Australian Bureau of Statistics

JUNE 2004

1367.5

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN STATISTICAL INDICATORS

EMBARGO: 11:30AM (CANBERRA TIME) WED 7 JUL 2004

CONTENTS

INQUIRIES

- For more information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070 or Michael Thomas on Perth (08) 9360 5353.

NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES	*ISSUE*	*RELEASE DATE*
	September 2004	6 October 2004
	December 2004	12 January 2005

CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

This issue introduces new data on the value of housing finance commitments in Western Australia, by purpose (Table 16). Revisions have been made to the value of building approvals for alterations and additions (Table 18) to exclude those alterations and additions not creating dwellings. Industrial disputes data (Table 44), previously presented monthly, are now presented quarterly.

FEATURE ARTICLES

All previously published feature articles are now available on the ABS website at <http://www.abs.gov.au/Themes/Western Australia/Articles of interest on Western Australia>.

SYMBOLS AND OTHER USAGES

ABARE	Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ERP	Estimated Resident Population
LGA	Local Government Area
n.a.	not available
n.e.c.	not elsewhere classified
n.e.s.	not elsewhere specified
n.p.	not available for publication but included in totals where applicable
n.y.a.	not yet available
p	preliminary figure or series subject to revision
r	figure or series revised since previous issue
SD	Statistical Division
SITC	Standard International Trade Classification
SLA	Statistical Local Area
—	nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)
. .	not applicable
^	estimate has a relative standard error of between 10% and 25% and should be used with caution
*	estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution
**	estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

EXPLANATORY NOTES

The statistics shown are the latest available as at 22 June 2004. 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.

INQUIRIES

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

ALAN HUBBARD

REGIONAL DIRECTOR, WESTERN AUSTRALIA

OVERVIEW

ECONOMIC SUMMARY

The Western Australian economy continued to grow in the March quarter 2004, with State Final Demand (in trend chain volume terms) increasing by 1.0% — the fourteenth consecutive quarterly increase. However, this was the first time that growth in the state's economy had dropped below the national rate of growth (1.3%) in seven quarters.

The main contributor to growth in State Final Demand (in seasonally adjusted chain volume terms) in the March quarter 2004 was household consumption, which rose by 1.5%, driven by rising incomes, low unemployment and low interest rates (unchanged at 5.25%). There was also a rebound in the state's housing sector in the March quarter 2004, as dwelling investment increased by 14.5%. The rise in housing investment, during the period, reflects the realisation of delayed house construction caused by materials shortages in the preceding quarter, as well as sustained housing demand.

Business investment on Machinery and equipment and Intangible fixed assets detracted from growth in the March quarter 2004, down by 5.0% and 20.8% respectively. The decline in investment on Intangible fixed assets was mainly due to the completion of a major petroleum exploration project in the previous quarter.

The value of Western Australia's exports decreased by 3.5% in the March quarter 2004, compared to the March quarter 2003, corresponding with the higher $A against the Trade Weighted Index (up 23.4%) and $US (up 34.0%). Export volumes, however, were stable for a number of major commodities, including iron ore, gold and natural gas, due to an increase in $US commodity prices and strong international demand. Wheat exports rose considerably in the March quarter 2004, from the previous March quarter, as a result of the much improved harvest in 2003 following the drought in 2002.

Based on the continued recovery of the global economy, Western Australia's exports are expected to be a key driver of growth for the domestic economy over the next year. Conditions in the US and Japan have improved, with the US economy growing by over 3.0% in 2003 and forecast to grow by up to 5.0% in 2004, while the Japanese economy has grown by 2.3% in 2003 and is expected to grow at the same rate in 2004. China, and its rapidly rising demand for raw materials, continues to stimulate export growth in Western Australia. The Chinese economy grew by 9.1% in 2003 and is expected to grow by over 7.0% in 2004. With demand conditions improving in Western Australia's major export markets, the recovery in agricultural production in 2003 and the completion of new resource projects, the outlook remains positive for export growth in 2004.

Western Australia's labour market continues to benefit from a steadily growing domestic economy. Full-time and part-time employment increased in the three months to May 2004, up by 1.0% and 2.4% respectively. The unemployment rate declined to 5.1% in Western Australia, compared to 5.6% nationally.

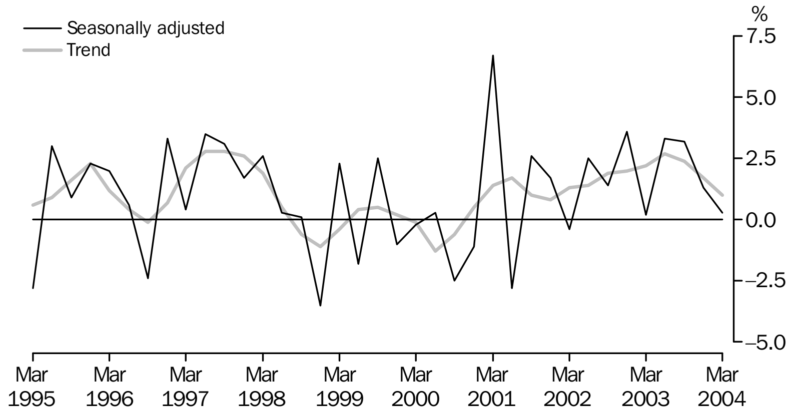
STATE ACCOUNTS

State Final Demand

In the March quarter 2004, Western Australia recorded an increase of 1.0% ($192 million) in State Final Demand (trend chain volume terms), the fourteenth consecutive quarterly increase. The March quarter result, however, was below national growth (1.3%) for the first time since the June quarter 2002 (seven quarters). While growth in Western Australia's domestic economy has steadily slowed, since peaking at 2.7% in the June quarter 2003, the level of domestic activity remains at a relatively high level ($20,373 million).

State Final Demand *continued*

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



In seasonally adjusted chain volume terms, State Final Demand rose marginally by 0.3% ($51 million) in the March quarter 2004 to $20,278 million. The main drivers of growth were:

- Household final consumption expenditure — up $163 million (1.5%), mainly on the Purchase of motor vehicles (driven by the higher $A reducing the price of imported vehicles), Food (due to more favourable weather conditions following the 2002 drought), Transport services (reflecting a rebound in international travel) and Rents and other dwelling services (coinciding with rising property prices);
- Dwelling investment — up $149 million (14.5%), due to the high level of investment activity in the property market and supply-side constraints that hampered construction in the December quarter 2003; and
- Non-dwelling construction — up $58 million (4.6%), reflecting an increase in engineering construction on a major port upgrade and mine expansions.

The main detractors to growth in State Final Demand were Machinery and equipment investment — down $118 million (5.0%); and investment in Intangible fixed assets — down by $89 million (20.8%), as a result of the completion of a major petroleum exploration project in the previous quarter.

PRICES

Consumer Price Index

Growth in Perth's Consumer Price Index (CPI) eased for the second successive quarter to 0.3% in March 2004 — the lowest CPI increase of all capital cities, largely due to the comparatively low price increases in Perth for food, alcohol and tobacco and clothing and footwear. Nationally, prices increased by 0.9% during the same period.

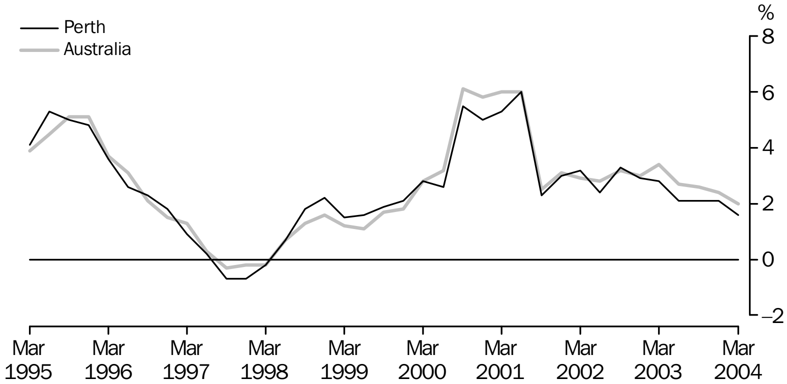
Major contributors to the increase in Perth's CPI in the March quarter 2004 were:

- House purchase — up 1.7%, driven by increasing labour and material costs associated with the state's robust construction market;
- Automotive fuel — up 2.9%, coinciding with increased demand from the USA and China and production delays in Iraq;
- Fruit and vegetables — up 5.0%, influenced by adverse weather conditions;
- Education — up 4.6%, coinciding with the commencement of the new school year, an increase in HECS payments for tertiary education, and an increase in secondary and primary education fees in order to cover increasing wage, IT and other operational costs; and
- Pharmaceuticals — up 9.6%, mainly as a result of the cyclical reduction in price benefits from the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) safety net occurring at the start of each calendar year.

The continued strength of the $A, however, contributed to a number of offsetting price decreases in the March quarter 2004, including:

- Holiday travel and accommodation — down 5.5%, aided by shoulder season discounting of air fares to most destinations;
- Clothing and footwear — down 2.4%;
- Audio, visual and computing equipment — down 4.2%, due to continuing falls in computer prices, and competitive discounting by major retailers;
- Motor vehicles — down 1.5%, largely as a result of competition to clear 2003 stock; and
- Furniture — down 3.8%.

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



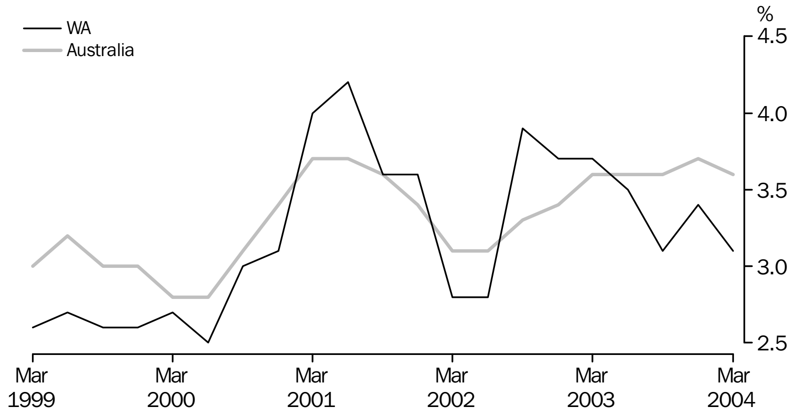
In the twelve months to March 2004, Perth's CPI increased by 1.6%. The national CPI rose by 2.0% over the same period, remaining within the Reserve Bank of Australia's (RBA's) target range for inflation. Despite national CPI growth being at the lower end of the RBA's target range, the Western Australian Department of Treasury and Finance have indicated that credit growth, the rapid increase in house prices and the improved international outlook are threatening the inflationary outlook for the longer term.

Wage cost index

Wages growth in Western Australia continued to ease in the March quarter 2004, with the state's quarterly index of total hourly rates of pay excluding bonuses increasing by 0.6%, following growth of 0.7% and 1.3% in the previous two quarters. Nationally, the wage cost index rose by 0.8% over the same period.

In the twelve months to March 2004, Western Australia recorded the lowest wages growth among the states and territories with 3.1%, compared to national growth of 3.6%. The Australian Capital Territory recorded the highest annual wages growth of 4.2%.

WAGE COST INDEX, Change from corresponding quarter of previous year



Of the selected industries in Western Australia in the March quarter 2004, Manufacturing recorded the highest quarterly wages growth of 1.8%, double the next largest quarterly increase recorded by Government administration and defence. Along with Accommodation, cafes and restaurants, Manufacturing also recorded the highest annual wages growth of 3.5% — coinciding with strong investment activity in the industry over 2003. Despite high wages growth over the last year, Accommodation, cafes and restaurants recorded the equal lowest quarterly increase of 0.1% (with Mining), coming off the surge in economic activity associated with the Rugby World Cup during the December quarter 2003. The lowest annual growth in wages was recorded by Retail trade (2.3%).

Tradespersons and related workers and Elementary and Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers all recorded wages growth of 0.7% in the March quarter 2004. The lowest quarterly wages growth of 0.2% was recorded by Labourers and related workers. Wages growth for Tradespersons and related workers was strong throughout the year (up 3.4%), reflecting an under-supply of tradespersons during a period of heightened construction activity. However, Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers, and Professionals, recorded the highest annual wages growth of 3.5%. The lowest annual wages growth of 2.0% was recorded by Managers and administrators.

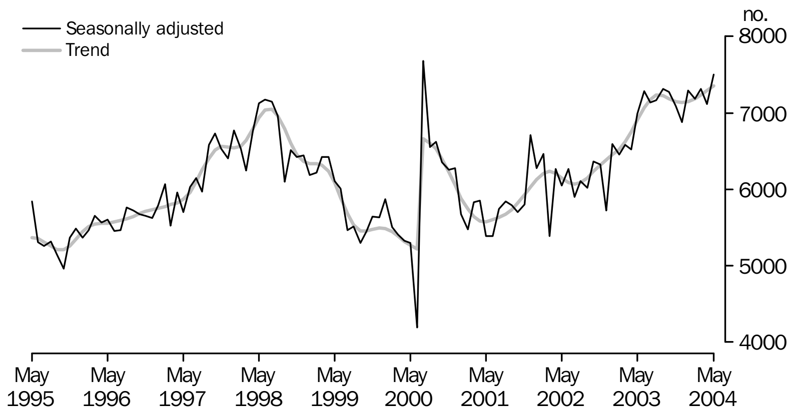
CONSUMPTION

New motor vehicle sales

Sales of new motor vehicles in Western Australia (trend) have increased steadily throughout 2004, following a brief period of decline in late 2003. In May 2004, 7,350 new motor vehicles were sold in Western Australia, representing growth of 0.8% over the previous month and a fifth consecutive monthly increase.

Between December 2003 and May 2004, new motor vehicle sales increased by an average of 0.6% (42 vehicles) per month. The new motor vehicle market in Western Australia has been aided by the continued strength of the $A, which has worked to push down the price of imported vehicles, and by recent high levels of consumer confidence fuelled by strong gains in household wealth.

NEW MOTOR VEHICLE SALES



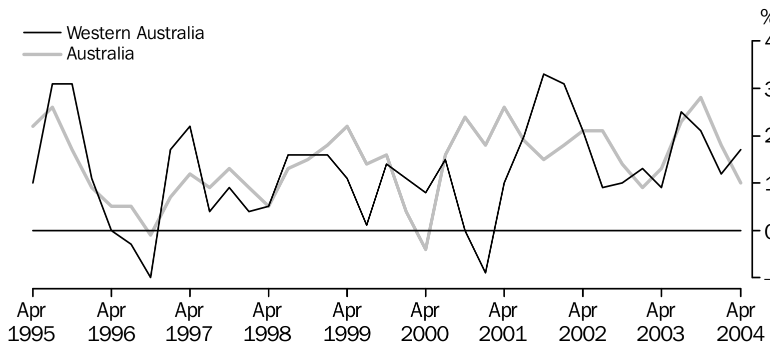
While there has been some growth in passenger vehicle sales in recent months, most of the increase in new motor vehicle sales has been driven by sales of other vehicles such as utilities, vans, trucks, buses and four-wheel drives. In the three months to May 2004, a total of 21,875 new motor vehicles were sold in Western Australia — 418 more than in the preceding three months. Almost 95% of this growth was attributable to increased sales of other vehicles (up by 397 vehicles).

Despite recent growth, consumption of new motor vehicles in Western Australia is expected to slow in 2004–05, affected by higher consumer debt servicing requirements following the interest rate rises of late 2003, and recent signs of some weakening of the $A.

Retail trade

In the three months to April 2004, retail turnover in Western Australia (trend) totalled $4,591.6 million — $76.1 million (1.7%) more than in the three months to January 2004. Monthly growth in retail turnover in Western Australia averaged 0.6% over the three months to April 2004, double the national rate of 0.3%.

QUARTERLY(a) RETAIL TURNOVER, Trend current prices—Change from previous quarter



(a) Three months to January, April, July and October.

Retail trade *continued*

The main industry groups contributing to retail growth in the three months to April 2004, compared to the three months to January 2004, were:

- Food retailing — up $27.2 million (1.4%), partly due to the flow on effects for food retailers of post-drought improvements in food production;
- Other goods retailing — up $15.8 million (4.0%), largely due to spending on pharmaceutical, cosmetic and toiletry products, as well as watches and jewellery; and
- Hospitality and services retailing — up $8.3 million (1.4%), coinciding with an increase in the number of overseas visitors to the state on holiday, coupled with a reduction in both international and domestic airfares.

Much of the recent upturn in Western Australia's retail turnover has coincided with the continued strengthening of the state's labour market. Recent months have seen rising incomes, record low unemployment and strong employment growth, as well as gains in household wealth from a buoyant property market, and high levels of consumer sentiment. However, the Western Australian Department of Treasury and Finance suggests that consumers are increasingly relying on debt and equity withdrawals to finance their consumption, which may impact negatively on future spending if interest rates rise.

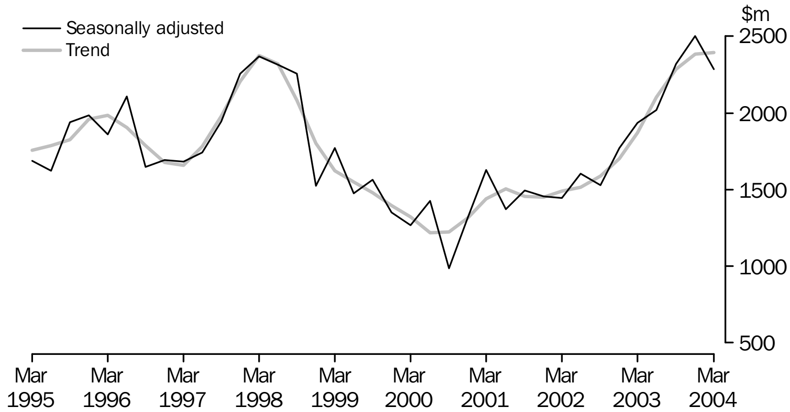
In trend chain volume terms, Western Australia's retail turnover rose by 1.5% to $4,490.0 million in the March quarter 2004, slightly less than retail turnover at the national level (1.6%).

FINANCE AND INVESTMENT

Private new capital expenditure

After a lengthy period of uninterrupted growth — peaking at 12.5% in the June quarter 2003 — business investment in Western Australia has begun to ease, with a number of large resource projects nearing completion and the strong $A impacting on project returns. In the March quarter 2004, business investment in the state (trend chain volume terms) increased by just 0.4% to $2,392 million, following growth of 8.7% and 4.2% in the two preceding quarters. The small increase in investment over the March quarter was driven by growth in expenditure on Equipment, plant and machinery (up 1.1% or $17 million), however, this was largely offset by decreased spending on Buildings and structures (down 1.4% or $12 million). Nationally, business investment increased by 0.3% over the same period.

PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE, Chain volume measures



In original current price terms, business investment in Western Australia in the March quarter 2004 was $1,878 million — 9.8% ($167 million) more than in the March quarter 2003. During this period, growth in business investment was led by activity in Other selected industries (including Retail trade, Property and business services and Construction), up 28.5% ($136 million), supported by several large retail construction projects. Investment in the state's Mining industry also increased over the period (up 6.9% or $68 million). Offsetting these increases was a decline in expenditure by the Manufacturing industry (down 14.6% or $36 million), following solid gains throughout 2003, due to investment in downstream mineral processing.

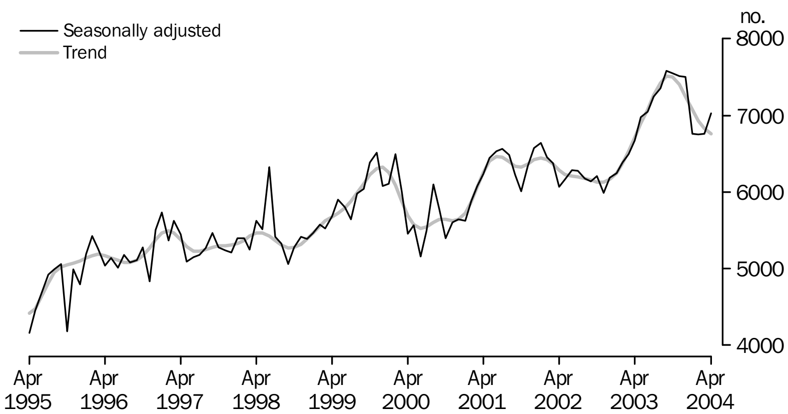
According to the Western Australian Department of Treasury and Finance, the outlook for business investment in Western Australia for the coming year is for a consolidation of activity at existing levels, with growth expected to be driven by the Mining and Manufacturing industries.

Housing finance commitments

Since peaking in September 2003, the number of housing finance commitments (trend) in Western Australia has steadily declined, falling 10.0% (749 commitments) by April 2004. There is, however, some indication that the decline in housing finance commitments is beginning to ease. The average monthly rate of decline in housing finance dropped to 1.5% in the three months to April 2004, from an average of 2.0% in the preceding three month period. The state's average monthly rate of decline in housing finance commitments (1.5%) over the three months to April 2004, was well below the national average decline of 2.7%.

The total value of housing finance commitments in Western Australia fell by 3.8% ($122.7 million) to $3,103.0 million in the three months to April 2004, compared to the three months to January 2004. However, there was a small increase (0.1% or $0.8 million) in the total value of housing finance commitments in April 2004, following six consecutive months of decline.

HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS, Number of dwellings financed



In original terms, there were 1,284 (6.7%) more housing finance commitments in Western Australia in the three months to April 2004, than in the three months to April 2003. The rise was driven solely by a 9.2% increase in dwellings financed by non-first home buyers. Over the same period, dwellings financed by first home buyers declined by 6.5% (197 dwellings). First home buyers may have dropped out of the housing market during this period as a consequence of interest rate rises in late 2003, and the continued escalation of Western Australian house prices. Established house prices in Western Australia were 19.0%, and project house prices 10.1%, higher in the March quarter 2004 than they were a year earlier.

Housing finance commitments *continued*

Coinciding with growth in house prices was a 10.1% increase in the average borrowing size of first home buyers — from $137,000 in the three months to April 2003 to $150,900 in the same period a year later. The average borrowing size for non-first home buyers increased by 6.6% to $156,000. During this period, the gap between the average borrowing size of first home buyers and non-first home buyers decreased from $9,400 to $5,100.

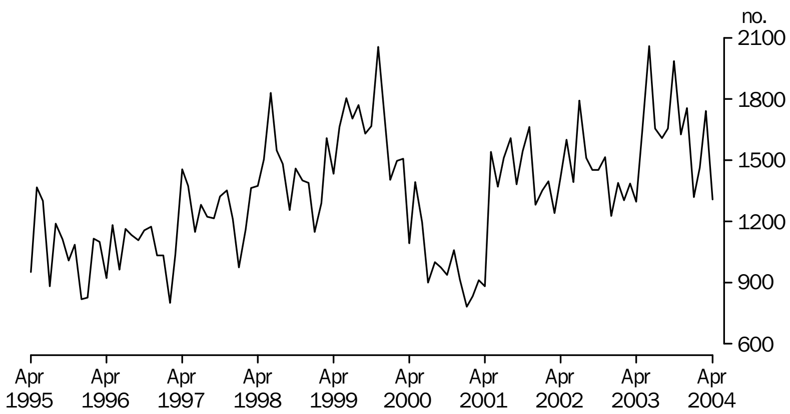
CONSTRUCTION

Building approvals

While there has been some volatility in the original series, there appears to have been a general downward trend in new house approvals in Western Australia, since peaking in October 2003. A total of 4,514 new houses were approved in Western Australia in the three months to April 2004 — 190 less approvals than in the previous three months. This was in contrast to a national increase in new house approvals of 3.8% over the same period.

Despite the recent decline in Western Australia's new house approvals, the Western Australian Housing Industry Forecasting Group expects new house construction to be sustained in the short-term by a backlog of work.

NUMBER OF DWELLINGS APPROVED, New houses

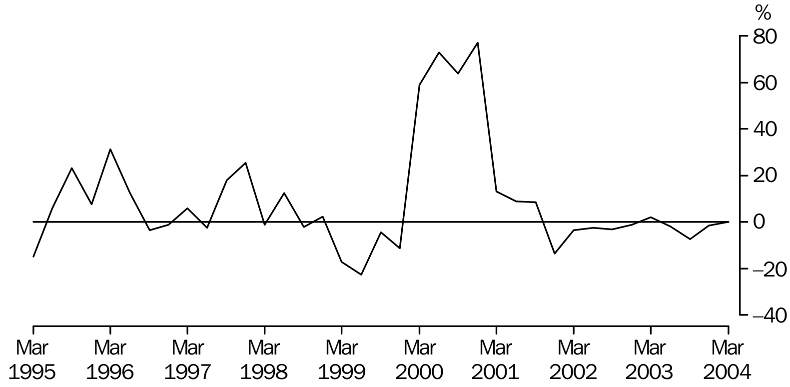


In current price terms, the total value of new houses approved in Western Australia fell by 1.6% ($11.2 million) to $702.6 million in the three months to April 2004, compared to the three months to January 2004. Nationally, the total value of new houses approved increased by 8.2%. Over the same period, the value of non-residential building approvals in Western Australia fell by 24.1% ($89.5 million) to $281.4 million, reflecting the completion of a number of major retail and office construction projects.

TRADE

Western Australia recorded a trade surplus of $4,976 million in the March quarter 2004, $12 million (0.2%) higher than in the March quarter 2003. The slight increase in the trade surplus was the result of Western Australia's imports falling by more than its exports. The value of Western Australia's merchandise imports fell by $300 million (9.2%) to $2,973 million during this period, while the value of its merchandise exports fell by $288 million (3.5%) to $7,949 million. Despite the decrease in export values from a higher $A, the volume of merchandise exports from Western Australia remained strong, aided by strong international demand.

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



Exports

The major commodities contributing to the decrease in the value of Western Australia's merchandise exports in the March quarter 2004, compared to the March quarter 2003, were:

- Petroleum, petroleum products and related materials — down $230 million (19.2%), mainly attributable to the temporary closure of one of the state's petroleum production sites for maintenance;
- Gas, natural and manufactured — down $189 million (23.9%), mainly due to a large decline in the price paid for the state's natural gas exports; and
- Non-monetary gold — down $170 million (10.9%), as production levels settle following the transfer of interstate gold refining operations to Western Australia in late 2002.

Partially offsetting the decline were increases in the value of exports of:

- Combined confidential items (including alumina, nickel, mineral sands and some agricultural products) — up $234 million (15.5%); and
- Cereals and cereal preparations — up $132 million (38.7%), mainly due to an improved wheat harvest that boosted agricultural exports following the 2002 drought.

Exports of gold and petroleum were almost entirely responsible for movements in the total value of exports from Western Australia to selected countries in the March quarter 2004, compared to the March quarter 2003. The value of gold exports was the driving force behind an increase in exports from Western Australia to India (up $848 million or 2,390.5%), and decreases in exports to the United Kingdom (down $829 million or 73.7%), Japan (down $346 million or 17.5%) and Singapore (down $240 million or 51.0%). The value of petroleum exports was the main contributor to increases in exports to the Republic of Korea (up $121 million or 14.5%) and Thailand (up $98 million or 99.5%).

