

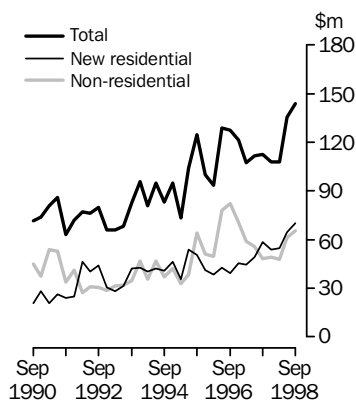


BUILDING ACTIVITY NORTHERN TERRITORY

EMBARGO: 11:30AM (CANBERRA TIME) TUES 2 FEB 1999

Value of work done

Volume terms



SEPTEMBER QTR KEY FIGURES

ORIGINAL ESTIMATES	Sep qtr 98	Jun qtr 98 to	Sep qtr 97 to
		Sep qtr 98	Sep qtr 98
		% change	% change
Value of work done(a) (\$m)	143.6	6.1	27.4
New residential building (\$m)	70.3	8.7	20.6
Alterations and additions(b) (\$m)	8.1	-14.6	35.0
Non-residential building (\$m)	65.2	6.5	34.7
Total dwelling units commenced (no.)	493	-16.7	0.4
New private sector houses (no.)	217	-26.4	-16.2

(a) Chain volume measures, reference year 1996-97. (b) To residential buildings.

SEPTEMBER QTR KEY POINTS

VALUE OF WORK DONE, VOLUME TERMS

- Total building work done increased by 6.1% in the September quarter to \$143.6m, the highest for 13 years.
- Work done on new houses increased by 25.9% to \$50.0m, again the highest for 13 years. Most of this increase was in the public sector. Although new other residential building fell by 18.7% to \$20.3m, it was the fifth successive quarter above \$20.0m.
- Work done on non-residential building rose by 6.5% to \$65.2m, with a 22.0% fall in the private sector being more than offset by a significant increase in the public sector.

VALUE OF WORK COMMENCED, VOLUME TERMS

- Total building work commenced was \$144.4m, showing little change from the relatively high level of the June quarter 1998.
- New residential building commenced fell by 19.2% to \$62.0m. New houses rose by 13.0% to \$50.8m, the highest since the June quarter 1985. A large increase in the public sector more than offset a significant decrease in the private sector. New other residential buildings fell by 64.8% to \$11.2m, due to a fall in the private sector.
- Non-residential building commenced rose by 25.8% to \$74.8m, largely due to the commencement of a number of buildings at the Robertson Army Barracks complex.

NUMBER OF DWELLING UNITS COMMENCED

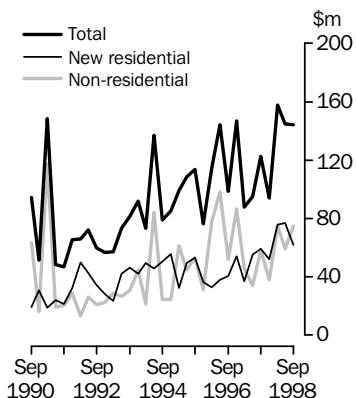
- The total number of dwelling units commenced during the quarter fell by 16.7% to 493. A 39.2% fall in new private sector dwelling units commenced (to 326) was only partially offset by an almost trebling in the number commenced (to 167) in the public sector.

VALUE OF WORK YET TO BE DONE

- Work yet to be done on jobs under construction at the end of September 1998 increased marginally to \$154.9m or 1.05 times the value of work done for the quarter.

Value of work commenced

Volume terms



- For further information about these and related statistics, contact Gary Niedorfer on Adelaide 08 8237 7494, or any ABS office shown on the back cover of this publication.

NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

ISSUE (QUARTER)	RELEASE DATE
December 1998	4 May 1999
March 1999	2 August 1999



CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

Chain Laspeyres volume measures have been used in this publication. This is in line with the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) intention to replace all constant price estimates with chain volume measures. For further information see Explanatory Notes 21 and 22.



NEW RELEASE

The first issue of a new quarterly publication, *Building Activity, Australia: Building Work Done, Preliminary* (Cat. no. 8755.0), was released on 26 November 1998 and included data for the September quarter 1998. It contains preliminary estimates for the value of work done from the Building Activity Survey to provide an indication of trends in building activity prior to the release of the quarterly *Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product* (Cat. no. 5206.0). If you wish to know more about this publication or wish to purchase it, please refer to the back cover for your nearest ABS office and other contact details.



SYMBOLS AND OTHER USAGES

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
—	nil or rounded to zero

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

Robyn Elliott
Regional Director
Northern Territory

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ORIGINAL ESTIMATES

2	Number and value of building commenced	5
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**TABLE 1. VALUE OF BUILDING ACTIVITY, CHAIN VOLUME MEASURES(a)
(\$ million)**

Period	New residential building			Alterations and additions to residential buildings	Non-residential building		Total building
	Houses	Other residential buildings	Total		Private Sector	Total	
COMMENCED							
1995-96	102.9	56.9	159.9	28.8	145.8	259.6	448.1
1996-97	124.8	61.8	186.6	23.8	114.1	217.8	428.0
1997-98	152.2	111.3	263.5	25.8	97.1	230.2	519.6
1997 June qtr	35.0	19.8	54.8	6.7	11.5	33.6	94.9
Sept. qtr	38.2	21.0	59.2	5.4	20.9	58.0	122.7
Dec. qtr	32.2	19.5	51.8	4.2	17.3	38.1	94.1
1998 Mar. qtr	36.8	39.0	75.8	7.4	34.0	74.7	157.9
June qtr	45.0	31.8	76.7	8.8	24.9	59.4	144.9
Sept. qtr	50.8	11.2	62.0	7.6	17.6	74.8	144.4
VALUE OF WORK DONE DURING PERIOD							
1995-96	113.3	59.2	172.5	32.5	130.2	242.6	447.1
1996-97	121.2	57.2	178.2	22.9	142.5	267.0	468.0
1997-98	142.8	88.4	231.6	25.8	105.1	206.4	463.9
1997 June qtr	35.9	13.4	49.2	6.9	20.4	55.8	111.8
Sept. qtr	38.2	20.0	58.3	6.0	26.0	48.4	112.7
Dec. qtr	33.0	20.6	53.7	5.2	22.8	49.2	108.1
1998 Mar. qtr	31.9	22.9	54.9	5.2	22.3	47.6	107.7
June qtr	39.7	24.9	64.7	9.4	34.0	61.2	135.4
Sept. qtr	50.0	20.3	70.3	8.1	26.5	65.2	143.6

(a) Reference year for chain volume measures is 1996-97. See paragraphs 21 and 22 of the Explanatory Notes.

