Australian Bureau of Statistics

MAY 2001

1303.8

BUSINESS INDICATORS

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

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CONTENTS

- For further information about these and related statistics, contact Nives Marelic on Canberra 02 6207 0315, or the National Information Service on 1300 135 070.

NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

ISSUE	*RELEASE DATE*
June 2001	22 June 2001
July 2001	20 July 2001
August 2001	17 August 2001
September 2001	21 September 2001

DATA CHANGES

ABS statistical series are being impacted to varying degrees as a result of The New Tax System (TNTS), introduced in Australia from 1 July 2000. TNTS includes the removal of Wholesale Sales Tax and the introduction of a Goods and Services Tax (GST).

THE IMPACT OF THE NEW TAX SYSTEM ON DATA SERIES IN THIS PUBLICATION

Users of Building Approvals data should exercise caution when analysing movements in the value series over the next few months as they have been affected in a number of ways. For further information see *Building Approvals, Australia* (Cat. no. 8731.0).

Users of Capital Expenditure data should exercise caution when analysing estimates of expected expenditure for 2000–01 financial year. Businesses in the Survey of New Capital Expenditure have been asked to report expected expenditure for 2000–01 financial year based on the cost to them under TNTS. For further information see *Private New Capital Expenditure, State Estimates* (Cat. no. 5646.0).

Users of Retail data should exercise caution when analysing movements in the series over time. Estimates of retail turnover in both original and seasonally adjusted terms reflect unusually large spending ahead of the GST. The trend series attempts to measure underlying behaviour and, in the short term, this measurement may be adversely affected by an unusual influence in the original and seasonally adjusted data. For further information see *Retail Trade, Australia* (Cat. no. 8501.0).

SYMBOLS AND OTHER USAGES

g	gram
km^2	square kilometres
kg	kilogram
mL	millilitre
no.	number
n.a.	not available
n.p.	not available for publication
p	preliminary
qtr	quarter
$m	dollar million
'000	thousands
%	per cent
. .	not applicable
—	nil or rounded to zero

Tracy Stewart
Regional Director, Australian Capital Territory

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

UPDATED SERIES

Series updated since the April 2001 issue are: average retail prices, building approvals, building commencements, consumer price index, engineering construction, labour force, new motor vehicle registrations and retail turnover.

The feature article this month, on page 6, is Working Arrangements and Superannuation in the ACT.

Building approvals

In March 2001 the trend number of dwelling units approved in the ACT decreased to 98, down 15% from the previous month, and a decrease of 51% from March 2000. Nationally, the trend number of dwelling units approved in March 2001 decreased 1% from the previous month, to 9,596 dwelling units.

The value of non-residential building approvals for the ACT in March 2001 was $18 million and the value of total building approvals was $34 million, down 11% from the previous month and an increase of 7% from March 2000.

Nationally, the value of total building approvals in March 2001 was $2,889 million, an increase of 24% from the previous month and a decrease of 10% from March 2000.

Building commencements

The value of new houses commenced in the ACT in the December quarter 2000 was $48 million, an increase of 31% from the previous quarter and down 9% from the December quarter 1999. Nationally, the value of new houses commenced in the December quarter 2000 was $2,738 million, up 3% from the previous quarter and down 30% from the same period last year.

Consumer price index

The ACT experienced an increase of 0.8%, to 132.2 in the All Groups Index for the March quarter 2001. This was below the increase of 1.1% for the weighted average of the eight capital cities which increased to 132.7. There was an increase in the ACT annual CPI rate to March quarter 2001 of 5.8%, while the index for the weighted average of the eight capital cities recorded an increase of 6% for the same period.

Engineering construction

The value of public sector construction work done in the ACT during the December quarter 2000 decreased by 8% from the previous quarter and decreased 15% from the December quarter 1999. Nationally, the value of public sector work done decreased by 2% from the previous quarter and decreased from the December quarter 1999 by 13%.

The value of private sector engineering construction work done in the ACT during the December quarter 2000 decreased by 35% from the previous quarter and also decreased by 23% from the December quarter 1999. Nationally, the value of private sector engineering construction work done decreased by 3% from the previous quarter and decreased by 18% from the December quarter 1999.

Labour force

At April 2001, ACT trend employment fell slightly (down 0.2%) to 167,700 people, while nationally, trend employment increased by 0.1% to 9,135,300 people.

The trend estimate of unemployed people at April 2001 increased to 8,900, up 4% compared with the previous month and up 2% compared with April 2000. Nationally, trend unemployment increased by 1% to 655,500 people.

Compared to the previous month, the trend unemployment rate for the ACT increased by 0.1 percentage point to 5.0% and the national trend unemployment rate also increased by 0.1 percentage point to 6.7%.

The ACT trend participation rate for April 2001 remained the same as the previous month at 72.5%, while the national rate rose by 0.1 percentage point to 63.7%.

