



ECONOMIC INDICATORS

NEW SOUTH WALES

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- For more information about these and related statistics, contact Bill Markham on (02) 9268 4376 or e-mail bill.markham@abs.gov.au or refer to the back cover of this publication.

NOTES

GENERAL

This publication provides information on a wide range of economic indicators which are the latest available at the time of publication. In a number of cases, figures appearing in this summary are preliminary and are subject to revision in subsequent issues.

SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT AND TREND ESTIMATION

Seasonal adjustment is a means of removing the estimated effects of normal seasonal variation from a series so that the effects of other variations on that series can be more clearly recognised. Seasonal adjustment does not aim to remove the irregular or non-seasonal influences which may be present. This means that movements of seasonally adjusted estimates may not be reliable indicators of trend behaviour. Smoothing seasonally adjusted series produces a measure of the underlying trend by reducing the impact of the irregular component of the series. This smoothing technique does result in revisions to the most recent estimates as additional observations become available. For an explanation of seasonal adjustment derivation, refer to the publication *Seasonally Adjusted Indicators* (Cat. no. 1308.0).

STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATES

One measure of the variability which occurs as a result of surveying only samples of the total business population is the standard error. There are about two chances in three that a survey estimate is within one standard error of the figure that would have been obtained if all businesses had been included, and about 19 chances in 20 that it is within two standard errors. The standard error can also be expressed as a percentage of the estimate and this is known as the relative standard error (RSE).

For detailed explanatory notes and definitions for the items shown in this publication, readers are referred to the specific ABS publications.

Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications* (Cat. no. 1101.0). A *Release Advice* (Cat. no. 1105.0) is issued on Tuesdays and Fridays which lists publications to be released in the next few days. These publications are available from any ABS office.

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SYMBOLS AND OTHER USAGES

kWh	kilowatt hour
teraJ	terajoule
n.a.	not available
n.p.	not available for publication but included in totals where applicable
n.y.a	not yet available
r	figure or series revised since previous issue
. .	not applicable
—	nil or rounded to zero
—	break in continuity of series (where a line is drawn across a column between two consecutive figures)

Gregory W. Bray
Regional Director
New South Wales

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NSW OVERVIEW

EMPLOYMENT

The number of employed persons in NSW was 2,835,400 in seasonally adjusted terms in May 1998, a fall of 0.5% since April. National employment was almost unchanged in May.

UNEMPLOYMENT

Unemployment in NSW rose by 5.2% in May 1998 to a seasonally adjusted figure of 231,900. The unemployment rate rose from 7.2% in April to 7.6% in May in NSW and from 7.9% to 8.1% nationally.

JOB VACANCIES

There were 20,500 job vacancies in NSW in May 1998, a fall of 12.7% since February. National job vacancies fell by 3.0% in the same period.

BUILDING APPROVALS

The seasonally adjusted number of new dwelling units approved for NSW in April 1998 increased by 15.8% from the previous month to 5,191.

RETAIL

In seasonally adjusted terms, total retail sales for NSW in April 1998 was \$3,957.9 million, a decrease of 0.3% compared to the previous month.

NEW MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS

In seasonally adjusted terms, new motor vehicle registrations for NSW in April 1998 rose by 10.0% from the previous month to 22,791.

FINANCE

The value of housing finance commitments for owner occupation in NSW in April 1998 was \$1,908.1 million. This represented a 1.3% decrease from March 1998 and a 1.3% decrease from April 1997.

INVESTMENT

The March quarter 1998 trend estimate of total private new capital expenditure (at current prices) for NSW was \$3,777 million, a rise of 3.3% over the previous quarter.

MAIN FEATURES

BUILDING APPROVALS

The seasonally adjusted number of new houses approved for NSW in April 1998 rose by 4.0% over the previous month to 2,615. This was an increase of 5.9% on the figure a year ago. The number of total dwelling units approved was 5,191, representing an increase of 15.8% and 20.0% respectively over the same periods. At the national level, total dwelling units approved was 14,882, a rise of 8.3% on the previous month and up 19.5% on the figure a year ago. Private sector house approvals in NSW increased by 4.6% from the previous month. However, the trend figure, which had been rising since July 1996, fell by 0.5% in April.

In seasonally adjusted terms, the value of new residential building approved for NSW in April 1998 increased substantially by 38.2% on the previous month to \$669.6 million. In comparison to the 1997 figure for the same month there was a 32.4% increase. Nationally, the figure was \$1,668.5 million, a rise of 15.1% on the previous month and up 32.4% on the previous year. It should be noted that the national annual movement was identical to that for NSW. The value of alterations and additions to dwellings for NSW in April 1998 was \$154.5 million, reflecting strong growth (up 69.4%) compared to the figure a year ago. The national increase was 41.3% over the same period.

In original terms, the value of all building approved in NSW for April 1998 increased by 27.7% over the previous month to \$1,263.2 million. The national figure rose by 15.5% over the same period to \$3,082.4 million. Both NSW and Australia showed increases on the previous year, these being 49.1% and 35.3% respectively. All original and seasonally adjusted building approval data items for April 1998 presented in this publication showed increases both from the previous month and from the previous year.

INVESTMENT

For total private new capital expenditure (at current prices) the March quarter 1998 trend estimate for NSW was \$3,777 million. This represented a rise of \$120 million over the previous quarter. The NSW increase of 3.3% over this period compared with an increase of 1.7% for Australia.

The trend estimates for expenditure on buildings and structures for NSW rose by 2.0% to \$1,033 million. This expenditure has been relatively stable — between \$999 million and \$1,100 million — since the June quarter 1996. The trend estimates for expenditure on equipment, plant and machinery for NSW rose by \$100 million (3.8%) to \$2,744 million. This expenditure has been steadily rising over the past four quarters and is now 18.7% higher than in the March quarter 1997.

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ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION, NSW

Period	Estimated resident population at end of period			Increase during period			Mean estimated resident population for year ended	
	Males	Females	Persons	Natural increase(a)	Net estimated migration	Total increase(b)	30 June	31 December
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
1995	3 064.0	3 104.8	6 168.8	42.0	33.7	78.6	6 093.2	6 128.0
1996	3 098.2	3 142.6	6 240.9	40.6	29.3	72.1	6 167.2	6 204.2
1997	3 131.5	3 174.8	6 306.3	11.9	14.3	13.3	6 240.9	6 276.1
1996								
September qtr	3 089.1	3 132.3	6 221.4	8.8	7.9	16.6	..	..
December qtr	3 098.2	3 142.6	6 240.9	11.1	8.4	19.5	..	..
1997								
March qtr	3 108.6	3 152.6	6 261.3	11.4	9.0	20.4	..	..
June qtr	3 115.3	3 159.0	6 274.4	11.0	2.1	13.1	..	..
September qtr	3 124.9	3 168.1	6 293.0	7.6	11.0	18.6	..	..
December qtr	3 131.5	3 174.8	6 306.3	11.9	14.3	13.3	..	..

