DECEMBER QUARTER 2007 1367.5

Australian Bureau of Statistics

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN STATISTICAL INDICATORS

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CONTENTS

INQUIRIES

For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070 or Mike Thomas on Perth (08) 9360 5111.

NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

ISSUE (Quarter)	*RELEASE DATE*
March 2008	16 April 2008
June 2008	16 July 2008

CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

No changes in this issue.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

The statistics shown are the latest available as at 21 December 2007. Explanatory Notes of the form found in other ABS publications are not included in *Western Australian Statistical Indicators*. Readers are directed to the Explanatory Notes contained in related ABS publications.

REVISIONS

Data contained in this publication are subject to revision as more complete and accurate information becomes available each quarter.

INQUIRIES

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

ABBREVIATIONS

ABARE	Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ANZSIC	Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification
ASCO	Australian Standard Classification of Occupations
Aust.	Australia
ERP	estimated resident population
n.e.s.	not elsewhere specified
n.f.d.	not further defined
SITC	Standard International Trade Classification
WA	Western Australia

Michael Tindall
Regional Director, Western Australia

OVERVIEW

ECONOMIC SUMMARY

Growth in Western Australia's domestic economy slowed over the last two quarters, with state final demand decelerating from 3.3% to 2.0% in trend chain volume terms between the March and September quarters 2007. Despite the decline in growth, Western Australia's domestic economy outpaced the growth in all other states and territories in the current quarter, ahead of Queensland (1.6%). Much of the deceleration was the result of falling private investment in machinery and equipment and lower public sector investment expenditure.

Western Australia's international trade surplus fell 8.4% ($835 million) through the year to September quarter 2007, due to imports growth (up 28.7% or $1,386 million) greatly exceeding exports growth (up 3.7% or $551 million).

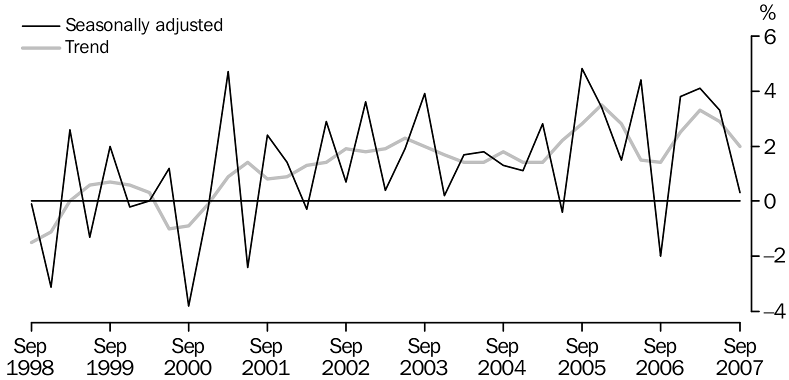
The number of employed persons (trend) in Western Australia rose 0.4% (4,000) to 1,119,600 in the three months to November 2007, while the state's unemployment rate (trend) remained unchanged at 3.4% over the same period.

STATE ACCOUNTS

STATE FINAL DEMAND

State final demand in Western Australia rose 2.0% ($610 million) to $30,972 million in trend chain volume terms in the September quarter 2007. This followed higher growth in the previous two quarters of 3.3% in the March quarter 2007 and 3.0% in the June quarter 2007. Despite the deceleration, growth in Western Australia's state final demand in the September quarter was the highest among the states and territories, ahead of Queensland (1.6%), New South Wales (0.9%) and Victoria (0.9%). Nationally, domestic final demand grew 1.2%.

STATE FINAL DEMAND, Chain volume measures—Change from previous quarter



Source: Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product, cat. no. 5206.0.

In seasonally adjusted chain volume terms, Western Australia's state final demand rose 0.3% ($106 million) to $30,711 million in the September quarter 2007, a substantial drop from the 3.3% growth in the previous quarter. The easing in growth was attributable to much lower private investment in machinery and equipment, falling $214 million (6.5%) during the September quarter. There was also significantly lower public sector investment, with public corporations lowering investment by $75 million (13.2%) and general government reducing investment by $71 million (10.3%). Contributing to growth during the September quarter was increased household consumption expenditure (up $255 million or 1.8%), dwelling investment (up $107 million or 4.9%) and non-dwelling construction investment (up $102 million or 2.3%).

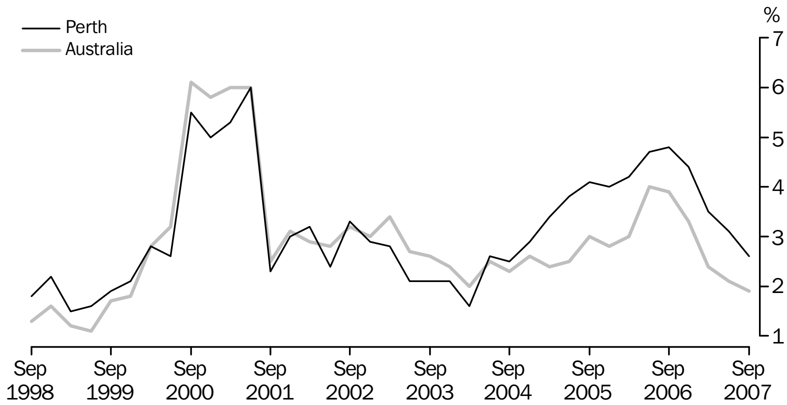
PRICES

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

Perth's Consumer Price Index (CPI) rose 0.6% in the September quarter 2007, less than half the rate of the previous quarter (1.4%) and slightly lower than national CPI growth (0.7%). A major contributor to Perth's slowing CPI growth was child care. The price of child care fell 32.2% in the September quarter 2007. This was due to the Child Care Tax Rebate being included as a rebate in calculating the "net" change in child care costs for the first time and the additional 10% indexation of the Child Care Benefit rates on top of the usual annual CPI indexation. Other notable contributions were lower prices for automotive fuel (down 2.7%), motor vehicles (down 0.8%), pharmaceuticals (down 4.2%) and towels and linen (down 9.6%).

The rise in Perth's CPI in the September quarter 2007 was mainly driven by the cost of overseas holiday travel and accommodation (up 6.7%) and fruit (up 9.4%). Prices were also notably higher for rents (up 2.0%), deposit and loan facilities (2.2%) and house purchase (up 0.8%).

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (ALL GROUPS), Change from same quarter previous year



Source: Consumer Price Index, Australia, cat. no. 6401.0.

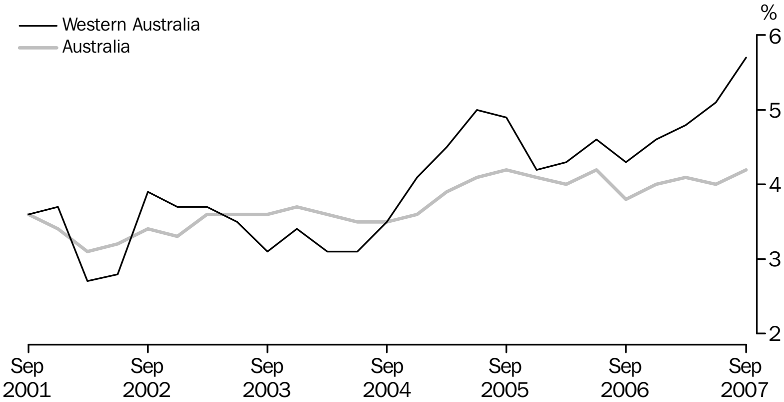
Perth's CPI rose 2.6% through the year to September quarter 2007, much lower than the rate of the previous period (3.1%), mainly due to price falls in fruit (down 16.2%), automotive fuel (down 4.1%), audio, visual and computing equipment (down 10.9%) and child care (down 24.1%). Perth's through the year growth was the third highest among Australian capital cities, behind Darwin (up 3.2%) and Brisbane (up 2.7%). The main contributors to Perth's CPI growth were rents (up 9.6%) and house purchase costs (up 3.8%).

Nationally, the CPI rose 1.9% through the year to September quarter 2007, slightly below the Reserve Bank of Australia's (RBA) medium-term target for consumer price inflation of 2–3 per cent. The RBA, however, accounts for temporary fluctuations in the CPI (such as changes in petrol prices) when it decides on changes to official interest rates. With this in mind, the RBA's measures of underlying inflation were both much higher than CPI inflation through the year (weighted mean up 3.1% and trimmed mean up 2.9%), mainly due to the exclusion of automotive fuel prices, which fell 6.7% over the period.

WAGE PRICE INDEX

Western Australia's Wage Price Index (WPI) of total hourly rates of pay (excluding bonuses) rose 1.8% in the September quarter 2007, following an increase of 1.7% in the previous quarter. The current quarter rise was the equal highest among the states and territories along with South Australia (1.8%) and surpassed national WPI growth of 1.3%. In Western Australia, private sector wages grew 2.2% and public sector wages were up 0.7%.

WAGE PRICE INDEX, Change from same quarter previous year



Source: Labour Price Index, Australia, cat. no. 6345.0.

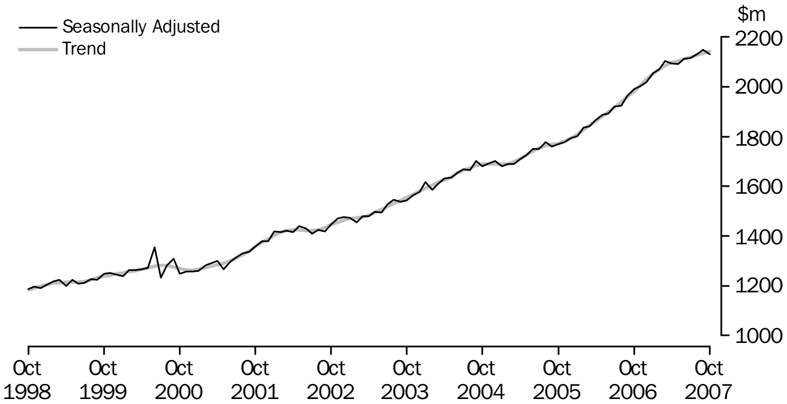
Western Australia's WPI increased 5.7% through the year to September quarter 2007, higher than the rise in the previous period (5.1%) and much higher than national wages growth (4.2%). The increase in Western Australia's WPI was the highest through the year growth since the series began in September 1997. Wages grew strongly in the industries of manufacturing (7.4%) and personal and other services (7.1%) and in the occupations of labourers and related workers (8.4%) and tradespersons and related workers (7.0%).

CONSUMPTION

RETAIL TRADE

Western Australia's retail turnover (trend) totalled $6,407 million in the three months to October 2007, 1.1% ($70 million) more than in the previous three month period. Nationally, growth in retail turnover was higher at 2.1% over the same period.

MONTHLY RETAIL TURNOVER, Current prices



Source: Retail Trade, Australia, cat. no. 8501.0.

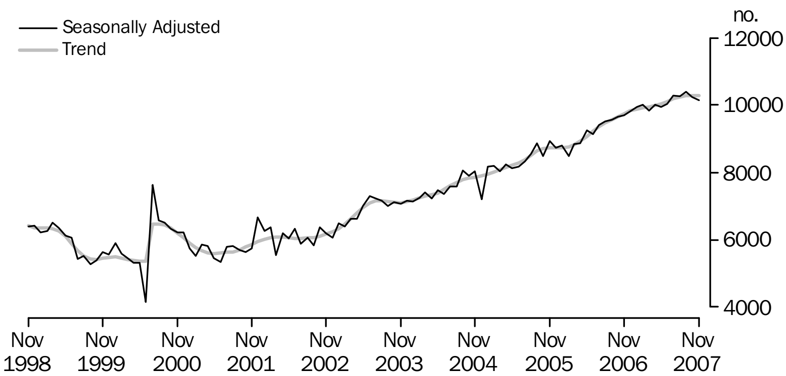
RETAIL TRADE continued

The main industry group driving Western Australia's growth in retail turnover (trend) in the three months to October 2007 was food retailing (up $57 million or 2.2%). Growth in food retailing was greater than the combined growth in recreational good retailing (up$16 million or 6.3%), clothing and soft good retailing (up $14 million or 3.4%) and department stores (up $13 million or 2.6%). A number of industry groups showed declining retail turnover over the period, including household good retailing (down $20 million or 1.7%) and hospitality and service industry (down $10 million or 1.2%).

NEW MOTOR VEHICLE SALES

Sales of new motor vehicles (trend) in Western Australia rose 1.0% (298) to 30,840 in the three months to November 2007, compared to the previous three month period. Growth in new motor vehicle sales was driven almost equally by sales of sports utility vehicles (up 3.7% or 226) and other vehicles (up 3.0% or 215) — other vehicles include utilities, vans, trucks and buses. Passenger vehicle sales fell 0.8% (143) to 16,997 in the three months to November 2007.

NEW MOTOR VEHICLE SALES



(a) Break in trend series between June and July 2000.
Source: Sales of New Motor Vehicles, Australia, cat. no. 9314.0.

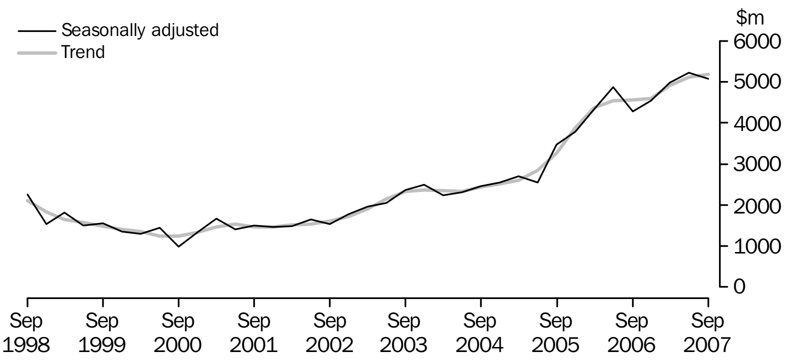
INVESTMENT AND FINANCE

PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

The level of business investment (trend chain volume measures) in Western Australia rose to a record high of $5,182 million in the September quarter 2007, 1.4% ($73 million) higher than in the previous quarter. Growth in private new capital expenditure has slowed, however, since rising 6.6% ($302 million) in the March quarter 2007 — it was up 4.2% (up $206 million) in the June quarter 2007. In the September quarter, growth in business investment was shared almost equally between equipment, plant and machinery (up $37 million or 2.0%) and building and structures (up $30 million or 0.9%). Nationally, private new capital expenditure rose 1.2% in the September quarter 2007.

PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE continued

PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE, Chain volume measures



Note: Break in trend series between December 2006 and March 2007.

Source: Private New Capital Expenditure and Expected Expenditure, Australia, cat. no. 5625.0.

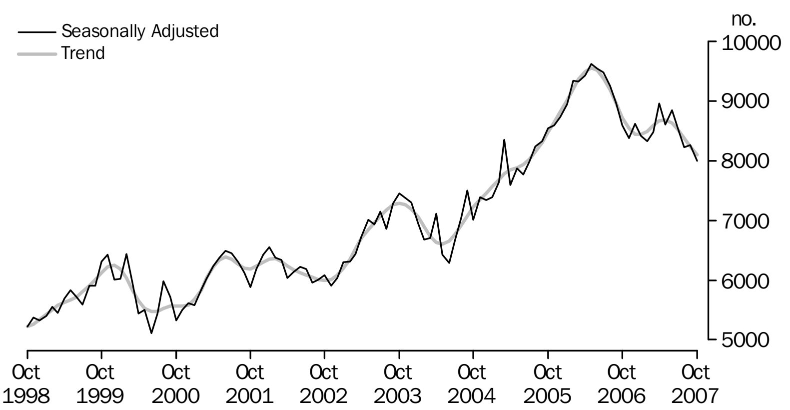
In original current price terms, Western Australia's private new capital expenditure rose 20.3% ($837 million) to $4,962 million through the year to September quarter 2007, almost entirely driven by mining industry investment (up $721 million or 25.3%). Increased investment was also recorded in other selected industries (up $85 million or 8.6%) and manufacturing (up $33 million or 11.7%).

HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS

The number of dwellings financed for owner occupation (trend) in Western Australia decreased 4.3% (1,121 commitments) in the three months to October 2007, compared to the previous three month period. Since May 2007 (8,691), the number of dwellings financed has fallen for five successive months to 8,105 in October 2007.

In original terms, there were 24,916 dwellings financed in Western Australia in the three months to October 2007, 9.7% (2,670) less than in the previous three months. Dwellings financed by non first home buyers accounted for the entire decline, falling 12.1% (2,823), while dwellings financed by first home buyers increased 3.6% (153).

HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS, Number of dwellings financed



Source: Housing Finance, Australia, cat. no. 5609.0.

The total value of housing finance for owner occupation (original) in Western Australia decreased 10.7% ($720 million) in the three months to October 2007, compared to the previous three month period. The average loan size for first home buyers fell 1.7%($4,300) and for non-first home buyers it fell 1.0% ($2,400). In the three months to

HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS continued

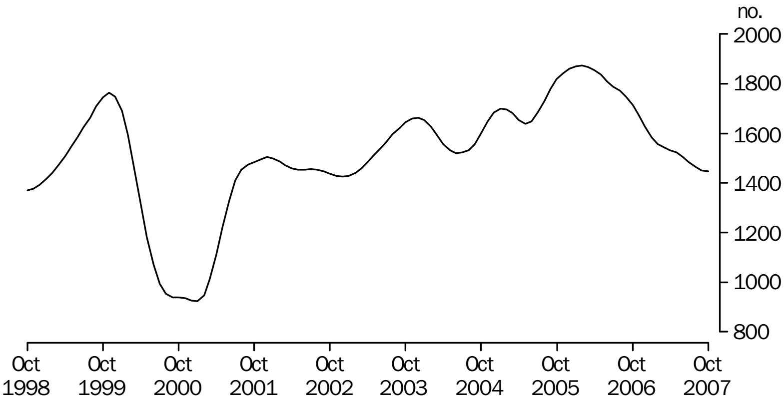
October 2007, the average loan size for first home buyers ($241,800) was $1,800 higher than for non-first home buyers ($240,000).

CONSTRUCTION

BUILDING APPROVALS

In the three months to October 2007, a total of 4,362 houses (trend) were approved for construction in Western Australia, 3.3% (147) less than in the previous three month period. The number of house approvals has continued to fall over the last 20 months by an average of 1.3% (21) per month. Despite the fall in house approvals, other residential dwelling approvals have risen 1.8% (23) to 1,297 in the three months to October 2007 — comprising semi-detached houses, townhouses and flats, units and apartments.

NUMBER OF DWELLINGS APPROVED, Houses: **Trend**



Source: Building Approvals, Australia, cat. no. 8731.0.

Coinciding with the decline in Western Australia's house approvals (trend) from February 2006 (1,872) to October 2007 (1,447) has been four interest rate rises by the Reserve Bank of Australia: 0.25% in May 2006 (5.75%), August 2006 (6.00%), November 2006 (6.25%) and August 2007 (6.50%). There has also been an increase of 11.2% in the price of new houses in Perth between the March quarter 2006 and September quarter 2007.

The total value of house approvals (original) in Western Australia decreased 3.6% ($43 million) to $1,139 million in the three months to October 2007.

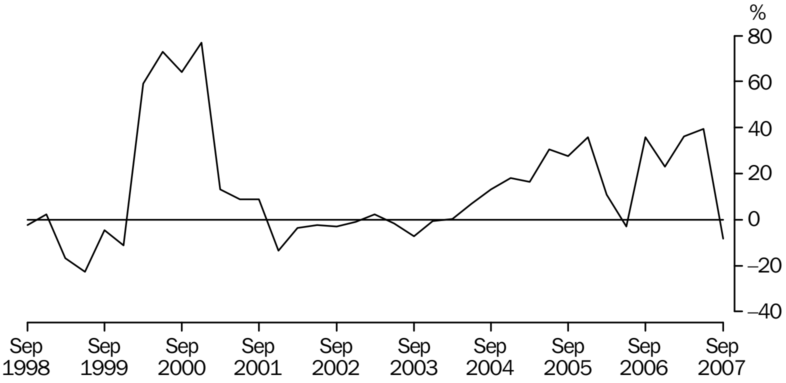
TRADE

BALANCE OF TRADE

Western Australia's trade surplus dropped 8.4% ($835 million) to $9,096 million through the year to September quarter 2007, the first fall since the June quarter 2006 (down 2.9% or $205 million through the year). The decline was the result of strong imports growth (up 28.7% or $1,386 million) and very modest exports growth (up 3.7% or $551 million).

BALANCE OF TRADE continued

VALUE OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA'S TRADE SURPLUS, Change from same quarter previous year



Source: ABS data available on request, International Trade in Goods and Services, Australia, cat. no. 5368.0.

The decrease in Western Australia's trade surplus through the year to September quarter 2007 was largely due to worsening trade balances with the United Kingdom (down $1,032 million to a deficit of $511 million), Viet Nam (down $408 million to a surplus of $19 million) and Singapore (down $404 million to a deficit of $219 million). There were significant increases, however, in the state's trade surpluses with Switzerland (up $640 million to $599 million) and the United Arab Emirates (up $543 million to $305 million).

EXPORTS

The value of Western Australia's exports rose 3.7% ($551 million) to $15,313 million through the year to September quarter 2007, mainly due to rising exports of non-monetary gold (up $429 million or 17.5%). Commodities detracting from exports growth were mainly wheat (down $179 million or 33.5%), natural gas (down $137 million or 12.9%), nickel (down $73 million or 25.8%), wool and other animal hair (down $56 million or 50.5%) and live animals (down $52 million or 35.0%).

IMPORTS

The value of Western Australia's imports increased 28.7% ($1,386 million) to $6,217 million through the year to September quarter 2007. Strong imports growth was primarily driven by non-monetary gold (up $701 million or 67.4%), crude petroleum oils (up $149 million or 28.5%), refined petroleum oils (up $59 million or 18.0%) and civil engineering plant and equipment (up $53 million or 28.2%).

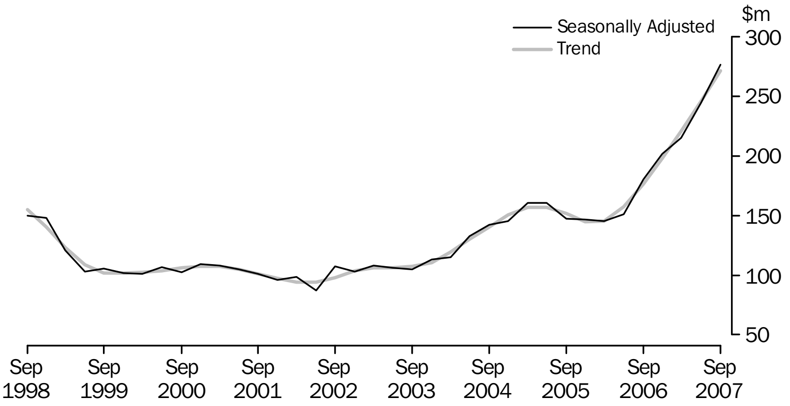
MINING

MINERAL AND PETROLEUM EXPLORATION EXPENDITURE

Mineral exploration expenditure (trend) in Western Australia rose 10.6% (up $26 million) to $271 million in the September quarter 2007 — the seventh consecutive quarterly rise. Since the December quarter 2005 ($144 million), the state's mineral exploration expenditure has risen at an average rate of 8.2% per quarter, much higher than the long-run average of 1.2% per quarter since the series began in the September quarter 1988.

MINERAL AND PETROLEUM EXPLORATION EXPENDITURE continued

MINERAL EXPLORATION EXPENDITURE, Total minerals



Source: Mineral and Petroleum Exploration, Australia, cat. no. 8412.0.

In original terms, Western Australia's mineral exploration expenditure rose 54.2% ($103 million) through the year to September quarter 2007, mainly due to increased exploration of iron ore (up $38 million or 57.4%) and nickel, cobalt (up $30 million or 95.5%). Other notable increases were in gold (up $12 million or 18.2%), silver, lead, zinc (up $8 million or 88.5%) and copper (up $6 million or 135.6%). Petroleum exploration expenditure (original) in Western Australia rose 88.5% ($257 million) to $547 million through the year to September quarter 2007.

MINERAL AND PETROLEUM PRODUCTION

The production of most mineral types fell in Western Australia through the year to September quarter 2007, including diamonds (down 40.6%), ilmenite (down 13.0%), gold (down 7.3%), bauxite (down 4.9%) and nickel (down 2.1%). There was however increased production in zinc (up 163.6%) and iron ore (up 1.6%). In terms of energy, crude oil production was down 14.8% through the year, while production rose for natural gas (up 6.3%) and electricity (up 4.2%).

TOURISM

SHORT-TERM OVERSEAS HOLIDAY ARRIVALS

There was a total of 53,031 overseas holiday arrivals to Western Australia in the September quarter 2007, 19.3% (8,580) more than in the same period of 2006. Holiday travel rose from residents of Singapore (up 2,607 or 46.6%), Thailand (up 1,523 or 180.5%), Europe (excluding the United Kingdom and Ireland) (up 1,061 or 15.0%) and Malaysia (up 1,032 or 27.7%). Detracting from growth were less holiday arrivals from mainly Hong Kong SAR (down 311 or 20.2%) and Indonesia (down 133 or 7.7%).

SHORT-TERM OVERSEAS HOLIDAY DEPARTURES

There was a total of 123,674 overseas holiday departures from Western Australia in the September quarter 2007, 33.3% (30,897) more than in the corresponding period of 2006. Holiday travel increased to Indonesia (10,629 or 71.5%), Thailand (6,029 or 43.5%), Europe (excluding the United Kingdom and Ireland) (5,132 or 60.2%) and Singapore (2,856 or 33.6%). In contrast, there were fewer Western Australian holiday departures to mainly Malaysia (down 267 or 3.8%).

LABOUR MARKET

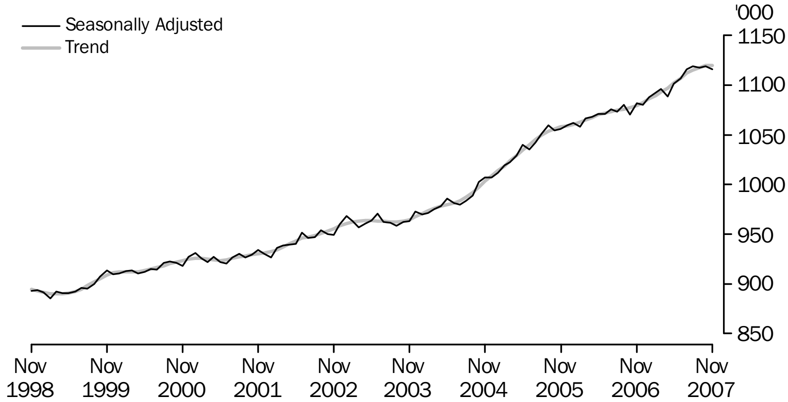
JOB VACANCIES

There were 29,700 job vacancies in Western Australia in the August quarter 2007, 31.8% (7,100) more than in the same quarter of 2006. The vast majority of vacancies were created in the private sector (up 6,800 or 31.8%), with public sector vacancies also higher (up 400 or 32.2%).

EMPLOYMENT

The number of employed persons (trend) in Western Australia rose 0.4% (4,000) to 1,119,600 in the three months to November 2007, a much lower rise than in the three months to August 2007 (up 1.2% or 13,600). The deceleration in employment growth was driven solely by lower part-time employment, which declined by an estimated 0.8% (2,600) in the three months. Full time employment was up 0.8% (6,600) to 805,900.

EMPLOYED PERSONS, Total



Source: Labour Force Australia, Spreadsheets, cat. no. 6202.0.55.001.

The major industries driving Western Australia's employment growth of 3.1% (33,500) in original terms through the year to November 2007 were health and community services (up 15.9% or 15,900), transport and storage (up 31.7% or 12,700) and construction (up 9.5% or 10,900). A number of industries recorded falls in employed persons through the year, including retail trade (down 4.9% or 7,600) and government administration and defence (down 13.0% or 7,100). The most notable movement among the occupations was a 15.8% (30,200) rise in employed professionals through the year to November 2007.

UNEMPLOYMENT

Western Australia's unemployment rate (trend) remained unchanged at 3.4% in the three months to November 2007. This rate of unemployment was higher than what was recorded at the beginning of the year: 3.0% in February and March 2007. In the three months to November 2007, the number of unemployed persons rose 1.3% (500) to 39,900 in Western Australia. But since February 2007, unemployed persons have increased 18.4% or 6,200 persons — although coinciding with a greater rate of participation in the state's labour force, rising from 67.4% in February 2007 to 68.4% in November 2007.

UNEMPLOYMENT continued

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

(a) Break in trend series at April 2001.
Source: Labour Force Australia, Spreadsheets, cat. no. 6202.0.55.001.

POPULATION

ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION

The estimated resident population of Western Australia was 2,105,783 in June quarter 2007, an increase of 11,234 persons (0.54%) from the previous quarter. The state's quarterly population growth was equal highest with the Northern Territory and well above the national increase of 0.33%. The largest driver of Western Australia's population growth in the June quarter 2007 was net overseas migration (up 5,642 persons), with natural increase (up 4,237 persons — 7,190 births less 2,953 deaths) and net interstate migration (up 1,355 persons) also adding to the state's population.

SOCIAL TRENDS

INCOME AND HOUSING

CHANGES TO INCOME MEASURES - SALARY SACRIFICE

The following analysis reports on the income received by Western Australian households in the form of wages and salaries, profits (losses) from own unincorporated business, investment income (eg. interest, rents, dividends), government pensions and allowances, and private cash transfers (eg. superannuation). Wages and salaries estimates for 2003–04 and 2005–06 now include all benefits received through salary sacrifice arrangements, where previously only some salary sacrificed amounts were included. Therefore some caution should be taken when interpreting changes in incomes before and after 2003–04.

HOUSEHOLD INCOME

Equivalised household income is an indicator of the economic resources available to a standardised household in terms of size and composition. In 2006, the mean equivalised disposable income for all households in Western Australia was $658 per week, slightly higher than the national average of $644 per week. Between 1995–96 and 2005–06, the mean equivalised disposable income of low income households increased 39% ($254–$354 per week), greater than the rises of 36% for middle income households ($426–$581 per week) and 35% for high income households ($927–$1,255 per week).

Between 2004–05 and 2005–06, the mean equivalised disposable income of low income households in Western Australia rose 10%, from $321 to $354 per week. Over the same period, the mean equivalised disposable income of middle income households rose 13% ($512–$581 per week) and 18% for high income households ($1,061–$1,255 per week).

INCOME AND HOUSING continued

INCOME DISTRIBUTION

In 2005–06, Western Australia's median equivalised household disposable income was $581 per week, lower than the mean household income of $658 per week — median income is the level of income which divides the units in a group into two equal parts, one half having incomes above the median and the other half having incomes below the median. The difference between the median and mean can be explained by a relatively small number of people with very high household incomes and a large number of people with relatively lower household incomes.

Percentile ratios are another measure of the spread of incomes across the population. They summarise the relative distance between extreme points on the income distribution. The P80/P20 ratio is a measure of income distribution which compares the relative income level of the bottom 80% of the population from the top 20% (P80), with the bottom 20% of the population from the remainder (P20). Based on this measure, generally, the distribution of income in Western Australia has increased over the last decade. In 2005–06, P80 was $886 per week and P20 was $355 per week, giving a P80/P20 ratio of 2.5 — lower than the ratios of 2.8 in 1995–96 and 2.6 in 2003–04, although slightly higher than in 2004–05 (2.4). A lower P80/P20 ratio means a greater share of income goes to the bottom 20% of income earners (low income earners) relative to the majority of the population (80%). A measure of income distribution is also provided by the income shares going to groups of people at different points in the income distribution. In 2005–06, 38% of total equivalised disposable household income went to people in the 'high income' group (i.e. the 20% of the population in the second and third income deciles) and 11% went to people in the 'low income' group (i.e. the 20% of the population in the ninth and tenth deciles).

The Gini coefficient is a single statistic that lies between 0–1 and summarises the degree of inequality, with values closer to 0 representing a lesser degree of inequality and values closer to 1 representing greater inequality. In 2005–06, the Gini coefficient increased to 0.303 from 0.287 in 2004–05.

SOURCE OF INCOME

In 2005–06, wages and salaries were the main source of income for most Western Australian households (61%). Almost one-quarter (24%) of households relied on government pensions and allowances as their main source of income. The vast majority of 'lone person aged 65+' households (80%) and 'couple only aged 65+' households (70%) received government pensions and allowances as their main source of income. Almost half of 'one parent with dependent children' households (45%) also relied on government pensions and allowances as their main source of income.

HOUSING

In 2005–06, there were 803,700 occupied private dwellings in Western Australia, 23% more than in 1995–96. There were 21,600 new dwellings built and completed in 2005–06, the most since 1996–97. The average number of persons per household (2.4) and the average number of bedrooms per dwelling (3.2) remained relatively unchanged since 1996–97.

FEATURE ARTICLE 1

REGIONAL HOUSING IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA

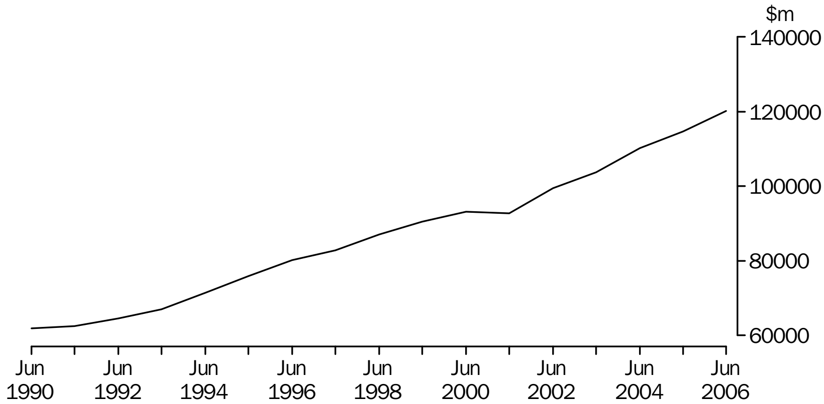
INTRODUCTION

Since the turn of the new millennium Western Australia has undergone a period of significant economic and population growth, spurred by major resource investment in the state. This has seen pressure placed on the Western Australian housing market, both in Perth and in a number of regional areas. This pressure has been manifested through substantial rises in both the costs of established and new homes and a blow out in construction times due to capacity constraints in the building industry. While much attention has been focussed on the Perth housing market, this article will concentrate on regional Western Australia and examine the changes that have occurred over the period covered by the 1996, 2001 and 2006 Censuses of Population and Housing. Selected regional areas have been chosen to illustrate these changes, highlighting both growth and decline. Note that due to differences in geographic classifications (i.e. local government area; urban centre) and counting methods (i.e. estimated resident population; place of enumeration count) there may be some differences in totals shown.

THE ECONOMY

The Western Australian economy has doubled in size over the past 16 years, with Gross State Product (GSP) in chain volume terms rising 107% between 1990–2006. It has traditionally had a strong and growing minerals sector, solid property and business services, construction and manufacturing sectors, and an ongoing dependence on agricultural production. While the agriculture, forestry and fishing and manufacturing sectors have grown in absolute terms, they have declined in relative terms compared to the mining sector. The contribution to GSP of agriculture, forestry and fishing has declined from 7% to 2% and the contribution of manufacturing has declined from 14% to 8% in the past 16 years. The contribution of mining to GSP has doubled (15% to 30%), while the sectors of property and business services (9% to 11%) and construction (8%) have remained fairly steady contributors. Since the 1970's mining has consolidated its position as the major generator of export income for Western Australia, currently comprising some 70% of total exports revenue.

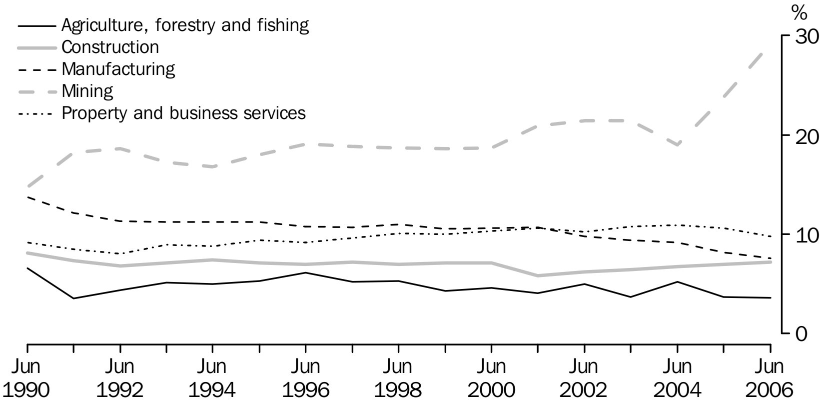
GROSS STATE PRODUCT, Chain volume measures—Western Australia



Source: Australian National Accounts: State Accounts, cat. no. 5220.0.

