



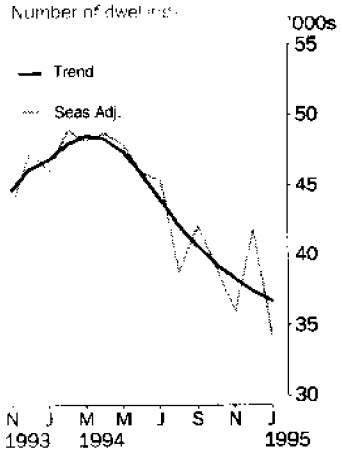
HOUSING FINANCE

FOR OWNER OCCUPATION AUSTRALIA

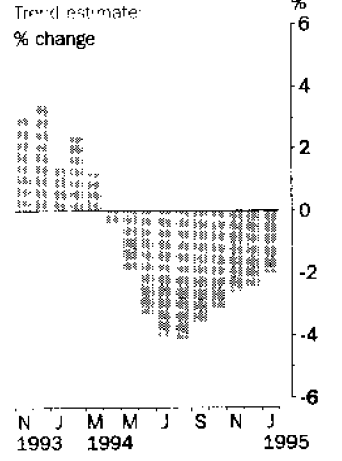
EMBARGOED UNTIL 11:30AM TUES 21 MARCH 1995

JANUARY KEY FIGURES

Secured housing finance



Number of dwellings



TREND ESTIMATES

	Jan 95	% change Dec 94	% change Jan 94
Number of dwellings financed	36 687	-2.0	-21.6
Construction of dwellings	6 811	-3.5	-18.5
Purchase of new dwellings	1 968	0.0	-13.9
Purchase of established dwellings	27 908	-1.7	-22.8

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

	Jan 95	% change Dec 94	% change Jan 94
Number of dwellings financed	34 171	-18.2	-25.6
Construction of dwellings	6 267	-20.7	-24.2
Purchase of new dwellings	1 842	-19.5	-19.6
Purchase of established dwellings	26 062	-17.5	-26.4

JANUARY KEY POINTS

TREND ESTIMATES

- The trend estimate for the total number of dwellings financed in January 1995 was down 2.0 per cent on December 1994.
- This compares with the revised monthly trend decreases for December 1994 of 2.4 per cent and for November 1994 of 2.6 per cent.
- In January 1995, commitments for the construction of dwellings and the purchase of established dwellings decreased by 3.5 and 1.7 per cent respectively. The number of commitments for the purchase of new dwellings remains unchanged.
- The trend estimate for the value of commitments in January 1995 was down 1.3 per cent on December 1994.

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ESTIMATES

- In January 1995, the number of dwellings financed decreased by 18.2 per cent on December 1994 and was 25.6 per cent lower than in January 1994.
- Seasonally adjusted estimates for all categories decreased in January.

TAKE CARE!
Take care with interpretation of seasonally adjusted data. See Explanatory Notes 9-11.

ORIGINAL ESTIMATES

- There were 27 906 dwelling units financed during January 1995, a decrease of 21.8 per cent on December 1994 and a decrease of 23.4 per cent on January 1994.
- Lending institutions reported that 3 773 (13.5 per cent) of the total number of dwelling units financed in January 1995 were being refinanced.

INQUIRIES

▪ For further information about these and related statistics, contact Greg Smith on 02 268 4784, or any ABS Office.

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

ISSUE	RELEASE DATE
February 1995	20 April 1995
March 1995	18 May 1995
April 1995	19 June 1995

CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

This issue includes revisions to previously published statistics for September, November and December 1994, which affect all tables.

SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS

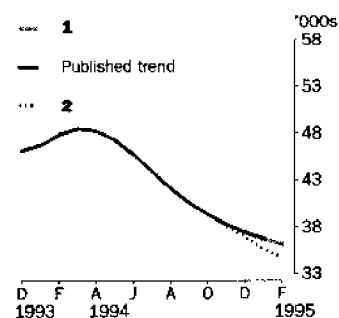
Readers should exercise care when interpreting this month's trend estimates because they will be revised when next month's seasonally adjusted estimates become available. For further information, see Explanatory Notes 12 and 13.

The graph below presents the effect of two possible scenarios on the previous trend estimates:

- 1** The February seasonally adjusted estimate of number of dwellings financed is *higher* than the January seasonally adjusted estimate by 5%.
- 2** The February seasonally adjusted estimate of number of dwellings financed is *lower* than the January seasonally adjusted estimate by 5%.

The percentage change of 5% was chosen because the average absolute percentage change of the seasonally adjusted series, based on the last 10 years of data, has been 5%.

NUMBER OF DWELLINGS FINANCED



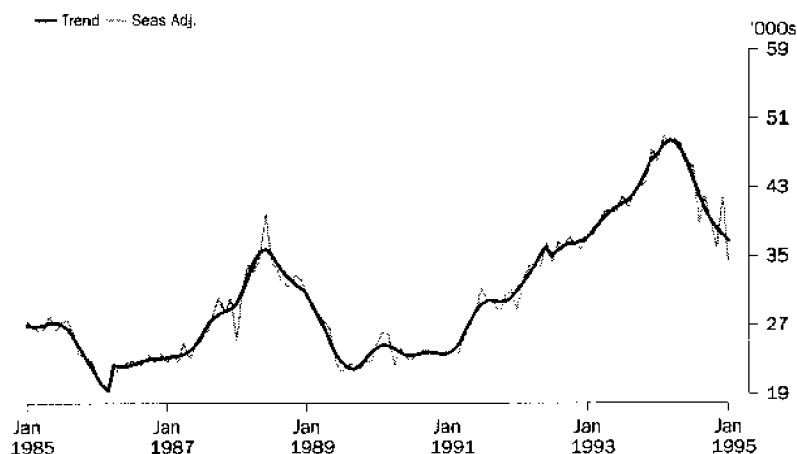
	TREND AS PUBLISHED		WHAT IF NEXT MONTH'S SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ESTIMATE:			
	estimate	% change	1 rises by 5% on Jan 1995 estimate	% change	2 falls by 5% on Jan 1995 estimate	% change
1994						
August	42 140	-4.1	42 127	-3.8	42 194	-3.8
September	40 604	-3.6	40 574	-3.7	40 691	-3.6
October	39 363	-3.1	39 346	-3.0	39 404	-3.2
November	38 327	-2.6	38 363	-2.5	38 210	-3.0
December	37 423	-2.4	37 472	-2.3	36 966	-3.3
1995						
January	36 687	-2.0	36 646	-2.2	35 693	-3.4
February (new)	—	—	36 138	-1.4	34 699	-2.8

