



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

**FORTHCOMING
ISSUES**

<i>ISSUE</i>	<i>RELEASE DATE</i>
June 1999	15 June 1999
July 1999	14 July 1999
August 1999	16 August 1999
September 1999	14 September 1999
October 1999	15 October 1999
November 1999	15 November 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

Employment in NSW has been steady over the past month and in March 1999 the seasonally adjusted estimate of employed persons was 2,903,500. National employment was also steady in this period.

UNEMPLOYMENT

Unemployment in NSW rose by 5.3% in March 1999 to a seasonally adjusted figure of 219,800 and the unemployment rate rose from 6.7% to 7.0%. The national unemployment rate remained at 7.4%.

JOB VACANCIES

There were 24,400 job vacancies in NSW in February 1999, a rise of 1.1% over the quarter and 4.0% over the previous year. National job vacancies fell by 14.0% over the quarter and 11.8% over the year.

BUILDING APPROVALS

The seasonally adjusted number of new dwelling units approved for NSW in February 1999 decreased by 5.8% from the previous month to 4,074.

RETAIL

In seasonally adjusted terms, total retail sales for NSW in February 1999 was \$4,173.2m. For January 1999, the figure was \$4,265.7m.

NEW MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS

New motor vehicle registrations for NSW in seasonally adjusted terms in February 1999 fell 3.0% from the previous month to 21,504.

FINANCE

The seasonally adjusted value of housing finance for owner occupation in NSW in February 1999 was \$1,907m. This represented a decrease of 8.9% on the previous month and an increase of 5.7% since February 1998.

MAIN FEATURES

NEW MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS

New motor vehicle registrations for NSW in seasonally adjusted terms in February 1999 fell 3.0% from the previous month to 21,504. New registrations of passenger vehicles (18,151) and other vehicles (3,353) fell 2.2% and 7.1% respectively over the same period. Nationally, new motor vehicle registrations in February 1999 fell 1.5% to 63,916 compared to January 1999.

Compared to the figures a year ago, seasonally adjusted new motor vehicle registrations for NSW in February 1999 fell 1.8%, with passenger vehicles falling 2.9% and other vehicles up by 4.7%. Nationally, new motor vehicle registrations increased slightly (0.1%). Passenger vehicles decreased slightly (0.1%) while other vehicles increased by 1.3%.

For NSW, the trend for new motor vehicle registrations in February 1999 fell by 0.4% on the previous month. This continues the downward trend since the record high in July 1998.

TOURISM

In NSW, the number of room nights occupied in licensed hotels, motels and guest houses and serviced apartments with 15 or more rooms or units in the December quarter 1998 increased 4.3% on the September quarter 1998. Compared to the December quarter 1997, there was an increase of 4.2%. At the national level, the number of room nights occupied increased by 2.7% and 4.9% respectively over the same periods.

In NSW, room occupancy rates for all accommodation types fell by 1.6% to 59.8% compared with December quarter 1997. For the December quarter 1998, room occupancy rates for licensed hotels, motels and guest houses, and serviced apartments were 67.8%, 54.4% and 63.5% respectively.

In the Sydney Tourism Region, room occupancy rates also fell for all accommodation types compared with the December quarter 1997. In the December quarter 1998, the room occupancy rate was 70.0%, representing a fall of 4.1% over the year. For the December quarter 1998, room occupancy rates for licensed hotels fell from 76.0% to 74.3%, for motels and guest houses from 67.0% to 62.3% and from 71.4% to 68.1% for serviced apartments.

In NSW, takings from accommodation increased in aggregate for each accommodation type in the December quarter 1998 compared with the December quarter 1997 with an overall increase of 4.5%.

In the Sydney Tourism Region, takings from accommodation were \$246.1m for the December quarter 1998, which was 4.6% higher than the December quarter 1997.

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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								
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	..	..
September qtr	3 161.5	3 201.6	6 363.0	8.2	13.2	21.4	..	..

^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).

