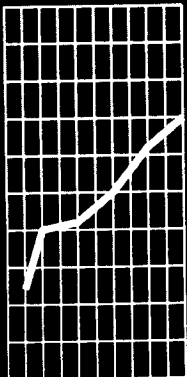




January 1998

EMBARGO: 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) TUES 6 JAN 1998

South Australian Economic Indicators



NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

ISSUE	RELEASE DATE
February 1998	2 February 1998
March 1998	2 March 1998
April 1998	1 April 1998

ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

South Australian Economic Indicators is a monthly publication which contains the latest available data at the time of preparation for a range of statistical series that have been identified as indicators of economic activity in this State. In a number of cases the figures presented are preliminary and subject to revision in subsequent issues.

CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

This issue contains an abstract of *SA Employment Outlook 2010*, a report by the SA Centre for Economic Studies, see page 23. There have been some changes made to the Statistical Summary section in the State Accounts section as data showing Gross State Product is no longer published on a quarterly basis.

SYMBOLS AND OTHER USAGES

n.a.	not available
n.y.a.	not yet available
*	subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes
..	not applicable
0, 0.0	nil or rounded to zero

ROUNDING

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

INQUIRIES

More detailed information on each series, including explanatory and technical notes, can be obtained from other Australian Bureau of Statistics publications or alternative data sources. To assist those seeking further information a source publication for each of the series has been documented in the statistical summary.

If you have any inquiries concerning this publication please contact Mark Parham, telephone Adelaide (08) 8237 7645.

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

Barry Haydon
Acting Regional Director
South Australia

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REVIEW

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN OVERVIEW

- State final demand increased by 2.0% in the September quarter, the second highest of all States/Territories.
- Merchandise exports where the final stage of production was in South Australia were valued at \$368.0m in October 1997, a 3.5% decrease on last month.
- The value of merchandise imports released from Customs control in South Australia were \$271.5m in October 1997.
- The trend estimate for retail turnover rose by 0.4% in October 1997.
- The trend for total new vehicle registrations increased by 0.8% in October 1997 and has risen for five consecutive months.
- The trend estimate at current prices for private new capital expenditure for the September quarter 1997 increased 10.7%.
- The trend estimate for dwelling unit approvals remained unchanged in October, following successive falls since May 1997.
- In original terms, 1,517 dwelling units were commenced in the September quarter 1997.
- In September 1997 there were 6,061 short-term overseas visitor arrivals and 14,484 short-term resident departures from South Australia.
- The trend unemployment rate for South Australia has remained at 9.7% for seven consecutive months.
- There were 1,200 working days lost through industrial disputes during September 1997.
- The trend estimate for the value of secured housing finance commitments for the construction of houses rose for the fifth consecutive month, up 1.4% to \$261.0m in October 1997.

STATE ACCOUNTS

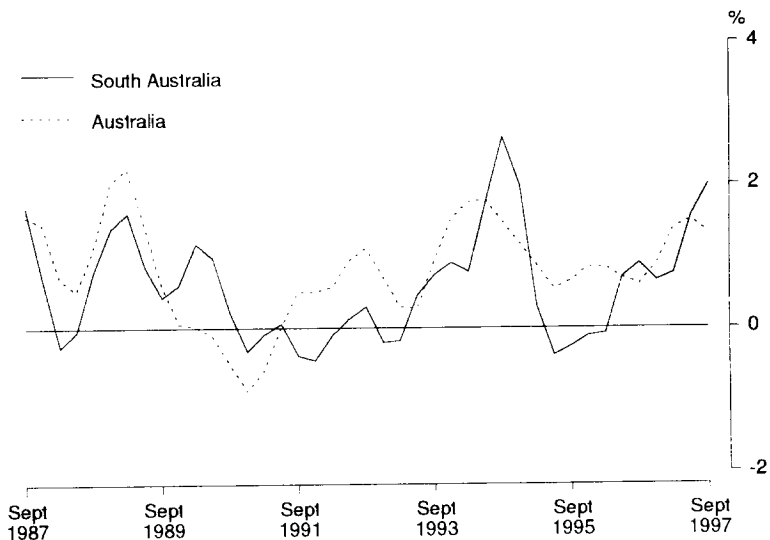
NOTE: The ABS no longer compiles quarterly State Account estimates. However, some of the information previously included in *Australian National Accounts: State Accounts* (Cat. No.5242.0) is now provided in a new Standard Data Service entitled *Australian National Accounts: Quarterly State Details* (Cat. No.5206.0.40.001). This information will be available quarterly, usually within one week of the release of the quarterly Australian National Accounts.

Trend (Constant prices)

State final demand (SFD) increased by 2.0% in the September quarter, the second highest of all States/Territories. The national rate was 1.3%. Growth through the year to September quarter 1997 was 5.1%, approximately the same as the national rate (5.2%). Contributing to the growth in SFD was a 6.3% increase in private gross fixed capital expenditure (due mainly to a 12.8% increase in non-dwelling construction).

Private final consumption expenditure rose 1.9% to be equal highest with the ACT. This continues an upward trend evident since the March quarter 1997 and was the strongest growth rate recorded since March 1995. Growth through the year to September quarter was 3.9% compared with the national rate of 3.3%

State final demand: **Trend** (Constant prices)(a)

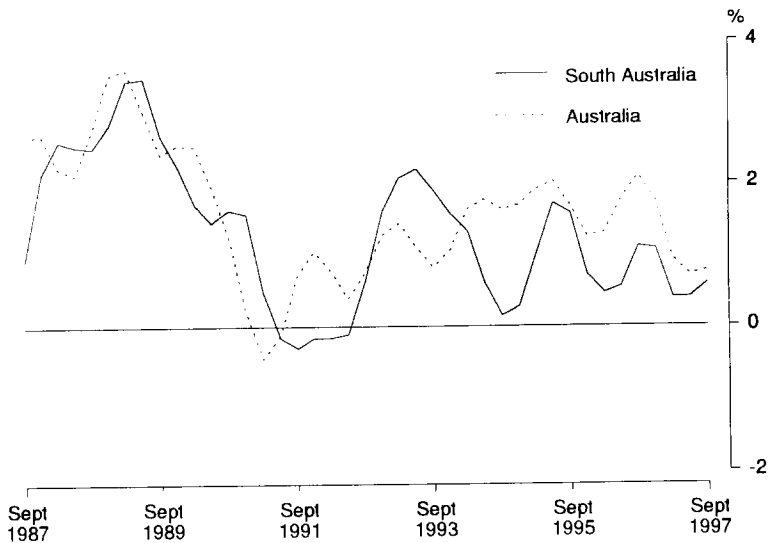


(a) Quarterly changes

Trend (Current prices)

Wages, salaries and supplements grew by 0.6% in the September quarter. Growth through the year to September 1997 was 2.5%, significantly below the national rate of 4.2%. South Australia has now been below the national rate for the past 15 quarters.

Wages, salaries and supplements: **Trend** (Current prices)(a)



(a) Quarterly changes

REVIEW *continued*

INTERNATIONAL ACCOUNTS

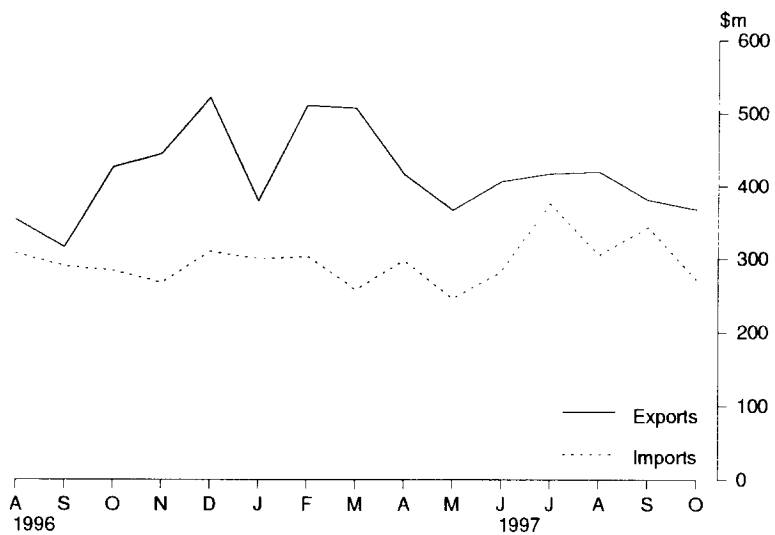
Merchandise exports

Merchandise exports where the final stage of production was in South Australia were valued at \$368.0m in October 1997, a 3.5% decrease on last month and a 13.5% decrease on October 1996. The major commodity groups exported during the month were wine \$61.8m, the second consecutive month with exports over \$60m, metals and metal manufactures \$48.4m, and road vehicles, parts and accessories \$39.2m.

The major destinations of South Australian exports in October 1997 were the United Kingdom \$54.5m and Japan \$52.2m. The increase in exports to the United Kingdom boosted exports to the European Community to \$89.0m whilst exports to the East Asia region fell \$22.5m to \$158.8m, with Japan and Hong Kong recording the largest decreases, \$12.0m and \$10.6m respectively.

Merchandise imports

The value of merchandise imports released from Customs control in South Australia were \$271.5m in October 1997, a 21.1% decrease on the previous month and a 4.4% decrease on October 1996. The decrease in total imports for October 1997 compared with the previous month was the result of decreases in the importation of petroleum and petroleum products down to \$2.1m from \$61.1m and other manufactured goods down to \$56.7m from \$81.3m. These decreases were partly offset by an increase in road vehicles, parts and accessories, up \$10.1m to \$68.0m.



REVIEW *continued*

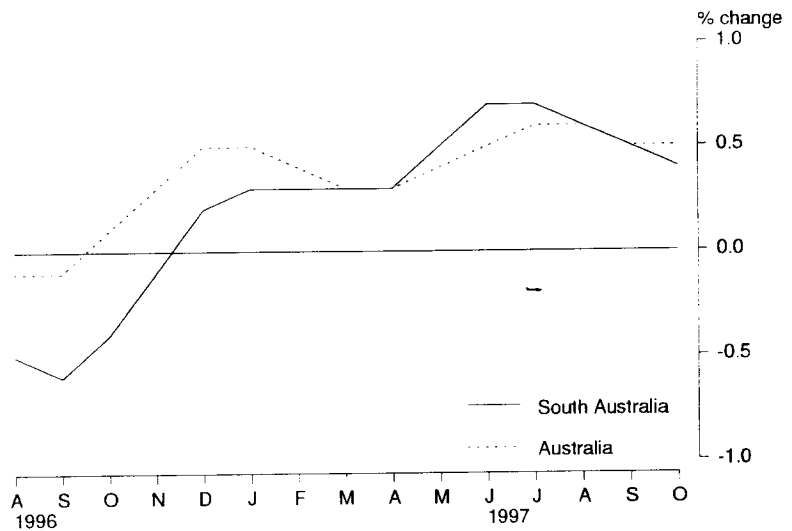
CONSUMPTION AND INVESTMENT

Retail turnover

The trend estimate for retail turnover rose by 0.4% in October 1997. The slowing of growth in the trend estimate over the last three months is due mainly to recent easing in the food retailing industry.

Over the three months to October 1997 the trend estimate has increased by \$12.1m. The major contributors to this growth were food retailing (\$9.5m) and household good retailing (\$7.5m) which was partly offset by a decrease in hospitality and services (\$9.2m).

Retail turnover: **Trend**



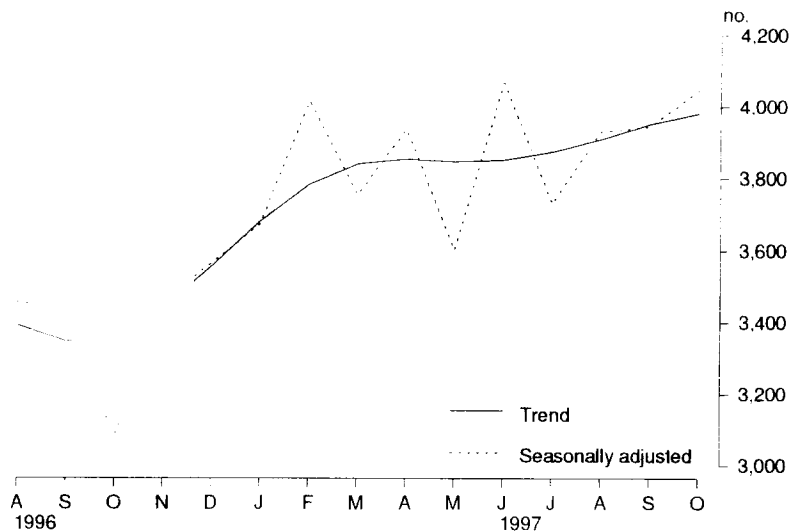
In original terms, South Australian retail turnover was \$840.2m in October 1997, an increase of 8.1% on September 1997 and a 6.0% increase on October 1996. The Australian turnover was \$11,433.2m, an increase of 6.3% and 5.7% for the corresponding periods. The South Australian share of the Australian total was 7.3%.

New motor vehicle registrations

The trend for total new vehicle registrations increased by 0.8% in October 1997 and has risen for five consecutive months. Passenger vehicle registrations for October 1997 rose by 1.1% and other vehicle registrations fell by 0.7% compared with the previous month. The Australian trend has increased in each month since September 1996

In original terms there were 4,333 new motor vehicles registered in October 1997, an increase of 3.8% on September and a 28.8% increase on October 1996. For new passenger vehicles, the leading makes registered in October 1997 were Mitsubishi (808 vehicles), Holden (731), Ford (637), Toyota (506), and Hyundai (317).

New motor vehicle registrations

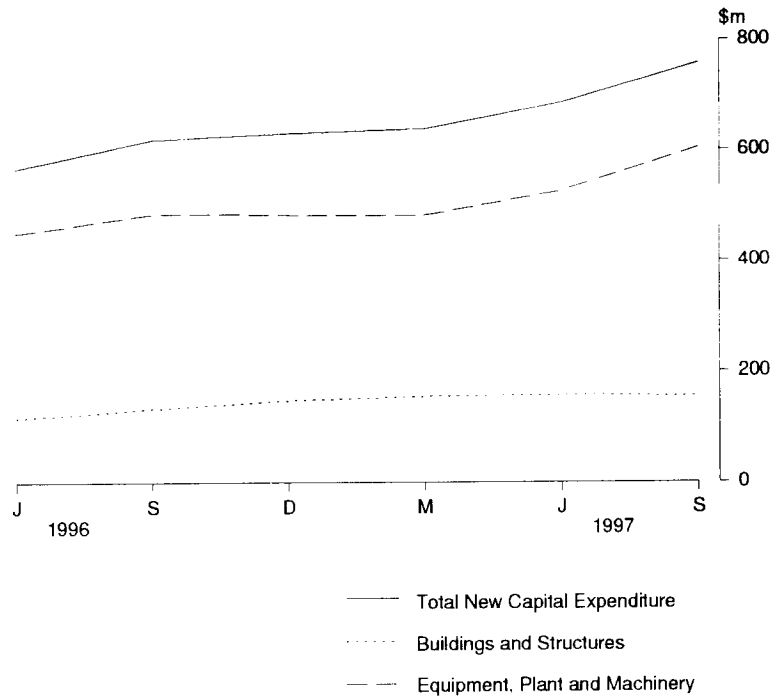


Private new capital expenditure

The trend estimate at current prices for private new capital expenditure for the September quarter 1997 increased 10.7%. Expenditure on buildings decreased by 2.5%, while expenditure on equipment rose by 14.8%. The Australian total decreased by 0.4% in the same period.

Private new capital expenditure in original terms for the September quarter 1997 was \$718m, an increase of 11.0% from the September quarter 1996. Buildings and structures accounted for \$159m, and equipment, plant and machinery \$559m.

Private capital expenditure, Type of asset: **Trend**



Tourist accommodation

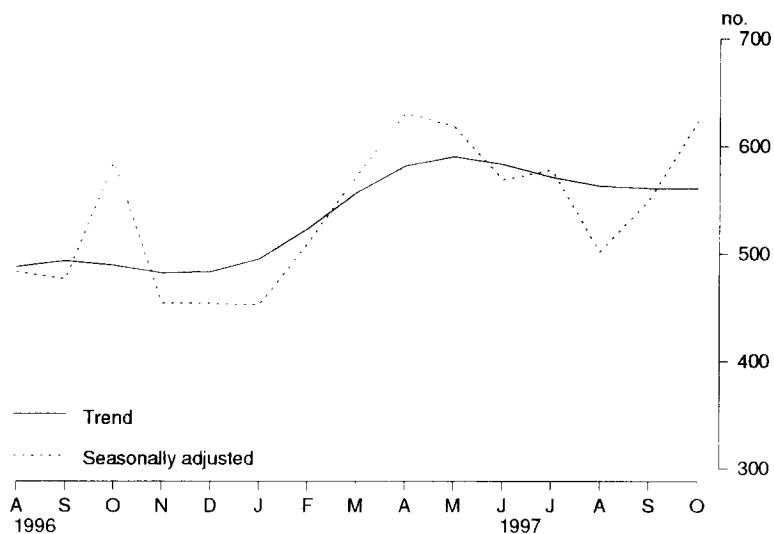
When June quarter 1997 is compared with June quarter 1996, the number of rooms available in hotels, motels and guesthouses in South Australia was largely unchanged, with 10,842 rooms, 23 less than the previous year. The room occupancy rate fell marginally to 51.1%. Takings from accommodation increased by 3.2% from \$39.1m to \$40.4m with the average takings per room night occupied rising from \$77 to \$80.

