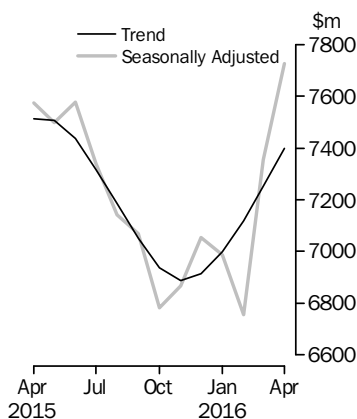


LENDING FINANCE

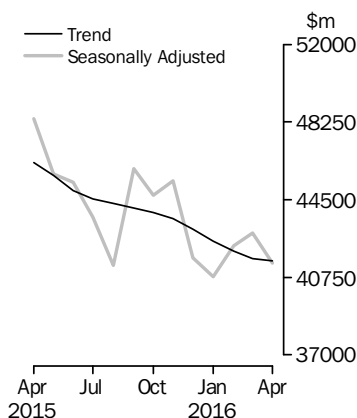
AUSTRALIA

EMBARGO: 11.30AM (CANBERRA TIME) FRI 10 JUN 2016

Personal Finance



Commercial Finance



INQUIRIES

For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070.

KEY FIGURES

	Mar 2016 \$m	Apr 2016 \$m	Mar 2016 to Apr 2016 % change
TREND ESTIMATES			
Housing finance for owner occupation(a)	20 788	20 674	-0.5
Personal finance	7 252	7 399	2.0
Commercial finance	41 654	41 536	-0.3
Lease finance	578	569	-1.6
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ESTIMATES			
Housing finance for owner occupation(a)	20 675	20 702	0.1
Personal finance	7 356	7 725	5.0
Commercial finance	42 874	41 440	-3.3
Lease finance	555	557	0.4

(a) Excludes alterations and additions

KEY POINTS

APRIL 2016 COMPARED WITH MARCH 2016:

HOUSING FINANCE FOR OWNER OCCUPATION

- The total value of owner occupied housing commitments excluding alterations and additions fell 0.5% in trend terms, and the seasonally adjusted series rose 0.1%.

PERSONAL FINANCE

- The trend series for the value of total personal finance commitments rose 2.0%. Revolving credit commitments rose 2.5% and fixed lending commitments rose 1.7%.
- The seasonally adjusted series for the value of total personal finance commitments rose 5.0%. Revolving credit commitments rose 14.2%, while fixed lending commitments fell 0.9%.

COMMERCIAL FINANCE

- The trend series for the value of total commercial finance commitments fell 0.3%. Revolving credit commitments fell 0.5% and fixed lending commitments fell 0.2%.
- The seasonally adjusted series for the value of total commercial finance commitments fell 3.3%. Revolving credit commitments fell 5.0% and fixed lending commitments fell 2.8%.

LEASE FINANCE

- The trend series for the value of total lease finance commitments fell 1.6% in April 2016 and the seasonally adjusted series rose 0.4%, after a fall of 7.8% in March 2016.

NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

<i>ISSUE</i>	<i>RELEASE DATE</i>
May 2016	13 July 2016
June 2016	12 August 2016
July 2016	12 September 2016
August 2016	14 October 2016
September 2016	14 November 2016
October 2016	12 December 2016



SPECIAL NOTE

We are currently investigating a potential reporting issue and if a revision is required it will be made next month with the May 2016 publication on 13th July 2016. This uncertainty is contained to Personal Finance.

REVISIONS

In this issue, revisions have been made to the original series as a result of improved reporting of survey and administrative data. These revisions have affected the following series:

- Commercial Finance for period January 2015 to March 2016.
- Personal Finance for period January 2015 to March 2016.
- Owner occupied housing for January 2015 to March 2016.
- Investment housing for period January 2015 to March 2016.
- Lease Finance for the period March 2015.

PRIVACY

The *ABS Privacy Policy* outlines how the ABS will handle any personal information that you provide to the ABS.