RICHARD MADDEN
ACTING AUSTRALIAN STATISTICIAN

SECURED HOUSING FINANCE: Trend/Seasonally adjusted

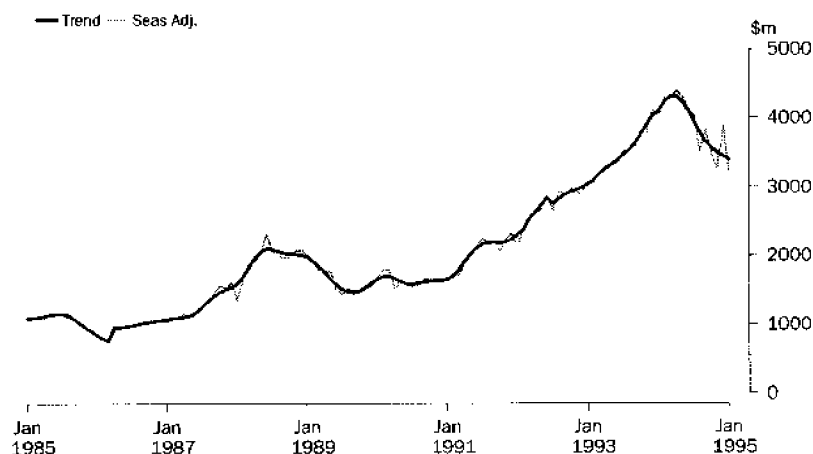
NUMBER OF DWELLINGS FINANCED

The trend estimate for the total number of dwellings financed in January 1995 was 36 687, a decrease of 2.0 per cent. A turning point was reached in March 1994 and from April the trend has been in continuous decline, although the rate of decline has continued to slow since September 1994. Seasonally adjusted, the number of dwelling units financed in January 1995 decreased by 18.2 per cent on December 1994.



VALUE OF COMMITMENTS

The trend estimate for January 1995 for the total value of commitments for owner-occupied housing was \$3 398.8 million, a decrease of 1.3 per cent on December 1994. Seasonally adjusted, the value of commitments decreased by 17.8 per cent on December 1994.

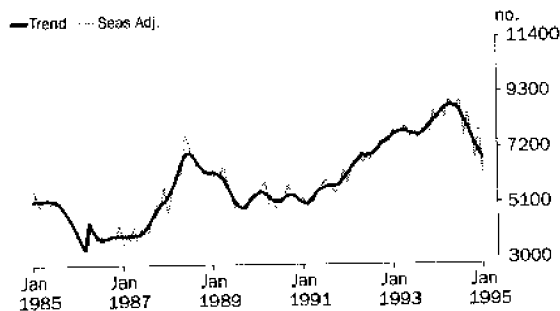


TYPE OF HOUSING: Seasonally adjusted and trend

NUMBER OF DWELLINGS FINANCED

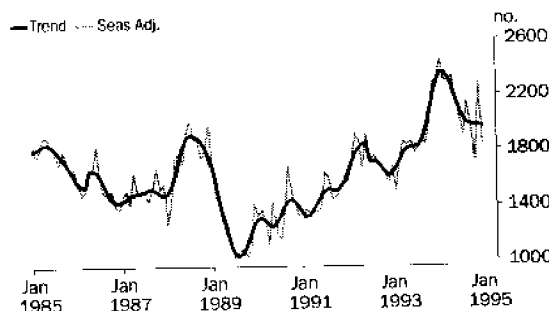
CONSTRUCTION OF DWELLINGS

The trend estimate for the number of dwellings financed in January 1995 was 6 811, a decrease of 3.5 per cent on December 1994. Seasonally adjusted, finance was committed to individuals for the construction of 6 267 dwelling units, 20.7 per cent less than in December 1994.



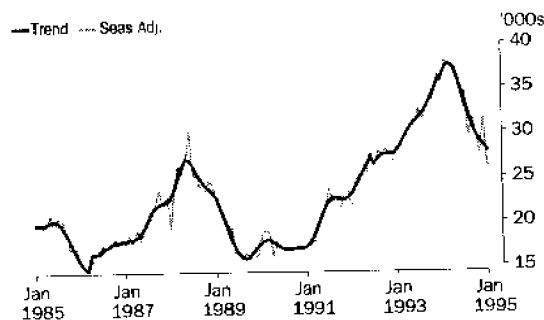
PURCHASE OF NEW DWELLINGS

The trend estimate for the number of dwellings financed in January 1995 was 1 968, approximately the same as the revised estimate for December 1994. Seasonally adjusted, finance was committed to individuals for the purchase of 1 842 newly erected dwellings, 19.5 per cent less than in December 1994.



PURCHASE OF ESTABLISHED DWELLINGS

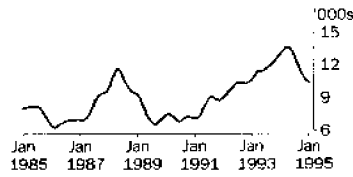
The trend estimate for the number of dwellings financed in January 1995 was 27 908, a decrease of 1.7 per cent on December 1994. Seasonally adjusted, finance was committed to individuals for the purchase of 26 062 dwelling units, 17.5 per cent less than in December 1994. Compared to January 1994, commitments for the purchase of established dwellings were 26.4 per cent lower in seasonally adjusted terms.



STATE TRENDS : Trend series

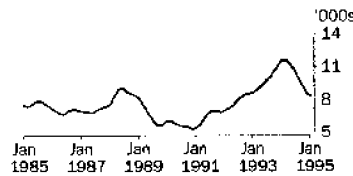
NUMBER OF DWELLINGS FINANCED

NEW SOUTH WALES



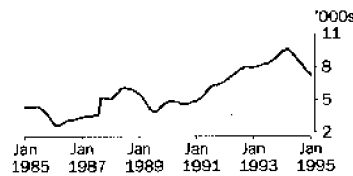
The downward trend in NSW which began in May 1994 continued to slow in January 1995 with the trend estimate declining 1.8%.