Imports

A large fall in the value of gold imports was the main contributor to the decrease in the total value of imports to Western Australia in the March quarter 2004, compared to the March quarter 2003. Non-monetary gold fell by $392 million (42.4%), coming off a record high level of imports in the March quarter 2003, associated with the transfer of interstate gold refining operations to Western Australia.

Imports *continued*

The appreciation of the $A contributed to increased imports into Western Australia for:

- Miscellaneous manufactured articles — up $49 million (114.6%), partly attributable to an increase in imports of items including jewellery and articles of plastics; and
- Machinery specialised for particular industries — up $45 million (29.2%), reflecting high levels of business investment in specialised machinery and parts (including tractors).

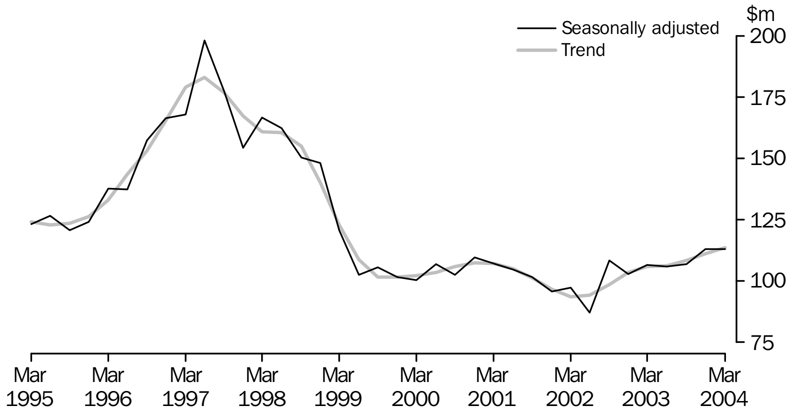
Imports of gold and petroleum were the main drivers of the decrease in the total value of imports to Western Australia from Indonesia (down $257 million or 41.9%) and the United Arab Emirates (down $109 million or 77.2%) in the March quarter 2004, compared to the March quarter 2003. These two commodities were also responsible for the increase in imports from Malaysia (up $123 million or 258.6%) during the same period. The value of imports from Germany increased over the period (up $42 million or 36.1%), mainly due to an increase in imports of specialised machinery.

MINING

Mineral and petroleum exploration

Mineral exploration expenditure (trend) in Western Australia rose by $2.7 million to $113.8 million in the March quarter 2004 — the eighth successive quarterly increase. Quarterly growth in mineral exploration expenditure has averaged 2.5% since the June quarter 2002.

MINERAL EXPLORATION EXPENDITURE, Total minerals



In original terms, Western Australia's mineral exploration expenditure for the March quarter 2004 was $96.5 million — $5.7 million (6.3%) higher than in the March quarter 2003. Minerals contributing most to the increase were:

- Nickel and cobalt — up $4.2 million (41.6%) to $14.3 million, due to high $US nickel prices fuelled by the continued strong demand for nickel from China, and the economic recovery in the US and Europe, which has improved the outlook for stainless steel consumption in these traditionally dominant markets; and
- Gold — up $0.8 million (1.4%) to $59.3 million, mainly the result of strengthening $US gold prices (up 26.5%) since March 2003.

Silver, lead and zinc exploration expenditure fell by $1.5 million (68.2%) to $0.7 million over the period, coinciding with the closure of a major zinc mine in the December quarter 2003.

Petroleum exploration expenditure (original) totalled $106.9 million in the March quarter 2004 — $84.6 million (44.2%) less than in the March quarter 2003. The sharp fall in expenditure on petroleum exploration over the period was the result of the completion of a major petroleum exploration project in the December quarter 2003.

Mineral production

Minerals to record increases in production in the March quarter 2004, compared to the March quarter 2003, were:

- Iron ore — up 20.1% (9,354,000 tonnes) to 55,901,000 tonnes;
- Bauxite — up 8.1% (733,000 tonnes) to 9,743,000 tonnes; and
- Ilmenite — up 4.9% (24,000 tonnes) to 516,000 tonnes.

Decreases were recorded in the production of:

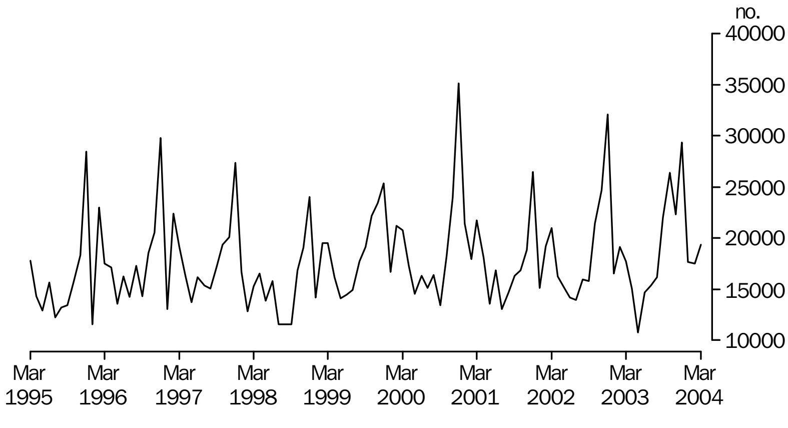
- Zinc — down 72.1% (44,000 tonnes) to 17,000 tonnes;
- Diamonds — down 47.8% (3,309,000 carats) to 3,612,000 carats; and
- Gold — down 11.1% (5 tonnes) to 40 tonnes.

TOURISM

Short term arrivals on holiday

A total of 54,543 overseas visitors arrived by air on holiday to Western Australia in the three months to March 2004 — 1,090 (2.0%) more than in the three months to March 2003. The recovery in short term visitor arrivals suggests an easing in the negative impact on international travel of recent world events, such as SARS, the war in Iraq and terrorism. In the three months to March 2004, there were increases in arrivals from the United Kingdom and Ireland, up 1,463 (8.7%); Malaysia, up 897 (22.2%); and Japan, up 672 (9.7%). Partially offsetting these increases was a large fall in the number of visitors from Singapore, down 1,831 (23.6%).

SHORT TERM OVERSEAS VISITOR ARRIVALS, By air on holiday

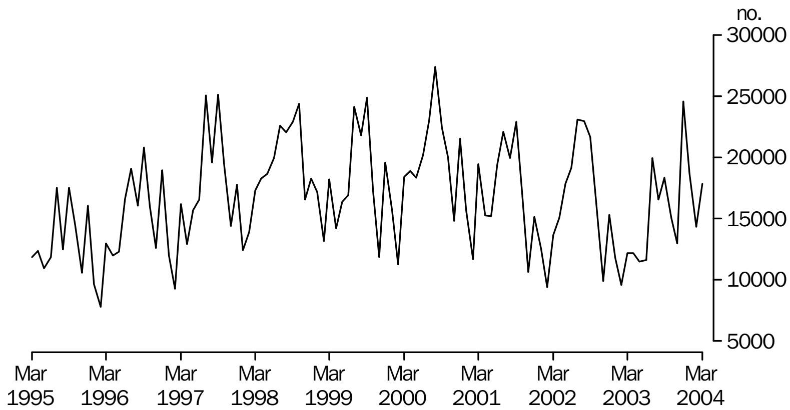


Short term departures on holiday

A total of 50,854 Western Australian residents departed overseas by air on holiday in the three months to March 2004 — the highest level recorded in this period for the last ten years, and 17,275 (51.4%) more than in the three months to March 2003. Driving the rise were the combined effects of the strong $A, growing confidence in international travel, pent-up demand and competitive travel discounting. Accounting for most of the increase were resident departures to Indonesia, up 12,453 (160.7%). Resident departures to New Zealand also increased over the three months to March 2004 — up 1,606 (34.8%). Decreases in resident departures were, however, recorded for some countries including Singapore, down 951 (19.8%); and Hong Kong, down 762 (69.4%).

Short term departures on holiday *continued*

SHORT TERM RESIDENT DEPARTURES OVERSEAS, By air on holiday



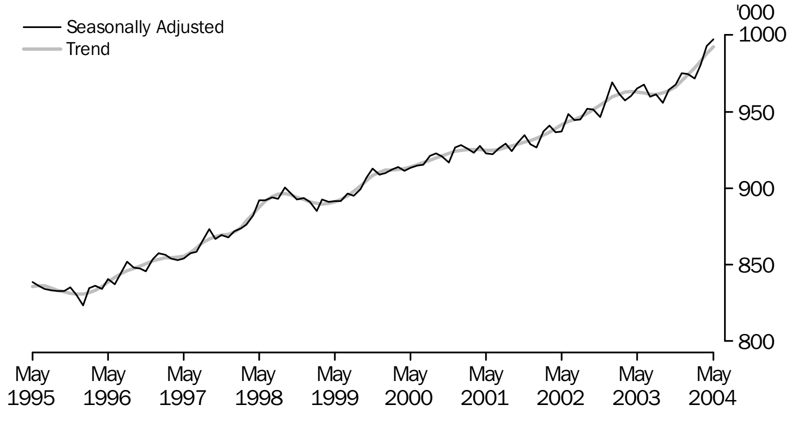
LABOUR MARKET

Employment

The state's labour market continues to strengthen, with the number of employed persons in Western Australia (trend) increasing for the ninth consecutive month to 992,000 in May 2004 — up 3.2% or 30,700 from August 2003.

Over the three months to May 2004, the number of employed persons grew by 1.4% (13,700), driven by growth in both full-time and part-time employment. Full-time employment increased by 1.0% (6,700) to 693,600, while part-time employment rose by 2.4% (7,100) to 298,500 during the period. The number of employed persons in Western Australia grew at an average monthly rate of 0.5% over the three months to May 2004, more than twice the national increase of 0.2%.

EMPLOYED PERSONS, Total



The Western Australian Department of Treasury and Finance expects labour market conditions in Western Australia to remain strong in 2004–05, assisted by the strong state economy. However, further employment growth is expected to be constrained by limits on the available supply of skilled labour.

Industry employment

In percentage terms, the Mining industry recorded the largest increase in the number of employed persons (original) in the three months to May 2004, compared to the three months to May 2003 — up 30.1% (10,800) to 46,700, coinciding with ongoing investment activity and the completion of several resource projects. Other notable increases were Cultural and recreational services — up 16.7% (3,200) to 22,400; and Finance and insurance — up 14.7% (3,700) to 28,800.

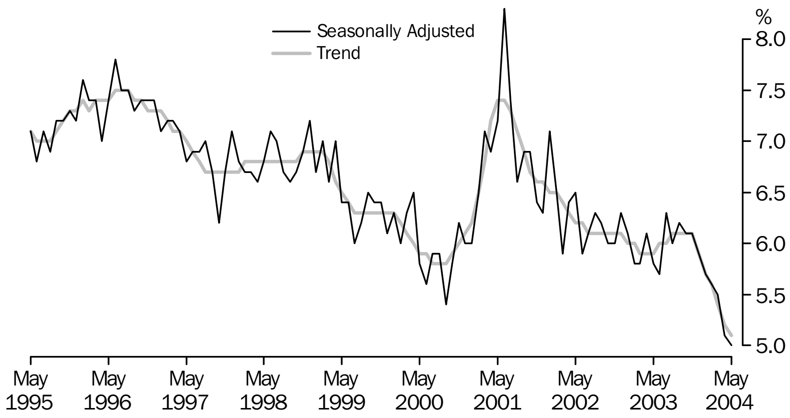
Communication services recorded the largest percentage decrease in the number of persons employed — down 30.9% (5,500) to 12,300. Other industries showing notable decreases were Accommodation, cafes and restaurants — down 6.3% (2,700) to 40,500; and Property and business services — down 6.2% (7,200) to 109,400.

Unemployment

Since September 2003, the number of unemployed persons in Western Australia (trend) has declined rapidly to 53,100 in May 2004. Eight consecutive monthly decreases over this period have resulted in a 15.7% (9,900) fall in the number of unemployed persons in Western Australia.

In the three months to May 2004, the number of unemployed persons fell by 7.8% (4,500), with the number of unemployed females down 10.8% (3,000) and unemployed males down 5.0% (1,500). During this period, the number of unemployed Western Australians declined at an average monthly rate of 2.7%, almost four times the rate of national decline (0.7%).

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



The sustained growth in employment in Western Australia since September 2003 has resulted in a sharp fall in the state's unemployment rate. The unemployment rate of 5.1% (trend) in May 2004 was the lowest rate recorded for Western Australia since the monthly series began in February 1978. Nationally, the unemployment rate for May was 5.6%, unchanged from the previous month.

The continued strengthening of the Western Australian labour market also coincided with a reduction in the state's long-term unemployed (those who have been unemployed for 52 weeks or more since their last employment). In May 2004, the number of long-term unemployed in Western Australia dropped by 15.4% (1,600 persons) to 8,800 persons, compared to May 2003.

INTRODUCTION

The following section presents information on the topics of population and health including recent and long term trends in Western Australia's population characteristics and growth, causes of death, life expectancy and use of health services.

POPULATION

The estimated resident population (ERP) of Western Australia at June 2003 was 1,952,300 persons, an increase of 27,700 since June 2002. The percentage of the population residing in the Perth statistical division (SD) was 73% and has been relatively steady over the past decade.

Age

In 2002–03, the median age (the age at which half the population is older and half is younger) of the Western Australian population, increased by 0.2 years. Over the past decade the median age of the state population increased by 3.3 years from 32.2 years in 1992–93 to 35.5 years in 2002–03. In 2002–03, Western Australia had the youngest median age of all states in Australia. Both the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory had lower median ages at 30.3 and 33.8 years respectively.

Sustained low fertility and increased life expectancy are the main contributors to the ageing of the population. Over the past decade, the proportion of children (aged 0–14 years) in the Western Australian population has decreased from 23% of the total in 1992–93 to 20% in 2002–03. Meanwhile, the proportion of people aged 65 years and over in the population has increased from 10% to 11%.

Sex

In 2002–03, males and females comprised roughly equal proportions of the Western Australian population (100.2 males per 100 females). This parity between the sexes was not evident across all age groups. The sex ratio was 82 males for every 100 females in the population aged 65 years and over, reflecting the greater life expectancy of females.

1 POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS(a)

Population characteristics	*Unit*	*1993*	*1994*	*1995*	*1996*	*1997*	*1998*	*1999*	*2000*	*2001*	*2002r*	*2003p*
Total population	*'000*	1 677.7	1 703.0	1 733.8	1 765.3	1 795.0	1 822.7	1 849.7	1 874.5	1 901.2	1 924.6	1 952.3
Male population	*'000*	843.7	856.5	872.0	887.6	901.8	915.0	928.0	939.2	951.6	963.4	976.9
Female population	*'000*	833.9	846.5	861.8	877.7	893.2	907.6	921.7	935.2	949.6	961.1	975.4
Indigenous population(b)	*'000*	52.9	53.9	55.0	56.2	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	65.9	n.y.a.	n.y.a.
Persons living in Perth SD	*%*	73.1	73.2	73.4	73.4	73.3	73.2	73.3	73.3	73.3	73.3	73.4
Population aged 0–14	*%*	22.8	22.6	22.5	22.3	22.0	21.8	21.6	21.4	21.1	20.8	20.4
Population aged 15–64	*%*	67.1	67.2	67.3	67.4	67.5	67.6	67.7	67.8	67.9	68.0	68.2
Population aged 65 and over	*%*	10.1	10.2	10.3	10.4	10.5	10.6	10.7	10.8	11.0	11.2	11.4
Population aged 80 and over	*%*	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.6	2.7	2.8
Median age of total population(c)	*years*	32.2	32.5	32.8	33.1	33.5	33.8	34.2	34.5	34.9	35.3	35.5
Sex ratio of population aged 0–64(d)	*rate*	104.2	104.1	104.1	104.0	103.8	103.6	103.5	103.2	102.9	102.9	102.7
Sex ratio of population aged 65 and over(d)	*rate*	77.9	78.3	78.8	79.2	79.7	79.8	80.0	80.2	80.7	81.4	82.0
Male life expectancy at birth	*years*	75.0	75.5	75.8	75.5	76.1	76.1	76.4	76.9	77.3	77.9	n.y.a.
Female life expectancy at birth	*years*	81.1	81.2	81.7	81.5	81.8	81.9	82.1	82.6	82.8	82.9	n.y.a.
Male life expectancy at age 65	*years*	15.7	16.1	16.1	16.2	16.6	16.6	16.8	17.1	17.4	17.6	n.y.a.
Female life expectancy at age 65	*years*	19.6	19.8	20.0	20.0	20.2	20.3	20.5	20.8	21.0	21.2	n.y.a.

(a) Data are at 30 June each year.

(b) The 1993–1996 figures are 1996 Census based experimental estimates of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population. The 2001 experimental estimate is based on the 2001 Census.

(c) The age at which half the population is younger and half is older.

(d) The number of males per 100 females.

Sources: *Australian Demographic Statistics* (cat. no. 3101.0); ABS data available on request, *Deaths*.

Life expectancy

Life expectancy refers to the expected number of years of life remaining to a person of a given age, if the prevailing pattern of mortality does not change in their lifetime. In Western Australia, the expectation of life at birth for males and females born in 2002–03 was 77.9 years and 82.9 years respectively. The difference in life expectancy at birth between males and females fell from 6.1 years in 1992–93 to 5.0 years in 2001–02.

Life expectancy at 65 years, the traditional retirement age, increased by 1.9 years for men and 1.6 years for women over the period 1993–2002. In 2002–03, the difference between life expectancy for men and women at age 65 was less than that at birth, with female expectation of life being 3.6 years longer than that of males.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population

Estimates of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (Indigenous) population are referred to as experimental due to the lack of comprehensive and consistent data on Indigenous births, deaths and migration and because of identification issues relating to the Census.

In 2000–01, the Indigenous population of Western Australia was estimated at 65,900, or 3.5% of the total state population.

In 2000–01, the median age of the Indigenous population was estimated to be 20.7 years. This was 14.2 years less than that of the median age of the total state population (34.9 years in 2001).

POPULATION GROWTH

In the 12 months to June 2003, the estimated resident population of Western Australia increased by 27,700 persons, a rise of 1.4% over the previous year. In the last decade the Western Australian population has increased by 274,600 persons, representing an average annual growth rate of 1.5%.

In 2002–03, Western Australia had a higher growth rate than that of Australia (1.2%) and recorded the second fastest growth rate of all states and territories. Queensland (2.3%) experienced the fastest population growth.

2 POPULATION GROWTH(a)

Components of growth	*Unit*	*1993*	*1994*	*1995*	*1996*	*1997*	*1998*	*1999*	*2000*	*2001*	*2002r*	*2003p*
Births(b)	*no.*	24 741	24 990	25 104	24 614	24 744	24 705	25 244	24 910	24 429	23 967	23 759
Deaths(b)	*no.*	9 937	10 491	10 310	10 661	10 586	10 990	10 735	11 081	10 463	11 158	11 228
Natural increase	*no.*	14 804	14 499	14 794	13 953	14 158	13 715	14 509	13 829	13 966	12 809	12 531
Permanent and long-term arrivals	*no.*	22 476	24 086	27 918	30 094	31 052	31 952	31 731	34 382	36 130	38 645	n.a.
Permanent and long-term departures	*no.*	14 304	14 905	15 868	17 065	17 871	19 959	18 350	20 389	19 867	21 338	n.a.
Net overseas migration(c)	*no.*	4 640	6 718	10 508	12 339	12 280	11 993	13 381	13 993	16 263	14 970	17 964
Interstate arrivals	*no.*	29 634	28 466	31 904	32 828	34 784	33 463	31 414	30 742	30 514	28 956	30 898
Interstate departures	*no.*	29 786	24 641	26 803	28 762	30 124	30 236	31 118	32 929	33 624	33 341	33 708
Net interstate migration	*no.*	–152	3 825	5 101	4 066	4 660	3 227	296	–2 187	–3 110	–4 385	–2 810
Estimated resident population(d)	*'000*	1 677.7	1 703.0	1 733.8	1 765.3	1 795.0	1 822.7	1 849.7	1 874.5	1 901.2	1 924.6	1 952.3
Annual population growth	*%*	1.2	1.5	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.5	1.5	1.3	1.4	1.2	1.4

(a) Data are at 30 June each year.

(b) Births and deaths figures used to compile natural increase for population estimates are based on year of occurrence.

(c) For years ending 30 June 1997 to 2001 category jumping has been set to zero. For years ending 30 June 2002 and 2003, figures have been adjusted for changes in traveller intention and multiple mover error. For more information refer to *Migration* 2002–03 (cat. no. 3412.0).

(d) Includes intercensal discrepancy.

Sources: *Australian Demographic Statistics* (cat. no. 3101.0); ABS data available on request, *Estimated Resident Population.*

Components of population growth

The two main contributors to Western Australia's population growth are net overseas migration and natural increase (the number of births minus the number of deaths). In 2002–03, net overseas migration was 18,000, which represented an increase of 20% over the previous year and reached its highest level since 1988–89 (24,200). Net overseas migration decreased markedly in the early 1990s, falling to a low of 4,600 in 1992–93. Since then, the level of net overseas migration has generally increased.

Conversely, the contribution to population growth made by natural increase (12,500) decreased by 2.2% over the 2002–03 period and was 15% lower than in 1992–93. In 2002–03 the number of births in Western Australia fell by 4% and was the lowest recorded since 1986–87.

Western Australia recorded a net loss from interstate migration for the fourth consecutive year. In 2002–03, the net loss to Western Australia from interstate migration was 2,800 people, smaller than the net loss of 4,400 recorded in 2001–02.

3 CAUSES OF DEATH(a)

	Unit	*1992*	*1993*	*1994*	*1995*	*1996*	*1997*	*1998*	*1999*	*2000*	*2001*	*2002*
Leading Causes (all deaths)												
Cancer	%	26.7	27.2	27.7	27.7	27.3	27.8	27.9	28.9	29.2	29.0	29.4
Ischaemic heart disease	%	23.8	24.2	23.5	23.4	22.0	20.2	20.7	20.0	19.3	19.2	18.0
Stroke	%	9.7	9.4	10.1	9.6	9.5	9.2	9.2	9.1	8.7	8.3	8.0
Selected Cancer												
Male lung cancer (of male deaths)	%	6.6	6.9	7.6	7.5	6.9	6.7	6.8	7.6	7.3	7.2	8.4
Female lung cancer (of female deaths)	%	3.4	4.0	3.3	3.5	3.9	3.7	3.7	4.1	4.7	4.0	4.0
Female breast cancer (of female deaths)	%	4.6	4.6	5.0	5.0	4.4	4.6	4.3	4.8	4.1	4.6	4.1
Prostate cancer (of male deaths)	%	3.6	3.8	3.3	4.1	4.0	3.2	3.0	3.4	3.7	3.3	3.3
Skin cancer (of all deaths)	%	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.2
Heart disease												
Male ischaemic heart disease (of male deaths)	%	25.1	24.6	23.9	24.7	22.3	21.1	21.4	20.3	19.8	19.6	18.3
Female ischaemic heart disease (of female deaths)	%	22.4	23.7	23.0	21.8	21.6	19.2	19.8	19.6	18.6	18.8	17.7
Accidents and Suicide												
Motor vehicle traffic accidents(b)												
Males (of male deaths)	%	2.6	2.8	2.9	2.7	3.1	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.1	2.1
15–24 years (of male deaths 15–24 years)	%	35.3	38.5	33.3	31.3	37.2	34.7	26.7	25.4	36.8	36.8	32.4
Females (of female deaths)	%	1.5	1.2	1.4	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.2	0.8	1.0
15–24 years (of female deaths 15–24 years)	%	38.3	31.8	38.0	32.7	28.6	26.3	27.9	22.7	28.6	27.3	28.3
Suicide												
Males (of male deaths)	%	3.2	3.1	3.4	3.2	2.9	3.6	4.1	3.3	3.6	3.7	3.2
15–24 years (of male deaths 15–24 years)	%	32.2	25.3	25.4	30.3	26.8	22.7	26.7	24.3	22.6	28.7	34.2
Females (of female deaths)	%	0.9	0.9	0.6	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.1	0.9	1.1	1.1	1.0
15–24 years (of female deaths 15–24 years)	%	8.6	13.6	2.0	18.9	17.1	15.8	18.0	9.1	22.2	11.4	17.4
Total male deaths	***no.***	**5 352**	**5 632**	**5 598**	**5 617**	**5 978**	**5 774**	**5 750**	**5 843**	**5 718**	**5 597**	**5 800**
Total female deaths	***no.***	**4 546**	**4 684**	**4 695**	**4 747**	**5 049**	**5 033**	**4 914**	**5 034**	**4 950**	**5 082**	**5 464**
Total male deaths 15–24 years	***no.***	**146**	**146**	**173**	**142**	**149**	**151**	**165**	**169**	**128**	**134**	**111**
Total female deaths 15–24 years	***no.***	**58**	**44**	**50**	**53**	**41**	**57**	**61**	**43**	**61**	**40**	**46**
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	*no.*	7.0	5.9	5.6	5.1	6.5	5.3	5.0	4.7	4.3	5.1	4.3

(a) Causes of death data are based on date of registration for year ending 31 December.

(b) Motor vehicle traffic accidents have been revised.

Source: ABS data available on request, *Deaths*.

UNDERLYING CAUSE OF DEATH

The following analysis is based on the underlying or principal cause of death recorded on death certificates. There is often more than one condition or illness contributing to a death, particularly in the case of chronic conditions, such as heart disease, kidney disease and diabetes. Multiple cause of death information is available in *Causes of Death* (cat. no. 3303.0).

In 2002, the leading underlying causes of death in Western Australia were cancer (malignant neoplasms), ischaemic heart disease and stroke. Together, these causes accounted for over one half (55%) of all deaths in the state.

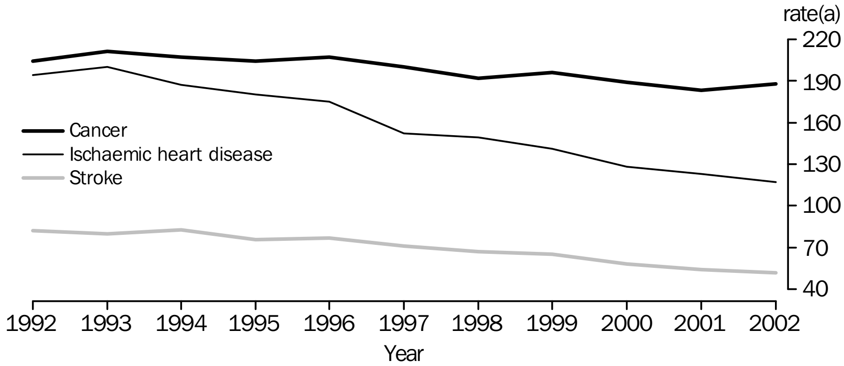
Cancer

Cancer (malignant neoplasms) was the main cause of death in Western Australia. Deaths due to cancer rose from 27% of all deaths in 1992 to 29% in 2002. This increase can be related to the ageing of the population, increased life expectancy and the decreases in the numbers of deaths by other causes.

