

**BUILDING ACTIVITY, QUEENSLAND
JUNE QUARTER 1996**

Changes in this issue

The number of 'Conversions, etc.' are now included separately and/or as part of total dwelling units in the tables rather than as a footnote — see paragraphs 10 and 11 of the Explanatory Notes. In addition, tables 8 and 9 have been deleted and others have been redesigned and reordered.

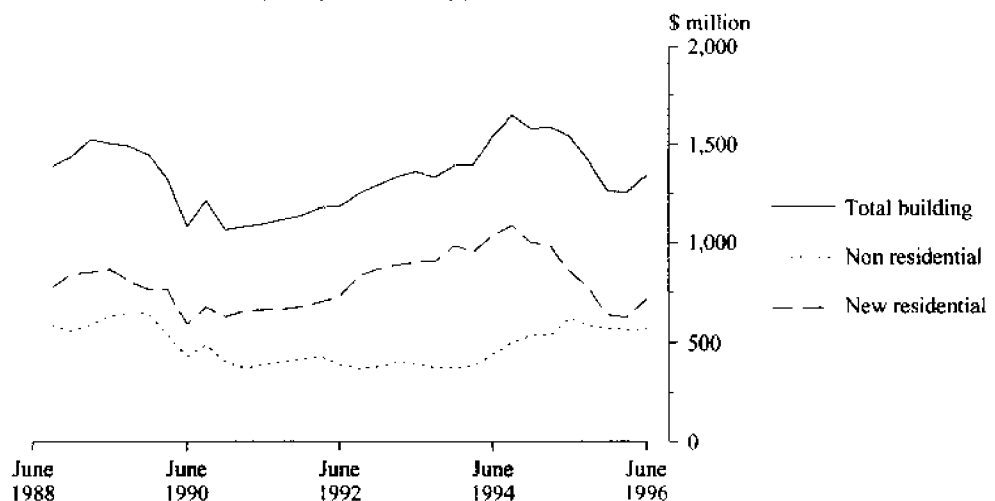
SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Value of building work done at average 1989–90 prices, seasonally adjusted

	% change on	
	Mar. quarter 1996	June quarter 1995
New residential building	14.9	-16.4
Non-residential building	0.9	-8.5
Total building	7.0	-12.9

- In seasonally adjusted average 1989–90 prices, the value of new residential building work done during the June quarter 1996 rose by 14.9% to \$721.1 million. This was the first increase following 6 quarters of decline and was still 33.7% below the most recent peak in the September quarter 1994.
- Work done on non-residential building rose marginally by 0.9% to \$570.2 million. This figure is 8.5% lower than for the most recent peak of a year earlier.
- The total value of building work done during the quarter increased by 7.0% to \$1,345.7 million, due largely to the increase in the residential sector.

**VALUE OF WORK DONE
AT AVERAGE 1989-90 PRICES
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED**



INQUIRIES

- for more information about statistics contained in this publication, the availability of related unpublished statistics and other ABS statistics and services, please contact Information Inquiries on Brisbane (07) 3222 6351 (fax (07) 3222 6283), call at 313 Adelaide Street, Brisbane or write to Information Inquiries, ABS GPO Box 9817, Brisbane Qld 4001 or any ABS State office.
- for more detailed information about these statistics, contact Rex Porter on Adelaide (08) 8237 7496 or any ABS State office.

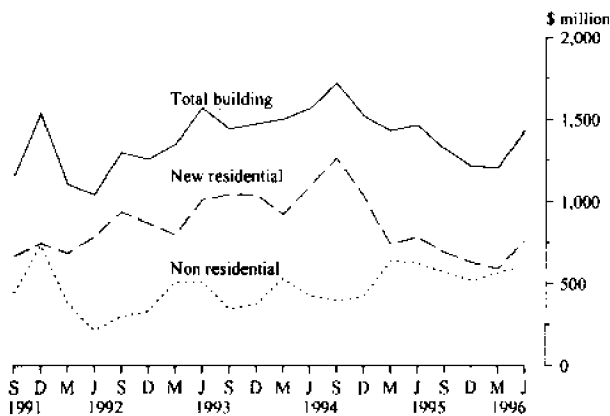
SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – continued

Value of building work commenced at average 1989–90 prices

	% change on	
	Mar. quarter 1996	June quarter 1995
New residential building	27.8	-3.5
Alterations and additions to residential buildings	36.1	7.4
Non-residential building	7.9	-2.2
Total building	18.7	-2.5

- In average 1989–90 prices, the value of new residential building work commenced increased 27.8% for the June quarter 1996 to \$759.5 million. The previous quarter had been the lowest since the March quarter 1991 and the increase was mainly due to a rise of 33.2% in the value of work commenced on new houses. Commencements of alterations and additions to residential buildings also rose, by 36.1% for the quarter to \$59.6 million.
- Non-residential commencements rose 7.9% in the June quarter to \$611.6 million.
- The total value of all building work commenced rose by 18.7% for the June quarter to \$1,430.7 million, only 2.5% below the level of a year earlier.

VALUE OF WORK COMMENCED AT AVERAGE 1989–90 PRICES

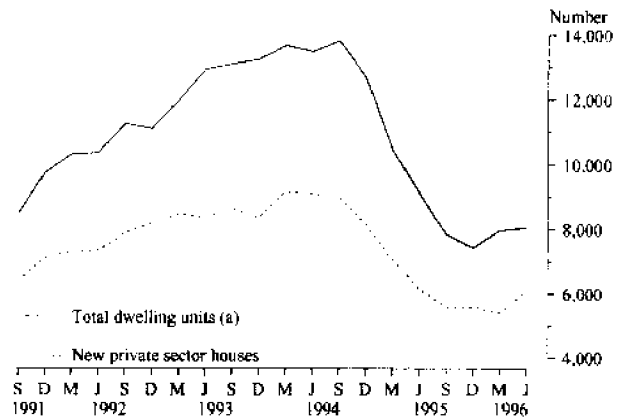


Number of dwelling units commenced, seasonally adjusted

	% change on	
	Mar. quarter 1996	June quarter 1995
Private sector houses	13.2	-0.8
Private sector dwelling units	3.3	-8.8
Total dwelling units	1.3	-11.6

- In seasonally adjusted terms, the total number of dwelling units commenced during the June quarter rose by 1.3% to 8,061, still 11.6% fewer than a year earlier.
- The number of new private sector houses commenced rose by 13.2% to 6,110 for the quarter, almost the same as for a year earlier.

DWELLING UNITS COMMENCED SEASONALLY ADJUSTED



(a) Includes Conversions, etc

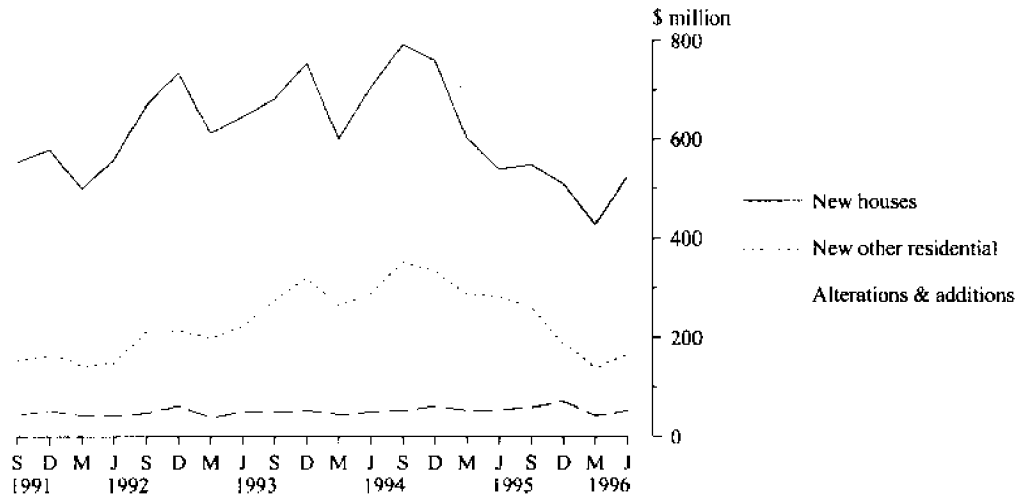
Original data

- The total value of building work commenced during the June quarter 1996 was up 19.9% to \$1,568.6 million. This was mainly due to an increase of 29.3% to \$926.4 million in residential building, although non-residential building also showed an 8.6% increase.
- The total value of work done increased by 13.5% to \$1,414.4 million. This was mainly due to a 21.8% increase in the residential sector from the low level of the previous quarter. Work yet to be done on jobs under construction at the end of June 1996 rose by 13.3% to \$1,627.2 million or 1.15 times the work done during the quarter.
- For the year 1995–96 however, the total value of work commenced dropped 14.1% to \$5,640.9 million. The residential sector accounted for the entire fall, having fallen by 26.4% from 1994–95 levels to \$3,277.3 million. On the other hand, non-residential commencements rose by 11.6% to \$2,363.5 million after an increase of 27.4% in 1994–95.