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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	Mar 99	2 903.5	-0.1	2.3	8 703.2	-0.1	2.1
Unemployed persons (seasonally adjusted)	'000	Mar 99	219.8	5.3	-4.0	695.5	-0.1	-8.3
Labour force (seasonally adjusted)	'000	Mar 99	3 123.3	0.3	1.8	9 398.7	-0.1	1.3
Participation rate (seasonally adjusted)	%	Mar 99	61.8	0.2	0.5	63.0	-0.2	-0.2
Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)	%	Mar 99	7.0	4.5	-6.7	7.4	0.0	-9.8
Industrial disputes—working days lost	'000	Jan 99	2.7	-90.5	-18.2	8.3	-83.6	-3.5
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)	\$	Nov 98	771.3	1.4	4.4	741.2	0.4	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).

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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
1998							
January	2 838.6	225.7	3 064.3	61.6	7.4	3.3	..
February	2 815.9	229.1	3 045.0	61.1	7.5	9.3	23.5
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	32.1	..
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	10.4	24.1
December	2 891.5	211.5	3 103.0	61.6	6.8	28.5	..
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	n.y.a.	24.4
March	2 903.5	219.8	3 123.3	61.8	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).

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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									
March									
1995	1 399.4	1 560.0	127.5	146.5	1 706.5	642.8	2 349.3	8.6	72.6
1996	1 402.2	1 583.8	129.5	150.1	1 733.9	648.8	2 382.7	8.7	72.8
1997	1 434.3	1 604.1	125.2	146.0	1 750.1	665.4	2 415.6	8.3	72.5
1998									
January	1 442.6	1 617.2	125.4	140.0	1 757.2	686.1	2 443.3	8.0	71.9
February	1 432.9	1 600.3	127.7	149.3	1 749.6	696.4	2 446.1	8.5	71.5
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									
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	702.4	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
FEMALES									
March									
1995	679.4	1 152.4	70.4	111.6	1 264.0	1 171.7	2 435.7	8.8	51.9
1996	738.2	1 217.7	69.6	105.2	1 323.0	1 149.8	2 472.7	8.0	53.5
1997	724.4	1 214.4	72.4	109.0	1 323.5	1 183.6	2 507.1	8.2	52.8
1998									
January	723.3	1 187.6	70.7	102.1	1 289.7	1 243.7	2 533.4	7.9	50.9
February	709.5	1 192.3	71.2	110.8	1 303.2	1 232.7	2 535.9	8.5	51.4
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

For footnotes see end of table.

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LABOUR FORCE STATUS, NSW—ORIGINAL *continued*

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	%	%
PERSONS									
March									
1995	2 078.8	2 712.5	197.9	258.0	2 970.5	1 814.5	4 785.0	8.7	62.1
1996	2 140.4	2 801.6	199.1	255.3	3 056.9	1 798.6	4 855.4	8.4	63.0
1997	2 158.7	2 818.5	197.6	255.0	3 073.6	1 849.0	4 922.6	8.3	62.4
1998									
January	2 165.9	2 804.8	196.1	242.1	3 046.9	1 929.8	4 976.7	7.9	61.2
February	2 142.4	2 792.7	198.9	260.1	3 052.8	1 929.1	4 981.9	8.5	61.3
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

