

# **ECONOMIC INDICATORS**

#### **NEW SOUTH WALES**

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■ For more information about these and related statistics, contact Bill Markham on 02 9268 4376 or e-mail bill.markham@abs.gov.au or refer to the back cover of this publication.

#### NOTES

ISSUE

#### FORTHCOMING ISSUES

August 1999	16 August 1999
September 1999	14 September 1999
October 1999	15 October 1999
November 1999	15 November 1999
December 1999	14 December 1999
January 2000	17 January 2000

RELEASE DATE

GENERAL

This publication provides information on a wide range of economic indicators which are the latest available at the time of publication. In a number of cases, figures appearing in this summary are preliminary and are subject to revision in subsequent issues.

SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT AND TREND ESTIMATION Seasonal adjustment is a means of removing the estimated effects of normal seasonal variation from a series so that the effects of other variations on that series can be more clearly recognised. Seasonal adjustment does not aim to remove the irregular or non-seasonal influences which may be present. This means that movements of seasonally adjusted estimates may not be reliable indicators of trend behaviour. Smoothing seasonally adjusted series produces a measure of the underlying trend by reducing the impact of the irregular component of the series. This smoothing technique does result in revisions to the most recent estimates as additional observations become available. For an explanation of seasonal adjustment derivation, refer to the publication *Seasonally Adjusted Indicators* (Cat. no. 1308.0).

#### STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATES

One measure of the variability which occurs as a result of surveying only samples of the total business population is the standard error. There are about two chances in three that a survey estimate is within one standard error of the figure that would have been obtained if all businesses had been included, and about 19 chances in 20 that it is within two standard errors. The standard error can also be expressed as a percentage of the estimate and this is known as the relative standard error (RSE). For detailed explanatory notes and definitions for the items shown in this publication, readers are referred to the specific ABS publications.

Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications* (Cat. no. 1101.0). A *Release Advice* (Cat. no. 1105.0) is issued on Tuesdays and Fridays which lists publications to be released in the next few days. These publications are available from any ABS office.

SYMBOLS AND OTHER USAGES kWh kilowatt hour teraJ terajoule n.a. not available

n.p. not available for publication but included in totals where applicable

n.y.a. not yet available

r figure or series revised since previous issue

. not applicable

nil or rounded to zero

\_\_\_\_ break in continuity of series (where a line is drawn across

a column between two consecutive figures)

Gregory W. Bray Regional Director New South Wales

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#### NSW OVERVIEW

**EMPLOYMENT** 

Employment in NSW has increased slightly over the past month and in May 1999 the seasonally adjusted estimate of employed persons was 2,918,700. National employment of 8,712,200 persons was relatively steady in this period.

UNEMPLOYMENT

Unemployment in NSW fell by 5.8% in May 1999 to a seasonally adjusted figure of 203,500 and the unemployment rate fell from 6.9% to 6.5%. The national unemployment rate remained steady at 7.5%.

**BUILDING APPROVALS** 

The seasonally adjusted number of new dwelling units approved for NSW in April 1999 fell by 5.8% from the previous month to 4,190.

RETAIL

In seasonally adjusted terms, total retail sales for NSW in April 1999 was \$4,266.8 million. For March 1999, the figure was \$4,247.8 million.

NEW MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS

New motor vehicle registrations for NSW in seasonally adjusted terms in April 1999 fell 5.0% from the previous month to 22,410.

TOURISM

In NSW the room occupancy rate for the March quarter 1999 increased by 0.8 percentage points to 60.6% compared with the previous March quarter. There was also an increase of 0.8 percentage points compared with the December quarter 1998.

FINANCE

The seasonally adjusted value of housing finance commitments for owner occupation in NSW in April 1999 was \$2,176 million. This represented a decrease of 1.4% on the previous month and an increase of 15.4% since April 1998.

INVESTMENT

The March quarter 1999 trend estimate of total private new capital expenditure (at current prices) for NSW was \$3,756 million, an increase of 1.5 % from the previous quarter.

#### **BUILDING APPROVALS**

In seasonally adjusted terms, the number of new dwelling units approved in NSW for April 1999 was 4,190 (including 2,257 houses). This represented a fall of 5.8% on the previous month. Nationally, the figure was 12,791 (including 8,611 houses), a rise of 0.3% on March 1999. The value of new residential building for NSW in April 1999 was \$474 million, a fall of 12.3% on the previous month and down 17.9% on the figure a year ago. Nationally, there were falls of 1.0% and 8.1% respectively over the same periods.

In original terms, the value of total building was \$778.8 million, a fall of \$229.5 million or 22.8% from March 1999. Most of this fall was in non-residential building (down 47.5%). The trend for the value of total building for NSW in April 1999 has fallen by 0.2% following an increase of 11.3% over the previous five months.

#### Storm damage

NSW (particularly Sydney Statistical Division) suffered extensive storm damage during April. Most of the repair work being undertaken as a result of this damage will not be reflected in ABS building statistics because the work does not generally require council approval. It may even result in a decrease in building approvals as normal alteration and addition work may be deferred.

#### INVESTMENT

For total private new capital expenditure (at current prices) the March quarter 1999 trend estimate for NSW was \$3,756 million. This represented an increase of \$55 million or 1.5% from the previous quarter, compared with a decrease of -0.7% for Australia over the same period.

The trend estimates for expenditure on New buildings and structures for NSW fell by 4.5% to \$1,044 million, compared with a 5.8% fall nationally. Similarly, the trend estimates for expenditure on Equipment, plant and machinery for NSW rose by \$104 million (4.0%) to \$2,712 million compared with a national level increase of 1.7% for the March quarter. NSW expenditure represented 29.7% of the Australian estimate for New buildings and structures and 33.6% for Equipment, plant and machinery in the March quarter 1999.