David W. Kalisch
Australian Statistician

CONTENTS

page

Time Series Data 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 22

TIME SERIES DATA

TIME SERIES DATA

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:

13. Lending Finance Seasonal Factors and Forward Factors for 12 months, By Purpose: Australia (from January 1985)
14. Commercial finance commitments, summary (original, seasonally adjusted, trend)
15. Commercial finance commitments, fixed loans and revolving credit
16. Commercial finance commitments, fixed loans and revolving credit by lender
17. Commercial finance commitments, fixed loans by industry
18. Commercial finance commitments, revolving credit by industry
- 19 to 26. Commercial finance commitments, fixed loans and revolving credit by state and territory
27. Lease finance commitments, summary (original, seasonally adjusted, trend)
28. Lease finance commitments by purpose
29. Lease finance commitments by purpose and lender
30. Lease finance commitments by industry
- 31 to 38. Lease finance commitments by purpose and state and territory
39. Operating lease finance commitments by purpose
40. Operating lease finance commitments by lender
41. Operating lease finance commitments by industry
- 42 to 49. Operating lease finance commitments by purpose and state and territory
50. Personal finance commitments, summary (original, seasonally adjusted, trend)
51. Personal finance commitments, fixed loans and revolving credit
52. Personal finance commitments, fixed loans and revolving credit by lender
- 53 to 60. Personal finance commitments, fixed loans and revolving credit by state and territory

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

HOUSING FINANCE FOR OWNER OCCUPATION

The total value of owner occupied housing commitments excluding alterations and additions fell 0.5% in trend terms and the seasonally adjusted series rose 0.1%.

Further detail can be found in Table 1 on the downloads tab of this release and in the PDF.

For further information, please refer to Housing Finance, Australia (cat. no. 5609.0), which was released on 8 June 2016.

PERSONAL FINANCE

The trend series for the value of total personal finance commitments rose 2.0% in April 2016 compared with March 2016. Revolving lending commitments rose 2.5% and fixed lending commitments rose 1.7%.

The seasonally adjusted series for the value of total personal finance commitments rose 5.0%. Revolving lending commitments rose 14.2%, while fixed lending commitments fell 0.9%.

Further detail can be found in Tables 1 and 4 on the downloads tab of this release and in the PDF.

COMMERCIAL FINANCE

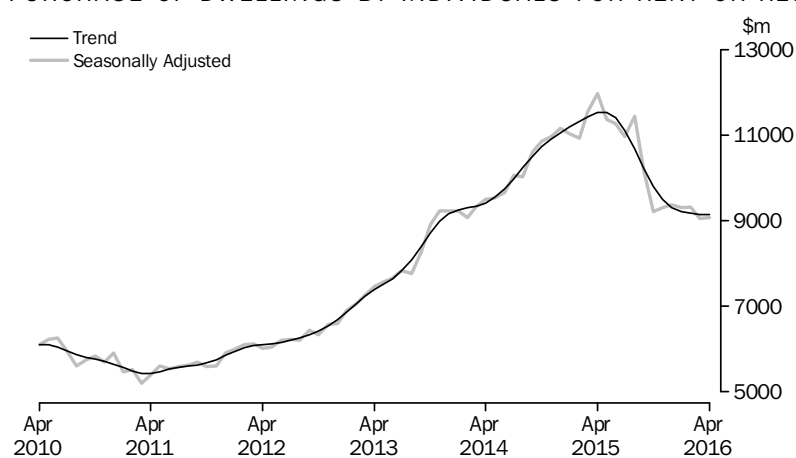
The trend series for the value of total commercial finance commitments fell 0.3% in April 2016 compared with March 2016. Revolving lending commitments fell 0.5% and fixed lending commitments fell 0.2%.

The seasonally adjusted series for the value of total commercial finance commitments fell 3.3% in April 2016, after a rise of 1.5% in March 2016. Fixed lending commitments fell 2.8%, after a rise of 0.1% in the previous month.