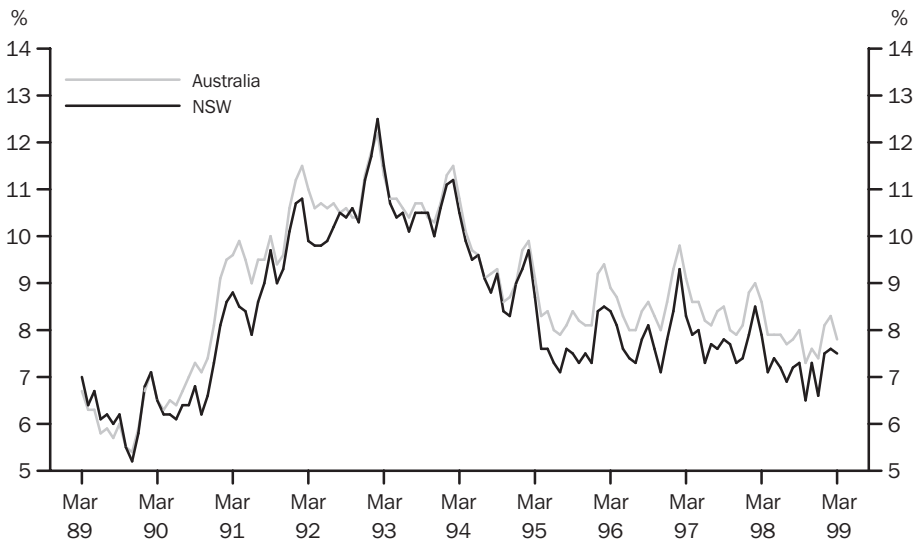
^a The number of unemployed in each group expressed as a percentage of the labour force in the same group.

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

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

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UNEMPLOYMENT RATE—ORIGINAL



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

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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	Jan 99	3 273	-2.0	-39.2	4 818	0.1	-24.4	
Open cut	'000 tonnes	Jan 99	6 152	-5.4	-2.6	16 322	4.0	10.8	
Total	'000 tonnes	Jan 99	9 425	-4.2	-19.5	21 140	3.1	0.2	
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 for NSW and Australia from ABS unpublished statistics, Manufacturing Production, Australia (Cat. no. 8301.0).

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COAL, ELECTRICITY AND GAS PRODUCTION, NSW—ORIGINAL

Period	Raw coal won			Electricity mill. kWh	Gas(a) teraJ
	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	58 299	75 710	134 009	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	r5 130	7 241	r12 371	} 16 543	} 32 258
August	r3 788	5 616	9 404		
September	r4 734	6 372	r11 106		
October r	4 732	7 131	11 863	} 15 227	} 25 039
November	r3 988	6 931	r10 919		
December r	3 340	6 500	9 841		
1999					
January	3 273	6 152	9 425	n.a.	n.a.

^a Available for issue through mains. Includes ACT.

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

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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.	Feb 99	2 440	9.4	-1.7	9 280	8.1	1.2
Total	No.	Feb 99	4 074	-5.8	8.1	13 171	5.1	3.8
Value of new residential building (seasonally adjusted)	\$m	Feb 99	515.0	8.8	24.6	1 475.9	8.1	14.9
Value of alterations and additions to residential building(b) (seasonally adjusted)	\$m	Feb 99	106.2	12.9	-13.3	243.0	3.8	-6.6
Value of non-residential building(c) (original)	\$m	Feb 99	428.9	44.4	-7.1	1 197.2	19.1	2.7
Value of all building (original)	\$m	Feb 99	990.4	31.0	4.9	2 775.5	23.2	7.4

^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)*.

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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	r13 348.6
1997								
December	2 545	2 563	r4 614	r4 758	529.0	r140.7	286.0	r904.6
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	r459.6	129.4	r645.7	1 335.0
June	2 483	2 529	5 145	5 246	r576.8	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	r2 240	r2 314	r4 085	r4 497	r556.1	94.4	r461.5	r1 180.1
December	2 393	2 421	4 418	4 636	547.8	90.6	r234.7	r838.5
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

^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	Feb 99	1 558.8	-1.1	0.0	4 844.3	-1.0	5.0
Department stores	Feb 99	358.2	-14.1	9.0	1 033.2	-7.9	4.5
Clothing and soft good retailing	Feb 99	285.0	-4.5	6.9	817.0	2.7	11.5
Household good retailing	Feb 99	409.1	-6.0	-6.5	1 324.8	-2.2	3.6
Recreational good retailing	Feb 99	226.5	-3.7	0.8	676.2	-1.0	6.9
Other retailing	Feb 99	412.6	0.7	1.4	1 220.2	-0.4	5.1
Hospitality and services	Feb 99	922.9	3.3	22.3	2 157.5	3.9	17.0
Total value of retail sales	Feb 99	4 173.2	-2.2	4.9	12 073.2	-0.6	7.3

