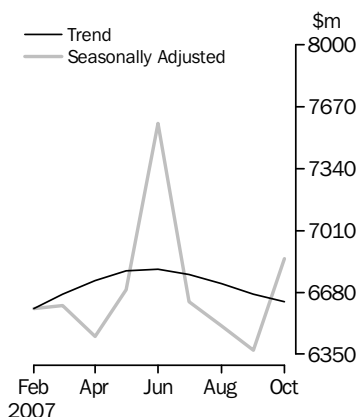


LENDING FINANCE

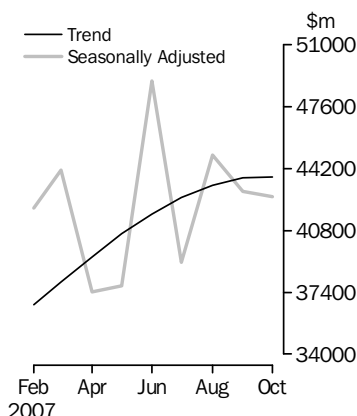
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Personal finance



Commercial finance



INQUIRIES

For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070 or Philip Beresford on Canberra (02) 6252 6052.

KEY FIGURES

	Sep 2007 \$m	Oct 2007 \$m	Sep 2007 to Oct 2007 % change
TREND ESTIMATES			
Housing finance for owner occupation	15 249	15 136	-0.7
Personal finance	6 670	6 628	-0.6
Commercial finance	43 699	43 713	—
Lease finance	569	582	2.2
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ESTIMATES			
Housing finance for owner occupation	14 988	15 157	1.1
Personal finance	6 371	6 859	7.7
Commercial finance	42 952	42 634	-0.7
Lease finance	571	612	7.2

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

KEY POINTS

OCTOBER 2007 COMPARED WITH SEPTEMBER 2007:

HOUSING FINANCE FOR OWNER OCCUPATION

- The total value of owner occupied housing commitments excluding alterations and additions increased by 1.1% (seasonally adjusted), while the trend series fell 0.7%.

PERSONAL FINANCE

- The seasonally adjusted series for the value of total personal finance commitments rose by 7.7%. This increase was due to a rise in revolving credit commitments (up 9.4%) and fixed lending commitments (up 5.6%).
- The trend series for the value of total personal finance fell 0.6%, due to a fall in both fixed lending commitments (down 0.6%) and revolving credit commitments (down 0.6%).

COMMERCIAL FINANCE

- The seasonally adjusted series for the value of total commercial finance commitments fell by 0.7%. This decrease was due to a fall in fixed lending commitments (down 7.5%), partially offset by an increase in revolving credit commitments (up 11.6%).
- The trend series for the value of total commercial finance commitments remained virtually unchanged. This was due to a fall in fixed lending commitments (down 0.4%), offsetting a rise in revolving credit commitments (up 0.7%).

LEASE FINANCE

- Lease finance commitments (seasonally adjusted) increased by 7.2%. The lease finance trend series rose by 2.2%.

NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

ISSUE	RELEASE DATE
November 2007	21 January 2008
December 2007	13 February 2008
January 2008	12 March 2008
February 2008	15 April 2008
March 2008	13 May 2008
April 2008	11 June 2008

CHANGES TO FORTHCOMING ISSUES

The November 2007 issue of Lending Finance, Australia (5671.0) will contain revisions to seasonally adjusted and trend estimates due to the 2007 annual seasonal reanalysis.

Recently, the ABS implemented improved methods of producing seasonally adjusted estimates, focused on the application of autoregressive integrated moving average (ARIMA) modelling techniques. The revision properties of the seasonally adjusted and trend estimates can be improved by the use of ARIMA modelling. ARIMA modelling relies on the characteristics of the series being analysed to project future period data. The projected values are temporary, intermediate values, that are only used internally to improve the estimation of the seasonal factors. The projected data do not affect the original estimates and are discarded at the end of the seasonal adjustment process.

The seasonal adjustment Lending Finance estimates will use, from the 2007 annual seasonal reanalysis, concurrent seasonal adjustment with ARIMA modelling where applicable to reduce the level of revision to seasonally adjusted estimates. For more information on the details of ARIMA modelling see Feature article: Use of ARIMA modelling to reduce revisions, October 2004 issue of *Australian Economic Indicators* (cat.no.1350.0).

REVISIONS

Revisions were made to Personal Finance and Commercial Finance to include the latest available administrative and survey data. The revisions impact data from October 2006 on.