THE ECONOMY *continued*

INDUSTRY CONTRIBUTION TO GSP, Western Australia

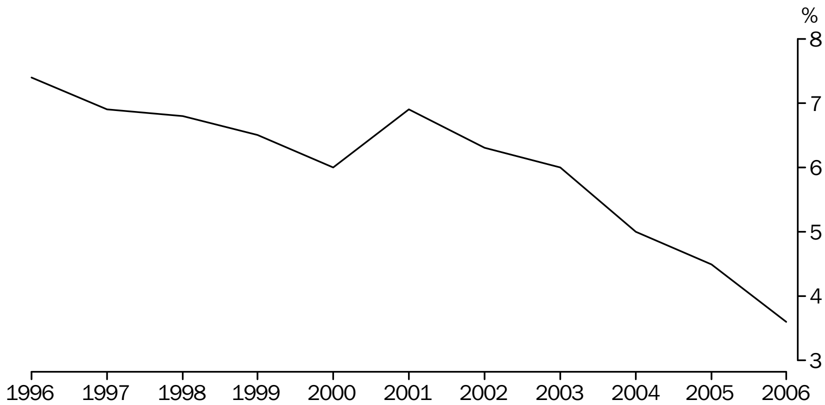


Source: Australian National Accounts: State Accounts, cat. no. 5220.0.

EMPLOYMENT

Coinciding with the current resources boom has been a sustained increase in the number of employed persons in Western Australia and a consequent decline in unemployment. In November 2004 the number of employed persons (trend) in Western Australia surpassed the one million mark. At the time of the 1996 Census the unemployment rate (trend) in Western Australia was 7.5%. By the 2001 Census this rate had declined to 7.1%, and by August 2006 it had more than halved to 3.4%. Between August 1996–2006, 27% (227,100 persons) more people were employed in Western Australia and the number of unemployed persons had almost halved to 30,100.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE, Trend—Western Australia



Source: Labour Force, Australia, cat. no. 6202.0.

Many of the new jobs created by the resources boom are full-time, male positions, in regional mining areas and Perth. This has created extreme pressure on housing stocks in those areas. While the mining industry has been at the forefront of the resources boom and has seen job creation soar, most of the new positions created have been Perth based as administrative and fly-in fly-out positions have increased. Over the decade 1996–2006 direct employment in the mining industry grew 105% in Perth, but only 29% in regional Western Australia — although regional areas benefitted through higher employment in associated industries such as construction, manufacturing, transport and service industries.

EMPLOYMENT *continued*

The Department of Workplace Relations' Small Area Labour Markets series for June 2006 reported the Perth metropolitan area as having an unemployment rate of 4.1%, with regional Western Australia slightly lower at 3.9%. Rates varied widely in the regions, from 0.4% in the Shire of Lake Grace to 16% in the Shire of Halls Creek.

DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGES

The estimated resident population of Western Australia in June 1996 was 1.8 million. By June 2006 it had increased 17% to just over 2 million persons. Population growth in Perth and regional Western Australia was similar, although growth in the regions was less consistent. The South-West and Pilbara regions recorded the largest increases in population in regional Western Australia. The expansion of the urban conglomeration of Bunbury was evident with the adjoining Shire of Capel (up 8.4%) being the fastest growing regional Local Government Area (LGA) between 2001–2006 and the adjoining Shire of Dardanup being the fifth fastest (up 3.8%). Both of these LGAs contain a part of the urban expansion of Bunbury. From a relatively low base Ravensthorpe was the second fastest growing regional LGA (up 6.2%). The Shire of East Pilbara, which declined in population between 1996–2001, rebounded strongly to record the third highest average annual growth over the 2001–2006 inter-censal period.

POPULATION GROWTH(a), By LGA—Western Australia

	1996	*2001*	*2006*	*2001–2006 average annual growth*
	no.	no.	no.	%
Capel (S)	5 989	7 107	10 630	8.4
Ravensthorpe (S)	1 433	1 504	2 029	6.2
East Pilbara (S)	6 755	5 628	7 160	4.9
Chittering (S)	2 409	2 936	3 683	4.6
Dardanup (S)	6 658	8 955	10 777	3.8
Mandurah (S)	40 460	48 877	58 457	3.6
Roebourne (S)	13 829	15 058	17 671	3.3
Greenough (S)	10 701	12 634	14 789	3.2
Busselton (S)	18 158	23 099	26 638	2.9
Murray (S)	9 510	10 875	12 554	2.9

(a) Estimated resident population as at 30 June.
Source: Regional Population Growth, Australia, cat. no. 3218.0.

Western Australia's population growth between 1996–2006 was due to a combination of natural increase and overseas migration. Over the ten years to 2006, Western Australia grew by an annual average of over 30,000 persons. Natural increase (births minus deaths) accounted for just under 14,000 persons per year and overseas migration for more than 15,000 persons per year. Interstate migration contributed only 513 persons per year on average between 1996–2006 and was negative in four and positive in six of those years. The average was boosted by a high rate of interstate migration between 2005–2006 of 3,549 persons per year. In Queensland a large influx of residents from other states kept that state's population growth the highest in the nation, but Western Australia, which had the second strongest growth of the states, did not benefit from interstate migration to the same degree (Western Australia's population growth outpaced the rest of the nation in the twelve months to June 2007).

DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGES *continued*

While Western Australia as a whole and regional Western Australia enjoyed population growth between 1996–2006, this growth was restricted to less than half of the regional LGAs. Of the 112 LGAs in regional Western Australia, 53 grew in population between 1996–2006, while 59 declined.

The demographic makeup of Western Australia has undergone significant change since the 1970's, particularly in family structure and household size and these changes have influenced the housing requirements of the state. Western Australia's median age has increased from 27 years in 1976 to 36 years in 2006. While the total population has increased 71% between 1976–2006, the number of children (aged less than 18 years) only increased 23%. Households containing five or more persons have declined from 23% of all households in 1976 to 10% at the last Census (2006). In 1976 slightly more than 37% of Western Australians lived in one or two person households, but by 1986 this figure had increased to 50%, and to 59% in 2006.

SETTLEMENT PATTERNS

From the 1960's onward a pattern of a declining rural population and an increasing urban population had been established in Western Australia. In 1976, 70% of Western Australians lived in the Perth metropolitan region and by 2006 Perth contained 74% of the state's population.

While Perth's share of the state population has continued to grow, there has been also been strong growth in coastal locations south of the metropolitan area, including Mandurah, Bunbury and the Busselton-Margaret River area and their surrounding regions.

This movement of population, often referred to as sea change, is part of a national trend and is often associated with a combination of retired persons and cheaper housing alternatives. While certain coastal areas have grown substantially there has been a general decline in many inland, rural areas. Traditional farming communities have especially witnessed declines in population, often leading to a loss of services and infrastructure.

In 2006 over one-quarter (26%) of Western Australia’s population resided outside of the Perth metropolitan area, with three-quarters of them located in over 170 urban centres or localities and the rest located in rural areas.

SETTLEMENT PATTERNS
continued

LARGEST REGIONAL URBAN CENTRES(a), By population size(b)—Western Australia: **2006**

	no.
Mandurah	67 812
Bunbury	54 483
Kalgoorlie-Boulder	28 241
Geraldton	27 420
Albany	25 197
Busselton	15 386
Karratha	11 727
Port Hedland	11 556
Broome	11 548
Esperance	9 534

(a) Excludes Perth.
(b) Place of usual residence count as at 30 June.
Source: 2006 Census of Population and Housing.

DWELLINGS

Between the 1996–2006 Censuses the number of occupied private dwellings in Western Australia grew 20%, from 629,303 in 1996 to 757,983 in 2006. Growth in occupied private dwellings was almost identical in Perth (21%) and regional Western Australia (20%). During the ten years to 2006 Western Australia's population increased 15%. With the growth in dwelling numbers outpacing population growth the average household size in Western Australia fell from 2.7 persons in 1996 to 2.5 persons in 2006.

The number of unoccupied private dwellings in the state grew by considerably more than the number of occupied dwellings between the 1996–2006 Censuses (up 32%). In Perth unoccupied dwellings increased 26% and in regional Western Australia they rose 39%. The largest increases in unoccupied private dwellings (in numeric and proportional terms) were in the Shires of Capel (up 231 or 103%), Augusta-Margaret River (up 998 or 128%), Nannup (up 133 or 111%), Busselton (up 1,251 or 61%), Laverton (up 107 or 289%) and Leonora (up 149 or 324%). The City of Mandurah, despite containing the largest number of unoccupied dwellings in regional Western Australia (5,801), only increased 17% between 1996–2006. This reflected Mandurah's growing permanent population as it shifted from a holiday centre with 42% unoccupied stock in 1971 to an urban centre with 19% unoccupied dwellings in 2006 (25% in 1996).

DWELLINGS *continued*

DWELLING OCCUPANCY, By number of dwellings—Western Australia

	1996	*2001*	*2006*	*Change 1996–2006*
	no.	no.	no.	%
OCCUPIED PRIVATE DWELLINGS				
Perth(a)	463 854	511 199	560 089	20.7
Regional Western Australia(b)	165 449	184 450	197 902	19.6
Western Australia - Total	*629 303*	*695 649*	*757 991*	*20.4*
UNOCCUPIED PRIVATE DWELLINGS				
Perth(a)	38 477	40 807	48 648	26.4
Regional Western Australia(b)	30 519	36 323	42 368	38.8
Western Australia - Total	*68 996*	*77 130*	*91 016*	*31.9*

(a) Perth Statistical Division
(b) Balance of state
Source: 1996, 2001 and 2006 Census of Population and Housing.

DWELLING STRUCTURE

At the 2006 Census there were 757,991 occupied private dwellings containing 1,885,143 persons in Western Australia. Perth accounted for 74% of these persons, leaving regional Western Australia with 197,902 occupied private dwellings containing 487,967 persons.

Western Australia's housing stock is predominantly separate houses, accounting for 81% of all occupied private dwellings in 2006. While Perth mirrors this tendency with 79% of occupied private dwellings being separate houses, the proportion of separate houses in regional Western Australia was higher at 86%. Medium to high density housing accounted for 18% of Western Australia's occupied private dwellings in 2006, but this was heavily influenced by Perth, with regional Western Australia having only 11% of their occupied private dwelling stock as medium to high density.

The major regional areas with medium to high density housing are predominantly in the north of the state. LGAs with significant tourism or mining activity dominate, with only Bunbury going against the trend.

DWELLING STRUCTURE
continued

EXTENT OF MEDIUM TO HIGH DENSITY HOUSING(a), By LGA—Western Australia—2006

	Proportion of total occupied private dwellings
	%
Roebourne (S)	24.3
Bunbury (C)	24.1
Geraldton (C)	22.0
East Pilbara (S)	19.6
Carnarvon (S)	18.9
Laverton (S)	18.4
Port Hedland (T)	18.0
Kalgoorlie/Boulder (C)	17.5
Mandurah (C)	16.2
Wyndham-East Kimberley (S)	16.0
Perth(b)	*20.3*
Western Australia	**17.9**

(a) Comprises semi-detached houses, townhouses, flats, units and apartments.
(b) Perth Statistical Division.
Source: 2006 Census of Population and Housing.

At the 2006 Census just 0.8% of persons who usually resided in Western Australia were in 'other' dwellings such as caravans, cabins, houseboats, tents or flats attached to shops, etc. For Western Australia this was 8,051 such dwellings, housing 14,504 persons. This component of housing however was dominated by regional Western Australia, which accounted for 65% of 'other' dwellings and 68% of persons usually residing in such dwellings. The large proportion of people living in 'other' dwellings in regional Western Australia (mainly northern LGAs) is greatly influenced by a significant proportion of what are termed 'Grey Nomads' touring the north of the state and staying in 'other' dwellings during Census time.

DWELLING STRUCTURE *continued*

PROPORTION OF USUAL RESIDENTS LIVING IN OTHER DWELLINGS(a), By LGA—Western Australia—2006

	Proportion of total usual residents
	%
Halls Creek (S)	12.7
Shark Bay (S)	12.2
Wiluna (S)	11.8
Wyndham-East Kimberley (S)	10.5
Broome (S)	10.5
Yalgoo (S)	10.2
Exmouth (S)	10.1
Carnarvon (S)	8.6
Upper Gascoyne (S)	8.4
Nannup (S)	7.4
Perth(b)	*0.7*
Western Australia	**0.8**

(a) Comprises caravans, cabins, houseboats, tents or flats attached to shops, etc.
(b) Perth Statistical Division.
Source: 2006 Census of Population and Housing.

TENURE TYPE

At the 2006 Census regional Western Australia had a marginally higher proportion of occupied private dwellings that were fully owned, at 33%, than Perth with 32% (proportions exclude occupied dwellings where tenure was not stated). Regionally home ownership rates were highest in the Wheatbelt shires and lowest in the Pilbara.

In 2006 the proportion of houses that were fully owned in Western Australia had declined from a decade earlier, from 38% to 33%. The Perth and regional Western Australia proportions for dwellings fully owned changed at similar rates over the past ten years. While the proportion of fully owned dwellings is higher for regional Western Australia than Perth, the situation is reversed for dwellings being purchased. At the 2006 Census 41% of occupied private dwellings in Perth were being purchased as opposed to 32% in regional Western Australia.

There was a greater proportion of dwellings being rented (among occupied private dwellings) in regional Western Australia (33%) than in Perth (26%) in 2006. Remote LGAs such as Ngaanyatjarraku, Halls Creek, Derby-West Kimberley and Ashburton all recorded over three-quarters of their usual residents living in rented dwellings. Much of this can be attributed to a larger component of public and community housing associated with Indigenous housing programs in remote communities. At the other extreme Wheatbelt shires reported low proportions of persons residing in rented dwellings, with Narrogin, Chittering, Cuballing and Woodanilling all under 10%.

TENURE TYPE *continued*

PROPORTION OF USUAL RESIDENTS LIVING IN RENTED DWELLINGS, By LGA—Western Australia—2006

HIGHEST	*Proportion of total usual residents (%)*	*LOWEST*	*Proportion of total usual residents (%)*
Ngaanyatjarraku (S)	91.4	Narrogin (S)	8.9
Halls Creek (S)	80.7	Chittering (S)	9.2
Derby-West Kimberley (S)	77.4	Cuballing (S)	9.4
Ashburton (S)	76.3	Woodanilling (S)	9.7
Laverton (S)	74.7	Wandering (S)	10.6
Upper Gascoyne (S)	69.8	Serpentine-Jarrahdale (S)	10.8
Wyndham-East Kimberley (S)	60.3	Westonia (S)	11.2
Menzies (S)	58.9	Mundaring (S)	11.7
Roebourne (S)	57.9	Tammin (S)	11.9
Broome (S)	54.3	Northam (S)	12.2

Source: 2006 Census of Population and Housing.

HOUSEHOLD TYPES

The distribution of household types in regional Western Australia in 2006 closely matched that in Perth, with single family households (includes two parent, single parent and couple only families) occupying approximately two-thirds of private dwellings and roughly a quarter occupied by lone person households. The remainder were in multiple family or group households.

Regional LGAs that reported atypical household arrangements included Ngaanyatjarraku with 22% of occupied private dwellings having two or more families residing in the dwelling, along with Halls Creek and Wiluna (9%) and Derby-West Kimberley (5%). Capel had the highest proportion of single family households (82%) as well as a low proportion of lone person households (12%).

Regional Western Australia (42%) had a higher proportion of couple families with no children than Perth, (37%) and slightly lower proportions of couple families with children (43% to 46%) and one parent families (14% to 15%). Both Perth and regional Western Australia had 10% of persons residing in lone person households.

MONTHLY HOUSING LOAN REPAYMENTS AND RENTS

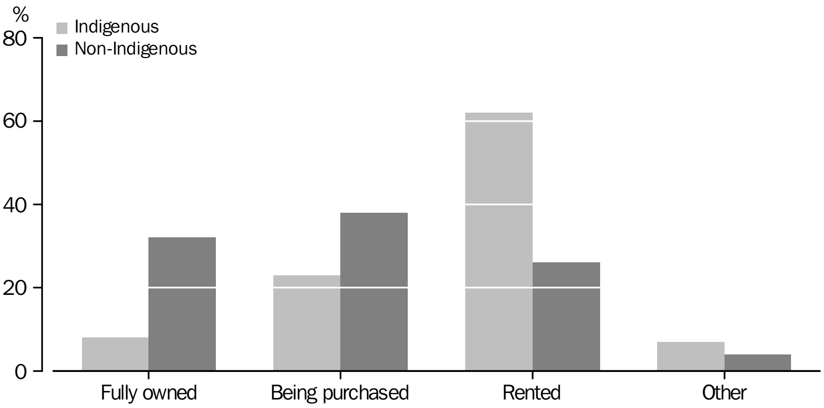
Census data shows that Western Australians living in regional areas have lower housing loan repayments and rents than their capital city counterparts. In 2006 the median monthly housing loan repayment in Western Australia was $1,213, up from $743 in 1996. This represents a rise of 63% over that decade. In that period the median household income rose 67%, from $635 to $1,063. Median weekly rents in Western Australia went from $110 in 1996 to $170 in 2006, up 55%.

For regional Western Australia the median monthly housing loan repayment was $1,083, 17% lower than the Perth median. Median weekly rents at the time of the 2006 Census were 28% higher in Perth ($180) than in regional Western Australia ($130). It is important to note however that median rent figures include a diverse range of rental arrangements, including private rental (renting from a real estate agent or private landlord), social (public and community housing) and employer provided housing, which may not necessarily reflect true market rent due to subsidised rent for the latter two categories.

INDIGENOUS HOUSING

In 2006 the housing tenure of Indigenous Western Australians differed markedly from that of non-Indigenous Western Australians. A much greater proportion (32%) of households without Indigenous Western Australians fully owned their dwellings, compared to Indigenous households (8%). The situation is more comparable for those households purchasing their dwellings, with 23% of Indigenous households and 38% of non-Indigenous households having this tenure type. Indigenous households were more likely to be renting, with 62% having that tenure type, opposed to 26% for non-Indigenous households. For those households renting, 60% of Indigenous households did so from a state housing authority, a housing cooperative or a church group, while 85% of non-Indigenous households that rent did so privately.

PROPORTION OF INDIGENOUS AND NON-INDIGENOUS PERSONS LIVING IN OCCUPIED PRIVATE DWELLINGS, By tenure type, Western Australia, 2006



Source: 2006 Census of Population and Housing.

HOUSING FINANCE

Nationally about two-thirds of housing finance commitments are for owner occupation with the remainder for investment housing. Housing finance for owner occupation in Western Australia is dominated by the purchase of established dwellings. Between August 1996–2006 over 750,000 dwellings were purchased, either as construction, new dwellings or established dwellings. Established dwellings accounted for 83% of this figure (645,620) with construction dwellings contributing 14% (109,279) and new dwellings 3% (23,020). The average amount financed by these three types of dwellings has remained comparable over the decade, though purchases of established dwellings did not rise to the same extent. The average amount for refinancing of established dwellings kept pace during this period.

AVERAGE LOAN SIZE FOR OWNER OCCUPIED HOUSING, Western Australia

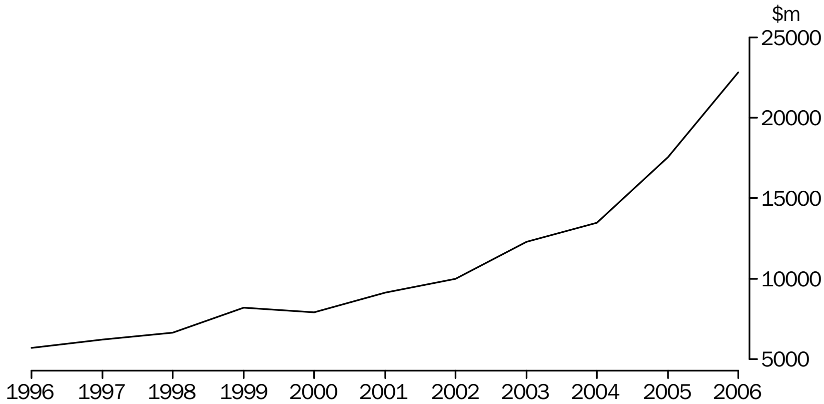
	August 1996	*August 2001*	*August 2006*
	$	$	$
Construction of dwellings	91 000	131 800	240 200
Purchase of new dwellings	93 600	135 800	241 200
Purchase of established dwellings	97 500	122 000	212 500
Refinancing of established dwellings	89 700	101 500	182 600

Source: Housing Finance, Australia, cat. no. 5609.0.

HOUSING FINANCE *continued*

The number of housing finance commitments for owner occupation in Western Australia was relatively flat between 1996–2000 before experiencing a 9% increase in 2001 and maintaining this level in 2002. The number of commitments jumped again in 2003 (up 13%) and remained at that level for 2004. Another jump occurred in 2005 (up 16%), followed by a 13% increase in 2006. While numbers of commitments grew at a staggered rate, the value of those commitments grew slowly at first but accelerated from around mid-2004, growing at a faster rate than the number of commitments.

TOTAL VALUE OF HOUSING FINANCE FOR OWNER OCCUPATION, Western Australia

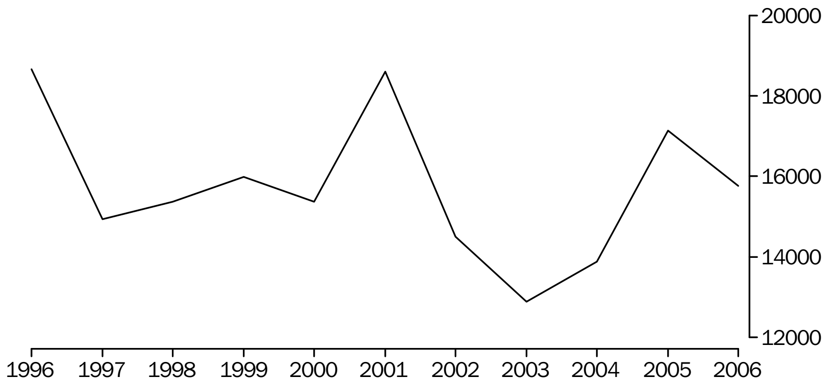


Source: Housing Finance, Australia, cat. no. 5609.0.

Between 1996–2006, 848,454 housing finance commitments were made by owner occupiers in Western Australia, for a total value of over $120 billion.

According to the Real Estate Institute of Western Australia, first home buyer finance commitments between 1996–2006 showed a high degree of volatility, much of which can be explained by affordability pressures and/or policy influences. The dip in commitments into 2000 and subsequent rapid rise, reflected the effects of the introduction of the GST and the introduction of the $7,000 First Home Buyers Grant in July 2000 which was subsequently increased to $14,000, for a period from March 2001. Likewise housing affordability drove down approvals until the State Government offered stamp duty relief in mid-2004.

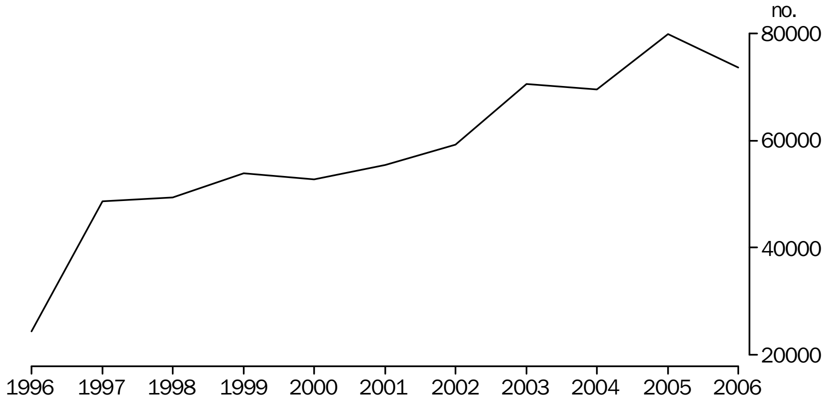
FIRST HOME BUYERS, Number of housing finance commitments (owner occupation), Western Australia



Source: Housing Finance, Australia, cat. no. 5609.0.

HOUSING FINANCE
continued

NON-FIRST HOME BUYERS, Number of housing finance commitments (owner occupation), Western Australia



Source: Housing Finance, Australia, cat. no. 5609.0.

SELECTED REGIONAL ANALYSIS

Western Australia comprises 142 Local Government Areas (LGAs), 30 of these within the Perth Statistical Division. Additionally the ABS recognises 65 urban centres with 14 of these in the Perth metropolitan area. This regional housing analysis will look at 11 areas outside of Perth, most of which have shown strong growth between the 1996–2006 Censuses. It will examine a range of variables including Census counts of population and housing, building approvals and house, unit and land sales. For the non-Census variables the period covered is 1996–2006 inclusive. Real Estate Institute of Western Australia (REIWA) data on regional housing and land sales has also been used. For comparison Perth's median house price figures for the respective Census years were $128,000 in 1996, $173,000 in 2001 and $410,000 in 2006. Where there are disconnects between geographies the most reasonable approximation is used and noted.

The areas selected for analysis are diverse geographically, economically and in classification terms. They were chosen because of their significance in housing terms, as well as their spread around the state. Below is a description of the geographic areas highlighted in this article in terms of their relationship to the 2006 Australian Standard Geographic Classification (ABS cat. no. 1216.0).

- Albany, which is the City of Albany.
- Avon Arc is a REIWA defined region which comprises the Shires of Beverley, Chittering, Toodyay, York and Northam and the Town of Northam (which now incorporates the Town and Shires of Northam that amalgamated in July 2007). Building approvals data covers all the LGAs listed above.
- Broome, which is the Shire of Broome.
- Bunbury is the Bunbury Statistical Subdivision which covers the LGAs of the City of Bunbury plus the Statistical Local Areas of Capel Part A, Dardanup Part A and Harvey Part A. Part As of the Shires of Capel, Dardanup and Harvey are the urban portions fringing the City of Bunbury. Building approvals data covers all of the LGAs listed above.
- Busselton, which is the Shire of Busselton.
- Dalwallinu, which is the Shire of Dalwallinu.

SELECTED REGIONAL ANALYSIS *continued*

- Geraldton, which is covered by the Geraldton Statistical Subdivision. This comprises the City of Geraldton and the adjoining urban portion of the Shire of Greenough. These two LGAs were amalgamated in mid-2007 to form the City of Geraldton-Greenough. Building approvals data includes both LGAs. REIWA data is taken from their Regional Centres dataset, termed Geraldton-Greenough.
- Kalgoorlie is the Statistical Local Area of Kalgoorlie Part A which covers the urban portion of the City of Kalgoorlie/Boulder. It is referred to by REIWA as Kalgoorlie-Boulder. Building approvals data covers the entire LGA.
- Karratha is the Urban Centre of Karratha for both Census and REIWA data. Building approvals data covers the Shire of Roebourne, of which Karratha is part.
- Leonora, which is the Shire of Leonora.
- Mandurah is the Mandurah Statistical Subdivision which comprises the LGAs of the City of Mandurah and the Shire of Murray.

ALBANY

The City of Albany covers the former Town of Albany which amalgamated with the Shire of Albany in 1998. At the 2006 Census there were 31,575 usual residents, an increase of 15% since the 1996 Census. There were 12,058 occupied private dwellings reported in Albany in 2006, 20% more than in 1996.

In 1996 the median household weekly income in Albany was $475 and the median monthly housing loan repayment was $744. These figures in 2006 were $847 and $1,050 respectively, indicating a 78% rise in income but only a 41% rise in mortgage repayments. During that period median weekly rents increased 50%, from $100 to $150.

Separate houses dominated dwelling structure types in Albany in 2006, accounting for 87% of all occupied private dwellings. This proportion has remained virtually unchanged over the 1996–2006 period. The most common type of tenure in Albany was fully owned dwellings, which accounted for 38% of occupied private dwellings. Dwellings being purchased were the next most common at 31%, with 29% of dwellings rented. Since 1996 there has been an increase in the proportion of dwellings being purchased while dwellings fully owned have declined proportionally.

ALBANY, Tenure type of occupied private dwellings

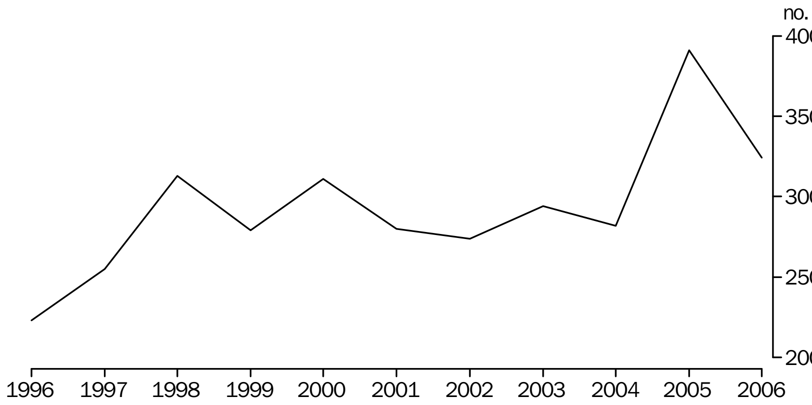
	1996	*2001*	*2006*
	%	%	%
Fully owned	45.9	43.1	38.1
Being purchased	24.0	26.1	31.4
Rented	29.0	29.5	29.4
Other	1.1	1.2	1.1

Source: 1996, 2001 and 2006 Census of Population and Housing.

Between 1996–2006 there were 3,226 new house approvals for the City of Albany. There was an increase in approvals in 2005 and 2006 compared to previous years. The average value of new house approvals rose from just under $53,000 in 1996 to just over $215,000 in 2006. The largest annual rise in average value (up 29%) occurred in 2006.

ALBANY continued

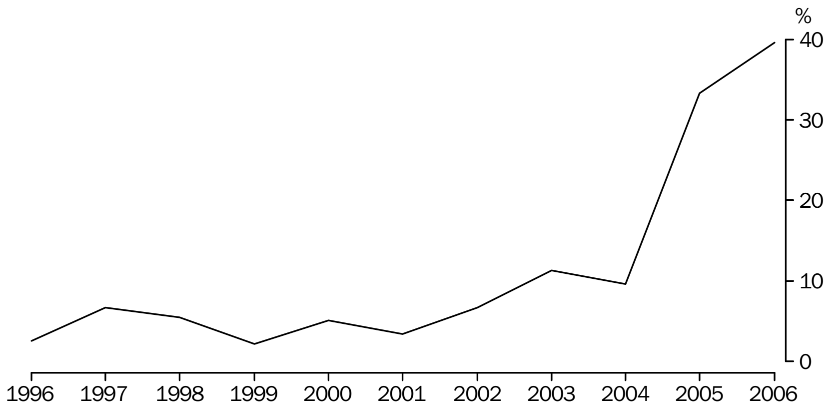
ALBANY, Number of new house approvals



Source: Building Approvals, Australia, cat. no. 8731.0.

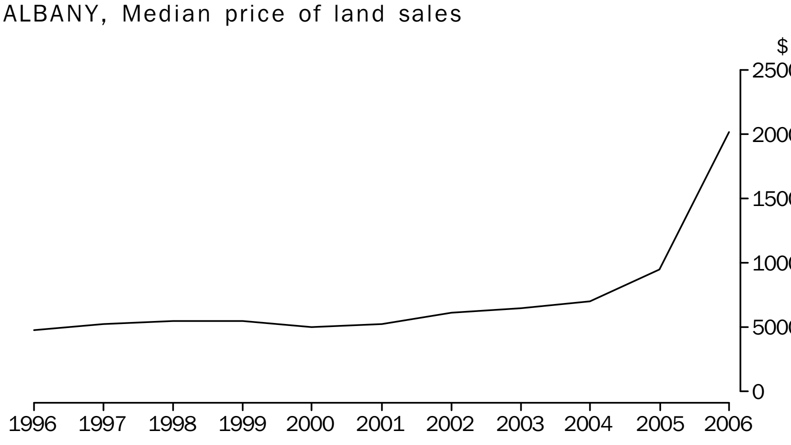
In the period 1996–2006 there were 8,034 sales of houses in Albany. The median house price more than tripled from $120,000 in 1996 to $363,000 in 2006. The bulk of this growth occurred in the most recent years with both 2005 and 2006 recording annual growth of well over 30%. Residential land sales recorded a dramatic upsurge at the end of the 1996–2006 period with the median residential land sale price, which had gone from $48,000 in 1996 to $95,000 in 2005, experiencing a 112% rise in 2006, to $201,500.

ALBANY, Change in the median price of house sales



Source: REIWA Regional Residential Data Series.

ALBANY, Median price of land sales



Source: REIWA Regional Residential Data Series.

AVON ARC

The Avon Arc is the area wrapped around the northern and eastern boundaries of the Perth metropolitan region and comprises the LGAs of Northam Town and Shire and the Shires of Beverley, Chittering, Toodyay and York.

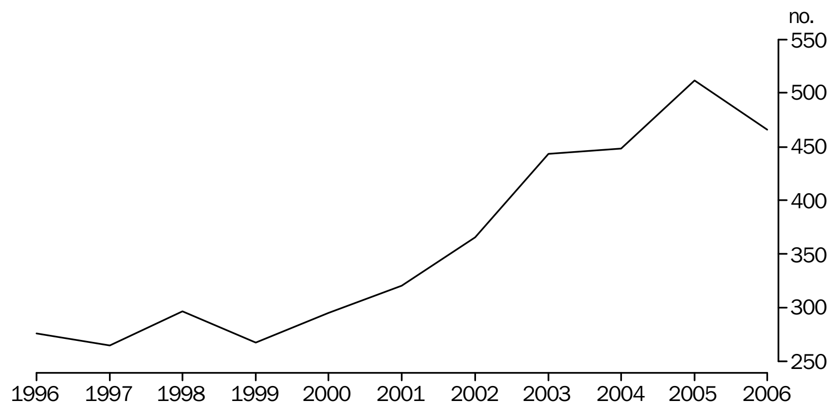
At the 2006 Census 22,110 persons were usual residents of Avon Arc, up 5% from the 21,046 at the 2001 Census, which in turn was 9% above the 1996 Census figure of 19,324 persons.

There were 8,156 occupied private dwellings reported in the Avon Arc at the 2006 Census with 40% fully owned, 38% being purchased and 18% rented. Separate houses accounted for 94% of these dwellings. The total number of dwellings in 2006 represented a 19% increase from 1996. Since 1996 there has been a change in the tenure type of dwellings with the proportion of fully owned dwellings declining from 47%, dwellings being purchased rising from 29% and rented dwellings falling from 24%.

Between 1996–2006 there were 2,428 building approvals for new houses in the Avon Arc, with the number of approvals being steady in each year throughout the period. Over the same period, the value of approvals in the Avon Arc totalled more than $276 million, with the average value of approvals almost quadrupling from $40,911 in 1996 to $163,162 in 2006.

The Avon Arc has seen a surge in land and house sales since 2003 as the area offered affordable lifestyle opportunities in relative close proximity to Perth. The median house price for the area grew by a modest 11% over the 1996–2001 inter-censal period, 57% in the three years between 2001–2004 and by a very large 95% between 2004–2006. The growth in prices has not been confined to any one local authority within the Avon Arc area despite the large variation in median house prices between local authorities in 2006: Beverley ($199,000), Northam ($205,000), York ($270,000), Toodyay ($310,000) and Chittering ($380,000).

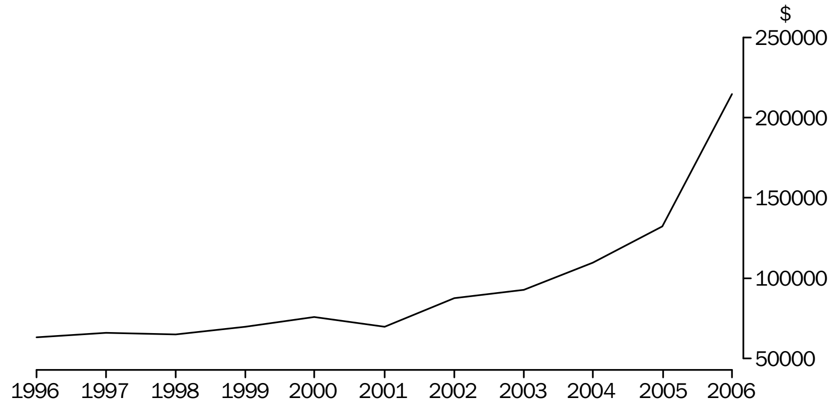
AVON ARC, Number of house sales



Source: REIWA Residential Regional Data Series.

AVON ARC continued

AVON ARC, Median price of house sales



Source: REIWA Residential Regional Data Series.

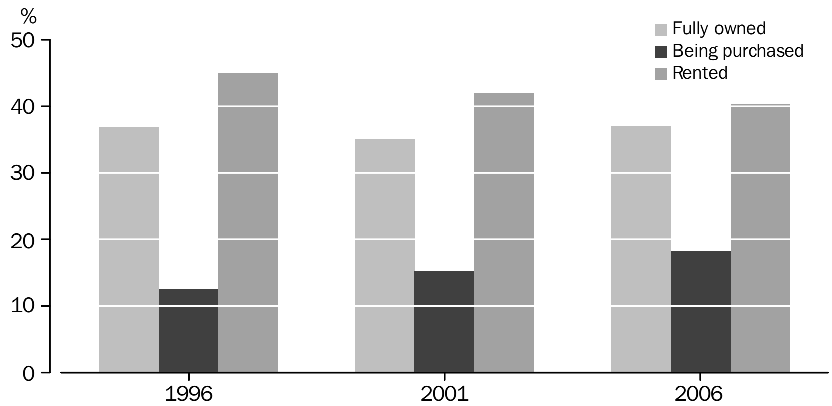
BROOME

As a tourist destination Broome's population and housing requirements is heavily influenced by non-residents. In 2006 there were 19,783 persons recorded in Broome on Census night, with only 59% (11,753) of them usual residents of the area. The remaining 41% (8,030) persons were visitors to the area. The bulk of these visitors (51%) came from Western Australia with a large number of persons also visiting from New South Wales (14% or 1,154) and overseas (8% or 617).