New motor vehicle registrations

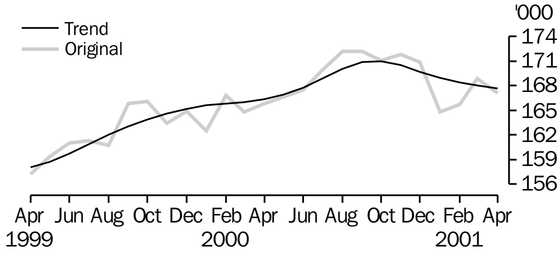
At March 2001 the trend estimate for ACT new motor vehicle registrations fell by 1% compared with the previous month. Over the 12 months from March 2000, new motor vehicle registrations increased by 3%. Nationally, the trend for total new motor vehicle registrations decreased by 2% from the previous month and was up 5% from March 2000.

Retail turnover

Trend retail turnover in the ACT for March 2001 was $275 million, an increase of 1% compared to the previous month. Turnover for March increased 16% from March 2000. Nationally, trend retail turnover also increased by 1% compared to the previous month and was up 9% from the previous year.

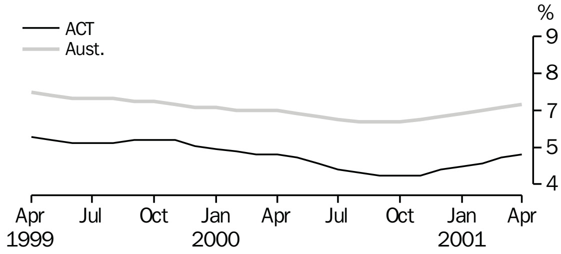
SELECTED BUSINESS INDICATORS

EMPLOYED PERSONS



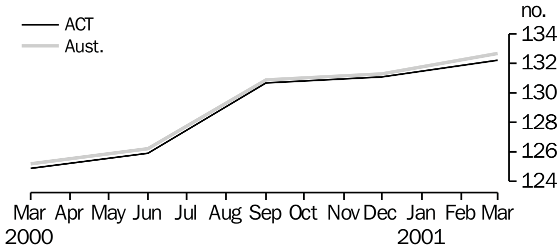
Source: Labour Force, Australia (Cat. no. 6202.0).

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE: **Trend**



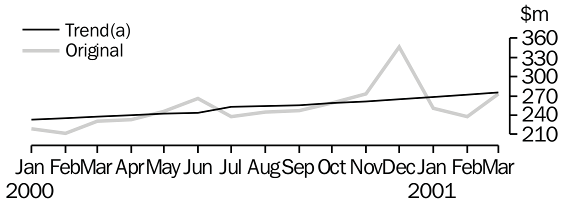
Source: Labour Force, Australia (Cat. no. 6202.0).

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX



Source: Consumer Price Index, Australia (Cat. no. 6401.0).

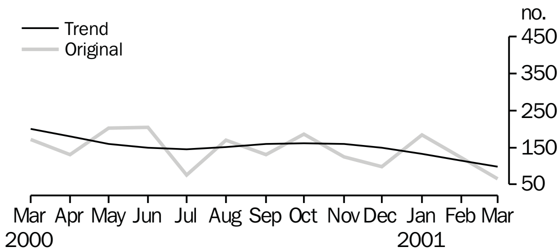
RETAIL TRADE: **Monthly turnover**



(a) A break in the trend series occurred between June and July 2000 because of the impact of The New Tax System.

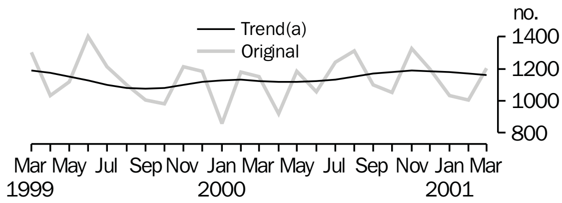
Source: Retail Trade, Australia (Cat. no. 8501.0).

BUILDING APPROVALS, Dwelling units approved



Source: Building Approvals, Australia (Cat. no. 8731.0).

NEW MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS



(a) A break in the trend series occurred between June and July 2000 because of the impact of The New Tax System.

Source: New Motor Vehicle Registrations, Australia (Cat. no. 9301.0).

FEATURE ARTICLE

WORKING ARRANGEMENTS AND SUPERANNUATION IN THE ACT

The Survey of Employment Arrangements and Superannuation, which was conducted in 14,000 households across Australia in 2000, provides a new source of detailed information about people's working arrangements and their provision for retirement through superannuation. The results of the survey portray a workforce in which there is considerable diversity of employment types, working patterns and preferred working arrangements. This article gives a profile of working arrangements and superannuation coverage in the ACT, highlighting where there are substantial differences from workers generally, across the country.

As the ACT has a small population relative to the rest of Australia, some of the figures quoted below may not be reliable and should be treated with caution. These figures have been marked with an asterisk (where the standard error is between 25% and 50%), or a double asterisk (for those with a standard error over 50%).