Of all deaths due to cancer, lung cancer was the most common cause among males, accounting for 8.4% of all male deaths in 2002. For females, breast cancer and lung cancer were the more common causes, contributing 4.1% and 4.0% of all female deaths.

The standardised death rate (SDR) eliminates the effect of the changing age–sex structure of the population. (A detailed explanation of SDRs is available in *Deaths*, cat. no. 3303.0.) The SDR for cancer has fallen by 7.8% over the past decade, from 204 deaths per 100,000 population in 1992 to 188 in 2002.

1 LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH, Age standardised death rates—Western Australia



(a) Standardised death rate per 100,000 of the mid year 2001 Australian population.

Ischaemic heart disease

Between 1992 and 2002, the percentage of deaths due to ischaemic heart disease fell from 24% to 18% of all deaths. Over the same period the SDR for ischaemic heart disease has decreased by 40%, from 194 deaths per 100,000 population in 1992 to 117 deaths in 2002.

Motor vehicle traffic accidents

In 2001–02, there were 180 deaths due to motor vehicle traffic accidents registered in Western Australia. This was the leading cause of death among young people, aged 15–24 years, accounting for 32% of male and 28% of female deaths in this age group.

Suicides

In 2002, there were 240 suicides, accounting for 2% of all of deaths registered in Western Australia. Male suicides accounted for over three quarters (78%) of all suicides in the state.

Suicide was the second highest cause of death among young people accounting for 34% of all male deaths and 17% of all female deaths in the 15–24 year age group in 2002. Between 1992 and 2002, suicide accounted for approximately one quarter of all registered deaths of males aged 15–24 years in Western Australia; for females of the same age the proportions fluctuated between 2% and 22%.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander deaths

In 2002, there were 370 deaths registered in Western Australia where the deceased was identified as being of Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander or both origins (Indigenous).

The leading underlying causes of Indigenous deaths in 2002 were cancer (13%), ischaemic heart disease (11%) and diabetes mellitus (8%), which collectively accounted for one third (33%) of all Indigenous deaths.

Deaths due to external causes (including motor vehicle accidents, suicide and injury) accounted for 13% of all Indigenous deaths.

4 HEALTH SERVICES(a)

Health Services	*Unit*	*1997*	*1998*	*1999*	*2000*	*2001*	*2002*
Usage							
Hospital separations (per 1,000 population)	*no.*	270	282	298	309	322	334
Average length of stay	*days*	4.0	3.9	3.7	3.5	3.5	3.4
Provision							
Hospital beds (per 1,000 population)	*no.*	4.1	4.2	4.5	4.4	4.4	4.4
Residential aged-care places (per 1,000 population aged 70 and over)	*no.*	91	90	86	84	84	83
Doctors(b) (per 100,000 population)	*no.*	233	287	236	241	238	n.y.a.
Average Medicare services processed							
Per person	*no.*	9.6	9.6	9.5	9.5	9.6	10.1
Per male	*no.*	7.7	7.7	7.6	7.6	7.7	8.0
Per female	*no.*	11.6	11.5	11.4	11.4	11.6	12.1
Per person aged 65 years and over	*no.*	19.3	19.9	20.1	20.5	20.7	21.8
Proportion of Medicare services used by persons aged 65 and over	*%*	21.1	21.8	22.2	22.8	23.4	24.2

(a) Data are for year ending 30 June except doctor rate which is based on 31 December population.

(b) Includes primary care practitioners, hospital non-specialists, specialists, and trainee specialists.

Sources: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW), *Australian Hospital Statistics* (1997–2002); AIHW, *Residential Aged Care in Australia* (1997–2002); AIHW, from Medical Labour Force surveys, (1997–2002); *Health Insurance Commission Annual Report* (1997–2002), Medicare Statistical Tables.

HEALTH SERVICES AND HOSPITAL STATISTICS

A hospital separation is an episode of care which can be a total hospital stay (from admittance to discharge, transfer or death) or a portion of a hospital stay ending in a change of status (e.g. from acute care to rehabilitation). In 2001–02, there were 334 hospital separations per 1,000 population in public and private acute and psychiatric hospitals, a 3.7% increase on the previous year. The average length of stay (including same day separations) was 3.4 days.

In 2001–02, there were 8,400 available beds in public and private hospitals in Western Australia or 4.4 beds per 1,000 population. Almost two thirds (61%) of available beds were provided by public acute and psychiatric hospitals.

In Western Australia, the ratio of residential aged care places has fallen from 91 per 1,000 population aged 70 years and over in 1997, to 83 in 2002. This fall has been offset by an increase in the number of Community Aged Care Packages (CACPs) in recent years. CACPs provide care services to those living at home. In 2001–02, the combined ratio of residential aged care places and CACPs was 98 per 1,000 population aged 70 years and over.

FEATURE ARTICLE — Household water conservation and use in Western Australia

INTRODUCTION

Water is a crucial resource for Western Australians in terms of maintaining public health, facilitating economic development and preserving the environment. Recent drought conditions in this state have brought into focus the need to ensure a sustainable water future for Western Australians. The Government of Western Australia's (GovtWA) State Sustainability Strategy defines sustainability as 'meeting the needs of current and future generations through an integration of environmental protection, social attachment and economic prosperity' (GovtWA 2003a). One important factor in achieving sustainability is ensuring that there is an appropriate balance between supply of, and demand for, water resources to meet both current and future needs.

Current state government policies aimed at ensuring the sustainability of Western Australia's water resources are outlined in the State Water Strategy (GovtWA 2003b). One of the key objectives of the strategy is water conservation across all sectors of water use. Water conservation includes activities designed to reduce the demand for water, by improving efficiency in use and by reducing losses and waste of water. Water conservation falls on the demand management side of the sustainable water use equation, and balances the requirement for new source development to maintain or increase supply.

This article examines current and future trends in the supply of, and demand for, water in Western Australia and provides a snapshot of water conservation and use by Western Australian households.

SUPPLY OF WATER

Western Australia's water supply is made up of surface water and groundwater sources. Surface water comes from open bodies of water such as streams, rivers, lakes or reservoirs, whereas groundwater occurs below the land surface. A large proportion of the total volume of water in these sources needs to remain there in order to preserve the environment. Through the Water and River Commission's (WRC) water allocation process, nearly 90% of surface water is set aside for the environment and significant volumes of groundwater are reserved to protect groundwater dependent ecosystems (WRC 2000). The proportion of water that is leftover is the amount that can be sustainably extracted from the environment for use by Western Australians.

The largest public water supply scheme for households in Western Australia is the Integrated Water Supply Scheme (IWSS), operated by the Water Corporation (WC). It services approximately 78% of the state's population and covers Perth, Mandurah, Pinjarra, towns and properties along the Goldfields pipeline to Kalgoorlie-Boulder, and extensions of the pipeline into the surrounding agricultural areas (GovtWA 2003b) (ABS 2004a). Surface water and groundwater sources each supply about half of the water used in the IWSS (WC 2003b).

Impact of climatic conditions

Climatic conditions play an important role in the sustainability of water resources. The amount of water occurring in the environment, and hence the proportion that is available for use, is determined by rainfall levels and the amount of water that subsequently flows into surface water sources and replenishes groundwater sources. Temperature levels, solar radiation and vegetation conditions also impact on water supplies by determining how much water from rainfall is lost through evaporation and by plant transpiration before reaching surface and groundwater sources.

The size and geographical diversity of Western Australia means that there are different climatic patterns across the state. The IWSS draws its water from sources around Perth and other areas in south-west Western Australia. The weather in this region is characterised by cool wet winters and hot dry summers. On average, most of the rainfall in this area (86%) occurs between May and October (Loh and Coghlan 2003).

Current supply

In 2000, surface water stocks amounted to 857 GL of developed yield — that is the average annual volume of water that could be diverted for use within existing infrastructure. The sustainable yield for groundwater supplies — the amount of water that could be sustainably extracted — was 7,223 GL in 2000 (ABS 2004a). Not all of this water was suitable for human consumption. Desalination technologies can be used to convert more water to drinking water quality, however these technologies can be costly (GovtWA 2003b). The location of some water sources also limits household access, due to the high costs involved in developing the infrastructure required to deliver water to households that are not situated near water sources.

The amount of water available to supply the IWSS has been affected by changing climatic conditions in the south-west region of Western Australia. According to information published by the Indian Ocean Climate Initiative (IOCI), there has been an estimated 0.7°C increase in annual mean temperature over the last 50 years in this region (IOCI 2002b). Although numerically small, the average increase is significant from a climatic perspective. There has also been a 10–20% decrease in average winter rainfall across areas in south-west Western Australia over the last 30 years (IOCI 2002b). According to unpublished data provided by the WC, in Perth for example, the average annual rainfall until 1974 was 882 mm, whereas since then it has decreased to an average of 788 mm. As a result of these changes in climatic conditions, there has been a reduction in the amount of water flowing in streams and therefore into the dams that supply the IWSS. From 1911 to 1974, average streamflows into IWSS dams were 338 GL/year. This reduced to an average of 167 GL/year flowing into dams between 1975 and 2001 (GovtWA 2003b).

Future supply

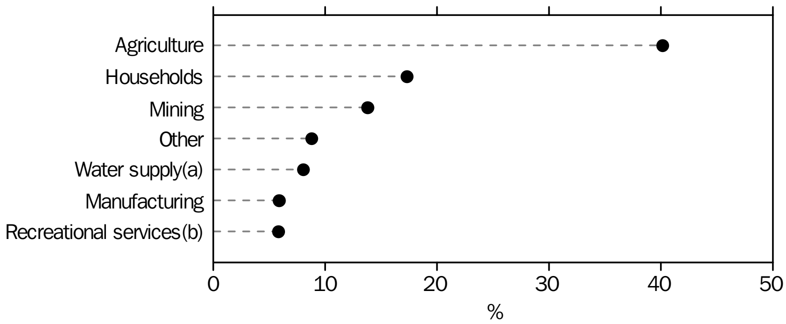
The CSIRO forecasts that the south-west of Western Australia will continue to become warmer and drier than last century (IOCI 2002b). As a result, it is likely that the amount of water occurring in the environment in that part of the state, and subsequently the total volume that can be sustainably extracted for use in the IWSS, will continue to reduce in the future (IOCI 2002a).

DEMAND FOR WATER

Current demand

Western Australian water consumption was 1,409 GL in 2000–01 (ABS 2004a). The Agriculture industry was the largest consumer during the period, accounting for 40% of water consumption in the state. Western Australian households were the second largest user of water, consuming 17% of total consumption. The Mining industry accounted for 14% of total water consumption in this period.

WATER CONSUMPTION—2000–01



(a) Includes Sewerage and drainage services.
(b) Includes Cultural and personal services.
Source: ABS 2004b, Water Account, Australia (cat.no. 4610.0).

Future demand

Water demand projections based on expected industry and population growth, and assumptions about how this will translate into demand for water, suggest that water consumption in Western Australia will grow to 3,500 GL/year by 2020–21 (GovtWA 2003b). The projections assume strong growth for agricultural, mining and manufacturing uses and include approximately 700 GL of water consumption that is dependent on Stage 2 of the Ord Irrigation Scheme proceeding (WRC 2000). Households are expected to remain a major user of water in the state, with water consumption predicted to increase in line with projected population growth (WRC 2000).

BALANCE OF SUPPLY AND DEMAND

Overall, Western Australia has considerable water resources to meet its future needs. There are however, specific water sources, particularly in regions that supply the IWSS, that have reached or are nearing their sustainable limit (WRC 2000). Increasing demand will put water supplies in these areas under further pressure. While there is scope for new sources to be developed to meet current and future needs, these processes will take considerable time, are likely to be expensive and will not be without environmental and social impacts. Given the limitations on new source development, water conservation achieved through the effective management of water demand, will become increasingly important for ensuring a sustainable water future for Western Australians.

HOUSEHOLD WATER CONSERVATION AND USE

Western Australian households currently represent an important sector of water use and are likely to remain so in the future. Household water conservation is therefore an important factor in ensuring the sustainability of the state's water resources. The State Water Strategy sets out a range of policies to reduce demand in the household sector, including regulation of use, financial incentives, pricing policies and community education (GovtWA 2003b). A permanent daytime sprinkler ban has been in place since November 1994 in Perth and other areas supplied by the IWSS. Current restrictions, in place since September 2001, limit sprinkler use to two days per week.

Households access water through public supply schemes (via connection to mains water) and self-extraction methods (such as garden bores, rainwater tanks and farm dams). Western Australian households rely heavily on mains water to meet their needs. In a survey conducted in March 2001, the ABS found that mains water was the main source of bath, shower and washing water for 95% of Western Australian households and the main source of drinking water for 84% of households (ABS 2001). It was also the main source of garden water for 77% of households, however this may since have decreased as a result of the tighter watering restrictions introduced in September 2001.

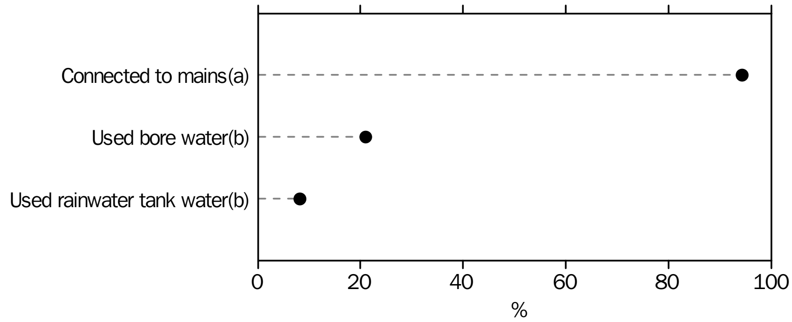
The conservation of mains water is a particular focus of the State Water Strategy, given the high quality of the water supply and the substantial infrastructure costs involved in delivering it to households via large-scale public supply schemes. A key target of the strategy is to reduce usage levels for Perth consumers of the IWSS to 155 kL per person by 2012 (GovtWA 2003b). All other public water supply schemes in Western Australia will need to establish similar targets by 2004.

With the introduction of a two day per week watering restriction and additional demand management measures, water use by Perth consumers of the IWSS decreased from 185 kL per person in 2000–01 to 150 kL per person in 2002–03 (GovtWA 2004). However, the challenge is to achieve the water conservation target without the continued imposition of water restrictions. Information from the ABS' Domestic Water Use Survey for Western Australia provides a snapshot of household water conservation and use in October 2003. This information can be used in developing strategies to further reduce water use in the household sector. Unless otherwise stated, figures in the following section were sourced from this survey.

Sources of household water supply

By extracting or collecting water directly for their own use, households can reduce the demand on high quality mains water supplies. In October 2003, an estimated 728,900 households in Western Australia (94% of all households) were connected to mains water. Of these, over one fifth (21%) reported using bore water and 8% used water from a rainwater tank.

SOURCES OF HOUSEHOLD WATER SUPPLY—October 2003



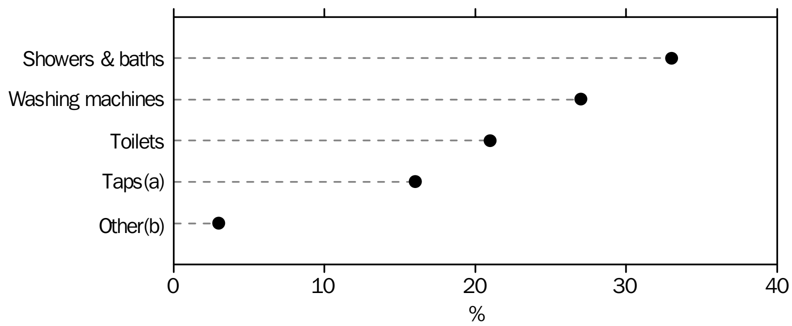
(a) All households
(b) Households connected to mains water supply.
Source: ABS 2004c, Domestic Water Use, Western Australia (cat.no. 4616.5.55.001).

Components of household water use

It is useful to understand the components that make up household water use, to enable an assessment of the areas in which there is the greatest potential for conservation of mains water supplies. Data on the components of household water use is available from a study conducted by the WC from November 1998 to June 2000 (Loh and Coghlan 2003). The Domestic Water Use Study covered 120 single residential households located in three suburbs of Perth that received their mains water supply through the IWSS. The data was collected while the daytime sprinkler ban was in place, but before sprinkler use was further limited to only two days per week.

According to the WC study, 56% of the total water used by these households went on outdoor water use, 42% was used indoors and the remainder went on water leaks. Almost all outdoor water use (97%) was accounted for by lawn and garden watering, with the remainder used on swimming pools (mainly for topping up purposes). Small amounts of water drawn from outdoor taps (such as that used for washing hands) were included in indoor tap usage. Use of showers and baths was the largest component (33%) of indoor water use by households in the WC study, followed by use of washing machines (27%) and toilets (21%). Use of taps made up 16% of water use and other components (such as using dishwashers, evaporative air conditioners and indoor spas) together accounted for 3% of indoor water use (Loh and Coghlan 2003).

COMPONENTS OF INDOOR WATER USE—1998–2000



(a) Includes a small amount of water use from outdoor taps.
(b) Includes dishwashers, evaporative air conditioners and spas.
Source: Loh, M. and Coghlan, P. 2003.

Outdoor water conservation and use

There are a variety of ways in which Western Australian households can reduce their use of mains water supplies outdoors, and hence make an important contribution to water conservation in the state.

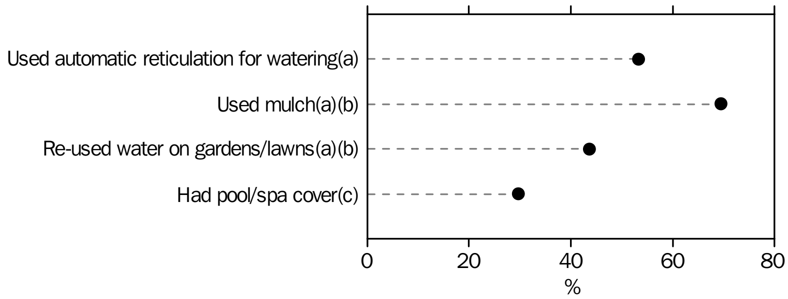
In October 2003, the majority (95%) of Western Australian households connected to mains had gardens or lawns and 97% watered them. Most of the garden practices of Western Australian households are still based on northern European style gardens which demand heavy watering (GovtWA 2003b). Of those households with gardens or lawns, over half (53%) used automated reticulation systems for watering. Some types of automated systems (for example manual tap timers fitted to reticulation systems) can help to conserve water because they turn off automatically. Other automated reticulation systems (such as electronic systems) are not necessarily water efficient because there can develop a 'set and forget' mentality among householders. While these systems contribute to water conservation by turning off automatically, they may turn on automatically when there is no need for watering.

The use of mulch, including materials such as wood chips, straw, lucerne, hay and newspaper, in gardens reduces evaporation and hence the need for watering. Over two thirds (69%) of Western Australian households connected to mains that had gardens or lawns used mulch in the twelve months prior to October 2003. Households living in a separate house were more likely to have used mulch (72%) than households in a semi-detached, row or terrace house or townhouse (57%) or households in a flat, unit or apartment (45%).

Of those Western Australian households connected to mains that had gardens or lawns in October 2003, 44% reported re-using water from around the house for the purposes of watering during the previous twelve months. This included a broad range of practices, such as using sophisticated greywater recycling systems, collecting water from running a shower, and pouring leftover water from water bottles and vases onto gardens/lawns.

An estimated 126,600 households in Western Australia (17% of those connected to mains) had a swimming pool or outdoor spa in October 2003. Of all Western Australian households that had a pool/outdoor spa, 30% had a pool/spa cover. Households that use a pool/spa cover can conserve mains water through not having to top up their pool/outdoor spa to compensate for evaporation. In addition, by keeping the pool/outdoor spa clean, the cover can also reduce the need to backwash the filter which can waste water (WC 2003a).

OUTDOOR WATER CONSERVATION AND USE—October 2003



(a) Households with gardens or lawns.
(b) In the last 12 months.
(c) Households with swimming pools/outdoor spas.

Source: ABS 2004c, Domestic Water Use, Western Australia (cat. no. 4616.5.55.001).

Indoor water conservation and use

There are a number of indoor water-using appliances commonly used by Western Australian households that draw on mains water supplies. The efficient use of such appliances can contribute to water conservation in the state.

An estimated 6 kL of mains water per household per year can be conserved by using a water efficient, rather than normal flow, shower head (Loh and Coghlan 2003). Almost two in five (38%) Western Australian households connected to mains had only water efficient shower heads installed in their dwelling in October 2003. Households living in dwellings that were fully owned (42%) or being purchased (39%) were more likely to have only water efficient shower heads than those living in rented dwellings (29%).

More efficient use of washing machines is a means by which households can conserve water. Almost all Western Australian households connected to mains (97%) had a washing machine in October 2003. The majority of these (84%) had a top loading machine, 13% had a front loading machine and the remainder had other types of washing machines. Front loading washing machines are more water efficient than most top loading machines and can conserve an estimated 15 kL of mains water per household per year (Loh and Coghlan 2003). The reason most frequently reported by Western Australian households for choosing a front loading washing machine was 'more water efficient' (66%), followed by 'better for clothes' (36%) and 'more energy efficient' (26%).

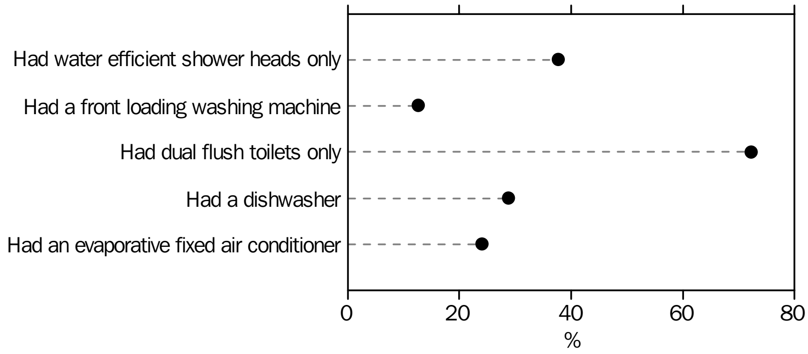
A small proportion (4%) of Western Australian households with a washing machine did not use it in the week prior to the survey. People living alone most commonly reported doing 1–2 loads of washing in the week prior to the survey (61%), whereas couple only households, lone parent households with children, and other households most commonly washed between 3–5 loads (49%, 42% and 43% of these households respectively). Couple with children households most commonly washed between 3–8 loads in the week prior to the survey (61%). Some 46,000 households reported doing 12 or more loads of washing (6%).

Since 1982 there has been a mandatory requirement in Western Australia to install dual flush toilets in all new homes and renovations, as they can contribute to household water conservation. Dual flush toilets typically use 12 kL less water per household per year than single flush toilets (Loh and Coghlan 2003). In October 2003, an estimated 526,600 Western Australian households connected to mains had only dual flush toilets installed in their dwelling (72%). Nearly one third (32%) of households in rented dwellings did not have any dual flush toilets, compared with 24% of fully owned dwellings and 17% of dwellings being purchased.

More efficient use of dishwashers is another means by which households can conserve water. The amount of water used by dishwashers varies from the equivalent of two sinks of water per wash for newer, water efficient models to up to 50 L per wash for older models (GovtWA 2003c). In both cases, dishwashers can conserve mains water if they are used with full loads. In October 2003, 29% of Western Australian households connected to mains had a dishwasher. Almost one quarter (23%) of households with a dishwasher did not use it in the week prior to the survey. Close to half (44%) of lone person households with a dishwasher reported not using it in the week prior to the survey, while 41% of couple with children households used their dishwasher 6 times or more.

Evaporative air conditioners use water in the process of cooling the air temperature of dwellings. Almost one quarter (24%) of Western Australian households connected to mains had an evaporative fixed air conditioner in October 2003. Evaporative air conditioning systems with two or less outlets are likely to use less water than those with more than two outlets (typically 'whole of house' systems). Of the estimated 174,800 Western Australian households that had evaporative fixed air conditioning, the majority (85%) had more than two outlets in their dwelling.

INDOOR WATER CONSERVATION AND USE(a)—October 2003



(a) Households connected to mains water supply.
Source: ABS 2004c, Domestic Water Use, Western Australia (cat. no. 4616.5.55.001).

CONCLUSION

Water conservation is important in ensuring a sustainable future for Western Australians. Water supplies in the south-west of the state are reducing as a result of changes in climatic conditions, while total demand for water is predicted to increase considerably by 2020–21. While Western Australia has substantial water resources to meet its future needs, decreasing supply and increasing demand are placing pressure on specific water sources — particularly those in Perth and other south-west regions that are drawn on to provide mains water for over three quarters of the state's population via the IWSS. Household water conservation plays an important role in ensuring there is an appropriate balance between supply of, and demand for, water resources to meet both current and future needs. Information from the ABS' Domestic Water Use Survey for Western Australia provides a snapshot of the ways in which households were conserving and using mains water in October 2003. This information can be used in developing strategies to further reduce water use in the household sector.

LIST OF REFERENCES

ABS publications

Australian Bureau of Statistics 2001, *Environmental Issues: People's Views and Practices, March 2001*, cat. no. 4602.0, ABS, Canberra.

Australian Bureau of Statistics 2004a, *Regional Population Growth, Australia and New Zealand 2002–03*, cat. no. 3218.0, ABS, Canberra.

Australian Bureau of Statistics 2004b, *Water Account, Australia, 2000–01*, cat. no. 4610.0, ABS, Canberra.

Australian Bureau of Statistics 2004c, *Domestic Water Use, Western Australia, October 2003*, cat. no. 4616.5.55.001, ABS, Canberra.

Non-ABS publications

Government of Western Australia 2003a, *Hope For The Future: The Western Australian State Sustainability Strategy*, Government of Western Australia, Perth.

Government of Western Australia 2003b, *Securing Our Water Future: A State Water Strategy for Western Australia*, Government of Western Australia, Perth.

Government of Western Australia 2003c, *Where Does The Water Go?*, viewed 11 May 2004, <http://www.ourwaterfuture.com.au/supply/content_consumption_study.asp>.

Government of Western Australia 2004, *Securing Our Water Future: A State Water Strategy for Western Australia: One Year Progress Report*, Government of Western Australia, Perth.

Indian Ocean Climate Initiative 2002a, *Climate Variability and Change in South West Western Australia*, Indian Ocean Climate Initiative Panel, Perth.

Non-ABS publications *continued*

Indian Ocean Climate Initiative 2002b, *Climate Variability and Change in the South-West*, viewed 10 May 2004, <http://www.ioci.org.au/publications/pdf/IOCI_CVCSW02.pdf>.

Loh, M. and Coghlan, P. 2003, *Domestic Water Use Study: In Perth, Western Australia 1998–2001*, Water Corporation, Perth.

Water and Rivers Commission 2000, *Western Australian Water Assessment 2000 — Water Availability and Use*, Water and Rivers Commission Policy and Planning Division, Perth.

