



WESTERN AUSTRALIAN STATISTICAL INDICATORS

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

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NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

ISSUE (Quarter)

RELEASE DATE

September 2007

3 October 2007

December 2007

7 January 2008

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CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

Mineral and energy production Table 26 (page 64) no longer contains data on coal production due to confidentiality.

INTERNET

This publication and all published feature articles can be downloaded free from the Australian Bureau of Statistics web site at <<http://www.abs.gov.au>>. Go to Themes–Regional–Western Australia–WA releases–1367.5 Western Australian Statistical Indicators.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

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

INQUIRIES

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

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ABBREVIATIONS

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

Michael Tindall

Regional Director, Western Australia

OVERVIEW

ECONOMIC SUMMARY

Western Australia's domestic economy recorded the strongest quarterly growth across the nation, with state final demand (trend chain volume measures) rising 2.3% (\$643 million) in the March quarter 2007, compared to growth in other states and territories ranging from -0.1% in the Northern Territory to 1.5% in Queensland. Much of the growth in Western Australia was driven by private investment in non-dwelling construction (up 10.8%) and machinery and equipment (up 10.5%) in seasonally adjusted chain volume terms. Major detractors from growth during the quarter were public corporation investment (down 6.0%) and private ownership transfer costs (down 6.4%), with public corporation investment effected by the reclassification of Telstra Corporation from the public to private sector in the March quarter 2007.

Western Australia's trade surplus grew 34.2% to \$8,615 million through the year to March quarter 2007. China was by far the main contributor, with the state's trade surplus with China rising 52.0% (\$1,002 million) to \$2,931 million. The value of state's exports rose 27.7% (\$3,113 million) to \$14,359 million, mainly due to exports of gold, iron ore and crude oil, while the value of imports rose 19.0% (\$917 million) to \$5,744 million, mostly in motor vehicles.

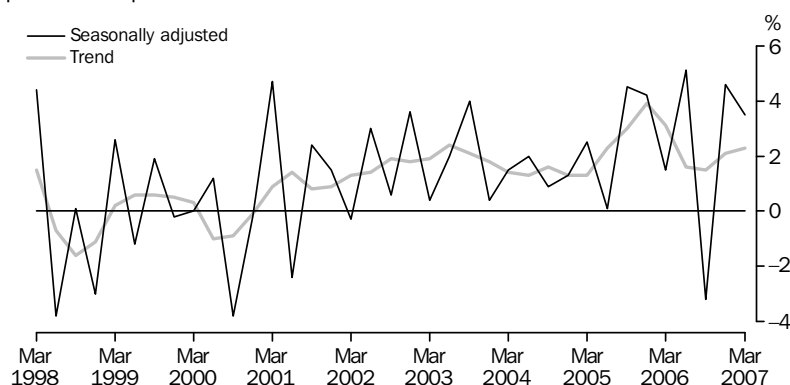
The labour market in Western Australia continued to strengthen in the three months to May 2007, with full-time employment (trend) rising 0.3% (up 2,600 persons) to 776,100 persons and estimated part-time employment rising 1.4% (4,400 persons) to 320,800 persons. The unemployment rate (trend) also improved slightly in Western Australia, decreasing from 3.0% in February 2007 to 2.9% in May 2007.

STATE ACCOUNTS

State final demand

Western Australia's state final demand (trend chain volume measures) grew 2.3% (\$643 million) to \$28,077 million in the March quarter 2007, following increases of 1.5% and 2.1% in the September and December quarters of 2006 respectively. Current quarter growth exceeded that of all other states and territories, with other results ranging from -0.1% in the Northern Territory to 1.5% in Queensland. Nationally, domestic final demand increased 1.1% in the March quarter 2007.

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



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

OVERVIEW *continued*

State final demand

continued

In seasonally adjusted chain volume terms, Western Australia's state final demand rose 3.5% (\$952 million) to \$28,418 million in March quarter 2007, due mainly to an increase in private gross fixed capital formation (up 7.6% or \$700 million). Private investment grew 10.8% (\$394 million) in non-dwelling construction and 10.5% (\$287 million) in machinery and equipment. Final consumption expenditure also contributed to March quarter growth, with household consumption up 1.6% (\$214 million) and government consumption up 0.8% (\$31 million). Household consumption was mainly driven by increased spending on hotels, cafes and restaurants (up \$42 million or 5.6%), recreation and culture (up \$30 million or 1.8%), food (up \$29 million or 1.9%) and the purchase of vehicles (up \$28 million or 4.6%).

Major detractors from growth in Western Australia's state final demand in the March quarter 2007 were gross fixed capital formation by public corporations (down \$35 million or 6.0%) and private sector ownership transfer costs (down \$29 million or 6.4%). Public corporation investment was down mainly due to the reclassification of Telstra Corporation from a public to private sector non-financial corporation in the March quarter 2007, following its privatisation on 20 November 2006.

PRICES

Consumer price index

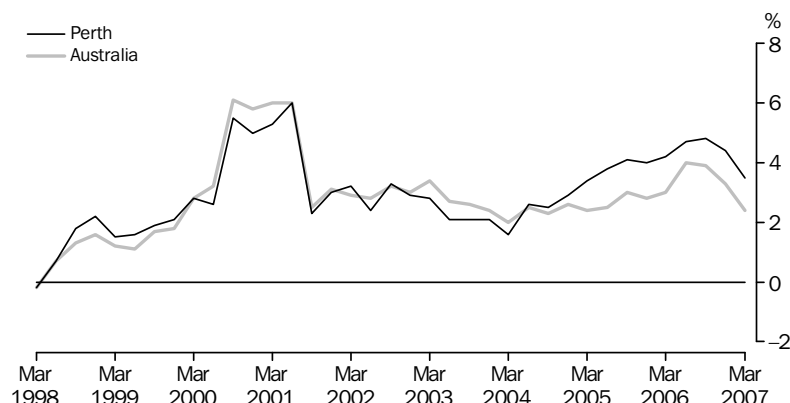
Growth in Perth's consumer price index (CPI) continued to slow over the last three quarters, from a peak of 1.8% in the June quarter 2006 to 0.2% in the March quarter 2007. Current quarter growth was the lowest since the June quarter 2003 (0.0%), but remained above national CPI growth of 0.1%. The slowing in Perth's CPI growth was mainly due to declining prices for fruit (down 28.1%), furniture (down 5.3%) and holiday travel and accommodation (domestic down 3.6% and overseas down 4.6%). Fruit prices were lower in all capital cities mainly due to falling banana prices, as production returned to normal levels following extensive crop damage in Queensland from Cyclone Larry in the March quarter 2006. Price falls for holiday travel and accommodation came after a seasonal spike in accommodation tariffs and airfares in the December quarter 2006.

Perth's CPI growth in the March quarter 2007 was mostly driven by price increases in housing (up 1.1%), education (up 8.0%) and health (up 3.5%). Housing continued to underpin prices growth in Perth, as house purchase costs (up 1.1%) and rents (up 2.6%) continued to climb, while the price of education and health are invariably higher in the first quarter of each calendar year. Education costs rise due to one-off price increases associated with the commencement of the new school year and health costs increase from the reduction in consumers who qualify for subsidised medications under the Pharmaceuticals Benefit Scheme.

OVERVIEW *continued*

Consumer price index *continued*

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



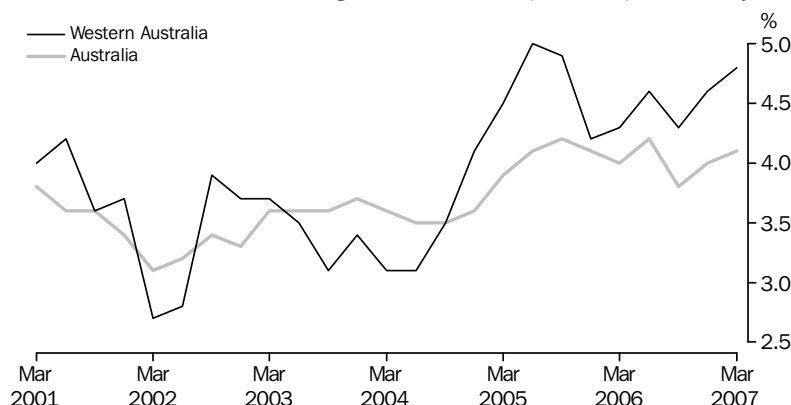
Source: Consumer Price Index, Australia, cat. no. 6401.0.

Perth's CPI rose 3.5% through the year to March quarter 2007, a rate that has continued to decline from a peak of 4.8% through the year to September quarter 2006. Perth's 3.5% CPI growth was the 2nd largest among the states and territories, behind Darwin with an increase of 4.0% through the year. National CPI growth followed a similar downward trend to Perth, declining from 4.0% through the year to June quarter 2006 to 2.4% through the year to March quarter 2007 — the lowest annual rise since the March quarter 2005 (2.4%). The underlying inflation rate, as calculated by the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA), moderated to 2.7% through the year to March quarter 2007, well within the RBAs target range for inflation of 2 to 3 percent. Notably, the CPI headline inflation rate of 2.4%, eased more markedly than the RBA underlying rate, mainly due to price falls in the volatile items of fuel and food in recent quarters.

Wage price index

Growth in Western Australia's wage price index (WPI) of total hourly rates of pay excluding bonuses remained steady at 1.1% in the March quarter 2007, following increases of 1.3% and 1.1% in the September and December quarters of 2006 respectively. In the March quarter 2007, wages rose 1.2% in the private sector, more than twice the rate of public sector wages (up 0.5%). Nationally, the WPI also grew 1.1% in the current quarter, following an increase of 1.0% in the December quarter 2006.

WAGE PRICE INDEX, Change from same quarter previous year



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

OVERVIEW *continued*

Wage price index continued

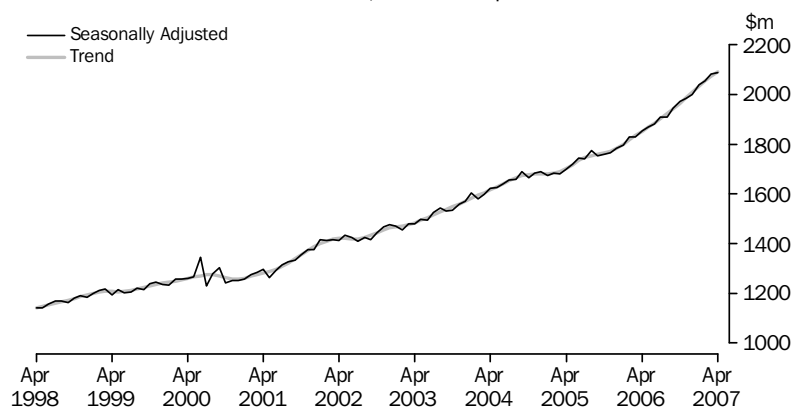
Western Australia's WPI rose 4.8% through the year to March quarter 2007, higher than the 4.6% rise in the previous period and higher than national wages growth of 4.1%. Strong wages growth was recorded in the Western Australian industries of construction (up 6.8%), personal and other services (up 6.8%) and mining (up 6.7%). From an occupation perspective, wages growth was strong for labourers and related workers, and tradespersons and related workers, both up 5.9%.

CONSUMPTION

Retail trade

Western Australia recorded a total of \$6,220 million in retail turnover (trend) in the three months to April 2007, an increase of 3.2% (\$191 million) on the previous three month period. This growth was slightly lower than the 3.4% rise recorded in the three months to January 2007. The nation's retail turnover increased 2.0% in the three months to April 2007, following a rise of 1.6% in the previous three month period.

MONTHLY RETAIL TURNOVER, Current prices



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

Growth in Western Australia's retail turnover (trend) in the three months to April 2007 (compared to the previous three months) was primarily driven by the industry groups of food (up \$85 million or 3.4%), hospitality and services (up \$37 million or 4.7%) and other retailing (including pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, toiletries, antiques and used goods, garden supplies, flowers, watches and jewellery) (up \$28 million or 4.9%). In contrast, recreational good retailing experienced a decrease of \$9 million (3.2%).

New motor vehicle sales

Sales of new motor vehicles (trend) rose consecutively over the last 16 months in Western Australia, from 8,701 vehicles in January 2006 to 9,970 vehicles in May 2007 — an increase of 1,269 vehicles (14.6%). Passenger vehicles drove much of the growth in new motor vehicle sales over the period (up 560 vehicles or 11.3%), with sales of other vehicles (comprising utilities, vans, trucks and buses) (up 392 vehicles or 19.3%) and sports utility vehicles (up 317 vehicles or 18.6%) also making strong contributions.

OVERVIEW *continued*

New motor vehicle sales *continued*

NEW MOTOR VEHICLE SALES



(a) Break in trend series between June and July 2000.

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

Over the three months to May 2007, Western Australia's new motor vehicle sales rose 1.0% (305 vehicles) to 29,863 vehicles in trend terms, compared to the previous three month period. The sole driver of growth was other vehicle sales, rising 6.1% (409 vehicles), while sports utility vehicles (down 0.9% or 53 vehicles) and passenger vehicles (down 0.3% or 51 vehicles) both recorded declining sales over the period.

INVESTMENT AND FINANCE

Private new capital expenditure

In seasonally adjusted chain volume terms, business investment in Western Australia rose 8.9% (\$389 million) in the March quarter 2007, slightly down on the rise of 10.4% (\$413 million) in the previous quarter. These consecutive periods of strong growth have lifted business investment to its 2nd highest quarterly level on record at \$4,780 million, just \$60 million less than the historically high of \$4,840 million in the June quarter 2006. In the latest quarter, almost two-thirds of the growth in business investment was in buildings and structures (up \$238 million or 8.4%) and the rest was in equipment, plant and machinery (up \$150 million or 9.6%).

Trend data for the March quarter 2007 was not available for publication due to a break in series caused by the recent privatisation of Telstra Corporation on 20 November 2006. For the purposes of ABS statistics this change from public to private sector is effective from the March quarter 2007. For more information please see Information Paper: Future Treatment of Telstra in ABS statistics, 2007 (cat. no. 8102.0), released 26 February 2007.

OVERVIEW *continued*

Housing finance commitments continued

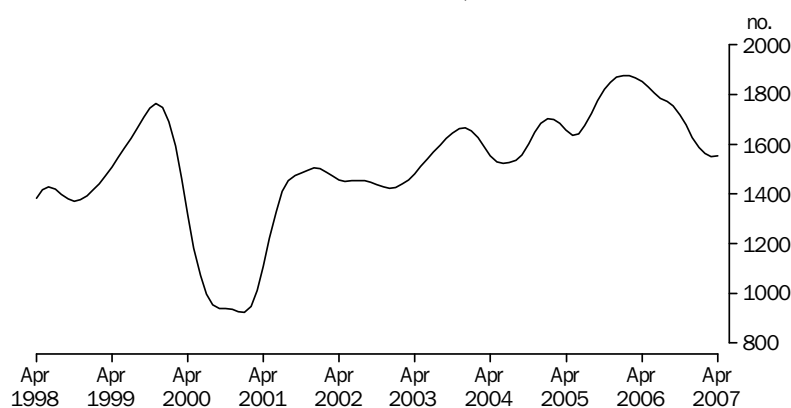
4.8% (\$32 million) fall in the value of housing finance for first home buyers. The difference between the average loan size for first home buyers and non-first home buyers has widened considerably in Western Australia in recent months. In January 2007, the average loan size for non-first home buyers (\$220,800) was \$3,900 higher than for first home buyers (\$216,900), but by April 2007 this gap had widened to \$22,400 — \$218,500 (non-first home buyers) compared to \$196,100 (first home buyers). In the three months to April 2007, the total value of housing finance for investment (original) rose 5.2% (\$122 million) in Western Australia, compared to the previous three month period.

CONSTRUCTION

Building approvals

In the three months to April 2007, the total number of house approvals (trend) fell 4.6% (226 approvals) in Western Australia, compared to the previous three month period, while the total number of non-house approvals fell 19.3% (245 approvals).

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



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

The number of house approvals (trend) in Western Australia declined for 14 consecutive months between January 2006 (1,877) and March 2007 (1,550), with this downward trend ending with a slight increase in house approvals in April 2007 (1,553). During the period of decline, house approvals fell 1.5% (23 approvals) on average per month, significantly lower than the average monthly decline of 6.5% (60 approvals) during the last major downturn in the building cycle between November 1999 and January 2001 (coinciding with the introduction of the GST). Similarly, the number of non-house building approvals (including other residential and non-residential building) have fallen successively over the past 7 months, from a peak of 468 approvals in September 2006 to 321 approvals in April 2007.

The current downturn in Western Australia's building cycle follows three interest rate increases by the Reserve Bank of Australia of 0.25% in May (5.75%), August (6.00%) and November (6.25%) 2006, and coincides with a large increase in new house prices in Perth (up 9.0% excluding land) between the March quarters of 2006 and 2007.

TRADE

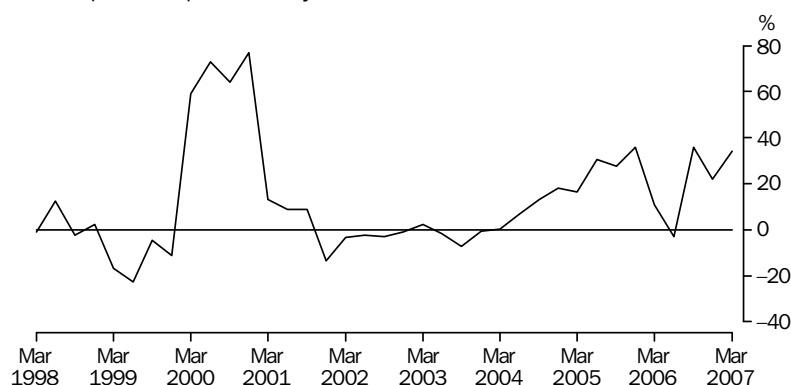
Balance of trade

Western Australia's trade surplus grew 34.2% (\$2,196 million) to \$8,615 million through the year to March quarter 2007. However, it was 13.5% (\$1,349 million) lower than the surplus in the preceding period of \$9,964 million — the highest surplus on record.

OVERVIEW *continued*

Balance of trade continued

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



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

China was by far the leading contributor to growth in Western Australia's trade surplus through the year to March quarter 2007. The state's trade surplus with China rose 52.0% (\$1,002 million) to \$2,931 million, while other major contributors with large trade surpluses were India (up \$405 million), Switzerland (up \$349 million) and the Republic of Korea (up \$316 million). Notably, Western Australia's trade surplus with Switzerland rose from \$28 million to \$377 million between the March quarters of 2006 and 2007, mainly due to a large increase in gold exported to that country. Partially offsetting these increases was a large fall in the state's trade surplus with the United Kingdom (down \$245 million), and worsening trade deficits with Singapore (up \$106 million) and Indonesia (up \$100 million).

Exports

The value of Western Australia's exports rose 27.7% (\$3,113 million) to \$14,359 million through the year to March quarter 2007. Major commodities contributing to growth were non-monetary gold (up \$844 million or 50.4%), iron ore and concentrates (up \$667 million or 23.4%), combined confidential items (up \$634 million or 33.2%) and crude petroleum oils (up \$476 million). Major commodities detracting from exports growth were natural gas (down \$39 million or 4.0%), refined petroleum oils (down \$36 million or 26.2%), and crustaceans, molluscs and aquatic invertebrates (down \$27 million or 22.3%).

Imports

The value of imports to Western Australia increased 19.0% (\$917 million) to \$5,744 million through the year to March quarter 2007. Passenger motor vehicles (up \$99 million or 38.0%), motor vehicles for transporting goods (up \$72 million or 38.7%) and fertilisers (up \$33 million or 36.2%) were the major commodities contributing to imports growth. The largest fall was in non-monetary gold imports, down \$79 million or 6.2% through the year.

MINING

Mineral and petroleum exploration expenditure

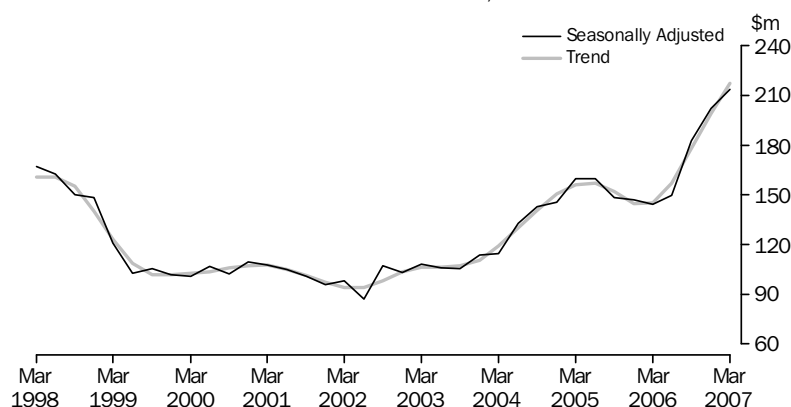
Expenditure on mineral exploration (trend) in Western Australia rose 9.2% (\$18 million) to \$217 million in the March quarter 2007, the 5th successive quarterly rise since the December quarter 2005 (\$145 million). During this period, mineral exploration expenditure grew at an average rate of 8.5% per quarter, significantly higher than the rate recorded during the exploration boom of the mid-1990s (5.1% per quarter over the 8 quarters to June 1997). The current level (\$217 million) of Western Australia's mineral

OVERVIEW *continued*

Mineral and petroleum exploration expenditure continued

exploration expenditure is \$34 million higher than the previous peak of \$183 million in the June quarter 1997.

MINERAL EXPLORATION EXPENDITURE, Total minerals



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

In original terms, Western Australia's mineral exploration expenditure rose 48.1% (\$58 million) to \$180 million through the year to March quarter 2007. Growth was recorded across all major minerals, with the largest increases in iron ore (up \$19 million or 60.0%), nickel, cobalt (up \$18 million or 89.8%) and gold (up \$10 million or 18.6%). Increases in mineral exploration activity have coincided with rising world commodity prices over the 12 months to March 2007, especially for nickel (up 211.0%) and gold (up 17.6%). The state's petroleum exploration expenditure more than doubled to \$320 million through the year to March quarter 2007 (up 133.2% or \$183 million).

Mineral and energy production

Between the March quarters of 2006 and 2007, production increased across most mineral and energy commodities in Western Australia. Minerals recording increases were nickel (up 14.3%), iron ore (up 10.7%), bauxite (up 9.6%) and ilmenite (up 5.9%). In contrast, zinc (down 37.5%), diamonds (down 31.7%) and gold (down 5.0%) production declined. Energy production in Western Australia rose for crude oil (up 35.1%), electricity (up 6.9%) and natural gas (up 6.4%) through the year.

TOURISM

Short-term arrivals on holiday

A total of 63,151 overseas visitors arrived in Western Australia for holiday in the March quarter 2007. During the period, the United Kingdom and Ireland recorded the largest number of holidaymakers coming to Western Australia with 22,512 — an increase of 1,077 persons (5.0%) from the March quarter 2006. Singapore had the next highest increase in travellers to the state (up 989 persons or 15.1%), followed by South Africa (up 575 persons or 65.3%). In contrast, there were less holidaymakers coming from Japan (down 1979 persons or 25.5%), Thailand (down 370 persons or 30.7%) and Hong Kong (down 280 persons or 16.3%) through the year to March quarter 2007.

Short-term departures on holiday

In the March quarter 2007, there were 12,138 (22.9%) more Western Australian residents departing on holiday, compared to the same quarter of 2006. Overseas destinations recording the largest increase in Western Australian travellers were Indonesia (up 5,169 persons or 62.6%), Thailand (up 2,529 persons or 37.1%) and the United Kingdom and

OVERVIEW *continued*

Short-term departures on holiday continued

Ireland (up 935 persons or 37.8%). Overseas countries experiencing a declining number of Western Australian visitors through the year were Hong Kong (down 663 persons or 26.6%) and Singapore (down 155 persons or 2.6%).

LABOUR MARKET

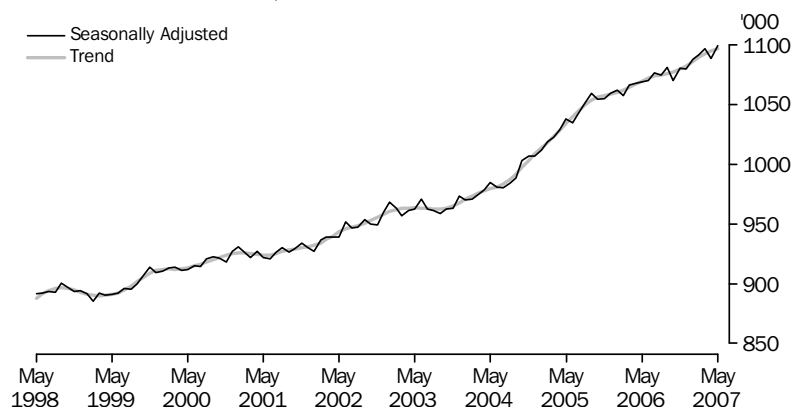
Job vacancies

The number of job vacancies have risen for 6 consecutive quarters in Western Australia, increasing 4.6% (1,100) in the February quarter 2007. Sustained quarterly growth has led to a yearly increase in job vacancies of 21.4% (4,400) between the February quarters of 2006 and 2007. Of the 25,000 job vacancies recorded in the February quarter 2007, 94.8% (23,700) were private sector vacancies and 5.2% (1,300) were public sector vacancies. Private sector job vacancies grew 5.3% (1,200) in the February quarter 2007 and 22.8% (4,400) through the year to February quarter 2007. The rise in Western Australia's job vacancies indicates employment should also continue to grow through mid-2007, as long as jobs can be suitably filled by the available labour supply.

