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BOOK RETAILERS

AUSTRALIA

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■ For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070 or Helen Shannon on Adelaide 08 82377420

NOTES

ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

This publication presents the results from the first comprehensive study of book retailing in Australia by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS). The publication is based on data from the 2000–01 Book Retailers Survey which collected information from businesses in four retail industries: *Newspaper, book and stationery retailing,* where all employing businesses were in scope; and *Department stores, Supermarket and grocery stores,* and *Retailing n.e.c.*, where only businesses employing 200 or more people were in scope. Sales of books by these businesses is estimated to cover 97% of book sales by employing businesses to final consumers in Australia.

The publication provides details on the number and value of books purchased and sold, as well as information on the book related operations of the four industries named above. In addition, information is provided on the detailed operations of bookshops, including their employment, expenses and income.

The survey was conducted by the ABS with funding provided by the Department of Communications, Information Technology and the Arts as part of the Book Industry Assistance Plan.

ROUNDING

Where figures have been rounded, minor discrepancies may occur between the sums of the component items and the totals. Published percentages are calculated prior to rounding of the figures and therefore some discrepancy may occur between these percentages and those which could be calculated from the rounded figures.

ABBREVIATIONS

\$m million dollars

ABS Australian Bureau of Statistics

ANZSIC Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification

EFTPOS electronic funds transfer at point of sale

IVA industry value addedn.e.c. not elsewhere classifiedRSE relative standard error

SE standard error

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Australian Statistician

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

SCOPE

This publication presents data in respect of the 2000–01 financial year from an Australian Bureau of Statistics survey of employing businesses involved in the retail sales of books. The survey is based on data collected from businesses classified to the following industries in the Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC) (see paragraph 2 of the Explanatory Notes):

- Supermarket and grocery stores (ANZSIC 5110)
- Department stores (ANZSIC 5210)
- Newspaper, book and stationery retailing (ANZSIC 5243)
- *Retailing n.e.c.* (ANZSIC 5259).

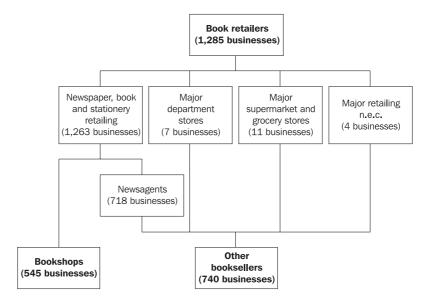
Only the larger retailing businesses (those with 200 or more employees) classified as *Supermarkets and grocery stores; Department stores;* and *Retailers n.e.c.* have been included as the book retailing activity of smaller businesses in these industries is negligible.

Businesses classed as *Newspaper, book and stationery retailing* (5243) have been further categorised as either 'Bookshops' or 'Newsagents' based on their level of bookselling activity. In this ANZSIC class, those businesses with new book sales comprising at least 50% of their total retail sales have been categorised as 'Bookshops' while those with less than 50% have been categorised as 'Newsagents' (see paragraph 8 of the Explanatory Notes).

Many businesses operate from more than one location; however, only the activity of locations in Australia have been included in the collection. All book sales by overseas businesses selling directly to final consumers through the Internet or mail order have been excluded from the collection.

SCOPE continued

OVERVIEW OF BUSINESSES INVOLVED IN BOOK RETAILING



CONTENT

Chapter 2 of this publication summarises the book retailing activities of all book retailers indicated above. Apart from providing data on the number and value of books sold, the chapter gives selected financial information on the book related operations of retailers. Information is also provided on the adoption of technology by these booksellers.

Many of the book retailers included in the survey sell a variety of other goods often making it difficult to separate the costs involved and levels of employment associated with just the sale of books. Detailed information is presented on the business operations of retailers with a predominant activity of selling books. Chapter 3 focuses on these bookshops which were responsible for the majority (76%) of the value of book sales in 2000–01.

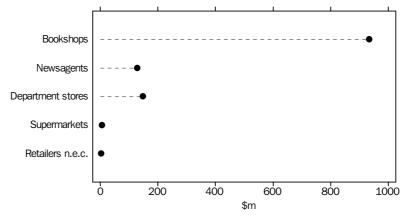
CHAPTER 2

BOOK RETAILERS

OVERVIEW

Sales of books valued at \$1,221.0m were reported by the 1,285 employing businesses identified as having retail bookselling activity in 2000–01. The majority of these businesses were newsagents (718 businesses) responsible for 11% (\$129.0m) of the value of book sales. Most of the income from book sales (76% or \$933.6m) was generated by the 545 businesses classified as bookshops. Major department stores (7 businesses), supermarkets (11) and retailing businesses n.e.c. (4), representing less than 2% of the businesses involved in book sales, were responsible for the remaining 13% of the books sold (tables 2.1 and 2.2). Smaller department stores, supermarkets and retailing businesses n.e.c. were previously found to have negligible book sales and were therefore excluded from the survey (see paragraph 4 of the Explanatory Notes).

VALUE OF NEW BOOK SALES BY TYPE OF RETAILER



NUMBER OF BOOKS SOLD

In total, book retailers sold over 70 million new books to final consumers. Almost 60% (41.8 million) of these books were sold by bookshops. In comparison, department stores were responsible for 23% (16.4 million) of the books sold; newsagents, 13% (9.1 million); and businesses classified as supermarkets and retailing n.e.c., a total of 4% (2.9 million) (tables 2.1 and 2.2).

The average sale price of books varied across the different types of retailers. The price of a book from a bookshop was \$22 compared with \$14 from a newsagent, \$9 from a department store and \$3 from the remaining booksellers. The average price tends to reflect the types of books being sold (tables 2.1 and 2.2).

