361	5.9	22.4	29 145	–0.6	2.0
Public gross fixed capital formation	$m	110	–1.8	–7.6	7 670	4.9	19.0
State final demand	$m	4 923	1.9	7.6	153 452	1.0	4.2
GROSS STATE PRODUCT (trend, chain volume measures) 1998–99	$m	11 822	2.6	n.a	591 546	4.5	—
PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE, Dec qtr 99							
Original series (at current prices)							
Buildings and structures	$m	23	35.3	–20.7	2 989	–4.7	–27.1
Equipment, plant and machinery	$m	71	26.8	–15.5	7 962	–5.5	1.5
Total	$m	94	30.6	–16.8	10 950	–12.0	–8.4
Trend series (at current prices)							
Buildings and structures	$m	20	5.3	–16.7	2 809	–4.3	24.0
Equipment, plant and machinery	$m	68	19.3	–5.6	7 546	–0.7	–4.0
Total	$m	88	15.8	–8.3	10 355	–1.7	–10.4

(a) Quarterly state final demand details are released as a special data service (Product no. 5206.0.40.001).

(b) Reference year for chain volume measures is 1996–97.

Source: Australian Demographic Statistics (Cat. no. 3101.0); Australian National Accounts: State Accounts (Cat. no. 5242.0); Building Activity, Australia (Cat. no. 8752.0); Building Approvals, Australia (Cat. no. 8731.0); Consumer Price Index (Cat. no. 6401.0); Housing Finance for Owner Occupation, Australia (5609.0); House Price Indexes: Eight Capital Cities (Cat. no. 6416.0); Industrial Disputes, Australia (Cat. no. 6321.0); Job Vacancies and Overtime, Australia (Cat. no. 6354.0); Labour Force, Australia, Preliminary (Cat. no. 6202.0), Labour Force, Australia (Cat. no. 6203.0); New Motor Vehicle Registration, Australia (Cat. no. 9301.0); Price Index of Materials Used in Housing Building (Cat. no. 6408.0); Private New Capital Expenditure, State Estimates (Cat. no. 5646.0); Retail Trade, Australia (Cat. no. 8501.0); Tourism Accommodation, ACT (Cat. no. 8635.8); Tourism Indicators, Australia (Cat. no. 8634.0).

3 ACT IN RELATION TO THE REST OF AUSTRALIA

	Unit	*Latest period*	*NSW*	*Vic.*	*Qld*	*SA*	*WA*	*Tas.*	*NT*	*ACT*	*Aust.*
POPULATION	'000	Dec qtr 99	6 451.7	4 741.5	3 539.5	*1 495.8*	1 873.8	469.9	194.3	311.2	19 080.8
LABOUR FORCE (trend)											
Employed persons	'000	Jul 00	3 058.8	2 273.1	1 694.6	*676.5*	924.3	199.4	89.8	166.6	9 081.1
Unemployment rate	%	Jul 00	5.6	6.5	7.7	*8.1*	6.1	9.2	5.4	5.2	6.5
WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS (trend)											
Public sector	'000	Feb qtr 00	468.9	307.8	295.1	*113.6*	149.4	40.8	22.2	68.8	1 466.5
Private sector	'000	Feb qtr 00	1 888.8	1 551.2	1 022.0	*419.7*	585.3	117.0	54.5	83.1	5 721.6
Total public and private sector (trend)	'000	Feb qtr 00	2 357.7	1 859.0	1 317.1	*533.3*	734.7	157.8	76.7	151.9	7 188.1
STATE ACCOUNTS(a)											
Gross state product (chain volume measures)	$m	1998–99	209 937	151 213	96 000	*40 493*	63 198	11 059	6 460	11 822	89 911
PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE (trend)											
Total	$m	Dec qtr 99	3 426	2 782	1 762	*542*	1 436	109	261	88	10 355
BUILDING APPROVALS											
Dwelling units approved(original)	no.	Jun 00	2 844	3 280	1 997	598	1 717	91	141	204	10 872
Dwelling units approved (trend)	no.	Jun 00	3 416	3 453	2 552	632	1 497	160	102	168	11 914
Value of non-residential building approved (original)	$m	Jun 00	344.3	350.9	133.7	24.3	83.6	16.7	18.2	25.1	990.5
Value of all buildings approved (original)	$m	Jun 00	797.0	892.2	370.4	99.7	285.5	31.2	45.5	48.4	2 569.9
ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION											
Value of engineering construction work done	$m	Mar qtr 00	1 408.7	771.4	1 117.4	316.5	610.2	67.0	60.7	67.4	4 419.3
AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS (trend)											
Full-time adult ordinary time	$	Feb qtr 00	810.9	758.5	716.0	717.8	785.6	719.3	782.2	901.9	772.0
RETAIL TRADE (trend)											
Retail turnover	$m	Jun 00	4 225.5	2 923.2	2 277.5	903.3	1 278.4	268.2	135.0	247.5	12 257.5
HOTELS, MOTELS & GUEST HOUSE ACCOMMODATION											
Room nights occupied	'000	Mar qtr 00	3 388.1	1 773.4	2 570.2	550.7	932.3	334.9	267.2	271.3	10 088.0
Room occupancy rate	%	Mar qtr 00	60.3	62.3	54.7	58.0	54.5	66.2	47.7	60.9	58.2
NEW MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS (trend)	no.	Jun 00	19 064	13 867	11 183	3 299	4 819	1 111	617	1 008	54 968