Employment

Western Australia's full-time employment (trend) rose 0.3% (up 2,600 persons) to 776,100 persons in the three months to May 2007, following growth of 0.7% (5,400 persons) in the previous three month period. All of the increase in the last three months was attributable to female full-time employment rising 1.1% (2,800 persons), partially offset by declining male full-time employment (down 200 persons). Estimated part-time employment in Western Australia rose 1.4% (4,400 persons) to 320,800 persons in the three months to May 2007, mainly attributable to increased male part-time employment (up 4.8% or 4,000 persons). Female part-time employment was up 0.4% (400 persons). Overall, employment rose 0.6% (7,000 persons) to 1,096,900 persons in the three months to May 2007.

EMPLOYED PERSONS, Total



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

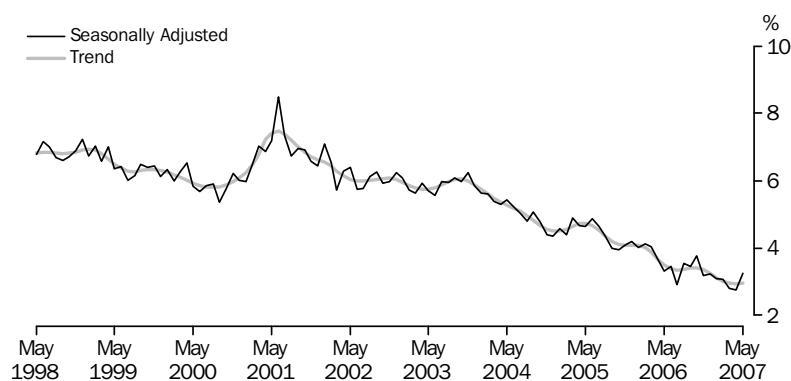
The main industries contributing to the rise in Western Australia's employment (original) through the year to May 2007 (up 30,700 persons or 2.9%) were property and business services (up 10,000 persons or 8.1%), education (up 6,900 persons or 10.0%) and government administration and defence (up 5,200 persons or 11.3%). From an occupation perspective, the main occupations driving the state's employment growth were professionals (up 26,800 persons or 14.4%), associate professionals (up 9,100 persons or 6.8%) and intermediate production and transport workers (up 8,200 persons or 8.7%).

OVERVIEW *continued*

Unemployment

The number of unemployed persons (trend) fell 1.5% (500 persons) to 33,300 persons in Western Australia in the three months to May 2007, solely attributable to the number of unemployed males declining 5.7% (1,000 persons), partly offset by increasing female unemployed (up 3.0% or 500 persons). The unemployment rate (trend) in Western Australia fell marginally, from 3.0% in February 2007 to 2.9% in May 2007. Nationally, the unemployment rate also declined, from 4.5% to 4.3% between February and May 2007.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



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

POPULATION

Estimated resident population

The preliminary estimated resident population for Western Australia was 2,080,966 in the December quarter 2006, an increase of 11,089 persons (0.54%) from the previous quarter. The state's quarterly population growth was the highest across the nation, ahead of Queensland (up 0.53%) and well above the national increase of 0.35%. In the December quarter 2006, Western Australia recorded a natural increase of 4,115 persons (7,070 births less 2,955 deaths), while net overseas migration (up 6,042 persons) and net interstate migration (up 932 persons) also added to the state's population.

SOCIAL TRENDS -

POPULATION AND HEALTH

Population characteristics

In June 2006, Western Australia's estimated resident population was 2.06 million persons. This was an increase of 41,700 persons (2.1%) from June 2005 and 293,800 persons (17%) from June 1996. In percentage terms, Western Australia's population growth of 17% between June 1996 and June 2006 was higher than the national average of 13% and was the 2nd highest among the states and territories behind Queensland with 23%.

In June 2006, the median age (the age at which half the population is older and half is younger) of the Western Australian population was 36.2 years. This is slightly younger than the national median age of 36.6 years. The median age of the Western Australian population increased from 33.1 years in 1996.

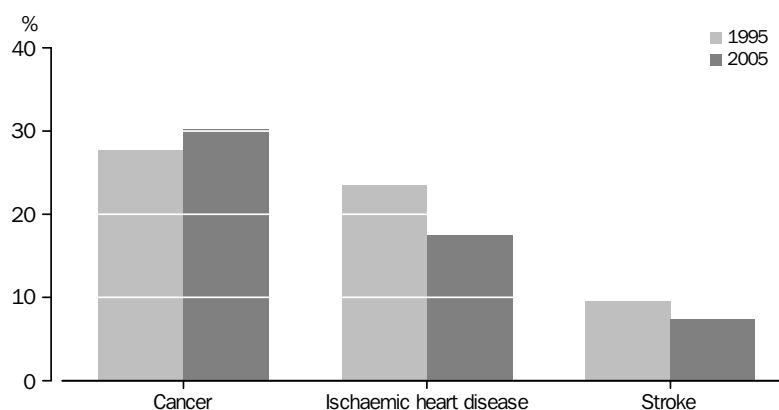
The ratio of males to females aged 0–64 years was similar in both 1996 and 2006 (104.0 and 104.5 males per 100 females respectively). However, for those aged 65 years and over, the ratio increased from 79.2 to 84.9 males per 100 females over the same ten year period. In 2005, life expectancy at birth was 83.8 years for females and 78.8 years for males in Western Australia. Between 1996 and 2005, the difference in life expectancy between males and females fell from 5.9 to 5.0 years.

OVERVIEW *continued*

Causes of death

In 2005, there were 11,300 deaths registered in Western Australia. The underlying causes of death were mainly cancer (malignant neoplasms), ischaemic heart disease and stroke— together accounting for more than half (55%) of all deaths. Cancer was the leading underlying cause of 3,400 deaths (30% of all deaths). Of those deaths, 21% (720) were caused by cancers of the trachea, bronchus and lungs. From 1995 to 2005, the proportion of deaths caused by cancer increased from 28% to 30%. Ischaemic heart disease accounted for 18% (2,000) of deaths in 2005, a decrease from 23% of deaths in 1995. Stroke accounted for 7.4% (840) of deaths in 2005, slightly lower than in 1995(9.6%).

LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH, Proportion of total deaths—Western Australia



Source: Causes of Death, Australia, cat. no. 3303.0.

In 2005, the leading cause of death for persons aged 15–24 years in Western Australia was transport accidents, accounting for 35% (50 deaths) of deaths in this age group. The proportion was higher for males than females (36% compared to 32% respectively). Suicide accounted for 19% of deaths in the 15–24 year age group, a much higher proportion of males than females (23% compared to 7.9% respectively).

RESEARCH AND EXPERIMENTAL DEVELOPMENT IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA

INTRODUCTION

A recent report by the Productivity Commission 'Public Support for Science and Innovation' (9 March 2007) identified Research and Experimental Development (R&D) as an important source of economic growth through its contribution to increased productivity. It is not surprising, therefore, that Western Australia's recent economic boom has coincided with strong growth in the state's investment in R&D. This article examines results from the 2004–05 suite of ABS R&D surveys, highlighting the extent to which Western Australia's R&D expenditure has grown in recent years and the sectors of the economy responsible for that growth.

ABOUT THE DATA

R&D as collected by the ABS is defined in accordance with the OECD standard as comprising 'creative work undertaken on a systematic basis in order to increase the stock of knowledge, including knowledge of man, culture and society, and the use of this stock of knowledge to devise new applications'. Recent ABS publications relating to R&D include:

- Research and Experimental Development, Businesses, 2004–05 (cat. no. 8104.0);
- Research and Experimental Development, Higher Education Organisations, 2004 (cat. no. 8111.0);
- Research and Experimental Development, Government and Private Non-profit Organisations, 2004–05 (cat. no. 8109.0); and
- Research and Experimental Development, All Sector Summary, 2004–05 (cat. no. 8112.0).

GROWTH IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA'S R&D EXPENDITURE

Since declining briefly in the late 1990s, expenditure on R&D in Western Australia has risen sharply. Between 1998–99 and 2004–05, gross expenditure on R&D in Western Australia more than doubled, rising from \$844 million to \$1,738 million. The largest part of this growth (70.9%), however, occurred between 2002–03 and 2004–05, when Western Australia's gross expenditure on R&D increased 57.4% (\$634 million). Over this same period the state economy also surged, with Gross State Product (GSP) increasing 19.5% (\$16,796 million) in current price terms. With the state's gross R&D expenditure rising almost three times faster than its GSP, the proportion of GSP devoted to R&D grew substantially over the period (up from 1.3% to 1.7%).

GROSS R&D EXPENDITURE, Western Australia



GROWTH IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA'S R&D EXPENDITURE *continued*

The rapid rise in the level of R&D investment in Western Australia has, however, contrasted with a slowing of growth at the national level. As shown in the graph below, bi-annual growth in Western Australia's gross R&D expenditure rose from 20.1% in 2002–03 to 57.4% in 2004–05, while Australia's bi-annual growth fell from 26.8% to 19.4% over the same period. The states mainly responsible for the slowdown nationally were New South Wales and South Australia.

GROWTH IN GROSS R&D EXPENDITURE

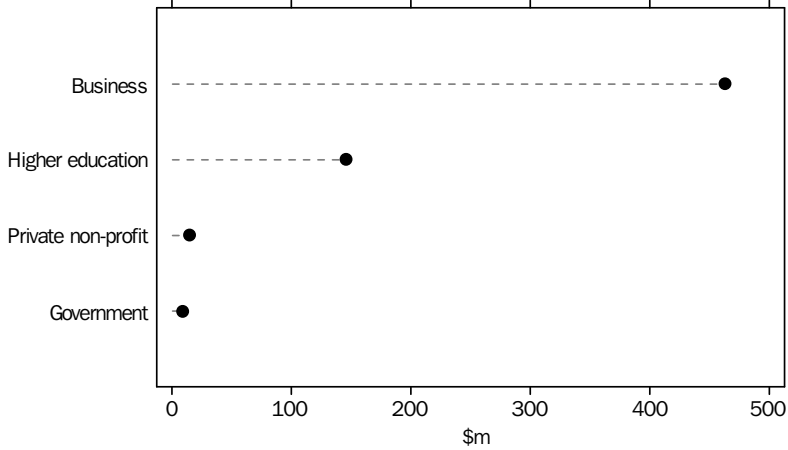


With Western Australia's gross R&D expenditure underpinning much of the growth at the national level, the state's contribution to Australian gross R&D expenditure increased from 8.4% in 2002–03 to 11.0% in 2004–05.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA'S R&D EXPENDITURE BY SECTOR

The recent strong growth in Western Australia's R&D expenditure has primarily been driven by the state's business sector, although the higher education and private non-profit sectors also experienced large increases. By comparison, expenditure on R&D by the government sector (both State and Commonwealth) in Western Australia remained relatively stable. The contribution of each of these sectors to the state's R&D boom is discussed in more detail below.

GROWTH IN R&D EXPENDITURE BY SECTOR, Western Australia—2002–03 to 2004–05



BUSINESS

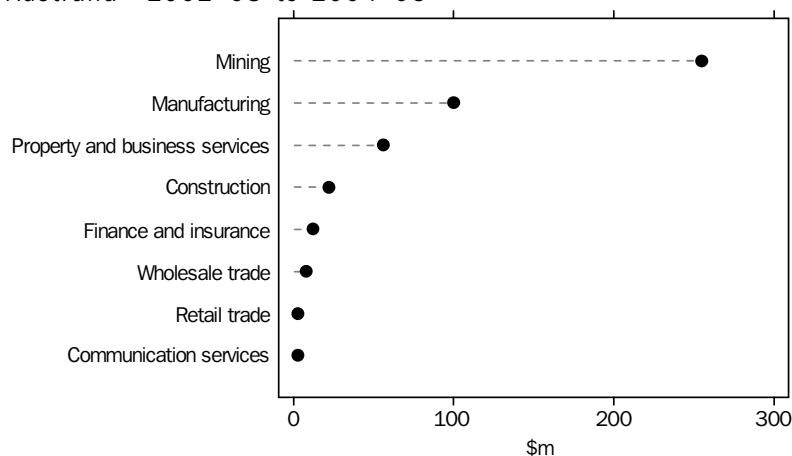
Between 2002–03 and 2004–05, Western Australia's business sector accounted for almost three quarters (73.0%) of the growth in the state's gross expenditure on R&D. Over this period, expenditure on R&D by businesses located in Western Australia increased 78.6% (\$463 million) to \$1,051 million, compared to a national increase of 21.7%. As a consequence, the state's share of national gross business expenditure on R&D increased from 8.5% to 12.4%. Over the same period, the business sector increased its share of Western Australia's gross expenditure on R&D from 53.3% to 60.5%.

BUSINESS R&D EXPENDITURE, Western Australia



While many factors have contributed to the surge in Western Australia's R&D expenditure, the expansion of the state's resources sector has had the largest impact on R&D investment. Between 2002–03 and 2004–05, the mining industry in Western Australia increased its expenditure on R&D 130% (\$255 million) to \$452 million. Other industries to report large increases in R&D expenditure during this period included, manufacturing (up 48.6% or \$100 million), property and business services (up 62.4% or \$56 million) and construction (up 43.7% or \$22 million).

GROWTH IN R&D EXPENDITURE BY INDUSTRY, Western Australia—2002–03 to 2004–05



BUSINESS continued

Within the mining industry, the strongest growth in R&D investment was recorded in metal ore mining (up \$134 million) and oil and gas extraction (up \$64 million) between 2002–03 and 2004–05. The strong resources sector also contributed to growth in R&D expenditure in other related industries such as machinery and equipment manufacturing (up \$46 million) and metal product manufacturing (up \$29 million).

GROWTH IN BUSINESS R&D EXPENDITURE, Top 5 industry classes—Western Australia

Rank	Industry class	EXPENDITURE ON R&D (\$m)		GROWTH 2002–03 TO 2004–05	
		2002–03	2004–05	\$m	%
1	Metal ore mining	143	277	134	94.0
2	Oil and gas extraction	23	87	64	274.0
3	Services to mining	16	71	55	353.6
4	Machinery and equipment manufacturing	86	132	46	53.3
5	Metal product manufacturing	40	69	29	72.9

HIGHER EDUCATION

The next largest contributor to growth in Western Australia's R&D expenditure was the higher education sector, which accounted for 23.0% of the total increase between 2002–03 and 2004–05. During this period, expenditure on R&D by the state's higher education sector increased 49.4% (\$146 million) to \$442 million, almost twice the national rise of 24.9%. As a consequence, Western Australia's share of national higher education R&D expenditure increased from 8.6% to 10.3%.

HIGHER EDUCATION R&D EXPENDITURE, Western Australia



The recent rise in R&D expenditure by Western Australia's higher education sector coincided with a series of reforms of the sector by the Commonwealth Government (the 'Nelson Reforms'). Amongst other changes, the Nelson Reforms established a framework for research in which all Commonwealth funding is either competitive or performance-based. As a consequence, some universities have strengthened their R&D activity to differentiate themselves in competitive local and international markets.

PRIVATE NON-PROFIT

Private non-profit organisations located in Western Australia accounted for 2.5% of the growth in the state's R&D expenditure between 2002–03 and 2004–05. Over this period, expenditure on R&D by the state's private non-profit sector increased 69.1% (\$15 million) to \$38 million, almost twice the rate of growth nationally (37.2%). This increased Western Australia's share of national private non-profit expenditure on R&D from 6.2% in 2002–03 to 7.7% in 2004–05.

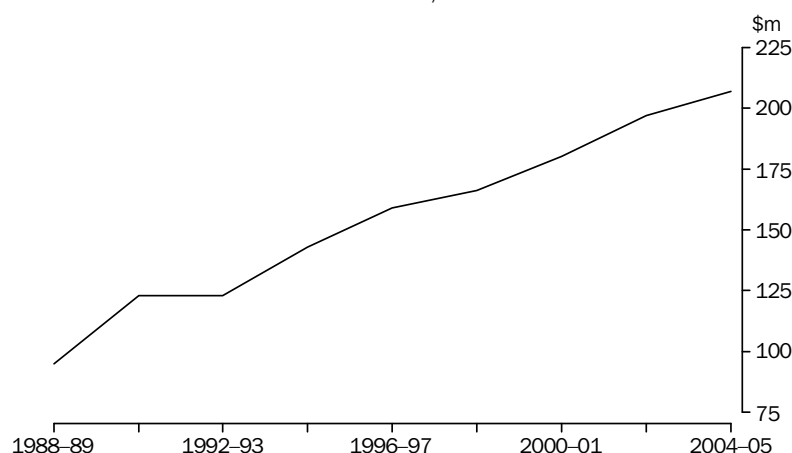
PRIVATE NON-PROFIT R&D EXPENDITURE, Western Australia



GOVERNMENT

Commonwealth and State Government organisations located in Western Australia accounted for the remaining 1.5% of growth in the state's R&D expenditure between 2002–03 and 2004–05. Over this period, expenditure on R&D by government organisations located in Western Australia increased 4.7% (\$9 million) to \$207 million, well below the corresponding levels of growth reported by other sectors. However, governments also invest in R&D through a range of funding programs and initiatives available to the business, higher education and private non-profit sectors. Between 2002–03 and 2004–05, the amount of R&D that was funded by Commonwealth and State Government sources increased 19.1% or \$1 billion nationally.

GOVERNMENT R&D EXPENDITURE, Western Australia



For further information about the ABS R&D survey program, including requests for more detailed data, please contact Kirsty Rothenbury on (08) 9360 5382.

FEATURE ARTICLE 2

GENERAL SOCIAL SURVEY - WESTERN AUSTRALIAN SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

There are many, often interrelated, aspects of life important to human wellbeing such as good health, good family relationships and engagement with wider social networks, freedom from financial stress, feeling safe and secure and having access to suitable transport and information technology. In 2006, the ABS conducted its second General Social Survey (GSS) (first in 2002), a multi-dimensional survey that provides valuable information on all these aspects of life for Australian adults (persons aged 18 years and over). This article summarises the results from the 2006 GSS for the Western Australian adult population, making comparisons between people of different age groups and household compositions.

The article also identifies where there have been changes in circumstances from the 2002 GSS for people living in Western Australia. These include:

- households experiencing less financial difficulties;
- a higher proportion of people reporting their health to be excellent or very good;
- an increase in the incidence of people reporting one or more personal stressors;
- a slightly higher proportion of people reporting they have been the victim of crime; and
- lower levels of participation in sport and physical recreation activities.

GENERAL SOCIAL SURVEY: SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS

	WESTERN AUSTRALIA		AUSTRALIA
	2002	2006	2006
	%	%	%
Personal characteristic			
Family and community(a)	90.1	88.0	87.0
Attendance at culture and leisure venues	91.1	91.3	88.6
Sport and physical recreation activities	76.2	70.4	62.2
Can easily get to places needed	86.5	87.8	84.1
Victim(b)	22.5	23.7	17.6
Experienced a personal stressor	59.6	62.8	59.3
Self assessed health status excellent or very good	59.1	61.8	57.0
Household characteristic			
Unable to raise \$2,000 in week for something important	12.7	10.0	13.1
Had at least one cash flow problem	21.8	17.2	17.7
Took at least one dissaving action	20.9	20.5	18.7
No consumer debt	47.7	55.5	58.8
Number of persons			
All persons aged 18 years or over ('000)	1 425	1 490	15 307

(a) Persons who had weekly contact with family or friends, could ask for small favours and able to get support in times of crisis.

(b) Victim of actual or threatened physical violence or victim of actual or attempted break-in.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2002 and 2006 General Social Surveys.

SOCIAL NETWORKS

It is generally accepted that family members living together provide each other with economic and emotional support, and that extended family and community networks are also important sources of support and contributors to people's wellbeing. Many people provide support to relatives living elsewhere, such as grandparents caring for

SOCIAL NETWORKS

continued

grandchildren and children caring for elderly parents. Additionally, the daily interactions that people have with others in the community help build relationships, which provide greater access to sources of information and support in times of need.

People are described as having family and community support if they:

- had contact with family and friends living outside their household in the week prior to interview;
- could ask for small favours; and
- were able to receive support in a time of crisis from people living outside their household.

Of the 1,490,000 Western Australian resident adults (aged 18 years and over) covered by the 2006 GSS, 88% indicated that they had access to family and community support. High proportions (above 85%) were reported for both men and women, all age groups and across differing family and household types (including lone parents, couple families with or without dependents and people living alone).

CONTACT WITH FAMILY
AND FRIENDS

Almost all (97%) Western Australian adults had some form of contact with family and friends living outside the household in the week prior to the survey. Face to face contact with family and friends living outside the household on a weekly basis was reported by 82% of adults and an even higher proportion by other means of contact, such as telephone, mail and e-mail (94%).

Over the three month period prior to the survey, most Western Australian adults used a variety of methods to contact family and friends not living with them. A fixed telephone was the most common method (92%), followed by mobile phone calls (76%). More than half the adult population also used Short Message Service (SMS) (58%) or Internet communication, such as e-mail or chat rooms (53%) to keep in contact.

SOURCES OF SUPPORT

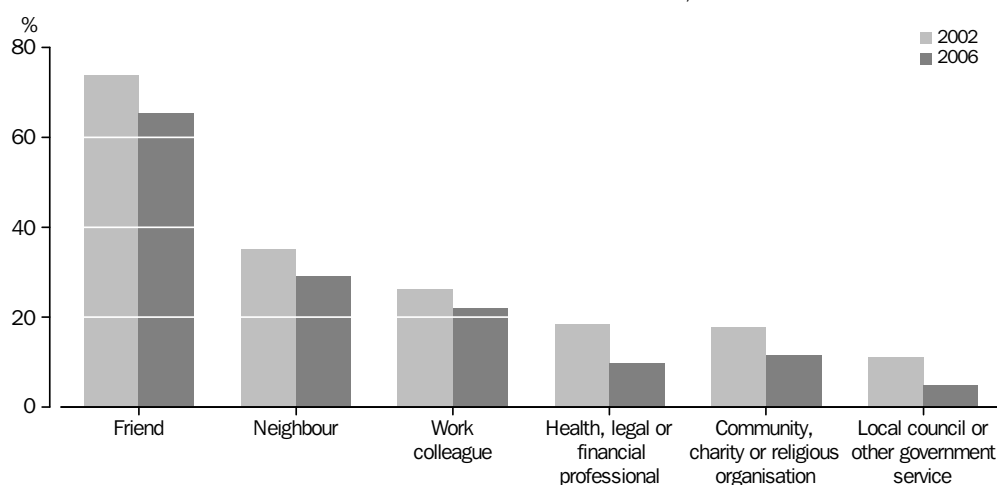
People may seek support from a variety of sources. Formal support is available through a range of government, professional and community organisations and a considerable amount of support is provided informally through people's networks of family, friends and work colleagues.

In 2006, 93% of adults in Western Australia reported they could ask people outside their household for small favours, such as looking after pets, collecting mail or borrowing equipment. Similarly, 94% felt they could obtain support in a time of crisis from people not living with them.

Similar to results from the 2002 GSS, 82% of Western Australian adults reported they could call on family members not living with them for support in a time of crisis in 2006. However, a lower proportion reported being able to call on many other sources of support at such times in 2006 than 2002. This was particularly evident in the case of:

- friends (65% compared to 74%);
- community, charity and religious organisations (12% compared to 18%);
- local councils or other government services (5% compared to 11%); and
- health, legal or financial professionals (10% compared to 18%).

SELECTED SOURCES OF SUPPORT IN TIME OF CRISIS, Western Australia



Source: ABS 2002 and 2006 General Social Surveys.

SUPPORT TO RELATIVES LIVING OUTSIDE THE HOUSEHOLD

Family networks and support roles often extend beyond the household. Three important groups living outside the household to whom support is often provided are children aged under 18 years, children 18–24 years and other relatives.

CHILDREN AGED UNDER 18 YEARS

With increasing numbers of parents not living with their natural children, there is considerable interest in how relationships are maintained and the level of support provided to children in such situations. In 2006, 53,000 people in Western Australia stated that they had children aged 0–17 years who no longer lived with them. Most of these absent parents provided some form support for these children (84%). Over half (57%) of all absent parents of children in this age group provided Child Support Payments. Other frequently reported types of support included, providing or paying for clothing (46%), providing them with pocket money or an allowance (45%) and driving them places (42%).

CHILDREN AGED 18–24 YEARS

The age group 18–24 years is traditionally one where children move from being dependent on their parents to living independently. While some of these children live with parents or in the care of other families, many are living on their own or in group households. Material support from parents is often important in helping these young people to establish their independence.

In 2006, there were 135,000 people in Western Australia who had children aged 18–24 years who did not live with them. Almost two-thirds (62%) of people in this situation had provided support to these children in the previous year.