^a Excess of live births over deaths.

^b For dates prior to June 1996, differences between the total increase shown and the sum of the natural increase and net estimated migration arise from retrospective adjustments to population estimates (which are made after each Census) to compensate for any intercensal discrepancy. A description of intercensal discrepancy is contained in the ABS information paper Demographic Estimates: Concepts, Sources and Methods (Cat. no. 3228.0).

Source: Australian Demographic Statistics (Cat. no. 3101.0)

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LABOUR, NSW AND AUSTRALIA

Indicator	Unit	Latest period	New South Wales		Australia			
			Latest figure	Change from prior period %	Change from same period prior year %	Latest figure	Change from prior period %	Change from same period prior year %
Employed persons (seasonally adjusted)	'000	May 98	2 835.4	-0.5	1.1	8 567.4	-0.1	2.1
Unemployed persons (seasonally adjusted)	'000	May 98	231.9	5.2	-7.5	753.9	2.3	-6.7
Labour force (seasonally adjusted)	'000	May 98	3 067.3	-0.1	0.4	9 321.2	0.1	1.3
Participation rate (seasonally adjusted)	%	May 98	61.5	-0.2	-0.8	63.2	0.0	0.0
Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)	%	May 98	7.6	5.6	-7.3	8.1	2.5	-8.0
Industrial disputes—working days lost	'000	Mar 98	19.7	111.8	20.9	50.2	27.4	6.6
Job vacancies	'000	May 98	20.5	-12.7	4.4	73.3	-3.0	26.0
Average weekly employee earnings—full-time adult ordinary time earnings (seasonally adjusted)	\$	Feb 98	744.1	0.7	3.4	721.2	1.4	4.1

Source: *Labour Force, Australia, Preliminary (Cat. no. 6202.0)*, *Job Vacancies and Overtime, Australia (Cat. no. 6354.0)*, *Industrial Disputes, Australia (Cat. no. 6321.0)*, *Average Weekly Earnings, States and Australia (Cat. no. 6302.0)*

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LABOUR, NSW

Period	Seasonally adjusted						
	Employed persons '000	Unemployed persons '000	Labour force '000	Participation rate %	Unemployment rate %	Industrial disputes (working days lost) '000	Job vacancies '000
1997							
March	2 815.4	241.3	3 056.8	62.2	7.9	16.3	..
April	2 822.9	245.5	3 068.3	62.4	8.0	2.6	..
May	2 803.3	250.6	3 054.0	62.0	8.2	13.2	19.6
June	2 790.4	232.6	3 023.0	61.3	7.7	10.8	..
July	2 805.7	255.4	3 061.1	62.0	8.3	18.5	..
August	2 774.4	242.2	3 016.6	61.0	8.0	22.1	19.3
September	2 815.2	240.2	3 055.5	61.7	7.9	23.0	..
October	2 787.7	244.1	3 031.7	61.2	8.1	28.0	..
November	2 831.9	238.7	3 070.6	61.9	7.8	8.1	22.8
December	2 836.6	228.0	3 064.7	61.7	7.4	4.8	..
1998							
January	2 843.3	227.1	3 070.4	61.8	7.4	3.3	..
February	2 805.4	234.5	3 039.9	61.1	7.7	9.3	23.5
March	2 830.3	230.7	3 061.0	61.5	7.5	19.7	..
April	2 850.4	220.5	3 070.9	61.6	7.2	n.y.a.	..
May	2 835.4	231.9	3 067.3	61.5	7.6	n.y.a.	20.5

Source: *Labour Force, Australia, Preliminary (Cat. no. 6202.0)*, *Industrial Disputes, Australia (Cat. no. 6321.0)*

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LABOUR FORCE STATUS, NSW—ORIGINAL

Month	Employed		Unemployed		Labour force	Not in labour force	Civilian population aged 15 years and over	Unemployment rate(a)	Participation rate(b)
	Full-time workers	Total	Looking for full-time work	Total					
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	%	%
MALES									
May									
1994	1 352.4	1 504.8	160.0	172.8	1 677.5	649.4	2 326.9	10.3	72.1
1995	1 405.7	1 573.6	123.2	137.4	1 711.0	643.6	2 354.6	8.0	72.7
1996	1 408.5	1 592.8	118.4	137.0	1 729.8	656.4	2 386.2	7.9	72.5
1997									
March	1 434.1	1 603.9	126.3	147.2	1 751.1	661.9	2 413.0	8.4	72.6
April	1 421.2	1 610.1	120.9	139.1	1 749.3	666.3	2 415.6	8.0	72.4
May	1 408.0	1 597.3	127.6	143.3	1 740.7	677.4	2 418.1	8.2	72.0
June	1 416.4	1 598.9	116.8	129.1	1 728.1	692.7	2 420.7	7.5	71.4
July	1 422.3	1 600.4	130.3	145.4	1 745.8	677.8	2 423.6	8.3	72.0
August	1 390.3	1 567.6	120.3	135.2	1 702.8	723.7	2 426.5	7.9	70.2
September	1 434.3	1 613.3	126.1	147.6	1 760.9	668.5	2 429.3	8.4	72.5
October	1 428.1	1 595.3	121.3	138.9	1 734.2	698.1	2 432.3	8.0	71.3
November	1 431.3	1 615.2	119.0	138.1	1 753.3	681.9	2 435.2	7.9	72.0
December	1 456.8	1 637.6	116.8	135.1	1 772.7	665.4	2 438.1	7.6	72.7
1998									
January	1 441.8	1 616.3	127.1	141.7	1 758.0	682.3	2 440.3	8.1	72.0
February	1 431.8	1 599.2	129.3	150.7	1 749.9	692.5	2 442.4	8.6	71.6
March	1 432.2	1 613.1	123.5	140.6	1 753.7	690.9	2 444.6	8.0	71.7
April	1 441.4	1 622.7	104.7	122.9	1 745.6	701.8	2 447.3	7.0	71.3
May	1 434.0	1 614.6	115.7	133.2	1 747.8	702.3	2 450.1	7.6	71.3
FEMALES									
May									
1994	682.3	1 140.6	74.3	103.5	1 244.0	1 167.1	2 411.1	8.3	51.6
1995	698.6	1 172.9	58.0	89.2	1 262.1	1 175.7	2 437.8	7.1	51.8
1996	702.2	1 192.7	62.1	94.9	1 287.7	1 183.2	2 470.9	7.4	52.1
1997									
March	722.6	1 212.4	73.1	110.0	1 322.4	1 180.2	2 502.5	8.3	52.8
April	730.2	1 211.6	68.9	104.5	1 316.1	1 189.1	2 505.3	7.9	52.5
May	720.4	1 206.6	67.2	101.9	1 308.5	1 199.5	2 508.0	7.8	52.2
June	704.3	1 192.4	64.1	92.3	1 284.7	1 226.0	2 510.7	7.2	51.2
July	729.6	1 213.2	61.7	92.7	1 305.9	1 207.7	2 513.6	7.1	52.0
August	703.9	1 182.9	65.3	92.7	1 275.6	1 240.8	2 516.5	7.3	50.7
September	722.2	1 226.8	63.4	96.1	1 322.9	1 196.5	2 519.4	7.3	52.5
October	721.0	1 194.1	68.1	97.3	1 291.5	1 230.6	2 522.1	7.5	51.2
November	725.5	1 228.3	62.1	87.8	1 316.1	1 208.6	2 524.7	6.7	52.1
December	730.8	1 234.9	66.3	95.7	1 330.6	1 196.8	2 527.4	7.2	52.6
1998									
January	721.4	1 185.5	71.4	102.6	1 288.1	1 241.2	2 529.3	8.0	50.9
February	707.1	1 189.9	72.1	111.7	1 301.7	1 229.5	2 531.1	8.6	51.4
March	715.8	1 217.8	73.7	105.3	1 323.1	1 209.9	2 533.0	8.0	52.2
April	720.0	1 226.2	63.2	96.2	1 322.4	1 212.9	2 535.3	7.3	52.2
May	707.9	1 220.7	68.5	94.0	1 314.7	1 222.9	2 537.7	7.1	51.8