ABBREVIATIONS

\$m	million dollars
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
n.e.c.	not elsewhere classified
RBA	Reserve Bank of Australia

Brian Pink
Australian Statistician

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TIME SERIES DATA

TIME SERIES SPREADSHEETS

Data available free on the ABS web site <<http://www.abs.gov.au>> include:

- longer time series of tables in this publication, and
- the following tables:
 - C1a. Commercial finance commitments (original, seasonally adjusted, trend)
 - C1b. Commercial finance commitments, fixed loans and revolving credit
 - C1c. Commercial finance commitments, fixed loans and revolving credit by lender
 - C1d. Commercial finance commitments, fixed loans by industry
 - C1e. Commercial finance commitments, revolving credit by industry
 - C2 to C9. Commercial finance commitments, fixed loans and revolving credit by state and territory
 - L1a. Lease finance commitments, summary (original, seasonally adjusted, trend)
 - L1b. Lease finance commitments by purpose
 - L1c. Lease finance commitments by purpose and lender
 - L1d. Lease finance commitments by industry
 - L2 to L9. Lease finance commitments by purpose and state and territory
 - OL1b. Operating lease finance commitments by purpose
 - OL1c. Operating lease finance commitments by lender
 - OL1d. Operating lease finance commitments by industry
 - OL2 to OL9. Operating lease finance commitments by purpose and state and territory
 - P1a. Personal finance commitments, summary (original, seasonally adjusted, trend)
 - P1b. Personal finance commitments, fixed loans and revolving credit
 - P1c. Personal finance commitments, fixed loans and revolving credit by lender
 - P2 to P9. Personal finance commitments, fixed loans and revolving credit by state and territory
 - 13. Lending Finance Seasonal Factors and Forward Factors for 12 months, By Purpose and Lender: Australia (from January 1985)

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

HOUSING FINANCE FOR OWNER OCCUPATION

The total value of owner occupied housing commitments excluding alterations and additions increased 1.1% (seasonally adjusted), while the trend series fell 0.7%.

For further information, please refer to *Housing Finance, Australia (cat. no. 5609.0)*.

PERSONAL FINANCE

In seasonally adjusted terms, the value of total personal finance commitments rose 7.7% in October 2007 compared with September 2007. This increase was due to a rise in revolving credit commitments (up 9.4%) and fixed lending commitments (up 5.6%).

In trend terms, the value of total personal finance fell 0.6% in October 2007. The trend series decreased in fixed lending commitments (down 0.6%) and revolving credit commitments (down 0.6%).

In original terms, fixed lending commitments increased by \$502m (up 18.4%) in October 2007 compared with September 2007.

Movements in the original series contributing to this decrease were:

- Other, up \$141m (21.7%)
- Total Motor Vehicles, \$109m (14.2%)
- Individual Residential Blocks of Land, \$94m (22.9%)

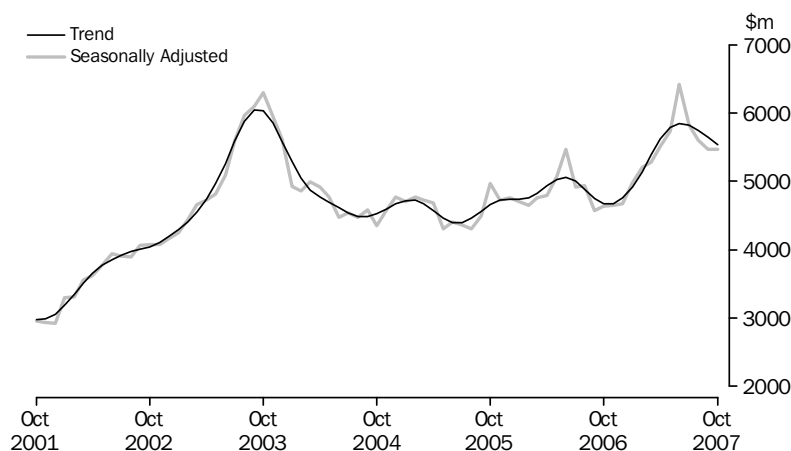
COMMERCIAL FINANCE

The seasonally adjusted series for the value of total commercial finance commitments fell by 0.7% in October 2007. This decrease was due to a fall in fixed lending commitments (down 7.5%), partially offset by an increase in revolving credit commitments (up 11.6%).

The trend series for the value of total commercial finance commitments remained virtually unchanged in October 2007. This was due to a fall in fixed lending commitments (down 0.4%) offsetting a rise in revolving credit commitments (up 0.7%).

The value of purchases of dwellings by individuals for rent or resale (seasonally adjusted) fell 0.1% in October 2007, after a decrease of 2.3% in September 2007. The trend series fell 2.0% in October 2007.

PURCHASE OF DWELLINGS BY INDIVIDUALS FOR RENT OR RESALE



LEASE FINANCE

The value of lease finance commitments (seasonally adjusted) increased by 7.2% in October 2007. The trend series for lease finance commitments rose by 2.2%.