When looking at those counted in Broome on Census night there were a relatively high proportion of them residing in 'other' dwellings — caravans, cabins, houseboats, improvised homes, tents, sleepers out and houses or flats attached to shops, offices, etc. In 2006, 11% (1,171) of persons in occupied private dwellings in Broome were residing in 'other' dwellings, compared to the state average of just 1%.

In Broome, 37% of occupied private dwellings were fully owned in 2006, the same proportion as in 1996. Occupied private dwellings being purchased in Broome increased from 12% to 18% between 1996–2006, while the proportion of rented dwellings fell from 48% to 40%.

BROOME, Tenure type of occupied private dwellings

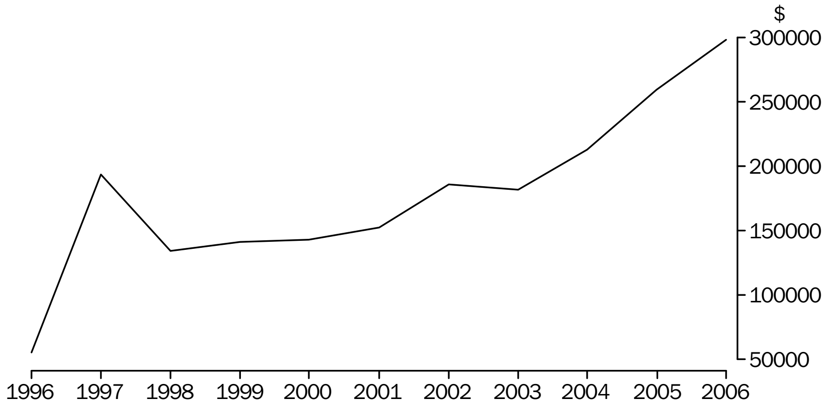


Source: 1996, 2001 and 2006 Census of Population and Housing.

BROOME *continued*

Building activity has been steady in Broome between 1996–2006 with 1,586 new building approvals valued at $282 million. The number of approvals has increased slowly over the decade, while average values of new house approvals have risen 438% in that time, from$55,387 in 1996 to $297,972 in 2006.

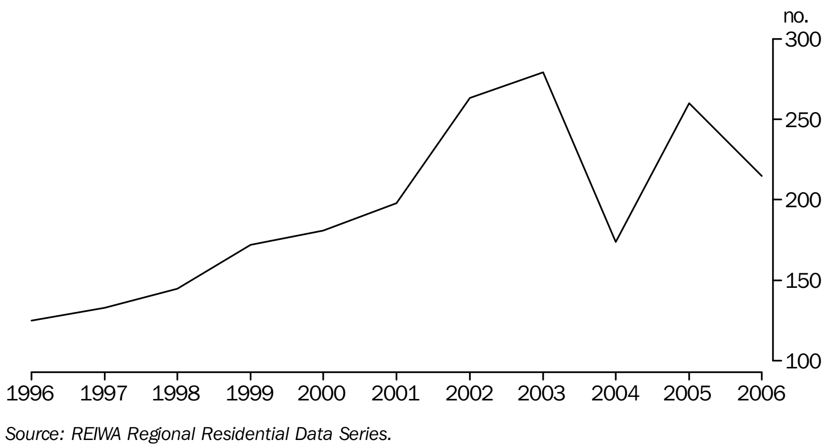
BROOME, Average value of new house approvals



Source: Building Approvals, Australia, cat. no. 8731.0.

Between 1996–2006 there were 2,145 house sales and 1,114 unit sales in Broome. Median house and unit prices both rose by an average of 11% per year over the period. Median house prices had a standout year in 2006 with an increase of 24%, while median units prices grew 26% in both 2003 and 2006. The average house price in Broome increased from $166,612 in 1996 to $556,052 in 2006 and the average unit price went from $132,873 to $424,480. The median prices for both house ($160,000) and unit ($128,000) sales in Broome began at similar levels to their average prices in 1996. By 2006 however the median price of house ($482,500) and unit ($362,000) sales were significantly lower than their average prices, reflecting larger price increases in the property valued at the higher end of the market. A limited supply of residential land in Broome, initially due to native title claims, may well have contributed to this strong growth in house prices as well as higher building costs in the state's north west.

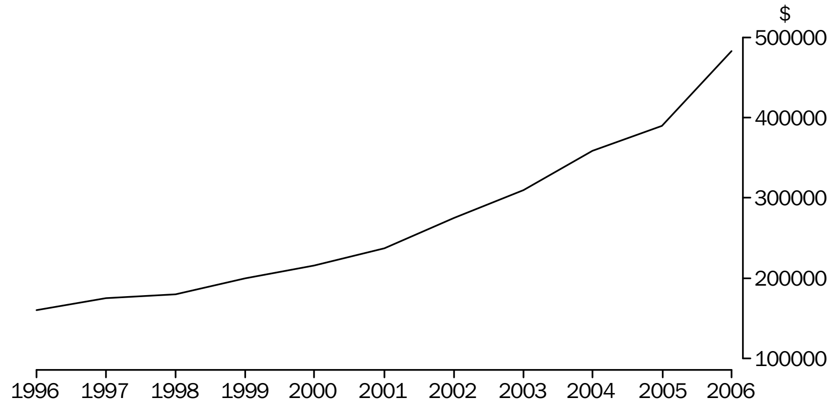
BROOME, Number of house sales



Source: REIWA Regional Residential Data Series.

BROOME continued

BROOME, Median price of house sales



Source: REIWA Regional Residential Data Series.

BUNBURY

The Bunbury Statistical Subdivision consists of the City of Bunbury and parts of the adjoining Shires of Harvey, Dardanup and Capel. In 2006 it had a population of 54,967 persons comprising 29,702 persons in the City of Bunbury, 11,537 persons in the Shire of Harvey, 7,720 persons in the Shire of Dardanup and 6,011 persons in the Shire of Capel. This total population has grown by one-third since 1996, with the vast majority of that growth occurring in the three shires adjoining the City of Bunbury. Between 1996–2006 the population of the City of Bunbury only increased by around 3,000 persons while the adjoining three shires recorded population growth of over 10,000 persons.

A large number of usual residents of Bunbury lived in separate houses in 2006 (44,683 persons in 16,358 dwellings). The rest lived in semi-detached, row or terrace houses, townhouses, etc (3,310 persons in 1,904 dwellings); flats, units or apartments (1,488 persons in 951 dwellings); and 'other' dwellings (379 persons in 233 dwellings). These proportions remained fairly steady between 1996–2006.

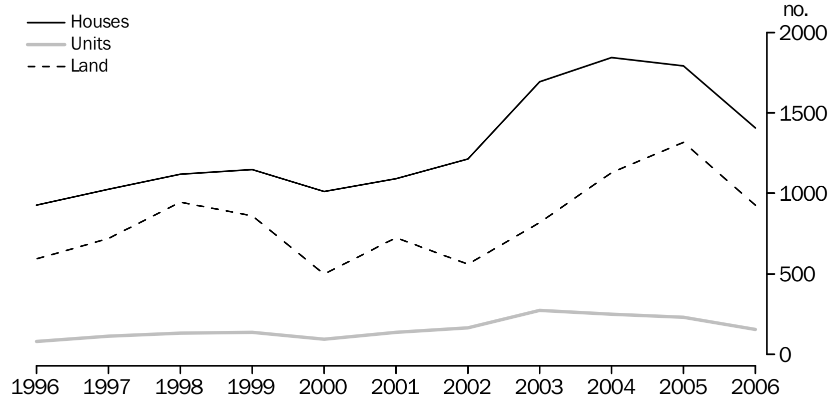
For all occupied private dwellings in Bunbury in 2006, 30% were fully owned, 41% were being purchased and 29% were rented. This contrasts with 1996 which showed a higher proportion of fully owned (35%) and rented (32%) dwellings, but a lower proportion of dwellings being purchased (33%).

Between 1996–2006 there were 10,312 new houses approved at a total value of over $1.3 billion for the LGAs covered in Bunbury Urban (i.e. the City of Bunbury and the Shires of Capel, Dardanup and Harvey combined). Approvals have grown at their strongest rate during the period 2004–2006, averaging almost 1,246 approvals per year. The average value of approvals was $44,026 in 1996 which almost trebled to $130,990 in 1997. Since then it has increased to just under $200,000 in 2006, with growth of around 20% in each of the two latest years.

House, unit and land sales have been strong in Bunbury. The REIWA region of Greater Bunbury has seen over 14,000 house sales, just under 1,800 unit sales and just over 9,000 land sales between 1996–2006.

BUNBURY continued

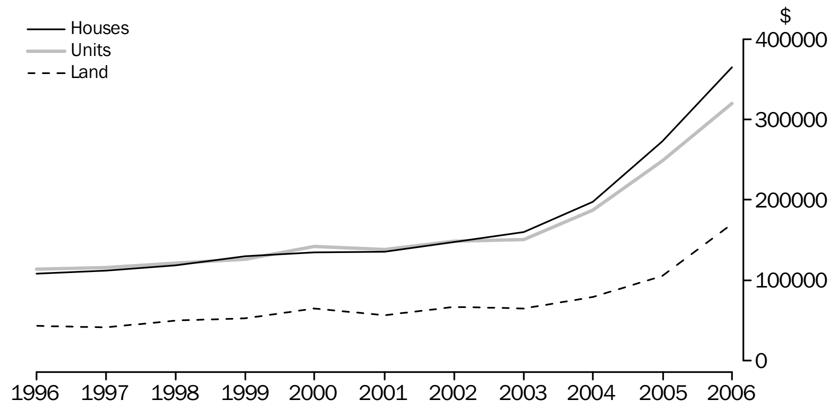
BUNBURY, Sales of houses, units and land



Source: REIWA Regional Residential Data Series.

The median price of house sales in Greater Bunbury rose from $108,000 in 1996 to $365,000 in 2006 (up 238%), while unit sales prices went from $114,000 to $320,000 (up 181%) over the same period. Residential land sales in Greater Bunbury rose from a median price of $43,500 in 1996 to $170,000 in 2006, with the most recent years exhibiting very strong growth: 21% in 2004, 34% in 2005 and 61% in 2006. The very strong house price growth in Greater Bunbury between 2003–2006 subsided in the latter half of 2006, as the market returned to a more sustainable pattern of prices growth.

BUNBURY, Median price of house, unit and land sales



Source: REIWA Regional Residential Data Series.

BUSSELTON

In August 2006 the Shire of Busselton had 25,355 usual residents, an increase of 45% from 1996 (17,444). This growth in population was supported by a commensurate increase in housing stock over that period. In terms of occupied private dwellings, the number of separate houses rose from 6,538 in 1996 to 9,550 in 2006 (up 46%). Medium density housing of semi-detached, row or terrace house, townhouses etc. rose from 475 dwellings in 1996 to 575 dwellings in 2006, while high density housing of flats, units and apartments fell from 355 to 243 over the decade. There was a slight increase in 'other' dwellings from 271 to 304 over the period, including caravans and houseboats.

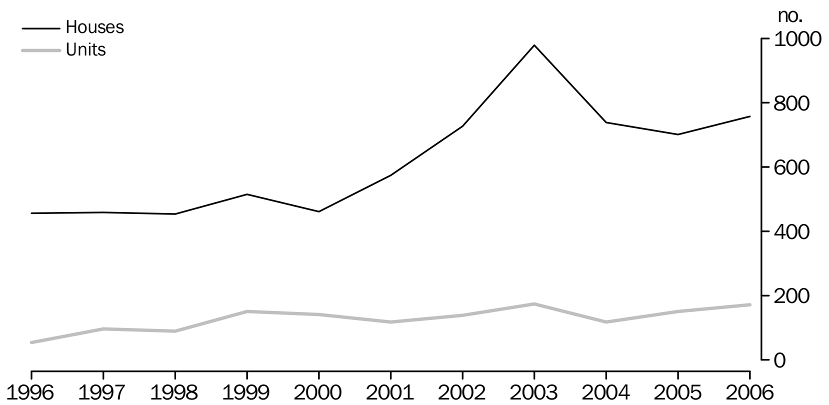
BUSSELTON continued

In 2006, 88% of occupied private dwellings in Busselton were separate houses, up from 82% in 1996. The tenure type of separate houses was evenly divided between being fully owned, being purchased and rented. While the proportion of rented dwellings remained similar to 1996 there was a marked shift in the ownership categories of fully owned(down from 43%) and being purchased (up from 22%). Monthly housing loan repayments increased significantly in Busselton between 1996–2006. In 1996, 56% of monthly housing loan repayments were between $400–$949 with a median of $604, whereas in 2006 the median monthly housing loan repayment was $1,213 and the median monthly rent was $780. Over that same period the median monthly household income went from $1,937 to $4,160.

Between 1996–2006 there 5,845 new house approvals in Busselton to a total value of $935 million. The average value of approvals rose from $46,688 in 1996 to $257,797 in 2006, an increase of 452%.

Real estate activity has been strong in Busselton in the period 1996–2006. House sales grew steadily between 1996–2000 at around 470 houses per year, but then increased to 573 sales in 2001, 727 sales in 2002 and 978 sales in 2003. House sales then eased to 739 (2004), 700 (2005) and 758 (2006). The median price of Busselton houses rose gradually in the years 1996–2002, from $145,00 to $188,000, and then began to accelerate, increasing 26% per year on average over the next four years, finishing at a median price of $475,000 in 2006.

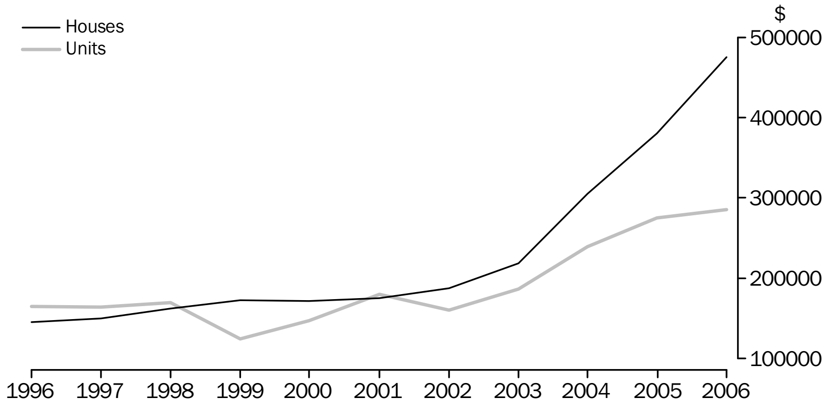
BUSSELTON, Sales of houses and units



Source: REIWA Regional Residential Data Series.

BUSSELTON continued

BUSSELTON, Median price of house and unit sales



Source: REIWA Regional Residential Data Series.

Busselton has also experienced an increase in sales of units between 1999–2006, averaging 146 sales per year. The median price of units sold in 1996 was $165,500, $190,000 lower than the median price of house sales in that year. The median price of house sales rose to $285,000 by 2006, with the price of unit sales only $20,000 lower. Between 1996–2006 almost 5,000 sales of land were made in Busselton, from a median price of $71,250 in 1996 to $233,500 in 2006.

DALWALLINU

While coastal and mining related regions of the state in general showed growing populations over the last ten years, this was not always the case for inland agricultural areas. A good example is the Shire of Dalwallinu.

Between 1996–2006 the demography of Dalwallinu changed significantly. The median age increased from 30 to 36 years. The number of children attending school declined by more than a third from 353 children in 1996 (267 primary students and 86 secondary students) to 224 children in 2006 (150 primary students and 74 secondary students). In 1996 occupied private dwellings in Dalwallinu mainly housed couple families with children (44%), couple only families (21%) and lone person households (19%). By 2006 the proportion of couple families with children fell to 39% due to increases in couple only families (33%) and lone person households (23%). Dalwallinu's median weekly household income did not keep pace with growth at the state level. In 1996 Dalwallinu had median weekly household income of $623, 98% of the Western Australian figure of $635. By 2006 Dalwallinu's median weekly household income had increased to $967, 91% of the state figure of $1,063.

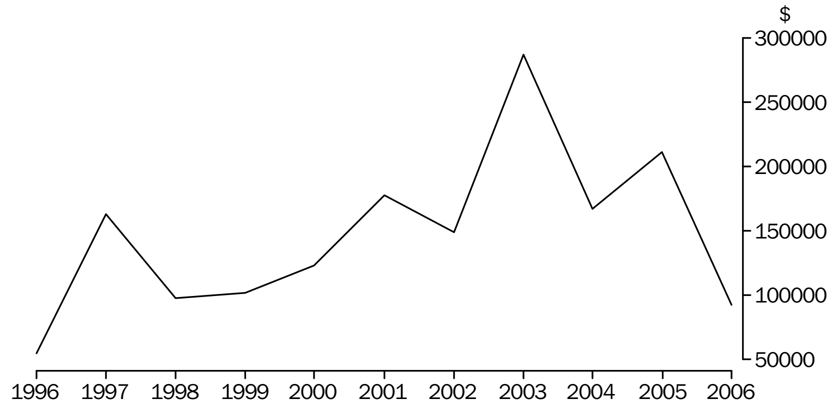
In 1996 Dalwallinu had a population of 1,706 persons and 566 occupied private dwellings. By 2006 these figures had fallen to 1,369 persons and 509 occupied private dwellings. The average household size in Dalwallinu fell from 3.0 persons in 1996 to 2.7 persons in 2006. In 1996 just over half of these dwellings (52%) were fully owned, 16% were being purchased and 31% rented. In 2006 the proportion of dwellings fully owned fell to 47%, dwellings being purchased rose to 23% and rented dwellings fell marginally to 30%.

DALWALLINU continued

Real estate activity in the Shire of Dalwallinu was extremely flat between 1996–2006, with only 235 house sales in total, at an average of 21 sales per year. The median price of house sales rose 95% over the period, from $40,100 to $78,000, and the average price of houses rose by a lesser 73%, from $46,126 to $79,594. Between 1996–2006 there were 59 sales of residential land valued at $561,604 in total.

There were only 62 houses approved for construction in Dalwallinu valued at over $7.5 million in the period 1996–2006. Average values of houses showed considerably fluctuation over the last ten years despite the 2006 figure being only slightly higher the 1996 figure.

DALWALLINU, Average value of new house approvals



Source: Building Approvals, Australia, cat. no. 8731.0.

GERALDTON

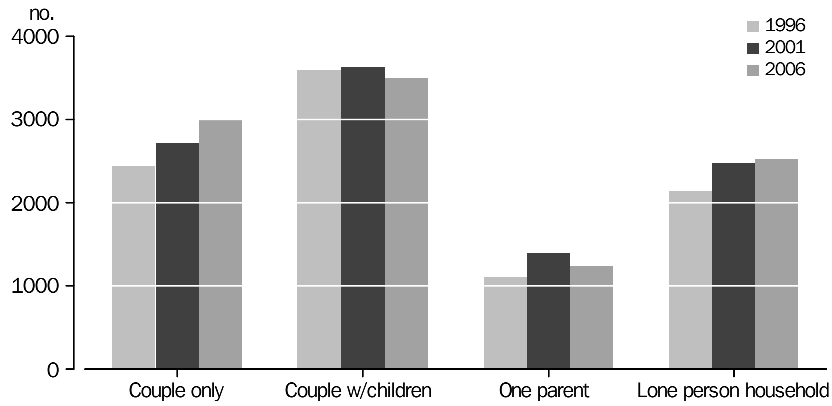
The Geraldton Statistical Subdivision (SSD) includes the City of Geraldton and the surrounding urban area which is part of the Shire of Greenough. On the night of the 2006 Census Geraldton SSD had a usual resident population of 31,553 persons, representing an 11% increase from the 1996 Census. Of all usual residents in the Geraldton SSD, 27,887 were housed in 10,890 private dwellings, of which 84% (9,144) were separate houses.

The median age of Geraldton SSD residents increased from 31 to 35 years between 1996–2006. The median weekly household income in Geraldton SSD in 2006 was $958, 66% higher than the median weekly household income in 1996. The median weekly housing loan repayment in Geraldton SSD was $242 in 2006, 49% higher than in 1996. Rents had increased 40% over the same period, rising from a median weekly figure of $100 to $140.

There was significant change in the composition of families in the Geraldton SSD based on place of enumeration Census data. Between 1996–2006 there were large increases in occupied private dwellings containing couple families with no children (up 23%) and lone person households (up 18%), while dwellings with couple families with children declined 3%.

GERALDTON continued

GERALDTON, Family composition of occupied private dwellings

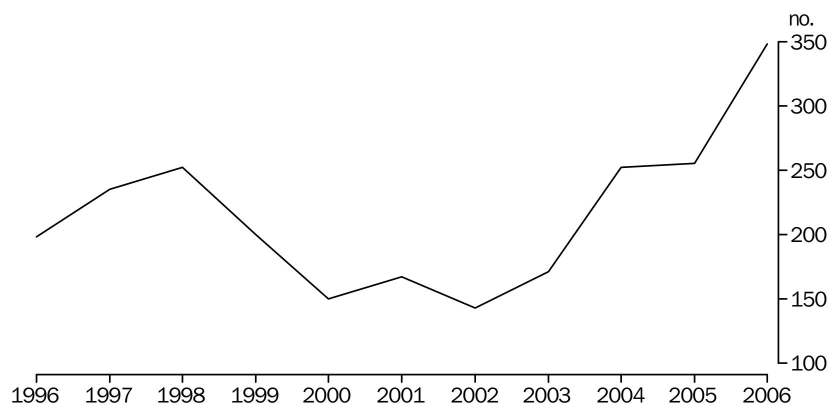


Source: 2006 Census of Population and Housing.

The proportion of dwellings fully owned and rented in the Geraldton SSD declined equally between 1996–2006, from 35% to 32%, while the proportion of dwellings being purchased increased from 30% to 36%. The mix of housing types changed between 1996–2006. The proportion of separate houses increased from 81% to 83%, medium density housing (i.e. semi-detached houses and townhouses) fell from a proportion of 10% to 5% and the proportion of high density housing (i.e. flats and apartments) rose from 5% to 9%.

Between 1996–2006, 2,371 new houses were approved for construction in the LGAs of Geraldton and Greenough. Approvals in the City of Geraldton have been relatively stagnant at around 50 per year whereas approvals in the Shire of Greenough have been higher and increasing in recent years, as it accommodates for most of the population growth in the area.

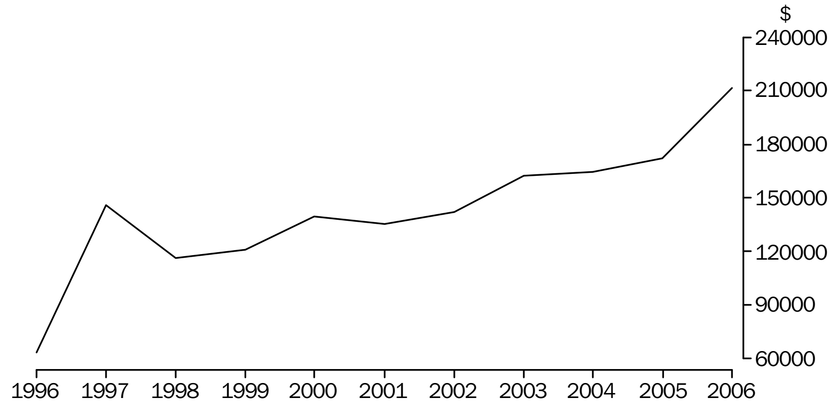
GERALDTON AND GREENOUGH, Number of new house approvals



Source: Building Approvals, Australia, cat. no. 8731.0.

GERALDTON continued

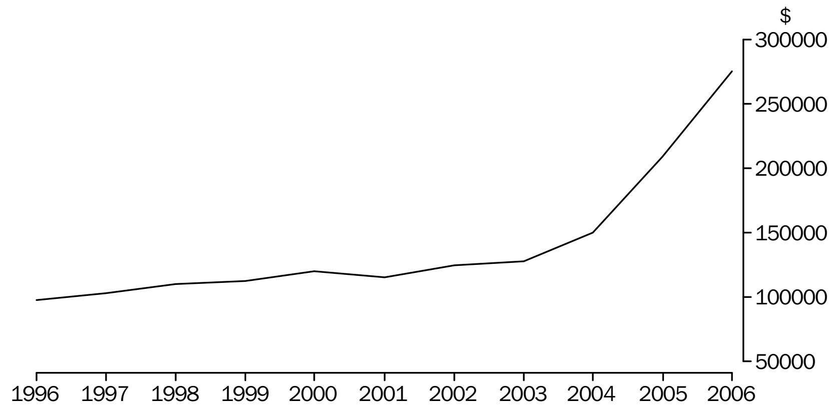
GERALDTON AND GREENOUGH, Average value of new house approvals



Source: Building Approvals, Australia, cat. no. 8731.0.

Between 1996–2006 there were 8,189 houses sold in Geraldton/Greenough. Both the average and median price of these houses fluctuated over the period but were substantially higher in 2006 than in 1996. The median price in 1996 ($98,000) grew by a modest 18% in the five years to 2001 ($115,500), but then increased 138% to $275,000 in the five years to 2006. The strongest growth in median house prices was recorded in 2004 (up 17%), 2005 (up 39%) and 2006 (up 32%).

GERALDTON/GREENOUGH, Median price of house sales

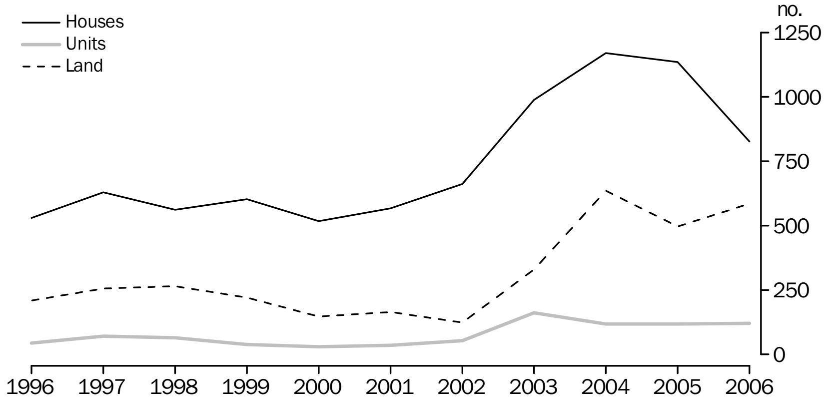


Source: REIWA Regional Residential Data Series.

Land sales were strong in Geraldton/Greenough between 1996–2006 with 3,437 sales at a total cost of almost $289 million. Between 1996–2004 the median price of land grew from $43,000 to $61,000, an increase of 42%. In the next two years however median land prices surged 49% in 2005 and 52% in 2006 to $125,000 in 2006. This represents an overall increase of 191% between 1996–2006.

GERALDTON *continued*

GERALDTON/GREENOUGH, Sales of houses, units and land



Source: REIWA Regional Residential Data Series.

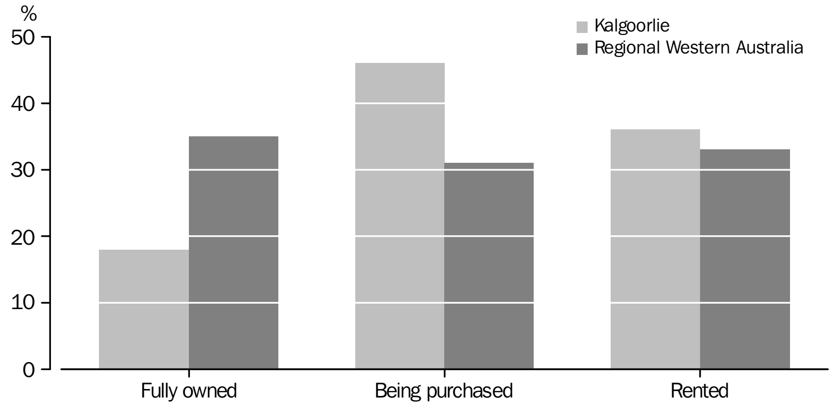
KALGOORLIE

The urban part of the City of Kalgoorlie/Boulder recorded 28,241 usual residents at the time of the 2006 Census, similar to the number ten years earlier. Separate houses dominated the dwelling stock of Kalgoorlie, accounting for 90% of all occupied private dwellings.

Between the 1996–2006 Censuses Kalgoorlie experienced large increases in both incomes and housing costs. The median weekly household income increased 157%, from $589 to $1,512, and the median monthly housing loan repayment rose 233%, from $360 to $1,200. Despite these increases median weekly rents increased only 13%, from $150 to $170.

Tenure types are different in Kalgoorlie to those generally found in other parts of regional Western Australia. In 2006 the proportion of fully owned dwellings in Kalgoorlie (18%) was much less than the proportion found across regional Western Australia (33%). However there was a much larger proportion of dwellings being purchased in Kalgoorlie than in regional Western Australia. The proportions of rented dwellings did not differ significantly.

KALGOORLIE AND REGIONAL WESTERN AUSTRALIA, Tenure type of occupied private dwellings, 2006

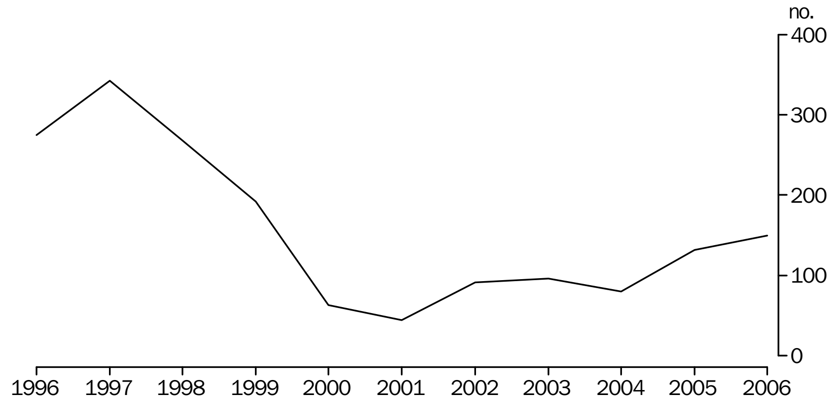


Source: 2006 Census of Population and Housing.

KALGOORLIE continued

Building approvals for new houses in the City of Kalgoorlie/Boulder totalled 1,733 between 1996–2006. The number of approvals were inconsistent from year-to-year with a peak in house approvals of 342 in 1997 (342), a large decline to 44 approvals in 2001, followed by a gradual rise to 150 approvals in 2006. The total value of house approvals was a little over $238 million over the ten year period, with the average value of house approvals rising 516% from $38,909 in 1996 to $239,645 in 2006.

KALGOORLIE/BOULDER, Number of new house approvals



Source: Building Approvals, Australia, cat. no. 8731.0.

Between 1996–2006 there were over 11,000 house sales in Kalgoorlie-Boulder and 1,371 unit sales, with the volume of sales heavily weighted toward the most recent years. For house sales the years 1996–2002 averaged 788 sales per year, while between 2003–2006 the average was 1,389 house sales per year. For unit sales the comparable figures were 91 sales and 183 sales. Land sales defied this pattern being strongest in the years 1996–1998.

The increase in median sales prices were stronger for houses than for units between 1996–2006, from $138,000 to $225,000 for houses and $132,000 to $178,00 for unit sales.

KARRATHA

Karratha is the largest town in the Shire of Roebourne and at the 2006 Census had a usual resident population of 11,725. This was an increase of 9% from the 2001 Census and a 17% increase from the 1996 Census. The median age of residents of Karratha was 30 years in 2006, 6 years younger than the Western Australian median age of 36 years.

At the time of the 2006 Census 84% of Karratha residents were housed in private dwellings. The occupied private dwelling count was 3,401, comprising 2,441 separate houses, 632 semi-detached/row/townhouses, 119 flats/units/apartments and 209 'other' dwellings. Compared to 2001 the number of separate houses grew only marginally, but there was nearly a trebling of flats/units/apartments, up from 41 in 2001 to 119 in 2006.

There was a jump in the proportion of private dwellings being rented in Karratha in 2006 while dwellings fully owned or being purchased declined slightly. The high proportion of rental households is attributed to a very high level of employer provided housing for both the resource sector and government employees.

KARRATHA continued

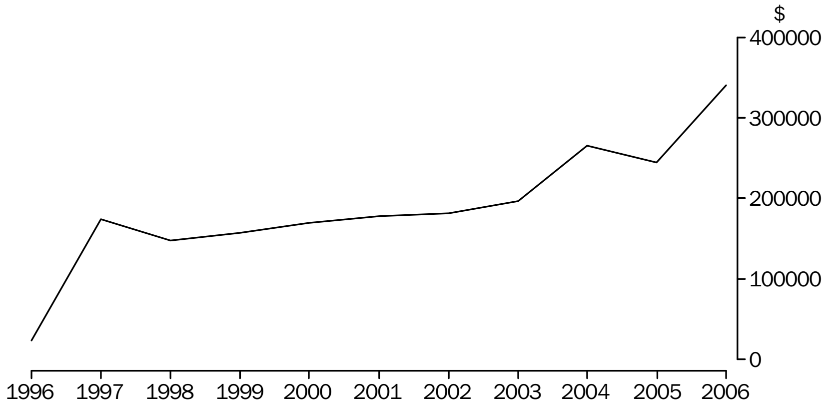
KARRATHA, Tenure type of occupied private dwellings

	1996	*2001*	*2006*
	%	%	%
Fully owned	10.9	12.6	10.2
Being purchased	25.6	25.3	24.8
Rented	58.0	55.7	62.0
Other	5.5	6.4	3.0

Source: 1996, 2001 and 2006 Census of Population and Housing.

Between 1996–2006, 917 new house approvals were made in the Shire of Roebourne, of which Karratha is the major centre. The annual number of approvals fluctuated over the period from a high of 161 in 1997 to a low of 22 in 1999. In the period 2005–2006 approvals were strong at 133 and 130 respectively. The average value of new housing approvals in Roebourne has increased substantially from $23,661 in 1996 to $340,197 in 2006.

ROEBOURNE, Average value of new house approvals

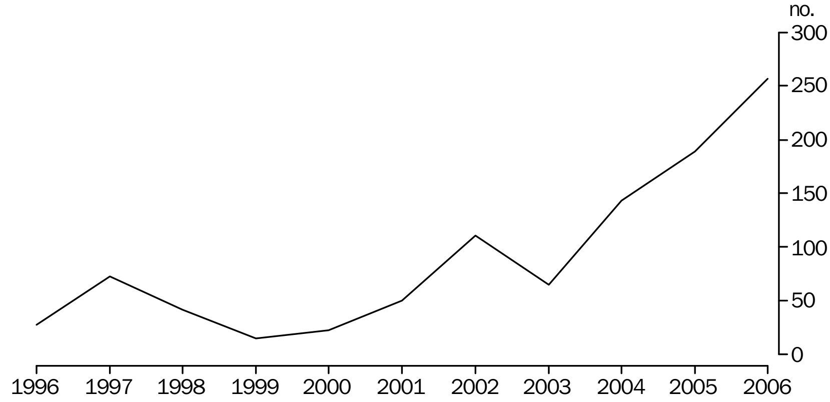


Source: Building Approvals, Australia, cat. no. 8731.0.

From 1996–2006 there were 2,640 sales of houses in Karratha with the median price rising from $142,500 to $475,000. Growth in median house prices was strong in 2005 (31%) and 2006 (43%). There were 533 unit sales in Karratha between 1996–2006 with the median price of units increasing by less than houses, from $122,500 to $315,000. Between 1996–2006, 996 residential lots of land were sold in Karratha, with more than half sold between 2004–2006 (589).

KARRATHA continued

KARRATHA, Number of land sales



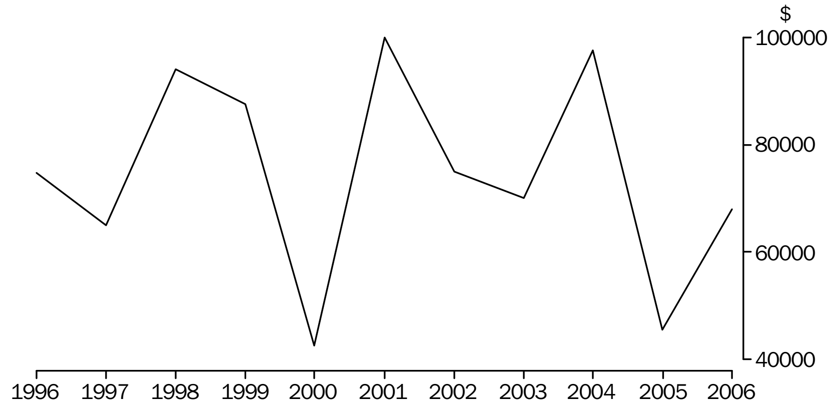
Source: REIWA Regional Residential Data Series.

LEONORA

In 2006 there were 1,412 usual residents of Leonora and 473 occupied private dwellings, a notable decline from 1996 — 2,683 usual residents and 591 occupied private dwellings. In 2006 however a large proportion of dwellings were listed as unoccupied (29%). On Census night 2006, 44% (1,033) of the people counted in the Shire were visitors. In 1996 a lesser proportion of 32% (1,129) were counted as visitors in Leonora.