For footnotes see end of table.

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LABOUR FORCE STATUS, NSW—ORIGINAL *continued*

Month	Employed		Unemployed				Civilian population aged 15 years and over '000	Unemployment rate(a) %	Participation rate(b) %
	Full-time workers	Total	Looking for full-time work	Total	Labour force	Not in labour force			
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000			
PERSONS									
May									
1994	2 034.7	2 645.3	234.3	276.2	2 921.6	1 816.4	4 738.0	9.5	61.7
1995	2 104.2	2 746.5	181.2	226.6	2 973.1	1 819.3	4 792.4	7.6	62.0
1996	2 110.8	2 785.6	180.5	231.9	3 017.4	1 839.6	4 857.0	7.7	62.1
1997									
March	2 156.7	2 816.3	199.4	257.1	3 073.4	1 842.1	4 915.5	8.4	62.5
April	2 151.5	2 821.7	189.8	243.6	3 065.4	1 855.5	4 920.8	7.9	62.3
May	2 128.4	2 804.0	194.9	245.3	3 049.2	1 876.9	4 926.1	8.0	61.9
June	2 120.8	2 791.3	181.0	221.4	3 012.8	1 918.7	4 931.4	7.3	61.1
July	2 151.9	2 813.6	192.1	238.1	3 051.7	1 885.5	4 937.2	7.8	61.8
August	2 094.3	2 750.5	185.6	228.0	2 978.4	1 964.5	4 942.9	7.7	60.3
September	2 156.5	2 840.0	189.5	243.7	3 083.8	1 865.0	4 948.7	7.9	62.3
October	2 149.1	2 789.4	189.3	236.2	3 025.7	1 928.7	4 954.3	7.8	61.1
November	2 156.7	2 843.5	181.1	225.9	3 069.4	1 890.5	4 959.9	7.4	61.9
December	2 187.6	2 872.6	183.1	230.8	3 103.3	1 862.2	4 965.6	7.4	62.5
1998									
January	2 163.2	2 801.8	198.5	244.3	3 046.1	1 923.5	4 969.5	8.0	61.3
February	2 138.9	2 789.1	201.4	262.4	3 051.5	1 922.0	4 973.5	8.6	61.4
March	2 148.0	2 830.9	197.1	245.8	3 076.8	1 900.8	4 977.5	8.0	61.8
April	2 161.5	2 848.9	167.9	219.1	3 068.0	1 914.7	4 982.7	7.1	61.6
May	2 141.9	2 835.3	184.2	227.2	3 062.5	1 925.2	4 987.8	7.4	61.4

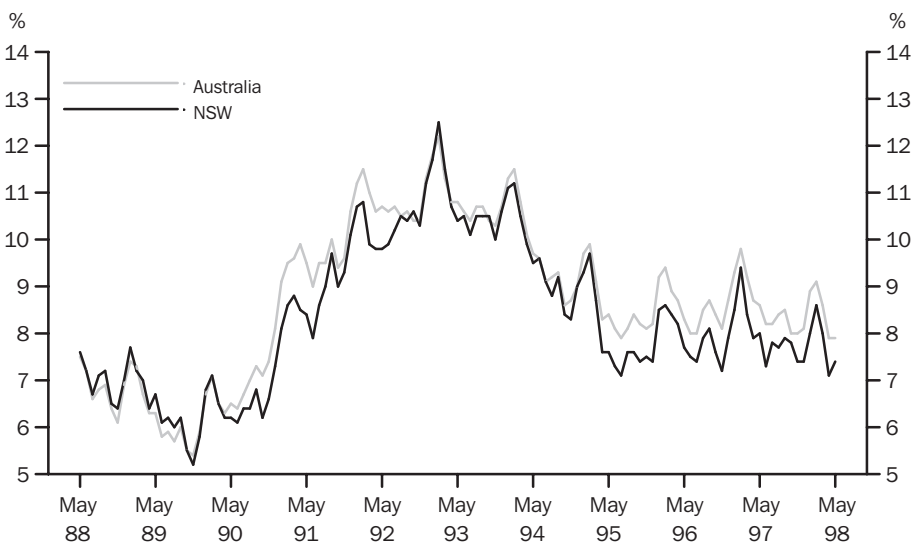
^a The number of unemployed in each group expressed as a percentage of the labour force in the same group.

^b The labour force in each group expressed as a percentage of the civilian population aged 15 and over in the same group.