FINANCE COMMITMENTS, Summary

Month	SECURED HOUSING(a)		PERSONAL(b)			COMMERCIAL			LEASE
	Construction and purchase of dwellings(c)	Alterations and additions	Fixed loans(c)	Revolving credit(d)	Total	Fixed loans(c)	Revolving credit(d)	Total	Total
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
ORIGINAL									
2006									
October	14 136	475	3 000	3 646	6 645	23 647	14 237	37 884	508
November	15 122	500	3 239	3 617	6 856	20 707	13 814	34 521	497
December	13 430	438	2 822	3 229	6 051	23 399	13 850	37 249	583
2007									
January	11 861	388	2 698	3 290	5 988	19 383	7 764	27 148	374
February	13 165	440	2 860	3 038	5 897	20 189	15 817	36 007	482
March	15 663	494	3 297	3 762	7 059	20 279	23 934	44 213	602
April	13 976	431	2 771	3 106	5 877	18 815	11 749	30 563	494
May	17 319	530	3 418	3 910	7 327	25 227	14 101	39 328	580
June	16 349	477	3 606	4 809	8 415	38 954	24 235	63 189	668
July	15 561	427	3 000	3 744	6 744	25 551	13 742	39 294	561
August	16 442	494	3 121	3 614	6 735	34 205	15 976	50 181	590
September	14 181	400	2 729	3 236	5 966	24 905	13 770	38 675	519
October	15 926	469	3 231	4 061	7 292	27 550	16 169	43 719	617
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED									
2006									
October	13 979	465	2 974	3 562	6 536	23 554	15 014	38 569	516
November	13 999	467	3 078	3 502	6 579	20 771	12 106	32 877	523
December	14 139	475	3 011	3 415	6 426	21 207	11 569	32 776	555
2007									
January	14 321	468	2 994	3 757	6 751	24 528	11 087	35 615	457
February	14 463	460	3 032	3 560	6 592	24 170	17 870	42 039	561
March	14 662	450	3 065	3 544	6 609	21 145	22 952	44 097	564
April	15 160	468	3 121	3 325	6 445	22 725	14 701	37 426	570
May	15 179	462	3 087	3 609	6 696	22 927	14 829	37 756	545
June	16 310	460	3 412	4 168	7 580	30 801	18 198	48 999	518
July	15 166	425	2 945	3 684	6 629	24 780	14 260	39 040	538
August	15 261	474	2 988	3 515	6 503	29 767	15 158	44 925	559
September	14 988	437	2 955	3 416	6 371	27 686	15 265	42 952	571
October	15 157	440	3 120	3 739	6 859	25 599	17 035	42 634	612
TREND									
2006									
October	14 011	472	3 023	3 488	6 512	22 095	11 396	33 491	512
November	14 032	468	3 013	3 525	6 538	22 278	11 795	34 072	514
December	14 114	466	3 010	3 538	6 548	22 353	12 404	34 757	522
2007									
January	14 282	465	3 022	3 536	6 558	22 437	13 209	35 645	531
February	14 537	464	3 051	3 544	6 595	22 629	14 092	36 721	539
March	14 837	462	3 090	3 579	6 669	23 094	14 876	37 971	545
April	15 129	459	3 120	3 623	6 744	23 930	15 396	39 326	546
May	15 341	457	3 131	3 662	6 794	25 018	15 590	40 609	546
June	15 433	455	3 119	3 683	6 802	26 108	15 588	41 696	546
July	15 420	452	3 090	3 685	6 775	27 044	15 578	42 621	549
August	15 345	448	3 059	3 665	6 724	27 600	15 679	43 279	557
September	15 249	445	3 033	3 636	6 670	27 837	15 862	43 699	569
October	15 136	442	3 014	3 614	6 628	27 736	15 976	43 713	582

(a) For owner occupation.

(d) New and increased credit limits during the month. Includes credit cards.

(b) Includes unsecured housing finance for owner occupation.

(c) Includes refinancing.

HOUSING AND PERSONAL FINANCE COMMITMENTS, By Lender: Original

Month	HOUSING FINANCE(a)					PERSONAL FINANCE(b)				
	Banks	Permanent building societies	Wholesale lenders n.e.c.	Other lenders	Total	Banks	Credit co-operatives	Finance companies	Other lenders	Total
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
2006										
October	11 147	388	1 882	718	14 136	5 340	274	273	759	6 645
November	12 087	411	1 941	684	15 122	5 393	319	265	879	6 856
December	10 924	305	1 581	620	13 430	4 781	257	239	774	6 051
2007										
January	9 610	297	1 413	541	11 861	4 507	255	275	951	5 988
February	10 463	363	1 732	608	13 165	4 654	276	260	708	5 897
March	12 415	406	2 146	697	15 663	5 580	318	287	875	7 059
April	11 108	342	1 889	637	13 976	4 598	258	238	782	5 877
May	13 699	482	2 315	822	17 319	5 925	316	290	796	7 327
June	13 157	377	2 083	732	16 349	6 992	316	267	839	8 415
July	12 266	434	2 130	730	15 561	5 295	291	266	890	6 744
August	13 104	473	2 036	829	16 442	5 389	287	262	797	6 735
September	11 565	403	1 527	686	14 181	4 748	238	232	748	5 966
October	13 514	416	1 320	675	15 926	5 885	271	283	854	7 292

(a) Secured finance for owner occupation. Excludes alterations and additions.

(b) Includes unsecured housing finance for owner occupation.