TABLE 2. NUMBER AND VALUE OF BUILDING COMMENCED: ORIGINAL

Period	Number of dwelling units				Value (\$m)						
	New houses	New other residential building	Con-versions etc.	Total dwelling units	New houses	New other residential building	New residential building	Alterations and additions to residential buildings	Total residential building	Total non-residential building	Total building
PRIVATE SECTOR											
1995-96	773	455	9	1,237	80.0	48.2	128.2	21.6	149.8	143.9	293.7
1996-97	815	685	28	1,528	99.5	60.2	159.6	20.7	180.3	114.2	294.5
1997-98	949	877	14	1,840	120.0	106.7	226.7	17.8	244.4	100.2	344.6
1997 June qtr	224	254	4	482	30.0	19.6	49.6	5.3	54.9	11.6	66.6
Sept. qtr	259	134	4	397	31.9	17.1	48.9	5.0	53.9	21.3	75.2
Dec. qtr	200	209	2	411	24.7	18.2	43.0	3.6	46.5	17.8	64.3
1998 Mar. qtr	195	299	2	496	23.3	39.3	62.6	4.4	67.0	35.1	102.1
June qtr	295	235	6	536	40.1	32.0	72.2	4.8	77.0	26.0	103.0
Sept. qtr	217	106	3	326	29.0	10.5	39.5	6.6	46.1	18.4	64.5
PUBLIC SECTOR											
1995-96	112	117	3	232	18.9	7.7	26.6	6.1	32.7	111.7	144.4
1996-97	170	16	12	198	25.2	1.6	26.9	3.1	30.0	103.5	133.5
1997-98	270	75	—	345	36.7	7.7	44.4	8.6	52.9	136.7	189.6
1997 June qtr	45	5	—	50	5.6	0.5	6.0	1.5	7.5	22.3	29.9
Sept. qtr	56	38	—	94	7.4	4.3	11.7	0.5	12.3	37.8	50.1
Dec. qtr	70	20	—	90	8.5	1.7	10.3	0.8	11.1	21.3	32.3
1998 Mar. qtr	95	10	—	105	14.6	0.8	15.4	3.2	18.6	41.9	60.5
June qtr	49	7	—	56	6.1	0.8	6.9	4.1	11.0	35.7	46.7
Sept. qtr	153	14	—	167	23.1	1.1	24.3	1.2	25.4	59.6	85.1
TOTAL											
1995-96	885	572	12	1,469	98.9	55.9	154.8	27.7	182.6	255.6	438.2
1996-97	985	701	40	1,726	124.7	61.8	186.5	23.8	210.3	217.7	428.0
1997-98	1,219	952	14	2,185	156.7	114.4	271.0	26.3	297.3	236.9	534.3
1997 June qtr	269	259	4	532	35.6	20.0	55.6	6.8	62.5	33.9	96.4
Sept. qtr	315	172	4	491	39.3	21.4	60.7	5.6	66.2	59.1	125.3
Dec. qtr	270	229	2	501	33.3	20.0	53.3	4.3	57.6	39.1	96.7
1998 Mar. qtr	290	309	2	601	37.9	40.1	78.0	7.5	85.6	77.0	162.6
June qtr	344	242	6	592	46.2	32.9	79.1	8.9	88.0	61.7	149.7
Sept. qtr	370	120	3	493	52.1	11.6	63.8	7.8	71.6	78.0	149.6

TABLE 3. VALUE OF NON-RESIDENTIAL BUILDING COMMENCED: ORIGINAL
(\$ million)

<i>Period</i>	<i>Hotels etc.</i>	<i>Shops</i>	<i>Factories</i>	<i>Offices</i>	<i>Other business premises</i>	<i>Educational</i>	<i>Religious</i>	<i>Health recreational</i>	<i>Entertainment and</i>	<i>Miscellaneous</i>	<i>Total non-residential building</i>
PRIVATE SECTOR											
1995-96	62.7	26.5	3.9	12.6	17.2	5.4	0.6	4.1	9.0	2.0	143.9
1996-97	1.4	53.8	4.0	20.2	19.7	7.4	0.2	0.4	1.9	5.1	114.2
1997-98	0.6	34.5	5.6	14.5	20.9	3.9	0.1	0.5	15.5	4.0	100.2
1997 June qtr	0.1	4.4	1.6	0.5	3.7	—	—	—	0.2	1.2	11.6
Sept. qtr	0.6	7.3	2.4	3.5	4.6	1.5	0.1	—	1.3	0.1	21.3
Dec. qtr	—	4.1	0.4	1.6	6.2	1.3	—	0.3	3.5	0.4	17.8
1998 Mar. qtr	—	15.7	1.4	2.2	4.3	0.6	—	0.2	10.8	—	35.1
June qtr	—	7.4	1.5	7.3	5.7	0.5	—	0.1	—	3.5	26.0
Sept. qtr	—	7.5	1.6	5.0	3.4	0.1	0.1	—	0.2	0.4	18.4
PUBLIC SECTOR											
1995-96	—	4.9	1.1	14.9	17.3	27.4	2.4	1.9	11.4	30.5	111.7
1996-97	1.2	3.3	21.7	8.0	5.5	37.2	—	3.3	4.4	19.0	103.5
1997-98	—	0.2	0.1	18.2	47.3	20.9	—	6.3	0.5	43.2	136.7
1997 June qtr	0.1	0.5	0.1	1.5	0.3	17.2	—	0.3	—	2.3	22.3
Sept. qtr	—	—	—	2.0	24.0	7.3	—	—	—	4.5	37.8
Dec. qtr	—	0.1	—	12.3	1.5	0.2	—	0.7	0.1	6.3	21.3
1998 Mar. qtr	—	—	0.1	1.1	7.2	9.4	—	0.3	0.2	23.6	41.9
June qtr	—	0.2	—	2.8	14.6	4.0	—	5.3	0.1	8.8	35.7
Sept. qtr	—	0.1	—	36.5	0.1	7.1	—	1.2	0.4	14.2	59.6
TOTAL											
1995-96	62.7	31.3	5.0	27.5	34.5	32.8	3.0	6.1	20.4	32.5	255.6
1996-97	2.6	57.1	25.7	28.2	25.2	44.6	0.2	3.8	6.2	24.0	217.7
1997-98	0.6	34.7	5.7	32.8	68.2	24.9	0.1	6.8	16.0	47.2	236.9
1997 June qtr	0.3	4.9	1.6	2.0	4.0	17.2	—	0.3	0.2	3.5	33.9
Sept. qtr	0.6	7.3	2.4	5.5	28.6	8.9	0.1	—	1.3	4.6	59.1
Dec. qtr	—	4.2	0.4	13.9	7.7	1.5	—	1.0	3.6	6.7	39.1
1998 Mar. qtr	—	15.7	1.5	3.3	11.5	10.0	—	0.5	11.0	23.6	77.0
June qtr	—	7.6	1.5	10.1	20.3	4.4	—	5.3	0.1	12.3	61.7
Sept. qtr	—	7.7	1.6	41.5	3.4	7.1	0.1	1.2	0.6	14.7	78.0

