



SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ECONOMIC INDICATORS

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- For further information about these and related statistics, contact Mark Parham on Adelaide 08 8237 7645, or any ABS office shown on the back cover of this publication.

NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

<i>ISSUE</i>	<i>RELEASE DATE</i>
September 1998	1 September 1998
October 1998	1 October 1998
November 1998	2 November 1998



ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

South Australian Economic Indicators is a monthly publication which contains the latest available data at the time of preparation for a range of statistical series that have been identified as indicators of economic activity in this State. In a number of cases the figures presented are preliminary and subject to revision in subsequent issues.



CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

There have been some substantial changes to the *Survey of Tourist Accommodation*. The survey no longer collects data on caravan parks, holiday flats, units and houses or visitor hostels on an ongoing basis. Only hotels, motels, guesthouses and serviced apartments (collected as a separate category for the first time) with 15 or more rooms are now included. Substantial changes have occurred in the presentation of the time series. (see table 9).



SYMBOLS AND OTHER USAGES

n.a.	not available
n.y.a.	not yet available
*	subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes
..	not applicable
0, 0.0	nil or rounded to zero



ROUNDING

Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.



INFORMATION

More detailed information on each series, including explanatory and technical notes, can be obtained from other Australian Bureau of Statistics publications or alternative data sources. To assist those seeking further information a source publication for each of the series has been documented in the statistical summary.

P. M. Gardner
Regional Director
South Australia

REVIEW

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN OVERVIEW

- The value of merchandise exports, where the final stage of production was in South Australia increased 6.9% to \$438.1m in May 1998 whilst the value of merchandise imports released from Customs control in South Australia was \$311.0m.
- The trend estimate for retail turnover although easing has been strong at 0.7% growth for May 1998.
- The trend for new motor vehicle registrations has risen 1.0% in May 1998.
- The trend for total dwelling units approved fell by 1.9% in May 1998 but is still 3.7% higher than the level of a year ago.
- The total value of building work commenced fell by 27.4% to \$281.3m and the total value of building work done fell by 16.3% to \$327.2m during the March quarter 1998.
- The value of engineering construction work done for the March quarter 1998 rose by 1.2% to \$302.8m.
- The Consumer Price Index (all groups) rose 0.6% in the June quarter 1998.
- The Price Index of Materials used in House Building rose by 0.3% and the Price Index of Materials used in Building other than House Building rose 0.5% for the June quarter 1998.
- In May 1998 there were 4,933 short-term overseas visitor arrivals and 14,048 short-term resident departures.
- The trend estimate of employed persons was 638,900 in June 1998, or 3.5% lower than the level of one year ago (662,000).
- The trend unemployment rate has generally risen over the past 12 months; up from 9.7% in June 1997 to 10.0% in June 1998.
- In April 1998 a total of 200 working days were lost through industrial disputation.
- The trend estimate for the value of new housing commitments (excluding alterations and additions) increased marginally during May 1998 following five consecutive months of decline.

STATE ACCOUNTS

NOTE: The ABS no longer compiles quarterly State Account estimates. However, some of the information previously included in *Australian National Accounts: State Accounts* (Cat.no. 5242.0) is now provided in a new Standard Data Service entitled *Australian National Accounts: Quarterly State Details* (Cat. no. 5206.0.40.001). This information will be available quarterly, usually within one week of the release of the quarterly Australian National Accounts.

Trend (Constant prices)

State final demand (SFD) increased by 0.5% in the March quarter 1998 with the rate of increase slowing for the second consecutive quarter from the peak of 1.8% in the September quarter 1997. SFD is following the national trend which has slowed for the third consecutive quarter, down from the peak of 1.6% in the June quarter 1997 to 0.7% in the March quarter.

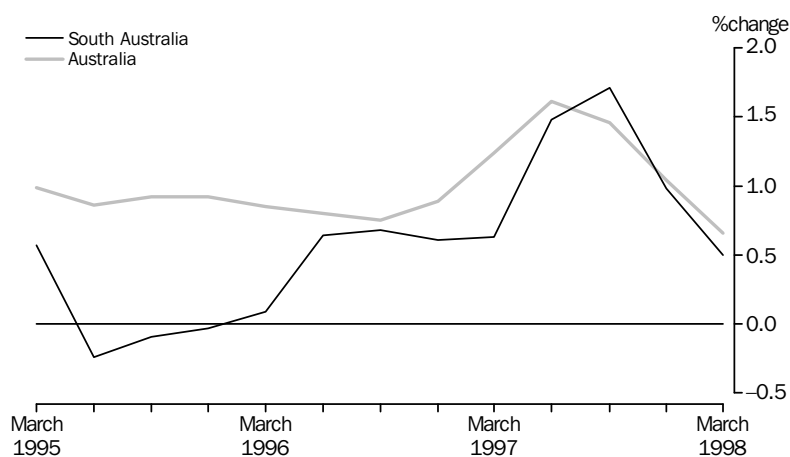
Trend (Constant prices) *continued*

Growth through the year to March quarter 1998 was 4.9%, approximately the same as the national rate of 4.8%.

Contributing to the slowing in the growth of SFD was a fall in public sector final demand of -3.2% in the March quarter and a decline in the growth rate of private gross fixed capital expenditure to 2.6%.

Private final consumption expenditure rose 1.2% (the national rate was 0.8%). Growth through the year to March quarter was 5.2%, slightly higher than the national rate of 4.6%. South Australia has been marginally ahead of the national rate for the past three quarters.

State final demand: **Trend** (Constant prices)(a)



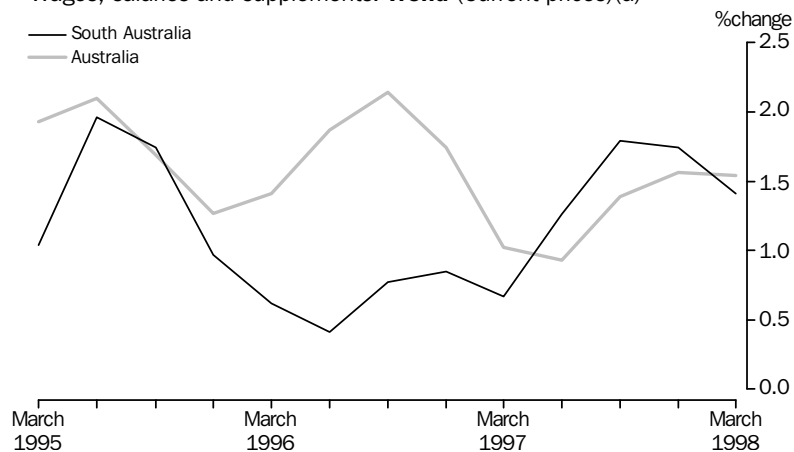
(a) Quarterly changes

Trend (Current prices)

Wages, salaries and supplements grew by 1.4% in the March quarter and has, for past two quarters, grown at approximately the same rate as the national rate.

Growth through the year to the March quarter was 6.3% compared with the national rate of 5.5%.

Wages, salaries and supplements: **Trend** (Current prices)(a)



(a) Quarterly changes

INTERNATIONAL ACCOUNTS

Merchandise exports

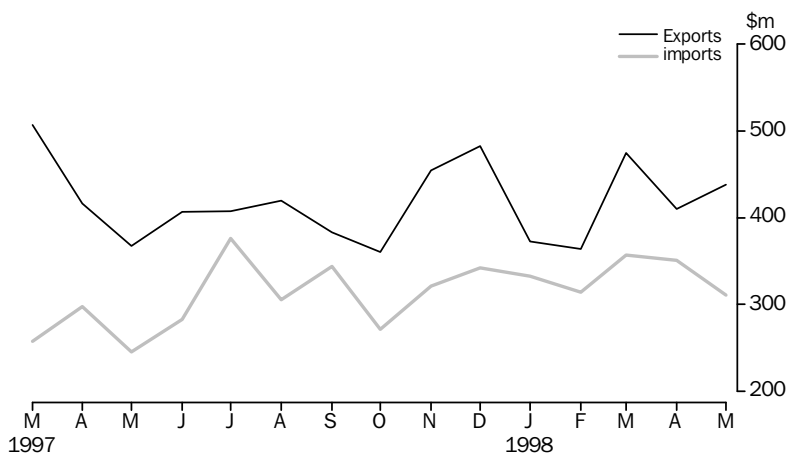
The value of merchandise exports, where the final stage of production was in South Australia increased from \$409.8m in April 1998 to \$438.1m in May 1998. This was an increase of 6.9% on the previous month and 19.1% on the previous year. The increases occurred in a number of commodity groups with the major changes in wool and sheepskins up \$12.6m, machinery \$9.4m, wine \$6.6m and road vehicles parts and accessories \$6.5m. The increases were partly offset by the large decrease in cereal and cereal preparations exports which fell by \$35.1m, a normal seasonal occurrence.

The major destinations of South Australian exports in May 1998 were Japan (\$51.0m) and United Kingdom (\$44.9m). Exports to the Middle East region were down \$22.6m mainly as a result of a decrease in the cereal and cereal preparations commodity group. Exports to the East Asia region increased \$33.0m to \$159.5m in May 1998, with China contributing \$15.9m of the increase.

Merchandise imports

The value of merchandise imports released from Customs control in South Australia was \$311.0m in May 1998. This represents a fall of 11.3% from April 1998 and a 26.4% increase when compared with the same time last year. The major commodities imported during May 1998 were machinery \$74.4m down from \$113.5m reported last month, other manufactured goods \$60.8m and road vehicles and accessories \$56.6m.

Merchandise exports and imports



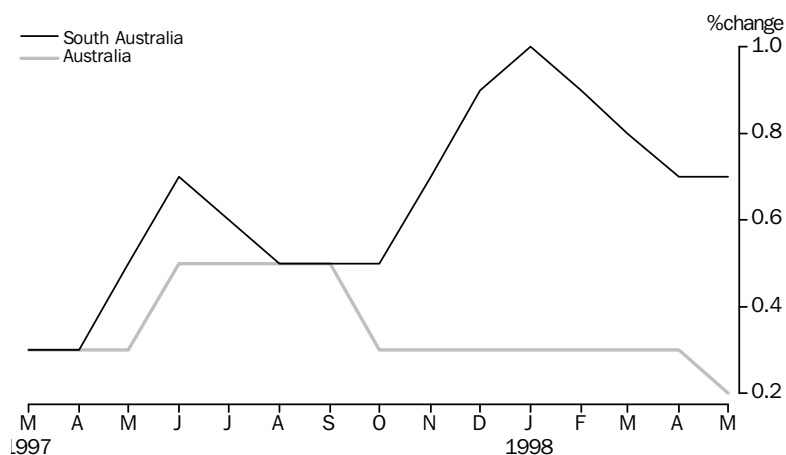
CONSUMPTION AND INVESTMENT

Retail turnover

The trend estimate for retail turnover has remained strong, showing 0.7% growth for May 1998. Most groups showed growth in May 1998 except Department stores and Household good retailing which were in decline.

Over the three months to May 1998 the trend estimate for retail turnover has increased \$19.0m, with the main contributors being hospitality and services (\$11.2m), food retailing (\$7.5m) and other retailing (\$2.8m) partly offset by decreases in Department stores (\$4.7m).

Retail turnover: **Trend**



In original terms, South Australian retail turnover for May 1998 was \$855.8m, a rise of 0.8% from April 1998 and 7.1% from May 1997.

Australian turnover was \$11,207.8m, a 2.2% rise on April 1998 and 2.5% on May 1997. The South Australian share of the Australian total was 7.6%.

