

Australian Capital Territory



CATALOGUE NO. 1303.8

EMBARGOED UNTIL 11.30 A.M. 14 FEBRUARY 1994

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY BUSINESS INDICATORS, JANUARY 1994

MAIN FEATURES

This month has seen the inclusion of data from the economy wide survey of business expectations. The survey sampled 3 000 Australian businesses of all sizes. The estimates show short and medium-term expectations relating to business sales for the December quarter of 1993 and the March, September and December quarters of 1994 (see table 1). For example, short-term expectations compares the March quarter of 1994 to the December quarter of 1993 and medium-term expectations compares the December quarter of 1994 to the December quarter of 1993.

Other indicators in this issue show that some sectors of the ACT economy continue to show quite strong growth. Notable increases have occurred in the following series:

- The number of building approvals for new dwelling units increased by 12.8 per cent in December 1993 from the previous month.
- Trend employment in December 1993 increased only slightly (0.4%) from the previous month but showed quite strong growth (2.3%) from the same period last year.
- In original terms, labour force participation rates in the ACT showed steady growth from the previous

month with an increase of 2.3 percentage points to 75.1 per cent in December 1993. The total number of persons employed also grew in December 1993 by 1.9 per cent to 163 800.

Other notable movements include:

- Trend motor vehicle registrations fell from the previous month with December 1993 showing a 2.0 per cent decline to 943. Nationally, trend new motor vehicle registrations showed a growth of 0.2 per cent.
- The 1.5 per cent decline in trend number of persons unemployed for December 1993 for the ACT compared favourably to the national decline of 0.2 per cent. The decline in trend unemployment rates for the ACT and Australia were slightly closer with declines of 1.3 percentage points and 0.9 percentage points respectively.
- Working days lost per thousand employees in the ACT were much lower than that for Australia. In October 1993 the ACT lost 81 days per thousand employees compared to the national figure of 206 days per thousand employees.

TABLE 1: AUSTRALIAN BUSINESS EXPECTATIONS: SALES,
MARCH QUARTER 1994/DECEMBER QUARTER 1994
EXPECTED AGGREGATE CHANGE

Period	Australian Capital Territory	Australia
Short-term		
December 1993	1.0	3.6
March 1994	-0.4	-1.4
Medium-term		
September 1994	1.5	2.9
December 1994	2.8	3.1

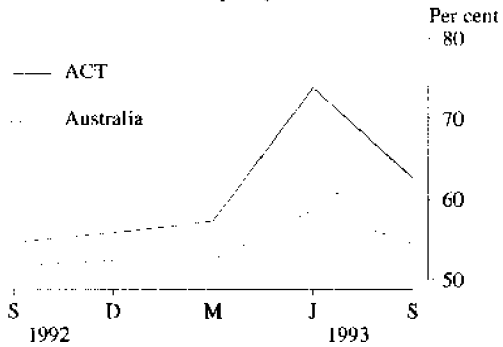
DALMA JACOBS
Statistician Australian Capital Territory

INQUIRIES

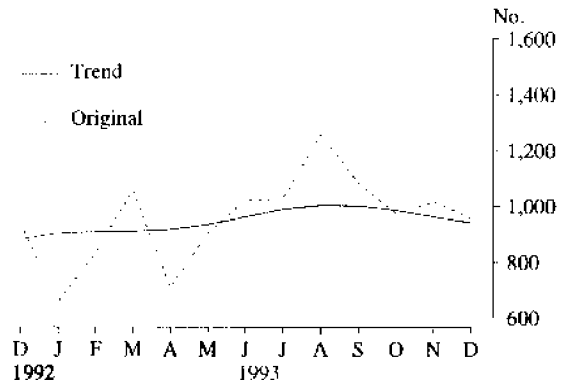
- for further information about statistics in this publication and the availability of related unpublished statistics contact Nicole Lowrey on Canberra (06) 207 0325 or any ABS State office.
- for information about other ABS statistics and services please contact Information Services on Canberra (06) 252 6627, 252 5402, 252 6007 or any ABS State office.

SELECTED BUSINESS INDICATORS

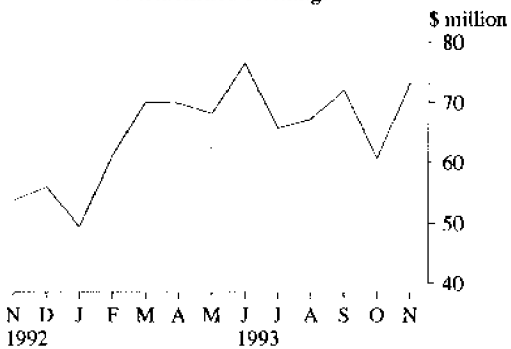
TOURIST ACCOMMODATION
Hotels, motels and guest houses
Room occupancy rates