The value of commitments for the purchase of dwellings by individuals for rent or resale (trend) fell 0.1% in April 2016 and the seasonally adjusted series rose 0.3%.

Further detail can be found in Tables 1 and 8 on the downloads tab of this release and in the PDF.

PURCHASE OF DWELLINGS BY INDIVIDUALS FOR RENT OR RESALE



SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

LEASE FINANCE

The trend series for the value of total lease finance commitments fell 1.6% in April 2016 and the seasonally adjusted series rose 0.4%, after a fall of 7.8% in March 2016.

Further detail can be found in Table 1 on the downloads tab of this release and in the PDF.

FINANCE COMMITMENTS, Summary

Month	SECURED HOUSING(a)		PERSONAL(b)			COMMERCIAL			LEASE
	Construction and purchase of dwellings(c)	Alterations and additions	Fixed loans(d)	Revolving credit(e)	Total	Fixed loans(d)	Revolving credit(e)	Total	Total
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
ORIGINAL									
2015									
April	17 864	303	4 524	2 618	7 142	31 697	8 854	40 552	474
May	18 379	321	4 928	2 780	7 708	33 966	11 701	45 667	554
June	20 030	360	5 497	3 266	8 763	42 278	15 767	58 045	687
July	20 631	359	4 588	3 262	7 849	34 972	9 845	44 817	916
August	19 743	344	4 160	2 660	6 820	31 468	8 697	40 164	567
September	21 992	366	4 122	2 702	6 824	36 078	9 073	45 151	603
October	22 075	345	3 908	3 000	6 908	35 993	9 225	45 217	590
November	23 121	347	4 095	2 731	6 826	32 482	13 530	46 012	572
December	23 354	343	4 227	2 961	7 189	39 605	13 180	52 785	665
2016									
January	16 603	266	3 321	2 452	5 773	23 666	6 625	30 291	495
February	19 030	375	4 121	2 646	6 767	27 049	9 110	36 159	576
March	20 450	392	4 676	2 956	7 632	31 506	9 887	41 393	583
April	20 411	352	4 363	2 838	7 201	28 622	8 936	37 558	527
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED									
2015									
April	19 200	317	4 719	2 855	7 574	38 066	10 342	48 407	542
May	17 768	308	4 614	2 885	7 499	33 007	12 734	45 741	542
June	19 384	338	4 673	2 905	7 578	33 542	11 786	45 328	559
July	19 646	344	4 427	2 913	7 341	34 075	9 567	43 643	903
August	20 482	357	4 353	2 790	7 143	32 897	8 417	41 314	599
September	21 127	357	4 212	2 856	7 069	36 407	9 578	45 985	599
October	21 099	341	3 951	2 832	6 783	34 756	9 956	44 712	610
November	21 500	339	4 076	2 790	6 865	32 982	12 438	45 421	585
December	21 570	343	4 199	2 855	7 054	31 741	9 931	41 672	599
2016									
January	20 716	357	4 176	2 812	6 988	31 135	9 625	40 759	617
February	20 915	363	4 253	2 503	6 756	32 033	10 227	42 260	602
March	20 675	364	4 483	2 874	7 356	32 070	10 804	42 874	555
April	20 702	362	4 443	3 282	7 725	31 181	10 259	41 440	557
TREND									
2015									
April	18 840	314	4 567	2 945	7 512	34 886	11 384	46 270	546
May	19 192	324	4 599	2 907	7 507	34 716	10 936	45 652	556
June	19 568	334	4 563	2 873	7 436	34 464	10 477	44 942	565
July	19 995	342	4 462	2 853	7 316	34 346	10 179	44 525	575
August	20 440	347	4 330	2 853	7 184	34 291	10 024	44 315	586
September	20 853	349	4 203	2 848	7 050	34 159	9 931	44 090	596
October	21 158	348	4 118	2 818	6 935	33 858	10 015	43 873	603
November	21 281	348	4 100	2 787	6 887	33 325	10 245	43 570	604
December	21 225	349	4 141	2 773	6 914	32 624	10 437	43 061	601
2016									
January	21 081	353	4 213	2 786	6 999	32 033	10 444	42 477	595
February	20 929	357	4 292	2 825	7 117	31 626	10 376	42 002	587
March	20 788	362	4 368	2 884	7 252	31 336	10 318	41 654	578
April	20 674	365	4 442	2 956	7 399	31 271	10 265	41 536	569

(a) For owner occupation.

