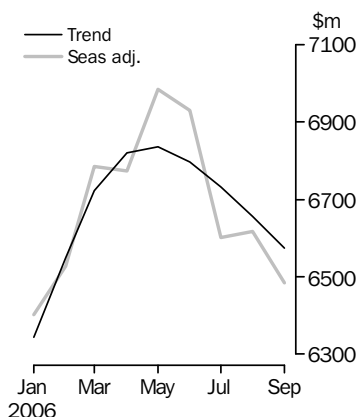


LENDING FINANCE

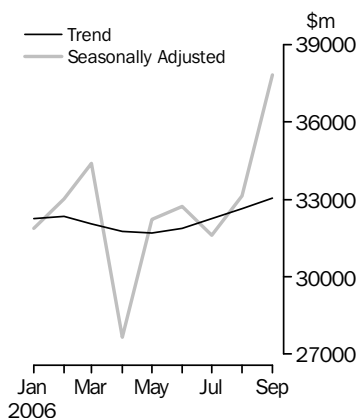
AUSTRALIA

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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 Michael Abbondante on Canberra (02) 6252 6707.

KEY FIGURES

	Aug 2006 \$m	Sep 2006 \$m	Aug 2006 to Sep 2006 % change
TREND ESTIMATES			
Housing finance for owner occupation	13 933	13 908	-0.2
Personal finance	6 657	6 574	-1.2
Commercial finance	32 647	33 053	1.2
Lease finance	514	502	-2.3
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ESTIMATES			
Housing finance for owner occupation	13 886	13 560	-2.3
Personal finance	6 617	6 484	-2.0
Commercial finance	33 128	37 834	14.2
Lease finance	501	498	-0.6

KEY POINTS

HOUSING FINANCE FOR OWNER OCCUPATION

SEPTEMBER 2006 COMPARED WITH AUGUST 2006:

- The total value of owner occupied housing commitments excluding alterations and additions decreased by 2.3% (seasonally adjusted), while the trend series fell 0.2%.

PERSONAL FINANCE

SEPTEMBER 2006 COMPARED WITH AUGUST 2006:

- The seasonally adjusted series for the value of total personal finance commitments fell by 2.0%. This decrease was due to decreases in revolving credit commitments (down 2.1%) and fixed lending commitments (down 1.9%).
- The trend series for the value of total personal finance fell 1.2% due to a decrease in revolving credit commitments (down 2.3%) with fixed lending commitments remaining virtually unchanged.

COMMERCIAL FINANCE

SEPTEMBER 2006 COMPARED WITH AUGUST 2006:

- The seasonally adjusted series for the value of total commercial finance commitments rose by 14.2%. This increase was due to an increase in revolving credit commitments (up 65.4%) more than offsetting a decrease in fixed lending commitments (down 7.2%).
- The trend series for the value of total commercial finance commitments rose by 1.2%. Increases were recorded for both revolving credit commitments (up 3.4%) and fixed lending commitments (up 0.2%).

LEASE FINANCE

SEPTEMBER 2006 COMPARED WITH AUGUST 2006:

- Lease finance commitments (seasonally adjusted) decreased by 0.6%. The lease finance trend series fell by 2.3%.

NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

<i>ISSUE</i>	<i>RELEASE DATE</i>
October 2006	12 December 2006
November 2006	17 January 2007
December 2006	13 February 2007
January 2007	14 March 2007
February 2007	13 April 2007
March 2007	15 May 2007

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CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

There are no significant changes to this issue.

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ABBREVIATIONS

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

Dennis Trewin
Australian Statistician

CONTENTS

page

Time Series Spreadsheets 4

ANALYSIS

Summary of findings 5

TABLES

1 Finance commitments, summary 7

2 Housing and personal finance commitments, by lender, original 8

3 Commercial and lease finance commitments, by lender, original 9

4 Personal finance commitments, by purpose (fixed loans), original 10

5 Personal finance commitments, revolving credit stocks and flows,
original 11

6 Commercial finance commitments, by purpose (fixed loans), original 12

7 Lease and commercial finance commitments, stocks and flows, original 12

8 Finance commitments for housing (owner occupation and
commercial) 13

9 Finance commitments for motor vehicles, original 14

10 Lease finance commitments for motor vehicles, original 15

11 Commercial and lease finance commitments for plant and equipment,
original 16

12 Lease finance commitments for plant and equipment, original 17

OTHER INFORMATION

Explanatory Notes 18

Glossary 21

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, By Purpose and Lender: Australia, January 1985 to September 2007.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

HOUSING FINANCE FOR OWNER OCCUPATION

The total value of owner occupied housing commitments excluding alterations and additions decreased by 2.3% (seasonally adjusted) in September 2006, while the trend series fell 0.2%.

