



ECONOMIC INDICATORS

NEW SOUTH WALES

EMBARGO: 11:30AM (CANBERRA TIME) TUES 16 MAR 1999

CONTENTS

	<i>page</i>
Notes	2
NSW Overview	3
Main features	4
List of tables and graphs	5
Population	6
Labour	7
Production	10
Building	11
Retail trade	12
New motor vehicle registrations	13
Tourism	14
Consumer and producer price indexes	15
Finance	16
State Government finance	17
Investment	18
International trade	19

- 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

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

<i>ISSUE</i>	<i>RELEASE DATE</i>
April 1999	16 April 1999
May 1999	14 May 1999
June 1999	15 June 1999
July 1999	14 July 1999
August 1999	16 August 1999
September 1999	14 September 1999

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

NSW OVERVIEW

EMPLOYMENT

There was little change in employment in NSW over the month and in January 1999 the seasonally adjusted figure was 2,889,600. National employment was unchanged in this period.

UNEMPLOYMENT

Unemployment in NSW rose by 4.2% in January 1999 to a seasonally adjusted figure of 216,400 while the unemployment rate rose from 6.7% to 7.0%. The national unemployment rate remained steady at 7.5%.

BUILDING APPROVALS

The seasonally adjusted number of new dwelling units approved for NSW in December 1998 increased by 8.8% from the previous month to 4,636.

RETAIL

In seasonally adjusted terms, total retail sales for NSW in December 1998 was \$4,003.1 million. The figure for the previous month was \$4,064.6 million.

NEW MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS

New motor vehicle registrations for NSW in seasonally adjusted terms in December 1998 fell slightly from the previous month to 23,117.

FINANCE

The seasonally adjusted value of housing finance for owner occupation in NSW in December 1998 was \$2,095 million. This represented an increase of 4.5% on the previous month and an increase of 16.7% since December 1997.

MAIN FEATURES

RETAIL TRADE

In seasonally adjusted terms, total retail turnover for NSW in December 1998 was \$4,003.1 million. A year earlier the figure was \$3,986.2 million. Nationally, total retail turnover for December 1998 was \$11,549.8 million, with the figure for December 1997 being \$11,177.8 million.

Of all industry groups in NSW, only Department stores showed significant movement. Retail turnover for this group was \$341.4 million, a decrease of 10.4% on November 1998.

The Food retailing industry contributed the largest share, \$1,537.2 million (38.4%), to the total retail turnover for the State in December 1998.

Nationally, Department stores also showed significant movement between November and December 1998 with a fall in retail turnover of 8.2% to \$1,007.0 million.

Compared with December 1997, increases were experienced by Clothing and soft good retailing (9.0% to \$798.1 million), and Food retailing (4.3% to \$4,728.0 million). As in NSW, the Food retailing industry group contributed the largest share (40.9%) to total national retail turnover in December 1998.

LABOUR MARKET

There has been some volatility in the seasonally adjusted labour estimates for NSW over the past three months. Rises in the number of unemployed and the unemployment rate in November 1998 were reversed by falls in December, while the fall in employment in November was almost offset by the rise in December. By comparison, movements in January 1999 were much smaller.

The number of employed persons in NSW and the labour force estimate remained steady in January at 2.9 million and 3.1 million respectively while the number of unemployed increased by 4.2% to 216,400. The unemployment rate rose from 6.7% in December to 7.0% in January. The corresponding national indicators remained steady in January with the key unemployment rate staying at 7.5%.

Gender differences in some of the estimates are quite noticeable. One of the key differences was in the participation rate with the male participation rate in NSW being 72% (seasonally adjusted) in January 1999 while the female rate was 52%. Another key difference is in the proportion of the employed who were working full-time—88% of males in NSW were working full-time compared to 59% of females. Another difference was in the unemployment rate which was lower for females at 6.5% compared to 7.4% for males in seasonally adjusted terms.

LIST OF TABLES AND GRAPHS

Page

POPULATION

1	Estimated resident population, NSW	6
----------	--	---

LABOUR

2	Labour data, latest time period, NSW and Australia	7
3	Labour data, time series, NSW	7
4	Labour force status of the civilian population, NSW	8
5	Graph: Unemployment rates, NSW and Australia	9

PRODUCTION

6	Coal, electricity and gas production, latest time period, NSW and Australia . .	10
7	Coal, electricity and gas production, time series, NSW	10

BUILDING

8	Building approvals, latest time period, NSW and Australia	11
9	Building approvals, time series, NSW	11

RETAIL TRADE

10	Turnover of retail establishments, latest time period, NSW and Australia	12
11	Turnover of retail establishments, time series, NSW	12

NEW MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS

12	New motor vehicle registrations, latest time period, NSW and Australia	13
13	New motor vehicle registrations, time series, NSW	13