(d) Includes refinancing (see Glossary).

(b) Includes unsecured housing finance for owner occupation.

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

(c) Includes refinancing across lending institutions (see Glossary).

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
2015										
April	16 516	257	368	723	17 864	6 199	149	76	718	7 142
May	17 018	274	368	719	18 379	6 661	156	88	803	7 708
June	18 667	297	365	701	20 030	7 551	179	102	933	8 763
July	19 224	308	371	728	20 631	6 681	165	86	917	7 849
August	18 495	194	367	686	19 743	5 610	153	102	955	6 820
September	20 490	182	532	789	21 992	5 605	168	105	945	6 824
October	20 645	215	460	755	22 075	5 781	163	116	847	6 908
November	21 545	np	np	780	23 121	5 609	146	128	943	6 826
December	21 728	np	np	807	23 354	5 895	150	139	1 004	7 189
2016										
January	15 303	193	391	716	16 603	4 543	106	127	997	5 773
February	17 507	np	380	881	19 030	5 586	132	97	953	6 767
March	18 799	np	475	941	20 450	5 982	231	117	1 302	7 632
April	18 938	179	436	858	20 411	5 542	135	111	1 413	7 201

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

(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
2015										
April	37 054	np	760	np	40 552	76	124	np	np	474
May	42 838	np	751	np	45 667	95	166	np	np	554
June	54 411	np	np	2 679	58 045	135	161	np	np	687
July	41 499	np	820	np	44 817	100	501	np	np	916
August	37 229	np	823	np	40 164	99	163	138	167	567
September	41 706	np	849	np	45 151	104	161	148	190	603
October	41 578	np	940	np	45 217	113	160	142	175	590
November	42 125	711	810	2 366	46 012	105	157	135	175	572
December	49 214	np	901	np	52 785	136	182	np	np	665
2016										
January	27 526	121	720	1 924	30 291	84	237	np	np	495
February	32 302	335	855	2 668	36 159	99	256	32	189	576
March	37 410	np	921	np	41 393	137	224	37	184	583
April	33 599	np	872	np	37 558	121	178	42	185	527

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

4

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

	<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 occupa- tion(b)</i>	<i>Debt consolidation</i>	<i>Refinancing</i>	<i>Other(c)</i>	Total
<i>Month</i>	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
2015									
April	549	381	1 057	529	40	761	1 253	884	4 524
May	611	416	1 167	565	46	889	1 307	953	4 928
June	774	453	1 393	668	44	np	np	1 043	5 497
July	658	448	1 256	554	50	np	np	958	4 588
August	620	441	1 210	546	33	np	np	972	4 160
September	674	445	1 273	516	44	609	750	930	4 122
October	629	435	1 211	503	44	591	680	880	3 908
November	669	430	1 257	503	53	630	755	897	4 095
December	677	405	1 229	592	45	659	780	922	4 227
2016									
January	611	391	1 132	355	36	488	552	757	3 321
February	668	418	1 230	495	46	747	716	888	4 121
March	763	548	1 483	554	50	1 022	621	947	4 676
April	717	458	1 341	495	37	1 025	595	870	4 363