Water Corporation 2003a, *Being Waterwise*, viewed 10 May 2004, <http://www.watercorporation.com.au/savingwater/savingwater_poolcovers.cfm>.

Water Corporation 2003b, *Our Water Sources*, viewed 10 May 2004, <http://www.watercorporation.com.au/dams/dams_supply.cfm>.

NOTES

kL = kilolitre = one thousand litres

GL = gigalitre = one thousand million litres

LIST OF TABLES

1 SUMMARY OF STATISTICAL INDICATORS: SELECTED STATES AND AUSTRALIAN COMPARISON

Indicator	Period	Unit	WA Current figure	WA % change from same period previous year	NSW Current figure	NSW % change from same period previous year	Vic. Current figure	Vic. % change from same period previous year
State final demand								
Trend, Chain volume	Mar qtr 2004	$m	20 373	7.9	67 677	4.0	50 066	4.8
Consumer price index								
All groups	Mar qtr 2004	index	139.6	1.6	145.0	2.0	143.5	1.8
Wage cost index	Mar qtr 2004	index	122.9	3.1	124.9	3.6	123.0	3.2
Quarterly retail turnover								
Trend, Chain volume	Mar qtr 2004	$m	4 490.0	7.5	15 744.1	5.3	11 021.4	8.6
Finance commitments								
Commercial	Apr 2004	$m	1 766.9	16.8	13 405.0	12.1	4 996.9	34.5
Personal	Apr 2004	$m	651.1	11.6	2 092.6	12.7	1 534.4	15.7
Private new capital expenditure								
Trend, Chain volume	Mar qtr 2004	$m	2 392	28.0	3 947	5.0	3 372	0.1
New residential building approved								
Original, Chain volume	Mar qtr 2004	$m	731.8	2.1	1 691.9	–5.6	1 835.7	11.9
New residential building activity commenced								
Original, Chain volume	Dec qtr 2003	$m	807.7	27.7	2 030.7	–19.2	2 130.4	6.2
Merchandise trade								
Exports	Mar qtr 2004	$m	7 949	–3.5	4 440	–7.4	4 175	–4.4
Imports	Mar qtr 2004	$m	2 974	–9.2	12 285	–2.7	9 706	–7.1
Mineral exploration								
Gold	Mar qtr 2004	$m	59.3	1.4	4.8	–9.4	15.2	46.1
All other minerals (excluding Gold)	Mar qtr 2004	$m	37.2	15.2	5.8	–26.6	2.2	29.4
Petroleum	Mar qtr 2004	$m	106.9	–44.2	5.7	216.7	15.6	–59.7
Unemployment rate								
Trend	May 2004	%	5.1	. .	5.4	. .	5.6	. .
Estimated resident population	Dec qtr 2003	'000	1 969.0	1.7	6 716.3	0.8	4 984.0	1.3

Indicator	Period	Unit	Qld Current figure	Qld % change from same period previous year	SA Current figure	SA % change from same period previous year	Aust. Current figure	Aust. % change from same period previous year
State final demand								
Trend, Chain volume	Mar qtr 2004	$m	36 821	8.8	14 139	4.0	201 461	5.6
Consumer price index								
All groups	Mar qtr 2004	index	145.4	2.5	147.7	2.1	144.1	2.0
Wage cost index	Mar qtr 2004	index	122.9	3.8	123.9	4.0	123.7	3.6
Quarterly retail turnover								
Trend, Chain volume	Mar qtr 2004	$m	9 287.7	13.2	3 334.3	4.1	46 288.7	7.8
Finance commitments								
Commercial	Apr 2004	$m	2 770.9	14.5	827.6	2.1	24 126.3	16.0
Personal	Apr 2004	$m	1 396.5	13.3	392.3	–0.7	6 289.4	12.4
Private new capital expenditure								
Trend, Chain volume	Mar qtr 2004	$m	2 432	3.7	1 010	–4.8	14 044	6.0
New residential building approved								
Original, Chain volume	Mar qtr 2004	$m	1 543.9	5.3	322.7	5.1	6 324.8	3.8
New residential building activity commenced								
Original, Chain volume	Dec qtr 2003	$m	1 886.9	27.0	359.1	–7.0	7 556.6	4.0
Merchandise trade								
Exports	Mar qtr 2004	$m	4 202	–14.7	1 824	–7.5	25 544	–8.3
Imports	Mar qtr 2004	$m	4 192	7.4	1 260	–6.6	30 723	–3.6
Mineral exploration								
Gold	Mar qtr 2004	$m	5.6	–3.4	1.5	25.0	91.2	7.8
All other minerals (excluding Gold)	Mar qtr 2004	$m	20.4	15.2	5.6	16.7	76.1	10.6
Petroleum	Mar qtr 2004	$m	19.7	74.3	14.1	51.6	168.8	–36.7
Unemployment rate								
Trend	May 2004	%	6.0	. .	6.2	. .	5.6	. .
Estimated resident population	Dec qtr 2003	'000	3 840.1	2.3	1 531.4	0.6	20 008.7	1.3

2 STATE FINAL DEMAND, CHAIN VOLUME MEASURES(a)

	Dec qtr 2002	Mar qtr 2003	Jun qtr 2003	Sep qtr 2003	Dec qtr 2003	Mar qtr 2004	Mar qtr 2003 to Mar qtr 2004
	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m	% change
ORIGINAL							
Final consumption expenditure							
General Government	r 3 090	r 3 080	r 3 122	r 3 130	r 3 149	3 160	2.6
Households	r 10 776	r 9 702	r 10 180	r 10 474	r 11 448	10 479	8.0
Gross fixed capital expenditure							
Private							
Dwellings	r 1 142	1 089	1 131	r 1 119	r 1 037	1 154	6.0
Non-dwelling construction	1 205	1 158	1 426	r 1 358	r 1 309	1 171	1.1
Machinery and equipment	r 1 791	r 1 471	r 1 923	r 2 178	r 2 546	2 021	37.4
Livestock	30	30	30	47	47	47	56.7
Intangible fixed assets	422	415	396	422	r 453	344	–17.1
Ownership transfer costs	301	285	356	336	330	279	–2.1
Total private	*r 4 892*	*r 4 448*	*5 262*	*r 5 460*	*r 5 721*	*5 016*	*12.8*
Public	758	715	r 941	r 658	r 849	740	3.5
State final demand	**r 19 517**	**r 17 945**	**r 19 505**	**r 19 722**	**r 21 167**	**19 396**	**8.1**
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED							
Final consumption expenditure							
General Government	3 097	3 088	3 101	3 135	3 156	3 169	2.6
Households	10 147	10 139	10 291	10 574	10 761	10 924	7.7
Gross fixed capital expenditure							
Private							
Dwellings	1 132	1 105	1 120	1 123	1 025	1 174	6.2
Non-dwelling construction	1 144	1 291	1 402	1 298	1 248	1 306	1.2
Machinery and equipment	1 676	1 629	1 821	2 273	2 371	2 253	38.3
Livestock	30	30	30	47	47	47	56.7
Intangible fixed assets	399	408	415	435	428	339	–16.9
Ownership transfer costs	301	307	333	351	330	299	–2.6
Total private	*4 682*	*4 771*	*5 121*	*5 528*	*5 450*	*5 417*	*13.5*
Public	771	739	834	732	860	767	3.8
State final demand	**18 697**	**18 736**	**19 347**	**19 970**	**20 227**	**20 278**	**8.2**
TREND ESTIMATES							
Final consumption expenditure							
General Government	3 074	3 095	3 110	3 131	3 154	3 165	2.3
Households	10 090	10 176	10 329	10 538	10 752	10 937	7.5
Gross fixed capital expenditure							
Private							
Dwellings	1 118	1 124	1 110	1 096	1 098	1 115	–0.8
Non-dwelling construction	1 149	1 297	1 345	1 321	1 287	1 271	–2.0
Machinery and equipment	1 564	1 657	1 906	2 163	2 313	2 329	40.6
Livestock	29	29	35	42	47	50	72.4
Intangible fixed assets	383	409	427	425	405	375	–8.3
Ownership transfer costs	295	313	334	338	329	310	–1.0
Total private	*4 540*	*4 829*	*5 157*	*5 380*	*5 477*	*5 473*	*13.3*
Public	762	774	783	796	800	796	2.8
State final demand	**18 467**	**18 874**	**19 379**	**19 840**	**20 181**	**20 373**	**7.9**

(a) Reference year for chain volume measures is 2001–2002.

Source: ABS data available on request, *Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product* (cat no. 5206.0).

3 CONSUMER PRICE INDEX(a), BY GROUP: PERTH

Period	Food	Alcohol and tobacco	Clothing and footwear	Housing	Household furnishings, supplies & services	Health	Transport –ation	Communi –cation	Recreation	Education	Miscellan –eous	All groups
ANNUAL AVERAGE												
2000–2001	134.7	184.7	110.9	101.3	115.4	157.0	137.0	102.7	121.8	190.5	165.4	**129.6**
2001–2002	142.6	192.3	109.2	103.4	117.2	162.8	136.8	103.5	127.1	195.5	172.2	**133.1**
2002–2003	146.7	198.0	109.5	106.2	118.2	175.7	140.7	106.8	128.8	201.5	183.5	**136.8**
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous year, annual average)												
2000–2001	3.9	11.5	6.4	7.0	2.1	2.9	6.1	6.5	3.4	4.8	6.5	**5.5**
2001–2002	5.8	4.2	–1.5	2.0	1.5	3.7	–0.1	0.8	4.4	2.7	4.1	**2.7**
2002–2003	3.0	2.9	0.3	2.8	0.9	8.0	2.8	3.2	1.3	3.1	6.6	**2.8**
QUARTERS												
December	145.5	196.4	111.0	105.7	118.7	171.8	140.5	106.7	130.2	197.5	183.8	**136.4**
2003												
March	147.8	198.8	108.1	106.3	117.4	177.8	143.6	107.0	128.6	205.5	184.1	**137.4**
June	148.7	200.0	108.3	107.8	118.5	181.1	139.0	107.2	126.8	205.5	183.7	**137.4**
September	148.7	202.8	110.3	110.4	118.5	181.4	140.9	108.0	125.7	205.5	187.4	**138.6**
December	149.2	204.2	109.4	111.7	118.7	181.7	140.3	108.3	127.0	205.5	187.5	**139.2**
2004												
March	150.4	204.1	106.8	112.8	117.1	187.3	141.4	108.3	124.4	214.9	189.3	**139.6**
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from same quarter of previous year)												
December	2.0	2.7	0.5	2.5	0.3	8.6	3.9	2.9	3.0	2.1	6.9	**2.9**
2003												
March	1.9	2.9	—	2.4	0.3	9.4	5.3	3.1	0.8	4.1	6.4	**2.8**
June	3.7	3.0	–2.0	3.7	1.3	5.6	0.1	2.5	–1.9	4.1	6.1	**2.1**
September	2.6	3.2	–0.2	5.1	0.4	5.5	0.9	1.6	–2.9	4.1	2.9	**2.1**
December	2.5	4.0	–1.4	5.7	—	5.8	–0.1	1.5	–2.5	4.1	2.0	**2.1**
2004												
March	1.8	2.7	–1.2	6.1	–0.3	5.3	–1.5	1.2	–3.3	4.6	2.8	**1.6**
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous quarter)												
December	0.4	–0.1	0.5	0.7	0.6	–0.1	0.6	0.4	0.6	—	0.9	**0.4**
2003												
March	1.6	1.2	–2.6	0.6	–1.1	3.5	2.2	0.3	–1.2	4.1	0.2	**0.7**
June	0.6	0.6	0.2	1.4	0.9	1.9	–3.2	0.2	–1.4	—	–0.2	**—**
September	—	1.4	1.8	2.4	—	0.2	1.4	0.7	–0.9	—	2.0	**0.9**
December	0.3	0.7	–0.8	1.2	0.2	0.2	–0.4	0.3	1.0	—	0.1	**0.4**
2004												
March	0.8	—	–2.4	1.0	–1.3	3.1	0.8	0.0	–2.0	4.6	1.0	**0.3**

(a) Base of each index: 1989–1990 = 100.0.

Source: ABS data available on request, *Consumer Price Index, Australia*.

4 AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF SELECTED ITEMS: PERTH

Item	Unit	Dec qtr 2002 cents	Mar qtr 2003 cents	Jun qtr 2003 cents	Sep qtr 2003 cents	Dec qtr 2003 cents	Mar qtr 2004 cents	Mar qtr 03 to Mar qtr 04 % change
Dairy and related products								
Milk	*1 litre*	159	160	161	164	171	172	7.5
Cheese, processed, sliced, wrapped	*500g*	375	367	370	371	371	395	7.6
Butter	*500g*	232	231	220	226	216	222	–3.9
Bread and cereal products								
Bread, white loaf, sliced	*650g*	257	256	258	257	233	242	–5.5
Biscuits, dry	*250g*	162	165	168	166	166	170	3.0
Breakfast cereals, corn based	*550g*	364	388	383	351	362	294	–24.2
Flour, self raising	*2kg*	335	341	386	398	403	391	14.7
Rice, long grain	*1kg*	201	203	205	210	212	207	2.0
Meat and seafoods								
Beef								
Silverside roast	*1kg*	1 135	1 107	1 063	1 168	1 115	1 206	8.9
Rump steak	*1kg*	1 505	1 496	1 576	1 681	1 641	1 683	12.5
T-bone steak, with fillet	*1kg*	1 696	1 680	1 703	1 757	1 719	1 831	9.0
Lamb								
Leg	*1kg*	796	814	853	891	904	910	11.8
Loin chops	*1kg*	1 355	1 412	1 467	1 474	1 488	1 520	7.6
Pork								
Leg	*1kg*	779	794	808	802	770	816	2.8
Loin chops	*1kg*	1 163	1 175	1 191	1 175	1 250	1 215	3.4
Chicken, frozen	*1kg*	387	380	390	405	379	410	7.9
Bacon, middle rashers	*250g pkt*	405	405	382	377	390	402	–0.7
Sausages	*1kg*	702	710	698	591	588	596	–16.1
Salmon, pink	*210g can*	260	257	274	266	246	243	–5.4
Fresh fruit and vegetables								
Oranges	*1kg*	303	309	359	266	310	310	0.3
Bananas	*1kg*	321	315	259	255	226	237	–24.8
Potatoes	*1kg*	169	183	181	181	189	193	5.5
Tomatoes	*1kg*	356	424	358	282	352	380	–10.4
Carrots	*1kg*	131	131	138	138	135	136	3.8
Onions	*1kg*	113	157	160	229	250	171	8.9
Other food								
Eggs(a)(b)	*1 dozen*	336	371	394	387	380	383	3.2
Sugar, white(b)	*2kg*	243	249	244	243	244	244	–2.0
Jam, strawberry	*500g jar*	248	262	271	262	257	278	6.1
Teabags	*180g pkt*	361	321	349	367	371	347	8.1
Coffee, instant	*150g jar*	607	641	590	601	580	546	–14.8
Tomato sauce	*600ml*	174	177	183	170	173	181	2.3
Margarine, poly-unsaturated	*500g*	220	216	222	232	229	233	7.9
Baked beans, in tomato sauce	*420g*	112	117	115	117	114	118	0.9
Baby food	*120g can*	75	73	72	76	69	73	—
Chocolate, milk, block	*250g*	317	335	322	321	321	354	5.7
Household supplies and personal care								
Laundry detergent	*1kg*	512	482	485	529	543	452	–6.2
Dishwashing detergent	*500ml*	322	332	322	339	306	324	–2.4
Facial tissues	*pkt 180*	205	209	213	207	216	215	2.9
Toilet paper	*4x250 sheet rolls*	334	305	305	291	306	309	1.3
Pet food	*400g*	103	102	101	104	99	94	–7.8
Toilet soap	*4x125g*	257	259	273	251	242	260	0.4
Private motoring								
Petrol, lead replacement	*1 litre*	94.5	101.5	91.7	95.2	93.7	96.7	–4.7
Petrol, unleaded	*1 litre*	90.6	97.7	88.4	91.3	89.7	92.3	–5.5
Alcoholic drinks								
Beer, low alcohol (24 bottles)(c)	*355-375ml ea*	2 595	2 681	2 712	2 742	2 741	2 782	3.8
Beer, full strength (24 bottles)(d)	*375ml ea*	3 030	3 034	3 121	3 234	3 373	3 355	10.6
Draught beer, full strength, public bar(d)	*285ml glass*	278	288	294	299	304	308	6.9
Scotch nip, public bar	*30ml*	449	449	449	448	453	457	1.8

(a) Eggs in Perth have a minimum net carton weight of 700g per dozen eggs.

(b) Represents average price of brand name and generic brand products.

(c) Includes light and mid strength beer with an alcoholic content equal to or less than 3.5%.

(d) Alcoholic content of full strength beer is greater than 3.5%.

Source*: Average Retail Prices of Selected Items, Eight Capital Cities* (cat. no. 6403.0).

5 WAGE COST INDEX: TOTAL HOURLY RATES OF PAY EXCLUDING BONUSES(a)

	INDEX NUMBERS						Dec qtr 2003 to Mar qtr 2004	Mar qtr 2003 to Mar qtr 2004
	Dec qtr 2002	*Mar qtr 2003*	*Jun qtr 2003*	*Sep qtr 2003*	*Dec qtr 2003*	*Mar qtr 2004*	*% change*	*% change*
Western Australia	**118.2**	**119.2**	**119.8**	**121.3**	**122.2**	**122.9**	**0.6**	**3.1**
Sector								
Private	118.5	119.2	119.9	121.4	122.3	123.1	0.7	3.3
Public	117.3	119.1	119.5	121.1	121.9	122.5	0.5	2.9
Selected industries								
Mining	122.0	122.4	122.7	125.2	125.8	125.9	0.1	2.9
Manufacturing	122.0	122.8	123.1	123.9	124.8	127.1	1.8	3.5
Retail trade	114.7	115.3	115.7	116.4	117.3	117.9	0.5	2.3
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	116.6	117.1	118.0	120.5	121.1	121.2	0.1	3.5
Property and business services	116.7	117.5	119.9	120.8	122.2	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Government administration and defence	119.6	121.9	122.2	123.6	124.9	126.0	0.9	3.4
Education	117.4	118.2	118.9	121.3	121.6	122.0	0.3	3.2
Health and community services	117.8	119.0	119.4	121.4	122.1	122.5	0.3	2.9
Personal and other services	113.7	116.1	116.4	117.5	118.9	119.3	0.3	2.8
Selected occupations								
Managers and administrators	116.8	118.2	118.6	119.4	120.2	120.6	0.3	2.0
Professionals	120.1	121.2	122.4	124.2	124.8	125.4	0.5	3.5
Associate professionals	116.4	116.8	117.8	118.3	119.4	120.1	0.6	2.8
Tradespersons and related workers	119.3	120.2	120.8	122.5	123.4	124.3	0.7	3.4
Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers	116.7	117.7	118.5	119.9	120.9	121.8	0.7	3.5
Intermediate production and transport workers	117.9	118.3	118.6	120.8	121.5	121.9	0.3	3.0
Elementary clerical, sales and service workers	115.1	116.1	116.7	118.3	118.7	119.5	0.7	2.9
Labourers and related workers	118.5	119.5	119.8	121.2	122.7	122.9	0.2	2.8

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

Source: ABS data available on request, *Wage Cost Index, Australia*.

6 SELECTED HOUSE PRICE INDEXES(a): PERTH

Period	PERTH: Established homes	PERTH: % change from previous period	PERTH: % change from same period previous year	PERTH: Project homes	PERTH: % change from previous period	PERTH: % change from same period previous year	WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF EIGHT CAPITAL CITIES: Established homes	% change from previous period	% change from same period previous year	Project homes	% change from previous period	% change from same period previous year
2000–2001	133.9	6.4	. .	126.2	9.9	. .	152.8	7.4	. .	134.9	11.8	. .
2001–2002	145.5	8.7	. .	128.8	2.1	. .	178.0	16.5	. .	138.1	2.4	. .
2002–2003	164.4	13.0	. .	132.9	3.2	. .	209.9	17.9	. .	144.1	4.3	. .
December	159.7	2.5	11.6	131.6	1.0	2.4	206.1	4.8	18.4	142.5	0.8	3.6
2003												
March	166.0	3.9	12.3	133.1	1.1	3.0	213.1	3.4	18.0	144.7	1.5	4.5
June	176.0	6.0	15.8	136.6	2.6	5.4	223.8	5.0	18.1	147.9	2.2	5.7
September	185.7	5.5	19.2	140.9	3.1	8.1	231.3	3.4	17.6	151.2	2.2	7.0
December	195.2	5.1	22.2	143.8	2.1	9.3	245.1	6.0	18.9	153.7	1.7	7.9
2004												
March	197.5	1.2	19.0	146.5	1.9	10.1	251.3	2.5	17.9	155.8	1.4	7.7

(a) Base of each index: 1989-1990 = 100.0.

Source: *House Price Indexes: Eight Capital Cities* (cat. no. 6416.0).

7 PRICE INDEXES OF MATERIALS USED IN BUILDING(a): PERTH

Group	Dec qtr 2002	Mar qtr 2003	Jun qtr 2003	Sep qtr 2003	Dec qtr 2003	Mar qtr 2004	% change from previous period: Perth	% change from previous period: Weighted average of six state capital cities	% change from same period previous year: Perth	% change from same period previous year: Weighted average of six state capital cities
House building										
All groups	122.8	123.4	123.9	124.6	125.2	126.1	0.7	0.6	2.2	2.7
Other than house building										
All groups	122.4	123.6	125.0	125.6	126.9	126.9	0.0	0.2	2.7	2.3
Selected major building materials:										
Structural timber	108.9	108.4	108.5	108.9	111.0	111.2	0.2	1.4	2.6	2.7
Ready mixed concrete	123.7	123.1	124.4	128.0	127.8	127.6	–0.2	–0.3	3.7	3.7
Precast concrete products	151.7	153.9	158.3	158.2	159.0	162.1	1.9	1.6	5.3	4.0
Steel decking and cladding	119.6	124.0	125.3	125.3	125.3	125.0	–0.2	0.4	0.8	0.9
Structural steel	139.3	139.3	142.8	144.8	146.7	147.3	0.4	0.1	5.7	1.0
Reinforcing steel bar, fabric, mesh	92.3	91.9	95.3	95.6	94.9	94.5	–0.4	0.7	2.8	3.5
Aluminium windows	128.0	132.1	136.4	133.3	138.4	138.4	0.0	0.8	4.8	4.8
Fabricated steel products	123.5	123.7	123.9	123.9	123.9	123.9	0.0	0.2	0.2	4.1
Builders' hardware	157.4	158.9	159.0	159.7	161.6	163.4	1.1	1.1	2.8	1.9
Sand and aggregate	128.8	129.6	130.8	132.7	132.7	136.8	3.1	0.2	5.6	4.3
Carpet	105.9	106.7	106.3	108.4	108.4	108.4	0.0	–0.4	1.6	0.8
Paint and other coatings	162.5	162.6	166.0	163.6	162.8	168.1	3.3	0.1	3.4	4.7
Non-ferrous pipes and fittings	136.8	136.8	136.8	136.8	138.8	141.1	1.7	2.9	3.1	6.1
Special series:										
All electrical materials	108.2	111.3	112.2	112.2	112.3	112.0	–0.3	0.0	0.6	1.9
All mechanical services	119.1	119.3	119.7	119.9	120.9	120.9	0.0	0.2	1.3	1.4
All plumbing materials	135.6	135.6	136.2	137.7	138.7	139.6	0.6	0.8	2.9	3.3

(a) Reference base of each index: 1989–1990 = 100.0.

Source: ABS data available on request, *Producer Price Indexes, Australia* (cat. no. 6427.0).

8 NEW MOTOR VEHICLE SALES(a)(b)

	Passenger vehicles	Other vehicles	Total vehicles	
Period	no.	no.	no.	% change from previous period
ORIGINAL				
2000–2001	49 432	23 324	72 756	12.5
2001–2002	45 808	26 137	71 945	–1.1
2002–2003	47 276	29 397	76 673	6.6
2003				
March	4 317	2 600	6 917	12.2
April	3 667	2 281	5 948	–14.0
May	4 199	2 928	7 127	19.8
June	4 892	3 770	8 662	21.5
July	4 278	2 695	6 973	–19.5
August	4 455	2 593	7 048	1.1
September	4 423	2 471	6 894	–2.2
October	4 729	2 758	7 487	8.6
November	4 153	2 772	6 925	–7.5
December	4 326	2 835	7 161	3.4
2004				
January	3 741	2 508	6 249	–12.7
February	4 187	2 926	7 113	13.8
March	4 771	3 315	8 086	13.7
April	3 816	2 713	6 529	–19.3
May	3 997	3 299	7 296	11.7
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED				
2003				
March	4 071	2 506	6 577	1.9
April	4 104	2 418	6 522	–0.8
May	4 265	2 723	6 988	7.1
June	4 387	2 890	7 277	4.1
July	4 345	2 787	7 132	–2.0
August	4 397	2 764	7 161	0.4
September	4 525	2 787	7 312	2.1
October	4 430	2 840	7 270	–0.6
November	4 259	2 821	7 080	–2.6
December	4 136	2 746	6 882	–2.8
2004				
January	4 337	2 952	7 289	5.9
February	4 242	2 938	7 180	–1.5
March	4 258	3 050	7 308	1.8
April	4 173	2 938	7 111	–2.7
May	4 374	3 126	7 500	5.5
TREND ESTIMATES				
2003				
March	4 102	2 518	6 620	1.5
April	4 166	2 586	6 752	2.0
May	4 245	2 663	6 908	2.3
June	4 327	2 735	7 062	2.2
July	4 391	2 787	7 178	1.6
August	4 419	2 811	7 230	0.7
September	4 411	2 809	7 220	–0.1
October	4 375	2 807	7 182	–0.5
November	4 324	2 818	7 142	–0.6
December	4 279	2 851	7 130	–0.2
2004				
January	4 250	2 894	7 144	0.2
February	4 242	2 941	7 183	0.5
March	4 248	2 987	7 235	0.7
April	4 261	3 029	7 290	0.8
May	4 283	3 067	7 350	0.8

(a) This series replaces New Motor Vehicle Registrations from January 2002.

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

Source: *Sales of New Motor Vehicles, Electronic Delivery* (cat. no. 9314.0.55.001).