Just under a third (29%) of parents who had children 18–24 years living elsewhere provided them with assistance to pay bills or meet other debts. Other frequently reported forms of support were letting them borrow a car (23%), providing money for housing costs (23%), providing or paying for big cost items (such as cars, computers, housing appliances etc.) (22%) and driving them to places (22%).

OTHER RELATIVES

In 2006, 30% of Western Australian adults were providing support to a relative (other than their own children aged under 25 years) who lived outside the household. The most common types of support provided were driving them places (15%), providing use of a car (8%), giving money to help pay bills or meet debts (6%) and giving spending money (6%). Persons aged 55–64 years (36%) were the most likely age group to be providing support to their relatives and those aged 18–24 years (21%) the least likely.

NETWORK TYPE AND
LEVEL OF TRUST

The 2006 GSS measured the diversity of people's social network of friends, in terms of similarity of age, educational background and ethnicity. For two-thirds (65%) of Western Australian adults, all or most of their friends were of a similar age to themselves. Young people aged 18–24 years (74%) were most likely to have friends of the same age, while those aged 75 years and over (57%) were least likely to do so.

Just over half (55%) of Western Australian adults indicated that all or most of their friends had a similar education background to themselves. A higher proportion (73%) reported having all or most of their friends from a similar ethnic background. There were no significant differences between age groups in terms of educational background or ethnicity of friends.

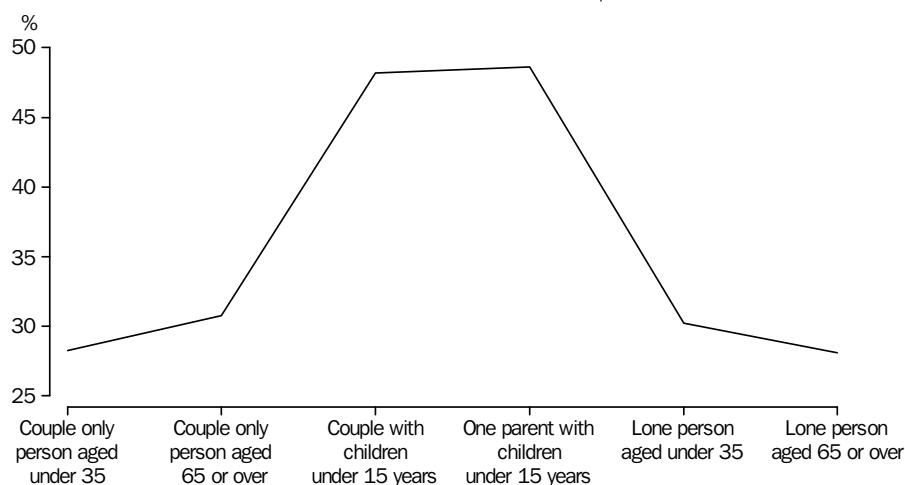
The 2006 GSS also assessed the level of trust respondents have in other people, including people in general and people associated with specific occupations and institutions. Just over half (56%) the Western Australian respondents felt that most people could be trusted. Higher levels of trust were indicated for people's own doctors (88%), local police (75%), hospitals (69%) and other police (66%). There were no significant differences in levels of trust between males and females. Similarly, levels of trust in general and for the selected professions and institutions were much the same for Western Australia and Australia.

COMMUNITY
INVOLVEMENT

Many people provide support to the wider community by undertaking voluntary work for organisations. In 2006, 564,000 or 36% of Western Australian adults had done so in the previous 12 months which was similar to the national rate (34%). A higher proportion of Western Australian women (39%) had undertaken voluntary work than men (34%). Rates were also higher for those aged 35–44 years (47%) and 45–54 years (41%) than for other age groups.

The rate of volunteering also varied lifecycle group. Adults in couple (48%) and one parent families (49%) with dependent children (under 15 years) were more likely to have undertaken voluntary work than those in other household types.

VOLUNTEERING BY HOUSEHOLD COMPOSITION, Western Australia—2006



Source: ABS data available on request, 2006 General Social Survey.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT *continued*

Overall, the most common organisations for whom voluntary work was done in Western Australia were sport and physical recreation (16%), education, training and youth development (13%), religious (7%) and welfare and community (6%). Couples with dependent children (26%) and one parent families (35%) were the most likely to volunteer for education and training organisations.

Support for the community can also be provided by the financial donations people make to organisations. In 2006, 81% of Western Australian adults had donated money in the previous 12 months. International aid (29%), community and welfare services (27%) and health organisations (25%) were the most commonly reported recipients of donations. People in Western Australia were more likely to have donated money to International aid, environment and animal welfare groups than all Australians.

Participation in civic or political organisations is another measure of community involvement. In 2006, 20% of Western Australian adults had participated in one or more organisations of this kind in the previous 12 months. Participation in civic or political groups was higher for males (24%) than females (17%). Men aged 50–64 years (31%) reported higher civic and political participation, compared to all Western Australians.

PERSONAL STRESSORS

Personal stressors are events or conditions which adversely impact on an individual's life or the collective lives of families or close friends. A stressor may impact on an individual through their own direct experience, such as inability to get a job or serious illness, or indirectly through a family member's illness or the divorce or separation of parents. In some instances stressors may have an adverse affect on the capacity of individuals to live satisfying or productive lives, and can affect family functioning.

In 2006, almost two-thirds (63%) of Western Australian adults experienced at least one potentially stressful situation or event in the previous 12 months. This was a slightly higher proportion than recorded nationally (59%), but similar to the state proportion recorded in 2002. There was little difference in the proportion of men and women in Western Australia who had experienced a personal stressor, whereas those aged 45–54 years (70%) were more likely, and those aged 65–74 years (48%) less likely, to have experienced a stressor than people in other age groups.

PERSONAL STRESSORS

continued

Serious illness (24%) and death (22%) were the two most commonly reported stressors by Western Australian adults. Mental illness (12%), inability to get a job (11%) and divorce or separation (11%) were the next most likely stressors. Persons aged under 30 years (21%) were more likely to have indicated a stressor due to the inability to get a job than those in other ages groups.

With the exception of gambling problems, the rate at which specific personal stressors were reported was similar for Western Australia and Australia. In the case of gambling, 1.5% (22,600 persons) of Western Australian adults reported this as a personal stressor compared to 3.2% (485,000 persons) at the national level.

CRIME AND SAFETY

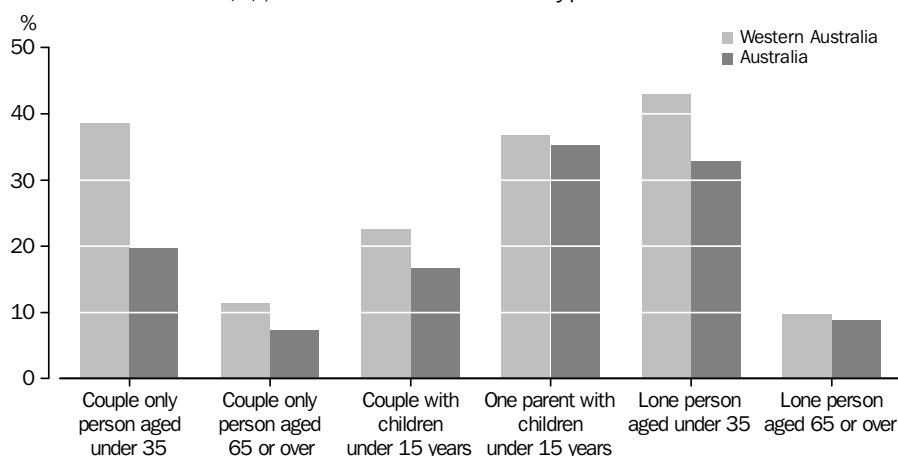
VICTIMS OF CRIME

Being a victim of crime can impact on the physical, emotional and financial wellbeing of individuals and families. Perceptions and fear of crime can also decrease feelings of personal safety and reduce the level of trust in the community. This can lead people to modify their behaviour and may restrict their ability to freely enjoy or participate in the community.

In 2006, 24% of Western Australian adults indicated that they had been a victim of physical or threatened violence or an attempted or actual break-in in the last year. This was higher than the rate recorded nationally (18%). The rate at which people indicated being a victim of physical or threatened violence was slightly higher for Western Australia (13%) than Australia (11%), while the proportion in the state (15%) indicating they had been a victim of an attempted or actual break-in was well above that recorded nationally (9%).

Victimisation rates varied according to living arrangements and age. People aged 18–34 years living alone (43%) or in a couple only family (38%), and single parent families with dependent children (37%), were more likely than those in other living arrangements to have indicated being a victim of either an attempted or actual break-in or of threatened or physical violence in the previous 12 months.

VICTIM OF CRIME(a), Selected household type—2006



(a) Victim or actual or threatened physical violence or victim of actual or attempted break-in.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2006 General Social Survey.

VICTIMS OF CRIME

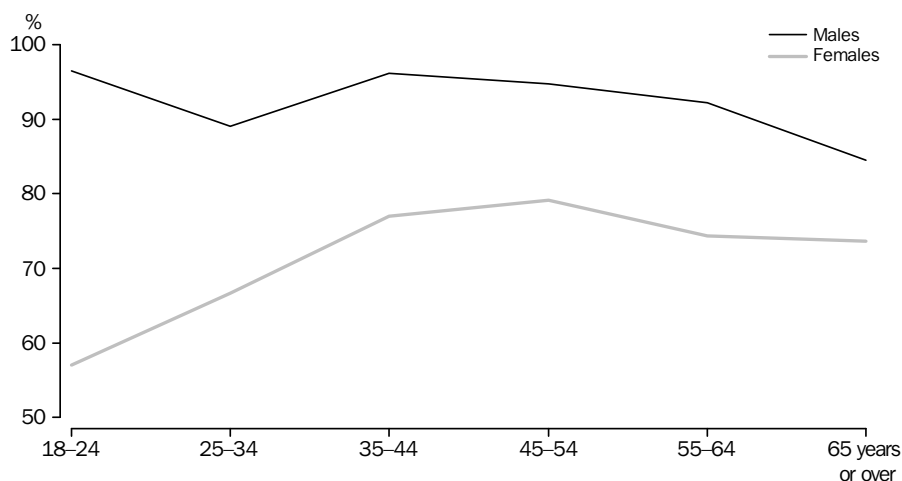
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The likelihood of Western Australian adults being a victim of threatened or physical violence generally decreased with age. In 2006, 25% of 18–24 year olds indicated they had been a victim compared to 5% of those aged 55 years and over. High victimisation rates were particularly evident among young men, with just over one-third (34%) of 18–24 year olds indicating they had been a victim of physical or threatened violence in the previous year. This was much higher than the equivalent rate recorded in 2002(16%).

FEELINGS OF SAFETY

In 2006, most (82%) Western Australian adults indicated that they felt safe or very safe when at home alone after dark. However, 8.5% (127,000 persons) indicated that they felt unsafe or very unsafe when home alone after dark, a slightly higher proportion than the national average (6.7%). Women (14%) were much more likely to feel unsafe or very unsafe after dark than men (3%). Notably, one-quarter of Western Australian women aged 18–24 years, reported that they felt unsafe or very unsafe when home alone after dark.

FEELS SAFE OR VERY SAFE AT HOME ALONE AFTER DARK, Western Australia—2006



Source: ABS data available on request, 2006 General Social Survey.

Less than half (46%) the adult population of Western Australia indicated that they felt safe or very safe walking alone in their local street after dark, a similar proportion to the national average (48%). Men (67%) were more likely to feel safe or very safe than women (24%). Feelings of safety for females generally increased with age, with women aged 18–24 years (57%) most likely to feel unsafe or very unsafe when walking at night alone, and those aged 75 years and over (19%) least likely to do so.

TRANSPORT

Another potential barrier to interaction within the community can be lack of access to appropriate forms of transport. This can limit choices and opportunities to access goods and services, gain employment, participate in cultural, sporting or community activities, and may restrict contact with family or friends.

In 2006, 88% of adults in Western Australia were able to easily get to places when needed. A similar proportion of men (89%) and women (87%) found it easy to get to places. People aged 75 year or over were least likely to indicate being able to easily get to the places they needed (70%).

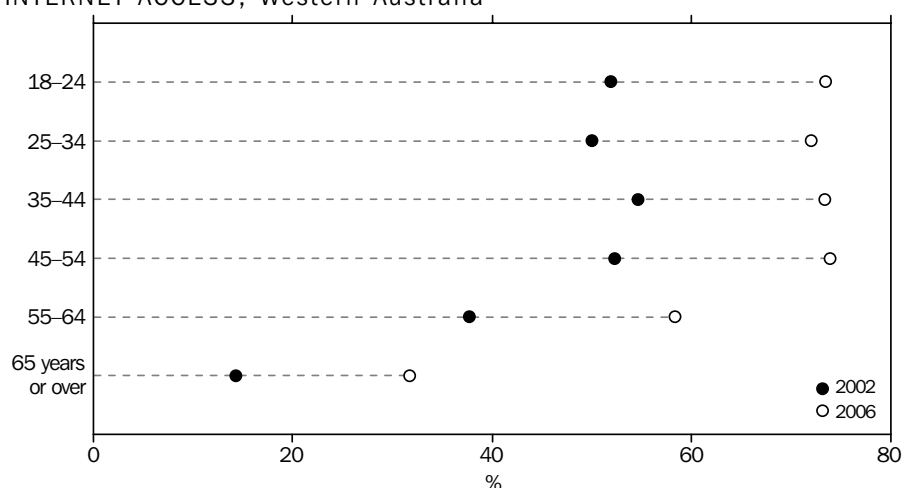
TRANSPORT *continued*

Western Australian adults were more likely to have access to a motor vehicle to drive than all Australians of the same age (91% compared to 86%). In Western Australia, a higher proportion of men (93%) than women (89%) had access to a motor vehicle. Again persons aged 75 years and over were least likely to have access to a motor vehicle to drive (68%).

INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY

Western Australians use of computers and the Internet increased substantially between 2002 and 2006. Over this period, the proportion of adults having used a computer at home in the 12 months prior to interview increased from 59% to 73%. Similarly, the proportion who had accessed the Internet at home grew from 45% to 65%. Increases were evident for males and females and across all age groups. Notably, for those aged 65 years and over, use of a computer at home nearly doubled from 20% to 39%, and accessing the Internet more than doubled from 14% to 32%. Despite these large increases, those aged 65 years and over remained less likely than younger age groups to have used these forms of information technology at home.

INTERNET ACCESS, Western Australia



Source: ABS data available on request, 2002 and 2006 General Social Surveys.

In 2006, a similar proportion of Western Australian men and women reported having used a computer (75% and 71% respectively) and accessed the Internet at home (66% and 63% respectively).

FINANCIAL STRESS

The financial stress indicators collected in the GSS can provide insights into the economic wellbeing of Western Australian adults. Overall, comparing results for Western Australia from 2002 and 2006 indicates:

- fewer adults reported having one or more cash flow problem in the 12 months prior to interview in 2006 (17%) than in 2002 (22%);
- a fall in the proportion of adults reporting they would be unable to raise \$2,000 in an emergency, from 13% in 2002 to 10% in 2006;
- a higher proportion of people reported that they had no consumer debt in 2006 (54%) than in 2002 (48%); and
- around one in five adults reported taking a dissaving action (such as reducing home loan repayments, selling assets or taking out personal loans) in 2002 and 2006.

FINANCIAL STRESS

continued

In 2006, Western Australian lone parents with dependent children (39%) were more likely to have had a cash flow problem in the previous year, than people in other living arrangements. People aged 18–34 years who lived alone (28%) and lone parents with dependent children (28%) were most likely to be unable to raise emergency money (28%). Those aged under 35 years who lived alone (45%) were also more likely to have taken a dissaving action, than all Western Australians. Couple only households where the person selected for interview was under 35 years (63%) were most likely to have a consumer debt.

CULTURE AND LEISURE

In 2006, 1,361,000 (91%) Western Australian adults had attended cultural venues and events in the 12 months prior to interview. A similar proportion of Western Australian men and women had attended a cultural venue or event, but there were differences between age groups. Nearly all those aged under 30 years (98%) had attended a cultural venue and events compared to 77% of people aged 65 years and over. The most commonly attended venues and events were cinemas (73%), libraries (48%) and botanic gardens (43%).

More than half (56%) of adults in Western Australia had attended a sporting event in the 12 months prior to interview in 2006. However, there were differences in attendance for males and females and across age groups. Males (64%) were more likely to have attended sporting events than females (49%) as were persons aged under 30 years (74%) than those from older age groups.

Participation in sport or physical recreation among Western Australian adults was 70% in 2006, higher than the national rate of 62%. Males and females in Western Australia participated at similar rates (71% and 69%). However, participation remained closely linked with age, peaking at 78% for those aged under 30 years, and declining to 58% for people aged over 65 years.

OTHER READING

- General Social Survey: Summary of Results, Australia (cat. no. 4159.0).
- General Social Survey: Western Australia (State tabulation) (cat. no. 4159.5.55.001).
- General Social Survey: User Guide, Australia (cat. no. 4159.0.55.002).
- Voluntary Work, Australia (cat. no. 4441.0).

CHANGING WATER AND ENERGY USE IN PERTH HOMES

INTRODUCTION

Domestic water and energy use has been the focus of much attention in recent times, particularly among the media, public interest groups and government. Concerns have heightened over Perth's available water supply and the use of high energy consuming appliances. With the economy growing rapidly, Western Australia's population and housing requirements have increased substantially, placing considerable pressure on the state's water and energy resources. As a result, the Western Australian Government has implemented strategies, such as rebate schemes and education campaigns, to help reduce the excessive use of water and energy in Perth homes. For government to assess the effectiveness of these strategies, timely and accurate data on domestic water and energy use are urgently required.

A survey of Domestic Use of Water and Energy in Western Australia was recently conducted by the ABS, based on topics proposed by the Water Corporation and Office of Energy. This supplementary survey program is an ABS initiative to develop and run a household survey each year on behalf of State Government. This program provides State Government with the opportunity to survey Western Australian households about emerging topics or issues that are of high priority to the state, particularly when existing data is limited or out-of-date.

This article analyses data from the Survey of Domestic Use of Water and Energy, Western Australia, October 2006 (cat. no. 4652.5) and compares the results with those from past ABS surveys on water and energy use. It examines whether water and energy using behaviours and perceptions have changed over time in Perth homes.

WATER USE IN PERTH HOMES

Western Australia is currently facing significant challenges in meeting its growing water needs, with low rainfall in recent years compromising current water reserves. With 24% of the state's water consumed by Western Australian households in 2004–05 (ABS, 2006 cat. no. 4610.0) and the demand for water in Perth homes increasing substantially in the last 15 years (following a 34% rise in the number of households from 449,000 in 1992 to 603,300 in 2006), water conservation has become a top priority for the Water Corporation and environmental groups. The Government of Western Australia introduced a rebate scheme for the purchase of water-saving appliances, as well as restrictions on watering gardens from town water supplies. The Water Corporation has also put in place an extensive 'Waterwise' programme to educate households about the importance of saving water in the garden and home.

ADDITIONAL WATER SOURCES

Nearly all (98%) of Perth households are connected to mains or town water supply. However, additional water sources are also available, such as rain and bore water. Approximately 5% of Perth homes used water from a rain water tank in 2006, a proportion unchanged since 2003 (5%). Over half (52%) of the households with rain water tanks used the water for drinking and a slightly higher proportion (55%) used it on the garden. Anecdotally, the installation of rain water tanks, primarily to water the garden, may become more popular in Perth as cheaper DIY installation units become available, and householders take advantage of rebate schemes. Across the capital cities, domestic use of water from rain water tanks ranged from 5% (4.8%) in Brisbane to 38%

**ADDITIONAL WATER
SOURCES** *continued*

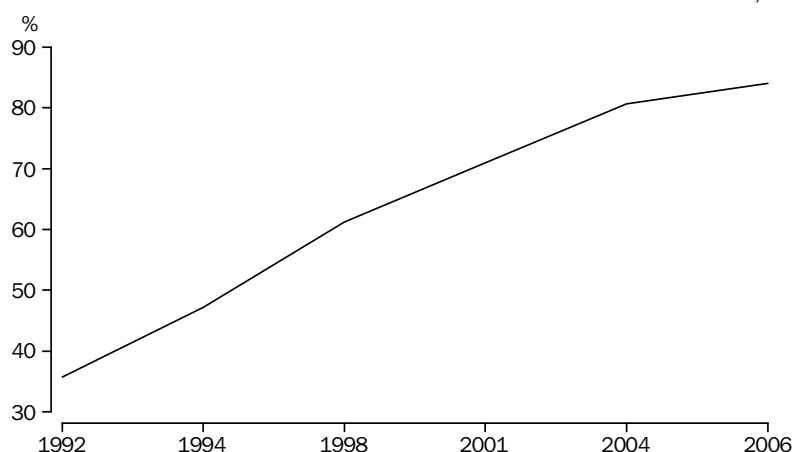
in Adelaide, with 9% of all homes in Australian capital cities using this source of water (ABS, 2004 cat. no. 4602.0).

In 2006, bore water was used by one-quarter of Perth households (26%), a proportion that has risen slightly since 2003 (24%) and 1992 (22%). However, the number of households that use bore water has risen from 99,600 in 1992 to 150,900 in 2006. Concerns about bore water use in Perth have been raised recently in relation to its possible impact on ground water levels. Currently bore water users do not have restrictions on the number of days per week they can water their gardens. Only their hours of usage are restricted (from 6pm to 9am each day).

WATER EFFICIENCY

A number of water saving devices have been introduced over the last few decades, which have been taken up in Perth homes with varying degrees of success. Dual flush toilets, an Australian invention, were introduced in the early 1980s. In 1993, it became compulsory in Western Australia for all newly built homes to have dual flush toilets installed (Department of Housing and Works, 2006). Despite 64% of Perth homes being built before 1992, most householders have been keen to convert or replace their single flush toilets. In 2006, 84% of all Perth households had dual flush toilets, compared to only 36% in 1992.

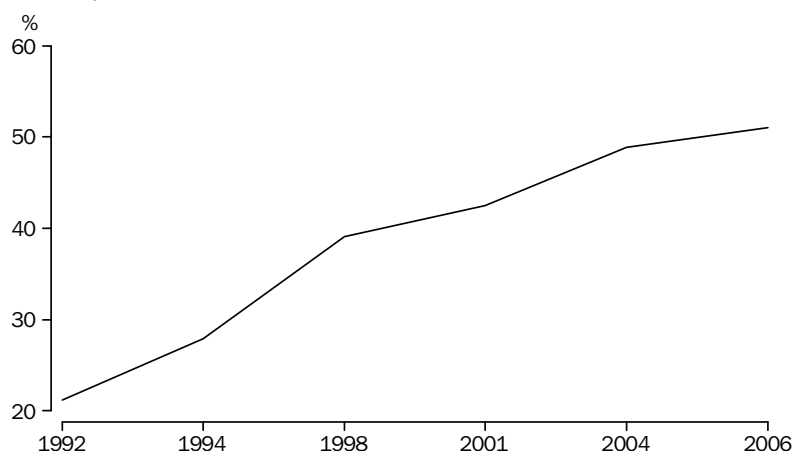
PROPORTION OF HOUSEHOLDS WITH DUAL FLUSH TOILETS, Perth



Even though water efficient shower heads, or low flow shower heads, are not a building requirement, they are included under the 'Waterwise' rebate scheme and their use has been increasing since 1992. In 2006, 51% of all Perth homes had water efficient shower heads installed, compared to 21% in 1992.

WATER EFFICIENCY
continued

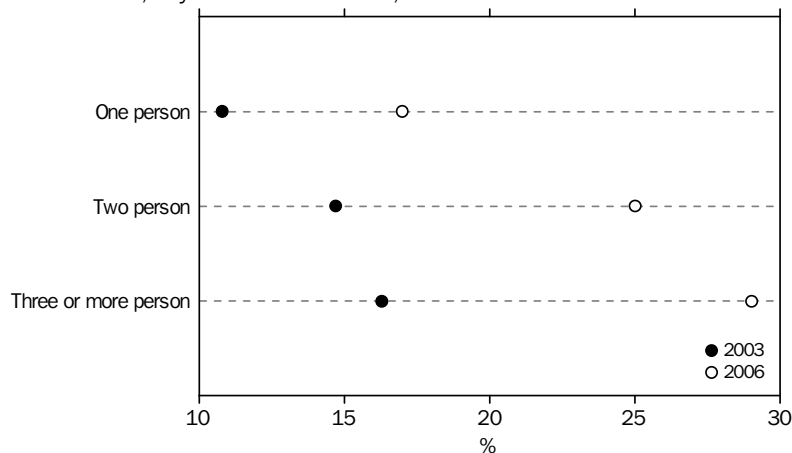
PROPORTION OF HOUSEHOLDS WITH WATER EFFICIENT SHOWER HEADS, Perth



Washing machines are major consumers of water in Perth homes, especially in larger households. Front loading washing machines greatly reduce water usage and are included under the 'Waterwise' rebate scheme. In 2006, one-quarter of Perth households used a front loading washing machine, a proportion which has almost doubled since 2003 (14%) and more than tripled since 1992 (7%).

In 2006, front loading washing machines were more popular in large households, with almost one-third (29%) of households comprising three or more persons using this type of appliance. The comparable proportion in 2003 was 16%.