Employment Types

There was diversity in the working arrangements of people in the ACT. However, most were employees in the 'traditional' sense. That is, they were employees (excluding owner managers of incorporated enterprises) who had some paid leave entitlements and were not on a fixed term contract. This group made up 59% of all jobholders in the ACT, broadly in line with the proportion Australia wide (55%). Other large groups of jobholders in the ACT were self-identified casuals (18%) and owner managers of unincorporated enterprises (8%).

SELECTED EMPLOYMENT TYPE CATEGORIES

Source: Survey of Employment Arrangements and Superannuation, April to June 2000.

Only 9% of employees in the ACT found their main job through an employment agency, which was a little below the national average of 11%.

Job duration

In terms of the length of time workers had been in their current job, owner-managers in the ACT appeared to have greater job stability than employees. Most employees in the ACT (59%) had been in their current job for less than five years, including 27% for less than one year. In contrast, 59% of owner managers had been in their current job for five years or more and only 14% for less than one year.

Casuals The majority (84%) of self-identified casuals in the ACT were in a part time job; that is, one in which they usually worked less than 35 hours in a week. Most of these worked considerably less than this, with 54% working 15 hours or less and another 15% working 16–24 hours per week.

Preferred working hours The majority (60%) of all self-identified casuals in the ACT said that their preference was to work the same number of hours as they were currently working for the same pay. Another 35% said that they would prefer to work more hours for more pay. The corresponding proportions nationally were 56% and 39%, respectively.

On the other hand, 'traditional' employees in the ACT (i.e. those with leave entitlements not working on a fixed-term contract) were more satisfied with their current hours and rates of pay than casual workers. Two thirds (67%) of workers in this employment category said their preference was to work the same number of hours, for the same pay, while 14% said that they would prefer to work more hours for more pay. This compares nationally to 68% and 16% respectively.

SUPERANNUATION

Employer or business contributions to superannuation In the survey, information about superannuation coverage was collected only from people aged 15–54 years who had one or more jobs.

Nearly all (91%) employees with leave entitlements not working on a fixed-term contract in the ACT reported that their employer was making superannuation contributions on their behalf.

For other categories of employees, the proportions who reported that their employer or business was making contributions on their behalf were much lower:

- 80% of owner managers of incorporated businesses, which was considerably higher than the national average of 67%;
- 58% of self-identified casuals; and
- *11% of owner managers of unincorporated enterprises.

Employers are obliged to make contributions on behalf of most employees, but there are some exemptions: for example, employers are not obliged to contribute to superannuation for employees aged under 18 years who are working 30 hours per week or less, or for employees with low earnings. Many of these exempt employees are likely to be young self-identified casuals, which might account for the relatively low proportion of self-identified casuals receiving employer contributions. In the ACT, 42% of people whose earnings were in the lowest 20% in the ACT were casual workers aged under 25 years (and *91% of those workers under 18 who worked less than 30 hours were casual).

Personal/spouse contributions

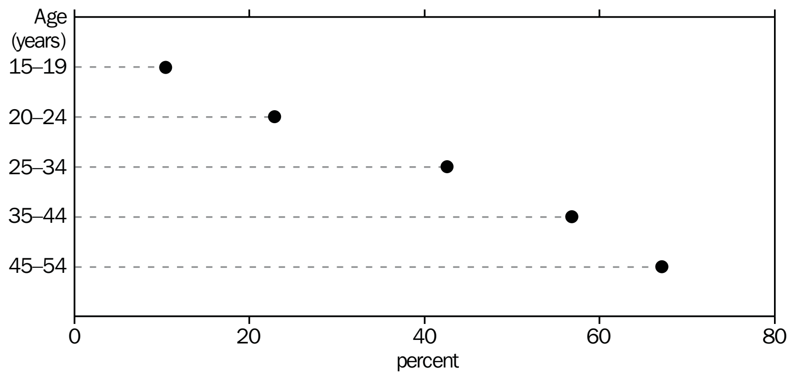
Two-thirds (66%) of employees in the ACT with leave entitlements who were not working on a fixed term contract reported that they were making personal contributions to superannuation, or contributions on behalf of their spouse. This was much higher than the national average of 36%.

In comparison, the proportion of self-identified casuals in the ACT, making personal or spouse contributions to superannuation was 9% (again, higher than the national figure of 6%). The younger age of many self-identified casuals, along with the fewer hours worked and resultant lower earnings, are likely to be among the factors affecting this result.

Around *23% of owner managers of unincorporated enterprises reported that they were making personal contributions to superannuation. They may have been more likely to report their superannuation contributions as 'personal' rather than 'business' because the business was not a separate legal entity.

The proportion of jobholders aged 15–54 years who were making personal contributions increased with age, reflecting increases in income and perhaps a greater focus on preparing for retirement in the older age groups. For example, about one in ten (*10%) of those aged 15–19 years were making personal or spouse contributions to superannuation, compared with two-thirds (67%) of those aged 45–54 years.