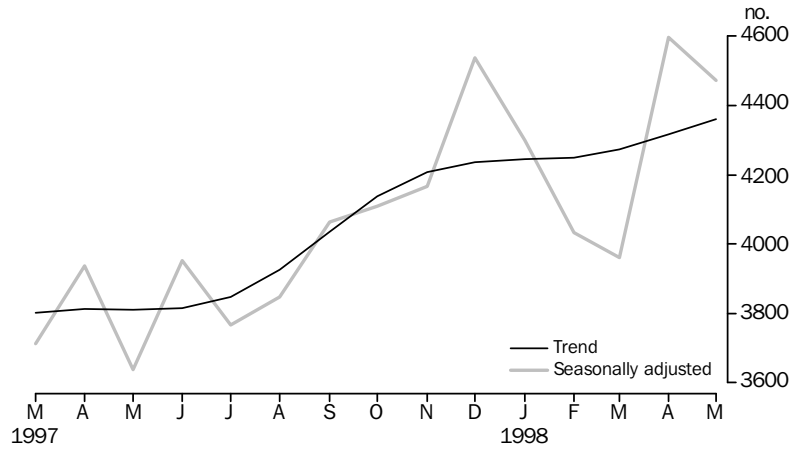
New motor vehicle registrations

The trend for new motor vehicle registrations has risen 1.0% in May 1998. This follows a similar rise last month. Registrations of passenger vehicles rose by 1.1% and other vehicles increased by 0.7% during the month. The annual change for total motor vehicle registrations was 14.5%.

In original terms new motor vehicle registrations were 4,379 in May 1998, an increase of 7.8% on last month. The leading makers of vehicles registered in South Australia for May 1998 were Holden (834 vehicles), Ford (602), Mitsubishi (579), Toyota (512), Hyundai (259), Nissan (128) and Mazda (99).

Australian total registrations of new motor vehicles (original figures) for May 1998 were 65,053 vehicles an increase of 7.3% from April 1998 and an annual increase of 11.0%.

New motor vehicle registrations

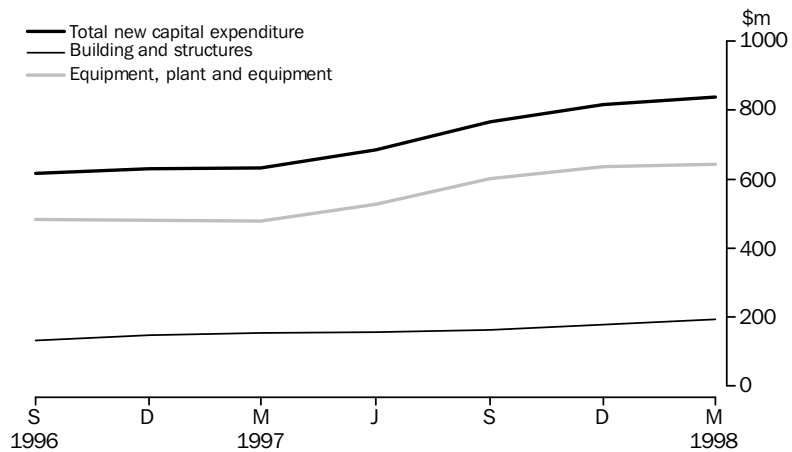


Private new capital expenditure

The trend estimate at current prices for private new capital expenditure for the March quarter 1998 increased 2.7% from the previous quarter. Expenditure on both buildings and equipment increased, up 8.4% and 1.1% respectively. Since March quarter 1997, total expenditure has increased by \$205m (32.4%). Expenditure on buildings has increased by \$40m (26.0%), and equipment has increased by \$165m (34.4%).

In original terms, private new capital expenditure for the March quarter 1998 was \$721m, a decrease of 24.3% on the previous quarter but a 38.4% increase on the March quarter 1997. Equipment, plant and machinery accounted for \$534m and buildings and structures \$188m.

Private new capital expenditure, type of asset: **Trend**



Tourist accommodation

The number of rooms and units available in licensed hotels, motels, guesthouses and serviced apartments with 15 or more rooms or units increased 0.2% in the March quarter 1998 compared with the March quarter 1997. The room occupancy rate increased from 57.1% to 59.2%. Takings for all accommodation types increased when compared with March quarter 1997, with total takings increasing from \$40.5m to \$44.0m. Average takings per room night occupied rose from \$81.20 to \$85.10.

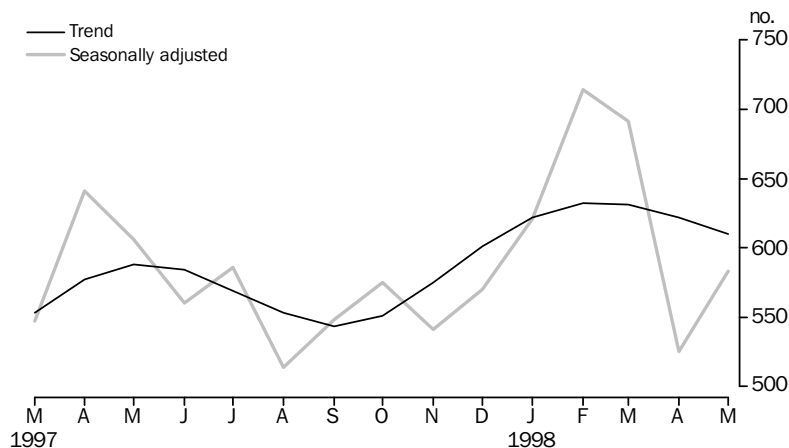
PRODUCTION

Building approvals

The trend for total dwelling units approved fell by 1.9% in May, but is still 3.7% higher than the level of a year ago. In original terms, the total number of dwelling units approved for May 1998 was 602, up 19.9% from the previous month and 2.9% lower than a year earlier.

For Australia, the rate of increase in the trend for total dwelling units approved has slowed to 0.3% in May, however it has increased by 14.9% over the last year. In original terms, South Australia accounted for 4.3% of the total dwelling units approved in Australia during May 1998.

Dwelling units approved

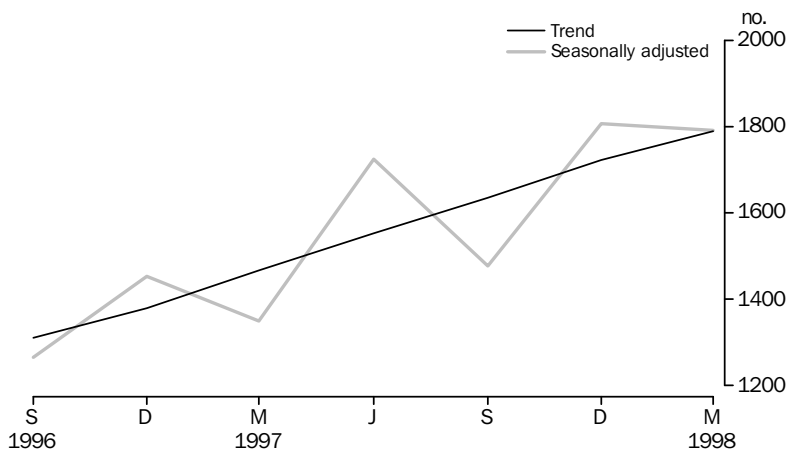


In May 1998 the total value of building approved was \$102.6 million of which \$55.3m was new residential building. The value of non-residential building increased by 10.4% this month to \$38.2 million. Shops, entertainment and recreational categories were the main contributors (\$10.9m and \$10.7m respectively) to this value for May 1998.

Building activity

For the March quarter 1998, the trend for the total number of dwelling units commenced in South Australia rose by 3.9% and was 22.0% above the level of a year earlier. Corresponding figures for Australia were 3.8% and 15.7%. In original terms, 1,653 dwellings were commenced in the State during the March quarter, a decrease of 253 or 13.3% from the previous quarter. The March quarter level represents 4.8% of all dwelling units commenced in Australia.

Dwelling units commenced



The total value of building work commenced during the March quarter 1998 fell by 27.4% to \$281.3m. Both the value of new residential building and non-residential building recorded decreases of 16.4% and 47.1% respectively.

The total value of building work done during the March quarter 1998 fell by 16.3% to \$327.2m compared with a 9.8% decrease nationally. However, compared with the March quarter 1997, South Australia recorded a 13.1% increase in total building work done while the increase nationally was 9.7%.

The total value of building work yet to be done at the end of March 1998 was \$300.3m. This was a decrease of 10.3% on the figure for December 1997 and only accounted for 2.4% of the corresponding national figure.

Value of building activity



Engineering construction

The value of engineering construction work done for the March quarter 1998 rose by 1.2% to \$302.8m compared with a national increase of 5.3%. The March quarter level represents 6.9% of the national figure, compared with 7.2% for the December quarter. In South Australia, work commenced during the March quarter rose by 2.9% to \$213.2m, compared with a national fall of 0.4%. As a result, the State's proportion of the national total of commencements rose slightly to 5.3% for the March quarter 1998. Roads, highways, subdivisions and water storage and supply categories contributed to almost half (\$102.2m) of the value of work commenced for this period.

PRICES

Consumer Price Index

The Consumer Price Index (all groups) in Adelaide rose 0.6% between the March quarter 1998 and June quarter 1998. The groups which contributed most to the overall increase this quarter were health and personal care, and food. All groups contributed to this quarter's increase except tobacco and alcohol which contributed a small decrease.

In annual terms, the index has shown a 0.4% increase between June 1997 and June 1998.

The Consumer Price Index for the weighted average of eight capital cities rose 0.6% from the previous quarter and rose 0.7% compared with last year.

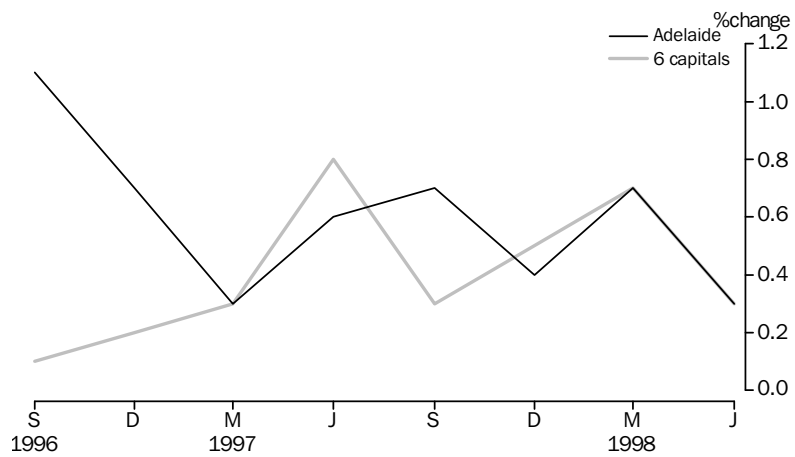


House building materials index

The Price Index of Materials used in House Building rose by 0.3% for the June quarter 1998 in Adelaide. Increases in the price of aluminium windows and doors and insulation were the main contributors to the rise, being partly offset with decreases in structural timber. The weighted average of the six State capitals recorded a 0.3% increase in the same period.

Adelaide recorded a rise of 2.1% in the Index for the 12 months to June quarter, with the weighted average of the six State capitals recording a 1.7% increase.

Materials used in house building

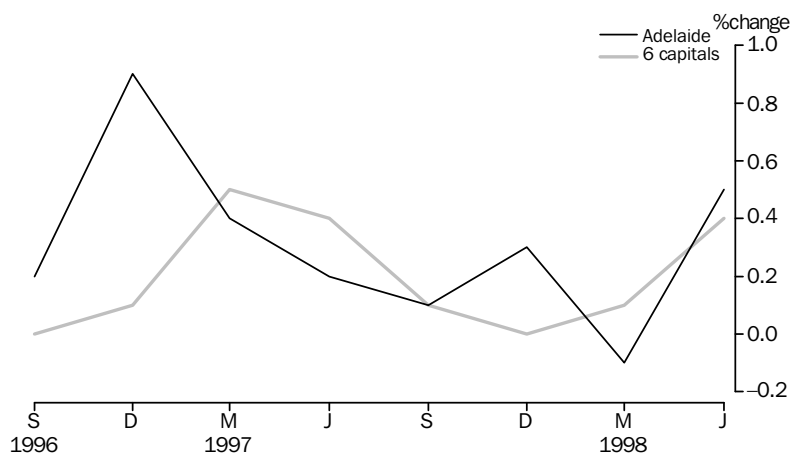


Non-house building materials index

The Price Index of Materials used in Building other than House Building rose 0.5% in the June quarter. Materials to record increases were aluminium windows, re-inforcing steel bar, fabric and mesh, and paint and other coatings while small decreases were recorded for clay bricks and non-ferrous pipes and fittings. For the same period, the weighted average of the six State capitals rose 0.4%.

For the 12 months to June quarter 1998, Adelaide recorded a rise of 0.8% in the Index, while the weighted average of the six State capitals showed a 0.5% increase in the same period.