	Unit	*Latest period*	*Syd.*	*Melb.*	*Bris.*	*Adel.*	*Perth*	*Hob.*	*Dar.*	*Canb.*	*Aust.*
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX											
Food(d)		Jun qtr 00	130.7	130.0	129.1	131.9	129.7	129.1	130.0	131.1	130.2
Housing(d)		Jun qtr 00	109.6	91.7	105.4	98.3	95.4	99.2	118.2	100.6	101.2
Transportation(d)		Jun qtr 00	133.5	131.2	130.5	131.9	131.7	129.3	129.3	136.4	132.1
All Groups(d)		Jun qtr 00	127.0	125.6	126.4	127.6	124.0	126.5	125.7	125.9	126.2
AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES (cents)											
Milk, carton, supermarket sales	1 litre	Jun qtr 00	135	150	145	143	145	135	145	123	n.a.
Bread, white loaf, sliced, supermarket sales	680 g	Jun qtr 00	231	244	215	215	224	241	225	231	n.a.
Beef, rump steak	1 kg	Jun qtr 00	1 297	1 137	1 139	1 303	1 171	1 097	1 298	1 250	n.a.
Chicken, frozen	1 kg	Jun qtr 00	374	377	331	338	363	382	381	384	n.a.
Potatoes	1 kg	Jun qtr 00	105	136	103	81	143	102	135	122	n.a.
Coffee, instant (jar)	150 g	Jun qtr 00	555	615	573	521	598	651	624	634	n.a.
Scotch nip, public bar	30 ml	Jun qtr 00	346	342	285	369	393	275	352	283	n.a.
Private motoring petrol											
Leaded	1 litre	Jun qtr 00	88.7	84.6	79.2	86.1	86.9	93.7	95.7	90.7	n.a.
Unleaded	1 litre	Jun qtr 00	85.8	82.0	76.3	83.4	84.1	91.6	92.9	87.8	n.a.

(a) State estimates are not comparable to national estimates from the June quarter 1995 due to revised methodology used in Australian National Accounts, State Accounts (Cat. no. 5242.0).

(b) Experimental series. Users are cautioned these estimates are derived indirectly by calculating a deflator from the expenditure components of the state series concerned. Therefore, in general, the sum of the state estimates does not equal the estimates for Australia.

(c) Reference year for chain volume measures is 1996–97.

(d) Base year: 1989–90 = 100.0.