JOBHOLDERS MAKING PERSONAL/SPOUSE CONTRIBUTIONS



Source: Survey of Employment Arrangements and Superannuation, April to June 2000.

The main reasons given by over half of those ACT jobholders for not making personal contributions to superannuation were because it cost too much or they could not afford it (34%); or because they were not bothered, had never thought about it or were not interested (20%).

Receipt of benefits from superannuation

About 34% of people in the ACT who were retired (i.e. they were no longer working and did not intend to work in the future) were receiving income from superannuation and/or annuities. This was much higher than the national figure of 13%. A small proportion (about *6%) of retired people had received a lump sum in the previous 12 months and a further 44% had received a lump sum more than 12 months previously. (Some had both received a lump sum and were receiving income from superannuation or annuities). These figures are both higher than the national proportions of 3% and 29% respectively.

Approximately half (*51%) of retirees in the ACT who had received a lump sum in the 12 months up to the interview, received between $20,000 and $100,000 and *40% reported receiving less than $20,000.

Those who had received a lump sum in the previous 12 months reported using the largest amount of that lump sum in the following ways:

- *41% had bought or paid off a home, home improvements, car or other outstanding debts (compared to 42% nationally);
- *40% had rolled it over or invested it in an approved deposit fund, deferred annuity or other superannuation scheme (compared to 23% nationally); and
- **10% had invested it elsewhere, including personal savings or bank (compared to 28% nationally).

For more details from the survey, see *Employment Arrangements and Superannuation, Australia, April to May 2000* (Cat. no. 6361.0).

1 BUSINESS INDICATORS

Indicator	Unit	ACT Latest figure	ACT % change from Previous period	ACT % change from Same period previous year	Aust. Latest figure	Aust. % change from Previous period	Aust. % change from Same period previous year
POPULATION, VITALS AND LABOUR							
POPULATION, Jun qtr 2000	'000	310.8	—	0.5	19 157.0	0.3	1.2
Natural increase	no.	633	–9.6	–12.2	33 179	11.8	9.5
Net migration	no.	–550	–833.3	–119.1	18 430	–22.2	6.4
Total growth	*no.*	*83*	*–89.3*	*–82.3*	*51 609*	–3.3	8.4
LABOUR FORCE, Apr 2001							
Original series							
Employed	'000	167.1	–1.1	0.8	9 155.5	0.7	1.4
Unemployed	'000	9.8	11.4	11.4	669.2	–0.9	5.9
Unemployment rate	%	5.5	0.6	0.4	6.8	–0.1	0.3
Participation rate	%	72.6	–0.4	0.1	63.9	0.3	0.2
Long-term unemployed, Mar 2001	no.	1 235	–52.7	–32.0	166 230	–6.2	–12.1
Long-term unemployed as percentage of total unemployed, Mar 2001	%	13.9	–11.7	–3.7	23.6	–0.1	–3.4
Trend series, Apr 2001							
Employed	'000	167.7	–0.2	0.8	9 135.3	0.1	1.2
Unemployed	'000	8.9	3.5	2.3	655.5	1.4	5.0
Unemployment rate	%	5.0	0.1	—	6.7	0.1	0.2
Participation rate	%	72.5	—	–0.1	63.7	0.1	0.1
WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS							
Number employed–Trend series, Dec qtr 2000							
Private sector	'000	85.0	1.4	5.3	5 913.7	0.7	3.9
Public sector	'000	69.3	–0.4	1.0	1 452.6	—	–0.2
Total	*'000*	*154.3*	*0.6*	*3.3*	*7 366.3*	*0.5*	*3.1*
Gross earnings–Original series, Dec qtr 2000							
Private sector	$m	658.2	4.0	17.0	52 217.8	5.1	7.2
Public sector	$m	842.5	–15.8	3.2	15 925.1	–1.2	4.2
Total	*$m*	*1 500.7*	*–8.1*	*8.8*	*68 142.9*	*3.5*	*6.5*
JOB VACANCIES, Feb qtr 2000	'000	3.1	–11.4	–20.5	95.5	–12.1	–15.3
INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES IN PROGRESS, Jan 2001							
Working days lost	'000	—	—	—	11.1	–5.9	–56.6
Days lost per '000 employees (year ended Jan 2001)	no.	9.0	—	–70.0	58.0	–3.3	–34.8
HOUSING AND BUILDING ACTIVITY							
HOUSING FINANCE, Feb 2001							
Secured commitments to individuals for							
Original series							
Construction of dwellings(a)	$m	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	516.0	12.9	–48.7
Purchase of new dwellings(a)	$m	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	206.0	–8.0	–23.7
Purchase of established dwellings	$m	81.0	15.7	–30.2	4 944.0	7.0	–8.3
Re-financing	$m	12.0	9.1	–20.0	1 142.0	8.7	7.5
Total housing commitments	*$m*	*93.0*	*16.3*	*–31.6*	*5 666.0*	*6.9*	*–15.0*
Seasonally adjusted series							
Total housing commitments	*$m*	*94.0*	*9.3*	*–26.6*	*5 853.0*	*–3.6*	*–10.8*
Trend series							
Total housing commitments	*$m*	*94.0*	*1.1*	*–24.2*	*6 059.0*	*1.2*	*–5.2*
Dwelling units financed	no.	729	–1.0	–22.9	45 238	–0.1	–1.6
PRICE INDEX							
Established house price index, Dec qtr 2000	no.	146.4	2.1	7.6	150.6	2.4	6.6
BUILDING APPROVALS, Mar 2001							
Original series							
Dwelling units	no.	66	–46.3	–61.4	9 654	10.3	–37.5
Value of new residential	$m	10.5	–43.5	–51.4	1 322.5	9.1	–31.6
Value of residential alterations and additions	$m	5.2	–22.4	6.1	310.0	24.7	–3.2
Value of non-residential	$m	18.0	45.2	267.3	1 256.0	45.2	30.8
Value of total building	*$m*	*33.7*	*–10.8*	*7.3*	*2 888.5*	*24.2*	*–10.1*
Trend series							
Dwelling units	no.	98	–14.8	–51.2	9 596	–1.2	–35.5