Materials used in building other than house building



House prices indexes

During the March quarter 1998 the Price Index of Established Houses in Adelaide rose by 2.9%, while over the year to the March quarter the index increased 4.3%. Over the corresponding period, the weighted average of the eight capital cities index increased 2.5% and 7.7% respectively.

The Project Home Price Index increased by 1.1% during the March quarter 1998 and 5.6% when compared with the same time the previous year. Nationally, the weighted average of eight capital cities index rose 0.4% from the December quarter and 1.1% from the March quarter 1997.

Passenger transport cost index

The Passenger Transport Cost Index measures changes in the costs of operating a public transport passenger bus service in Adelaide. Costs covered include labour costs, leasing charges, registration and insurance, repairs and maintenance, fuel and overheads. The index has been compiled on a quarterly basis from September 1995 with a base of 100.0 in 1993-94. The All Groups index number for March quarter 1998 is 110.5, up from 108.3 in the previous quarter. This rise is due to increases in wages and salaries, and repairs and maintenance. The prices for the other items in the index remained steady and did not show changes from the last quarter, apart from bus operating costs which decreased from 105.3 to 103.9 as a result of price falls in distillate.

LABOUR FORCE AND DEMOGRAPHY

Population

At 31 December 1997 the estimated resident population of South Australia was 1,482,869. This was an increase of 1,271 persons from the September quarter and was due to a natural increase of 1,544 persons partly offset by net migration loss of 273 persons.

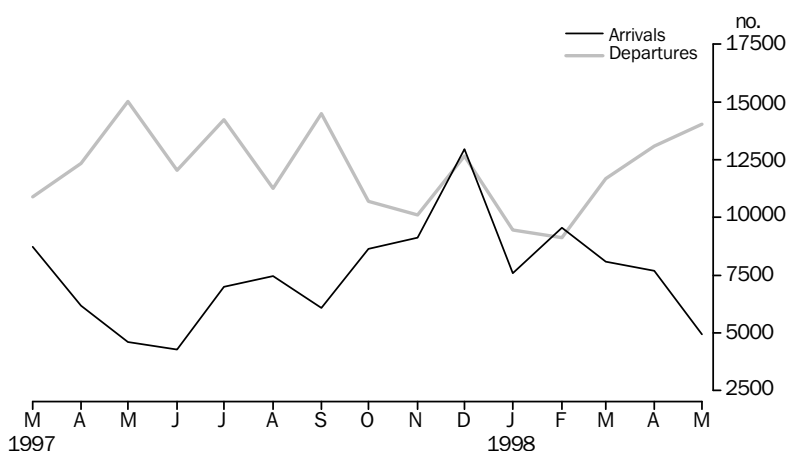
Short-term overseas visitor arrivals

In May 1998 there were 4,933 short-term overseas visitor arrivals to South Australia, a decrease of 35.8% on the previous month. A comparison with the same period last year shows a rise of 7.4%. For Australia there was a 16.9% decrease on the previous month and a 2.0% fall on an annual basis. The South Australian proportion of short-term visitors was 1.7%

Short-term resident departures

There were 14,048 short-term resident departures in May 1998. This represents a rise of 7.3% from last month and a 6.6% decrease on last year. The Australian data for the same periods shows a rise of 3.9% and 8.6%. South Australia accounted for 5.1% of all short-term resident departures.

Short-term arrivals and departures



Employment

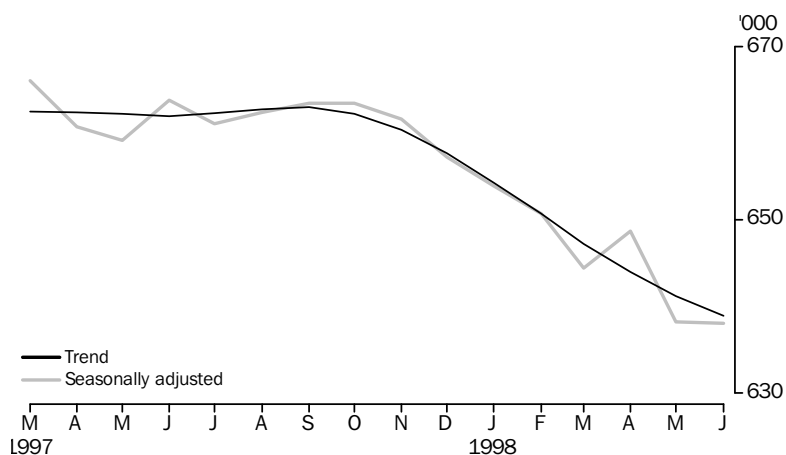
The trend estimate of employed persons was 638,900 in June 1998, or 3.5% lower than the level of one year ago (662,000). Nearly three-quarters of this decrease can be attributed to a decline in female employment of 16,800. In particular, part-time employment for females fell by 8.3% in the 12 months to June 1998.

The trend estimate of full-time employment continues to fall. The June 1998 level of 461,000 was 2.5% lower than the June 1997 estimate (472,700). For the same period, the decrease in trend part-time employment was more pronounced; down by 6.0% to 177,900 in June 1998.

Employment *continued*

At June 1998, in original terms, 29.8% of part-time employed persons in the State were underemployed; that is, they stated a preference to work extra hours, or in a full-time job, if these options were available. This was considerably higher than the national percentage (25.2%). However, State underemployment levels have changed little over the past 12 months; for example, the June 1997 level was 29.7%.

Employed persons



Labour force participation

The labour force participation rate expresses the labour force (or all employed and unemployed persons) as a percentage of the total population aged 15 and over. It measures the economically productive or active element in the working age population.

The trend estimate of the labour force participation rate in South Australia was 59.6% in June 1998. This was the lowest level since March 1984 when the rate was 59.5%. Nationally, the participation rate for June 1998 was much higher at 63.4%. A combination of factors, including the ageing of the population, an increased tendency to undertake post-school education and a decline in female labour force participation since April 1997, have contributed to the recent decline in the State rate.

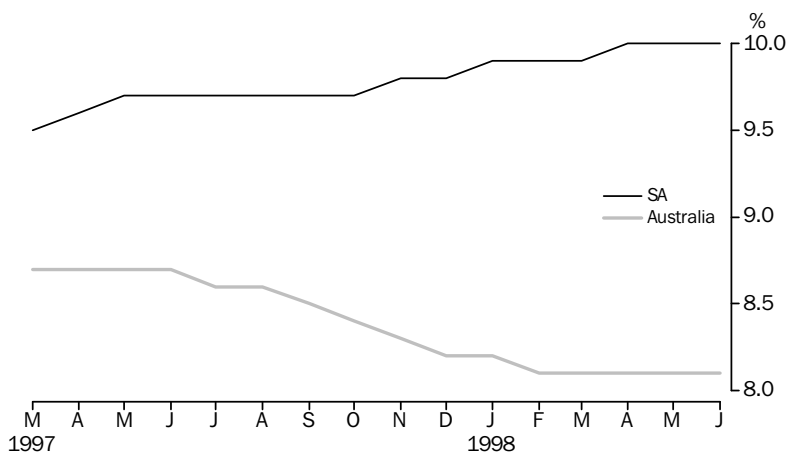
From another perspective, the number of people (aged 15 and over) who were not in the labour force (neither employed nor unemployed) rose by 6.9% to 481,800 in the 12 months to June 1998.

Unemployment

The trend unemployment rate has generally risen over the past 12 months; up from 9.7% in June 1997 to 10.0% in June 1998. In contrast, the trend estimate of the unemployment rate for Australia has remained at 8.1% in recent months, considerably lower than the 8.7% recorded in June 1997.

In unadjusted, original terms, the teenage full-time unemployment rate in South Australia has declined from 38.2% in May 1998 to 29.7% in June 1998. The latest result indicates that 6,500 persons aged 15-19 were actively seeking full-time work, out of a teenage, full-time labour force of 21,800. When interpreting these statistics, it should be noted that relatively few teenagers were available for full-time work; in fact just 6,500 out of a total population of 99,500. The majority (48.5%) were not in the labour force, mainly full-time students, while 29.5% were in the part-time labour force only.

Unemployment rates: Trend

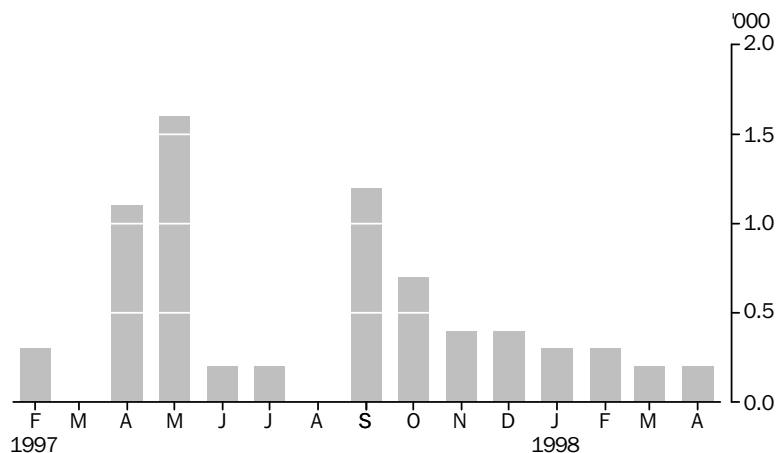


Industrial disputes

In April 1998 a total of 200 working days were lost through industrial disputation, the same level reported in March 1998. South Australia had a low level of industrial disputation, contributing less than 1% to the national level of 22,100 working days lost.

The number of working days lost in South Australia in the 12 months to April 1998 was 5,700, much lower than the 30,200 days lost in the 12 months to April 1997.

Working days lost



Overtime

In original terms, the proportion of employees who worked overtime in May 1998 was 12.8%, compared with 15.9% in May 1997.

In May 1998, employees who worked overtime in South Australia recorded an average of 5.6 overtime hours per week. This was lower than the 6.8 overtime hours recorded 12 months earlier.

INCOMES

Average weekly earnings

The trend estimate of average weekly ordinary time earnings of full-time adult employees increased 1.4% from November 1997 to February 1998. The full-time adult ordinary time earnings for males and females rose 0.9% and 2.8% respectively.

Between February 1997 and February 1998, the trend estimate of average weekly ordinary time earnings of full-time adult male employees increased 3.7% whilst the female rate increased 6.6%.

For Australia, the trend estimate of full-time adult ordinary time earnings for males and females rose by 4.5% and 4.1% respectively in the 12 months to February 1998.

Note: Since it is an average of earnings across all employees, changes in average weekly earnings may occur through changes in employment as well as changes in pay levels.

Wage cost index

The Wage Cost Index measures quarterly changes in wage and salary costs for employee jobs. Hourly rates of pay are collected on both an ordinary time and total time basis, with or without bonuses. The first reference period is the quarter to December 1997. This new measure replaces the discontinued award rates of pay index.

In South Australia, the index of total hourly rates of pay (excluding bonuses) increased by 0.7% between December 1997 and March 1998. Nationally, the corresponding increase was 0.9%.

In South Australia, the index of ordinary time hourly rates of pay (excluding bonuses) rose by 0.7% in the quarter to March 1998. The Australian rate increased 0.9% for the same period.

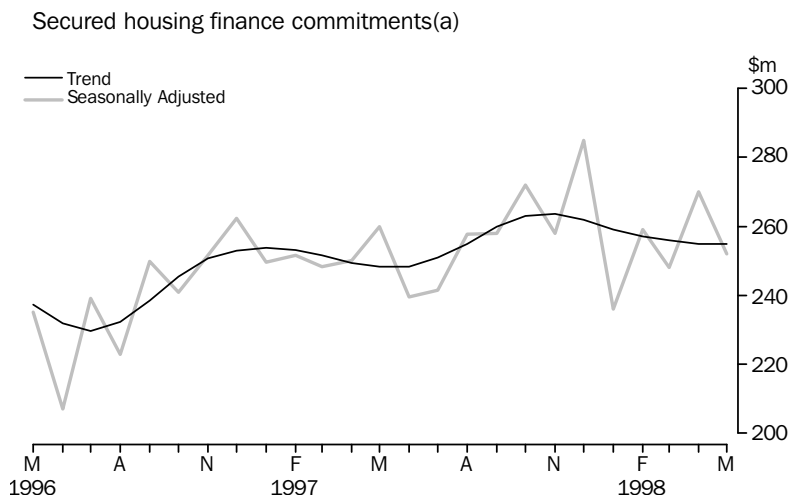
FINANCIAL MARKETS**Housing finance**

The trend estimate for the value of new housing commitments (excluding alterations and additions) increased marginally during May 1998 to \$255.4m, following five consecutive months of decline. Nationally the trend has fallen since November 1997, with a further marginal decrease in May. The seasonally adjusted value for South Australia decreased 6.6% to \$251.9m to be 3.3% lower than May 1997.