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

(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
2015						
April	840	1 778	2 618	3 261	266 408	101 101
May	893	1 887	2 780	2 824	266 433	100 849
June	1 120	2 146	3 266	3 709	266 097	101 456
July	1 287	1 975	3 262	3 081	268 951	100 138
August	778	1 882	2 660	3 783	267 880	99 730
September	807	1 895	2 702	3 065	267 471	99 464
October	1 160	1 840	3 000	2 742	267 834	98 857
November	790	1 941	2 731	3 020	267 627	99 338
December	1 022	1 940	2 961	2 718	267 851	99 630
2016						
January	496	1 957	2 452	3 662	266 727	98 739
February	615	2 032	2 646	3 250	266 181	99 000
March	1 068	1 888	2 956	3 171	271 060	100 120
April	1 075	1 763	2 838	2 999	270 979	99 430

(a) These figures sometimes reflect 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
2015								
April	1 921	14 597	2 021	2 449	3 331	7 378	31 697	51 912
May	2 134	15 403	1 540	2 775	2 454	9 660	33 966	55 468
June	2 030	17 103	1 720	3 319	5 914	12 193	42 278	56 387
July	1 711	15 322	1 985	2 627	3 748	9 579	34 972	55 765
August	2 181	14 186	1 425	2 450	2 693	8 534	31 468	57 395
September	1 588	16 183	3 196	2 784	2 465	9 861	36 078	53 735
October	1 780	12 642	3 267	2 824	2 963	12 516	35 993	58 919
November	2 206	13 564	1 795	2 602	3 151	9 163	32 482	57 457
December	2 824	15 490	2 107	2 787	3 665	12 733	39 605	55 839
2016								
January	888	9 545	1 477	2 022	2 454	7 280	23 666	55 928
February	1 336	11 838	1 761	2 601	2 218	7 295	27 049	53 550
March	2 444	13 205	1 947	3 034	2 912	7 964	31 506	52 375
April	2 521	12 046	1 635	3 559	2 125	6 737	28 622	53 039

7

LEASE AND REVOLVING COMMERCIAL FINANCE COMMITMENTS, BY STOCK: AUSTRALIA, ORIGINAL (\$M)

	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	Credit used at end of month
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
2015						
April	474	np	8 854	7 624	329 079	191 381
May	554	np	11 701	7 924	333 897	193 110
June	687	np	15 767	10 177	339 557	193 728
July	916	np	9 845	9 546	341 009	193 088
August	567	np	8 697	8 881	341 547	194 887
September	603	np	9 073	10 281	341 239	196 995
October	590	np	9 225	7 304	342 302	198 154
November	572	np	13 530	8 321	347 350	199 740
December	665	np	13 180	10 111	345 475	196 215
2016						
January	495	np	6 625	7 689	345 788	196 838
February	576	np	9 110	7 630	347 485	198 725
March	583	np	9 887	9 873	346 185	198 486
April	527	np	8 936	10 037	349 185	200 256