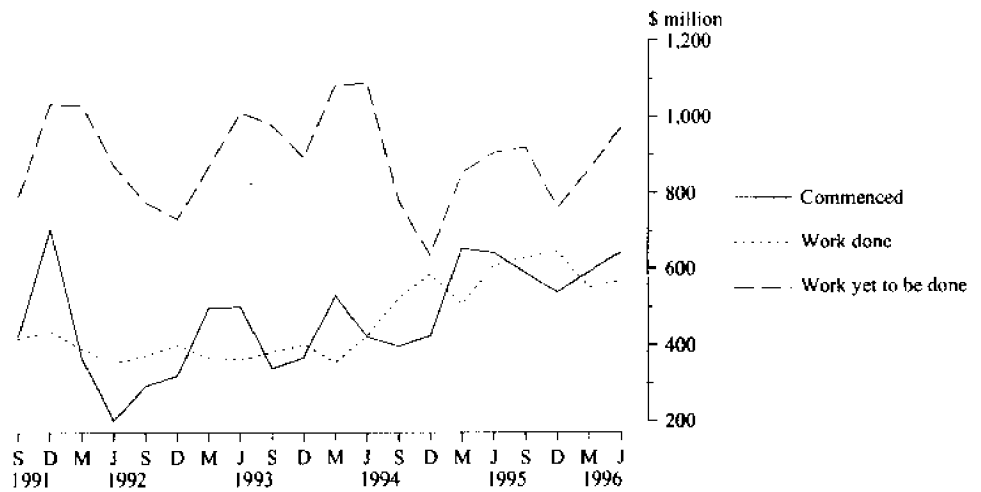
Revisions to March quarter 1996

These include significant upward revisions, mainly to private sector factories, for work commenced, under construction, work done and work yet to be done because several large building jobs have recently been added.

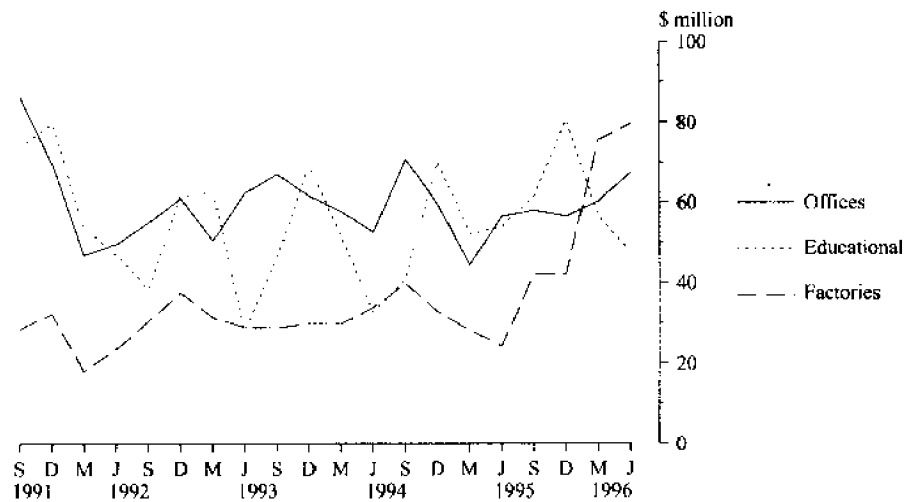
**VALUE OF RESIDENTIAL WORK DONE
AT AVERAGE 1989-90 PRICES**



VALUE OF NON-RESIDENTIAL BUILDING



VALUE OF NON-RESIDENTIAL WORK DONE



**TABLE 1. VALUE OF BUILDING WORK COMMENCED, AVERAGE 1989-90 PRICES (a)
(\$ million)**

Period	New residential building			Alterations and additions to residential buildings	Non-residential building		Total building
	Houses	Other residential building	Total		Private sector	Total	
1993-94	2,840.3	1,265.3	4,105.6	202.5	1,258.3	1,675.0	5,983.1
1994-95	2,574.6	1,257.7	3,832.3	228.1	1,633.7	2,082.3	6,142.7
1995-96	1,987.0	689.6	2,676.6	229.5	1,695.0	2,270.4	5,176.5
1995 Mar. qtr	518.5	223.9	742.4	50.1	503.2	640.7	1,433.2
June qtr	522.7	264.2	786.9	55.5	496.5	625.3	1,467.7
Sept. qtr	528.6	164.2	692.8	58.7	383.0	571.3	1,322.8
Dec. qtr	501.7	128.3	630.0	67.4	348.0	520.6	1,218.0
1996 Mar. qtr r	410.3	184.0	594.3	43.8	431.5	566.9	1,205.0
June qtr	546.4	213.1	759.5	59.6	532.5	611.6	1,430.7

(a) See paragraphs 24 and 25 of the Explanatory Notes. Constant price estimates are subject to revision each quarter as more up to date information on prices and commodity compositions becomes available.

**TABLE 2. VALUE OF BUILDING WORK DONE, AVERAGE 1989-90 PRICES (a):
ORIGINAL AND SEASONALLY ADJUSTED SERIES
(\$ million)**

Period	New residential building			Alterations and additions to residential buildings	Non-residential building		Total building
	Houses	Other residential building	Total		Private sector	Total	
ORIGINAL							
1993-94	2,735.9	1,151.2	3,887.1	204.1	1,171.9	1,573.6	5,664.8
1994-95	2,692.6	1,257.6	3,950.2	227.5	1,623.4	2,195.9	6,373.6
1995-96	2,008.3	756.6	2,764.9	229.9	1,736.3	2,300.4	5,295.2
1995 Mar. qtr	602.2	289.2	891.4	53.5	370.8	500.0	1,444.9
June qtr	540.2	283.4	823.6	56.9	446.7	593.4	1,473.9
Sept. qtr	548.4	261.4	809.8	60.2	446.3	608.0	1,478.0
Dec. qtr	509.2	189.4	698.6	71.8	485.2	621.1	1,391.5
1996 Mar. qtr r	427.6	140.4	568.0	43.8	398.0	528.3	1,140.1
June qtr	523.1	165.4	688.5	54.1	406.8	543.0	1,285.6
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED							
1995 Mar. qtr	670.7	315.3	984.7	n.a.	n.a.	534.7	1,591.8
June qtr	564.7	301.2	862.7	n.a.	n.a.	623.4	1,544.7
Sept. qtr	523.2	247.9	772.0	n.a.	n.a.	589.0	1,420.3
Dec. qtr	464.1	173.5	640.0	n.a.	n.a.	574.7	1,267.8
1996 Mar. qtr r	476.1	153.7	627.7	n.a.	n.a.	565.0	1,257.4
June qtr	546.9	175.5	721.1	n.a.	n.a.	570.2	1,345.7

(a) See paragraphs 24 to 26 of the Explanatory Notes. Constant price estimates are subject to revision each quarter as more up to date information on prices and commodity compositions becomes available.