Total commitments (original figures including alterations and additions) decreased 5.4% to \$268.9m, 3.7% below the previous May. Nationally, total commitments were up marginally for the month. The number of dwellings financed in South Australia decreased 5.5% to 3,048, 5.6% below the previous May. The average value of commitments increased during the month to \$84,300.

The decrease in total commitments was largely due to the fall in refinancing, down 20.5% to \$56.7m following the second highest month recorded. Refinancing dropped to 21.1% of total new lending commitments. Construction of dwellings decreased 8.6% to \$32.1m, 19.3% below the previous May bringing South Australia's commitments for construction of dwellings down to 4.5% of the Australian total. The other category to decrease was alterations and additions, down 4.7% to \$12.1m, 18.5% lower than the previous May.

Commitments for the purchase of established dwellings (the main category) increased 0.5% to \$159.8m, 2.5% below May 1997. Finance for the purchase of newly erected dwellings rose 34.8% to \$8.3m following the lowest month in nearly two years.



(a) Excludes alterations and additions. Includes refinancing.

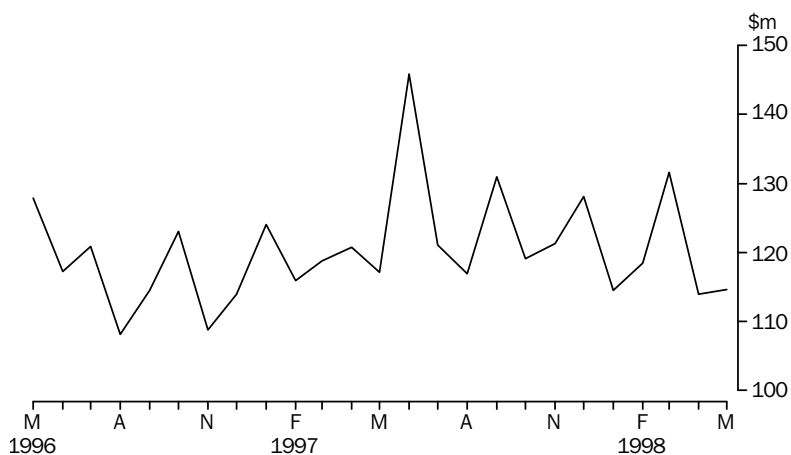
Personal finance

Total personal finance commitments for May 1998 increased 31.8% to \$300.0m, 33.2% above the previous May. Nationally the increase for the month was 6.1%, 14.1% up over the year. In seasonally adjusted terms the national commitments for personal finance were up 6.6% in May.

The increase in South Australia was due to secured revolving credit facilities which reached \$136.4m with the increased tie-in of revolving credit facilities with house mortgages. Unsecured revolving credit facilities decreased 6.4% to \$49.0m, 11.2% above the previous May.

Fixed loan commitments rose 0.6% to \$114.6m, 2.1% below the previous May. New motor cars and station wagons increased 13.1% to \$14.4m following the low April figure. Refinancing increased 9.4% to \$13.3m, 20.5% lower than May 1997. Finance for boats, caravans and trailers dropped 40.3% to \$1.6m following two relatively high months.

Fixed loan commitments, all lenders



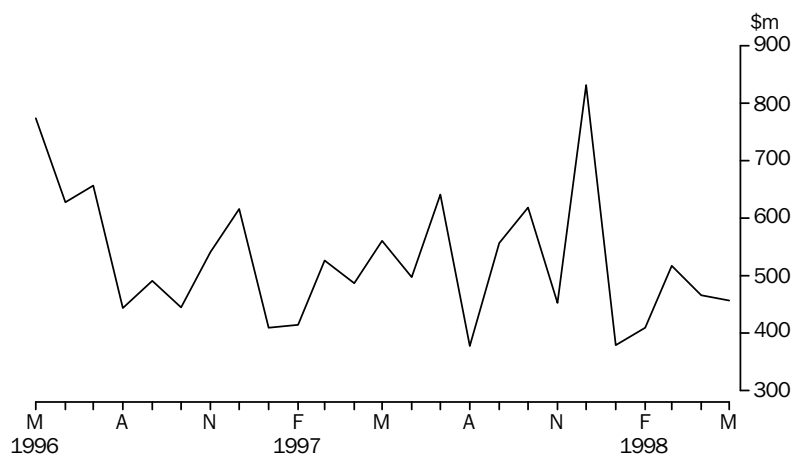
Commercial finance

Total commercial finance commitments remain comparatively flat with all five months of 1998 lower than the corresponding months of 1997. May commercial finance was down 2.0% to \$457.1m, 18.6% lower than the previous May. Nationally total commercial finance commitments were up 4.0% for the month with South Australia's proportion of the national total dropping to 3.2%.

Commitments under fixed loan facilities decreased 1.0% to \$300.4m, compared with a 15.9% increase for Australia. Major decreases occurred for manufacturing, down 54.0% to \$13.5m (following two higher than average months) and community services, down 43.8% to \$10.4m. The main increase in May was for property and business services, up 33.3% to \$46.3m, 9.4% above May 1997.

Revolving credit facilities decreased 3.7% to \$156.7m, 31.0% below the previous May. The main decrease was for finance, investment and insurance, down 85.3% to \$8.5m following two relatively high months. The main increases occurred for agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting up 88.4% to \$56.5m (double the previous May) and manufacturing, up 70.6% to \$29.8m.

Commercial finance commitments, all lenders



Lease finance

Following a comparatively low April, new finance lease commitments increased 42.9% to \$23.0m in May 1998, 11.1% above the previous May. Nationally the increase for the month was 7.1%, 12.2% above the previous May. When seasonally adjusted the national total for May decreased 5.1%.

Lease finance *continued*

The main increase was finance lease commitments for new motor cars and station wagons not subject to depreciation, up 51.5% to \$6.3m, 9.2% above the previous May. Office machines increased \$1.9m to \$3.3m and agricultural machinery and equipment increased \$1.4m to \$2.8m. Both of these categories had substantial decreases in the previous month.

Five categories decreased, with the largest fall being new heavy trucks, down \$0.5m to \$0.8m continuing the decline from the March peak. The other main fall was for other transport equipment, down \$0.4m.

FORWARD OUTLOOK

Composite leading indicator for Australia

The Composite Leading Indicator (CLI) is a single time series produced by aggregating eight individual economic indicators, and has been developed by the ABS as an experimental series to supplement existing forms of economic analysis and modelling.

The CLI summarises the early signals contained in a selection of economic indicators and is designed to assist the detection of turning points between successive expansions and slow downs of economic activity as measured by constant price GDP(A). It does not attempt to forecast the level of economic activity.

Composite leading indicator for Australia

In the March quarter 1998 :

- the experimental CLI fell 0.17%, following a fall of 0.03% in the December quarter 1997. This second consecutive fall gives a provisional peak in the CLI in the September quarter 1997.

The quarterly data are released in more detail in the *Australian Economic Indicators* (Cat. no. 1350.0). The CLI was the topic of the Focus article in the September 1993 edition of *South Australian Economic Indicators* (Cat. no. 1307.4). A review of the performance of the CLI and its components was published in the July 1997 issue of Cat. no. 1350.0.

Business expectations

Surveys of business expectations have been available to decision makers for a number of years from several sources. These surveys provided *qualitative* indicators in the form of the net proportion of businesses expecting a rise or fall in future business conditions. Since the December quarter 1993, the ABS has been compiling a *quantitative* indicator of business expectations in the form of an expected weighted aggregate change in a range of economic variables. These data are available on a quarterly basis in *Australian Business Expectations* (Cat. no. 5250.0).

South Australia, Short-term outlook expected aggregate change

.....

EXPECTED AGGREGATE CHANGE
OVER THE PREVIOUS QUARTER.....

	Sep qtr 1997	Dec qtr 1997	Mar qtr 1998	Jun qtr 1998	Sep qtr 1998
<i>Business performance indicators</i>	%	%	%	%	%
Trading performance					
Operating income	0.0	5.1	0.2	1.9	2.0
Selling prices	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.5	0.4
Profit	-3.9	26.5	3.0	2.9	12.4
Investment					
Capital expenditure	5.4	9.5	1.5	9.8	2.6
Stocks	-0.4	0.6	1.9	0.2	-2.4
Employment					
Full time equivalent	-0.4	1.0	0.1	-0.1	-1.2

.....

Short term—South Australian businesses expect an increase of 2.0% in operating income in the September quarter 1998 compared with the June quarter 1998 whilst the Australian rate was 1.1%. The investment component for South Australia was expected to be 2.6% increase in capital expenditure compared with 3.8% for Australia whilst full-time employment levels were expected to fall 1.2% for South Australia and 0.7% for Australia.

South Australia, Medium-term outlook expected aggregate change

.....

EXPECTED AGGREGATE CHANGE OVER THE
SAME QUARTER OF THE
PREVIOUS YEAR.....

	Jun qtr 1998	Sep qtr 1998	Dec qtr 1998	Mar qtr 1999	Jun qtr 1999
<i>Business performance indicators</i>	%	%	%	%	%
Trading performance					
Operating income	3.4	4.8	4.3	2.7	3.4
Selling prices	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.8
Profit	11.2	25.3	18.1	22.7	20.9
Investment					
Capital expenditure	-0.8	3.0	2.3	-2.0	8.6
Stocks	0.3	1.1	2.0	0.2	0.3
Employment					
Full time equivalent	0.0	-0.3	-1.5	-1.3	-0.5

.....

Business expectations *continued*

Medium term—Businesses in South Australia expect operating income in the June quarter 1999 to be 3.4% above June quarter 1998. Capital expenditure was expected to increase by 8.6% whilst employment indicators are showing negative change of 0.5%. The Australian data shows a 3.2% increase in capital expenditure and a 0.5% fall in employment levels.