VICTORIA



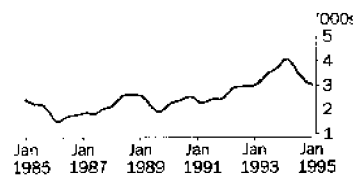
The decline of 2.9% in the January 1995 trend estimate, while slowing, continues the downward trend which began in March 1994.

QUEENSLAND



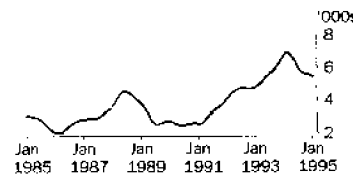
The decline of 3.4% in the January 1995 trend estimate continues the decline which began in April 1994.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA



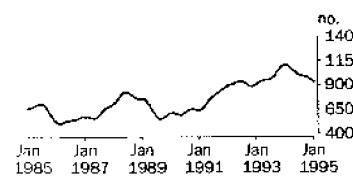
The downward trend which began in April 1994 continued to slow in January 1995 with the trend estimate declining by 1.3%.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA



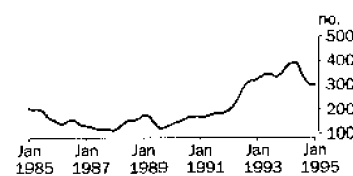
The January trend estimate decreased by 1.4%, continuing the decline which began in March 1994.

TASMANIA



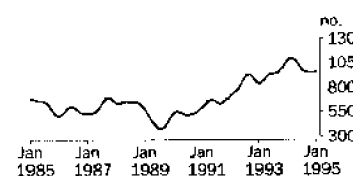
The January 1995 trend estimate decreased by 2.2%, and continues the downward trend which began in February 1994.

NORTHERN TERRITORY



The trend estimate for January 1995 increased by 0.7%.

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY



The trend estimate for January 1995 increased by 0.1%.

SECURED HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS¹, By Purpose: All series

Month	Construction of dwellings		Purchase of newly erected dwellings		Purchase of established dwellings ²		Total	
	Number	\$m	Number	\$m	Number	\$m	Number	\$m
ORIGINAL								
1993								
November	7 777	636.6	2 120	192.9	34 226	3 012.4	44 123	3 841.9
December	8 005	648.8	2 062	198.3	35 293	3 112.6	45 360	3 959.7
1994								
January	6 337	510.4	1 769	159.0	28 340	2 402.4	36 446	3 071.8
February	8 361	684.9	2 414	230.5	37 400	3 274.6	48 175	4 190.0
March	9 763	825.5	2 656	253.6	44 328	3 954.4	56 747	5 033.5
April	8 500	725.5	2 058	199.7	34 393	3 092.7	44 951	4 017.8
May	9 677	830.7	2 299	228.1	38 673	3 535.2	50 649	4 594.0
June	9 440	787.1	2 223	220.7	37 666	3 468.3	49 329	4 476.1
July	8 609	737.9	2 050	193.5	32 642	2 949.8	43 301	3 881.1
August	8 875	769.9	2 265	229.3	32 975	3 006.9	44 115	4 006.0
September	8 070	716.5	2 109	215.6	30 265	2 783.5	40 444	3 715.7
October	7 110	598.3	1 975	202.5	27 531	2 502.9	36 616	3 303.7
November	7 491	654.7	1 993	204.9	31 078	2 839.8	40 562	3 699.4
December	6 463	569.5	1 888	182.5	27 351	2 569.7	35 702	3 321.7
1995								
January	4 977	428.9	1 466	150.7	21 463	1 927.3	27 906	2 506.9
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED								
1993								
November	7 775	621.6	2 016	182.8	33 644	2 970.0	43 435	3 774.4
December	8 585	708.1	2 277	214.6	36 570	3 201.6	47 432	4 124.3
1994								
January	8 271	683.8	2 291	212.4	35 387	3 108.5	45 949	4 004.6
February	8 627	711.2	2 459	234.0	37 829	3 350.9	48 915	4 296.1
March	8 331	710.3	2 293	219.0	37 501	3 349.2	48 125	4 278.6
April	8 943	770.5	2 296	219.2	37 450	3 389.1	48 689	4 378.8
May	8 806	765.0	2 334	227.2	36 747	3 340.1	47 887	4 332.4
June	8 777	738.0	2 147	209.8	34 918	3 155.7	45 842	4 103.4
July	8 982	762.6	2 032	194.7	34 354	3 091.9	45 368	4 049.2
August	7 616	650.5	1 913	193.9	29 218	2 675.4	38 747	3 519.8
September	8 471	735.8	2 140	226.7	31 476	2 863.4	42 087	3 825.9
October	7 562	635.2	1 976	203.7	29 617	2 655.3	39 155	3 494.2
November	6 737	569.9	1 721	175.0	27 483	2 526.4	35 941	3 271.3
December	7 898	705.8	2 288	216.9	31 594	2 956.3	41 780	3 879.1
1995								
January	6 267	557.5	1 842	195.2	26 062	2 436.5	34 171	3 189.2
TREND ESTIMATES								
1993								
November	8 045	652.1	2 062	189.8	34 513	3 039.9	44 620	3 881.7
December	8 211	671.6	2 183	202.5	35 728	3 153.2	46 122	4 027.2
1994								
January	8 359	691.7	2 287	214.2	36 140	3 197.7	46 785	4 103.6
February	8 509	713.2	2 351	222.3	37 058	3 292.7	47 918	4 228.2
March	8 696	736.4	2 359	224.5	37 448	3 346.1	48 504	4 307.0
April	8 774	748.0	2 315	221.8	37 191	3 343.2	48 280	4 313.0
May	8 797	752.8	2 245	216.9	36 321	3 281.9	47 363	4 251.6
June	8 720	746.1	2 162	211.7	34 908	3 161.8	45 789	4 119.7
July	8 552	730.1	2 085	207.4	33 316	3 019.0	43 952	3 956.5
August	8 286	706.1	2 028	204.4	31 826	2 885.4	42 140	3 795.9
September	7 965	679.9	1 995	202.6	30 644	2 784.9	40 604	3 667.4
October	7 641	656.0	1 979	201.5	29 743	2 716.1	39 363	3 573.6
November	7 336	634.9	1 972	200.6	29 018	2 666.8	38 327	3 502.3
December	7 055	616.3	1 969	199.8	28 399	2 627.9	37 423	3 444.1
1995								
January	6 811	600.1	1 968	199.5	27 908	2 599.3	36 687	3 398.8

¹ Excludes alterations and additions.