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	Estima	ted resident at end	population of period		Increas	se during period		mated resident for year ended
	Males	Females	Persons	Natural increase(a)	Net estimated migration	Total increase(b)	30 June	31 December
Period	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
1996	3 098.9	3 143.1	6 241.9	41.8	31.3	73.1	6 167.2	6 204.2
1997	3 129.9	3 172.6	6 302.5	41.2	19.3	60.6	6 240.9	6 276.1
1998	3 172.5	3 211.8	6 384.3	40.4	41.4	81.8	6 307.1	6 344.3
1997								
September qtr	3 123.3	3 165.9	6 289.2	7.6	8.8	16.4		
December qtr	3 129.9	3 172.6	6 302.5	11.9	1.3	13.2		
1998								
March qtr	3 143.1	3 184.3	6 327.4	9.9	15.0	24.9		
June qtr	3 150.5	3 191.1	6 341.6	10.2	4.0	14.2		
September qtr	3 161.5	3 201.6	6 363.0	8.2	13.2	21.4		
December qtr	3 172.5	3 211.8	6 384.3	12.1	9.1	21.2		

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Excess of live births over deaths.

Source: Australian Demographic Statistics (Cat. no. 3101.0).

b For dates prior to June 1996, differences between the total increase shown and the sum of the natural increase and net estimated migration arise from retrospective adjustments to population estimates (which are made after each Census) to compensate for any intercensal discrepancy. A description of intercensal discrepancy is contained in the ABS information paper Demographic Estimates: Concepts, Sources and Methods (Cat. no. 3228.0).

				New So	uth Wales			Australia
				Change from prior period	Change from same period prior year		Change from prior period	Change from same period prior year
Indicator	Unit	Latest period	Latest figure	%	%	Latest figure	%	%
Employed persons (seasonally adjusted)	'000	May 99	2 918.7	0.6	2.6	8 712.2	0.1	1.7
Unemployed persons (seasonally adjusted)	'000	May 99	203.5	-5.8	-11.5	702.0	-0.7	-6.3
Labour force (seasonally adjusted)	'000	May 99	3 122.2	0.2	1.5	9 414.2	0.0	1.1
Participation rate (seasonally adjusted)	%	May 99	61.6	0.0	0.2	62.9	0.2	-0.5
Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)	%	May 99	6.5	-5.8	-13.3	7.5	0.0	-6.3
Industrial disputes—working days lost	'000	Mar 99	7.8	-80.6	-60.4	45.5	-4.6	-9.4
Job vacancies	'000	Feb 99	24.4	1.1	4.0	66.6	-14.0	-11.8
Average weekly employee earnings—full-time adult ordinary time earnings (seasonally adjusted)	\$	Feb 99	783.6	1.6	5.3	743.1	0.2	3.1

Source: Labour Force, Australia, Preliminary (Cat. no. 6202.0), Job Vacancies and Overtime, Australia (Cat. no. 6354.0), Industrial Disputes, Australia (Cat. no. 6321.0), Average Weekly Earnings, States and Australia (Cat. no. 6302.0).

### LABOUR, NSW

				Sea	sonally adjusted		
	Employed persons	Unemployed persons	Labour force	Participation rate	Unemployment rate	Industrial disputes (working days lost)	Job vacancies
Period	'000	'000	'000	%	%	'000	'000
1998							
March	2 838.4	229.0	3 067.4	61.5	7.5	19.7	
April	2 853.5	219.5	3 073.0	61.6	7.1	8.1	
May	2 845.3	229.9	3 075.2	61.5	7.5	28.1	20.5
June	2 868.8	233.5	3 102.3	62.0	7.5	r32.9	
July	2 890.0	230.9	3 120.9	62.3	7.4	10.3	
August	2 851.9	230.8	3 082.7	61.5	7.5	20.8	26.4
September	2 895.0	227.3	3 122.3	62.2	7.3	7.6	
October	2 904.6	207.2	3 111.8	61.9	6.7	8.9	
November	2 859.4	238.2	3 097.6	61.6	7.7	r10.6	24.1
December	2 891.5	211.5	3 103.0	61.6	6.8	28.8	
1999							
January	2 884.6	215.2	3 099.8	61.5	6.9	2.7	
February	2 906.0	208.7	3 114.7	61.7	6.7	40.3	24.4
March	2 903.5	219.8	3 123.3	61.8	7.0	7.8	
April	2 901.0	216.1	3 117.1	61.6	6.9	n.y.a.	
May	2 918.7	203.5	3 122.2	61.6	6.5	n.y.a.	n.y.a.

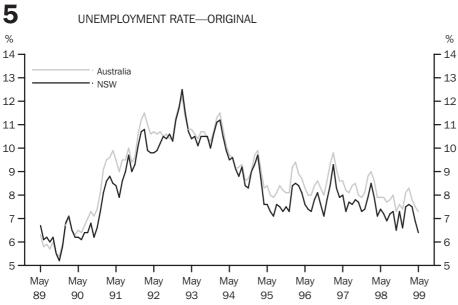
Source: Labour Force, Australia, Preliminary (Cat. no. 6202.0), Industrial Disputes, Australia (Cat. no. 6321.0), Job Vacancies and Overtime, Australia (Cat. no. 6354.0).