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Indicator	Unit	Period	SOUTH AUSTRALIA.....			AUSTRALIA.....			SA as a % of Aust.	Source index
			Number	% change from.....		Number	% change from.....			
				Previous period	Same period previous year		Previous period	Same period previous year		
State accounts										
Domestic final demand										
Current prices trend	\$m	Mar qtr 98	9 574	0.8	5.7	136 047	1.2	6.0	7.0	(1)
1989-90 prices trend	\$m	Mar qtr 98	8 209	0.5	4.9	117 829	0.7	4.8	7.0	(1)
Private final consumption expenditure										
Current prices trend	\$m	Mar qtr 98	6 197	1.5	5.7	84 696	1.2	5.8	7.3	(1)
1989-90 prices trend	\$m	Mar qtr 98	5 224	1.2	5.2	70 823	0.8	4.6	7.4	(1)
Private gross fixed capital expenditure										
Current prices trend	\$m	Mar qtr 98	1 471	3.7	17.5	23 985	2.3	12.3	6.1	(1)
1989-90 prices trend	\$m	Mar qtr 98	1 380	2.6	14.5	23 723	1.2	11.6	5.8	(1)
Wages, salaries and supplements										
Current prices trend	\$m	Mar qtr 98	4 815	1.4	6.3	68 512	1.5	5.5	7.0	(1)
International accounts										
Exports	\$m	May 98	438.1	6.9	19.1	7 420.6	7.7	1.7	5.9	(2)
Imports	\$m	May 98	311.0	-11.3	26.4	7 660.2	3.0	18.8	4.1	(2)
Consumption and investment										
Retail turnover										
Current prices original	\$m	May 98	855.8	0.8	7.1	11 207.8	2.2	2.5	7.6	(3)
Current prices trend	\$m	May 98	867.6	0.7	8.8	11 366.1	0.2	4.2	7.6	(3)
1989-90 prices original	\$m	Mar qtr 98	1 985.2	-13.8	7.6	26 286.1	-15.9	2.6	7.6	(3)
New motor vehicle registrations										
Original	no.	May 98	4 379	7.8	20.3	65 053	7.3	11.0	6.7	(4)
Trend	no.	May 98	4 361	1.0	14.5	64 907	0.4	12.1	6.7	(4)
Private new capital expenditure										
Current prices original	\$m	Mar qtr 98	721	-24.3	38.4	10 326	-19.4	3.7	7.0	(5)
Current prices trend	\$m	Mar qtr 98	838	2.7	32.4	11 724	1.7	6.8	7.1	(5)
Private new capital expenditure	\$m	1996-97	2 580	..	37.7	43 837	..	8.3	5.9	(5)
Takings, licensed hotels, motels, guesthouses and apartments with facilities	\$m	Mar qtr 98	44.0	n.a.	8.7	955.5	n.a.	2.7	4.6	(5)
Production										
Dwelling unit approvals										
Original	no.	May 98	602	19.9	-2.9	13 958	0.3	2.5	4.3	(7)
Trend	no.	May 98	610	-1.9	3.7	13 599	0.3	14.9	4.5	(7)
Dwelling units commenced	no.	Mar qtr 98	1 653	-13.3	32.6	34 576	-10.6	9.4	4.8	(8a)
Value of non-residential building approvals	\$m	May 98	38.2	10.4	-41.0	1 476.9	18.2	60.0	2.6	(7)
Value of total building activity										
Commenced	\$m	Mar qtr 98	281.3	-27.4	10.9	7 428.1	-13.4	6.0	3.8	(8)
Work done	\$m	Mar qtr 98	327.2	-16.3	13.1	7 475.3	-9.8	9.7	4.4	(8)
Work yet to be done	\$m	Mar qtr 98	300.3	-10.3	-7.0	12 588.7	2.6	22.3	2.4	(8)
Value of engineering construction work done	\$m	Mar qtr 98	302.8	1.2	51.2	4 386.5	5.3	30.3	6.9	(9)
Manufacturing production										
Red meat	tonnes	May 98	14 434	-19.4	-18.0	236 741	-4.1	-8.1	6.1	(11)
Mineral exploration expenditure (other than for petroleum)	\$m	Mar qtr 98	9.2	-19.3	27.8	220.4	-21.8	-6.5	4.2	(12)

Indicator	Unit	Period	SOUTH AUSTRALIA.....			AUSTRALIA.....				
			Number	% change from.....		Number	% change from		SA as a % of Aust.	Source index
				Previous period	Same period previous year		Previous period	Same period previous year		
Prices										
CPI – All groups	1989–90=100	Jun qtr 98	122.4	0.6	0.4	121.0	0.6	0.7	..	(13)
Price index of materials used in house building	1989–90=100	Jun qtr 98	124.1	0.3	2.1	119.0	0.3	1.7	..	(14)
Price index of materials used in building other than houses	1989–90=100	Jun qtr 98	115.6	0.5	0.8	114.5	0.4	0.5	..	(15)
Price index of established houses	1989–90=100	Mar qtr 98	114.0	2.9	4.3	124.2	2.5	7.7	..	(16)
Price index of project homes	1989–90=100	Mar qtr 98	113.7	1.1	5.6	110.4	0.4	1.1	..	(16)
Labour force and demography										
Population (resident at end qtr)	'000	Dec qtr 97	1 482.9	0.1	0.5	18 631.1	0.2	1.1	8.0	(17)
Short-term overseas visitor arrivals	no.	May 98	4 933	-35.8	7.4	283 396	-16.9	-2.0	1.7	(21)
Short-term resident departures	no.	May 98	14 048	7.3	-6.6	272 808	3.9	8.6	5.1	(21)
Labour force										
Original	'000	Jun 98	709.0	-0.2	-3.5	9 345.4	0.4	1.9	7.6	(18)
Trend	'000	Jun 98	710.1	-0.3	-3.1	9 333.8	0.2	1.5	7.6	(18)
Employed persons										
Original	'000	Jun 98	640.8	0.4	-3.9	8 609.8	0.5	2.3	7.4	(18)
Trend	'000	Jun 98	638.9	-0.4	-3.5	8 578.1	0.1	2.2	7.4	(18)
Participation rate										
Original(a)	%	Jun 98	59.5	-0.2	-2.6	63.3	0.2	0.3	..	(18)
Trend(a)	%	Jun 98	59.6	-2.0	-2.3	63.2	0.0	0.0	..	(18)
Unemployment rate										
Original(a)	%	Jun 98	9.6	-0.6	0.3	7.9	0.0	-0.3	..	(18)
Trend(a)	%	Jun 98	10.0	0.0	0.3	8.1	0.0	-0.6	..	(18)
Job vacancies	'000	May 98	2.7	-18.2	-10.0	73.3	-2.9	26.2	3.7	(19)
Average weekly overtime per employee working overtime	hours	May 98	5.6	3.4	-18.4	6.7	-0.1	-4.7	..	(19)
	'000 working days lost									
Industrial disputes	days lost	Apr 98	0.2	0.0	-81.8	22.1	-56.0	-41.4	0.9	(20)
Incomes										
Average weekly earnings (full-time adults; ordinary time)										
Original	\$	Feb 98	683.60	4.4	5.2	722.30	1.5	4.1	..	(22)
Trend	\$	Feb 98	675.40	1.4	4.1	720.80	1.1	4.2	..	(22)
Wage cost index (Total hourly rate excluding bonuses)										
	Sep 1997=100	Mar 98	101.5	0.7	..	101.7	0.9	..	..	(23)
Financial markets										
Secured housing finance										
Personal	\$m	May 98	268.9	-5.4	-3.7	4 818.2	0.4	-0.2	5.6	(24)
Finance commitments										
Commercial	\$m	May 98	300.0	31.8	19.2	3 704.2	6.1	14.1	6.1	(25)
Lease	\$m	May 98	457.1	-2.0	-18.6	14 267.0	4.0	-18.3	3.2	(25)
Interest rates										
Banks new housing loans(a)	%	Jun 98	..	..	..	6.70	0.0	-0.5	..	(26)
Banks business loans(a)										
Small, medium sized business%	%	Jun 98	..	..	..	7.70	-1.0	-1.8	..	(26)
Large business	%	Jun 98	..	..	..	8.05	-0.2	-0.9	..	(26)

(a) Change is shown in terms of percentage points.

Period	FINAL CONSUMPTION EXPENDITURE....		GROSS FIXED CAPITAL EXPENDITURE....		State final demand	Gross State product (I)	Wages, salaries and supplements
	Private	Government	Private	Government			
ANNUAL (\$m)							
1991-92	18 958	5 812	4 021	1 429	30 220	28 719	14 718
1992-93	19 493	5 969	3 980	1 372	30 814	29 989	15 131
1993-94	20 596	6 628	4 019	1 182	32 426	32 057	16 370
1994-95	21 778	6 704	4 889	1 250	34 621	33 437	16 712
1995-96	23 016	6 750	4 510	1 011	35 287	35 457	17 556
1996-97	23 396	6 802	4 866	1 117	36 181	36 023	18 009
PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS YEAR							
1991-92	4.6	6.1	-5.0	-6.5	2.9	1.0	-0.2
1992-93	2.8	2.7	-1.0	-4.0	2.0	4.4	2.8
1993-94	3.8	5.4	-1.1	-13.5	2.6	3.3	8.2
1994-95	5.7	1.1	21.6	5.8	6.8	4.3	2.1
1995-96	5.7	0.7	-7.7	-19.1	1.9	6.0	5.1
1996-97	1.7	0.8	7.9	10.5	2.5	1.6	2.6
QUARTERLY, ORIGINAL (\$m)							
1996-97							
December	6 134	1 711	1 288	264	9 397	9 849	4 624
March	5 615	1 575	1 021	315	8 526	8 634	4 404
June	5 858	1 885	1 352	315	9 409	9 006	4 546
1997-98							
September	5 997	1 747	1 538	219	9 277	n.a.	4 692
December	6 443	1 677	1 313	333	9 992	n.a.	4 898
March	5 964	1 568	1 538	160	9 068	n.a.	4 616
QUARTERLY, TREND (\$m)							
1996-97							
December	5 830	1 678	1 175	293	8 976	8 976	4 498
March	5 861	1 712	1 207	278	9 058	9 049	4 528
June	5 929	1 734	1 268	282	9 213	9 116	4 585
1997-98							
September	6 017	1 733	1 349	288	9 387	n.a.	4 667
December	6 108	1 703	1 418	274	9 502	n.a.	4 748
March	6 197	1 660	1 471	245	9 574	n.a.	4 815
PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS QUARTER, TREND							
1996-97							
December	0.5	1.1	1.4	1.7	0.8	0.8	0.9
March	0.5	2.0	2.7	-5.1	0.9	0.8	0.7
June	1.2	1.3	5.1	1.4	1.7	0.7	1.3
1997-98							
September	1.5	-0.1	6.4	2.1	1.9	..	1.8
December	1.5	-1.7	5.1	-4.9	1.2	..	1.7
March	1.5	-2.5	3.7	-10.6	0.8	..	1.4

Period	FINAL CONSUMPTION EXPENDITURE....		GROSS FIXED CAPITAL EXPENDITURE....		State final demand	Gross State product (I)
	Private	Government	Private	Government		
ANNUAL (\$m)						
1991–92	17 447	5 328	3 849	1 364	27 988	27 023
1992–93	17 491	5 358	3 696	1 292	27 837	28 077
1993–94	18 150	5 646	3 655	1 118	28 568	29 004
1994–95	19 020	5 765	4 448	1 175	30 408	29 226
1995–96	19 732	5 713	4 094	948	30 487	30 465
1996–97	19 811	5 711	4 718	1 038	31 278	30 868
PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS YEAR						
1991–92	1.6	2.3	-6.0	-7.8	1.4	-2.4
1992–93	0.3	0.6	-4.0	-5.3	-0.5	3.9
1993–94	3.8	5.4	-1.1	-13.5	2.6	3.3
1994–95	4.7	2.1	21.7	5.1	6.4	0.8
1995–96	3.9	-0.9	-8	-19.2	0.3	4.2
1996–97	0.6	-0.5	15.7	9.4	2.7	1.3
QUARTERLY, ORIGINAL (\$m)						
1996–97						
December	5 212	1 417	1 272	245	8 146	8 701
March	4 749	1 322	985	291	7 347	7 280
June	4 967	1 568	1 292	295	8 121	7 524
1997–98						
September	5 071	1 435	1 279	189	7 973	n.a.
December	5 453	1 399	1 464	302	8 619	n.a.
March	5 033	1 286	1 275	146	7 741	n.a.
QUARTERLY, TREND (\$m)						
1996–97						
December	4 954	1 402	1 150	272	7 779	7 717
March	4 965	1 431	1 175	258	7 829	7 701
June	5 019	1 445	1 226	257	7 948	7 662
1997–98						
September	5 094	1 439	1 296	259	8 087	n.a.
December	5 164	1 411	1 345	247	8 167	n.a.
March	5 224	1 382	1 380	223	8 209	n.a.
PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS QUARTER, TREND						
1996–97						
December	0.1	0.9	2.2	1.5	0.6	0.1
March	0.2	2.1	2.2	-5.1	0.6	-0.2
June	1.1	1.0	4.3	-0.4	1.5	-0.5
1997–98						
September	1.5	-0.4	5.7	0.8	1.7	..
December	1.4	-1.9	3.8	-4.6	1.0	..
March	1.2	-2.1	2.6	-9.7	0.5	..

