

Victoria, located in the south-east of the Australian continent, has an estimated population of 4,605,100. Although it is the second most populous State or Territory in the country, Victoria is ranked sixth in terms of geographic size and accounts for only 3% of Australia's total area.

The capital city is Melbourne, with an estimated population of 3,321,700. Its maximum average temperature ranges from 14°C in winter to 26°C in summer; its minimum average temperature ranges from 7°C in winter to 16°C in summer. Its average annual rainfall is 639mm.

This brochure provides only a snapshot of Victoria; more detail can be found in the variety of products released by the ABS, including the Victorian Year Book.

VICTORIA COMPARED WITH AUSTRALIA

		Victoria	Australia %
Agriculture, 31 March 1997(a)			
Area of establishments	'000 ha	12 745	2.7
Value of production	\$m	6 062.5	21.6
Average weekly ordinary time earnings (trend)			
May 1998	\$	719.60	..
Building work done, 1997-98(b)			
Value	\$m	7 406.7	23.2
Demography, 1997			
Estimated resident population at 30 June 1997	'000	4 605.1	24.8
Annual growth rate	%	1.0	..
Births	no.	60 732	24.1
Deaths	no.	33 261	25.7
Marriages	no.	25 456	23.8
Divorces	no.	12 463	24.3
Labour force, May 1998			
Employed persons	'000	2 152.8	25.1
Unemployed persons	'000	189.3	25.6
Unemployment rate	%	8.1	..
Manufacturing turnover, 1996-97	\$b	68.4	32.8
Registered motor vehicles, October 1997	'000	3 038.7	26.8
Retail turnover, 1997-98	\$m	31 252.3	23.2
Tourist accommodation(c)			
Establishments/letting entities at 31 December 1997	no.	661	18.4
Guest rooms/sites/bed spaces at 31 December 1997	no.	27 616	16.0
Takings from accommodation, 1997	\$m	634.9	17.0
Trade, 1997-98			
Exports	\$m	15 931	18.2
Imports	\$m	28 840	31.8

(a) Excludes establishments with an estimated value of agricultural operations (EVAO) of less than 5,000.
(b) Excludes engineering construction.
(c) Includes establishments (hotels, motels and guest houses with facilities and serviced apartments) with 15 or more rooms or units.

AGRICULTURE

		1995-96	1996-97
Value of agricultural commodities produced			
Crops	\$m	2 772.5	2 527.4
Livestock slaughtering	\$m	1 370.6	1 419.6
Livestock products	\$m	2 251.8	2 115.5
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$m</i>	6 388.9	6 062.5
Area of establishments at 31 March(a)	'000 ha	12 768	12 745
Agricultural production			
Wheat	'000 t	1 921	2 262
Meat (including chicken)	'000 t	725	771
Wool	'000 t	129	145
Milk(b)	ML	5 482	5 622
Livestock numbers			
Cattle			
Dairy	'000	1 682	1 784
Beef	'000	2 714	2 627
Sheep	'000	21 974	22 325
Pigs	'000	459	485

(a) Excludes establishments with an estimated value of agricultural operations (EVAO) of less than \$5,000.

(b) Source: Australian Dairy Corporation.

BUILDING

		1996-97	1997-98
Dwelling unit approvals			
Private sector	no.	26 014	34 178
Public sector	no.	596	1 171
Conversions	no.	1 240	1 089
<i>Total</i>	<i>no.</i>	27 850	36 438
Value of building work done			
Houses	\$m	1 988.8	2 806.4
Other residential buildings	\$m	621.4	754.7
Alterations and additions to dwellings	\$m	775.3	909.3
Non-residential building	\$m	3 252.4	2 936.3

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI)—Melbourne

	1989-90=100.0 1997-98	Percentage change 1997-98(a)
Food	120.5	1.6
Clothing	108.9	0.5
Housing	86.5	-8.9
Household equipment	115.0	0.3
Transport	123.3	-0.6
Tobacco and alcohol	161.4	1.8
Health and personal care	162.2	3.2
Recreation and education	127.6	3.5
All groups	119.8	-0.1

(a) Percentage change from previous financial year.