INCOME

While book retailers reported a total income of \$50,703.5m, the majority of that amount (\$49,482.5m or 98%) was not from the sale of books. The importance of book sales to the overall operations of businesses varied substantially for the different types of book retailers. Bookshops generated 91% of their income from the sale of new books. In contrast, newsagents relied on new book sales for 14% of their income while for

INCOME continued

department stores, supermarkets and retailing businesses n.e.c., book sales were around 1% or less (tables 2.1 and 2.2).

On average, individual bookshops had income of \$1.7m from the sale of new books and another \$0.2m from other sales and services. In comparison, each newsagent earned on average \$0.2m from book sales and \$1.1m from other activities. While the seven larger department stores reported an average value of new book sales of \$21.2m, this was relatively small when compared to their overall average income of \$1,954.0m. The larger supermarkets reported an average value of new book sales of \$0.6m and the larger retailing businesses n.e.c. an average of \$0.9m—both also relatively small figures compared to their overall incomes of \$3,138.7m and \$135.3m respectively (tables 2.1 and 2.2).

Almost all (99%) new book sales were printed books, although \$12.4m of electronic and audio books were also sold. As the survey only covers Australian businesses (i.e. businesses operating within Australia), it is not possible to determine the overall level of consumption of electronic or audio books as these items are sometimes purchased using the Internet directly from overseas businesses (table 2.3).

In 2000–01, the Educational Textbook Subsidy Scheme was introduced to assist students at Australian educational institutions. Under the Scheme, book retailers gave discounts to students for textbooks on prescribed lists and then claimed back the value of the discount from the Commonwealth Government. Book retailers claimed \$6.9m in return for discounts provided to students. Bookshops claimed \$6.4m of this amount compared to \$0.5m for other booksellers (table 2.3).

For most book retailers, it is not possible to separate expenditure on bookselling from expenditure on the sales of other products. This is particularly true for department stores and supermarkets which sell a wide range of products and for which book sales are generally only a very small part of their total sales. Therefore the total expenditure by book retailers (\$50,112.5m) is not solely related to the selling of books. One distinguishable book related expense for book retailers is the purchase of new books. In 2000–01, book retailers spent \$786.1m or 2% of their total expenditure on purchasing books. Approximately 77% of this amount was spent by bookshops, 16% by department stores, 7% by newsagents and a total of less than 1% by the businesses classified as supermarkets and retailing businesses n.e.c. (tables 2.1 and 2.2). Book retailers purchased most (96% or \$752.2m) of their books from Australian suppliers (table 2.4).

On average bookshops spent \$1.1m each, or a total of \$602.1m, on the purchase of new books. Bookshops purchased a total of 38.2 million new books at an average price of \$16. By comparison, the other book retailers spent an average of \$0.2m each or a total of \$184.0m purchasing 37.6 million books at an average price of \$5. This difference in price between the cost of books purchased by bookshops and the cost of books purchased by other booksellers highlights the likely difference in the types of books being sold (table 2.4).

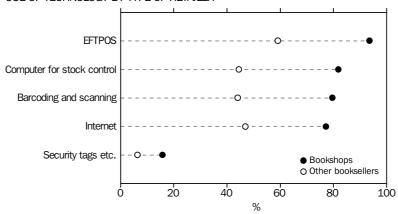
EXPENSES

USE OF TECHNOLOGY

In 2000–01, 85% of book retailers used computers and a range of selected other technologies, including EFTPOS (Electronic funds transfer at point of sale), barcode scanning systems and electronic security systems, in the operation of their business. Almost all (99%) of the bookshops reported using at least one of the technologies compared to 75% for the other booksellers (table 2.5).

Almost three-quarters (74%) of the book retailers had EFTPOS devices allowing consumers to purchase books using their credit cards. Barcoding and scanning systems, used to record revenue and also for stock control, were used by 59% of businesses while electronic article surveillance or security tag systems were used by 10% of businesses (table 2.5).

USE OF TECHNOLOGY BY TYPE OF RETAILER





2.1 KEY AGGREGATES, By type of book retailer

		Bookshops(a)	Other booksellers(b)	Total businesses
• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	• • • • • • •	• • • • • • • • • •	• • • • • • • • •	• • • • • • • • • •
Number of businesses Number of books sold	no. million	545 41.8	740 28.4	1 285 70.3
Income Retail sales of new books(c) Other retail sales Other income Total	\$m \$m \$m \$m	933.6 66.5 24.7 1 024.8	287.4 44 691.1 4 700.3 49 678.7	1 221.0 44 757.6 4 725.0 50 703.5
Average income per business Average sales of new books per business	\$m \$m	1.9 1.7	67.1 0.4	39.5 1.0
Expenses Purchases of new books Other expenses Total	\$m \$m \$m	602.1 415.9 1 018.0	184.0 48 910.5 49 094.5	786.1 49 326.5 50 112.5
Average expenses per business Average purchases of new books per business	\$m \$m	1.9	66.3 0.2	39.0 0.6

⁽a) Includes only those businesses which are classified according to the ANZSIC as Newspaper, book and stationery retailing and for which the value of new book sales comprises at least 50% of all retail sales.

⁽b) Includes those businesses which are classified according to the ANZSIC as Supermarket and grocery stores; Department stores; Retailing n.e.c.; or Newspaper, book and stationery retailing and for which the value of new book sales comprises less than 50% of all retail sales.

⁽c) Includes \$12.4m for electronic and audio books.