(a) Data cells for Construction Finance in the ACT have been suppressed for the month of February 2001 for confidentiality reasons.

1 BUSINESS INDICATORS *continued*

Indicator	Unit	ACT Latest figure	ACT % change from Previous period	ACT % change from Same period previous year	Aust. Latest figure	Aust. % change from Previous period	Aust. % change from Same period previous year
HOUSING AND BUILDING ACTIVITY continued							
BUILDING COMMENCEMENTS, Dec qtr 2000							
New houses	no.	307	30.6	–22.5	19 308	2.1	–35.6
Value of houses commenced	$m	47.5	31.2	–9.2	2 737.6	2.5	–29.5
Value of non-residential building commenced	$m	19.6	–30.5	–43.5	2 697.4	–9.6	–9.5
Value of total commencements	*$m*	*102.0*	*13.2*	*–29.9*	*7 543.1*	*–2.9*	*–17.2*
ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION, Dec qtr 2000							
Private sector							
Value of work commenced	$m	10.8	–54.8	–46.0	3 116.5	33.4	2.2
Value of work done	$m	21.6	–34.9	–23.4	2 687.1	–3.3	–18.2
Value of work yet to be done	$m	26.1	–40.5	22.0	5 069.3	2.0	–2.8
Public sector							
Value of work done	$m	20.4	–8.1	–14.6	1 660.6	–1.8	–13.4
PRICES, WAGES AND CONSUMER SPENDING							
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX, Mar qtr 2001(a)							
Food	no.	139.4	2.6	6.7	137.6	3.1	6.6
Housing(b)	no.	108.0	0.8	9.1	108.2	0.5	7.4
Transportation(b)	no.	138.8	–0.4	2.6	136.7	0.2	5.1
All groups	*no.*	*132.2*	*0.8*	*5.8*	*132.7*	*1.1*	*6.0*
AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS, Nov qtr 2000							
Full-time adult ordinary time earnings							
Original series							
Males	$	1 018.2	2.6	6.8	850.1	0.2	4.9
Females	$	856.0	2.9	3.4	719.0	1.1	5.2
Persons	*$*	*939.1*	*2.4*	*4.6*	*802.5*	*0.6*	*5.1*
Trend series							
Males	$	1 013.1	1.8	7.8	853.0	1.0	5.3
Females	$	852.0	1.8	5.5	719.7	1.4	5.4
Persons	*$*	*937.3*	*1.7*	*6.1*	*804.7*	*1.2*	*5.5*
WAGE COST INDEX, Dec qtr 2000(c)							
Public sector	no.	*109.1*	*0.8*	*3.1*	*111.2*	*0.8*	*3.1*
Private sector	no.	*110.7*	*0.5*	*4.2*	*110.4*	*0.8*	*3.5*
Total	*no.*	*109.8*	*0.8*	*3.6*	*110.6*	*0.8*	*3.4*
RETAIL TURNOVER, Mar 2001							
Trend series							
Food retailing	$m	100.0	1.1	15.2	5 271.5	1.0	8.1
Department stores	$m	26.7	0.4	3.9	1 126.4	0.7	4.4
Hospitality and services	$m	47.5	1.5	36.1	2 353.9	1.2	12.3
All other retailing	$m	101.0	1.4	12.2	4 497.2	1.0	9.3
Total	*$m*	*275.2*	*1.2*	*15.9*	*13 249.0*	*1.0*	*8.9*

(a) Base year: 1989–90 = 100.0.

(b) The 14th Series Australian Consumer Price Index was introduced September quarter 2000. Some changes include an updated comodity classification and weighting pattern and changes in composition of some groups For more details of changes, refer to Information Paper: Introduction of the 14th Series Australian Consumer Price Index (Cat. no. 6456.0) released 29 September 2000.