PRODUCTION

Building approvals

The trend estimate for dwelling unit approvals remained unchanged in October, following successive falls since May 1997, however when compared to the trend estimate for October 1996, the October 1997 figure is 14.7% higher. In original terms, the number of dwelling unit approvals for October 1997 was 599, one less than for the previous month.

Dwelling units approved



The trend for total dwelling units is 11.3% above October 1996 for Australia. In recent months the trend has been relatively flat, with an increase of 2.0% over the last four months, after two months of slight decline.

In original terms, South Australia accounted for 4.7% of the total dwelling units approved in Australia during October 1997.

The value of new residential building approved in South Australia was \$51.2m marginally down from \$51.9m while alterations and additions to residential buildings rose by 12.1% for October 1997.

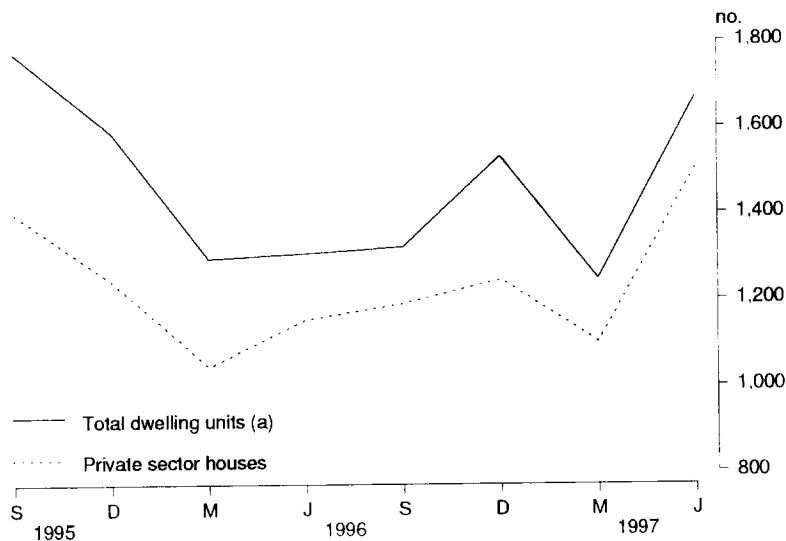
The value of non-residential building approved for October has almost halved, falling to \$34.1m, the lowest since December 1996. Of the total, Factories accounted for \$12.3m followed by Shops contributing \$7.8m.

Overall for October 1997, the value of all buildings approved fell by 19.6% to \$97.4m from the September 1997 value of \$121.1m.

Building activity

In original terms, 1,517 dwelling units were commenced in the September quarter 1997 for South Australia. This represents a fall of 10.3% from the previous quarter and a 14.8% rise from that of a year earlier. In comparison, the national figure remained steady when compared to the previous quarter while over the last 12 month period it rose by 12.5%. Of the Australian total number of dwelling units commenced, 4.4% were commenced in South Australia.

Dwelling units commenced



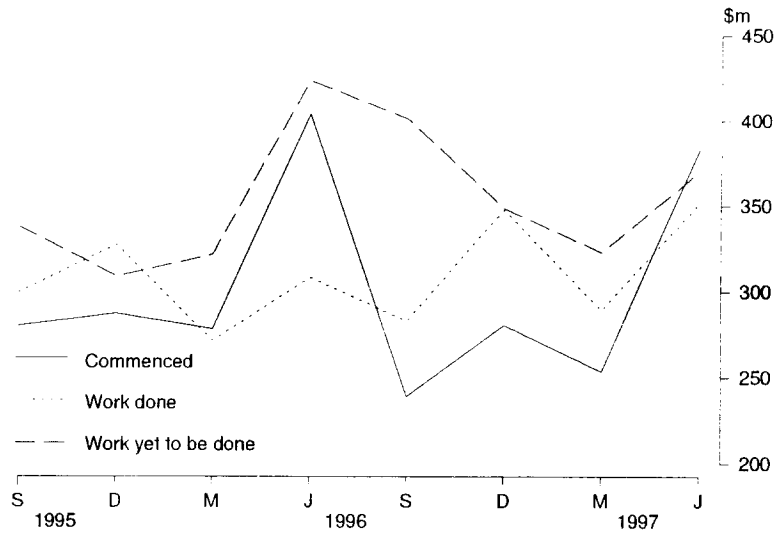
(a) Includes conversions

For the June quarter 1997, the total value of building work done rose by 21.5% to \$351.4m. Nationally the value of building work done also recorded an increase, rising 4.6% to \$7,124.8m. For 1996-97, \$1,271.7m of building work was done in South Australia, 5.3% more than the previous year.

The total value of building work yet to be done in South Australia was \$370.4m, an increase of 14.7% from the previous quarter while the corresponding national figure increased by 1.0%.

Expressed as a proportion of the national total, the total value of building work yet to be done in South Australia was up 3.6% for the June quarter 1997 when compared with the previous quarter.

Value of building activity



Engineering construction

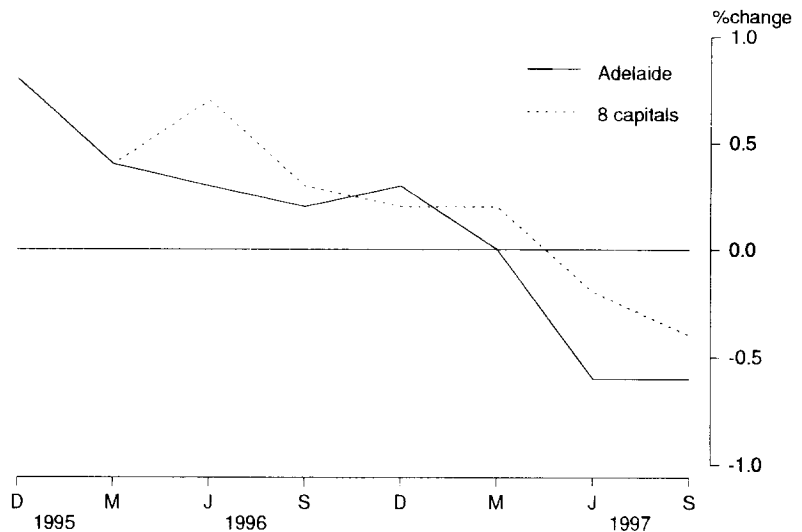
The value of engineering construction work done increased by 53.6% to \$307.7m for the June quarter 1997. South Australia had a 7.2% share of the national total of \$4,256.4m. The value of work commenced during the quarter increased by 23.3% to \$309.8m for South Australia while the corresponding national figure increased by 36.9% to \$4,513.7m. The South Australian proportion of national commencements was 6.9% for the June quarter 1997.

PRICES

Consumer Price Index

The Consumer Price Index (all groups) in Adelaide decreased by 0.6% between the June and September quarters 1997. This was the second consecutive quarterly decrease. Contributing most to the overall decrease for the September quarter were falls in the health and personal care, and housing groups. The annual movement in the Adelaide index was a decrease of 0.8%.

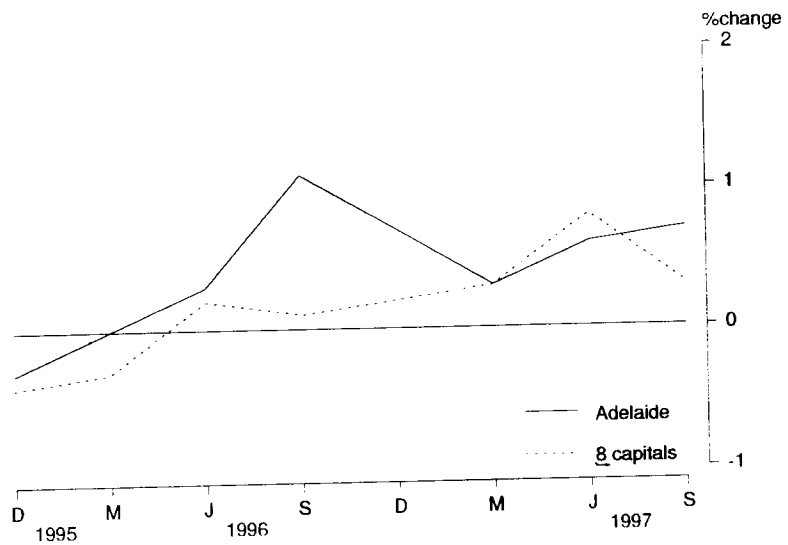
Consumer price index



House building materials index

The Price Index of Materials Used in House Building rose 0.7% in Adelaide for the September quarter 1997. The increase can be attributed to rises in softwood and electrical cable. The weighted average of the six State capitals rose 0.3%.

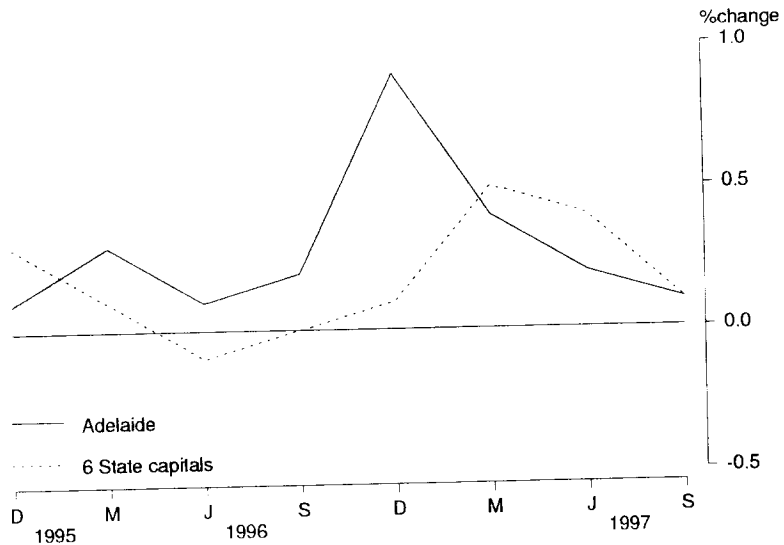
For the year to September quarter 1997 the index increased 2.3% in Adelaide with the weighted average of the six State capitals increasing 1.5% for the same period.



Non-house building materials index

A rise of 0.1% in the Price Index of Materials Used in Building Other than House Building was recorded for the September quarter 1997 in Adelaide. Softwood, non-ferrous pipes and electrical cable were the main contributors to the rise. The weighted average of the six State capitals also rose 0.1% for the quarter.

For the year to September quarter 1997 the index increased 1.5% in Adelaide with the weighted average of the six State capitals increasing 1.2% for the same period.



House prices indexes

During the September quarter 1997 the Price Index of Established Houses in Adelaide rose by 0.7% and the Project Home Index increased by 4.7%. The weighted average of the eight capital cities index, over the same period showed a 1.8% increase for established houses and 0.6% for project houses.

Over the year to the September quarter 1997 the Established House Price Index for Adelaide rose 1.9% whilst the Project Home Price Index increased by 0.5%. Nationally, the indexes showed 4.3% and 0.5% increases respectively.

Passenger transport cost index

The Passenger Transport Cost Index measures changes in the costs of operating a public transport passenger bus service in Adelaide. Costs covered include labour costs, leasing charges, registration and insurance, repairs and maintenance, fuel and overheads. The index has been compiled on a quarterly basis from September 1995 with a base of 100.0 in 1993-94. The September quarter 1997 index was 108.2, a 0.2% increase from the June quarter 1997. The index showed a 3.9% increase in the 12 months to September 1997.

LABOUR FORCE AND DEMOGRAPHY

Population

At 30 June 1997 the estimated resident population of South Australia was 1,479,806. This was an increase of 1,864 persons from the March quarter and was due to a natural increase of 2,023 persons partly off set by net migration gain of -159 persons.

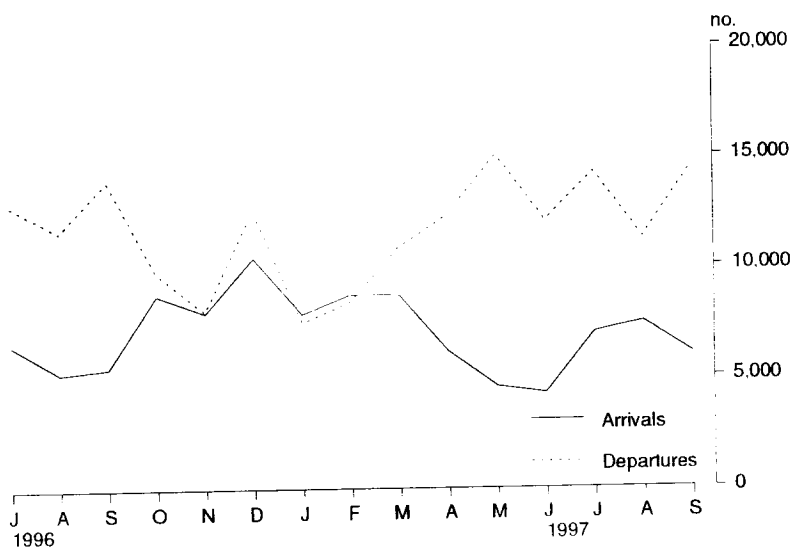
Short-term overseas visitor arrivals

In September 1997 there were 6,061 short-term overseas visitor arrivals to South Australia. This represents a fall of 18.8% (1,404) from August 1997, however a comparison with the same time last year reveals an increase of 10.6%. Australia, when compared with August 1997, experienced little change in the number of visitors, up 0.2%, however when compared with September 1996 (309,155) total visitors increased by 7.0%. The proportion of total visitors to South Australia fell to 1.8% from 2.3% in August 1997.

Short-term resident departures

There were 14,484 short-term resident departures from South Australia in September 1997. This represents an increase of 4.1% and 28.8% when compared with September 1996 (13,917) and August 1997 (11,245) respectively. Similar increases were recorded for Australia, up 8.1% from September 1996 and 26.8% from August 1997. South Australia accounted for 4.8% of short-term resident departures.

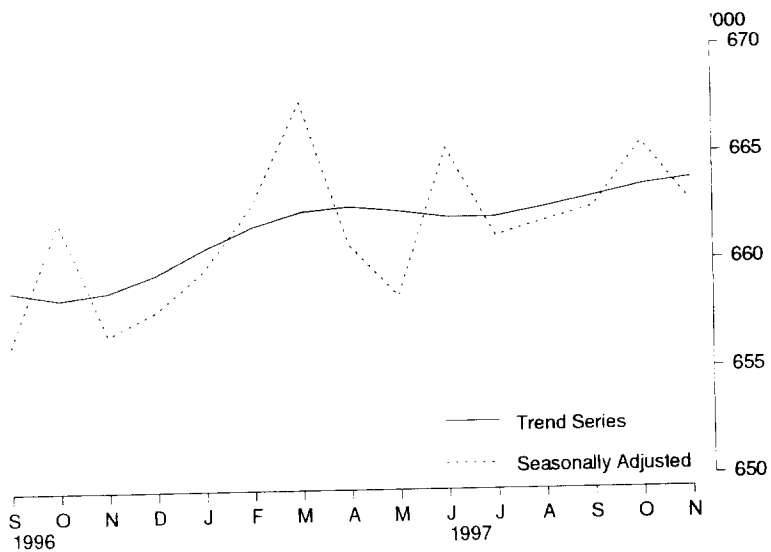
Short-term arrivals and departures



EMPLOYMENT

The trend estimate of employed persons in South Australia was 663,800 in November 1997. This was 0.8% higher than the level (658,700) in November 1996. The main contributing factor has been an increase in part-time employment of 2.2%.

Employed persons



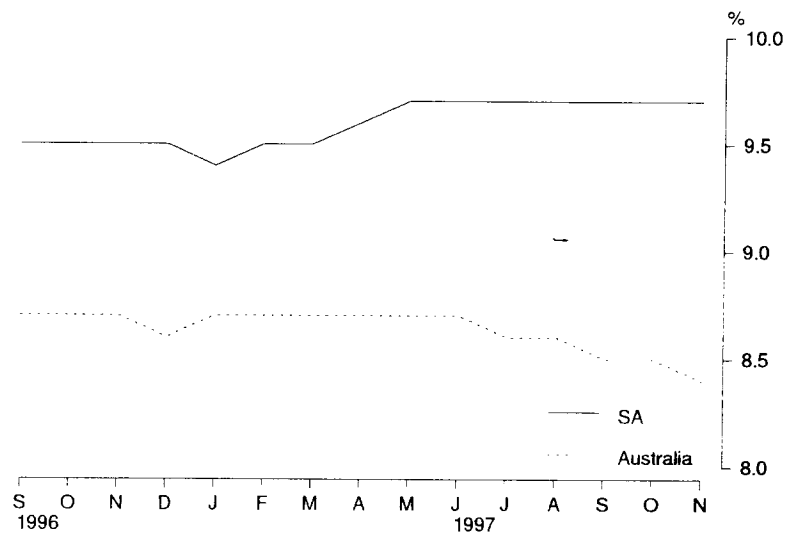
Unemployment

The trend unemployment rate for South Australia has remained at 9.7% for seven consecutive months. Current levels are higher than the 9.5% recorded in November 1996.

At November 1997, the median duration of unemployment (one half of all observations lie above this value, and the other half below) in South Australia was 33 weeks, higher than the 27 weeks recorded 12 months ago.

In original terms, the teenage full-time unemployment rate in South Australia was 28.8% in November 1997, compared with 31.6% in November 1996. Recent levels are much lower than the April 1997 high of 42.7%.

Unemployment rates: **Trend**



The trend estimate of the unemployment rate for Australia has decreased gradually from 8.7% in November 1996 to 8.4% in November 1997.