2.2 KEY AGGREGATES, By type of other bookseller

		Newsagents(a)	Department stores	Supermarkets	Retailing n.e.c.	Total
	• • • • • • •	• • • • • • • • • •	• • • • • • • • • •	• • • • • • • • • •		• • • • • • • • • •
Number of businesses	no.	718	7	11	4	740
Number of books sold	million	*9.1	16.4	np	np	28.4
Income						
Retail sales of new books	\$m	*129.0	148.2	6.3	3.8	287.4
Other retail sales	\$m	700.4	np	np	537.2	44 691.1
Other income	\$m	103.6	np	np	0.4	4 700.3
Total	\$m	933.0	13 678.2	34 526.2	541.4	49 678.7
Average income per business Average sales of new books per	\$m	1.3	1 954.0	3 138.7	135.3	67.1
business	\$m	*0.2	21.2	0.6	0.9	0.4
Expenses						
Purchases of new books	\$m	53.5	124.0	4.7	1.8	184.0
Other expenses	\$m	841.9	13 632.9	33 892.7	543.0	48 910.5
Total	\$m	895.4	13 756.9	33 897.3	544.8	49 094.5
Average expenses per business Average purchases of new books	\$m	1.2	1 965.3	3 081.6	136.2	66.3
per business	\$m	*0.1	17.7	0.4	0.4	0.2

estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% (a) Includes those businesses which are classified according to the and should be used with caution

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

ANZSIC as Newspaper, book and stationery retailing and for which the value of new book sales comprises less than 50% of all retail



	Bookshops(a)	Other booksellers(b)	Total businesses
	\$m	\$m	\$m
• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	• • • • • • • • •	• • • • • • • • •	• • • • • • • • • •
Retail sales			
New books(c)	933.6	287.4	1 221.0
Second-hand books	**0.7	**4.7	*5.5
Other goods	65.8	44 686.3	44 752.1
Total	1 000.1	44 978.4	45 978.6
Educational Textbook Subsidy Scheme	*6.4	*0.5	6.9
Other income	18.3	4 699.8	4 718.1
Total income	1 024.8	49 678.7	50 703.5

- ** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use
- estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with
- (a) Includes only those businesses which are classified according to the ANZSIC as Newspaper, book and stationery retailing and for which the value of new book sales comprises at least 50% of all retail sales.
- (b) Includes those businesses which are classified according to the ANZSIC as Supermarket and grocery stores; Department stores; Retailing n.e.c.; or Newspaper, book and stationery retailing and for which the value of new book sales comprises less than 50% of all retail
- (c) Includes \$12.4m for electronic and audio books.



2.4 LOCATION OF SUPPLIER, By type of book retailer

		Bookshops(a)	Other booksellers(b)	Total businesses
• • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	• • • • • • •	• • • • • • • • •	• • • • • • • • •	• • • • • • • • •
Books purchased Cost of purchases from	million	38.2	37.6	75.7
Australian suppliers	\$m	572.5	179.6	752.2
Overseas suppliers	\$m	29.6	4.3	33.9
Total	\$m	602.1	184.0	786.1

- (a) Includes only those businesses which are classified according to the ANZSIC as Newspaper, book and stationery retailing and for which the value of new book sales comprises at least 50% of all retail sales.
- (b) Includes those businesses which are classified according to the ANZSIC as Supermarket and grocery stores; Department stores; Retailing n.e.c.; or Newspaper, book and stationery retailing and for which the value of new book sales comprises less than 50% of all retail sales.



USE OF TECHNOLOGY, By type of book retailer

	Bookshops(a)	Other booksellers(b)	Total businesses
	%	%	%
Businesses using a computer for stock control Businesses using the Internet for Selling goods and services	81.9	44.5	60.3
Receiving orders for goods and services	30.5	*5.8	16.3
Sending invoices to customers	*6.5	**1.8	*3.8
Receiving payments and/or authorisations	23.4	*13.6	17.8
Delivering products electronically	*np	**np	**0.6
Providing after sales service	20.1	*2.2	9.8
Purchasing goods and services Researching the availability or cost of goods or			
services	61.5	17.8	36.3
Ordering goods or services	33.6	20.8	26.2
Receiving invoices	*18.7	18.7	18.7
Making payments and/or authorisations	31.8	*9.4	18.9
Receiving products electronically	**1.7	**1.2	*1.5
Seeking after sales service	*12.2	*5.4	*8.3
General Email	76.3	39.5	55.1
Bibliographic and other information searches	76.3 62.8	39.5 *14.9	35.2
Advertising or promotion	62.8 18.7	~14.9 4.4	35.2 10.5
Banking and financial services	49.9	28.9	37.8
Other	**2.8	20.9	**1.2
None of the above	22.8	53.1	40.3
Businesses having a web site, home page or other web presence (including a presence on another entity's web			
site)	33.7	13.1	21.8
Businesses using the following technologies			
Barcoding and scanning systems	79.6	44.1	59.1
EFTPOS	93.5	59.1	73.7
Electronic article surveillance or security tags	15.7	*6.3	10.3
None of the above	**3.7	32.2	20.1
Businesses not counted in at least one of the above	**0.0	05.4	45.0
technologies	**0.9	25.4	15.0
Businesses using one or more of the above technologies	99.1	74.6	85.0

^{*} estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution

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

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

nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

⁽a) Includes only those businesses which are classified according to the ANZSIC as Newspaper, book and stationery retailing and which the value of new book sales comprises at least 50% of all retail sales.

⁽b) Includes those businesses which are classified according to the ANZSIC as Supermarket and grocery stores; Department stores; Retailing n.e.c.; or Newspaper, book and stationery retailing and for which the value of new book sales comprises less than 50% of all sales.

CHAPTER 3

BOOKSHOPS

INTRODUCTION

This chapter provides detailed information on the operation of bookshops including their income, expenditure, profitability and employment.

OVERVIEW

In 2000–01, there were 545 employing businesses classified as bookshops because they reported that their new book sales were at least 50% of their total retail sales. These businesses operated from 876 retail locations around Australia (table 3.7). The larger businesses (those with 20 or more people in employment), while representing only 9% (48 businesses) of the total number of bookshops, had 56% (\$511.2m) of the total income from new book sales and sold 45% (18.9 million) of the books. They also incurred 57% (\$577.4m) of the expenses (table 3.1).