_	I	Employed	Unen	nployed					
	Full-time workers	Total	Looking for full-time work	Total	Labour force	Not in labour force	Civilian population aged 15 years and over	Unemployment rate(a)	Participatior rate(b,
Month	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	%	%
					MALES				
May									
1995	1 405.3	1 573.1	122.6	136.7	1 709.8	645.4	2 355.1	8.0	72.6
1996	1 408.6	1 592.6	117.6	136.2	1 728.8	659.3	2 388.0	7.9	72.4
1997	1 408.4	1 598.1	126.3	141.9	1 740.0	680.8	2 420.8	8.2	71.9
1998									
March	1 434.0	1 614.9	122.2	139.4	1 754.3	694.5	2 448.8	7.9	71.6
April	1 443.1	1 624.3	103.4	121.5	1 745.8	705.7	2 451.5	7.0	71.2
May	1 435.3	1 616.3	114.6	132.1	1 748.4	705.9	2 454.3	7.6	71.2
June	1 444.7	1 626.2	116.7	133.8	1 760.0	697.0	2 457.0	7.6	71.6
July	1 465.0	1 641.6	114.2	126.6	1 768.2	691.5	2 459.7	7.2	71.9
August	1 424.3	1 599.4	115.5	134.6	1 734.1	728.4	2 462.4	7.8	70.4
September	1 466.6	1 649.3	117.0	134.2	1 783.4	681.8	2 465.2	7.5	72.3
October	1 460.5	1 648.9	96.8	110.5	1 759.4	709.0	2 468.4	6.3	71.3
November	1 441.2	1 633.0	112.0	129.4	1 762.4	709.1	2 471.5	7.3	71.3
December	1 467.6	1 658.3	107.6	121.5	1 779.8	695.0	2 474.7	6.8	71.9
1999	1 101.0	1 000.0	101.0	121.0	1110.0	000.0	2	0.0	7 2.0
January	1 447.1	1 633.0	124.6	140.8	1 773.8	703.8	2 477.5	7.9	71.6
February	1 453.4	1 644.9	113.5	133.1	1 778.0	703.4	2 480.3	7.5	71.7
March	1 454.3	1 661.9	102.9	126.1	1 788.0	695.2	2 483.1	7.1	72.0
April	1 454.5	1 657.8	95.6	115.5	1 773.3	713.3	2 486.6	6.5	71.3
May	1 460.0	1 662.7	93.3	110.1	1 772.8	717.2	2 490.0	6.2	71.2
iviay	1 400.0	1 002.1	30.0	110.1	FEMALES		2 430.0	0.2	7 1.2
Meu					TEMALLO				
May	000.0	4 470 5	<b>57.0</b>	00.0	4 000 0	4 4 7 0 0	0.444.4	7.4	E4 =
1995	698.9	1 173.5	57.9	89.0	1 262.6	1 178.8	2 441.4	7.1	51.7
1996	704.9	1 196.1	61.8	94.6	1 290.7	1 187.9	2 478.5	7.3	52.1
1997	721.9	1 208.4	66.5	101.0	1 309.4	1 202.7	2 512.1	7.7	52.1
1998									
March	718.4	1 220.7	72.8	104.5	1 325.2	1 213.1	2 538.3	7.9	52.2
April	722.2	1 228.7	62.7	95.5	1 324.2	1 216.6	2 540.8	7.2	52.1
May	710.2	1 224.1	68.2	93.7	1 317.8	1 225.5	2 543.3	7.1	51.8
June	730.2	1 245.8	57.1	88.3	1 334.1	1 211.8	2 545.9	6.6	52.4
July	765.8	1 259.0	59.7	88.2	1 347.2	1 201.3	2 548.5	6.5	52.9
August	724.7	1 220.6	62.4	85.0	1 305.5	1 245.5	2 551.1	6.5	51.2
September	756.9	1 276.0	61.7	97.1	1 373.1	1 180.6	2 553.7	7.1	53.8
October	751.4	1 258.7	54.8	90.3	1 349.0	1 207.6	2 556.6	6.7	52.8
November	733.3	1 235.5	61.0	96.8	1 332.3	1 227.2	2 559.6	7.3	52.1
December	762.7	1 276.6	57.4	86.6	1 363.3	1 199.2	2 562.5	6.4	53.2
1999									
January	739.5	1 218.0	62.6	90.1	1 308.0	1 257.1	2 565.1	6.9	51.0
February	738.4	1 236.4	67.4	104.5	1 340.9	1 226.8	2 567.7	7.8	52.2
March	728.8	1 238.3	64.3	108.7	1 347.0	1 223.3	2 570.2	8.1	52.4
April	726.0	1 242.6	62.5	98.5	1 341.2	1 232.0	2 573.2	7.3	52.1
	729.5	1 250.2	56.8	90.0	1 340.3	1 235.9	2 576.1	6.7	52.0

