

**CORRIGENDUM**

**ACTUAL AND EXPECTED  
PRIVATE MINERAL EXPLORATION**

**AUSTRALIA**

EMBARGO: 11:30AM (CANBERRA TIME) TUES 29 SEPT 1998

**C O R R I G E N D U M**

Several errors have been detected in the June quarter 1998 issue which was released on 22 September 1998.

**SUMMARY OF FINDINGS**

The level of decrease in the trend estimate for METRES DRILLED on page 3, should be 0.1 million metres (rather than 1 million metres as reported) between March and June quarters. A replacement page 3 is attached.

Errors have also been detected in the first paragraph of the JUNE QUARTER on page 4. A replacement page 4 is also attached.

**TABLE 1**

PRIVATE EXPLORATION, Actual and Expected Expenditure, contains incorrect figures for 'Expected' for each of the exploration categories for the 6 months ended June 1998. However, the corresponding 'Actual as a proportion of expected expenditure' percentages are correct.

The 1997-98 total 'Expected' and 'Actual as a proportion of expected' are also incorrect

A replacement TABLE 1 is also attached.

**TABLE 3**

Due to an error in compiling the publication, the seasonally adjusted expenditure by State and Territory for the June quarter 1998 was omitted. The data are now included in a replacement TABLE 3 (also attached).

T.J. Skinner  
Acting Australian Statistician

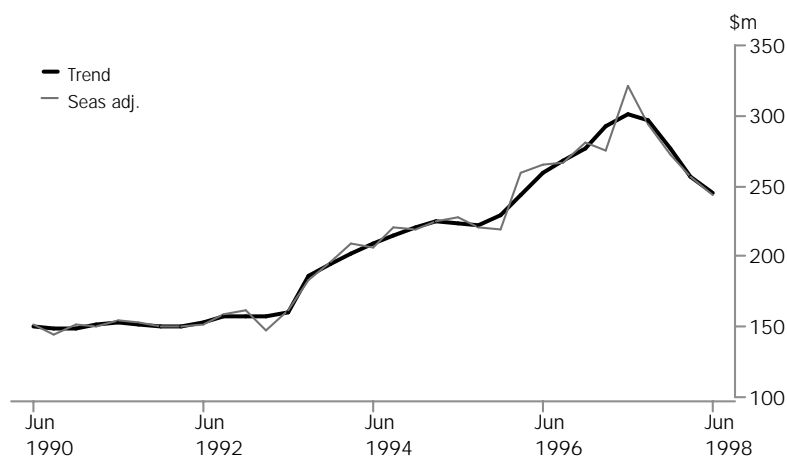
- For further information about these and related statistics, contact Sandra Lowry on Darwin 08 8943 2171, or refer to the back cover of this publication.

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

### MINERAL EXPLORATION EXPENDITURE (OTHER THAN FOR PETROLEUM)

#### TREND ESTIMATES

Between the March and the June quarters of 1998 the trend estimate continued to fall, down 4% (\$11m) to \$246m. This was 19% (\$56m) lower than the corresponding June quarter 1997.



#### STATES AND TERRITORIES

The trend estimate for mineral exploration expenditure fell for all states and the Northern Territory during the June quarter. The most significant fall in absolute terms occurred in Queensland and New South Wales. The estimate decreased in Queensland by 13% (\$4m), followed by New South Wales where the estimate also decreased 13% (\$3m).

#### METRES DRILLED

The trend estimate for total metres drilled fell in the June quarter, down 4% (0.1 million metres) compared to March quarter 1998. This was 29% (1 million metres) less than June quarter 1997.

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

### JUNE QUARTER

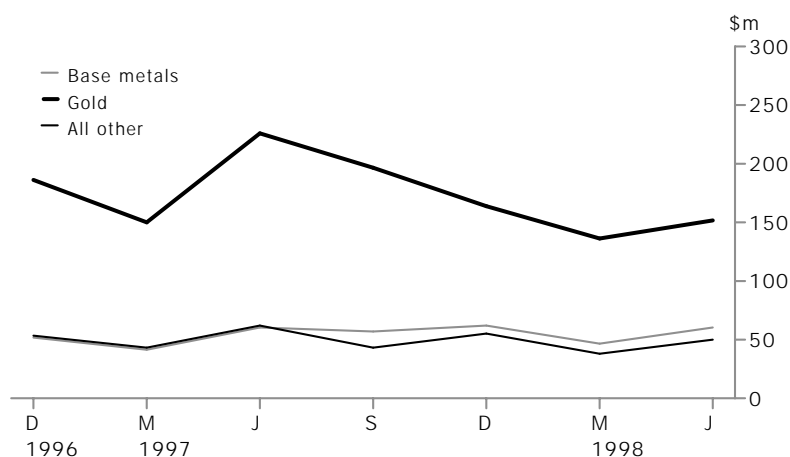
In seasonally adjusted terms, total mineral exploration expenditure fell by 5% (\$13m) in the June quarter 1998. New South Wales was the most significant contributor to the decrease with a fall of 30% (\$7m). The only state where expenditure increased was Western Australia, with an increase of less than 1%.

In original terms, mineral exploration expenditure reported for the June quarter was \$263m. This was 19% (\$42m) higher than the March quarter 1998 but was 24% (\$85m) lower than the \$347m reported for the June quarter 1997.