Between 1996–2006 there were 150 house sales in Leonora valued at over $15 million. There was minimal fluctuation in the average price of house sales between 1996–2006, rising from $78,114 to $81,088. The median house price actually fell over the period, from $74,750 in 1996 to $68,000 in 2006. From 1996–2006 there were just 24 building approvals for new houses in Leonora.

LEONORA, Median price of house sales



Source: REIWA Regional Residential Data Series.

MANDURAH

In 2006 the usual resident population of the Mandurah Statistical Subdivision (including the City of Mandurah and the Shire of Murray) was just under 68,000, 40% higher than a decade earlier (just over 48,000 in 1996). This rise occurred steadily over the period, with the population rising 18% between the 1996–2001 Censuses and 19% between the 2001–2006 Censuses.

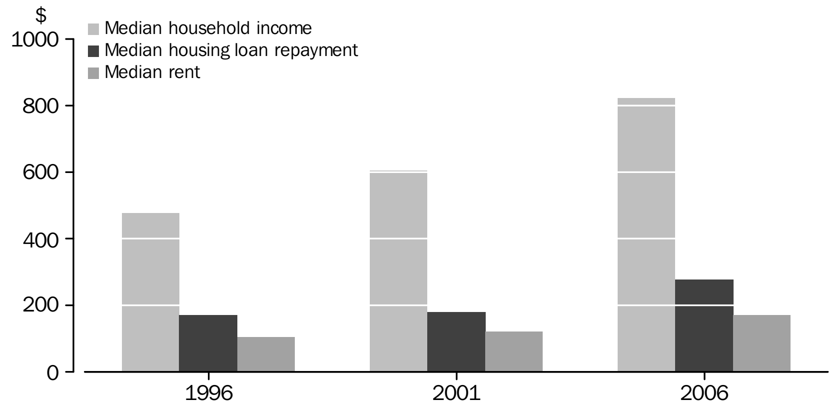
MANDURAH continued

Allied to strong population growth was a substantial increase in Mandurah's housing stock. The number of private dwellings rose from just over 18,000 in 1996 to just under 27,000 in 2006, a 48% increase. Growth was steady between 1996–2006, recording a 21% rise between both inter-censal periods.

The median age (based on place of enumeration counts) rose from 36 to 42 years and the average household size fell from 2.6 to 2.4 between 1996–2006.

Income and housing expenditure data from the 1996 and 2006 Censuses reveals a rise in median weekly household incomes (up 72% to $822), median monthly housing loan repayments (up 62% to $1,200) and median weekly rents (up 62% to $170).

MANDURAH, Median weekly household income and housing costs



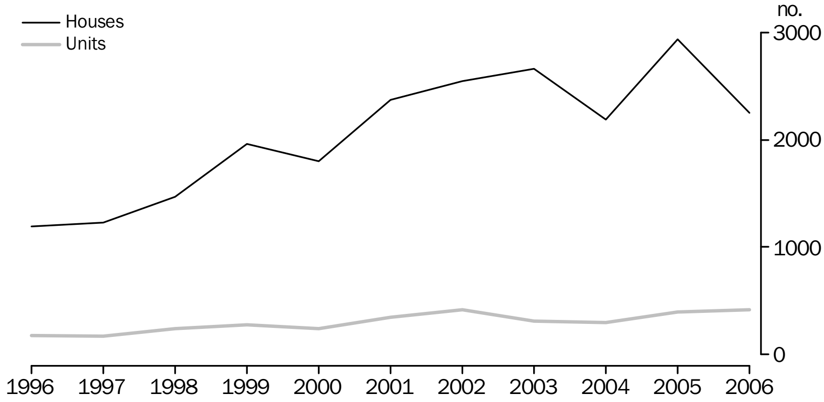
Source: 1996, 2001 and 2006 Census of Population and Housing.

The proportion of fully owned private dwellings in Mandurah fell between 1996–2006, from 42% to 37%, as dwellings being purchased increased from 31% to 33%. The vast majority of Mandurah residents live in separate dwellings (84%), although the number of flats/units/apartments almost tripled between 1996–2006, from 566 to 1,611. Separate houses in Mandurah were equally fully owned or being purchased (37% for each), while flats/units/apartments were predominantly rented (54%).

In the decade 1996–2006, 22,588 established houses were sold in Mandurah. The median price of these houses rose from $110,000 in 1996 to $135,000 in 2001 (an average annual increase of 3.5%). From 2002 the median price of established houses increased rapidly, averaging 20% annually to a median price of $410,000 in 2006. Unit sales in Mandurah displayed a similar pattern with the median price of unit sales rising 2.6% per year between 1996–2001 and 19.3% per year between 2002–2006 (on average). The median price of units rose from $94,000 in 1996 to $318,000 in 2006.

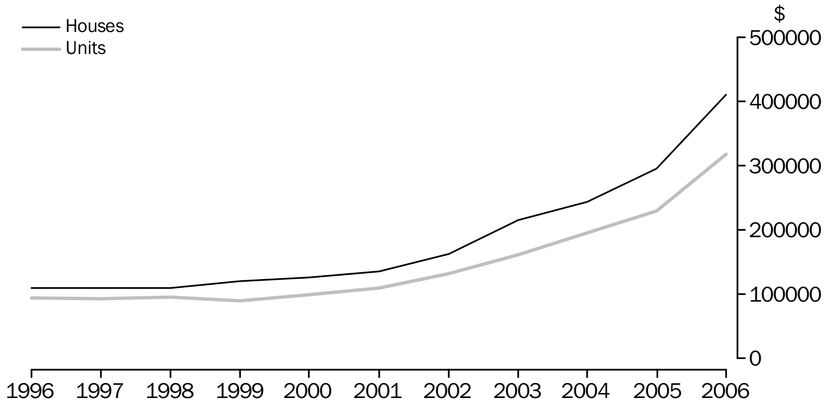
MANDURAH continued

MANDURAH, Sales of houses and units



Source: REIWA Regional Residential Data Series.

MANDURAH, Median price of house and unit sales



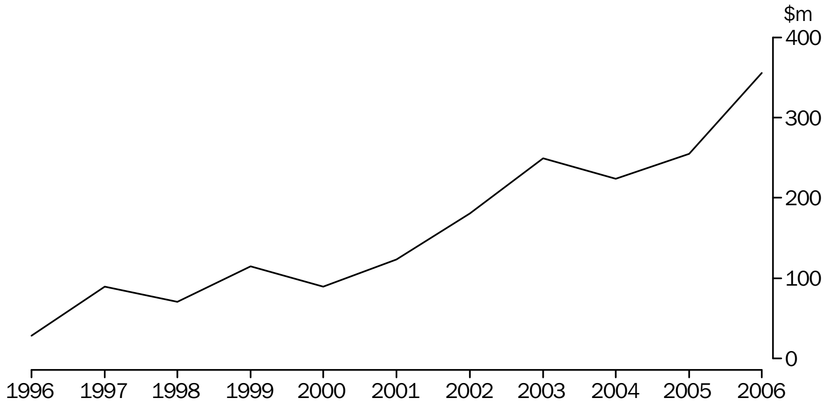
Source: REIWA Regional Residential Data Series.

Sales of land in Mandurah totalled just over 15,000 lots between 1996–2006, with strong growth experienced from 2002 onwards.

Between 1996–2006 just under 12,000 new houses were approved for construction in Mandurah. Growth in house approvals increased steadily over the period, almost tripling from 596 to 1,648 approvals. Coupled with this increase was a dramatic escalation in the total value of house approvals in Mandurah, from over $28 million in 1996 to $355 million in 2006.

MANDURAH continued

MANDURAH, Total value of new house approvals



Source: Building Approvals, Australia, cat. no. 8731.0.

The average value of Mandurah's new house approvals rose from $47,434 in 1996 to $215,495 in 2006. The level in 2006 ($215,495) ranked behind 33 other regional LGAs in Western Australia, with predominantly remote Shires leading the way (e.g. Port Hedland, Wiluna and Halls Creek).

FURTHER DATA

The base data used in this feature article is at LGA level and is available as a spreadsheet which can be obtained by contacting either Phil Smythe of the Australian Bureau of Statistics at phil.smythe@abs.gov.au or Stewart Darby of the Real Estate Institute of Western Australia at stewart.darby@reiwa.com.au.

FEATURE ARTICLE 2

SHORT-TERM OVERSEAS TRAVEL TO AND FROM WESTERN AUSTRALIA

INTRODUCTION

There has been a large rise in Western Australians travelling overseas since 2003, underpinned by a rapidly expanding local economy. More people have departed Western Australia for holidays, visiting friends or relatives, business, education, employment and conventions or conferences. Overseas holiday travel has increased substantially to Thailand, Singapore and Malaysia. Thailand, in particular, has emerged as a major holiday destination since the impact on travel to Indonesia after the Bali bombings in 2002–2005. The number of Western Australians travelling overseas to visit friends or relatives surged to a ten-year high in 2006, with much more travel to the United Kingdom and New Zealand. Overseas business travel from Western Australia has grown strongly, particularly to the rapidly developing countries of China, India and the United Arab Emirates. Education travel and convention or conference travel have also risen sharply since 2003, with many more Western Australian students departing to Singapore and New Zealand and convention or conference travel rising, predominantly to China. Employment travel abroad has showed a modest increase due to the onset of the state's skills shortage.

Travel into Western Australia has increased more modestly than outbound travel over the ten years to 2006. Holiday travel from Asia has been hampered by the 1997 Asian financial crisis, terrorists attacks and natural and biological disasters, particularly from Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand. However, there have been notable increases in the amount of travel to Western Australia for employment and education purposes. Rising job vacancies and incomes have seen more short-term overseas workers enter the state from Singapore, New Zealand, Malaysia, the United Kingdom and Indonesia, while increasing numbers of international students have arrived from China, Korea, Singapore and Japan.

ABOUT THE DATA

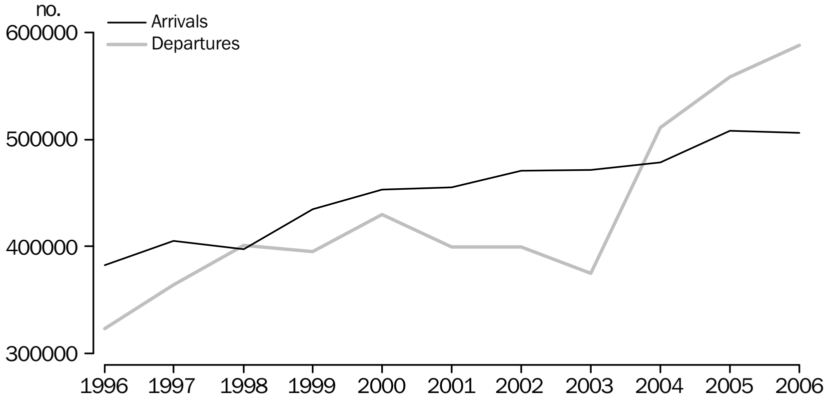
Data presented in this article are sourced by special request from Overseas Arrivals and Departures, Australia (ABS cat. no. 3401.0). Information on persons arriving in, or departing from, Australia are provided on incoming and outgoing passenger cards, as well as visa applications for incoming persons (apart from Australian or New Zealand citizens). Data relate to the number of movements of travellers rather than the number of travellers (i.e. multiple movements of individual persons during a given reference period are each counted separately). Also, country details for persons arriving in Australia relate to their country of residence, while for persons departing Australia they relate to the country where most of their time was spent abroad. The definition of 'short-term' travel is less than one year.

TOTAL SHORT-TERM OVERSEAS TRAVEL

Total short-term overseas travel to and from Western Australia exceeded over one million (1,094,296) arrivals and departures in 2006. There were more departures (587,959) from Western Australia than arrivals (506,337) during the year, a pattern that has re-emerged since 2004. Both departures and arrivals have grown considerably between 1996–2006, although growth in departures has exceeded that of arrivals. Short-term overseas departures from Western Australia increased 82% (264,437) or 8% (26,444) per year over the ten years to 2006, more than twice the rate of arrivals to Western Australia, up 32% (123,475) or 3% (12,348) per year.

TOTAL SHORT-TERM OVERSEAS TRAVEL *continued*

TOTAL SHORT-TERM OVERSEAS TRAVEL, Western Australia



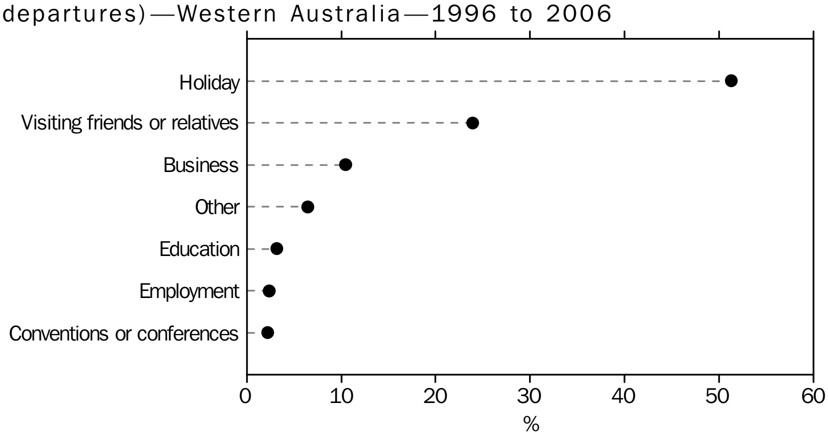
Source: ABS data available on request, Overseas Arrivals and Departures, Australia, cat. no. 3401.0.

Western Australian overseas departures have also grown at a pace well above what you would expect from general population growth. Between 1996–2006, short-term overseas departures from Western Australia grew 82%, more than four times the rate of population growth (17%). As a result, the ratio of outbound travel to state population fell from one departure per 5.5 residents in 1996 to one departure per 3.5 residents in 2006.

REASONS FOR SHORT-TERM OVERSEAS TRAVEL

The most popular reason for short-term overseas travel to and from Western Australia is holiday travel. Every second journey, whether it be an arrival to Western Australia or departure from the state, is for holiday purposes. Holiday travel as a proportion of total travel declined between 1996–2003, but recovered strongly after that time. The next most popular reasons for travel were visiting friends or relatives and business, accounting for almost one-quarter and one-tenth of total Western Australian travel (inward plus outward) respectively. Other reasons for travel included education, employment and conventions or conferences.

REASONS FOR TRAVEL, Total travel (arrivals plus departures)—Western Australia—1996 to 2006



Source: ABS data available on request, Overseas Arrivals and Departures, Australia, cat. no. 3401.0.

SHORT-TERM OVERSEAS ARRIVALS

Over the ten years to 2006, half (50%) of all short-term overseas arrivals to Western Australia were for holidays. The proportion of holiday arrivals decreased however, from 56% in 1996 to 47% in 2006, despite the number of holiday arrivals rising 12% (24,789) to 239,821. The second most popular reason for travel to Western Australia was visiting

SHORT-TERM OVERSEAS ARRIVALS continued

friends or relatives, accounting for over one-quarter (26%) of arrivals to Western Australia over the period. The third most popular reason for travel was shared between business travel and other travel, both comprising 8% of arrivals over the ten years. Both of these travel types showed rising proportions between 1996–2006, with business travel up from 7% to 10% and other travel up from 4% to 5%. The remaining reasons for short-term overseas travel to Western Australia included: education (5%), conventions or conferences (2%) and employment (2%) — all showing increased proportions over the ten year period. The two most notable rises were for business travel (7% to 10%) and employment travel (1% to 3%), reflecting the strong performance of the Western Australian economy and the need for labour to help alleviate the state's skills shortage.

SHORT-TERM OVERSEAS DEPARTURES

Over half (53%) of all short-term overseas departures from Western Australia were for holidays between 1996–2006. The proportion of holiday departures decreased slightly, from 54%to 53% over the period, despite the number of holiday departures rising 78% (136,769) to 312,289. The second most popular reason for travel overseas was visiting friends or relatives, accounting for just under one-quarter (22%) of Western Australian overseas departures from 1996–2006. The third most popular reason for travel was business, accounting for 13% of departures over the ten years. The proportion of Western Australians visiting friends or relatives (22% to 23%) remained fairly steady between 1996–2006, while business travel fell from 14% to 13%. The remaining reasons for Western Australians travelling overseas included: other travel (5%), employment (3%), conventions or conferences (3%) and education (1%) — other travel (3% to 5%) and employment travel (3.0% to 3.2%) showed increased proportions and conventions or conferences (3% to 2%) and education (1.1% to 1.0%) showed decreased proportions over the ten years.

FACTORS AFFECTING OVERSEAS TRAVEL

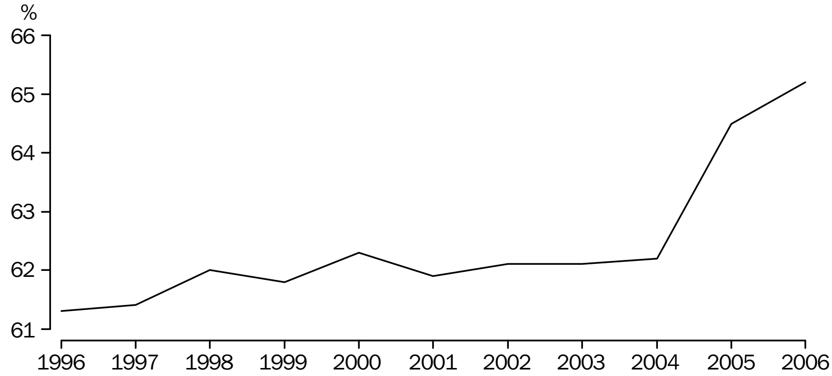
The willingness of people to travel overseas is highly dependant on domestic economic conditions and safety. Higher employment and incomes improve the capacity of people to travel abroad, while world events that cause social-political, economic or environmental instability deters travel. Other economic conditions that influence overseas travel include the price of travel and accommodation and the strength of the local currency.

EMPLOYMENT AND INCOMES

Job security and adequate income can influence holiday plans and destinations. Western Australia has enjoyed a lengthy period of employment growth over the last ten years, with 27% (230,217) more people employed in 2006 than in 1996. Furthermore, when looking at the ratio of employment to population in Western Australia, the pattern of change has been very similar to that of Western Australians travelling overseas on holiday. The proportion of employed persons rose sharply to 65% of the state's population in 2006, after many years at around 62% (1996–2004). Similarly, Western Australians departing on overseas holidays jumped 8.2% over the two years to 2006, following an average growth rate of 6.6% per year between 1996–2004.

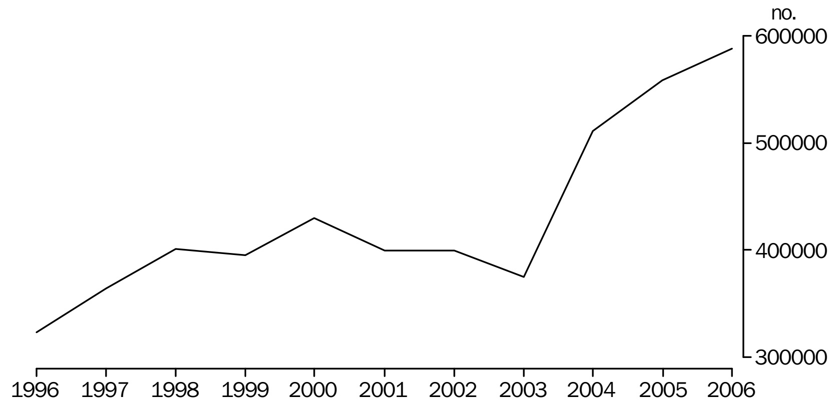
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOMES continued

RATIO OF EMPLOYED PERSONS TO POPULATION(a), Western Australia



(a) Civilian population aged 15 years and over
Source: Labour Force, Australia, cat. no. 6202.0.

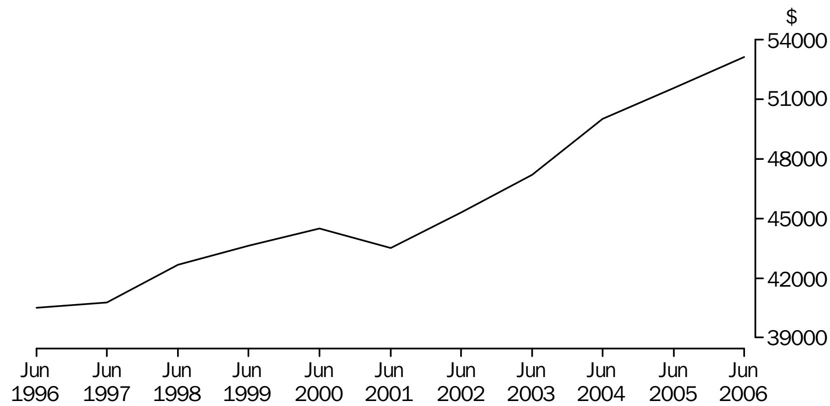
TOTAL SHORT-TERM OVERSEAS DEPARTURES, Western Australia



Source: ABS data available on request, Overseas Arrivals and Departures, Australia, cat. no. 3401.0

In addition to higher employment, average incomes have grown 31% ($12,648) to $53,134 per year in Western Australia between June 1996–2006, according to real Gross State Product per capita estimates.

REAL GROSS STATE PRODUCT PER CAPITA, Western Australia



Source: Australian National Accounts: State Accounts, cat. no. 5220.0.

EMPLOYMENT AND INCOMES continued

Economic conditions have also been favourable in some of the countries from where Western Australia traditionally attracts its overseas tourists. Annual rates of real GDP growth have been solid in the United Kingdom (3%), New Zealand (3%), Hong Kong SAR(4%), Ireland (7%) and the United States of America (3%) between 1996–2006. At the same time these countries have recorded strong increases in holiday travel to Western Australia, ranging from 2,199 (72%) more arrivals from the United States of America to 42,844 (209%) more arrivals from the United Kingdom. In addition, China (up 1,689 or 515%) recorded a notable increase in business travel to Western Australia over the last ten years, reflecting rapid economic growth in that country (9% per year between 1996–2006 on average) and stronger trade relations with Western Australia.

MAJOR WORLD EVENTS

A number of world events have caused significant fluctuation in overseas travel to and from Western Australia in recent times. These events are discussed below in chronological order, not in the order of their impact on overseas travel.

The 1997 Asian financial crisis sent many Asian economies into recession, decreasing the number of people travelling from the region to Western Australia. In the eighteen months to December 1998, short-term travel from South-East Asia fell 21% (36,327 arrivals). Travel from Indonesia was the worst affected, with arrivals down 43% (20,119). Travel was also much lower from Malaysia (down 32% or 13,022) and Thailand (down 37% or 4,181). The largest decline in arrivals outside of the South-East Asian region was from Korea (includes both the Republic of Korea and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea) (down 34% or 925). In contrast to these declines, the number of arrivals for employment increased from these countries in the year following the financial crisis. In 1998, employment travel to Western Australia was higher from Malaysia (up 67% or 60), Indonesia (up 50% or 56), Thailand (up 73% or 30) and Korea (up 19 arrivals, recording its first employment arrivals since 1996).

In 2000, the Fijian Government was overthrown by a military coup culminating in two mutinies. This had an effect on Western Australian travel to Fiji, which dropped 47% in 2001. Once order in Fiji was restored a year later, short-term travel to Fiji rebounded strongly, increasing by an annual average of 128% (960 departures) over the five years to 2006.

Terrorist attacks have been a major factor in reducing overseas travel around the world. The September 11 terrorist attacks on the United States of America in 2001 and the Indonesian (Bali) bombings in October 2002 and 2005 caused major declines in travel to these countries. Short-term travel from Western Australia to the United States of America dropped 27% (6,938 departures) in 2001. In the year following the 2002 Bali bombing, Western Australian travel to Indonesia, which was already at a seven year low, fell by a further 10% (7,584) in 2003. Some confidence in travel to Indonesia returned in 2004, with Western Australian departures increasing 65% (43,138). This confidence was short-lived, however, with the 2004 Boxing Day tsunami and 2005 Bali bombing hampering Western Australian travel to Indonesia in 2006 (down 36% or 40,045).

Natural and biological disasters such as the 2004 Boxing Day tsunami in the Indian Ocean, the 2006 Java earthquakes, the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) pandemic and the Avian Bird Flu also caused disruptions in travel patterns for many countries. The Boxing Day tsunami in the Indian Ocean affected travel to Western

MAJOR WORLD EVENTS continued

Australia from Thailand (down 13% or 1,529) and Sri Lanka (down 5% or 33) in 2005. Corresponding with the 2006 Java earthquake was a 5% (1,007) fall in arrivals from Indonesia in that year. The 2002 SARS pandemic, which originated in mainland China, saw a decrease of 31% (2,631) in Western Australian travel to China in the year following the outbreak. Similarly, the H5N1 strain of the Avian Bird Flu, which has caused a number of deaths since 2003, also affected travel to many Asian countries.

TRAVEL AND ACCOMMODATION COSTS

Generally, there is an inverse relationship between the cost of holidays and the number of people travelling on holiday. In six of the ten years between 1996–2006, the cost of overseas holidays moved in the opposite direction to the number of overseas holiday departures from Western Australia. This relationship was at its strongest between 2000–2002, when the cost of overseas holiday travel and accommodation increased 30% and short-term holiday departures dropped 15% (35,006). Other factors would have distorted this relationship however. For example, both the price and demand for overseas travel fell in 2003, mainly due to the impact of the 2002 Bali bombing. Also, since 2004, stronger employment and income growth in Western Australia (as well as a higher $A) would have bolstered the demand for overseas holiday travel, despite higher prices.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES

Connected to the cost of overseas travel, the value of a country's currency also influences its overseas travel patterns. Movements in the value of the Australian Dollar ($A) are followed by very similar movements in the number of overseas holiday departures from Western Australia, although holiday travel tends to lag behind currency movements by about one year. Accommodating for the one year lag, the value of the $A against the $US fell 20% in average annual terms from 1999–2002, while the number of holiday departures from Western Australia dropped 24% (55,530) from 2000–2003. Likewise, after this period, the value of the $A grew 48% from 2002 to 2005, while the number of holiday departures increased 76% (135,078) from 2003 to 2006.

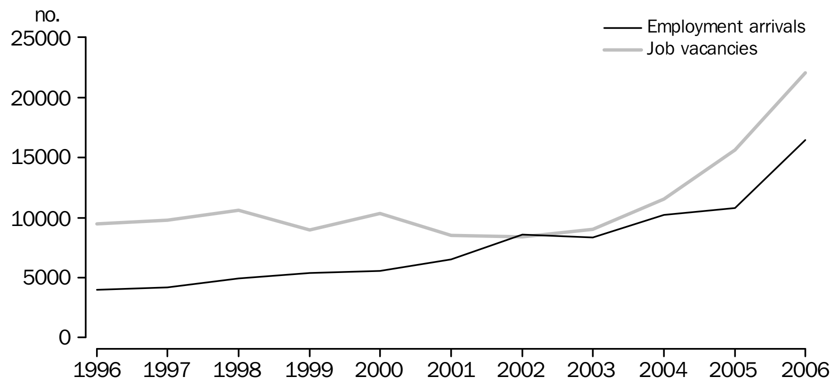
GOVERNMENT POLICY

In 1996, the Australian Government implemented a new temporary business visa (Visa 457) allowing people from overseas to work in Australia for up to four years. Between its introduction and 2005, short-term employment arrivals to Western Australia rose 172% (6,825) to 10,785. As a direct response to nationwide labour shortages, Visa 457 was amended in April 2005 to allow more short-term workers into the country, which contributed to a rise of 53% (5,667) in employment arrivals to Western Australia in 2006. As at 30 June 2006, there were 11,237 Visa 457 holders in Western Australia.

The recent growth in employment arrivals has not been enough to meet the increasing number of job vacancies in Western Australia. In 2003, employment arrivals totalled 8,332, a shortfall of 718 arrivals compared to the number of job vacancies on offer during the year (9,050). Over the three years to 2006, employment arrivals grew by a much lower rate than job vacancies, 32% (2,707) compared to 41% (3,425) growth in job vacancies per year. This increased the shortfall to 5,623 in 2006, with 16,452 employment arrivals and 22,075 job vacancies.

GOVERNMENT POLICY continued

SHORT-TERM OVERSEAS EMPLOYMENT ARRIVALS AND JOB VACANCIES, Western Australia



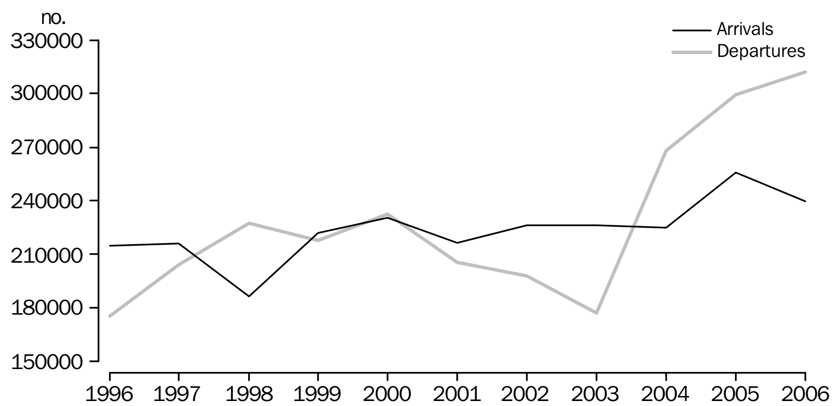
Source: ABS data available on request, Overseas Arrivals and Departures, Australia, cat. no. 3401.0; and Job Vacancies, Australia, cat. no. 6354.0.

MAJOR CHANGES IN SHORT-TERM OVERSEAS TRAVEL

HOLIDAY TRAVEL

The pattern of overseas travel to and from Western Australia has been shaped over the last ten years by movements in the holiday travel component of total travel. Holiday travel accounts for half of all short-term overseas travel to and from the state. The number of Western Australians departing on overseas holidays has grown to record levels in recent years, while international holidaymaker numbers coming to Western Australia have grown more modestly — holiday departures up 78% (136,769) and holiday arrivals up 12% (24,775) between 1996–2006. There has also been a shift in the destinations to which Western Australians have travelled and the countries from which tourists have come to holiday in Western Australia.

SHORT-TERM OVERSEAS HOLIDAY TRAVEL, Western Australia



Source: ABS data available on request, Overseas Arrivals and Departures, Australia, cat. no. 3401.0.

HOLIDAY TRAVEL continued

SHORT-TERM OVERSEAS HOLIDAY ARRIVALS

Until recently, Indonesia was one of Western Australia's major sources of overseas tourists. In 1996, 17% (35,960) of holiday arrivals to Western Australia were from Indonesia, second only to Singapore with 22% (46,626). By 2006, only 3% (7,730) of total holiday arrivals were from Indonesia. Tourists from the United Kingdom recorded the largest increase over the last ten years, with the proportion of holidaymakers from the United Kingdom rising from 10% (20,511) in 1996 to 26% (63,355) in 2006.

In 1998, just one year after the onset of the Asian financial crisis, total holiday arrivals to Western Australia dropped 14% (29,475). This slump was almost entirely the result of less holiday travel from Indonesia (down 16,404 or 56%) and Malaysia (down 11,069 or 42%), as well as declines from Thailand (down 4,048 or 49%), Singapore (down 2,409 or 5%), Japan (down 1,778 or 6%) and Korea (down 428 or 49%). Despite the number of holiday arrivals recovering for most countries in 1999 (total arrivals up 35,478 or 19%), the downturn in holidaymakers from Indonesia continued, with arrivals dropping 13% (1,622) in that year.

In 2001, there was a notable downturn in holiday travel to Western Australia from Japan (down 23% or 8,001) and Singapore (down 11% or 5,588), which coincided with declines in the value of the Japanese Yen and Singapore Dollar. The drop in holiday arrivals from these countries accounted for almost all of the fall in total arrivals to Western Australia during the year (down 6% or 14,031). The average value of the Japanese Yen and Singapore Dollar were at lows against the $A in 2001, having dropped 14% and 15% respectively from 1999. However, in 2002, the Yen (up 8%) and Singapore Dollar (up 2%) appreciated against the $A, which saw a recovery in holiday travel from Japan (up 18% or 4,607), but the marginal rise in the Singapore Dollar was not enough to encourage more holiday travel from Singapore (down 2% or 1,051).

Western Australia experienced a surge in overseas visitors in 2005, with holiday arrivals increasing 14% (30,843) to a record high of 255,763 arrivals. About half of this growth was attributed to holiday travel from Singapore (up 44% or 15,416). However this growth was short-lived as holiday arrivals from Singapore dropped 30% (15,088) in 2006.

SHORT-TERM OVERSEAS HOLIDAY DEPARTURES

Overseas holiday costs appears to have had a greater effect on Western Australian travel between 1996–2002 than in later years, mainly due to a stagnating local economy during that time. In the two years to 2002, Western Australians departing on overseas holidays fell 15% (35,006), as the cost of overseas holiday travel and accommodation rose 30%. However, since 2003, with the state economy improving rapidly, the cost of holiday travel and accommodation had much less of an effect. Between 2003–2006, overseas holiday departures from Western Australia grew 76% (135,078), despite a rise in travel and accommodation prices of 5%.

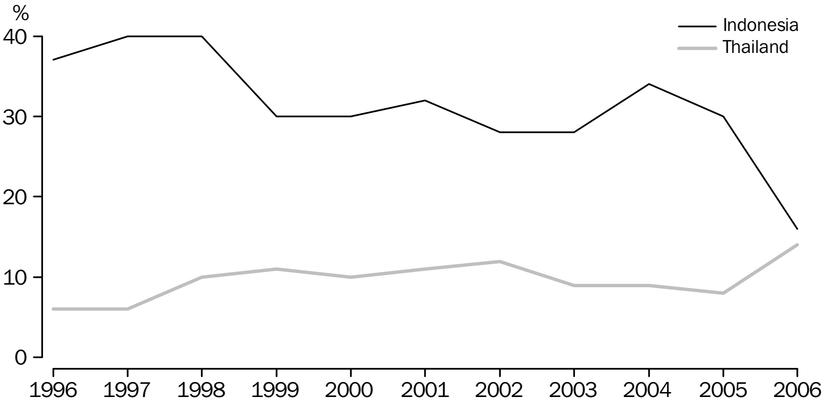
There has been some change in the preferred overseas holiday destinations of Western Australians in the last ten years. In 1996, almost half of all holiday departures were either to Indonesia (37%) or the United Kingdom (12%). Indonesia, despite remaining the most preferred holiday destination, lost many holidaymakers from Western Australia since the two Bali bombings. After the latest bombing in 2005, there was a drop in the proportion of Western Australian holiday departures to Indonesia from 30% (90,441) in

HOLIDAY TRAVEL continued

SHORT-TERM OVERSEAS HOLIDAY DEPARTURES *continued*

2005 to 16% (51,271) in 2006. It appears as though many Western Australians substituted holiday travel from Indonesia to Thailand, as the proportion of holiday travel to Thailand rose from 8% (25,113) in 2005 to 14% (43,656) in 2006.

SHORT-TERM OVERSEAS HOLIDAY DEPARTURES TO INDONESIA AND THAILAND, Proportion of total holiday departures, Western Australia



Source: ABS data available on request, Overseas Arrivals and Departures, Australia, cat. no. 3401.0.

After the terrorist attacks in the United States of America on 11 September 2001, Western Australians became increasingly cautious about travelling overseas and holiday travel decreased to most major destinations. Total holiday departures decreased by an average of 8% (18,510) per year between 2000–2003. Holiday departures to the United States of America dropped 47% (5,295) in 2001. In 2002, departures to the popular holiday destinations of Indonesia, Singapore and Malaysia decreased by a combined 15% (18,268) — a decline also influenced by the SARS threat in the region. There was no recovery in travel to South-East Asia in the following year (2003), as the October 2002 Bali bombing, SARS and the Marriott Hotel bombing in Jakarta continued to deter many would be travellers. The combined effect of these events saw a 14% (14,721) decrease in departures to Indonesia, Singapore and Malaysia in 2003. Holiday travel to Thailand (down 35% or 8,566) and the United Kingdom (down 6% or 1,158) were also much lower during the year.

After 2003, overseas holiday travel from Western Australia rose at a rapid rate. In 2004, 51% more Western Australians departed on overseas holidays than a year earlier, with travel increasing to all major destinations, including a major recovery to the South-East Asian region. Holiday travel to Indonesia alone increased 83% (41,633) in 2004. By 2005, holiday travel recovered to all major destinations, although travel to Indonesia fell marginally (down 2%), possibly due to the effects of the Boxing Day tsunami at the end of 2004. Holiday travel to Indonesia continued to suffer after the second Bali bombing in October 2005, with holiday travel to Indonesia declining 43% (39,170) in 2006. Overall, since 2003, Western Australian holiday travel increased the most to Thailand (up 174% or 27,705), Singapore (up 114% or 16,361) and Malaysia (up 171% or 15,514).

VISITING FRIENDS OR RELATIVES

In each year between 1996–2006, the number of arrivals to Western Australia for the purpose of visiting friends or relatives has exceeded the number leaving Western Australia for the same purpose. Over the last few years, however, the number of locals departing overseas to visit friends or relatives has grown much faster than those coming to Western Australia to visit friends or relatives, which has almost closed the gap between the two. Like holiday travel, overseas visitor travel to and from Western Australia has reached ten-year highs in the last two years.