PROPORTION OF HOUSEHOLDS WITH FRONT LOADING WASHING MACHINES, By household size, Perth



In Perth, the proportion of households with dishwashers has more than doubled between 1992 (18%) and 2006 (38%). Some newer dishwashers are very water efficient and can use less water than if dishes are cleaned by hand. However, it is likely that the increased use of dishwashers has led to increased water use in Perth homes, though this increase may have been substantially offset by the greater usage of dual flush toilets and water efficient shower heads (Loh and Cogan 2003). In 2005, Perth recorded the equal lowest dishwasher use among the capital cities, with an estimated 37% of all Perth homes using a dishwasher, compared to 44% of all Australian capital cities (ABS, 2005 cat. no. 4602.0).

**WATER CONSERVATION IN
THE GARDEN**

Garden water use accounts for around half of annual domestic water consumption in Perth (Water Corporation website). Introducing water conservation practices in the garden can, therefore, dramatically reduce the amount of water being taken from mains or town water supply. Apart from using alternative water sources, such as rain water tanks, applying mulch in the garden and reusing or recycling household water for use in the garden are two popular conservation practices.

In 2006, an estimated 70% of Perth households living in detached dwellings used mulch in their gardens — virtually unchanged since 2003 (69%). Of these households, 37% reused water in the garden, a proportion which has decreased from 2003 (44%). Despite the promotion of grey water use in the garden by the Water Corporation and Local Government, the initial installation costs, coupled with publicised health risks, may have deterred a number of households. Grey water, defined as water from washing machines, showers and the laundry tub, can either be diverted for use in the garden or be processed by a treatment system. The diversion of grey water without treatment can only be applied to the garden via sub-surface irrigation and cannot be stored. Negative publicity about the use of grey water has focussed on disease-causing organisms, which should not be used on vegetable gardens.

Swimming pools and outdoor spas have been recognised as contributing to increased domestic water consumption, with 20% of Perth households having a swimming pool or outdoor spa in 2006. The use of pool and spa covers can dramatically reduce the amount of water wasted through evaporation. Almost one-third (32%) of Perth households with a swimming pool and 90% of those with an outdoor spa used a cover during the warmer months. The majority of households using a pool cover during the warmer months reported using it always (70%), while 14% used it sometimes and 10% never used it.

**ENERGY USE IN PERTH
HOMES**

According to recent Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics (ABARE) reports, Western Australia's consumption of energy between 1989–90 and 2004–05 rose approximately 4%, the highest across Australia (ABARE 2006). This increase was the result of the state's population and economic growth, including the expansion of mining and other energy intensive industries in the state. This growth has created a housing boom, with the effects still evident in high property prices and building industry pressures. All of these factors have contributed to increased domestic energy use, which is predicted to continue rising over the next couple of decades (Akmal and Riwoe, 2005).

COOLING

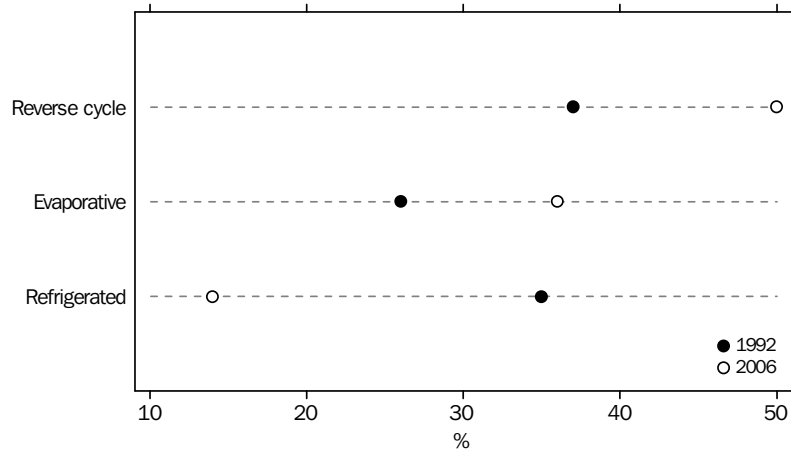
In 1992, 40% of Perth homes used air conditioners. By 2006, this proportion had almost doubled to 74%, with the number of air conditioners more than doubling over the same period (177,800 in 1992 to 447,300 in 2006). The increased use of air conditioners to cool Perth homes has been the driver of various education campaigns (such as Synergy's "Beat the Peak" between 3pm and 6pm), which highlight the high energy use of these appliances.

Apart from the large increase in the number of air conditioners, the type of air conditioning has also changed. In 2006, half of Perth homes with air conditioning reported that their main cooling unit was a reverse cycle air conditioner. The corresponding proportion in 1992 was 37%. The domestic use of evaporative air conditioning has also increased, from 26% in 1992 to 36% in 2006. Usage of both types of

COOLING continued

air conditioner has increased at the expense of refrigerated air conditioning, which accounted for 35% in 1992, but was down to 14% in 2006.

PROPORTION OF HOUSEHOLDS USING AIR CONDITIONING, By type of air conditioner used, Perth



The popularity of these air conditioner types appear to have been accompanied by changes to the positioning or location of the unit within the home. In 2006, 33% of Perth homes had an evaporative ducted air conditioner and 24% used reverse cycle split systems. Despite no historical data being available for comparison, anecdotal evidence suggests there has been an increase in the use of split systems and ducted air conditioners, at the expense of older style cooling units set in walls or windows.

HEATING

Home heating appliances consume large amounts of energy. In 2006, 89% or 536,500 Perth households reported using heaters, with the majority of these using one heater in their homes (69%). The proportion of Perth homes using heaters has not changed significantly over the last few years, however, the type of heaters used have changed. Gas heaters are the most popular type of domestic heating used in Perth (52% of households in 1999 and 2006) (ABS, 2004, cat. no. 4602.0).

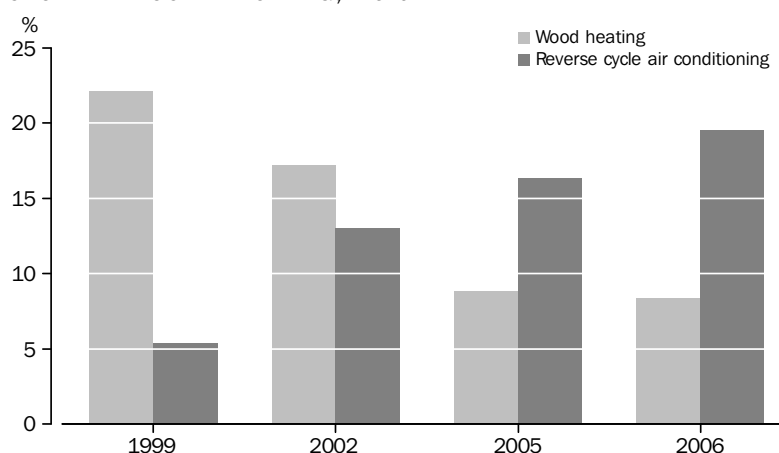
The use of wood heaters has dropped significantly in recent years. Between 1999 and 2006, the use of wood heating in Perth homes more than halved from 22% to 9%, a decline which coincided with State Government initiatives to improve air quality by reducing the amount of wood fire haze (linked to increases in respiratory problems and asthma hospitalisation) (Department of Environment, 2006). The Western Australian Department of Environment conducted the Perth Heating Survey in 2004, to assess the behaviours and perceptions of householders with regard to wood heating. The survey found that, even though householders were aware of wood fires contributing to poor air quality, they rated Perth's air quality as good or very good, highlighting the need for State Government to encourage householders to switch to alternative sources of heating.

Changes in heating type may also reflect the increased popularity of reverse cycle air conditioners. In 1999, one in 20 Perth homes (5%) used reverse cycle air conditioners as their main heater. By 2006, one in five (22%) Perth homes used reverse cycle air conditioning as their main form of heating, second only to gas heating. This certainly supports anecdotal information that the relatively low purchase price of reverse cycle air

HEATING continued

conditioners, particularly split systems, has resulted in their increased popularity in Perth homes.

PROPORTION OF HOUSEHOLDS USING WOOD HEATING AND REVERSE CYCLE AIR CONDITIONING, Perth

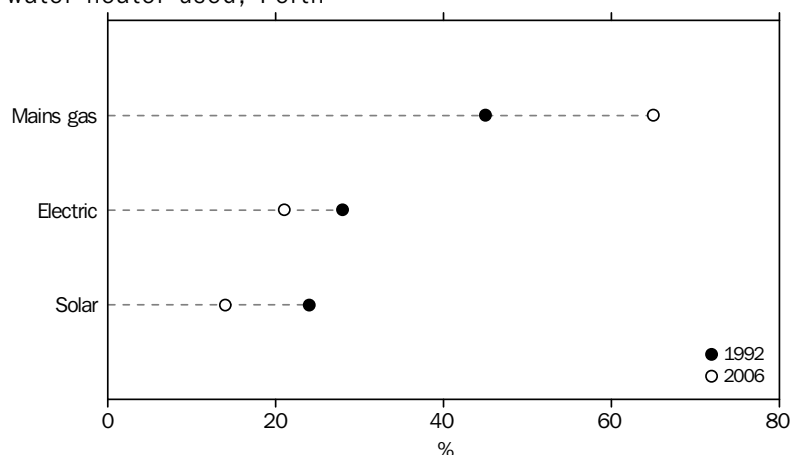


WATER HEATING

In 2006, 390,700 (65%) Perth homes had mains gas water heating. Of these, half (50%) were storage systems and half (48%) were instantaneous systems. Electricity was the second most popular source for water heating (21%), with more than half using a storage tank system (56%) and 14% using solar hot water systems. Gas water heating appliances have remained the most popular since 1992, when an estimated 45% of Perth households used this type of appliance. In 1992, however, both electric and solar hot water systems were more popular than they are today (28% and 24% respectively).

Solar hot water heaters have been used in Australian homes for a couple of decades. Besides reducing the cost of heating water by up to 75%, solar hot water systems reduce a home's contribution to greenhouse gas emissions. The Western Australian Sustainable Energy Development Office offers a rebate subsidy to home owners who install solar hot water systems, as the initial cost of these units can be up to five times higher than for other types of water heating appliance. Despite having reduced its use since 1992, Perth still has a much higher proportion of homes using solar hot water than the Australian average (5% in 2006) (ABS, 2005 cat. no. 4602.0).

PROPORTION OF HOUSEHOLDS WITH WATER HEATING, By type of water heater used, Perth



SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Domestic water and energy use has become an area of particular focus for the Western Australian Government, as the state's water and energy resources have come under increased pressure from a rapidly expanding economy and population. This analysis has shown that, over the last fifteen years, Perth households have embraced a number of new technologies, including appliances that have reduced water use in their homes. However, the increased reliance on high energy using devices, such as air conditioners, has placed added pressure on the energy supply in the state.

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Indicator	Reference period	Current figure	Change from previous period (%)	Change from same period previous year (%)	Current figure	Change from previous period (%)	Change from same period previous year (%)
State final demand: Trend(a) (\$m)	Mar qtr 2007	28 077	2.3	7.7	249 793	1.1	4.1
Prices							
Consumer Price Index, All groups: Original (index)	Mar qtr 2007	155.8	0.2	3.5	155.6	0.1	2.4
Wage Price Index, Total hourly rates of pay excluding bonuses: Original (index)	Mar qtr 2007	114.5	1.1	4.8	113.0	1.1	4.1
Established house price index: Original(b) (index)	Mar qtr 2007	195.8	2.1	32.1	114.4	1.1	8.6
Project home price index: Original(b) (index)	Mar qtr 2007	144.7	1.0	9.0	113.7	1.0	3.0
Price index of materials used in house building, All groups: Original(c) (index)	Mar qtr 2007	145.3	1.1	6.8	147.4	0.5	3.7
Consumption							
Retail turnover: Trend (\$m)	April 2007	2 092.5	0.9	13.0	19 028.4	0.6	6.8
Sales of new motor vehicles: Trend (no.)	May 2007	9 970	0.1	9.9	86 633	0.2	9.0
Investment and finance							
Private new capital expenditure: Trend (\$m)	Mar qtr 2007	np	—	—	np	—	—
Commercial finance commitments: Original (\$m)	April 2007	3 600	-21.2	62.1	30 460	-31.0	26.8
Personal finance commitments: Original (\$m)	April 2007	952	-10.6	14.0	5 918	-15.4	0.4
Housing finance commitments: Trend(d) (no.)	April 2007	8 703	1.4	-8.6	65 023	0.7	4.2
Construction							
Houses approved: Trend (no.)	April 2007	1 553	0.2	-16.1	8 698	0.7	-0.9
New residential building activity commenced: Original (no.)	Dec qtr 2006	6 404	-8.6	6.9	38 944	-1.8	5.9
New residential building activity yet to be done: Original (\$m)	Dec qtr 2006	2 971.2	8.5	31.1	14 794.8	5.1	12.2
Engineering construction activity commenced: Original (\$m)	Dec qtr 2006	4 798.2	55.1	19.2	15 754.9	13.6	33.4
Engineering construction activity yet to be done: Original (\$m)	Dec qtr 2006	13 259.2	4.2	41.2	29 435.5	7.1	27.2
International merchandise trade							
Exports: Original (\$m)	Mar qtr 2007	14 359	-7.6	27.7	39 706	-7.9	9.3
Imports: Original (\$m)	Mar qtr 2007	5 744	2.9	19.0	44 023	-5.6	8.8
Mining and energy							
Total mineral exploration expenditure: Trend (\$m)	Mar qtr 2007	217.4	9.2	50.0	449.3	7.1	43.5
Total petroleum exploration expenditure: Original (\$m)	Mar qtr 2007	319.5	-7.7	133.2	460.3	-15.5	68.2
Agriculture							
Exports of wheat: Original (\$m)	Mar qtr 2007	422.3	3.6	-2.6	569.6	-16.8	-33.1
Exports of wool: Original (\$m)	Mar qtr 2007	151.1	9.2	21.8	705.5	0.8	28.6
Exports of live sheep: Original (\$m)	Mar qtr 2007	46.8	-43.1	-4.1	69.6	-29.2	15.4
Tourism							
Short-term overseas visitor arrivals, By air on holiday (no.)	March 2007	22 612	-1.8	8.3	253 500	2.4	3.7
Short-term holiday departures of residents, By air on holiday (no.)	March 2007	25 660	54.9	32.8	194 315	45.3	23.4
Labour market							
Number of persons employed full-time: Trend ('000)	May 2007	776.1	0.1	2.2	7 498.1	0.3	3.5
Number of persons employed: Trend ('000)	May 2007	1 096.9	0.1	2.5	10 432.4	0.2	2.8
Unemployment rate: Trend (%)	May 2007	2.9	0.0 pts	-0.6 pts	4.3	-0.1 pts	-0.5 pts
Participation rate: Trend (%)	May 2007	67.5	0.0 pts	-0.2 pts	64.9	0.0 pts	0.3 pts
Estimated resident population ('000)	Dec qtr 2006	2 081.0	0.5	2.1	20 852.0	0.4	1.4

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

np not published due to break in series

(a) Chain volume measures.

(b) Index for Perth and Weighted Average of 8 Capital Cities.

(c) Index for Perth and Weighted Average of 6 Capital Cities.

(d) Owner occupation housing.

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

	2005	2006				2007
	December	March	June	September	December	March
TREND (\$ m)						
Final consumption expenditure						
General government	3 620	3 670	3 731	3 769	3 780	3 774
Households	12 600	12 743	12 908	13 102	13 315	13 530
Total final consumption expenditure	16 220	16 413	16 639	16 871	17 095	17 304
Private gross fixed capital formation						
Private business investment						
Machinery and equipment	2 757	2 816	2 698	2 647	2 710	np
Non-dwelling construction	2 507	2 921	3 149	3 337	3 572	np
Livestock	61	60	56	51	47	44
Intangible fixed assets	396	412	470	537	589	650
Total private business investment	5 721	6 210	6 373	6 571	6 917	np
Dwellings	1 623	1 667	1 707	1 743	1 774	1 789
Ownership transfer costs	551	585	587	533	469	413
Total private gross fixed capital formation	7 895	8 461	8 666	8 847	9 163	9 671
Public gross fixed capital formation						
Public corporations	640	672	650	611	595	np
General government	521	516	524	543	570	593
Total public gross fixed capital formation	1 161	1 188	1 173	1 154	1 167	np
State final demand	25 276	26 061	26 477	26 871	27 434	28 077

TREND (percentage changes)

Final consumption expenditure						
General government	0.3	1.4	1.7	1.0	0.3	-0.2
Households	1.0	1.1	1.3	1.5	1.6	1.6
<i>Total final consumption expenditure</i>	0.9	1.2	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.2
Private gross fixed capital formation						
Private business investment						
Machinery and equipment	9.2	2.1	-4.2	-1.9	2.4	np
Non-dwelling construction	22.8	16.5	7.8	6.0	7.0	np
Livestock	—	-1.6	-6.7	-8.9	-7.8	-6.4
Intangible fixed assets	-4.6	4.0	14.1	14.3	9.7	10.4
<i>Total private business investment</i>	13.5	8.5	2.6	3.1	5.3	np
Dwellings	2.3	2.7	2.4	2.1	1.8	0.8
Ownership transfer costs	5.0	6.2	0.3	-9.2	-12.0	-11.9
<i>Total private gross fixed capital formation</i>	10.4	7.2	2.4	2.1	3.6	5.5
Public gross fixed capital formation						
Public corporations	11.9	5.0	-3.3	-6.0	-2.6	np
General government	-3.0	-1.0	1.6	3.6	5.0	4.0
<i>Total public gross fixed capital formation</i>	4.7	2.3	-1.2	-1.6	1.1	np
State final demand	3.9	3.1	1.6	1.5	2.1	2.3

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)
 np not published due to break in series

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

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

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

	2005	2006				2007
	December	March	June	September	December	March
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED (\$m)						
Final consumption expenditure						
General government	3 637	3 644	3 729	3 818	3 747	3 778
Households	12 613	12 739	12 911	13 083	13 324	13 538
<i>Total final consumption expenditure</i>	16 250	16 383	16 640	16 901	17 071	17 316
Private gross fixed capital formation						
Private business investment						
Machinery and equipment	2 752	2 787	2 873	2 397	2 729	3 016
Non-dwelling construction	2 559	2 780	3 507	2 983	3 645	4 039
Livestock	60	60	60	46	46	46
Intangible fixed assets	399	401	457	561	594	638
<i>Total private business investment</i>	5 771	6 028	6 897	5 987	7 014	7 739
Dwellings	1 669	1 645	1 696	1 762	1 775	1 780
Ownership transfer costs	557	570	639	510	455	426
<i>Total private gross fixed capital formation</i>	7 996	8 243	9 233	8 259	9 245	9 945
Public gross fixed capital formation						
Public corporations	647	676	682	573	579	544
General government	525	491	561	513	572	613
<i>Total public gross fixed capital formation</i>	1 172	1 167	1 243	1 086	1 151	1 157
State final demand	25 418	25 794	27 116	26 246	27 466	28 418
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED (percentage changes)						
Final consumption expenditure						
General government	1.3	0.2	2.3	2.4	-1.9	0.8
Households	1.3	1.0	1.4	1.3	1.8	1.6
<i>Total final consumption expenditure</i>	1.3	0.8	1.6	1.6	1.0	1.4
Private gross fixed capital formation						
Private business investment						
Machinery and equipment	3.1	1.3	3.1	-16.6	13.9	10.5
Non-dwelling construction	22.4	8.6	26.2	-14.9	22.2	10.8
Livestock	—	—	—	-23.3	—	—
Intangible fixed assets	-1.5	0.5	14.0	22.8	5.9	7.4
<i>Total private business investment</i>	10.5	4.5	14.4	-13.2	17.2	10.3
Dwellings	7.3	-1.4	3.1	3.9	0.7	0.3
Ownership transfer costs	15.3	2.3	12.1	-20.2	-10.8	-6.4
<i>Total private gross fixed capital formation</i>	10.1	3.1	12.0	-10.5	11.9	7.6
Public gross fixed capital formation						
Public corporations	15.3	4.5	0.9	-16.0	1.0	-6.0
General government	—	-6.5	14.3	-8.6	11.5	7.2
<i>Total public gross fixed capital formation</i>	7.9	-0.4	6.5	-12.7	6.0	0.5
State final demand	4.2	1.5	5.1	-3.2	4.7	3.5

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

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

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

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX, By group—Perth

Reference period	All groups	Food	Alcohol and tobacco	Clothing and footwear	Housing	Household contents and services
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FINANCIAL YEARS (a) (index)

2003–2004	139.6	149.9	204.1	108.7	112.3	118.1
2004–2005	144.0	153.9	210.6	105.7	120.2	117.1
2005–2006	150.1	161.1	217.6	103.0	131.0	119.1

CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS FINANCIAL YEAR (%)

2003–2004	2.0	2.2	3.1	–0.7	5.7	–0.1
2004–2005	3.2	2.7	3.2	–2.8	7.0	–0.8
2005–2006	4.2	4.7	3.3	–2.6	9.0	1.7

QUARTERS (a) (index)

2005						
December	149.0	159.7	215.9	104.5	129.7	119.3
2006						
March	150.5	160.9	219.1	100.5	132.2	118.5
June	153.2	166.4	220.3	101.7	135.2	119.4
September	154.9	169.3	223.5	101.6	138.7	120.9
December	155.5	170.4	224.3	102.8	139.7	122.4
2007						
March	155.8	168.0	225.7	101.7	141.3	120.6

CHANGE FROM SAME QUARTER PREVIOUS YEAR (%)

2005						
December	4.0	4.5	3.4	–1.0	9.3	1.3
2006						
March	4.2	4.2	3.3	–3.5	8.7	3.3
June	4.7	6.3	2.9	–3.7	8.9	0.9
September	4.8	7.6	3.9	–3.6	9.3	1.6
December	4.4	6.7	3.9	–1.6	7.7	2.6
2007						
March	3.5	4.4	3.0	1.2	6.9	1.8

CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS QUARTER (%)

2005						
December	0.8	1.5	0.3	–0.9	2.2	0.3
2006						
March	1.0	0.8	1.5	–3.8	1.9	–0.7
June	1.8	3.4	0.5	1.2	2.3	0.8
September	1.1	1.7	1.5	–0.1	2.6	1.3
December	0.4	0.6	0.4	1.2	0.7	1.2
2007						
March	0.2	–1.4	0.6	–1.1	1.1	–1.5

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

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

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX, By group—Perth *continued*

Reference period	Health	Transportation	Communication	Recreation	Education	Financial and insurance services(a)
FINANCIAL YEARS (b) (index)						
2003–2004	185.8	141.6	108.3	125.6	210.2	. .
2004–2005	195.3	145.7	109.4	127.0	221.4	100.0
2005–2006	203.3	154.3	107.8	129.7	234.8	100.4
CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS FINANCIAL YEAR (%)						
2003–2004	5.7	0.6	1.4	–2.5	4.3	. .
2004–2005	5.1	2.9	1.0	1.1	5.3	. .
2005–2006	4.1	5.9	–1.5	2.1	6.1	0.4
QUARTERS (b) (index)						
2005						
December	198.7	152.1	107.3	129.2	227.9	100.5
2006						
March	204.8	154.0	107.8	130.3	241.6	100.3
June	210.4	158.9	107.9	130.3	241.6	102.1
September	209.6	159.8	108.6	130.6	241.2	101.8
December	208.7	154.7	109.2	134.3	241.2	102.6
2007						
March	216.0	156.0	109.4	132.2	260.5	102.3
CHANGE FROM SAME QUARTER PREVIOUS YEAR (%)						
2005						
December	4.1	3.8	–2.0	1.5	6.0	. .
2006						
March	3.6	6.5	–1.9	1.9	6.0	. .
June	4.9	7.9	–0.9	2.5	6.0	2.1
September	5.2	5.1	0.5	1.2	5.8	3.1
December	5.0	1.7	1.8	3.9	5.8	2.1
2007						
March	5.5	1.3	1.5	1.5	7.8	2.0
CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS QUARTER (%)						
2005						
December	–0.3	—	–0.7	0.2	—	1.8
2006						
March	3.1	1.2	0.5	0.9	6.0	–0.2
June	2.7	3.2	0.1	—	—	1.8
September	–0.4	0.6	0.6	0.2	–0.2	–0.3
December	–0.4	–3.2	0.6	2.8	—	0.8
2007						
March	3.5	0.8	0.2	–1.6	8.0	–0.3
. . not applicable — nil or rounded to zero (including null cells) (a) Base of index: June quarter 2005 = 100.0. (b) Unless otherwise specified, base of each index: 1989–90 = 100.0. Source: Consumer Price Index, Australia, cat. no. 6401.0.						