TABLE 4. NUMBER AND VALUE OF BUILDING UNDER CONSTRUCTION AT END OF PERIOD: ORIGINAL

	<i>Number of dwelling units</i>				<i>Value (\$m)</i>						
	<i>New houses</i>	<i>New other residential building</i>	<i>Conversions etc.</i>	<i>Total dwelling units</i>	<i>New houses</i>	<i>New other residential building</i>	<i>New residential building</i>	<i>Alterations and additions to residential buildings</i>	<i>Total residential building</i>	<i>Total non-residential building</i>	<i>Total building</i>
PRIVATE SECTOR											
1995-96	354	264	4	622	37.5	30.6	68.1	9.5	77.6	115.2	192.8
1996-97	338	450	9	797	42.1	38.5	80.7	10.3	91.0	57.3	148.3
1997-98	383	531	4	918	52.7	70.2	122.9	7.2	130.1	45.1	175.2
1997 June qtr	338	450	9	797	42.1	38.5	80.7	10.3	91.0	57.3	148.3
Sept. qtr	337	296	9	642	44.4	30.3	74.7	10.2	84.9	64.1	149.0
Dec. qtr	290	378	7	675	37.9	37.4	75.2	8.0	83.2	64.5	147.7
1998 Mar. qtr	285	500	3	788	37.6	63.0	100.6	7.5	108.0	99.9	207.9
June qtr	383	531	4	918	52.7	70.2	122.9	7.2	130.1	45.1	175.2
Sept. qtr	382	442	5	829	53.7	65.1	118.8	9.4	128.2	33.7	161.9
PUBLIC SECTOR											
1995-96	9	108	2	119	1.0	6.6	7.6	0.2	7.8	104.4	112.1
1996-97	52	5	—	57	6.3	0.5	6.8	1.5	8.3	72.0	80.3
1997-98	74	17	—	91	10.6	1.6	12.3	4.1	16.4	102.7	119.0
1997 June qtr	52	5	—	57	6.3	0.5	6.8	1.5	8.3	72.0	80.3
Sept. qtr	52	38	—	90	6.9	4.3	11.2	0.6	11.7	84.9	96.6
Dec. qtr	54	58	—	112	7.4	6.0	13.5	0.5	13.9	53.8	67.7
1998 Mar. qtr	109	12	—	121	16.6	1.0	17.6	3.3	20.9	81.9	102.8
June qtr	74	17	—	91	10.6	1.6	12.3	4.1	16.4	102.7	119.0
Sept. qtr	143	21	—	164	22.2	2.0	24.2	1.4	25.6	136.0	161.7
TOTAL											
1995-96	363	372	6	741	38.6	37.2	75.8	9.6	85.4	219.5	304.9
1996-97	390	455	9	854	48.4	39.0	87.5	11.8	99.3	129.3	228.6
1997-98	457	548	4	1,009	63.4	71.8	135.2	11.3	146.5	147.8	294.3
1997 June qtr	390	455	9	854	48.4	39.0	87.5	11.8	99.3	129.3	228.6
Sept. qtr	389	334	9	732	51.3	34.6	85.9	10.8	96.7	149.0	245.7
Dec. qtr	344	436	7	787	45.3	43.4	88.7	8.4	97.1	118.3	215.5
1998 Mar. qtr	394	512	3	909	54.2	64.0	118.2	10.8	129.0	181.8	310.7
June qtr	457	548	4	1,009	63.4	71.8	135.2	11.3	146.5	147.8	294.3
Sept. qtr	525	463	5	993	75.9	67.1	143.0	10.8	153.8	169.7	323.5

**TABLE 5. VALUE OF NON-RESIDENTIAL BUILDING UNDER CONSTRUCTION AT END OF PERIOD: ORIGINAL
(\$ million)**

	<i>Hotels etc.</i>	<i>Shops</i>	<i>Factories</i>	<i>Offices</i>	<i>Other business premises</i>	<i>Educational</i>	<i>Religious</i>	<i>Health</i>	<i>Entertain- ment and recreational</i>	<i>Miscel- laneous</i>	<i>Total non-resi- dential building</i>
PRIVATE SECTOR											
1995-96	59.6	36.9	1.0	7.3	6.4	0.7	0.1	—	2.5	0.6	115.2
1996-97	0.6	40.1	1.1	6.5	7.9	—	0.2	—	0.1	0.7	57.3
1997-98	0.9	14.9	2.0	6.6	5.7	0.7	—	—	10.8	3.4	45.1
1997 June qtr	0.6	40.1	1.1	6.5	7.9	—	0.2	—	0.1	0.7	57.3
Sept. qtr	1.2	41.7	3.0	7.4	6.8	1.5	0.2	—	1.4	0.7	64.1
Dec. qtr	0.9	42.6	1.1	7.6	7.6	0.7	—	—	3.6	0.4	64.5
1998 Mar. qtr	0.9	67.0	1.0	7.0	8.3	0.5	—	0.2	14.5	0.5	99.9
June qtr	0.9	14.9	2.0	6.6	5.7	0.7	—	—	10.8	3.4	45.1
Sept. qtr	0.9	6.1	1.6	5.5	4.6	0.1	0.1	—	10.9	3.9	33.7
PUBLIC SECTOR											
1995-96	—	4.9	—	12.9	16.3	36.5	—	0.5	4.8	28.5	104.4
1996-97	0.1	0.2	20.1	0.8	0.6	33.5	—	0.4	3.3	13.1	72.0
1997-98	—	0.2	—	10.6	42.5	8.9	—	5.1	—	35.3	102.7
1997 June qtr	0.1	0.2	20.1	0.8	0.6	33.5	—	0.4	3.3	13.1	72.0
Sept. qtr	0.1	0.3	21.0	2.8	24.4	24.3	—	0.1	0.4	11.6	84.9
Dec. qtr	—	—	—	14.3	24.3	7.2	—	0.7	0.4	6.9	53.8
1998 Mar. qtr	—	—	0.1	7.9	31.5	11.2	—	0.3	0.3	30.5	81.9
June qtr	—	0.2	—	10.6	42.5	8.9	—	5.1	—	35.3	102.7
Sept. qtr	—	0.3	—	38.7	42.6	12.0	—	5.9	0.4	36.1	136.0
TOTAL											
1995-96	59.6	41.7	1.0	20.2	22.7	37.2	0.1	0.5	7.3	29.1	219.5
1996-97	0.8	40.3	21.2	7.3	8.5	33.5	0.2	0.4	3.4	13.8	129.3
1997-98	0.9	15.1	2.0	17.3	48.3	9.6	—	5.1	10.8	38.8	147.8
1997 June qtr	0.8	40.3	21.2	7.3	8.5	33.5	0.2	0.4	3.4	13.8	129.3
Sept. qtr	1.4	42.0	24.0	10.2	31.2	25.8	0.2	0.1	1.8	12.3	149.0
Dec. qtr	0.9	42.6	1.1	21.9	31.9	7.9	—	0.7	4.0	7.3	118.3
1998 Mar. qtr	0.9	67.0	1.1	14.9	39.8	11.8	—	0.5	14.8	31.0	181.8
June qtr	0.9	15.1	2.0	17.3	48.3	9.6	—	5.1	10.8	38.8	147.8
Sept. qtr	0.9	6.4	1.6	44.2	47.2	12.0	0.1	5.9	11.3	40.0	169.7