DEMOGRAPHY

		1996	1997
Estimated resident population at 30 June			
Males	'000	2 252.9	2 274.3
Females	'000	2 307.9	2 330.9
Persons	'000	4 560.8	4 605.1
Melbourne Statistical Division	'000	3 248.8	3 321.7
Number of persons by age group at 30 June			
Under 15 years	'000	947.7	947.8
15–19 years	'000	314.4	317.2
20–59 years	'000	2 546.2	2 576.7
60–64 years	'000	183.1	184.8
65 years and over	'000	569.5	578.6
Vital events registered, year ended December			
		1997	Crude rate(a) 1997
Births	no.	60 732	13.2
Deaths	no.	33 261	7.2
Marriages	no.	25 456	5.5
Divorces	no.	12 463	2.7
Population projections			
		2011	2029
Victoria	m	5.0	5.3

(a) Per 1,000 of the estimated resident population.

EDUCATION

		1996	1997
Number of schools			
Government schools	no.	1 700	1 661
Non-government schools	no.	679	684
<i>Total schools</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>2 379</i>	<i>2 345</i>
Number of enrolments			
Government schools	no.	517 062	518 476
Non-government schools	no.	259 393	262 948
<i>Total school enrolments</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>776 455</i>	<i>781 424</i>
Tertiary (excluding TAFE)	no.	175 038	179 030
TAFE (Vocational)	no.	496 324	544 100
Number of teaching staff			
Government schools	no.	34 045	34 154
Non-government schools	no.	17 295	17 428
Year 12 retention rates	%	75.3	76.3

HEALTH

		1996–97
Public hospitals(a)		
Acute health expenditure	\$m	2 894
Expenditure per patient separation	\$	3 223
Patient separations	no.	935 096
Average length of stay	days	4.1
Major causes of death		
		1997
Diseases of the circulatory system(b)	no.	13 253
Neoplasms (cancer)	no.	9 181
Diseases of the respiratory system	no.	3 330
<i>Total deaths</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>33 261</i>

(a) Source: Department of Human Services, Victoria.

(b) Includes heart disease and strokes.

LABOUR FORCE

		May 1997	May 1998
Employed persons			
Males	no.	1 183.3	1 217.7
Females	no.	907.5	935.1
Unemployed persons			
Males	no.	115.7	109.7
Females	no.	92.7	79.6
Unemployment rate			
Males	%	8.9	8.3
Females	%	9.3	7.8
Average weekly ordinary time earnings (trend)			
Full-time adult males	\$	735.10	765.90
Full-time adult females	\$	619.50	641.50
Full-time adult employees	\$	696.70	719.60

MANUFACTURING

		1995-96	1996-97
Operations—selected items			
Employment	'000	305.3	306.6
Turnover(a)	\$m	65 284.1	68 420.4
Production—selected commodities		1996-97	1997-98
Claybricks for structural purposes	metres	264	316
Ready-mix concrete	'000 m ³	3 169	3 733
Beef and veal	'000 t	388 130	404 514
Mutton and lamb	'000 t	166 779	183 287
Whole milk	ML	5 622	5 866
Cheese	t	164 079	180 997
Butter and butteroil	t	120 041	127 914

(a) Value data are at current prices and therefore do not discount the impact of price changes.

MINERAL PRODUCTION

		1995-96	1996-97
Brown coal	'000 t	54 281	60 795
Oil and gas(a)			
Crude oil, including condensates	ML	12 260	11 930
Natural gas	GL	2.3	2.1
Liquefied petroleum gas (LPG)(a)(b)	Gm ³	6.7	6.0

(a) Oil and gas figures are for Bass Strait only.

(b) Excludes refinery production.

Source: Department of Natural Resources and Environment: Minerals and Petroleum Victoria, Statistical Review.