(c) Base of each index is September quarter 1997 = 100.0.

		ACT			Aust.		
			% change from			% change from	
Indicator	Unit	Latest figure	Previous period	Same period previous year	Latest figure	Previous period	Same period previous year
TOURIST ACCOMMODATION, Dec qtr 2000							
Original series							
Room nights occupied	'000	271.9	3.6	4.5	10 543.0	0.9	1.2
Room occupancy rate	%	59.0	2.2	–1.1	58.8	0.4	–0.9
Guest nights	'000	459.2	3.5	8.1	18 775.4	1.0	1.5
Guest arrivals	'000	194.6	–3.6	–3.5	8 206.8	2.9	–1.3
Takings from accommodation	$'000	28 963.0	0.8	12.2	1 239 908.0	–4.8	11.5
NEW MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS, Mar 2001							
Original series	no.	1 205	19.9	4.8	67 629	15.4	–0.1
Seasonally adjusted series	no.	1 175	10.1	11.6	63 250	2.3	4.0
Trend series	no.	1 160	–0.9	3.2	64 193	–2.0	4.7
STATE ACCOUNTS, Dec qtr 2000							
Trend series (chain volume measure)(a)(b)							
General government final consumption expenditure	$m	2 343	–3.5	–1.7	28 994	–0.5	1.7
Household final consumption expenditure	$m	1 776	0.6	5.9	94 635	0.5	2.8
Private gross fixed capital formation	$m	328	–9.9	–13.9	28 485	–5.4	–7.2
Public gross fixed capital formation	$m	243	4.7	–8.0	6 886	2.5	–1.1
State final demand	$m	4 693	–2.0	–0.2	158 953	–0.7	0.5
GROSS STATE PRODUCT (trend, chain volume measures), 1999–2000 (b)	$m	12 669	4.9	. .	620 963	4.3	. .
PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE, Dec qtr 2000							
Original series (at current prices)							
Buildings and structures	$m	48	60.0	108.7	2 829	9.0	–1.5
Equipment, plant and machinery	$m	78	32.2	9.9	7 748	6.0	–1.3
Total	$m	126	41.6	35.5	10 577	6.8	–1.4
Trend series (at current prices)							
Buildings and structures	$m	41	24.2	95.2	2 625	–7.2	–4.9
Equipment, plant and machinery	$m	69	–1.4	—	7 464	–0.5	–1.7
Total	$m	110	6.8	22.2	10 089	–2.4	–2.5
BUSINESS EXPECTATIONS, TRADING PERFORMANCE, OPERATING INCOME							
Short term, expected change previous quarter, Jun qtr 2001	%	1.3	. .	. .	–0.2	. .	. .
Medium term, expected change previous year, Mar qtr 2002	%	3.3	. .	. .	1.7	. .	. .

(a) Quarterly state final demand details are released as a special data service (Cat. no. 5206.0.40.001).

(b) Reference year for chain volume measures is 1998–99.

Source: Australian Demographic Statistics (Cat. no. 3101.0); Australian National Accounts: Quarterly State Details (Cat. no. 5206.0.40.001); Average Weekly Earnings, States and Australia (Cat. no. 6302.0); Building Activity, Australia (Cat. no. 8752.0); Building Approvals, Australia (Cat. no. 8731.0); Consumer Price Index (Cat. no. 6401.0); Housing Finance, Australia (Cat. no. 5609.0); House Price Indexes (Cat. no. 6416.0); Industrial Disputes, Australia (Cat. no. 6321.0); Job Vacancies, Australia (Cat. no. 6354.0); Labour Force, Australia, Preliminary (Cat. no. 6202.0); New Motor Vehicle Registrations, Australia Preliminary (Cat. no. 9301.0); Private New Capital Expenditure, State Estimates (Cat. no. 5646.0); Retail Trade, Australia (Cat. no. 8501.0); Tourist Accommodation, Australia (Cat. no. 8635.0); Wage Cost Index, Australia (Cat. no. 6345.0).