TABLE 6. NUMBER AND VALUE OF BUILDING COMPLETED: ORIGINAL

Period	Number of dwelling units				Value (\$m)						
	New houses	New other residential building	Conversions etc.	Total dwelling units	New houses	New other residential building	New residential building	Alterations and additions to residential buildings	Total residential building	Total non-residential building	Total building
PRIVATE SECTOR											
1995-96	833	467	11	1,311	85.2	61.6	146.8	23.2	170.0	97.4	267.4
1996-97	823	504	23	1,350	95.2	50.2	145.3	20.0	165.3	171.4	336.7
1997-98	894	796	18	1,708	110.0	74.9	184.9	21.2	206.0	114.0	320.0
1997 June qtr	238	118	4	360	30.4	10.9	41.3	5.1	46.4	39.2	85.6
Sept. qtr	254	288	4	546	29.2	24.8	54.0	5.3	59.3	14.7	74.0
Dec. qtr	246	127	3	376	31.7	11.0	42.7	5.7	48.4	19.3	67.8
1998 Mar. qtr	197	177	6	380	23.7	15.0	38.7	4.9	43.6	12.2	55.7
June qtr	197	204	5	406	25.4	24.1	49.5	5.3	54.8	67.7	122.5
Sept. qtr	217	195	2	414	28.0	16.1	44.2	4.7	48.9	29.1	78.0
PUBLIC SECTOR											
1995-96	178	21	1	200	33.5	2.4	35.9	10.0	46.0	86.5	132.4
1996-97	125	119	14	258	19.8	8.0	27.8	1.8	29.5	135.1	164.7
1997-98	248	63	—	311	32.4	6.5	38.9	6.0	44.9	99.3	144.1
1997 June qtr	59	7	—	66	9.5	0.6	10.1	0.7	10.8	29.0	39.8
Sept. qtr	56	5	—	61	6.9	0.4	7.3	1.5	8.8	25.9	34.8
Dec. qtr	68	—	—	68	8.0	—	8.0	0.9	8.9	47.2	56.0
1998 Mar. qtr	40	56	—	96	5.4	5.9	11.3	0.3	11.6	10.1	21.7
June qtr	84	2	—	86	12.1	0.1	12.2	3.3	15.6	16.1	31.7
Sept. qtr	84	10	—	94	11.8	0.8	12.6	3.8	16.4	25.6	42.0
TOTAL											
1995-96	1,011	488	12	1,511	118.7	64.0	182.7	33.2	215.9	183.9	399.8
1996-97	948	623	37	1,608	114.9	58.2	173.1	21.7	194.8	306.6	501.4
1997-98	1,142	859	18	2,019	142.4	81.3	223.7	27.1	250.9	213.2	464.1
1997 June qtr	297	125	4	426	39.9	11.5	51.4	5.8	57.2	68.3	125.4
Sept. qtr	310	293	4	607	36.1	25.2	61.3	6.8	68.1	40.7	108.8
Dec. qtr	314	127	3	444	39.7	11.0	50.7	6.6	57.3	66.5	123.8
1998 Mar. qtr	237	233	6	476	29.1	20.9	50.0	5.2	55.1	22.3	77.4
June qtr	281	206	5	492	37.5	24.3	61.8	8.6	70.4	83.8	154.2
Sept. qtr	301	205	2	508	39.8	16.9	56.8	8.5	65.3	54.7	120.0

TABLE 7. VALUE OF NON-RESIDENTIAL BUILDING COMPLETED: ORIGINAL
(\$ million)