	E	Employed	Unen	nployed					
	Full-time workers	Total	Looking for full-time work	Total	Labour force	Not in labour force	Civilian population aged 15 years and over	Unemployment rate(a)	Participation rate(b)
Month	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	%	%
					PERSONS	S			
May									
1995	2 104.2	2 746.6	180.5	225.7	2 972.4	1 824.2	4 796.6	7.6	62.0
1996	2 113.5	2 788.6	179.4	230.8	3 019.4	1 847.1	4 866.6	7.6	62.0
1997	2 130.3	2 806.5	192.7	242.9	3 049.4	1 883.5	4 932.8	8.0	61.8
1998									
March	2 152.4	2 835.6	195.0	243.9	3 079.5	1 907.6	4 987.1	7.9	61.7
April	2 165.3	2 853.1	166.1	217.0	3 070.0	1 922.3	4 992.4	7.1	61.5
May	2 145.5	2 840.4	182.8	225.8	3 066.2	1 931.4	4 997.6	7.4	61.4
June	2 174.8	2 872.0	173.8	222.1	3 094.1	1 908.8	5 002.9	7.2	61.8
July	2 230.8	2 900.5	173.8	214.8	3 115.3	1 892.8	5 008.2	6.9	62.2
August	2 149.1	2 820.0	177.9	219.6	3 039.6	1 973.9	5 013.5	7.2	60.6
September	2 223.5	2 925.2	178.7	231.3	3 156.5	1 862.4	5 018.9	7.3	62.9
October	2 211.9	2 907.6	151.6	200.8	3 108.4	1 916.6	5 025.0	6.5	61.9
November	2 174.5	2 868.5	173.0	226.3	3 094.7	1 936.4	5 031.1	7.3	61.5
December	2 230.2	2 934.9	165.0	208.1	3 143.1	1 894.2	5 037.2	6.6	62.4
1999									
January	2 186.6	2 850.9	187.1	230.9	3 081.8	1 960.9	5 042.6	7.5	61.1
February	2 191.8	2 881.3	180.9	237.5	3 118.8	1 929.2	5 048.0	7.6	61.8
March	2 183.2	2 900.2	167.2	234.8	3 134.9	1 918.4	5 053.4	7.5	62.0
April	2 182.1	2 900.4	158.1	214.0	3 114.5	1 945.3	5 059.8	6.9	61.6
May	2 189.6	2 912.9	150.2	200.1	3 113.1	1 953.1	5 066.1	6.4	61.4

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> The number of unemployed in each group expressed as a percentage of the labour force in the same group.

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



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

b The labour force in each group expressed as a percentage of the civilian population aged 15 years and over in the same group.

				New	South Wales			Australia
				Change from prior period	Change from same period prior year		Change from prior period	Change from same period prior year
Indicator	Unit	Latest period	Latest figure	%	%	Latest figure	%	%
Raw coal won-								
Underground	'000 tonnes	Mar 99	4 921	27.9	10.9	7 647	42.7	32.2
Open cut	'000 tonnes	Mar 99	7 827	13.2	34.9	20 155	14.9	32.7
Total	'000 tonnes	Mar 99	12 748	18.5	24.5	27 802	21.4	32.5
Electricity	mill. kWh	Mar qtr 99	15 609	2.5	8.5	45 084	4.3	4.3
Gas(a)	teraJ	Mar qtr 99	22 367	-10.7	-0.7	144 979	-7.9	2.8

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Available for issue through mains. Includes ACT.

Source: Joint Coal Board for NSW and Australia from ABS unpublished statistics, Manufacturing Production, Australia (Cat. no. 8301.0).

#### 7 COAL, ELECTRICITY AND GAS PRODUCTION, NSW-ORIGINAL

			Raw coal won		
	Underground	Open cut	Total	Electrici	ity Gas(a)
Period	'000 tonnes	'000 tonnes	'000 tonnes	mill. kW	/h teraJ
1995–96	54 314	58 775	113 089	62 04	17 104 141
1996-97	54 643	69 037	123 680	62 78	109 284
1997–98	58 299	75 710	134 009	61 80	111 665
1998					
January	5 292	6 463	11 755	1	
February	4 553	5 948	10 501	14 39	90 22 521
March	4 437	5 800	10 237	J	
April	5 160	7 052	12 212	1	
May	4 648	5 851	10 499	15 56	29 614
June	4 842	6 811	11 653	J	
July	5 130	7 241	12 371	1	
August	3 788	5 616	9 404	16 54	32 258
September	4 734	6 372	11 106	J	
October	4 732	7 131	11 863	]	
November	3 988	6 931	10 919	15 22	25 039
December	r3 346	6 500	r9 846	J	
1999					
January	3 273	r6 159	r9 432	1	
February	3 848	r6 913	r10 761	15 60	9 22 367
March	4 921	7 827	12 748	J	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Available for issue through mains. Includes ACT.

Source: Joint Coal Board, Manufacturing Production, Australia (Cat. no. 8301.0).

			New South Wales					Australia
				Change from prior period	Change from same period prior year		Change from prior period	Change from same period prior year
Indicator	Unit	Latest period	Latest figure	%	%	Latest figure	%	%
Number of dwelling units(a) (seasonally adjusted)—		-						
New houses	No.	Apr 99	2 257	-12.8	-12.7	8 611	-4.8	-9.1
Total	No.	Apr 99	4 190	-5.8	-16.6	12 791	0.3	-10.6
Value of new residential building (seasonally adjusted)	\$m	Apr 99	474.0	-12.3	-17.9	1 476.5	-1.0	-8.1
Value of alterations and additions to residential building(b) (seasonally adjusted)  Value of non-residential building(c) (original)	\$m \$m	Apr 99 Apr 99	92.6 207.2	-3.6 -47.5	-42.3 -60.7	223.3 799.0	-3.8 -24.9	-17.8 -36.0
Value of all building (original)	\$m	Apr 99	778.8	-22.8	-38.3	2 421.8	-14.6	-21.4

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Includes dwelling units approved as part of the construction of non-residential building and alterations and additions to existing buildings (including conversions to dwelling units).