Source: Labour Force, Australia, Preliminary (Cat. no. 6202.0)

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UNEMPLOYMENT RATE—ORIGINAL



Source: Labour Force, Australia, Preliminary (Cat. no. 6202.0).

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COAL, ELECTRICITY AND GAS PRODUCTION, NSW AND AUSTRALIA—ORIGINAL

Indicator	Unit	Latest period	New South Wales				Australia		
			Latest figure	Change from prior period		Latest figure	Change from prior period		
				%	Change from same period prior year		%	Change from same period prior year	
Raw coal won—									
Underground	'000 tonnes	Mar 98	4 326	-5.1	5.8	5 675	0.1	8.6	
Open cut	'000 tonnes	Mar 98	5 515	-4.1	-2.6	14 909	6.8	11.4	
Total	'000 tonnes	Mar 98	9 841	-4.3	0.9	20 584	4.8	10.6	
Electricity	mill. kWh	Mar qtr 98	14 390	-5.5	-4.9	42 669	-1.2	4.0	
Gas(a)	teraJ	Mar qtr 98	22 521	-11.5	-1.0	141 059	-6.8	4.2	

^a Available for issue through mains. Includes ACT.

Source: Joint Coal Board, Manufacturing Production, Australia (Cat. no. 8301.0)

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COAL, ELECTRICITY AND GAS PRODUCTION, NSW—ORIGINAL

Period	Raw coal won			Electricity	Gas(a)
	Underground	Open cut	Total		
	'000 tonnes	'000 tonnes	'000 tonnes		
1994-95	48 702	59 079	107 781	60 016	104 881
1995-96	54 314	58 775	113 089	62 047	104 141
1996-97	54 642	69 037	123 679	62 788	109 284
1997					
January	r3 971	r5 798	9 769	} 15 127	} 22 738
February	r3 831	5 583	r9 414		
March	4 088	5 663	9 751		
April	r4 804	r6 625	11 429	} 15 973	} 29 907
May	5 183	6 626	11 809		
June	4 717	5 785	10 502		
July	r6 491	r7 085	r13 576	} r16 632	} 34 086
August	r5 124	6 112	r11 236		
September	r4 911	r5 792	r10 703		
October	r4 498	r6 716	r11 214	} 15 220	} 25 445
November	r4 252	r6 084	r10 336		
December	r4 090	r5 997	r10 087		
1998					
January	r5 361	r6 322	r11 683	} 14 390	} 22 521
February	r4 560	r5 748	r10 308		
March	4 326	5 515	9 841		

^a Available for issue through mains. Includes ACT.

Source: Joint Coal Board, Manufacturing Production, Australia (Cat. no. 8301.0)

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BUILDING APPROVALS, NSW AND AUSTRALIA

Indicator	Unit	Latest period	Latest figure	New South Wales		Australia		
				Change from prior period %	Change from same period prior year %	Latest figure	Change from prior period %	Change from same period prior year %
Number of dwelling units(a) (seasonally adjusted)—								
New houses	No.	Apr 98	2 615	4.0	5.9	9 735	3.4	15.9
Total	No.	Apr 98	5 191	15.8	20.0	14 882	8.3	19.5
Value of new residential building (seasonally adjusted)	\$m	Apr 98	669.6	38.2	32.4	1 668.5	15.1	32.4
Value of alterations and additions to residential building(b) (seasonally adjusted)	\$m	Apr 98	154.5	33.8	69.4	283.6	15.3	41.3
Value of non-residential building(c) (original)	\$m	Apr 98	527.0	36.4	71.5	1 249.0	30.1	51.8
Value of all building (original)	\$m	Apr 98	1 263.2	27.7	49.1	3 082.4	15.5	35.3

^a Includes dwelling units approved as part of the construction of non-residential building and alterations and additions to existing buildings (including conversions to dwelling units).

^b Valued at \$10,000 or more. Includes conversions of existing buildings into residential buildings.

^c Valued at \$50,000 or more.

Source: *Building Approvals, Australia (Cat. no. 8731.0)*

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BUILDING APPROVALS, NSW

Period	Number of dwelling units(a), seasonally adjusted				Value of building approvals			
	New houses		Total		Seasonally adjusted		Original	
	Private sector	Total	Private sector	Total	New residential building	Alterations and additions to residential building(b)	Non-residential building(c)	All building
	no.	no.	no.	no.	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
1994-95	..	..	..	..	..	..	3 733.5	10 211.0
1995-96	..	..	..	..	..	..	3 650.3	9 168.6
1996-97	..	..	..	..	..	..	5 169.2	11 357.5
1997								
February	2 045	2 089	4 072	4 308	479.4	93.0	241.5	734.7
March	1 805	1 825	3 849	3 995	375.9	96.8	202.4	648.7
April	2 445	2 470	4 203	4 326	505.6	91.2	307.3	847.3
May	2 961	2 980	4 390	4 442	527.9	91.9	260.5	971.3
June	2 112	2 119	4 219	4 389	436.9	125.7	353.0	903.0
July	2 095	2 109	3 687	3 744	355.3	92.7	584.9	1 156.7
August	2 236	2 241	4 695	4 862	633.6	101.5	710.5	1 405.9
September	2 143	2 147	3 454	3 567	401.2	92.3	396.4	958.0
October	2 411	2 420	4 081	4 111	511.7	102.3	520.3	1 123.1
November	2 390	2 400	4 466	4 507	505.2	108.0	380.6	1 028.0
December	2 778	2 795	4 644	4 822	562.3	122.2	286.0	885.8
1998								
January	2 607	2 642	4 235	4 350	436.4	149.9	477.0	984.0
February	2 391	2 429	3 781	3 920	436.8	122.4	461.8	943.8
March	2 493	2 514	4 335	4 481	484.5	115.5	386.4	988.9
April	2 608	2 615	5 097	5 191	669.6	154.5	527.0	1 263.2

^a Includes dwelling units approved as part of the construction of non-residential building and alterations and additions to existing buildings (including conversions to dwelling units).

^b Valued at \$10,000 or more. Includes conversions of existing buildings into residential buildings.

^c Valued at \$50,000 or more.