4

MERCHANDISE EXPORTS, By Selected Commodity Group(a)

<i>Period</i>	<i>Meat and meat preparations</i>	<i>Cereals and cereal preparations</i>	<i>Wine</i>	<i>Wool and sheepskins</i>	<i>Machinery</i>	<i>Metals and metal manu- factures</i>	<i>Fish and crustaceans</i>	<i>Road vehicles, parts and accessories</i>	<i>Petroleum and petroleum products</i>	<i>Total</i>
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
ANNUAL										
1991-92	270 237	565 582	165 914	351 096	176 536	489 030	147 532	137 091	341 477	3 431 139
1992-93	282 181	573 375	192 255	318 989	211 426	490 594	154 608	338 359	372 445	3 760 602
1993-94	324 796	436 517	238 366	290 963	223 760	462 355	186 861	351 229	276 473	3 889 783
1994-95	307 785	261 052	250 527	301 645	285 309	571 094	191 386	332 321	285 310	3 829 336
1995-96	244 508	713 092	318 534	240 148	340 205	610 899	196 629	249 237	220 915	4 498 532
1996-97	182 478	745 227	397 949	260 974	378 923	542 204	191 093	655 916	286 458	5 012 652
MONTHLY										
1996-97										
March	17 492	118 000	34 185	22 682	39 619	46 802	23 664	58 579	25 712	507 174
April	17 415	61 510	34 047	25 234	31 992	39 508	19 935	45 176	26 197	416 218
May	16 003	16 145	36 804	26 233	35 384	55 444	15 449	39 717	15 488	367 824
June	15 421	18 987	30 160	23 847	29 641	47 560	11 051	57 105	36 706	406 373
1997-98										
July	12 693	18 848	38 625	31 249	41 558	47 372	16 678	53 516	14 509	407 524
August	11 641	18 715	44 669	17 560	31 082	43 635	18 826	60 483	39 320	419 433
September	15 556	27 715	62 570	24 139	38 751	50 905	18 769	18 938	26 927	383 286
October	17 450	10 488	62 258	23 438	26 461	37 876	23 608	39 356	10 935	360 806
November	21 311	8 737	33 344	29 856	41 032	61 843	18 039	83 677	18 110	454 765
December	22 742	67 159	36 065	35 568	38 306	40 932	13 637	72 253	33 679	482 274
January	15 469	92 923	25 835	20 260	21 783	56 613	24 570	15 137	12 427	372 997
February	21 174	45 383	43 690	17 710	27 617	41 114	18 281	19 097	18 197	363 934
March	23 698	62 521	55 420	26 154	37 495	51 672	22 845	37 642	19 792	474 542
April	20 180	71 491	50 703	15 615	31 035	47 978	21 535	24 260	12 089	409 841
May	19 285	36 396	57 287	28 189	40 454	44 356	17 807	30 720	18 451	438 087

(a) Final stage of production in South Australia.

5

MERCHANDISE EXPORTS, By Selected Countries(a)

Period	EUROPEAN COMMUNITY.....				EAST ASIA.....					
	United States of America	Middle East	United Kingdom	Total European Community	New Zealand	Japan	China	Hong Kong	ASEAN	Total East Asia
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
ANNUAL										
1991-92	300 139	381 761	220 048	550 258	214 522	647 674	148 308	108 583	437 670	1 627 108
1992-93	352 764	314 049	237 520	594 701	288 421	649 684	208 135	171 803	487 174	1 820 065
1993-94	393 611	280 499	263 092	571 047	311 999	625 481	220 211	165 163	533 977	1 898 975
1994-95	329 878	184 342	246 118	553 051	376 262	682 937	177 875	193 014	551 433	2 004 013
1995-96	279 555	525 348	287 727	691 996	376 628	672 885	293 360	202 307	572 529	2 057 945
1996-97	707 871	563 409	304 645	641 308	382 103	611 870	244 917	234 547	614 481	2 033 706
MONTHLY										
1996-97										
March	69 002	96 254	26 863	67 129	28 319	59 413	22 364	26 559	39 860	182 106
April	59 320	49 119	26 023	52 789	22 885	50 829	33 261	18 598	61 197	185 592
May	49 537	30 815	26 602	63 284	21 142	47 286	17 553	16 373	50 567	166 869
June	83 248	19 843	21 783	60 136	21 859	56 675	15 479	17 994	59 211	180 155
1997-98										
July	75 629	33 014	27 348	60 442	25 538	47 644	31 626	15 779	55 728	178 994
August	80 052	22 224	43 757	72 636	22 840	51 224	21 497	16 567	56 417	175 291
September	25 569	14 786	43 947	79 167	31 032	64 737	22 139	22 409	53 528	182 763
October	26 279	10 465	55 190	89 953	41 159	52 529	27 453	10 146	41 821	149 676
November	92 792	20 278	26 755	56 937	26 054	65 589	33 375	28 165	65 238	224 741
December	80 392	41 986	27 798	59 759	17 407	54 762	33 218	25 272	50 982	196 158
January	19 822	50 590	16 660	37 176	23 869	39 153	24 536	27 256	34 090	155 142
February	33 918	32 808	28 220	69 544	29 889	36 610	36 858	23 072	19 942	137 445
March	63 853	57 910	33 359	77 875	37 792	48 441	37 408	21 225	39 524	180 712
April	38 664	52 361	39 887	78 489	35 991	44 954	12 465	14 532	20 867	126 470
May	43 144	29 726	44 909	97 509	31 767	50 961	28 417	20 043	24 870	159 460

(a) Final stage of production in South Australia.

6

MERCHANDISE EXPORTS, By Industry of Origin(a)

MANUFACTURING.....

Period	Agriculture, forestry and fishing	Mining	Food, beverages and tobacco	Petroleum, coal, chemical associated product	Metal product	Machinery and equipment	Other manu- facturing	Other industries/ confidential	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
ANNUAL									
1991-92	882 011	248 846	702 148	201 681	541 522	381 737	178 485	294 709	3 431 139
1992-93	883 725	294 586	766 518	195 387	509 303	641 930	178 726	290 427	3 760 602
1993-94	733 014	245 247	884 737	180 147	475 060	665 066	208 573	497 938	3 889 783
1994-95	592 129	268 537	886 337	186 661	584 838	711 529	243 314	355 991	3 829 336
1995-96	1 014 521	226 309	978 332	172 285	639 267	674 131	226 496	567 191	4 498 532
1996-97	1 067 084	205 433	981 918	290 361	569 715	1 140 136	229 503	528 502	5 012 652
MONTHLY									
1996-97									
March	140 271	734	97 840	33 514	50 171	106 476	18 821	59 346	507 174
April	88 522	30 741	86 093	17 247	40 315	96 254	19 110	37 936	416 218
May	42 278	991	85 038	27 163	59 593	85 068	20 725	46 969	367 824
June	54 021	32 623	75 807	27 816	51 123	92 591	17 531	54 860	406 373
1997-98									
July	79 999	20 940	83 465	14 706	48 601	105 329	24 710	29 775	407 524
August	51 751	11 810	93 510	37 889	48 749	99 482	24 132	52 109	419 433
September	55 954	22 149	115 717	24 155	55 582	65 692	21 983	22 055	383 286
October	43 738	1 722	119 482	18 055	39 144	73 873	19 047	45 743	360 806
November	45 830	16 715	89 418	25 488	67 645	134 177	22 046	53 446	454 765
December	101 555	28 936	88 087	26 808	45 353	121 929	21 840	47 765	482 274
January	121 004	6 767	77 125	17 938	58 344	43 235	18 399	30 186	372 997
February	77 118	805	91 562	25 843	42 630	56 114	19 539	50 324	363 934
March	110 420	13 279	116 553	23 588	55 728	86 297	29 967	38 709	474 542
April	94 562	896	105 828	22 163	51 657	64 500	19 971	50 265	409 841
May	72 119	3 582	116 620	30 695	49 498	83 799	23 396	58 377	438 087

(a) Final stage of production in South Australia.

7

MERCHANDISE IMPORTS, By Selected Commodity Group(a)

<i>Period</i>	<i>Food, beverages and tobacco</i>	<i>Petroleum and petroleum products</i>	<i>Chemicals</i>	<i>Textiles</i>	<i>Metals and metal manufactures</i>	<i>Machinery</i>	<i>Road, vehicles, parts and accessories</i>	<i>Other manufactured goods</i>	<i>Total</i>
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
ANNUAL									
1991-92	82 095	362 777	153 574	62 884	151 165	523 848	435 121	513 012	2 396 954
1992-93	91 756	570 334	186 001	57 434	255 924	609 212	661 714	521 723	3 068 122
1993-94	99 177	404 626	200 225	60 172	160 937	595 238	663 617	484 590	2 803 446
1994-95	115 930	330 430	220 536	64 524	214 432	695 038	749 658	563 368	3 099 510
1995-96	118 237	346 397	254 102	76 847	213 487	675 869	546 445	728 096	3 114 309
1996-97	136 695	505 633	225 187	79 708	223 259	868 346	538 690	695 238	3 413 043
MONTHLY									
1996-97									
March	8 356.0	50 383	28 119	5 065	14 786	50 785	44 387	46 896	257 380
April	10 428	58 416	18 075	7 691	19 477	62 146	55 134	50 015	297 599
May	11 588	45 354	19 293	6 467	15 123	54 510	35 983	48 198	246 008
June	9 424	39 315	20 252	7 109	20 569	66 474	54 586	48 670	283 146
1997-98									
July	10 522	66 543	14 283	6 781	22 112	107 428	83 398	56 474	376 173
August	12 208	29 929	13 882	6 401	24 929	75 139	81 995	53 136	305 788
September	13 380	61 141	13 489	7 031	21 941	79 644	58 896	80 302	343 992
October	15 074	2 052	12 983	8 211	22 588	76 605	67 992	56 732	271 659
November	14 009	67 061	16 244	7 528	21 290	75 564	55 373	51 324	321 543
December	13 857	32 306	22 823	6 607	21 520	115 623	58 610	58 122	342 164
January	13 497	29 721	39 180	8 063	24 670	96 952	54 033	55 502	332 488
February	10 608	39 221	26 096	8 195	27 668	69 829	53 601	70 683	314 330
March	11 294	41 435	31 280	8 679	26 177	86 624	70 446	70 615	357 112
April	10 008	21 834	38 758	9 335	21 173	113 459	61 182	63 135	350 619
May	11 209	38 780	27 307	9 137	21 403	74 370	56 574	60 766	310 952

(a) Goods released from Customs control in South Australia.