TABLE 3. VALUE OF BUILDING WORK DONE: SEASONALLY ADJUSTED SERIES
(\$ million)

Period	New residential building			Non-residential building	Total building
	Houses	Other residential building	Total		
1995 Mar. qtr	772.1	314.8	1,084.7	542.1	1,708.0
June qtr	652.9	303.9	953.7	639.6	1,661.2
Sept. qtr	605.2	253.3	859.4	611.4	1,539.7
Dec. qtr	537.5	177.9	718.1	598.3	1,379.0
1996 Mar. qtr r	554.7	157.9	709.9	590.5	1,374.0
June qtr	638.8	181.0	818.6	598.2	1,480.6

TABLE 4. NUMBER OF DWELLING UNITS COMMENCED AND COMPLETED: SEASONALLY ADJUSTED SERIES

Period	New houses				Total dwelling units (includes conversions etc)			
	Private sector		Total		Private sector		Total	
	Commenced	Completed	Commenced	Completed	Commenced	Completed	Commenced	Completed
1995 Mar. qtr	7,065	8,381	7,185	8,535	10,049	12,202	10,461	12,677
June qtr	6,157	7,319	6,294	7,474	8,586	10,299	9,116	10,719
Sept. qtr	5,590	6,340	5,748	6,441	7,463	9,266	7,846	9,728
Dec. qtr	5,588	5,591	5,688	5,731	7,217	8,354	7,437	8,778
1996 Mar. qtr r	5,397	5,435	5,509	5,531	7,585	7,993	7,956	8,355
June qtr	6,110	5,970	6,155	6,102	7,833	7,992	8,061	8,358

TABLE 5. NUMBER AND VALUE OF BUILDING COMMENCED, PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SECTOR: ORIGINAL

Period	Number of dwelling units				Value (\$m)						
	New houses	New other residential building	Conversions etc.	Total dwelling units	New houses	New other residential building	New residential building	Alterations and additions to residential buildings	Total residential building	Total non-residential building	Total building
PRIVATE SECTOR											
1993-94	35,102	16,187	299	51,588	3,135.0	1,161.3	4,296.3	225.7	4,522.0	1,248.6	5,770.5
1994-95	30,538	13,761	200	44,499	2,891.3	1,141.1	4,032.3	258.2	4,290.5	1,662.3	5,952.8
1995-96	22,703	7,162	217	30,082	2,263.3	651.7	2,915.0	262.9	3,177.9	1,765.6	4,943.6
1995 Mar. qtr	6,170	2,468	66	8,704	583.9	210.2	794.1	57.1	851.2	513.3	1,364.5
June qtr	6,108	2,580	35	8,723	585.9	242.5	828.4	63.4	891.8	509.9	1,401.8
Sept. qtr	5,966	2,039	61	8,066	596.1	149.1	745.2	67.0	812.2	395.6	1,207.8
Dec. qtr	5,965	1,403	127	7,495	572.7	119.3	692.1	77.2	769.2	360.9	1,130.1
1996 Mar. qtr r	4,724	1,832	9	6,565	465.1	174.5	639.7	50.2	689.8	450.1	1,139.9
June qtr	6,048	1,888	20	7,956	629.4	208.8	838.1	68.6	906.7	559.1	1,465.8
PUBLIC SECTOR											
1993-94	649	1,147	3	1,799	54.1	66.9	121.1	0.2	121.2	413.9	535.1
1994-95	509	1,352	9	1,870	47.2	111.0	158.2	1.3	159.5	456.1	615.6
1995-96	421	774	—	1,195	42.4	55.2	97.6	1.7	99.4	597.9	697.3
1995 Mar. qtr	125	232	—	357	11.4	14.1	25.5	0.1	25.6	140.2	165.8
June qtr	170	367	2	539	16.7	24.6	41.2	0.2	41.4	132.3	173.7
Sept. qtr	156	258	—	414	14.4	17.9	32.3	0.4	32.7	194.5	227.3
Dec. qtr	74	154	—	228	8.2	11.5	19.6	0.5	20.1	179.0	199.1
1996 Mar. qtr r	111	210	—	321	12.1	14.3	26.4	0.5	26.8	141.2	168.1
June qtr	80	152	—	232	7.7	11.6	19.3	0.4	19.7	83.1	102.8
TOTAL											
1993-94	35,751	17,334	302	53,387	3,189.1	1,228.2	4,417.4	225.9	4,643.2	1,662.4	6,305.6
1994-95	31,047	15,113	209	46,369	2,938.5	1,252.1	4,190.6	259.5	4,450.0	2,118.5	6,568.5
1995-96	23,124	7,936	217	31,277	2,305.7	706.9	3,012.6	264.7	3,277.3	2,363.5	5,640.9
1995 Mar. qtr	6,295	2,700	66	9,061	595.3	224.3	819.6	57.2	876.8	653.5	1,530.3
June qtr	6,278	2,947	37	9,262	602.5	267.1	869.6	63.6	933.2	642.2	1,575.4
Sept. qtr	6,122	2,297	61	8,480	610.5	167.0	777.5	67.4	844.9	590.2	1,435.1
Dec. qtr	6,039	1,557	127	7,723	580.9	130.8	711.7	77.7	789.3	539.8	1,329.2
1996 Mar. qtr r	4,835	2,042	9	6,886	477.2	188.8	666.0	50.7	716.7	591.3	1,308.0
June qtr	6,128	2,040	20	8,188	637.1	220.3	857.4	68.9	926.4	642.2	1,568.6

TABLE 6. VALUE OF NON-RESIDENTIAL BUILDING COMMENCED, PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SECTOR: ORIGINAL
(\$ million)

<i>Period</i>	<i>Hotels etc.</i>	<i>Shops</i>	<i>Factories</i>	<i>Offices</i>	<i>Other business premises</i>	<i>Educational</i>	<i>Religious</i>	<i>Health</i>	<i>Entertain- ment and recreational</i>	<i>Miscel- laneous</i>	<i>Total non-resi- dential building</i>
PRIVATE SECTOR											
1993-94	81.6	437.6	109.9	155.1	151.3	71.7	13.2	56.1	86.0	86.0	1,248.6
1994-95	188.8	577.3	103.4	150.4	263.4	84.5	16.9	63.6	151.8	62.2	1,662.3
1995-96	225.4	460.8	259.4	207.9	253.8	63.6	12.3	84.4	103.7	94.5	1,765.6
1995 Mar. qtr	115.7	161.7	21.0	27.4	57.0	22.9	4.2	16.3	72.1	14.9	513.3
June qtr	52.2	210.7	20.8	43.0	88.8	14.9	4.7	17.5	31.7	25.6	509.9
Sept. qtr	24.4	106.6	41.4	45.2	71.6	20.3	5.0	13.8	40.9	26.3	395.6
Dec. qtr	52.5	75.0	45.7	49.9	73.4	10.6	1.8	9.4	15.1	27.5	360.9
1996 Mar. qtr	60.2	62.4	136.2	57.5	52.9	12.9	1.9	21.1	28.2	16.7	450.1
June qtr	88.2	216.8	36.1	55.3	55.8	19.7	3.6	40.1	19.4	24.0	559.1
PUBLIC SECTOR											
1993-94	2.2	6.0	5.2	41.7	188.8	104.6	—	27.9	14.3	23.1	413.9
1994-95	1.6	17.5	5.8	49.2	42.4	184.0	—	42.2	59.5	53.9	456.1
1995-96	2.1	6.2	6.6	44.0	95.9	159.7	0.5	87.1	85.9	109.9	597.9
1995 Mar. qtr	1.6	1.4	0.2	5.6	3.8	27.0	—	25.6	52.0	23.0	140.2
June qtr	—	10.5	4.1	26.6	30.3	41.2	—	0.3	2.3	16.9	132.3
Sept. qtr	0.1	0.7	2.4	4.1	8.9	51.2	0.3	39.1	11.7	76.0	194.5
Dec. qtr	—	1.9	2.6	8.6	20.6	57.6	—	23.7	53.2	10.7	179.0
1996 Mar. qtr	2.0	2.6	0.8	25.1	48.2	14.5	0.2	19.7	7.3	20.8	141.2
June qtr	0.1	1.1	0.8	6.1	18.3	36.3	—	4.5	13.7	2.4	83.1
TOTAL											
1993-94	83.9	443.6	115.1	196.8	340.1	176.3	13.2	83.9	100.4	109.1	1,662.4
1994-95	190.4	594.8	109.1	199.6	305.8	268.5	16.9	105.8	211.3	116.1	2,118.5
1995-96	227.5	467.0	265.9	251.9	349.7	223.2	12.8	171.5	189.6	204.4	2,363.5
1995 Mar. qtr	117.3	163.1	21.2	33.0	60.9	50.0	4.2	41.9	124.1	37.9	653.5
June qtr	52.2	221.2	25.0	69.6	119.1	56.1	4.7	17.8	34.0	42.4	642.2
Sept. qtr	24.5	107.3	43.8	49.4	80.5	71.5	5.3	52.9	52.7	102.3	590.2
Dec. qtr	52.5	76.8	48.3	58.5	94.0	68.2	1.8	33.1	68.3	38.2	539.8
1996 Mar. qtr	62.2	65.0	137.0	82.6	101.1	27.5	2.1	40.8	35.5	37.5	591.3
June qtr	88.3	217.8	36.9	61.4	74.1	56.0	3.6	44.6	33.1	26.3	642.2