Overtime

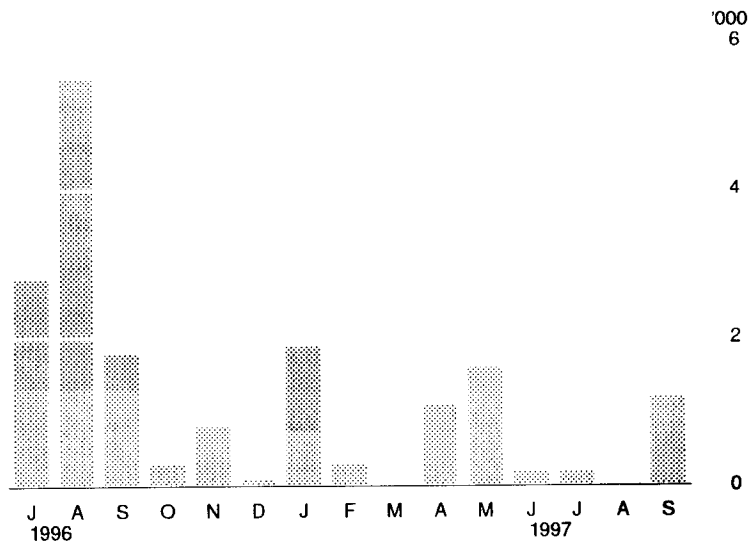
In original terms, the proportion of employees who worked overtime in South Australia in August 1997 was 16.7%. This was considerably higher than the August 1996 estimate of 14.3%.

In August 1997, employees who worked overtime in South Australia recorded an average of 6.0 overtime hours per week. This was lower than the 6.7 overtime hours recorded 12 months earlier.

Industrial disputes

There were 1,200 working days lost through industrial disputes during September 1997. Although this was a large increase over the previous month when less than 50 days were lost, South Australia remained as one of the lowest States with disputations, reporting only 7,700 working days lost for the year ending September 1997. The Australian rate for the same period was 461,000 working days lost.

Working days lost



INCOMES

Average weekly earnings

The trend estimate of average weekly ordinary time earnings of full-time adult male employees in South Australia has increased by 1.4% from \$693.10 in May 1997 to \$703.00 in August 1997. For females, the corresponding increase was less pronounced at 0.3% from \$582.30 in May 1997 to \$584.10 in August 1997.

Between May 1997 and August 1997, the trend estimate of average weekly total earnings of all employees (including part-time workers) in South Australia rose by 1.6% to \$545.70. Over the same period, the national level increased by 0.6% to \$583.60.

Note: Since it is an average of earnings across all employees, changes in average weekly earnings may occur through changes in employment as well as changes in pay levels.

Award rates of pay

In the 12 months to June 1997, the weekly award rates of pay index for full-time employees in both South Australia and Australia increased by 1.4%.

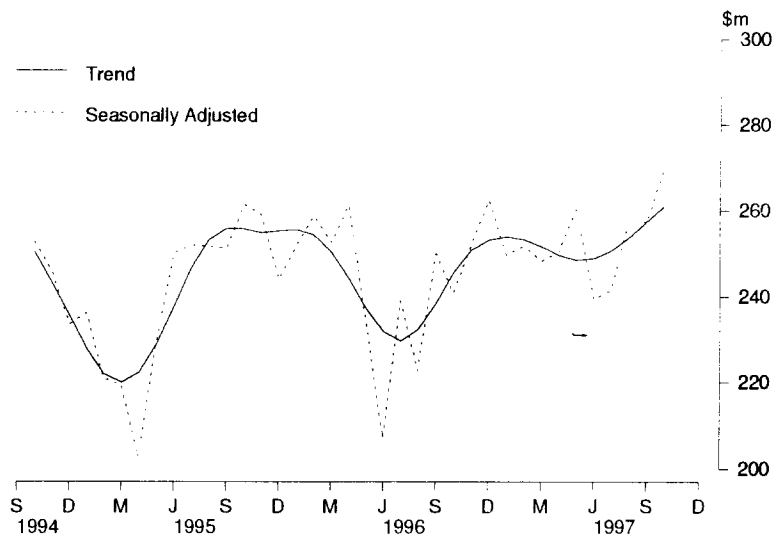
Note: June was the last month of issue of this index. It will be replaced by a wage costs index, due for release in May 1998 and covering the December 1997 quarter. Non-wage costs, for example fringe benefits tax and payroll tax, will be added in consecutive stages to produce a composite labour costs index. This indicator should be available in early 1999.

FINANCIAL MARKETS

Housing finance

The trend estimate for the value of secured housing finance commitments for the construction of houses rose for the fifth consecutive month, up 1.4% to \$261.0m in October 1997. Commitments are now 6.5% higher than the previous October. Nationally the trend rose marginally, up 0.8% for the month, continuing the upward movement since early 1996. Seasonally adjusted, the value of commitments in South Australia was \$269.8m, up 4.9% for the month and 12.0% above the previous October.

Secured housing finance commitments(a)

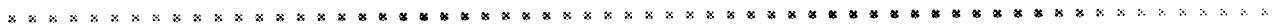


(a) Excludes alterations and additions. Includes refinancing.

Total housing finance commitments (original figures including alterations and additions) increased 5.9% to \$278.0m, 12.3% above the previous October. The number of dwellings financed increased 3.3% to 3,134 with a rise in the average borrowing size of 1.6% to \$84,600. Nationally there was an increase in total new lending commitments of 2.1% for the month, 14.2% above October 1996, with the average borrowing size of \$112,940.

Commitments for the purchase of established dwellings, the largest category, were up 2.5% to \$152.8m, marginally below the previous October. Commitments for newly erected dwellings were up 25.4% to \$8.5m. Construction of dwellings decreased 6.8% to \$33.3m but continued to be significantly above the corresponding month of the previous year for the seventh consecutive month.

Refinancing rose 15.3% to \$70.4m, 55.2% above October 1996 to be 25.3% of total new lending. Alterations and additions increased 30.2% to \$12.9m following the lowest month for four years.



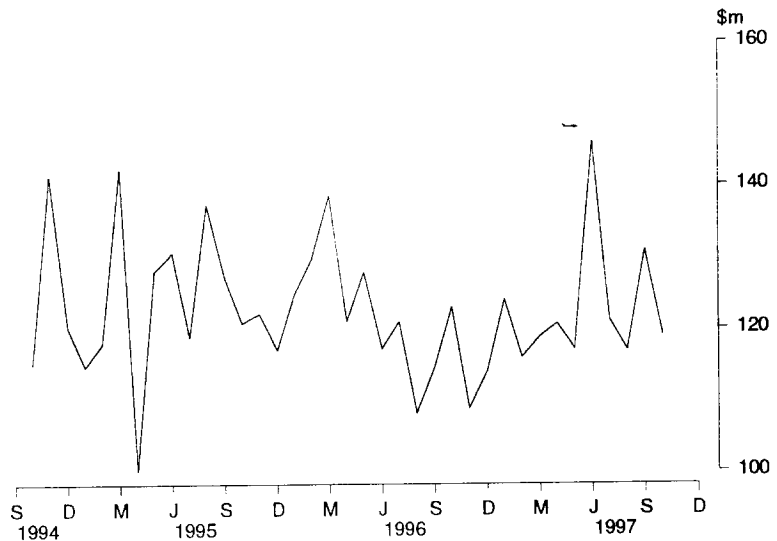
Personal finance

Total personal finance commitments increased 6.0% to \$231.5m in October 1997, 13.7% above the previous October and representing 5.9% of the Australian total. Nationally, total commitments increased 13.1%, 31.0% higher than October 1996.

The increase in South Australia's total commitments was due to the rise in revolving credit facilities, up 28.5% to \$112.4m while nationally the increase for the month was 24.7%. The increase for South Australia was spread fairly evenly between secured and unsecured credit facilities.

Fixed loan commitments decreased 9.1% to \$119.1m, following the high September figure, and were 3.2% below the previous October. Significant falls were recorded for refinancing (down 37.1%), debt consolidation (down 18.2%) and alterations and additions to dwellings (down 43.8%). Used motor cars and station wagons, the largest category, were down marginally to \$37.5m. The main increases were for boats, caravans and trailers (up 78.1%) and household and personal goods (up 30.7%).

Fixed loan commitments, all lenders

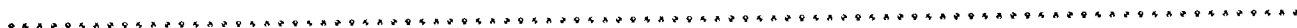


Commercial finance

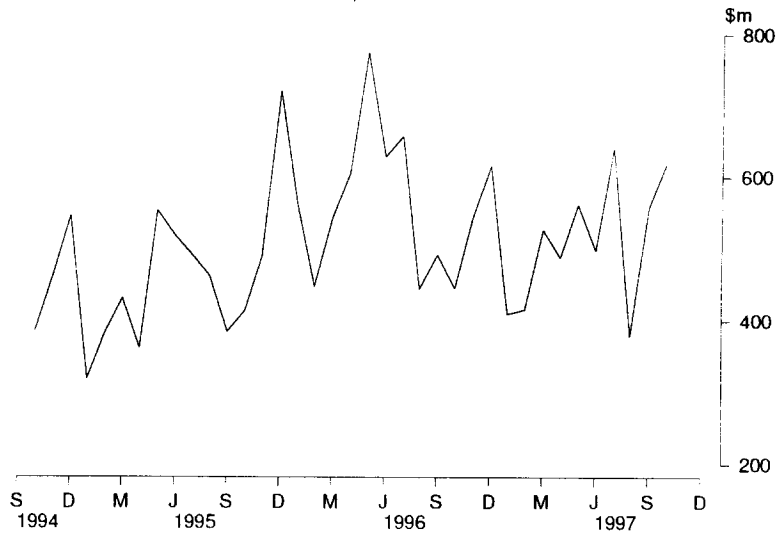
Total commercial finance commitments for October 1997 increased 11.1% to \$619.2m to be 39.2% above the previous October. Nationally commercial finance commitments increased 5.1% for the month, 37.3% higher than the previous October.

The bulk of the increase came from commitments under fixed loan facilities, up 15.5% to \$388.5m, 42.7% higher than the previous October. The main categories to increase were property and business services, up \$56.8m to a record \$92.4m, and agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting up \$28.9m to \$54.4m. The only decrease was for other industries, down 54.0% to \$68.3m.

Revolving credit facilities increased 4.4% to \$230.8m, 33.7% higher than October 1996. Major increases were recorded for property and business services (up \$27.3m), agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting (up \$17.7m) and retail trade (up \$16.9m). The main falls were for recreational, personal and other services (down \$39.8m) and other industries (down \$31.7m).



Commercial finance commitments, all lenders



Lease finance

New finance lease commitments continued the downward trend from the June peak, with a marginal fall to \$21.6m in October 1997, which was however 41.3% above the previous October. The national total increased 4.0%, 25.1% higher than October 1996.

Most of the decrease in South Australia was due to the drop in office machines, down 76.4% to \$1.7m, following the highest recorded month in September. The main increase was for new heavy trucks, up \$3.4m to \$4.4m, the highest month since mid-1985. Significant increases were also recorded for construction and earth moving equipment, up \$1.0m, and manufacturing equipment, up \$0.8m.

FORWARD OUTLOOK

Composite leading indicator for Australia

The Composite Leading Indicator (CLI) is a single time series produced by aggregating eight individual economic indicators, and has been developed by the ABS as an experimental series to supplement existing forms of economic analysis and modelling.

The CLI summarises the early signals contained in a selection of economic indicators and is designed to assist the detection of turning points between successive expansions and slow downs of economic activity as measured by constant price GDP(A). It does not attempt to forecast the level of economic activity.

In the September quarter 1997 :

- the experimental CLI rose 0.03%, following rises of 0.17% and 0.13% in the March quarter 1997 and June quarter respectively.
- Of the eight components used in its compilation, four made positive contributions and three made negative contributions to the change in the September quarter 1997. The largest positive contribution continued to come from the All Industrials index component, while the largest negative contribution was from the trade factor.

Composite leading indicator *continued*

The quarterly data are released in more detail in the *Australian Economic Indicators* (Cat. no. 1350.0). The CLI was the topic of the Focus article in the September 1993 edition of *South Australian Economic Indicators* (Cat. no. 1307.4). A review of the performance of the CLI and its components was published in the July 1997 issue of Cat. no. 1350.0.

Australian business expectations

Surveys of business expectations have been available to decision makers for a number of years from several sources. These surveys provided *qualitative* indicators in the form of the net proportion of businesses expecting a rise or fall in future business conditions. Since the December quarter 1993, the ABS has been compiling a *quantitative* indicator of business expectations in the form of an expected weighted aggregate change in a range of economic variables. These data are available on a quarterly basis in *Australian Business Expectations* (Cat. no. 5250.0).

Sales of goods and services, South Australia and Australia

Reference period	SHORT TERM EXPECTED AGGREGATE CHANGE BETWEEN.....		MEDIUM TERM EXPECTED AGGREGATE CHANGE BETWEEN.....	
	June 1997 and Sep 1997	Sep 1997 and Dec 1997	June 1997 and June 1998	Sep 1997 and Sep 1998
	%	%	%	%
South Australia	0.0	5.1	3.4	4.8
Australia	0.7	3.0	2.4	3.9

Short term—Businesses in South Australia expect an increase of 5.1% in sales of goods and services in the December quarter 1997 compared with the September quarter 1997 while the Australian expectation was a 3.0% increase. Nationally, sales of goods and services are expected to increase in all industries with the exception of electricity, gas and water which expects a decrease of 1.0%.

Medium term—Businesses in South Australia expect sales of goods and services in the September quarter 1998 to be 4.8% above September quarter 1997. The Australian expectation was for 3.9% growth. The South Australian expectation of 4.8% was the largest of all States and Territories.

Expected new capital expenditure

State estimates of actual new capital expenditure by private businesses in Australia are compiled each quarter. Details appear on pages 8 and 9, and in tables 1 and 10 of this publication.

Each December businesses in the survey are asked for details of their longer term expectations for capital expenditure by State enabling estimates to be made for periods 6 months and 18 months ahead of the reference period. The collection of expectations in the December quarter survey also allows the derivation of a composite estimate (6 months actual plus 6 months expectations) for that financial year.

The following table shows the forward estimates made with the December 1996 collection.

Selected industry and type of asset

Selected industries and type of asset	6 months to June 1997	1996-97	1997-98
	\$m	\$m	\$m
Mining	140	280	228
Manufacturing	642	1 051	702
Other	502	1 240	857
Total expenditure	1 284	2 571	1 787
Buildings etc.	302	596	511
Equipment etc.	982	1 975	1 276

Once actual expenditure for a financial year is known, it is useful to investigate the relationship between previous expectations and the expenditure that was actually incurred. The resultant realisation ratios (subsequent actual expenditure divided by expected expenditure) then indicates how much expenditure was actually incurred against the amount expected to be incurred at various times of reporting.

Realisation ratios provide an important tool in understanding and interpreting statistics for future periods. The application of realisation ratios enables the adjustment of expectation data for known under (or over) realisation patterns in the past and hence provides a valid basis for comparison with other expectation data and actual expenditure estimates.

Expected new capital expenditure

The following table shows the average realisation ratios over the past four years for the composite estimate (6 months actual and 6 months expected) and the 12 month expectation from the December quarter surveys.

Realisation ratios of new capital expenditure

<i>Selected industries and type of asset</i>	<i>Composite estimate</i>	<i>12 month expectation</i>
Mining	0.88	1.18
Manufacturing	0.97	1.06
Other	0.98	1.58
Total expenditure	0.96	1.25
Buildings etc.	0.96	1.53
Equipment etc.	0.96	1.19

EMPLOYMENT

The South Australian Centre for Economic Studies recently released a report, *SA Employment Outlook 2010*, providing employment projections for the year 2010 compared with 1996-97 and 1984-85.

Using national forecasts for growth provided by the MONASH model (developed by Monash University's Centre of Policy Studies) and taking into account the structure of the South Australian economy compared with the Australian economy, the study generated projections of employment growth for South Australia as a whole, and by industry and sector. Three sets of projections were made (using low growth, median growth and high growth scenarios). The details and the table below are based on the median growth scenario.

The report points out that since 1990 South Australia's performance in employment growth relative to Australia has deteriorated due to State-specific factors (mainly resulting from the failure of the State Bank and the subsequent Government bail-out, which had effects that spread throughout the whole economy). It contends, with a fair degree of confidence, that South Australia can be expected to return to its pre-1990 rates of employment growth relative to Australia, the State-specific factors having been largely overcome.

The report estimates a most likely aggregate employment growth of 1.1% per annum, or 15.3% for the period 1996-97 to 2009-10. This equates to close to 101,000 new jobs.

The vast bulk (98.5%) of the projected employment growth is expected to be in the Services sector, with wholesale and retail trade, business services, health services, education services and entertainment services being among high growth sub-sectors. Contrasting the high growth of these sub-sectors is the forecast for the utilities sub-sector. This area has seen a decrease of nearly 4,000 jobs since 1984-85 and a further 1,700 jobs are expected to be shed by 2009-10.

EMPLOYMENT *continued*

The Manufacturing sector is expected to show a slight decrease in employment overall from the present to 2009–10. Within this sector, the wine sub-sector will show strong employment growth, as it has done from 1984–85 to now. All other sub-sectors will show a decrease in employment, although within these sub-sectors, some individual industries will exhibit employment growth (e.g. scientific instruments) or at least stability (e.g. food processing). Employment in the motor vehicles sub-sector can be expected to be fairly stable until 2005, when a significant one-off decrease in tariffs, among other factors, will result in decreased demand for locally produced products.