<i>Period</i>	<i>Hotels etc.</i>	<i>Shops</i>	<i>Factories</i>	<i>Offices</i>	<i>Other business premises</i>	<i>Educational</i>	<i>Religious</i>	<i>Health</i>	<i>Entertainment and recreational</i>	<i>Miscellaneous</i>	<i>Total non-residential building</i>
PRIVATE SECTOR											
1995-96	26.8	19.2	3.9	6.5	15.4	7.4	0.5	4.2	7.6	5.9	97.4
1996-97	60.9	49.4	4.0	20.9	18.4	8.0	0.1	0.4	4.2	5.0	171.4
1997-98	0.3	60.9	4.8	14.3	22.9	3.3	0.3	0.5	5.2	1.6	114.0
1997 June qtr	17.6	11.9	1.8	0.6	4.3	1.3	—	—	0.2	1.5	39.2
Sept. qtr	—	5.5	0.5	2.6	6.0	—	—	—	—	—	14.7
Dec. qtr	0.3	5.4	2.2	1.4	5.3	2.3	0.2	0.3	1.3	0.7	19.3
1998 Mar. qtr	—	3.4	1.5	2.8	3.4	0.7	—	—	0.2	0.2	12.2
June qtr	—	46.6	0.5	7.6	8.2	0.3	—	0.2	3.7	0.6	67.7
Sept. qtr	—	16.1	2.1	5.6	4.4	0.7	—	—	0.1	—	29.1
PUBLIC SECTOR											
1995-96	—	—	4.7	5.9	7.9	11.7	2.4	2.0	7.1	44.8	86.5
1996-97	1.0	7.7	1.6	20.2	22.1	40.8	—	3.6	5.9	32.3	135.1
1997-98	0.1	0.3	21.2	4.2	6.2	40.2	—	1.5	3.8	21.8	99.3
1997 June qtr	1.0	0.3	—	1.1	0.8	7.1	—	1.5	0.5	16.7	29.0
Sept. qtr	—	—	0.1	—	0.2	16.5	—	0.3	2.9	6.0	25.9
Dec. qtr	0.1	0.3	21.0	0.8	1.6	11.6	—	0.1	0.1	11.5	47.2
1998 Mar. qtr	—	—	—	3.2	—	5.7	—	0.7	0.3	0.2	10.1
June qtr	—	—	0.1	0.2	4.4	6.4	—	0.4	0.5	4.2	16.1
Sept. qtr	—	—	—	8.4	—	3.8	—	0.4	—	13.0	25.6
TOTAL											
1995-96	26.8	19.2	8.6	12.5	23.3	19.1	2.8	6.3	14.7	50.6	183.9
1996-97	61.9	57.1	5.6	41.1	40.5	48.8	0.1	4.0	10.1	37.3	306.6
1997-98	0.5	61.2	25.9	18.5	29.0	43.5	0.3	2.0	9.0	23.4	213.2
1997 June qtr	18.7	12.2	1.8	1.7	5.1	8.4	—	1.5	0.7	18.3	68.3
Sept. qtr	—	5.5	0.6	2.6	6.2	16.5	—	0.3	2.9	6.1	40.7
Dec. qtr	0.5	5.7	23.2	2.1	6.9	13.9	0.2	0.3	1.4	12.2	66.5
1998 Mar. qtr	—	3.4	1.5	6.0	3.4	6.5	—	0.7	0.4	0.4	22.3
June qtr	—	46.6	0.6	7.8	12.5	6.6	—	0.7	4.2	4.7	83.8
Sept. qtr	—	16.1	2.1	14.1	4.4	4.5	—	0.4	0.1	13.0	54.7

TABLE 8. VALUE OF BUILDING WORK DONE: ORIGINAL
(\$ million)

<i>Period</i>	<i>New houses</i>	<i>New other residential building</i>	<i>New residential building</i>	<i>Alterations and additions to residential buildings</i>	<i>Total residential building</i>	<i>Total non-residential building</i>	<i>Total building</i>
PRIVATE SECTOR							
1995-96	83.4	51.9	135.3	22.8	158.1	128.6	286.7
1996-97	98.2	53.8	151.9	20.2	172.1	142.6	314.7
1997-98	112.4	83.5	195.9	19.3	215.2	108.2	323.4
1997 June qtr	30.3	13.2	43.5	5.6	49.1	20.6	69.7
Sept. qtr	30.2	18.6	48.8	5.4	54.1	26.5	80.6
Dec. qtr	26.9	19.0	45.9	4.6	50.5	23.4	73.9
1998 Mar. qtr	25.3	21.0	46.3	4.6	50.9	23.0	73.9
June qtr	30.1	24.9	55.0	4.7	59.7	35.3	95.0
Sept. qtr	32.0	20.8	52.7	6.1	58.9	27.9	86.7
PUBLIC SECTOR							
1995-96	27.2	6.5	33.7	9.0	42.7	110.7	153.4
1996-97	22.9	3.3	26.3	2.7	29.0	124.4	153.4
1997-98	34.1	7.4	41.5	7.1	48.6	104.1	152.7
1997 June qtr	6.0	0.3	6.3	1.4	7.7	35.6	43.3
Sept. qtr	8.4	1.8	10.1	0.7	10.8	22.8	33.6
Dec. qtr	7.8	2.1	9.9	0.8	10.7	27.1	37.8
1998 Mar. qtr	8.0	2.6	10.6	0.9	11.5	26.0	37.5
June qtr	9.9	1.0	10.8	4.8	15.6	28.2	43.8
Sept. qtr	18.3	0.4	18.8	2.0	20.8	40.6	61.3
TOTAL							
1995-96	110.6	58.4	169.0	31.8	200.8	239.3	440.1
1996-97	121.1	57.1	178.2	22.9	201.1	267.0	468.1
1997-98	146.5	90.9	237.4	26.4	263.9	212.3	476.1
1997 June qtr	36.4	13.5	49.8	7.0	56.8	56.2	113.0
Sept. qtr	38.6	20.4	58.9	6.0	65.0	49.3	114.2
Dec. qtr	34.6	21.1	55.8	5.4	61.2	50.5	111.7
1998 Mar. qtr	33.3	23.6	56.9	5.5	62.4	49.0	111.3
June qtr	40.0	25.8	65.8	9.5	75.3	63.6	138.9
Sept. qtr	50.3	21.2	71.5	8.1	79.7	68.4	148.1

TABLE 9. VALUE OF NON-RESIDENTIAL BUILDING WORK DONE: ORIGINAL
(\$ million)