² Includes refinancing.



SECURED HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS¹, By Type of Lender: All series

Month	All banks		Permanent building societies		Other lenders		Total	
	Number	\$m	Number	\$m	Number	\$m	Number	\$m
ORIGINAL								
1993								
November	39 209	3 469.3	3 491	275.3	1 423	97.3	44 123	3 841.9
December	40 887	3 607.5	3 323	270.0	1 150	82.2	45 360	3 959.7
1994								
January	33 418	2 835.3	1 893	162.0	1 135	74.5	36 446	3 071.8
February	43 996	3 844.8	3 022	260.9	1 157	84.3	48 175	4 190.0
March	51 968	4 644.2	3 178	274.7	1 601	114.5	56 747	5 033.5
April	41 082	3 695.3	2 590	226.8	1 279	95.8	44 951	4 017.8
May	46 061	4 215.1	2 956	260.3	1 632	118.7	50 649	4 594.0
June	45 045	4 112.5	2 869	261.9	1 415	101.7	49 329	4 476.1
July	39 230	3 540.7	2 585	234.2	1 486	106.2	43 301	3 881.1
August	39 723	3 632.9	2 817	256.8	1 575	116.4	44 115	4 006.0
September	36 312	3 368.1	2 626	238.1	1 506	109.4	40 444	3 715.7
October	32 904	2 985.7	2 287	207.5	1 425	110.5	36 616	3 303.7
November	36 541	3 367.4	2 606	225.8	1 415	106.1	40 562	3 699.4
December	32 218	3 027.3	2 168	194.1	1 316	100.2	35 702	3 321.7
1995								
January	25 143	2 275.8	1 536	138.9	1 227	92.2	27 906	2 506.9
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED								
1993								
November	38 765	3 423.4	3 426	264.2	1 244	86.8	43 435	3 774.4
December	42 678	3 749.2	3 633	295.0	1 121	80.1	47 432	4 124.3
1994								
January	42 247	3 698.7	2 378	214.0	1 324	91.9	45 949	4 004.6
February	44 776	3 968.1	2 883	237.7	1 256	90.3	48 915	4 296.1
March	43 941	3 949.1	2 711	226.2	1 473	103.3	48 125	4 278.6
April	44 485	4 027.7	2 794	248.2	1 410	103.0	48 689	4 378.8
May	43 634	3 974.2	2 673	245.0	1 580	113.2	47 887	4 332.4
June	41 667	3 751.6	2 752	250.2	1 423	101.6	45 842	4 103.4
July	41 156	3 691.1	2 691	249.9	1 521	108.2	45 368	4 049.2
August	34 487	3 157.4	2 742	249.6	1 518	112.8	38 747	3 519.8
September	38 036	3 482.9	2 582	233.9	1 469	109.2	42 087	3 825.9
October	35 289	3 164.1	2 413	218.5	1 453	111.7	39 155	3 494.2
November	32 174	2 961.0	2 541	217.2	1 226	93.2	35 941	3 271.3
December	38 053	3 560.7	2 406	217.1	1 321	101.3	41 780	3 879.1
1995								
January	30 978	2 907.2	1 814	172.8	1 379	109.3	34 171	3 189.2
TREND ESTIMATES								
1993								
November	39 984	3 523.5	3 394	272.7	1 241	85.5	44 620	3 881.7
December	41 456	3 659.5	3 423	281.3	1 243	86.5	46 122	4 027.2
1994								
January	42 815	3 791.4	2 707	223.3	1 264	88.9	46 785	4 103.6
February	43 901	3 906.3	2 717	229.8	1 300	92.1	47 918	4 228.2
March	44 364	3 969.7	2 728	236.2	1 412	101.0	48 504	4 307.0
April	44 082	3 966.4	2 743	242.4	1 455	104.1	48 280	4 313.0
May	43 126	3 897.7	2 747	247.1	1 491	106.8	47 363	4 251.6
June	41 546	3 762.0	2 734	249.0	1 509	108.6	45 789	4 119.7
July	39 737	3 599.2	2 710	248.1	1 505	109.3	43 952	3 956.5
August	37 992	3 443.9	2 667	243.3	1 481	108.8	42 140	3 795.9
September	36 560	3 324.8	2 601	235.2	1 443	107.5	40 604	3 667.4
October	35 456	3 242.6	2 505	225.1	1 402	105.9	39 363	3 573.6
November	34 573	3 183.4	2 389	214.4	1 364	104.5	38 327	3 502.3
December	33 822	3 136.7	2 265	203.7	1 336	103.6	37 423	3 444.1
1995								
January	33 231	3 102.2	2 147	193.9	1 310	102.7	36 687	3 398.8

¹ Excludes alterations and additions. Includes refinancing.

SECURED HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS¹, By State: All Series

TOTAL NUMBER OF DWELLINGS.....