4 ACT IN RELATION TO THE REST OF AUSTRALIA — PERCENTAGE CHANGES

	Latest period	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
POPULATION	Dec qtr 99	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.1	0.3	—	0.5	0.1	0.3
LABOUR FORCE (trend)										
Employed persons	Jul 00	0.2	0.5	0.4	0.1	—	0.2	–0.4	0.1	0.3
Unemployment rate	Jul 00	—	–0.1	–0.1	–0.1	–0.2	—	0.1	–0.1	–0.1
WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS (trend)										
Pubic sector	Feb qtr 00	0.3	2.0	1.0	0.6	–0.1	0.2	1.8	0.3	0.8
Private sector	Feb qtr 00	–1.4	2.3	0.7	1.1	0.6	–1.0	3.8	2.7	0.5
Total public and private sector	Feb qtr 00	–1.0	2.3	0.8	1.0	0.5	–0.7	3.2	1.6	0.5
STATE ACCOUNTS(a) (original)										
Gross state product (chain volume measures)(b)(c)	1998–99	4.1	6.2	4.5	2.1	2.1	2.5	7.6	2.6	1.1
PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE (trend)										
Total (at current prices)	Dec qtr 99	–2.0	–1.8	0.3	–3.7	–3.3	–1.8	6.5	15.8	–1.7
BUILDING APPROVALS										
Dwelling units approved (original)	Jun 00	–35.4	–7.3	–43.7	–21.7	–5.1	–60.9	28.2	0.5	–25.6
Dwelling units approved (trend)	Jun 00	–5.7	–7.4	–7.4	–11.7	–4.0	–2.4	–1.0	–4.5	–6.8
Value of non-residential building approved (original)	Jun 00	14.5	3.1	–31.1	–63.2	–43.4	–2.3	230.9	–80.4	–7.2
Value of all buildings approved (original)	Jun 00	–25.2	10.1	–43.1	–36.4	–30.9	–38.6	100.4	–62.6	–22.1
ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION										
Value of engineering construction work done	Mar qtr 00	–6.4	–0.6	–19.4	8.9	–13.9	27.1	–19.3	64.4	–8.6
AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS (trend)										
Full-time adult ordinary time	Feb qtr 00	1.1	1.0	0.9	1.2	1.4	0.8	0.7	2.2	1.2
RETAIL TRADE (trend)										
Retail turnover	Jun 00	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.4	0.4	–0.2	0.5	1.3	0.3
HOTELS, MOTELS & GUEST HOUSE ACCOMMODATION										
Room nights occupied	Mar qtr 00	–1.0	6.0	–10.8	–2.0	–5.3	17.8	–22.5	4.3	–3.1
Room occupancy rate	Mar qtr 00	–0.6	4.2	–6.0	–0.4	–3.1	10.2	–12.5	0.8	–1.5
NEW MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS (trend)	Jun 00	–4.0	–5.7	–1.1	–3.7	–5.1	–3.1	0.8	–3.5	–3.9
	Latest period	*Syd.*	*Melb.*	*Bris.*	*Adel.*	*Perth*	*Hob.*	*Dar.*	*Canb.*	*Aust.*
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX										
Food(d)	Jun qtr 00	0.8	1.3	1.3	0.5	–0.5	1.0	120.6	0.4	0.9
Housing(d)	Jun qtr 00	0.9	—	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.6	1.6	0.5
Transportation(d)	Jun qtr 00	1.8	1.5	1.6	1.2	1.0	2.1	2.5	0.8	1.5
All Groups(d)	Jun qtr 00	1.0	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.7	1.0	1.0	0.8	0.8
Average retail prices (cents)										
Milk, carton, supermarket sales	Jun qtr 00	3.1	2.7	7.4	0.7	–0.7	0.7	0.7	2.5	n.a.
Bread, white loaf, sliced, supermarket sales	Jun qtr 00	9.5	4.7	7.5	31.9	10.3	18.7	2.3	9.0	n.a.
Beef, rump steak	Jun qtr 00	3.8	4.3	10.3	8.5	2.9	1.5	7.5	3.0	n.a.
Chicken, frozen	Jun qtr 00	5.9	6.5	–4.9	–4.2	0.3	–1.3	–10.8	14.3	n.a.
Potatoes	Jun qtr 00	–19.2	–12.3	–24.3	—	4.4	24.4	–15.1	–14.1	n.a.
Coffee, instant (jar)	Jun qtr 00	–15.3	3.9	–9.5	–11.1	–2.8	2.4	10.6	21.9	n.a.
Scotch nip, public bar	Jun qtr 00	4.5	6.5	5.2	1.7	1.6	4.2	5.7	3.7	n.a.
Private motoring petrol										
Leaded	Jun qtr 00	22.2	20.5	25.1	20.9	19.0	20.3	21.6	21.6	n.a.
Unleaded	Jun qtr 00	22.4	20.9	25.3	21.2	19.0	20.7	21.1	21.4	n.a.

(a) State estimates are not comparable to national estimates from the June quarter 1995 due to revised methodology used in Australian National Accounts, State Accounts (Cat. no. 5242.0).

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