<i>Period</i>	<i>Hotels etc.</i>	<i>Shops</i>	<i>Factories</i>	<i>Offices</i>	<i>Other business premises</i>	<i>Educational</i>	<i>Religious</i>	<i>Health</i>	<i>Entertainment and recreational</i>	<i>Miscellaneous</i>	<i>Total non-residential building</i>
PRIVATE SECTOR											
1995-96	45.0	33.0	4.1	7.1	15.7	7.3	0.5	4.0	9.0	2.9	128.6
1996-97	30.8	50.9	4.2	21.1	20.0	7.5	0.2	0.4	2.1	5.2	142.6
1997-98	0.3	50.3	5.6	15.0	21.2	3.8	0.1	0.5	9.9	1.5	108.2
1997 June qtr	0.2	12.0	1.9	0.5	4.0	0.1	0.1	—	0.2	1.6	20.6
Sept. qtr	0.3	14.8	2.0	3.5	4.2	0.8	0.1	—	0.7	0.2	26.5
Dec. qtr	0.1	10.3	0.7	1.7	6.2	1.8	—	0.3	2.0	0.3	23.4
1998 Mar. qtr	—	9.2	1.4	2.4	4.2	0.5	—	0.1	4.8	0.3	23.0
June qtr	—	15.9	1.6	7.4	6.6	0.7	—	0.1	2.3	0.6	35.3
Sept. qtr	—	10.3	1.2	5.6	3.5	0.3	0.1	—	4.2	2.7	27.9
PUBLIC SECTOR											
1995-96	—	2.1	1.8	15.0	9.6	29.1	2.4	2.3	10.3	38.2	110.7
1996-97	1.0	5.6	19.6	8.7	14.4	37.9	—	3.4	5.0	28.8	124.4
1997-98	0.1	0.4	3.1	11.0	32.0	25.4	—	1.8	1.1	29.2	104.1
1997 June qtr	0.2	0.4	13.5	1.3	0.5	10.8	—	0.4	1.4	7.1	35.6
Sept. qtr	0.1	0.2	2.1	0.8	3.0	10.2	—	0.1	0.4	5.8	22.8
Dec. qtr	—	0.1	1.0	1.7	9.7	7.6	—	0.7	0.2	6.1	27.1
1998 Mar. qtr	—	—	0.1	4.3	10.4	5.0	—	0.2	0.1	5.9	26.0
June qtr	—	0.1	—	4.2	8.8	2.6	—	0.7	0.4	11.4	28.2
Sept. qtr	—	0.1	—	6.5	9.0	9.6	—	1.6	0.1	13.6	40.6
TOTAL											
1995-96	45.0	35.1	6.0	22.1	25.3	36.4	2.9	6.2	19.4	41.1	239.3
1996-97	31.8	56.6	23.8	29.8	34.4	45.4	0.2	3.9	7.1	34.0	267.0
1997-98	0.5	50.7	8.8	26.0	53.1	29.2	0.1	2.2	11.0	30.6	212.3
1997 June qtr	0.4	12.3	15.4	1.9	4.5	10.9	0.1	0.4	1.5	8.7	56.2
Sept. qtr	0.4	15.1	4.1	4.3	7.1	11.0	0.1	0.1	1.1	6.0	49.3
Dec. qtr	0.1	10.4	1.7	3.4	15.9	9.4	—	1.0	2.2	6.4	50.5
1998 Mar. qtr	—	9.2	1.5	6.7	14.6	5.4	—	0.4	5.0	6.2	49.0
June qtr	—	16.1	1.6	11.6	15.5	3.3	—	0.8	2.7	12.0	63.6
Sept. qtr	—	10.3	1.2	12.1	12.5	9.9	0.1	1.6	4.3	16.4	68.4

TABLE 10. VALUE OF BUILDING WORK YET TO BE DONE AT END OF PERIOD: ORIGINAL
(\$ million)

	<i>New houses</i>	<i>New other residential building</i>	<i>New residential building</i>	<i>Alterations and additions to residential buildings</i>	<i>Total residential building</i>	<i>Total non-residential building</i>	<i>Total building</i>
PRIVATE SECTOR							
1995-96	15.4	16.2	31.5	3.5	35.0	57.5	92.5
1996-97	17.5	20.4	37.9	4.2	42.1	28.4	70.5
1997-98	26.6	43.4	70.0	3.1	73.1	22.0	95.1
1997 June qtr	17.5	20.4	37.9	4.2	42.1	28.4	70.5
Sept. qtr	19.4	18.4	37.8	4.0	41.8	23.5	65.2
Dec. qtr	17.8	17.4	35.2	3.0	38.1	19.8	57.9
1998 Mar. qtr	16.1	37.0	53.1	2.8	55.9	44.4	100.3
June qtr	26.6	43.4	70.0	3.1	73.1	22.0	95.1
Sept. qtr	23.6	33.7	57.3	3.8	61.1	11.8	73.0
PUBLIC SECTOR							
1995-96	0.4	1.8	2.2	—	2.3	44.9	47.2
1996-97	2.6	0.4	2.9	0.4	3.4	24.1	27.5
1997-98	5.2	0.6	5.8	1.9	7.7	50.9	58.6
1997 June qtr	2.6	0.4	2.9	0.4	3.4	24.1	27.5
Sept. qtr	1.6	2.9	4.5	0.3	4.8	40.2	45.0
Dec. qtr	2.4	2.5	4.9	0.3	5.2	30.1	35.2
1998 Mar. qtr	9.0	0.7	9.7	2.6	12.3	42.2	54.5
June qtr	5.2	0.6	5.8	1.9	7.7	50.9	58.6
Sept. qtr	10.3	1.3	11.6	1.1	12.6	69.3	81.9
TOTAL							
1995-96	15.8	18.0	33.8	3.5	37.3	102.4	139.7
1996-97	20.1	20.8	40.9	4.6	45.5	52.5	98.0
1997-98	31.8	44.0	75.8	5.0	80.8	72.9	153.7
1997 June qtr	20.1	20.8	40.9	4.6	45.5	52.5	98.0
Sept. qtr	21.0	21.3	42.3	4.3	46.6	63.6	110.3
Dec. qtr	20.2	19.9	40.1	3.2	43.3	49.9	93.2
1998 Mar. qtr	25.1	37.7	62.9	5.3	68.2	86.6	154.8
June qtr	31.8	44.0	75.8	5.0	80.8	72.9	153.7
Sept. qtr	33.9	35.0	68.9	4.9	73.8	81.1	154.9

TABLE 11. VALUE OF NON-RESIDENTIAL BUILDING WORK YET TO BE DONE AT END OF PERIOD: ORIGINAL
(\$ million)