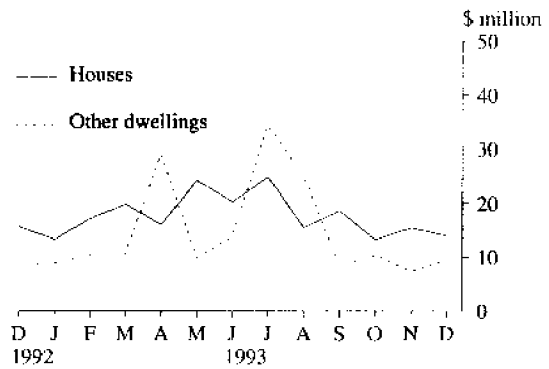
MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS



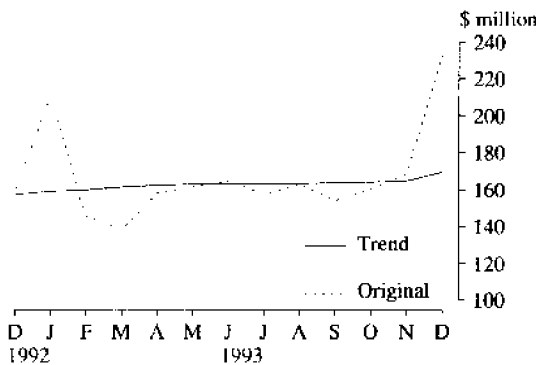
HOUSING FINANCE
Secured commitments for the purchase
of established dwellings



BUILDING APPROVALS
New dwelling units approved



TURNOVER OF RETAIL ESTABLISHMENTS



LABOUR FORCE
Trend unemployment rates

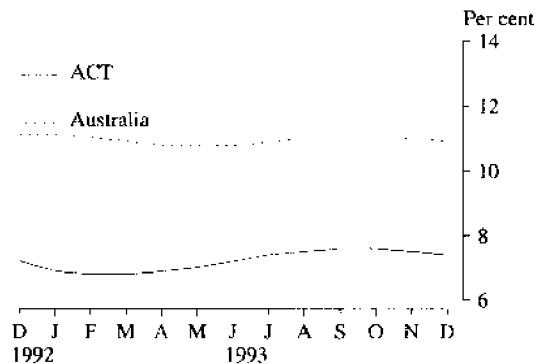


TABLE 2: AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY BUSINESS INDICATORS, JANUARY 1994