Source: *Building Approvals, Australia (Cat. no. 8731.0)*

10

TURNOVER OF RETAIL ESTABLISHMENTS(a), NSW AND AUSTRALIA—SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

Indicator	Unit	Latest period	New South Wales				Australia		
			Latest figure	Change	Change	Latest figure	Change	Change	
				from prior period	from same period prior year		from prior period	from same period prior year	
%	%	%	%	%					
Food retailing	\$m	Apr 98	1 506.0	-2.9	3.5	4 587.4	-0.9	5.8	
Department stores	\$m	Apr 98	360.1	7.0	14.4	1 028.4	4.1	11.7	
Clothing and soft good retailing	\$m	Apr 98	266.5	2.7	-1.9	726.2	-0.1	4.3	
Household good retailing	\$m	Apr 98	436.3	-3.6	-1.0	1 286.7	-0.1	1.1	
Recreational good retailing	\$m	Apr 98	229.3	4.2	4.4	629.8	-0.1	0.1	
Other retailing	\$m	Apr 98	405.6	2.9	7.2	1 183.4	0.7	7.0	
Hospitality and services	\$m	Apr 98	754.0	-0.2	3.6	1 892.1	1.1	4.1	
Total value of retail sales	\$m	Apr 98	3 957.9	-0.3	3.9	11 334.0	0.2	5.7	

^a The figures shown are derived from a monthly survey of retail establishments. Excludes motor vehicle, boat and caravan dealers, service stations, smash repairers, tyre and battery retailers, bread and milk vendors, footwear repairers and electrical appliance repairers n.e.c. Retail establishments which do not have employees are excluded from the survey. Turnover includes retail sales, wholesale sales, takings from repairs, meals and hiring of goods; and commissions from agency activity (e.g. commissions received from collecting dry cleaning, selling lottery tickets etc.)

Source: Retail Trade, Australia (Cat. no. 8501.0).

11

TURNOVER OF RETAIL ESTABLISHMENTS(a), NSW—SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

Period	Food retailing	Department stores	Clothing and soft good retailing	Household good retailing	Recreational good retailing	Other retailing	Hospitality and services	Total
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
1997								
February	1 458.0	342.2	277.9	474.6	219.2	374.2	739.9	3 885.9
March	1 487.8	329.5	267.4	445.2	214.8	378.0	732.7	3 855.4
April	1 455.1	314.7	271.6	440.6	219.6	378.3	727.8	3 807.8
May	1 481.5	327.9	283.2	452.9	221.2	384.7	741.0	3 892.4
June	1 464.5	314.2	274.8	455.6	223.7	389.0	765.4	3 887.2
July	1 512.0	364.5	279.8	446.9	214.0	400.5	748.2	3 965.9
August	1 505.2	328.1	276.4	438.9	211.6	385.2	764.2	3 909.6
September	1 537.5	358.4	275.1	427.1	229.9	374.6	765.4	3 967.9
October	1 517.4	336.8	272.8	415.0	225.2	398.1	760.6	3 926.0
November	1 526.7	347.2	280.8	399.3	216.2	410.3	767.4	3 947.9
December	1 539.2	337.0	284.4	413.7	232.8	406.2	770.8	3 984.2
1998								
January	1 568.6	366.8	267.6	444.7	238.7	396.2	761.0	4 043.4
February	1 560.5	325.7	265.1	434.7	224.0	405.0	758.9	3 973.9
March	1 550.9	336.5	259.6	452.7	220.0	394.1	755.7	3 969.6
April	1 506.0	360.1	266.5	436.3	229.3	405.6	754.0	3 957.9

^a The figures shown are derived from a monthly survey of retail establishments. Excludes motor vehicle, boat and caravan dealers, service stations, smash repairers, tyre and battery retailers, bread and milk vendors, footwear repairers and electrical appliance repairers n.e.c. Retail establishments which do not have employees are excluded from the survey. Turnover includes retail sales, wholesale sales, takings from repairs, meals and hiring of goods; and commissions from agency activity (e.g. commissions received from collecting dry cleaning, selling lottery tickets etc.)

Source: Retail Trade, Australia (Cat. no. 8501.0).

12

NEW MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS(a), NSW AND AUSTRALIA—SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

Indicator	Unit	Latest period	Latest figure	New South Wales		Latest figure	Australia	
				Change from prior period %	Change from same period prior year %		Change from prior period %	Change from same period prior year %
Passenger vehicles	no.	Apr 98	19 342	9.0	12.5	56 293	5.5	15.7
Other vehicles (excluding motor cycles)	no.	Apr 98	3 450	15.8	30.8	10 829	12.6	23.9
Total registrations (excluding motor cycles)	no.	Apr 98	22 791	10.0	14.9	67 123	6.6	17.0

^a Includes vehicles (other than those of the defence forces) owned by Government departments and authorities. Excludes mobile plant and equipment, tractors, trailers and non-motorised caravans.

Source: *New Motor Vehicle Registrations, Australia, Preliminary (Cat. no. 9301.0)*.

13

NEW MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS(a), NSW—SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

Period	Passenger vehicles no.	Other vehicles (excluding motor cycles) no.	Total (excluding motor cycles) no.
1997			
February	16 927	2 894	19 820
March	16 761	2 837	19 598
April	17 194	2 637	19 831
May	16 924	2 770	19 694
June	17 978	2 728	20 706
July	17 377	2 763	20 141
August	16 977	2 732	19 709
September	18 454	2 711	21 165
October	18 920	2 729	21 650
November	18 995	2 513	21 507
December	18 315	3 020	21 335
1998			
January	19 116	2 967	22 083
February	18 501	3 259	21 760
March	17 747	2 978	20 725
April	19 342	3 450	22 791

^a Includes vehicles (other than those of the defence forces) owned by Government departments and authorities. Excludes mobile plant and equipment, tractors, trailers and non-motorised caravans.

Source: *New Motor Vehicle Registrations, Australia, Preliminary (Cat. no. 9301.0)*.

14

LICENSED HOTELS, MOTELS ETC., NSW AND AUSTRALIA—ORIGINAL

Indicator	Unit	Latest period	New South Wales				Australia		
			Latest figure	Change from prior period		Latest figure	Change from prior period		
				%	%		%	%	
Room nights	'000	Dec Qtr	3 220.2	3.4	0.0	9 640.8	1.3	0.9	
Room occupancy rate	%	Dec Qtr	59.0	2.6	-3.1	58.2	0.3	-2.9	
Takings	\$'000	Dec Qtr	345 737	6.3	3.7	979 184	3.1	3.5	

Source: Tourist Accommodation, Australia (Cat. no. 8635.0)