COMMERCIAL AND LEASE FINANCE COMMITMENTS, By Lender: **Original**

Month	COMMERCIAL FINANCE					LEASE FINANCE				
	Banks	Money market corporations	Finance companies	Other lenders	Total	Banks	General financiers	Finance companies	Other lessors	Total
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
2006										
October	34 755	np	380	np	37 884	169	141	87	111	508
November	29 622	np	402	np	34 521	156	134	91	115	497
December	32 185	np	382	np	37 249	244	145	79	115	583
2007										
January	24 289	np	357	np	27 148	127	99	66	82	374
February	29 345	np	445	np	36 007	181	116	74	111	482
March	np	np	424	np	44 213	218	172	82	129	602
April	26 090	np	429	np	30 563	178	132	76	109	494
May	34 726	np	438	np	39 328	216	149	84	130	580
June	56 831	np	479	np	63 189	233	164	124	146	668
July	34 585	np	371	np	39 294	168	179	85	129	561
August	np	np	437	4 065	50 181	193	184	82	132	590
September	33 422	np	536	np	38 675	194	146	67	111	519
October	38 669	np	492	np	43 719	216	182	85	133	617

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

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PERSONAL FINANCE COMMITMENTS, By Purpose (Fixed Loans): Original

<i>Month</i>	<i>New motor cars and station wagons</i>	<i>Used motor cars and station wagons</i>	<i>Total motor vehicles(a)</i>	<i>Individual residential blocks of land</i>	<i>Unsecured finance for owner occupation(b)</i>	<i>Debt consolidation</i>	<i>Refinancing</i>	<i>Other(c)</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>\$m</i>	<i>\$m</i>	<i>\$m</i>	<i>\$m</i>	<i>\$m</i>	<i>\$m</i>	<i>\$m</i>	<i>\$m</i>	<i>\$m</i>	<i>\$m</i>
2006									
October	303	438	831	389	47	319	668	745	3 000
November	320	426	840	385	56	360	728	870	3 239
December	279	356	716	383	38	294	598	793	2 822
2007									
January	315	426	828	336	32	272	550	681	2 698
February	314	415	816	387	38	302	543	774	2 860
March	343	451	892	441	43	364	645	912	3 297
April	272	366	731	402	38	290	573	736	2 771
May	336	441	890	513	42	376	710	887	3 418
June	320	408	830	528	40	387	839	983	3 606
July	303	429	833	489	37	309	620	713	3 000
August	302	450	859	515	37	297	677	736	3 121
September	263	401	762	413	35	263	607	649	2 729
October	312	448	871	508	41	327	696	789	3 231

(a) Includes motorcycles and other motor vehicles.

(b) Includes alterations and additions.

(c) Includes boats, caravans and trailers, household goods, travel and holidays and other purposes.

PERSONAL FINANCE COMMITMENTS, Revolving Credit Stocks and Flows: **Original**

Month	NEW AND INCREASED CREDIT LIMITS			CANCELLATIONS AND REDUCTIONS	CREDIT AT END OF MONTH	
	Secured	Unsecured	Total	Total(a)	Total limits(a)	Credit used
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
2006						
October	1 576	2 069	3 646	1 921	218 719	104 597
November	1 506	2 111	3 617	1 751	220 495	105 148
December	1 505	1 723	3 229	1 704	222 173	105 908
2007						
January	1 307	1 983	3 290	1 604	223 864	105 998
February	1 256	1 781	3 038	1 528	225 381	107 160
March	1 664	2 098	3 762	1 751	227 395	107 395
April	1 424	1 682	3 106	1 583	228 898	108 239
May	2 044	1 866	3 910	1 800	231 047	109 264
June	2 872	1 937	4 809	1 705	234 162	111 606
July	1 605	2 139	3 744	1 871	236 033	111 140
August	1 737	1 877	3 614	1 979	237 675	110 938
September	1 360	1 877	3 236	1 514	239 405	110 553
October	1 448	2 613	4 061	2 219	241 244	110 766

(a) These figures sometimes reflect a rebasing of the data by one or more lenders without adjustment to earlier periods' commitments or cancellations.

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COMMERCIAL FINANCE COMMITMENTS, By Purpose (Fixed Loans): Original

Month	Construction finance	Purchase of real property	Wholesale finance	Purchase of plant and equipment	Refinancing	Other	Total	Commitments not drawn at end of month
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
2006								
October	1 515	6 661	797	1 407	2 887	10 380	23 647	39 839
November	1 868	7 769	1 057	1 366	1 572	7 075	20 707	39 616
December	2 124	6 930	579	1 383	2 932	9 452	23 399	42 632
2007								
January	999	6 208	833	1 140	1 585	8 619	19 383	42 020
February	1 046	7 006	np	1 495	1 643	np	20 189	39 591
March	1 822	7 808	1 047	1 281	1 251	7 071	20 279	42 876
April	878	7 090	801	1 161	1 379	7 505	18 815	39 164
May	1 227	8 697	968	1 758	1 905	10 673	25 227	41 084
June	2 395	11 593	882	1 380	3 154	19 549	38 954	47 412
July	1 624	8 963	1 176	1 258	1 842	10 689	25 551	48 432
August	3 879	10 324	np	1 881	2 562	np	34 205	50 138
September	2 099	9 213	693	1 276	1 978	9 646	24 905	48 824
October	1 836	9 559	np	1 494	1 689	np	27 550	51 620

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

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LEASE AND COMMERCIAL FINANCE COMMITMENTS, Stocks and Flows: Original