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

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 and resale	Purchase of dwellings by individuals for rent or resale (c)	Purchase of dwellings by others for rent or resale	Total	
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	
ORIGINAL										
2015										
April	1 724	962	15 177	303	40	1 008	11 594	1 106	31 915	
May	1 815	1 011	15 553	321	46	1 081	12 240	1 291	33 358	
June	1 911	1 079	17 040	360	44	1 092	13 010	1 451	35 986	
July	1 844	1 191	17 595	359	50	1 122	11 671	1 454	35 287	
August	1 726	1 105	16 911	344	33	806	10 824	1 155	32 905	
September	1 900	1 305	18 787	366	44	749	10 201	1 609	34 962	
October	1 832	1 269	18 974	345	44	1 006	9 158	1 175	33 804	
November	1 862	1 292	19 968	347	53	883	9 477	1 302	35 183	
December	1 908	1 499	19 947	343	45	1 219	9 959	1 439	36 359	
2016										
January	1 388	973	14 242	266	36	636	7 175	784	25 501	
February	1 692	905	16 433	375	46	939	8 328	1 207	29 925	
March	1 759	929	17 763	392	50	1 731	9 197	1 188	33 008	
April	1 798	956	17 657	352	37	1 001	9 198	996	31 994	
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED										
2015										
April	1 825	1 046	16 329	317	43	1 030	11 975	1 254	33 820	
May	1 708	997	15 063	308	42	1 010	11 362	1 242	31 733	
June	1 704	1 051	16 629	338	43	988	11 252	1 275	33 279	
July	1 698	1 132	16 817	344	49	1 053	10 967	1 409	33 467	
August	1 740	1 152	17 590	357	36	817	11 433	1 121	34 246	
September	1 806	1 249	18 072	357	45	625	10 171	1 400	33 726	
October	1 791	1 217	18 091	341	41	1 002	9 215	1 248	32 947	
November	1 853	1 179	18 467	339	46	997	9 290	1 242	33 414	
December	1 859	1 357	18 354	343	46	946	9 373	1 235	33 513	
2016										
January	1 867	1 168	17 681	357	47	975	9 306	1 179	32 579	
February	1 817	1 006	18 092	363	47	1 160	9 321	1 319	33 126	
March	1 770	942	17 963	364	46	1 721	9 048	1 120	32 975	
April	1 844	990	17 868	362	38	1 014	9 074	1 202	32 393	
TREND										
2015										
April	1 743	1 010	16 087	314	43	979	11 515	1 276	32 967	
May	1 731	1 043	16 419	324	43	979	11 527	1 283	33 348	
June	1 725	1 079	16 765	334	43	960	11 395	1 285	33 585	
July	1 729	1 118	17 148	342	43	929	11 097	1 291	33 696	
August	1 747	1 164	17 529	347	43	890	10 671	1 289	33 680	
September	1 778	1 211	17 865	349	43	857	10 211	1 280	33 593	
October	1 810	1 239	18 109	348	44	865	9 801	1 269	33 486	
November	1 833	1 235	18 212	348	45	923	9 493	1 254	33 343	
December	1 841	1 198	18 186	349	45	1 014	9 304	1 239	33 177	
2016										
January	1 838	1 143	18 100	353	46	1 111	9 218	1 226	33 035	
February	1 832	1 081	18 015	357	45	1 195	9 173	1 212	32 911	
March	1 825	1 021	17 943	362	44	1 263	9 142	1 196	32 794	
April	1 819	971	17 884	365	43	1 296	9 131	1 193	32 703	

(a) Excludes revolving credit.

(c) Includes refinancing (See Glossary)

(b) Includes alterations and additions.

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

Month	PERSONAL FINANCE(a)					COMMERCIAL	LEASE	ALL VEHICLE
					FINANCE (a)	FINANCE	FINANCE
	<i>New motor cars and station wagons</i>	<i>Used motor cars and station wagons</i>	<i>Motorcycles</i>	<i>Other motor vehicles</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
2015								
April	549	381	26	100	1 057	1 018	352	2 427
May	611	416	37	103	1 167	1 126	394	2 687
June	774	453	45	121	1 393	1 568	490	3 451
July	658	448	44	106	1 256	1 156	427	2 839
August	620	441	36	113	1 210	1 130	390	2 731
September	674	445	49	106	1 273	1 197	422	2 893
October	629	435	47	100	1 211	1 187	390	2 788
November	669	430	46	112	1 257	1 220	399	2 876
December	677	405	48	99	1 229	1 217	454	2 900
2016								
January	611	391	36	94	1 132	879	228	2 239
February	668	418	41	102	1 230	1 197	295	2 721
March	763	548	48	125	1 483	1 362	313	3 159
April	717	458	42	125	1 341	1 607	312	3 259

(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
2015								
April	211	61	54	9	8	np	np	352
May	237	66	65	np	9	np	np	394
June	280	79	84	13	16	3	14	490
July	259	68	67	12	13	np	np	427
August	221	64	66	13	17	np	np	390
September	249	65	72	12	16	np	np	422
October	221	62	68	14	13	2	9	390
November	228	62	71	11	13	np	np	399
December	256	64	80	13	16	np	np	454
2016								
January	143	50	20	np	5	np	np	228
February	182	64	26	np	7	—	np	295
March	198	60	28	np	8	np	np	313
April	190	61	26	6	18	1	10	312