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

	2005	2006			2007	CHANGE FROM		
	December	March	June	September	December	March	Previous quarter	Same quarter previous year
	index	index	index	index	index	index	%	%
Western Australia	108.3	109.3	110.7	112.1	113.3	114.5	1.1	4.8
Sector								
Private	108.5	109.5	111.0	112.5	113.4	114.8	1.2	4.8
Public	107.6	108.5	109.6	110.6	112.8	113.4	0.5	4.5
Selected Industries								
Mining	109.3	111.0	113.9	116.8	117.0	118.4	1.2	6.7
Manufacturing	109.2	109.7	111.2	111.9	112.7	114.3	1.4	4.2
Construction	119.9	121.5	124.7	125.6	126.5	129.8	2.6	6.8
Retail trade	107.3	108.7	109.0	111.0	111.6	113.1	1.3	4.0
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	105.8	106.4	106.6	108.8	109.0	110.8	1.7	4.1
Transport and storage	106.4	107.3	108.1	109.4	110.4	111.3	0.8	3.7
Property and business services	107.1	107.8	110.5	111.9	113.5	114.0	0.4	5.8
Government administration and defence	108.1	108.5	108.5	108.8	112.6	112.8	0.2	4.0
Education	106.7	108.0	110.0	110.3	112.1	113.2	1.0	4.8
Health and community services	107.2	107.6	108.3	110.5	111.1	112.2	1.0	4.3
Personal and other services	107.4	107.7	108.9	111.2	113.2	115.0	1.6	6.8
Selected Occupations								
Managers and administrators	108.2	109.7	110.8	112.8	113.9	115.5	1.4	5.3
Professionals	107.7	108.4	110.6	112.0	113.7	114.2	0.4	5.4
Associate professionals	108.4	108.9	109.8	111.5	112.7	113.6	0.8	4.3
Tradespersons and related workers	110.5	112.2	114.1	115.2	116.2	118.8	2.2	5.9
Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers	108.1	108.8	109.3	111.1	112.5	113.1	0.5	4.0
Intermediate production and transport workers	108.2	109.8	111.7	112.5	112.7	114.4	1.5	4.2
Elementary clerical, sales and service workers	106.4	107.3	108.2	110.3	110.7	112.0	1.2	4.4
Labourers and related workers	112.9	114.1	115.0	116.0	118.7	120.8	1.8	5.9

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

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

HOUSE PRICE INDEXES (a)—Perth

Reference period	ESTABLISHED HOMES (b)	Change from previous period (b)	PROJECT HOMES	Change from previous period
	index	%	index	%
2003–2004	100.0	18.5	100.0	9.4
2004–2005	114.4	14.4	111.9	r12.0
2005–2006	145.7	27.4	130.3	16.4
2005				
December	137.3	7.5	127.8	4.2
2006				
March	148.2	7.9	132.7	3.8
June	169.6	14.4	137.9	3.9
September	r188.4	r11.1	142.0	3.0
December	pr191.8	pr1.8	143.3	0.9
2007				
March	p195.8	p2.1	144.7	1.0

p preliminary figure or series subject to revision

r revised

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

(b) Estimates for the two most recent quarters are experimental.

Source: House Price Indexes, Eight Capital Cities, cat. no. 6416.0.

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

Material group	2005	2006				2007	Change from previous quarter	Change from same quarter previous year
	December	March	June	September	December	March	%	%
	index	index	index	index	index	index		
All material groups	135.0	136.1	138.0	141.2	143.7	145.3	1.1	6.8
Timber, board and joinery	124.2	124.0	123.9	127.5	130.8	131.2	0.3	5.8
Ceramic products	147.2	148.2	149.7	153.1	153.5	156.7	2.1	5.7
Concrete, cement and sand	142.6	141.7	144.4	145.6	148.0	149.7	1.1	5.6
Cement products	126.4	127.2	127.2	136.1	146.4	137.8	-5.9	8.3
Steel products	161.7	165.2	171.4	173.7	178.1	184.2	3.4	11.5
Other metal products	128.6	130.1	132.9	137.0	140.8	142.3	1.1	9.4
Plumbing products	123.2	123.7	127.7	127.2	131.0	132.8	1.4	7.4
Electrical equipment	99.0	99.3	99.9	111.5	111.1	111.2	0.1	12.0
Installed gas and electrical appliances	135.8	136.3	136.4	136.3	134.8	137.7	2.2	1.0
Other materials	154.1	156.6	159.0	161.8	163.6	164.5	0.6	5.0

(a) Base of each index: 1989–90 = 100.0.

Source: Producer Price Indexes, Australia, cat. no. 6427.0.

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

Month	Food retailing	Department stores	Clothing and soft good retailing	Household good retailing	Recreational good retailing	Other retailing	Hospitality and services	Total
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ORIGINAL (\$m)

2006

February	721.4	109.0	85.1	278.5	^ 88.1	145.3	199.1	1 626.4
March	806.3	130.4	91.1	300.3	^ 91.9	154.1	218.5	1 792.5
April	779.6	142.5	107.2	302.0	^ 83.6	136.4	218.8	1 770.1
May	777.0	137.0	108.4	326.7	^ 83.4	153.0	227.2	1 812.7
June	771.5	150.5	109.5	333.5	^ 84.7	145.2	221.5	1 816.4
July	768.7	151.9	111.2	339.5	^ 85.8	155.0	238.9	1 850.9
August	782.9	133.4	109.7	344.6	^ 87.2	173.2	239.2	1 870.2
September	792.8	130.7	109.4	359.1	^ 87.4	169.3	238.5	1 887.1
October	815.2	147.7	124.7	358.5	^ 88.5	191.0	262.3	1 987.9
November	836.4	182.7	126.1	367.2	^ 104.7	206.8	259.5	2 083.4
December	955.4	284.8	171.9	450.0	^ 152.5	279.6	282.2	2 576.4

2007

January	834.0	133.8	109.8	353.9	^ 103.0	183.8	262.3	1 980.8
February	785.7	116.9	102.0	310.1	^ 83.9	181.7	248.5	1 828.7
March	879.0	146.9	117.4	347.1	^ 89.4	199.9	278.2	2 057.9
April	853.6	143.4	121.5	320.1	^ 84.6	180.8	258.9	1 963.0

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED (\$m)

2006

February	785.1	146.6	104.8	319.7	96.1	162.3	213.6	1 828.2
March	790.5	146.9	100.5	319.1	94.4	158.8	217.9	1 828.0
April	794.6	149.3	108.7	333.0	90.8	153.2	225.3	1 855.0
May	791.4	148.6	107.7	340.6	90.5	157.3	234.4	1 870.4
June	798.0	150.1	108.8	339.4	93.1	157.3	234.7	1 881.4
July	789.7	161.7	115.8	342.8	90.7	168.3	240.3	1 909.4
August	787.9	150.4	117.2	342.8	92.0	178.9	240.9	1 910.0
September	808.3	147.9	118.3	362.2	91.8	174.8	243.3	1 946.6
October	816.5	155.2	120.8	351.8	95.7	185.8	246.4	1 972.4
November	824.9	155.3	119.2	346.7	100.4	189.9	249.4	1 985.8
December	820.2	157.9	120.0	352.1	99.7	196.0	253.7	1 999.7

2007

January	842.0	156.9	117.6	356.6	97.7	196.8	270.6	2 038.1
February	854.8	156.7	125.3	356.5	92.7	202.1	266.3	2 054.5
March	860.4	160.9	127.1	363.9	92.6	204.7	273.0	2 082.5
April	871.7	157.3	126.5	368.6	92.7	203.9	267.1	2 087.7

TREND (\$m)

2006

February	782.2	144.6	103.0	320.1	97.0	154.3	214.0	1 816.7
March	787.7	147.0	104.4	325.1	94.8	155.8	219.1	1 834.8
April	791.1	149.1	106.2	330.0	92.8	157.2	224.9	1 851.7
May	792.4	150.8	108.5	335.4	91.3	159.1	230.6	1 868.2
June	793.1	152.0	111.2	340.7	90.8	162.2	235.4	1 885.2
July	794.7	152.6	114.1	345.3	91.2	166.9	238.7	1 903.3
August	798.2	153.0	116.5	348.3	92.5	172.8	241.2	1 922.6
September	803.9	153.4	118.1	350.3	94.3	179.1	243.8	1 943.0
October	811.6	154.0	119.1	351.4	96.1	184.9	247.5	1 964.6
November	820.9	154.9	119.8	352.4	97.2	189.9	252.2	1 987.2
December	831.0	156.1	120.5	353.8	97.4	194.1	257.5	2 010.0

2007

January	841.0	157.3	121.8	355.8	96.6	197.8	262.5	2 032.3
February	850.7	158.1	123.3	358.7	95.3	201.1	266.7	2 053.8
March	859.6	158.6	124.9	361.6	94.0	203.7	269.9	2 074.0
April	867.2	158.7	126.2	365.2	92.6	205.3	272.2	2 092.5

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

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

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

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

<i>Reference period</i>	<i>Original \$m</i>	<i>Seasonally adjusted \$m</i>	<i>Trend \$m</i>
2003–2004	19 107.3	19 107.3	19 103.0
2004–2005	20 252.4	20 252.4	20 245.9
2005–2006	21 209.6	21 209.6	21 197.1
2005			
December	5 866.8	5 225.1	5 244.2
2006			
March	5 054.8	5 336.0	5 335.3
June	5 252.4	5 460.0	5 447.1
September	r5 413.3	5 573.4	5 586.0
December	r6 391.0	5 723.3	5 738.4
2007			
March	5 643.9	5 927.3	5 894.0

r revised

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

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

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

	Passenger vehicles	Sports utility vehicles	Other vehicles	Total vehicles
Month	no.	no.	no.	no.

ORIGINAL

2006				
March	5 599	1 866	2 285	9 750
April	4 320	1 442	1 745	7 507
May	5 211	1 933	2 328	9 472
June	6 040	2 323	2 807	11 170
July	4 865	1 754	2 101	8 720
August	5 730	1 879	2 127	9 736
September	5 842	1 705	2 169	9 716
October	5 727	1 778	2 086	9 591
November	5 718	2 076	2 178	9 972
December	5 567	1 972	1 932	9 471
2007				
January	5 059	2 064	1 806	8 929
February	5 307	2 037	2 281	9 625
March	5 704	2 314	2 512	10 530
April	4 963	1 621	2 117	8 701
May	5 350	2 221	2 601	10 172

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

2006				
March	5 048	1 641	2 091	8 780
April	5 097	1 676	2 073	8 846
May	5 340	1 826	2 118	9 284
June	5 233	1 803	2 048	9 084
July	5 397	1 912	2 183	9 492
August	5 549	1 860	2 125	9 534
September	5 512	1 943	2 197	9 652
October	5 478	1 963	2 207	9 648

	Passenger vehicles	Sports utility vehicles	Other vehicles	Total vehicles
Month	no.	no.	no.	no.

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED *cont.*

2006 <i>cont.</i>				
November	5 454	1 965	2 179	9 598
December	5 660	2 068	2 063	9 791
2007				
January	5 640	2 079	2 224	9 943
February	5 551	2 088	2 395	10 034
March	5 354	2 103	2 335	9 792
April	5 692	1 915	2 384	9 991
May	5 497	2 029	2 406	9 932

TREND

2006				
March	5 022	1 713	2 059	8 794
April	5 108	1 734	2 074	8 916
May	5 218	1 767	2 091	9 076
June	5 324	1 811	2 115	9 250
July	5 401	1 858	2 139	9 398
August	5 457	1 899	2 152	9 508
September	5 501	1 933	2 158	9 592
October	5 533	1 970	2 163	9 666
November	5 553	2 009	2 175	9 737
December	5 560	2 040	2 200	9 800
2007				
January	5 559	2 056	2 240	9 855
February	5 556	2 057	2 290	9 903
March	5 549	2 048	2 339	9 936
April	5 541	2 034	2 382	9 957
May	5 534	2 018	2 418	9 970

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

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

Reference period	ORIGINAL			SEASONALLY ADJUSTED			TREND		
	Buildings and structures	Equipment, plant and machinery	Total	Buildings and structures	Equipment, plant and machinery	Total	Buildings and structures	Equipment, plant and machinery	Total
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
2003–2004	r4 113	4 925	r9 105	4 114	4 925	9 105	4 140	4 866	9 063
2004–2005	5 135	4 814	9 950	5 134	4 814	9 950	5 150	4 907	10 059
2005–2006	r9 539	r6 465	r16 003	9 538	6 466	16 004	9 299	6 283	15 580
2005									
December	2 222	1 753	3 975	2 059	1 614	3 673	2 149	1 612	3 760
2006									
March	2 361	1 482	3 843	2 597	1 641	4 238	2 616	1 651	4 267
June	r3 276	r1 709	r4 984	3 157	1 683	4 840	2 852	1 565	4 416
September	r2 568	r1 325	r3 893	2 645	1 333	3 978	2 871	1 513	4 380
December	r3 040	r1 711	r4 751	2 822	1 569	4 391	2 849	1 539	4 277
2007									
March	2 790	1 561	4 352	(b)3 060	(b)1 719	(b)4 780	np	np	np

np not published due to break in series

(b) Includes the privatisation of Telstra.

r revised

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

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

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

Reference period	Mining	Manufacturing	Other selected industries	Total
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
2003–2004	5 010	1 162	2 746	8 917
2004–2005	5 531	1 410	3 008	9 949
2005–2006	10 733	1 850	3 889	16 471
2005				
December	2 574	512	975	4 060
2006				
March	2 615	446	900	3 961
June	3 648	^418	1 135	5 201
September	2 847	283	994	4 125
December	r3 568	r370	r1 138	r5 076
2007				
March	3 237	^368	^1 066	4 670

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

r revised

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

LENDING FINANCE COMMITMENTS: Original

Reference period	COMMERCIAL FINANCE			PERSONAL FINANCE			Total lease finance commitments
	Fixed loans(a)	Revolving credit(b)	Total	Fixed loans(a)	Revolving credit(b)	Total	
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	
2003-2004	14 572.9	5 776.6	20 349.5	4 517.1	3 499.2	8 016.3	384.0
2004-2005	r14 612.7	r6 580.7	r21 193.4	4 701.9	r3 628.3	8 330.2	420.3
2005-2006	r22 526.5	r7 851.7	r30 378.2	r5 801.4	r4 930.5	r10 731.9	448.4
2006							
February	r1 470.5	r534.1	r2 004.6	468.5	r382.2	r850.6	34.4
March	r2 377.7	r660.8	r3 038.5	549.5	r492.6	r1 042.1	41.0
April	r1 605.0	r615.4	r2 220.3	403.4	431.8	835.2	32.4
May	r3 249.8	r770.0	r4 019.8	r613.5	r523.0	r1 136.5	42.4
June	r2 886.9	r1 115.1	r4 002.0	r653.5	r564.2	r1 217.7	39.4
July	r2 010.1	r701.2	r2 711.3	r574.3	r484.9	r1 059.2	32.4
August	r1 874.9	r758.0	r2 633.0	r570.6	r545.3	r1 115.9	28.3
September	r1 804.5	r620.8	r2 425.2	r513.5	r512.5	r1 026.1	26.3
October	r1 802.9	r1 248.7	r3 051.6	r536.8	r476.0	r1 012.7	34.1
November	r1 911.8	r725.8	r2 637.6	r574.7	r474.4	r1 049.2	35.8
December	r1 774.0	r668.0	r2 442.0	r542.5	r495.8	r1 038.3	32.9
2007							
January	1 637.6	r756.3	r2 393.9	r498.0	r478.5	r976.5	26.7
February	2 038.5	879.3	2 917.7	531.2	433.3	964.4	30.4
March	1 796.4	2 773.5	4 569.9	577.0	487.5	1 064.5	38.2
April	1 742.9	1 857.1	3 600.0	500.2	451.6	951.8	43.7

r revised

(a) Includes refinancing.

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

Includes credit cards.

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

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

Reference period	ORIGINAL		SEASONALLY ADJUSTED		TREND	
	Number of dwellings financed	Total value of dwelling commitments	Number of dwellings financed	Total value of dwelling commitments	Number of dwellings financed	Total value of dwelling commitments
	no.	\$m	no.	\$m	no.	\$m
2003–2004	83 834	12 765.6	83 598	12 723.6	83 852	12 765.7
2004–2005	r89 460	r15 283.0	89 574	15 300.7	89 484	15 286.9
2005–2006	r106 827	r20 692.8	106 760	20 669.9	106 604	20 675.1
2006						
February	r8 720	r1 691.3	9 314	1 789.5	9 177	1 786.7
March	r9 967	r1 994.4	9 264	1 830.9	9 372	1 847.4
April	r8 203	r1 601.2	9 501	1 866.4	9 523	1 911.4
May	r10 962	r2 242.5	9 615	1 977.9	9 602	1 968.6
June	r10 051	r2 093.9	9 704	2 018.3	9 570	2 003.3
July	r9 549	r2 094.7	9 556	2 103.0	9 429	2 008.2
August	r10 091	r2 186.1	9 160	1 986.2	9 208	1 984.2
September	r8 629	r1 837.6	9 007	1 913.7	8 947	1 941.6
October	r8 524	r1 845.6	8 576	1 855.1	8 687	1 894.9
November	r8 742	r1 930.2	8 236	1 826.2	8 501	1 863.9
December	r8 287	r1 804.0	8 638	1 900.5	8 423	1 858.4
2007						
January	r7 476	r1 646.7	8 376	1 846.5	8 432	1 872.9
February	r7 774	r1 771.0	8 301	1 877.2	8 493	1 894.9
March	r8 648	r1 991.3	8 473	1 915.1	8 582	1 919.6
April	r8 261	r1 782.0	9 131	2 004.8	8 703	1 945.9

r revised

(a) Excludes alterations and additions. Includes refinancing.

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

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

Original

Reference period	FIRST HOME BUYERS			NON-FIRST HOME BUYERS		
	Number of dwellings financed	Total value of dwelling commitments	Average loan size	Number of dwellings financed	Total value of dwelling commitments	Average loan size
	no.	\$m	\$'000	no.	\$m	\$'000
2003–2004	12 393	1 835.7	148.1	71 441	10 929.3	153.0
2004–2005	r16 328	r2 767.2	169.5	r73 132	r12 515.8	171.1
2005–2006	r17 746	r3 415.7	192.5	r89 081	r17 276.5	193.9
2006						
February	r1 419	r279.4	196.9	r7 301	r1 412.0	193.4
March	r1 680	r337.7	201.0	r8 287	r1 656.6	199.9
April	r1 316	261.5	198.7	r6 887	r1 339.5	194.5
May	r1 506	309.8	205.7	r9 456	r1 932.8	204.4
June	r1 362	290.8	213.5	r8 689	r1 803.0	207.5
July	r1 347	298.5	221.6	r8 202	r1 796.2	219.0
August	r1 318	285.0	216.2	r8 773	r1 901.1	216.7
September	1 172	251.0	214.2	r7 457	r1 586.8	212.8
October	1 130	242.7	214.8	r7 394	r1 603.0	216.8
November	1 088	240.8	221.3	r7 654	r1 689.2	220.7
December	r1 019	217.1	213.1	r7 268	r1 586.6	218.3
2007						
January	983	213.2	216.9	r6 493	r1 433.7	220.8
February	970	205.7	212.1	6 804	1 564.9	230.0
March	1 061	230.3	217.1	7 587	1 760.9	232.1
April	1 035	203.0	196.1	7 226	1 578.9	218.5

r revised

(a) Excludes alterations and additions. Includes refinancing.

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

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

Reference period	OWNER OCCUPATION (SECURED FINANCE)				INVESTMENT HOUSING(b)		
	Construction of dwellings	Purchase of new dwellings	Purchase of other established dwellings	Refinancing of established dwellings	Construction of dwellings for rent or resale	Purchase of dwellings by individuals for rent or resale	Purchase of dwellings by others for rent or resale
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
2003–2004	2 015.4	363.3	7 244.8	3 142.1	297.9	4 771.4	470.9
2004–2005	r2 171.4	505.8	r9 250.0	r3 355.8	320.6	r5 423.8	401.0
2005–2006	r2 403.3	979.9	r12 357.6	r4 952.0	np	r8 451.8	577.4
2006							
February	r190.2	67.2	r1 022.9	r411.0	50.9	674.4	45.6
March	230.9	104.8	r1 196.2	r462.6	29.2	857.9	58.8
April	167.7	90.8	r968.4	r374.2	17.0	r745.4	51.4
May	216.5	133.9	r1 322.9	r569.3	51.7	r1 002.2	63.6
June	233.9	124.8	r1 198.2	r537.0	np	1 069.3	86.1
July	233.6	116.0	r1 216.9	r528.2	43.4	r879.9	64.5
August	246.4	110.2	r1 226.0	r603.4	37.7	r893.6	57.6
September	187.0	84.5	r1 005.7	r560.5	45.0	r758.8	55.0
October	195.0	92.6	r986.3	r571.9	27.9	r708.6	70.9
November	r198.0	93.6	r1 057.0	r581.6	36.7	r750.5	46.0
December	185.6	87.8	r984.7	r546.0	57.6	669.4	38.6
2007							
January	177.9	75.4	r882.4	r511.1	14.9	r652.9	59.0
February	156.7	97.9	988.4	528.0	25.0	701.4	58.0
March	171.4	113.3	1 115.9	590.6	29.9	773.2	57.2
April	147.5	80.6	990.4	563.5	14.0	735.1	53.8

np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated
r revised
(a) Excludes alterations and additions. Includes refinancing.

(b) Excludes revolving credit.
Source: *Housing Finance, Australia*, cat. no. 5609.0;
Lending Finance, Australia, cat. no. 5671.0.

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

Reference period	HOUSES		OTHER DWELLINGS		TOTAL DWELLINGS	
	Private	Total	Private	Total	Private	Total
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
2003–2004	18 763	19 239	3 804	4 091	22 567	23 330
2004–2005	19 107	19 576	4 004	4 599	23 111	24 175
2005–2006	21 271	21 819	3 734	4 277	25 005	26 096
2006						
February	1 833	1 876	315	376	2 148	2 252
March	1 827	1 866	315	368	2 142	2 234
April	1 815	1 851	332	375	2 147	2 226
May	1 794	1 831	365	397	2 159	2 228
June	1 765	1 805	400	427	2 165	2 232
July	1 744	1 786	422	452	2 166	2 238
August	1 730	1 774	426	466	2 156	2 240
September	1 710	1 753	415	468	2 125	2 221
October	1 679	1 719	396	463	2 075	2 182
November	1 640	1 677	371	448	2 011	2 125
December	1 593	1 627	348	425	1 941	2 052
2007						
January	1 552	1 587	327	398	1 879	1 985
February	1 525	1 562	307	368	1 832	1 930
March	1 511	1 550	286	337	1 797	1 887
April	1 511	1 553	279	321	1 790	1 874

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

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

Reference period	New houses	New other residential building	New residential building	Total residential building(a)	Total non-residential building	Total building
NUMBER OF DWELLING UNITS (no.)						
2003–2004	r19 628	r4 084	r23 712	r23 799	35	r23 834
2004–2005	r19 444	r4 653	r24 097	r24 201	31	r24 232
2005–2006	21 769	3 886	25 655	25 834	18	25 852
2006						
February	1 777	176	1 953	1 955	5	1 960
March	1 877	290	2 167	2 168	1	2 169
April	1 682	319	2 001	2 029	1	2 030
May	2 268	482	2 750	2 755	1	2 756
June	1 701	395	2 096	2 098	1	2 099
July	1 799	842	2 641	2 647	1	2 648
August	1 899	543	2 442	2 445	—	2 445
September	r1 771	419	r2 190	r2 198	4	r2 202
October	r1 736	r179	1 915	1 921	4	1 925
November	r1 939	r480	r2 419	r2 459	—	r2 459
December	r1 494	r515	r2 009	r2 018	3	r2 021
2007						
January	1 280	345	1 625	1 650	2	1 652
February	1 335	249	1 584	1 604	1	1 605
March	1 653	240	1 893	1 901	—	1 901
April	1 441	306	1 747	1 753	10	1 763
VALUE OF APPROVAL (\$m)						
2003–2004	r3 005.8	r564.1	r3 569.8	r3 893.7	r1 530.7	r5 424.6
2004–2005	r3 337.5	r773.5	r4 110.9	r4 470.6	r1 978.4	r6 449.1
2005–2006	4 269.2	772.9	5 042.3	5 519.5	r2 322.9	r7 842.3
2006						
February	349.8	29.5	379.4	416.3	126.2	542.5
March	379.6	49.4	429.0	468.9	171.9	640.8
April	341.5	63.4	405.0	446.6	r436.7	r883.3
May	463.3	89.5	552.8	593.3	r213.3	r806.6
June	365.6	79.2	444.9	488.5	r178.0	r666.6
July	391.7	167.3	559.0	597.7	r175.9	r773.6
August	420.1	162.2	582.4	622.2	r142.4	r764.6
September	r390.8	101.0	r491.8	r530.4	132.7	r663.1
October	r405.6	34.3	r439.9	r477.2	r201.4	r678.6
November	r439.6	r126.3	r565.9	r612.2	r378.2	r990.4
December	r348.2	r154.8	r503.0	r546.7	r171.3	r718.0
2007						
January	313.5	72.2	385.6	424.7	r313.9	r738.6
February	332.8	69.5	402.3	448.9	338.0	786.9
March	389.9	51.8	441.8	493.2	209.7	703.0
April	349.3	70.7	420.1	455.4	163.2	618.6