Month	LEASE FINANCE		COMMERCIAL REVOLVING CREDIT			
	Total commitments	Commitments not drawn at end of month	New and increased credit limits	Cancellations and reductions(a)	Total credit limits at end of month(a)	Credit used at end of month
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
2006						
October	508	513	14 237	8 945	323 948	175 844
November	497	530	13 814	8 630	329 098	176 555
December	583	531	13 850	8 412	334 530	176 008
2007						
January	374	508	7 764	7 663	334 662	178 887
February	482	516	15 817	6 797	343 640	185 846
March	602	526	23 934	16 074	351 416	187 986
April	494	539	11 749	5 851	357 403	194 184
May	580	551	14 101	8 793	362 699	195 923
June	668	577	24 235	11 969	374 903	201 873
July	561	535	13 742	10 777	377 822	202 778
August	590	540	15 976	8 330	385 605	211 305
September	519	545	13 770	10 870	388 307	214 113
October	617	584	16 169	12 888	391 408	219 815

(a) These figures sometimes reflect a rebasing of the data by one or more lenders without adjustment to earlier periods' commitments or cancellations.

FINANCE COMMITMENTS, For Housing (Owner Occupation and Commercial)

Month	OWNER OCCUPATION (SECURED FINANCE)				OWNER OCCUPATION (UNSECURED FINANCE)	COMMERCIAL FINANCE(a)			ALL HOUSING FINANCE
	Construction of dwellings	Purchase of new dwellings	Purchase of established dwellings	Alterations and additions	Total(b)	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	Total
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
ORIGINAL									
2006									
October	1 093	663	12 379	475	47	371	4 492	409	19 931
November	1 129	724	13 270	500	56	396	4 934	613	21 623
December	987	646	11 798	438	38	792	4 406	651	19 755
2007									
January	901	589	10 371	388	32	318	4 123	551	17 273
February	949	712	11 504	440	38	432	4 696	881	19 652
March	1 107	852	13 704	494	43	650	5 611	483	22 945
April	963	681	12 332	431	38	264	5 116	503	20 327
May	1 284	929	15 105	530	42	489	6 612	733	25 725
June	1 206	925	14 219	477	40	1 068	7 111	1 158	26 204
July	1 203	868	13 490	427	37	489	5 934	773	23 221
August	1 301	900	14 241	494	37	536	5 971	767	24 247
September	1 135	742	12 303	400	35	564	4 979	668	20 826
October	1 294	711	13 921	469	41	632	5 508	789	23 365
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED									
2006									
October	1 077	686	12 215	465	46	396	4 643	426	19 954
November	1 083	695	12 221	467	49	469	4 650	572	20 205
December	1 074	642	12 424	475	38	665	4 668	578	20 562
2007									
January	1 098	725	12 498	468	36	485	4 985	682	20 977
February	1 082	760	12 620	460	39	467	5 205	965	21 599
March	1 085	785	12 791	450	39	519	5 275	476	21 420
April	1 078	741	13 342	468	43	308	5 510	617	22 106
May	1 110	801	13 268	462	39	506	5 736	703	22 626
June	1 165	925	14 220	460	41	773	6 414	902	24 900
July	1 113	828	13 225	425	39	541	5 817	735	22 722
August	1 147	840	13 274	474	38	540	5 598	774	22 685
September	1 172	809	13 008	437	38	528	5 467	751	22 209
October	1 220	701	13 237	440	39	647	5 464	829	22 576
TREND									
2006									
October	1 082	679	12 249	472	43	513	4 666	537	20 242
November	1 082	682	12 268	468	43	515	4 669	585	20 311
December	1 080	693	12 341	466	42	505	4 755	626	20 507
2007									
January	1 080	711	12 491	465	40	492	4 916	656	20 852
February	1 084	736	12 716	464	39	484	5 135	677	21 337
March	1 090	767	12 980	462	39	484	5 389	694	21 905
April	1 098	799	13 233	459	40	496	5 625	707	22 456
May	1 109	825	13 407	457	40	518	5 787	720	22 863
June	1 124	836	13 473	455	40	549	5 846	741	23 064
July	1 141	835	13 444	452	39	573	5 821	766	23 071
August	1 159	822	13 364	448	39	587	5 743	787	22 948
September	1 176	803	13 271	445	38	595	5 643	805	22 775
October	1 191	781	13 164	442	38	607	5 531	804	22 559

(a) Excludes revolving credit.

(b) Includes alterations and additions.

FINANCE COMMITMENTS, For Motor Vehicles: **Original**

Month	PERSONAL FINANCE(a)					COMMERCIAL	LEASE	ALL VEHICLE
	New motor cars and station wagons	Used motor cars and station wagons	Motorcycles	Other motor vehicles	Total	FINANCE (a)	FINANCE	FINANCE
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
2006								
October	303	438	23	67	831	651	249	1 731
November	320	426	23	71	840	676	244	1 760
December	279	356	21	60	716	636	263	1 614
2007								
January	315	426	20	67	828	510	179	1 517
February	314	415	21	66	816	614	212	1 643
March	343	451	24	74	892	681	263	1 836
April	272	366	21	72	731	665	208	1 605
May	336	441	25	88	890	716	261	1 867
June	320	408	21	81	830	735	309	1 874
July	303	429	21	80	833	633	277	1 743
August	302	450	24	83	859	663	285	1 807
September	263	401	24	74	762	722	243	1 727
October	312	448	26	85	871	796	280	1 946

(a) Excludes revolving credit.