^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								
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
1999								
January	1 576.6	417.2	298.5	435.2	235.2	409.9	893.1	4 265.7
February	1 558.8	358.2	285.0	409.1	226.5	412.6	922.9	4 173.2

^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	Feb 99	18 151	-2.2	-2.9	53 440	-0.4	-0.1
Other vehicles (excluding motor cycles)	Feb 99	3 353	-7.1	4.7	10 477	-6.7	1.3
Total registrations (excluding motor cycles)	Feb 99	21 504	-3.0	-1.8	63 916	-1.5	0.1

^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			
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	23 116
1999			
January	18 567	3 610	22 177
February	18 151	3 353	21 504

^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 period	prior year	
			%	%		%	%		
Room nights	'000	Dec qtr 98	3 210.5	4.3	4.2	9 904.4	2.7	4.9	
Room occupancy rate	%	Dec qtr 98	59.8	3.3	-1.6	59.4	1.2	-0.7	
Takings	\$'000	Dec qtr 98	359 172	5.0	4.5	1 043 155	4.5	5.7	

^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						
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
December qtr	1 777.0	70.0	246 125	3 210.5	59.8	359 172

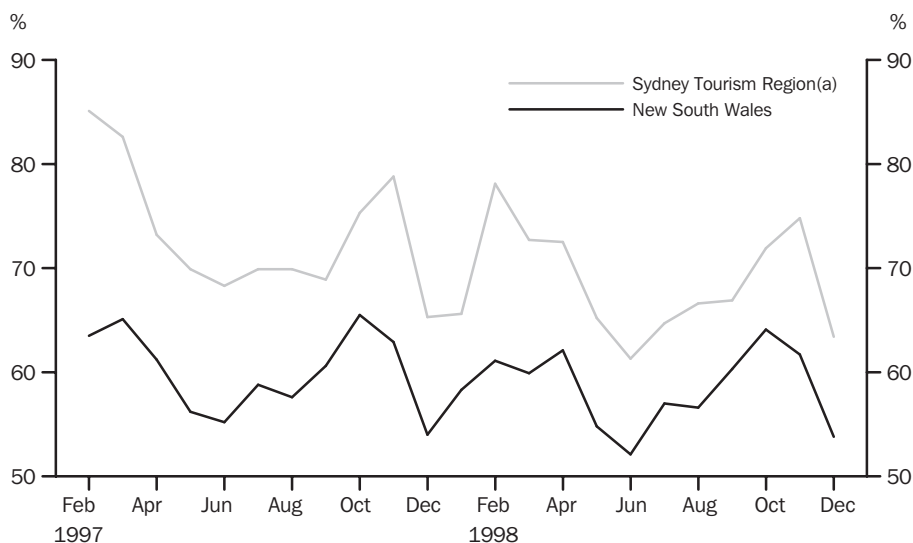
^a Licensed hotels with facilities, motels and guest houses and serviced apartments with 15 or more rooms or units.

^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	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.

^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(a)