9 MONTHLY RETAIL TURNOVER, BY INDUSTRY GROUP: CURRENT PRICES

Month	Food	Department stores	Clothing and soft goods	Household goods	Recreational goods	Hospitality and services	Other	Total
	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m
ORIGINAL								
2003								
February	580.8	90.4	66.3	175.5	^65.5	165.7	^106.9	1 251.2
March	638.6	106.5	75.1	189.2	^63.9	187.3	^112.2	1 372.9
April	620.8	122.4	81.7	184.8	^62.8	177.2	^122.1	1 371.8
May	640.0	123.4	89.0	203.2	^65.4	177.7	^135.8	1 434.6
June	586.6	122.6	85.7	202.2	^62.0	162.9	^121.6	1 343.6
July	635.5	119.2	89.8	224.6	^71.2	186.4	116.3	1 443.0
August	633.4	108.6	83.0	226.0	^76.8	189.8	117.0	1 434.7
September	615.5	114.8	83.3	222.0	^68.0	188.4	122.2	1 414.1
October	645.1	130.7	90.7	255.5	^72.8	204.2	^131.4	1 530.4
November	639.4	150.1	93.9	258.8	^77.9	201.4	^135.0	1 556.5
December	754.2	229.8	126.8	299.8	^114.2	220.3	^194.0	1 939.1
2004								
January	666.0	115.0	94.8	253.4	^83.4	201.5	125.3	1 539.4
February	613.7	96.2	74.7	212.2	^75.2	187.0	123.3	1 382.3
March	649.6	109.3	84.4	231.3	^78.4	199.2	128.4	1 480.6
April	675.0	124.5	89.5	223.3	72.8	197.1	127.1	1 509.4
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED								
2003								
February	625.0	123.2	83.6	199.3	71.7	180.2	120.8	1 403.8
March	636.6	124.6	84.7	199.1	68.4	184.0	121.7	1 419.1
April	628.1	129.2	86.7	202.2	67.5	186.9	129.2	1 429.8
May	634.6	118.8	80.0	209.3	69.1	181.9	138.9	1 432.6
June	635.1	141.4	87.2	211.9	67.8	180.7	133.8	1 457.8
July	649.9	126.8	95.8	225.3	73.1	192.6	123.8	1 487.2
August	640.8	128.4	89.9	231.6	74.2	192.1	123.6	1 480.4
September	649.8	129.7	89.6	234.5	72.4	192.6	123.4	1 492.1
October	631.5	131.7	89.8	240.4	76.0	190.8	125.8	1 486.0
November	635.7	129.4	89.3	239.8	77.7	196.0	126.6	1 494.5
December	653.5	123.5	88.2	239.3	80.2	191.5	133.1	1 509.4
2004								
January	639.8	127.7	94.5	248.2	80.6	194.7	132.8	1 518.2
February	640.3	128.9	93.3	231.7	80.3	197.8	135.7	1 508.0
March	644.3	130.3	95.9	244.4	82.2	196.5	135.3	1 528.9
April	669.6	129.6	90.7	248.7	78.4	198.6	136.0	1 551.7
TREND ESTIMATES								
2003								
February	629.0	125.5	84.5	198.0	70.4	183.0	124.5	1 414.5
March	630.3	125.9	84.4	200.4	69.7	182.4	126.7	1 419.6
April	632.7	126.7	84.9	204.1	69.1	182.9	128.7	1 429.1
May	636.1	127.9	86.1	209.3	69.1	184.3	129.9	1 442.8
June	639.1	129.2	87.8	215.8	69.7	186.4	129.7	1 457.7
July	641.1	130.2	89.2	222.7	71.0	188.5	128.2	1 470.9
August	642.2	130.4	90.1	229.4	72.7	190.3	126.2	1 481.2
September	642.4	129.8	90.3	234.9	74.4	191.9	125.1	1 488.8
October	641.6	129.0	90.3	238.4	76.2	193.0	125.7	1 494.0
November	640.7	128.2	90.4	240.1	77.8	193.6	127.8	1 498.6
December	641.2	127.9	90.9	240.7	79.0	194.2	130.6	1 504.5
2004								
January	643.5	128.0	92.0	241.3	80.0	195.1	132.8	1 512.4
February	646.8	128.3	92.8	242.2	80.6	196.1	134.5	1 521.2
March	650.6	128.7	93.4	243.2	80.9	197.1	135.8	1 530.3
April	655.2	129.2	93.7	244.2	80.8	198.0	136.7	1 540.1

Source: *Retail Trade, Australia* (cat. no. 8501.0).

10 QUARTERLY RETAIL TURNOVER, CHAIN VOLUME MEASURES(a)

	ORIGINAL			SEASONALLY ADJUSTED			TREND ESTIMATES		
	Retail turnover	*Change from previous period*	*Change from same period previous year*	**Retail turnover**	*Change from previous period*	*Change from same period previous year*	**Retail turnover**	*Change from previous period*	*Change from same period previous year*
Quarter	*$m*	*%*	*%*	*$m*	*%*	*%*	*$m*	*%*	*%*
December	4 699.2	20.3	5.8	4 175.1	2.5	5.3	4 135.5	0.5	4.3
2003									
March	3 965.6	–15.6	2.1	4 154.4	–0.5	2.7	4 177.6	1.0	3.3
June	4 065.2	2.5	2.8	4 232.0	1.9	2.8	4 250.7	1.7	4.0
September	4 208.1	3.5	7.8	4 366.8	3.2	7.2	4 338.7	2.1	5.4
December	4 956.4	17.8	5.5	4 420.3	1.2	5.9	4 425.1	2.0	7.0
2004									
March	4 343.9	–12.4	9.5	4 490.2	1.6	8.1	4 490.0	1.5	7.5

(a) Reference year for chain volume measures is 2001–2002.

Source: ABS data available on request, *Retail Trade, Australia* (cat no. 8501.0).

11 PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE, BY TYPE OF ASSET

	CURRENT PRICES			CHAIN VOLUME MEASURES(a)		
	Buildings and structures	*Equipment, plant and machinery*	*Total*	*Buildings and structures*	*Equipment, plant and machinery*	*Total*
Period	*$m*	*$m*	*$m*	*$m*	*$m*	*$m*
ORIGINAL						
2000–2001	1 671	3 608	5 279	1 689	3 618	5 307
2001–2002	1 831	4 163	5 994	1 831	4 163	5 994
2002–2003	2 910	4 250	7 159	2 808	r 4 440	7 249
December	736	1 140	1 876	716	1 173	1 889
2003						
March	760	950	1 711	733	996	1 729
June	874	1 199	2 073	831	1 283	2 114
September r	853	1 374	2 227	802	1 491	2 293
December r	1 059	1 482	2 541	983	1 687	2 670
2004						
March	741	1 137	1 878	678	1 341	2 019
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED						
December	672	1 084	1 756	651	1 118	1 769
2003						
March	854	1 065	1 919	820	1 116	1 936
June	851	1 132	1 983	805	1 211	2 016
September	865	1 380	2 245	812	1 504	2 316
December	963	1 406	2 369	893	1 607	2 500
2004						
March	840	1 278	2 118	768	1 514	2 282
TREND ESTIMATES						
December	692	993	1 685	669	1 033	1 702
2003						
March	797	1 053	1 850	764	1 105	1 869
June	871	1 194	2 065	826	1 277	2 102
September	894	1 309	2 203	839	1 447	2 285
December	898	1 361	2 259	832	1 551	2 382
2004						
March	892	1 359	2 251	820	1 568	2 392

(a) Reference year for chain volume measures is 2001–2002.

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

12 PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE, BY SELECTED INDUSTRY: CURRENT PRICES

	SELECTED INDUSTRIES			
	Mining	*Manufacturing*	*Other selected industries*	*All industries*
Period	*$m*	*$m*	*$m*	*$m*
		ORIGINAL		
2000–2001	2 507	808	1 965	5 279
2001–2002	3 091	760	2 143	5 994
2002–2003	3 902	982	2 276	7 159
December	984	197	695	1 876
2003				
March	986	246	478	1 711
June	1 151	305	618	2 073
September	1 332	287	r 608	r 2 227
December r	1 408	352	781	2 541
2004				
March	1 054	210	614	1 878

Source: ABS data available on request, *Private New Capital Expenditure and Expected Expenditure, Australia* (cat. no. 5625.0).

13 FINANCE COMMITMENTS

	COMMERCIAL FINANCE COMMITMENTS			PERSONAL FINANCE COMMITMENTS			
	Fixed loan facilities	Revolving credit facilities(a)	Total commercial finance commitments	Fixed loan facilities	Revolving credit facilities(a)	Total personal finance commitments	Total lease finance commitments(b)
Month	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m
2003							
February	806.2	218.6	1 024.7	399.9	245.5	645.5	22.1
March	1 124.0	370.9	1 494.9	r 374.9	265.8	r 640.7	28.1
April	1 153.6	358.6	1 512.3	r 334.3	r 249.2	r 583.6	21.2
May	1 106.2	443.4	1 549.6	r 373.0	287.8	r 660.8	29.8
June	1 210.4	854.7	2 065.1	r 396.6	303.0	r 699.6	28.1
July	1 289.9	417.3	1 707.2	r 412.4	295.0	r 707.3	28.1
August	1 124.0	421.2	1 545.2	r 381.9	r 269.3	r 651.2	27.1
September	1 069.0	472.2	1 541.2	r 364.8	r 255.8	r 620.7	25.5
October	1 150.8	r 692.1	r 1 842.9	r 411.7	302.8	r 714.5	46.5
November	1 102.1	387.5	1 489.6	r 368.5	281.0	r 649.5	27.4
December	1 822.1	654.1	2 476.2	r 379.4	286.3	r 665.7	25.0
2004							
January	r 831.4	359.5	r 1 190.9	r 331.7	251.8	r 583.5	20.0
February	971.9	564.0	1 535.9	323.4	240.2	563.6	29.2
March	1 140.3	329.7	1 470.0	391.9	314.4	706.3	58.3
April	1 376.2	390.8	1 766.9	345.0	306.1	651.1	30.5

(a) New and increased limits.

(b) Excludes leveraged leases.

Source: ABS data available on request, *Lending Finance, Australia* (cat. no. 5671.0).

14 HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS(a)(b), BY DWELLINGS FINANCED

	ORIGINAL		SEASONALLY ADJUSTED		TREND ESTIMATES	
	Total number of dwellings	Total value of commitments	Total number of dwellings	Total value of commitments	Total number of dwellings	Total value of commitments
Period	no.	$m	no.	$m	no.	$m
2000–2001	70 683	8 244.6	70 808	8 251.0	70 482	8 199.7
2001–2002	75 806	9 833.7	76 181	9 878.6	76 240	9 894.6
2002–2003	76 738	10 806.0	76 792	10 815.3	76 780	10 821.4
2003						
February	6 076	888.2	6 388	928.5	6 374	909.5
March	6 580	935.9	6 494	921.4	6 529	937.3
April	6 419	937.9	6 668	955.0	6 707	970.4
May	7 613	1 116.2	6 975	1 013.1	6 894	1 007.7
June	7 120	1 043.8	7 049	1 048.1	7 079	1 046.7
July	7 744	1 160.4	7 242	1 084.0	7 262	1 085.3
August	7 209	1 077.3	7 354	1 110.3	7 418	1 115.4
September	7 294	1 098.0	7 577	1 146.5	7 510	1 129.0
October	7 891	1 165.0	7 550	1 131.8	7 504	1 122.2
November	7 335	1 093.0	7 511	1 123.5	7 402	1 100.4
December	7 651	r 1 113.1	7 496	1 103.6	7 240	1 073.8
2004						
January	5 990	875.9	6 761	967.2	7 070	1 051.5
February	6 428	980.6	6 746	1 022.1	6 929	1 038.0
March	7 382	1 135.9	6 756	1 038.7	6 825	1 032.1
April	6 549	1 044.5	7 029	1 085.1	6 761	1 032.9

(a) Owner occupation housing.

(b) Excludes alterations and additions. Includes refinancing.

Source: ABS data available on request, *Housing Finance, Australia* (cat. no. 5609.0).

15 HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS(a)(b), BY TYPE OF BUYER: ORIGINAL

	FIRST HOME BUYERS				NON-FIRST HOME BUYERS			
	Number of dwellings financed	*Number as a percent of total*	*Value of commitments*	*Average borrowing size*	*Number of dwellings financed*	*Number as a percent of total*	*Value of commitments*	*Average borrowing size*
Month	*no.*	*%*	*$m*	*$'000*	*no.*	*%*	*$m*	*$'000*
2003								
February	1 046	17.2	143.9	137.6	5 030	82.8	744.4	148.0
March	1 016	15.4	136.8	134.6	5 564	84.6	799.0	143.6
April	987	15.4	136.9	138.7	5 432	84.6	801.2	147.5
May	1 108	14.6	153.9	138.9	6 505	85.4	962.1	147.9
June	1 055	14.8	151.2	143.3	6 065	85.2	892.8	147.2
July	1 183	15.3	169.8	143.5	6 561	84.7	990.7	151.0
August	r 1 088	r 15.1	r 158.0	r 145.2	r 6 121	r 84.9	r 919.4	150.2
September r	1 113	15.3	160.4	144.1	6 181	84.7	937.7	151.7
October	r 1 183	r 15.0	r 174.3	r 147.3	r 6 708	r 85.0	r 990.8	147.7
November r	1 077	14.7	152.2	141.3	6 258	85.3	940.6	150.3
December r	1 143	14.9	164.7	144.1	6 508	85.1	948.2	145.7
2004								
January	872	14.6	134.7	154.5	5 118	85.4	741.1	144.8
February	895	13.9	132.6	148.2	5 533	86.1	848.2	153.3
March	1 047	14.2	156.3	149.3	6 335	85.8	979.4	154.6
April	910	13.9	141.1	155.1	5 639	86.1	903.4	160.2

(a) Owner occupation housing.

(b) Excludes alterations and additions. Includes refinancing.

Source: ABS data available on request, *Housing Finance, Australia* (cat. no. 5609.0).

16 HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS(a), BY PURPOSE: ORIGINAL

	OWNER OCCUPATION (SECURED FINANCE)					INVESTMENT HOUSING	
	Construction of dwellings	*Purchase of new dwellings*	*Purchase of established dwellings*	*Refinancing of established dwellings*	*Total value of commitments*	*Purchase of dwellings by individuals for rent or resale*	*Purchase of dwellings by others for rent or resale*
Month	*$m*	*$m*	*$m*	*$m*	*$m*	*$m*	*$m*
2003							
February	117.9	18.3	575.2	176.8	888.2	299.2	23.1
March	120.5	30.4	589.0	196.0	935.9	383.9	29.3
April	133.2	21.3	592.9	190.5	937.9	383.7	24.2
May	169.6	27.7	699.4	219.5	1 116.2	424.0	38.3
June	168.1	22.5	633.7	219.5	1 043.8	469.8	35.4
July	191.4	26.9	691.5	250.5	1 160.4	422.0	35.4
August	180.0	20.8	653.1	223.5	1 077.3	399.3	101.7
September	190.1	21.7	633.0	253.2	1 098.0	405.0	32.8
October	187.7	32.0	657.1	288.1	1 165.0	419.2	35.7
November	169.9	35.0	617.1	271.0	1 093.0	372.1	37.6
December	188.4	39.8	613.1	271.9	1 113.1	377.9	39.5
2004							
January	147.1	24.4	487.1	217.3	875.9	274.1	27.6
February	160.0	30.9	548.0	241.7	980.6	329.6	27.2
March	188.4	32.7	644.9	269.9	1 135.8	395.5	37.9
April	162.8	30.6	605.2	245.9	1 044.5	368.2	22.4

(a) Excludes alterations and additions. Includes refinancing.

Sources: ABS data available on request, *Housing Finance, Australia* (cat. no. 5609.0); ABS data available on request, *Lending Finance, Australia* (cat. no. 5671.0).

17 DWELLING UNITS APPROVED, BY TYPE OF WORK: ORIGINAL

Period	New houses	New other residential building	New residential building	Alterations and additions to residential building(a)	Total non-residential building	Total building
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
2000–2001	r 12 120	2 637	r 14 757	148	42	r 15 291
2001–2002	r 17 398	r 2 789	r 20 187	54	66	r 20 374
2002–2003	r 18 041	3 633	r 21 674	93	19	r 21 791
2003						
February	1 305	500	1 805	4	—	1 809
March	1 388	248	1 636	2	—	1 639
April	1 296	204	1 500	9	—	1 509
May	1 644	368	2 012	32	9	2 053
June	2 059	374	2 433	3	—	2 437
July	1 658	274	1 932	—	—	1 932
August	1 610	257	1 867	1	—	1 868
September	r 1 658	269	r 1 927	4	—	r 1 932
October	1 985	402	2 387	r 7	—	r 2 394
November	1 626	366	1 992	2	1	2 005
December	r 1 757	r 140	r 1 897	20	1	r 1 918
2004						
January	1 321	212	1 533	18	—	1 551
February	1 465	533	1 998	2	1	2 001
March	1 741	356	2 097	3	—	2 100
April	1 308	273	1 581	—	6	1 588

(a) Number of dwellings created as a result of alterations and additions to residential buildings.

Source: ABS data available on request, *Building Approvals, Australia* (cat. no. 8731.0).

18 VALUE OF BUILDING APPROVED, BY TYPE OF WORK, CURRENT PRICES: ORIGINAL

Period	New houses	New other residential building	New residential building	Alterations and additions to residential building(a)	Total non-residential building	Total building
	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m
2000–2001	r 1 561.5	314.3	r 1 875.8	14.6	r 1 286.8	r 3 433.6
2001–2002	r 2 272.6	r 347.6	r 2 620.2	4.7	r 984.9	r 3 867.0
2002–2003	r 2 552.9	473.9	r 3 026.8	10.9	r 1 552.4	r 4 870.5
2003						
February	184.9	96.9	281.8	0.5	49.9	352.5
March	196.9	32.6	229.5	0.2	88.5	r 343.4
April	190.2	16.5	206.7	0.8	144.2	374.4
May	242.5	38.8	281.3	3.9	94.8	404.4
June	297.7	44.9	342.6	0.6	141.2	509.5
July	254.4	34.9	289.3	—	106.1	421.5
August	237.2	27.5	264.7	0.1	83.7	r 369.3
September	r 240.4	31.9	r 272.3	0.4	168.9	r 462.8
October	298.1	68.1	366.2	r 0.9	58.8	455.2
November	244.5	43.5	288.0	0.1	r 121.3	r 438.3
December	r 268.4	r 24.5	r 292.9	1.7	r 139.7	r 462.5
2004						
January	200.9	31.3	232.2	1.4	r 109.9	r 367.1
February	227.3	58.3	285.6	0.4	83.5	393.4
March	261.6	51.9	313.5	0.6	87.2	427.0
April	213.7	34.7	248.4	—	110.7	384.5

(a) Value of dwellings created as a result of alterations and additions to residential buildings.

Source: ABS data available on request, *Building Approvals, Australia* (cat. no. 8731.0).

19 VALUE OF BUILDING APPROVED, BY TYPE OF WORK, CHAIN VOLUME MEASURES(a): ORIGINAL

Period	New houses	New other residential building	New residential building	Alterations and additions to residential building	Total non-residential building	Total building
	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m
2000–2001	r 1 592.5	323.3	r 1 915.2	r 276.6	r 1 320.8	r 3 510.5
2001–2002 r	2 272.7	347.8	2 620.4	261.7	984.8	3 867.0
2002–2003	r 2 471.2	449.7	r 2 920.9	r 282.0	r 1 471.5	r 4 674.5
December	r 578.3	90.2	r 668.5	r 68.2	r 230.9	r 967.7
2003						
March	560.5	156.6	717.0	r 71.2	335.7	r 1 123.9
June	688.2	92.4	780.6	73.1	r 349.4	r 1203.1
September	r 669.0	r 85.7	r 754.6	62.7	r 325.1	r 1 142.5
December r	726.3	122.0	848.3	80.0	286.3	1 214.6
2004						
March	606.2	125.6	731.8	66.5	248.6	1 047.0

(a) Reference year for chain volume measures is 2001–2002.

Source: ABS data available on request, *Building Approvals, Australia* (cat. no. 8731.0).

20 RESIDENTIAL BUILDING APPROVED, BY REGION, CURRENT PRICES: ORIGINAL

Statistical Division & Subdivision	Mar qtr 2003 no.	Mar qtr 2003 $'000	Jun qtr 2003 no.	Jun qtr 2003 $'000	Sep qtr 2003 no.	Sep qtr 2003 $'000	Dec qtr 2003 no.	Dec qtr 2003 $'000	Mar qtr 2004 no.	Mar qtr 2004 $'000
NEW HOUSES										
Perth	3 007	426 375	3 652	535 185	r 3 542	r 531 667	3 900	r 589 387	3 382	516 678
Central Metropolitan	151	46 654	132	49 505	r 162	r 53 979	134	45 950	113	39 598
East Metropolitan	414	49 437	574	72 646	497	66 415	555	75 486	510	68 872
North Metropolitan	1 002	135 712	1 409	205 172	1 220	179 050	r 1 293	r 196 105	1 178	184 127
South West Metropolitan	717	98 531	836	114 193	r 930	r 136 370	r 1 031	r 148 505	816	120 391
South East Metropolitan	723	96 040	701	93 669	733	95 853	887	123 340	765	103 690
South West	718	103 904	814	111 531	939	135 273	r 966	r 147 625	780	116 825
Mandurah	373	54 967	390	55 135	469	70 025	430	68 282	339	53 649
Bunbury	113	15 355	170	21 401	204	24 985	r 235	r 29 715	166	21 337
Preston	53	5 428	62	7 382	57	8 256	r 69	r 9 785	46	5 991
Vasse	155	25 122	165	24 383	186	29 569	210	36 944	211	33 492
Blackwood	24	3 031	27	3 231	23	2 439	r 22	r 2 898	18	2 355
Lower Great Southern	90	11 451	102	13 744	121	15 058	r 118	r 15 353	87	13 311
Pallinup	8	901	10	1 374	14	1 773	7	957	1	48
King	82	10 550	92	12 369	107	13 285	r 111	r 14 396	86	13 263
Upper Great Southern	25	3 161	26	3 052	11	1 479	10	1 485	13	1 516
Hotham	25	3 161	21	2 326	9	1 100	9	1 185	13	1 516
Lakes	—	—	5	726	2	379	1	300	—	—
Midlands	68	7 487	111	15 376	105	12 246	112	14 472	89	10 336
Moore	42	4 758	61	9 154	53	6 871	71	10 228	41	5 330
Avon	23	2 441	42	5 169	48	4 912	40	4 163	45	4 535
Campion	3	288	8	1 053	4	464	1	81	3	471
South Eastern	38	5 467	58	9 458	52	8 011	59	9 358	31	4 477
Kalgoorlie/Boulder City Part A	13	2 111	26	3 587	24	3 475	32	4 214	14	2 136
Lefroy	6	1 080	11	2 260	9	1 872	10	2 523	—	—
Johnston	19	2 276	21	3 611	19	2 664	17	2 622	17	2 341
Central	78	11 598	95	16 493	61	9 948	r 78	r 11 994	91	16 486
Geraldton	33	4 735	48	8 250	41	6 826	43	7 148	50	9 095
Gascoyne	15	2 786	9	1 789	6	1 228	6	859	4	629
Carnegie	1	137	4	751	1	25	—	—	10	1 746
Greenough River	29	3 939	34	5 702	13	1 868	r 29	r 3 987	27	5 016
Pilbara	14	2 665	44	7 877	42	8 609	50	7 114	19	3 436
De Grey	3	530	17	3 156	3	616	38	4 756	5	473
Fortescue	11	2 134	27	4 722	39	7 992	12	2 358	14	2 963
Kimberley	45	7 390	97	17 651	53	9 708	r 75	r 14 132	35	6 656
Ord	2	280	19	3 606	3	535	r 32	r 5 672	8	1 269
Fitzroy	43	7 110	78	14 045	50	9 173	43	8 460	27	5 387
NEW OTHER RESIDENTIAL BUILDING										
Perth	844	145 000	779	80 026	636	72 501	r 636	r 96 588	785	103 980
Central Metropolitan	413	92 043	127	19 924	145	17 728	241	39 571	150	24 293
East Metropolitan	65	6 356	109	10 524	62	6 237	89	6 789	44	3 412
North Metropolitan	170	17 776	195	18 245	190	18 430	r 89	r 9 485	239	28 613
South West Metropolitan	46	7 294	83	8 352	140	15 600	99	21 898	275	36 805
South East Metropolitan	150	21 532	265	22 981	99	14 505	118	18 846	77	10 858
South West	120	18 944	115	14 741	153	20 527	216	30 794	280	32 208
Lower Great Southern	2	162	29	2 955	2	238	—	—	6	513
Upper Great Southern	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Midlands	7	649	8	383	—	—	—	—	2	210
South Eastern	12	1 302	3	368	—	—	8	2 000	—	—
Central	—	—	—	—	3	380	2	130	12	1 281
Pilbara	—	—	6	1 029	—	—	36	4 869	10	1 885
Kimberley	4	464	6	652	6	698	10	1 685	6	1 447

Source: ABS data available on request, *Building Approvals, Australia*.

21 VALUE OF BUILDING WORK COMMENCED, BY TYPE OF WORK: ORIGINAL

Period	New houses $m	New other residential building $m	New residential building $m	Alterations and additions to residential buildings $m	Total non–residential building $m	Total building $m
			CURRENT PRICES(a)			
2000–2001	1 433.0	332.4	1 765.3	275.2	1 133.7	3 174.1
2001–2002	2 164.7	375.1	2 539.9	264.0	886.5	3 690.5
2002–2003	2 416.0	457.0	2 873.1	291.1	1 555.7	4 720.0
2002						
September	658.2	118.2	776.4	65.3	665.0	1 506.8
December	548.7	98.1	646.9	74.8	235.4	957.0
2003						
March	632.8	162.4	795.2	76.5	298.0	1 169.8
June	576.3	78.3	654.6	74.5	357.3	1 086.4
September r	706.6	121.7	828.3	71.1	355.7	1 255.0
December	725.2	170.2	895.4	73.4	299.7	1 268.5
			CHAIN VOLUME MEASURES(b)			
2000–2001	1 456.8	341.8	1 797.7	280.7	1 162.1	3 238.0
2001–2002	2 164.7	375.2	2 539.8	263.9	886.6	3 690.4
2002–2003	2 351.0	r 434.6	r 2 785.7	281.9	r 1 479.1	r 4 546.7
2002						
September	650.3	115.5	765.8	64.5	646.5	1 476.8
December	538.1	94.2	632.3	73.2	224.7	930.2
2003						
March	614.0	152.7	766.7	74.0	r 278.9	r 1 119.6
June	548.6	r 72.2	r 620.9	70.2	r 329.0	r 1 020.1
September r	653.8	110.6	764.5	65.0	323.2	1 152.7
December	654.3	153.4	807.7	65.7	269.4	1 142.8

(a) Data is inclusive of non–deductible GST payable on residential buildings.

(b) Reference year for chain volume measures is 2001–2002.

Source: ABS data available on request, *Building Activity, Australia* (cat. no. 8752.0).