LEASE FINANCE COMMITMENTS, For Motor Vehicles: **Original**

Month	MOTOR CARS AND STATION WAGONS		LIGHT TRUCKS		HEAVY TRUCKS		OTHER MOTOR VEHICLES	ALL VEHICLES
	<i>New</i>	<i>Used</i>	<i>New</i>	<i>Used</i>	<i>New</i>	<i>Used</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
2006								
October	157	42	18	11	11	4	6	249
November	162	42	10	9	14	2	6	244
December	193	38	11	4	10	2	4	263
2007								
January	125	32	9	2	6	1	4	179
February	146	40	12	4	7	2	2	212
March	178	46	14	4	9	2	10	263
April	142	39	12	3	7	2	5	208
May	173	47	14	3	9	6	10	261
June	200	50	20	4	14	np	np	309
July	186	47	15	3	9	7	10	277
August	195	48	16	3	9	np	np	285
September	169	41	12	3	7	np	np	243
October	194	47	13	4	8	np	np	280

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

Month	COMMERCIAL FINANCE(b)			LEASE FINANCE	ALL PLANT AND EQUIPMENT FINANCE
	Transport equipment	Other plant and equipment	Total	Total	Total
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
2006					
October	77	679	756	259	1 015
November	108	582	690	253	943
December	99	649	748	321	1 068
2007					
January	181	449	630	195	825
February	77	804	880	270	1 150
March	100	500	600	339	940
April	82	414	496	286	782
May	145	896	1 041	319	1 361
June	127	518	645	359	1 004
July	140	485	625	284	909
August	137	1 082	1 218	305	1 523
September	128	426	554	275	829
October	209	489	698	336	1 034

(a) Excludes motor vehicles (see tables 9 and 10).

(b) Excludes revolving credit.

LEASE FINANCE COMMITMENTS, For Plant and Equipment: **Original**

<i>Month</i>	<i>Transport equipment (a)</i>	<i>Construction and earthmoving equipment</i>	<i>Agricultural machinery and equipment</i>	<i>Manu- facturing equipment</i>	<i>Electronic data processing equipment</i>	<i>Office machines</i>	<i>Shop and office furniture, fittings and equipment</i>	<i>Other goods</i>	<i>Total</i>
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
2006									
October	12	19	12	12	84	56	18	47	259
November	9	32	10	15	59	62	16	48	253
December	10	44	10	18	84	51	28	76	321
2007									
January	8	27	11	13	42	35	13	46	195
February	10	36	11	11	60	60	33	50	270
March	11	49	9	14	86	62	19	90	339
April	16	36	11	8	48	53	34	79	286
May	43	30	10	18	77	62	20	59	319
June	15	48	21	15	82	61	33	85	359
July	32	25	7	13	77	65	18	47	284
August	13	45	9	13	95	56	17	57	305
September	29	40	9	16	63	52	14	53	275
October	12	59	12	18	103	50	20	64	336

(a) Excludes motor vehicles (see tables 9 and 10).

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

- 1** This publication presents statistics of finance commitments made by significant lenders for the purposes of secured housing finance for owner occupation, other personal finance, commercial finance and lease finance.
- 2** *Secured housing finance for owner occupation* is secured finance to individuals for the purchase or construction of dwellings for owner occupation, and for alterations and additions to existing owner occupied dwellings. Refinancing involving a change of lender is also included, while refinancing with the same lender is excluded from all estimates.
- 3** *Personal finance*, other than secured housing finance for owner occupation, is finance provided to individuals for their personal, non-business, use. Both fixed loans and revolving credit finance are included.
- 4** *Commercial finance* is finance provided to individuals and corporations for business or investment purposes, including for the construction or purchase of dwellings for rental or resale. Fixed loans, revolving credit and commercial hire purchase are included.
- 5** *Lease finance* includes finance and leverage leases. Operating lease finance statistics are provided as spreadsheets on Details tab of this issue.

SCOPE

- 6** Finance commitments made by the following types of lenders are included:
 - Banks
 - Permanent building societies
 - Credit unions/cooperative credit societies
 - Life or general insurance companies
 - General government enterprises
 - Superannuation funds
 - Securitiser of mortgage assets (wholesale lenders) which provide funds to borrowers through a retail intermediary (e.g. mortgage originators)
 - Other Registered Financial Corporations (RFCs).

COVERAGE

- 7** The statistics cover all bank commitments, and all commitments for secured housing finance for owner occupation made by permanent building societies. Of the remaining commitments, the largest lenders for each of secured housing finance for owner occupation, other personal finance, commercial finance and lease finance are covered, so that when calculated separately for each of the four broad categories of purpose finance, at least 95% of Australia-wide finance commitments and at least 90% of each state's finance commitments are covered. While many lenders other than banks are not covered, at least 70% coverage is maintained for all published lender types (including the Other Lenders series and Other Lessors series).
- 8** An annual collection is conducted to maintain and update the survey coverage. New lenders are included as their lending for any of the four categories of finance becomes sufficiently large.
- 9** From June 2001, the statistics for:
 - secured housing finance for owner occupation cover all commitments by banks and permanent building societies, and commitments by all other lenders which provided more than \$50m for housing finance in 2000
 - personal finance cover all commitments by banks, and commitments by all other lenders which provided more than \$96m for personal finance in 2000.
- 10** From June 2002, the statistics for:
 - commercial finance cover all commitments by banks, and commitments by all other lenders which provided more than \$484m for commercial finance in 2001
 - lease finance cover all commitments by banks, and commitments by all other lenders which provided funds of more than \$31m for lease finance in 2001.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

COVERAGE *continued*

11 Additional smaller lenders are also covered where it is necessary to maintain collection coverage (as specified in paragraph 7).