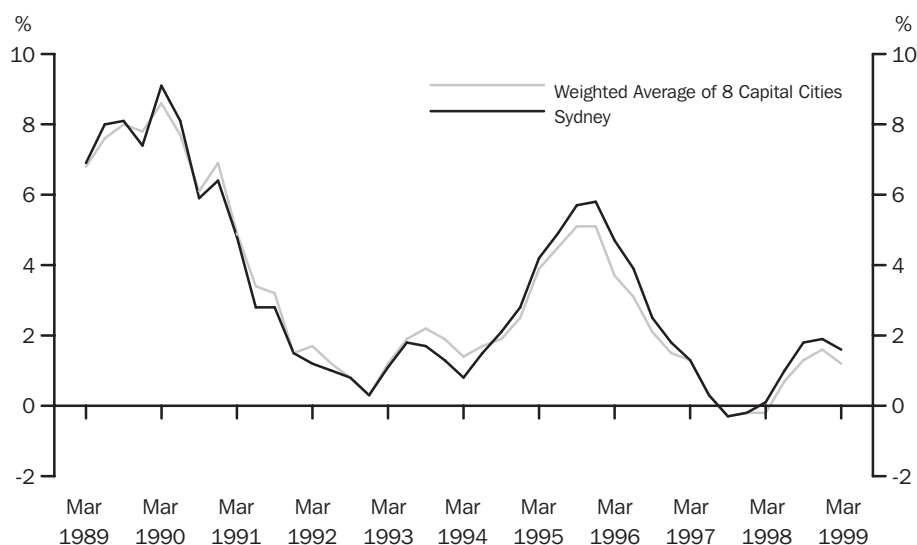
Period	Consumer Price Index, all groups	Price Index of materials used in house building, all groups	Price Index of materials used in building other than house building, all groups
	1989-90 = 100.0	1989-90 = 100.0	1989-90 = 100.0
1997			
December qtr	120.1	119.4	114.2
1998			
March qtr	120.7	120.8	114.4
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

^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).

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	Feb 99	239	35.5	10.3	750	33.8	9.3
Purchase of newly erected dwellings	Feb 99	75	19.2	-23.6	213	26.2	-5.3
Purchase of established dwellings(a)	Feb 99	1 223	19.4	7.6	3 158	18.9	14.6
Refinancing of existing dwellings	Feb 99	312	25.5	4.6	793	26.9	2.7
Lending commitments for alterations and additions	Feb 99	89	20.3	-16	249	35.2	2.5
Total lending commitments to individuals for housing(b)	Feb 99	1 849	22.3	5.7	4 914	22.5	10.7
Total lending commitments to individuals for housing (seasonally adjusted)(b)	Feb 99	1 907	-8.9	5.7	5 059	-1.9	10.8

^a Excludes refinancing.

^b 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

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
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	..
1997							
December	204	112	1 137	247	91	1 700	1 796
1998							
January	169	73	919	238	81	1 398	1 860
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	r176	63	r1 025	r249	r74	r1 512	r2 094
February	239	75	1 223	312	89	1 849	1 907

^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 31 January 1999</i>	<i>12 months ended 30 June 1999</i>
	\$m	\$m
Current receipts—		
Stamp duties	2 286	3 459
Payroll tax	2 087	3 621
Land tax	156	945
Motor vehicle taxes	596	1 002
Gaming and betting	817	1 440
Commonwealth safety net taxes	1 192	1 873
Other taxes	709	1 095
Commonwealth general purpose grants	2 730	4 731
Commonwealth specific purpose grants	1 990	3 230
Dividends/tax equivalents	992	1 251
Other current receipts	694	1 202
<i>Total current receipts</i>	<i>14 249</i>	<i>23 849</i>
Current payments—		
Interest payments	755	1 276
Superannuation	830	1 462
Subsidies to non-budget sector—		
Redundancies	42	77
Services	611	798
Departmental payments—		
Redundancies	39	53
Health	3 355	5 706
Education	3 000	5 364
Law and order	1 016	1 733
Community services	663	1 217
Other	3 321	5 693
Treasurer's advances	..	125
Less user charges	-1 166	-2 014
<i>Total current outlays</i>	<i>12 466</i>	<i>21 490</i>
Current result surplus/deficit(-)	1 783	2 359
Capital receipts—		
Commonwealth specific purpose grants	415	788
Other capital receipts	14	10
<i>Total capital receipts</i>	<i>429</i>	<i>798</i>
Capital outlays—		
Gross fixed capital payments	1 341	2 841
Capital grants	504	1 016
Less asset sales	390	-745
<i>Total capital outlays</i>	<i>1 455</i>	<i>3 112</i>
Capital result surplus/deficit(-)	-1 026	-2 314
Government Finance Statistics result surplus/deficit(-)	757	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	Dec qtr	1 165	3.4	14.6	3 887	2.2	23.6
Equipment, plant and machinery	Dec qtr	2 493	-2.5	-5.3	7 605	-4.4	-9.1
Total	Dec qtr	3 658	-0.7	0.2	11 492	-2.3	-0.1