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

9 BUILDING APPROVALS, NSW

	Number of d	welling units	a), seasonally	/ adjusted	Value of building approvals					
	Ne	w houses		Total	Sea	asonally adjusted		Original		
	Private sector	Total	Private sector	Total	New residential building	Alterations and additions to residential building(b)	Non-residential building(c)	All building		
Period	no.	no.	no.	no.	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m		
1995–96							3 650.3	9 168.6		
1996-97							5 169.2	11 356.6		
1997-98							5 910.9	13 348.6		
1998										
February	2 451	2 482	3 635	3 767	413.4	122.5	461.8	943.8		
March	2 574	2 592	4 496	4 633	522.9	112.7	386.4	988.9		
April	2 578	2 585	4 909	5 025	577.0	160.4	527.0	1 263.2		
May	2 405	2 419	3 970	4 047	459.6	129.4	645.7	1 335.0		
June	2 483	2 529	5 145	5 246	576.8	139.1	534.3	1 214.8		
July	2 289	2 450	4 594	4 920	564.1	142.5	329.9	1 103.2		
August	2 000	2 016	3 672	3 776	465.5	91.3	612.0	1 158.0		
September	2 037	2 060	3 773	3 857	416.0	97.2	322.9	867.3		
October	2 348	2 357	3 983	4 138	468.0	79.2	313.5	862.1		
November	2 240	2 314	4 085	4 497	556.1	94.4	461.5	1 180.1		
December	2 393	2 421	4 418	4 636	547.8	90.6	234.7	838.5		
1999										
January	2 206	2 230	4 227	4 327	473.5	94.1	297.1	756.3		
February	2 421	2 440	3 995	4 074	515.0	106.2	428.9	990.4		
March	2 580	2 588	r4 293	r4 449	r540.3	96.1	394.5	r1 008.3		
April	2 253	2 257	4 131	4 190	474.0	92.6	207.2	778.8		

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Includes dwelling units approved as part of the construction of non-residential building and alterations and additions to existing buildings (including conversions to dwelling units).

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup> Valued at \$10,000 or more. Includes conversions of existing buildings into residential buildings.

c Valued at \$50,000 or more.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup> Valued at \$10,000 or more. Includes conversions of existing buildings into residential buildings.

 $<sup>^{\</sup>rm c}$  Valued at \$50,000 or more.

			New	South Wales			Australia
		Latest figure	Change from prior period	Change from same period prior year	Latest figure	Change from prior period	Change from same period prior year
Indicator	Latest period	\$m	%	%	\$m	%	%
Food retailing	Apr 99	1 540.9	-4.5	1.6	4 813.3	-3.7	4.6
Department stores	Apr 99	381.1	5.6	7.4	1 027.2	-5.7	1.0
Clothing and soft good retailing	Apr 99	307.4	5.8	14.0	843.5	-1.5	14.3
Household good retailing	Apr 99	418.0	5.6	-3.7	1 324.0	4.5	3.4
Recreational good retailing	Apr 99	243.9	-0.3	6.1	690.8	-1.9	9.4
Other retailing	Apr 99	437.6	8.3	8.0	1 264.1	-0.8	7.1
Hospitality and services	Apr 99	937.8	-0.1	23.0	2 169.1	0.0	14.5
Total value of retail sales	Apr 99	4 266.8	0.4	7.4	12 132.0	-1.8	6.9

The figures shown are derived from a monthly survey of retail establishments. Excludes motor vehicle, boat and caravan dealers, service stations, smash repairers, tyre and battery retailers, bread and milk vendors, footwear repairers and electrical appliance repairers n.e.c. Retail establishments which do not have employees are excluded from the survey. Turnover includes retail sales, wholesale sales, takings from repairs, meals and hiring of goods; and commissions from agency activity (e.g. commissions received from collecting dry cleaning, selling lottery tickets etc.).

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

## TURNOVER OF RETAIL ESTABLISHMENTS(a), NSW—SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

				.,,				
	Food retailing	Department stores	Clothing and soft good retailing	Household good retailing	Recreational good retailing	Other retailing	Hospitality and services	Total
Period	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
1998								
February	1 558.1	328.7	266.5	437.4	224.7	407.0	754.4	3 976.9
March	1 547.6	334.2	265.2	444.7	224.0	394.2	760.3	3 970.3
April	1 515.9	354.9	269.6	434.1	229.8	405.0	762.3	3 971.5
May	1 510.2	362.3	286.9	426.9	221.5	407.7	775.4	3 991.0
June	1 532.2	312.4	271.8	422.6	224.5	412.4	775.2	3 951.0
July	1 514.5	395.7	281.4	426.9	219.5	406.0	801.9	4 046.0
August	1 483.1	348.5	286.4	425.6	205.2	397.3	785.4	3 931.4
September	1 530.0	355.6	296.4	416.2	221.5	405.1	794.3	4 019.1
October	1 552.4	358.9	310.6	400.4	224.5	393.5	8.808	4 049.2
November	1 528.5	381.2	294.9	391.4	221.3	395.7	851.7	4 064.6
December	1 535.5	341.4	296.0	389.2	222.5	395.8	821.1	4 001.5
1999								
January	1 575.2	417.2	298.5	435.2	235.2	409.9	893.0	4 264.3
February	1 557.1	358.2	285.0	409.1	226.5	416.6	922.9	4 175.5
March	1 613.0	361.0	290.5	395.9	244.7	403.9	938.9	4 247.8
April	1 540.9	381.1	307.4	418.0	243.9	437.6	937.8	4 266.8

The figures shown are derived from a monthly survey of retail establishments. Excludes motor vehicle, boat and caravan dealers, service stations, smash repairers, tyre and battery retailers, bread and milk vendors, footwear repairers and electrical appliance repairers n.e.c. Retail establishments which do not have employees are excluded from the survey. Turnover includes retail sales, wholesale sales, takings from repairs, meals and hiring of goods; and commissions from agency activity (e.g. commissions received from collecting dry cleaning, selling lottery tickets etc.).

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

	_		Australia				
		Latest figure	Change from prior period	Change from same period prior year	Latest figure	Change from prior period	Change from same period prior year
Indicator	Latest period	no.	%	%	no.	%	%
Passenger vehicles	Apr 99	19 040	-4.7	0.7	56 008	-4.3	1.3
Other vehicles (excluding motor cycles)	Apr 99	3 370	-7.0	0.2	9 805	-9.7	-6.0
Total registrations (excluding motor cycles)	Apr 99	22 410	-5.0	0.6	65 814	-5.2	0.1

Includes vehicles (other than those of the defence forces) owned by Government departments and authorities. Excludes mobile plant and equipment, tractors, trailers and non-motorised caravans.