For 2000–01, bookshops recorded an operating profit before tax of \$22.6m representing a profit margin of 2.2%. Bookshops contributed \$168.8m to industry value added (IVA), which is a measure of the value an industry adds to the overall economy (table 3.1).

INCOME

Bookshops reported a total income of \$1,024.8m of which 91% (\$933.6m) was from retail sales of new books. New book sales were supplemented by retail sales of other goods (including second-hand books) (\$66.5m); the Educational Textbook Subsidy Scheme (\$6.4m); the sale of services (\$5.9m); and other sources such as wholesale sales and income from royalties (\$12.4m) (table 3.2).

EXPENSES

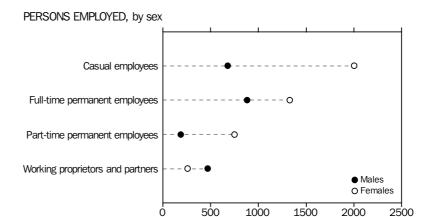
The total expenses for bookshops were \$1,018.0m in 2000–01. The purchase of goods for resale represented 63% (\$642.6m) of total expenses which included \$602.1m for the purchase of new books. Wages and salaries were 14% (\$140.8m) of total expenses. A further 2% (\$20.2m) was spent on other labour costs. There was a range of items covering the remaining 21% of costs including \$76.1m for rent, leasing and hiring; \$16.1m for advertising and \$13.1m for depreciation and amortisation (table 3.3).

EMPLOYMENT

At the last pay period ending June 2001, bookshops had a total employment of 6,564 people. This comprised 732 working proprietors and partners and 5,832 employees. Of the employees, the highest proportion were casually employed (46% or 2,682 employees) followed by those employed permanently full-time (38% or 2,208 employees) then those employed as part-time permanent employees (16% or 942 employees). Of the total employed, almost two-thirds (4,342) were female with 46% of those being casually employed (table 3.6).

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EMPLOYMENT continued



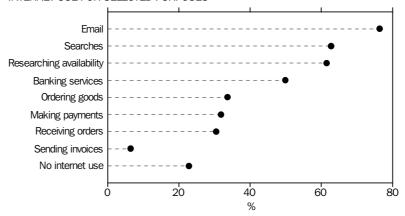
STATE AND TERRITORY DATA

Data were collected for the Australia-wide operations of each business. Businesses operating in more than one state or territory were asked to provide a state and territory breakdown for several key data items. New South Wales reported the highest number of businesses (204) although there were more retail locations in Victoria than in any other state or territory. Victoria also reported the largest employment figures (2,203 people) although their costs for wages and salaries were similar to those of New South Wales perhaps suggesting a higher level of part-time staff in Victoria. The 876 bookshop locations each covered an average of 221 square metres of floor space or 193,600 square metres in total (table 3.7).

USE OF TECHNOLOGY

Bookshops reported using the Internet for a variety of activities including emailing (76% of bookshops); for bibliographic and other information searches (63%); for researching the availability and cost of goods and services (62%); and for banking and other financial services (50%). Less than 1% of bookshops reported taking advantage of the Internet's ability to deliver products such as electronic and audio books electronically. Almost 22% of bookshops indicated that they had either their own web site, home page or some other type of presence on the Internet (table 3.8).

INTERNET USE FOR SELECTED PURPOSES





		0–19	20 or more	Ŧ · ·
		persons	persons	Total
• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	• • • • • • •	• • • • • • •	• • • • • • • •	• • • • • • •
Number of businesses	no.	497	*48	545
Number of books sold	million	22.9	18.9	41.8
Income				
Retail sales of new books	\$m	422.4	511.2	933.6
Other retail sales	\$m	24.5	42.1	66.5
Other income	\$m	8.7	15.9	24.7
Total	\$m	455.6	569.2	1 024.8
Average income per business	\$m	0.9	*11.9	1.9
Average sales of new books per business	\$m	0.9	*10.7	1.7
Expenses				
Wages and salaries	\$m	57.3	83.5	140.8
Purchases of new books	\$m	264.1	338.0	602.1
Other purchases	\$m	18.1	24.1	42.2
Royalties and fees	\$m	*5.0	**1.3	*6.3
Other expenses	\$m	96.0	130.5	226.5
Total	\$m	440.6	577.4	1 018.0
Average expenses per business	\$m	0.9	*12.1	1.9
Average purchases of new books per business	\$m	0.5	*7.1	1.1
Inventories				
Change in inventory	\$m	*3.7	12.1	15.9
Ratio of inventory to sales of all books	%	15.5	17.1	16.3
Employment				
Males	no.	1 108	1 114	2 222
Females	no.	2 043	2 299	4 342
Persons	no.	3 151	3 413	6 564
Average employment per business	no.	6.3	*71.1	12.0
Other key aggregates				
Operating profit before tax	\$m	18.7	3.9	22.6
Profit margin	%	4.1	0.7	2.2
Industry value added	\$m	72.7	96.0	168.8
Wages and salaries per employee	\$'000	23.3	24.7	24.1
Floor space	'000 m ²	159.2	151.6	310.8
Retail sales per square metre	\$'000	*2.8	*3.6	3.2
Average number of retail locations per business	no.	1.1	*6.8	1.6

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

 $^{^{\}star\star}$ $\,\,$ estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

⁽a) Includes only those businesses which are classified according to the ANZSIC as Newspaper, book and stationery retailing and for which the value of new book sales comprises at least 50% of all retail sales.