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)
r revised

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

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

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

Reference period	New houses	New other residential building	New residential building	Total residential building(a)	Total non-residential building	Total building
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
COMMENCED						
2003–2004	18 515	3 828	22 342	22 410	26	22 436
2004–2005	18 139	4 546	22 685	22 775	23	22 798
2005–2006	21 515	4 014	25 529	25 710	30	25 740
2005						
September	5 652	1 190	6 842	6 864	6	6 870
December	5 324	670	5 993	6 025	10	6 034
2006						
March	5 041	801	5 842	5 936	14	5 950
June	5 498	1 353	6 851	6 884	1	6 885
September	r5 521	r1 487	r7 008	r7 015	6	r7 021
December	5 282	1 122	6 404	6 444	2	6 446
UNDER CONSTRUCTION AT END OF REFERENCE PERIOD						
2003–2004	10 779	3 805	14 585	14 638	61	14 699
2004–2005	12 931	4 895	17 827	17 909	51	17 960
2005–2006	16 063	5 565	21 628	21 827	31	21 858
2005						
September	14 505	5 039	19 544	19 623	57	19 680
December	14 859	4 830	19 689	19 789	54	19 843
2006						
March	15 612	4 852	20 465	20 637	66	20 703
June	16 063	5 565	21 628	21 827	31	21 858
September	r16 666	r6 174	r22 839	r23 016	r25	r23 041
December	16 537	6 517	23 054	23 263	16	23 279
COMPLETED						
2003–2004	15 491	2 816	18 307	18 496	14	18 510
2004–2005	15 854	3 384	19 238	19 302	33	19 335
2005–2006	18 214	3 325	21 539	21 602	53	21 655
2005						
September	3 987	1 011	4 998	5 014	—	5 014
December	4 942	878	5 821	5 844	15	5 859
2006						
March	4 255	779	5 034	5 054	2	5 056
June	5 029	657	5 686	5 690	36	5 726
September	r4 936	r894	r5 830	r5 855	r10	r5 865
December	5 401	779	6 180	6 190	11	6 201

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

r revised

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

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

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

Reference period	New houses \$m	New other residential building \$m	New residential building \$m	Total residential building(a) \$m	Total non-residential building \$m	Total building \$m
COMMENCED						
2003–2004	2 859.6	576.9	3 436.5	3 747.0	1 470.3	5 217.3
2004–2005	3 127.8	786.0	3 913.8	4 279.4	1 758.8	6 038.2
2005–2006	4 209.9	860.7	5 070.6	5 553.6	2 204.5	7 758.1
2005						
September	1 060.6	231.2	1 291.8	1 396.1	460.0	1 856.1
December	1 043.5	154.6	1 198.1	1 323.4	595.6	1 919.0
2006						
March	1 011.2	149.0	1 160.2	1 291.7	506.9	1 798.6
June	1 094.6	325.9	1 420.5	1 542.4	642.1	2 184.5
September	r1 236.4	r339.0	r1 575.5	r1 701.9	r419.9	r2 121.8
December	1 204.1	328.3	1 532.4	1 648.1	676.2	2 324.3
UNDER CONSTRUCTION AT END OF REFERENCE PERIOD						
2003–2004	1 903.4	645.4	2 548.8	2 704.9	1 182.4	3 887.2
2004–2005	2 512.2	924.6	3 436.8	3 673.1	1 574.5	5 247.6
2005–2006	3 555.4	1 345.1	4 900.5	5 231.9	2 348.8	7 580.8
2005						
September	2 921.7	1 063.3	3 985.0	4 239.9	1 724.1	5 964.0
December	3 081.6	1 156.0	4 237.6	4 520.3	1 928.6	6 448.9
2006						
March	3 364.0	1 182.4	4 546.4	4 855.5	2 101.2	6 956.7
June	3 555.4	1 345.1	4 900.5	5 231.9	2 348.8	7 580.8
September	r3 869.1	r1 525.0	r5 394.2	r5 772.8	r2 549.0	r8 321.8
December	4 006.0	1 738.8	5 744.8	6 150.9	2 599.0	8 749.9
COMPLETED						
2003–2004	2 315.1	413.4	2 728.5	3 065.2	1 594.5	4 659.7
2004–2005	2 571.0	522.8	3 093.8	3 442.3	1 465.0	4 907.2
2005–2006	3 206.8	604.5	3 811.3	4 213.2	1 582.9	5 796.1
2005						
September	658.3	148.5	806.8	891.0	376.7	1 267.7
December	891.2	135.2	1 026.4	1 143.3	432.8	1 576.1
2006						
March	733.2	137.4	870.6	962.4	310.4	1 272.8
June	924.1	183.3	1 107.4	1 216.6	463.0	1 679.6
September	r944.9	r174.7	r1 119.6	r1 214.3	r351.5	r1 565.8
December	1 109.5	129.8	1 239.3	1 342.0	749.0	2 091.0
WORK YET TO BE DONE AT END OF REFERENCE PERIOD						
2003–2004	1 028.0	332.6	1 360.6	1 433.0	641.9	2 074.9
2004–2005	1 325.8	472.2	1 798.0	1 890.0	802.6	2 692.6
2005–2006	1 815.0	681.2	2 496.2	2 660.2	1 116.8	3 776.9
2005						
September	1 544.4	568.3	2 112.7	2 217.7	806.9	3 024.7
December	1 659.2	607.7	2 266.9	2 391.1	941.6	3 332.8
2006						
March	1 740.3	570.7	2 311.0	2 461.6	1 001.4	3 463.1
June	1 815.0	681.2	2 496.2	2 660.2	1 116.8	3 776.9
September	r1 950.7	r788.5	r2 739.2	r2 917.6	r1 074.5	r3 992.1
December	2 129.7	841.6	2 971.2	3 142.4	1 192.3	4 334.8

r revised

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

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

Reference period	Roads, highways and subdivisions	Bridges, railways and harbours	Electricity generation, transmission etc. and pipelines	Water storage and supply, sewerage and drainage	Telecom-munications	Heavy industry	Recreation and other	Total
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
WORK COMMENCED								
2003–2004	985.6	1 619.7	256.4	234.4	333.6	1 252.3	189.3	4 871.2
2004–2005	927.2	681.6	1 036.1	432.3	347.0	5 165.8	321.5	8 911.6
2005–2006	1 332.2	r1 890.1	r1 345.1	298.3	519.1	r11 254.8	335.5	r16 975.1
2005								
September	^ 374.9	67.8	**98.6	*107.6	92.6	2 882.9	^ 85.4	3 709.8
December	282.7	1 280.7	^ 86.1	66.2	97.3	2 159.0	^ 54.9	4 026.9
2006								
March	369.7	160.4	80.1	*73.5	134.9	336.5	^ 75.0	1 230.1
June	305.0	r381.1	r1 080.3	^ 51.0	194.3	r5 876.5	*120.2	r8 008.3
September	r478.6	657.1	342.9	^ r57.3	113.6	r1 314.0	^ r129.5	r3 093.0
December	389.2	*33.5	1 104.6	^ 93.1	125.9	2 950.4	*101.4	4 798.2
WORK DONE								
2003–2004	1 004.3	371.3	683.9	302.6	334.3	1 989.7	194.5	4 880.6
2004–2005	976.3	1 142.5	597.9	343.8	323.1	2 484.6	316.3	6 184.4
2005–2006	1 197.1	r1 314.5	1 141.2	383.5	515.1	r6 645.4	293.6	r11 490.2
2005								
September	^ 281.7	305.6	149.2	*93.9	94.9	1 021.9	^ 85.4	2 032.6
December	279.0	316.2	354.5	^ 75.4	94.2	1 591.4	^ 50.0	2 760.7
2006								
March	275.5	316.1	212.6	^ 103.7	128.3	1 563.2	^ 67.5	2 666.9
June	360.9	r376.7	424.9	110.5	197.6	r2 468.9	^ 90.7	r4 030.0
September	^ r343.1	r425.6	484.3	r84.1	104.2	r1 720.0	^ r88.8	r3 250.1
December	371.4	428.2	554.5	^ 97.3	125.4	2 671.6	^ 99.1	4 347.5
WORK YET TO BE DONE AT END OF REFERENCE PERIOD								
2003–2004	235.5	1 413.0	163.1	59.3	26.4	878.0	27.7	2 803.1
2004–2005	223.1	1 080.0	939.7	161.1	51.9	3 979.1	42.9	6 477.8
2005–2006	r326.2	r1 753.2	r984.8	96.6	17.8	r8 398.5	30.9	r11 608.0
2005								
September	329.4	924.9	^ 792.7	^ 170.5	42.4	5 799.1	^ 52.0	8 111.0
December	287.5	1 924.4	494.3	171.5	39.5	6 430.5	^ 45.2	9 392.9
2006								
March	379.0	1 728.1	344.1	^ 154.1	29.4	5 623.9	39.0	8 297.7
June	r326.2	r1 753.2	r984.8	^ 96.6	17.8	r8 398.5	^ 30.9	r11 608.0
September	r499.1	r2 053.4	r859.9	^ r87.6	22.2	r9 119.0	^ r85.3	r12 726.6
December	489.4	1 879.8	1 440.6	*83.9	19.4	9 282.7	^ 63.4	13 259.2

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

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

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

r revised

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

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

<i>Reference period</i>	<i>Original</i>	<i>Seasonally Adjusted</i>	<i>Trend</i>
	\$m	\$m	\$m
2003–2004	5 156.1	5 156.1	5 213.8
2004–2005	6 184.4	6 184.4	6 246.9
2005–2006	r10 846.4	10 846.4	10 542.5
2005			
September	r1 973.9	2 068.2	2 024.6
December	r2 653.4	2 511.0	2 478.6
2006			
March	2 541.2	2 784.7	2 908.3
June	r3 678.0	3 482.5	3 131.1
September	r2 821.9	2 944.6	3 267.0
December	3 723.5	3 487.6	3 363.8

r revised

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

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

Category of the SITC	2005	2006				2007
	December	March	June	September	December	March
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
MAJOR EXPORT COMMODITIES (a)						
001 Live animals	126 268	96 647	95 694	147 283	125 473	99 535
036 Crustaceans, molluscs and aquatic invertebrates	53 332	122 376	151 330	41 421	64 689	95 115
041 Wheat	436 607	433 428	360 264	533 063	407 730	422 285
268 Wool and other animal hair	113 757	124 065	158 064	109 903	138 367	151 145
281 Iron ore and concentrates	3 371 627	2 854 349	3 509 491	3 894 354	3 986 292	3 521 701
284 Nickel ores and concentrates	252 445	137 953	341 249	241 668	392 215	346 666
287 Ores and concentrates of base metal	132 299	117 359	135 442	188 277	200 076	150 776
333 Crude petroleum oils	1 415 308	1 180 090	1 157 603	1 838 159	1 752 137	1 655 897
334 Refined petroleum oils	121 266	137 485	89 915	156 869	133 340	101 415
342 Liquefied propane and butane	177 796	149 836	183 228	164 930	175 191	159 030
343 Natural gas	1 099 169	969 708	1 058 094	1 065 213	1 108 003	930 857
533 Pigments, paints, varnishes and related materials	117 386	104 286	121 682	108 234	96 967	98 005
683 Nickel	148 589	154 446	191 594	284 403	354 563	374 757
971 Gold, non-monetary	1 558 283	1 673 964	2 462 908	2 456 577	2 414 164	2 517 468
988 Confidential items	1 989 586	1 906 525	2 051 924	2 276 558	2 719 000	2 540 340
MAJOR IMPORT COMMODITIES (b)						
333 Crude petroleum oils	485 066	487 512	284 799	521 716	429 274	486 515
334 Refined petroleum oils	378 946	342 716	750 175	328 715	350 629	324 673
562 Fertilisers	62 970	90 784	95 515	19 689	3 675	123 669
625 Rubber tyres	50 270	67 727	88 241	94 930	94 173	87 891
679 Iron or steel tubes and pipes	68 941	76 218	87 564	61 505	110 412	97 608
723 Civil engineering plant and equipment	119 690	158 063	177 564	189 578	211 190	178 937
728 Other specialised industry machinery and equipment	77 224	52 137	64 065	86 950	75 003	79 092
752 Automatic data processing machines	44 193	49 549	62 652	39 364	53 819	36 652
759 Parts and accessories of office machines	47 316	51 633	39 902	28 669	26 540	36 603
781 Passenger motor vehicles	314 111	261 661	368 499	323 771	395 931	361 061
782 Motor vehicles for the transport of goods	161 334	186 314	232 283	177 620	226 711	258 402
792 Aircraft and associated equipment	26 117	20 906	23 993	23 562	33 143	42 857
793 Ships, boats and floating structures	14 364	50 604	588 846	25 998	30 835	79 090
971 Gold, non-monetary	608 782	1 269 520	1 832 512	1 039 860	1 219 040	1 190 803
988 Confidential items	142 384	155 319	164 295	168 360	199 604	173 572

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

(b) Customs value.

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

	EXPORTS(a)			IMPORTS(b)		
	March quarter 2006	December quarter 2006	March quarter 2007	March quarter 2006	December quarter 2006	March quarter 2007
<i>Section and Division of the SITC</i>	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
0 Food & live animals						
00 Live animals other than fish, crustaceans, molluscs & aquatic invertebrates	96 647	125 473	99 535	17	5	1 433
01 Meat & meat preparations	96 335	105 456	98 772	7 291	13 894	14 566
02 Dairy products & birds' eggs	12 930	19 286	13 427	3 582	4 591	3 404
03 Fish (not marine mammals), crustaceans, molluscs & aquatic invertebrates, & preparations thereof	123 270	65 195	95 746	20 566	31 490	24 666
04 Cereals & cereal preparations	457 390	441 974	454 240	5 407	8 841	7 008
05 Vegetables & fruit	18 839	19 376	18 476	14 677	19 341	20 443
06 Sugars, sugar preparations & honey	735	2 028	1 749	2 006	2 414	2 122
07 Coffee, tea, cocoa, spices, & manufactures thereof	217	142	106	2 397	2 863	3 292
08 Feeding stuff for animals (excl. unmilled cereals)	41 681	40 355	38 440	4 253	5 625	1 696
09 Miscellaneous edible products & preparations	3 119	3 458	2 245	11 852	12 898	12 526
<i>Total food & live animals(c)</i>	<i>851 164</i>	<i>822 745</i>	<i>822 738</i>	<i>72 048</i>	<i>101 961</i>	<i>91 157</i>
1 Beverages & tobacco						
11 Beverages	11 351	12 954	10 987	9 747	16 263	12 820
12 Tobacco & tobacco manufactures	1	—	5	8	14	22
<i>Total beverages & tobacco(c)</i>	<i>11 352</i>	<i>12 954</i>	<i>10 992</i>	<i>9 756</i>	<i>16 277</i>	<i>12 842</i>
2 Crude materials, inedible, except fuels						
21 Hides, skins & furskins, raw	13 336	16 358	15 787	145	—	—
22 Oil seeds & oleaginous fruits	130 314	26 154	27 675	361	370	419
23 Crude rubber (incl. synthetic and reclaimed)	30	63	58	1 308	721	591
24 Cork & wood	67 074	86 572	70 774	8 336	8 742	10 351
25 Pulp & waste paper	4 695	6 631	8 525	894	941	754
26 Textile fibres & their wastes (not manufactured into yarn or fabric)	124 356	138 797	151 614	733	1 210	1 222
27 Crude fertilisers (excl. those of Division 56) & crude minerals (excl. coal, petroleum & precious stones)	25 583	38 872	29 906	11 840	12 963	11 832
28 Metalliferous ores & metal scrap	3 217 829	4 965 433	4 185 457	479	872	1 187
29 Crude animal & vegetable materials, n.e.s.	4 220	4 669	3 215	6 006	6 586	7 256
<i>Total crude materials, inedible, except fuels(c)</i>	<i>3 587 438</i>	<i>5 283 549</i>	<i>4 493 010</i>	<i>30 103</i>	<i>32 404</i>	<i>33 611</i>
3 Mineral fuels, lubricants & related materials						
32 Coal, coke & briquettes	29	270	1 235	210	169	131
33 Petroleum, petroleum products & related materials	1 317 597	1 885 604	1 757 341	840 893	789 960	818 658
34 Gas, natural & manufactured	1 119 593	1 283 220	1 089 918	21	9	5
<i>Total mineral fuels, lubricants & related materials(c)</i>	<i>2 437 219</i>	<i>3 169 094</i>	<i>2 848 493</i>	<i>841 123</i>	<i>790 138</i>	<i>818 794</i>
4 Animal & vegetable oils, fats & waxes						
41 Animal oils & fats	6 788	3 732	3 411	65	1	20
42 Fixed vegetable fats & oils, crude, refined or fractionated	878	2 334	203	4 116	6 603	5 356
43 Fats & oils (processed), waxes & inedible mixtures or preparations, of animal or vegetable origin, n.e.s.	28	—	105	1 130	131	189
<i>Total animal & vegetable oils, fats & waxes(c)</i>	<i>7 694</i>	<i>6 066</i>	<i>3 719</i>	<i>5 311</i>	<i>6 735</i>	<i>5 564</i>

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

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

(b) Customs value.

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

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

		EXPORTS(a)			IMPORTS(b)		
		March quarter 2006	December quarter 2006	March quarter 2007	March quarter 2006	December quarter 2006	March quarter 2007
Section and Division of the SITC		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
5	Chemicals & related products, n.e.s.						
51	Organic chemicals	375	558	289	76 641	51 078	69 957
52	Inorganic chemicals	61 944	126 533	138 182	21 646	12 534	16 450
53	Dyeing, tanning & colouring materials	104 286	96 967	98 005	3 041	4 366	3 631
54	Medicinal & pharmaceutical products	22 329	11 500	10 458	58 287	14 567	59 583
55	Essential oils & resinoids & perfume materials; toilet, polishing & cleansing preparations	4 741	4 114	3 693	5 371	4 826	6 005
56	Fertilisers (excl. crude)	49	1 035	52	90 784	3 675	123 669
57	Plastics in primary forms	4 211	4 125	6 017	8 652	11 299	11 696
58	Plastics in non-primary forms	7 449	2 647	1 796	19 723	27 385	27 094
59	Chemical materials & products, n.e.s.	4 782	5 197	5 666	38 676	22 128	34 530
	<i>Total chemicals & related products, n.e.s.(c)</i>	<i>210 167</i>	<i>252 676</i>	<i>264 158</i>	<i>322 823</i>	<i>151 857</i>	<i>352 615</i>
6	Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material						
61	Leather, leather manufactures, & dressed furskins, n.e.s.	581	650	453	1 363	1 509	1 288
62	Rubber manufactures, n.e.s.	3 314	4 755	6 281	87 421	113 203	111 627
63	Cork & wood manufactures (excl. furniture)	2 745	2 632	5 318	19 688	17 215	20 792
64	Paper, paperboard, & articles of paper pulp, of paper or of paperboard	888	1 231	722	19 407	21 713	22 446
65	Textile yarn, fabrics, made-up articles, n.e.s., & related products	1 452	1 633	1 338	23 108	33 107	30 040
66	Non-metallic mineral manufactures, n.e.s.	65 009	71 610	55 949	52 975	65 613	59 148
67	Iron & steel	4 621	18 152	19 541	117 339	162 265	163 503
68	Non-ferrous metals	236 598	469 422	485 668	35 975	55 896	185 195
69	Manufactures of metals, n.e.s.	15 740	34 099	25 828	92 268	172 378	154 259
	<i>Total manufactured goods classified chiefly by material(c)</i>	<i>330 947</i>	<i>604 184</i>	<i>601 098</i>	<i>449 545</i>	<i>642 899</i>	<i>748 299</i>
7	Machinery & transport equipment						
71	Power generating machinery & equipment	12 690	17 429	9 682	104 516	165 279	85 058
72	Machinery specialised for particular industries	30 409	42 892	38 785	276 437	378 298	307 908
73	Metal working machinery	2 708	580	1 855	18 975	11 589	15 093
74	General industrial machinery & equipment, n.e.s. & machine parts, n.e.s.	33 493	36 511	37 357	216 587	489 754	540 812
75	Office machines & automatic data processing machines	2 980	3 795	5 454	105 908	83 470	73 700
76	Telecommunications & sound recording & reproducing apparatus & equipment	7 092	8 676	10 092	67 287	86 629	53 783
77	Electrical machinery, apparatus, appliances, parts (incl. non-electrical counterparts of electrical domestic equipment)	14 072	20 150	22 203	77 744	109 719	122 995
78	Road vehicles (incl. air-cushion vehicles)	4 778	8 487	7 003	506 527	711 092	687 384
79	Transport equipment (excl. road vehicles)	46 049	4 109	6 278	86 363	99 155	167 404
	<i>Total machinery & transport equipment(c)</i>	<i>154 270</i>	<i>142 631</i>	<i>138 710</i>	<i>1 460 345</i>	<i>2 134 986</i>	<i>2 054 137</i>

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

(b) Customs value.

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

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

Section and Division of the SITC	EXPORTS(a)			IMPORTS(b)		
	March quarter 2006	December quarter 2006	March quarter 2007	March quarter 2006	December quarter 2006	March quarter 2007
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
8 Miscellaneous manufactured articles						
81 Prefabricated buildings; sanitary, plumbing, heating & lighting fixtures & fittings, n.e.s.	1 826	3 022	1 369	6 079	12 115	15 895
82 Furniture, parts thereof; bedding, mattresses, mattress supports, cushions & similar stuffed furnishings	3 758	4 773	3 521	45 261	76 887	55 880
83 Travel goods, handbags & similar containers	73	97	26	2 986	5 304	3 807
84 Articles of apparel & clothing accessories	886	586	678	24 966	24 993	29 690
85 Footwear	275	481	432	17 347	11 191	18 010
87 Professional, scientific & controlling instruments & apparatus, n.e.s.	15 163	13 620	13 613	55 201	57 425	65 868
88 Photographic apparatus, equipment & supplies & optical goods, n.e.s.; watches & clocks	735	801	478	3 110	4 606	3 872
89 Miscellaneous manufactured articles, n.e.s.	7 911	14 794	28 797	56 187	90 929	68 620
<i>Total miscellaneous manufactured articles(c)</i>	<i>30 627</i>	<i>38 174</i>	<i>48 914</i>	<i>211 137</i>	<i>283 449</i>	<i>261 643</i>
9 Commodities & transactions not classified elsewhere in the SITC						
93 Special transactions & commodities not classified according to kind	10 401	10 213	14 223	376	573	515
95 Gold coin whether or not legal tender, & other coin being legal tender	34 647	69 955	55 530	366	1 122	802
96 Coin (excl. gold coin), not being legal tender	—	55	—	31	1	23
97 Gold, non-monetary (excl. gold ores & concentrates)	1 673 964	2 414 164	2 517 468	1 269 520	1 219 040	1 190 803
98 Combined confidential items excl. some of SITC 280 (exports only) & some of SITCs 510 & 520 (imports only)	1 906 525	2 719 000	2 540 340	155 319	199 604	173 572
<i>Total commodities & transactions not classified elsewhere in the SITC(c)</i>	<i>3 625 537</i>	<i>5 213 387</i>	<i>5 127 562</i>	<i>1 425 613</i>	<i>1 420 340</i>	<i>1 365 715</i>
Total merchandise trade(c)	11 246 415	15 545 459	14 359 394	4 827 803	5 581 045	5 744 377

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

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

(b) Customs value.