TABLE 7. NUMBER AND VALUE OF BUILDING UNDER CONSTRUCTION AT END OF PERIOD.
PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SECTOR: ORIGINAL

	Number of dwelling units				Value (\$m)						
	New houses	New other residential building	Conversions etc.	Total dwelling units	New houses	New other residential building	New residential building	Alterations and additions to residential buildings	Total residential building	Total non-residential building	Total building
PRIVATE SECTOR											
1993-94	9,260	8,164	47	17,471	953.6	636.0	1,589.6	50.6	1,640.2	1,267.9	2,908.1
1994-95	6,772	7,632	79	14,483	714.3	758.2	1,472.5	71.6	1,544.2	1,291.7	2,835.8
1995-96	6,064	4,620	63	10,747	655.1	531.3	1,186.4	73.1	1,259.5	1,324.5	2,583.9
1995 Mar. qtr	7,493	7,718	64	15,275	792.4	732.9	1,525.3	73.5	1,598.8	1,259.3	2,858.2
June qtr	6,772	7,632	79	14,483	714.3	758.2	1,472.5	71.6	1,544.2	1,291.7	2,835.8
Sept. qtr	6,608	6,869	68	13,545	711.5	670.0	1,381.5	68.8	1,450.3	1,311.6	2,761.9
Dec. qtr	5,823	5,045	170	11,038	611.6	518.4	1,130.0	66.3	1,196.3	1,077.2	2,273.5
1996 Mar. qtr r	5,588	4,490	46	10,124	592.9	466.0	1,058.9	59.9	1,118.8	1,155.4	2,274.3
June qtr	6,064	4,620	63	10,747	655.1	531.3	1,186.4	73.1	1,259.5	1,324.5	2,583.9
PUBLIC SECTOR											
1993-94	244	325	—	569	20.1	19.7	39.8	—	39.8	515.2	555.0
1994-95	199	786	1	986	18.8	74.7	93.5	0.1	93.6	691.7	785.2
1995-96	138	357	—	495	14.3	26.3	40.6	0.2	40.8	487.4	528.2
1995 Mar. qtr	159	678	—	837	14.7	65.8	80.5	—	80.5	650.7	731.1
June qtr	199	786	1	986	18.8	74.7	93.5	0.1	93.6	691.7	785.2
Sept. qtr	212	740	—	952	19.3	71.1	90.4	—	90.5	443.7	534.2
Dec. qtr	139	475	—	614	14.7	60.6	75.3	0.3	75.6	509.4	585.0
1996 Mar. qtr r	171	427	—	598	18.8	30.0	48.9	0.4	49.2	536.6	585.8
June qtr	138	357	—	495	14.3	26.3	40.6	0.2	40.8	487.4	528.2
TOTAL											
1993-94	9,504	8,489	47	18,040	973.7	655.7	1,629.5	50.6	1,680.0	1,783.1	3,463.1
1994-95	6,971	8,418	80	15,469	733.2	832.9	1,566.0	71.7	1,637.8	1,983.3	3,621.1
1995-96	6,202	4,977	63	11,242	669.4	557.6	1,227.0	73.3	1,300.3	1,811.9	3,112.2
1995 Mar. qtr	7,652	8,396	64	16,112	807.1	798.6	1,605.8	73.5	1,679.3	1,910.0	3,589.3
June qtr	6,971	8,418	80	15,469	733.2	832.9	1,566.0	71.7	1,637.8	1,983.3	3,621.1
Sept. qtr	6,820	7,609	68	14,497	730.8	741.1	1,471.9	68.9	1,540.7	1,755.3	3,296.1
Dec. qtr	5,962	5,520	170	11,652	626.3	579.0	1,205.3	66.6	1,271.9	1,586.6	2,858.5
1996 Mar. qtr r	5,759	4,917	46	10,722	611.7	496.0	1,107.8	60.3	1,168.0	1,692.1	2,860.1
June qtr	6,202	4,977	63	11,242	669.4	557.6	1,227.0	73.3	1,300.3	1,811.9	3,112.2

**TABLE 8. VALUE OF NON-RESIDENTIAL BUILDING UNDER CONSTRUCTION AT END OF PERIOD,
PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SECTOR: ORIGINAL
(\$ million)**

	<i>Hotels etc.</i>	<i>Shops</i>	<i>Factories</i>	<i>Offices</i>	<i>Other business premises</i>	<i>Educational</i>	<i>Religious</i>	<i>Health</i>	<i>Entertain- ment and recreational</i>	<i>Miscel- laneous</i>	<i>Total non-resi- dential building</i>
PRIVATE SECTOR											
1993-94	500.1	271.2	151.8	176.1	47.0	18.0	4.1	28.8	40.2	30.5	1,267.9
1994-95	196.4	537.5	41.6	167.0	121.8	36.5	10.3	43.2	105.8	31.5	1,291.7
1995-96	273.2	499.3	182.7	79.6	84.4	20.4	7.7	57.4	72.5	47.5	1,324.5
1995 Mar. qtr	318.7	374.0	126.6	162.8	88.3	30.0	7.6	38.6	96.2	16.7	1,259.3
June qtr	196.4	537.5	41.6	167.0	121.8	36.5	10.3	43.2	105.8	31.5	1,291.7
Sept. qtr	208.2	519.3	54.5	143.9	128.5	45.0	11.0	33.9	125.4	41.9	1,311.6
Dec. qtr	225.4	368.7	71.3	58.8	116.9	37.2	9.7	23.3	121.7	44.2	1,077.2
1996 Mar. qtr r	202.2	406.8	172.7	81.3	103.3	23.8	7.4	39.2	80.3	38.4	1,155.4
June qtr	273.2	499.3	182.7	79.6	84.4	20.4	7.7	57.4	72.5	47.5	1,324.5
PUBLIC SECTOR											
1993-94	2.2	3.3	2.5	79.2	178.3	63.5	—	25.9	145.7	14.6	515.2
1994-95	1.6	10.2	4.0	26.1	200.9	137.3	—	37.8	231.0	42.7	691.7
1995-96	2.0	1.1	3.4	30.5	71.2	117.0	0.2	105.6	75.5	80.9	487.4
1995 Mar. qtr	1.6	1.2	0.8	17.4	175.2	130.7	—	58.5	230.5	34.8	650.7
June qtr	1.6	10.2	4.0	26.1	200.9	137.3	—	37.8	231.0	42.7	691.7
Sept. qtr	1.7	10.4	4.7	22.2	34.3	131.9	0.3	76.8	63.5	97.8	443.7
Dec. qtr	—	11.4	3.2	17.9	34.0	145.3	0.3	100.9	110.9	85.4	509.4
1996 Mar. qtr r	2.0	14.7	3.9	30.1	61.5	117.2	0.2	105.8	110.4	90.8	536.6
June qtr	2.0	1.1	3.4	30.5	71.2	117.0	0.2	105.6	75.5	80.9	487.4
TOTAL											
1993-94	502.4	274.6	154.3	255.3	225.3	81.5	4.1	54.6	186.0	45.1	1,783.1
1994-95	198.0	547.7	45.7	193.2	322.7	173.8	10.3	81.0	336.8	74.2	1,983.3
1995-96	275.2	500.4	186.0	110.2	155.5	137.4	7.9	162.9	148.0	128.4	1,811.9
1995 Mar. qtr	320.3	375.1	127.4	180.2	263.5	160.7	7.6	97.1	326.7	51.5	1,910.0
June qtr	198.0	547.7	45.7	193.2	322.7	173.8	10.3	81.0	336.8	74.2	1,983.3
Sept. qtr	209.8	529.8	59.2	166.1	162.8	176.9	11.3	110.7	188.9	139.7	1,755.3
Dec. qtr	225.4	380.1	74.5	76.7	150.9	182.5	10.1	124.2	232.6	129.6	1,586.6
1996 Mar. qtr r	204.2	421.5	176.7	111.4	164.9	140.9	7.6	145.0	190.7	129.2	1,692.1
June qtr	275.2	500.4	186.0	110.2	155.5	137.4	7.9	162.9	148.0	128.4	1,811.9