TOURISM

14	Accommodation establishments, latest time period, NSW and Australia	14
15	Accommodation establishments, time series, Sydney and NSW.	14
16	Graph: Accommodation establishments, monthly room occupancy rates, Sydney Tourism Region and NSW.	14

CONSUMER AND PRODUCER PRICE INDEXES

17	Consumer and producer price indexes, latest time period, NSW and Australia	15
18	Consumer and producer price indexes, time series, NSW	15
19	Graph: Consumer Price Index, Sydney and average of 8 capital cities	15

HOUSING FINANCE

20	Finance commitments, latest time period, NSW and Australia	16
21	Finance commitments, time series, NSW	16

STATE GOVERNMENT FINANCE

22	Government finance, general government sector, time series, NSW.	17
-----------	--	----

INVESTMENT

23	Actual private new fixed capital expenditure, latest time period, NSW and Australia	18
24	Actual private new fixed capital expenditure, time series, NSW.	18
25	Graph: Actual private new fixed capital expenditure, NSW.	18

INTERNATIONAL TRADE

26	Imports and exports, latest time period, NSW and Australia	19
27	Imports and exports, time series, NSW	19

1

ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION, NSW

Period	Estimated resident population at end of period			Increase during period			Mean estimated resident population for year ended	
	Males	Females	Persons	Natural increase(a)	Net estimated migration	Total increase(b)	30 June	31 December
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
1995	3 064.0	3 104.8	6 168.8	42.0	33.7	75.7	6 093.2	6 128.0
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
1997								
March qtr	3 108.8	3 152.4	6 261.2	11.0	8.3	19.3	..	..
June qtr	3 114.7	3 158.1	6 272.8	10.7	0.9	11.5	..	..
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	..	..

^a Excess of live births over deaths.

^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).

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

2

LABOUR, NSW AND AUSTRALIA

Indicator	Unit	Latest period	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 %
Employed persons (seasonally adjusted)	'000	Jan 99	2 889.6	-0.1	1.6	8 691.1	0.0	2.1
Unemployed persons (seasonally adjusted)	'000	Jan 99	216.4	4.2	-4.7	702.7	-0.5	-6.9
Labour force (seasonally adjusted)	'000	Jan 99	3 106.0	0.1	1.2	9 393.8	0.0	1.3
Participation rate (seasonally adjusted)	%	Jan 99	61.7	0.0	-0.1	63.1	-0.2	0.0
Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)	%	Jan 99	7.0	4.5	-5.4	7.5	0.0	-7.4
Industrial disputes—working days lost	'000	Nov 98	10.4	16.9	28.4	38.1	85.0	-35.1
Job vacancies	'000	Nov 98	24.1	-8.5	5.8	77.4	6.0	13.7
Average weekly employee earnings—full-time adult ordinary time earnings (seasonally adjusted)	\$	Aug 98	760.9	1.8	4.0	738.4	1.8	4.2

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)

3

LABOUR, NSW

Period	Seasonally adjusted						
	Employed persons '000	Unemployed persons '000	Labour force '000	Participation rate %	Unemployment rate %	Industrial disputes (working days lost) '000	Job vacancies '000
1997							
November	2 831.9	238.7	3 070.6	61.9	7.8	8.1	22.8
December	2 836.6	228.0	3 064.7	61.7	7.4	4.8	..
1998							
January	2 843.3	227.1	3 070.4	61.8	7.4	3.3	..
February	2 805.4	234.5	3 039.9	61.1	7.7	9.3	23.5
March	2 830.3	230.7	3 061.0	61.5	7.5	19.7	..
April	2 850.4	220.5	3 070.9	61.6	7.2	8.1	..
May	2 835.4	231.9	3 067.3	61.5	7.6	28.1	20.5
June	2 864.6	234.3	3 098.9	62.1	7.6	32.1	..
July	2 886.7	232.9	3 119.6	62.4	7.5	10.3	..
August	2 839.2	235.1	3 074.3	61.5	7.6	20.8	26.4
September	2 892.6	229.4	3 122.0	62.3	7.3	r7.6	..
October	2 899.7	208.7	3 108.4	62.0	6.7	8.9	..
November	2 851.5	241.7	3 093.2	61.6	7.8	10.4	24.1
December	2 893.8	207.6	3 101.4	61.7	6.7	n.y.a.	..
1999							
January	2 889.6	216.4	3 106.0	61.7	7.0	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)