SHORT-TERM OVERSEAS VISITOR TRAVEL, Western Australia

Source: ABS data available on request, Overseas Arrivals and Departures, Australia, cat. no. 3401.0.

SHORT-TERM OVERSEAS VISITOR ARRIVALS

A large number of people from the United Kingdom visit friends or relatives in Western Australia. This is not surprising given that the United Kingdom (comprising England, Scotland and Wales) accounts for well over one-third (39% in 2006) of Western Australian residents born overseas. Over the ten years to 2006, travellers from the United Kingdom made up over 35% of total visitor arrivals to Western Australia. In 2006, there were 52,678 travellers from the United Kingdom, representing 38% of total visitor arrivals during the year. The second largest proportion of travellers visiting friends or relatives were from New Zealand in 2006 (12% of total visitor arrivals or 17,110 persons). Almost one-tenth (9%) of overseas born Western Australian residents were born in New Zealand in 2006.

After two years of decline, there was a steady increase in overseas residents visiting friends or relatives in Western Australia from 2002–2006. Visitor arrivals dropped by an average of 6% (7,451) per year between 2000–2002, mainly due to large falls in visitors from New Zealand (down 5,181 or 30%), the United Kingdom (down 2,526 or 6%) and Malaysia (down 1,550 or 21%). From 2002–2006, total visitor arrivals increased by an average of 8% (8,004) per year, with a large rebound in travellers from the United Kingdom (up 11,543 or 28%), New Zealand (up 5,237 or 44%) and Malaysia (up 1,623 or 29%).

SHORT-TERM OVERSEAS VISITOR DEPARTURES

Similar to inbound visitor travel, the United Kingdom was the major destination for Western Australians travelling overseas to visit friends or relatives over the ten years to 2006. About one-in-five visitor departures over this time were to the United Kingdom, although the proportion of departures decreased slightly. In 2006, 21% of Western Australian travellers visited friends or relatives in the United Kingdom, compared to 24%

VISITING FRIENDS OR RELATIVES continued

SHORT-TERM OVERSEAS VISITOR DEPARTURES *continued*

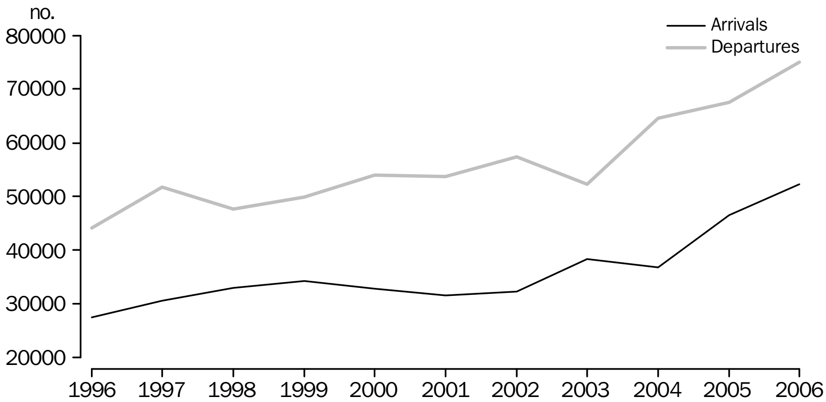
ten years earlier. This decline could well be linked to the fall in the proportion of Western Australian residents born in the United Kingdom, down from 45% in 1996 to 41% in 2006. New Zealand ranked second in terms of the proportion of total visitor departures from Western Australia in 2006 with 16%.

The number of Western Australians visiting friends or relatives overseas has surged in the last three years. Following a fall of 9% (8,760) in 2001, the number of visitor departures from Western Australia rose 12% (10,756) per year on average between 2002–2006. Visitor departures increased to most countries over this period, with the major increases being to New Zealand (up 8,451 or 70%) and the United Kingdom (up 7,463 or 36%).

BUSINESS TRAVEL

The Western Australian economy relies heavily on international markets for the goods and services it produces, with around 40% of total production shipped offshore each year. As a result, many Western Australians travel overseas on business and many business people come to Western Australia (although not nearly to the same extent). Over the last ten years, there were around twice as many business departures from Western Australia than business arrivals. The gap between the two widened slightly over the ten years to 2006, as the number of business departures (up 30,790 or 70%) grew by more than the number of business arrivals (up 24,797 or 90%).

SHORT-TERM OVERSEAS BUSINESS TRAVEL, Western Australia



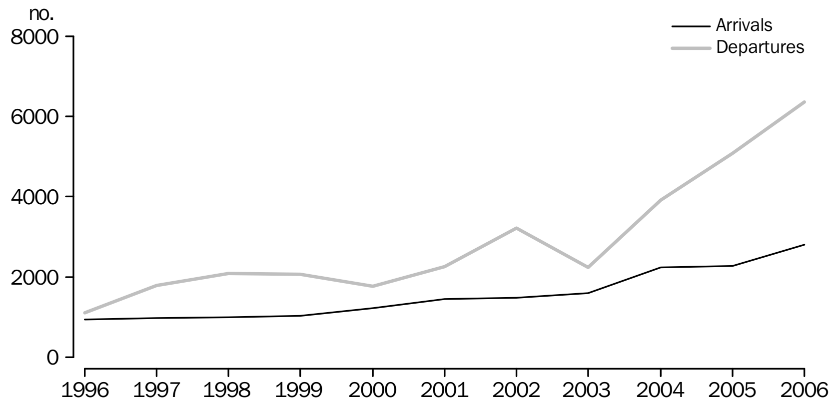
Source: ABS data available on request, Overseas Arrivals and Departures, Australia, cat. no. 3401.0.

A shift has occurred in the countries with which Western Australia shares its business travel. In 1996, business travel between Western Australia and Indonesia totalled 10,350, with 2,050 arrivals and 8,300 departures, accounting for 14% of total business travel in that year. By 2006, business travel to and from Indonesia dropped 16% to a total of 8,649, with 1,987 arrivals and 6,662 departures, accounting for a much lower 7% of total business travel. This decline was mainly the result of the emergence of China as a major trading partner for Western Australia, as well as the reduced confidence in travelling to Indonesia. Western Australia currently shares the largest proportion of its business travel with Singapore, accounting for 15% (18,630) of total business arrivals (8,278) and departures (10,352) in 2006.

BUSINESS TRAVEL continued

The stronger economic ties between Western Australia and the rapidly growing Chinese economy has been reflected in business travel between the two countries. The state's total trade with China (exports and imports) more than tripled (up 266% or $4.2 billion) between 1996–2004 and business travel (arrivals plus departures) rose 200% (4,101). In the following two years (2004–2006), growth accelerated even further, with international trade up 128% ($7.3 billion) and business travel up 49% (3,020 arrivals and departures) between these two nations.

SHORT-TERM OVERSEAS BUSINESS TRAVEL TO AND FROM CHINA, Western Australia



Source: ABS data available on request, Overseas Arrivals and Departures, Australia, cat. no. 3401.0.

Business travel between Western Australia and India has also grown substantially in recent years. From 2002–2006, business travel between the two nations rose 177% (1,674), as Western Australia's trade with India grew from $490 million to $4.4 billion over the period.

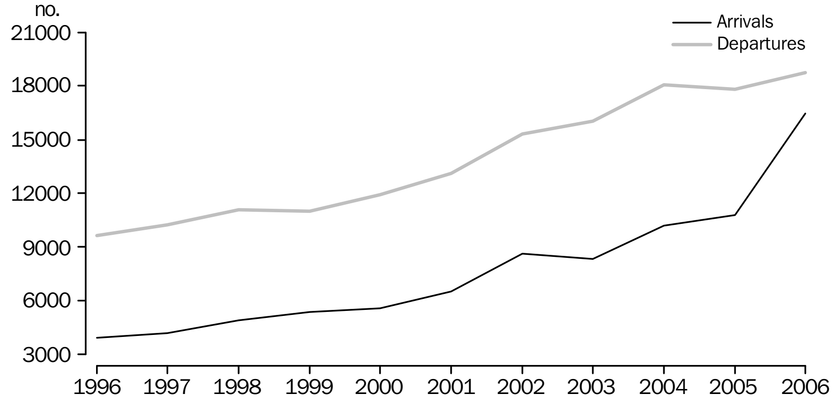
Another country recording a greater level of business travel with Western Australia was the United Arab Emirates. In 1996, the United Arab Emirates ranked as Western Australia's thirty-first highest business travel partner with 283 arrivals and departures combined. However, by 2006, its rank rose to fourteenth highest, with 2,225 business arrivals and departures, an increase of 194 (69%) arrivals and departures per year on average.

EMPLOYMENT TRAVEL

Western Australia has experienced seven years of sustained economic growth since 2000, which has increased the proportion of people employed in the state. As economic growth accelerated, particularly over the last three years, the state's labour supply was placed under increased pressure to meet labour demand, resulting in a major shortage of skilled workers in the state. The movement of people to and from the state for short-term employment was influenced by these labour market conditions. For example, the number of employment departures from Western Australia to other countries stagnated from 2004, as job prospects and wages became more favourable in the state. On the other hand, many short-term overseas workers arrived in the state in 2006, due to greater employment opportunities and changes to immigration policy. In the four years to 2006, job vacancies grew 164% (13,700) in Western Australia.

EMPLOYMENT TRAVEL continued

SHORT-TERM OVERSEAS EMPLOYMENT TRAVEL, Western Australia



Source: ABS data available on request, Overseas Arrivals and Departures, Australia, cat. no. 3401.0.

Over the last ten years, there have been more short-term employment arrivals to, and departures from, Western Australia. Outward employment travel rose by an average of 9% (909 departures) per year between 1996–2006. However, as wages and the severity of the state's skills shortage grew, the rate of employment departures decelerated to 2% (352) per year in the last two years of the period (2004–2006).

Inward overseas employment travel grew 17% (683 arrivals) per year on average between 1996–2005. After the amendment to the temporary business visa (Visa 457) in 2005, employment travel to Western Australia increased 53% (5,667 arrivals) during the year. The rise in employment arrivals was consistent with research conducted by the Parliamentary Library of Australia, which found that the number of Visa 457s issued for Australia increased 44% from 2004–05 to 2005–06 — this increase relates only to primary 457 visas issued to workers, excluding any family members which may arrive with them.

SHORT-TERM OVERSEAS EMPLOYMENT ARRIVALS

There has been considerable change in the countries from which people have come to Western Australia for short-term employment. In 1996, the majority of workers came from either New Zealand (41% or 1,604) or the United Kingdom (21% or 831). However, over the next ten years, the proportion of workers from New Zealand and the United Kingdom fell to 17% (2,864) and 13% (2,063) respectively in 2006. It was mainly an increase in workers from Singapore, Malaysia and Indonesia in the last three years that has reduced these shares. The proportion of employment arrivals from Singapore rose from 5% (446) in 2003 to 17% (2,745) in 2006. The proportion of workers from Malaysia increased from 3% (284) to 8% (1,340), and rose from 4% (373) to 7% (1,158) from Indonesia over the three years. In number terms, there were 2,299 more arrivals from Singapore, 1,056 more arrivals from Malaysia and 785 more arrivals from Indonesia between 2003–2006.

SHORT-TERM OVERSEAS EMPLOYMENT DEPARTURES

The number of Western Australians travelling abroad for short-term employment levelled off between 2004–2006, as the shortage of skilled workers increased and local incomes became more internationally competitive. The number of employment departures from Western Australia rose by an average of 2% (352) per year over this time, much lower than the 9% (909) average annual growth over the entire ten years to 2006. The

EMPLOYMENT TRAVEL continued

SHORT-TERM OVERSEAS EMPLOYMENT DEPARTURES *continued*

countries to which Western Australian residents have travelled have remained much the same over the last ten years, although a couple of countries have grown in significance.

In 2006, Singapore was the most popular short-term employment destination for Western Australians, accounting for 13% (2,396) of total overseas departures in that year. Indonesia (10% or 1,871) and the United Kingdom (10% or 1,794) were the next most popular destinations. These countries were also the main destinations for short-term employment in 1996: the United Kingdom (15% or 1,448), Singapore (15% or 1,418) and Indonesia (10% or 966).

An increasing number of Western Australians have travelled to the United Arab Emirates for short-term employment in recent years. With oil reserves diminishing, the United Arab Emirates has begun restructuring its economy toward alternate industries such as developing Dubai into a major tourist destination and transport hub. The associated engineering and building construction activity has brought many international workers to Dubai, attracted by higher incomes and tax-free employment packages. In 1996, there were 36 short-term employment departures from Western Australia to the United Arab Emirates. Since then, employment departures have grown by an average of 63 per year to 664 departures in 2006. As a result, the proportion of Western Australian employment travel to the United Arab Emirates has risen from 0.4% in 1996 to 3.5% in 2006.

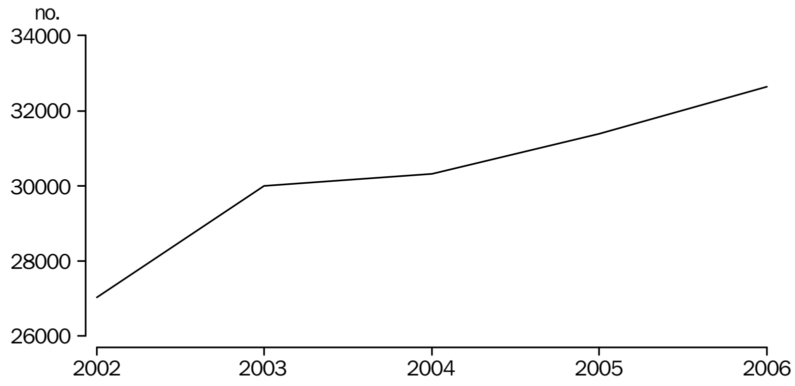
Sub-Saharan Africa (excluding South Africa and Mauritius) has also emerged as a major destination for Western Australian short-term employment. Between 1996–2006, the proportion of Western Australian employment departures to this region tripled from 2% (205) to 6% (1,056) of total departures. According to the International Monetary Fund, real GDP growth in Sub-Saharan Africa increased from 3.5% in 2002 to 5.4% in 2006, while peaking at 6.0% in 2004 and 2005. Economic growth in this region has been driven by strong world demand for oil. Higher oil prices have led to greater investment in expanding oil production and export capacity in Sub-Saharan Africa. Large resource-based projects, primarily funded by Chinese investment, have attracted many workers to the region to assist with the development of new oil fields and refineries, iron ore mines and other infrastructure such as railways and ports.

EDUCATION TRAVEL

Western Australia has attracted an increasing number of international students in recent times. According to the Australian Department of Education, Science and Training, the number of overseas student enrolments rose 21% (5,596) in Western Australia, from 27,034 to 32,630 between 2002–2006. Just over half of all enrolments become commencements, and hence, international student commencements rose from 16,267 to 17,752 (up 9% or 1,465) over the shorter time period of 2004–2006. These figures are consistent with the solid growth shown in overseas education arrivals to Western Australia since 1998.

EDUCATION TRAVEL
continued

OVERSEAS STUDENT ENROLMENTS, Western Australia



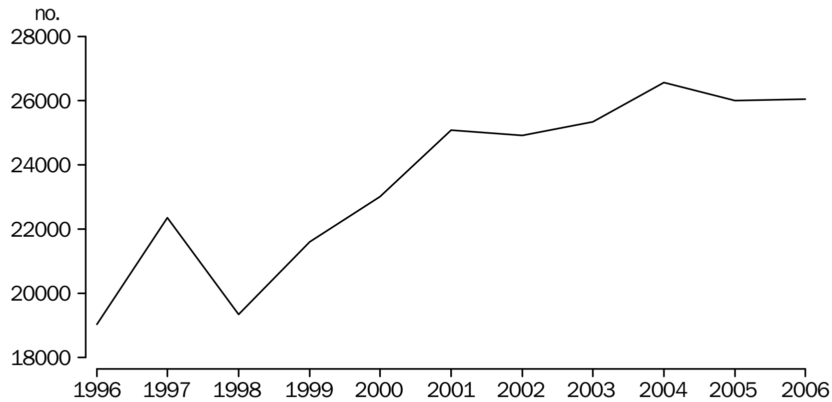
Source: Australian Department of Education, Science and Training, Australian Education International, Market Indicator Data 2002–2006.

Furthermore, far fewer Western Australians travel overseas for education purposes than overseas students arrive in the state (5,817 compared to 26,050 in 2006), although the number of residents departing for overseas education have grown significantly in the last three years.

SHORT-TERM OVERSEAS EDUCATION ARRIVALS

The number of education arrivals to Western Australia has risen over the last ten years, from 19,042 in 1996 to 26,050 in 2006, mainly from China (up 1,849% or 1,442), Korea (up 102% or 766), Singapore (up 18% or 696) and Japan (up 45% or 623). There has been some fluctuation however and a distinct slowing in the rate of growth since 2001. A spike in education arrivals occurred in 1997, due to sharp increases in overseas students from Indonesia (up 32% or 1,505) and Malaysia (up 52% or 1,276). In the following year (1998), education arrivals declined from these two countries: Indonesia (down 34% or 2,109) and Malaysia (down 31% or 1,173). Then, from 1998–2001, education arrivals increased strongly at an average rate of 10% (1,910) per year, with the United States of America (up 147% or 1,099), Singapore (up 11% or 493) and China (up 174% or 489) accounting for a large proportion of the increased travel. From 2001–2006, however, growth in education arrivals to Western Australia slowed considerably, increasing by an average of only 1% (195) per year.

SHORT-TERM OVERSEAS EDUCATION ARRIVALS, Western Australia



Source: ABS data available on request, Overseas Arrivals and Departures, Australia, cat. no. 3401.0.

EDUCATION TRAVEL continued

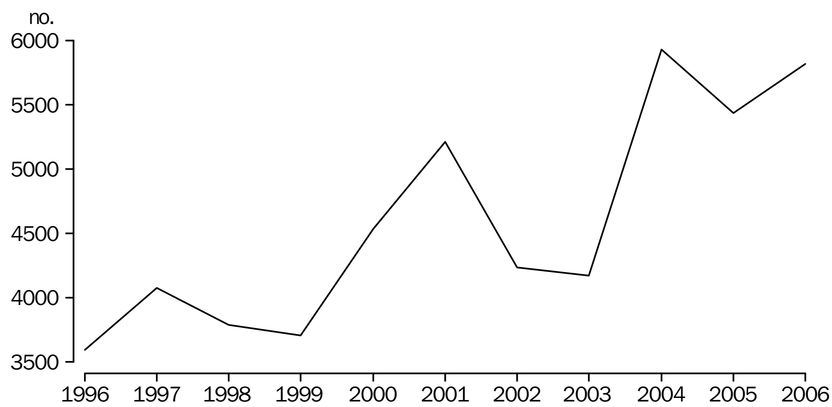
SHORT-TERM OVERSEAS EDUCATION ARRIVALS *continued*

In 2006, there were 26,050 international students arriving in Western Australia, with over one-quarter coming from the countries of Singapore (17% or 4,463) and Malaysia (11% or 2,879). This represents a considerable change from 1996, when one-in-four education arrivals were from Indonesia (24% or 4,648). After reaching a high of 6,153 arrivals in 1997, students arriving from Indonesia have dropped steadily, at an average of 7% (460) per year over the subsequent nine years.

SHORT-TERM OVERSEAS EDUCATION DEPARTURES

The number of Western Australians travelling overseas for education has been sporadic over the last ten years, although there has been a general upward trend. Between 1996–2006, education departures from Western Australia rose 62% (2,222) to 5,817. Three major peaks in education departures occurred in 1997 (4,078), 2001 (5,211) and 2004 (5,925), with each peak steadily increasing over time. Some of the more notable periods of increase in education departures occurred between 1999–2001 (up 41% or 1,502) and in 2004 (up 42% or 1,754). From 1999 to 2001, there were large rises in Western Australian students travelling to Indonesia (up 127% or 482), New Zealand (up 162% or 386) and Malaysia (up 684% or 383). In 2004, the destinations of China (up 1,041% or 302) and New Zealand (up 93% or 267) attracted more Western Australian students.

SHORT-TERM OVERSEAS EDUCATION DEPARTURES, Western Australia



Source: ABS data available on request, Overseas Arrivals and Departures, Australia, cat. no. 3401.0.

There has been some change in the destinations to which Western Australians have travelled for overseas education in the last decade. In 1996, over one-in-five education departures were to Indonesia (21% or 758), while 10% (376) went to Singapore and 9% (335) went to the United Kingdom. However, by 2006, apart from a high proportion of Western Australians still travelling to Singapore (21% or 1,245) for education, New Zealand (9% or 534) and Japan (8% or 467) emerged as the second and third most popular destinations for Western Australian students.

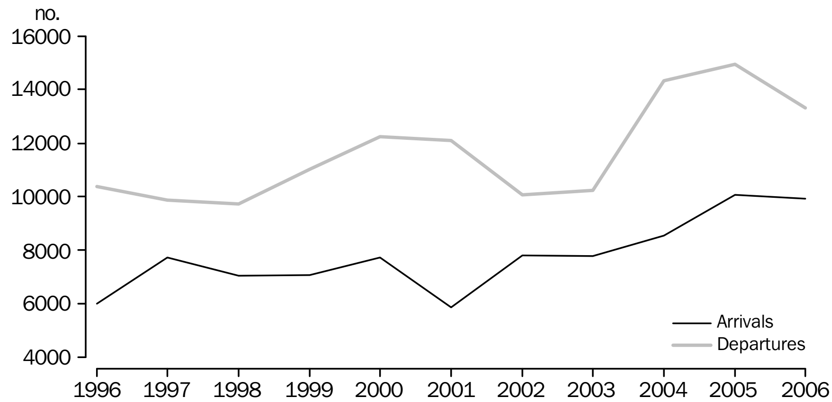
CONVENTION OR CONFERENCE TRAVEL

Western Australia's booming economy has meant that business, government and educational institutions have had more funds available to send people overseas to attend conventions or conferences. Conversely, Western Australia's rising international trade in minerals and energy has seen more people come to the state for conventions or

CONVENTION OR CONFERENCE TRAVEL continued

conferences. The completion of the Perth Convention Centre in 2004 also coincided with more convention or conference arrivals after that time. Given Perth's relative isolation from the rest of the world, it is not surprising that there are more convention or conference departures from Western Australia than there are arrivals for the same purpose. In 2006, there were 13,312 Western Australians departing for overseas conventions or conferences and 9,943 persons arriving from overseas for conventions or conferences held in Western Australia — 25% (3,369) less arrivals than departures.

SHORT-TERM OVERSEAS CONVENTION OR CONFERENCE TRAVEL, Western Australia



Source: ABS data available on request, Overseas Arrivals and Departures, Australia, cat. no. 3401.0.

SHORT-TERM OVERSEAS CONVENTION OR CONFERENCE DEPARTURES

After a short period of decline, the number of departures from Western Australia for overseas conventions or conferences jumped 46% (4,734) between 2003–2005, followed by a fall of 11% (1,647) in 2006. The largest annual increase was recorded in 2004, with convention or conference departures rising 40% (4,097) to 14,322. This increase was across many destinations, with the most prominent being the United Kingdom (up 115% or 599), New Zealand (up 29% or 446), Malaysia (up 71% or 425) and the United States of America (up 22% or 424). Growth in convention or conference departures slowed in the following year (2005), increasing by only 4% (637). The fall in convention or conference departures in 2006 was mainly due to less travel to New Zealand (down 44% or 945), Malaysia (down 30% or 265) and Singapore (down 15% or 227).

Over the last ten years, there were notably more Western Australians attending conventions or conferences in China. Between 1996–2006, convention or conference travel to China increased by an average of 79 departures (158%) per year, to become the state's fifth largest convention or conference destination in 2006. Much of this rise can be attributed to the strengthening of trade relations between the two nations. Despite the emergence of China, the United States of America remained the most popular destination for Western Australian overseas convention or conference travel, accounting for 19% (2,475) of total convention or conference departures in 2006. The next most popular destinations were Singapore (10% or 1,338) and New Zealand (9% or 1,201).

CONVENTION OR CONFERENCE TRAVEL continued

SHORT-TERM OVERSEAS CONVENTION OR CONFERENCE ARRIVALS

Recently, the pattern of people arriving from overseas for conventions or conferences in Western Australia has been similar to that of Western Australians departing for conventions or conferences overseas. Between 2003–2005, convention or conference arrivals rose 29% (2,291) and dropped 1% (123) in 2006. In 2004, the year the Perth Convention Centre was opened, overseas arrivals to Western Australia for conventions or conferences rose 10% (753). In the following year (2005), they grew by a further 18%(1,538).

People arriving from China to attend conventions or conferences in Western Australia grew strongly between 1996–2006, rising by an average of 43 (83%) per year, with much of the growth occurring since 2002. In 2006, New Zealand accounted for the largest proportion of convention or conference arrivals to Western Australia (18% or 1,794), followed by the United Kingdom (11% or 1,110) and the United States of America (10% or 1,031).

LIST OF TABLES

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1 SUMMARY OF STATISTICAL INDICATORS, Australian comparison

Indicator	Reference period	WESTERN AUSTRALIA Current figure	WESTERN AUSTRALIA Change from previous period (%)	WESTERN AUSTRALIA Change from same period previous year (%)	AUSTRALIA Current figure	AUSTRALIA Change from previous period (%)	AUSTRALIA Change from same period previous year (%)
State final demand: Trend(a) *($m)*	Sep qtr 2007	30 972	2.0	11.1	263 460	1.2	5.4
Prices							
Consumer Price Index, All groups: Original *(index)*	Sep qtr 2007	158.9	0.6	2.6	158.6	0.7	1.9
Wage Price Index, Total hourly rates of pay excluding bonuses: Original *(index)*	Sep qtr 2007	118.5	1.8	5.7	115.4	1.3	4.2
Established house price index: Original(b) *(index)*	Sep qtr 2007	193.6	1.1	2.8	123.9	3.5	10.6
Project home price index: Original(b) *(index)*	Sep qtr 2007	147.6	0.9	3.9	116.2	1.1	3.8
Price index of materials used in house building, All groups: Original(c) *(index)*	Sep qtr 2007	147.9	1.4	4.7	149.6	0.9	2.7
Consumption							
Retail turnover: Trend *($m)*	October 2007	2 143.6	0.4	8.2	19 928.2	0.7	8.0
Sales of new motor vehicles: Trend *(no.)*	November 2007	10 283	—	5.5	89 182	0.6	8.1
Investment and finance							
Private new capital expenditure: Trend(a) *($m)*	Sep qtr 2007	5 182	1.4	13.9	20 406	1.2	12.2
Commercial finance commitments: Original *($m)*	October 2007	2 796	–0.1	–8.6	43 719	13.0	15.4
Personal finance commitments: Original *($m)*	October 2007	1 097	16.7	7.7	7 292	22.2	9.7
Housing finance commitments: Trend(d) *(no.)*	October 2007	8 105	–1.7	–7.1	62 713	–0.9	–1.5
Construction							
Houses approved: Trend *(no.)*	October 2007	1 447	–0.3	–15.6	9 353	1.3	3.7
New residential building activity commenced: Original *(no.)*	Jun qtr 2007	5 465	–3.5	–20.2	35 941	6.2	–3.7
New residential building activity yet to be done: Original *($m)*	Jun qtr 2007	2 976.9	0.2	19.3	14 857.6	1.2	8.7
Engineering construction activity commenced: Original *($m)*	Jun qtr 2007	2 229.6	–58.3	–72.2	13 177.8	–16.2	–20.7
Engineering construction activity yet to be done: Original *($m)*	Jun qtr 2007	12 790.0	–13.3	10.2	32 537.4	–1.4	31.9
International merchandise trade							
Exports: Original *($m)*	Sep qtr 2007	15 313	–2.1	3.7	42 885	1.0	0.6
Imports: Original *($m)*	Sep qtr 2007	6 217	4.4	28.7	47 583	4.2	7.0
Mining and energy							
Total mineral exploration expenditure: Trend *($m)*	Sep qtr 2007	271.4	10.6	53.9	523.5	7.4	38.4
Total petroleum exploration expenditure: Original *($m)*	Sep qtr 2007	546.5	4.0	88.5	698.3	–4.6	42.9
Agriculture							
Exports of wheat: Original *($m)*	Sep qtr 2007	354.4	7.1	–33.5	546.2	29.0	–45.0
Exports of wool: Original *($m)*	Sep qtr 2007	54.4	–53.9	–50.5	501.8	–35.4	–6.0
Exports of live sheep: Original *($m)*	Sep qtr 2007	44.7	70.8	–38.6	65.7	73.3	–21.7
Tourism							
Short-term overseas visitor arrivals, By air on holiday *(no.)*	September 2007	19 317	8.2	21.2	209 965	–5.8	–4.0
Short-term holiday departures of residents, By air on holiday *(no.)*	September 2007	42 643	9.4	37.4	315 277	34.3	21.6
Labour market							
Number of persons employed full-time: Trend *('000)*	November 2007	805.9	0.1	4.9	7 577.3	0.2	3.0
Number of persons employed: Trend *('000)*	November 2007	1 119.6	—	3.7	10 559.8	0.1	2.5
Unemployment rate: Trend *(%)*	November 2007	3.4	–0.1 pts	0.1 pts	4.4	0.1 pts	–0.2 pts
Participation rate: Trend *(%)*	November 2007	68.4	–0.1 pts	0.9 pts	65.2	0.1 pts	0.4 pts
Estimated resident population *('000)*	Jun qtr 2007	2 105.8	0.5	2.3	21 017.2	0.3	1.5

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)
(a) Chain volume measures.
(b) Index for Perth and Weighted Average of 8 Capital Cities.
(c) Index for Perth and Weighted Average of 6 Capital Cities.
(d) Owner occupation housing.

2 COMPONENTS OF STATE FINAL DEMAND, Chain volume measures(a)

	2006			2007		
	June	*September*	*December*	*March*	*June*	*September*
TREND ($m)						
Final consumption expenditure						
General government	3 891	3 950	3 971	3 961	3 955	3 958
Households	13 267	13 451	13 665	13 865	14 052	14 232
Total final consumption expenditure	*17 158*	*17 401*	*17 636*	*17 826*	*18 007*	*18 190*
Private gross fixed capital formation						
Private business investment						
Machinery and equipment	2 652	2 617	2 741	np	np	np
Non-dwelling construction	3 289	3 447	3 678	np	np	np
Livestock	48	37	28	29	34	40
Intangible fixed assets	481	546	618	733	822	901
Total private business investment(b)	*6 463*	*6 643*	*7 063*	np	np	np
Dwellings	1 963	1 992	2 030	2 096	2 191	2 291
Ownership transfer costs	789	714	632	598	600	602
Total private gross fixed capital formation(b)	*9 219*	*9 352*	*9 727*	*10 518*	*11 166*	*11 563*
Public gross fixed capital formation						
Public corporations	616	612	634	np	np	np
General government	487	503	552	606	639	649
Total public gross fixed capital formation(b)	*1 101*	*1 114*	*1 187*	np	np	np
State final demand	**27 466**	**27 861**	**28 560**	**29 492**	**30 362**	**30 972**
TREND (percentage changes)						
Final consumption expenditure						
General government	1.9	1.5	0.5	–0.2	–0.2	0.1
Households	1.0	1.4	1.6	1.5	1.3	1.3
Total final consumption expenditure	*1.2*	*1.4*	*1.4*	*1.1*	*1.0*	*1.0*
Private gross fixed capital formation						
Private business investment						
Machinery and equipment	–3.8	–1.3	4.7	np	np	np
Non-dwelling construction	7.4	4.8	6.7	np	np	np
Livestock	12.7	–22.9	–24.3	3.6	17.2	17.6
Intangible fixed assets	13.7	13.5	13.2	18.6	12.1	9.6
Total private business investment(b)	*2.7*	*2.8*	*6.3*	np	np	np
Dwellings	2.2	1.5	1.9	3.3	4.5	4.6
Ownership transfer costs	0.5	–9.5	–11.5	–5.4	0.3	0.3
Total private gross fixed capital formation(b)	*2.4*	*1.4*	*4.0*	*8.1*	*6.2*	*3.5*
Public gross fixed capital formation						
Public corporations	–1.9	–0.6	3.6	np	np	np
General government	–0.6	3.3	9.7	9.8	5.4	1.6
Total public gross fixed capital formation(b)	*–1.4*	*1.2*	*6.6*	np	np	np
State final demand	**1.5**	**1.4**	**2.5**	**3.3**	**3.0**	**2.0**

np not published due to break in series
(a) Reference year for chain volume measures is 2005–06.
(b) Discrepancies may occur between sums of component items and totals due to rounding.

Source: Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product, cat. no. 5206.0.

COMPONENTS OF STATE FINAL DEMAND, Chain volume measures(a) *continued*

	2006			2007		
	June	*September*	*December*	*March*	*June*	*September*
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ($m)						
Final consumption expenditure						
General government	3 879	3 999	3 938	3 979	3 938	3 966
Households	13 254	13 440	13 670	13 906	14 003	14 258
Total final consumption expenditure	*17 133*	*17 439*	*17 608*	*17 885*	*17 941*	*18 224*
Private gross fixed capital formation						
Private business investment						
Machinery and equipment	2 724	2 520	2 681	3 043	3 280	3 066
Non-dwelling construction	3 722	3 048	3 717	4 190	4 373	4 475
Livestock	55	29	29	29	29	46
Intangible fixed assets	457	580	631	664	885	895
Total private business investment(b)	*6 943*	*6 177*	*7 058*	*7 926*	*8 567*	*8 482*
Dwellings	1 954	2 014	2 029	2 058	2 206	2 313
Ownership transfer costs	856	692	608	576	637	584
Total private gross fixed capital formation(b)	*9 765*	*8 884*	*9 695*	*10 560*	*11 410*	*11 379*
Public gross fixed capital formation						
Public corporations	637	602	598	595	568	493
General government	484	499	553	593	686	615
Total public gross fixed capital formation(b)	*1 117*	*1 101*	*1 151*	*1 187*	*1 254*	*1 108*
State final demand	**27 997**	**27 424**	**28 454**	**29 632**	**30 605**	**30 711**
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED (percentage changes)						
Final consumption expenditure						
General government	2.1	3.1	–1.5	1.0	–1.0	0.7
Households	1.0	1.4	1.7	1.7	0.7	1.8
Total final consumption expenditure	*1.3*	*1.8*	*1.0*	*1.6*	*0.3*	*1.6*
Private gross fixed capital formation						
Private business investment						
Machinery and equipment	–1.2	–7.5	6.4	13.5	7.8	–6.5
Non-dwelling construction	28.2	–18.1	21.9	12.7	4.4	2.3
Livestock	—	–47.3	—	—	—	58.6
Intangible fixed assets	10.4	26.9	8.8	5.2	33.3	1.1
Total private business investment(b)	*13.2*	*–11.0*	*14.3*	*12.3*	*8.1*	*–1.0*
Dwellings	2.6	3.1	0.7	1.4	7.2	4.9
Ownership transfer costs	11.5	–19.2	–12.1	–5.3	10.6	–8.3
Total private gross fixed capital formation(b)	*10.9*	*–9.0*	*9.1*	*8.9*	*8.0*	*–0.3*
Public gross fixed capital formation						
Public corporations	3.9	–5.5	–0.7	–0.5	–4.5	–13.2
General government	–2.0	3.1	10.8	7.2	15.7	–10.3
Total public gross fixed capital formation(b)	*1.1*	*–1.5*	*4.6*	*3.2*	*5.6*	*–11.6*
State final demand	**4.4**	**–2.0**	**3.8**	**4.1**	**3.3**	**0.3**

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)
(a) Reference year for chain volume measures is 2005–06.
(b) Discrepancies may occur between sums of component items and totals due to rounding.

Source: Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product, cat. no. 5206.0.