A slight increase in employment for the Agriculture sector is forecast, with the services to agriculture sub-sector providing a significant portion of the growth. However, the bulk of employment growth (2,300 of 3,100 jobs) in this sector will come from horticulture, fruit (including grapes) and vegetables. Reasons for this are the continued expansion of the wine industry and expanding exports of fruit and vegetables.

The report forecasts a 12% increase in Mining sector employment by 2009–10 from the current level of 3,450. Mining output is expected to increase, but ongoing structural and workplace organisational changes and the introduction of labour saving technologies will limit employment growth. There is expected to be relatively strong demand for professional and technical personnel in the Mining sector.

Summary of employment projections by industry

	1984-85	1996-97	% change, 1984-85 to 1996-97	2009-10	% change, 1996-97 to 2009-10
Agriculture	43 966	49 600	12.8	52 703	6.3
Wheat/sheep	n.a.	19 700	n.a.	19 700	0.0
Services to agriculture	1 033	2 425	134.8	3 137	29.4
Fishing	1 533.0	1 875	22.3	1 875	0.0
Other	n.a.	25 600	n.a.	27 991	9.3
Mining	6 833	3 450	-49.5	3 868	12.1
Manufacturing	109 566	97 671	-10.9	95 545	-2.2
Food processing	13 833	14 453	4.5	14 453	0.0
Wine	2 500	3 240	29.6	4 191	29.4
Motor vehicles	14 000	14 238	1.7	12 789	-10.2
Other manufacturing	79 233	65 739	-17.0	64 112	-2.5
Services	420 167	507 579	20.8	606 846	19.6
Utilities	10 134	6 300	-37.8	4 627	-26.6
Construction	39 633	36 500	-10.2	38 815	9.0
Trade	113 166	127 450	12.6	171 547	34.6
Transport/communication	41 199	37 475	-9.0	41 722	11.3
Finance	50 700	82 579	62.9	84 534	2.4
Public administration/defence	20 467	24 150	18.0	25 734	6.6
Health, education, welfare	94 267	122 925	30.4	150 064	22.1
Entertainment,accommodation	30 234	71 100	135.2	89 804	26.3
Total	580 532	658 300	13.4	758 962	15.3

Source: SA Employment Outlook 2010.

REVIEW *continued*

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EMPLOYMENT *continued*

The report notes the assumptions used in making of the projections. A no significant policy change assumption has been used—that is, no impacts of future State or Federal Government structural policy changes (e.g. microeconomic reforms, tax reforms, industry policy) have been considered. No modifications have been made to take account for the possible effects of the recent so-called 'Asian melt-down'. Likely growth in the national, and therefore South Australian, economy could be affected positively or negatively by unanticipated changes to international, national or local economic conditions. Because of these factors, the Centre acknowledges that the employment projections are most unlikely to be precisely correct, but it is confident that they will prove to be in the right 'ballpark'. For similar reasons the reliability of the projections is likely to diminish as the level of detail is increased—that is, as the move is made from aggregate projections to industry specific projections.

More detail is in the report, *SA Employment Outlook 2010*, which is available by phoning the South Australian Centre for Economic Studies on 08 8303 5555.

FOCUS — Employer Training Expenditure

This article was contributed by Arnold Strals, ABS Adelaide

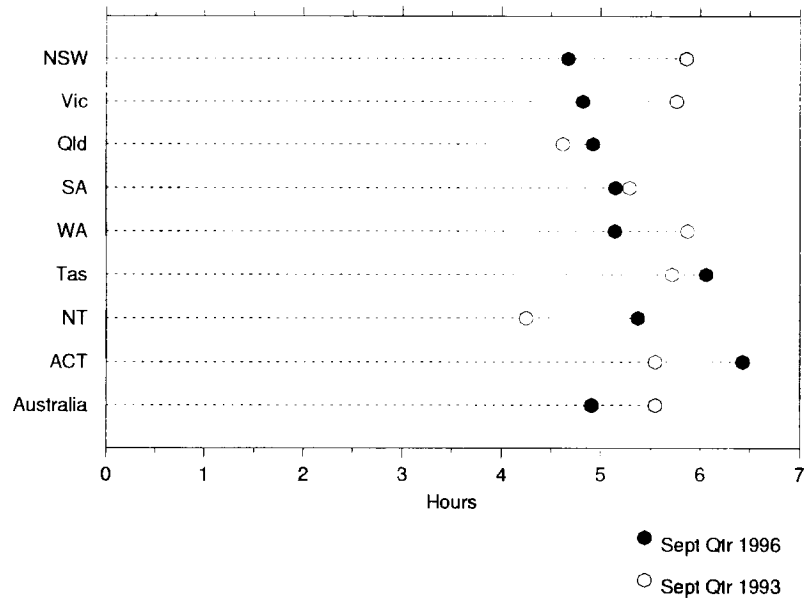
INTRODUCTION

Employers in Australia spent \$1,178.8m on structured training for their employees during July–September 1996. This compares with \$1,102.7m for the same quarter in 1993. However, if the greater number in the workforce is taken into account, employers spent less on training per employee (an average of \$185.49) in July–September 1996 than in 1993 (\$191.25). Employers also provided less hours of structured training per employee; 4.91 hours, compared with 5.55 hours. The abolition in July 1996 of the Training Guarantee, which required that employers with more than 10 employees devote 1% of their payroll to workplace training, may have influenced recent results. A shift towards casual work, along with a decline in employment within the public sector (which tends to spend more on training per employee), may also have had some effect. This short article summarises the latest data, particularly from a State perspective.

EXPENDITURE AND HOURS

During July–September 1996, 22,120 or 23.8% of employers in South Australia provided structured training for their employees. This exceeded the national proportion of 17.8% and was the best State result. Furthermore, employer training expenditure in South Australia has increased, from an average of \$173.76 per employee in July–September 1993 to \$179.88 in July–September 1996. However, in terms of average training hours per employee, South Australian levels have fallen slightly, from 5.29 hours in 1993 to 5.15 in 1996.

Average training hours per employee



Between July–September 1996, course fees and overhead expenses (accommodation, equipment, travel and meals) accounted for 53.4% of total training expenditure in Australia. The remainder (46.6%) went to wage and salary costs for employees attending training.

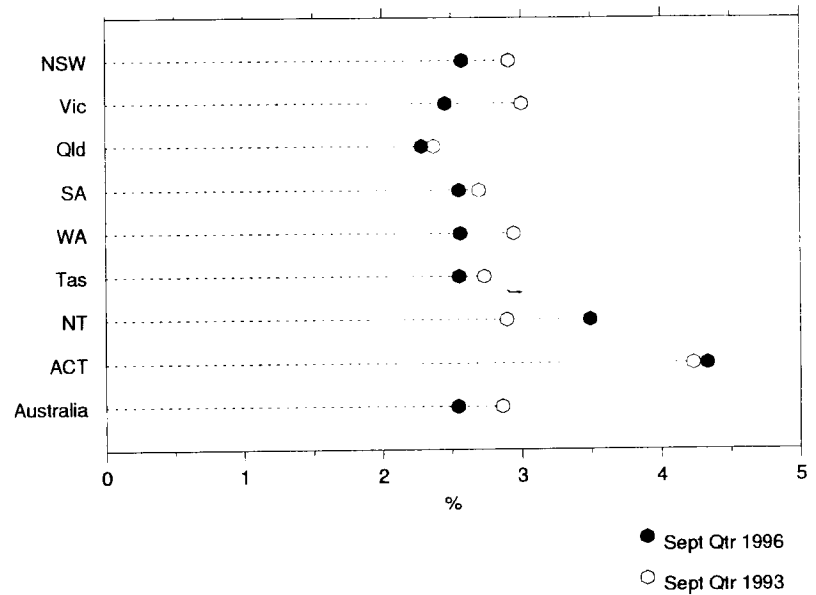
FOCUS — Employer Training Expenditure *continued*

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EXPENDITURE AND HOURS *continued*

Total training expenditure has been expressed as a percentage of gross wages and salaries to account for regional differences in training and labour costs. During July–September 1996, South Australia's employers contributed 2.6% of gross wages and salaries to training; New South Wales and Western Australia recorded similar levels. The Australian Capital Territory was most prominent with employers providing 4.3% of gross wages and salaries for training purposes, followed by the Northern Territory (3.5%). The corresponding proportion for Australia was 2.5%. Most regions recorded lower proportions than those observed in July–September 1993.

Training expenditure as percentage of gross wages and salaries



Employers may receive subsidies or payments which offset their training costs. Subsidies can be in the form of grants or payments from government agencies for structured training, or donations from private organisations. Payments are also included as an offset when they are made for employers of other organisations to attend in-house training sessions. For July–September 1996, employers in Australia reported a lower level of received subsidies and a higher level of payments from other employers, compared with the same period in 1993. The overall level of training offsets was higher in 1996 (\$30.3m per quarter) than in 1993 (\$27.4m) but represented a similar proportion of gross wages and salaries (0.07%).

FOCUS — Employer Training Expenditure *continued*

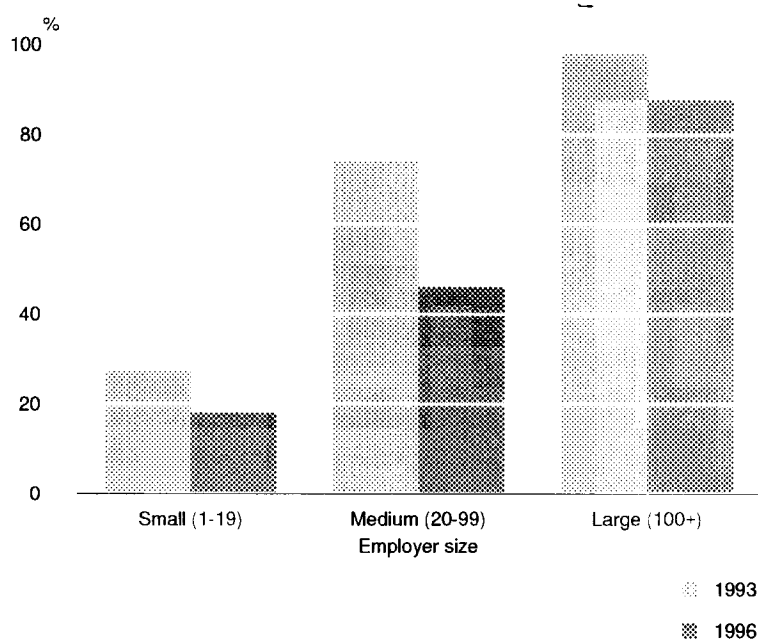
SECTOR

In South Australia during July–September 1996, public sector employers were more likely to provide training expenditure; 62.4% compared with 23.1% for the private sector. Slightly lower proportions were observed nationally; 58.5% and 17.3% respectively. South Australia's public sector employers also allocated more of their payroll to structured training; 3.7% of gross wages and salaries compared with 2.2% for private sector employers. For Australia, public sector employers were again prominent, contributing 3.2% of gross wages and salaries. This contrasts with 2.3% for the private sector. While the public sector was prominent in training terms, it also experienced decreases in employment between August 1993 and 1996 of 14.5% for South Australia and 8.5% for Australia. These falls may have contributed to the recent observed decline in training hours and expenditure per employee.

EMPLOYER SIZE

As the following graph indicates, employer provision of structured training has declined for all employer size categories, between July–September 1993 and the same period in 1996.

Employers providing training, by employment size—South Australia



During July–September 1996, large employers (with over 100 employees) were more likely to provide structured training. In South Australia, 87.9% of all large employers reported some involvement. The corresponding proportion for Australia was similar; 88.3%. In contrast, medium sized employers (with 20–99 employees) and small employers (with 1–19 employees) were less likely to have involvement in structured training activities. For South Australia, 46.1% of medium sized employers and 18.1% of small employers reported such involvement, compared with 50.5% and 13.4% respectively for Australia.

FOCUS — Employer Training Expenditure *continued*

EMPLOYER SIZE *continued*

Large employers generally spent more on structured training; an average of \$246.20 per employee in South Australia. This was slightly lower than the national average (\$255.64). Training expenditure per employee declined with business size; for Australia, an average of \$135.80 per employee for medium sized employers; and \$71.31 for small businesses.

INDUSTRY

Between July–September 1996, South Australia's employers in the Mining industry allocated 12.4% of gross wages and salaries to expenditure on structured training. Other prominent industries were Communication services (5.1%), Education (3.8%), Industry Electricity, gas and water supply (3.7%) and Government administration and defence (3.6%) and Manufacturing (2.3%). For Australia, Mining was again prominent, with employers spending 5.8% of gross wages and salaries on training. It was one of the few industries to significantly increase its average training expenditure; from \$687.10 per employee during July–September 1993 to \$896.49 for the corresponding quarter in 1996.

FIELD OF TRAINING

During July–September 1996, Australia's employers provided most training in the 'Management and professional' field; an average of 0.88 hours per employee. 'Trade and apprenticeship' training was also prominent with 0.85 hours per employee. On average, less time was devoted to 'General supervision' training (0.26 hours) and 'Personal development' (0.30 hours). 'General computing' and 'Health and safety' were ranked in the middle, with 0.42 and 0.36 hours respectively.

CASUAL EMPLOYEES

Employers with less than 25% casual employees spent more than twice the average expenditure on training (\$223.71) as employers with 25% or more casuals (\$98.45) during the September 1996 quarter in Australia. The tendency for employers with more casuals to spend less on training, along with 28.3% rise in casual employment between August 1993 and 1996, may have contributed to recent falls in overall training hours and expenditure per employee.

DATA SOURCES

ABS Training Expenditure Survey, unpublished data.

ABS Labour Force Survey, unpublished data

ABS Survey of Employment and Earnings, unpublished data

Employer Training Expenditure, Australia—July to September 1996, ABS (Cat. No. 6353.0)

GLOSSARY

Casuals	Employees who are not entitled to paid holiday or sick leave.
Employers	Statistical unit or organisation which reported at least one employee during the survey reference period.
Employees	All persons who received a wage or salary during the survey reference period. Excludes people on unpaid leave, strike or those temporarily stood down.
Gross wages and salaries	Payments to all employees before tax and items such as superannuation are deducted. Payments include ordinary time and overtime earnings, over-award payments, penalty payments, shift allowances, commissions and retainers, incentives, payments under profit-sharing schemes, leave loadings, bonuses, salaries paid to directors and board members, and workers' compensation payments not covered by insurance. Excluded are severance, termination and redundancy payment
Net training expenditure	Total training expenditure minus subsidies received for training and payments received from other employers.
Personal development training	Training which improves or upgrades skills in areas such as time management, assertiveness, negotiation and conflict resolution in the workplace.
Structured training	Comprises all training activities which have a predetermined plan and format designed to develop employment related skills and competencies. It can include instruction at workshops, lectures, demonstration sessions, the use of self-paced packages, plus on-the-job training.
Survey reference period	From 1 July to 30 September in 1993 and 1996
Total training expenditure	The sum of employers' expenditure on employees' gross wages and salaries for time spent receiving or providing structured training, fees paid to training consultants and institutions, plus other expenditure related to structured training. Employers were asked to use a cash basis to report on all fees and payments made during the survey reference period.