Month	New South Wales	Victoria	Queensland	South Australia	Western Australia	Tasmania	Northern Territory	Australian Capital Territory	Australia
	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
ORIGINAL									
1993									
November	12 731	10 867	8 745	3 489	5 955	1 012	359	965	44 123
December	12 299	11 497	8 855	3 976	6 201	1 207	381	944	45 360
1994									
January	9 569	9 092	7 285	3 212	5 366	887	282	753	36 446
February	13 177	10 979	10 330	4 093	6 886	1 113	388	1 209	48 175
March	16 628	12 334	11 839	4 850	8 025	1 241	452	1 378	56 747
April	12 732	10 649	8 729	3 702	6 667	1 032	384	1 056	44 951
May	14 584	12 165	9 750	4 011	7 360	1 198	369	1 212	50 649
June	14 334	12 147	9 579	4 086	6 578	1 083	374	1 148	49 329
July	12 701	10 516	8 529	3 419	5 854	985	341	953	43 301
August	12 694	10 720	8 925	3 580	5 928	963	370	935	44 115
September	11 766	9 408	8 209	3 209	5 593	935	354	970	40 444
October	9 988	8 760	7 612	3 051	5 198	903	261	843	36 616
November	11 739	9 441	8 182	3 228	5 674	1 066	301	931	40 562
December	10 082	8 707	6 926	2 842	5 077	874	309	885	35 702
1995									
January	7 618	6 189	5 711	2 647	4 079	754	251	657	27 906
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED									
1993									
November	12 201	10 460	8 728	3 515	6 028	1 014	346	1 030	43 435
December	13 062	11 336	9 457	3 946	6 973	1 263	387	1 064	47 432
1994									
January	12 865	11 680	8 707	3 844	6 656	1 047	357	1 038	45 949
February	12 924	12 019	9 768	4 290	6 918	1 142	374	1 147	48 915
March	13 502	11 313	9 680	4 067	6 732	1 025	371	1 097	48 125
April	13 482	11 481	9 691	4 046	7 062	1 080	427	1 060	48 689
May	13 776	11 003	9 613	3 934	6 685	1 078	394	1 058	47 887
June	13 803	10 972	8 926	3 656	5 824	994	367	1 050	45 842
July	13 429	10 739	8 995	3 531	6 021	1 013	363	1 006	45 368
August	11 626	9 847	8 199	3 307	5 426	936	359	908	38 747
September	11 600	9 658	8 387	3 214	5 995	991	353	954	42 087
October	10 979	8 968	8 348	3 383	5 600	1 017	241	941	39 155
November	10 362	8 438	7 454	3 033	5 252	1 000	274	943	35 941
December	11 737	9 427	8 150	3 044	6 262	988	338	1 075	41 780
1995									
January	9 940	7 733	6 580	3 077	4 963	843	322	875	34 171
TREND ESTIMATES									
1993									
November	12 443	10 890	8 906	3 724	6 289	1 076	345	1 002	44 620
December	12 682	11 229	9 123	3 844	6 527	1 100	357	1 038	46 122
1994									
January	12 925	11 480	9 328	3 968	6 747	1 110	371	1 071	46 785
February	13 207	11 611	9 501	4 060	6 882	1 107	381	1 092	47 918
March	13 469	11 602	9 593	4 083	6 874	1 090	389	1 097	48 504
April	13 631	11 459	9 565	4 017	6 723	1 065	392	1 083	48 280
May	13 625	11 204	9 417	3 881	6 486	1 037	391	1 057	47 363
June	13 361	10 848	9 160	3 711	6 207	1 015	382	1 022	45 789
July	12 887	10 451	8 869	3 542	5 962	1 003	364	990	43 952
August	12 286	10 029	8 578	3 396	5 784	995	341	968	42 140
September	11 703	9 602	8 317	3 287	5 688	990	321	958	40 604
October	11 227	9 200	8 059	3 203	5 640	983	308	955	39 363
November	10 868	8 841	7 790	3 135	5 590	971	301	956	38 327
December	10 589	8 526	7 523	3 079	5 533	955	299	956	37 423
1995									
January	10 403	8 275	7 265	3 038	5 457	934	301	957	36 687

¹ Excludes alterations and additions. Includes refinancing.

SECURED HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS¹, By State: All Series

TOTAL VALUE OF COMMITMENTS.....

Month	New South Wales	Victoria	Queensland	South Australia	Western Australia	Tasmania	Northern Territory	Australian Capital Territory	Australia
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
ORIGINAL									
1993									
November	1 313.7	876.4	722.1	250.2	491.1	61.2	30.2	96.9	3 841.9
December	1 306.2	920.9	741.5	287.4	490.9	74.9	33.8	104.2	3 959.7
1994									
January	960.5	689.2	607.6	226.0	439.3	55.0	22.4	71.8	3 071.8
February	1 361.9	845.7	882.8	301.5	582.5	67.5	33.0	115.1	4 190.0
March	1 755.0	971.8	1 011.7	375.1	670.6	77.8	38.2	133.1	5 033.5
April	1 368.4	851.4	744.2	287.5	559.9	64.6	34.2	107.6	4 017.8
May	1 595.5	985.5	853.1	310.7	622.1	73.3	33.6	120.3	4 594.0
June	1 546.7	996.8	834.0	317.8	559.4	66.3	33.9	121.1	4 476.1
July	1 343.3	866.1	727.8	263.8	494.7	62.1	29.6	93.7	3 881.1
August	1 343.9	876.2	786.1	276.2	536.3	61.8	34.6	91.0	4 006.0
September	1 243.5	800.3	733.5	248.5	503.9	59.5	32.2	94.4	3 715.7
October	1 042.9	727.4	682.3	234.0	453.7	55.5	24.3	83.7	3 303.7
November	1 244.0	806.4	724.9	252.4	489.4	69.8	26.7	85.7	3 699.4
December	1 081.3	752.8	650.2	220.9	453.3	56.3	26.2	80.5	3 321.7
1995									
January	785.1	526.0	509.1	210.6	344.9	47.3	23.3	60.6	2 506.9
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED									
1993									
November	1 261.2	844.5	727.7	256.2	496.0	60.9	28.8	100.5	3 774.4
December	1 387.0	870.6	802.4	284.8	567.1	76.4	34.0	111.1	4 124.3
1994									
January	1 353.8	898.6	730.7	283.7	557.4	63.3	28.9	100.8	4 004.6
February	1 370.0	935.0	827.2	315.5	589.0	69.7	31.8	112.9	4 296.1
March	1 438.7	892.9	833.9	305.5	571.4	64.7	33.3	113.7	4 278.6
April	1 442.4	918.0	836.9	309.1	594.7	67.4	37.5	103.4	4 378.8
May	1 452.4	894.7	836.0	304.0	563.9	66.5	35.2	109.1	4 332.4
June	1 456.0	893.7	772.6	281.0	478.6	63.1	31.9	106.4	4 103.4
July	1 392.4	893.5	764.5	271.1	505.6	63.8	31.9	99.9	4 049.2
August	1 261.3	815.1	722.0	257.6	480.2	60.2	32.7	86.6	3 519.8
September	1 224.4	814.1	737.9	250.1	537.7	63.2	32.4	91.9	3 825.9
October	1 122.9	750.9	738.4	257.3	491.7	62.2	23.0	94.5	3 494.2
November	1 114.0	717.9	674.5	243.7	458.4	64.4	23.7	84.3	3 271.3
December	1 252.3	784.7	767.9	234.3	559.1	62.4	28.6	92.4	3 879.1
1995									
January	1 072.8	663.8	595.4	258.9	429.7	51.2	29.8	82.1	3 189.2
TREND ESTIMATES									
1993									
November	1 304.0	859.2	747.5	270.9	518.1	65.4	28.7	101.1	3 881.7
December	1 336.9	879.0	768.4	280.7	542.8	66.9	30.1	104.3	4 027.2
1994									
January	1 368.6	894.8	790.1	291.8	564.9	67.6	31.6	107.2	4 103.6
February	1 401.5	906.9	809.6	301.5	578.3	67.8	32.9	109.4	4 228.2
March	1 429.8	913.5	821.9	306.5	578.1	67.3	33.8	110.2	4 307.0
April	1 446.3	913.3	822.9	304.9	565.5	66.3	34.4	109.0	4 313.0
May	1 443.5	905.5	812.6	297.2	546.2	65.1	34.6	106.4	4 251.6
June	1 412.3	887.9	791.6	285.9	525.1	64.0	34.0	102.7	4 119.7
July	1 359.1	863.7	768.9	273.5	509.3	63.4	32.6	98.7	3 956.5
August	1 294.1	834.7	748.4	262.5	500.7	63.0	30.7	95.0	3 795.9
September	1 233.8	803.3	733.3	254.7	498.2	62.7	29.0	92.2	3 667.4
October	1 186.7	772.9	719.6	249.9	497.5	62.1	27.8	90.0	3 573.6
November	1 152.9	745.7	704.6	247.0	494.3	61.1	27.0	88.3	3 502.3
December	1 128.2	721.7	688.3	245.5	489.3	59.8	26.7	86.9	3 444.1
1995									
January	1 113.7	702.1	671.5	245.2	481.2	58.2	26.7	86.0	3 398.8