4

LABOUR FORCE STATUS, NSW—ORIGINAL

Month	Employed		Unemployed		Labour force	Not in labour force	Civilian population aged 15 years and over	Unemployment rate(a)	Participation rate(b)
	Full-time workers	Total	Looking for full-time work	Total					
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	%	%
MALES									
January									
1995	1 384.8	1 544.0	147.4	166.2	1 710.2	633.6	2 343.8	9.7	73.0
1996	1 431.1	1 574.0	137.0	157.9	1 731.8	642.3	2 374.1	9.1	72.9
1997	1 437.6	1 605.6	133.2	151.6	1 757.3	651.9	2 409.2	8.6	72.9
1997									
November	1 431.3	1 615.2	119.0	138.1	1 753.3	681.9	2 435.2	7.9	72.0
December	1 456.8	1 637.6	116.8	135.1	1 772.7	665.4	2 438.1	7.6	72.7
1998									
January	1 441.8	1 616.3	127.1	141.7	1 758.0	682.3	2 440.3	8.1	72.0
February	1 431.8	1 599.2	129.3	150.7	1 749.9	692.5	2 442.4	8.6	71.6
March	1 432.2	1 613.1	123.5	140.6	1 753.7	690.9	2 444.6	8.0	71.7
April	1 441.4	1 622.7	104.7	122.9	1 745.6	701.8	2 447.3	7.0	71.3
May	1 434.0	1 614.6	115.7	133.2	1 747.8	702.3	2 450.1	7.6	71.3
June	1 443.0	1 623.9	117.7	134.6	1 758.5	694.4	2 452.9	7.7	71.7
July	1 463.8	1 639.4	115.6	128.2	1 767.6	687.9	2 455.5	7.3	72.0
August	1 422.9	1 597.4	116.8	136.1	1 733.5	724.5	2 458.1	7.9	70.5
September	1 464.5	1 646.5	118.1	135.3	1 781.8	678.8	2 460.6	7.6	72.4
October	1 459.3	1 647.0	97.6	111.3	1 758.3	706.0	2 464.4	6.3	71.3
November	1 440.7	1 631.9	113.3	130.6	1 762.5	705.6	2 468.1	7.4	71.4
December	1 467.5	1 657.8	108.6	122.5	1 780.3	691.6	2 471.9	6.9	72.0
1999									
January	1 446.7	1 632.5	126.0	142.3	1 774.8	700.3	2 475.1	8.0	71.7
FEMALES									
January									
1995	692.7	1 126.2	74.8	108.1	1 234.3	1 194.3	2 428.6	8.8	50.8
1996	730.8	1 173.0	69.7	96.8	1 269.8	1 187.8	2 457.5	7.6	51.7
1997	729.7	1 182.3	75.0	106.4	1 288.6	1 209.5	2 498.1	8.3	51.6
1997									
November	725.5	1 228.3	62.1	87.8	1 316.1	1 208.6	2 524.7	6.7	52.1
December	730.8	1 234.9	66.3	95.7	1 330.6	1 196.8	2 527.4	7.2	52.6
1998									
January	721.4	1 185.5	71.4	102.6	1 288.1	1 241.2	2 529.3	8.0	50.9
February	707.1	1 189.9	72.1	111.7	1 301.7	1 229.5	2 531.1	8.6	51.4
March	715.8	1 217.8	73.7	105.3	1 323.1	1 209.9	2 533.0	8.0	52.2
April	720.0	1 226.2	63.2	96.2	1 322.4	1 212.9	2 535.3	7.3	52.2
May	707.9	1 220.7	68.5	94.0	1 314.7	1 222.9	2 537.7	7.1	51.8
June	727.3	1 242.0	57.2	88.3	1 330.4	1 209.6	2 540.0	6.6	52.4
July	762.9	1 255.2	59.9	88.7	1 344.0	1 198.3	2 542.3	6.6	52.9
August	721.7	1 216.6	62.7	85.2	1 301.9	1 242.7	2 544.5	6.5	51.2
September	753.6	1 271.8	62.0	97.4	1 369.2	1 177.6	2 546.8	7.1	53.8
October	747.7	1 254.4	55.5	91.0	1 345.4	1 204.8	2 550.1	6.8	52.8
November	730.1	1 231.6	61.6	97.8	1 329.4	1 224.0	2 553.4	7.4	52.1
December	759.6	1 273.4	57.9	87.4	1 360.7	1 196.0	2 556.8	6.4	53.2
1999									
January	736.2	1 215.0	63.4	90.8	1 305.7	1 253.9	2 559.6	7.0	51.0

For footnotes see end of table.

6

COAL, ELECTRICITY AND GAS PRODUCTION, NSW AND AUSTRALIA—ORIGINAL

Indicator	Unit	Latest period	New South Wales				Australia		
			Latest figure	Change from prior period		Latest figure	Change from prior period		
				%	Change from same period prior year		%	Change from same period prior year	
Raw coal won—									
Underground	'000 tonnes	Nov 98	4 012	-13.7	-5.5	5 069	-12.7	-5.4	
Open cut	'000 tonnes	Nov 98	6 935	-26.3	20.3	15 750	4.1	8.7	
Total	'000 tonnes	Nov 98	10 948	-22.1	9.4	20 818	-0.5	4.9	
Electricity	mill. kWh	Dec qtr 98	15 227	-8.0	0.0	43 235	-6.2	0.2	
Gas(a)	teraJ	Dec qtr 98	25 039	-22.4	-1.6	157 436	-17.5	4.0	

^a Available for issue through mains. Includes ACT.