2 ACT IN RELATION TO THE REST OF AUSTRALIA

Indicator	Unit	Latest period	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
POPULATION	'000	Jun qtr 00	6 463.5	4 765.9	3 566.4	1 497.6	1 883.9	470.4	195.5	310.8	19 157.0
LABOUR FORCE, trend series											
Employed persons	'000	Apr 01	3 048.7	2 315.7	1 691.5	672.3	943.1	200.3	94.7	167.7	9 135.3
Unemployment rate	%	Apr 01	5.7	6.2	8.7	7.2	6.9	8.7	5.4	5.0	6.7
WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS, trend series											
Private sector	'000	Dec qtr 00	1 963.1	1 595.4	1 031.7	426.3	600.9	114.8	55.3	85.0	5 913.7
Public sector	'000	Dec qtr 00	461.8	303.8	293.5	112.7	148.8	40.7	22.3	69.3	1 452.6
Total	'000	Dec qtr 00	2 424.9	1 899.2	1 325.2	539.0	749.7	155.5	77.6	154.3	7 366.3
STATE ACCOUNTS											
Gross state product (chain volume measures)(a)	$m	1999–00	221 375	157 915	103 691	41 381	66 525	11 367	6 466	12 669	620 963
PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE											
Total (at current prices), trend series	$m	Dec qtr 00	4 166	2 620	1 686	668	1 069	138	76	110	10 089
BUILDING APPROVALS											
Dwelling units approved, original series	no.	Mar qtr 01	2 479	3 394	1 692	635	1 183	88	117	66	9 654
Dwelling units approved, trend series	no.	Mar qtr 01	2 677	3 269	1 731	561	1 120	90	74	98	9 596
Value of non-residential building approved, original series	$m	Mar qtr 01	207.2	501.5	219.3	141.9	140.6	8.1	19.3	18.0	1 256.0
Value of all buildings approved, original series	$m	Mar qtr 01	651.0	1 156.2	465.1	223.2	305.5	21.7	32.0	33.7	2 888.5
ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION, original series											
Value of engineering construction work done	$m	Dec qtr 00	1 451.2	759.2	1 168.2	263.8	563.4	53.5	46.4	42.0	4 347.7
AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS, trend series											
Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	$	Nov qtr 00	845.2	779.6	755.3	762.8	821.1	743.2	810.0	937.3	804.7
RETAIL TRADE TURNOVER, trend series	$m	Mar 01	4 570.8	3 190.5	2 509.2	976.4	1 283.9	293.3	137.5	275.2	13 249.0
TOURIST ACCOMMODATION, original series											
Room nights occupied	'000	Dec qtr 00	3 543.3	1 608.7	2 982.4	516.0	945.5	191.0	399.3	271.9	10 543.0
Room occupancy rate	%	Dec qtr 00	59.7	56.2	61.8	53.5	53.9	37.8	69.4	59.0	58.8
NEW MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS, trend series	no.	Mar 01	21 749	17 381	12 177	4 013	5 885	1 313	515	1 160	64 193

	Unit	Latest period	Syd.	Melb.	Bris.	Adel.	Perth	Hob.	Dar.	Canb.	Aust.
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX(b)											
Food	no.	Mar qtr 01	139.2	136.8	137.1	139.4	135.2	134.3	134.8	139.4	137.6
Housing	no.	Mar qtr 01	116.5	99.1	112.8	104.4	101.1	106.9	123.3	108.0	108.2
Transportation	no.	Mar qtr 01	138.4	136.2	134.5	137.0	136.0	131.4	131.9	138.8	136.7
All Groups	no.	Mar qtr 01	134.0	132.2	132.7	134.1	129.6	132.1	130.7	132.2	132.7
AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES											
Milk, supermarket sales (1 litre)	cents	Mar qtr 01	135	145	141	135	143	126	151	126	. .
Bread, white loaf, sliced, supermarket sales (650g)(c)	cents	Mar qtr 01	247	256	234	232	235	251	236	245	. .
Beef, rump steak (1kg)	cents	Mar qtr 01	1 318	1 201	1 164	1 289	1 252	1 154	1 219	1 337	. .
Chicken, frozen (1kg)	cents	Mar qtr 01	373	377	338	384	369	370	412	384	. .
Potatoes (1kg)	cents	Mar qtr 01	127	160	148	93	153	125	141	137	. .
Coffee, instant (150g jar)	cents	Mar qtr 01	607	607	550	582	680	694	586	618	. .
Scotch nip, public bar (30ml)	cents	Mar qtr 01	381	368	317	400	419	312	376	321	. .
Private motoring petrol (1 litre)											
Super grade(d)	cents	Mar qtr 01	94.5	93.7	83.3	93.4	93.0	96.8	101.7	97.3	. .
Unleaded	cents	Mar qtr 01	91.3	90.6	80.2	90.4	89.9	94.1	98.6	94.3	. .

(a) Experimental series. Users are cautioned these estimates are derived indirectly by calculating a deflator from the expenditure components of the state series concerned. Therefore, in general, the sum of the state estimates does not equal the estimates for Australia. Reference year for chain volume measures is 1998–99.

(b) Base year: 1989–90 = 100.0. The 14th Series Australian Consumer Price Index was introduced September quarter 2000. Some changes include an updated comodity classification and weighting pattern and changes in composition of some groups For more details of changes, refer to Information Paper: Introduction of the 14th Series Australian Consumer Price Indes (Cat. no. 6456.0) released 29 September 2000.

(c) 680g in Hobart and Darwin.

(d) Includes lead replacement petrol where applicable.