¹ Excludes alterations and additions. Includes refinancing.

SECURED HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS¹, By Type of Borrower & Loan: Original

TYPE OF BORROWER

Month	FIRST HOME BUYERS.....				OTHER.....			
	Number of dwellings financed	Number as per cent of total	Value of commitments	Average borrowing size	Number of dwellings financed	Number as per cent of total	Value of commitments	Average borrowing size
		%	\$m	\$'000		%	\$m	\$'000
1993								
November	9 673	21.9	804.9	83.2	34 450	78.1	3 037.0	88.2
December	10 139	22.4	841.9	83.0	35 221	77.6	3 117.8	88.5
1994								
January	8 011	22.0	656.4	81.9	28 435	78.0	2 415.4	84.9
February	10 549	21.9	888.7	84.2	37 626	78.1	3 301.2	87.7
March	12 343	21.8	1 066.1	86.4	44 404	78.2	3 967.3	89.3
April	10 055	22.4	865.1	86.0	34 896	77.6	3 152.7	90.3
May	11 350	22.4	993.7	87.5	39 299	77.6	3 600.4	91.6
June	11 013	22.3	949.0	86.2	38 316	77.7	3 527.1	92.1
July	10 055	23.2	867.5	86.3	33 246	76.8	3 013.6	90.6
August	10 227	23.2	887.4	86.8	33 888	76.8	3 118.6	92.0
September	9 407	23.3	835.5	88.8	31 037	76.7	2 880.2	92.8
October	8 625	23.6	751.5	87.1	27 991	76.4	2 552.2	91.2
November	9 105	22.4	807.6	88.7	31 457	77.6	2 891.8	91.9
December	7 782	21.8	696.1	89.5	27 920	78.2	2 625.5	94.0
1995								
January	6 485	23.2	575.3	88.7	21 421	76.8	1 931.6	90.2

TYPE OF LOAN

Month	FIXED RATE.....				OTHER.....			
	Number of dwellings financed	Number as per cent of total	Value of commitments	Average borrowing size	Number of dwellings financed	Number as per cent of total	Value of commitments	Average borrowing size
		%	\$m	\$'000		%	\$m	\$'000
1993								
November	5 546	12.6	536.2	96.7	38 577	87.4	3 305.7	85.7
December	5 866	12.9	551.4	94.0	39 494	87.1	3 408.3	86.3
1994								
January	3 350	9.2	318.5	95.1	33 096	90.8	2 753.3	83.2
February	4 937	10.2	462.0	93.6	43 238	89.8	3 727.9	86.2
March	7 068	12.5	682.8	96.6	49 679	87.5	4 350.7	87.6
April	6 309	14.0	633.5	100.4	38 642	86.0	3 384.3	87.6
May	5 832	11.5	568.8	97.5	44 817	88.5	4 025.2	89.8
June	5 885	11.9	582.7	99.0	43 444	88.1	3 893.4	89.6
July	6 122	14.1	588.8	96.2	37 179	85.9	3 292.3	88.6
August	5 244	11.9	496.0	94.6	38 871	88.1	3 510.0	90.3
September	4 468	11.0	421.6	94.4	35 976	89.0	3 294.1	91.6
October	4 360	11.9	404.2	92.7	32 256	88.1	2 899.5	89.9
November	5 493	13.5	502.9	91.6	35 069	86.5	3 196.5	91.1
December	5 272	14.8	483.9	91.8	30 430	85.2	2 837.8	93.3
1995								
January	4 069	14.6	404.3	99.4	23 837	85.4	2 102.6	88.2

¹ Excludes alterations and additions. Includes refinancing.