OVERSEAS TRADE

		1996-97	1997-98
Imports			
United States of America	\$m	5 944	7 024
Japan	\$m	3 097	3 847
Germany	\$m	1 923	2 116
China	\$m	1 755	2 154
Other	\$m	12 375	13 700
Total	\$m	25 093	28 840
Exports			
Japan	\$m	1 523	1 684
Republic of Korea	\$m	2 098	1 039
New Zealand	\$m	2 140	1 552
Singapore	\$m	893	989
Other	\$m	9 653	10 668
Total	\$m	16 306	15 931

PRICES(a) OF SELECTED ITEMS

		June 1997	June 1998
Milk, carton, supermarket sales, 1 litre	c	130	135
Bread, white loaf, sliced, supermarket sales, 680 grams	c	192	189
Rump steak, 1 kilogram	c	1 033	1 031
Chicken, frozen, 1 kilogram	c	387	336
Potatoes, 1 kilogram	c	130	108
Oranges, 1 kilogram	c	139	158
Coffee, instant, 150 gram jar	c	554	621
Beer, full strength, unchilled, 24x375 millilitre bottles	c	2 665	2 699
Petrol, super grade, 1 litre	c	73.5	70.9

(a) Average retail prices in cents.

PRIVATE FINANCE

Finance commitments		June 1997	June 1998
Housing finance	\$m	10 652.0	12 588.0
Personal finance	\$m	8 080.7	10 365.1
Commercial finance	\$m	37 648.4	43 942.4
Lease finance	\$m	1 623.9	1 924.0

RETAIL TURNOVER

		1996-97	1997-98
Food retailing	\$m	12 680.9	13 133.9
Department stores	\$m	2 723.9	2 915.9
Clothing and soft goods retailing	\$m	1 866.0	2 085.1
Household goods retailing	\$m	4 065.6	4 014.3
Recreational goods retailing	\$m	1 789.3	1 883.1
Other retailing	\$m	2 917.5	3 297.2
Hospitality and service industries	\$m	3 710.9	3 922.9
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$m</i>	<i>29 754.0</i>	<i>31 252.3</i>

STATE GOVERNMENT FINANCE

		1995-96	1996-97
Total current outlays	\$m	15 432	15 210
Total capital outlays	\$m	2 080	1 765
<i>Total outlays</i>	<i>\$m</i>	<i>17 512</i>	<i>16 975</i>
Total revenue	\$m	17 860	18 487
Total financing(a)	\$m	-348	-1 512
Less increase in provisions (net)	\$m	756	702
Equals deficit or surplus(-)	\$m	-1 104	-2 214
of which			
Current deficit	\$m	-2 476	-2 783
Capital deficit	\$m	1 372	568

(a) Financing represents the difference between total revenue and total outlays.

TOURISM

		1996	1997
International visitors by country of residence			
New Zealand	no.	105 057	132 703
United Kingdom and Ireland	no.	58 199	65 289
United States of America	no.	53 934	55 839
Japan	no.	46 039	45 945
Singapore	no.	28 474	36 469
Indonesia	no.	26 902	32 489
Other countries	no.	224 489	238 134
<i>Total</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>543 094</i>	<i>606 868</i>

Source: Bureau of Tourism Research: International Visitor Survey, 1997.

TRANSPORT

Motor vehicles on register		31 Oct 1996	31 Oct 1997
Passenger vehicles	'000	2 462.2	2 521.8
Commercial vehicles	'000	503.7	509.7
Motor cycles	'000	69.8	80.3

SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS USED

Annual periods shown as, for example, 1997 refer to the year ended 31 December 1997; those shown as, for example 1997–98 refer to the year ended June 1998. Values shown in Australian dollars (\$). Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between the sums of the component items and totals.

°C	— degrees Celsius	m³	— cubic metres
\$	— dollars	ML	— megalitres
\$b	— billion dollars (thousand million)	mm	— millimetre
\$m	— million dollars	no.	— number
GL	— ggalitres	t	— tonnes
Gm³	— giga cubic metres	. .	— not applicable
ha	— hectares	'000	— thousand
m.	— millions	%	— per cent
c	— cents		

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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