3 ACT IN RELATION TO THE REST OF AUSTRALIA, PERCENTAGE CHANGES

Indicator	*Latest period*	*NSW*	*Vic.*	*Qld*	*SA*	*WA*	*Tas.*	*NT*	*ACT*	*Aust.*
POPULATION	Jun qtr 00	0.3	0.3	0.4	—	0.3	–0.1	0.4	—	0.3
LABOUR FORCE, trend series										
Employed persons	Apr 01	0.2	—	0.1	–0.1	0.1	–0.3	0.4	–0.2	0.1
Unemployment rate	Apr 01	—	1.6	2.4	1.4	3.0	—	–1.8	0.1	0.1
WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS, trend series										
Private sector	Dec qtr 00	0.8	2.1	0.5	1.7	1.6	–0.3	–1.4	1.4	0.7
Pubic sector	Dec qtr 00	–0.7	–1.4	0.3	–1.2	0.7	–0.7	—	–0.4	—
Total	Dec qtr 00	0.5	1.6	0.5	1.0	1.4	–0.4	–1.0	0.6	0.5
STATE ACCOUNTS										
Gross state product (chain volume measures)(a)	1999–00	3.7	4.6	6.3	3.5	4.6	1.1	—	4.9	4.3
PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE										
Total (at current prices), trend series	Dec qtr 00	5.3	–1.4	–6.0	3.7	–7.8	7.8	–29.0	6.8	–2.4
BUILDING APPROVALS										
Dwelling units approved, original series	Mar qtr 01	5.0	5.7	17.1	35.4	17.6	–17.0	317.9	–46.3	10.3
Dwelling units approved, trend series	Mar qtr 01	–4.0	1.5	–3.3	–0.2	–1.5	–1.1	17.5	–14.8	–1.2
Value of non-residential building approved, original series	Mar qtr 01	–44.1	94.5	63.5	287.7	211.8	97.6	394.9	45.2	45.2
Value of all buildings approved, original series	Mar qtr 01	–16.1	44.1	28.6	121.4	39.7	11.3	251.6	–10.8	24.2
ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION, original series										
Value of engineering construction work done	Dec qtr 00	–8.9	–1.1	–6.8	3.8	21.8	35.1	8.4	–24.1	–2.7
AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS, trend series										
Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Nov qtr 00	1.2	0.4	1.5	2.2	1.1	0.4	0.8	1.7	1.2
RETAIL TRADE TURNOVER, trend series	Mar 01	0.8	1.2	1.0	0.9	0.4	1.0	0.6	1.2	1.0
TOURIST ACCOMMODATION, original series										
Room nights occupied	Dec qtr 00	6.6	–1.2	11.4	–3.8	1.2	–23.1	12.6	3.6	0.9
Room occupancy rate	Dec qtr 00	2.8	–1.6	9.4	–5.1	–0.9	–23.9	10.2	2.2	0.4
NEW MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS, trend series	Mar 01	–1.8	–3.2	–1.1	–2.4	–1.0	–0.6	–5.7	–0.9	–2.0
	Latest period	*Syd.*	*Melb.*	*Bris.*	*Adel.*	*Perth*	*Hob.*	*Dar.*	*Canb.*	*Aust.*
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX(b)										
Food	Mar qtr 01	3.4	3.0	3.9	3.9	1.9	1.7	1.7	2.6	3.1
Housing	Mar qtr 01	0.3	0.8	0.1	0.5	–0.2	1.0	–0.5	0.8	0.5
Transportation	Mar qtr 01	0.3	0.4	0.3	–0.4	–0.2	0.8	0.6	–0.4	0.2
All Groups	Mar qtr 01	1.4	1.1	0.8	1.2	0.6	0.7	0.1	0.8	1.1
AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES										
Milk, carton, supermarket sales	Mar qtr 01	1.5	–0.7	—	1.5	0.7	—	–0.7	2.4	. .
Bread, white loaf, sliced, supermarket sales	Mar qtr 01	2.9	2.8	4.5	5.5	4.4	5.9	2.6	4.7	. .
Beef, rump steak	Mar qtr 01	5.0	6.4	4.4	0.4	0.2	3.4	2.0	4.1	. .
Chicken, frozen	Mar qtr 01	1.9	14.2	15.0	23.5	1.7	0.3	–2.8	3.8	. .
Potatoes	Mar qtr 01	5.8	1.3	16.5	14.8	0.7	10.6	–0.7	4.6	. .
Coffee, instant (jar)	Mar qtr 01	1.7	3.9	–9.1	5.8	7.8	4.2	–3.8	0.5	. .
Scotch nip, public bar	Mar qtr 01	1.6	0.5	1.6	0.5	1.2	3.0	0.8	1.6	. .
Private motoring petrol										
Super grade(c)	Mar qtr 01	–4.2	–3.0	–3.7	–3.3	–4.1	–0.8	–4.1	–2.9	. .
Unleaded	Mar qtr 01	–4.4	–3.2	–3.8	–3.3	–4.5	–1.1	–4.5	–2.9	. .

(a) Experimental series. Users are cautioned these estimates are derived indirectly by calculating a deflator from the expenditure components of the state series concerned. Therefore, in general, the sum of the state estimates does not equal the estimates for Australia. Reference year for chain volume measures is 1998–99.

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(c) Includes lead replacement petrol where applicable.

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