SECURED HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS, Summary Table: Original

Month	Total new housing commitments ¹	Refinancing	Alterations and additions	Total	Commitments advanced during month	Cancellations of commitments during month	Commitments not advanced at end of month
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
1993							
November	3 345.0	496.9	227.0	4 068.9	3 600.0	149.6	7 388.3
December	3 451.4	508.3	253.8	4 213.5	4 240.0	200.9	7 163.0
1994							
January	2 678.8	393.1	186.7	3 258.5	3 188.0	148.7	7 081.0
February	3 658.8	531.2	253.2	4 443.2	3 744.6	156.9	7 623.1
March	4 372.1	661.3	344.5	5 378.0	4 773.9	208.4	8 014.4
April	3 499.9	518.0	269.8	4 287.6	3 930.3	234.5	8 137.2
May	3 939.1	654.9	322.9	4 916.9	4 878.8	232.6	7 844.3
June	3 882.8	593.4	322.4	4 798.6	4 607.1	257.3	7 885.2
July	3 388.7	492.3	309.3	4 190.4	4 133.2	245.4	7 708.1
August	3 555.9	450.1	291.6	4 297.7	4 011.8	247.9	7 735.9
September	3 295.2	420.5	270.2	3 985.9	4 236.6	217.8	7 342.1
October	2 904.1	399.6	256.2	3 560.0	3 595.4	179.3	7 134.7
November	3 246.7	452.7	329.2	4 028.6	3 809.7	176.7	7 161.4
December	2 903.7	418.0	279.7	3 601.3	3 705.7	172.9	6 884.9
1995							
January	2 201.5	305.4	231.5	2 738.5	2 720.9	188.9	6 729.8

¹ Excluding refinancing.

REFINANCING

IMPACT ON HOUSING FINANCE ESTIMATES

The ABS began collecting separate information on the level of refinancing in July 1991. Up until that time refinancing was included with statistics of finance for established dwellings. Growth in refinancing in recent years has led to requests for trend estimates of total commitments for housing finance excluding commitments for refinancing.

Preliminary seasonally adjusted trend estimates for dwellings refinanced are now available from July 1991 based on the actual recorded level of refinancing. These should be used with caution as there is still an insufficient number of observations to produce estimates as reliable as others in this publication.

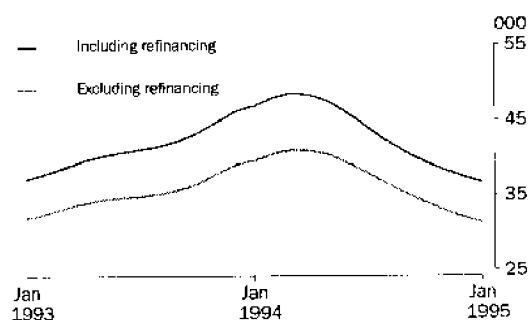
The table below compares the seasonally adjusted and trend estimates, and trend growth rates in housing finance, both inclusive and exclusive of refinancing, for the most recent fifteen month period. The graph opposite illustrates this comparison on an extended time frame.

TOTAL DWELLINGS FINANCED—Including & excluding refinancing

Month	ORIGINAL	SEASONALLY ADJUSTED.....			TREND.....				
	Dwellings refinanced	Total dwellings financed	Dwellings under new finance excluding dwellings refinanced	Dwellings refinanced	Total dwellings financed	Dwellings under new finance excluding dwellings refinanced	Dwellings refinanced	Month on month change in total dwellings financed	Month on month change in dwellings under new finance
	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	%	%
1993									
November	6 548	43 435	36 550	6 885	44 620	37 715	6 905	3.1	3.3
December	6 494	47 432	40 435	6 997	46 122	39 065	7 057	3.4	3.6
1994									
January	5 455	45 949	38 731	7 218	46 785	39 551	7 234	1.4	1.2
February	7 011	48 915	41 525	7 390	47 918	40 498	7 420	2.4	2.4
March	8 733	48 125	40 714	7 411	48 504	40 998	7 506	1.2	1.2
April	6 826	48 689	41 576	7 113	48 280	40 882	7 398	-0.5	-0.3
May	8 044	47 887	39 633	8 254	47 363	40 287	7 076	-1.9	-1.5
June	7 286	45 842	39 268	6 574	45 789	39 202	6 587	-3.3	-2.7
July	6 180	45 368	39 483	5 885	43 952	37 885	6 068	-4.0	-3.4
August	5 654	38 747	34 063	4 684	42 140	36 486	5 654	-4.1	-3.7
September	5 502	42 087	36 702	5 385	40 604	35 184	5 420	-3.6	-3.6
October	5 127	39 155	33 465	5 690	39 363	34 014	5 349	-3.1	-3.3
November	5 630	35 941	30 655	5 286	38 327	32 970	5 357	-2.6	-3.1
December	5 070	41 780	35 885	5 895	37 423	32 042	5 381	-2.4	-2.8
1995									
January	3 773	34 171	29 178	4 993	36 687	31 280	5 407	-2.0	-2.4

REFINANCING *(continued)*

HOUSING FINANCE,
INCLUDING &
EXCLUDING
REFINANCING: TREND



The table below shows the contribution of refinancing to percentage monthly movements in trend estimates of housing finance for the most recent fifteen month period.

TOTAL DWELLINGS FINANCED—Contribution of components to monthly growth: Trend

Month	Month to month change in total dwellings financed including those refinanced	COMPONENT OF TOTAL MOVEMENT ATTRIBUTABLE TO	
		Dwellings under new finance excluding dwellings refinanced	Dwellings refinanced
	%	Percentage points	Percentage points
1993			
November	3.1	2.8	0.3
December	3.4	3.0	0.3
1994			
January	1.4	1.1	0.4
February	2.4	2.0	0.4
March	1.2	1.0	0.2
April	-0.5	-0.2	-0.2
May	-1.9	-1.2	-0.7
June	-3.3	-2.3	-1.0
July	-4.0	-2.9	-1.1
August	-4.1	-3.2	-0.9
September	-3.6	-3.1	-0.6
October	-3.1	-2.9	-0.2
November	-2.6	-2.7	0.0
December	-2.4	-2.4	0.1
1995			
January	-2.0	-2.0	0.1

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1 This publication presents statistics of secured housing finance commitments made by significant lenders to individuals. The commitments are for the construction or purchase of owner-occupied dwellings.