3.2 COMPONENTS OF INCOME(a), By employment size

	0–19 persons	20 or more persons	Total
	\$m	\$m	\$m
• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	• • • • • • •	• • • • • • • •	• • • • • • • •
Retail sales			
New books	422.4	511.2	933.6
Second-hand books	**0.5	0.2	**0.7
Other goods	23.9	41.8	65.8
Total	446.9	553.3	1 000.1
Other sources of income			
Wholesale sales	*3.3	1.1	*4.4
Income from services	*1.8	4.2	5.9
Educational Textbook Subsidy Scheme	*2.7	*3.7	*6.4
Other income(b)	*1.0	7.0	8.0
Total	8.7	15.9	24.7
Total income	455.6	569.2	1 024.8

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

 $^{^{\}star\star}$ $\,\,$ estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

⁽a) Includes only those businesses which are classified according to the ANZSIC as Newspaper, book and stationery retailing and for which the value of new book sales comprises at least 50% of all retail sales.

⁽b) Includes funding from federal, state and territory and/or local government.



3.3 OPERATING EXPENSES(a), By employment size

	0–19 persons	20 or more persons	Total
	\$m	\$m	\$m
• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •		• • • • • • • •	• • • • • • • •
Purchases	000.7	224.0	0.40.0
Finished goods for resale	280.7	361.9	642.6
Materials, components etc.	1.0	0.2	1.2
Fuels	*0.6		*0.6
Total	282.2	362.1	644.3
Labour costs			
Wages and salaries	57.3	83.5	140.8
Other labour costs	7.6	12.7	20.2
Total	64.9	96.2	161.1
Advertising expenses	6.0	10.1	16.1
Electricity, gas and water charges	1.9	1.8	3.6
Freight and cartage expenses	4.0	4.3	8.2
Rent, leasing and hiring expenses	33.8	42.3	76.1
Insurance premiums	1.8	1.1	2.9
Interest expenses	4.4	1.6	6.0
Depreciation and amortisation	4.8	8.2	13.1
Telecommunication services	3.0	2.7	5.7
Computer software expensed	1.0	0.8	1.8
Royalties expenses	*5.0	**1.3	*6.3
Land taxes and land rates	0.9	*0.8	1.8
Bad and doubtful debts	*0.1	*np	*np
Other operating expenses	26.8	np	np
Total	440.6	577.4	1 018.0

^{*} estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution

nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

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

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

⁽a) Includes only those businesses which are classified according to the ANZSIC as Newspaper, book and stationery retailing and for which the value of new book sales comprises at least 50% of all retail sales.



	0–19 persons	20 or more persons	Total
Inventories	\$m	\$m	\$m
• • • • • • • • • • • •	• • • • •	• • • • • • •	• • • • • • • •
Opening Closing	65.4 69.1	87.2 99.4	152.6 168.5

(a) Includes only those businesses which are classified according to the ANZSIC as Newspaper, book and stationery retailing and for which the value of new book sales comprises at least 50% of all retail sales.



	0–19 persons	20 or more persons	Total
	\$m	\$m	\$m
• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	• • • • • • •	• • • • • • • •	• • • • • •
Capital expenditure			
Computer equipment and software	3.8	3.9	7.7
Other assets	0.7	8.3	9.0
Total	*4.5	12.2	16.8

- * estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution
- (a) Includes only those businesses which are classified according to the ANZSIC as Newspaper, book and stationery retailing and for which the value of new book sales comprises at least 50% of all retail sales.



3.6 EMPLOYMENT(a)—At end of June 2001

	Males	Females	Persons
	no.	no.	no.
• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	• • • • •	• • • • • •	• • • • • •
Working proprietors and partners Employees Permanent	471	261	732
Full-time	881	1 327	2 208
Part-time	*190	752	942
Casual	680	2 002	2 682
Total	1 751	4 081	5 832
Total employment	2 222	4 342	6 564

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



3.7 SELECTED KEY AGGREGATES(a), By state and territory

			Wages			
	Business		and	Total	Retail	Floor
	head office	Employment(b)	salaries	income	locations	space
	no.	no.	\$m	\$m	no.	'000 m ²
• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	• • • • • • • • •	• • • • • • • • • •	• • • • • • • • • •	• • • • • • • • • • •	• • • • • • • •	• • • • • • • • • •
New South Wales	204	1 902	45.0	325.6	251	63.0
Victoria	172	2 203	45.0	321.0	329	60.4
Queensland	*53	807	18.9	147.5	110	25.2
South Australia	**29	332	4.9	47.5	*55	*10.9
Western Australia	*58	699	14.3	105.1	83	20.9
Australian Capital Territory	*9	*213	*4.9	*31.0	*23	*5.9
Other states(c)	**20	**409	**8.0	**47.2	*25	*7.3
Australia	545	6 564	140.8	1 024.8	876	193.6

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

⁽a) Includes only those businesses which are classified according to the ANZSIC as Newspaper, book and stationery retailing and for which the value of new book sales comprises at least 50% of all retail sales.

 $^{^{\}star\star}$ $\,\,$ estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

⁽a) Includes only those businesses which are classified according to the ANZSIC as Newspaper, book and stationery retailing and for which the value of new book sales comprises at least 50% of all retail sales.

⁽b) At 30 June 2001.

⁽c) Includes Tasmania and Northern Territory.