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

#### 13 NEW MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS(a), NSW—SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

	Passenger vehicles	Other vehicles (excluding motor cycles)	Total (excluding motor cycles)
Period	no.	no.	no.
1998			
February	18 697	3 202	21 898
March	18 527	3 082	21 609
April	18 913	3 363	22 276
May	18 745	3 207	21 952
June	21 013	3 245	24 258
July	21 482	3 315	24 796
August	19 089	3 266	22 355
September	20 003	3 214	23 217
October	18 356	3 375	21 731
November	19 815	3 398	23 212
December	19 616	3 501	23 117
1999			
January	18 567	3 610	22 177
February	18 151	3 353	21 504
March	19 978	3 623	23 601
April	19 040	3 370	22 410

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Includes vehicles (other than those of the defence forces) owned by Government departments and authorities. Excludes mobile plant and equipment, tractors, trailers and non-motorised caravans.

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

	_		New	South Wales			Australia
			Change from prior period	Change from same period prior year		Change from prior period	Change from same period prior year
Unit	Latest period	Latest figure	%	%	Latest figure	%	%
'000	Mar qtr 99	3 213.2	0.1	6.5	9 585.8	-3.2	5.8
							0.2 5.0
		'000 Mar qtr 99 % Mar qtr 99	'000 Mar qtr 99 3 213.2 % Mar qtr 99 60.6	Unit         Latest period         Latest figure         %           '000         Mar qtr 99         3 213.2         0.1           %         Mar qtr 99         60.6         1.3	Unit Latest period Latest figure % %  '000 Mar qtr 99 3 213.2 0.1 6.5  Mar qtr 99 60.6 1.3 1.3	Unit         Latest period         Latest figure         %         Change from same period prior year           '000         Mar qtr 99         3 213.2         0.1         6.5         9 585.8           %         Mar qtr 99         60.6         1.3         1.3         58.1	Unit         Latest period         Latest figure         %         Latest figure         %           '000         Mar qtr 99         3 213.2         0.1         6.5         9 585.8         -3.2           %         Mar qtr 99         60.6         1.3         1.3         58.1         -2.2

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Licensed hotels with facilities, motels and guest houses and serviced apartments with 15 or more rooms or units.

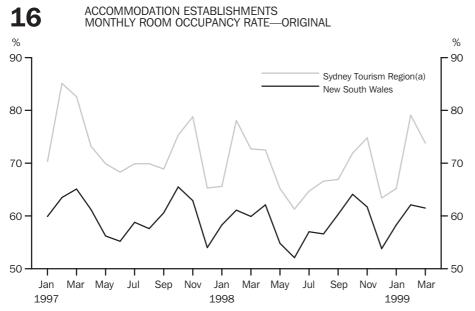
Source: Tourist Accommodation, Australia (Cat. no. 8635.0).

## ACCOMMODATION ESTABLISHMENTS(a) SYDNEY AND NSW—ORIGINAL

		Sydney Touris	New South Wales				
	Room nights	Room occupancy rate	Takings	Room nights	Room occupancy rate	Takings	
Period	'000	%	\$'000	'000	%	\$'000	
1997							
December qtr	1 653.5	73.0	235 244	3 081.0	60.8	343 650	
1998							
March qtr	1 664.9	71.9	235 516	3 017.3	59.8	343 248	
June qtr	1 568.3	66.3	216 500	2 890.3	56.3	316 721	
September qtr	1 640.0	66.1	222 944	3 077.3	57.9	342 102	
December qtr	1 777.0	70.0	246 125	3 210.5	59.8	359 172	
1999							
March qtr	1 828.8	72.5	248 997	3 213.2	60.6	360 674	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Licensed hotels with facilities, motels and guest houses and serviced apartments with 15 or more rooms or units.

Source: Tourist Accommodation, Small Area Data, NSW (Prod. no. 8635.1.40.001).



(a) Excludes Gosford, Wyong and Blue Mountains Statistical Local Areas. Source: Tourist Accommodation, Small Area Data, NSW (Prod. no. 8635.1.40.001).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup> Excludes Gosford, Wyong and Blue Mountains Statistical Local Areas.

		_		New Sou	th Wales(a)	Australia(b)		
				Change from prior period	Change from same period prior year		Change from prior period	Change from same period prior year
Indicator	Unit	Latest period	Latest figure	%	%	Latest figure	%	%
Consumer Price Index (all groups)	1989–90 =100.0	Mar qtr 99	122.6	0.2	1.6	121.8	-0.1	1.2
Price index of materials used in house building (all groups)	1989-90 =100.0	Mar qtr 99	122.0	0.2	1.0	119.5	-0.2	0.7
Price index of materials used in building other than house building (all groups)	1989-90 =100.0	Mar qtr 99	115.2	0.1	0.7	115.2	0.0	1.0

a Refers to State capital city—Sydney.

Source: Consumer Price Index, Australia (Cat. no. 6401.0), Price Index of Materials Used in Building Other Than House Building, Six State Capital Cities (Cat. no. 6407.0), Price Index of Materials Used in House Building, Six State Capital Cities (Cat. no. 6408.0).