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 fell by 2.0% in September 2006 compared with August 2006. This fall was due to a decrease in revolving credit commitments (down 2.1%) and fixed lending commitments (down 1.9%).

In trend terms, the value of total personal finance fell 1.2% in September 2006. The trend series for revolving credit commitments fell 2.3%, while fixed lending commitments remained virtually unchanged.

In original terms, fixed lending commitments decreased by \$283m (down 8.9%) in September 2006 compared with August 2006.

Movements in the original series contributing to this decrease were:

- Refinancing, down \$90m (-11.5%), compared with an average August to September increase of 0.8% over the previous three years.
- Debt consolidation, down \$62m (-17.2%) compared with an average August to September increase of 3.7% over the previous three years.

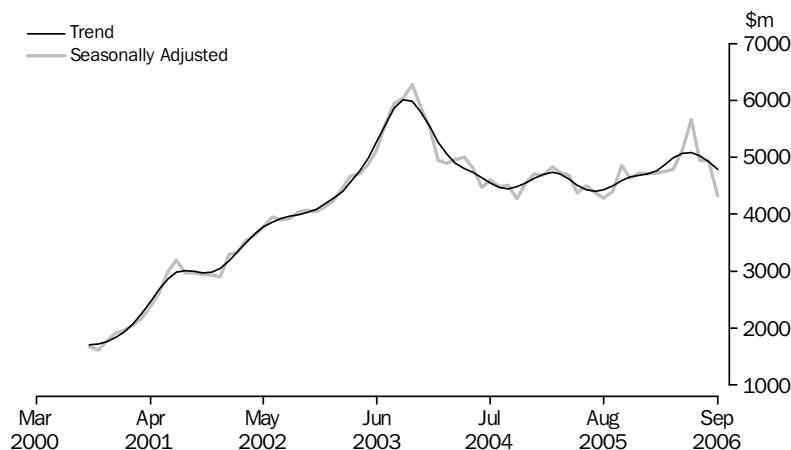
COMMERCIAL FINANCE

The seasonally adjusted series for the value of total commercial finance commitments rose by 14.2% in September 2006. The increase was due an increase in revolving credit commitments (up 65.4%) more than offsetting a fall in fixed lending commitments (down 7.2%).

The trend series for commercial finance commitments increased 1.2% in September 2006. An increase was recorded for both revolving credit commitments (up 3.4%), and fixed lending commitments (up 0.2%).

The value of purchases of dwellings by individuals for rent or resale (seasonally adjusted) fell by 12.5% in September 2006, after a revised decrease of 0.1% in August 2006. The trend series fell 2.6% in September 2006.

PURCHASE OF DWELLINGS BY INDIVIDUALS FOR RENT OR RESALE



SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

LEASE FINANCE

The value of lease finance commitments (seasonally adjusted) decreased by 0.6% in September 2006. The trend series for lease finance commitments fell by 2.3%.