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

7

COAL, ELECTRICITY AND GAS PRODUCTION, NSW—ORIGINAL

Period	Raw coal won			Electricity	Gas(a)
	Underground	Open cut	Total		
	'000 tonnes	'000 tonnes	'000 tonnes		
1995-96	54 314	58 775	113 089	62 047	104 141
1996-97	54 643	69 037	123 680	62 788	109 284
1997-98	58 249	75 049	133 298	61 804	111 665
1997					
October	4 498	6 716	11 215	15 220	25 445
November	4 253	6 083	10 336		
December	4 090	5 997	10 087		
1998					
January	5 292	6 463	11 755	14 390	22 521
February	4 553	5 948	10 501		
March	4 437	5 800	10 237		
April	5 160	7 052	12 212	15 561	29 614
May	4 648	5 851	10 499		
June	4 842	6 811	11 653		
July	5 159	7 241	12 400	16 543	32 258
August	3 787	5 616	9 404		
September	4 792	6 372	11 164		
October	4 620	6 773	11 393	15 227	25 039
November	4 012	6 935	10 948		
December	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.		

^a Available for issue through mains. Includes ACT.

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

8

BUILDING APPROVALS, NSW AND AUSTRALIA

Indicator	Unit	Latest period	Latest figure	New South Wales		Australia		
				Change from prior period %	Change from same period prior year %	Latest figure	Change from prior period %	Change from same period prior year %
Number of dwelling units(a) (seasonally adjusted)—								
New houses	No.	Dec 98	2 421	4.5	-5.5	8 594	1.7	-5.3
Total	No.	Dec 98	4 636	8.8	0.3	13 325	6.4	-0.5
Value of new residential building (seasonally adjusted)	\$m	Dec 98	547.8	5.0	3.6	1 466.3	1.7	5.2
Value of alterations and additions to residential building(b) (seasonally adjusted)	\$m	Dec 98	90.6	-4.0	-23.9	256.6	11.9	5.3
Value of non-residential building(c) (original)	\$m	Dec 98	252.0	-45.4	-11.9	743.4	-33.0	-29.8
Value of all building (original)	\$m	Dec 98	855.8	-25.0	-3.4	2 327.9	-18.3	-9.1

^a 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).

^b Valued at \$10,000 or more. Includes conversions of existing buildings into residential buildings.

^c Valued at \$50,000 or more.

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

9

BUILDING APPROVALS, NSW

Period	Number of dwelling units(a), seasonally adjusted				Value of building approvals			
	New houses		Total		Seasonally adjusted		Original	
	Private sector	Total	Private sector	Total	New residential building	Alterations and additions to residential building(b)	Non-residential building(c)	All building
	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	13 287.2
1997								
October	2 424	2 434	4 045	4 077	479.4	108.9	520.3	1 123.1
November	2 399	2 411	4 424	4 470	503.1	103.5	380.6	1 028.0
December	2 545	2 563	4 476	4 620	529.0	119.0	286.0	885.8
1998								
January	2 621	2 648	4 395	4 506	450.2	144.0	477.0	984.0
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	463.7	129.4	654.7	1 335.0
June	2 483	2 529	5 145	5 246	588.9	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	2 241	2 316	3 848	4 260	521.5	94.4	461.9	1 141.6
December	2 393	2 421	4 418	4 636	547.8	90.6	252.0	855.8

^a 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).

^b Valued at \$10,000 or more. Includes conversions of existing buildings into residential buildings.

^c Valued at \$50,000 or more.

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

10

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

Indicator	Latest period	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
		\$m	%	%	\$m	%	%
Food retailing	Dec 98	1 537.2	0.6	-0.6	4 728.0	-0.5	4.3
Department stores	Dec 98	341.4	-10.4	2.9	1 007.0	-8.2	1.4
Clothing and soft good retailing	Dec 98	296.0	0.4	5.0	798.1	-1.8	9.0
Household good retailing	Dec 98	389.2	-0.6	-7.5	1 226.0	0.5	-5.1
Recreational good retailing	Dec 98	222.4	0.5	-1.9	648.2	-3.9	2.3
Other retailing	Dec 98	395.8	0.0	-2.7	1 169.5	-2.0	2.8
Hospitality and services	Dec 98	821.1	-3.6	6.3	1 973.0	-3.5	6.2
Total value of retail sales	Dec 98	4 003.1	-1.5	0.4	11 549.8	-2.1	3.3

^a 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).