TABLE 9. NUMBER AND VALUE OF BUILDING COMPLETED, PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SECTOR: ORIGINAL

Period	Number of dwelling units				Value (\$m)						
	New houses	New other residential building	Conversions etc.	Total dwelling units	New houses	New other residential building	New residential building	Alterations and additions to residential buildings	Total residential building	Total non-residential building	Total building
PRIVATE SECTOR											
1993-94	34,095	13,472	290	47,857	2,959.0	929.4	3,888.4	229.9	4,118.3	1,077.8	5,196.1
1994-95	32,974	14,044	168	47,186	3,123.8	1,044.0	4,167.9	244.3	4,412.1	1,531.3	5,943.4
1995-96	23,305	10,100	233	33,638	2,318.6	900.0	3,218.6	265.8	3,484.4	1,761.4	5,245.8
1995 Mar. qtr	7,594	3,641	46	11,281	722.1	265.7	987.7	54.3	1,042.0	334.5	1,376.5
June qtr	6,818	2,588	20	9,426	673.9	219.9	893.9	66.9	960.8	506.6	1,467.4
Sept. qtr	6,110	2,794	72	8,976	600.6	256.6	857.2	70.9	928.0	405.1	1,333.2
Dec. qtr	6,707	3,223	25	9,955	674.0	275.0	949.0	82.7	1,031.7	528.9	1,560.6
1996 Mar. qtr	4,915	2,346	133	7,394	475.2	226.7	701.9	56.8	758.8	418.0	1,176.7
June qtr	5,573	1,737	3	7,313	568.8	141.7	710.5	55.4	765.9	409.3	1,175.3
PUBLIC SECTOR											
1993-94	698	1,350	3	2,051	56.8	77.9	134.7	0.2	134.9	313.8	448.7
1994-95	553	885	8	1,446	48.5	56.0	104.6	1.0	105.6	302.8	408.4
1995-96	480	1,143	1	1,624	46.5	94.9	141.4	1.6	143.0	850.6	993.6
1995 Mar. qtr	126	307	6	439	10.6	20.4	31.0	0.4	31.5	120.4	151.9
June qtr	130	253	1	384	12.4	15.3	27.7	0.1	27.7	80.2	108.0
Sept. qtr	143	304	1	448	14.0	22.3	36.3	0.4	36.7	467.8	504.6
Dec. qtr	147	359	—	506	12.7	22.1	34.7	0.3	35.0	105.1	140.1
1996 Mar. qtr	77	258	—	335	7.7	34.7	42.5	0.4	42.8	128.4	171.3
June qtr	113	222	—	335	12.1	15.8	27.9	0.5	28.4	149.3	177.7
TOTAL											
1993-94	34,793	14,822	293	49,908	3,015.8	1,007.3	4,023.1	230.1	4,253.2	1,391.7	5,644.9
1994-95	33,527	14,929	176	48,632	3,172.3	1,100.1	4,272.4	245.3	4,517.7	1,834.1	6,351.8
1995-96	23,785	11,243	234	35,262	2,365.1	994.9	3,360.0	267.4	3,627.4	2,612.0	6,239.4
1995 Mar. qtr	7,720	3,948	52	11,720	732.7	286.0	1,018.7	54.8	1,073.5	455.0	1,528.5
June qtr	6,948	2,841	21	9,810	686.4	235.2	921.6	67.0	988.5	586.9	1,575.4
Sept. qtr	6,253	3,098	73	9,424	614.6	278.8	893.5	71.3	964.8	873.0	1,837.7
Dec. qtr	6,854	3,582	25	10,461	686.7	297.1	983.8	83.0	1,066.8	634.0	1,700.7
1996 Mar. qtr	4,992	2,604	133	7,729	483.0	261.4	744.4	57.2	801.6	546.4	1,348.0
June qtr	5,686	1,959	3	7,648	580.8	157.5	738.4	55.9	794.3	558.7	1,352.9

TABLE 10. VALUE OF NON-RESIDENTIAL BUILDING COMPLETED, PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SECTOR: ORIGINAL
(\$ million)

Period	Hotels etc.	Shops	Factories	Offices	Other business premises	Educational	Religious	Health	Entertain- ment and recreational	Miscel- laneous	Total non-resi- dential building
PRIVATE SECTOR											
1993-94	36.0	305.7	83.6	123.7	173.9	95.2	13.4	88.4	67.0	90.9	1,077.8
1994-95	302.0	381.3	224.9	157.2	192.9	67.7	11.1	49.2	83.6	61.3	1,531.3
1995-96	166.7	564.7	130.3	204.5	299.8	80.8	14.8	68.9	152.8	78.2	1,761.4
1995 Mar. qtr	69.8	52.4	28.4	60.8	45.0	29.0	1.4	10.8	23.0	13.8	334.5
June qtr	177.7	62.1	113.8	39.2	59.1	9.7	2.1	12.5	19.3	10.9	506.6
Sept. qtr	16.2	140.3	28.1	68.7	66.6	12.2	4.1	22.7	30.5	15.7	405.1
Dec. qtr	42.7	226.8	39.8	38.5	87.8	19.1	3.1	18.9	26.4	25.8	528.9
1996 Mar. qtr r	84.0	68.7	34.2	37.9	66.1	26.1	4.1	6.3	67.4	23.2	418.0
June qtr	23.8	128.9	28.2	59.5	79.3	23.4	3.3	20.9	28.4	13.5	409.3
PUBLIC SECTOR											
1993-94	—	2.8	4.4	126.6	33.6	102.9	—	9.0	12.5	22.1	313.8
1994-95	2.4	9.7	4.2	101.2	20.8	94.7	—	32.5	11.9	25.3	302.8
1995-96	1.7	16.4	7.4	39.5	260.0	184.4	0.3	22.4	254.9	63.4	850.6
1995 Mar. qtr	—	5.4	0.2	59.7	4.7	44.3	—	3.8	0.7	1.7	120.4
June qtr	—	1.5	0.9	17.9	5.3	22.7	—	21.4	1.8	8.7	80.2
Sept. qtr	—	0.5	1.7	8.5	205.4	50.3	—	0.5	180.4	20.5	467.8
Dec. qtr	1.7	0.9	3.9	12.9	22.6	42.7	—	1.1	6.0	13.3	105.1
1996 Mar. qtr r	—	0.4	0.1	12.5	23.6	49.4	0.3	16.0	10.5	15.6	128.4
June qtr	0.1	14.7	1.7	5.6	8.4	41.9	—	4.8	58.1	14.0	149.3
TOTAL											
1993-94	36.0	308.6	88.0	250.2	207.5	198.1	13.4	97.4	79.5	113.0	1,391.7
1994-95	304.5	391.0	229.1	258.4	213.7	162.4	11.1	81.7	95.5	86.6	1,834.1
1995-96	168.5	581.1	137.7	244.0	559.9	265.2	15.1	91.3	407.7	141.6	2,612.0
1995 Mar. qtr	69.8	57.8	28.6	120.5	49.7	73.3	1.4	14.7	23.7	15.4	455.0
June qtr	177.7	63.6	114.7	57.1	64.4	32.4	2.1	34.0	21.1	19.6	586.9
Sept. qtr	16.2	140.8	29.8	77.2	272.0	62.5	4.1	23.3	210.9	36.2	873.0
Dec. qtr	44.4	227.7	43.7	51.4	110.4	61.8	3.1	20.0	32.3	39.0	634.0
1996 Mar. qtr r	84.0	69.1	34.3	50.3	89.7	75.5	4.5	22.3	78.0	38.8	546.4
June qtr	23.9	143.6	29.9	65.1	87.8	65.3	3.3	25.7	86.5	27.6	558.7