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

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

Country	EXPORTS(a)			IMPORTS(b)			BALANCE OF TRADE		
	March quarter 2006	December quarter 2006	March quarter 2007	March quarter 2006	December quarter 2006	March quarter 2007	March quarter 2006	December quarter 2006	March quarter 2007
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Austria	2 106	8 034	4 122	21 065	47 425	44 800	-18 959	-39 391	-40 677
Belgium	107 704	146 508	126 038	21 147	33 945	35 442	86 557	112 563	90 597
Canada	180 324	118 242	180 639	44 632	50 975	88 438	135 691	67 268	92 201
China	2 192 000	3 720 434	3 284 061	263 592	446 226	353 324	1 928 409	3 274 208	2 930 736
Finland	149 102	493 318	310 574	42 568	29 709	32 385	106 534	463 609	278 189
France	59 333	78 734	45 400	64 852	51 779	65 447	-5 519	26 955	-20 048
Germany	38 786	41 228	34 742	147 749	296 948	203 721	-108 963	-255 719	-168 979
Hong Kong (Sar of China)	95 827	117 870	72 631	102 252	31 038	27 525	-6 426	86 832	45 106
India	660 406	1 288 265	1 068 914	22 998	31 174	26 347	637 408	1 257 091	1 042 567
Indonesia	308 332	320 848	315 009	361 313	232 698	467 595	-52 981	88 151	-152 586
Iraq	17 854	—	57	—	—	—	17 854	—	57
Ireland	579	711	1 195	43 252	21 077	36 918	-42 673	-20 366	-35 722
Israel	14 694	14 852	18 401	10 838	11 033	33 071	3 856	3 820	-14 671
Italy	51 707	94 421	115 982	95 227	230 640	117 626	-43 520	-136 219	-1 645
Japan	2 423 704	3 120 664	2 812 218	419 789	555 583	646 072	2 003 915	2 565 081	2 166 146
Korea, Republic of	1 014 256	1 359 331	1 395 747	99 299	269 576	164 454	914 957	1 089 755	1 231 293
Kuwait	26 438	35 537	9 550	185	316	428	26 252	35 222	9 122
Malaysia	70 592	79 586	157 829	182 497	159 333	193 870	-111 906	-79 747	-36 041
Mozambique	92 510	147 202	69 962	—	—	14	92 510	147 202	69 948
Netherlands	103 267	183 879	226 894	30 409	34 316	38 249	72 858	149 564	188 645
New Zealand	182 535	193 958	220 119	106 918	112 060	106 825	75 617	81 898	113 294
Norway	10 393	4 760	6 802	8 805	9 608	9 804	1 589	-4 848	-3 002
Pakistan	18 799	12 353	6 134	1 469	1 615	1 700	17 329	10 739	4 434
Papua New Guinea	121 584	173 105	119 549	162 109	222 701	178 844	-40 525	-49 596	-59 295
Philippines	18 522	70 830	48 535	4 336	6 425	6 619	14 186	64 405	41 917
Russian Federation	19 827	43 298	28 265	9 935	2 739	65 969	9 892	40 559	-37 704
Saudi Arabia	102 366	78 623	64 184	210 933	49 413	57 393	-108 566	29 210	6 792
Singapore	318 463	625 977	402 103	628 634	533 084	818 431	-310 171	92 893	-416 327
South Africa	249 884	245 196	207 495	64 047	52 547	41 463	185 837	192 650	166 032
Spain	42 745	60 637	60 240	36 323	29 322	42 882	6 422	31 315	17 357
Sweden	1 942	3 274	3 659	69 111	51 137	79 409	-67 169	-47 863	-75 750
Switzerland	51 850	154 169	395 109	23 414	92 810	17 937	28 436	61 359	377 172
Taiwan	232 618	351 646	240 351	64 930	123 608	81 738	167 688	228 038	158 613
Thailand	329 943	253 489	371 115	272 620	191 477	344 837	57 323	62 012	26 278
Turkey	14 221	29 752	92 572	2 673	52 920	20 007	11 549	-23 168	72 565
United Arab Emirates	170 609	316 496	380 894	165 038	266 867	290 731	5 571	49 629	90 163
United Kingdom	912 976	797 296	768 311	110 100	495 191	210 873	802 876	302 105	557 438
United States of America	316 770	374 133	369 341	676 277	571 502	614 586	-359 507	-197 369	-245 245
Viet Nam	30 002	164 576	128 639	23 490	47 617	21 882	6 512	116 960	106 757
Yemen	35 691	32 284	15 996	51 403	—	—	-15 713	32 284	15 996
All other countries	455 153	189 938	180 014	161 574	134 615	156 720	293 579	55 323	23 294
Total(c)	11 246 415	15 545 459	14 359 394	4 827 803	5 581 045	5 744 377	6 418 612	9 964 414	8 615 017

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

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

(b) Customs value.

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

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

MINERAL AND PETROLEUM EXPLORATION EXPENDITURE, By selected mineral

Reference period	ORIGINAL							SEAS. ADJ.	TREND	ORIGINAL
	Copper	Silver, lead, zinc	Nickel, cobalt	Gold	Iron ore	Diamonds	Total minerals(a)	Total minerals(a)	Total minerals	Total petroleum
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
2003–2004	np	np	70.6	276.7	np	17.0	465.8	465.7	466.9	670.5
2004–2005	4.7	4.8	148.7	259.6	136.9	15.9	606.0	608.0	604.5	526.5
2005–2006	9.3	13.9	115.0	240.3	155.6	np	590.2	589.6	598.7	593.6
2005										
December	2.2	4.4	33.7	61.1	41.4	4.6	158.0	147.1	144.8	152.8
2006										
March	2.0	2.1	19.7	53.7	31.0	np	121.5	144.3	144.9	137.0
June	2.9	5.8	25.0	63.5	47.4	2.5	156.3	149.7	157.1	168.7
September	4.5	8.7	31.3	64.7	66.4	4.7	190.2	182.8	178.0	289.9
December	4.8	8.8	37.1	77.8	71.0	6.7	217.3	202.4	199.1	346.1
2007										
March	4.7	9.5	37.4	63.7	49.6	np	179.9	213.5	217.4	319.5

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

(a) Includes minerals not listed in the table.

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

MINERAL AND ENERGY PRODUCTION: Original

Reference period	SELECTED MINERALS							ENERGY		
	Gold(a)	Diamonds	Iron ore(b)	Bauxite	Ilmenite	Nickel	Zinc(c)	Electricity generated	Crude oil(d)	Natural gas(e)
	tonnes	'000 carats	'000 tonnes	'000 tonnes	'000 tonnes	'000 tonnes	'000 tonnes	million kWh	megalitres	million m3
2003–2004	174	24 292	216 609	38 072	1 774	185	91	20 986	17 158	20 561
2004–2005	173	32 471	246 260	38 070	1 852	192	47	22 022	16 997	24 582
2005–2006	165	25 339	258 394	39 284	1 965	186	113	21 243	16 635	25 887
2005										
December	43	6 516	65 844	9 833	462	52	22	r5 416	4 563	6 691
2006										
March	40	5 244	59 193	9 583	494	r42	40	r5 516	3 357	6 253
June	41	7 537	68 617	10 215	516	r45	32	5 133	3 482	6 641
September	41	8 389	70 835	10 738	r538	r47	22	r5 417	5 392	6 556
December	r43	8 127	r70 804	r10 290	r521	r51	48	r5 620	r5 111	7 243
2007										
March	38	3 582	65 505	10 500	523	48	25	5 898	4 535	6 652

r revised

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

(b) For use in iron and steel making.

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

(d) Includes condensate.

(e) Commercial sales plus field and plant usage.

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

LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTERED AND RED MEAT PRODUCED(a): All series

Reference period	LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTERED(b)					RED MEAT PRODUCED(c)				
	Cattle(d)	Calves	Sheep	Lambs	Pigs	Beef(e)	Veal	Mutton	Lamb	Pig meat
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	tonnes	tonnes	tonnes	tonnes	tonnes
ORIGINAL										
2003–2004	462.9	4.7	1 845.4	2 391.8	674.4	116 555	258	37 094	47 212	45 190
2004–2005	510.5	4.3	2 205.2	2 466.7	647.0	131 407	250	43 842	49 122	43 999
2005–2006	434.0	3.7	2 120.6	2 798.4	599.2	113 318	250	45 939	58 080	40 977
2005										
December	114.4	1.0	576.7	695.8	143.4	30 467	65	12 845	14 364	9 709
2006										
March	108.3	0.7	609.9	675.6	147.1	28 829	46	13 042	13 910	10 027
June	105.2	0.9	491.9	721.6	153.7	27 570	60	10 537	15 262	10 575
September	106.2	1.1	560.9	559.5	135.1	27 843	77	11 818	11 318	9 115
December	115.1	0.7	805.3	548.3	140.5	29 466	50	16 721	10 733	9 558
2007										
March	116.4	0.8	697.1	695.8	144.8	29 559	49	14 015	14 062	9 988
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED										
2003–2004	461.6	4.7	1 835.0	2 387.7	674.7	116 478	258	36 941	47 104	45 207
2004–2005	513.0	4.3	2 209.9	2 464.3	646.9	132 412	251	43 986	49 036	43 990
2005–2006	435.0	3.8	2 135.5	2 803.5	599.3	113 535	247	46 248	58 164	40 991
2005										
December	107.4	1.0	497.3	661.4	151.3	27 669	66	10 936	13 875	10 389
2006										
March	105.3	0.8	522.3	693.4	148.1	27 652	52	11 276	14 249	10 082
June	111.8	1.0	593.5	694.9	146.8	30 133	62	12 895	14 439	10 025
September	110.6	1.1	665.1	596.5	133.5	29 474	66	13 883	12 107	8 974
December	108.5	0.7	693.1	522.8	148.3	26 885	50	14 203	10 412	10 227
2007										
March	112.8	0.8	600.1	714.7	145.8	28 315	57	12 192	14 409	10 036
TREND										
2003–2004	461.8	4.9	1 847.9	2 374.9	676.2	116 396	260	37 187	46 750	45 335
2004–2005	489.7	4.4	2 202.6	2 497.2	644.6	122 635	254	43 988	49 815	43 849
2005–2006	438.7	3.7	2 164.8	2 746.6	596.5	114 047	246	46 622	56 870	40 755
2005										
December	108.1	0.9	509.0	707.2	151.6	27 797	62	11 067	14 696	10 389
2006										
March	106.9	0.9	531.3	694.9	147.5	28 373	60	11 612	14 438	10 061
June	109.1	0.9	597.6	648.9	143.3	29 103	60	12 816	13 362	9 738
September	110.2	0.9	648.0	611.3	141.8	28 902	60	13 600	12 440	9 651
December	110.7	0.9	660.4	601.5	143.2	28 220	57	13 598	12 111	9 799
2007										
March	110.8	0.8	645.4	627.7	145.8	27 582	54	13 078	12 563	10 036

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

(b) Figures only relate to slaughterings for human consumption.

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

(d) Excludes calves.

(e) Excludes veal.

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

WHEAT AND LIVE SHEEP EXPORTS, Current prices: : Original

Reference period	WHEAT(a)		LIVE SHEEP		
	Gross weight	Gross value	Gross weight	Quantity	Gross value
	tonnes	\$'000	tonnes	no.	\$'000
2003–2004	7 923 614	1 784 855	129 910	2 732 274	187 989
2004–2005	8 123 349	1 747 563	141 407	2 791 516	176 852
2005–2006	7 739 627	1 614 342	164 746	3 401 740	234 018
2005					
December	2 013 123	436 607	58 066	1 212 064	84 188
2006					
March	2 198 372	433 428	33 254	662 412	44 934
June	1 646 237	360 264	23 468	546 644	37 269
September	2 475 500	533 063	49 139	1 017 367	72 913
December	1 654 438	407 730	51 283	1 144 839	82 217
2007					
March	1 635 638	422 285	32 960	698 766	46 757

(a) Includes smelt and meslin, unmilled.

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

WOOL RECEIVALS(a): Original

Reference period	Brokers receivals		Dealers receivals		Total receivals	
	'000 bales	tonnes	'000 bales	tonnes	'000 bales	tonnes
2003–2004	510 299	89 664	117 232	20 190	627 531	109 853
2004–2005	495 381	88 049	109 477	19 005	604 858	107 054
2005–2006	543 633	96 885	125 385	21 916	669 018	118 802
2005						
December	147 031	26 052	30 389	5 320	177 420	31 371
2006						
March	188 206	33 714	29 371	5 095	217 577	38 810
June	79 842	14 368	32 252	5 715	112 094	20 083
September	125 410	22 366	30 499	5 328	155 909	27 695
December	130 332	23 157	34 746	5 903	165 078	29 061
2007						
March	131 777	23 284	31 569	5 486	163 346	28 770

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

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

OVERSEAS ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES: Original

Reference period	LONG-TERM(a)			SHORT-TERM(b)		Total
	Permanent	WA residents	Overseas visitors	WA residents	Overseas visitors	
		no.	no.	no.	no.	
ARRIVALS						
2003–2004	15 411	10 854	19 705	428 853	483 472	958 294
2004–2005	16 318	11 451	20 823	531 400	500 117	1 080 108
2005–2006	17 638	11 840	25 207	556 467	498 622	1 109 772
2006						
January	1 602	1 114	3 438	63 910	44 241	114 305
February	1 408	823	4 782	36 565	46 094	89 672
March	1 546	881	1 849	37 036	44 261	85 573
April	1 496	881	1 518	43 699	40 492	88 086
May	1 376	651	1 347	39 870	28 115	71 358
June	1 323	808	1 660	43 039	30 011	76 841
July	1 302	834	3 841	61 449	35 848	103 274
August	1 657	869	1 975	51 638	32 143	88 282
September	1 707	867	1 808	52 286	34 324	90 992
October	1 823	1 069	2 229	60 917	48 065	114 102
November	1 596	1 171	1 771	43 514	48 600	96 652
December	1 546	1 984	1 583	39 749	74 151	119 014
2007						
January	1 696	1 186	4 514	73 761	43 253	124 409
February	1 565	909	4 758	40 713	51 258	99 203
March	1 829	986	2 388	44 475	50 631	100 309
DEPARTURES						
2003–2004	6 223	8 987	8 223	454 236	455 540	933 208
2004–2005	6 387	9 683	8 370	531 698	495 331	1 051 467
2005–2006	7 077	10 137	8 331	562 290	503 961	1 091 797
2006						
January	1 028	1 538	714	37 503	56 820	97 603
February	499	847	511	33 403	42 539	77 799
March	586	909	605	41 777	47 250	91 127
April	629	991	572	49 211	48 168	99 571
May	542	891	545	46 408	32 952	81 338
June	455	661	970	53 179	35 366	90 631
July	577	890	867	60 733	29 134	92 201
August	581	881	602	48 254	35 644	85 962
September	490	646	595	54 814	31 105	87 651
October	546	694	637	49 580	40 241	91 697
November	512	701	930	43 478	46 859	92 481
December	675	975	1 605	69 596	55 467	128 318
2007						
January	1 023	1 639	944	44 714	61 424	109 744
February	538	867	686	34 819	46 266	83 176
March	699	1 003	863	49 565	49 360	101 489

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

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

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

Reference period	New Zealand	United Kingdom and Ireland	Europe(b)	Indonesia	Malaysia	Singapore	Thailand	Hong Kong(c)	Japan	United States of America	South Africa	Total(d)
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
VISITOR ARRIVALS (e)												
2003–2004	8 797	56 304	29 185	8 680	30 401	36 268	6 601	5 236	28 069	4 504	4 678	231 194
2004–2005	12 043	56 925	30 984	7 810	25 407	47 473	5 324	5 900	31 197	4 323	3 177	245 156
2005–2006	12 119	63 000	33 092	7 625	21 300	40 062	4 542	6 397	28 595	5 114	4 282	242 047
2006												
January	857	7 291	3 436	318	1 048	2 237	206	861	2 642	404	296	21 889
February	453	7 264	3 262	527	1 436	1 523	374	464	2 399	415	241	19 871
March	813	6 880	2 529	640	1 396	2 799	626	390	2 706	376	343	20 877
April	1 008	4 751	2 376	525	1 259	2 996	692	834	1 673	643	475	18 337
May	1 026	1 986	1 244	503	1 885	2 699	334	313	1 059	230	266	12 317
June	895	1 886	1 069	704	1 449	4 091	171	281	1 368	444	235	13 605
July	835	2 878	2 619	680	886	1 493	237	694	1 552	336	199	13 996
August	940	2 349	1 943	561	1 712	1 942	305	419	2 578	346	235	14 513
September	1 469	3 152	2 492	477	1 125	2 160	302	425	2 517	133	463	15 942
October	1 178	6 430	3 675	1 313	2 162	3 390	469	553	2 548	275	330	23 475
November	980	6 737	3 731	461	1 811	4 282	191	427	2 778	958	399	24 546
December	1 553	15 734	5 140	1 021	2 484	6 042	462	646	2 544	469	1 163	39 939
2007												
January	633	7 455	3 658	269	494	1 177	151	79	1 538	307	302	17 503
February	366	7 282	3 038	586	2 305	3 228	134	772	2 153	505	345	23 036
March	962	7 775	2 458	441	1 608	3 143	551	584	2 077	639	808	22 612
RESIDENT DEPARTURES (f)												
2003–2004	21 171	21 134	18 510	75 729	12 503	16 150	18 945	4 025	1 572	9 885	1 900	225 882
2004–2005	24 650	20 515	16 547	94 086	17 720	25 455	22 604	5 959	2 684	10 327	3 164	279 353
2005–2006	24 910	26 824	22 549	64 492	23 175	30 758	33 642	8 656	3 035	13 359	3 423	299 305
2006												
January	2 106	874	895	2 633	1 763	2 151	1 762	1 044	810	734	66	18 903
February	2 198	737	367	2 356	1 363	946	2 494	458	473	392	155	14 853
March	2 041	863	591	3 268	1 792	2 902	2 557	991	216	1 197	278	19 320
April	2 761	2 277	2 413	3 964	2 097	3 436	3 546	1 018	142	1 224	242	26 380
May	912	3 829	3 619	3 505	1 461	2 310	2 686	565	103	951	261	23 875
June	794	5 083	4 400	4 482	1 751	2 425	3 259	486	74	809	279	27 802
July	3 925	4 171	3 326	4 995	2 685	3 835	5 115	969	223	1 349	209	35 325
August	2 577	3 186	2 306	4 205	1 572	2 222	4 244	883	166	1 441	326	26 406
September	1 964	3 185	2 886	5 675	2 709	2 455	4 494	614	284	1 644	332	31 046
October	2 061	1 816	1 139	4 227	2 394	1 945	5 434	721	163	1 168	294	26 235
November	1 932	923	587	5 395	1 242	1 940	3 558	910	113	683	206	21 378
December	4 935	2 565	2 121	6 515	3 705	3 872	4 455	865	641	1 832	1 166	39 248
2007												
January	2 000	1 088	614	4 962	2 406	1 827	2 767	560	736	1 023	384	22 984
February	2 136	668	706	3 283	962	1 547	2 881	497	624	484	124	16 570
March	2 828	1 653	1 379	5 181	1 779	2 470	3 694	773	472	931	408	25 660

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

(b) Excluding United Kingdom and Ireland.

(c) Special Administrative Region of China.

(d) Total includes countries not listed in table.

(e) Overseas visitor arrivals by air on holiday from selected country of residence.

(f) Resident departures by air on holiday to selected country of main residence.

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

	<i>Establishments</i>	<i>Rooms</i>	<i>Room nights occupied</i>	<i>Room occupancy rate</i>	<i>Guest arrivals</i>	<i>Takings from accommodation</i>
<i>Quarter</i>	no.	no.	'000	%	'000	\$'000
HOTELS, MOTELS AND SERVICED APARTMENTS WITH 5-14 ROOMS						
2005						
September	133	1 095	46.0	45.9	44.3	4 773
December	132	1 080	45.4	46.6	42.0	4 992
2006						
March	130	1 084	42.2	45.1	38.2	4 769
June	132	1 113	44.6	44.4	40.4	4 742
September	140	1 178	49.2	45.5	47.8	5 487
December	143	1 211	56.5	50.8	57.1	6 670
HOTELS, MOTELS AND SERVICED APARTMENTS WITH 15 OR MORE ROOMS						
2005						
September	350	20 807	1 214.0	63.5	872.7	143 553
December	355	21 687	1 274.2	64.0	906.2	151 796
2006						
March	352	21 036	1 224.7	64.7	872.6	148 824
June	350	21 082	1 198.2	62.5	806.9	146 961
September	348	21 172	1 279.4	65.7	906.8	163 219
December	349	21 262	1 356.3	69.5	901.7	181 034
HOTELS, MOTELS AND SERVICED APARTMENTS WITH 5 OR MORE ROOMS						
2005						
September	483	21 902	1 260.1	62.6	916.9	148 325
December	487	22 767	1 319.6	63.2	948.2	156 788
2006						
March	482	22 120	1 266.9	63.8	910.8	153 593
June	482	22 195	1 242.8	61.6	847.3	151 703
September	488	22 350	1 328.5	64.7	954.6	168 706
December	492	22 473	1 412.7	68.5	958.8	187 704

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

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

	<i>Establishments(a)</i>	<i>Capacity(b)</i>	<i>Nights occupied(c)</i>	<i>Occupancy rate(d)</i>	<i>Takings from accommodation</i>
<i>Quarter</i>	no.	no.	'000	%	\$'000
.....					
CARAVAN PARKS (e)					
2005					
September	205	26 072	1 262.0	52.6	27 746
December	203	25 874	1 103.9	46.6	25 696
2006					
March	202	26 210	1 069.9	45.4	25 758
June	202	26 154	1 176.8	49.4	28 125
September	198	25 807	1 319.6	55.6	30 962
December	198	25 525	1 120.2	47.9	28 960
.....					
HOLIDAY FLATS, UNITS AND HOUSES					
2005					
September	1 139	6 164	63.6	60.7	5 265
December	1 159	6 125	74.4	69.7	7 106
2006					
March	1 160	6 230	69.4	66.5	7 016
June	1 215	6 522	62.8	56.8	6 299
September	1 254	6 564	60.3	52.3	6 231
December	1 324	6 843	85.4	70.1	9 084
.....					
VISITOR HOSTELS (f)					
2005					
September	67	5 161	193.8	40.8	3 898
December	67	5 184	208.5	43.7	4 337
2006					
March	65	4 984	253.2	56.4	5 403
June	65	5 003	224.3	49.4	4 748
September	66	5 305	224.5	46.2	4 952
December	66	5 433	283.4	56.7	6 457

- (a) Number of establishments for Caravan parks and Visitor hostels. Total number of Holiday flats, units and houses.
- (b) Total capacity for Caravan parks (including on-site vans, other powered sites, unpowered sites and cabins, flats, units and villas). Number of bed spaces for Holiday flats, units and houses and Visitor hostels.
- (c) Site nights occupied for Caravan parks. Unit nights occupied for Holiday flats, units and houses. Guest nights occupied for Visitor hostels.
- (d) Site occupancy rate for Caravan parks. Unit occupancy rate for Holiday flats, units and houses. Bed occupancy rate for Visitor hostels.
- (e) Comprising establishments with 40 or more powered sites and cabins, flats, units and villas.
- (f) Comprising establishments with 25 or more bed spaces.

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

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

Month	EMPLOYED		Total unemployed	Labour force(a)	Participation rate	Unemployment rate
	Full-time	Total				
	'000	'000				
MALES						
2006						
March	514.3	598.2	22.1	620.3	76.3	3.6
April	516.1	599.8	20.6	620.4	76.2	3.3
May	517.8	601.2	19.2	620.4	76.1	3.1
June	519.7	602.8	18.2	621.0	76.0	2.9
July	521.4	604.5	17.6	622.0	76.0	2.8
August	522.7	605.8	17.5	623.3	76.0	2.8
September	523.6	606.6	17.8	624.4	76.0	2.9
October	524.1	606.8	18.3	625.1	75.9	2.9
November	524.3	606.6	18.5	625.1	75.7	3.0
December	524.4	606.6	18.4	625.0	75.5	2.9
2007						
January	524.6	607.2	17.9	625.1	75.3	2.9
February	524.9	608.4	17.4	625.7	75.2	2.8
March	525.0	609.7	16.9	626.6	75.2	2.7
April	524.9	611.1	16.5	627.6	75.2	2.6
May	524.7	612.2	16.4	628.6	75.2	2.6
FEMALES						
2006						
March	240.2	466.1	20.8	487.0	59.4	4.3
April	240.9	467.3	20.1	487.4	59.4	4.1
May	241.7	468.6	19.5	488.0	59.4	4.0
June	242.4	469.4	19.3	488.7	59.4	4.0
July	243.0	469.6	19.5	489.1	59.3	4.0
August	243.2	469.4	19.9	489.3	59.3	4.1
September	243.1	469.4	20.1	489.5	59.2	4.1
October	243.2	470.7	19.8	490.6	59.2	4.0
November	243.9	473.1	19.0	492.1	59.3	3.9
December	245.2	476.2	17.9	494.0	59.4	3.6
2007						
January	247.0	479.2	16.9	496.1	59.5	3.4
February	248.6	481.5	16.4	498.0	59.6	3.3
March	249.8	483.1	16.4	499.5	59.7	3.3
April	250.9	484.3	16.5	500.8	59.8	3.3
May	251.4	484.7	16.9	501.6	59.8	3.4
PERSONS						
2006						
March	754.5	1 064.4	42.9	1 107.3	67.8	3.9
April	757.0	1 067.1	40.7	1 107.8	67.8	3.7
May	759.5	1 069.8	38.7	1 108.5	67.7	3.5
June	762.1	1 072.2	37.5	1 109.7	67.7	3.4
July	764.3	1 074.0	37.1	1 111.1	67.6	3.3
August	765.9	1 075.2	37.4	1 112.6	67.6	3.4
September	766.7	1 076.0	37.9	1 113.9	67.6	3.4
October	767.3	1 077.5	38.1	1 115.6	67.5	3.4
November	768.1	1 079.7	37.5	1 117.2	67.5	3.4
December	769.6	1 082.8	36.2	1 119.0	67.4	3.2
2007						
January	771.7	1 086.4	34.8	1 121.2	67.4	3.1
February	773.5	1 089.9	33.8	1 123.7	67.4	3.0
March	774.7	1 092.9	33.2	1 126.1	67.4	3.0
April	775.7	1 095.4	33.0	1 128.4	67.5	2.9
May	776.1	1 096.9	33.3	1 130.2	67.5	2.9

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

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

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

	2006				2007	
	February	May	August	November	February	May
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
Western Australia	1 057.9	1 072.9	1 065.2	1 081.6	1 091.7	1 103.6
Industry(b)						
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	57.9	47.9	42.8	42.0	45.0	43.0
Mining	45.5	54.7	53.5	52.3	51.9	49.6
Manufacturing	95.6	99.9	101.1	98.2	101.4	97.8
Electricity, gas and water supply	9.4	10.0	12.2	11.6	10.7	13.1
Construction	111.5	105.2	103.6	115.2	110.5	105.9
Wholesale trade	44.0	47.9	47.7	46.0	44.8	45.8
Retail trade	152.5	158.2	147.8	154.7	156.7	158.9
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	42.3	45.4	45.3	45.4	48.5	48.9
Transport and storage	45.1	41.1	42.7	40.1	40.3	45.6
Communication services	15.3	16.2	16.7	14.4	14.2	17.8
Finance and insurance	26.4	28.9	29.5	28.7	29.5	32.5
Property and business services	125.4	124.2	133.0	128.3	131.9	134.2
Government administration and defence	47.4	46.2	47.5	54.8	54.1	51.4
Education	63.2	69.2	72.9	73.7	71.1	76.1
Health and community services	109.2	104.4	101.0	99.7	109.7	107.9
Cultural and recreational services	25.6	27.3	23.4	30.5	27.4	30.1
Personal and other services	41.5	46.2	44.6	45.8	44.0	45.2
Occupation(c)						
Managers and administrators	91.5	82.9	77.4	79.3	81.2	82.6
Professionals	186.5	186.7	192.5	191.7	197.8	213.5
Associate professionals	127.5	132.9	132.5	135.3	133.7	142.0
Tradespersons and related workers	146.2	159.9	158.4	158.0	153.2	146.2
Advanced clerical and service workers	42.3	40.1	41.1	39.4	37.1	37.9
Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers	170.4	180.2	172.6	176.0	186.4	182.7
Intermediate production and transport workers	95.9	94.4	95.6	107.8	105.8	102.6
Elementary clerical, sales and service workers	99.0	100.1	95.3	94.5	101.0	98.4
Labourers and related workers	98.5	95.9	99.9	99.7	95.6	97.6

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

(b) ANZSIC Division.