SOURCES

12 For banks, credit cooperatives, building societies and RFCs, the statistics in this publication are currently derived from returns submitted to the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA). The Financial Sector (Collection of Data) Act 2001 facilitates the collection of statistical data from the financial sector, with APRA established as the central point for collection of both prudential and statistical data. In October 2001, APRA implemented new reporting forms for building societies and credit cooperatives. New reporting forms were implemented for banks in March 2002, and for RFCs in March 2003. APRA commenced collecting loan commitments data from banks, credit cooperatives, building societies in July 2002 and from RFCs in March 2003.

13 Secured housing finance commitments for owner occupied housing from banks, building societies and credit cooperatives are derived from form ARF 392.0 Housing Finance collected by APRA. Personal finance commitments from these lenders are sourced from the ARF 394.0 Personal Finance. Commercial finance commitments from these lenders are sourced from the ARF 391.0 Commercial Finance and from the ARF 394.0 Personal Finance for fixed loans for personal investment purposes. Lease finance commitments are sourced from the ARF 393.0 Lease Finance.

14 Finance commitments for RFCs are collected on the RRF 391.0 Commercial Finance (commercial finance commitments), RRF 392.0 Housing Finance (secured housing finance commitments for owner occupied housing), RRF 393.0 Lease Finance (lease finance commitments) and RRF 394.0 Personal Finance (personal finance commitments and commercial finance commitments).

15 Electronic versions of the forms and instructions for ADIs are available on the APRA web site at

<<http://www.apra.gov.au/Statistics/Revised-Authorised-Deposit-taking-Institution-ADI-reporting-requirements.cfm>>. For RFCs, these are available at:

<<http://www.apra.gov.au/rfc/>>.

16 All other institutions, including securitisation vehicles, are collected directly by the ABS.

REVISIONS

17 Revisions to previously published statistics are included in the publication as they occur.

18 Changes in the classification of lenders (e.g. the conversion of a permanent building society to a bank) are reflected in the Lender series from the month of the change. Data for earlier periods for such lenders are not reclassified. Details of the establishment of new banks are published in the Reserve Bank of Australia's monthly *Bulletin* in the section on Technical Notes to Tables.

SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT

19 Seasonal adjustment is a means of removing the estimated effects of normal seasonal variation and 'trading day effects'. A 'trading day effect' reflects the varying amounts of activity on different days of the week and the different number of days of the week in any month (i.e. the number of Sundays, Mondays, etc.). This effect may be partly caused by the reporting practices of the lenders. Adjustment is also made for Easter which may affect the March and April estimates differently. Trading day effects are removed from the original estimates prior to the seasonal adjustment process. Seasonal adjustment does not remove the effect of irregular or non-seasonal influences (e.g. a change in interest rates) from the seasonally adjusted series.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT

continued

20 The lending finance series uses a concurrent seasonal adjustment methodology to derive the seasonal adjustment factors. This means that original estimates available at the current reference month are used to estimate seasonal factors for the current and previous months. As a result of this methodology, the seasonally adjusted and trend estimates for earlier periods can be revised each month. However, in most instances, the only noticeable revisions will be to the previous month and the same month a year ago.

TREND ESTIMATES

21 Smoothing seasonally adjusted series reduces the impact of the irregular component of the seasonally adjusted series and creates trend estimates. These trend estimates are derived by applying a 13 term Henderson-weighted moving average to all but the last six months of the respective seasonally adjusted series. Trend series are created for the last six months by applying surrogates of the Henderson moving average to the seasonally adjusted series. For further information, refer to *Information Paper: A Guide to Interpreting Time Series—Monitoring Trends: An Overview* (cat. no. 1349.0) or contact the Assistant Director, Time Series Analysis on Canberra (02) 6252 6345 or by email at <timeseries@abs.gov.au>.

22 While the smoothing technique described in paragraph 21 enables trend estimates to be produced for the latest few months, it does result in revisions to the trend estimates as new data become available. Generally, revisions become smaller over time and, after three months, usually have a negligible impact on the series. Changes in the original data and re-estimation of seasonal factors may also lead to revisions to the trend.

EFFECTS OF ROUNDING

23 Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals. Percentage changes presented in the commentary are based on unrounded data and may differ slightly from percentage changes calculated from the rounded data presented in the tables in this publication.

ABS DATA AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

24 Estimates for months prior to those shown in this publication and more detailed series are available in spreadsheet format from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) web site. For more information, contact the ABS National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070.