Indicator	Unit	Period	SOUTH AUSTRALIA.....			AUSTRALIA.....				
			Number	% change from		Number	% change from		SA as a % of Aust.	Source index
				Previous period	Same period previous year		Previous period	Same period previous year		
State accounts										
Domestic final demand										
Current prices trend	\$m	Sep qtr 97	9 370	2.4	6.1	130 607	1.6	5.2	7.2	1
1989-90 prices trend	\$m	Sep qtr 97	8 058	2.0	5.1	114 301	1.3	5.2	7.0	1
Private final consumption expenditure										
Current prices trend	\$m	Sep qtr 97	6 026	2.2	5.2	81 153	1.4	4.8	7.4	1
1989-90 prices trend	\$m	Sep qtr 97	5 095	1.9	3.9	68 509	1.1	3.3	7.4	1
Private gross fixed capital expenditure										
current prices trend		Sep qtr 97	1 338	7.2	11.0	22 301	3.6	7.7	6.0	1
1989-90 prices trend	\$m	Sep qtr 97	1 273	6.3	10.4	22 449	4.2	13.9	5.7	1
Wages, salaries and supplements										
Current prices trend	\$m	Sep qtr 97	4 558	0.6	2.5	65 546	0.8	4.2	7.0	1
International accounts										
Exports	\$m	Oct 97	368.0	-3.5	-13.5	7 221.7	5.9	13.8	5.1	2
Imports	\$m	Oct 97	271.5	-21.1	-4.4	7 877.9	7.5	7.9	3.4	2
Consumption and investment										
Retail turnover										
Current prices original	\$m	Oct 97	840.2	8.1	6.0	11 433.2	6.3	5.7	7.3	3
Current prices trend	\$m	Oct 97	820.2	0.4	4.7	11 210.5	0.5	5.4	7.3	3
1989-90 prices original	\$m	Sep qtr 97	1 961.3	2.7	2.6	26 988.6	3.0	3.8	7.3	3
New motor vehicle registrations										
Original	no.	Oct 97	4 333	3.8	28.8	66 638	6.6	19.5	6.5	4
Trend	no.	Oct 97	3 981	0.8	18.6	62 408	1.6	17.1	6.4	4
Private new capital expenditure										
Current prices original	\$m	Sep qtr 97	718	-0.7	11.0	10 601	-10.9	3.1	6.8	6
Current prices trend	\$m	Sep qtr 97	758	10.7	22.7	11 132	-0.4	1.8	6.8	6
Private new capital expenditure	\$m	1996-97	2 580	..	37.7	43 837	..	8.3	5.9	6
Takings, licensed hotels, motels and guesthouses with facilities	\$m	June qtr 97	40.4	-6.2	3.2	853.2	-7.6	2.1	4.7	5
Production										
Dwelling unit approvals										
Original	no.	Oct 97	599	-0.2	5.8	12 626	-1.1	5.4	4.7	7
Trend	no.	Oct 97	561	0.0	14.7	12 119	0.6	11.3	4.6	7
New dwelling units commenced	no.	Sep qtr 97	1 517	-10.3	14.8	34 100	0.0	12.5	4.4	8a
Value of non-residential building approvals	\$m	Oct 97	34.1	-41.8	19.6	1 176.7	13.6	-15.1	2.9	7
Value of total building activity										
Commenced	\$m	June qtr 97	383.5	51.2	-5.0	7 015.2	0.1	4.5	5.5	8
Work done	\$m	June qtr 97	351.4	21.5	13.9	7 124.8	4.6	7.1	4.9	8
Work yet to be done	\$m	June qtr 97	370.4	14.7	-12.5	10 387.8	1.0	11.2		8
Value of engineering construction work done	\$m	June qtr 97	307.7	53.6	36.0	4,256.4	26.4	3.3		9
Manufacturing production										
Electricity (SA and NT)	mill. kWh	June 97	806	-5.2	2.3	14 938	3.2	4.0	5.4	10
Red meat	tonnes	Oct 97	19 793	19.7	2.3	257 789	5.4	8.3	7.7	11
Mineral exploration expenditure (other than for petroleum)	\$m	June qtr 97	21.0	191.7	208.8	355.6	50.9	24.8	5.9	12

Indicator	Unit	Period	SOUTH AUSTRALIA.....			AUSTRALIA.....			SA as a % of Aust.	Source index
			Number	% change from....		Number	% change from			
				Previous period	Same period previous year		Previous period	Same period previous year		
Prices										
CPI - All groups	1989-90=100	Sep qtr 97	121.2	-0.6	-0.8	119.7	-0.4	-0.3	..	13
Price index of materials used in house building	1989-90=100	Sep qtr 97	122.4	0.7	2.3	117.3	0.3	1.5	..	14
Price index of materials used in building other than houses	1989-90=100	Sep qtr 97	114.8	0.1	1.5	114.0	0.1	1.2	..	15
Price index of established houses	1989-90=100	Sep qtr 97	109.8	0.7	1.9	118.9	1.8	4.3	..	16
Price index of project homes	1989-90=100	Sep qtr 97	111.9	4.7	0.5	109.9	0.6	0.5	..	16
Labour force and demography										
Population (resident at end qtr)	'000	Jun qtr 97	1 479.8	0.1	0.4	18 532.2	0.2	1.2	8.0	17
Short-term overseas visitors arrivals	no.	Sep 97	6 061	-18.8	10.6	330 936	0.2	7.0	1.8	21
Short-term resident departures	no.	Sep 97	14 484	28.8	4.1	304 239	26.8	8.1	4.8	21
Labour force										
Original	'000	Nov 97	732.8	0.1	1.3	9 258.3	0.6	1.4	7.9	18
Trend	'000	Nov 97	735.4	0.0	1.0	9 260.3	0.2	0.8	7.9	18
Employed persons										
Original	'000	Nov 97	663.5	0.2	0.9	8 521.5	0.7	1.5	7.8	18
Trend	'000	Nov 97	663.8	0.0	0.8	8 480.7	0.3	1.0	7.8	18
Participation rate										
Original(a)	%	Nov 97	61.7	0.0	0.3	63.2	0.3	0.0	..	18
Trend(a)	%	Nov 97	61.9	0.0	0.2	63.2	0.0	-0.4	..	18
Unemployment rate										
Original(a)	%	Nov 97	9.5	0.0	0.3	8.0	0.0	-0.1	..	18
Trend(a)	%	Nov 97	9.7	0.0	0.2	8.4	-0.1	-0.3	..	18
Job vacancies	'000	Aug 97	4.8	60.0	-4.0	69.3	19.3	9.1	6.9	19
Average weekly overtime per employee working overtime										
Industrial disputes	hours	Aug 97	6.0	-11.3	-10.0	6.6	-6.8	-3.4	..	19
	'000 working days lost	Sep 97	1.2	..	-33.3	51.9	59.7	46.6	2.3	20
Incomes										
Average weekly earnings (full-time adults; ordinary time)										
Original	\$	Aug 97	663.4	1.2	4.9	706.6	1.4	4.4	..	22
Trend	\$	Aug 97	663.4	1.1	4.4	706.0	1.1	4.0	..	22
Award rates of pay index (full-time adults, weekly)										
	Jun 1985=100	June 97	151.8	0.4	1.4	149.2	0.2	1.4	..	23
Financial markets										
Secured housing finance										
Finance commitments	\$m	Oct 97	278.0	5.9	12.3	4 990.0	2.1	14.2	5.6	24
Personal										
Commercial	\$m	Oct 97	231.5	6.0	26.9	3 904.4	13.1	31.0	5.9	25
Lease	\$m	Oct 97	619.2	11.1	39.2	15 825.0	5.1	37.3	3.9	25
Interest rates										
Banks new housing loans(a)	%	Nov 97	..	..	..	6.70	0.0	-2.1	..	26
Banks business loans(a)										
Small, medium sized business	%	Nov 97	..	..	..	8.80	0.0	-2.0	..	26
Large business	%	Nov 97	..	..	..	8.40	0.0	-1.6	..	26

(a) Change is shown in terms of percentage points.

Period	FINAL CONSUMPTION EXPENDITURE....		GROSS FIXED CAPITAL EXPENDITURE....		State final demand	Gross State product (!)	Wages, salaries and supplements
	Private	Government	Private	Government			
ANNUAL (\$m)							
1991-92	18 958	5 812	4 021	1 429	30 220	28 719	14 718
1992-93	19 493	5 969	3 980	1 372	30 814	29 989	15 131
1993-94	20 390	6 656	4 020	1 149	32 216	32 057	16 372
1994-95	21 562	6 698	4 913	1 232	34 404	33 437	16 720
1995-96	22 767	6 734	4 321	1 073	34 896	35 457	17 437
1996-97	23 081	6 858	4 713	1 175	35 827	36 023	17 938
PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS YEAR							
1991-92	4.6	6.1	-5.0	-6.5	2.9	1.0	-0.2
1992-93	2.8	2.7	-1.0	-4.0	2.0	4.4	2.8
1993-94	4.6	11.5	1.0	-16.3	4.5	6.9	8.2
1994-95	5.7	0.6	22.2	7.2	6.8	4.3	2.1
1995-96	5.6	0.5	-12.0	-12.9	1.4	6.0	4.3
1996-97	1.4	1.8	9.1	9.5	2.7	1.6	2.9
QUARTERLY, ORIGINAL (\$m)							
1995-96							
June	5 661	1 716	1 116	366.0	8 859	8 724	4 432
1996-97							
September	5 708	1 694	1 139	226.0	8 767	8 534	4 418
December	6 058	1 725	1 242	271.0	9 296	9 849	4 609
March	5 540	1 592	1 006	332.0	8 470	8 634	4 385
June	5 776	1 847	1 326	346.0	9 295	9 006	4 526
1997-98							
September	6 097	1 751	1 297	242.0	9 388	n.a.	4 588
QUARTERLY, TREND (\$m)							
1995-96							
June	5 707	1 678	1 112	276	8 774	8 894	4 398
1996-97							
September	5 729	1 681	1 124	295	8 829	8 909	4 447
December	5 746	1 700	1 138	309	8 893	8 976	4 495
March	5 792	1 718	1 170	304	8 984	9 049	4 513
June	5 894	1 726	1 248	284	9 152	9 116	4 531
1997-98							
September	6 026	1 736	1 338	270	9 370	n.a.	4 558
PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS QUARTER, TREND							
1995-96							
June	0.2	-0.5	2.8	0.0	0.4	-0.2	0.5
1996-97							
September	0.4	0.2	1.1	6.9	0.6	0.2	1.1
December	0.3	1.1	1.2	4.7	0.7	0.8	1.1
March	0.8	1.1	2.8	-1.6	1.0	0.8	0.4
June	1.8	0.5	6.7	-6.6	1.9	0.7	0.4
1997-98							
September	2.2	0.6	7.2	-4.9	2.4	..	0.6

Period	FINAL CONSUMPTION EXPENDITURE....		GROSS FIXED CAPITAL EXPENDITURE....		State final demand	Gross State product (I)
	Private	Government	Private	Government		
ANNUAL (\$m)						
1991-92	17 447	5 328	3 849	1 364	27 988	27 023
1992-93	17 491	5 358	3 696	1 292	27 837	28 077
1993-94	18 045	5 668	3 653	1 082	28 448	29 004
1994-95	18 901	5 778	4 396	1 147	30 222	29 226
1995-96	19 606	5 698	3 903	1 006	30 213	30 465
1996-97	19 672	5 735	4 560	1 092	31 059	30 868

PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS YEAR						
1991-92	1.6	2.3	-6.0	-7.8	1.4	-2.4
1992-93	0.3	0.6	-4.0	-5.3	-0.5	3.9
1993-94	3.2	5.8	-1.2	-16.3	2.2	3.3
1994-95	4.7	1.9	20.3	6.0	6.2	0.8
1995-96	3.7	-1.4	-11.2	-12.3	0.0	4.2
1996-97	0.3	0.6	16.8	8.5	2.8	1.3

QUARTERLY, ORIGINAL (\$m)						
1995-96						
June	4 866	1 432	1 026	340	7 664	7 437
1996-97						
September	4 888	1 428	1 108	211	7 635	7 363
December	5 165	1 433	1 221	252	8 071	8 701
March	4 702	1 336	969	306	7 313	7 280
June	4 917	1 538	1 262	323	8 040	7 524
1997-98						
September	5 153	1 444	1 245	214	8 056	n.a.

QUARTERLY, TREND (\$m)						
1995-96						
June	4 900	1 405	1 040	257	7 602	7 679
1996-97						
September	4 904	1 408	1 084	274	7 670	7 706
December	4 900	1 425	1 108	288	7 721	7 717
March	4 926	1 438	1 133	282	7 779	7 701
June	5 002	1 440	1 197	261	7 900	7 662
1997-98						
September	5 095	1 446	1 273	244	8 058	n.a.

PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS QUARTER, TREND						
1995-96						
June	0.1	-0.8	6.3	-1.2	0.7	0.2
1996-97						
September	0.1	0.2	4.2	6.6	0.9	0.4
December	-0.1	1.2	2.2	5.1	0.7	0.1
March	0.5	0.9	2.3	-2.1	0.8	-0.2
June	1.5	0.1	5.6	-7.4	1.6	-0.5
1997-98						
September	1.9	0.4	6.3	-6.5	2.0	..

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MERCHANDISE EXPORTS, By Selected Commodity Group(a)

Period	Meat and meat preparations	Cereals and cereal preparations	Wine	Wool and sheepskins	Machinery	Metals and metal manu- factures	Fish and crustaceans	Road vehicles, parts and accessories	Petroleum and petroleum products	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
ANNUAL										
1991-92	270 237	565 582	165 914	351 096	176 536	489 030	147 532	137 091	341 477	3 431 139
1992-93	282 181	573 375	192 255	318 989	211 426	490 594	154 608	338 359	372 445	3 760 602
1993-94	324 796	436 517	238 366	290 963	223 760	462 355	186 861	351 229	276 473	3 889 783
1994-95	307 785	261 052	250 527	301 645	285 309	571 094	191 386	332 321	285 310	3 829 336
1995-96	244 508	713 092	318 534	240 148	340 205	610 899	196 629	249 237	220 915	4 498 532
1996-97	182 478	745 242	397 949	260 974	378 916	542 204	191 072	655 895	286 458	5 013 257
MONTHLY										
1996-97										
August	9 355	43 399	41 848	12 545	33 395	53 358	10 441	23 287	19 738	353 974
September	10 417	43 137	38 598	16 764	31 955	35 423	10 554	36 844	6 262	315 960
October	14 922	44 586	40 663	22 285	26 217	46 325	16 063	75 999	20 187	425 409
November	18 388	23 261	25 814	22 961	32 122	46 400	16 170	99 763	41 799	443 477
December	21 065	85 128	34 865	30 635	45 346	60 849	16 009	70 076	17 719	521 428
January	13 701	108 010	21 366	18 392	17 653	33 405	20 477	46 808	4 275	379 289
February	17 065	124 924	30 844	22 350	27 097	39 512	20 942	58 234	46 498	511 223
March	17 492	118 000	34 185	22 682	39 617	46 802	23 664	58 579	25 712	507 182
April	17 415	61 511	34 047	25 234	31 992	39 508	19 935	45 176	26 197	416 299
May	16 003	16 146	36 804	26 233	35 382	55 444	15 449	39 711	15 488	367 827
June	15 421	18 998	30 160	23 847	29 641	47 560	11 051	57 089	36 706	406 373
1997-98										
July	12 693	18 848	38 625	31 249	41 558	47 372	16 678	53 331	14 509	417 202
August	11 641	18 718	44 669	17 560	31 082	43 635	18 804	60 483	39 320	419 371
September	15 521	27 719	62 569	23 225	38 525	50 905	18 769	18 938	26 927	381 533
October	17 242	10 351	61 829	22 899	25 819	48 396	23 440	39 244	10 935	368 042

(a) Final stage of production in South Australia.

MERCHANDISE EXPORTS, By Selected Countries(a)

EUROPEAN
COMMUNITY.....

EAST ASIA.....

Period	United States of America	Middle East	United Kingdom	Total European Community	New Zealand	Japan	China	Hong Kong	ASEAN	Total East Asia
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
ANNUAL										
1991-92	300 139	381 761	220 048	550 258	214 522	647 674	148 308	108 583	437 670	1 627 108
1992-93	352 764	314 049	237 520	594 701	288 421	649 684	208 135	171 803	487 174	1 820 065
1993-94	393 611	280 499	263 092	571 047	311 999	625 481	220 211	165 163	533 977	1 898 975
1994-95	329 878	184 342	246 118	553 051	376 262	682 937	177 875	193 014	551 433	2 004 013
1995-96	279 555	525 348	287 727	691 996	376 628	672 885	293 360	202 307	572 529	2 057 945
1996-97	707 871	563 409	304 647	641 143	382 086	612 115	244 917	234 546	615 018	2 034 487
MONTHLY										
1996-97										
August	24 015	30 364	28 940	57 177	39 337	51 371	17 025	20 786	42 611	158 897
September	45 339	32 344	25 007	41 103	26 836	36 244	13 183	18 520	37 428	128 271
October	74 338	30 300	28 488	58 604	40 477	67 681	20 077	12 600	45 513	173 485
November	100 612	23 047	32 472	56 564	33 279	57 312	17 778	27 444	64 655	189 397
December	71 258	81 329	28 905	65 684	27 378	59 114	29 176	21 721	47 761	186 464
January	47 334	83 789	13 228	29 012	32 659	31 483	17 714	16 327	28 376	119 338
February	57 587	66 413	22 843	49 748	29 728	56 641	27 861	23 395	75 021	209 483
March	69 002	96 254	26 863	67 132	28 304	59 413	22 364	26 579	39 860	182 126
April	59 320	49 119	26 023	52 619	22 885	51 075	33 261	18 598	61 197	185 838
May	49 537	30 815	26 604	63 287	21 142	47 286	17 553	16 373	50 567	166 869
June	83 248	19 843	21 783	60 136	21 859	56 675	15 479	17 994	59 211	180 155
1997-98										
July	75 629	33 014	27 348	60 342	25 534	52 568	31 626	15 779	55 728	188 841
August	80 052	22 224	43 757	72 624	22 840	51 202	21 497	16 546	56 412	175 243
September	25 542	14 786	43 830	79 003	31 026	64 133	21 903	22 043	53 324	181 318
October	25 879	10 188	54 523	89 047	40 998	52 159	27 542	11 440	50 300	158 847

(a) Final stage of production in South Australia.

MANUFACTURING.....

Period	Agriculture, forestry and fishing	Mining	Food, beverages and tobacco	Petroleum, coal, chemical associated product	Metal product	Machinery and equipment	Other manu- facturing	Other industries/ confidential	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
ANNUAL									
1991-92	882 011	248 846	702 148	201 681	541 522	381 737	178 485	294 709	3 431 139
1992-93	883 725	294 586	766 518	195 387	509 303	641 930	178 726	290 427	3 760 602
1993-94	733 014	245 247	884 737	180 147	475 060	665 066	208 573	497 938	3 889 783
1994-95	592 129	268 537	886 337	186 661	584 838	711 529	243 314	355 991	3 829 336
1995-96	1 014 521	226 309	978 332	172 285	639 267	674 131	226 496	567 191	4 498 532
1996-97	1 067 846	216 279	981 748	279 534	569 727	1 140 110	229 491	528 523	5 013 257
MONTHLY									
1996-97									
August	58 417	21 105	87 452	16 126	54 535	65 002	19 604	31 733	353 974
September	63 746	2 163	81 493	13 729	36 903	77 144	19 503	21 279	315 960
October	68 176	12 456	85 814	28 892	51 440	111 387	20 149	47 095	425 409
November	58 151	21 794	71 302	28 399	47 286	140 287	19 269	56 989	443 477
December	119 518	25 589	87 427	25 499	63 810	122 815	22 225	54 544	521 428
January	133 106	1 294	72 585	10 035	33 508	69 654	15 632	43 473	379 289
February	151 003	39 505	86 482	33 856	43 376	93 004	18 510	45 485	511 223
March	140 271	734	97 840	33 511	50 176	106 475	18 809	59 366	507 182
April	88 768	30 741	85 922	17 247	40 321	96 254	19 110	37 936	416 299
May	42 278	991	85 039	27 168	59 594	85 062	20 725	46 969	367 827
June	54 021	32 623	75 807	27 832	51 123	92 575	17 531	54 860	406 373
1997-98									
July	79 999	30 787	83 266	14 727	48 601	105 143	24 710	29 969	417 202
August	51 707	11 810	93 499	37 883	48 749	99 482	24 132	52 109	419 371
September	55 302	22 149	115 669	24 148	55 541	65 465	21 568	21 690	381 533
October	43 389	1 689	118 554	17 987	49 666	72 955	18 473	45 329	368 042

(a) Final stage of production in South Australia.