(c) ASCO Major group.

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

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

ANZSIC Division	2006				2007	
	February	May	August	November	February	May
NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES ('000)						
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	29.4	24.4	24.1	22.3	23.0	22.2
Mining	44.4	54.3	52.9	50.8	51.4	48.9
Manufacturing	86.0	92.3	92.0	89.0	93.2	90.2
Electricity, gas and water supply	9.3	9.6	12.0	11.6	10.7	12.8
Construction	71.5	72.1	68.7	78.4	78.8	74.1
Wholesale trade	39.6	43.5	43.3	40.6	39.8	42.1
Retail trade	136.4	142.7	131.8	142.9	144.1	142.5
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	39.1	41.7	41.0	41.0	45.3	44.4
Transport and storage	35.7	34.1	35.2	33.0	33.1	39.9
Communication services	13.4	14.2	14.4	12.9	11.9	15.7
Finance and insurance	24.5	26.9	27.2	25.3	27.2	31.8
Property and business services	106.4	105.6	110.3	109.6	108.2	110.5
Government administration and defence	46.7	46.0	47.5	54.6	53.5	51.4
Education	61.0	66.3	69.2	70.7	69.2	73.7
Health and community services	103.3	98.9	95.3	94.1	104.3	101.0
Cultural and recreational services	20.0	22.6	20.0	26.1	22.7	25.3
Personal and other services	33.8	36.8	34.3	36.2	35.7	37.3
Total	900.4	931.9	919.1	939.1	952.1	963.5
TOTAL WEEKLY HOURS WORKED ('000)						
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	1 155.4	1 056.4	992.6	983.6	975.3	981.5
Mining	1 966.9	2 237.2	2 533.5	2 503.3	2 243.5	2 349.1
Manufacturing	3 392.7	3 666.3	3 502.5	3 525.6	3 666.2	3 531.8
Electricity, gas and water supply	323.2	367.5	474.1	460.6	386.4	510.9
Construction	3 010.3	3 034.9	2 785.9	3 262.4	3 329.3	3 064.1
Wholesale trade	1 556.4	1 745.1	1 708.4	1 616.7	1 538.5	1 654.6
Retail trade	3 878.0	4 211.0	3 780.3	4 137.0	4 153.3	3 980.8
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	1 208.5	1 208.7	1 226.0	1 183.9	1 385.7	1 285.4
Transport and storage	1 395.9	1 401.1	1 382.9	1 364.1	1 417.2	1 624.0
Communication services	501.2	542.0	515.5	455.2	436.0	573.1
Finance and insurance	890.8	967.6	930.2	885.4	958.1	1 087.0
Property and business services	3 845.5	3 871.2	3 929.8	3 930.4	4 067.1	4 063.1
Government administration and defence	1 633.3	1 593.6	1 616.3	1 841.1	1 793.7	1 705.6
Education	2 032.0	2 108.9	2 154.0	2 277.5	2 274.7	2 436.1
Health and community services	3 068.1	2 860.6	2 744.3	2 790.6	3 018.1	2 892.6
Cultural and recreational services	603.8	712.4	560.7	664.6	552.5	726.5
Personal and other services	1 078.8	1 262.8	1 144.3	1 243.9	1 184.8	1 214.2
Total	31 540.9	32 847.3	31 981.1	33 126.0	33 380.5	33 680.5
AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS WORKED (no.)						
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	39.4	43.3	41.2	44.0	42.5	44.2
Mining	44.3	41.2	47.9	49.2	43.6	48.1
Manufacturing	39.5	39.7	38.1	39.6	39.3	39.2
Electricity, gas and water supply	34.8	38.2	39.6	39.6	36.1	40.0
Construction	42.1	42.1	40.5	41.6	42.3	41.3
Wholesale trade	39.3	40.1	39.5	39.8	38.7	39.3
Retail trade	28.4	29.5	28.7	29.0	28.8	27.9
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	30.9	29.0	29.9	28.9	30.6	29.0
Transport and storage	39.1	41.1	39.3	41.4	42.8	40.7
Communication services	37.5	38.0	35.7	35.2	36.6	36.6
Finance and insurance	36.4	36.0	34.2	35.0	35.2	34.2
Property and business services	36.1	36.7	35.6	35.9	37.6	36.8
Government administration and defence	35.0	34.6	34.1	33.7	33.5	33.2
Education	33.3	31.8	31.1	32.2	32.9	33.1
Health and community services	29.7	28.9	28.8	29.6	28.9	28.6
Cultural and recreational services	30.2	31.6	28.1	25.5	24.4	28.8
Personal and other services	31.9	34.3	33.4	34.4	33.2	32.6
Total	35.0	35.2	34.8	35.3	35.1	35.0

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

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

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

ASCO Major group	2006				2007	
	February	May	August	November	February	May
NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES ('000)						
Managers and administrators	64.7	61.7	54.7	58.9	60.1	60.2
Professionals	165.5	167.2	172.0	173.0	179.8	192.5
Associate professionals	106.6	115.5	113.0	117.2	112.4	120.5
Tradespersons and related workers	106.3	125.4	121.8	118.0	119.5	112.8
Advanced clerical and service workers	32.5	30.5	33.5	31.2	29.0	30.6
Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers	161.4	171.9	165.5	166.3	177.1	175.3
Intermediate production and transport workers	83.3	83.7	83.5	95.4	93.4	90.6
Elementary clerical, sales and service workers	95.2	96.6	89.9	91.7	97.3	94.0
Labourers and related workers	84.9	79.3	85.1	87.4	83.4	86.9
Total	900.4	931.9	919.1	939.1	952.1	963.5
TOTAL WEEKLY HOURS WORKED ('000)						
Managers and administrators	2 893.7	2 794.6	2 427.5	2 627.4	2 697.2	2 826.2
Professionals	6 157.9	6 272.0	6 173.2	6 254.9	6 473.8	6 957.6
Associate professionals	4 104.5	4 458.6	4 462.7	4 630.5	4 521.4	4 630.0
Tradespersons and related workers	4 123.9	5 039.2	5 020.9	4 878.5	4 896.9	4 711.1
Advanced clerical and service workers	923.7	839.3	979.0	983.7	855.2	940.5
Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers	5 011.0	5 388.9	4 985.7	5 115.8	5 347.1	5 315.0
Intermediate production and transport workers	3 357.3	3 217.8	3 276.2	3 823.9	3 679.1	3 319.6
Elementary clerical, sales and service workers	2 419.6	2 314.4	2 156.7	2 197.2	2 374.6	2 277.5
Labourers and related workers	2 549.3	2 522.7	2 499.3	2 614.0	2 535.4	2 703.1
Total	31 540.9	32 847.3	31 981.1	33 126.0	33 380.5	33 680.5
AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS WORKED (no.)						
Managers and administrators	44.8	45.3	44.4	44.6	44.9	46.9
Professionals	37.2	37.5	35.9	36.1	36.0	36.1
Associate professionals	38.5	38.6	39.5	39.5	40.2	38.4
Tradespersons and related workers	38.8	40.2	41.2	41.3	41.0	41.7
Advanced clerical and service workers	28.4	27.5	29.2	31.5	29.5	30.8
Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers	31.1	31.4	30.1	30.8	30.2	30.3
Intermediate production and transport workers	40.3	38.4	39.2	40.1	39.4	36.6
Elementary clerical, sales and service workers	25.4	24.0	24.0	24.0	24.4	24.2
Labourers and related workers	30.0	31.8	29.4	29.9	30.4	31.1
Total	35.0	35.2	34.8	35.3	35.1	35.0

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

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

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS OF EMPLOYEES: All series

Quarter	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
ORIGINAL									
2005									
November	1 152.00	1 227.60	1 039.10	862.10	878.00	562.70	1 057.20	1 113.30	809.70
2006									
February	1 165.10	1 232.80	1 046.50	869.30	884.10	567.20	1 069.00	1 119.50	816.60
May	1 172.70	1 239.90	1 031.30	878.20	893.60	571.70	1 074.10	1 124.00	808.70
August	1 222.80	1 295.60	1 082.00	905.30	923.30	606.80	1 122.00	1 177.40	864.40
November	1 232.90	1 299.00	1 097.50	913.90	929.40	623.00	1 130.90	1 180.80	878.50
2007									
February	1 241.80	1 310.10	1 116.90	934.20	949.60	637.70	1 140.50	1 191.40	893.50
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED									
2005									
November	1 151.80	1 226.60	1 035.60	863.80	877.50	565.90	1 056.50	1 111.60	811.10
2006									
February	1 167.60	1 236.10	1 043.60	868.10	882.90	562.70	1 070.90	1 121.80	813.10
May	1 169.80	1 234.90	1 033.30	881.80	898.40	576.70	1 073.40	1 122.80	812.90
August	1 223.80	1 299.00	1 086.60	900.90	920.10	603.10	1 121.60	1 178.10	862.40
November	1 232.40	1 297.40	1 093.80	915.80	929.00	626.30	1 130.20	1 179.10	879.80
2007									
February	1 244.10	1 313.40	1 113.30	933.00	948.30	633.10	1 142.40	1 193.70	889.50
TREND									
2005									
November	1 148.00	1 219.60	1 030.80	860.60	874.00	563.70	1 053.60	1 106.60	807.20
2006									
February	1 163.80	1 233.60	1 039.40	869.60	886.00	566.70	1 067.30	1 119.20	812.20
May	1 185.50	1 254.60	1 051.70	883.40	900.00	580.00	1 087.20	1 139.10	827.40
August	1 209.90	1 279.00	1 072.80	899.30	915.90	601.10	1 109.50	1 161.50	852.10
November	1 232.20	1 301.30	1 095.70	916.30	932.00	621.20	1 130.20	1 182.00	876.30
2007									
February	1 251.30	1 319.90	1 117.70	932.80	947.20	637.60	1 148.40	1 199.30	896.40

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

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS OF EMPLOYEES, By industry: Original

ANZSIC Division	2005	2006				2007
	November	February	May	August	November	February
FULL-TIME ADULT ORDINARY TIME EARNINGS (\$)						
Mining	1 563.80	1 656.80	1 717.10	1 711.40	1 772.40	1 832.00
Manufacturing	1 105.70	1 138.10	1 152.40	1 154.20	1 135.70	1 147.40
Electricity, gas and water supply	1 373.80	1 367.40	1 308.60	1 440.50	1 402.40	1 393.00
Construction	1 038.70	1 050.20	1 113.70	1 247.10	1 110.70	1 170.70
Wholesale trade	1 134.80	1 023.70	1 005.80	991.60	1 073.40	1 071.70
Retail trade	732.80	760.00	757.20	738.50	768.50	771.80
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	765.20	779.10	794.90	797.60	897.80	899.70
Transport and storage	992.90	972.70	999.50	1 019.50	986.10	1 029.50
Communication services	1 026.60	973.10	997.00	1 026.40	1 020.20	998.80
Finance and insurance	1 090.00	989.10	1 004.90	1 126.90	1 177.60	1 165.30
Property and business services	1 037.60	1 104.70	1 109.80	1 225.00	1 307.90	1 279.10
Government administration and defence	1 014.50	1 033.60	1 035.20	1 051.10	1 083.30	1 071.30
Education	1 062.60	1 046.50	1 067.40	1 071.40	1 087.20	1 077.00
Health and community services	1 012.70	1 051.90	934.50	1 009.40	1 008.50	1 037.30
Cultural and recreational services	921.30	883.40	904.80	944.00	946.80	1 004.70
Personal and other services	988.10	1 006.00	969.00	1 047.00	939.70	949.30
Total	1 057.20	1 069.00	1 074.10	1 122.00	1 130.90	1 140.50
FULL-TIME ADULT TOTAL EARNINGS (\$)						
Mining	1 648.90	1 731.90	1 792.20	1 768.30	1 828.00	1 853.30
Manufacturing	1 202.70	1 241.80	1 250.10	1 233.30	1 201.80	1 215.60
Electricity, gas and water supply	1 473.50	1 470.50	1 416.00	1 565.00	1 523.00	1 499.20
Construction	1 234.80	1 178.70	1 253.30	1 477.10	1 322.40	1 434.30
Wholesale trade	1 175.90	1 071.50	1 056.70	1 029.20	1 107.60	1 111.40
Retail trade	764.80	789.80	791.20	768.70	800.90	798.00
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	779.30	798.70	820.70	817.00	931.00	927.30
Transport and storage	1 048.30	1 025.80	1 049.10	1 081.20	1 052.20	1 093.90
Communication services	1 068.90	1 020.90	1 042.70	1 096.40	1 078.20	1 043.80
Finance and insurance	1 097.30	998.40	1 015.90	1 132.20	1 181.60	1 169.20
Property and business services	1 061.00	1 129.20	1 125.50	1 243.70	1 319.50	1 293.10
Government administration and defence	1 032.70	1 053.70	1 057.30	1 069.10	1 103.90	1 092.20
Education	1 065.30	1 049.50	1 069.60	1 074.40	1 090.70	1 079.60
Health and community services	1 049.70	1 096.10	972.20	1 052.20	1 045.10	1 076.60
Cultural and recreational services	956.40	906.80	921.40	955.00	968.60	1 009.30
Personal and other services	1 032.00	1 047.70	1 021.90	1 092.20	986.20	992.70
Total	1 113.30	1 119.50	1 124.00	1 177.40	1 180.80	1 191.40
ALL EMPLOYEES TOTAL EARNINGS (\$)						
Mining	1 627.30	1 718.80	1 765.70	1 706.20	1 772.90	1 781.50
Manufacturing	1 088.60	1 117.20	1 130.80	1 121.20	1 124.70	1 140.60
Electricity, gas and water supply	1 429.20	1 423.90	1 382.50	1 515.20	1 473.10	1 460.10
Construction	1 092.20	1 039.10	1 092.80	1 228.30	1 119.30	1 288.50
Wholesale trade	1 026.90	909.30	937.10	887.00	981.30	978.90
Retail trade	402.60	422.20	418.00	406.70	459.20	449.50
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	367.90	380.20	355.10	384.40	384.00	434.90
Transport and storage	1 006.20	927.10	994.80	990.50	940.60	1 002.60
Communication services	947.40	886.10	909.00	953.60	929.80	898.80
Finance and insurance	912.50	812.10	822.70	872.10	870.40	974.20
Property and business services	909.90	927.90	867.30	931.10	987.00	927.60
Government administration and defence	893.60	922.90	918.30	927.20	943.00	947.90
Education	735.70	774.40	725.00	752.00	755.30	802.80
Health and community services	703.60	728.30	679.80	720.80	744.80	746.30
Cultural and recreational services	555.10	592.90	602.10	640.10	694.80	710.50
Personal and other services	503.80	528.70	524.00	863.90	783.00	748.50
Total	809.70	816.60	808.70	864.40	878.50	893.50

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

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES WHICH OCCURRED DURING THE PERIOD: **Original**

Reference period	Number of disputes no.	Number of employees involved '000	Working days lost '000	Working days lost per thousand employees no.
2004	134	26.7	64.1	. .
2005	115	23.3	53.5	. .
2006	np	3.9	4.5	. .
2005				
December	18	4.0	12.0	13.4
2006				
March	17	1.2	2.3	2.5
June	np	1.3	1.1	1.2
September	3	0.2	0.2	0.3
December	4	1.2	0.9	1.0
2007				
March	6	0.7	0.5	0.5

. . not applicable

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

Source: ABS data available on request, *Industrial Disputes, Australia*, cat. no. 6321.0.55.001.JOB VACANCIES FOR EMPLOYEES, By sector: **Original**

Quarter	PRIVATE		PUBLIC		TOTAL	
	Job vacancies		Job vacancies		Job vacancies	
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
2005						
November	14.5	26.8	1.3	-21.2	15.8	20.7
2006						
February	19.3	37.3	1.4	10.6	20.6	35.1
May	19.7	49.2	1.5	15.0	21.2	46.1
August	21.4	36.4	1.2	-6.2	22.6	33.3
November	22.5	55.3	1.4	4.3	23.9	51.0
2007						
February	23.7	23.0	1.3	np	25.0	21.3

np not published due to break in series

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

ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION AND COMPONENTS OF POPULATION CHANGE(a)

Reference period	ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION(b)			COMPONENTS OF POPULATION GROWTH					
	Male	Female	Total	Births	Deaths	Natural increase(c)	Net interstate migration	Net overseas migration(d)	Total population growth(e)
	persons	persons	persons	persons	persons	persons	persons	persons	persons
2003–2004	997 099	985 541	1 982 640	24 530	11 305	13 225	1 272	13 634	29 885
2004–2005	1 016 406	1 000 923	2 017 329	25 439	11 180	14 259	1 466	17 160	34 689
2005–2006	1 039 653	1 019 392	2 059 045	27 205	11 836	15 369	3 058	21 493	41 716
2004	1 006 103	992 827	1 998 930	24 968	11 139	13 829	1 515	13 974	31 094
2005	1 027 871	1 010 338	2 038 209	26 616	11 399	15 217	1 996	20 263	39 279
2006	1 051 192	1 029 774	2 080 966	27 794	11 659	16 135	3 768	21 953	42 757
2005									
September	1 021 823	1 005 305	2 027 128	6 928	3 289	3 639	797	4 917	9 799
December	1 027 871	1 010 338	2 038 209	6 623	2 791	3 832	314	6 486	11 081
2006									
March	1 034 808	1 015 680	2 050 488	6 674	2 872	3 802	1 167	6 863	12 279
June	1 039 653	1 019 392	2 059 045	6 980	2 884	4 096	780	3 227	8 557
September	1 045 352	1 024 525	2 069 877	7 070	2 948	4 122	889	5 821	10 832
December	1 051 192	1 029 774	2 080 966	7 070	2 955	4 115	932	6 042	11 089

(a) ERP data may be final, revised or preliminary at any point in time. See the 'ERP Data Status' section of the Notes in the source publication.

(b) At end of reference period.

(c) Births minus deaths.

(d) Adjusted for category jumping.

(e) Differences may occur between total growth and the sum of natural increase and net migration due to intercensal discrepancy.

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

REPORTED OFFENCES (a) (b)

	2005	2006			2007	
	December	March	June	September	December	March
<i>Selected offences</i>	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
Homicide(c)	29	35	22	21	19	10
Assault(d)	6 530	7 055	5 984	6 417	6 828	6 762
Robbery(e)	461	448	451	457	531	542
Burglary(f)	10 263	10 368	10 047	9 559	10 066	10 251
Steal Motor Vehicle(g)	1 854	1 800	1 923	1 921	1 977	2 039
Theft	21 120	21 066	20 091	21 051	20 467	20 435
Property Damage	11 281	10 952	9 795	10 799	11 341	11 606
Drugs	4 323	4 135	4 292	4 712	3 991	3 735
Other(h)	5 935	6 264	5 245	6 063	5 781	5 665
Total reported offences	61 796	62 123	57 850	61 000	61 001	61 045

- (a) Reported offences are selected offences reported to, or becoming known to, police and resulting in the submission of a report. The number of reported offences in a period may include offences that occurred during earlier periods. The data are subject to revisions as further data become available. Offence classifications may alter between periods due to changes in legislation, administrative recording practices or system coding, and locality boundaries may change. Therefore, time series may be broken.
- (b) Definitional, coding and processing changes associated with the introduction of the Frontline Incident Management System have had an impact on some data. Variations in data may have resulted from reporting and recording changes, and may not reflect an actual increase or decrease in the incidence of an offence type or in total offence numbers. Therefore, caution should be exercised when interpreting and using offence statistics from late 2002, and when comparing those statistics with earlier periods.
- (c) Includes driving causing death.
- (d) Includes sexual assault.
- (e) Includes armed and unarmed offences.
- (f) Includes burglary to dwellings and buildings other than dwellings.
- (g) Includes motorised and other vehicles.
- (h) Includes offences such as fraud, arson and threatening behaviour.

Note: Graffiti offences no longer appear in the table.

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

POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS (a)

Characteristic		1996	2004	2005	2006
Total population	'000	1 765.3	r1 982.6	r2 017.3	2 059.0
Male population	'000	887.6	r997.1	r1 016.4	1 039.7
Female population	'000	877.7	r985.5	r1 000.9	1 019.4
Indigenous population(b)	'000	59.6	69.7	70.9	72.2
Persons living in Perth SD	%	73.4	73.5	r73.3	73.2
Population aged 0–14	%	22.3	20.2	19.9	19.9
Population aged 15–64	%	67.4	68.2	68.3	68.4
Population aged 65 and over	%	10.4	11.6	11.8	11.7
Population aged 80 and over	%	2.3	2.9	3.0	3.0
Median age of total population(c)	years	33.1	35.9	36.2	36.2
Sex ratio of population aged 0–64(d)	ratio	104.0	102.8	103.1	104.5
Sex ratio of population aged 65 and over(d)	ratio	79.2	82.8	83.5	84.9
Male life expectancy at birth(e)	years	75.4	78.6	78.8	na
Female life expectancy at birth(e)	years	81.3	83.3	83.8	na
Male life expectancy at age 65(e)	years	16.0	18.1	18.4	na
Female life expectancy at age 65(e)	years	19.9	21.5	21.8	na

na not available

r revised

(a) Data are at 30 June each year unless otherwise specified.

(b) 1996 population data are experimental estimates based on 2001 Census data, while 2004, 2005 and 2006 are experimental low series projections.

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

(d) The number of males per 100 females.

(e) Life expectancies are based on three year averages (e.g. 2005 life expectancy is the average for the 2003–2005 period.)

Source: *Australian Demographic Statistics*, cat. no. 3101.0; *Population by Age and Sex, Australian States and Territories*, cat. no. 3201.0; *Experimental Estimates and Projections, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians*, cat. no. 3238.0; *Life Tables, Western Australia*, cat. no. 3302.5.55.001.

CAUSES OF DEATH (a)

		1995	2003	2004	2005
Leading causes of death (all deaths)					
Cancer	%	27.7	29.4	29.8	30.2
Ischaemic heart disease	%	23.4	17.3	17.4	17.5
Stroke	%	9.6	8.1	8.1	7.4
Selected cancer					
Male lung cancer (of male deaths)	%	8.4	7.0	7.0	7.9
Female lung cancer (of female deaths)	%	3.6	4.6	4.6	4.8
Female breast cancer (of female deaths)	%	5.0	4.7	4.1	4.4
Prostate cancer (of male deaths)	%	5.3	3.5	3.7	4.0
Skin cancer (of all deaths)	%	0.7	0.8	1.1	1.2
Heart disease					
Male ischaemic heart disease (of male deaths)	%	24.7	18.0	18.4	17.9
Female ischaemic heart disease (of female deaths)	%	21.8	16.6	16.3	17.1
Accidents and suicide					
Transport accidents					
Males (of male deaths)	%	2.9	2.4	2.6	2.1
15–24 years (of male deaths 15–24 years)	%	31.9	38.8	35.0	36.2
Females (of female deaths)	%	1.3	1.2	1.0	0.9
15–24 years (of female deaths 15–24 years)	%	34.6	34.0	28.8	31.6
Suicide					
Males (of male deaths)	%	3.2	2.8	2.7	2.8
15–24 years (of male deaths 15–24 years)	%	29.9	24.0	15.0	23.3
Females (of female deaths)	%	0.8	1.1	0.7	0.6
15–24 years (of female deaths 15–24 years)	%	19.2	16.0	9.6	7.9
Total male deaths	no.	5 617	5 913	5 850	5 974
Total female deaths	no.	4 747	5 398	5 334	5 323
Total male deaths 15–24 years	no.	144	129	120	116
Total female deaths 15–24 years	no.	52	50	52	38
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	no.	5	4	4	5

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

Source: ABS data available on request, *Deaths*, cat. no. 3302.0; *Causes of Death*, cat. no. 3303.0.

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