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									
2005									
September	12 939	462	2 687	3 374	6 061	17 459	9 063	26 523	582
October	12 249	444	2 521	3 026	5 547	17 480	9 647	27 126	501
November	13 793	480	2 798	3 390	6 188	22 405	10 359	32 764	515
December	12 784	437	2 747	3 414	6 161	23 527	13 744	37 271	613
2006									
January	10 236	366	2 488	2 942	5 429	15 488	7 675	23 163	639
February	11 927	432	2 723	3 162	5 884	17 660	10 087	27 747	473
March	14 581	539	3 112	4 237	7 349	24 971	10 869	35 840	605
April	11 803	415	2 359	3 690	6 049	16 231	6 821	23 052	430
May	15 601	548	3 309	4 291	7 601	25 554	8 944	34 497	634
June	14 549	516	3 435	4 313	7 748	27 897	13 774	41 671	750
July	14 088	475	2 885	3 707	6 591	21 385	10 396	31 781	521
August	14 937	501	3 170	3 811	6 981	24 868	10 864	35 732	518
September	13 472	442	2 887	3 588	6 475	20 802	15 821	36 623	497
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED									
2005									
September	12 468	456	2 626	3 344	5 971	17 717	9 069	26 787	554
October	12 555	444	2 637	3 188	5 824	17 943	10 338	28 281	535
November	12 771	441	2 664	3 201	5 866	22 260	9 610	31 870	540
December	12 894	458	2 782	3 390	6 171	21 066	10 712	31 778	563
2006									
January	12 790	453	2 786	3 617	6 403	21 244	10 632	31 877	801
February	13 092	448	2 862	3 664	6 527	21 459	11 571	33 030	558
March	13 199	462	2 828	3 957	6 786	23 579	10 811	34 390	557
April	13 386	474	2 782	3 992	6 774	20 072	7 581	27 653	537
May	13 928	494	3 018	3 966	6 984	22 149	10 082	32 231	593
June	14 006	487	3 150	3 779	6 929	22 015	10 713	32 729	550
July	14 100	498	2 996	3 605	6 601	20 971	10 631	31 601	512
August	13 886	499	3 011	3 606	6 617	23 355	9 773	33 128	501
September	13 560	451	2 953	3 531	6 484	21 666	16 168	37 834	498
TREND									
2005									
September	12 310	454	2 615	3 308	5 924	17 813	9 469	27 282	539
October	12 525	449	2 653	3 293	5 946	18 884	9 802	28 686	562
November	12 692	446	2 697	3 323	6 020	20 069	10 184	30 253	587
December	12 819	447	2 737	3 417	6 154	21 041	10 517	31 558	605
2006									
January	12 940	451	2 775	3 568	6 343	21 674	10 590	32 265	614
February	13 093	457	2 817	3 731	6 548	21 908	10 447	32 355	611
March	13 302	466	2 867	3 856	6 723	21 865	10 191	32 056	598
April	13 531	476	2 918	3 903	6 821	21 782	9 972	31 754	575
May	13 728	483	2 964	3 872	6 836	21 778	9 913	31 691	553
June	13 860	488	2 999	3 798	6 797	21 836	10 052	31 888	536
July	13 923	488	3 021	3 711	6 732	21 918	10 329	32 248	524
August	13 933	486	3 029	3 629	6 657	22 014	10 632	32 647	514
September	13 908	482	3 029	3 545	6 574	22 057	10 996	33 053	502

(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
2005										
September	10 113	291	1 903	633	12 939	4 681	265	275	839	6 061
October	9 646	292	1 709	602	12 249	4 340	243	268	696	5 547
November	10 962	324	1 874	634	13 793	4 944	270	291	682	6 188
December	10 239	269	1 660	615	12 784	4 756	273	274	857	6 161
2006										
January	8 212	259	1 252	514	10 236	4 050	234	271	874	5 429
February	9 399	320	1 552	655	11 927	4 702	242	277	664	5 884
March	11 404	409	1 958	809	14 581	6 124	291	283	652	7 349
April	9 341	277	1 520	665	11 803	4 804	240	212	794	6 049
May	12 377	413	2 063	748	15 601	6 216	278	274	832	7 601
June	11 619	344	1 900	686	14 549	6 325	295	281	847	7 748
July	11 285	333	1 777	693	14 088	5 285	279	252	776	6 591
August	11 783	412	1 996	746	14 937	5 708	283	270	720	6 981
September	10 702	350	1 698	722	13 472	5 113	272	256	835	6 475

(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
2005										
September	np	360	419	np	26 523	215	161	100	106	582
October	22 944	np	374	np	27 126	184	132	94	90	501
November	27 999	560	400	3 805	32 764	202	118	np	np	515
December	32 192	713	415	3 952	37 271	224	156	102	131	613
2006										
January	19 409	926	263	2 565	23 163	161	321	74	84	639
February	np	np	432	np	27 747	166	124	81	102	473
March	31 227	np	471	np	35 840	209	172	109	116	605
April	20 329	np	323	np	23 052	135	112	90	92	430
May	np	np	407	np	34 497	205	191	115	123	634
June	np	np	432	np	41 671	316	158	139	137	750
July	27 840	np	347	np	31 781	154	163	86	117	521
August	31 412	np	403	np	35 732	173	132	99	115	518
September	33 317	np	384	np	36 623	174	130	85	108	497

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

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>
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
2005									
September	301	472	839	365	35	281	488	678	2 687
October	277	417	760	352	31	274	482	623	2 521
November	310	433	822	390	42	311	548	685	2 798
December	291	388	749	366	37	276	594	724	2 747
2006									
January	293	417	777	305	33	268	527	578	2 488
February	288	419	781	363	40	284	592	662	2 723
March	304	456	840	428	46	331	710	757	3 112
April	224	351	635	341	31	253	517	581	2 359
May	312	441	830	444	44	369	808	814	3 309
June	326	431	828	451	39	348	959	810	3 435
July	283	403	751	373	35	315	697	712	2 885
August	311	444	831	411	39	360	781	749	3 170
September	296	411	772	371	41	298	691	713	2 887