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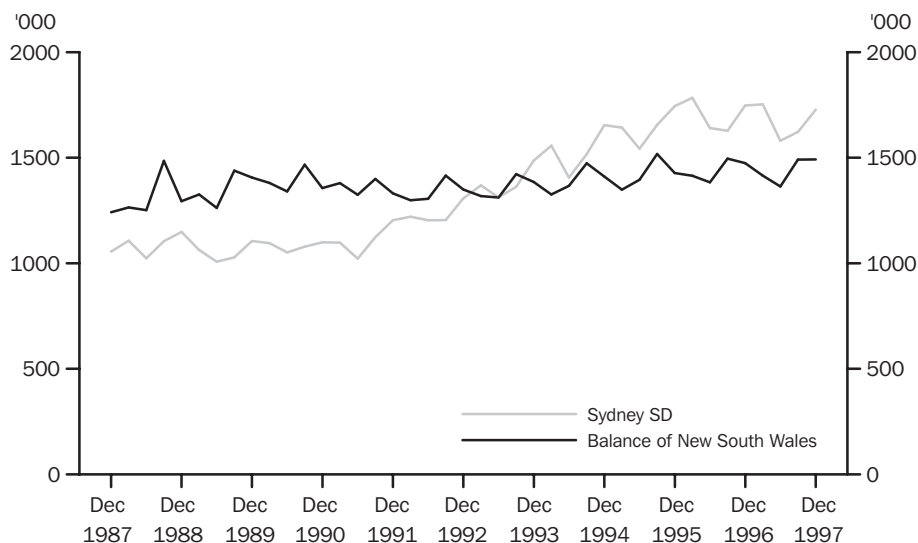
LICENSED HOTELS, MOTELS ETC., SYDNEY AND NSW—ORIGINAL

Period	Sydney			New South Wales		
	Room nights	Room occupancy rate	Takings	Room nights	Room occupancy rate	Takings
	'000	%	\$'000	'000	%	\$'000
1996						
September qtr	1 627.4	69.4	205 409	3 123.4	59.1	314 270
December qtr	1 747.3	74.7	232 355	3 221.7	60.9	333 494
1997						
March qtr	1 753.1	76.2	236 756	3 168.7	60.9	337 189
June qtr	1 581.0	67.9	214 116	2 945.2	56.0	305 726
September qtr	1 622.8	67.2	214 412	3 113.8	57.5	325 246
December qtr	1 728.1	70.6	240 678	3 220.2	59.0	345 737

Source: Tourist Accommodation, NSW (Cat. no. 8635.1)

16

LICENSED HOTELS, MOTELS ETC., QUARTERLY ROOM NIGHTS OCCUPIED—ORIGINAL



Source: Tourist Accommodation, NSW (Cat. no. 8635.1)

17

CONSUMER AND PRODUCER PRICE INDEXES, NSW AND AUSTRALIA

Indicator	Unit	Latest period	Latest figure	New South Wales		Australia(a)		
				Change from prior period %	Change from same period prior year %	Latest figure	Change from prior period %	Change from same period prior year %
Consumer Price Index (all groups)	1989-90 =100.0	Mar qtr 98	120.7	0.5	0.1	120.3	0.3	-0.2
Price index of materials used in house building (all groups)	1989-90 =100.0	Mar qtr 98	120.8	1.2	4.1	118.7	0.7	2.2
Price index of materials used in building other than house building (all groups)	1989-90 =100.0	Mar qtr 98	114.4	0.2	1.1	114.1	0.1	0.6

^a For the Consumer Price Index this is the weighted average of eight capital cities and for the other two indexes, the weighted average of the six State capital cities.

Source: Consumer Price Index (Cat. no. 6401.0), Price Index of Materials Used in Building Other Than House Building, Six State Capital Cities (Cat. no. 6407.0), Price Index of Materials Used in House Building, Six State Capital Cities (Cat. no. 6408.0)

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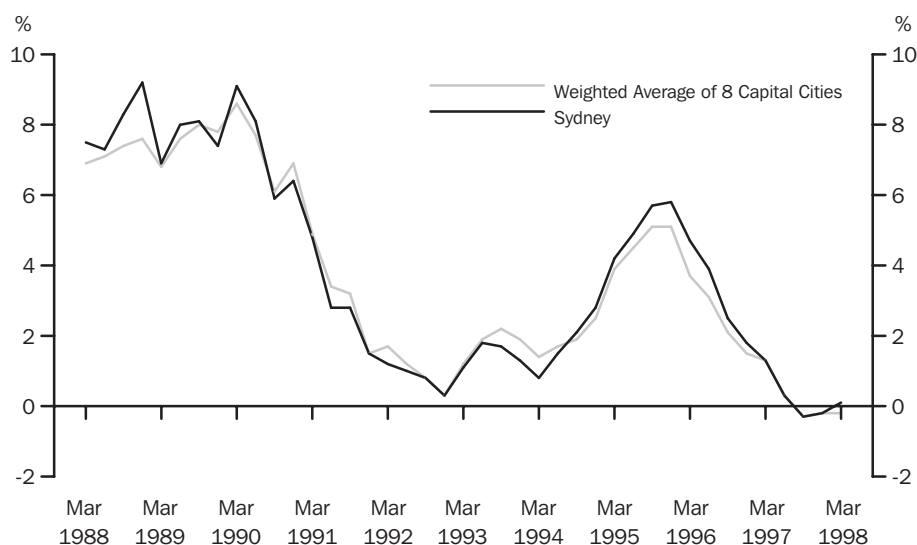
CONSUMER AND PRODUCER PRICE INDEXES, NSW

Period	Consumer Price Index, all groups	Price Index of materials used in house building, all groups	Price Index of materials used in building other than house building, all groups
	1989-90 = 100.0	1989-90 = 100.0	1989-90 = 100.0
1996			
December qtr	120.4	115.8	112.6
1997			
March qtr	120.6	116.0	113.2
June qtr	120.2	117.3	113.9
September qtr	119.8	117.8	114.2
December qtr	120.1	119.4	114.2
1988			
March qtr	120.7	120.8	114.4

Source: Consumer Price Index (Cat. no. 6401.0), Price index of Materials Used in Building Other Than House Building, Six State Capital Cities (Cat. no. 6407.0), Price Index of Materials Used in House Building, Six State Capital Cities (Cat. no. 6408.0).