	<i>Hotels etc.</i>	<i>Shops</i>	<i>Factories</i>	<i>Offices</i>	<i>Other business premises</i>	<i>Educational</i>	<i>Religious</i>	<i>Health</i>	<i>Entertain- ment and recreational</i>	<i>Miscel- laneous</i>	<i>Total non-resi- dential building</i>
PRIVATE SECTOR											
1995-96	29.5	18.3	0.3	5.8	2.8	0.2	0.1	—	0.3	0.2	57.5
1996-97	0.6	19.9	0.3	4.8	2.5	—	—	—	—	0.1	28.4
1997-98	0.8	5.3	0.3	4.3	2.1	0.2	—	—	6.0	3.0	22.0
1997 June qtr	0.6	19.9	0.3	4.8	2.5	—	—	—	—	0.1	28.4
Sept. qtr	1.0	12.2	0.7	4.8	3.3	0.8	—	—	0.6	0.1	23.5
Dec. qtr	0.8	8.1	0.4	4.7	3.1	0.4	—	—	2.1	0.2	19.8
1998 Mar. qtr	0.8	26.7	0.4	4.4	3.1	0.5	—	—	8.3	0.1	44.4
June qtr	0.8	5.3	0.3	4.3	2.1	0.2	—	—	6.0	3.0	22.0
Sept. qtr	0.8	2.3	0.7	3.2	1.9	—	—	—	2.1	0.7	11.8
PUBLIC SECTOR											
1995-96	—	2.7	—	1.2	8.2	15.8	—	0.1	1.2	15.8	44.9
1996-97	0.1	0.1	2.1	0.5	0.2	15.7	—	0.1	0.6	4.6	24.1
1997-98	—	—	—	3.6	16.4	6.7	—	4.7	—	19.5	50.9
1997 June qtr	0.1	0.1	2.1	0.5	0.2	15.7	—	0.1	0.6	4.6	24.1
Sept. qtr	—	—	1.0	1.7	21.3	12.7	—	—	0.2	3.3	40.2
Dec. qtr	—	—	—	12.4	13.0	0.5	—	—	0.2	3.9	30.1
1998 Mar. qtr	—	—	—	4.9	9.8	5.3	—	0.1	0.2	21.8	42.2
June qtr	—	—	—	3.6	16.4	6.7	—	4.7	—	19.5	50.9
Sept. qtr	—	0.1	—	33.6	7.5	4.0	—	4.4	0.2	19.6	69.3
TOTAL											
1995-96	29.5	21.0	0.3	7.0	10.9	16.0	0.1	0.1	1.5	16.0	102.4
1996-97	0.8	20.0	2.4	5.3	2.8	15.7	—	0.1	0.7	4.8	52.5
1997-98	0.8	5.3	0.3	7.9	18.5	6.9	—	4.7	6.0	22.5	72.9
1997 June qtr	0.8	20.0	2.4	5.3	2.8	15.7	—	0.1	0.7	4.8	52.5
Sept. qtr	1.0	12.2	1.7	6.5	24.6	13.4	—	—	0.8	3.3	63.6
Dec. qtr	0.8	8.1	0.4	17.1	16.2	0.9	—	—	2.2	4.1	49.9
1998 Mar. qtr	0.8	26.7	0.4	9.3	12.9	5.8	—	0.1	8.6	21.9	86.6
June qtr	0.8	5.3	0.3	7.9	18.5	6.9	—	4.7	6.0	22.5	72.9
Sept. qtr	0.8	2.4	0.7	36.8	9.4	4.0	—	4.4	2.3	20.3	81.1

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1 This publication contains detailed results from the quarterly Building Activity Survey. Each issue includes revisions to the previous quarter. Therefore data for the latest quarter should be considered to be preliminary only.

2 The statistics are compiled on the basis of returns collected from builders and other individuals and organisations engaged in building activity. The quarterly survey consists of two components:

- a complete enumeration of new residential building construction or alterations and additions valued at \$10,000 or more to residential buildings; and
- a complete enumeration of all non-residential building jobs, including alterations and additions, with an approval value of \$50,000 or more.

3 Prior to the June quarter 1991, private sector housing activity was measured by a sample survey. Due to the relatively small size of the total building industry in the Northern Territory the differences resulting between the two survey methods is minimal. The change from a sample survey to a complete enumeration has allowed the collection of accurate small area data, available on request in unpublished form.

4 From the September quarter 1990, only non-residential building jobs (both new and alterations and additions) with an approval value of \$50,000 (previously \$30,000) or more are included in the survey.

5 The use of sample survey techniques in the Building Activity Survey means that reliable estimates of private sector house building activity, including alterations and additions to houses, are generally only available at the State, Territory and Australia levels. The Northern Territory has been completely enumerated since the June quarter 1991 and small area data are available on request. Also, data for regions below State and Territory level are available from the building approvals series compiled by the ABS and based on information reported by local government and other reporting authorities.

SCOPE AND COVERAGE

6 The statistics relate to *building* activity which includes construction of new buildings and alterations and additions to existing buildings. Construction activity not defined as building (e.g. construction of roads, bridges, railways, earthworks, etc.) is excluded.

7 Building jobs included in each quarter in the Building Activity Survey comprise those jobs selected in previous quarters which have not been completed (or commenced) by the end of the previous quarter and those jobs newly selected in the current quarter. The population list from which jobs are selected for inclusion comprises all approved building jobs which were notified to the ABS (refer paragraph 2) up to but not including the last month of the reference quarter (e.g. up to the end of August in respect of the September quarter survey). This introduces a lag to the statistics in respect of those jobs notified *and* commenced in the last month of the reference quarter (e.g. for the month of September in respect of the September quarter survey). For example, jobs which were notified as approved in the month of June and which actually commenced in that month are shown as commencements in the September quarter. Similarly, building jobs which were notified in the month of September and which actually commenced in that month are shown as commencements in the December quarter.

DEFINITIONS

8 A *building* is defined as a rigid, fixed and permanent structure which has a roof. Its intended purpose is primarily to house people, plant, machinery, vehicles, goods or livestock. An integral feature of a building's design, to satisfy its intended use, is the provision for regular access by persons.

9 A *dwelling unit* is defined as a self-contained suite of rooms, including cooking and bathing facilities and intended for *long-term* residential use. Units (whether self-contained or not) within buildings offering institutional care, such as hospitals, or temporary accommodation such as motels, hostels and holiday apartments, are not defined as dwelling units. The value of units of this type is included in the appropriate category of non-residential building.

10 A *residential building* is defined as a building predominantly consisting of one or more dwelling units. Residential buildings can be either *houses* or *other residential buildings*:

- A *house* is defined as a detached building predominantly used for long-term residential purposes and consisting of only one dwelling unit. Thus, detached 'granny flats' and detached dwelling units (such as caretakers' residences) associated with non-residential buildings are defined as houses for the purpose of these statistics.
- An *other residential building* is defined as a building which is predominantly used for long-term residential purposes and which contains (or has attached to it) more than one dwelling unit (e.g. includes townhouses, duplexes, apartment buildings, etc.).

11 From the June quarter 1996 issue of this publication, the number of dwelling units created as part of alterations and additions to, or conversions of, existing residential or non-residential buildings, and as part of the construction of non-residential building is shown separately in tables 2, 4 and 6 under the heading of 'Conversions, etc.', and is included in the total number of dwelling units shown in these tables. Previously, such dwellings were only included as a footnote.

12 *Commenced*. A building job is regarded as commenced when the first physical building activity has been performed on site in the form of materials fixed in place and/or labour expended (this includes site preparation but excludes delivery of building materials, the drawing of plans and specifications and the construction of non-building infrastructures such as roads).

13 *Under construction*. A building job is regarded as being under construction at the end of a period if it has been commenced but has not been completed, and work on it has not been abandoned.

14 *Completed*. A building job is regarded as completed when building activity has progressed to the stage when the building can fulfil its intended function. In practice, the ABS regards buildings as completed when notified as such by respondents to the survey.