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

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
2015					
April	379	1 052	1 431	122	1 552
May	528	1 120	1 649	160	1 809
June	375	1 376	1 751	197	1 948
July	219	1 252	1 471	489	1 960
August	184	1 136	1 320	177	1 497
September	216	1 371	1 587	180	1 767
October	238	1 399	1 637	200	1 837
November	238	1 144	1 382	174	1 556
December	248	1 322	1 571	211	1 782
2016					
January	121	1 023	1 144	267	1 411
February	205	1 199	1 404	281	1 685
March	214	1 458	1 672	270	1 942
April	270	1 682	1 952	215	2 167

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

(b) Excludes revolving credit.

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

Month	Transport equipment (a)	Construction and earthmoving equipment	Agricultural machinery and equipment	Manu- facturing equipment	Electronic data processing equipment	Office machines	Shop and office furniture, fittings and equipment	Other goods	Total
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
2015									
April	np	19	7	2	38	30	7	np	122
May	—	45	6	4	37	39	13	16	160
June	np	41	18	1	50	41	17	np	197
July	np	26	4	1	np	53	np	np	489
August	np	np	np	2	43	42	14	np	177
September	np	34	np	np	30	66	14	np	180
October	np	34	np	np	60	41	31	np	200
November	1	np	np	np	43	53	12	22	174
December	—	41	5	3	55	42	35	30	211
2016									
January	np	24	np	np	184	26	17	np	267
February	1	np	np	1	155	47	14	11	281
March	np	95	10	np	46	56	37	21	270
April	2	48	np	np	56	48	15	21	215

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

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

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

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

- 1** This publication presents statistics on 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 leases and excludes operating and leverage leases. Operating lease finance statistics are provided separately as spreadsheets on the Downloads 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)
 - Registered Financial Corporations (RFCs).

COVERAGE

- 7** Until the statistics in this publication were derived from returns submitted to the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA) (see paragraph 10), the statistics covered 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 were 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 were covered. While many lenders other than banks were not covered, at least 70% coverage was maintained for all published lender types (including the Other Lenders series and Other Lessors series).
- 8** When APRA commenced the collection, lending commitments by Non-Banks with total assets of \$50 million or more were covered. All banks' lending commitments were covered.
- 9** From January 2014 a monthly reporting threshold was introduced for Non-Banks to provide 95 per cent asset coverage of the non-bank sector. Non-banks with assets below the \$200m asset threshold ceased reporting from January 2014 while other Non-Banks with assets above the threshold started reporting to APRA from January 2014. The lending commitments of those which started reporting in January 2014 were excluded from the January 2014 to January 2015 published statistics pending assessment of seasonal impacts of those non-banks' commitments on seasonally adjusted and trend series estimates. Issues of this publication from February 2015 include finance commitments from January 2014 reported by Non-Banks above the reporting threshold.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

COVERAGE *continued*

A trend break in January 2014 was added to the Lease Finance series published in Tables 1 and 27, due to this change in coverage.

SOURCES

10 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 and building societies in July 2002, and from RFCs in March 2003.

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

12 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).

13 Electronic versions of the forms and instructions for ADIs are available on the APRA website at <http://www.apra.gov.au/adi/reportingframework/pages/adi-reporting.aspx>. For RFCs, these are available at: <http://www.apra.gov.au/NonReg/Pages/Registered-Financial-Corporations.aspx>.

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

REVISIONS

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

16 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 recorded in the 'Series breaks' tabs of Statistical Tables B and D on the Reserve Bank of Australia's website: RBA Statistical Tables.

SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT

17 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.