19

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX, ANNUAL RATE OF CHANGE



Source: Consumer Price Index (Cat. no. 6401.0)

Indicator	Latest period	Latest figure	New South Wales		Australia		
			Change from prior period %	Change from same period prior year %	Latest figure	Change from prior period %	Change from same period prior year %
Lending commitments for the construction or purchase of dwellings—							
Construction of dwellings	Apr 98	222.0	-7.0	4.6	702.0	-5.3	6.6
Purchase of newly erected dwellings	Apr 98	107.1	-3.5	-8.1	236.5	-6.6	-8.7
Purchase of established dwellings(a)	Apr 98	1 307.1	2.0	6.1	3 656.5	-2.9	-4.5
Refinancing of existing dwellings	Apr 98	272.0	-11.2	-26.8	730.9	-6.7	-26.3
Lending commitments for alterations and additions	Apr 98	95.4	-10.6	-12.1	223.5	-12.8	-15.2
Total lending commitments to individuals for housing(b)	Apr 98	1 908.1	-1.5	-1.3	4 595.0	-3.5	-3.2
Total lending commitments to individuals for housing (seasonally adjusted)(b)	Apr 98	1 907.8	11.4	6.4	4 741.8	9.9	2.9

^a Excludes refinancing.

^b Excludes alterations and additions.

Source: *Housing Finance for Owner Occupation, Australia (Cat. no. 5609.0)*

21

SECURED HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS TO INDIVIDUALS FOR OWNER OCCUPATION, NSW

Period	Lending commitments for the construction or purchase of dwellings				Lending commitments for alterations and additions	Total lending commitments to individuals for housing(b)	
	Construction of dwellings \$m	Purchase of newly erected dwellings \$m	Purchase of established dwellings(a) \$m	Refinancing of existing dwellings \$m		Original \$m	Seasonally adjusted \$m
1994-95	2 162.6	819.8	9 952.4	2 381.9	1 242.0	15 316.7	..
1995-96	1 894.7	897.9	10 145.3	2 929.8	1 261.8	15 867.7	..
1996-97	2 117.3	1 233.9	12 565.7	4 062.3	1 221.2	19 979.1	..
1997							
February	175.6	100.1	981.9	297.5	92.9	1 555.1	1 591.4
March	187.5	106.3	1 121.1	328.4	103.8	1 743.3	1 715.8
April	212.2	116.6	1 231.9	371.7	108.5	1 932.3	1 792.4
May	221.3	121.3	1 282.3	316.2	99.7	1 941.1	1 778.7
June	193.0	120.8	1 122.6	327.5	89.9	1 764.0	1 735.7
July	220.8	116.8	1 218.6	321.5	93.1	1 877.8	1 707.7
August	213.6	114.8	1 154.9	310.7	90.3	1 794.1	1 824.0
September	236.2	116.0	1 210.2	322.4	102.7	1 884.7	1 856.1
October	224.0	110.9	1 253.3	302.3	110.1	1 890.5	1 884.3
November	201.1	110.0	1 198.4	261.8	97.9	1 771.4	1 804.5
December	203.8	111.7	1 137.4	246.8	90.6	1 699.7	1 789.0
1998							
January	168.7	72.8	918.8	237.9	80.8	1 398.2	1 927.9
February	216.3	98.3	1 136.5	298.5	105.5	1 749.5	1 790.2
March	238.7	111.0	1 281.6	306.3	106.7	1 937.6	1 713.1
April	222.0	107.1	1 307.1	272.0	95.4	1 908.1	1 907.8

^a Excludes refinancing.

^b Excludes alterations and additions.

Source: *Housing Finance for Owner Occupation, Australia (Cat. no. 5609.0)*

Item	July–April				
	Actual 1995–96	Actual 1996–97	Estimates 1997–98	1996–97	1997–98
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
RECEIPTS					
Current receipts					
Taxes, fees and fines					
Stamp duties	2 630	3 193	3 373	2 579	3 070
Payroll tax	2 876	3 161	3 338	2 654	2 825
Land tax	575	641	786	436	591
Motor vehicle tax	937	903	930	724	766
Gaming and betting	1 179	1 209	1 392	992	1 133
Licences	1 729	1 850	1 979	1 468	142
Commonwealth Safety Net Taxes	—	—	—	—	1 286
Other	943	1 000	1 114	857	821
Land transactions and royalties	246	243	238	193	200
Income from Non Budget Sector Enterprises	1 290	1 436	1 341	1 117	1 208
Commonwealth General Purpose Recurrent Grants	4 517	4 673	4 900	4 140	4 011
less—State Fiscal Contribution	—	210	216	177	180
Commonwealth Specific Purpose Recurrent Grants	2 757	2 944	2 962	2 109	2 387
Other	729	599	626	433	366
<i>Total current receipts</i>	20 408	21 642	22 763	17 524	18 626
Capital receipts					
Commonwealth General Purpose Capital Grants	—	—	—	—	—
Commonwealth Specific Purpose Capital Grants	867	854	854	616	562
Other	11	17	228	11	224
<i>Total capital receipts</i>	877	872	1 081	628	786
Total current and capital receipts	21 285	22 514	23 844	18 152	19 412
EXPENDITURE					
Current expenditure					
Departmental payments					
Services					
Health	5 116	5 381	5 585	4 422	4 818
Education(a)	4 641	4 928	5 174	4 062	4 149
Law and order(b)	1 247	1 679	1 711	1 324	1 449
Community Services	989	1 113	1 155	955	1 009
Other	3 944	4 057	4 192	3 253	3 321
Redundancies	17	22	38	17	39
Subsidies to Non Budget agencies					
Services	726	1 073	866	813	830
Redundancies	66	33	63	35	58
Interest payments	1 683	1 399	1 527	1 106	1 119
Superannuation	1 077	1 402	1 451	1 061	1 235
Treasurer's advance(c)	—	—	100	—	—
less—User charges	1 286	1 349	1 347	1 079	1 039
<i>Total current expenditure</i>	18 220	19 739	20 516	15 969	16 988
Capital expenditure					
Capital works	1 940	2 315	2 665	1 543	1 748
Capital grants	1 483	1 109	1 240	899	819
Advances made	65	69	15	65	6
less—Advances repaid	1 877	657	215	287	60
less—Asset sales	160	247	322	175	179
<i>Total capital expenditure</i>	1 449	2 589	3 383	2 045	2 334
Total current and capital expenditure	19 669	22 328	23 899	18 014	19 322
SURPLUS OR DEFICIT (–)					
Current account	2 188	1 903	2 246	1 555	1 638
Capital account	–572	–1 717	–2 302	–1 417	–1 548
<i>Total result surplus/deficit</i>	1 617	186	–56	139	89

^a Includes Department of Training and Education Co-ordination, Department of School Education, Office of the Board of Studies and TAFE.

^b Includes Attorney Generals Department, Department of Corrective Services and Police Services.

^c Expenditure from the Treasurer's Advance is included in the relevant current payments figures.