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

24

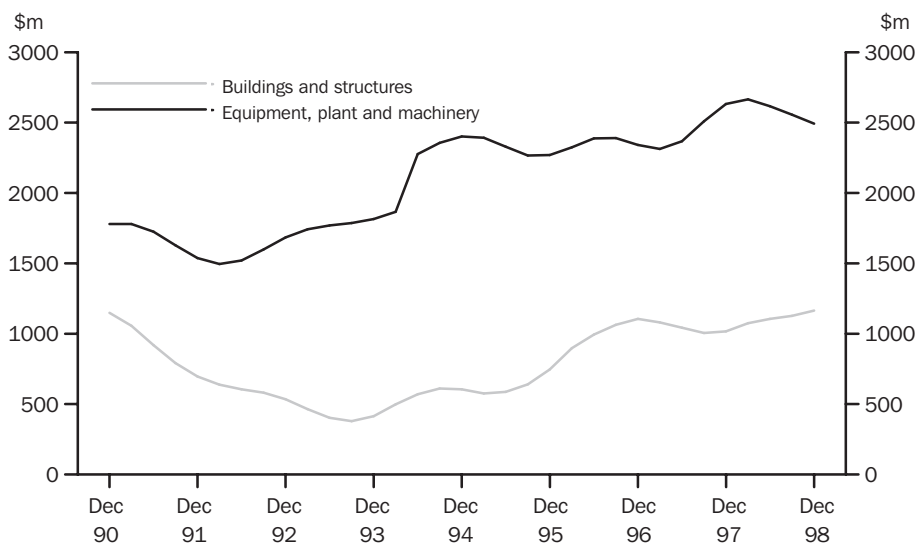
ACTUAL PRIVATE NEW FIXED CAPITAL EXPENDITURE, CURRENT PRICES—NSW, TREND

Period	Type of asset		Total
	New buildings and structures	Equipment, plant and machinery	
	\$m	\$m	\$m
1997			
September qtr	1005	2510	3515
December qtr	1017	2633	3651
1998			
March qtr	1075	2666	3741
June qtr	1105	2617	3723
September qtr	1127	2556	3683
December qtr	1165	2493	3658

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	Feb 99	3 096	2.4	10.4	7 117	-1.6	2.3
Total overseas exports(c)	Feb 99	1 319	-1.1	-9.8	5 853	-0.4	-8.0
Export commodities and SITC(d) code—							
Meat and meat preparations (01)	Feb 99	78	11.8	4.6	324	44.1	7.5
Cereals and cereal preparations (04)	Feb 99	98	-3.1	-17.1	400	-29.6	-5.0
Wool and other animal hair (268)	Feb 99	60	44.7	-26.3	206	33.2	-28.7
Coal, coke and briquettes (32)	Feb 99	272	-19.1	-15.3	737	-6.3	-3.9
Iron and steel (67)	Feb 99	69	1.8	-20.0	117	16.9	-17.7
Aluminium (684)	Feb 99	87	-16.1	6.6	210	-21.0	-8.2
Office machines and automatic data processing machines (75)	Feb 99	24	34.5	-35.3	53	25.9	-22.5

^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	19 680	923	1 555	1 061	4 048	1 168	1 226	522
1997									
December	3 422	1 840	88	165	116	384	89	99	59
1998									
January	2 945	1 435	65	134	72	359	115	118	37
February	2 804	1 463	75	119	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	3 770	1 609	79	r97	65	342	112	104	41
August	3 473	1 601	69	87	43	356	92	99	32
September	3 551	1 633	88	118	59	328	95	111	33
October	3 681	1 528	77	59	74	356	68	106	28
November	3 748	r1 517	85	r79	73	332	81	91	26
December	3 465	r1 685	84	r139	67	363	70	91	r23
1999									
January	r3 024	r1 334	r70	r102	r42	r337	r68	r104	18
February	3 096	1 319	78	98	60	272	69	87	24

^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.

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