3 CONSUMER PRICE INDEX, By group—Perth

Reference period	All groups	Food	Alcohol and tobacco	Clothing and footwear	Housing	Household contents and services
FINANCIAL YEARS(a) *(index)*						
2004–2005	144.0	153.9	210.6	105.7	120.2	117.1
2005–2006	150.1	161.1	217.6	103.0	131.0	119.1
2006–2007	156.1	169.8	225.5	102.1	140.7	121.8
CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS FINANCIAL YEAR *(%)*						
2004–2005	3.2	2.7	3.2	–2.8	7.0	–0.8
2005–2006	4.2	4.7	3.3	–2.6	9.0	1.7
2006–2007	4.0	5.4	3.6	–0.9	7.4	2.3
QUARTERS(a) *(index)*						
2006						
June	153.2	166.4	220.3	101.7	135.2	119.4
September	154.9	169.3	223.5	101.6	138.7	120.9
December	155.5	170.4	224.3	102.8	139.7	122.4
2007						
March	155.8	168.0	225.7	101.7	141.3	120.6
June	158.0	171.3	228.3	102.3	142.9	123.2
September	158.9	173.5	231.4	101.8	145.1	121.0
CHANGE FROM SAME QUARTER PREVIOUS YEAR *(%)*						
2006						
June	4.7	6.3	2.9	–3.7	8.9	0.9
September	4.8	7.6	3.9	–3.6	9.3	1.6
December	4.4	6.7	3.9	–1.6	7.7	2.6
2007						
March	3.5	4.4	3.0	1.2	6.9	1.8
June	3.1	2.9	3.6	0.6	5.7	3.2
September	2.6	2.5	3.5	0.2	4.6	0.1
CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS QUARTER *(%)*						
2006						
June	1.8	3.4	0.5	1.2	2.3	0.8
September	1.1	1.7	1.5	–0.1	2.6	1.3
December	0.4	0.6	0.4	1.2	0.7	1.2
2007						
March	0.2	–1.4	0.6	–1.1	1.1	–1.5
June	1.4	2.0	1.2	0.6	1.1	2.2
September	0.6	1.3	1.4	–0.5	1.5	–1.8

(a) Unless otherwise specified, base of each index: 1989–90 = 100.0.
Source: Consumer Price Index, Australia, cat. no. 6401.0.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX, By group—Perth *continued*

Reference period	Health	Transportation	Communication	Recreation	Education	Financial and insurance services(a)
			FINANCIAL YEARS(b) *(index)*			
2004–2005	195.3	145.7	109.4	127.0	221.4	100.0
2005–2006	203.3	154.3	107.8	129.7	234.8	100.4
2006–2007	214.0	158.0	109.2	132.1	250.9	102.4
			CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS FINANCIAL YEAR *(%)*			
2004–2005	5.1	2.9	1.0	1.1	5.3	. .
2005–2006	4.1	5.9	–1.5	2.1	6.1	0.4
2006–2007	5.3	2.4	1.3	1.9	6.9	2.0
			QUARTERS(b) *(index)*			
2006						
June	210.4	158.9	107.9	130.3	241.6	102.1
September	209.6	159.8	108.6	130.6	241.2	101.8
December	208.7	154.7	109.2	134.3	241.2	102.6
2007						
March	216.0	156.0	109.4	132.2	260.5	102.3
June	221.6	161.5	109.5	131.3	260.5	103.0
September	221.0	160.4	109.5	133.3	260.3	104.5
			CHANGE FROM SAME QUARTER PREVIOUS YEAR *(%)*			
2006						
June	4.9	7.9	–0.9	2.5	6.0	2.1
September	5.2	5.1	0.5	1.2	5.8	3.1
December	5.0	1.7	1.8	3.9	5.8	2.1
2007						
March	5.5	1.3	1.5	1.5	7.8	2.0
June	5.3	1.6	1.5	0.8	7.8	0.9
September	5.4	0.4	0.8	2.1	7.9	2.7
			CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS QUARTER *(%)*			
2006						
June	2.7	3.2	0.1	—	—	1.8
September	–0.4	0.6	0.6	0.2	–0.2	–0.3
December	–0.4	–3.2	0.6	2.8	—	0.8
2007						
March	3.5	0.8	0.2	–1.6	8.0	–0.3
June	2.6	3.5	0.1	–0.7	—	0.7
September	–0.3	–0.7	—	1.5	–0.1	1.5

. . not applicable

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Base of index: June quarter 2005 = 100.0.

(b) Unless otherwise specified, base of each index: 1989–90 = 100.0.

Source: Consumer Price Index, Australia, cat. no. 6401.0.

4 WAGE PRICE INDEX(a), Total hourly rates of pay excluding bonuses: **Original**

	2006			2007			CHANGE FROM	
	June	*September*	*December*	*March*	*June*	*September*	*Previous quarter*	*Same quarter previous year*
	index	index	index	index	index	index	%	%
Western Australia	**110.7**	**112.1**	**113.3**	**114.5**	**116.4**	**118.5**	**1.8**	**5.7**
Sector								
Private	111.0	112.5	113.4	114.8	116.6	119.2	2.2	6.0
Public	109.6	110.6	112.8	113.4	115.5	116.3	0.7	5.2
Selected industries								
Mining	113.9	116.8	117.0	118.4	120.6	123.9	2.7	6.1
Manufacturing	111.2	111.9	112.7	114.3	117.1	120.2	2.6	7.4
Construction	124.7	125.6	126.5	129.8	130.7	133.6	2.2	6.4
Retail trade	109.0	111.0	111.6	113.1	113.6	116.5	2.6	5.0
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	106.6	108.8	109.0	110.8	113.3	114.4	1.0	5.1
Transport and storage	108.1	109.4	110.4	111.3	114.0	116.6	2.3	6.6
Property and business services	110.5	111.9	113.5	114.0	117.3	118.3	0.9	5.7
Government administration and defence	108.5	108.8	112.6	112.8	115.8	116.3	0.4	6.9
Education	110.0	110.3	112.1	113.2	114.8	115.6	0.7	4.8
Health and community services	108.3	110.5	111.1	112.2	113.7	115.3	1.4	4.3
Personal and other services	108.9	111.2	113.2	115.0	115.9	119.1	2.8	7.1
Selected occupations								
Managers and administrators	110.8	112.8	113.9	115.5	117.9	119.3	1.2	5.8
Professionals	110.6	112.0	113.7	114.2	116.6	118.0	1.2	5.4
Associate professionals	109.8	111.5	112.7	113.6	115.6	118.2	2.2	6.0
Tradespersons and related workers	114.1	115.2	116.2	118.8	120.5	123.3	2.3	7.0
Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers	109.3	111.1	112.5	113.1	114.2	116.1	1.7	4.5
Intermediate production and transport workers	111.7	112.5	112.7	114.4	117.4	119.9	2.1	6.6
Elementary clerical, sales and service workers	108.2	110.3	110.7	112.0	112.5	114.9	2.1	4.2
Labourers and related workers	115.0	116.0	118.7	120.8	121.7	125.7	3.3	8.4

(a) Base of each index: 2003–04 = 100.0.

Source: ABS data available on request, *Labour Price Index, Australia,* cat. no. 6345.0.

5 HOUSE PRICE INDEXES(a)—Perth

Reference period	ESTABLISHED HOMES(b)	Change from previous period(b)	PROJECT HOMES	Change from previous period
	index	%	index	%
2004–2005	114.4	14.4	111.9	12.0
2005–2006	145.7	27.4	130.3	16.4
2006–2007	p192.6	p32.2	144.1	10.6
2006				
June	169.6	14.4	137.9	3.9
September	188.4	11.1	142.0	3.0
December	194.8	3.4	143.3	0.9
2007				
March	195.8	0.5	144.7	1.0
June	p191.5	p–2.2	146.3	1.1
September	p193.6	p1.1	147.6	0.9

p preliminary figure or series subject to revision
(a) Base of each index 2003–04 = 100.0.
(b) Estimates for the two most recent quarters are experimental.
Source: House Price Indexes, Eight Capital Cities, cat. no. 6416.0.

6 PRICE INDEX OF MATERIALS USED IN HOUSE BUILDING(a), By material—Perth

	2006			2007			PERCENTAGE CHANGE	
Material group	June	September	December	March	June	September	Jun Qtr 2007 to Sep Qtr 2007	Sep Qtr 2006 to Sep Qtr 2007
	index	index	index	index	index	index	%	%
All groups	**138.0**	**141.2**	**143.7**	**145.3**	**145.9**	**147.9**	**1.4**	**4.7**
Cement products	127.2	136.1	146.4	137.8	131.1	134.3	2.4	–1.3
Ceramic products	149.7	153.1	153.5	156.7	157.4	159.2	1.1	4.0
Concrete, cement and sand	144.4	145.6	148.0	149.7	151.5	153.3	1.2	5.3
Electrical equipment	99.9	111.5	111.1	111.2	112.6	114.0	1.2	2.2
Installed gas and electrical appliances	136.4	136.3	134.8	137.7	139.0	138.8	–0.1	1.8
Other materials	159.0	161.8	163.6	164.5	166.3	169.3	1.8	4.6
Other metal products	132.9	137.0	140.8	142.3	143.3	144.6	0.9	5.5
Plumbing products	127.7	127.2	131.0	132.8	133.4	134.4	0.7	5.7
Steel products	171.4	173.7	178.1	184.2	184.6	184.8	0.1	6.4
Timber, board and joinery	123.9	127.5	130.8	131.2	130.2	133.3	2.4	4.5

(a) Reference base of each index: 1989-90 = 100.0
Source: Producer Price Indexes, Australia, cat. no. 6427.0.

7 RETAIL TRADE, Monthly turnover by industry group(a)—Current prices: **All series**

Month	Food retailing	Department stores	Clothing and soft good retailing	Household good retailing	Recreational good retailing	Other retailing	Hospitality and services	Total
				ORIGINAL ($m)				
2006								
August	750.7	137.5	118.2	378.0	^ 77.1	167.9	255.3	1 884.6
September	760.4	134.9	117.8	394.1	^ 77.2	164.1	254.3	1 902.8
October	781.7	152.0	134.8	394.0	^ 78.8	186.7	279.8	2 007.8
November	800.9	187.4	136.1	403.3	^ 93.8	203.4	276.8	2 101.7
December	912.0	291.7	185.6	493.4	^ 138.1	278.9	300.8	2 600.3
2007								
January	799.4	137.8	118.2	388.5	^ 90.6	181.3	279.3	1 995.1
February	752.9	120.4	110.1	340.5	^ 74.0	178.5	265.1	1 841.7
March	842.1	151.5	126.7	380.9	^ 79.1	196.0	296.7	2 073.1
April	817.9	147.4	132.1	351.6	^ 75.7	175.2	277.3	1 977.2
May	822.5	159.5	143.2	388.3	^ 76.2	187.7	283.2	2 060.6
June	811.2	160.2	131.3	407.1	^ 73.0	178.6	271.9	2 033.2
July	837.7	162.5	132.1	368.5	^ 83.0	185.4	278.3	2 047.5
August	864.8	150.1	132.6	379.0	^ 80.2	195.3	285.4	2 087.5
September	843.0	154.0	132.6	385.6	^ 83.9	179.4	282.4	2 060.9
October	872.7	162.0	152.2	393.0	^ 89.4	201.8	291.1	2 162.2
				SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ($m)				
2006								
August	756.1	153.4	124.7	380.2	81.7	172.6	255.6	1 924.4
September	771.9	154.1	127.7	397.9	82.0	172.1	256.8	1 962.5
October	781.6	160.3	129.6	387.0	84.3	182.2	267.2	1 992.2
November	791.1	159.3	128.5	381.3	89.2	185.7	267.5	2 002.5
December	785.5	162.2	129.8	389.0	88.6	191.9	271.5	2 018.5
2007								
January	809.0	162.7	125.7	391.9	85.8	195.0	284.3	2 054.3
February	818.8	161.2	135.8	389.5	82.2	198.2	284.0	2 069.8
March	826.5	166.3	139.5	397.0	82.7	201.1	292.0	2 105.1
April	829.0	161.5	136.6	401.2	82.9	197.9	286.2	2 095.3
May	834.0	166.0	137.4	394.9	83.5	189.3	287.6	2 092.7
June	848.4	163.1	133.5	396.9	81.5	199.8	289.3	2 112.5
July	854.8	172.4	138.2	382.4	87.7	199.7	280.0	2 115.1
August	857.0	170.7	143.5	387.7	84.8	200.2	286.6	2 130.4
September	874.2	172.7	142.3	393.1	90.5	190.4	286.8	2 150.0
October	864.7	170.6	146.6	380.5	94.1	197.1	278.7	2 132.3
				TREND ($m)				
2006								
August	764.6	157.0	125.2	383.0	82.2	168.5	257.4	1 937.9
September	769.7	157.6	126.9	385.9	83.7	175.0	260.4	1 959.2
October	777.2	158.4	128.0	387.4	85.2	181.1	264.3	1 981.7
November	786.6	159.6	128.9	388.4	86.1	186.7	269.4	2 005.7
December	796.5	161.0	130.1	389.3	86.4	191.5	275.0	2 029.6
2007								
January	806.1	162.1	131.7	390.9	85.7	194.9	280.4	2 051.8
February	814.9	162.8	133.5	393.3	84.5	196.9	284.8	2 070.7
March	823.2	163.3	135.0	395.3	83.3	197.8	287.4	2 085.2
April	831.3	164.1	136.2	396.2	82.5	197.9	288.4	2 096.5
May	838.9	165.4	137.1	395.3	82.8	197.6	288.0	2 104.9
June	846.1	167.0	137.9	393.1	84.0	197.2	286.7	2 111.9
July	853.1	168.7	139.1	390.7	85.6	197.0	285.5	2 119.6
August	859.8	170.2	140.8	388.3	87.5	196.7	284.4	2 127.8
September	865.4	171.5	142.7	386.2	89.5	196.4	283.3	2 135.4
October	869.9	172.6	144.6	384.4	91.3	196.2	282.5	2 143.6

^ estimate has a relative standard error of 10% to less than 25% and should be used with caution

(a) For industry definitions see paragraph 5 of the Explanatory Notes in the source publication.

Source: Retail Trade, Australia, cat. no. 8501.0.

RETAIL TRADE, Quarterly turnover—Chain volume measures(a): **All series**

Reference period	*Original* $m	*Seasonally adjusted* $m	*Trend* $m
2004–2005	20 751.3	20 751.2	20 745.4
2005–2006	21 743.6	21 743.6	21 730.0
2006–2007	23 798.0	23 798.1	23 792.9
2006			
June	5 397.0	5 612.4	5 593.6
September	5 564.3	5 734.8	5 746.7
December	6 570.0	5 878.1	5 902.4
2007			
March	5 800.2	6 087.1	6 026.8
June	5 863.5	6 098.1	6 117.0
September	5 950.8	6 165.4	6 179.7

(a) Reference year for chain volume measures is 2005–06.

Note: Historical data has been revised as a result of changes to the survey design.

Source: Retail Trade, Australia, cat. no. 8501.0.

9 NEW MOTOR VEHICLE SALES, By type of vehicle: **All series**

Month	Passenger vehicles	Sports utility vehicles	Other vehicles	Total vehicles
	no.	no.	no.	no.
ORIGINAL				
2006				
September	5 842	1 705	2 169	9 716
October	5 727	1 778	2 086	9 591
November	5 718	2 076	2 178	9 972
December	5 567	1 972	1 932	9 471
2007				
January	5 059	2 064	1 806	8 929
February	5 307	2 037	2 281	9 625
March	5 704	2 314	2 512	10 530
April	4 963	1 621	2 117	8 701
May	5 350	2 221	2 601	10 172
June	6 565	2 354	3 076	11 995
July	5 373	1 920	2 352	9 645
August	6 093	2 210	2 427	10 730
September	6 085	1 869	2 290	10 244
October	5 812	2 124	2 524	10 460
November	5 867	2 059	2 509	10 435
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED				
2006				
September	5 422	1 930	2 202	9 554
October	5 552	1 915	2 184	9 651
November	5 508	2 003	2 192	9 703
December	5 663	2 085	2 067	9 815
2007				
January	5 671	2 066	2 214	9 951
February	5 543	2 079	2 394	10 016
March	5 396	2 099	2 334	9 829
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED *cont.*				
2007 *cont.*				
April	5 733	1 930	2 357	10 020
May	5 516	2 034	2 402	9 952
June	5 738	1 937	2 360	10 035
July	5 785	2 071	2 429	10 285
August	5 718	2 174	2 376	10 268
September	5 874	2 099	2 426	10 399
October	5 480	2 217	2 537	10 234
November	5 584	2 055	2 513	10 152
TREND				
2006				
September	5 487	1 920	2 161	9 568
October	5 537	1 960	2 165	9 662
November	5 570	2 003	2 175	9 748
December	5 584	2 042	2 199	9 825
2007				
January	5 580	2 063	2 237	9 880
February	5 574	2 059	2 286	9 919
March	5 575	2 039	2 332	9 946
April	5 597	2 018	2 366	9 981
May	5 643	2 012	2 383	10 038
June	5 692	2 029	2 390	10 111
July	5 724	2 061	2 402	10 187
August	5 724	2 096	2 424	10 244
September	5 700	2 123	2 451	10 274
October	5 663	2 142	2 478	10 283
November	5 634	2 147	2 502	10 283

Source: Sales of New Motor Vehicles, Australia, cat. no. 9314.0.

10 PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE, By type of asset—Chain volume measures(a): **All series**

	ORIGINAL			SEASONALLY ADJUSTED			TREND		
Reference period	*Buildings and structures*	*Equipment, plant and machinery*	*Total*	*Buildings and structures*	*Equipment, plant and machinery*	*Total*	*Buildings and structures*	*Equipment, plant and machinery*	*Total*
	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m
2004–2005	5 484	4 712	10 267	5 484	4 712	10 266	5 506	4 819	10 401
2005–2006	10 142	6 329	16 471	10 141	6 328	16 471	9 903	6 163	16 069
2006–2007	12 403	6 608	19 012	12 404	6 608	19 012	12 587	6 584	19 163
2006									
June	3 479	1 672	5 131	3 327	1 571	4 877	3 032	1 522	4 542
September	2 727	1 294	4 021	2 876	1 407	4 283	3 074	1 483	4 550
December	3 226	1 674	4 900	2 989	1 547	4 536	3 047	1 554	4 601
2007									
March	3 002	1 554	4 556	3 270	1 703	4 973	(b)3 184	(b)1 719	(b)4 903
June	3 448	2 087	5 535	3 269	1 951	5 220	3 282	1 828	5 109
September	3 089	1 610	4 699	3 302	1 769	5 071	3 312	1 865	5 182

(a) Reference year for chain volume measures is 2005–06.
(b) Break in series between December 2006 and March 2007

Source: Private New Capital Expenditure and Expected Expenditure, Australia, cat. no. 5625.0.

11 PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE, By industry—Current prices: **Original**

Reference period	*Mining*	*Manufacturing*	*Other selected industries*	*Total*
	$m	$m	$m	$m
2004–2005	5 531	1 410	3 008	9 949
2005–2006	10 733	1 850	3 889	16 471
2006–2007	13 542	1 492	4 683	19 717
2006				
June	3 648	^418	1 135	5 201
September	2 847	283	994	4 125
December	3 568	370	1 138	5 076
2007				
March	3 283	^375	^1 080	4 737
June	3 844	^464	1 471	5 779
September	3 568	316	^1 079	4 962

^ estimate has a relative standard error of 10% to less than 25% and should be used with caution

Source: Private New Capital Expenditure and Expected Expenditure, Australia, cat. no. 5625.0.

12 LENDING FINANCE COMMITMENTS: **Original**

Reference period	COMMERCIAL FINANCE Fixed loans(a) $m	COMMERCIAL FINANCE Revolving credit(b) $m	COMMERCIAL FINANCE Total $m	PERSONAL FINANCE Fixed loans(a) $m	PERSONAL FINANCE Revolving credit(b) $m	PERSONAL FINANCE Total $m	Total lease finance commitments $m
2004–2005	14 612.7	6 580.7	21 193.4	4 701.9	3 628.3	8 330.2	420.3
2005–2006	22 526.5	7 851.7	30 378.2	5 801.4	4 930.5	10 731.9	448.4
2006–2007	23 634.6	13 341.1	36 975.7	6 734.0	6 284.8	13 018.8	427.2
2006							
August	1 874.9	758.0	2 633.0	570.6	545.3	1 115.9	28.3
September	1 804.5	620.8	2 425.2	513.5	512.5	1 026.1	26.3
October	1 805.2	1 253.1	3 058.3	537.0	480.9	1 017.9	34.1
November	1 912.4	730.8	2 643.2	575.1	506.9	1 082.0	35.8
December	1 775.5	671.5	2 447.0	542.9	506.5	1 049.5	32.9
2007							
January	1 637.5	763.0	2 400.5	498.4	485.0	983.3	26.7
February	2 038.6	888.9	2 927.5	531.3	439.3	970.6	30.4
March	1 796.3	2 781.4	4 577.7	577.1	506.1	1 083.1	38.2
April	1 743.6	1 866.0	3 609.6	500.3	456.4	956.7	43.7
May	2 354.1	930.0	3 284.1	628.1	582.2	1 210.3	39.4
June	2 881.7	1 376.5	4 258.2	685.4	778.8	1 464.2	59.1
July	3 587.0	907.2	4 494.3	502.2	582.3	1 084.5	32.9
August	2 168.4	915.6	3 084.1	540.6	550.4	1 091.0	37.8
September	1 655.8	1 142.7	2 798.4	447.9	491.6	939.6	42.2
October	2 066.9	np	2 795.8	553.1	543.6	1 096.7	63.9

np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated

(a) Includes refinancing.

(b) New and increased credit limits during the period. Includes credit cards.

Source: Lending Finance, Australia, cat. no. 5671.0.

13 HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMMENTS FOR OWNER OCCUPATION(a), By dwellings financed: All series

	ORIGINAL		SEASONALLY ADJUSTED		TREND	
	Number of dwellings financed	*Total value of dwelling commitments*	*Number of dwellings financed*	*Total value of dwelling commitments*	*Number of dwellings financed*	*Total value of dwelling commitments*
	no.	$m	no.	$m	no.	$m
2004–05	89 460	15 283.0	89 621	15 313.0	89 496	15 287.4
2005–06	106 827	20 692.8	106 674	20 661.2	106 591	20 680.5
2006–07	104 597	23 448.7	104 961	23 516.3	104 803	23 391.8
2006						
August	10 091	2 186.1	9 255	1 963.2	9 192	1 978.4
September	8 629	1 837.6	8 962	1 918.2	8 962	1 941.4
October	8 525	1 846.3	8 602	1 862.1	8 729	1 900.2
November	8 743	1 930.9	8 386	1 858.8	8 548	1 869.5
December	8 289	1 804.5	8 617	1 893.0	8 448	1 856.7
2007						
January	7 477	1 646.7	8 420	1 853.2	8 437	1 868.7
February	7 772	1 770.9	8 329	1 882.0	8 501	1 905.0
March	8 645	1 991.6	8 485	1 920.8	8 595	1 955.0
April	8 257	1 781.4	8 968	2 019.5	8 672	2 008.3
May	9 509	2 293.9	8 610	2 021.2	8 691	2 047.5
June	9 111	2 264.1	8 844	2 221.9	8 638	2 062.3
July	8 966	2 150.7	8 533	2 027.0	8 525	2 052.0
August	9 065	2 193.9	8 235	1 988.4	8 384	2 026.5
September	7 607	1 829.3	8 272	1 983.8	8 244	1 995.7
October	8 244	1 966.0	8 004	1 922.1	8 105	1 961.5

(a) Excludes alterations and additions. Includes refinancing.

Source: Housing Finance, Australia, cat. no. 5609.0.

14 HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS FOR OWNER OCCUPATION(a), By type of buyer: Original

Reference period	FIRST HOME BUYERS Number of dwellings financed	Total value of dwelling commitments	Average loan size	NON-FIRST HOME BUYERS Number of dwellings financed	Total value of dwelling commitments	Average loan size
	no.	$m	$'000	no.	$m	$'000
2004–2005	16 328	2 767.2	169.5	73 132	12 515.8	171.1
2005–2006	17 746	3 415.6	192.5	89 081	17 277.3	194.0
2006–2007	13 789	3 027.2	219.5	90 808	20 421.5	224.9
2006						
August	1 318	285.0	216.2	8 773	1 901.0	216.7
September	1 172	251.0	214.2	7 457	1 586.6	212.8
October	1 130	242.7	214.8	7 395	1 603.6	216.9
November	1 088	240.8	221.3	7 655	1 690.1	220.8
December	1 019	217.2	213.1	7 270	1 587.3	218.3
2007						
January	983	213.2	216.9	6 494	1 433.6	220.8
February	970	205.7	212.1	6 802	1 565.2	230.1
March	1 061	230.4	217.1	7 584	1 761.3	232.2
April	1 035	203.0	196.1	7 222	1 578.5	218.6
May	1 206	282.7	234.4	8 303	2 011.2	242.2
June	1 460	356.9	244.5	7 651	1 907.1	249.3
July	1 550	402.2	259.5	7 416	1 748.6	235.8
August	1 590	390.2	245.4	7 475	1 803.7	241.3
September	1 283	307.2	239.5	6 324	1 522.0	240.7
October	1 496	359.9	240.6	6 748	1 606.1	238.0

(a) Excludes alterations and additions. Includes refinancing.

Source: Housing Finance, Australia, cat. no. 5609.0

15 HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS(a), By purpose: **Original**

Reference period	OWNER OCCUPATION (SECURED FINANCE) Construction of dwellings	Purchase of new dwellings	Purchase of other established dwellings	Refinancing of established dwellings	INVESTMENT HOUSING(b) Construction of dwellings for rent or resale	Purchase of dwellings by individuals for rent or release	Purchase of dwellings by others for rent or resale
	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m
2004–2005	2 171.4	505.8	9 250.0	3 355.8	320.6	5 423.8	401.0
2005–2006	2 403.3	979.9	12 357.6	4 952.0	362.4	8 451.8	577.4
2006–2007	2 311.2	1 224.6	12 973.4	6 939.6	404.2	9 511.9	717.1
2006							
August	246.4	110.2	1 226.0	603.4	37.7	893.6	57.6
September	187.0	84.5	1 005.7	560.5	45.0	758.8	55.0
October	195.0	92.6	972.8	586.0	27.9	710.9	70.9
November	198.4	93.9	1 036.9	601.6	36.7	751.1	46.0
December	185.6	87.8	968.3	562.8	57.6	670.9	38.6
2007							
January	177.9	75.4	866.0	527.4	14.9	652.9	59.0
February	156.7	97.9	975.2	541.1	25.0	701.5	58.0
March	171.4	113.8	1 101.1	605.2	29.9	773.1	57.2
April	147.5	80.6	984.7	568.6	14.0	735.8	53.8
May	203.0	124.1	1 309.1	657.7	41.9	958.4	70.4
June	208.6	147.8	1 310.6	597.0	30.2	1 025.0	86.0
July	189.9	121.4	1 289.7	549.7	51.0	848.9	59.5
August	216.1	125.9	1 289.5	562.4	34.8	851.1	69.9
September	184.2	96.7	1 035.4	513.0	36.8	686.6	55.3
October	206.6	93.8	1 130.0	535.6	51.6	810.7	64.6

(a) Excludes alterations and additions. Includes refinancing.
(b) Excludes revolving credit.

Source: Housing Finance, Australia, cat. no. 5609.0; *Lending Finance, Australia,* cat. no. 5671.0.

16 BUILDING APPROVALS, By number of dwelling units approved and sector: **Trend**

Reference period	HOUSES		OTHER DWELLINGS		TOTAL DWELLINGS	
	Private	*Total*	*Private*	*Total*	*Private*	*Total*
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
2004–2005	19 089	19 564	4 031	4 618	23 120	24 182
2005–2006	21 279	21 823	3 735	4 261	25 014	26 084
2006–2007	19 105	19 563	4 413	5 032	23 518	24 595
2006						
August	1 729	1 772	416	456	2 145	2 228
September	1 706	1 749	405	457	2 111	2 206
October	1 673	1 714	386	452	2 059	2 166
November	1 634	1 672	360	437	1 994	2 109
December	1 590	1 625	332	410	1 922	2 035
2007						
January	1 549	1 584	320	390	1 869	1 974
February	1 522	1 557	325	382	1 847	1 939
March	1 507	1 543	337	380	1 844	1 923
April	1 496	1 532	353	388	1 849	1 920
May	1 485	1 522	373	407	1 858	1 929
June	1 467	1 505	392	429	1 859	1 934
July	1 443	1 482	398	438	1 841	1 920
August	1 425	1 464	395	438	1 820	1 902
September	1 411	1 451	389	434	1 800	1 885
October	1 407	1 447	380	425	1 787	1 872

Source: Building Approvals, Australia, cat. no. 8731.0.

17 BUILDING APPROVALS, By number and value of dwelling units approved: **Original**

Reference period	New houses	New other residential building	New residential building	Total residential building(a)	Total non-residential building	Total building
NUMBER OF DWELLING UNITS (no.)						
2004–2005	19 444	4 653	24 097	24 201	31	24 232
2005–2006	21 769	3 886	25 655	25 834	18	25 852
2006–2007	19 498	5 374	24 872	25 062	35	25 097
2006						
August	1 902	543	2 445	2 448	—	2 448
September	1 767	419	2 186	2 194	4	2 198
October	1 733	179	1 912	1 918	4	1 922
November	1 939	480	2 419	2 459	—	2 459
December	1 487	525	2 012	2 021	4	2 025
2007						
January	1 281	345	1 626	1 651	2	1 653
February	1 331	249	1 580	1 600	1	1 601
March	1 656	240	1 896	1 904	—	1 904
April	1 443	308	1 751	1 757	10	1 767
May	1 725	526	2 251	2 259	5	2 264
June	1 436	718	2 154	2 205	4	2 209
July	1 522	262	1 784	1 816	10	1 826
August	1 426	441	1 867	1 877	—	1 877
September	1 619	452	2 071	2 074	15	2 089
October	1 482	339	1 821	1 829	6	1 835
VALUE OF APPROVAL ($m)						
2004–2005	3 337.5	773.5	4 110.9	4 470.6	1 978.4	6 449.1
2005–2006	4 269.2	772.9	5 042.3	5 519.5	2 322.9	7 842.3
2006–2007	4 584.3	1 369.2	5 953.6	6 463.4	2 758.6	9 221.8
2006						
August	417.9	162.2	580.1	618.4	142.4	760.7
September	390.1	101.0	491.2	529.0	132.7	661.7
October	403.2	34.3	437.5	474.3	202.6	676.9
November	442.0	126.3	568.3	613.4	378.2	991.6
December	348.9	156.9	505.8	548.5	231.5	780.0
2007						
January	314.0	72.2	386.1	425.7	314.0	739.7
February	330.1	93.5	423.6	470.2	400.2	870.4
March	392.5	51.8	444.3	495.7	234.4	730.1
April	348.9	70.7	419.7	454.9	221.0	675.9
May	435.4	129.1	564.5	614.1	156.2	770.2
June	370.8	203.9	574.7	623.0	169.5	792.5
July	376.3	82.3	458.6	514.6	380.1	894.7
August	363.5	80.8	444.4	493.9	213.4	707.3
September	409.8	124.6	534.4	579.9	277.3	857.2
October	366.1	104.1	470.2	518.7	340.6	859.3

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Includes total alterations and additions, refurbishments and conversions.

Source: Building Approvals, Australia, cat. no. 8731.0.

18 BUILDING ACTIVITY, By number of dwelling units and stage of production: **Original**

Reference period	New houses	New other residential building	New residential building	Total residential building(a)	Total non-residential building	Total building
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
COMMENCED						
2004–2005	18 226	4 608	22 834	22 924	23	22 947
2005–2006	21 529	4 014	25 543	25 724	30	25 754
2006–2007	19 716	4 739	24 455	24 581	56	24 637
2006						
March	5 042	801	5 843	5 937	14	5 951
June	5 498	1 353	6 852	6 884	1	6 885
September	5 521	1 487	7 008	7 015	6	7 021
December	5 200	1 117	6 317	6 359	2	6 361
2007						
March	4 646	1 019	5 665	5 713	21	5 733
June	4 349	1 116	5 465	5 494	27	5 521
UNDER CONSTRUCTION AT END OF REFERENCE PERIOD						
2004–2005	12 984	4 928	17 912	17 994	51	18 045
2005–2006	16 064	5 565	21 629	21 828	31	21 859
2006–2007	15 061	6 448	21 509	21 732	55	21 787
2006						
March	15 616	4 852	20 469	20 641	66	20 707
June	16 064	5 565	21 629	21 828	31	21 859
September	16 668	6 174	22 841	23 018	25	23 043
December	16 465	6 512	22 976	23 188	16	23 204
2007						
March	16 646	6 705	23 351	23 598	41	23 639
June	15 061	6 448	21 509	21 732	55	21 787
COMPLETED						
2004–2005	15 886	3 425	19 311	19 375	33	19 408
2005–2006	18 279	3 352	21 631	21 694	53	21 747
2006–2007	20 722	3 861	24 583	24 694	30	24 724
2006						
March	4 275	779	5 054	5 074	2	5 076
June	5 032	657	5 689	5 693	36	5 729
September	4 936	894	5 830	5 855	10	5 865
December	5 402	779	6 180	6 190	11	6 202
2007						
March	4 440	824	5 264	5 281	3	5 285
June	5 945	1 365	7 310	7 367	6	7 373

(a) Includes total alterations and additions, refurbishments and conversions.

Source: Building Activity, Australia, cat. no. 8752.0.

19 BUILDING ACTIVITY, By value and stage of production—Current prices: **Original**

Reference period	New houses $m	New other residential building $m	New residential building $m	Total residential building(a) $m	Total non-residential building $m	Total building $m
			COMMENCED			
2004–2005	3 143.4	796.6	3 940.0	4 307.9	1 771.9	6 079.8
2005–2006	4 212.6	860.8	5 073.4	5 556.7	2 212.5	7 769.2
2006–2007	4 720.1	1 191.6	5 911.7	6 422.3	2 892.2	9 314.5
2006						
March	1 011.4	149.0	1 160.4	1 291.9	506.9	1 798.8
June	1 094.6	325.9	1 420.5	1 542.4	646.5	2 188.8
September	1 236.4	339.0	1 575.5	1 702.0	421.7	2 123.7
December	1 185.0	328.6	1 513.5	1 626.2	967.1	2 593.3
2007						
March	1 100.3	268.5	1 368.8	1 497.5	816.1	2 313.6
June	1 198.4	255.5	1 453.9	1 596.5	687.3	2 283.8
			UNDER CONSTRUCTION AT END OF REFERENCE PERIOD			
2004–2005	2 522.2	930.0	3 452.2	3 690.5	1 582.3	5 272.8
2005–2006	3 555.7	1 345.1	4 900.8	5 232.2	2 353.2	7 585.4
2006–2007	4 139.7	1 840.1	5 979.8	6 429.6	3 346.6	9 776.2
2006						
March	3 364.8	1 182.4	4 547.1	4 856.2	2 101.2	6 957.5
June	3 555.7	1 345.1	4 900.8	5 232.2	2 353.2	7 585.4
September	3 869.6	1 525.0	5 394.6	5 773.4	2 559.5	8 332.9
December	3 990.2	1 743.4	5 733.6	6 134.0	2 896.4	9 030.5
2007						
March	4 201.2	1 832.8	6 033.9	6 458.0	3 273.1	9 731.0
June	4 139.7	1 840.1	5 979.8	6 429.6	3 346.6	9 776.2
			COMPLETED			
2004–2005	2 576.0	529.2	3 105.2	3 455.0	1 470.0	4 925.0
2005–2006	3 218.9	608.8	3 827.7	4 230.7	1 593.8	5 824.6
2006–2007	4 242.0	749.3	4 991.3	5 429.6	2 160.9	7 590.5
2006						
March	738.2	137.4	875.7	967.8	310.4	1 278.2
June	924.6	183.3	1 107.9	1 217.1	463.0	1 680.1
September	944.9	174.7	1 119.6	1 214.3	351.5	1 565.8
December	1 109.7	129.8	1 239.5	1 342.2	751.4	2 093.6
2007						
March	909.0	173.7	1 082.6	1 185.1	411.9	1 597.0
June	1 278.5	271.1	1 549.5	1 688.0	646.2	2 334.2
			WORK YET TO BE DONE AT END OF REFERENCE PERIOD			
2004–2005	1 329.0	475.0	1 804.0	1 896.7	807.8	2 704.4
2005–2006	1 815.0	681.2	2 496.2	2 660.2	1 120.0	3 780.2
2006–2007	2 181.7	795.2	2 976.9	3 159.8	1 624.8	4 784.5
2006						
March	1 740.5	570.7	2 311.2	2 461.8	1 001.4	3 463.2
June	1 815.0	681.2	2 496.2	2 660.2	1 120.0	3 780.2
September	1 950.7	788.5	2 739.3	2 917.7	1 077.7	3 995.4
December	2 113.8	844.2	2 958.0	3 122.3	1 479.8	4 602.1
2007						
March	2 140.7	828.9	2 969.6	3 143.9	1 674.4	4 818.2
June	2 181.7	795.2	2 976.9	3 159.8	1 624.8	4 784.5

(a) Includes total alterations and additions, refurbishments and conversions.

Source: Building Activity, Australia, cat. no. 8752.0.