22 VALUE OF BUILDING WORK DONE, BY TYPE OF WORK: ORIGINAL

Period	New houses $m	New other residential building $m	New residential building $m	Alterations and additions to residential buildings $m	Total non–residential building $m	Total building $m
			CURRENT PRICES(a)			
2000–2001	1 681.8	398.5	2 080.5	247.3	1 064.0	3 391.7
2001–2002	1 964.9	395.4	2 360.3	283.7	1 042.1	3 686.1
2002–2003	2 321.3	410.4	2 731.8	304.5	1 298.8	4 335.0
2002						
September	572.0	96.5	668.5	72.1	337.6	1 078.2
December	605.7	98.5	704.3	76.7	337.8	1 118.7
2003						
March	554.0	116.3	670.3	74.2	323.0	1 067.5
June	589.6	99.1	688.7	81.5	300.4	1 070.6
September r	618.9	122.0	740.9	77.6	394.2	1 212.7
December	602.5	109.0	711.5	76.9	369.4	1 157.8
			CHAIN VOLUME MEASURES(b)			
2000–2001	1 709.8	406.9	2 116.5	251.4	1 075.2	3 443.7
2001–2002	1 964.8	395.3	2 360.2	283.7	1 042.1	3 686.0
2002–2003	2 258.4	394.9	2 653.4	296.2	1 257.4	r 4 206.7
2002						
September	565.2	94.6	659.8	71.3	331.4	1 062.4
December	594.0	95.9	689.9	75.2	329.8	1 094.8
2003						
March	537.6	111.5	649.2	72.0	311.6	1 032.8
June	561.6	92.9	654.5	77.7	284.6	r 1 016.7
September r	573.5	112.0	685.5	71.9	365.0	1 122.4
December	544.5	98.5	643.0	69.5	335.6	1 048.2

(a) Data is inclusive of non–deductible GST payable on residential buildings.

(b) Reference year for chain volume measures is 2001–2002.

Source: ABS data available on request, *Building Activity, Australia* (cat. no. 8752.0).

23 ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY, BY TYPE: ORIGINAL

Period	Roads, highways and subdivisions	Bridges, railways and harbours	Electricity generation, transmission etc. and pipelines	Water storage and supply, sewerage and drainage	Telcom–munications	Heavy industry	Recreation and other	**Total**
	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m
				VALUE OF WORK COMMENCED DURING PERIOD				
2000–2001	947.6	125.3	92.5	171.2	406.6	611.6	149.1	**2 504.0**
2001–2002	672.4	170.3	1 202.4	92.3	354.7	1 969.8	220.3	**4 682.1**
2002–2003	817.8	411.8	206.9	284.0	r 333.0	2 372.6	194.5	**r 4 620.7**
2002								
September	206.8	303.5	28.6	45.6	71.2	808.8	^52.7	**1 517.3**
December	^207.1	50.6	^46.2	^57.8	105.4	210.1	*46.0	**723.3**
2003								
March	^239.4	47.8	^56.4	^87.6	65.1	203.1	*45.4	**744.8**
June	164.4	10.0	75.7	92.9	r 91.4	1 150.5	50.3	**r 1 635.2**
September	^r 282.3	r 66.5	34.8	^r 59.8	55.2	164.1	^r 47.9	**r 710.7**
December	^242.8	26.7	40.8	^48.8	92.9	367.2	^39.4	**858.6**
				VALUE OF WORK DONE DURING PERIOD				
2000–2001	742.9	125.8	93.1	183.9	297.2	662.8	151.0	**2 256.6**
2001–2002	708.7	171.9	314.8	136.5	408.4	1 126.6	252.3	**3 119.3**
2002–2003	855.7	331.0	668.0	250.3	r 365.2	2 060.5	204.6	**r 4 735.3**
2002								
September	164.0	*61.1	186.2	40.1	85.9	422.1	^55.8	**1 015.3**
December	^259.3	92.5	147.7	^60.3	112.5	462.2	^57.8	**1 192.3**
2003								
March	^227.3	94.5	145.9	^75.5	72.2	455.0	^40.7	**1 111.1**
June	205.1	82.8	188.3	74.4	r 94.6	721.3	50.3	**r 1 416.7**
September	^r 205.2	r 58.8	176.8	^r 63.8	r 58.2	r 539.0	^r 41.0	**r 1 142.7**
December	^250.2	57.1	177.6	^68.6	93.3	537.3	^38.7	**1 222.8**

Source: *Engineering Construction Activity, Australia* (cat. no. 8762.0).

24 EXPORTS AND IMPORTS, BY SELECTED COMMODITY, BY VALUE OF TRADE

	MAR QTR 2004		12 MONTHS ENDED MAR QTR 2003		12 MONTHS ENDED MAR QTR 2004	
	Exports	*Imports*	*Exports*	*Imports*	*Exports*	*Imports*
Section and Division of the SITC Revision 3	*$'000*	*$'000*	*$'000*	*$'000*	*$'000*	*$'000*
0 Food and live animals	**850 859**	**52 818**	**3 091 953**	**231 155**	**3 012 192**	**237 772**
00 Live animals other than fish, crustaceans, molluscs and aquatic invertebrates	81 075	77	450 931	23	356 554	84
01 Meat and meat preparations	100 312	2 840	294 341	8 416	330 281	14 230
02 Dairy products and birds' eggs	17 856	4 980	73 839	16 570	78 272	17 711
03 Fish (not marine mammals), crustaceans, molluscs and aquatic invertebrates, and preparations thereof	113 291	15 396	450 904	79 710	376 919	73 480
04 Cereals and cereal preparations	471 502	4 781	1 515 847	20 702	1 609 612	23 600
05 Vegetables and fruit	33 217	13 781	135 946	48 780	112 594	52 900
06 Sugars, sugar preparations and honey	718	2 100	6 019	7 824	4 069	8 597
07 Coffee, tea, cocoa, spices, and manufactures thereof	123	1 589	6 203	11 983	506	8 261
08 Feeding stuff for animals (excluding unmilled cereals)	30 068	816	141 885	11 019	128 134	9 375
09 Miscellaneous edible products and preparations	2 697	6 459	16 038	26 127	15 251	29 534
1 Beverages and tobacco	**11 935**	**6 927**	**45 863**	**33 114**	**48 523**	**31 521**
11 Beverages	11 926	6 880	45 783	32 992	48 456	31 385
12 Tobacco and tobacco manufactures	17	47	81	122	133	136
2 Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	**1 629 368**	**29 875**	**6 963 854**	**123 103**	**6 740 356**	**126 388**
21 Hides, skins and furskins, raw	4 905	—	15 333	—	19 999	53
22 Oil seeds and oleaginous fruits	105 345	424	150 036	1 088	247 519	1 618
23 Crude rubber (including synthetic and reclaimed)	12	774	22	1 847	125	2 637
24 Cork and wood	19 077	5 157	119 005	19 577	35 544	23 794
25 Pulp and waste paper	5 568	641	8 685	2 820	23 337	2 672
26 Textile fibres and their wastes (not manufactured into yarn or fabric)	121 065	638	554 903	1 548	441 098	2 679
27 Crude fertilisers (excluding those of Division 56) and crude minerals (excluding coal, petroleum and precious stones)	15 473	11 261	79 944	51 258	76 640	58 242
28 Metalliferous ores and metal scrap	2 734 566	4 790	6 008 335	22 842	11 777 035	16 201
29 Crude animal and vegetable materials, n.e.s.	2 962	6 189	27 591	22 123	19 244	18 493
3 Mineral fuels, lubricants, and related materials	**1 572 233**	**442 962**	**8 125 394**	**1 494 012**	**6 881 513**	**1 625 494**
32 Coal, coke and briquettes	63	143	3 279	1 051	1 276	1 607
33 Petroleum, petroleum products and related materials	970 298	442 793	5 127 336	1 492 935	4 201 386	1 623 843
34 Gas, natural and manufactured	601 904	27	2 996 418	26	2 679 490	43
4 Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	**3 554**	**4 876**	**16 305**	**17 418**	**19 391**	**18 449**
41 Animal oils and fats	2 641	25	15 894	191	17 989	120
42 Fixed vegetable fats and oils, crude, refined or fractionated	861	4 772	50	16 865	1 003	17 819
43 Fats and oils (processed), waxes and inedible mixtures or preparations, of animal or vegetable origin, n.e.s.	52	79	360	362	399	510
5 Chemicals and related products, n.e.s.	**226 304**	**243 157**	**899 245**	**759 652**	**966 846**	**953 376**
51 Organic chemicals	650	55 005	1 052	133 726	1 483	162 770
52 Inorganic chemicals	59 700	13 104	235 249	42 394	221 341	55 387
53 Dyeing, tanning and colouring materials	95 226	2 940	447 256	9 210	386 654	11 419
54 Medicinal and pharmaceutical products	61 293	24 714	172 294	112 962	313 785	283 983
55 Essential oils and resinoids and perfume materials; toilet, polishing and cleansing preparations	1 126	5 428	4 031	16 116	4 002	16 605
56 Fertilisers (excluding crude)	1 206	92 347	10 187	267 748	7 818	251 509
57 Plastics in primary forms	2 748	6 708	7 683	35 493	9 573	31 715
58 Plastics in non-primary forms	2 679	15 765	13 011	48 300	12 268	60 476
59 Chemical materials and products, n.e.s.	1 678	27 145	8 481	93 703	9 921	79 512
6 Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	**315 955**	**341 829**	**1 875 730**	**1 321 706**	**1 234 598**	**1 436 613**
61 Leather, leather manufactures, and dressed furskins, n.e.s.	3 648	1 459	32 882	14 385	20 974	9 949
62 Rubber manufactures, n.e.s.	1 784	56 054	11 902	235 643	9 412	239 617
63 Cork and wood manufactures (excluding furniture)	1 522	18 211	8 743	49 123	10 543	52 175
64 Paper, paperboard, and articles of paper pulp, of paper or of paperboard	896	23 658	4 573	92 899	3 060	91 188
65 Textile yarn, fabrics, made-up articles, n.e.s., and related products	3 249	21 995	11 929	106 034	13 870	106 196
66 Non-metallic mineral manufactures, n.e.s.	46 257	51 753	178 234	188 681	189 347	207 340
67 Iron and steel	80 138	68 705	191 513	234 843	363 385	325 446
68 Non-ferrous metals	169 625	36 431	1 300 993	130 172	561 593	141 703
69 Manufactures of metals, n.e.s.	8 836	63 563	134 962	269 925	62 414	263 000

24 EXPORTS AND IMPORTS, BY SELECTED COMMODITY, BY VALUE OF TRADE *continued*

Section and Division of the SITC Revision 3	MAR QTR 2004 Exports $'000	MAR QTR 2004 Imports $'000	12 MONTHS ENDED MAR QTR 2003 Exports $'000	12 MONTHS ENDED MAR QTR 2003 Imports $'000	12 MONTHS ENDED MAR QTR 2004 Exports $'000	12 MONTHS ENDED MAR QTR 2004 Imports $'000
7 Machinery and transport equipment	**146 369**	**1 028 848**	**684 465**	**4 003 447**	**635 888**	**4 007 820**
71 Power generating machinery and equipment	7 156	83 484	79 567	337 466	49 653	298 815
72 Machinery specialised for particular industries	34 366	198 041	116 287	651 478	132 957	709 687
73 Metal working machinery	284	12 875	11 307	22 182	3 025	43 539
74 General industrial machinery and equipment, n.e.s. and machine parts, n.e.s.	27 094	148 879	93 385	712 754	87 928	579 991
75 Office machines and automatic data processing machines	1 593	73 731	13 071	370 882	14 721	326 785
76 Telecommunications and sound recording and reproducing apparatus and equipment	7 184	29 653	25 740	158 637	24 882	137 242
77 Electrical machinery, apparatus, appliances, parts (including non-electrical counterparts of electrical domestic equipment)	10 916	53 485	62 034	232 656	48 319	228 167
78 Road vehicles (including air-cushion vehicles)	3 881	370 976	35 247	1 354 382	31 941	1 510 931
79 Transport equipment (excluding road vehicles)	53 895	57 718	247 826	163 009	242 462	172 954
8 Miscellaneous manufactured articles	**27 997**	**209 724**	**109 304**	**611 195**	**108 284**	**785 382**
81 Prefabricated buildings; sanitary, plumbing, heating and lighting fixtures and fittings, n.e.s.	773	6 810	6 460	23 377	2 359	24 607
82 Furniture, parts thereof; bedding, mattresses, mattress supports, cushions and similar stuffed furnishings	3 610	33 675	21 537	121 865	14 788	163 594
83 Travel goods, handbags and similar containers	48	2 701	194	10 185	194	11 640
84 Articles of apparel and clothing accessories	427	18 234	2 959	63 704	1 746	65 829
85 Footwear	545	10 649	1 032	35 531	1 499	34 571
87 Professional, scientific and controlling instruments and apparatus, n.e.s.	9 877	43 945	41 260	140 238	36 005	153 440
88 Photographic apparatus, equipment and supplies and optical goods, n.e.s.; watches and clocks	368	2 206	4 702	14 235	4 036	12 214
89 Miscellaneous manufactured articles, n.e.s.	12 349	91 486	31 159	202 060	47 657	319 470
9 Commodities and transactions n.e.c. in the SITC	**3 164 886**	**612 374**	**10 253 786**	**2 697 629**	**12 136 942**	**2 328 863**
93 Special transactions and commodities not classified according to kind	7 809	219	33 891	2 744	37 177	1 154
95 Gold coin whether or not legal tender, and other coin being legal tender	20 968	155	70 120	4 940	78 829	3 264
96 Coin (excluding gold coin), not being legal tender	—	48	92	50	—	217
97 Gold, non-monetary (excluding gold ores and concentrates)	1 396 209	533 393	4 572 432	2 328 145	5 568 126	1 955 817
98 Combined confidential items excluding some of SITC 280 (exports only) and some of SITCs 510 and 520 (imports only)	1 739 900	78 560	5 577 251	361 750	6 452 811	368 411
Total Trade(a)	**7 949 460**	**2 973 363**	**32 065 899**	**11 292 429**	**31 784 533**	**11 552 460**

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

Source: ABS data available on request, *International Merchandise Trade, Australia.*

25 EXPORTS AND IMPORTS, BY SELECTED TRADING PARTNER, BY VALUE OF TRADE

	MAR QTR 2004		12 MONTHS ENDED MAR QTR 2003		12 MONTHS ENDED MAR QTR 2004	
	Exports	*Imports*	*Exports*	*Imports*	*Exports*	*Imports*
Trading partner	*$'000*	*$'000*	*$'000*	*$'000*	*$'000*	*$'000*
Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN)						
Brunei Darussalam	2 305	5	6 199	54 083	6 938	45
Cambodia	335	—	9 080	55	5 867	70
Indonesia	178 399	357 067	685 069	1 428 249	833 580	1 278 436
Laos	2 957	1	15 477	1	8 886	7
Malaysia	67 629	169 950	244 140	385 728	307 592	470 322
Myanmar	1 747	677	6 638	3 855	5 490	3 124
Philippines	36 638	9 274	122 377	10 264	185 151	21 628
Singapore	230 044	211 561	1 666 881	545 622	1 230 681	738 074
Thailand	193 760	106 772	498 792	303 942	672 887	443 778
Viet Nam	24 650	24 789	93 465	235 100	78 938	265 350
Total	*738 463*	*880 098*	*3 348 118*	*2 966 898*	*3 336 010*	*3 220 834*
European Union (EU)						
Austria	816	18 521	7 288	88 797	6 985	95 675
Belgium–Luxembourg	—	—	421 879	66 254	24 589	17 194
Denmark	2 780	5 953	7 240	36 174	8 937	30 066
Finland	122 339	28 395	383 449	101 595	508 236	84 530
France	32 949	47 232	192 397	171 431	176 859	168 245
Germany	55 384	157 738	195 888	472 562	222 527	511 948
Greece	663	2 866	1 268	9 873	2 226	14 522
Ireland	667	2 691	2 311	23 086	4 245	18 048
Italy	54 458	76 351	274 004	474 118	231 311	484 937
Netherlands	108 302	21 212	342 759	83 192	375 072	69 308
Portugal	1 363	668	2 961	6 827	5 494	6 247
Spain	46 820	30 351	204 624	71 175	247 173	102 508
Sweden	922	30 887	6 229	141 374	8 017	127 609
United Kingdom	296 216	77 064	2 511 675	362 495	2 641 174	311 078
Total	*723 679*	*499 931*	*4 553 971*	*2 108 952*	*4 462 844*	*2 041 914*
Other Countries						
Canada	228 316	64 609	662 161	137 922	788 215	175 272
China	978 114	137 118	3 933 626	534 251	4 198 575	587 641
Hong Kong	68 382	53 373	539 029	57 414	363 883	172 920
India	883 815	23 157	377 913	91 983	2 150 228	81 133
Iraq	34 044	—	146 851	36 578	76 137	—
Japan	1 634 772	283 853	8 141 517	1 226 999	6 987 817	1 360 018
Korea, Republic of	944 643	144 634	3 767 643	860 396	3 154 533	465 507
New Zealand	109 608	93 857	433 197	375 908	493 321	402 808
Saudi Arabia	123 884	101 595	262 280	156 868	239 194	237 781
South Africa	193 648	43 638	666 172	147 573	691 703	189 958
Switzerland	8 243	11 070	84 785	82 449	30 014	39 102
Taiwan	181 881	34 233	1 098 402	155 843	824 581	188 601
United Arab Emirates	137 654	32 093	440 194	262 682	422 488	221 192
United States of America	295 115	344 829	2 222 874	1 186 766	1 588 143	1 265 477
All other countries	665 199	225 448	1 387 165	902 946	1 976 848	901 934
Total	*6 487 318*	*1 593 506*	*24 163 809*	*6 216 579*	*23 985 679*	*6 289 344*
Total Trade(a)	**7 949 460**	**2 973 363**	**32 065 899**	**11 292 429**	**31 784 533**	**11 552 460**

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

Source: ABS data available on request*, International Merchandise Trade, Australia.*

26 MINERAL AND PETROLEUM EXPLORATION EXPENDITURE

	METALLIC MINERALS						NON–METALLIC MINERALS					
	Base metals(a)								*Original*	*Seasonally Adjusted*	*Trend*	*Original*
	Copper	*Silver, lead, zinc*	*Nickel, cobalt*	*Total*	*Gold*	*Other(b)(d)*	*Diamonds*	*Other(c)(d)*	*Total minerals(e)*	*Total minerals(e)*	*Total minerals(e)*	*Total petroleum*
Period	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m	$m
2000–2001	2.7	19.3	60.5	82.5	271.9	10.3	26.3	0.6	424.1	424.2	425.6	687.5
2001–2002	4.4	10.5	47.1	62.1	238.1	15.9	n.p.	1.5	381.1	381.7	386.0	479.8
2002–2003	n.p.	n.p.	54.1	72.5	265.6	9.0	17.7	3.9	423.6	423.7	414.2	598.3
December	1.1	4.4	13.8	19.2	69.8	1.4	3.9	n.p.	111.1	102.9	103.4	170.2
2003												
March	1.0	2.2	10.1	13.3	58.5	2.7	2.8	0.3	90.8	106.6	105.9	191.5
June	n.p.	n.p.	17.7	24.0	67.2	2.0	3.8	1.0	111.6	105.9	106.4	151.3
September	0.3	2.6	12.9	15.7	68.0	3.0	4.9	0.5	108.5	106.9	108.5	177.9
December	n.p.	n.p.	20.0	23.3	66.4	3.9	5.8	2.0	122.0	113.0	111.1	188.2
2004												
March	0.7	0.7	14.3	15.8	59.3	1.9	2.7	1.3	96.5	113.1	113.8	106.9

(a) From September quarter 2000, the 'base metals' category was split to show separate exploration for the component minerals. Prior to this, the three categories were reported as a 'total' figure.

(b) 'Other metallic minerals' may include minerals such as titanium, tantalum and niobium.

(c) 'Other non-metallic minerals' may include minerals such as phosphate, bauxite and talc.

(d) The 'other' category excludes tin, tungsten, scheelite, wolfram and other construction materials.

(e) Total includes minerals not listed (does not include petroleum).

Sources: *Mineral and Petroleum Exploration, Australia* (cat. no. 8412.0); ABS data available on request, *Mineral and Petroleum Exploration, Australia.*

27 MINERAL PRODUCTION

	Iron ore(a)	*Bauxite*	*Gold*	*Ilmenite*	*Nickel*	*Salt(b)*	*Tin*	*Zinc*	*Diamonds*
Period	*'000 tonnes*	*'000 tonnes*	*tonnes*	*'000 tonnes*	*'000 tonnes*	*'000 tonnes*	*tonnes*	*'000 tonnes*	*'000 carats*
2000–2001	170 628	35 959	206	2 010	197	8 304	932	285	22 381
2001–2002	179 937	36 476	186	1 721	205	8 475	686	254	30 562
2002–2003	193 251	36 567	190	1 911	210	9 607	602	246	31 901
December	47 054	9 603	49	501	52	2 614	174	62	9 948
2003									
March	46 547	9 010	45	492	52	2 420	115	61	6 921
June	51 066	9 195	50	441	53	2 481	133	60	6 019
September p	52 757	9 579	r 47	459	57	2 156	147	50	9 704
December p	56 735	9 607	r 46	457	56	2 680	111	15	r 8 307
2004									
March p	55 901	9 743	40	516	50	2 500	114	17	3 612

(a) For use in iron and steel making.

(b) Sales.

Source: ABARE, *Australian Mineral Statistics*.

28 ENERGY PRODUCTION

Period	Coal(a)	Electricity generated(b)	Crude oil(c)(e)	Natural gas(d)(e)
	'000 tonnes	million kWh	mega–litres	million m^3
2000–2001	5 890	18 113	18 812	18 641
2001–2002	6 164	18 699	19 756	18 560
2002–2003	6 323	20 001	19 428	20 179
December	1 554	4 985	4 933	4 939
2003				
March	1 594	5 247	4 791	4 955
June	1 549	4 951	4 614	5 096
September	1 494	5 102	4 749	5 418
December	1 389	5 203	4 214	4 997
2004				
March	1 546	5 583	p 4 143	p 4 861

(a) Source: *Department of Industry and Resources.*

(b) Source: ABS data available on request, *Manufacturing Production, Australia*.

(c) Includes condensate.

(d) Commercial sales plus field and plant usage.

(e) Source: ABARE, *Australian Mineral Statistics*.

29 LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTERED AND RED MEAT PRODUCED

	LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTERED					RED MEAT PRODUCED(a)(b)				
	Cattle	*Calves*	*Sheep*	*Lambs*	*Pigs*	*Beef*	*Veal*	*Mutton*	*Lamb*	*Pig meat*
Quarter	*'000*	*'000*	*'000*	*'000*	*'000*	*tonnes*	*tonnes*	*tonnes*	*tonnes*	*tonnes*
ORIGINAL										
December	124.3	1.4	496.3	547.2	158.4	31 301	69	9 981	10 581	10 557
2003										
March	114.5	1.3	590.8	521.8	171.3	28 061	71	11 740	10 365	11 563
June	94.8	1.3	290.5	514.9	176.4	22 650	77	5 797	10 296	12 058
September	102.2	1.3	274.7	501.0	170.6	24 687	80	5 619	9 935	11 465
December	125.5	1.1	514.3	629.0	162.3	32 363	60	10 456	12 439	10 691
2004										
March	121.7	1.3	604.1	598.7	167.7	31 198	63	12 086	11 592	11 252
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED										
December	109.7	1.3	430.8	496.7	165.5	26 207	69	8 627	9 657	11 188
2003										
March	113.7	1.3	494.5	525.3	173.9	28 683	74	9 796	10 430	11 913
June	103.7	1.4	394.4	512.7	168.0	25 169	82	7 992	10 107	11 413
September	106.9	1.2	299.2	556.4	170.5	25 683	71	6 101	11 145	11 238
December	111.4	1.0	447.2	570.7	168.0	28 256	61	9 067	11 348	11 166
2004										
March	117.7	1.3	489.0	592.7	169.3	29 738	67	9 852	11 572	11 458
TREND ESTIMATES										
December	108.5	1.3	454.0	502.2	168.4	26 599	73	9 057	9 782	11 398
2003										
March	109.4	1.4	438.0	512.9	170.4	26 810	76	8 757	10 105	11 576
June	108.1	1.3	399.8	529.7	170.3	26 472	76	8 044	10 515	11 507
September	107.5	1.2	375.2	548.7	169.6	26 428	72	7 610	10 927	11 315
December	108.8	1.1	373.5	564.6	168.1	26 873	65	7 650	11 253	11 103
2004										
March	116.4	1.2	472.1	591.3	169.1	29 503	62	9 463	11 604	11 339

(a) Includes estimates of animals slaughtered on farms and by country butchers and other small slaughtering establishments.

(b) Red meat is shown in carcass weight and excludes offal.

Source: *Livestock Products, Australia* (cat. no. 7215.0).

30 WOOL RECEIVALS AND LIVE SHEEP EXPORTS: ORIGINAL

	RECEIVALS OF TAXABLE WOOL BY BROKERS AND DEALERS(a)		EXPORTS OF LIVE SHEEP		
	Bales	*Tonnes*	*Quantity*	*Gross value*	*Gross weight*
Period	*'000*	*'000*	*'000*	*$'000*	*'000 tonnes*
2000–2001	650 465	115.5	4 299.6	190 788	205.8
2001–2002	578 413	103.0	3 630.0	222 724	176.8
2002–2003	610 057	108.7	3 705.0	264 642	170.6
December	181 063	32.2	1 291.5	90 071	61.1
2003					
March	188 569	33.5	1 106.5	79 951	48.8
June	87 436	15.5	561.1	40 433	25.3
September	152 108	27.0	659.4	48 520	r 30.8
December	r 169 849	r 30.1	r 772.0	r 53 958	r 38.5
2004					
March	188 631	33.0	793.4	52 563	38.0

(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.