Indicator	Unit	Australian Capital Territory			Australia		
		Latest figure	Change from previous period (%)	Change from same period previous year (%)	Latest figure	Change from previous period (%)	Change from same period previous year (%)
Average weekly earnings, August 93							
Original series							
Males	\$	699.80	-0.7	1.7	618.10	0.9	3.4
Females	\$	472.30	-2.2	7.7	409.60	0.8	3.1
Total persons	\$	570.60	-1.5	3.7	520.60	0.6	3.3
Trend series							
Males	\$	673.90	0.5	2.2	622.30	1.3	3.8
Females	\$	483.10	1.4	7.9	413.20	1.2	3.7
Total persons	\$	578.70	1.0	4.4	525.80	1.3	4.0
Building approvals, December 93							
Dwelling units	no.	265	12.8	12.8	13 693	-15.3	-2.5
Value of new residential	\$m	23.8	3.0	-2.5	1 144.7	-14.5	1.0
Value of residential alterations and additions	\$m	2.7	-57.8	—	168.1	-15.2	2.5
Value of non-residential	\$m	17.1	317.1	256.3	767.4	14.1	11.2
Value of total building	\$m	43.6	30.1	36.3	2 080.2	-5.8	4.7
Building commencements, September quarter 93							
New houses	no.	606	5.2	-14.3	32 525	6.5	11.4
Value of houses commenced	\$m	65.4	2.0	-8.4	2 915.6	7.4	13.1
Value of non-residential building commenced	\$m	63.3	-2.6	42.9	1 823.9	-5.2	23.3
Hotels, motels and guest house accommodation, September quarter 93							
Room occupancy rate(a)	%	62.2	7.2	13.9	54.5	7.3	5.4
Bed occupancy rate(a)	%	35.3	6.0	7.3	33.5	9.1	4.7
Takings from accommodation	\$'000	16 621	4.6	16.0	672 163	9.8	8.3
Housing finance, November 93							
Secured commitments to individuals for							
Construction of dwellings	\$m	12	18.8	33.3	684.6	10.4	26.8
Purchase of new dwellings	\$m	16.7	-2.9	16.8	188.7	14.1	36.6
Purchase of established dwellings	\$m	73.2	20.6	36.3	2 972.5	8.0	34.7
Total new housing commitments	\$m	102.0	15.9	32.5	3 845.7	8.7	33.3
Industrial disputes in progress, October 93							
Working days lost	'000	8.9	-100.0	—	79.3	-1.9	310.9
Days lost per '000 employees (year ended September 93)	no.	81	440.0	305.0	206	4.6	261.4
Labour force, December 93p							
Job vacancies (August 93)	'000	0.4	33.3	-20.0	29.6	-3.0	34.5
Original series							
Employed	'000	163.8	1.9	2.4	7 939.5	1.4	2.4
Unemployed	'000	12.5	13.6	12.6	950.8	5.4	-3.8
Unemployment rate(a)	%	7.1	10.9	9.2	10.7	3.9	-5.3
Participation rate(a)	%	75.1	2.3	0.3	63.7	1.6	0.5
Trend series							
Employed	'000	161.8	0.4	2.3	7 840.0	0.2	2.1
Unemployed	'000	12.9	-1.5	5.7	962.3	-0.2	-0.2
Unemployment rate(a)	%	7.4	-1.3	2.8	10.9	-0.9	-1.8
Participation rate(a)	%	74.4	—	-0.3	63.1	—	0.6
New motor vehicle registrations, December 93p							
Motor vehicles (original)	no.	955	-5.9	1.9	48 541	-3.1	1.0
Motor vehicles (trend)	no.	943	-2.0	6.7	46 158	0.2	3.0
Population, June quarter 93							
'000		298.9	0.2	1.6	17 661.5	0.2	1.0
Natural increase	no.	855	-9.9	29.0	35 348	-7.3	11.3
Net migration	no.	-299	-116.0	-167.5	-934	-104.6	-126.8
Total increase	no.	556	-80.2	-49.7	34 414	-41.1	-2.4
Prices, December quarter 93							
Consumer Price Index, All groups	(1989-90=100.0)	111.3	0.3	2.1	110.0	0.2	1.9
Established house price index	(1989-90=100.0)	133.4	-0.3	0.4	107.4	0.1	2.7
Price index of house building materials	(1985-86=100.0)	149.8	0.3	0.9	151.4	0.3	1.0
Retail turnover, December 93							
Original series							
Grocers, confectioners, tobacconists	\$m	60.5	14.6	11.6	2 914	17.5	7.6
Department and general stores	\$m	43.4	80.8	3.3	1 693.3	76.3	3.6
Hotels, liquor stores, licensed clubs	\$m	12.4	-3.9	-5.3	1 310	24.3	10.5
All other stores	\$m	116.2	43.3	14.5	5 430.5	31.1	6.5
Total	\$m	232.5	36.1	10.3	11 347.8	31.4	6.8
Trend series							
Grocers, confectioners, tobacconists	\$m	52.9	1.0	8.2	2 502.3	0.2	4.9
Department and general stores	\$m	22.5	—	—	873.2	—	-0.7
Hotels, liquor stores, licensed clubs	\$m	11.5	-3.4	0.9	1 029.4	0.4	9.5
All other stores	\$m	82.8	2.2	8.4	3 981.9	0.9	4.5
Total	\$m	169.7	1.1	6.6	8 386.8	0.5	4.6

For footnotes see end of table.

TABLE 2: AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY BUSINESS INDICATORS, JANUARY 1994 — *continued*

Indicator	Unit	Australian Capital Territory			Australia		
		Latest figure	Change from previous period (%)	Change from same period previous year (%)	Latest figure	Change from previous period (%)	Change from same period previous year (%)
State accounts, September quarter 93							
Original series							
Gross State product at current prices	\$m	2 179	-0.5	-2.8	102 157	1.9	4.1
State final demand at average 1989-90 prices	\$m	2 830	-6.2	-0.2	94 303	-0.8	2.6
Private final consumption expenditure	\$m	1 342	4.8	7.4	63 946	2.7	3.9
Private gross fixed capital expenditure and components	\$m	269	-2.9	1.5	15 369	2.0	11.7
Trend series							
Gross State product at current prices	\$m	2 212	1.0	2.5	103 433	1.3	4.7
State final demand at average 1989-90 prices	\$m	2 871	-0.3	1.9	94 425	0.3	2.4
Private final consumption expenditure	\$m	1 323	1.3	6.8	63 814	1.0	4.0
Private gross fixed capital expenditure and components	\$m	269	-2.2	-7.2	14 939	-1.1	3.1

Source: ABS Catalogue Nos: 3101.0, 5242.0, 5609.0, 6203.0, 6321.0, 6354.0, 6401.0, 6403.0, 6408.0, 8501.0, 8635.0, 8731.0, 8752.0, 9301.0, 9303.0.

Figures in the above table are either preliminary, final, or revisions to previously published figures. Users should check the latest relevant publication or with ABS Information Services if the status of the statistic is important. Symbols used in this publication: p — preliminary data.

(a) Change shown in terms of percentage points.