TABLE 11. VALUE OF BUILDING WORK DONE, PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SECTOR: ORIGINAL
(\$ million)

<i>Period</i>	<i>New houses</i>	<i>New other residential building</i>	<i>New residential building</i>	<i>Alterations and additions to residential buildings</i>	<i>Total residential building</i>	<i>Total non-residential building</i>	<i>Total building</i>
PRIVATE SECTOR							
1993-94	3,022.4	1,046.7	4,069.1	229.3	4,298.4	1,167.3	5,465.7
1994-95	3,030.7	1,168.3	4,198.9	259.3	4,458.3	1,646.6	6,104.9
1995-96	2,288.1	701.9	2,990.1	265.5	3,255.6	1,811.0	5,066.5
1995 Mar. qtr	683.6	269.3	952.9	61.3	1,014.2	376.0	1,390.1
June qtr	609.3	262.9	872.3	65.7	938.0	458.3	1,396.2
Sept. qtr	620.1	241.6	861.6	69.3	930.9	463.3	1,394.2
Dec. qtr	579.2	175.3	754.5	82.7	837.2	505.1	1,342.2
1996 Mar. qtr	489.0	132.1	621.1	50.7	671.8	415.9	1,087.7
June qtr	599.8	153.0	752.8	62.8	815.7	426.7	1,242.3
PUBLIC SECTOR							
1993-94	53.4	73.5	126.9	0.2	127.1	400.3	527.3
1994-95	48.7	84.8	133.4	1.1	134.5	580.5	715.0
1995-96	45.1	74.2	119.3	1.7	121.0	588.5	709.5
1995 Mar. qtr	9.6	19.4	29.1	0.2	29.3	131.0	160.3
June qtr	15.2	23.0	38.2	0.1	38.3	150.5	188.8
Sept. qtr	14.3	25.5	39.9	0.4	40.3	167.8	208.1
Dec. qtr	10.4	18.9	29.3	0.5	29.8	141.5	171.3
1996 Mar. qtr	9.2	12.2	21.4	0.4	21.8	136.2	158.0
June qtr	11.2	17.6	28.8	0.4	29.2	142.9	172.1
TOTAL							
1993-94	3,075.8	1,120.1	4,195.9	229.5	4,425.4	1,567.6	5,993.1
1994-95	3,079.3	1,253.1	4,332.4	260.4	4,592.8	2,227.1	6,819.9
1995-96	2,333.2	776.1	3,109.4	267.2	3,376.6	2,399.4	5,776.0
1995 Mar. qtr	693.2	288.7	981.9	61.5	1,043.5	506.9	1,550.4
June qtr	624.5	285.9	910.5	65.8	976.3	608.7	1,585.0
Sept. qtr	634.4	267.1	901.5	69.7	971.2	631.1	1,602.3
Dec. qtr	589.7	194.2	783.8	83.2	867.0	646.6	1,513.6
1996 Mar. qtr	498.2	144.3	642.4	51.1	693.6	552.2	1,245.7
June qtr	611.0	170.6	781.6	63.2	844.8	569.6	1,414.4

TABLE 12. VALUE OF NON-RESIDENTIAL BUILDING WORK DONE, PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SECTOR: ORIGINAL (\$ million)

<i>Period</i>	<i>Hotels etc.</i>	<i>Shops</i>	<i>Factories</i>	<i>Offices</i>	<i>Other business premises</i>	<i>Educational</i>	<i>Religious</i>	<i>Health</i>	<i>Entertainment and recreational</i>	<i>Miscellaneous</i>	<i>Total non-residential building</i>
PRIVATE SECTOR											
1993-94	112.3	310.0	117.2	143.3	161.3	90.6	13.2	55.6	79.5	84.4	1,167.3
1994-95	258.9	555.5	122.2	158.0	224.2	75.9	14.1	62.2	117.1	58.4	1,646.6
1995-96	196.2	523.5	230.3	198.6	288.9	72.3	13.4	61.0	134.4	92.2	1,811.0
1995 Mar. qtr	71.7	106.1	27.9	34.8	52.2	17.3	2.8	16.8	36.6	9.9	376.0
June qtr	82.5	153.7	23.1	39.8	67.7	14.7	3.4	18.4	38.1	17.0	458.3
Sept. qtr	45.6	145.6	38.4	44.6	79.5	16.8	3.9	16.6	46.4	26.0	463.3
Dec. qtr	59.3	161.0	40.1	49.1	94.6	22.1	3.5	16.7	34.5	24.1	505.1
1996 Mar. qtr r	41.9	105.8	74.2	50.6	62.4	18.3	3.3	12.7	28.8	18.0	415.9
June qtr	49.5	111.0	77.6	54.3	52.5	15.2	2.6	15.0	24.6	24.2	426.7
PUBLIC SECTOR											
1993-94	0.7	4.6	5.6	96.0	67.0	109.4	—	14.2	80.8	21.9	400.3
1994-95	2.5	12.0	3.1	73.6	153.6	141.7	—	37.3	116.2	40.5	580.5
1995-96	1.4	12.8	9.3	44.0	98.9	174.2	0.5	65.5	95.4	86.5	588.5
1995 Mar. qtr	0.7	1.7	0.4	9.7	37.4	35.0	—	10.5	26.9	8.8	131.0
June qtr	—	5.2	1.2	16.8	38.2	39.3	—	8.0	23.4	18.4	150.5
Sept. qtr	0.2	4.8	3.8	13.5	45.5	44.9	—	14.3	20.5	20.3	167.8
Dec. qtr	0.8	2.3	2.0	7.4	13.3	58.6	0.1	13.6	24.1	19.2	141.5
1996 Mar. qtr r	0.3	3.1	1.5	9.9	15.8	38.5	0.2	15.4	25.4	26.1	136.2
June qtr	0.1	2.5	2.0	13.2	24.3	32.1	0.1	22.3	25.4	20.8	142.9
TOTAL											
1993-94	113.0	314.6	122.8	239.3	228.3	200.0	13.2	69.8	160.3	106.4	1,567.6
1994-95	261.4	567.4	125.4	231.6	377.9	217.6	14.1	99.5	233.3	98.9	2,227.1
1995-96	197.6	536.3	239.6	242.6	387.8	246.6	13.8	126.6	229.8	178.7	2,399.4
1995 Mar. qtr	72.4	107.7	28.2	44.5	89.6	52.3	2.8	27.3	63.5	18.7	506.9
June qtr	82.5	158.8	24.3	56.6	105.8	54.0	3.4	26.4	61.5	35.4	608.7
Sept. qtr	45.8	150.4	42.1	58.0	125.0	61.7	3.9	30.9	67.0	46.3	631.1
Dec. qtr	60.1	163.4	42.1	56.6	107.9	80.7	3.7	30.2	58.6	43.3	646.6
1996 Mar. qtr r	42.2	108.9	75.7	60.4	78.2	56.8	3.5	28.1	54.2	44.1	552.2
June qtr	49.6	113.6	79.7	67.6	76.8	47.3	2.7	37.3	50.1	45.0	569.6

TABLE 13. VALUE OF BUILDING WORK YET TO BE DONE AT END OF PERIOD,
PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SECTOR: ORIGINAL
(\$ million)