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

25 Users may also wish to refer to the following ABS releases:

- *Housing Finance, Australia* (cat. no. 5609.0)
- *Assets and Liabilities of Australian Securitizers* (cat. no. 5232.0.0.55.001)
- *Building Approvals, Australia* (cat. no. 8731.0)
- *Dwelling Unit Commencements, Australia, Preliminary* (cat. no. 8750.0) - issued monthly
- *Private New Capital Expenditure and Expected Expenditure, Australia* (cat. no. 5625.0)
- *Sales of New Motor Vehicles, Australia Electronic Publication* (cat. no. 9314.0).

26 In addition, the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) produces the monthly *Reserve Bank of Australia Bulletin*, the tables of which are available on the RBA web site <<http://www.rba.gov.au>>. The Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA) also publishes a range of finance statistics on its web site <<http://www.apra.gov.au>>.

27 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.

GLOSSARY

Agricultural machinery and equipment	Includes tractors, tillage implements, seeding, planting and fertilising equipment, agricultural mowers, harvesters, etc.
Alterations and additions	Comprises all structural and non-structural changes which are integral to the functional and structural design of a dwelling. Examples are garages, carports, pergolas, reroofing, recladding, etc. Alterations and additions do not include swimming pools, ongoing repairs, or maintenance and home improvements which do not involve building work.
Commitment	Is a firm offer of finance. It either has been, or is normally expected to be, accepted. Commitments accepted and cancelled in the same month are included. Commitments to non-residents are excluded.
Construction and earth moving equipment	Includes concrete mixers and pumpers, dozers, graders, mobile cranes, crawler tractors, dumpers, road rollers, earth packers, scarifiers, rippers, etc.
Construction of dwellings	Comprises commitments made to individuals to finance, by way of progress payments, the construction of owner occupied dwellings.
Debt consolidation	For personal finance, comprises commitments whose principle purpose is to consolidate and pay out amounts owing by the borrower to third parties.
Dwelling	Is a single self-contained place of residence such as a detached or semidetached house, a terrace house, a flat, home unit, town house, etc. which includes bathing and cooking facilities.
Electronic data processing equipment	Includes computers, computer peripherals, data entry devices, word processing machines, etc.
Established dwelling	Is a dwelling that has been completed for 12 months or more prior to the lodgement of a loan application, or has been previously occupied.
Finance lease	Refers to the leasing or hiring of tangible assets under an agreement, other than a hire purchase agreement, which substantially transfers from the lessor to the lessee all the risks and benefits incident to ownership of the asset without transferring the legal ownership.
Fixed loans	Generally involve: <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ a commitment for a fixed amount for a fixed period for a specific purpose■ a schedule of repayments over a fixed period■ repayments which reduce the liability of the borrower but do not act to make further finance available.
Heavy trucks	Comprises all vehicles with a gross combination mass rating in excess of 3.5 tonnes, including prime movers registered without trailers.
Light trucks	Comprises vehicles constructed primarily for the carriage of goods which do not exceed 3.5 tonnes gross vehicle mass such as utilities, panel vans, trucks, cab-chassis, forward control vans and four-wheel drives used to carry goods.
Manufacturing equipment	Includes all plant and equipment used in the manufacture of goods except motor vehicles such as forklifts, work trucks and tractors.
Motor cars and station wagons	Includes cars, station wagons, four-wheel drive and forward control passenger vehicles with up to nine seats (including the driver).
Motorcycles	Includes two and three wheeled motorcycles and mopeds, scooters and motorcycles with side cars.
New dwelling	Is a dwelling that has been completed within 12 months of the lodgement of a loan application, and the borrower will be the first occupant.
Office machines	Includes telephone systems (including PABX equipment), facsimile machines, cash registers, photocopiers, etc.

GLOSSARY *continued*

Purpose	Of the loan is that specified by the borrower. Where possible multiple purpose loans are split and each component is reported in the appropriate purpose category. Otherwise the whole loan is classified to the major purpose.
Refinancing	For personal and commercial finance, represents a commitment to refinance an existing loan. For secured housing finance, only those loans where the refinancing lender is not the original lender and the security is unchanged are included. The refinancing of a loan to fund a change of residence is treated as a new lending commitment.
Revolving credit	Generally has the following characteristics: <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ a commitment for a credit or borrowing limit is given for a specific period after which the commitment is reviewed■ the extent of the borrowing used at any time during the period may be for any amount up to the authorised limit■ repayments (other than of charges and interest) made during the period reduce the extent of the borrowing used and thereby increase the amount of unused credit available up to the authorised limit. Examples include credit cards, lines of credit and approved overdrafts.
Secured credit limits	Includes overdrafts, lines of credit, credit cards, etc. backed by a mortgage or other assets owned by the borrower.
Secured housing finance	Comprises all secured commitments to individuals for the construction or purchase of dwellings for owner occupation, regardless of type of security. Commitments for housing that will be occupied by persons other than the owner(s) are excluded.
Total credit limits at end of month	Comprises total approved credit limits available at the end of the reference month. In principle, this can be derived by adding new and increased lending commitments during the month less cancellations and reductions of credit limits during the month to the balance of credit limits at the end of the previous month. In practice, however, revisions and other adjustments (such as the transfer of an existing fixed credit facility) will mean that such a derivation is inexact.
Wholesale finance	Comprises finance for the purchase of goods by retailers and wholesalers.

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