	0–19	20 or more	
	persons	persons	Total
	%	%	%
Businesses using a computer for stock control	80.5	97.1	81.9
Businesses using the Internet for			
Selling goods and services	25.3	04.5	30.5
Receiving orders for goods and services Sending invoices to customers	25.3 *6.2	84.5 *9.2	30.5 *6.5
Receiving payments and/or authorisations	19.8	*60.8	23.4
Delivering products electronically	19.0	**np	23.4 *np
Providing after sales service	*20.2	**19.0	20.1
9	20.2	13.0	20.1
Purchasing goods and services			
Researching the availability or cost of goods or services	58.4	93.3	61.5
Ordering goods or services	29.6	93.3 75.6	33.6
Receiving invoices	*16.6	**41.0	*18.7
Making payments and/or authorisations	29.1	*59.6	31.8
Receiving products electronically	**1.0	*9.2	**1.7
Seeking after sales service	*9.8	**36.8	*12.2
S .			
General Email	74.1	00.2	76.3
	74.1 59.6	98.3 95.4	62.8
Bibliographic and other information searches Advertising or promotion	*13.7	70.9	18.7
Banking and financial services	47.3	77.3	49.9
Other	**3.0		**2.8
None of the above	24.8	1.7	22.8
Businesses having a web site, home page or other web			
presence (including a presence on another entity's web			
site)	30.7	65.4	33.7
Businesses using the following technologies			
Barcoding and scanning systems	77.6	100.0	79.6
EFTPOS	92.9	100.0	93.5
Electronic article surveillance or security tags	*13.1 **4.1	*43.4	15.7
None of the above	~~4.1	_	**3.7
Businesses not counted in at least one of the above			
technologies	**1.0	_	**0.9
Businesses using one or more of the above technologies	99.0	100.0	99.1

^{*} estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution

nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

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

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

⁽a) Includes only those businesses which are classified according to the ANZSIC as Newspaper, book and stationery retailing and for which the value of new book sales comprises at least 50% of all retail

EXPLANATORY NOTES

SCOPE AND COVERAGE

- This publication presents results, in respect of the 2000–01 financial year, from a survey conducted by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) of employing businesses with book retailing activity.
- 2 Book retailing activity is not confined to any one industry. Information from the 1998-99 Retail Industry Survey estimated that businesses (as classified on the ABS Australian Business Register) in four retail industries were responsible for nearly all (98%) book sales by employing businesses to final consumers in Australia. Those industries, and their Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC) classes, are as follows:
- Supermarket and grocery stores (ANZSIC 5110) which consists of businesses mainly engaged in retailing groceries or non-specialised food lines, whether or not the selling is organised on a self-service basis.
- Department stores (ANZSIC 5210) which consists of businesses mainly engaged in retailing a variety of goods (clothing; china, glassware and houseware; furniture; household appliances; etc.) normally sold by separate departments or sections within the store with accounting and other records maintained on a departmentalised basis.
- Newspaper, book and stationery retailing (ANZSIC 5243) which consists of businesses mainly engaged in retailing books, periodicals, newspapers, stationery and religious goods.
- Retailing n.e.c. (ANZSIC 5259) which consists of businesses mainly engaged in retailing goods not classified to the other retailing categories of ANZSIC.
- 3 The Book Retailers Survey is based on businesses classified to these four industries.
- The 1998–99 Retail Industry Survey also found that in three of the four industries (namely, ANZSIC 5110, 5210 and 5259) businesses with less than 200 employees had negligible book sales (1% of total book sales). These businesses were excluded from the population frame for this survey.
- Thus the population frame for the Book Retailers Survey consists of businesses with ANZSIC classes of 5110, 5210 or 5259 with 200 or more employees, and all employing businesses with an ANZSIC class of 5243. These businesses cover an estimated 97% of book sales to final consumers.
- All businesses with an ANZSIC class of 5110, 5210 or 5259 and with 200 or more employees were contacted in relation to the survey. Similarly, all businesses with an ANZSIC class of 5243 and with 20 or more employees were contacted to determine their retail book sales. Data were obtained from a sample of businesses with an ANZSIC class of 5243 and less than 20 employees. Data from this sample were weighted to represent all businesses in Australia with an ANZSIC class of 5243 and less than 20 employees.
- Data for the entire operations of businesses with an ANZSIC class of 5243 and with book sales comprising at least 50% of all their retail sales were included in the survey results. For all other businesses, only data in respect of their book retailing activity were included.

INTERPRETATION OF DATA

8 Estimates in this publication are presented at a sub-industry level for businesses with an ANZSIC class of 5243. Businesses with an ANZSIC class of 5243 and with book sales comprising at least 50% of all their retail sales have been categorised as 'Bookshops'. Tables 3.1 to 3.8 in this publication relate only to the operations of these bookshops. Businesses with an ANZSIC class of 5243 and with book sales comprising less than 50% of their retail sales have been categorised as 'Newsagents'. Unless identified separately, newsagents are included with 'Other booksellers' for tables 2.1 to 2.5 presented in this publication.

STATISTICAL UNIT

9 The unit from which data were collected was the management unit. In nearly all cases the management unit coincides with the legal entity owning the business. For a small number of large businesses, the management unit coincides with a 'division' or 'line of business'.

RELIABILITY OF DATA

- 10 As mentioned above, some of the estimates in this publication are based on information obtained from a sample of businesses (those with an ANZSIC class of 5243 and less than 20 employees). The estimates based on these sampled businesses are subject to sampling variability. That is, they may differ from the figures that would have been obtained if the survey had included all in-scope businesses. One measure of the likely difference is given by the standard error (SE), which indicates the extent to which an estimate might have varied by chance because information was collected from only a sample of businesses.
- **11** There are about 2 chances in 3 that a sample estimate will differ by less than one SE from the figure that would have been obtained if all businesses in the population had been included in the survey, and approximately 19 chances in 20 that the difference will be less than two SEs.
- **12** Sampling variability can be measured by using the relative standard error (RSE) which is obtained by expressing the SE as a percentage of the estimate to which it refers. The RSE is a useful measure in that it provides an immediate indication of the percentage errors likely to have occurred due to sampling and hence does not require reference to the size of the estimate.
- **13** The following tables show the RSEs for a selection of the statistics presented in this publication.

RELIABILITY OF DATA continued

RELATIVE STANDARD ERRORS, Table 2.1 Book retailers

.....