	<i>New houses</i>	<i>New other residential building</i>	<i>New residential building</i>	<i>Alterations and additions to residential buildings</i>	<i>Total residential building</i>	<i>Total non-resi- dential building</i>	<i>Total building</i>
PRIVATE SECTOR							
1993-94	463.0	342.8	805.8	21.5	827.4	786.8	1,614.2
1994-95	318.4	343.5	661.9	28.5	690.4	702.8	1,393.1
1995-96	294.3	315.9	610.2	30.5	640.7	705.4	1,346.1
1995 Mar. qtr	331.5	360.6	692.0	28.9	720.9	620.9	1,341.8
June qtr	318.4	343.5	661.9	28.5	690.4	702.8	1,393.1
Sept. qtr	296.8	270.2	567.0	27.5	594.6	664.6	1,259.1
Dec. qtr	295.6	218.5	514.2	25.1	539.2	473.0	1,012.3
1996 Mar. qtr r	263.3	261.6	524.8	24.7	549.6	553.6	1,103.2
June qtr	294.3	315.9	610.2	30.5	640.7	705.4	1,346.1
PUBLIC SECTOR							
1993-94	9.9	11.4	21.3	—	21.3	303.8	325.0
1994-95	8.5	37.7	46.2	—	46.2	204.2	250.4
1995-96	5.3	10.0	15.4	0.1	15.5	265.6	281.0
1995 Mar. qtr	7.1	36.5	43.6	—	43.6	233.2	276.8
June qtr	8.5	37.7	46.2	—	46.2	204.2	250.4
Sept. qtr	8.6	31.0	39.5	—	39.6	256.3	295.9
Dec. qtr	6.2	23.6	29.8	0.1	29.9	289.1	318.9
1996 Mar. qtr r	8.9	15.6	24.5	0.1	24.6	308.4	333.1
June qtr	5.3	10.0	15.4	0.1	15.5	265.6	281.0
TOTAL							
1993-94	472.9	354.2	827.1	21.5	848.7	1,090.6	1,939.2
1994-95	326.9	381.2	708.1	28.5	736.6	907.0	1,643.5
1995-96	299.7	325.9	625.6	30.6	656.2	971.0	1,627.2
1995 Mar. qtr	338.5	397.1	735.6	28.9	764.5	854.2	1,618.6
June qtr	326.9	381.2	708.1	28.5	736.6	907.0	1,643.5
Sept. qtr	305.4	301.2	606.6	27.6	634.1	920.9	1,555.0
Dec. qtr	301.8	242.1	544.0	25.1	569.1	762.1	1,331.2
1996 Mar. qtr r	272.2	277.2	549.4	24.9	574.2	862.1	1,436.3
June qtr	299.7	325.9	625.6	30.6	656.2	971.0	1,627.2

TABLE 14. VALUE OF NON-RESIDENTIAL BUILDING WORK YET TO BE DONE AT END OF PERIOD,
PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SECTOR: ORIGINAL
(\$ million)

	<i>Hotels etc.</i>	<i>Shops</i>	<i>Factories</i>	<i>Offices</i>	<i>Other business premises</i>	<i>Educational</i>	<i>Religious</i>	<i>Health</i>	<i>Entertain- ment and recreational</i>	<i>Miscel- laneous</i>	<i>Total non-resi- dential building</i>
PRIVATE SECTOR											
1993-94	379.1	179.1	26.7	114.5	25.3	8.5	2.2	18.0	18.5	14.7	786.8
1994-95	121.4	271.4	21.8	106.3	68.9	18.8	5.3	19.4	50.8	18.6	702.8
1995-96	168.7	275.4	62.8	42.8	42.6	11.2	4.2	41.4	35.8	20.6	705.4
1995 Mar. qtr	148.4	199.4	15.9	101.4	44.3	17.3	3.9	20.6	60.0	9.9	620.9
June qtr	121.4	271.4	21.8	106.3	68.9	18.8	5.3	19.4	50.8	18.6	702.8
Sept. qtr	103.7	247.9	24.3	107.3	62.8	22.7	6.4	16.2	54.5	18.7	664.6
Dec. qtr	104.4	164.0	40.8	29.5	44.5	11.9	4.7	7.9	42.7	22.7	473.0
1996 Mar. qtr r	123.2	165.0	102.4	39.4	34.8	6.3	3.3	17.3	39.9	22.1	553.6
June qtr	168.7	275.4	62.8	42.8	42.6	11.2	4.2	41.4	35.8	20.6	705.4
PUBLIC SECTOR											
1993-94	1.5	1.4	0.7	41.0	127.2	40.2	—	18.0	64.9	8.8	303.8
1994-95	0.9	6.1	3.3	15.6	16.9	67.2	—	26.5	45.9	21.7	204.2
1995-96	1.7	0.6	0.7	15.6	48.3	57.1	—	51.2	50.0	40.4	265.6
1995 Mar. qtr	0.9	0.8	0.3	5.8	24.2	77.0	—	33.8	67.0	23.5	233.2
June qtr	0.9	6.1	3.3	15.6	16.9	67.2	—	26.5	45.9	21.7	204.2
Sept. qtr	0.8	2.0	1.9	6.7	10.2	67.2	0.3	51.8	38.3	77.1	256.3
Dec. qtr	—	1.5	2.4	8.0	19.1	64.7	0.2	63.4	67.5	62.3	289.1
1996 Mar. qtr r	1.7	2.1	1.6	22.7	54.5	47.5	0.1	68.9	52.2	57.1	308.4
June qtr	1.7	0.6	0.7	15.6	48.3	57.1	—	51.2	50.0	40.4	265.6
TOTAL											
1993-94	380.7	180.6	27.4	155.6	152.5	48.7	2.2	36.0	83.5	23.5	1,090.6
1994-95	122.2	277.6	25.0	122.0	85.8	86.0	5.3	45.9	96.7	40.4	907.0
1995-96	170.3	276.0	63.6	58.4	90.9	68.3	4.2	92.6	85.7	61.0	971.0
1995 Mar. qtr	149.3	200.1	16.2	107.2	68.5	94.2	3.9	54.4	127.0	33.4	854.2
June qtr	122.2	277.6	25.0	122.0	85.8	86.0	5.3	45.9	96.7	40.4	907.0
Sept. qtr	104.5	249.9	26.2	114.0	73.0	89.9	6.7	68.0	92.7	95.8	920.9
Dec. qtr	104.4	165.6	43.1	37.5	63.6	76.7	4.9	71.3	110.2	85.0	762.1
1996 Mar. qtr r	125.0	167.1	104.0	62.0	89.3	53.8	3.4	86.3	92.0	79.2	862.1
June qtr	170.3	276.0	63.6	58.4	90.9	68.3	4.2	92.6	85.7	61.0	971.0

TABLE 15. BUILDING ACTIVITY RELATIVE STANDARD ERRORS, JUNE QUARTER 1996
(Percentage)

<i>Ownership and stage of construction</i>	<i>New residential building</i>				<i>Value</i>	
	<i>Houses</i>		<i>Total</i>		<i>Alterations and additions to residential buildings</i>	<i>Total building</i>
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Value</i>	<i>Number of dwelling units</i>	<i>Value</i>		
PRIVATE SECTOR						
Commenced	2.2	4.0	1.7	2.9	4.8	1.7
Under construction at end of period	4.3	4.4	2.5	2.4	6.2	1.1
Completed	4.6	5.8	3.5	4.6	6.9	2.8
Value of work done	..	4.3	..	3.4	4.6	2.1
Value of work yet to be done	..	5.7	..	2.7	7.5	1.3
TOTAL PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SECTORS						
Commenced	2.2	3.9	1.6	2.8	4.8	1.6
Under construction at end of period	4.2	4.3	2.3	2.3	6.2	0.9
Completed	4.6	5.6	3.4	4.4	6.8	2.4
Value of work done	..	4.2	..	3.3	4.6	1.8
Value of work yet to be done	..	5.6	..	2.7	7.5	1.0

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

This publication contains detailed results from the quarterly Building Activity Survey. Users should note that data for the latest quarter is subject to revision.

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

- (a) A sample survey of private sector house building activity involving new house construction or alterations and additions valued at \$10,000 or more to houses.
- (b) A complete enumeration of jobs involving construction of new residential buildings other than private sector houses, all alterations and additions to residential buildings (other than private sector houses) with an approval value of \$10,000 or more, and all non-residential building jobs with an approval value of \$50,000 or more.

3. Prior to the September quarter 1990, the cut-off for inclusion of non-residential building jobs (both new and alterations and additions) was \$30,000 or more and prior to the September quarter 1985 it was \$10,000 or more. Care should be taken in interpreting data for specific classes of non-residential building.

4. The use of sample survey techniques in the Building Activity Survey means that reliable estimates of private sector house building activity, including alterations and additions to houses, are available only at the State/Territory and Australia levels with the exception of the Northern Territory. However, dwelling unit commencement data for regions below State level are shown in the monthly series of dwelling unit commencements compiled by State offices of the ABS. Data from this series, unlike those compiled from the Building Activity Survey, are based on information reported by local and other government authorities.