11

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

Period	Food retailing	Department stores	Clothing and soft good retailing	Household good retailing	Recreational good retailing	Other retailing	Hospitality and services	Total
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
1997								
October	1 524.9	343.4	274.7	421.2	223.0	394.1	762.4	3 943.6
November	1 524.4	349.4	279.0	402.3	220.3	410.8	766.8	3 952.9
December	1 546.0	331.9	282.0	420.7	226.6	406.8	772.2	3 986.2
1998								
January	1 560.2	367.4	267.4	438.8	234.4	398.3	760.3	4 026.8
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	808.8	4 049.2
November	1 528.5	381.2	294.9	391.4	221.3	395.7	851.7	4 064.6
December	1 537.2	341.4	296.0	389.2	222.4	395.8	821.1	4 003.1

^a 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).

12

NEW MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS(a), NSW AND AUSTRALIA—SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

Indicator	Latest period	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
		no.	%	%	no.	%	%
Passenger vehicles	Dec 98	19 616	-1.0	3.0	56 523	-1.6	2.4
Other vehicles (excluding motor cycles)	Dec 98	3 501	3.0	16.9	10 680	-3.6	10.7
Total registrations (excluding motor cycles)	Dec 98	23 117	-0.4	4.9	67 203	-1.9	3.7

^a 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

Period	Passenger vehicles	Other vehicles (excluding motor cycles)	Total (excluding motor cycles)
	no.	no.	no.
1997			
October	18 893	2 739	21 633
November	18 584	2 514	21 099
December	19 049	2 995	22 044
1998			
January	18 053	3 012	21 065
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	19 814	3 398	23 212
December	19 616	3 501	23 117

^a 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)*.

14

ACCOMMODATION ESTABLISHMENTS(a) NSW AND AUSTRALIA—ORIGINAL

Indicator	Unit	Latest period	New South Wales				Australia		
			Latest figure	Change from	Change from	Latest figure	Change from	Change from	
				prior period	same period		prior year	prior period	same period
				%	%		%	%	
Room nights	'000	Sept qtr 98	3 077.3	6.5	3.8	9 639.4	10.5	3.5	
Room occupancy rate	%	Sept qtr 98	57.9	2.8	-1.9	58.7	7.5	-1.5	
Takings	\$'000	Sept qtr 98	342 102	8.0	6.2	998 062	13.3	4.5	

^a 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)*

15

ACCOMMODATION ESTABLISHMENTS(a) SYDNEY AND NSW—ORIGINAL

Period	Sydney Tourism Region(b)			New South Wales		
	Room nights	Room occupancy rate	Takings	Room nights	Room occupancy rate	Takings
	'000	%	\$'000	'000	%	\$'000
1997						
June qtr	1 515.1	70.5	209 163	2 810.3	57.5	303 313
September qtr	1 555.0	69.6	209 484	2 964.9	59.0	322 065
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

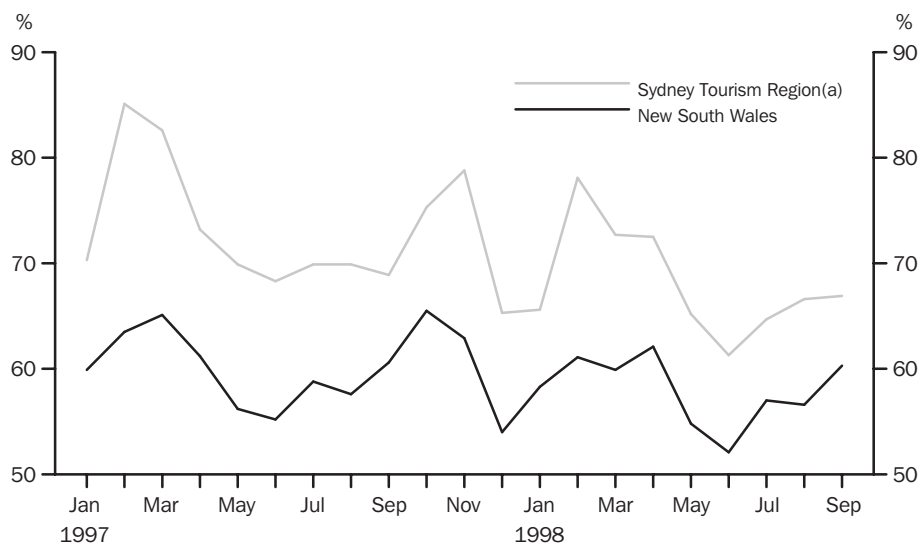
^a Licensed hotels with facilities, motels and guest houses and serviced apartments with 15 or more rooms or units.

^b Excludes Gosford, Wyong and Blue Mountains Statistical Local Areas.

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

16

ACCOMMODATION ESTABLISHMENTS MONTHLY ROOM OCCUPANCY RATE—ORIGINAL



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

17

CONSUMER AND PRODUCER PRICE INDEXES, NSW AND AUSTRALIA

Indicator	Unit	Latest period	Latest figure	New South Wales(a)		Australia(b)		
				Change from prior period %	Change from same period prior year %	Latest figure	Change from prior period %	Change from same period prior year %
Consumer Price Index (all groups)	1989-90 =100.0	Dec qtr 98	122.4	0.4	1.9	121.9	0.5	1.6
Price index of materials used in house building (all groups)	1989-90 =100.0	Dec qtr 98	121.8	0.8	2.0	119.7	0.3	1.5
Price index of materials used in building other than house building (all groups)	1989-90 =100.0	Dec qtr 98	115.1	0.1	0.8	115.2	0.3	1.1

^a Refers to State capital city—Sydney.