	Bookshops(a)	Other booksellers(b)	Total businesses
	%	%	%
Number of businesses Number of books sold	9.8 7.4	8.4 12.2	6.0 6.6
Income			
Retail sales of new books	6.8	18.5	6.8
Other retail sales	9.6	2.6	2.6
Other income	10.3	5.7	5.6
Total	6.6	2.8	2.7
Average income per business Average sales of new books per	9.9	13.5	9.6
business	9.9	24.0	9.0
Expenses			
Purchases of new books	7.2	10.4	6.0
Other expenses	6.1	2.8	2.8
Total	6.6	2.9	2.8
Average expenses per business Average purchases of new	10.1	13.5	9.6
books per business	10.6	16.0	8.7

⁽a) Includes only those businesses which are classified according to the ANZSIC as Newspaper, book and stationery retailing and for which the value of new book sales comprises at least 50% of all retail sales.

⁽b) Includes those businesses which are classified according to the ANZSIC as Supermarket and grocery stores; Department stores; Retailing n.e.c.; or Newspaper, book and stationery retailing and for which the value of new book sales comprises less than 50% of all retail sales.

RELIABILITY OF DATA continued

RELATIVE STANDARD ERRORS, Table 3.1 Bookshops—Total

% 9.8 Number of businesses Number of books sold 7.4 Income Retail sales of new books 6.8 Other retail sales 9.6 Other income 10.3 Total 6.6 Average income per business 9.9 Average sales of new books per business 9.9 Expenses Wages and salaries 7.0 Purchases of new books 7.2 Other purchases 10.6 Royalties and fees 27.0 Other expenses 5.9 Total 6.6 Average expenses per business 10.1 Average purchases of new books per business 10.6 Change in inventory 11.4 Ratio of inventories to sales of all books 4.9 **Employment** Males 7.0 Females 7.2 Persons 6.8 Average per business 9.1 Other key aggregates Operating profit before tax 16.1 Profit margin 16.3 Industry value added 8.3 Wages and salaries per employee 3.3 Floor space 12.3 Retail sales per square metre 16.1 Average number of retail locations per business 6.4

- **14** As an example, the estimate of total income for bookshops for 2000–01 is \$1,024.8m and the RSE is 6.6%, giving a SE of \$67.6m. Therefore, there are 2 chances in 3 that, if all businesses in the population had been included in the survey, a figure in the range of \$957.2m to \$1,092.4m would have been obtained, and 19 chances in 20 (i.e. a confidence interval of 95%) that the figure would have been within the range of \$889.6m to \$1,160.0m.
- **15** Although the table above shows the RSEs for only a selection of the statistics presented in this publication, they have been calculated for all of the statistics which rely on data from a sample of businesses and are available on request. Estimates with high RSEs have been marked with asterisks in the tables in which they occur. If an estimate has an RSE between 25% and 50%, it is marked with one asterisk and should be used with caution. If it has an RSE greater than 50%, it is marked with two asterisks and is considered too unreliable for general use.

RELIABILITY OF DATA continued

16 Errors other than those due to sampling may occur because of deficiencies in the coverage of the collection, imperfections in reporting by respondents or non-response. Inaccuracies of this kind are referred to as non-sampling errors and they may occur in any collection, whether it be a census or a sample survey. Every effort is made to reduce non-sampling error to a minimum by careful design and testing of questionnaires, efficient operating procedures and systems, and appropriate methodology.

CHANGES IN NEXT ISSUE

- **17** In April 2000, the ABS released *Information paper ABS Statistics and The New Tax System* (cat. no. 1358.0), which foreshadowed changes in the statistical infrastructure supporting the compilation of ABS economic series. The changes will allow better use of data available from the taxation system to improve efficiency, coverage and sample design.
- **18** This publication presents the only release of estimates from the Book Retailers Survey compiled using the former infrastructure.
- **19** In the next release of this publication, estimates for the 2001–02 period will be compiled on the new basis. To facilitate comparisons over time, the data presented for 2000–01 in that release will be adjusted so that all estimates are presented on the new basis.
- **20** An information paper, *Improvements in ABS Economic Statistics [Arising from The New Tax System]* (cat. no. 1372.0), was released on 6 May 2002. That paper described the changes in more detail and provided information about the treatment of statistical impacts of the changes across ABS economic series.

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

- 21 ABS publications which may be of interest include:

 Book Publishers, Australia, 2000–01, cat. no. 1363.0

 Retail Trade, Australia, July 2002, cat. no. 8501.0

 Retail Industry, Australia, 1998–99, cat. no. 8622.0

 Retail Industry, Commodity Sales, Australia, 1998–99, cat. no. 8624.0.
- **22** Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products* (cat. no. 1101.0). The catalogue is available from any ABS office or the ABS web site http://www.abs.gov.au. The ABS also issues a daily Release Advice on the web site which details products to be released in the week ahead.

ABS DATA AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

23 As well as the statistics included in this and related publications, the ABS may have other relevant data available. Inquiries about such data should be made to the contact person noted in the Inquiries box on the front cover.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

24 ABS publications draw extensively on information provided freely by individuals, businesses, governments and other organisations. Their continued cooperation is very much appreciated. Without it, the wide range of statistics published by the ABS would not be available. Information received by the ABS is treated in strict confidence as required by the *Census and Statistics Act 1905*.

GLOSSARY

Advertising expenses

Includes expenses associated with the promotion and publicity of the business and its products. It includes expenses paid to advertising agencies and direct payments to radio, television and print media businesses.

Audio book

A book which is made available in the form of a recording of someone reading the text.

Barcoding and scanning

systems

Devices designed to read a barcode (an identifier unique to a book or other product). The device is primarily used for revenue recording and stock control.