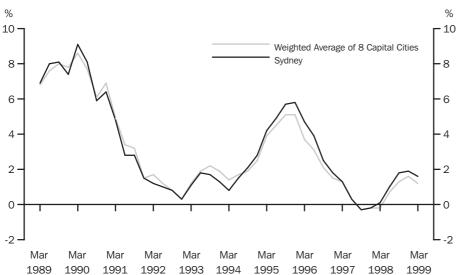
## consumer and producer price indexes, NSW(a)

	Consumer Price Index, all groups	Price Index of materials used in house building, all groups	Price Index of materials used in building other than house building, all groups
Period	1989-90 = 100.0	1989-90 = 100.0	1989-90 = 100.0
1997			
December qtr	120.1	119.4	114.2
1998			
March qtr	120.7	120.8	114.4
June qtr	121.4	120.7	114.8
September qtr	121.9	120.8	115.0
December qtr	122.4	121.8	115.1
1999			
March qtr.	122.6	122.0	115.2

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Refers to State capital city—Sydney.

Source: Consumer Price Index, Australia (Cat. no. 6401.0), Price Index of Materials Used in Building Other Than House Building, Six State Capital Cities (Cat. no. 6407.0), Price Index of Materials Used in House Building, Six State Capital Cities (Cat. no. 6408.0).

# 19 CONSUMER PRICE INDEX, ANNUAL RATE OF CHANGE



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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup> For the Consumer Price Index this is the weighted average of eight capital cities and for the other two indexes, the weighted average of the six State capital cities.

	_		New So	outh Wales		Australia	
	Latest	Latest figure	Change from prior period	Change from same period prior year	Latest figure	Change from prior period	Change from same period prior year
Indicator	period	\$m	%	%	\$m	%	%
Lending commitments for the construction or purchase of dwellings—							
Construction of dwellings	Apr 99	244	-28.6	9.3	828	-17.3	17.8
Purchase of newly erected dwellings	Apr 99	79	-24.9	-25.6	222	-15.7	-0.8
Purchase of established dwellings(a)	Apr 99	1 477	-15.1	13.2	3 497	-15.8	19.8
Refinancing of existing dwellings	Apr 99	340	-16.6	19.1	829	-16.5	10.6
Lending commitments for alterations and additions	Apr 99	97	-22.9	1.8	261	-18.1	16.9
Total lending commitments to individuals for housing(b)	Apr 99	2 140	-17.5	11.5	5 376	-16.1	17
Total lending commitments to individuals for housing (seasonally adjusted)(b)	Apr 99	2 176	-1.4	15.4	5 558	-1.2	18.5
<sup>a</sup> Excludes refinancing.							

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup> Excludes alterations and additions.

Source: Housing Finance for Owner Occupation, Australia (Cat. no. 5609.0).

21 SECURED HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS TO INDIVIDUALS FOR OWNER OCCUPATION, NSW

	Lending com	mitments for the o	construction or se of dwellings			Total lending to individuals t	commitments for housing(b)
	Construction of dwellings	Purchase of newly erected dwellings	Purchase of established dwellings(a)	Refinancing of existing dwellings	Lending commitments for alterations and additions	Original	Seasonally adjusted
Period	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
1995–96	1 895	898	10 145	2 930	1 262	15 868	
1996–97	2 117	1 234	12 566	4 062	1 221	19 979	
1997–98	2 625	1 280	14 445	3 573	1 174	21 973	
1998							
February	216	98	1 137	298	105	1 750	1 804
March	239	112	1 290	314	107	1 955	1 778
April	223	107	1 305	285	95	1 920	1 885
May	216	95	1 261	312	99	1 885	1 818
June	262	116	1 360	359	102	2 097	2 037
July	263	123	1 284	376	97	2 045	1 827
August	224	93	1 171	307	85	1 796	1 796
September	242	105	1 158	326	86	1 831	1 755
October	222	95	1 220	302	85	1 838	1 902
November	229	100	1 357	337	91	2 024	2 004
December	235	96	1 343	295	82	1 970	2 095
1999							
January	176	63	1 025	249	74	1 512	2 094
February	239	75	1 223	312	89	1 849	1 907
March	r341	r106	r1 741	r407	r126	r2 595	r2 207
April	244	79	1 477	340	97	2 140	2 176

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Excludes refinancing.

Source: Housing Finance for Owner Occupation, Australia (Cat. no. 5609.0).

 $<sup>^{\</sup>mbox{\scriptsize b}}$  Excludes alterations and additions.

	Actual	Estimates
	4 months ended 31 March 1999	12 months ended 30 June 1999
Item	\$m	\$m
Current receipts—		
Stamp duties	2 913	3 459
Payroll tax	2 671	3 621
Land tax	417	945
Motor vehicle taxes	775	1 002
Gaming and betting	1 052	1 440
Commonwealth safety net taxes	1 465	1 873
Other taxes	863	1 095
Commonwealth general purpose grants	3 529	4 731
Commonwealth specific purpose grants	2 619	3 230
Dividends/tax equivalents	1 108	1 251
Other current receipts	876	1 202
Total current receipts	18 288	23 849
Current payments—		
Interest payments	887	1 276
Superannuation	1 097	1 462
Subsidies to non-budget sector—		
Redundancies	65	77
Services	825	798
Departmental payments—	40	=-
Redundancies	46	53
Health	4 338	5 706
Education	3 908	5 364
Law and order	1 324	1 733
Community services Other	886	1 217
Treasurer's advances	4 199	5 693 125
Less User charges	-1 503	-2 014
Total current outlays	-1 503 16 072	-2 014 21 490
Current result surplus/deficit(-)	2 216	2 359
Capital receipts—	_, .	
Commonwealth specific purpose grants	582	788
Other capital receipts	339	10
Total capital receipts	921	798
Cross fixed conital neumants	0.01=	2011
Gross fixed capital payments	2 047	2 841
Capital grants	678	1 016
Less Asset sales	-420 2.205	-745 2.112
Total capital outlays	2 305	3 112
Capital result surplus/deficit(-)	-1 384	-2 314
Government Finance Statistics result surplus/deficit(-)	832	45

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Includes Department of Training and Education Co-ordination, Department of School Education, Office of the Board of Studies and TAFE.