^b 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.

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)

18

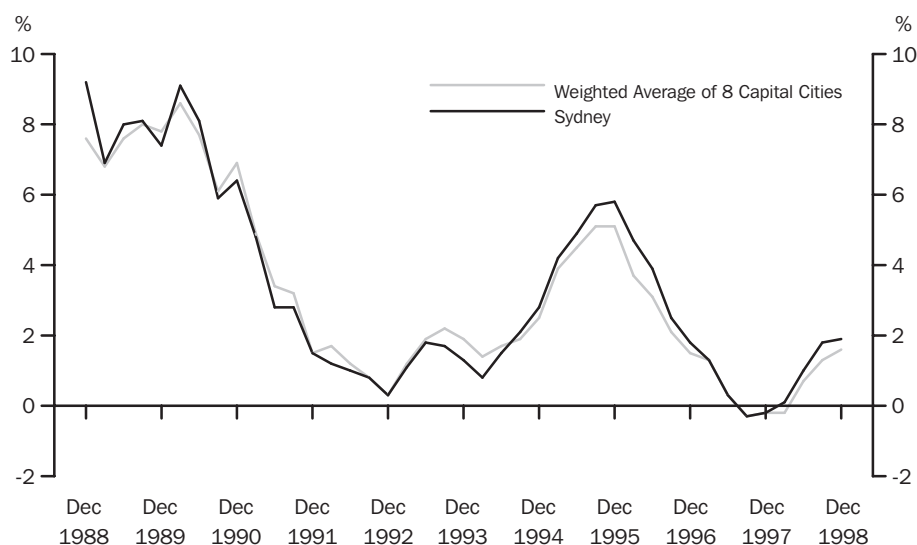
CONSUMER AND PRODUCER PRICE INDEXES, NSW

Period	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
	1989-90 = 100.0	1989-90 = 100.0	1989-90 = 100.0
1997			
September qtr	119.8	117.8	114.2
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

Source: Consumer Price Index (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)

Indicator	Latest period	New South Wales			Australia		
		Latest figure \$m	Change from prior period %	Change from same period prior year %	Latest figure \$m	Change from prior period %	Change from same period prior year %
Lending commitments for the construction or purchase of dwellings—							
Construction of dwellings	Dec 98	235	2.6	15.5	729	2.4	8.3
Purchase of newly erected dwellings	Dec 98	96	-4.2	-13.9	236	-4.1	-9.9
Purchase of established dwellings(a)	Dec 98	1 344	-1.0	18.1	3 246	1.0	15.8
Refinancing of existing dwellings	Dec 98	295	-12.4	19.6	756	-4.7	5.0
Lending commitments for alterations and additions	Dec 98	82	-10.5	-9.7	218	-0.6	-2.0
Total lending commitments to individuals for housing(b)	Dec 98	1 970	-2.6	15.9	4 968	0.0	11.4
Total lending commitments to individuals for housing (seasonally adjusted)(b)	Dec 98	2 095	4.5	16.7	5 082	2.7	10.3

^a Excludes refinancing.

^b Excludes alterations and additions.

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

Period	Lending commitments for the construction or purchase of dwellings				Lending commitments for alterations and additions \$m	Total lending commitments to individuals for housing(b)	
	Construction of dwellings \$m	Purchase of newly erected dwellings \$m	Purchase of established dwellings(a) \$m	Refinancing of existing dwellings \$m		Original \$m	Seasonally adjusted \$m
1993-94	2 151.4	838.5	10 911.6	2 337.2	1 078.2	16 238.7	..
1994-95	2 162.6	819.8	9 952.4	2 381.9	1 242.0	15 316.7	..
1995-96	1 894.7	897.9	10 145.3	2 929.8	1 261.8	15 867.7	..
1996							
October	163.2	97.3	995.2	312.2	112.3	1 567.9	1 575.1
November	167.2	103.7	1 060.5	283.6	89.1	1 615.0	1 594.9
December	142.7	81.5	1 000.9	265.8	84.2	1 491.0	1 665.3
1997							
January	147.8	93.8	948.0	304.9	83.9	1 494.5	1 940.2
February	175.6	100.1	981.9	297.5	92.9	1 555.1	1 591.4
March	187.5	106.3	1 121.1	328.4	103.8	1 743.3	1 715.8
April	212.2	116.6	1 231.9	371.7	108.5	1 932.3	1 792.4
May	221.3	121.3	1 282.3	316.2	99.7	1 941.1	1 778.7
June	193.0	120.8	1 122.6	327.5	89.9	1 764.0	1 735.7
July	220.8	116.8	1 218.6	321.5	93.1	1 877.8	1 707.7
August	213.6	114.8	1 154.9	310.7	90.3	1 794.1	1 824.0
September	236.2	116.0	1 210.2	322.4	102.7	1 884.7	1 856.1
October	224.0	110.9	1 253.3	302.3	110.1	1 890.5	1 884.3
November	201.1	110.0	1 198.4	261.8	97.9	1 771.4	1 804.5
December	204.7	111.7	1 138.7	245.5	90.9	1 700.5	1 789.9

^a Excludes refinancing.