Sources: ABS data available on request, *Livestock Products, Australia*; ABS data available on request, *International Trade.*

31 OVERSEAS ARRIVALS: ORIGINAL

		LONG TERM ARRIVALS(a)		SHORT TERM ARRIVALS(b)		
Period	*Permanent arrivals*	*WA residents*	*Overseas visitors*	*WA residents*	*Overseas visitors*	*Total arrivals*
2000–2001	11 565	8 938	15 627	411 470	465 365	912 966
2001–2002	10 954	9 886	17 805	393 052	451 297	882 994
2002–2003	12 279	10 900	19 436	373 829	460 534	876 977
2003						
January	1 042	1 050	2 456	41 902	38 614	85 063
February	990	858	4 159	26 214	43 517	75 738
March	1 047	860	1 400	28 284	40 680	72 271
April	1 200	823	945	23 315	32 708	58 991
May	1 154	620	812	23 762	24 986	51 334
June	1 374	817	1 119	24 514	28 452	56 276
July	1 347	800	2 988	36 239	35 982	77 356
August	1 435	736	1 115	34 357	32 508	70 151
September	1 351	883	1 104	36 812	41 127	81 277
October	1 090	847	1 455	41 104	48 567	93 063
November	1 302	1 050	914	31 200	44 672	79 138
December	1 339	1 802	903	25 427	59 431	88 902
2004						
January	1 421	1 003	2 749	49 680	39 680	94 533
February	1 133	795	4 182	33 653	43 006	82 769
March	1 226	813	1 210	32 090	43 065	78 404

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

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

Source: ABS data available on request, *Overseas Arrivals and Departures, Australia.*

32 OVERSEAS DEPARTURES: ORIGINAL

		LONG TERM DEPARTURES(a)		SHORT TERM DEPARTURES(b)		
Period	*Permanent departures*	*WA residents*	*Overseas visitors*	*WA residents*	*Overseas visitors*	*Total departures*
2000–2001	4 761	9 604	5 502	426 254	466 065	912 185
2001–2002	4 972	9 915	6 451	388 729	450 283	860 350
2002–2003	5 430	9 253	6 730	372 625	450 453	844 492
2003						
January	776	1 323	579	27 123	52 408	82 210
February	426	805	429	23 811	38 840	64 312
March	432	796	529	26 669	43 260	71 685
April	494	732	445	25 338	35 346	62 355
May	414	793	420	26 378	28 295	56 300
June	364	664	569	27 651	30 897	60 145
July	454	760	646	36 324	30 830	69 014
August	548	794	576	35 539	32 400	69 857
September	405	539	495	35 633	33 886	70 958
October	397	507	456	32 104	37 746	71 210
November	429	585	864	30 080	42 019	73 976
December	504	790	1 298	47 994	44 034	94 619
2004						
January	862	1 284	748	36 767	51 234	90 895
February	513	748	476	31 771	35 013	68 521
March	573	788	675	38 069	42 768	82 874

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

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

Source: ABS data available on request, *Overseas Arrivals and Departures, Australia.*

33 SHORT TERM OVERSEAS VISITOR ARRIVALS(a), BY AIR ON HOLIDAY

Period	New Zealand	UK & Ireland	Rest of Europe	Indonesia	Malaysia	Singapore	Thailand	Hong Kong(b)	Japan	United States	South Africa	Total(c)
	COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE											
2000–2001	7 717	41 912	30 551	11 051	25 171	50 883	6 475	3 477	31 425	4 813	4 149	231 977
2001–2002	7 867	43 124	24 847	8 622	22 501	40 952	6 402	6 397	26 292	3 718	5 034	207 257
2002–2003	7 617	53 002	28 207	8 899	21 822	40 301	5 110	5 097	27 338	4 015	3 451	217 963
2003												
January	419	5 860	2 740	367	923	1 644	209	386	2 143	112	146	16 550
February	429	6 111	2 508	648	1 934	2 496	259	407	2 374	421	226	19 160
March	442	4 755	2 082	562	1 190	3 616	571	476	2 428	377	300	17 743
April	743	4 421	1 772	778	1 057	2 154	544	609	1 678	319	337	15 100
May	326	1 741	1 063	996	1 894	2 267	212	332	791	165	195	10 763
June	499	1 848	1 064	1 090	1 526	5 843	186	234	893	600	156	14 695
July	910	3 222	2 275	752	2 176	1 941	280	225	1 419	468	186	15 360
August	491	2 510	2 318	577	2 257	2 225	773	551	2 607	537	207	16 154
September	748	3 570	2 767	905	4 189	3 998	488	303	3 536	228	379	22 044
October	1 147	8 254	3 256	462	3 072	3 230	879	505	2 720	103	1 606	26 407
November	388	5 011	2 964	1 211	3 798	4 403	359	239	2 351	398	336	22 311
December	1 207	7 519	4 321	1 083	2 843	5 593	510	736	2 628	680	616	29 328
2004												
January	336	6 247	2 613	403	1 544	1 808	234	559	2 272	268	111	17 697
February	423	6 412	2 773	553	1 261	1 489	320	254	2 645	436	155	17 509
March	591	5 530	2 158	799	2 139	2 628	769	367	2 700	370	354	19 337

(a) Comprises travellers whose intended stay is less than 12 months.

(b) Special Administrative Region of China.

(c) Total includes countries not listed in table.

Source: ABS data available on request, *Overseas Arrivals and Departures, Australia.*

34 SHORT TERM HOLIDAY DEPARTURES OF RESIDENTS(a), BY AIR TO SELECTED DESTINATIONS

Period	New Zealand	UK & Ireland	Rest of Europe	Indonesia	Malaysia	Singapore	Thailand	Hong Kong(b)	Japan	United States	South Africa	Total(c)
	COUNTRY OF MAIN DESTINATION											
2000–2001	13 499	17 918	16 425	71 566	24 716	22 611	23 050	4 657	805	10 416	2 013	226 060
2001–2002	15 105	17 089	13 056	63 430	13 149	21 035	21 940	4 485	1 221	4 851	2 010	195 481
2002–2003	17 611	18 322	12 903	46 601	11 924	15 180	21 561	3 163	801	6 864	2 726	178 145
2003												
January	1 719	1 085	405	1 716	732	2 096	965	459	126	153	371	11 803
February	1 513	838	450	1 787	417	1 235	811	393	258	165	211	9 611
March	1 377	576	805	4 244	1 032	1 465	732	246	—	440	104	12 165
April	1 678	1 373	965	2 759	516	312	1 286	70	203	706	529	12 200
May	640	2 205	1 865	3 097	268	11	1 192	—	—	955	143	11 481
June	781	1 650	1 585	4 119	434	386	1 091	10	19	497	43	11 637
July	2 592	2 893	2 383	5 240	884	1 848	1 343	88	82	776	173	19 945
August	1 441	1 464	1 777	5 331	563	1 670	1 336	296	73	483	110	16 584
September	1 454	2 323	2 326	5 330	517	1 089	2 123	438	5	415	307	18 364
October	927	1 010	469	5 103	1 034	820	2 407	440	22	619	80	15 080
November	1 366	471	776	4 938	911	1 324	872	184	163	388	227	12 986
December	3 125	2 259	1 528	6 565	1 763	1 774	1 792	642	381	1 418	339	24 607
2004												
January	2 195	702	656	7 282	1 100	2 013	1 292	94	387	623	240	18 653
February	1 462	935	329	5 854	1 199	855	1 527	80	85	541	—	14 340
March	2 558	1 137	574	7 064	1 201	977	1 178	162	5	831	153	17 861

(a) Comprises travellers whose intended absence is less than 12 months.

(b) Special Administrative Region of China.

(c) Total includes countries not listed in table.

Source: ABS data available on request, *Overseas Arrivals and Departures, Australia.*

35 TOURIST ACCOMMODATION(a), BY TOURISM REGION: ORIGINAL

Quarter	South East	Goldfields	Midwest	Gascoyne	Pilbara	Kimberley	Perth	Peel	South West	Great Southern	Wheatbelt	Western Australia
ESTABLISHMENTS (NO.)(b)												
2002												
September	10	22	25	12	18	29	98	7	61	21	23	326
December	10	22	24	12	18	29	99	7	60	21	23	325
2003												
March	10	23	24	12	18	30	105	7	61	21	22	333
June	12	23	24	12	20	30	110	7	64	22	21	345
September	12	24	24	12	20	30	110	7	63	22	21	345
December	12	24	24	12	20	29	109	7	63	22	21	343
GUEST ROOMS (NO.)(b)												
2002												
September	297	999	871	519	1 370	1 691	9 313	345	2 490	790	621	19 306
December	295	998	841	528	1 370	1 570	9 333	343	2 484	790	630	19 182
2003												
March	293	1 003	848	528	1 372	1 595	9 891	344	2 507	797	619	19 797
June	341	1 017	843	541	1 502	1 608	9 731	349	2 646	820	591	19 989
September	341	1 106	844	542	1 494	1 689	9 844	349	2 564	820	592	20 185
December	341	1 102	824	544	1 498	1 642	10 242	348	2 543	820	587	20 491
ROOM NIGHTS OCCUPIED(b) ('000)												
2002												
September	11.4	48.7	46.5	29.9	67.4	106.0	533.0	11.0	96.3	26.2	21.4	998.0
December	14.7	45.9	40.2	20.6	60.1	60.5	614.3	15.4	119.1	33.5	20.4	1 044.6
2003												
March	14.3	45.6	35.8	19.2	59.1	38.7	601.0	16.7	126.4	33.9	17.6	1 008.3
June	13.8	49.3	37.4	25.7	78.8	88.8	524.6	13.8	110.1	26.2	19.2	987.8
September	13.4	57.9	48.4	34.4	82.8	115.1	587.7	12.5	101.1	27.7	24.0	1 105.1
December	18.7	44.3	41.1	24.1	81.8	64.3	646.2	15.0	123.8	33.6	21.9	1 114.8
ROOM OCCUPANCY RATE (%)												
2002												
September	41.8	53.0	58.0	64.4	53.5	68.1	62.3	34.8	42.6	36.0	37.9	56.4
December	54.2	50.0	52.0	42.3	47.7	43.1	71.5	48.7	52.1	46.1	35.5	59.3
2003												
March	54.2	50.5	46.9	40.4	47.9	27.0	67.5	54.1	56.0	47.3	31.6	56.6
June	44.6	53.2	48.8	52.2	57.6	60.7	59.2	43.6	45.7	35.2	35.8	54.3
September	42.7	56.9	62.3	69.0	60.3	74.1	65.4	39.1	42.9	36.7	44.0	59.7
December	59.7	43.7	54.2	48.1	59.3	43.7	68.8	46.8	52.9	44.5	40.5	59.3
GUEST ARRIVALS(b) ('000)												
2002												
September	10.7	37.0	44.6	24.0	32.1	65.2	348.9	12.8	98.0	26.3	22.5	722.1
December	13.3	36.0	36.6	14.7	26.7	31.7	394.8	17.9	123.1	33.6	21.2	749.5
2003												
March	12.3	39.8	28.8	13.7	19.7	18.6	382.6	16.5	124.6	33.8	18.0	708.4
June	11.7	34.3	32.5	19.4	31.9	49.1	341.5	12.6	106.5	26.0	16.6	682.0
September	12.4	43.4	50.5	32.6	38.0	72.9	380.0	14.9	98.4	27.2	24.4	794.8
December	13.7	36.0	36.8	18.7	30.3	33.9	426.1	18.8	116.4	34.6	22.4	787.7
TAKINGS FROM ACCOMMODATION(b) ($'000)												
2002												
September	838	4 360	3 636	2 328	5 734	14 162	56 860	1 048	9 589	2 332	1 449	102 337
December	1 177	4 097	3 203	1 635	5 288	6 493	70 274	1 650	12 938	3 181	1 466	111 402
2003												
March	1 182	4 036	2 864	1 534	4 966	3 624	67 002	1 869	15 071	3 011	1 261	106 419
June	1 111	4 069	2 970	2 071	6 852	11 924	57 836	1 491	12 101	2 481	1 276	104 182
September	1 054	5 112	3 894	2 615	8 302	17 106	65 291	1 196	10 980	2 526	1 633	119 710
December	1 551	3 963	3 366	1 802	7 432	7 582	77 232	1 783	14 263	3 114	1 593	123 681

(a) Includes hotels, motels, guest houses and serviced apartments with 15 or more rooms.

(b) Break in time series between the March and June quarters 2003. See the Appendix in the source publication: *Tourist Accommodation, Australia* (cat. no. 8635.0).

Source: *Tourist Accommodation, Australia* (cat. no. 8635.0).

36 LABOUR FORCE STATUS (AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER), BY SEX: TREND

Month	EMPLOYED Full–time '000	Part–time '000	Total '000	Total unemployed '000	Total labour force '000	Participation rate %	Unemployment rate %
MALES							
2003							
March	461.6	78.6	540.2	35.6	575.8	75.2	6.2
April	463.1	78.9	542.0	34.9	576.8	75.2	6.0
May	463.5	79.5	543.1	34.3	577.4	75.1	5.9
June	463.5	79.8	543.4	34.1	577.5	75.0	5.9
July	464.2	79.2	543.5	34.1	577.6	74.9	5.9
August	465.8	78.1	544.0	34.2	578.2	74.8	5.9
September	467.9	77.2	545.1	34.1	579.2	74.9	5.9
October	469.7	77.2	546.9	33.7	580.6	74.9	5.8
November	470.6	78.2	548.8	33.0	581.8	74.9	5.7
December	470.8	79.9	550.7	31.9	582.6	74.9	5.5
2004							
January	470.5	81.7	552.1	30.8	582.9	74.8	5.3
February	470.3	83.0	553.3	29.9	583.2	74.7	5.1
March	470.6	83.7	554.3	29.2	583.5	74.6	5.0
April	471.1	84.2	555.3	28.7	584.0	74.6	4.9
May	471.6	84.4	556.1	28.4	584.4	74.6	4.9
FEMALES							
2003							
March	212.1	210.2	422.4	24.9	447.3	57.6	5.6
April	212.7	208.5	421.2	25.3	446.5	57.4	5.7
May	213.0	206.7	419.7	26.0	445.7	57.2	5.8
June	213.5	205.1	418.6	26.8	445.4	57.0	6.0
July	214.1	203.8	417.9	27.7	445.5	56.9	6.2
August	214.7	202.6	417.3	28.4	445.7	56.9	6.4
September	215.2	201.6	416.8	28.9	445.7	56.8	6.5
October	215.5	201.2	416.7	29.2	445.9	56.7	6.6
November	215.7	201.7	417.4	29.3	446.7	56.7	6.6
December	215.8	203.4	419.1	29.1	448.2	56.8	6.5
2004							
January	215.9	205.8	421.8	28.6	450.3	56.9	6.3
February	216.6	208.4	425.1	27.7	452.8	57.2	6.1
March	218.0	210.7	428.7	26.7	455.4	57.4	5.9
April	219.9	212.5	432.4	25.7	458.1	57.6	5.6
May	222.0	214.0	436.0	24.7	460.7	57.9	5.4
PERSONS							
2003							
March	673.8	288.9	962.6	60.5	1 023.1	66.3	5.9
April	675.8	287.3	963.2	60.2	1 023.3	66.2	5.9
May	676.6	286.3	962.8	60.3	1 023.1	66.1	5.9
June	677.0	284.9	962.0	60.9	1 022.9	66.0	6.0
July	678.3	283.0	961.3	61.8	1 023.1	65.9	6.0
August	680.6	280.7	961.3	62.6	1 023.8	65.8	6.1
September	683.1	278.8	962.0	63.0	1 024.9	65.7	6.1
October	685.2	278.4	963.6	62.9	1 026.5	65.7	6.1
November	686.3	279.9	966.2	62.3	1 028.5	65.7	6.1
December	686.5	283.3	969.8	61.0	1 030.8	65.8	5.9
2004							
January	686.4	287.5	973.9	59.4	1 033.3	65.8	5.7
February	686.9	291.4	978.3	57.6	1 035.9	65.9	5.6
March	688.6	294.4	983.0	55.9	1 038.9	66.0	5.4
April	691.0	296.7	987.7	54.4	1 042.1	66.1	5.2
May	693.6	298.5	992.0	53.1	1 045.1	66.2	5.1

Source: ABS data available on request, *Labour Force, Australia*.

37 LABOUR FORCE STATUS (AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER), BY STATISTICAL REGION: ORIGINAL

	2003										2004				
	Mar	*Apr*	*May*	*Jun*	*Jul*	*Aug*	*Sep*	*Oct*	*Nov*	*Dec*	*Jan*	*Feb*	*Mar*	*Apr*	*May*
CENTRAL METROPOLITAN															
Employed *('000)*	60.4	63.4	62.1	63.4	65.8	64.0	65.0	65.0	64.1	68.8	65.0	67.3	66.0	68.2	70.1
Unemployed *('000)*	3.3	2.8	2.6	3.0	2.0	4.1	3.7	5.3	3.4	3.5	4.3	3.6	4.3	4.1	3.9
Unemployment rate (%)	5.1	4.2	4.0	4.5	3.0	6.1	5.3	7.6	5.1	4.9	6.1	5.0	6.2	5.7	5.3
Participation rate (%)	60.9	63.3	61.8	63.3	64.5	64.7	65.1	66.6	64.0	68.4	65.3	66.8	66.2	68.0	69.4
EASTERN METROPOLITAN															
Employed *('000)*	115.6	117.4	116.2	118.1	120.0	117.1	120.0	120.0	122.9	123.1	120.7	119.4	120.2	123.2	122.5
Unemployed *('000)*	7.6	9.0	7.8	6.2	6.5	5.4	8.3	7.1	8.5	6.8	7.7	9.6	8.6	6.8	4.8
Unemployment rate (%)	6.2	7.2	6.3	5.0	5.1	4.4	6.5	5.6	6.5	5.2	6.0	7.5	6.7	5.2	3.8
Participation rate (%)	63.5	65.1	63.7	63.8	64.8	62.7	65.5	64.7	66.8	65.9	65.1	65.3	65.0	65.5	64.1
NORTHERN METROPOLITAN															
Employed *('000)*	218.8	217.3	220.3	218.8	217.0	220.0	214.2	218.7	218.6	218.9	213.0	217.6	220.7	221.0	222.0
Unemployed *('000)*	12.2	13.5	13.6	13.8	13.3	11.8	14.0	11.0	12.9	14.5	14.9	14.4	11.2	9.9	11.6
Unemployment rate (%)	5.3	5.8	5.8	5.9	5.8	5.1	6.1	4.8	5.6	6.2	6.5	6.2	4.8	4.3	5.0
Participation rate (%)	67.5	67.3	68.1	67.6	66.9	67.2	66.0	66.4	66.7	67.2	65.5	66.5	66.4	66.0	66.6
SOUTH WEST METROPOLITAN															
Employed *('000)*	138.2	140.8	141.3	143.2	141.5	138.4	139.7	139.8	144.7	149.9	149.1	145.7	145.7	146.7	149.9
Unemployed *('000)*	12.1	10.7	9.5	9.5	12.1	11.2	10.9	9.0	7.7	9.9	8.6	9.6	7.7	8.9	9.7
Unemployment rate (%)	8.0	7.1	6.3	6.2	7.9	7.5	7.2	6.0	5.0	6.2	5.4	6.2	5.0	5.7	6.1
Participation rate (%)	62.9	63.4	62.9	63.6	63.9	62.1	62.4	61.5	62.9	65.8	64.9	63.8	62.9	63.7	65.2
SOUTH EAST METROPOLITAN															
Employed *('000)*	161.5	158.8	159.8	161.5	161.6	161.2	162.3	163.1	163.9	173.5	168.2	171.7	167.6	172.4	170.6
Unemployed *('000)*	11.1	11.8	11.1	11.0	10.6	13.4	14.1	12.0	10.8	10.3	10.8	10.6	10.5	7.7	8.6
Unemployment rate (%)	6.4	6.9	6.5	6.4	6.1	7.7	8.0	6.9	6.2	5.6	6.0	5.8	5.9	4.3	4.8
Participation rate (%)	65.3	64.5	64.5	64.9	64.8	65.5	66.1	65.5	65.2	68.5	66.6	67.7	66.1	66.7	66.3
LOWER WESTERN WA															
Employed *('000)*	127.5	130.1	124.9	126.4	122.2	127.4	129.2	127.2	127.7	128.1	124.5	124.7	125.8	123.0	121.6
Unemployed *('000)*	7.6	9.3	9.2	8.0	7.5	7.8	7.9	9.3	9.2	9.0	12.3	10.8	8.4	10.1	7.4
Unemployment rate (%)	5.7	6.7	6.8	6.0	5.8	5.8	5.8	6.8	6.7	6.6	9.0	8.0	6.2	7.6	5.7
Participation rate (%)	63.1	64.9	62.3	62.4	60.1	62.5	63.2	62.8	62.9	62.8	62.6	61.9	61.1	60.6	58.6
REMAINDER — BALANCE WA															
Employed *('000)*	132.2	134.9	134.0	135.0	130.8	127.6	127.1	129.4	128.3	130.6	124.2	127.8	131.0	133.7	133.6
Unemployed *('000)*	7.0	5.7	5.3	4.0	5.4	6.1	6.5	5.5	6.4	5.7	8.0	6.8	7.4	6.1	7.4
Unemployment rate (%)	5.0	4.1	3.8	2.9	4.0	4.6	4.9	4.1	4.7	4.2	6.1	5.1	5.3	4.4	5.3
Participation rate (%)	75.2	75.8	75.0	74.7	73.1	71.6	71.5	72.1	71.8	72.5	70.3	71.4	73.3	74.0	74.5

Source: ABS data available on request, *Labour Force, Australia*.

38 EMPLOYED PERSONS, BY INDUSTRY AND SEX: ORIGINAL

Industry	Feb 2003 '000	May 2003 '000	Aug 2003 '000	Nov 2003 '000	Feb 2004 '000	May 2004 '000
MALES						
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	32.7	32.6	34.8	34.9	32.3	33.5
Mining	30.2	29.6	25.2	29.1	34.6	37.6
Manufacturing	77.4	76.0	71.1	67.6	70.4	72.4
Electricity, gas and water supply	7.0	6.1	6.4	4.7	6.4	7.1
Construction	66.9	68.2	73.2	75.4	72.3	70.7
Wholesale trade	29.3	32.4	30.1	31.2	35.2	37.2
Retail trade	78.7	75.4	77.0	75.4	77.7	67.8
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	16.1	15.8	16.5	13.4	14.1	16.0
Transport and storage	28.6	28.4	31.2	34.7	34.0	31.4
Communication services	9.9	12.1	10.4	10.2	8.2	8.0
Finance and insurance	10.8	10.0	10.6	11.4	13.0	12.8
Property and business services	61.4	66.4	60.9	66.2	62.6	61.0
Government administration and defence	18.7	17.3	17.4	19.8	15.8	17.9
Education	21.5	22.5	23.5	23.2	20.5	23.5
Health and community services	19.1	18.5	19.6	21.0	20.5	20.2
Cultural and recreational services	10.4	10.0	9.8	11.7	12.2	11.3
Personal and other services	22.0	20.8	20.5	18.0	24.0	27.2
Total	**540.7**	**542.1**	**538.2**	**547.8**	**553.7**	**555.7**
FEMALES						
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	13.6	12.4	14.8	14.6	15.0	12.8
Mining	5.1	6.4	5.3	6.7	6.5	9.1
Manufacturing	24.5	21.4	22.6	20.3	18.2	19.7
Electricity, gas and water supply	2.3	1.5	1.3	0.7	1.1	0.8
Construction	10.5	11.1	11.5	10.1	10.3	9.9
Wholesale trade	12.4	15.0	12.9	13.6	14.8	15.4
Retail trade	81.2	75.5	70.7	77.2	73.5	82.3
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	24.4	27.3	26.3	24.0	25.8	24.5
Transport and storage	10.1	9.4	9.0	8.1	10.4	10.3
Communication services	5.6	5.7	5.6	4.5	4.8	4.2
Finance and insurance	17.1	15.2	14.1	14.9	13.4	16.0
Property and business services	45.4	50.2	50.4	55.6	50.7	48.4
Government administration and defence	18.4	17.8	19.7	20.2	16.9	18.7
Education	51.4	47.1	50.7	51.8	50.8	53.7
Health and community services	69.4	69.8	72.8	73.1	75.8	79.2
Cultural and recreational services	10.3	9.2	10.1	9.9	12.3	11.1
Personal and other services	21.5	21.5	19.7	17.2	20.1	18.5
Total	**423.3**	**416.5**	**417.5**	**422.4**	**420.4**	**434.5**
PERSONS						
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	46.3	45.0	49.6	49.5	47.3	46.3
Mining	35.3	35.9	30.5	35.8	41.1	46.7
Manufacturing	102.0	97.4	93.8	87.9	88.5	92.1
Electricity, gas and water supply	9.3	7.6	7.7	5.4	7.5	7.8
Construction	77.3	79.3	84.7	85.5	82.6	80.6
Wholesale trade	41.7	47.4	42.9	44.8	50.0	52.5
Retail trade	159.9	150.9	147.7	152.7	151.2	150.1
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	40.5	43.2	42.8	37.4	39.9	40.5
Transport and storage	38.7	37.9	40.3	42.8	44.4	41.7
Communication services	15.5	17.8	16.0	14.6	13.1	12.3
Finance and insurance	27.9	25.1	24.7	26.3	26.4	28.8
Property and business services	106.8	116.6	111.3	121.8	113.3	109.4
Government administration and defence	37.1	35.2	37.1	40.0	32.7	36.6
Education	72.9	69.6	74.2	75.0	71.3	77.2
Health and community services	88.5	88.2	92.3	94.1	96.3	99.3
Cultural and recreational services	20.8	19.2	19.9	21.6	24.5	22.4
Personal and other services	43.5	42.3	40.2	35.2	44.1	45.7
Total	**964.0**	**958.6**	**955.7**	**970.2**	**974.1**	**990.2**

Source: ABS data available on request, *Labour Force, Australia.*

39 AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS WORKED BY EMPLOYEES(a): ORIGINAL

	FULL–TIME WORKERS			PART–TIME WORKERS		
Period	*Males*	*Females*	*Persons*	*Males*	*Females*	*Persons*
2000–2001	42.6	37.6	40.9	15.2	15.3	15.3
2001–2002	42.8	37.7	41.2	15.8	15.4	15.5
2002–2003	43.5	38.4	41.9	15.9	15.6	15.7
2003						
March	42.3	38.2	41.0	15.8	15.8	15.8
April	45.6	40.3	44.0	16.2	16.1	16.1
May	45.5	40.1	43.8	16.2	16.2	16.2
June	42.9	37.3	41.2	15.3	15.1	15.1
July	43.5	38.1	41.8	15.3	15.0	15.1
August	44.4	39.8	43.0	15.4	16.3	16.1
September	43.5	39.5	42.3	15.1	16.1	15.8
October	40.0	33.8	38.0	15.2	13.4	13.9
November	44.9	40.6	43.6	16.0	16.6	16.4
December	45.5	40.7	44.0	16.4	17.0	16.9
2004						
January	38.5	32.8	36.7	14.9	13.5	13.9
February	44.6	39.6	43.1	15.8	16.7	16.4
March	41.7	37.4	40.4	15.8	15.9	15.9
April	36.8	32.9	35.6	14.9	14.1	14.3
May	45.0	39.9	43.4	16.1	16.8	16.6

(a) Persons who worked one hour or more in the reference week.

Source: ABS data available on request, *Labour Force, Australia.*

40 NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES(a) AND HOURS WORKED, BY OCCUPATION: MAY QTR 2004

	EMPLOYEE TOTAL	AGGREGATE WEEKLY HOURS WORKED	AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS WORKED		
				Feb qtr 2004 to May qtr 2004	*May qtr 2003 to May qtr 2004*
Occupation	*'000*	*'000*	*no.*	*% change*	*% change*
Managers and administrators	47.0	2 184.5	46.5	5.0	–2.1
Professionals	155.3	5 773.7	37.2	–2.0	–2.5
Associate professionals	109.8	4 225.3	38.5	–1.2	–4.8
Tradespersons and related workers	103.5	4 229.1	40.9	0.5	–2.0
Advanced clerical and service workers	32.8	1 034.0	31.5	8.6	7.7
Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers	153.5	4 747.3	30.9	3.8	3.1
Intermediate production and transport workers	76.1	3 112.7	40.9	8.2	–2.5
Elementary clerical, sales and service workers	95.2	2 360.6	24.8	2.9	6.6
Labourers and related workers	75.6	2 142.4	28.4	–1.4	–3.4
All occupations	**848.7**	**29 809.6**	**35.1**	**1.3**	**–1.2**

(a) Persons who worked one hour or more in the reference week.