20 ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY, By value, stage and type of construction—Current prices: **Original**

Reference period	Roads, highways and subdivisions	Bridges, railways and harbours	Electricity generation, transmission etc. and pipelines	Water storage and supply, sewerage and drainage	Telecom-munications	Heavy industry	Recreation and other	Total
	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m
WORK COMMENCED								
2004–2005	927.2	681.6	1 036.1	432.3	347.0	5 165.8	321.5	8 911.6
2005–2006	1 332.2	1 890.1	1 345.1	298.3	519.1	11 254.8	335.5	16 975.1
2006–2007	2 039.9	2 229.6	2 684.9	362.0	566.8	7 190.6	426.3	15 500.0
2006								
March	369.7	160.4	80.1	*73.5	134.9	336.5	^75.0	1 230.1
June	305.0	381.1	1 080.3	^51.0	194.3	5 876.5	*120.2	8 008.3
September	478.6	657.1	342.9	^57.3	113.6	1 314.0	^129.5	3 093.0
December	389.2	*34.0	1 108.1	^93.1	125.9	2 983.7	*101.6	4 835.6
2007								
March	*854.6	1 469.2	645.9	66.3	100.4	2 109.8	*95.7	5 341.8
June	^317.5	69.4	588.0	145.2	226.9	^783.2	*99.5	2 229.6
WORK DONE								
2004–2005	976.3	1 142.5	597.9	343.8	323.1	2 484.6	316.3	6 184.4
2005–2006	1 197.1	1 314.5	1 141.2	383.5	515.1	6 645.4	293.6	11 490.2
2006–2007	1 582.1	1 985.5	2 353.5	346.1	515.8	9 166.4	395.0	16 344.5
2006								
March	275.5	316.1	212.6	^103.7	128.3	1 563.2	^67.5	2 666.9
June	360.9	376.7	424.9	110.5	197.6	2 468.9	^90.7	4 030.0
September	^343.1	425.6	484.3	84.1	104.2	1 720.0	^88.8	3 250.1
December	371.4	428.2	554.9	^95.1	125.4	2 676.7	^99.2	4 350.8
2007								
March	420.4	518.7	640.2	^82.0	98.8	2 224.6	^100.1	4 084.8
June	447.3	613.1	674.0	^84.9	187.4	2 545.2	^107.0	4 658.8
WORK YET TO BE DONE AT END OF REFERENCE PERIOD								
2004–2005	223.1	1 080.0	939.7	161.1	51.9	3 979.1	42.9	6 477.8
2005–2006	326.2	1 753.2	984.8	96.6	17.8	8 398.5	30.9	11 608.0
2006–2007	750.6	2 309.7	1 338.1	149.3	53.7	8 157.7	30.9	12 790.0
2006								
March	379.0	1 728.1	344.1	^154.1	29.4	5 623.9	39.0	8 297.7
June	326.2	1 753.2	984.8	^96.6	17.8	8 398.5	^30.9	11 608.0
September	499.1	2 053.4	859.9	^87.6	22.2	9 119.0	^85.3	12 726.6
December	489.4	1 880.2	1 443.8	*83.9	19.4	9 302.1	^63.5	13 282.4
2007								
March	*957.4	2 754.6	1 451.3	^80.2	15.5	9 417.6	^67.1	14 743.7
June	750.6	2 309.7	1 338.1	149.3	53.7	8 157.7	^30.9	12 790.0

^ estimate has a relative standard error of 10% to less than 25% and should be used with caution

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

Source: Engineering Construction Activity, Australia, cat. no. 8762.0.

21 ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY, By value of work done—Chain volume measures(a): **All series**

Reference period	Original $m	Seasonally Adjusted $m	Trend $m
2004–2005	6 184.4	6 184.4	6 246.9
2005–2006	10 846.4	10 846.4	10 550.6
2006–2007	13 925.8	13 929.3	14 192.7
2006			
March	2 541.2	2 779.1	2 905.6
June	3 678.0	3 464.5	3 130.6
September	2 821.9	2 960.7	3 298.5
December	3 731.0	3 544.0	3 458.7
2007			
March	3 449.9	3 748.2	3 631.1
June	3 923.1	3 676.4	3 804.3

(a) Reference year for chain volume measures is 2004–05.

Source: Engineering Construction Activity, Australia, cat. no. 8762.0.

22 INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE, By major commodity: **Original**

Category of the SITC		2006 June	2006 September	2006 December	2007 March	2007 June	2007 September
		$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000
MAJOR EXPORT COMMODITIES(a)							
001	Live animals	95 694	147 283	125 473	99 722	72 265	95 708
036	Crustaceans, molluscs and aquatic invertebrates	151 330	41 421	64 689	94 733	127 998	33 544
041	Wheat	360 265	533 063	407 730	424 116	331 025	354 366
268	Wool and other animal hair	158 064	109 903	138 367	150 702	117 902	54 355
281	Iron ore and concentrates	3 509 491	3 894 354	3 987 995	3 469 273	4 005 222	4 081 115
284	Nickel ores and concentrates	341 249	241 668	504 130	361 833	241 584	277 610
287	Ores and concentrates of base metal	135 442	188 277	198 826	150 642	126 723	185 012
333	Crude petroleum oils	1 157 603	1 838 159	1 752 137	1 673 747	1 667 795	1 860 084
334	Refined petroleum oils	89 915	156 869	133 340	99 763	161 956	166 932
342	Liquefied propane and butane	183 228	164 930	175 191	155 070	173 635	174 318
343	Natural gas	1 058 094	1 065 213	1 103 841	980 244	890 851	928 209
533	Pigments, paints, varnishes and related materials	121 682	108 234	96 967	97 008	106 609	101 377
683	Nickel	191 594	284 403	355 148	365 547	424 958	211 056
971	Gold, non-monetary	2 462 908	2 456 577	2 414 868	2 523 937	3 035 311	2 885 336
988	Confidential items	2 051 924	2 276 558	2 719 308	2 634 865	2 805 851	2 512 759
MAJOR IMPORT COMMODITIES(b)							
333	Crude petroleum oils	284 799	521 717	428 441	481 979	573 135	670 518
334	Refined petroleum oils	750 175	328 715	357 866	324 065	415 963	387 810
562	Fertilisers	95 515	19 689	3 675	123 593	121 309	11 811
625	Rubber tyres	88 241	94 930	94 173	87 891	74 126	82 685
679	Iron or steel tubes and pipes	87 564	61 505	110 412	97 578	81 494	104 089
723	Civil engineering plant and equipment	177 564	189 578	211 272	179 115	223 817	242 958
728	Other specialised industry machinery and equipment	64 065	86 950	74 950	79 237	74 816	94 892
752	Automatic data processing machines	62 652	39 364	53 801	36 656	38 677	43 114
759	Parts and accessories of office machines	39 902	28 669	26 541	36 611	52 763	56 674
781	Passenger motor vehicles	368 499	323 771	395 813	360 974	373 438	351 648
782	Motor vehicles for the transport of goods	232 283	177 620	226 711	258 340	254 463	207 326
792	Aircraft and associated equipment	23 993	23 562	33 143	42 857	61 883	34 404
793	Ships, boats and floating structures	588 846	25 998	30 835	79 090	67 741	67 949
971	Gold, non-monetary	1 832 512	1 039 860	1 219 040	1 201 786	1 455 251	1 741 095
988	Confidential items	164 295	168 360	199 560	174 389	184 010	194 883

(a) Free on board (f.o.b.) value.
(b) Customs value.

Source: ABS data available on request, *International Trade in Goods and Services, Australia,* cat. no. 5368.0.

23 INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE, By commodity: **Original**

Section and Division of the SITC		EXPORTS(a) September quarter 2006 $'000	EXPORTS(a) June quarter 2007 $'000	EXPORTS(a) September quarter 2007 $'000	IMPORTS(b) September quarter 2006 $'000	IMPORTS(b) June quarter 2007 $'000	IMPORTS(b) September quarter 2007 $'000
0	**Food & live animals**						
00	Live animals other than fish, crustaceans, molluscs & aquatic invertebrates	147 283	72 265	95 708	8	16	419
01	Meat & meat preparations	96 877	97 706	83 464	8 686	10 532	4 561
02	Dairy products & birds' eggs	19 224	15 903	12 990	2 649	3 273	4 683
03	Fish (not marine mammals), crustaceans, molluscs & aquatic invertebrates, & preparations thereof	43 131	129 182	34 398	19 631	19 255	22 510
04	Cereals & cereal preparations	562 433	368 591	394 313	8 094	7 242	9 460
05	Vegetables & fruit	24 197	27 283	17 471	14 337	15 978	16 596
06	Sugars, sugar preparations & honey	830	890	803	2 421	1 551	2 447
07	Coffee, tea, cocoa, spices, & manufactures thereof	266	42	135	2 750	2 393	3 906
08	Feeding stuff for animals (excl. unmilled cereals)	36 987	37 403	37 227	4 177	6 135	3 520
09	Miscellaneous edible products & preparations	2 919	2 910	2 739	9 148	14 770	13 700
	Total food & live animals(c)	*934 149*	*752 176*	*679 250*	*71 903*	*81 146*	*81 801*
1	**Beverages & tobacco**						
11	Beverages	13 545	16 241	14 545	13 705	11 858	15 773
12	Tobacco & tobacco manufactures	7	1	—	6	14	8
	Total beverages & tobacco(c)	*13 551*	*16 242*	*14 545*	*13 711*	*11 872*	*15 781*
2	**Crude materials, inedible, except fuels**						
21	Hides, skins & furskins, raw	13 343	14 951	13 069	—	—	—
22	Oil seeds & oleaginous fruits	9 267	20 313	28 994	293	382	397
23	Crude rubber (incl. synthetic and reclaimed)	143	51	38	717	698	662
24	Cork & wood	67 160	77 483	74 098	9 081	11 780	11 319
25	Pulp & waste paper	4 350	7 180	7 533	911	723	1 076
26	Textile fibres & their wastes (not manufactured into yarn or fabric)	110 352	118 320	54 869	1 188	886	1 073
27	Crude fertilisers (excl. those of Division 56) & crude minerals (excl. coal, petroleum & precious stones)	26 513	41 084	28 037	10 766	2 551	20 389
28	Metalliferous ores & metal scrap	4 581 424	4 668 856	4 930 280	4 956	824	1 423
29	Crude animal & vegetable materials, n.e.s.	4 559	3 035	4 069	3 346	4 048	3 608
	Total crude materials, inedible, except fuels(c)	*4 817 110*	*4 951 272*	*5 140 988*	*31 258*	*21 893*	*39 948*
3	**Mineral fuels, lubricants & related materials**						
32	Coal, coke & briquettes	6	39	1 270	216	659	267
33	Petroleum, petroleum products & related materials	1 995 076	1 829 753	2 027 016	852 464	997 704	1 066 269
34	Gas, natural & manufactured	1 230 169	1 064 510	1 102 537	7	—	41
	Total mineral fuels, lubricants & related materials(c)	*3 225 251*	*2 894 302*	*3 130 823*	*852 688*	*998 363*	*1 066 577*
4	**Animal & vegetable oils, fats & waxes**						
41	Animal oils & fats	4 870	9 118	6 822	19	27	—
42	Fixed vegetable fats & oils, crude, refined or fractionated	4 350	1 687	3 548	5 695	7 232	6 399
43	Fats & oils (processed), waxes & inedible mixtures or preparations, of animal or vegetable origin, n.e.s.	39	21	6	1 129	198	153
	Total animal & vegetable oils, fats & waxes(c)	*9 259*	*10 827*	*10 375*	*6 844*	*7 457*	*6 552*

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)
(a) Free on board (f.o.b.) value.
(b) Customs value.
(c) Discrepancies may occur between sums of component items and totals due to rounding.
Source: ABS data available on request, *International Trade in Goods and Services, Australia,* cat. no. 5368.0.

Section and Division of the SITC		EXPORTS(a) September quarter 2006 $'000	EXPORTS(a) June quarter 2007 $'000	EXPORTS(a) September quarter 2007 $'000	IMPORTS(b) September quarter 2006 $'000	IMPORTS(b) June quarter 2007 $'000	IMPORTS(b) September quarter 2007 $'000
5	**Chemicals & related products, n.e.s.**						
51	Organic chemicals	466	153	284	26 504	40 843	29 505
52	Inorganic chemicals	101 118	128 781	122 559	13 570	21 388	17 655
53	Dyeing, tanning & colouring materials	108 236	106 629	101 377	3 452	3 909	4 210
54	Medicinal & pharmaceutical products	8 681	10 159	11 583	54 012	35 958	19 469
55	Essential oils & resinoids & perfume materials; toilet, polishing & cleansing preparations	3 228	3 617	3 134	4 200	4 829	4 663
56	Fertilisers (excl. crude)	2 197	203	634	19 689	121 309	11 811
57	Plastics in primary forms	3 444	6 270	5 465	10 535	11 723	14 286
58	Plastics in non-primary forms	2 807	4 055	6 243	24 763	23 301	21 281
59	Chemical materials & products, n.e.s.	4 307	6 890	7 710	18 994	33 355	25 084
	Total chemicals & related products, n.e.s.(c)	*234 484*	*266 757*	*258 989*	*175 718*	*296 615*	*147 965*
6	**Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material**						
61	Leather, leather manufactures, & dressed furskins, n.e.s.	624	334	305	1 772	1 523	1 526
62	Rubber manufactures, n.e.s.	4 377	5 835	9 805	121 851	101 978	108 440
63	Cork & wood manufactures (excl. furniture)	3 240	3 659	3 095	15 459	13 599	13 702
64	Paper, paperboard, & articles of paper pulp, of paper or of paperboard	2 137	972	979	20 427	21 283	26 211
65	Textile yarn, fabrics, made-up articles, n.e.s., & related products	1 720	1 571	1 252	29 665	30 834	32 215
66	Non-metallic mineral manufactures, n.e.s.	84 107	38 514	53 235	60 856	65 193	59 373
67	Iron & steel	11 761	18 211	13 054	109 940	148 214	158 652
68	Non-ferrous metals	426 667	537 771	303 210	97 006	41 381	46 115
69	Manufactures of metals, n.e.s.	27 757	26 412	28 651	146 923	213 435	205 594
	Total manufactured goods classified chiefly by material(c)	*562 391*	*633 278*	*413 586*	*603 899*	*637 440*	*651 829*
7	**Machinery & transport equipment**						
71	Power generating machinery & equipment	14 126	14 746	6 812	74 176	90 910	181 130
72	Machinery specialised for particular industries	46 579	49 819	60 865	353 583	327 794	390 493
73	Metal working machinery	1 298	2 819	2 857	15 682	17 740	19 159
74	General industrial machinery & equipment, n.e.s. & machine parts, n.e.s.	38 874	42 379	40 751	264 901	461 268	345 310
75	Office machines & automatic data processing machines	2 812	6 080	4 488	68 985	93 804	101 802
76	Telecommunications & sound recording & reproducing apparatus & equipment	9 805	11 239	10 100	64 919	57 162	84 385
77	Electrical machinery, apparatus, appliances, parts (incl. non-electrical counterparts of electrical domestic equipment)	15 848	22 832	26 200	99 888	118 230	120 494
78	Road vehicles (incl. air-cushion vehicles)	9 265	17 379	9 170	580 557	682 032	633 914
79	Transport equipment (excl. road vehicles)	13 870	7 526	16 571	54 020	146 672	108 615
	Total machinery & transport equipment(c)	*152 478*	*174 820*	*177 815*	*1 576 708*	*1 995 612*	*1 985 301*
8	**Miscellaneous manufactured articles**						
81	Prefabricated buildings; sanitary, plumbing, heating & lighting fixtures & fittings, n.e.s.	3 663	2 364	2 030	10 008	13 751	9 947
82	Furniture, parts thereof; bedding, mattresses, mattress supports, cushions & similar stuffed furnishings	3 070	2 597	1 789	66 337	47 804	61 993
83	Travel goods, handbags & similar containers	143	23	114	4 550	4 089	5 143
84	Articles of apparel & clothing accessories	759	736	606	26 392	22 020	27 090
85	Footwear	229	283	187	18 766	12 143	20 289
87	Professional, scientific & controlling instruments & apparatus, n.e.s.	14 283	19 552	16 826	67 521	77 822	65 075
88	Photographic apparatus, equipment & supplies & optical goods, n.e.s.; watches & clocks	1 749	667	637	3 879	3 415	3 985
89	Miscellaneous manufactured articles, n.e.s.	30 512	20 052	16 908	92 094	82 658	91 284
	Total miscellaneous manufactured articles(c)	*54 407*	*46 274*	*39 098*	*289 548*	*263 701*	*284 807*

(a) Free on board (f.o.b.) value.
(b) Customs value.
(c) Discrepancies may occur between sums of component items and totals due to rounding.

Source: ABS data available on request, *International Trade in Goods and Services, Australia,* cat. no. 5368.0.

Section and Division of the SITC	EXPORTS(a) September quarter 2006 $'000	EXPORTS(a) June quarter 2007 $'000	EXPORTS(a) September quarter 2007 $'000	IMPORTS(b) September quarter 2006 $'000	IMPORTS(b) June quarter 2007 $'000	IMPORTS(b) September quarter 2007 $'000
9 Commodities & transactions not classified elsewhere in the SITC						
93 Special transactions & commodities not classified according to kind	11 050	13 280	15 800	209	1 238	653
95 Gold coin whether or not legal tender, & other coin being legal tender	14 587	34 494	33 850	41	139	5
96 Coin (excl. gold coin), not being legal tender	103	—	—	13	1	—
97 Gold, non-monetary (excl. gold ores & concentrates)	2 456 577	3 035 311	2 885 336	1 039 860	1 455 251	1 741 095
98 Combined confidential items excl. some of SITC 280 (exports only) & some of SITCs 510 & 520 (imports only)	2 276 558	2 805 851	2 512 759	168 360	184 010	194 883
Total commodities & transactions not classified elsewhere in the SITC(c)	*4 758 876*	*5 888 935*	*5 447 746*	*1 208 483*	*1 640 640*	*1 936 635*
Total merchandise trade(c)	**14 761 956**	**15 634 882**	**15 313 216**	**4 830 759**	**5 954 740**	**6 217 195**

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)
(a) Free on board (f.o.b.) value.
(b) Customs value.
(c) Discrepancies may occur between sums of component items and totals due to rounding.

Source: ABS data available on request, *International Trade in Goods and Services, Australia,* cat. no. 5368.0.

24 INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE, By selected country: **Original**

Country	EXPORTS(a) September quarter 2006 $'000	EXPORTS(a) June quarter 2007 $'000	EXPORTS(a) September quarter 2007 $'000	IMPORTS(b) September quarter 2006 $'000	IMPORTS(b) June quarter 2007 $'000	IMPORTS(b) September quarter 2007 $'000	BALANCE OF TRADE September quarter 2006 $'000	BALANCE OF TRADE June quarter 2007 $'000	BALANCE OF TRADE September quarter 2007 $'000
Austria	2 428	1 887	2 372	44 124	40 892	38 103	–41 696	–39 005	–35 731
Belgium	97 323	143 826	91 079	29 365	23 233	19 185	67 957	120 593	71 894
Canada	135 586	71 738	138 230	38 799	42 342	59 347	96 787	29 396	78 882
China	3 034 934	3 738 155	3 377 404	323 900	368 099	407 196	2 711 034	3 370 056	2 970 207
Finland	299 582	320 682	297 978	32 059	37 918	39 231	267 523	282 764	258 747
France	61 537	77 808	88 828	61 838	149 367	115 844	–301	–71 559	–27 016
Germany	23 431	48 563	48 148	180 371	186 155	293 899	–156 940	–137 592	–245 752
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	66 080	69 261	71 565	58 876	14 450	15 702	7 204	54 811	55 863
India	1 390 224	1 915 526	1 232 761	31 294	24 549	33 158	1 358 930	1 890 977	1 199 603
Indonesia	483 871	323 661	280 812	245 646	330 211	322 222	238 226	–6 550	–41 409
Iraq	22	30	—	—	—	—	22	30	—
Ireland	805	935	939	39 267	36 722	30 439	–38 463	–35 788	–29 501
Israel	21 849	5 656	9 644	6 028	15 745	5 403	15 822	–10 089	4 241
Italy	95 398	82 204	67 791	104 927	106 533	106 369	–9 530	–24 329	–38 578
Japan	3 124 559	2 930 792	3 035 511	670 885	726 688	552 620	2 453 673	2 204 104	2 482 890
Korea, Republic of	1 201 711	1 051 006	1 462 973	162 625	135 034	136 982	1 039 086	915 971	1 325 990
Kuwait	15 929	39 105	14 863	314	245	225	15 615	38 860	14 637
Malaysia	94 618	176 662	155 736	103 872	143 722	178 950	–9 254	32 940	–23 214
Mozambique	104 292	107 787	80 510	—	—	6	104 292	107 787	80 504
Netherlands	179 204	201 470	155 836	21 273	31 801	35 070	157 931	169 669	120 767
New Zealand	367 080	310 465	265 833	124 603	116 437	135 535	242 477	194 028	130 298
Norway	13 131	8 473	10 917	10 006	8 615	96 577	3 125	–142	–85 660
Pakistan	9 214	17 215	8 921	1 551	1 677	2 130	7 664	15 538	6 791
Papua New Guinea	32 953	125 419	112 770	143 109	153 173	147 145	–110 156	–27 754	–34 375
Philippines	21 657	94 474	129 772	5 954	7 737	6 168	15 703	86 737	123 603
Russian Federation	3 338	35 769	41 853	11 903	17 528	1 980	–8 565	18 242	39 873
Saudi Arabia	63 842	81 303	81 607	26 176	30 052	14 383	37 665	51 251	67 224
Singapore	644 586	481 485	400 092	459 704	621 373	619 347	184 882	–139 888	–219 255
South Africa	234 910	201 923	225 294	57 152	43 268	52 594	177 757	158 655	172 700
Spain	63 920	75 400	38 240	31 480	45 774	44 536	32 439	29 626	–6 297
Sweden	3 566	10 004	7 419	46 828	67 215	66 221	–43 262	–57 211	–58 802
Switzerland	14 659	416 945	615 977	56 611	16 075	17 476	–41 952	400 869	598 502
Taiwan	350 356	343 750	319 433	108 937	117 786	76 156	241 418	225 965	243 278
Thailand	431 557	513 576	371 053	156 762	228 484	323 845	274 795	285 092	47 207
Turkey	22 514	15 373	85 493	18 283	5 030	4 631	4 231	10 343	80 862
United Arab Emirates	174 081	462 734	759 192	411 874	468 750	453 883	–237 792	–6 016	305 309
United Kingdom	847 115	412 242	639 480	326 051	809 930	1 150 013	521 064	–397 688	–510 533
United States of America	349 527	348 894	277 693	533 523	494 708	416 980	–183 996	–145 815	–139 287
Viet Nam	444 175	118 518	53 952	17 776	11 913	35 139	426 398	106 606	18 813
Yemen	36 922	191	36 203	—	—	—	36 922	191	36 203
All other countries	199 472	253 974	219 046	127 014	275 509	162 506	72 458	–21 535	56 540
Total(c)	**14 761 956**	**15 634 882**	**15 313 216**	**4 830 759**	**5 954 740**	**6 217 195**	**9 931 198**	**9 680 142**	**9 096 021**

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)
(a) Free on board (f.o.b.) value.
(b) Customs value.
(c) Discrepancies may occur between sums of component items and totals due to rounding.

Source: ABS data available on request, *International Trade in Goods and Services, Australia,* cat. no. 5368.0.

25 MINERAL AND PETROLEUM EXPLORATION EXPENDITURE(a), By selected mineral

	ORIGINAL							SEAS. ADJ.	TREND	ORIGINAL
	Copper	Silver, lead, zinc	Nickel, cobalt	Gold	Iron ore	Diamonds	Total minerals(b)	Total minerals(b)	Total minerals(b)	Total petroleum
	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m
2004–2005	4.7	4.8	148.7	259.6	136.9	15.9	606.0	608.8	604.9	526.5
2005–2006	9.3	13.9	115.0	240.3	155.6	13.5	590.2	590.4	598.9	593.6
2006–2007	22.8	41.8	158.2	276.5	272.1	14.2	839.1	841.6	840.1	1 481.0
2006										
June	2.9	5.8	25.0	63.5	47.4	2.5	156.3	151.3	157.2	168.7
September	4.5	8.7	31.3	64.7	66.4	4.7	190.2	180.3	176.3	289.9
December	4.8	8.8	37.1	77.8	71.0	6.7	217.3	201.6	197.8	346.1
2007										
March	4.7	9.5	37.4	63.7	49.6	np	179.9	215.4	220.6	319.5
June	8.8	14.8	52.5	70.3	85.2	np	251.8	244.3	245.4	525.4
September	10.6	16.4	61.2	76.5	104.5	np	293.3	277.1	271.4	546.5

np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated

(a) Includes expenditure on Western Australia leases in the Zone of Cooperation Area B.

(b) Includes minerals not listed in the table.

Source: Mineral and Petroleum Exploration, Australia, cat. no. 8412.0.

26 MINERAL AND ENERGY PRODUCTION: **Original**

	SELECTED MINERALS							ENERGY		
	Gold(a)	Diamonds	Iron ore(b)	Bauxite	Ilmenite	Nickel	Zinc(c)	Electricity generated	Crude oil(d)	Natural gas(e)
Reference period	tonnes	'000 carats	'000 tonnes	'000 tonnes	'000 tonnes	'000 tonnes	'000 tonnes	million kWh	megalitres	million m^3
2004–2005	173	32 471	246 260	38 070	1 852	192	47	22 022	16 997	24 582
2005–2006	165	25 339	258 394	39 284	2 355	186	113	21 243	16 635	25 887
2006–2007	162	24 622	281 117	41 363	2 462	192	151	22 460	19 940	27 199
2006										
June	41	7 537	68 617	10 215	621	45	32	5 133	3 482	6 641
September	41	8 389	70 835	10 738	644	47	22	5 417	5 392	6 556
December	43	8 127	70 804	10 290	634	51	48	5 620	5 111	7 243
2007										
March	39	3 582	65 505	9 925	616	47	25	5 898	4 536	6 652
June	39	4 524	73 973	10 409	568	47	56	5 525	4 899	6 747
September	38	4 980	71 954	10 211	560	46	58	5 644	4 592	6 970

(a) Gold content of all ores, concentrates, slags, residues, intermediate products, refined and unrefined bullion.

(b) For use in iron and steel making.

(c) Zinc content of all ores, concentrates, slags, residues, intermediate products, refined zinc, zinc powders, flakes and dust.

(d) Includes condensate.

(e) Commercial sales plus field and plant usage.

Note: Latest figures are preliminary and subject to revision.

Source: ABARE, *Australian Mineral Statistics;* ABS data available on request, *Manufacturing Production, Australia,* cat. no. 8301.0.55.001.

27 LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTERED AND MEAT PRODUCED(a): **All series**

Reference period	LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTERED(b) Cattle(d)	Calves	Sheep	Lambs	Pigs	RED MEAT PRODUCED(c) Beef(e)	Veal	Mutton	Lamb	Pig meat
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	tonnes	tonnes	tonnes	tonnes	tonnes
ORIGINAL										
2004–05	510.5	4.3	2 205.2	2 466.7	647.0	131 407	250	43 842	49 122	43 999
2005–06	434.0	3.7	2 120.6	2 798.4	599.2	113 318	250	45 939	58 080	40 977
2006–07	448.7	3.7	2 613.8	2 523.2	568.1	114 434	249	53 553	50 610	38 901
2006										
June	105.2	0.9	491.9	721.6	153.7	27 570	60	10 537	15 262	10 575
September	106.2	1.1	560.9	559.5	135.1	27 843	77	11 818	11 318	9 115
December	115.1	0.7	805.3	548.3	140.5	29 466	50	16 721	10 733	9 558
2007										
March	116.4	0.8	697.1	695.8	144.8	29 559	49	14 015	14 062	9 988
June	111.0	1.1	550.5	719.6	147.6	27 565	72	10 999	14 497	10 239
September	115.4	1.1	524.9	592.9	139.0	28 998	76	10 880	11 564	9 570
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED										
2004–05	512.4	4.3	2 206.7	2 461.3	646.8	132 185	251	43 929	48 976	43 979
2005–06	434.5	3.7	2 129.5	2 801.4	599.1	113 365	248	46 128	58 140	40 973
2006–07	448.5	3.7	2 612.3	2 519.2	568.4	114 564	247	53 521	50 515	38 920
2006										
June	110.3	0.9	584.2	677.7	146.8	29 568	60	12 707	14 110	10 017
September	110.0	1.0	658.6	601.6	134.2	29 171	65	13 725	12 258	9 054
December	109.6	0.7	695.3	536.3	148.0	27 384	51	14 224	10 615	10 171
2007										
March	113.7	0.8	610.8	710.6	145.3	28 630	60	12 440	14 353	10 006
June	115.2	1.1	647.6	670.7	140.9	29 379	72	13 132	13 289	9 690
September	119.3	1.0	615.5	639.0	138.3	30 296	64	12 615	12 561	9 531
TREND										
2004–05	489.4	4.3	2 200.1	2 496.3	644.6	122 545	254	43 937	49 808	43 844
2005–06	438.3	3.7	2 159.9	2 746.3	596.5	113 901	247	46 523	56 885	40 748
2006–07	449.5	3.6	2 591.7	2 526.4	571.5	114 836	242	53 260	50 719	39 162
2006										
June	108.6	0.9	593.9	644.0	143.4	28 895	59	12 738	13 277	9 743
September	109.7	0.9	647.2	608.1	142.0	28 710	58	13 560	12 390	9 666
December	110.9	0.9	664.8	607.8	143.3	28 319	58	13 658	12 232	9 802
2007										
March	113.0	0.9	649.4	642.2	144.0	28 504	61	13 218	12 821	9 896
June	115.9	1.0	630.2	668.3	142.2	29 303	65	12 824	13 277	9 799
September	118.3	1.1	616.7	669.7	138.2	30 153	69	12 578	13 235	9 524

(a) Includes estimates of animals slaughtered for red meat production on farms and by country butchers and other small slaughtering establishments.
(b) Figures only relate to slaughterings for human consumption.
(c) Red meat is shown in carcass weight and excludes offal.
(d) Excludes calves.
(e) Excludes veal.

Source: Livestock Products, Australia, cat. no. 7215.0.

28 WHEAT AND LIVE SHEEP EXPORTS, Current prices: **Original**

Reference period	WHEAT(a) Gross weight		LIVE SHEEP Gross weight		
	Gross weight	Gross value	Gross weight	Quantity	Gross value
	tonnes	$'000	tonnes	no.	$'000
2004–2005	8 123 349	1 747 563	141 398	2 791 374	176 615
2005–2006	7 739 627	1 614 342	164 687	3 400 560	232 162
2006–2007	7 020 053	1 695 934	153 832	3 260 446	228 099
2006					
June	1 646 237	360 264	23 468	546 644	37 269
September	2 475 500	533 063	49 139	1 017 367	72 913
December	1 654 438	407 730	51 283	1 144 839	82 217
2007					
March	1 641 557	424 116	32 960	698 635	46 765
June	1 248 558	331 025	20 451	399 605	26 203
September	1 258 791	354 366	30 367	662 921	44 746

(a) Includes smelt and meslin, unmilled.

Source: ABS data available on request, *International Trade in Goods and Services, Australia,* cat. no. 5368.0.

29 WOOL RECEIVALS(a): **Original**

Reference period	*Brokers receivals*		*Dealers receivals*		*Total receivals*	
	'000 bales	tonnes	'000 bales	tonnes	'000 bales	tonnes
2004–2005	495 381	88 049	109 477	19 005	604 858	107 054
2005–2006	543 633	96 885	125 385	21 916	669 018	118 802
2006–2007	461 558	81 930	129 771	22 560	591 329	104 492
2006						
June	79 842	14 368	32 252	5 715	112 094	20 083
September	125 410	22 366	30 499	5 328	155 909	27 695
December	130 332	23 157	34 746	5 903	165 078	29 061
2007						
March	136 199	24 073	31 569	5 505	167 768	29 578
June	69 617	12 334	32 957	5 824	102 574	18 158
September	94 506	16 824	21 738	3 822	116 244	20 646

(a) Shows the amount of taxable wool received by brokers and purchased by dealers from wool producers. It excludes wool received by brokers on which tax has already been paid by other dealers (private buyers) or brokers.

Source: ABS data available on request, *Livestock Products, Australia,* cat. no. 7215.0.

30 OVERSEAS ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES: **Original**

Reference period	Permanent	LONG-TERM(a) WA residents	LONG-TERM(a) Overseas visitors	SHORT-TERM(b) WA residents	SHORT-TERM(b) Overseas visitors	Total
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
ARRIVALS						
2004–2005	16 318	11 451	20 823	531 400	500 117	1 080 108
2005–2006	17 638	11 840	25 207	556 467	498 622	1 109 772
2006–2007	19 783	12 257	31 222	622 735	528 602	1 214 599
2006						
July	1 302	834	3 841	61 449	35 848	103 274
August	1 657	869	1 975	51 638	32 143	88 282
September	1 707	867	1 808	52 286	34 324	90 992
October	1 823	1 069	2 229	60 917	48 065	114 102
November	1 596	1 171	1 771	43 514	48 600	96 652
December	1 546	1 984	1 583	39 749	74 151	119 014
2007						
January	1 696	1 186	4 514	73 761	43 253	124 409
February	1 565	909	4 758	40 713	51 258	99 203
March	1 829	986	2 388	44 475	50 631	100 309
April	1 527	878	2 327	52 126	43 917	100 775
May	1 652	695	1 779	48 195	33 319	85 641
June	1 883	809	2 249	53 912	33 093	91 946
July	1 554	806	4 939	74 992	39 866	122 157
August	2 089	924	2 718	67 138	38 705	111 575
September	1 615	883	2 624	63 572	42 798	111 492
DEPARTURES						
2004–2005	6 387	9 683	8 370	531 698	495 331	1 051 467
2005–2006	7 077	10 137	8 331	562 290	503 961	1 091 797
2006–2007	7 524	10 802	10 482	631 309	523 750	1 183 866
2006						
July	577	890	867	60 733	29 134	92 201
August	581	881	602	48 254	35 644	85 962
September	490	646	595	54 814	31 105	87 651
October	546	694	637	49 580	40 241	91 697
November	512	701	930	43 478	46 859	92 481
December	675	975	1 605	69 596	55 467	128 318
2007						
January	1 023	1 639	944	44 714	61 424	109 744
February	538	867	686	34 819	46 266	83 176
March	699	1 003	863	49 565	49 360	101 489
April	802	957	793	54 731	52 825	110 108
May	558	800	759	56 977	35 540	94 633
June	523	749	1 201	64 048	39 885	106 406
July	749	865	1 080	71 918	33 262	107 875
August	697	975	896	65 393	41 381	109 342
September	594	695	906	67 703	36 762	106 660

(a) Comprises travellers whose intended stay or absence is 12 months or more.

(b) Comprises travellers whose intended stay or absence is less than 12 months.

Source: ABS data available on request, *Overseas Arrivals and Departures, Australia,* cat. no. 3401.0.

31 SHORT-TERM OVERSEAS VISITOR ARRIVALS AND RESIDENT DEPARTURES(a), By air on holiday: **Original**

Reference period	New Zealand	United Kingdom and Ireland	Europe(b)	Indonesia	Malaysia	Singapore	Thailand	Hong Kong(c)	Japan	United States of America	South Africa	Total(d)
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
VISITOR ARRIVALS(e)												
2004–2005	12 043	56 925	30 984	7 810	25 407	47 473	5 324	5 900	31 197	4 323	3 177	245 156
2005–2006	12 119	63 000	33 092	7 625	21 300	40 062	4 542	6 397	28 595	5 114	4 282	242 047
2006–2007	11 996	68 471	33 377	7 616	20 394	40 589	3 921	5 899	24 803	4 807	5 357	245 904
2006												
July	835	2 878	2 619	680	886	1 493	237	694	1 552	336	199	13 996
August	940	2 349	1 943	561	1 712	1 942	305	419	2 578	346	235	14 513
September	1 469	3 152	2 492	477	1 125	2 160	302	425	2 517	133	463	15 942
October	1 178	6 430	3 675	1 313	2 162	3 390	469	553	2 548	275	330	23 475
November	980	6 737	3 731	461	1 811	4 282	191	427	2 778	958	399	24 546
December	1 553	15 734	5 140	1 021	2 484	6 042	462	646	2 544	469	1 163	39 939
2007												
January	633	7 455	3 658	269	494	1 177	151	79	1 538	307	302	17 503
February	366	7 282	3 038	586	2 305	3 228	134	772	2 153	505	345	23 036
March	962	7 775	2 458	441	1 608	3 143	551	584	2 077	639	808	22 612
April	1 104	4 277	1 947	590	2 009	3 559	606	777	1 761	232	510	18 865
May	920	2 185	1 381	575	2 265	4 789	263	256	1 572	263	245	15 885
June	1 056	2 217	1 295	642	1 533	5 384	250	267	1 185	344	358	15 592
July	1 132	3 227	3 074	576	903	1 673	342	555	1 754	341	203	15 861
August	1 102	2 590	2 463	448	2 448	3 428	342	239	2 980	222	214	17 853
September	1 652	3 207	2 578	561	1 404	3 101	1 683	433	2 476	228	464	19 317
RESIDENT DEPARTURES(f)												
2004–2005	24 650	20 515	16 547	94 086	17 720	25 455	22 604	5 959	2 684	10 327	3 164	279 353
2005–2006	24 910	26 824	22 549	64 492	23 175	30 758	33 642	8 656	3 035	13 359	3 423	299 305
2006–2007	29 257	30 643	24 664	64 205	25 576	31 436	50 111	9 345	4 303	15 866	4 321	342 132
2006												
July	3 925	4 171	3 326	4 995	2 685	3 835	5 115	969	223	1 349	209	35 325
August	2 577	3 186	2 306	4 205	1 572	2 222	4 244	883	166	1 441	326	26 406
September	1 964	3 185	2 886	5 675	2 709	2 455	4 494	614	284	1 644	332	31 046
October	2 061	1 816	1 139	4 227	2 394	1 945	5 434	721	163	1 168	294	26 235
November	1 932	923	587	5 395	1 242	1 940	3 558	910	113	683	206	21 378
December	4 935	2 565	2 121	6 515	3 705	3 872	4 455	865	641	1 832	1 166	39 248
2007												
January	2 000	1 088	614	4 962	2 406	1 827	2 767	560	736	1 023	384	22 984
February	2 136	668	706	3 283	962	1 547	2 881	497	624	484	124	16 570
March	2 828	1 653	1 379	5 181	1 779	2 470	3 694	773	472	931	408	25 660
April	2 629	2 363	1 977	6 170	2 297	3 085	4 542	680	524	2 069	473	31 302
May	1 062	3 955	3 841	5 559	1 290	3 009	3 701	1 205	226	1 629	204	30 152
June	1 208	5 070	3 782	8 038	2 535	3 229	5 226	668	131	1 613	195	35 826
July	4 431	3 624	3 962	7 912	3 379	4 275	7 020	971	152	870	230	42 057
August	2 539	3 630	4 405	8 925	1 212	3 880	6 440	908	302	1 568	386	38 974
September	2 960	3 328	5 283	8 667	2 108	3 213	6 422	1 044	349	1 973	215	42 643

(a) Comprises travellers whose intended stay is less than 12 months.
(b) Excluding United Kingdom and Ireland.
(c) Special Administrative Region of China.
(d) Total includes countries not listed.
(e) Overseas visitor arrivals by air on holiday from selected country of residence.
(f) Resident departures by air on holiday to selected country of main destination.