^b Excludes alterations and additions.

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

	<i>Actual</i>	<i>Estimates</i>
	<i>4 months ended 30 November 1998</i>	<i>12 months ended 30 June 1999</i>
	\$m	\$m
Current receipts—		
Stamp duties	1 603	3 459
Payroll tax	1 469	3 621
Land tax	110	945
Motor vehicle taxes	444	1 002
Gaming and betting	500	1 440
Commonwealth safety net taxes	797	1 873
Other taxes	504	1 095
Commonwealth general purpose grants	1 913	4 731
Commonwealth specific purpose grants	1 379	3 230
Dividends/tax equivalents	480	1 251
Other current receipts	491	1 202
<i>Total current receipts</i>	9 690	23 849
Current payments—		
Interest payments	478	1 276
Superannuation	590	1 462
Subsidies to non-budget sector—		
Redundancies	24	77
Services	428	798
Departmental payments—		
Redundancies	28	53
Health	2 359	5 706
Education	2 140	5 364
Law and order	739	1 733
Community services	507	1 217
Other	2 284	5 693
Treasurer's advances	..	125
Less user charges	-815	-2 014
<i>Total current outlays</i>	8 762	21 490
Current result surplus/deficit(-)	928	2 359
Capital receipts—		
Commonwealth specific purpose grants	282	788
Other capital receipts	2	10
<i>Total capital receipts</i>	284	798
Capital outlays—		
Gross fixed capital payments	990	2 841
Capital grants	342	1 016
Less asset sales	-349	-745
<i>Total capital outlays</i>	983	3 112
Capital result surplus/deficit(-)	-699	-2 314
Government Finance Statistics result surplus/deficit(-)	229	45

^a Includes Department of Training and Education Co-ordination, Department of School Education, Office of the Board of Studies and TAFE.

^b 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.

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

23

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

Indicator	Latest period	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
		\$m	%	%	\$m	%	%
Type of asset—							
New buildings and structures	Sept qtr	1 151	2.2	14.5	3 752	4.7	16.3
Equipment, plant and machinery	Sept qtr	2 646	-0.1	5.4	8 451	0.5	4.4
Total	Sept qtr	3 797	0.6	8.0	12 203	1.7	7.8

Source: State Estimates of Private New Capital Expenditure (Cat. no. 5646.0)

24

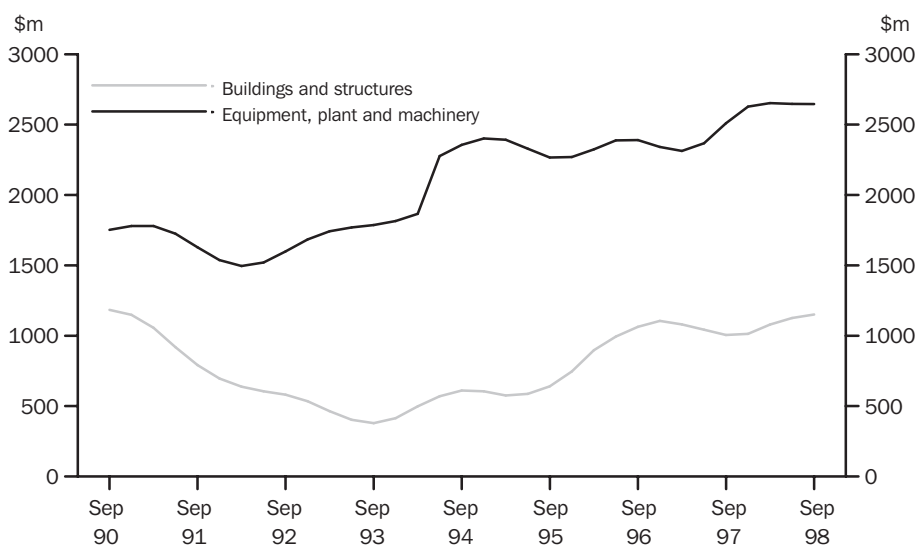
ACTUAL PRIVATE NEW FIXED CAPITAL EXPENDITURE, CURRENT PRICES—NSW, TREND

Period	Type of asset		
	New buildings and structures	Equipment, plant and machinery	Total
	\$m	\$m	\$m
1997			
June qtr	1 043	2 368	3 412
September qtr	1 005	2 510	3 515
December qtr	1 013	2 628	3 641
1998			
March qtr	1 079	2 653	3 732
June qtr	1 126	2 648	3 773
September qtr	1 151	2 646	3 797