(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	Total limits(a)	Credit used
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
2005						
September	1 677	1 697	3 374	1 555	211 187	101 449
October	1 487	1 539	3 026	1 433	212 766	102 244
November	1 610	1 780	3 390	1 743	214 518	103 410
December	1 636	1 778	3 414	1 547	213 337	101 759
2006						
January	1 266	1 676	2 942	1 383	214 911	101 910
February	1 434	1 727	3 162	1 621	216 464	103 361
March	1 865	2 372	4 237	2 286	218 444	104 133
April	1 475	2 215	3 690	1 512	220 664	104 741
May	2 039	2 253	4 291	2 541	222 485	105 936
June	2 372	1 941	4 313	1 907	224 951	107 342
July	1 928	1 778	3 707	2 018	226 595	107 089
August	1 948	1 863	3 811	1 760	228 703	107 156
September	1 832	1 756	3 588	1 731	230 562	107 247

(a) This figure sometimes reflects a rebasing of the data by one or more lenders without adjustment to earlier periods' commitments or cancellations.

6

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
2005								
September	1 513	6 391	777	1 243	1 293	6 243	17 459	37 296
October	1 198	6 412	1 055	1 370	1 124	6 321	17 480	36 007
November	1 169	7 006	1 034	1 213	1 851	10 132	22 405	35 318
December	2 647	6 632	685	1 866	2 025	9 672	23 527	37 989
2006								
January	883	5 351	837	1 346	2 479	4 592	15 488	38 210
February	1 438	5 515	690	2 223	859	6 935	17 660	38 732
March	1 508	7 238	832	1 537	1 500	12 355	24 971	43 668
April	903	5 511	579	1 469	1 127	6 641	16 231	43 593
May	1 689	8 037	856	1 892	1 564	11 516	25 554	46 147
June	1 728	9 527	778	2 058	4 424	9 382	27 897	42 853
July	1 141	6 641	758	1 660	2 181	9 004	21 385	42 060
August	1 758	7 219	901	1 815	1 670	11 505	24 868	48 103
September	2 697	6 448	np	1 605	1 808	np	20 802	39 685

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

7

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	Total credit limits at end of month(a)	Credit used at end of month
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
2005						
September	582	680	9 063	7 034	271 237	139 488
October	501	np	9 647	12 121	268 783	138 374
November	515	644	10 359	5 865	273 319	143 367
December	613	608	13 744	6 882	281 053	145 295
2006						
January	639	643	7 675	6 860	281 778	147 265
February	473	653	10 087	5 572	286 256	153 350
March	605	674	10 869	6 548	290 693	155 060
April	430	673	6 821	5 473	291 895	158 185
May	634	692	8 944	7 266	293 521	159 789
June	750	505	13 774	9 030	298 243	160 957
July	521	499	10 396	9 187	299 203	161 455
August	518	516	10 864	7 150	302 868	165 000
September	497	511	15 821	7 966	310 808	166 968

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

(a) This figure sometimes reflects 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									
2005									
September	1 016	598	11 326	462	35	593	4 544	416	18 990
October	931	592	10 727	444	31	593	4 645	408	18 371
November	997	649	12 147	480	42	453	4 989	388	20 146
December	954	671	11 159	437	37	808	4 670	457	19 193
2006									
January	800	494	8 943	366	33	366	3 711	356	15 067
February	913	639	10 375	432	40	611	4 188	390	17 588
March	1 081	775	12 725	539	46	898	5 249	459	21 772
April	855	651	10 297	415	31	469	4 228	429	17 375
May	1 161	860	13 580	548	44	503	5 855	518	23 068
June	1 157	767	12 624	516	39	498	6 273	612	22 487
July	1 142	726	12 220	475	35	643	4 825	439	20 505
August	1 256	748	12 933	501	39	500	5 189	454	21 621
September	1 060	650	11 762	442	41	580	4 405	598	19 538
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED									
2005									
September	978	593	10 897	458	34	591	4 398	426	18 375
October	949	629	10 977	443	35	537	4 863	436	18 869
November	959	623	11 190	440	36	498	4 632	338	18 715
December	982	627	11 285	460	36	697	4 727	414	19 229
2006									
January	1 043	621	11 126	453	39	556	4 711	439	18 988
February	1 038	679	11 375	448	41	660	4 720	480	19 442
March	1 025	699	11 475	462	40	815	4 749	479	19 742
April	969	726	11 691	472	36	527	4 785	497	19 703
May	1 021	762	12 145	494	40	495	5 119	484	20 560
June	1 086	749	12 170	489	39	419	5 662	484	21 098
July	1 073	724	12 303	496	39	590	4 945	432	20 603
August	1 096	707	12 082	499	39	510	4 938	443	20 314
September	1 067	669	11 824	451	41	611	4 323	633	19 621
TREND									
2005									
September	956	591	10 763	453	34	554	4 502	416	18 269
October	965	607	10 953	449	35	552	4 588	409	18 557
November	980	620	11 093	447	36	575	4 657	407	18 814
December	994	633	11 192	448	37	611	4 687	416	19 019
2006									
January	1 005	651	11 284	451	38	640	4 713	436	19 218
February	1 013	674	11 406	457	39	644	4 762	460	19 456
March	1 019	701	11 582	466	39	626	4 864	474	19 771
April	1 027	723	11 781	475	39	589	4 987	479	20 100
May	1 037	735	11 956	483	39	551	5 073	477	20 351
June	1 051	734	12 075	487	39	527	5 087	478	20 478
July	1 066	726	12 131	488	39	520	5 030	486	20 487
August	1 080	714	12 140	486	39	523	4 925	501	20 408
September	1 090	701	12 117	482	40	532	4 796	519	20 277