SCOPE

2 The scope of the survey comprises the following types of lenders:

- Banks
- Permanent building societies
- Credit unions/cooperative credit societies
- Life or general insurance companies
- General government enterprises
- Superannuation funds
- Organisations raising funds through the secondary mortgage market for approved home buyers under State government housing schemes.

In addition the scope includes:

- Other financial corporations registered under the Financial Corporations Act 1974
- Other providers of consumer finance registered with State credit tribunals.

COVERAGE

3 The statistics cover significant lenders only. Significant lenders are the largest lenders to individuals for the construction and purchase of owner-occupied dwellings. They account in aggregate for at least 95% of the Australian total and at least 90% of each State total of finance commitments for housing.

4 While statistics are for calendar months, users should note that, in the case of some banks, the data relate to a month ending on the last Wednesday of the month. Likewise, in the case of some other lenders, their accounting periods do not correspond exactly to a calendar month. No adjustments are made to the figures for these lenders in the original series.

5 During the calendar year 1993, significant lenders accounted for the following percentages of total housing finance commitments made by all lenders for owner occupation:

- New South Wales, 97.5%
- Victoria, 97.8%
- Queensland, 98.0%
- South Australia, 98.2%
- Western Australia, 99.2%
- Tasmania, 98.4%
- Northern Territory, 99.2%
- Australian Capital Territory, 97.6%
- Australia, 98.0%.

6 All banks and building societies qualify as significant lenders and are therefore covered by these statistics. The category 'other lenders' includes a large number of small lenders that do not qualify as significant lenders and therefore are excluded from the survey. Although their omission does not have a serious impact on the overall coverage of lending activity, the statistics for 'other lenders' should not be taken as indicative of this category's lending activity. The coverage of lending activity undertaken by 'other lenders' in each State and Territory varies considerably, therefore statistics for this category at the State level are not considered sufficiently reliable to include in this publication.

REVISIONS

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

COMMITMENTS NOT ADVANCED

8 Commitments not advanced at the end of the period are calculated as follows:

- Balance of unadvanced commitments at the end of the previous period
- + Total new housing commitments (including refinancing)
- + Alterations and additions
-
- = Total commitments
- Cancellations of commitments
- Commitments advanced during the period
-
- = Commitments not advanced at the end of the period

SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT

9 Seasonal adjustment is a means of removing the estimated effects of normal seasonal variation and 'trading day effects' (arising from the varying reporting practices of the lenders). Adjustment has also been made for Easter which may affect the March and April estimates differently.

10 In recent years there have been significant changes in the reporting practices of banks. Most banks now report for calendar months whereas previously some reported for four or five weeks ending on a Wednesday. As well, the classification of some major financial institutions has changed (in particular, the conversion of building societies into banks). These influences are expected to induce changes in the trading day and seasonal patterns of housing finance data. There has been some preliminary evidence over the past year or so to suggest that such changes have begun to occur. Estimation of seasonal adjustment and trading day factors that reflect the full effect of these changes will not be possible until a sufficient number of years of data have been collected. In these circumstances especially, the trend estimate data provide the most reliable indicator of the underlying movement in housing finance approvals.

11 Seasonal adjustment does not remove from the series the effect of irregular or non-seasonal influences (e.g. a change in interest rates).

TREND ESTIMATES

12 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 months of the respective seasonally adjusted series except the last six months. 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 *A Guide to Interpreting Time Series — Monitoring Trends: an Overview* (1348.0) or contact the Assistant Director, Time Series Analysis on (06) 252 6345.

13 While the smoothing technique described in paragraph 12 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.

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

14 Users may also wish to refer to the following statistical products which are available through subscription to a special data service:

- *Personal Finance, Australia*
- *Commercial Finance, Australia*

SYMBOLS AND OTHER USAGES

- n.p. not available for publication
- n.y.a not yet available

GLOSSARY



- Alterations and additions** Alterations and additions cover 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.
- Average borrowing** Average borrowing is calculated as follows:
$$\frac{\text{Total value of lending commitments per month}}{\text{Total number of dwellings financed per month}}$$

Average borrowing does not necessarily represent the average loan size per dwelling. For instance, average borrowing separately reflects first and second mortgages, committed in separate months, which apply to the same dwelling.
- Commitment** A lending commitment is a firm offer of housing finance. It either has been, or is normally expected to be, accepted. Included are commitments to provide housing finance to employees and commitments accepted and cancelled in the same month.
- Commitment value** The commitment value for a contract of sale is the dwelling's sale value less any deposit.
- Dwelling** A dwelling is either a house or other dwelling.
- Dwelling construction** Dwelling construction represents commitments made to individuals to finance, by way of progress payments, the construction of owner-occupied dwellings.
- Dwelling units** Dwelling units refers to the number of houses and other dwellings for which commitments have been made, either on the security of first mortgage or on contract of sale.
- Established dwelling** An established dwelling is one which has been completed for more than twelve months prior to the lodgement of a loan application, or which has been previously occupied.
- First home buyers** First home buyers are persons entering the home ownership market for the first time.
- Fixed rate loan** Fixed rate loans have a set interest rate which cannot be varied, either upward or downward, for a minimum period of two years. Capped loans are not categorised as fixed rate loans because their interest rate can vary within a two year period.
- House** A house is a single self-contained place of residence detached from other buildings.
- New dwelling** A new dwelling has been or will be completed within twelve months of the lodgement of a loan application, and the borrower will be the first occupant.
- Other dwelling** An other dwelling is a single self-contained place of residence other than a house. Examples of other dwellings are individual flats, home units, town houses, terrace houses, etc.

Refinancing	Refinancing represents a commitment to refinance an existing loan where the refinancing lender is not the lender who made the original loan. Excluded are an institution's refinancing of its own loans and the refinancing of loans to fund a change of residence. The latter is treated as a new lending commitment.
Secured housing finance	This is all secured commitments to individuals for the construction or purchase of dwellings for owner occupation, regardless of type of security.
Self-contained	The dwelling includes bathing and cooking facilities.
Significant lenders	Significant lenders are those lenders who committed funds of more than \$18 million Australia-wide during the calendar year 1993.







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