Source: ABS data available on request, *Overseas Arrivals and Departures, Australia*, cat. no. 3401.0.

32 TOURIST ACCOMMODATION, Summary of Hotels, motels and serviced apartments: **Original**

Quarter	Establishments	Rooms	Room nights occupied	Room occupancy rate	Guest arrivals	Takings from accommodation
	no.	no.	'000	%	'000	$'000
HOTELS, MOTELS AND SERVICED APARTMENTS WITH 5–14 ROOMS						
2006						
March	130	1 084	42.2	45.1	38.2	4 769
June	132	1 113	44.6	44.4	40.4	4 742
September	140	1 178	49.2	45.5	47.8	5 487
December	143	1 211	56.5	50.8	57.1	6 670
2007						
March	145	1 241	57.3	52.4	54.0	6 745
June	142	1 221	55.7	50.1	53.2	6 593
HOTELS, MOTELS AND SERVICED APARTMENTS WITH 15 OR MORE ROOMS						
2006						
March	352	21 036	1 224.7	64.7	872.6	148 824
June	350	21 082	1 198.2	62.5	806.9	146 961
September	348	21 172	1 279.4	65.7	906.8	163 219
December	349	21 262	1 356.3	69.5	901.7	181 034
2007						
March	345	21 017	1 312.7	69.9	858.6	177 003
June	347	21 088	1 265.8	66.1	840.9	172 641
HOTELS, MOTELS AND SERVICED APARTMENTS WITH 5 OR MORE ROOMS						
2006						
March	482	22 120	1 266.9	63.8	910.8	153 593
June	482	22 195	1 242.8	61.6	847.3	151 703
September	488	22 350	1 328.5	64.7	954.6	168 706
December	492	22 473	1 412.7	68.5	958.8	187 704
2007						
March	490	22 258	1 370.0	68.9	912.6	183 749
June	489	22 309	1 321.5	65.2	894.1	179 234

Source: Tourist Accommodation, Australia, cat. no. 8635.0.

33 TOURIST ACCOMMODATION, Summary of Caravan parks, Holiday flats, units and houses and Visitor hostels: **Original**

Quarter	Establishments(a) no.	Capacity(b) no.	Nights occupied(c) '000	Occupancy rate(d) %	Takings from accommodation $'000
			CARAVAN PARKS(e)		
2006					
March	202	26 210	1 069.9	45.4	25 758
June	202	26 154	1 176.8	49.4	28 125
September	198	25 807	1 319.6	55.6	30 962
December	198	25 525	1 120.2	47.9	28 960
2007					
March	194	25 126	1 102.6	49.2	28 089
June	197	25 061	1 195.3	52.5	29 326
			HOLIDAY FLATS, UNITS AND HOUSES		
2006					
March	1 160	6 230	69.4	66.5	7 016
June	1 215	6 522	62.8	56.8	6 299
September	1 254	6 564	60.3	52.3	6 231
December	1 324	6 843	85.4	70.1	9 084
2007					
March	1 241	6 414	82.4	73.8	9 035
June	1 273	6 512	73.0	63.0	7 868
			VISITOR HOSTELS(f)		
2006					
March	65	4 984	253.2	56.4	5 403
June	65	5 003	224.3	49.4	4 748
September	66	5 305	224.5	46.2	4 952
December	66	5 433	283.4	56.7	6 457
2007					
March	65	5 355	302.2	62.7	6 622
June	64	5 343	285.8	58.8	6 468

(a) Number of establishments for Caravan parks and Visitor hostels. Total number of Holiday flats, units and houses.
(b) Total capacity for Caravan parks (including on-site vans, other powered sites, unpowered sites and cabins, flats, units and villas). Number of bed spaces for Holiday flats, units and houses and Visitor hostels.
(c) Site nights occupied for Caravan parks. Unit nights occupied for Holiday flats, units and houses. Guest nights occupied for Visitor hostels.
(d) Site occupancy rate for Caravan parks. Unit occupancy rate for Holiday flats, units and houses. Bed occupancy rate for Visitor hostels.
(e) Comprising establishments with 40 or more powered sites and cabins, flats, units and villas.
(f) Comprising establishments with 25 or more bed spaces.
Source: Tourist Accommodation, Australia, cat. no. 8635.0.

34 LABOUR FORCE STATUS (AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER), By sex: Trend

Month	EMPLOYED Full-time	Total	Total unemployed	Labour force(a)	Participation rate	Unemployment rate
	'000	'000	'000	'000	%	%
MALES						
2006						
September	523.2	606.1	17.7	623.8	75.9	2.8
October	523.8	606.4	18.2	624.6	75.8	2.9
November	524.2	606.4	18.5	624.8	75.7	3.0
December	524.4	606.4	18.3	624.7	75.5	2.9
2007						
January	524.4	606.9	17.8	624.7	75.3	2.8
February	524.5	608.2	17.3	625.5	75.2	2.8
March	525.3	610.3	17.2	627.5	75.3	2.7
April	527.0	612.9	17.4	630.3	75.5	2.8
May	529.6	615.7	18.0	633.7	75.7	2.8
June	532.8	618.3	18.8	637.1	76.0	2.9
July	536.0	620.5	19.6	640.1	76.2	3.1
August	538.5	622.4	20.2	642.6	76.3	3.1
September	540.3	623.9	20.6	644.6	76.4	3.2
October	541.4	625.2	21.1	646.3	76.4	3.3
November	542.2	626.1	21.2	647.3	76.4	3.3
FEMALES						
2006						
September	242.9	469.5	20.0	489.4	59.2	4.1
October	243.2	470.9	19.7	490.6	59.2	4.0
November	244.0	473.4	18.9	492.3	59.3	3.8
December	245.4	476.4	17.8	494.2	59.4	3.6
2007						
January	247.0	479.2	16.8	496.0	59.5	3.4
February	248.5	481.2	16.4	497.6	59.6	3.3
March	250.0	482.7	16.6	499.4	59.7	3.3
April	251.9	484.3	17.3	501.5	59.9	3.4
May	254.2	486.3	18.0	504.4	60.1	3.6
June	256.7	488.9	18.7	507.6	60.4	3.7
July	259.0	491.4	19.0	510.4	60.6	3.7
August	260.8	493.2	19.2	512.3	60.7	3.7
September	262.2	494.0	19.1	513.1	60.7	3.7
October	263.3	494.3	18.9	513.2	60.6	3.7
November	263.8	493.6	18.7	512.2	60.4	3.6
PERSONS						
2006						
September	766.1	1 075.5	37.7	1 113.2	67.5	3.4
October	767.0	1 077.3	37.9	1 115.2	67.5	3.4
November	768.2	1 079.8	37.4	1 117.2	67.5	3.3
December	769.8	1 082.9	36.0	1 118.9	67.4	3.2
2007						
January	771.3	1 086.1	34.6	1 120.6	67.4	3.1
February	773.0	1 089.4	33.7	1 123.1	67.4	3.0
March	775.3	1 093.0	33.8	1 126.9	67.5	3.0
April	778.9	1 097.2	34.7	1 131.9	67.7	3.1
May	783.8	1 102.0	36.0	1 138.1	67.9	3.2
June	789.6	1 107.2	37.5	1 144.7	68.2	3.3
July	794.9	1 111.9	38.6	1 150.5	68.4	3.4
August	799.3	1 115.6	39.4	1 154.9	68.5	3.4
September	802.5	1 118.0	39.7	1 157.7	68.5	3.4
October	804.7	1 119.5	40.0	1 159.5	68.5	3.5
November	805.9	1 119.6	39.9	1 159.5	68.4	3.4

(a) Discrepancies may occur between sums of component items and totals due to rounding.

Source: Labour Force, Australia, cat. no. 6202.0.

35 NUMBER OF EMPLOYED PERSONS(a), By industry and occupation: **Original**

	2006		2007			
	August	*November*	*February*	*May*	*August*	*November*
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
Western Australia	1 065.2	1 081.6	1 091.7	1 103.6	1 110.3	1 115.1
Industry(b)						
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	42.8	42.0	45.0	43.0	44.1	43.0
Mining	53.5	52.3	51.9	49.6	52.0	51.9
Manufacturing	101.1	98.2	101.4	97.8	95.6	98.2
Electricity, gas and water supply	12.2	11.6	10.7	13.1	11.0	10.9
Construction	103.6	115.2	110.5	105.9	106.2	126.1
Wholesale trade	47.7	46.0	44.8	45.8	47.1	44.7
Retail trade	147.8	154.7	156.7	158.9	155.9	147.1
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	45.3	45.4	48.5	48.9	45.4	42.5
Transport and storage	42.7	40.1	40.3	45.6	49.0	52.8
Communication services	16.7	14.4	14.2	17.8	16.3	16.7
Finance and insurance	29.5	28.7	29.5	32.5	32.6	28.4
Property and business services	133.0	128.3	131.9	134.2	143.9	135.4
Government administration and defence	47.5	54.8	54.1	51.4	46.9	47.7
Education	72.9	73.7	71.1	76.1	77.9	82.0
Health and community services	101.0	99.7	109.7	107.9	115.2	115.6
Cultural and recreational services	23.4	30.5	27.4	30.1	28.1	28.2
Personal and other services	44.6	45.8	44.0	45.2	43.1	43.8
Occupation(c)						
Managers and administrators	77.4	79.3	81.2	82.6	88.2	90.7
Professionals	192.5	191.7	197.8	213.5	227.1	221.9
Associate professionals	132.5	135.3	133.7	142.0	137.0	137.9
Tradespersons and related workers	158.4	158.0	153.2	146.2	147.6	161.5
Advanced clerical and service workers	41.1	39.4	37.1	37.9	37.4	38.5
Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers	172.6	176.0	186.4	182.7	177.2	171.0
Intermediate production and transport workers	95.6	107.8	105.8	102.6	103.0	110.6
Elementary clerical, sales and service workers	95.3	94.5	101.0	98.4	97.8	90.8
Labourers and related workers	99.9	99.7	95.6	97.6	95.0	92.3

(a) Timeseries subject to major revisions due to improvements in data estimation methodology. For details please see *Information Paper : Forthcoming Changes to Labour Force Statistics,* cat. no. 6292.0.

(b) ANZSIC Division.

(c) ASCO Major group.

Source: Labour Force, Australia, cat. no. 6202.0.

36 NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES AND HOURS WORKED(a), By industry: **Original**

ANZSIC Division	2006 August	2006 November	2007 February	2007 May	2007 August	2007 November
NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES ('000)						
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	24.1	22.3	23.0	22.2	21.9	20.4
Mining	52.9	50.8	51.4	48.9	51.8	51.2
Manufacturing	92.0	89.0	93.2	90.2	86.1	88.3
Electricity, gas and water supply	12.0	11.6	10.7	12.8	11.0	10.3
Construction	68.7	78.4	78.8	74.1	69.8	80.5
Wholesale trade	43.3	40.6	39.8	42.1	42.9	41.2
Retail trade	131.8	142.9	144.1	142.5	139.0	134.1
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	41.0	41.0	45.3	44.4	40.8	38.1
Transport and storage	35.2	33.0	33.1	39.9	41.8	45.0
Communication services	14.4	12.9	11.9	15.7	13.8	15.1
Finance and insurance	27.2	25.3	27.2	31.8	31.7	26.6
Property and business services	110.3	109.6	108.2	110.5	117.7	114.3
Government administration and defence	47.5	54.6	53.5	51.4	46.8	47.5
Education	69.2	70.7	69.2	73.7	76.0	79.8
Health and community services	95.3	94.1	104.3	101.0	107.1	106.5
Cultural and recreational services	20.0	26.1	22.7	25.3	23.5	22.0
Personal and other services	34.3	36.2	35.7	37.3	35.0	36.5
Total	**919.1**	**939.1**	**952.1**	**963.5**	**956.5**	**957.4**
TOTAL WEEKLY HOURS WORKED ('000)						
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	992.6	983.6	975.3	981.5	741.3	963.2
Mining	2 533.5	2 503.3	2 243.5	2 349.1	2 130.8	2 233.4
Manufacturing	3 502.5	3 525.6	3 666.2	3 531.8	3 297.9	3 456.6
Electricity, gas and water supply	474.1	460.6	386.4	510.9	454.4	463.7
Construction	2 785.9	3 262.4	3 329.3	3 064.1	2 732.2	3 322.6
Wholesale trade	1 708.4	1 616.7	1 538.5	1 654.6	1 743.0	1 695.9
Retail trade	3 780.3	4 137.0	4 153.3	3 980.8	3 966.5	3 920.0
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	1 226.0	1 183.9	1 385.7	1 285.4	1 226.3	1 136.1
Transport and storage	1 382.9	1 364.1	1 417.2	1 624.0	1 729.4	1 819.7
Communication services	515.5	455.2	436.0	573.1	447.2	542.7
Finance and insurance	930.2	885.4	958.1	1 087.0	1 070.4	898.4
Property and business services	3 929.8	3 930.4	4 067.1	4 063.1	4 170.6	4 157.7
Government administration and defence	1 616.3	1 841.1	1 793.7	1 705.6	1 549.8	1 639.1
Education	2 154.0	2 277.5	2 274.7	2 436.1	2 589.4	2 645.7
Health and community services	2 744.3	2 790.6	3 018.1	2 892.6	3 098.1	3 225.1
Cultural and recreational services	560.7	664.6	552.5	726.5	711.6	671.6
Personal and other services	1 144.3	1 243.9	1 184.8	1 214.2	1 169.5	1 244.1
Total	**31 981.1**	**33 126.0**	**33 380.5**	**33 680.5**	**32 828.3**	**34 035.6**
AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS WORKED (no.)						
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	41.2	44.0	42.5	44.2	33.9	47.1
Mining	47.9	49.2	43.6	48.1	41.1	43.6
Manufacturing	38.1	39.6	39.3	39.2	38.3	39.2
Electricity, gas and water supply	39.6	39.6	36.1	40.0	41.4	45.2
Construction	40.5	41.6	42.3	41.3	39.2	41.3
Wholesale trade	39.5	39.8	38.7	39.3	40.6	41.1
Retail trade	28.7	29.0	28.8	27.9	28.5	29.2
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	29.9	28.9	30.6	29.0	30.0	29.8
Transport and storage	39.3	41.4	42.8	40.7	41.3	40.5
Communication services	35.7	35.2	36.6	36.6	32.4	36.0
Finance and insurance	34.2	35.0	35.2	34.2	33.8	33.8
Property and business services	35.6	35.9	37.6	36.8	35.4	36.4
Government administration and defence	34.1	33.7	33.5	33.2	33.1	34.5
Education	31.1	32.2	32.9	33.1	34.1	33.1
Health and community services	28.8	29.6	28.9	28.6	28.9	30.3
Cultural and recreational services	28.1	25.5	24.4	28.8	30.3	30.5
Personal and other services	33.4	34.4	33.2	32.6	33.4	34.1
Total	**34.8**	**35.3**	**35.1**	**35.0**	**34.3**	**35.5**

(a) Timeseries subject to major revisions due to improvements in data estimation methodology.

Source: Labour Force, Australia, cat. no. 6202.0.

37 NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES AND HOURS WORKED(a), By occupation: **Original**

	2006		2007			
ASCO Major group	*August*	*November*	*February*	*May*	*August*	*November*
NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES (*'000*)						
Managers and administrators	54.7	58.9	60.1	60.2	64.1	66.6
Professionals	172.0	173.0	179.8	192.5	203.5	199.8
Associate professionals	113.0	117.2	112.4	120.5	111.1	115.3
Tradespersons and related workers	121.8	118.0	119.5	112.8	115.3	122.9
Advanced clerical and service workers	33.5	31.2	29.0	30.6	30.4	31.8
Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers	165.5	166.3	177.1	175.3	166.8	162.2
Intermediate production and transport workers	83.5	95.4	93.4	90.6	90.2	96.9
Elementary clerical, sales and service workers	89.9	91.7	97.3	94.0	93.7	85.7
Labourers and related workers	85.1	87.4	83.4	86.9	81.5	76.1
Total	**919.1**	**939.1**	**952.1**	**963.5**	**956.5**	**957.4**
TOTAL WEEKLY HOURS WORKED (*'000*)						
Managers and administrators	2 427.5	2 627.4	2 697.2	2 826.2	2 805.0	3 053.9
Professionals	6 173.2	6 254.9	6 473.8	6 957.6	7 300.5	7 126.8
Associate professionals	4 462.7	4 630.5	4 521.4	4 630.0	4 265.0	4 369.1
Tradespersons and related workers	5 020.9	4 878.5	4 896.9	4 711.1	4 531.0	5 145.8
Advanced clerical and service workers	979.0	983.7	855.2	940.5	882.9	981.4
Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers	4 985.7	5 115.8	5 347.1	5 315.0	5 080.9	4 909.0
Intermediate production and transport workers	3 276.2	3 823.9	3 679.1	3 319.6	3 355.4	3 859.2
Elementary clerical, sales and service workers	2 156.7	2 197.2	2 374.6	2 277.5	2 209.4	2 201.1
Labourers and related workers	2 499.3	2 614.0	2 535.4	2 703.1	2 398.1	2 389.4
Total	**31 981.1**	**33 126.0**	**33 380.5**	**33 680.5**	**32 828.3**	**34 035.6**
AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS WORKED (*no.*)						
Managers and administrators	44.4	44.6	44.9	46.9	43.8	45.8
Professionals	35.9	36.1	36.0	36.1	35.9	35.7
Associate professionals	39.5	39.5	40.2	38.4	38.4	37.9
Tradespersons and related workers	41.2	41.3	41.0	41.7	39.3	41.9
Advanced clerical and service workers	29.2	31.5	29.5	30.8	29.1	30.8
Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers	30.1	30.8	30.2	30.3	30.5	30.3
Intermediate production and transport workers	39.2	40.1	39.4	36.6	37.2	39.8
Elementary clerical, sales and service workers	24.0	24.0	24.4	24.2	23.6	25.7
Labourers and related workers	29.4	29.9	30.4	31.1	29.4	31.4
Total	**34.8**	**35.3**	**35.1**	**35.0**	**34.3**	**35.5**

(a) Timeseries subject to major revisions due to improvements in data estimation methodology. For details please see *Information Paper : Forthcoming Changes to Labour Force Statistics,* cat. no. 6292.0.

Source: Labour Force, Australia, cat. no. 6202.0.

38 AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS OF EMPLOYEES: **All series**

	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	*Full-time adult total earnings*	*All employees total earnings*	*Full-time adult ordinary time earnings*	*Full-time adult total earnings*	*All employees total earnings*	*Full-time adult ordinary time earnings*	*Full-time adult total earnings*	*All employees total earnings*
Quarter	$	$	$	$	$	$	$	$	$
					ORIGINAL				
2006									
May	1 172.70	1 239.90	1 031.30	878.20	893.60	571.70	1 074.10	1 124.00	808.70
August	1 222.80	1 295.60	1 082.00	905.30	923.30	606.80	1 122.00	1 177.40	864.40
November	1 232.90	1 299.00	1 097.50	913.90	929.40	623.00	1 130.90	1 180.80	878.50
2007									
February	1 241.80	1 310.10	1 116.90	934.20	949.60	637.70	1 140.50	1 191.40	893.50
May	1 283.30	1 362.60	1 158.10	938.30	958.00	639.60	1 171.50	1 231.40	914.40
August	1 297.20	1 370.30	1 187.20	950.80	971.00	662.60	1 185.80	1 241.90	943.90
					SEASONALLY ADJUSTED				
2006									
May	1 169.60	1 233.90	1 035.40	882.00	897.70	577.50	1 073.20	1 121.60	814.50
August	1 223.10	1 298.60	1 083.60	901.10	920.20	602.20	1 120.80	1 177.30	859.40
November	1 231.10	1 296.00	1 092.30	916.00	929.50	625.50	1 129.50	1 178.70	879.20
2007									
February	1 246.40	1 316.60	1 115.80	932.50	948.40	633.80	1 144.30	1 196.50	891.50
May	1 280.10	1 355.90	1 163.50	942.30	962.30	646.10	1 170.20	1 228.50	921.60
August	1 297.70	1 373.80	1 188.30	946.30	967.70	657.30	1 184.70	1 241.90	937.80
					TREND				
2006									
May	1 185.60	1 254.50	1 052.10	883.40	899.90	580.20	1 087.10	1 138.90	827.50
August	1 208.90	1 277.30	1 069.90	899.50	915.80	601.00	1 108.80	1 160.20	850.50
November	1 232.20	1 301.50	1 094.60	917.00	932.90	621.30	1 130.50	1 182.60	876.00
2007									
February	1 253.40	1 324.30	1 124.10	930.50	947.10	635.30	1 149.00	1 202.40	897.90
May	1 274.70	1 348.20	1 155.70	940.80	959.60	646.40	1 166.40	1 222.10	917.60
August	1 298.90	1 376.50	1 190.30	949.20	971.10	656.20	1 185.80	1 244.70	937.50

Source: Average weekly Earnings, Australia, cat. no. 6302.0.

39 AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS OF EMPLOYEES, By industry: **Original**

ANZSIC Division	2006 May	2006 August	2006 November	2007 February	2007 May	2007 August
FULL-TIME ADULT ORDINARY TIME EARNINGS ($)						
Mining	1 717.10	1 711.40	1 772.40	1 832.00	1 906.30	1 919.30
Manufacturing	1 152.40	1 154.20	1 135.70	1 147.40	1 142.70	1 144.80
Electricity, gas and water supply	1 308.60	1 440.50	1 402.40	1 393.00	1 453.20	1 491.10
Construction	1 113.70	1 247.10	1 110.70	1 170.70	1 200.40	1 205.10
Wholesale trade	1 005.80	991.60	1 073.40	1 071.70	1 109.40	1 069.50
Retail trade	757.20	738.50	768.50	771.80	798.70	869.80
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	794.90	797.60	897.80	899.70	873.30	888.50
Transport and storage	999.50	1 019.50	986.10	1 029.50	987.50	973.30
Communication services	997.00	1 026.40	1 020.20	998.80	978.30	980.10
Finance and insurance	1 004.90	1 126.90	1 177.60	1 165.30	1 167.00	1 147.40
Property and business services	1 109.80	1 225.00	1 307.90	1 279.10	1 331.90	1 327.50
Government administration and defence	1 035.20	1 051.10	1 083.30	1 071.30	1 075.30	1 086.10
Education	1 067.40	1 071.40	1 087.20	1 077.00	1 082.10	1 100.70
Health and community services	934.50	1 009.40	1 008.50	1 037.30	1 140.70	1 205.90
Cultural and recreational services	904.80	944.00	946.80	1 004.70	1 049.20	1 088.60
Personal and other services	969.00	1 047.00	939.70	949.30	1 025.40	1 057.10
Total	**1 074.10**	**1 122.00**	**1 130.90**	**1 140.50**	**1 171.50**	**1 185.80**
FULL-TIME ADULT TOTAL EARNINGS ($)						
Mining	1 792.20	1 768.30	1 828.00	1 853.30	1 924.80	1 947.40
Manufacturing	1 250.10	1 233.30	1 201.80	1 215.60	1 210.90	1 229.40
Electricity, gas and water supply	1 416.00	1 565.00	1 523.00	1 499.20	1 561.00	1 606.60
Construction	1 253.30	1 477.10	1 322.40	1 434.30	1 458.40	1 431.00
Wholesale trade	1 056.70	1 029.20	1 107.60	1 111.40	1 145.30	1 110.90
Retail trade	791.20	768.70	800.90	798.00	824.70	890.80
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	820.70	817.00	931.00	927.30	895.40	911.40
Transport and storage	1 049.10	1 081.20	1 052.20	1 093.90	1 068.90	1 055.20
Communication services	1 042.70	1 096.40	1 078.20	1 043.80	1 039.40	1 036.20
Finance and insurance	1 015.90	1 132.20	1 181.60	1 169.20	1 172.00	1 152.50
Property and business services	1 125.50	1 243.70	1 319.50	1 293.10	1 375.50	1 360.00
Government administration and defence	1 057.30	1 069.10	1 103.90	1 092.20	1 104.70	1 107.80
Education	1 069.60	1 074.40	1 090.70	1 079.60	1 085.70	1 105.30
Health and community services	972.20	1 052.20	1 045.10	1 076.60	1 186.20	1 256.60
Cultural and recreational services	921.40	955.00	968.60	1 009.30	1 054.20	1 095.00
Personal and other services	1 021.90	1 092.20	986.20	992.70	1 068.80	1 089.40
Total	**1 124.00**	**1 177.40**	**1 180.80**	**1 191.40**	**1 231.40**	**1 241.90**
ALL EMPLOYEES TOTAL EARNINGS ($)						
Mining	1 765.70	1 706.20	1 772.90	1 781.50	1 875.00	1 888.70
Manufacturing	1 130.80	1 121.20	1 124.70	1 140.60	1 124.30	1 144.90
Electricity, gas and water supply	1 382.50	1 515.20	1 473.10	1 460.10	1 516.50	1 559.30
Construction	1 092.80	1 228.30	1 119.30	1 288.50	1 314.60	1 278.40
Wholesale trade	937.10	887.00	981.30	978.90	1 014.30	972.90
Retail trade	418.00	406.70	459.20	449.50	452.60	484.70
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	355.10	384.40	384.00	434.90	469.10	532.20
Transport and storage	994.80	990.50	940.60	1 002.60	948.10	944.70
Communication services	909.00	953.60	929.80	898.80	892.00	876.10
Finance and insurance	822.70	872.10	870.40	974.20	946.30	982.60
Property and business services	867.30	931.10	987.00	927.60	985.90	1 055.20
Government administration and defence	918.30	927.20	943.00	947.90	954.80	960.90
Education	725.00	752.00	755.30	802.80	746.20	775.90
Health and community services	679.80	720.80	744.80	746.30	820.50	845.90
Cultural and recreational services	602.10	640.10	694.80	710.50	658.60	730.70
Personal and other services	524.00	863.90	783.00	748.50	807.80	841.40
Total	**808.70**	**864.40**	**878.50**	**893.50**	**914.40**	**943.90**

Source: Average Weekly Earnings, Australia, cat. no. 6302.0.

40 INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES WHICH OCCURRED DURING THE PERIOD: Original

Reference period	Number of disputes	Number of employees involved	Working days lost	Working days lost per thousand employees
	no.	'000	'000	no.
2004	134	26.7	64.1	. .
2005	115	23.3	53.5	. .
2006	np	3.9	4.5	. .
2006				
June	np	1.3	1.1	1.2
September	3	0.2	0.2	0.3
December	4	1.2	0.9	1.0
2007				
March	6	0.7	0.5	0.5
June	np	0.4	0.4	0.4
September	5	0.5	0.9	0.9

. . not applicable

np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated

Source: ABS data available on request, Industrial Disputes, Australia, cat. no. 6321.0.55.001.

41 JOB VACANCIES FOR EMPLOYEES, By sector: Original

Quarter	PRIVATE Job vacancies	PRIVATE Change from same quarter previous year	PUBLIC Job vacancies	PUBLIC Change from same quarter previous year	TOTAL Job vacancies	TOTAL Change from same quarter previous year
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
2006						
May	19.7	49.2	1.5	15.0	21.2	46.1
August	21.4	36.4	1.2	–6.2	22.6	33.3
November	22.5	55.3	1.4	4.3	23.9	51.0
2007						
February	23.7	23.0	1.3	np	25.0	21.3
May	25.1	26.9	1.9	28.9	27.0	27.0
August	28.2	31.8	1.6	32.2	29.7	31.8

np not published due to break in series

Source: Job Vacancies, Australia, cat. no. 6354.0.

42 ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION AND COMPONENTS OF POPULATION CHANGE(a)

Reference period	ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION(b)			COMPONENTS OF POPULATION GROWTH					
	Male	*Female*	*Total*	*Births*	*Deaths*	*Natural increase*(c)	*Net interstate migration*	*Net overseas migration*(d)	*Total population growth*(e)
	persons	persons	persons	persons	persons	persons	persons	persons	persons
2004–2005	1 016 065	1 000 330	2 016 395	25 439	11 180	14 259	2 218	17 160	34 389
2005–2006	1 039 653	1 019 392	2 059 045	26 908	11 745	15 163	4 017	22 355	42 650
2006–2007	1 064 600	1 041 183	2 105 783	28 608	11 799	16 809	4 410	25 519	46 738
2004	1 005 812	992 332	1 998 144	24 968	11 139	13 829	2 286	13 974	30 811
2005	1 027 107	1 009 675	2 036 782	26 351	11 422	14 929	2 849	19 920	38 638
2006	1 051 194	1 029 773	2 080 967	27 757	11 539	16 218	4 248	23 158	44 185
2006									
March	1 034 621	1 015 419	2 050 040	6 810	2 748	4 062	1 409	7 510	13 258
June	1 039 653	1 019 392	2 059 045	6 812	2 894	3 918	1 018	3 785	9 005
September	1 045 355	1 024 528	2 069 883	7 074	2 946	4 128	889	5 821	10 838
December	1 051 194	1 029 773	2 080 967	7 061	2 951	4 110	932	6 042	11 084
2007									
March	1 058 490	1 036 059	2 094 549	7 283	2 949	4 334	1 234	8 014	13 582
June	1 064 600	1 041 183	2 105 783	7 190	2 953	4 237	1 355	5 642	11 234

(a) ERP data may be final, revised or preliminary at any point in time. See the 'ERP Data Status' section of the Notes in the source publication.
(b) At end of reference period.
(c) Births minus deaths.
(d) Adjusted for category jumping.
(e) Differences may occur between total growth and the sum of natural increase and net migration due to intercensal discrepancy.

Source: Australian Demographic Statistics, cat. no. 3101.0.

43 REPORTED OFFENCES(a)(b)

	2006			2007		
	June	*September*	*December*	*March*	*June*	*September*
Selected offences	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
Homicide(c)	22	22	24	17	16	12
Assault(d)	6 003	6 465	6 921	7 028	6 214	6 154
Robbery(e)	453	471	540	551	489	474
Burglary(f)	10 045	9 562	10 080	10 269	8 509	9 097
Steal Motor Vehicle(g)	1 924	1 918	1 991	2 058	1 662	1 818
Theft	20 096	21 063	20 481	20 558	19 830	19 402
Property Damage	9 797	10 782	11 340	11 648	10 507	10 772
Drugs	4 294	4 711	4 010	3 855	5 055	4 475
Other(h)	5 255	6 185	6 037	6 274	5 726	5 326
Total reported offences	**57 889**	**61 179**	**61 424**	**62 258**	**58 008**	**57 530**

(a) Reported offences are selected offences reported to, or becoming known to, police and resulting in the submission of a report. The number of reported offences in a period may include offences that occurred during earlier periods. The data are subject to revisions as further data become available. Offence classifications may alter between periods due to changes in legislation, administrative recording practices or system coding, and locality boundaries may change. Therefore, time series may be broken.

(b) Definitional, coding and processing changes associated with the introduction of the Frontline Incident Management System have had an impact on some data. Variations in data may have resulted from reporting and recording changes, and may not reflect an actual increase or decrease in the incidence of an offence type or in total offence numbers. Therefore, caution should be exercised when interpreting and using offence statistics from late 2002, and when comparing those statistics with earlier periods.

(c) Includes driving causing death.

(d) Includes sexual assault.

(e) Includes armed and unarmed offences.

(f) Includes burglary to dwellings and buildings other than dwellings.

(g) Includes motorised and other vehicles.

(h) Includes offences such as fraud, arson and threatening behaviour.

Note: Graffiti offences no longer appear in the table.

Source: Western Australian Police Service, *Offence Information System/Frontline Incident Management System.*

44 INCOME(a)

	Unit	1995-96	2003-04(b)	2004-05	2005-06
DISPOSABLE HOUSEHOLD INCOME					
Mean weekly income of selected households(c)					
Lone person aged under 35	$	414	601	640	631
Couple only, reference person aged under 35	$	1 131	1 131	1 322	1 268
Couple with dependent children only	$	1 002	1 228	1 311	1 544
One parent with dependent children only	$	608	660	675	809
Couple only, reference person aged 65 and over	$	527	557	624	661
Lone person aged 65 and over	$	329	319	364	349
All households	$	827	907	950	1 053
Mean weekly equivalised household income for selected groups of persons(c)					
Low income(d)	$	254	295	321	354
Middle income(d)	$	426	483	512	581
High income(d)	$	927	1 049	1 061	1 255
All persons	$	483	548	573	658
Weekly equivalised household income of persons at top of selected percentiles(c)					
P20	$	250	293	321	355
P50	$	424	477	511	581
P80	$	689	749	771	886
Ratio of equivalised household incomes of persons at top of selected income percentiles(c)					
P90/P10	ratio	4.1	3.9	3.6	3.8
P80/P20	ratio	2.8	2.6	2.4	2.5
P80/P50	ratio	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.5
P20/P50	ratio	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6
Share of total equivalised household income received by persons with:					
Low incomes(d)	%	38.5	38.3	37.0	38.1
High incomes(d)	%	10.5	10.7	11.2	10.8
Gini coefficient of weekly equivalised household income	ratio	0.315	0.310	0.287	0.303
SOURCE OF INCOME					
Main sources of all households					
Wages and salaries	%	58.8	60.3	57.2	61.0
Own business or partnership	%	7.6	7.4	8.1	7.3
Government pensions and allowances	%	25.0	24.7	26.8	23.8
Other	%	6.8	6.3	7.0	7.2
Main source of income is government pensions and allowances - proportion of all households in selected life cycle group					
Lone person aged under 35	%	*19.6	*5.8	*9.3	*8.2
Couple only, reference person aged under 35	%	**1.7	**4.4	**3.4	**1.3
Couple with dependent children	%	10.0	6.9	7.9	5.5
One parent with dependent children	%	59.1	47.7	54.6	44.8
Couple only, reference person aged 65 and over	%	69.2	69.5	67.9	70.1
Lone person aged 65 and over	%	68.9	76.8	75.0	80.3

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) All data are for year ended 30 June.

(b) Estimates for 2003-04 have been revised to include all salary sacrificed income, in line with the treatment in 2005-06.

(c) Adjusted for changes in the Consumer price index; values are given in 2003-04 dollars.

(d) Low income persons are those in the 2nd and 3rd deciles when ranked according to the eqivalised disposable household income: middle income persons are those in the 5th and 6th deciles; high income persons are those in the 9th and 10th deciles.

Source: ABS data available on request, *Survey of Income and Housing, Australia,* cat. no. 6541.0.

45 HOUSING (a)

	Units	1995-96	2002-03	2003-04	2005-06
Estimated number of households	'000	651.2	763.9	770.5	803.7
Dwelling structure - selected(b)					
Separate house (of all households)	%	80.5	81.2	83.5	80.5
Semidetached/townhouse (of all households)	%	11.9	13.4	12.5	13.0
Flat/apartment/unit (of all households)	%	7.2	5.3	3.5	6.1
Tenure and landlord type(c)					
Owner without a mortgage	%	37.0	34.1	31.2	29.8
Owner with a mortgage	%	35.1	37.1	38.1	39.8
Renter - State Housing Authority	%	4.5	4.7	4.0	4.0
Renter - private landlord	%	17.6	20.1	21.9	20.2
Housing utilisation					
Average persons per household	no.	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.4
Average bedrooms per dwelling	no.	3.1	3.3	3.3	3.2
Housing costs					
Rental					
Mean weekly public rent	$	58.0	77.0	80.0	81.0
Mean weekly private rent	$	125.0	160.0	167.0	180.0
Rent cost index(d)	index no.	106.6	119.8	122.3	129.5
Housing assistance					
Public sector rental dwelling stock	'000	36.6	31.7	31.5	31.0
Applicants on housing waiting list	'000	11.8	13.4	12.7	13.1
Applicants accommodated	'000	6.3	4.4	4.1	3.2
Income units receiving rental assistance	'000	na	86.2	87.4	82.2

na not available
(a) All data are for year ended 30 June.
(b) Components do not total 100% because other dwellings are not included.
(c) Components do not total 100% because other renters (paying rent to the manager of a caravan park, an employer, a housing cooperative, or a church or community group), as well as other types of tenure (rent free and others), are not included.
(d) Data refer to capital city (Perth) only.

Source: ABS data available on request, *Surveys of Income and Housing, Australia,* cat. no. 6541.0; *Consumer Price Index, Australia,* cat. no. 6401.0; Productivity Commission (Steering Committee for the Review of Commonwealth/State Service Provisions, *Report on Government Services,* 2007).

APPENDIX INDEX OF FEATURE ARTICLES

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