8

TURNOVER OF RETAIL ESTABLISHMENTS, By Industry

Period	Food retailing	Department stores	Clothing and soft good retailing	Household good retailing	Recreational good retailing	Other retailing	Hospitality and services	Total
ANNUAL (\$m)								
1991-92	3 223.7	1 087.4	472.4	833.1	289.6	537.7	1 198.4	7 642.5
1992-93	3 081.8	1 101.5	440.4	829.9	324.5	645.0	1 181.8	7 604.9
1993-94	3 253.3	1 107.8	479.0	917.8	378.1	684.0	1 338.8	8 158.8
1994-95	3 477.3	1 128.8	538.0	959.6	383.8	793.5	1 654.4	8 935.4
1995-96	3 786.5	1 138.5	546.7	1 025.6	431.2	902.8	1 762.0	9 593.2
1996-97	4 065.0	1 121.0	467.0	937.0	425.0	792.8	1 648.1	9 455.8
MONTHLY, ORIGINAL (\$m)								
1996-97								
March	350.0	82.7	34.9	70.1	32.0	60.7	131.9	762.4
April	331.2	86.2	45.3	73.3	32.6	65.0	128.4	762.1
May	344.6	96.2	45.3	77.2	32.0	71.3	132.4	798.9
June	320.2	80.0	40.7	74.9	29.6	63.9	132.5	741.8
1997-98								
July	355.0	97.9	45.8	83.1	31.6	67.5	123.7	804.6
August	349.6	80.5	38.7	83.5	32.0	66.0	127.4	777.6
September	348.9	84.8	38.8	84.5	33.2	65.8	121.1	777.2
October	370.4	92.0	46.3	94.3	34.6	76.1	126.6	840.2
November	365.4	105.6	45.6	95.5	36.6	79.2	129.0	856.9
December	418.2	106.5	58.3	121.3	52.5	107.7	148.4	1 066.8
January	396.1	93.8	45.3	94.2	33.4	77.0	116.1	856.0
February	344.9	76.0	33.0	81.9	29.1	69.3	107.4	741.5
March	373.6	78.4	42.9	85.2	34.2	75.8	120.4	810.5
April	385.7	91.6	49.7	81.6	31.8	80.9	127.3	848.6
May	381.2	86.6	50.0	89.3	31.7	86.1	131.0	855.8
MONTHLY, TREND (\$m)								
1996-97								
March	344.5	93.3	39.4	75.9	33.4	66.3	137.3	790.6
April	344.5	93.1	40.6	76.6	33.4	67.4	137.8	793.3
May	345.3	93.3	41.8	77.8	33.6	67.9	137.7	797.1
June	347.6	93.8	42.9	79.8	34.0	68.0	136.8	802.6
1997-98								
July	350.5	94.0	43.7	82.3	34.4	68.1	134.8	807.8
August	353.8	93.8	44.1	85.0	34.6	68.9	131.7	811.9
September	357.2	93.7	44.2	88.1	34.6	70.7	127.5	815.9
October	360.7	94.2	44.0	90.9	34.5	73.2	122.9	820.3
November	364.6	95.3	43.9	92.8	34.2	76.0	119.0	825.8
December	369.3	96.6	43.9	93.6	34.0	78.4	117.1	832.9
January	374.3	97.5	44.3	93.4	33.9	80.2	117.5	840.9
February	378.8	97.3	44.9	92.6	33.9	81.5	119.8	848.6
March	382.3	96.2	45.6	91.6	34.1	82.5	123.2	855.5
April	384.8	94.6	46.4	90.7	34.2	83.4	127.1	861.8
May	386.3	92.6	47.2	90.1	34.4	84.3	131.0	867.6
PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS MONTH, TREND								
1996-97								
March	0.0	-0.4	2.9	0.5	-1.2	2.2	0.5	0.3
April	0.0	-0.2	3.0	0.9	0.0	1.7	0.4	0.3
May	0.2	0.2	3.0	1.6	0.6	0.7	-0.1	0.5
June	0.7	0.5	2.6	2.6	1.2	0.1	-0.7	0.7
1997-98								
July	0.8	0.2	1.9	3.1	1.2	0.1	-1.5	0.6
August	0.9	-0.2	0.9	3.3	0.6	1.2	-2.3	0.5
September	1.0	-0.1	0.2	3.6	0.0	2.6	-3.2	0.5
October	1.0	0.5	-0.5	3.2	-0.3	3.5	-3.6	0.5
November	1.1	1.2	-0.2	2.1	-0.9	3.8	-3.2	0.7
December	1.3	1.4	0.0	0.9	-0.6	3.2	-1.6	0.9
January	1.4	0.9	0.9	-0.2	-0.3	2.3	0.3	1.0
February	1.2	-0.2	1.4	-0.9	0.0	1.6	2.0	0.9
March	0.9	-1.1	1.6	-1.1	0.6	1.2	2.8	0.8
April	0.7	-1.7	1.8	-1.0	0.3	1.1	3.2	0.7
May	0.4	-2.1	1.7	-0.7	0.6	1.1	3.1	0.7

Period	ORIGINAL.....			SEASONALLY ADJUSTED.....			TREND ESTIMATE.....		
	Passenger vehicles	Other vehicles	Total	Passenger vehicles	Other vehicles	Total	Passenger vehicles	Other vehicles	Total
ANNUAL									
1991-92	32 351	5 333	37 684	..	..	..	..	..	..
1992-93	32 894	5 577	38 471	..	..	..	..	..	..
1993-94	32 806	5 781	38 587	..	..	..	..	..	..
1994-95	35 830	6 736	42 566	..	..	..	..	..	..
1995-96	36 067	6 828	42 895	..	..	..	..	..	..
1996-97	36 146	6 970	43 116	..	..	..	..	..	..
PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS YEAR									
1991-92	-6.9	-19.4	-8.9	..	..	..	..	..	..
1992-93	1.7	4.6	2.1	..	..	..	..	..	..
1993-94	-0.3	3.7	0.3	..	..	..	..	..	..
1994-95	9.2	16.5	10.3	..	..	..	..	..	..
1995-96	0.7	1.4	0.8	..	..	..	..	..	..
1996-97	0.2	2.1	0.5	..	..	..	..	..	..
MONTHLY									
1996-97									
February	3 302	525	3 827	3 307	574	3 881	3 152	598	3 749
March	3 034	593	3 627	3 091	622	3 713	3 193	608	3 801
April	3 015	701	3 716	3 263	673	3 936	3 205	608	3 813
May	3 028	612	3 640	3 075	562	3 637	3 211	599	3 810
June	3 659	780	4 439	3 357	593	3 951	3 230	585	3 815
1997-98									
July	3 351	545	3 896	3 227	539	3 766	3 277	571	3 848
August	3 368	508	3 876	3 274	574	3 848	3 362	563	3 925
September	3 619	555	4 174	3 487	577	4 064	3 468	567	4 036
October	3 775	560	4 335	3 537	573	4 110	3 557	581	4 138
November	3 662	537	4 199	3 604	563	4 167	3 606	601	4 207
December	3 781	702	4 483	3 877	661	4 537	3 613	624	4 237
January	2 883	483	3 366	3 657	643	4 300	3 599	645	4 244
February	3 340	640	3 980	3 332	700	4 033	3 587	663	4 250
March	3 661	687	4 348	3 369	592	3 961	3 598	677	4 274
April	3 385	678	4 063	3 812	785	4 597	3 630	686	4 316
May	3 693	686	4 379	3 836	636	4 472	3 670	691	4 361
PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS MONTH									
1996-97									
February	32.5	16.9	30.1	6.1	-0.3	5.1	2.4	2.9	2.4
March	-8.1	13.0	-5.2	-6.5	8.4	-4.3	1.3	1.7	1.4
April	-0.6	18.2	2.5	5.6	8.2	6.0	0.4	0.0	0.3
May	0.4	-12.7	-2.0	-5.8	-16.5	-7.6	0.2	-1.5	-0.1
June	20.8	27.5	22.0	9.2	5.5	8.6	0.6	-2.3	0.1
1997-98									
July	-8.4	-30.1	-12.2	-3.9	-9.1	-4.7	1.5	-2.4	0.9
August	0.5	-6.8	-0.5	1.5	6.5	2.2	2.6	-1.4	2.0
September	7.5	9.3	7.7	6.5	0.5	5.6	3.2	0.7	2.8
October	4.3	0.9	3.9	1.4	-0.7	1.1	2.6	2.5	2.5
November	-3.0	-4.1	-3.1	1.9	-1.7	1.4	1.4	3.4	1.7
December	3.2	30.7	6.8	7.6	17.4	8.9	0.2	3.8	0.7
January	-23.8	-31.2	-24.9	-5.7	-2.7	-5.2	-0.4	3.4	0.2
February	15.9	32.5	18.2	-8.9	8.9	-6.2	-0.3	2.8	0.1
March	9.6	7.3	9.2	1.1	-15.4	-1.8	0.3	2.1	0.6
April	-7.5	-1.3	-6.6	13.1	32.6	16.1	0.9	1.3	1.0
May	9.1	1.2	7.8	0.6	-19.0	-2.7	1.1	0.7	1.0

Period	INDUSTRY.....			Total	TYPE OF ASSET.....	
	Mining	Manu- facturing	Other selected industries		New buildings and structures	Equipment, plant and machinery
ANNUAL (\$m)						
1991-92	193	763	668	1 625	392	1 233
1992-93	218	564	739	1 522	416	1 105
1993-94	97	613	773	1 484	356	1 128
1994-95	115	829	1 162	2 106	351	1 755
1995-96	196	756	921	1 873	358	1 515
1996-97	489	840	1 251	2 580	594	1 985
PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS YEAR						
1991-92	58.4	2.9	-32.3	-12.2	-37.5	0.8
1992-93	12.8	-26.1	10.6	-6.4	6.1	-10.4
1993-94	-55.5	8.7	4.6	-2.5	-14.5	2.0
1994-95	18.3	35.2	50.3	41.9	-1.4	55.6
1995-96	70.4	-8.8	-20.7	-11.1	2.0	-13.7
1996-97	149.5	11.1	35.8	37.7	65.9	31.0
QUARTERLY, ORIGINAL (\$m)						
1996-97						
December	82	234	373	688	172	517
March	79	198	245	521	130	391
June	267	221	234	720	160	563
1997-98						
September	345	170	201	716	159	557
December	447	265	241	953	196	757
March	360	168	193	721	188	534
PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS QUARTER, ORIGINAL						
1996-97						
December	34.4	25.1	-6.5	6.3	29.3	0.6
March	-3.7	-15.4	-34.3	-24.3	-24.4	-24.4
June	238.0	11.6	-4.5	38.2	23.1	44.0
1997-98						
September	29.2	-23.1	-14.1	-0.6	-0.6	-1.1
December	29.6	55.9	19.9	33.1	23.3	35.9
March	-19.5	-36.6	-19.9	-24.3	-4.1	-29.5
QUARTERLY, TREND (\$m)						
1996-97						
December	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	629	148	481
March	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	633	154	479
June	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	684	157	527
1997-98						
September	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	766	164	602
December	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	816	179	637
March	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	838	194	644
PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS QUARTER, TREND						
1996-97						
December	..	..	..	1.8	11.3	-0.6
March	..	..	..	0.6	4.1	-0.4
June	..	..	..	8.1	1.9	10.0
1997-98						
September	..	..	..	12.0	4.5	14.2
December	..	..	..	6.5	9.1	5.8
March	..	..	..	2.7	8.4	1.1

11

TOURIST ACCOMMODATION

Period	HOTELS WITH FACILITIES...			MOTELS AND GUESTHOUSES..			SERVICED APARTMENTS....		
	Guest rooms	Room occupancy	Takings	Flats, units and houses	Room occupancy	Takings	Guest rooms	Room occupancy	Takings
	no.	%	\$'000	no.	%	\$'000	no.	%	\$'000
.....									
QUARTERLY									
1996-97									
March	3 819	56.3	18 629	5 252	55.8	18 548	626	72.6	3 284
1997-98									
March	3 808	60.1	20 851	5 181	57.4	19 247	726	67.6	3 913
.....									
PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS YEAR									
1997-98									
March	-0.3	..	11.9	-1.4	..	3.8	16.0	..	19.2
.....									

Period	HOUSES.....		TOTAL DWELLING UNITS.....		Alterations and additions to residential building	Total residential building	Non-residential building	Total building
	Private sector	Total	Private sector	Total				
	no.	no.	no.	no.				
					\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
ANNUAL								
1991-92	8 616	8 934	10 254	11 290	124	879	627	1 506
1992-93	9 715	10 091	11 548	12 341	133	973	418	1 392
1993-94	9 474	9 905	11 046	11 777	122	961	375	1 336
1994-95	7 765	8 155	9 208	9 762	120	860	493	1 353
1995-96	4 938	5 117	5 760	5 968	119	588	566	1 155
1996-97	5 512	5 608	6 148	6 264	117	632	581	1 213
MONTHLY, ORIGINAL								
1996-97								
April	559	568	615	628	10.9	63.6	39.2	102.8
May	538	552	599	620	9.9	62.4	64.7	127.1
June	519	541	571	597	9.2	58.7	92.0	150.7
1997-98								
July	572	584	622	634	10.8	61.9	125.1	187.0
August	514	530	552	568	10.1	59.4	63.8	123.2
September	505	527	570	600	10.7	62.5	58.6	121.1
October	523	538	584	599	12.0	63.3	34.1	97.4
November	482	490	544	552	11.1	62.3	64.5	126.7
December	475	482	506	513	10.6	58.6	35.1	93.7
January	365	373	420	431	7.3	44.7	16.1	60.8
February	542	545	663	666	15.6	72.6	41.9	114.5
March	623	671	686	738	10.7	74.3	53.8	128.1
April	461	472	491	502	9.6	53.6	34.6	88.3
May	515	527	588	602	9.2	64.4	38.2	102.6
MONTHLY, TREND								
1996-97								
April	518	526	564	577	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
May	520	530	573	588	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
June	512	523	568	584	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
1997-98								
July	498	512	553	569	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
August	486	502	535	553	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
September	480	498	525	543	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
October	487	505	533	551	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
November	504	522	556	575	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
December	522	538	583	601	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
January	536	551	605	622	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
February	541	556	615	632	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
March	540	555	614	631	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
April	534	548	606	622	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
May	524	539	594	610	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS MONTH, TREND								
1996-97								
May	0.4	0.8	1.6	1.9	..	..	..	..
June	-1.5	-1.3	-0.9	-0.7	..	..	..	..
1997-98								
July	-2.7	-2.1	-2.6	-2.6	..	..	..	..
August	-2.4	-2.0	-3.3	-2.8	..	..	..	..
September	-1.2	-0.8	-1.9	-1.8	..	..	..	..
October	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.5	..	..	..	..
November	3.5	3.4	4.3	4.4	..	..	..	..
December	3.6	3.1	4.9	4.5	..	..	..	..
January	2.7	2.4	3.8	3.5	..	..	..	..
February	0.9	0.9	1.7	1.6	..	..	..	..
March	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	..	..	..	..
April	-1.1	-1.3	-1.3	-1.4	..	..	..	..
May	-17.4	-1.6	-2.0	-1.9	..	..	..	..