Book

A book can be printed on paper, be available in an electronic format such as on a computer file (an electronic book) or be a recording of someone reading text (an audio book). A book will usually have an International Standard Book Number.

Bookshops

Businesses categorised as being part of the 'Newspaper, book and stationery retailing' industry and with new book sales comprising at least 50% of all their retail sales.

Business

A management unit within scope of the collection. An individual business may operate at a number of physical sites from which goods and services are provided. Only the activity of locations in Australia has been included in the collection.

Capital expenditure

Outlays on capital equipment and other capital assets, including all costs capitalised in the account books of a business, e.g. legal fees, real estate transfer costs and assets acquired under finance leases.

Casual employees

Employees who are not entitled to paid holidays or paid sick leave days.

Change in inventories

Closing inventories minus opening inventories.

Closing inventories

Inventories of materials, finished goods and work-in-progress held at the end of the reference period.

Department stores

Businesses mainly engaged in retailing a variety of goods (clothing; china, glassware and houseware; furniture; household appliances; etc.) normally sold by separate departments or sections within the store with accounting and other records maintained on a departmentalised basis. Only the major department stores, those with 200 or more employees, were included in the survey.

Depreciation and amortisation

The financial charges made to the accounts to reflect that part of the value of the asset which may be regarded as having been used up in producing revenue in a particular accounting period. These items represent the accounting process of systematically allocating the cost of a non-current asset over its expected useful life.

Educational Textbook Subsidy

Scheme

Payments made to booksellers from a Commonwealth Government program which assists students studying at Australian educational institutions by subsidising the cost of educational textbooks included on prescribed textbook lists or recommended reading lists at Australian educational institutions. Under the Scheme booksellers give the discount subsidy to the student (or their parents/guardians) at the point of sale and then claim the subsidy back from the Commonwealth.

EFTPOS

Electronic fund transfer at point of sale.

Electronic article surveillance

or security tags

Devices designed to detect the illegal removal of products from retail premises.

Electronic book

A book which is made available in an electronic format. This may be in the form of a computer file delivered via the Internet or as a CD-ROM, floppy disk or other data media. The text of these books must be read from a computer screen or special hand-held electronic device.

Employment

Includes working proprietors and working partners of unincorporated businesses, working directors of incorporated companies and trusts, and all employees working for businesses during the last pay period ending in June 2001.

Final consumer

Individuals or organisations which are the end users of books. That is, they do not purchase books for the primary purpose of selling to other consumers.

Floorspace

Includes selling space, office space, storage space, basements and non-residential upper floor areas.

Full-time employees

Employees who work 35 hours per week or more.

Industry value added

The value added to the economy by the industry. It is equal to the sales of goods and services plus government subsidies and changes in the levels of trading inventories, minus purchases and other selected expenses.

Interest expenses

Includes interest on bank loans, on loans made from related and unrelated businesses or organisations, and interest in respect of finance leases, interest paid to loans from partners, interest equivalents (such as hedging costs) and expenses associated with discounted bills. It excludes bank charges and capital repayments.

Internet

A worldwide collection of computers which are linked together to form a repository of stored information and to provide a range of communication services. The services include, but are not limited to, the World Wide Web, File Transfer Protocol and Simple Mail Transport Protocol.

Newsagents

Businesses categorised as being part of the 'Newspaper, book and stationery retailing' industry and with new book sales comprising less than 50% of all their retail sales.

Opening inventories

Inventories of materials, finished goods and work-in-progress held at the beginning of the reference period.

Operating profit before tax

A measure of profit (or loss) before extraordinary items are brought to account and prior to the deduction of income tax and appropriation to owners. It is derived as total income minus total expenses plus closing inventories minus opening inventories (see separate entries in the Glossary for these components).

Part-time employees

Employees who work less than 35 hours per week.

Permanent employees

Employees who are entitled to paid holidays and paid sick leave days.

Profit margin

Operating profit before tax as a percentage of total income.

Purchases

Consists mainly of goods purchased for resale. Also included are electricity, gas and water charges, petroleum products and other fuel purchases of container and packaging materials, materials and components used in repair and manufacturing activity.

Rent, leasing and hiring

expenses

Costs for renting, leasing (except finance leases) and hiring of land, buildings and other structures, hiring of vehicles, plant, machinery, equipment and other rent, leasing and hiring expenses from other businesses or individuals.

Retail locations

The physical sites from which the business provides goods and services on a relatively regular basis.

Retail sales Sales of goods to final consumers, i.e. sales of goods to the public (including delivery charges not separately invoiced to customers), and export sales.

Retailing n.e.c. Businesses mainly engaged in retailing goods not classified to any other retailing

category of the Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification. Only the major businesses classified as Retailing n.e.c., those with 200 or more

employees, were included in the survey.

Supermarkets Businesses mainly engaged in retailing groceries or non specialised food lines,

whether or not the selling is organised on a self service basis. Supermarkets includes grocery stores. Only the major supermarkets and grocery stores, those

with 200 or more employees, were included in the survey.

Total expenses Sum of expense items including wages and salaries, other labour costs, cost of

purchased goods for resale, royalties, advertising expenses, telecommunication services, freight and cartage expenses, land taxes and land rates, insurance premiums, interest expenses, depreciation and amortisation, bad and doubtful debts, computer software expensed and all other expenses not excluded. Expenses excluded are extraordinary items, excise duty, dividends, income and other direct tax, costs associated with the transfer of real estate, unrealised gains/losses from revaluation of assets, change in inventories, donations, capital repayments and Goods and Services Tax where this is recoverable as an input tax

credit.

Total income Sum of all income items, i.e. retail and wholesale sales of books and other

products, income from services, funding from the Educational Textbook Subsidy Scheme, royalties income, and any other sources of income, with the exception

of extraordinary items which are excluded.

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