18 Estimation of seasonal adjustment and trading day factors that reflect the full effect of recent developments is not possible until a sufficient number of years of data have been collected. When changes are occurring in the seasonal patterns, larger revisions to the seasonally adjusted series can be expected at the time of the biennial (once every

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT

continued

two years) seasonal reanalysis. Accordingly, the trend estimate data provide a more reliable indicator of underlying movement in housing finance commitments. (See paragraphs 21 and 22 for further information on trend estimates).

19 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.

20 Autoregressive integrated moving average (ARIMA) modelling can improve the revision properties of the seasonally adjusted and trend estimates. 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 lending finance collections use an individual ARIMA model for the majority of the series in this publication. The ARIMA model is assessed as part of the biennial reanalysis. The next reanalysis is scheduled for the December 2015 issue. For more information on ARIMA modelling see *Feature article: Use of ARIMA modelling to reduce revisions* in the October 2004 issue of *Australian Economic Indicators* (cat. no. 1350.0).

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 by email at time.series.analysis@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. Published changes in dollar value and percentage terms are calculated using unrounded data and may differ slightly from, but are more accurate than, changes calculated from the rounded data presented 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) website. 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. 5232.0.55.001) – issued quarterly.
- *Building Approvals, Australia* (cat. no. 8731.0) – issued monthly.
- *Dwelling Unit Commencements, Australia, Preliminary* (cat. no. 8750.0) – issued quarterly (final issue June 2012).

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

continued

- *Building Activity, Australia* (cat. no. 8752.0) – issued quarterly.
- *Private New Capital Expenditure and Expected Expenditure, Australia* (cat. no. 5625.0).
- *Sales of New Motor Vehicles, Australia* (cat. no. 9314.0).

26 In addition, the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) produces the 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 website <http://www.apra.gov.au>.

27 Current publications and other products released by the ABS are available from the Statistics View. The ABS also issues a daily Release Advice on the ABS website <http://www.abs.gov.au> which details products to be released in the week ahead.

ABBREVIATIONS

\$m	million dollars
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ADI	Authorised Deposit-taking Institution
APRA	Australian Prudential Regulation Authority
ARIMA	autoregressive integrated moving average
n.e.c.	not elsewhere classified
RBA	Reserve Bank of Australia
RFC	Registered Financial Corporation

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	For owner occupation, comprises commitments made to individuals to finance, by way of progress payments, the construction of owner occupied dwellings. For commercial finance construction of dwellings for rental or resale, comprises commitments made to corporations to finance the construction of dwellings to be occupied by persons other than the owner(s).
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.

GLOSSARY *continued*

Office machines	Includes telephone systems (including PABX equipment), facsimile machines, cash registers, photocopiers, etc.
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.
Real Property	Comprises both residential and non-residential land, buildings and fixed structures.
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 a different 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.
Wholesale lenders	A wholesale lender provides funds to borrowers through a retail intermediary which may then also be responsible for the ongoing relationship with the borrower. The Wholesale Lenders n.e.c. series almost exclusively comprises securitisation vehicles (typically special purpose trusts) established to issue mortgage backed securities. It excludes funds provided where a bank or permanent building society, acting as a wholesale provider of funds, remains the lender on the contract. Those commitments are published as bank or permanent building society commitments.

FOR MORE INFORMATION . . .

INTERNET **www.abs.gov.au** the ABS website is the best place for data from our publications and information about the ABS.

INFORMATION AND REFERRAL SERVICE

Our consultants can help you access the full range of information published by the ABS that is available free of charge from our website. Information tailored to your needs can also be requested as a 'user pays' service. Specialists are on hand to help you with analytical or methodological advice.

PHONE 1300 135 070

EMAIL client.services@abs.gov.au

FAX 1300 135 211

POST Client Services, ABS, GPO Box 796, Sydney NSW 2001

FREE ACCESS TO STATISTICS

All statistics on the ABS website can be downloaded free of charge.

WEB ADDRESS www.abs.gov.au