VALUATION OF BUILDING JOBS

15 The value series in this publication are derived from estimates reported on survey returns as follows:

- *Value of building commenced or under construction* represents the anticipated completion value based, where practicable, on estimated market or contract price of building jobs excluding the value of land and landscaping. Site preparation costs are included. Where building jobs proceed over several quarters, the anticipated completion value reported on the return for the first (commencement) quarter may be amended on returns for subsequent (under construction) quarters as the job nears completion.
- *Value of building completed* represents the actual completion value based, where practicable, on the market or contract price of building jobs including site preparation costs but excluding the value of land and landscaping.
- *Value of building work done* during the period represents the estimated value of building work actually carried out during the quarter on building jobs which have commenced.
- *Value of building work yet to be done* represents the difference between the anticipated completion value and the estimated value of work done up to the end of the period on building jobs commenced but not completed.

BUILDING CLASSIFICATION

16 *Ownership*. The ownership of a building is classified as either *public sector* or *private sector* according to the sector of the intended owner of the completed building as evident at the time of approval. Residential buildings being constructed by private sector builders under government housing authority schemes whereby the authority has contracted, or intends to contract, to purchase the buildings on or before completion, are classified as public sector.

17 *Functional classification of buildings*. A building is classified according to its intended major function. Hence, a building which is ancillary to other buildings, or forms a part of a group of related buildings, is classified to the function of the building and not to the function of the group as a whole. An example of this can be seen in the treatment of building work approved for a factory complex. In this case, a detached administration building would be classified to Offices, a detached cafeteria building to Shops, while factory buildings would be classified to Factories. An exception to this rule is the treatment of group accommodation buildings where, for example, a student accommodation building on a university campus would be classified to Educational.

18 Examples of the types of individual building jobs included under each main functional heading are shown in the following list:

- *Houses*. Includes cottages, bungalows, detached caretakers'/managers' cottages, rectories.
- *Other residential buildings*. Includes blocks of flats, home units, attached townhouses, villa units, terrace houses, semi-detached houses, maisonettes.
- *Hotels, etc.* Includes motels, hostels, boarding houses, guest houses, holiday apartment buildings.
- *Shops*. Includes retail shops, restaurants, cafes, taverns, dry cleaners, laundromats, hair salons, shopping arcades.
- *Factories*. Includes paper mills, oil refinery buildings, brickworks, foundries, powerhouses, manufacturing laboratories, workshops as part of a manufacturing process.
- *Offices*. Includes banks, post offices, council chambers, head and regional offices.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

BUILDING CLASSIFICATION *continued*

- *Other business premises.* Includes warehouses, storage depots, service stations, transport depots and terminals, car parks, electricity substation buildings, pumping station buildings, telephone exchanges, mail sorting centres, broadcasting stations, film studios.
- *Educational.* Includes schools, colleges, universities, kindergartens, libraries, museums, art galleries, research and teaching laboratories, theological colleges.
- *Religious.* Includes churches, chapels, temples.
- *Health.* Includes hospitals, nursing homes, surgeries, clinics, medical centres.
- *Entertainment and recreational.* Includes clubs, theatres, cinemas, public halls, gymnasiums, grandstands, squash courts, sports and recreation centres.
- *Miscellaneous.* Includes law courts, homes for the aged (where medical care is not provided as a normal service), orphanages, gaols, barracks, mine buildings, glasshouses, livestock sheds, shearing sheds, fruit and skin drying sheds, public toilets, and ambulance, fire and police stations.

RELIABILITY OF THE ESTIMATES

19 Since the figures for private sector house building activity (including alterations and additions to private sector houses) are derived from information obtained from a complete enumeration of approved building jobs, they are not subject to sampling error, as may be found in sample surveys.

20 Despite the precise nature of complete enumeration, inaccuracies may occur because of inadequacies in the source of building approval information, imperfections in reporting by respondents, and errors made in the coding and processing of data. Inaccuracies of this kind are referred to as non-sampling error, and may occur in any enumeration whether it be a full count or only a sample. Every effort is made to reduce the non-sampling error to a minimum by the careful design of questionnaires, efforts to obtain responses for all selected jobs, and efficient operating procedures.

CHAIN VOLUME MEASURES

21 Chain volume estimates of the value of commencements and work done are shown in table 1. While current price estimates of the value of commencements and work done reflect both price and volume changes, chain volume estimates measure changes in value after the direct effects of price changes have been eliminated and therefore only reflect volume changes. The deflators used to revalue the current price estimates in this publication are derived from the same price data underlying the deflators compiled for the dwellings and non-dwelling construction components of the national accounts aggregate 'Gross fixed capital formation'.

22 The chain volume measures of commencements and work done appearing in this publication are annually reweighted chain Laspeyres indexes referenced to current price values in a chosen reference year (currently 1996–97). The reference year will be updated annually in the June quarter publication. Each year's data in the value of commencements and work done series are based on the prices of the previous year, except for the quarters of the latest incomplete year (i.e. for the 1998–99 financial year) which are based upon the current reference year (i.e. 1996–97). Comparability with previous years is achieved by linking (or chaining) the series together to form a continuous time series. Further information on the nature and concepts of chain volume measures is contained in the ABS *Information Paper: Introduction of Chain Volume Measures in the Australian National Accounts* (Cat. no. 5248.0).

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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

UNPUBLISHED DATA AND RELATED PUBLICATIONS

24 The ABS can also make available certain building approvals and activity data which are not published. Where it is not practicable to provide the required information by telephone, it can be provided via fax, photocopy, computer printout, floppy disk and email. A charge may be made for providing unpublished information in these forms. Inquiries should be made to Information Inquiries on Darwin 08 8943 2111 or any ABS State office.

25 Users may also wish to refer to the following publications which are available on request:

Building Activity, Australia (Cat. no. 8752.0) — issued quarterly

Building Activity, Australia: Dwelling Unit Commencements, Preliminary (Cat. no. 8750.0) — issued quarterly

Building Activity, Australia: Building Work Done, Preliminary (Cat. no. 8755.0) — issued quarterly

Building Approvals, Australia (Cat. no. 8731.0) — issued monthly

Building Approvals, Northern Territory (Cat. no. 8731.7) — issued monthly

Engineering Construction Activity, Australia (Cat. no. 8762.0) — issued quarterly

Housing Finance for Owner Occupation, Australia (Cat. no. 5609.0) — issued monthly

26 Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products* (Cat. no. 1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Release Advice* (Cat. no. 1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The Catalogue and Release Advice are available from any ABS office.

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