(a) Excludes revolving credit.

(b) Includes alterations and additions.

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

Month	PERSONAL FINANCE(a)					COMMERCIAL FINANCE (a)	LEASE FINANCE	ALL VEHICLE FINANCE
	New motor cars and station wagons	Used motor cars and station wagons	Motorcycles	Other motor vehicles	Total	Total	Total	Total
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
2005								
September	301	472	29	37	839	711	267	1 818
October	277	417	31	34	760	615	239	1 613
November	310	433	40	38	822	649	260	1 730
December	291	388	37	34	749	655	286	1 690
2006								
January	293	417	34	34	777	506	202	1 486
February	288	419	37	37	781	623	221	1 625
March	304	456	41	39	840	754	277	1 872
April	224	351	30	30	635	525	217	1 377
May	312	441	38	40	830	707	287	1 824
June	326	431	35	36	828	765	305	1 897
July	283	403	19	46	751	622	252	1 626
August	311	444	24	51	831	658	251	1 740
September	296	411	22	44	772	613	248	1 634

(a) Excludes revolving credit.

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

<i>Month</i>	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
2005								
September	179	39	12	9	13	5	9	267
October	154	39	10	7	19	4	6	239
November	168	38	12	8	17	4	12	260
December	197	42	14	11	11	6	5	286
2006								
January	135	33	8	6	11	4	5	202
February	139	38	13	7	11	4	9	221
March	185	45	14	8	15	4	7	277
April	137	38	11	3	21	2	5	217
May	176	55	17	5	24	4	6	287
June	189	52	19	7	22	8	8	305
July	165	47	15	5	12	2	6	252
August	164	46	16	5	9	3	7	251
September	168	43	14	4	11	3	6	248

Month	COMMERCIAL FINANCE(a)			LEASE FINANCE	ALL PLANT AND EQUIPMENT FINANCE
	Transport equipment(b)	Other plant and equipment	Total	Total	Total
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
2005					
September	136	396	532	315	847
October	73	682	756	262	1 018
November	79	485	564	255	819
December	253	959	1 211	327	1 538
2006					
January	152	688	840	437	1 277
February	72	1 528	1 600	252	1 852
March	161	622	783	328	1 110
April	94	850	944	213	1 157
May	87	1 098	1 185	346	1 531
June	99	1 194	1 293	446	1 739
July	66	972	1 038	268	1 306
August	86	1 071	1 157	267	1 424
September	87	905	992	249	1 240

(a) Excludes revolving credit.

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

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>Manufacturing 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>	Total
<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>
2005									
September	6	42	12	30	79	69	27	50	315
October	6	19	14	18	74	55	26	48	262
November	10	35	16	27	49	56	21	42	255
December	11	50	14	21	71	76	27	57	327
2006									
January	19	33	10	20	249	51	16	38	437
February	17	38	14	12	63	46	21	41	252
March	10	68	13	17	85	60	23	53	328
April	12	24	10	10	55	46	12	43	213
May	22	38	22	62	80	54	18	51	346
June	23	44	26	17	102	120	34	80	446
July	11	28	7	14	91	58	14	44	268
August	10	32	14	10	71	55	22	51	267
September	6	28	8	10	73	56	15	52	249

(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 AusStats.

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 in this publication have been derived from rounded data, and therefore may be slightly different from percentage changes and averages calculated from unrounded data available in time series spreadsheets.

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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