Expenditure on production leases remained relatively stable at \$53m rising only 3% (\$1m) from the March quarter 1998, while expenditure on all other areas rose 24% (\$41m) to \$209m. Exploration expenditure on all other areas represented 80% of the total expenditure reported.

In the June quarter exploration expenditure increased for all minerals with the exception of coal which decreased slightly by 5% (\$0.6m). Gold continued to be the predominant mineral sought, representing 58% (\$152m) of total expenditure reported.

MINERAL EXPLORATION EXPENDITURE, *Original Series*



## PRIVATE EXPLORATION, Actual and Expected Expenditure

Period	MINERAL EXPLORATION....			PETROLEUM ONSHORE...			PETROLEUM OFFSHORE.....		
	<i>Actual</i>	<i>Expected(a)</i>	<i>Actual as a proportion of expected</i>	<i>Actual</i>	<i>Expected(a)</i>	<i>Actual as a proportion of expected</i>	<i>Actual</i>	<i>Expected(a)</i>	<i>Actual as a proportion of expected</i>
	\$m	\$m	%	\$m	\$m	%	\$m	\$m	%
<b>1995-96</b>	960.3	773.6	124.1	174.8	185.6	94.2	550.4	428.0	128.6
<b>1996-97</b>	1 148.6	808.9	142.0	251.9	206.2	122.2	601.0	446.6	134.6
<b>1997-98</b>	1 066.8	901.3	118.4	232.3	145.0	160.2	748.9	773.7	96.8
6 months ended June 1997	582.8	447.1	130.4	110.4	115.0	96.0	281.9	238.7	118.1
6 months ended December 1997	583.8	513.7	113.6	117.3	83.3	140.7	265.4	345.8	76.8
6 months ended June 1998	483.1	387.6	124.6	115.0	61.7	186.6	483.5	427.9	113.0
6 months ended December 1998	n.y.a.	299.5	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	71.6	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	246.5	n.y.a.
n.y.a. not yet available				(a) As reported in previous collections. Refer to Explanatory Notes paragraph 13.					

## MINERAL EXPLORATION (other than for Petroleum), Expenditure by State and Territory

	New South Wales	Victoria	Queensland	South Australia	Western Australia	Tasmania	Northern Territory	Australia
Period	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
ORIGINAL								
<b>1995-96</b>	80.4	42.6	181.0	24.1	519.5	18.8	93.8	<b>960.3</b>
<b>1996-97</b>	94.1	51.8	160.7	35.1	691.7	26.0	88.9	<b>1 148.6</b>
<b>1997-98</b>	88.2	43.1	133.2	45.0	660.4	20.7	75.9	<b>1 066.8</b>
<b>1996</b>								
September	21.1	14.9	38.3	5.4	162.8	4.2	27.5	<b>274.2</b>
December	20.6	14.1	45.1	8.0	173.1	5.7	25.0	<b>291.6</b>
<b>1997</b>								
March	22.0	9.6	31.6	7.2	144.2	6.0	14.8	<b>235.6</b>
June	30.4	13.2	45.7	14.5	211.6	10.1	21.6	<b>347.2</b>
September	23.3	9.5	41.9	12.5	182.7	9.7	22.1	<b>301.8</b>
December	26.1	13.4	41.7	11.4	162.3	3.8	23.4	<b>282.0</b>
<b>1998</b>								
March	20.8	10.6	21.5	9.2	142.0	3.7	12.6	<b>220.4</b>
June	18.0	9.6	28.2	12.0	173.4	3.5	17.8	<b>262.6</b>
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED								
<b>1996</b>								
September	21.8	15.8	37.3	5.7	157.0	4.8	24.3	<b>266.6</b>
December	21.4	12.8	39.5	7.5	170.1	5.8	23.4	<b>280.5</b>
<b>1997</b>								
March	23.7	10.1	41.4	8.8	164.5	5.9	21.3	<b>275.7</b>
June	26.6	13.2	42.6	12.4	197.9	9.0	19.6	<b>321.4</b>
September	23.9	10.1	41.0	13.2	176.0	11.0	19.5	<b>294.6</b>
December	27.3	12.0	36.5	10.6	159.9	3.8	21.9	<b>272.1</b>
<b>1998</b>								
March	22.4	11.3	28.3	11.2	161.6	3.8	18.2	<b>256.8</b>
June	15.7	9.6	26.2	10.3	162.2	3.1	16.2	<b>243.4</b>
TREND								
<b>1996</b>								
September	21.2	13.8	43.7	6.1	153.7	4.7	24.1	<b>267.4</b>
December	22.3	13.2	39.5	7.3	166.0	5.3	23.2	<b>276.8</b>
<b>1997</b>								
March	23.8	11.9	40.5	9.6	178.1	7.2	21.3	<b>292.4</b>
June	25.3	11.2	42.4	11.7	182.3	8.7	20.2	<b>301.8</b>
September	26.2	11.5	40.4	12.3	177.4	8.3	20.2	<b>296.4</b>
December	24.8	11.4	35.5	11.7	167.4	6.1	19.9	<b>276.8</b>
<b>1998</b>								
March	21.8	10.9	30.2	10.8	160.5	3.8	18.7	<b>256.7</b>
June	18.9	10.5	26.3	10.4	159.5	2.6	17.3	<b>245.5</b>





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