Source: State Estimates of New Capital Expenditure (Cat. no. 5646.0)

25

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



Source: State Estimates of New Capital Expenditure (5646.0)

Item	Latest period	New South Wales			Australia		
		Latest figure \$m	Change from prior period %	Change from same period prior year %	Latest figure \$m	Change from prior period %	Change from same period prior year %
Overseas imports into NSW	Dec 98	3 466	-7.5	1.3	7 890	-7.6	-0.3
Total overseas exports(c)	Dec 98	1 655	9.6	-10.0	7 468	9.3	0.1
Export commodities and SITC(d) code—							
Meat and meat preparations (01)	Dec 98	81	-4.0	-7.3	357	1.6	4.4
Cereals and cereal preparations (04)	Dec 98	137	75.6	-17.0	529	46.8	-3.6
Wool and other animal hair (268)	Dec 98	64	-11.5	-45.0	230	3.0	-42.0
Coal, coke and briquettes (32)	Dec 98	362	9.0	-5.7	849	11.1	-3.4
Iron and steel (67)	Dec 98	69	-14.6	-22.2	121	11.8	-16.0
Aluminium (684)	Dec 98	92	1.4	-6.8	285	4.1	-0.7
Office machines and automatic data processing machines (75)	Dec 98	23	-13.2	-61.1	72	36.0	-37.1

^a Figures shown are Customs value.

^b Figures shown are Free On Board (FOB) values.

^c Excludes re-exported goods.

^d Standard International Trade Classification Revision 3.

Source: International Trade database

Period	Overseas exports of SITC(d) commodities								
	Overseas imports into NSW \$m	Total overseas exports(c) \$m	Meat and meat preparations (01) \$m	Cereals and cereal preparations (04) \$m	Wool and other animal hair (268) \$m	Coal, coke and briquettes (32) \$m	Iron and steel (67) \$m	Aluminium (684) \$m	Office machines and automatic data processing machines (75) \$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	r19 680	r923	r1 555	1 061	4 048	1 168	1 226	522
1997									
October	3 388	1 694	78	95	120	302	123	98	45
November	3 098	1 762	89	149	130	328	98	102	51
December	3 422	r1 840	88	165	116	384	89	99	59
1998									
January	2 945	r1 435	65	r134	72	359	115	118	37
February	2 804	r1 463	75	r119	82	322	87	82	38
March	3 439	1 503	82	119	73	301	99	107	38
April	3 070	1 481	64	100	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	r3 770	1 609	79	96	65	342	112	104	41
August	3 473	r1 601	69	87	43	356	92	99	32
September	r3 551	r1 632	88	118	59	328	95	111	33
October	r3 681	r1 527	77	59	r74	r356	68	106	28
November	r3 748	r1 510	r85	78	r72	r332	81	91	26
December	3 466	1 655	81	137	64	362	69	92	23

^a Figures shown are Customs value.

^b Figures shown are Free On Board (FOB) values.

^c Excludes re-exported goods.

^d Standard International Trade Classification Revision 3.

Source: International Trade database

SELF-HELP ACCESS TO STATISTICS

DIAL-A-STATISTIC For current and historical Consumer Price Index data, call 1902 981 074.
For the latest figures for National Accounts, Balance of Payments, Labour Force, Average Weekly Earnings, Estimated Resident Population and the Consumer Price Index call 1900 986 400.
These calls cost 75c per minute.

INTERNET www.abs.gov.au

LIBRARY A range of ABS publications is available from public and tertiary libraries Australia wide. Contact your nearest library to determine whether it has the ABS statistics you require.

WHY NOT SUBSCRIBE?

PHONE +61 1300 366 323

FAX +61 3 9615 7848

CONSULTANCY SERVICES

ABS offers consultancy services on a user pays basis to help you access published and unpublished data. Data that are already published and can be provided within 5 minutes is free of charge. Statistical methodological services are also available. Please contact:

<i>City</i>	<i>By phone</i>	<i>By fax</i>
Canberra	02 6252 6627	02 6253 1404
Sydney	02 9268 4611	02 9268 4668
Melbourne	03 9615 7755	03 9615 7798
Brisbane	07 3222 6351	07 3222 6283
Perth	08 9360 5140	08 9360 5955
Adelaide	08 8237 7400	08 8237 7566
Hobart	03 6222 5800	03 6222 5995
Darwin	08 8943 2111	08 8981 1218

POST Client Services, ABS, PO Box 10, Belconnen, ACT 2616

EMAIL client.services@abs.gov.au



2130710003997

ISSN 1031-8534

RRP \$16.00