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MERCHANDISE IMPORTS, By Selected Commodity Group(a)

Period	Food, beverages and tobacco	Petroleum and petroleum products	Chemicals	Textiles	Metals and metal manu- factures	Machinery	Road, vehicles, parts and accessories	Other manu- factured goods	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
ANNUAL									
1991-92	82 095	362 777	153 574	62 884	151 165	523 848	435 121	513 012	2 396 954
1992-93	91 756	570 334	186 001	57 434	255 924	609 212	661 714	521 723	3 068 122
1993-94	99 177	404 626	200 225	60 172	160 937	595 238	663 617	484 590	2 803 446
1994-95	115 930	330 430	220 536	64 524	214 432	695 038	749 658	563 368	3 099 510
1995-96	118 237	346 397	254 102	76 847	213 487	675 869	546 445	728 096	3 114 309
1996-97	136 695	505 633	225 195	79 707	223 267	868 346	538 690	695 238	3 413 051
MONTHLY									
1996-97									
August	14 251	54 974	16 395	6 952	24 177	70 218	55 143	50 007	307 628
September	10 374	23 728	12 227	7 797	18 405	69 155	39 198	101 380	290 140
October	15 412	50 886	14 652	6 584	18 722	72 108	48 332	46 905	283 909
November	13 043	25 966	15 236	5 015	21 111	76 107	42 335	58 621	267 488
December	13 786	47 488	25 644	5 443	12 397	75 884	33 169	82 398	310 393
January	9 935	24 997	24 943	8 035	20 890	107 391	42 244	52 370	300 286
February	9 788	52 619	16 510	6 087	20 531	96 667	45 732	46 861	303 870
March	8 356	50 383	28 119	5 065	14 786	50 785	44 387	46 896	257 380
April	10 428	58 416	18 075	7 691	19 477	62 146	55 134	50 015	297 599
May	11 588	45 354	19 293	6 467	15 123	54 510	35 983	48 198	246 008
June	9 424	39 315	20 261	7 108	20 577	66 474	54 586	48 671	283 154
1997-98									
July	10 522	66 543	14 284	6 788	22 112	107 439	83 398	56 471	376 190
August	12 139	29 929	13 887	6 372	24 951	75 394	82 196	52 800	305 909
September	13 380	61 141	13 493	7 031	21 982	79 610	57 850	81 295	343 981
October	15 074	2 053	12 858	8 281	22 455	76 627	67 984	56 692	271 515

(a) Goods released from Customs control in South Australia.

TURNOVER OF RETAIL ESTABLISHMENTS, By Industry

Period	Food retailing	Department stores	Clothing and soft good retailing	Household good retailing	Recreational good retailing	Other retailing	Hospitality and services	Total
ANNUAL (\$m)								
1991-92	3 223.7	1 087.4	472.4	833.1	289.6	537.7	1 198.4	7 642.5
1992-93	3 081.8	1 101.5	440.4	829.9	324.5	645.0	1 181.8	7 604.9
1993-94	3 253.3	1 107.8	479.0	917.8	378.1	684.0	1 338.8	8 158.8
1994-95	3 477.3	1 128.8	538.0	959.6	383.8	793.5	1 654.4	8 935.4
1995-96	3 786.5	1 138.5	546.7	1 025.6	431.2	902.8	1 762.0	9 593.2
1996-97	4 065.0	1 121.0	467.0	937.0	425.0	792.8	1 648.1	9 455.8

MONTHLY, ORIGINAL (\$m)								
1996-97								
August	335.3	86.8	40.8	84.3	34.7	67.7	134.6	778.6
September	317.2	80.4	33.4	77.1	33.7	63.0	135.1	739.8
October	350.2	93.0	37.0	77.6	37.4	64.0	133.3	792.5
November	343.5	105.6	37.4	80.0	39.3	64.9	141.2	812.0
December	382.2	170.4	51.9	101.8	56.6	91.1	178.7	1 032.7
January	351.1	79.3	37.1	70.3	33.4	60.5	142.1	774.0
February	317.3	69.7	28.1	67.0	28.7	56.5	127.1	694.5
March	350.0	82.7	34.9	70.1	32.0	60.7	131.9	762.4
April	331.2	86.2	45.3	73.3	32.6	65.0	128.4	762.1
May	344.6	96.2	45.3	77.2	32.0	71.3	132.4	798.8
June	320.2	80.0	40.7	74.9	29.6	63.9	132.5	741.8
1997-98								
July	355.0	97.9	45.8	83.1	31.6	67.5	123.7	804.6
August	349.6	80.5	38.7	83.6	32.0	65.9	127.5	777.8
September	348.9	84.8	38.8	84.3	33.1	65.8	128.6	784.5
October	370.4	92.0	46.3	94.3	34.6	76.1	126.5	840.2

MONTHLY, TREND (\$m)								
1996-97								
August	332.5	93.7	38.8	81.6	37.0	66.7	140.2	790.5
September	333.9	93.7	37.9	80.2	37.2	64.8	137.7	785.9
October	335.7	93.8	37.1	78.6	36.9	63.4	136.1	783.1
November	338.2	93.9	36.8	77.1	36.2	62.7	135.6	782.7
December	341.0	94.1	37.0	76.0	35.3	62.9	135.7	784.2
January	343.2	94.0	37.5	75.4	34.4	63.7	136.1	786.4
February	344.4	93.7	38.3	75.5	33.8	64.9	136.6	788.5
March	344.5	93.3	39.4	75.9	33.4	66.3	137.2	790.5
April	344.5	93.1	40.6	76.6	33.4	67.4	137.8	793.3
May	345.4	93.3	41.8	77.9	33.6	68.0	137.6	797.3
June	347.6	93.7	42.8	79.9	34.0	68.3	136.5	802.6
1997-98								
July	351.1	94.0	43.5	82.3	34.3	68.5	134.3	808.1
August	354.8	94.2	44.0	84.9	34.5	68.9	131.4	812.7
September	357.9	94.1	44.3	87.5	34.8	69.4	128.2	816.6
October	360.6	94.0	44.5	89.8	34.9	69.9	125.1	820.2

PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS MONTH, TREND								
1996-97								
September	0.4	0.0	-2.3	-1.7	0.5	-2.8	-1.8	-0.6
October	0.5	0.1	-2.1	-2.0	-0.8	-2.2	-1.2	-0.4
November	0.7	0.1	-0.8	-1.9	-1.9	-1.1	-0.4	-0.1
December	0.8	0.2	0.5	-1.4	-2.5	0.3	0.1	0.2
January	0.6	-0.1	1.4	-0.8	-2.5	1.3	0.3	0.3
February	0.3	-0.3	2.1	0.1	-1.7	1.9	0.4	0.3
March	0.0	-0.4	2.9	0.5	-1.2	2.2	0.4	0.3
April	0.0	-0.2	3.0	0.9	0.0	1.7	0.4	0.3
May	0.3	0.2	3.0	1.7	0.6	0.9	-0.1	0.5
June	0.6	0.4	2.4	2.6	1.2	0.4	-0.8	0.7
1997-98								
July	1.0	0.3	1.6	3.0	0.9	0.3	-1.6	0.7
August	1.1	0.2	1.1	3.2	0.6	0.6	-2.2	0.6
September	0.9	-0.1	0.7	3.1	0.9	0.7	-2.4	0.5
October	0.8	-0.1	0.5	2.6	0.3	0.7	-2.4	0.4

NEW MOTOR VEHICLES REGISTRATIONS, By Type of Vehicle

Period	ORIGINAL.....			SEASONALLY ADJUSTED.....			TREND ESTIMATE.....		
	Passenger vehicles	Other vehicles	Total	Passenger vehicles	Other vehicles	Total	Passenger vehicles	Other vehicles	Total
ANNUAL									
1991-92	32 351	5 333	37 684	..	..	..	..	..	..
1992-93	32 894	5 577	38 471	..	..	..	..	..	..
1993-94	32 806	5 781	38 587	..	..	..	..	..	..
1994-95	35 830	6 736	42 566	..	..	..	..	..	..
1995-96	36 067	6 828	42 895	..	..	..	..	..	..
1996-97	36 146	6 970	43 116	..	..	..	..	..	..
PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS YEAR									
1991-92	-6.9	-19.4	-8.9	..	..	..	..	..	..
1992-93	1.7	4.6	2.1	..	..	..	..	..	..
1993-94	-0.3	3.7	0.3	..	..	..	..	..	..
1994-95	9.2	16.5	10.3	..	..	..	..	..	..
1995-96	0.7	1.4	0.8	..	..	..	..	..	..
1996-97	0.2	2.1	0.5	..	..	..	..	..	..
MONTHLY									
1996-97									
August	3 024	545	3 569	2 853	600	3 453	2 804	585	3 389
September	2 939	498	3 437	2 883	548	3 431	2 780	564	3 344
October	2 817	548	3 365	2 520	557	3 077	2 810	547	3 357
November	2 976	539	3 515	2 953	503	3 456	2 892	545	3 437
December	2 997	585	3 582	2 978	585	3 563	2 998	556	3 554
January	2 493	449	2 942	3 109	564	3 673	3 102	578	3 679
February	3 302	525	3 827	3 439	573	4 012	3 179	600	3 779
March	3 034	593	3 627	3 128	623	3 750	3 223	614	3 837
April	3 015	701	3 716	3 221	714	3 935	3 234	617	3 851
May	3 028	612	3 640	3 045	555	3 600	3 237	608	3 844
June	3 659	780	4 439	3 463	602	4 066	3 256	593	3 849
1997-98									
July	3 351	545	3 896	3 196	532	3 729	3 293	579	3 872
August	3 368	508	3 876	3 354	575	3 930	3 339	569	3 908
September	3 619	554	4 173	3 358	588	3 945	3 386	563	3 950
October	3 775	558	4 333	3 482	564	4 046	3 422	559	3 981
PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS MONTH									
1996-97									
August	5.7	-8.4	3.2	1.4	4.9	2.0	-2.5	-3.1	-2.6
September	-2.8	-8.6	-3.7	1.1	-8.7	-0.6	-0.9	-3.6	-1.3
October	-4.2	10.0	-2.1	-12.6	1.6	-10.3	1.1	-3.0	0.4
November	5.6	-1.6	4.5	17.2	-9.7	12.3	2.9	-0.4	2.4
December	0.7	8.5	1.9	0.8	16.3	3.1	3.7	2.0	3.4
January	-16.8	-23.2	-17.9	4.4	-3.6	3.1	3.5	4.0	3.5
February	32.5	16.9	30.1	10.6	1.6	9.2	2.5	3.8	2.7
March	-8.1	13.0	-5.2	-9.0	8.7	-6.5	1.4	2.3	1.5
April	-0.6	18.2	2.5	3.0	14.6	4.9	0.3	0.5	0.4
May	0.4	-12.7	-2.0	-5.5	-22.3	-8.5	0.1	-1.5	-0.2
June	20.8	27.5	22.0	13.7	8.5	12.9	0.6	-2.5	0.1
1997-98									
July	-8.4	-30.1	-12.2	-7.7	-11.6	-8.3	1.1	-2.4	0.6
August	0.5	-6.8	-0.5	4.9	8.1	5.4	1.4	-1.7	0.9
September	7.5	9.1	7.7	0.1	2.3	0.4	1.4	-1.1	1.1
October	4.3	0.5	3.8	3.7	-4.1	4.1	1.1	-0.7	0.8

Period	INDUSTRY.....			Total	TYPE OF ASSET.....	
	Mining	Manu- facturing	Other selected industries		New buildings and structures	Equipment, plant and machinery
ANNUAL (\$m)						
1991-92	193	763	668	1 625	392	1 233
1992-93	218	564	739	1 522	416	1 105
1993-94	97	613	773	1 484	356	1 128
1994-95	115	829	1 162	2 106	351	1 755
1995-96	196	756	921	1 873	358	1 515
1996-97	488	839	1 250	2 577	593	1 984
PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS YEAR						
1991-92	58.4	2.9	-32.3	-12.2	-37.5	0.8
1992-93	12.8	-26.1	10.6	-6.4	6.1	-10.4
1993-94	-55.5	8.7	4.6	-2.5	-14.5	2.0
1994-95	18.3	35.2	50.3	41.9	-1.4	55.6
1995-96	70.4	-8.8	-20.7	-11.1	2.0	-13.7
1996-97	149.0	11.0	35.7	37.6	65.6	31.0
QUARTERLY, ORIGINAL (\$m)						
1995-96						
June	59	210	276	545	117	428
1996-97						
September	61	187	399	647	133	514
December	82	234	373	688	172	517
March	79	198	245	521	130	391
June	266	221	233	720	159	561
1997-98						
September	345	169	204	718	159	559
PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS QUARTER, ORIGINAL						
1995-96						
June	15.7	25.7	50.0	35.2	51.9	31.3
1996-97						
September	3.4	-11.0	44.6	18.7	13.7	20.1
December	34.4	25.1	-6.5	6.3	29.3	0.6
March	-3.7	-15.4	-34.3	-24.3	-24.4	-24.4
June	238.0	11.6	-4.5	38.8	23.1	44.0
1997-98						
September	29.2	-23.5	-12.8	-0.7	-0.6	-0.7
QUARTERLY, TREND (\$m)						
1995-96						
June	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	566	117	449
1996-97						
September	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	618	133	484
December	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	629	148	481
March	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	637	155	481
June	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	685	158	526
1997-98						
September	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	758	154	604
PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS QUARTER, TREND						
1995-96						
June	..	..	..	16.7	23.2	15.1
1996-97						
September	..	..	..	9.2	13.7	7.8
December	..	..	..	1.8	11.3	-0.6
March	..	..	..	1.3	4.7	0.0
June	..	..	..	7.5	1.9	9.4
1997-98						
September	..	..	..	10.7	-2.5	14.8

Period	HOTELS, MOTELS AND GUESTHOUSES WITH FACILITIES.....			HOLIDAY FLATS, UNITS AND HOUSES.....			SHORT-TERM CARAVAN PARKS.....		
	Guest rooms	Room occupancy	Takings	Flats, units and houses	Unit occupancy	Takings	Sites	Site occupancy	Takings
	no.	%	\$'000	no.	%	\$'000	no.	%	\$'000
ANNUAL									
1991-92	10 745	46.6	130 578	1 302	40.4	10 492	20 601	17.1	19 111
1992-93	10 632	46.5	129 882	1 338	40.2	10 740	20 038	22.3	20 113
1993-94	10 597	48.6	138 782	1 338	40.9	11 700	19 591	23.7	20 790
1994-95	10 594	51.3	149 698	1 342	40.0	11 644	20 175	24.5	22 537
1995-96	10 772	52.4	161 136	1 356	41.5	12 844	20 187	24.9	23 578
1996-97	10 895	52.6	164 227	1 467	42.2	14 615	20 248	25.2	24 336
PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS YEAR									
1991-92	2.9	..	1.5	7.6	..	1.5	4.1	..	5.6
1992-93	-1.1	..	-0.5	2.8	..	2.4	-2.7	..	5.2
1993-94	-0.3	..	6.9	0.0	..	8.9	-2.2	..	3.4
1994-95	0.0	..	7.9	0.3	..	-0.5	3.0	..	8.4
1995-96	1.7	..	7.6	1.0	..	10.3	0.1	..	4.6
1996-97	1.1	..	1.9	8.1	..	13.8	0.3	..	3.2
QUARTERLY									
1995-96									
March	10 757	55.1	41 938	1 388	54.9	4 512	20 154	27.8	6 931
June	10 865	51.4	39 121	1 451	38.0	2 940	20 122	25.0	5 736
1996-97									
September	10 879	48.9	37 567	1 426	35.1	2 885	20 247	21.0	4 735
December	10 951	54.9	43 266	1 470	40.7	3 651	20 260	25.2	6 340
March	10 909	55.4	43 033	1 493	54.1	4 895	20 251	30.4	7 742
June	10 842	51.1	40 361	1 477	38.8	3 184	20 233	24.3	5 519
PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS QUARTER									
1995-96									
March	-0.1	..	-2.5	7.0	..	44.6	0.2	..	13.6
June	1.0	..	-6.7	4.5	..	-34.8	-0.2	..	-17.2
1996-97									
September	0.1	..	-4.0	-1.7	..	-1.9	0.6	..	-17.5
December	0.7	..	15.2	3.1	..	26.6	0.1	..	33.9
March	-0.4	..	-0.5	1.6	..	34.1	0.0	..	22.1
June	-0.6	..	-6.2	-1.1	..	-35.0	-0.1	..	-28.7

Period	NEW HOUSES.....		TOTAL DWELLING UNITS.....					
	Private sector	Total	Private sector	Total	New residential building	Alterations and additions to residential building	Non-residential building	Total building
	no.	no.	no.	no.	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m

ANNUAL								
1991-92	8 613	8 931	10 254	11 290	756	124	627	1 506
1992-93	9 710	10 087	11 548	12 341	841	133	418	1 392
1993-94	9 470	9 901	11 046	11 777	839	122	375	1 336
1994-95	7 757	8 147	9 208	9 762	740	120	493	1 353
1995-96	4 930	5 109	5 760	5 968	469	119	566	1 155
1996-97	5 508	5 604	6 148	6 264	515	117	584	1 217

MONTHLY, ORIGINAL								
1996-97								
September	458	462	510	514	43.4	10.7	59.1	113.2
October	401	414	553	566	43.7	12.0	28.5	84.2
November	438	438	488	488	39.9	8.8	39.7	88.5
December	382	383	409	410	34.8	9.7	28.0	72.5
January	340	340	351	351	29.6	8.6	41.9	80.1
February	429	434	467	472	39.7	9.8	53.1	102.6
March	486	501	526	543	41.8	8.9	35.4	86.1
April	559	568	615	628	52.6	10.9	39.2	102.8
May	537	551	599	620	52.5	9.9	64.7	127.1
June	518	540	571	597	49.5	9.2	92.0	150.7
1997-98								
July	571	583	622	634	51.1	10.8	125.1	187.0
August	513	529	552	568	49.3	10.1	63.8	123.2
September	505	527	570	600	51.9	10.7	58.6	121.1
October	523	538	584	599	51.2	12.0	34.1	97.4

MONTHLY, TREND								
1996-97								
September	417	427	482	493	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
October	416	425	479	489	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
November	420	428	474	482	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
December	433	439	476	483	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
January	455	460	490	495	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
February	483	488	516	523	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
March	508	514	547	556	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
April	522	530	570	581	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
May	521	532	577	590	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
June	510	522	567	583	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
1997-98								
July	496	511	553	571	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
August	487	506	542	563	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
September	463	506	535	561	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
October	461	508	531	561	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.

PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS MONTH, TREND								
1996-97								
October	-0.2	-0.5	-0.6	-0.8	..	..	..	..
November	1.0	0.7	-1.0	-1.4	..	..	..	..
December	3.1	2.6	0.4	0.2	..	..	..	..
January	5.1	4.8	2.9	2.5	..	..	..	..
February	6.2	6.1	5.3	5.7	..	..	..	..
March	5.2	5.3	6.0	6.3	..	..	..	..
April	2.8	3.1	4.2	4.7	..	..	..	..
May	-0.2	0.4	1.2	1.5	..	..	..	..
June	-2.1	-1.7	-1.7	-1.2	..	..	..	..
1997-98								
July	-2.7	-2.1	-2.5	-2.1
August	-1.8	-1.0	-2.0	-1.4
September	-0.8	0.0	-1.3	-0.4
October	-0.4	0.4	-0.7	0.0

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BUILDING COMMENCEMENTS

Period	NEW HOUSES.....		TOTAL DWELLING UNITS(a).....		Alterations		NON-RESIDENTIAL BUILDING.....		
	Private sector	Total	Private sector	Total	New residential building	and additions to residential building	Private sector	Total	Total building
	no.	no.	no.	no.	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
ANNUAL									
1991-92	8 036	8 344	9 635	10 700	727.2	125.1	344.5	607.8	1 460.1
1992-93	9 122	9 416	10 889	11 646	816.2	122.4	205.5	458.7	1 397.2
1993-94	9 159	9 590	10 712	11 501	845.3	126.5	209.9	373.0	1 344.8
1994-95	7 745	8 210	9 132	9 796	765.5	125.3	251.7	518.5	1 409.3
1995-96	4 836	5 070	5 691	5 960	496.5	121.7	452.8	631.8	1 250.0
1996-97	4 959	5 014	5 611	5 671	494.9	117.2	399.5	544.9	1 157.0
QUARTERLY									
1995-96									
March	1 044	1 089	1 237	1 295	109.2	29.4	80.1	139.9	278.4
June	1 153	1 183	1 273	1 307	111.0	28.8	217.7	264.0	403.9
1996-97									
September	1 191	1 207	1 302	1 321	108.7	26.2	67.9	104.2	239.1
December	1 245	1 262	1 513	1 530	133.8	33.8	85.3	113.2	280.8
March	1 099	1 102	1 242	1 247	106.3	26.2	76.6	121.2	253.6
June	1 522	1 541	1 670	1 691	146.1	31.0	169.7	206.4	383.5
1997-98									
September	1 339	1 384	1 468	1 517	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.

(a) Includes conversions.

VALUE OF BUILDING WORK DONE DURING PERIOD

Period	NEW HOUSES...		NEW RESIDENTIAL BUILDING.....		Alterations and additions to residential building	NON-RESIDENTIAL BUILDING.....		TOTAL BUILDING...	
	Private sector	Total	Private sector	Total		Private sector	Total	Private sector	Total
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m		\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
ANNUAL									
1991-92	591.5	607.5	693.4	748.5	125.1	310.3	484.1	1 127.5	1 357.6
1992-93	647.2	660.9	743.8	780.6	127.1	297.9	570.9	1 166.3	1 478.6
1993-94	719.1	746.4	828.9	876.3	132.0	217.7	462.1	1 177.2	1 470.4
1994-95	659.6	693.6	766.1	816.4	129.4	271.6	476.9	1 164.3	1 422.7
1995-96	441.4	460.5	512.9	534.8	130.6	311.4	542.1	953.2	1 207.5
1996-97	433.1	438.1	484.8	490.0	122.0	441.2	659.7	1 046.2	1 271.7
QUARTERLY									
1995-96									
March	101.6	105.4	118.8	123.1	26.7	63.4	122.0	208.6	271.8
June	102.6	105.0	117.6	120.3	32.6	88.1	155.6	238.3	308.5
1996-97									
September	97.3	99.3	109.4	111.3	28.0	83.4	143.8	219.4	283.1
December	109.1	110.6	121.3	122.8	35.4	119.6	189.8	276.0	348.0
March	99.9	100.3	114.1	114.6	26.8	100.8	147.8	241.6	289.2
June	126.8	128.0	140.0	141.2	31.9	137.4	178.3	309.2	351.4

Period	Footwear	Gas	Electricity (including NT)	Coal	Sawn timber(a)
	pairs	m MJ	'000 kWh	tonnes	m ³
ANNUAL					
1991-92	1 852 890	78 210	10 025 649	2 819 880	271 603
1992-93	1 406 178	83 000	10 226 734	2 753 610	317 096
1993-94	1 382 949	89 382	10 560 251	2 643 000	364 961
1994-95	1 430 417	86 123	10 051 056	2 554 560	392 349
1995-96	1 423 814	76 074	8 733 503	2 409 120	413 545
1996-97	1 572 621	76 495	9 166 719	2 633 820	n.y.a.

PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS YEAR

1991-92	0.8	6.7	12.9	15.5	13.1
1992-93	-24.1	6.1	2.0	-2.4	16.7
1993-94	-1.7	7.7	3.3	-4.0	15.1
1994-95	3.4	-3.6	-4.8	-3.3	7.5
1995-96	-0.5	-11.7	-13.1	-5.7	5.4
1996-97	10.5	0.6	5.0	9.3	n.y.a.

MONTHLY/QUARTERLY(b), ORIGINAL

1995-96					
June	163 135	7 047	788 337	216 120	90 862
1996-97					
July	132 078	7 478	805 153	242 820	..
August	139 938	7 077	780 265	231 720	..
September	140 736	6 545	715 089	203 820	95 037
October	118 507	6 788	701 744	150 480	..
November	134 859	5 468	692 551	202 920	..
December	82 581	5 417	724 795	196 980	86 509
January	68 587	6 016	801 786	239 760	..
February	170 775	6 499	857 703	206 820	..
March	124 771	5 429	717 610	238 200	67 726
April	137 860	5 544	713 484	216 840	..
May	144 946	6 979	850 366	259 980	..
June	176 983	7 255	806 173	243 480	n.y.a.

PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS MONTH/QUARTER(b)

1995-96					
June	21.1	23.0	8.7	15.8	2.5
1996-97					
July	-19.0	6.1	2.1	12.4	..
August	6.0	-5.4	-3.1	-4.6	..
September	0.6	-7.5	-8.4	-12.0	4.6
October	-15.8	3.7	-1.9	-26.2	..
November	13.8	-19.4	-1.3	34.8	..
December	-38.8	-0.9	4.7	-2.9	-9.0
February	149.0	8.0	7.0	-13.7	..
January	-16.9	11.1	10.6	21.7	..
March	-26.9	-16.5	-16.3	15.2	-21.7
April	10.5	2.1	-0.6	-9.0	..
May	5.1	25.9	19.2	19.9	..
June	22.1	4.0	-5.2	-6.3	n.y.a.

(a) From Australian softwood logs only.

(b) Sawn timber production data available quarterly only.

Period	Chicken	Pigmeat	Beef	Mutton	Lamb	Cheese	Wheat flour, other than self-raising
ANNUAL (tonnes)							
1991-92	36 978	34 538	90 661	72 578	29 941	23 494	81 065
1992-93	38 619	38 153	96 338	65 689	39 334	26 140	87 761
1993-94	40 671	38 394	94 395	71 354	45 199	26 674	84 683
1994-95	39 103	32 063	99 108	66 759	36 147	29 154	80 666
1995-96	37 691	31 695	89 704	55 600	37 735	31 496	97 425
1996-97	38 907	29 853	85 350	58 025	35 081	n.y.a.	90 449

PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS YEAR							
1991-92	15.8	-10.6	4.2	10.9	-6.5	-4.2	-3.2
1992-93	4.4	10.5	6.3	-9.5	31.4	11.3	8.3
1993-94	5.3	0.6	-2.0	8.6	14.9	2.0	-3.5
1994-95	-3.9	-16.5	5.0	-6.4	-20.0	9.3	-4.7
1995-96	-3.6	-1.1	-9.5	-16.7	4.4	8.0	20.8
1996-97	3.2	-5.8	-4.9	4.4	-7.0	n.y.a.	-7.2

MONTHLY (tonnes)							
1996-97							
September	3 042	2 308	6 650	3 733	2 776	3 092	7 089
October	3 155	2 232	8 130	5 528	3 422	3 699	6 866
November	3 167	2 629	8 930	7 351	2 983	3 326	7 331
December	3 600	2 000	6 681	4 500	2 574	2 889	8 187
January	3 502	2 136	7 333	5 815	3 247	2 536	8 010
February	2 819	2 570	7 223	6 057	3 154	2 043	8 566
March	3 440	2 202	6 854	5 397	2 899	1 911	8 374
April	3 595	2 508	8 355	5 632	3 501	2 255	7 379
May	3 321	2 828	7 606	4 637	3 469	n.y.a.	6 983
June	3 327	2 533	7 168	3 957	3 304	n.y.a.	7 097
1997-98							
July	3 743	2 446	6 809	3 146	3 006	n.y.a.	n.y.a.
August	n.a.	2 669	6 033	4 016	1 166	n.y.a.	n.y.a.
September	n.a.	2 320	6 670	6 087	2 782	n.y.a.	n.y.a.
October	n.a.	2 240	7 873	5 763	3 860	n.y.a.	n.y.a.

PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS MONTH							
1996-97							
September	7.6	-19.4	28.1	35.8	49.6	26.1	-5.1
October	3.7	-3.3	22.3	48.1	23.3	19.6	-3.1
November	0.4	17.8	9.8	33.0	-12.8	-10.1	6.8
December	13.7	-23.9	-25.2	-38.8	-13.7	-13.1	11.7
January	-2.7	6.8	9.8	29.2	26.1	-2.2	-2.2
February	-19.5	20.3	-1.5	4.2	-2.9	-19.4	6.9
March	22.0	-14.3	-5.1	-10.9	-8.1	-6.5	-2.2
April	4.5	13.9	21.9	4.4	20.8	18.0	-11.9
May	-7.6	12.8	-9.0	-17.7	-0.9	n.y.a.	-5.4
June	0.2	-0.4	-5.8	-14.7	-4.8	n.y.a.	1.6
1997-98							
July	12.5	-3.4	-5.0	-20.5	-9.0	n.y.a.	n.y.a.
August	n.a.	9.1	-11.4	27.7	-61.2	n.y.a.	n.y.a.
September	n.a.	-13.1	10.6	51.6	138.6	n.y.a.	n.y.a.
October	n.a.	-3.4	18.0	-5.3	38.7	n.y.a.	n.y.a.

Period	Food	Clothing	Housing	Household equipment and operation	Transport- ation	Tobacco and alcohol	Health and personal care	Recreation and education	All groups
ANNUAL AVERAGE (1989-90 = 100)									
1991-92	106.0	105.3	100.4	107.5	110.5	118.6	127.8	107.7	108.9
1992-93	109.3	107.0	94.3	107.6	115.0	131.2	134.9	110.7	111.2
1993-94	111.7	106.6	92.1	108.0	117.8	141.5	142.7	113.7	113.4
1994-95	115.1	104.9	97.8	109.2	120.2	148.9	151.3	116.3	116.9
1995-96	118.2	105.1	103.6	112.1	124.5	160.1	158.9	118.0	121.2
1996-97	120.8	105.5	98.9	113.4	124.6	165.3	165.4	121.1	122.3
PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS YEAR, ANNUAL AVERAGE									
1991-92	2.1	1.6	-3.6	2.0	3.3	5.9	12.7	2.8	2.5
1992-93	3.1	1.6	-6.1	0.1	4.1	10.6	5.6	2.8	2.1
1993-94	2.2	-0.4	-2.3	0.4	2.4	7.9	5.8	2.7	2.0
1994-95	3.0	-1.6	6.2	1.1	2.0	5.2	6.0	2.2	3.1
1995-96	2.7	0.2	5.9	2.7	3.6	7.6	5.0	1.5	3.7
1996-97	2.2	0.3	-4.5	1.2	0.0	3.3	4.1	2.6	0.9
QUARTERLY (1989-90 = 100.0)									
1995-96									
June	118.4	105.5	103.9	112.3	125.3	163.6	160.6	119.2	122.0
1996-97									
September	119.2	105.5	103.5	113.0	124.4	164.7	160.9	119.2	122.2
December	120.7	106.0	100.5	113.8	125.5	164.9	164.9	119.8	122.6
March	121.2	105.1	97.5	113.3	125.6	165.2	167.7	122.3	122.6
June	121.9	105.2	94.1	113.6	122.7	166.5	168.0	122.9	121.9
1997-98									
September	122.0	105.4	92.2	113.6	123.2	167.2	158.6	123.7	121.2
PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM SAME QUARTER OF PREVIOUS YEAR									
1995-96									
June	2.3	0.4	1.7	1.9	3.2	6.8	3.4	2.3	2.7
1996-97									
September	1.2	0.7	0.8	1.3	0.0	6.4	3.5	2.3	1.7
December	2.1	0.8	-3.2	1.6	1.0	3.3	3.9	2.1	1.2
March	2.5	0.2	-6.2	0.8	1.4	1.8	4.2	2.9	0.8
June	3.0	-0.3	-9.4	1.2	-2.1	1.8	4.6	3.1	-0.1
1997-98									
September	2.3	-0.1	10.9	0.5	-1.0	1.5	-1.4	3.8	-0.8
PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS QUARTER									
1995-96									
June	0.2	0.6	0.0	-0.1	1.1	0.9	-0.2	0.3	0.3
1996-97									
September	0.7	0.0	-0.4	0.6	-0.7	0.7	0.2	0.0	0.2
December	1.3	0.5	-2.9	0.7	0.9	0.1	2.5	0.5	0.3
March	0.4	-0.8	-3	-0.4	0.1	0.2	1.7	2.1	0.0
June	0.6	0.1	-3.5	0.3	-2.3	0.8	0.2	0.5	-0.6
1997-98									
September	0.1	0.2	-2.0	0.0	0.4	0.4	-5.6	0.7	-0.6

QUARTER.....

Item	Unit	Sep	Dec	Mar	June	Sep
		1996	1996	1996	1997	1997
		cents	cents	cents	cents	cents
Milk, carton, supermarket sales	1 L	114	116	116	122	122
Cheese, processed, sliced, wrapped	500 g	322	318	318	320	323
Butter	500 g	160	172	167	161	164
Bread, white loaf, sliced, supermarket sales	680 g	154	157	153	160	161
Self-raising flour	2 kg	243	227	240	235	239
Beef						
Rump steak	1 kg	1 123	1 061	1 157	1 141	1 135
Corned silverside	1 kg	624	625	597	602	626
Lamb						
Leg	1 kg	586	563	572	574	565
Loin chops	1 kg	808	778	799	792	794
Forequarter chops	1 kg	555	528	568	547	534
Pork						
Leg	1 kg	621	617	616	574	622
Loin chops	1 kg	778	793	799	792	802
Chicken, frozen	1 kg	369	375	351	370	362
Bacon, middle rashers	250 g pkt	292	317	325	295	321
Sausages	1 kg	351	351	359	360	360
Potatoes	1 kg	67	73	78	108	111
Onions	1 kg	83	128	134	114	127
Peaches, canned	825 g	174	190	182	185	188
Eggs, 55g	doz	239	248	246	246	239
Sugar, white	2 kg	182	182	183	182	185
Tea	250 g	168	172	169	175	182
Coffee, instant, jar	150 g	509	513	500	539	573
Margarine, polyunsaturated	500 g	139	143	141	133	144
Petrol						
Leaded	1 L	73.6	76.1	77.5	75.4	74.5
Unleaded	1 L	71.3	73.7	75.2	73.0	72.2

NET MIGRATION...