Source: Financial Statement released by NSW Treasury. Figures may differ from data published in annual ABS publications.

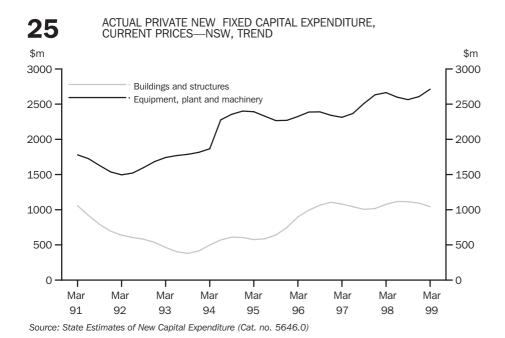
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup> Includes Attorney Generals Department, Department of Corrective Services and Police Services.

c Expenditure from the Treasurer's Advance is included in the relevant current payments figures.

	_		New	South Wales			Australia		
		Latest figure	Change from prior period	Change from same period prior year	Latest figure	Change from prior period	Change from same period prior year		
Indicator	Latest period	\$m	%	%	\$m	%	%		
Type of asset—									
New buildings and structures	Mar qtr	1 044	-4.5	-3.1	3 511	-5.8	4.8		
Equipment, plant and machinery	Mar qtr	2 712	4.0	1.8	8 068	1.7	-4.6		
Total	Mar qtr	3 756	1.5	0.4	11 579	-0.7	-1.9		
Source: State Estimates of Private New Capital Expenditure (Cat. no. 5646.0).									

24 ACTUAL PRIVATE NEW FIXED CAPITAL EXPENDITURE, CURRENT PRICES—NSW, TREND

	Type of asset				
	New buildings and structures	Equipment, plant and machinery	Total		
Period	\$m	\$m	\$m		
1997					
December qtr	1 017	2 633	3 651		
1998					
March qtr	1 077	2 665	3 742		
June qtr	1 117	2 600	3 717		
September qtr	1 114	2 564	3 678		
December qtr	1 093	2 608	3 701		
1999					
March qtr	1 044	2 712	3 756		



	_	New South Wales			Australia		
		Latest figure	Change from prior period	Change from same period prior year	Latest figure	Change from prior period	Change from same period prior year
Item	Latest period	\$m	%	%	\$m	%	%
Overseas imports into NSW	Apr 99	3 385	-10.0	10.3	7 702	-11.6	3.4
Total overseas exports(c)	Apr 99	1 271	-14.8	-14.2	6 089	-11.7	-11.5
Export commodities and SITC(d) code—							
Meat and meat preparations (01)	Apr 99	72	-20.9	12.5	329	-10.8	28.0
Cereals and cereal preparations (04)	Apr 99	95	-15.2	-8.7	412	-10.2	-9.3
Wool and other animal hair (268)	Apr 99	40	-27.3	-39.4	169	-12.4	-30.2
Coal, coke and briquettes (32)	Apr 99	233	-23.6	-30.9	677	-8.9	-16.1
Iron and steel (67)	Apr 99	54	-36.5	-48.1	82	-45.7	-49.1
Aluminium (684)	Apr 99	81	-23.6	-19.0	241	-24.2	-16.0
Office machines and automatic data processing machines (75)	Apr 99	28	-6.7	-24.3	51	-13.6	-23.9

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Figures shown are Customs value.

Source: International Trade database.

# **27**

#### INTERNATIONAL TRADE, IMPORTS(a) AND EXPORTS(b), NSW

						0	verseas ex	ports of SITC	(d) commodities
	Overseas imports into NSW	Total overseas exports(c)	Meat and meat preparations (01)	Cereals and cereal preparations (04)	Wool and other animal hair (268)	Coal, coke and briquettes (32)	Iron and steel (67)	Aluminium (684)	Office machines and automatic data processing machines (75)
Period	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
1995–96	34 917	16 684	794	822	720	3 338	1 037	1 111	638
1996-97	34 229	17 730	784	1 540	859	3 426	968	993	535
1997-98	38 481	19 680	923	r1 588	1 061	4 048	1 168	1 226	522
1998									
February	2 804	1 463	75	119	82	322	87	82	38
March	3 439	r1 502	82	126	73	301	99	107	38
April	3 070	1 481	64	r104	66	337	104	100	37
May	3 271	1 672	82	97	67	346	118	109	38
June	3 594	1 643	79	86	49	366	118	126	42
July	3 770	r1 610	79	96	65	342	112	104	41
August	3 473	1 601	69	87	43	356	92	99	32
September	3 551	1 635	88	118	60	328	95	111	33
October	3 680	r1 530	77	59	74	356	68	106	28
November	3 747	1 519	85	79	73	332	81	91	26
December	r3 464	r1 689	84	139	67	363	70	91	23
1999									
January	r3 020	r1 338	70	102	42	337	68	104	18
February	3 095	1 325	79	99	61	272	70	r78	25
March	r3 763	r1 491	r91	r112	r55	305	r85	106	r30
April	3 385	1 271	72	95	40	233	54	81	28

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Figures shown are Customs value.

Source: International Trade database

 $<sup>^{\</sup>mathrm{b}}$  Figures shown are Free On Board (FOB) values.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>c</sup> Excludes re-exported goods.

d Standard International Trade Classification Revision 3.

Figures shown are Free On Board (FOB) values.

Excludes re-exported goods.

d Standard International Trade Classification Revision 3.

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