Source: ABS data available on request, *Labour Force, Australia.*

41 AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS OF EMPLOYEES

Period	MALES: Full–time adult ordinary time earnings	MALES: Full–time adult total earnings	MALES: All males total earnings	FEMALES: Full–time adult ordinary time earnings	FEMALES: Full–time adult total earnings	FEMALES: All females total earnings	PERSONS: Full–time adult ordinary time earnings	PERSONS: Full–time adult total earnings	PERSONS: All employees total earnings
ANNUAL AVERAGE ($ per week)									
2000–2001	890.0	940.1	791.2	696.5	707.8	457.8	822.9	859.4	626.6
2001–2002	923.0	974.9	821.1	732.2	742.4	491.5	855.4	892.6	659.3
2002–2003	964.7	1 016.6	845.2	751.4	763.6	511.0	893.7	932.3	690.7
QUARTERLY, ORIGINAL ($ per week)									
November	950.2	1 001.7	836.7	748.2	763.4	503.9	884.0	923.4	683.2
2003									
February	960.7	1 011.0	843.7	752.2	764.0	518.1	889.3	926.4	689.9
May	994.7	1 049.9	871.8	758.1	768.6	517.5	915.3	955.5	707.2
August	1 015.0	1 067.3	892.6	777.7	788.3	529.0	933.8	971.8	720.9
November	1 015.6	1 071.7	911.2	783.9	795.4	525.3	936.7	977.7	724.8
2004									
February	1 022.4	1 083.3	917.0	797.6	809.7	539.3	946.3	990.7	739.1
QUARTERLY, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ($ per week)									
November	950.6	1 000.9	836.0	748.0	762.5	508.2	883.5	922.3	686.1
2003									
February	964.7	1 015.6	842.9	749.4	761.3	509.5	891.4	928.9	687.9
May	993.0	1 047.1	869.8	761.5	771.9	522.1	916.8	954.8	705.7
August	1 012.1	1 066.1	896.3	777.4	788.7	528.8	930.7	971.0	721.7
November	1 016.0	1 071.0	910.2	783.5	794.2	529.7	936.0	976.4	727.8
2004									
February	1 026.7	1 088.2	916.2	794.9	807.2	530.3	948.7	993.6	737.1
QUARTERLY, TREND ($ per week)									
November	953.4	1 005.0	835.2	747.6	760.7	506.8	885.1	924.1	684.4
2003									
February	969.9	1 021.0	847.9	752.5	764.9	513.1	897.3	935.3	693.1
May	989.7	1 042.3	869.6	762.0	773.1	520.6	912.7	950.9	704.8
August	1 007.2	1 061.5	891.6	774.1	784.9	526.7	927.7	967.3	718.3
November	1 018.8	1 075.5	908.4	785.1	796.4	530.1	938.9	980.5	729.2
2004									
February	1 027.2	1 086.8	920.1	794.9	806.3	531.1	947.8	991.7	736.7

Source: ABS data available on request, *Average Weekly Earnings, States and Australia* (cat. no. 6302.0).

42 UNEMPLOYMENT AND PARTICIPATION RATES, BY AGE: ORIGINAL

	15–24 YEARS		25–54 YEARS		55 YEARS AND OVER	
	Unemployment rate	*Participation rate*	*Unemployment rate*	*Participation rate*	*Unemployment rate*	*Participation rate*
Month	*%*	*%*	*%*	*%*	*%*	*%*
2003						
March	13.0	69.6	4.5	82.2	3.3	29.3
April	12.5	70.5	4.7	82.7	4.4	30.0
May	12.0	68.4	4.5	82.1	3.5	30.3
June	10.3	67.8	4.3	82.2	4.5	31.1
July	11.4	69.7	4.4	80.7	3.7	31.2
August	11.0	68.0	5.0	81.2	3.3	30.9
September	12.8	69.6	4.8	81.7	5.1	30.3
October	11.5	70.9	4.4	81.0	4.1	30.3
November	11.6	68.3	4.6	81.5	3.1	32.2
December	12.9	75.5	4.0	81.8	2.7	31.9
2004						
January	15.7	75.3	4.2	79.8	3.0	30.8
February	14.6	72.0	4.6	81.0	2.4	32.2
March	12.2	70.2	4.3	81.2	2.7	31.6
April	11.0	72.7	3.9	80.8	2.7	32.2
May	10.8	71.3	3.9	81.0	2.9	32.7

Source: ABS data available on request, *Labour Force, Australia*.

43 DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT: ORIGINAL

	NUMBER OF PERSONS UNEMPLOYED SINCE LAST FULL–TIME JOB			NUMBER OF PERSONS UNEMPLOYED SINCE LAST EMPLOYMENT		
	Under 52 weeks	*52 weeks and over*	*Total persons*	*Under 52 weeks*	*52 weeks and over*	*Total persons*
Month	*'000*	*'000*	*'000*	*'000*	*'000*	*'000*
2003						
March	50.7	10.2	60.9	51.1	9.8	60.9
April	51.0	11.9	62.9	51.6	11.3	62.9
May	48.0	11.1	59.1	48.6	10.4	59.1
June	45.2	10.4	55.5	45.8	9.8	55.5
July	45.9	11.6	57.4	46.4	11.0	57.4
August	45.6	14.3	59.9	46.0	13.9	59.9
September	51.7	13.7	65.4	52.4	13.0	65.4
October	47.0	12.3	59.2	47.4	11.9	59.2
November	47.8	11.1	58.9	48.8	10.1	58.9
December	50.5	9.3	59.8	51.3	8.5	59.8
2004						
January	53.6	13.0	66.5	53.7	12.8	66.5
February	54.4	10.9	65.3	55.8	9.5	65.3
March	48.2	9.8	58.0	48.3	9.7	58.0
April	44.5	9.2	53.8	45.2	8.6	53.8
May	44.3	9.2	53.5	44.7	8.8	53.5

Source: ABS data available on request, *Labour Force, Australia*.

44 INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES WHICH OCCURRED DURING THE PERIOD

Period	Number of disputes	Number of employees involved	Working days lost	Working days lost per thousand employees
	no.	'000	'000	no.
2001	73	12.0	25.0	32.0
2002	105	16.1	32.2	40.0
2003	131	53.3	79.3	96.0
December	40	5.9	12.1	15.0
2003				
March	31	4.4	5.0	6.2
June	23	3.0	4.2	5.2
September	40	16.3	28.8	36.0
December	45	29.8	41.2	50.7
2004				
March	34	5.3	14.4	17.4

Source: ABS data available on request, *Industrial Disputes, Australia*.

45 JOB VACANCIES: ORIGINAL

Reference date	Job vacancies	Public sector	Private sector
	'000	'000	'000
November	7.3	1.3	6.0
2003			
February	12.0	1.3	10.7
May	7.8	1.4	6.4
August	7.4	1.2	6.2
November	9.0	1.2	7.8
2004			
February	10.2	0.9	9.4
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous quarter)			
November	–10.9	–10.7	–11.0
2003			
February	63.9	3.1	77.0
May	–35.2	4.4	–40.2
August	–4.7	–11.2	–3.3
November	21.3	–3.5	26.3
2004			
February	14.1	–26.3	20.3

Source: *Job Vacancies, Australia* (cat. no. 6354.0).

46 ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION(a)

At end of period	MALES no.	FEMALES no.	PERSONS no.
2000–2001	951 556	949 603	1 901 159
2001–2002	963 418	961 135	1 924 553
2002–2003	976 848	975 390	1 952 238
2001	957 552	955 721	1 913 273
2002	969 361	967 541	1 936 902
2003	985 106	983 940	1 969 046
2002			
September	966 067	964 065	1 930 132
December	969 361	967 541	1 936 902
2003			
March	973 501	972 031	1 945 532
June	976 848	975 390	1 952 238
September	980 932	979 419	1 960 351
December	985 106	983 940	1 969 046

(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: *Australian Demographic Statistics* (cat. no. 3101.0).

Source: *Australian Demographic Statistics* (cat. no. 3101.0).

47 POPULATION CHANGE, COMPONENTS(a)

Period	*Natural increase* no.	*Net overseas migration(b)* no.	*Interstate arrivals* no.	*Interstate departures* no.	*Net interstate migration* no.	*Total population growth(c)* no.
2000–2001	13 966	16 263	30 514	33 624	–3 110	26 700
2001–2002	12 809	14 970	30 245	34 419	–4 385	23 394
2002–2003	12 531	17 964	30 898	33 708	–2 810	27 685
2001	13 315	16 347	29 723	33 471	–3 834	25 615
2002	12 263	15 597	29 869	34 100	–4 231	23 629
2003	12 936	19 581	31 825	32 198	–373	32 144
2002						
September	2 958	3 591	7 228	8 153	–970	5 579
December	2 735	5 164	8 681	9 752	–1 129	6 770
2003						
March	3 489	5 639	8 276	8 692	–498	8 630
June	3 349	3 570	7 719	7 932	–213	6 706
September	3 114	4 778	7 353	7 132	221	8 113
December	2 984	5 594	8 830	8 713	117	8 695

(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: *Australian Demographic Statistics* (cat. no. 3101.0).

(b) May include an adjustment for 'category jumping'. Category jumping is the term used to describe changes between intended and actual duration of stay of travellers to and from Australia, such that their classification as short term or as long term/permanent movers is different at arrival from that at departure.

(c) Differences between total growth and the sum of natural increase and net migration during 1996–2001 are due to intercensal discrepancy.

Source: *Australian Demographic Statistics* (cat. no. 3101.0).

48 REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS(a)

	Live births(b)(c)		Infant deaths(b)(d)		Total deaths(b)(c)	
Period	*no.*	*rate*	*no.*	*rate*	*no.*	*rate*
2000–2001	24 429	12.8	105	4.3	10 463	5.5
2001–2002	23 967	12.5	94	3.9	11 158	5.8
2002–2003	23 759	12.2	79	3.3	11 228	5.8
2001	24 235	12.7	102	4.2	10 920	5.7
2002	23 583	12.2	90	3.8	11 320	5.8
2003	24 270	12.3	99	4.1	11 334	5.8
2002						
September	6 019	12.5	16	2.7	3 061	6.4
December	5 647	11.7	24	4.3	2 912	6.0
2003						
March	6 106	12.6	17	2.8	2 617	5.4
June	5 987	12.3	22	3.7	2 638	5.4
September	6 214	12.7	23	3.7	3 100	6.3
December	5 963	12.1	37	6.2	2 979	6.1

(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: *Australian Demographic Statistics* (cat. no. 3101.0).

(b) With the exception of preliminary data, estimates of births and deaths are included by State or Territory of usual residence and year of occurrence. For preliminary estimates, births and deaths are included by State or Territory of usual residence and year of registration.

(c) For financial and calendar years the rate is per 1,000 estimated resident population at 31 December and 30 June respectively. For quarters the rate is per 1,000 of the average of the previous and current quarterly populations.

(d) For infant deaths the rate is per 1,000 live births.

Source: *Australian Demographic Statistics* (cat. no. 3101.0).

49 REPORTED OFFENCES(a)(b), BY STATISTICAL REGION

	2002				2003				2004
	Mar qtr	Jun qtr	Sep qtr	Dec qtr	Mar qtr	Jun qtr	Sep qtr	Dec qtr	Mar qtr
Selected offences	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
CENTRAL METROPOLITAN									
Homicide(c)	3	—	1	2	2	2	1	—	1
Assault(d)	456	507	478	496	532	426	397	446	483
Robbery(e)	76	71	104	101	92	96	71	70	77
Burglary(f)	1 363	1 234	1 264	1 216	1 418	1 270	1 057	948	960
Theft	3 537	3 750	3 302	3 385	3 495	3 181	2 931	2 989	2 728
Steal motor vehicle	391	343	292	297	347	285	297	257	213
Property damage	854	777	950	859	979	904	1 023	969	860
Graffiti(g)	378	212	429	225	299	577	407	592	696
Drugs	413	423	458	397	326	388	308	235	289
Total reported offences(h)	**7 989**	**7 822**	**7 900**	**7 469**	**7 981**	**7 570**	**6 848**	**6 796**	**6 651**
EASTERN METROPOLITAN									
Homicide(c)	2	1	3	1	2	1	1	2	2
Assault(d)	471	424	332	500	499	388	355	466	452
Robbery(e)	36	59	48	86	83	63	52	67	46
Burglary(f)	1 768	1 822	1 989	1 998	1 857	1 714	1 556	1 707	1 543
Theft	2 523	2 617	2 762	2 734	2 466	2 516	2 502	2 458	2 095
Steal motor vehicle	378	302	229	281	292	321	302	269	259
Property damage	892	813	893	1 006	965	970	1 004	1 079	934
Graffiti(g)	132	121	145	132	119	159	150	150	137
Drugs	331	404	348	378	373	346	367	330	285
Total reported offences(h)	**7 084**	**6 949**	**7 132**	**7 525**	**7 056**	**6 798**	**6 598**	**6 901**	**6 061**
NORTHERN METROPOLITAN									
Homicide(c)	1	2	2	3	5	5	3	1	5
Assault(d)	761	652	646	697	663	607	559	672	731
Robbery(e)	109	97	115	95	112	121	103	98	107
Burglary(f)	3 162	3 046	2 805	2 947	2 717	2 542	2 362	2 657	2 365
Theft	4 814	4 648	4 789	4 596	4 414	4 218	4 067	4 438	3 774
Steal motor vehicle	627	606	588	640	622	540	609	580	395
Property damage	1 600	1 544	1 661	1 712	1 781	1 661	1 576	1 721	1 614
Graffiti(g)	1 240	1 263	973	983	803	902	1 422	1 202	715
Drugs	623	722	623	553	580	634	567	483	514
Total reported offences(h)	**13 853**	**13 313**	**12 914**	**12 884**	**12 438**	**11 765**	**11 867**	**12 437**	**10 833**
SOUTH WEST METROPOLITAN									
Homicide(c)	3	1	1	1	3	—	3	2	2
Assault(d)	593	512	609	571	636	501	465	546	650
Robbery(e)	75	65	83	80	61	82	57	73	73
Burglary(f)	2 175	1 918	2 197	2 124	1 999	1 985	2 104	2 155	1 870
Theft	3 769	3 180	3 380	3 516	3 677	3 449	3 216	3 315	3 321
Steal motor vehicle	529	419	409	504	470	390	441	456	410
Property damage	1 365	1 178	1 298	1 538	1 433	1 344	1 354	1 579	1 462
Graffiti(g)	376	281	482	523	525	612	457	282	74
Drugs	662	619	521	581	429	543	364	290	352
Total reported offences(h)	**10 028**	**8 659**	**9 532**	**10 111**	**9 743**	**9 364**	**8 821**	**9 061**	**8 634**
SOUTH EAST METROPOLITAN									
Homicide(c)	8	4	5	2	3	—	5	1	7
Assault(d)	937	650	739	745	819	624	642	875	880
Robbery(e)	117	121	133	112	157	139	145	182	158
Burglary(f)	3 577	3 789	3 478	3 916	3 904	3 637	3 544	3 331	2 819
Theft	4 760	4 903	5 220	5 314	4 915	4 859	4 691	4 544	4 423
Steal motor vehicle	832	724	617	698	741	742	695	586	529
Property damage	1 860	1 671	1 826	2 063	1 925	2 046	1 993	2 144	2 033
Graffiti(g)	497	1 022	623	292	74	71	101	82	76
Drugs	442	428	433	357	363	376	372	292	324
Total reported offences(h)	**13 873**	**13 977**	**13 701**	**14 291**	**13 619**	**13 012**	**12 722**	**12 528**	**11 798**

49 REPORTED OFFENCES(a)(b), BY STATISTICAL REGION *continued*

	2002				2003				2004
	Mar qtr	*Jun qtr*	*Sep qtr*	*Dec qtr*	*Mar qtr*	*Jun qtr*	*Sep qtr*	*Dec qtr*	*Mar qtr*
Selected offences	*no.*	*no.*	*no.*	*no.*	*no.*	*no.*	*no.*	*no.*	*no.*
LOWER WESTERN WA									
Homicide(c)	4	5	2	3	2	3	5	2	2
Assault(d)	586	474	479	518	594	444	474	480	581
Robbery(e)	32	22	25	25	24	26	25	21	15
Burglary(f)	1 351	1 351	1 437	1 364	1 348	1 374	1 289	1 285	1 154
Theft	2 364	2 083	2 098	2 299	2 602	2 285	2 226	2 514	2 366
Steal motor vehicle	203	167	196	222	157	187	176	156	150
Property damage	968	977	1 183	1 273	1 144	1 073	1 032	1 206	1 053
Graffiti(g)	75	76	71	48	43	40	46	55	45
Drugs	720	680	606	575	638	667	517	549	614
Total reported offences(h)	**6 792**	**6 166**	**6 508**	**6 662**	**6 898**	**6 439**	**6 084**	**6 575**	**6 384**
REMAINDER–BALANCE WA									
Homicide(c)	4	9	10	7	5	3	4	3	5
Assault(d)	1 290	1 011	1 117	1 348	1 368	991	1 150	1 350	1 323
Robbery(e)	28	25	32	29	28	24	45	22	29
Burglary(f)	2 367	1 886	2 028	2 166	2 037	2 046	1 988	1 864	1 824
Theft	2 665	2 718	3 035	2 693	2 611	2 701	2 790	2 522	2 250
Steal motor vehicle	329	268	259	296	238	241	256	243	225
Property damage	1 719	1 552	1 773	1 952	1 989	1 705	1 854	1 774	1 799
Graffiti(g)	64	64	54	75	71	66	79	88	54
Drugs	722	716	678	720	762	652	667	629	536
Total reported offences(h)	**9 704**	**8 771**	**9 470**	**9 892**	**9 664**	**8 898**	**9 361**	**9 042**	**8 654**
TOTAL–WA									
Homicide(c)	25	22	24	19	22	14	22	11	24
Assault(d)	5 094	4 230	4 400	4 875	5 111	3 981	4 042	4 835	5 100
Robbery(e)	473	460	540	528	557	551	498	533	505
Burglary(f)	15 763	15 046	15 198	15 731	15 280	14 568	13 900	13 947	12 535
Theft	24 432	23 899	24 586	24 537	24 180	23 209	22 423	22 780	20 957
Steal motor vehicle	3 289	2 829	2 590	2 938	2 867	2 706	2 776	2 547	2 181
Property damage	9 258	8 512	9 584	10 403	10 216	9 703	9 836	10 472	9 755
Graffiti(g)	2 762	3 039	2 777	2 278	1 934	2 427	2 662	2 451	1 797
Drugs	3 913	3 992	3 667	3 561	3 471	3 606	3 162	2 808	2 914
Total reported offences(h)	**69 323**	**65 657**	**67 157**	**68 834**	**67 399**	**63 846**	**62 301**	**63 340**	**59 015**

(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) Most graffiti offences are committed against public property and the number reported can vary due to different strategies being adopted in different periods by agencies and local government authorities. The number can also vary between periods due to the stockpiling of offences before being reported to Police and to an inconsistency in reporting where graffiti is sometimes recorded as property damage.

(h) Includes other offences not shown in the table such as fraud, arson and threatening behaviour.

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

50 AIR QUALITY — OZONE, BY PERTH METRO AREA

	DAYS PER MONTH(a) WITH OZONE CONCENTRATION(b) AT THE STATED LEVEL(c) FOR AT LEAST ONE HOUR														
	2003												2004		
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Region(d)	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
Inner West Coast															
Very Good	17	11	13	19	24	26	21	18	16	27	20	25	17	11	16
Good	14	16	18	11	7	4	10	13	14	4	9	6	14	17	13
Fair	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	2
Poor	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
North East Metro															
Very Good	11	7	17	23	28	30	31	26	25	22	16	17	9	10	18
Good	16	4	14	7	3	—	—	5	5	9	12	12	21	13	13
Fair	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	5	—
Poor	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0	—	—
Outer North Coastal															
Very Good	15	12	15	15	23	26	17	10	4	18	2	—	13	10	14
Good	15	15	16	15	8	4	14	21	26	13	8	—	16	18	16
Fair	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	1
Poor	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Outer North East															
Very Good	13	5	8	15	31	30	28	24	22	16	12	15	11	11	18
Good	15	18	17	9	—	—	3	7	8	14	16	15	16	11	13
Fair	3	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	3	6	—
Poor	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
South Coast															
Very Good	17	10	12	21	26	25	18	16	18	24	15	24	18	14	19
Good	14	18	17	9	5	5	13	15	12	7	15	7	12	14	10
Fair	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2
Poor	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
South East Metro															
Very Good	19	12	14	23	25	30	29	24	23	26	18	27	21	14	21
Good	12	15	17	7	6	—	2	7	7	5	11	3	10	14	10
Fair	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—
Poor	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

(a) The number of days per month may not correspond to the actual number of days in the month due to periods when the air monitor was offline.

(b) Ozone concentrations in a polluted atmosphere are usually taken as an indicator of the amount of photochemical smog present. Ozone at ground level is not a pollutant and should not be confused with its presence in the stratosphere, where it serves the essential function of screening out a large portion of the sun's harmful ultraviolet rays.

(c) The Ozone standard in Western Australia is based on the National Environment Protection Measure (NEPM) of 0.1 parts per million averaged over 1 hour. Ozone concentrations are converted into a qualitative scale with four commonly understood terms — Very Good (Ozone concentrations less than 33% of the standard); Good (Ozone concentrations between 33% and 66% of the standard); Fair (Ozone concentrations between 66% and 100% of the standard); and Poor (Ozone concentrations greater than 100% of the standard). For more information on air quality in Western Australia, see the Department of Environment website at <http://www.environ.wa.gov.au>.

(d) For reporting purposes, the Perth Region has been divided into seven regions. Air monitoring stations assigned to each region are: Inner West Coast — Swanbourne; North East Metro — Caversham; North Metro — Duncraig; Outer North Coastal — Quinns Rocks; Outer North East — Rolling Green; South Coast — Rockingham; South East Metro — South Lake.

Source: *Department of Environment.*

51 AIR QUALITY — VISIBILITY, BY PERTH METRO AREA AND SELECTED REGIONAL CENTRES

	DAYS PER MONTH(a) WITH VISIBILITY(b) AT THE STATED LEVEL(c) FOR AT LEAST ONE HOUR														
	2003												2004		
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Region(d)	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
CBD															
Clear	31	27	29	30	31	29	29	31	30	31	26	30	30	29	30
Light	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Significant	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	1
Heavy	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Inner West Coast(d)															
Clear	31	28	29	30	22	30	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Light	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Significant	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Heavy	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
North East Metro(d)															
Clear	31	28	28	28	25	28	29	31	28	29	25	29	27	29	30
Light	—	—	2	2	2	2	2	—	—	1	3	—	—	—	—
Significant	—	—	1	—	3	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	1	—	1
Heavy	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
North Metro(d)															
Clear	—	26	30	30	31	18	18	18	25	28	25	30	14	29	11
Light	—	—	1	—	—	6	1	2	1	3	3	—	—	—	—
Significant	—	—	—	—	—	6	10	7	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Heavy	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Outer North Coastal(d)															
Clear	31	27	29	30	31	30	30	30	30	30	25	31	31	28	31
Light	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—
Significant	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	1	—
Heavy	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
South Coast(d)															
Clear	28	26	30	23	25	25	30	31	30	28	26	30	29	29	29
Light	1	—	1	—	—	3	1	—	—	1	2	1	—	—	1
Significant	1	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	1
Heavy	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
South East Metro(d)															
Clear	30	27	28	30	28	13	18	19	27	29	26	30	23	22	30
Light	1	1	3	—	3	2	2	4	1	2	2	1	—	—	—
Significant	—	—	—	—	—	11	10	8	2	—	1	—	1	1	1
Heavy	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	2	—
Bunbury															
Clear	31	25	25	29	19	19	19	12	25	28	22	27	30	27	25
Light	—	1	—	1	3	1	2	3	3	—	3	1	—	—	2
Significant	—	2	3	—	9	8	10	15	2	3	1	3	—	1	4
Heavy	—	—	3	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	4	—	1	—	—
Busselton															
Clear	31	28	26	27	14	10	16	9	22	28	26	28	30	29	30
Light	—	—	2	2	8	3	3	5	3	—	1	2	—	—	1
Significant	—	—	2	1	9	10	7	10	5	1	2	—	—	—	—
Heavy	—	—	1	—	—	7	5	7	—	2	1	1	1	—	—

(a) The number of days per month may not correspond to the actual number of days in the month due to periods when the air monitor was offline.

(b) Visibility is measured using an integrating Nephelometer, which measures airborne particles ranging from 0.1 to 2.0 micrometres in size that reduce the ability to see objects at a distance by scattering light. The main sources of airborne particles contributing to reduced Visibility in Perth are domestic wood stoves and motor vehicles.

(c) Visibility is converted into a qualitative scale with four commonly understood terms — Clear (Visibility exceeds 26 kilometres); Light (Visibility between 20 and 26 kilometres); Significant (Visibility between 10 and 19 kilometres); and Heavy (Visibility less than 10 kilometres). For more information on air quality in Western Australia, see the Department of Environment website at <http://www.environ.wa.gov.au>.

(d) For reporting purposes, the Perth Region has been divided into seven regions. Air monitoring stations assigned to each region are: Inner West Coast — Swanbourne; North East Metro — Caversham; North Metro — Duncraig; Outer North Coastal — Quinns Rocks; Outer North East — Rolling Green; South Coast — Hope Valley; South East Metro — South Lake.

Source: *Department of Environment.*

APPENDIX

Index of feature articles published in *Western Australian Statistical Indicators*

FOR MORE INFORMATION...

INTERNET **www.abs.gov.au** the ABS web site is the best place to start for access to summary data from our latest publications, information about the ABS, advice about upcoming releases, our catalogue, and Australia Now—a statistical profile.

LIBRARY A range of ABS publications is available from public and tertiary libraries Australia-wide. Contact your nearest library to determine whether it has the ABS statistics you require, or visit our web site for a list of libraries.

CPI INFOLINE For current and historical Consumer Price Index data, call 1902 981 074 (call cost 77c per minute).

DIAL-A-STATISTIC For the latest figures for National Accounts, Balance of Payments, Labour Force, Average Weekly Earnings, Estimated Resident Population and the Consumer Price Index call 1900 986 400 (call cost 77c per minute).

INFORMATION SERVICE

Data which have been published and can be provided within five minutes are free of charge. Our information consultants can also help you to access the full range of ABS information—ABS user-pays services can be tailored to your needs, time frame and budget. Publications may be purchased. Specialists are on hand to help you with analytical or methodological advice.

PHONE **1300 135 070**

EMAIL **client.services@abs.gov.au**

FAX 1300 135 211

POST Client Services, ABS, GPO Box 796, Sydney 2001

WHY NOT SUBSCRIBE?

ABS subscription services provide regular, convenient and prompt deliveries of ABS publications and products as they are released. Email delivery of monthly and quarterly publications is available.

PHONE 1300 366 323

EMAIL subscriptions@abs.gov.au

FAX 03 9615 7848

POST Subscription Services, ABS, GPO Box 2796Y, Melbourne 3001

2136750006042
ISSN 1443-993X

RRP $27.00

Produced by the Australian Bureau of Statistics