Scope and coverage

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

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

Definitions

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

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

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

(a) A *house* is defined as a detached building predominantly used for long-term residential purposes and consisting of only one dwelling unit. Thus, detached 'granny flats' and detached dwelling units (such as caretakers' residences) associated with non-residential buildings are defined as houses for the purpose of these statistics.

(b) An *other residential building* is defined as a building which is predominantly used for long-term residential purposes and which contains (or has attached to it) more than one dwelling unit (e.g. includes townhouses, duplexes, apartment buildings, etc.).

10. From the June quarter 1996 issue of this publication, the number of dwelling units created as part of alterations and additions to or conversions of existing residential or non-residential buildings and as part of the construction of non-residential building is shown separately in Tables 5, 7, and 9 under the heading of 'Conversions, etc.', and is included in the total number of dwelling units shown in these tables. Previously, such dwellings were only included as a footnote.

11. In addition, the seasonally adjusted estimates for the total number of dwelling units commenced and completed, shown in Table 4, include these conversions, etc. Previously, only dwelling units created as part of the construction of new residential buildings were included in these estimates.

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

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

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

Valuation of building jobs

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

- (a) *Value of building commenced or under construction* represents the anticipated completion value based, where practicable, on estimated market or contract price of building jobs excluding the value of land and landscaping. Site preparation costs are included. Where building jobs proceed over several quarters, the anticipated completion value reported on the return for the first (commencement) quarter may be amended on returns for subsequent (under construction) quarters as the job nears completion.
- (b) *Value of building completed* represents the actual completion value based, where practicable, on the market or contract price of building jobs including site preparation costs but excluding the value of land and landscaping.
- (c) *Value of building work done during the period* represents the estimated value of building work actually carried out during the quarter on building jobs which have commenced.
- (d) *Value of building work yet to be done* represents the difference between the anticipated completion value and the estimated value of work done up to the end of the period on building jobs commenced but not completed.
- (e) *Factories.* Includes paper mills, oil refinery buildings, brickworks, foundries, powerhouses, manufacturing laboratories, workshops as part of a manufacturing process.
- (f) *Offices.* Includes banks, post offices, council chambers, head and regional offices.
- (g) *Other business premises.* Includes warehouses, storage depots, service stations, transport depots and terminals, electricity substation buildings, pumping station buildings, telephone exchanges, mail sorting centres, broadcasting stations, film studios.
- (h) *Educational.* Includes schools, colleges, kindergartens, libraries, museums, art galleries, research and teaching laboratories, theological colleges.
- (i) *Religious.* Includes churches, chapels, temples.
- (j) *Health.* Includes hospitals, nursing homes, surgeries, clinics, medical centres.
- (k) *Entertainment and recreational.* Includes clubs, theatres, cinemas, public halls, gymnasiums, grandstands, squash courts, sports and recreation centres.
- (l) *Miscellaneous.* Includes law courts, homes for the aged (where medical care is not provided as a normal service), orphanages, gaols, barracks, mine buildings, glasshouses, livestock sheds, shearing sheds, fruit and skin drying sheds, public toilets, and ambulance, fire and police stations.

Building classification

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

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

18. Examples of the types of buildings included under each main functional heading are shown in the following list.

- (a) *Houses.* Includes cottages, bungalows, detached caretakers'/managers' cottages, rectories.
- (b) *Other residential buildings.* Includes blocks of flats, home units, attached townhouses, villa units, terrace houses, semi-detached houses, maisonettes.
- (c) *Hotels, etc.* Includes motels, hostels, boarding houses, guesthouses, holiday apartment buildings.
- (d) *Shops.* Includes retail shops, restaurants, cafes, taverns, dry cleaners, laundromats, hair salons, shopping arcades.

Reliability of the estimates

19. Since the figures for private sector house building activity (including alterations and additions) are derived from information obtained from a sample of approved building jobs, they are subject to sampling error; that is, they may differ from the figures that would have been obtained if information for all approved jobs for the relevant period had been included in the survey. One measure of the likely difference is given by the *standard error*, which indicates the extent to which an estimate might have varied by chance because only a sample of approved jobs was included. There are about two chances in three that a sample estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the figure that would have been obtained if all approved jobs had been included and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two standard errors. Another measure of sampling variability is the *relative standard error*, which is obtained by expressing the standard error as a percentage of the estimate to which it refers. The relative standard errors of estimates provide an indication of the percentage errors likely to have occurred due to sampling, and are shown in Table 15.

20. An example of the use of relative standard errors is as follows. Assume that the estimate of the number of new private sector houses commenced during the latest quarter is 2,000 (for actual estimate see Table 5) and that the associated relative standard error is 2.5 per cent (for actual percentage see Table 15). There would then be about two chances in three that the number which would have been obtained if information had been collected about all approved private sector house jobs would have been within the range 1,950 to 2,050 (2.5 per cent of 2,000 is 50) and about nineteen chances in twenty that the number would have been within the range 1,900 to 2,100.

21. The imprecision due to sampling variability, which is measured by the relative standard error, should not be confused with inaccuracies that may occur because of inadequacies in the source of building approval information, imperfections in reporting by respondents, and errors made in the coding and processing of data. Inaccuracies of this kind are referred to as

non-sampling error, and may occur in any enumeration whether it be a full count or only a sample. Every effort is made to reduce the non-sampling error to a minimum by the careful design of questionnaires, efforts to obtain responses for all selected building jobs, and efficient operating procedures.

Seasonal adjustment

22. Seasonally adjusted building statistics are shown in Tables 2 to 4. In the seasonally adjusted series, account has been taken of normal seasonal factors and trading day effects (arising from the varying numbers of Sundays, Mondays, Tuesdays, etc. in the quarter) and the effect of the movement in the date of Easter which may, in successive years, affect figures for different quarters. Further information about seasonal adjustment can be obtained from the Assistant Director of Time Series Analysis, Canberra, on (06) 252 6345.

23. Since seasonally adjusted statistics reflect both irregular and trend movements, an upward or downward movement in a seasonally adjusted series does not necessarily indicate a change of trend. Particular care should therefore be taken in interpreting individual quarter to quarter movements. Each of the component series shown has been seasonally adjusted independently. As a consequence, while the unadjusted components in the original series shown add to the totals, the adjusted components may not add to the adjusted totals. Further, the difference between independently seasonally adjusted series does not necessarily produce series which are optimal or even adequate adjustments of the similarly derived original series. Thus the figures which can be derived by subtracting seasonally adjusted private sector dwelling units from the seasonally adjusted total should not be used to represent seasonally adjusted public sector dwelling units.

Estimates at constant prices

24. Estimates of the value of commencements and work done at average 1989-90 prices are shown in Tables 1 and 2. Constant price estimates measure changes in value after the direct effects of price changes have been eliminated. The deflators used to revalue the current price estimates in this publication are derived from the same price data underlying the deflators compiled for the dwellings and non-dwelling construction components of the national accounts aggregate 'Gross fixed capital expenditure'.

25. Estimates at constant prices are subject to a number of approximations and assumptions. Further information on the nature and concepts of constant price estimates is contained in Chapter 4 of *Australian National Accounts: Concepts, Sources and Methods* (5216.0).

26. The factors used to seasonally adjust the constant price series are identical to those used to adjust the corresponding current price series.

Unpublished data and related publications

27. The ABS can also make available certain building approvals and activity data which are not published. Where it is not practicable to provide the required information by telephone, data can be provided in the following forms: microfiche, photocopy, computer printout, floppy disk and clerically extracted tabulation. Inquiries should be made to Information Inquiries on Brisbane (07) 3222 6351 or any ABS State office.

28. Users may also wish to refer to the following building and construction publications which are available on request:

Building Approvals, Australia (8731.0) – issued monthly
Building Approvals, Queensland (8731.3) – issued monthly
Dwelling Unit Commencements Reported by Approving Authorities, Queensland (8741.3) – issued monthly
Building Activity, Australia : Dwelling Unit Commencements, Preliminary (8750.0) – issued quarterly
Building Activity, Australia (8752.0) – issued quarterly

29. Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products, Australia* (1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Release Advice* (1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The Catalogue and Release Advice are available from any ABS office.

Symbols and other usages

n.a. not available
 .. not applicable
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30. Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

BRIAN DOYLE
 Acting Regional Director

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