Source: Financial Statement released by NSW Treasury. Figures may differ from data published in annual ABS publications.

23

ACTUAL PRIVATE NEW FIXED CAPITAL EXPENDITURE, CURRENT PRICES—NSW AND AUSTRALIA, TREND

Indicator	Unit	Latest period	New South Wales				Australia		
			Latest figure	Change from prior period	Change from same period prior year	Latest figure	Change from prior period	Change from same period prior year	
				%	%		%	%	
Type of asset—									
New buildings and structures	\$m	Mar qtr	1 033	2.0	-3.7	3 220	0.7	-11.1	
Equipment, plant and machinery	\$m	Mar qtr	2 744	3.8	18.7	8 504	2.1	15.6	
Total	\$m	Mar qtr	3 777	3.3	11.6	11 724	1.7	6.8	

Source: State Estimates of Private New Capital Expenditure (Cat. no. 5646.0)

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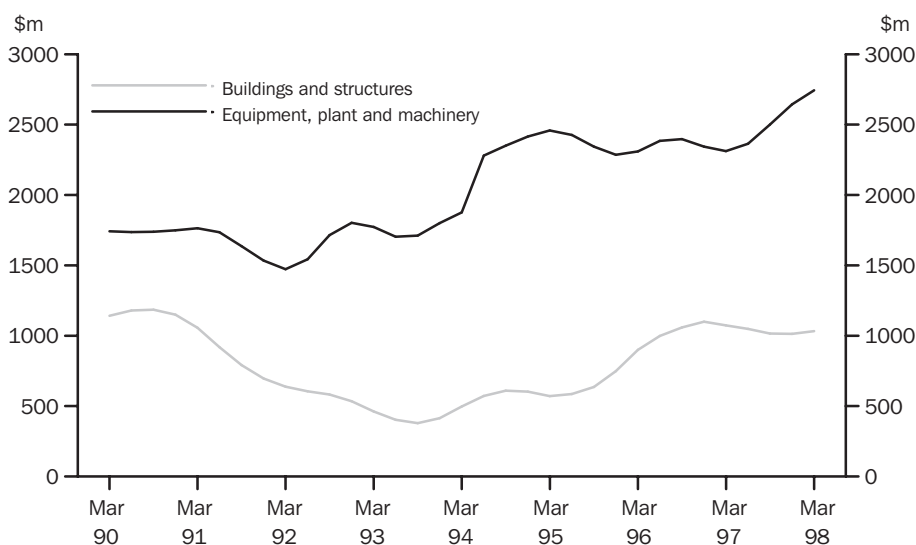
ACTUAL PRIVATE NEW FIXED CAPITAL EXPENDITURE, CURRENT PRICES—NSW, TREND

Period	Type of asset		Total
	New buildings and structures	Equipment, plant and machinery	
	\$m	\$m	\$m
1996			
December qtr	1 100	2 344	3 444
1997			
March qtr r	1 073	2 312	3 385
June qtr r	1 048	2 364	3 412
September qtr r	1 016	2 501	3 517
December qtr r	1 013	2 644	3 657
1998			
March qtr	1 033	2 744	3 777

Source: State Estimates of New Capital Expenditure (Cat. no. 5646.0)

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ACTUAL PRIVATE NEW FIXED CAPITAL EXPENDITURE, CURRENT PRICES—NSW, TREND



Source: State Estimates of New Capital Expenditure (5646.0)

Indicator	Unit	Latest period	New South Wales				Australia		
			Latest figure	Change from	Change from	Latest figure	Change from	Change from	
				prior period	same period		prior period	same period	
			%	%		%	%		
Overseas imports into NSW	\$m	Apr 98	3 068	-10.7	4.4	7 437	-9.1	10.3	
Total overseas exports(b)	\$m	Apr 98	1 467	-2.0	1.5	6 922	-0.2	9.5	
Exports of—									
Meat and meat preparations	\$m	Apr 98	65	-20.2	-14.4	273	-18.0	-3.4	
Cereals and cereal preparations	\$m	Apr 98	96	-19.2	-30.1	450	16.6	-20.5	
Wool and other animal hair	\$m	Apr 98	65	-8.4	5.3	237	-15.1	-15.5	
Coke, coal and briquettes	\$m	Apr 98	338	12.2	18.3	810	13.2	10.9	
Iron and steel	\$m	Apr 98	103	3.5	11.2	160	-15.8	8.4	
Aluminium	\$m	Apr 98	99	-7.2	12.0	285	-0.6	30.0	
Office machines and parts	\$m	Apr 98	36	-4.6	16.6	64	-20.3	5.7	

^a Figures shown are Free On Board (FOB) values.

^b Excludes re-exported goods. State of origin is defined as the State in which the final stage of production or manufacture occurs.

Source: *International Trade, Australia: FASTTRACCS Service (Cat. no. 5466.0)*.

Period	Overseas exports of selected commodities(b)								
	Overseas imports into NSW	Total overseas exports(b)	Meat and meat preparations	Cereals and cereal preparations	Wool and other animal hair	Coke, coal and briquettes	Iron and steel	Aluminium	Office machines and parts
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
1994-95	33 280	15 201	885	458	1 035	2 801	913	1 018	829
1995-96	34 891	16 684	794	822	720	3 338	1 037	1 111	638
1996-97	34 204	17 726	784	1 540	859	3 426	968	993	535
1997									
February	2 549	1 383	65	163	59	277	81	86	41
March	2 649	1 527	70	149	100	261	80	95	50
April	2 939	1 445	76	137	62	286	92	88	31
May	2 788	r1 718	75	197	74	289	112	99	40
June	3 182	1 552	68	204	61	270	57	73	41
July	3 221	1 760	74	145	104	335	65	97	45
August	3 002	1 763	71	185	79	318	93	116	44
September	3 217	r1 669	76	157	102	350	59	73	48
October	3 387	1 693	78	95	119	302	123	98	45
November	3 096	r1 761	89	148	130	328	98	102	51
December	r3 419	r1 835	88	165	116	384	89	99	r59
1998									
January	2 943	r1 430	65	134	72	355	115	118	37
February	r2 804	r1 456	75	111	r82	r322	87	82	38
March	3 438	r1 496	r82	118	r71	301	99	r106	r38
April	3 068	1 467	65	96	65	338	103	99	36

^a Figures shown are Free On Board (FOB) values.

^b Excludes re-exported goods. State of origin is defined as the State in which the final stage of production or manufacture occurs.

Source: *International Trade, Australia: FASTTRACCS Service (Cat. no. 5466.0)*.

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