



FINAL ISSUE

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES: AUSTRALIA

ABS Product Number 5660.0.40.001

Enclosed are the Friendly Societies tables for the quarter ended
March 2003.

If you have any enquiries about these statistics,
please contact **Neil Hladenki** on (02) 6252 6171.

About the data service

This data service presents quarterly statistics on the assets and liabilities of friendly societies.

Key points

The total assets of friendly societies was just over \$6 billion at 31 March 2003, virtually unchanged from the December quarter 2002. Short term securities decreased by \$0.4b (20%) and equities and units in trusts increased by \$0.3b (23%). Short and long term securities plus equities and units in trusts accounted for 72% of total assets.

Changes next issue

Following a rationalisation of dissemination practices, from the June 2003 issue onwards the release Friendly Societies Australia (Cat no 5660.0.40.001) will be discontinued. Instead this data will be available electronically via Ausstats in Managed Funds, Australia (Cat no 5655.0).

TABLE 1. FRIENDLY SOCIETIES : ASSETS
(\$ million)

	<i>Sep 00</i>	<i>Dec 00</i>	<i>Mar 01</i>	<i>Jun 01</i>	<i>Sep 01</i>	<i>Dec 01</i>	<i>Mar 02</i>	<i>Jun 02</i>	<i>Sep 02</i>	<i>Dec 02</i>	<i>Mar 03</i>
ASSETS											
<i>Assets in Australia</i>											
<i>Cash and deposits</i>	393	348	302	503	442	450	481	447	393	400	379
Cash and bank deposits	295	242	192	408	210	200	231	214	170	189	162
Other deposit taking institutions	98	106	110	95	232	250	250	233	223	211	217
<i>Loans and placements</i>	345	355	345	363	354	328	354	376	375	385	442
<i>Short term securities</i>	2,479	2,216	2,420	2,040	2,153	1,955	1,983	2,049	1,708	1,732	1,377
Bills of exchange	760	632	718	526	754	663	517	408	342	356	262
Bank certificates of deposit	1,396	1,244	1,355	1,101	1,033	929	1,078	1,230	969	1,003	928
Other short term securities	323	340	347	413	366	363	388	411	397	373	187
<i>Long term securities</i>	1,607	1,755	1,586	1,633	1,722	1,879	1,756	1,692	1,439	1,403	1,349
Commonwealth government bonds	233	238	172	203	190	250	189	187	129	118	115
State and local government securities	321	382	380	363	448	420	387	254	383	416	405
Other long term securities	1,053	1,135	1,034	1,067	1,084	1,209	1,180	1,251	927	869	829
<i>Equities and Units in trusts</i>	607	658	676	732	689	709	717	709	1,348	1,338	1,644
Private trading corporation shares	213	210	235	257	189	203	199	195	181	205	184
Financial sector shares	63	46	43	46	19	23	25	49	50	25	37
Units in trusts	331	402	398	429	481	483	493	465	1,117	1,108	1,423
<i>Other financial assets</i>	181	194	212	222	223	255	274	289	295	313	334
<i>Non-financial assets</i>											
Land and buildings	245	244	232	223	201	213	210	216	249	229	222
Other non-financial assets	90	84	82	157	70	95	102	133	114	124	141
<i>Total Assets in Australia</i>	5,947	5,854	5,855	5,873	5,854	5,884	5,877	5,911	5,921	5,924	5,888
<i>Assets overseas</i>	81	91	98	97	107	111	113	123	128	143	142
TOTAL ASSETS	6,028	5,945	5,953	5,970	5,961	5,995	5,990	6,034	6,049	6,067	6,030

TABLE 2. FRIENDLY SOCIETIES : LIABILITIES
(\$ million)

	<i>Sep 00</i>	<i>Dec 00</i>	<i>Mar 01</i>	<i>Jun 01</i>	<i>Sep 01</i>	<i>Dec 01</i>	<i>Mar 02</i>	<i>Jun 02</i>	<i>Sep 02</i>	<i>Dec 02</i>	<i>Mar 03</i>
LIABILITIES											
<i>Participants' equity</i>	5,762	5,687	5,688	5,707	5,733	5,777	5,755	5,768	5,763	5,782	5,726
<i>Borrowings</i>	128	128	107	105	63	68	71	71	99	106	105
<i>Other liabilities</i>	138	130	158	158	165	150	164	195	187	179	199
<i>TOTAL LIABILITIES</i>	6,028	5,945	5,953	5,970	5,961	5,995	5,990	6,034	6,049	6,067	6,030

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

The statistics have been compiled from data furnished to the ABS by 25 of the largest friendly societies in the quarterly Survey of Financial Information.

Scope

A friendly society for the purposes of the survey is any organisation registered as a friendly society under the appropriate State legislation. All assets and liabilities of the friendly societies arising from services offered by them are within scope.

Coverage

The information in this table is compiled from data furnished to the ABS by 25 of the largest friendly societies as part of the Survey of Financial Information. These societies approximated 95 per cent of the total assets of friendly societies as at September 2002.

Basis of valuation

Respondents to the survey are requested to report assets at their market value.

Financial Instruments

The classification of financial instrument used follows that set out in the ABS Publication *Australian National Accounts, Financial Accounts (5232.0)*. A definition of these instruments is contained in that publication.

Revisions

Revisions to previously published statistics are included in this publication.

Other publications

Readers may also wish to refer to the following publication which is available on request: *Managed Funds: Australia (5655.0)* - issued quarterly.

Symbols and other usages

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

FOR MORE INFORMATION....

INTERNET www.abs.gov.au

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