<i>Period</i>	<i>Live births(a)</i>	<i>Deaths(a)</i>	<i>Natural increase</i>	<i>Interstate</i>	<i>Overseas(b)</i>	<i>Total increase</i>	<i>Population at end of period(c)</i>

ANNUAL							
1991-92	19 530	11 035	8 532	- 133	2 897	11 296	1 456 523
1992-93	19 686	11 163	8 403	-4 650	1 546	5 299	1 460 730
1993-94	20 036	11 743	7 949	-3 466	1 994	6 477	1 466 127
1994-95	19 559	11 496	7 902	-6 529	2 883	4 256	1 469 411
1995-96	10 916	11 186	7 645	-6 238	4 119	5 526	1 474 389
1996-97	18 934	11 577	7 258	-5 185	3 480	5 553	1 479 806

MONTHLY/QUARTERLY							
1995-96							
June	1 448	886	1 818	-1 090	753	1 481	1 474 253
1996-97							
July	1 732	1 102	..	..	..	..	..
August	1 662	1 207	..	..	..	..	..
September	1 464	977	1 575	-1 746	902	731	1 474 984
October	1 779	1 196	..	..	..	..	..
November	1 536	835	..	..	..	..	..
December	1 424	920	1 780	-1 565	1 003	1 218	1 476 202
January	1 582	909	..	..	..	..	..
February	1 498	827	..	..	..	..	..
March	1 301	753	1 880	-1 368	1 228	1 740	1 477 942
April	1 673	925	..	..	..	..	..
May	1 791	1 022	..	..	..	..	..
June	1 492	904	2 023	-506	347	1 864	1 479 806

(a) Registrations.

(b) Includes category jumping.

Period	EMPLOYED FULL-TIME.....		EMPLOYED PART-TIME.....		TOTAL EMPLOYED.....		UNEMPLOYED..		LABOUR FORCE.....	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
ANNUAL AVERAGE ('000)										
1991-92	323.3	145.7	37.5	121.6	360.8	267.3	50.0	29.3	410.8	296.6
1992-93	322.2	143.2	39.2	126.8	361.4	270.0	51.9	29.9	413.3	299.9
1993-94	322.0	146.3	40.0	127.0	362.0	273.3	47.3	29.9	409.3	303.2
1994-95	323.1	151.5	42.6	131.3	365.7	282.8	44.6	28.7	410.3	311.5
1995-96	325.2	150.0	45.5	136.7	370.7	286.7	42.6	26.0	413.2	312.7
1996-97	320.8	150.5	48.6	140.7	369.4	291.2	42.1	27.5	411.5	318.7
MONTHLY, ORIGINAL ('000)										
1996-97										
November	321.0	149.7	47.8	138.9	368.7	288.7	41.3	25.1	410.0	313.7
December	327.6	153.0	46.3	139.7	373.8	292.7	41.3	29.3	415.1	322.0
January	321.3	151.3	44.8	133.5	366.2	284.8	44.9	28.8	411.0	313.6
February	320.5	152.4	47.6	140.0	368.1	292.3	44.2	30.2	412.3	322.5
March	318.6	148.6	54.9	145.6	373.5	294.1	41.6	29.5	415.1	323.6
April	319.9	148.2	49.3	143.2	369.2	291.5	43.8	27.4	413.0	318.8
May	318.3	149.2	51.6	140.2	369.9	289.4	44.0	25.7	413.9	315.1
June	324.9	151.1	49.1	141.6	374.0	292.7	41.4	26.8	415.4	319.5
1997-98										
July	325.9	149.3	47.5	140.1	373.4	289.4	40.9	27.0	414.3	316.5
August	323.3	148.8	50.3	141.6	374.1	290.4	42.5	27.4	415.3	311.6
September	324.0	148.5	50.6	141.7	374.7	290.3	42.5	27.3	419.9	317.5
October	324.1	145.2	49.6	143.6	373.7	288.8	43.2	26.6	416.9	315.4
November	324.0	147.8	49.2	142.4	373.2	290.3	42.5	26.7	415.8	317.0
MONTHLY, TREND ('000)										
1996-97										
October	319.5	150.4	48.1	140.4	367.6	290.8	41.7	27.7	409.3	318.5
November	320.1	150.2	47.6	140.8	367.7	291.0	41.7	27.5	409.4	318.5
December	320.7	150.1	47.3	141.3	368.0	291.4	41.6	27.3	409.6	318.7
January	321.1	150.1	47.6	141.9	368.7	292.0	41.6	27.1	410.3	319.1
February	321.2	150.3	48.1	142.1	369.3	292.4	42.0	27.1	411.3	319.5
March	321.1	150.7	48.9	141.7	370.0	292.4	42.6	27.1	412.6	319.5
April	321.4	150.8	49.4	140.9	370.8	291.7	43.1	27.3	413.9	319.0
May	322.2	150.5	49.8	140.0	372.0	290.5	43.4	27.6	415.4	318.1
June	323.3	149.6	49.8	139.4	373.1	289.0	43.5	27.8	416.6	316.8
1997-98										
July	324.2	148.4	49.8	139.7	374.0	288.1	43.4	27.9	417.4	316.0
August	324.6	147.1	49.9	140.9	374.5	288.0	43.4	28.0	417.9	316.0
September	324.7	145.4	50.0	142.9	374.7	288.3	43.4	28.0	418.1	316.3
October	324.5	145.0	50.2	143.8	374.7	288.8	43.6	27.9	418.3	316.7
November	324.3	144.5	50.0	145.0	374.3	289.5	43.7	27.9	418.0	317.4
PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS MONTH, TREND										
1996-97										
November	0.2	-0.1	-1.0	0.3	0.0	0.1	0.0	-0.7	0.0	0.0
December	0.2	-0.1	-0.6	0.4	0.1	0.1	-0.2	-0.7	0.0	0.1
January	0.1	0.0	0.6	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.0	-0.7	0.2	0.1
February	0.0	0.1	1.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	1.0	0.0	0.2	0.1
March	0.0	0.3	1.7	-0.3	0.2	0.0	1.4	0.0	0.3	0.0
April	0.1	0.1	1.0	-0.6	0.2	-0.2	1.2	0.7	0.3	-0.2
May	0.2	-0.2	0.6	-0.6	0.3	-0.4	0.7	1.1	0.4	-0.3
June	0.3	-0.6	0.0	-0.4	0.3	-0.5	0.2	0.7	0.3	-0.4
1997-98										
July	0.3	-0.8	0.0	0.2	0.2	-0.3	-0.2	0.4	0.2	-0.3
August	0.1	-0.9	0.2	0.9	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.1	0.0
September	0.0	-1.2	0.2	1.4	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
October	-0.1	-0.3	0.4	0.6	0.0	0.2	0.5	-0.4	0.0	0.1
November	-0.1	-0.3	-0.4	0.8	-0.1	0.2	0.2	0.0	-0.1	0.2

(a) Population aged 15 and over.

Period	CIVILIAN POPULATION.....		UNEMPLOYMENT RATE.....				PARTICIPATION RATE..		
	Males aged 15 and over	Females aged 15 and over	Persons aged 15-19	Males all ages	Females all ages	Persons all ages	Males	Females	Persons
	'000	'000	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
ANNUAL AVERAGE									
1991-92	563.9	585.4	25.0	12.1	9.9	11.2	72.9	50.7	61.6
1992-93	567.4	588.9	26.6	12.6	10.0	11.5	72.8	51.0	61.7
1993-94	570.6	592.0	28.3	11.5	9.8	10.8	71.7	51.2	61.3
1994-95	573.7	594.7	25.2	10.9	9.2	10.2	71.5	52.4	61.8
1995-96	576.2	597.1	27.2	10.3	8.3	9.5	71.7	52.4	61.9
1996-97	579.8	600.6	23.7	10.2	8.6	9.5	71.0	53.1	61.9
PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS YEAR,									
1991-92	1.0	1.0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1992-93	0.6	0.6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1993-94	0.6	0.6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1994-95	0.6	0.5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1995-96	0.4	0.5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1996-97	0.6	0.4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
MONTHLY, ORIGINAL									
1996-97									
September	578.8	599.6	23.7	10.5	8.6	9.7	70.6	53.5	61.9
October	579.1	599.9	20.7	10.0	8.5	9.3	70.4	53.2	61.7
November	579.5	600.2	22.2	10.1	8.0	9.2	70.8	52.3	61.4
December	579.8	600.5	25.9	9.9	9.1	9.6	71.6	53.6	62.5
January	580.0	600.7	22.9	10.9	9.2	10.2	70.9	52.2	61.4
February	580.3	601.0	23.5	10.7	9.4	10.1	71.1	53.7	62.2
March	580.5	601.2	22.7	10.0	9.1	9.6	71.5	53.8	62.5
April	580.8	601.5	26.7	10.6	8.6	9.7	71.1	53.0	61.9
May	581.1	601.8	23.7	10.6	8.2	9.6	71.2	52.4	61.6
June	581.5	602.2	24.3	10.0	8.4	9.3	71.4	53.1	62.1
1997-98									
July	581.9	602.6	21.6	9.9	8.5	9.3	71.2	52.5	61.7
August	582.3	602.9	21.2	10.1	8.2	9.3	71.3	51.7	61.3
September	582.7	603.3	23.2	10.6	8.7	9.8	72.1	52.6	62.2
October	583.1	603.7	22.5	10.4	8.4	9.5	71.5	52.2	61.7
November	583.6	604.1	20.9	10.2	8.4	9.5	71.3	52.5	61.7
MONTHLY, TREND									
1996-97									
September	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	10.1	8.7	9.5	70.7	53.1	61.8
October	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	10.2	8.7	9.5	70.7	53.1	61.7
November	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	10.2	8.6	9.5	70.6	53.1	61.7
December	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	10.1	8.6	9.5	70.6	53.1	61.7
January	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	10.1	8.5	9.4	70.7	53.1	61.8
February	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	10.2	8.5	9.5	70.9	53.2	61.9
March	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	10.3	8.5	9.5	71.1	53.2	62.0
April	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	10.4	8.6	9.6	71.3	53.1	62.0
May	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	10.5	8.7	9.7	71.5	52.9	62.0
June	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	10.4	8.8	9.7	71.6	52.6	62.0
1997-98									
July	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	10.4	8.8	9.7	71.7	52.5	61.9
August	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	10.4	8.9	9.7	71.8	52.4	61.9
September	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	10.4	8.8	9.7	71.8	52.3	61.9
October	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	10.3	8.8	9.7	71.9	52.3	61.9
November	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	10.5	8.8	9.7	71.6	52.5	61.9

(a) Population aged 15 and over.

Period	FULL-TIME ADULTS.....						ALL EMPLOYEES.....		
	Ordinary time earnings.....			Total earnings.....			Total earnings.....		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
ANNUAL AVERAGE (\$ per week)									
1991-92	588.40	524.10	567.80	624.90	534.00	595.80	564.80	386.90	483.70
1992-93	610.10	534.90	585.40	646.40	546.80	613.70	560.00	382.60	477.40
1993-94	625.10	547.60	600.00	667.50	560.10	632.70	595.10	396.60	503.30
1994-95	632.70	559.10	608.20	681.70	572.50	645.30	599.90	411.90	513.40
1995-96	653.80	555.90	622.80	703.15	568.50	660.05	620.10	403.90	520.65
1996-97	678.20	575.10	644.33	735.08	589.35	687.20	636.85	408.73	529.78
PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS YEAR									
1991-92	4.8	7.8	5.6	4.3	7.6	5.1	3.3	8.0	4.7
1992-93	3.7	2.1	3.1	3.4	2.4	3.0	-0.8	-1.1	-1.3
1993-94	2.5	2.4	2.5	3.3	2.4	3.1	6.3	3.7	5.4
1994-95	1.2	2.1	1.4	2.1	2.2	2.0	0.8	3.9	2.0
1995-96	3.3	-0.6	2.4	3.1	-0.7	2.3	3.4	-1.9	1.4
1996-97	3.7	3.5	3.5	4.5	3.7	4.1	2.7	1.2	1.8
QUARTERLY (\$ per week)									
1995-96									
17 May	668.90	557.10	633.80	721.40	571.80	674.40	640.50	408.30	534.60
1996-97									
16 August	666.70	562.40	632.40	720.10	574.40	672.30	628.50	403.60	523.60
15 November	669.60	575.30	639.50	728.30	591.80	684.80	626.80	402.30	522.20
21 February	685.60	578.20	649.70	741.90	594.00	692.40	639.80	409.50	530.80
16 May	690.90	584.50	655.70	750.00	597.20	699.30	652.30	419.50	542.50
1997-98									
15 August	703.90	583.70	663.40	756.20	593.50	701.40	651.00	420.00	542.50
PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM CORRESPONDING REFERENCE DATE IN PREVIOUS YEAR									
1995-96									
17 May	5.3	-1.2	3.6	5.3	-1.0	3.8	6.6	-0.6	4.1
1996-97									
16 August	4.2	0.4	3.0	5.2	0.5	3.8	4.6	-1.2	2.6
15 November	3.4	4.8	3.8	5.1	5.5	5.2	3.2	1.5	2.3
21 February	4.1	3.8	3.7	4.0	4.3	3.8	1.3	1.8	0.7
16 May	3.3	4.9	3.5	4.0	4.4	3.7	1.8	2.7	1.5
1997-98									
15 August	5.6	3.8	4.9	5.0	3.3	4.3	3.6	4.1	3.6
PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS REFERENCE DATE									
1995-96									
17 May	1.5	0.0	1.2	1.1	0.4	1.1	1.4	1.5	1.4
1996-97									
16 August	-0.3	1.0	-0.2	-0.2	0.5	-0.3	-1.9	-1.2	-2.1
15 November	0.4	2.3	1.1	1.1	3.0	1.9	-0.3	-0.3	-0.3
21 February	2.4	0.5	1.6	1.9	0.4	1.1	2.1		1.6
16 May	0.8	1.1	0.9	1.1	0.5	1.0	2.0		2.2
1997-98									
15 August	1.9	-0.1	1.2	0.8	-0.6	0.3	-0.2		0.0

SECURED HOUSING
FINANCE COMMITMENTS ..

Period	Dwelling	Alterations and additions	Personal finance commitments	Commercial finance commitments	Lease finance commitments	
	units					Value
	no.	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	
ANNUAL						
1991-92	31 765	2 083.8	88.8	1 456.7	6 667.9	256.2
1992-93	36 960	2 569.5	102.8	1 656.9	5 122.5	249.5
1993-94	45 725	3 387.9	221.8	1 840.3	5 467.2	250.6
1994-95	36 429	2 879.7	242.2	2 152.2	5 405.6	271.4
1995-96	38 707	2 982.2	240.7	2 211.5	6 516.2	265.4
1996-97	36 680	2 956.1	188.1	2 612.0	6 092.4	232.0

PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS YEAR

1991-92	10.7	20.4	51.0	-3.1	6.6	-20.7
1992-93	16.4	23.3	15.8	13.7	-23.2	-2.6
1993-94	23.7	31.9	115.7	11.1	6.7	0.5
1994-95	-20.3	-15.0	9.2	16.9	-1.1	8.3
1995-96	6.3	3.6	-0.6	2.8	20.5	-2.2
1996-97	-5.2	-0.9	-21.9	18.1	-6.5	-12.6

MONTHLY

1996-97						
August	2 776	216.9	18.8	180.8	444.0	18.9
September	3 064	250.6	19.4	175.0	491.6	22.2
October	2 965	233.6	14.0	203.6	444.8	15.3
November	3 115	248.1	14.2	188.8	541.7	17.8
December	2 995	251.5	13.1	220.7	615.6	19.2
January	2 885	231.3	15.3	221.0	409.1	13.7
February	3 013	246.6	16.4	214.4	415.3	15.3
March	3 117	251.4	12.9	241.7	526.5	13.9
April	3 318	270.4	15.5	251.6	487.5	21.6
May	3 228	264.5	14.8	251.7	561.6	20.7
June	3 172	253.3	11.9	249.8	497.9	30.6
1997-98						
July	3 004	243.4	10.8	278.3	640.2	29.8
August	3 085	251.1	10.4	204.6	377.0	21.8
September	3 034	252.7	9.9	218.5	556.2	21.7
October	3 134	265.1	12.9	231.5	619.2	21.6

PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS MONTH

1996-97						
September	10.4	15.5	3.4	-3.2	10.7	17.8
October	-3.2	-6.8	-27.9	16.3	-9.5	-31.2
November	5.1	6.2	1.6	-7.3	21.8	16.6
December	-3.9	1.4	-8.4	16.9	13.6	7.7
January	-3.7	-8.0	17.5	0.1	-33.5	-28.6
February	4.4	6.6	7.0	-3	1.5	11.5
March	3.5	2.0	-21.3	12.8	26.8	-8.7
April	6.4	7.5	19.6	4.1	-7.4	55.3
May	-2.7	-2.2	-4.3	0.0	15.2	-4.2
June	-1.7	-4.2	-19.8	-0.7	-11.3	47.6
1997-98						
July	-5.3	-3.9	-9.0	11.4	28.6	-2.7
August	2.7	3.1	-3.9	-26.5	-41.1	-27.0
September	-1.7	0.6	-4.3	6.8	47.9	-0.4
October	3.3	4.9	30.2	6.0	11.1	-0.5

PUBLICATIONS SOURCE INDEX

- (a) *Australian National Accounts, Quarterly State Details* (Cat. no. 5206.0.40.001)
- (b) *International Merchandise Trade, Australia* (Cat. no. 5422.0) Quarterly
- (c) *Retail Trade, Australia* (Cat. no. 8501.0) Monthly
- (d) *New Motor Vehicles Registrations, Australia, Preliminary* (Cat. no. 9301.0) Monthly
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- (h) *Building Activity, Australia* (Cat. no. 8752.0) Quarterly
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ISSN 1039-8880