13

BUILDING COMMENCEMENTS

Period	NEW HOUSES.....		TOTAL DWELLING UNITS(a).....				NON-RESIDENTIAL BUILDING.....		
	Private sector	Total	Private sector	Total	New residential building	Alterations and additions to residential building	Private sector	Total	Total building
	no.	no.	no.	no.	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
ANNUAL									
1991-92	8 036	8 344	9 635	10 700	727.2	125.1	344.5	607.8	1 460.1
1992-93	9 122	9 416	10 889	11 646	816.2	122.4	205.5	458.7	1 397.2
1993-94	9 159	9 590	10 712	11 501	845.3	126.5	209.9	373.0	1 344.8
1994-95	7 745	8 210	9 132	9 796	765.5	125.3	251.7	518.5	1 409.3
1995-96	4 836	5 070	5 691	5 960	496.5	121.7	452.8	631.8	1 250.0
1996-97	5 057	5 113	5 704	5 790	496.3	116.9	423.4	568.8	1 181.9
QUARTERLY									
1995-96									
March	1 044	1 089	1 237	1 295	109.2	29.4	80.1	139.9	278.4
June	1 153	1 183	1 273	1 307	111.0	28.8	217.7	264.0	403.9
1996-97									
September	1 191	1 207	1 302	1 321	108.7	26.2	67.9	104.2	239.1
December	1 245	1 262	1 513	1 530	133.8	33.8	85.3	113.2	280.8
March	1 099	1 102	1 242	1 247	106.3	26.2	76.6	121.2	253.6
June	1 522	1 541	1 655	1 691	147.5	30.7	193.5	230.2	408.4
1997-98									
September	1 354	1 402.0	1 480	1 541	131.9	31.6	84.5	112.3	275.8
December	1 531	1 588	1 835	1 906	179.8	33.8	139.2	174.1	387.7
March	1 414	1 441	1 555	1 653	150.4	38.9	65.1	92.1	281.3

(a) Includes conversions.

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VALUE OF BUILDING WORK DONE DURING PERIOD

Period	NEW HOUSES...		NEW RESIDENTIAL BUILDING.....		Alterations and additions to residential building	NON-RESIDENTIAL BUILDING.....		TOTAL BUILDING.....	
	Private sector	Total	Private sector	Total		Private sector	Total	Private sector	Total
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m		\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
ANNUAL									
1991-92	591.5	607.5	693.4	748.5	125.1	310.3	484.1	1 127.5	1 357.6
1992-93	647.2	660.9	743.8	780.6	127.1	297.9	570.9	1 166.3	1 478.6
1993-94	719.1	746.4	828.9	876.3	132.0	217.7	462.1	1 177.2	1 470.4
1994-95	659.6	693.6	766.1	816.4	129.4	271.6	476.9	1 164.3	1 422.7
1995-96	441.4	460.5	512.9	534.8	130.6	311.4	542.1	953.2	1 207.5
1996-97	433.9	438.9	485.2	490.4	122.2	444.2	663.3	1 049.8	1 275.9
QUARTERLY									
1995-96									
June	102.6	105.0	117.6	120.3	32.6	88.1	155.6	238.3	308.5
1996-97									
September	97.3	99.3	109.4	111.3	28.0	83.4	143.8	219.4	283.1
December	109.1	110.6	121.3	122.8	35.4	119.6	189.8	276.0	348.0
March	99.9	100.3	114.1	114.6	26.8	100.8	147.8	241.6	289.2
June	127.6	128.7	140.5	141.7	32.0	140.4	181.9	312.8	355.6
1997-98									
September	122.5	125.8	136.3	139.9	32.9	149.8	186.7	318.5	359.4
December	134.0	137.7	152.3	157.1	36.2	157.7	197.7	345.2	391.0
March	129.3	131.6	146.1	148.7	31.3	117.3	147.3	294.6	327.2

Period	Pigmeat	Beef	Mutton	Lamb	Gas	Coal	Sawn timber(a)
	tonnes	tonnes	tonnes	tonnes	m MJ	tonnes	m ³
ANNUAL							
1991-92	34 538	90 661	72 578	29 941	78 210	2 819 880	271 603
1992-93	38 153	96 338	65 689	39 334	83 000	2 753 610	317 096
1993-94	38 394	94 395	71 354	45 199	89 382	2 643 000	364 961
1994-95	32 063	99 108	66 759	36 147	86 123	2 554 560	392 349
1995-96	31 695	89 704	55 600	37 735	76 074	2 409 120	413 545
1996-97	29 842	85 478	51 778	34 890	76 495	2 633 820	333 691
PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS YEAR							
1991-92	-10.6	4.2	10.9	-6.5	6.7	15.5	13.1
1992-93	10.5	6.3	-9.5	31.4	6.1	-2.4	16.7
1993-94	0.6	-2.0	8.6	14.9	7.7	-4.0	15.1
1994-95	-16.5	5.0	-6.4	-20.0	-3.6	-3.3	7.5
1995-96	-1.1	-9.5	-16.7	4.4	-11.7	-5.7	5.4
1996-97	-5.8	-4.7	-6.9	-7.5	0.6	9.3	-19.3
MONTHLY/QUARTERLY							
1996-97							
March	2 201	6 855	4 972	2 883	17 945	684 780	68 403
April	2 507	8 366	5 207	3 485	..	..	..
May	2 827	7 616	3 638	3 453	..	..	..
June	2 532	7 178	2 958	3 288	19 777	720 300	83 742
1997-98							
July	2 446	6 820	1 466	1 448	..	..	..
August	2 665	6 042	4 335	2 380	..	..	..
September	2 320	5 842	5 089	2 766	21 942	752 868	91 537
October	2 263	7 881	5 338	3 846	..	..	..
November	2 273	7 870	5 826	3 226	..	..	..
December	1 765	6 574	5 605	2 891	18 997	610 208	83 957
January	2 018	5 790	6 604	3 092	..	..	..
February	2 586	7 883	6 757	3 552	..	..	..
March	2 126	7 716	6 270	3 917	n.a.	718 990	89 540
April	1 823	7 477	4 805	3 740	..	..	..
May	2 300	5 194	2 815	4 040	..	..	..
PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS MONTH/QUARTER							
1996-97							
March	-14.3	-5.2	-11.7	-8.1	1.5	24.4	-20.9
April	13.9	22.0	4.7	20.9	..	..	..
May	12.8	-9.0	-30.1	-0.9	..	..	..
June	-10.4	-5.8	-18.7	-4.8	10.2	5.2	22.4
1997-98							
July	-3.4	-5.0	-50.4	-56.0	..	..	..
August	9.0	-11.4	195.7	64.4	..	..	..
September	-12.9	-3.3	17.4	16.2	10.9	4.5	9.3
October	-2.5	34.9	4.9	39.0	..	..	..
November	0.4	-0.1	9.1	-16.1	..	..	..
December	-22.3	-16.5	-3.8	-10.4	-13.4	-18.9	-8.3
January	14.3	-11.9	17.8	7.0	..	..	..
February	28.1	36.1	2.3	14.9	..	..	..
March	-17.8	-2.1	-7.2	10.3	n.a.	17.8	6.6
April	-14.3	-3.1	-23.4	-4.5	..	..	..
May	26.2	-30.5	-41.4	8.0	..	..	..

(a) From Australian softwood logs only.

<i>Period</i>	<i>Food</i>	<i>Clothing</i>	<i>Housing</i>	<i>Household equipment and operation</i>	<i>Transport- ation</i>	<i>Tobacco and alcohol</i>	<i>Health and personal care</i>	<i>Recreation and education</i>	<i>All groups</i>
ANNUAL AVERAGE (1989-90 = 100)									
1992-93	109.3	107.0	94.3	107.6	115.0	131.2	134.9	110.7	111.2
1993-94	111.7	106.6	92.1	108.0	117.8	141.5	142.7	113.7	113.4
1994-95	115.1	104.9	97.8	109.2	120.2	148.9	151.3	116.3	116.9
1995-96	118.2	105.1	103.6	112.1	124.5	160.1	158.9	118.0	121.2
1996-97	120.8	105.5	98.9	113.4	124.6	165.3	165.4	121.1	122.3
1997-98	122.7	105.7	90.7	113.7	122.1	169.3	165.4	124.7	121.6
PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS YEAR, ANNUAL AVERAGE									
1992-93	3.1	1.6	-6.1	0.1	4.1	10.6	5.6	2.8	2.1
1993-94	2.2	-0.4	-2.3	0.4	2.4	7.9	5.8	2.7	2.0
1994-95	3.0	-1.6	6.2	1.1	2.0	5.2	6.0	2.2	3.1
1995-96	2.7	0.2	5.9	2.7	3.6	7.6	5.0	1.5	3.7
1996-97	2.2	0.3	-4.5	1.2	0.0	3.3	4.1	2.6	0.9
1997-98	1.6	0.2	-8.3	0.2	-1.9	2.4	0.0	3.0	-0.6
QUARTERLY (1989-90 = 100.0)									
1996-97									
March	121.2	105.1	97.5	113.3	125.6	165.2	167.7	122.3	122.6
June	121.9	105.2	94.1	113.6	122.7	166.5	168.0	122.9	121.9
1997-98									
September	122.0	105.4	92.2	113.6	123.2	167.2	158.6	123.7	121.2
December	122.0	106.2	90.2	113.6	122.3	168.8	164.1	123.6	121.2
March	122.9	105.1	89.9	113.7	121.2	170.7	167.8	125.5	121.7
June	123.7	105.9	90.3	113.9	121.8	170.5	171.1	126.1	122.4
PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM SAME QUARTER OF PREVIOUS YEAR									
1996-97									
March	2.5	0.2	-6.2	0.8	1.4	1.8	4.2	2.9	0.8
June	3.0	-0.3	-9.4	1.2	-2.1	1.8	4.6	3.1	-0.1
1997-98									
September	2.3	-0.1	-10.9	0.5	-1.0	1.5	-1.4	3.8	-0.8
December	1.1	0.2	-10.2	-0.2	-2.5	2.4	-0.5	3.2	-1.1
March	1.4	0.0	-7.8	0.4	-3.5	3.3	0.1	2.6	-0.7
June	1.5	0.7	-4.0	0.3	-0.7	2.4	1.8	2.6	0.4
PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS QUARTER									
1996-97									
March	0.4	-0.8	-3.0	-0.4	0.1	0.2	1.7	2.1	0.0
June	0.6	0.1	-3.5	0.3	-2.3	0.8	0.2	0.5	-0.6
1997-98									
September	0.1	0.2	-2.0	0.0	0.4	0.4	-5.6	0.7	-0.6
December	0.0	0.8	-2.2	0.0	-0.7	1.0	3.5	-0.1	0.0
March	0.7	-1.0	-0.3	0.1	-0.9	1.1	2.3	1.5	0.4
June	0.7	0.8	0.4	0.2	0.5	-0.1	2.0	0.5	0.6

Item	Unit	QUARTER.....				
		Mar 1997	June 1997	Sep 1997	Dec 1997	Mar 1998
		cents	cents	cents	cents	cents
Milk, carton, supermarket sales	1 L	116	122	122	124	127
Cheese, processed, sliced, wrapped	500 g	318	320	323	322	323
Butter	500 g	167	161	164	167	175
Bread, white loaf, sliced, supermarket sales	680 g	153	160	161	163	165
Self-raising flour	2 kg	240	235	239	236	235
Beef						
Rump steak	1 kg	1 157	1 141	1 135	1 098	1 197
Corned silverside	1 kg	597	602	626	590	596
Lamb						
Leg	1 kg	572	574	565	535	534
Loin chops	1 kg	799	792	794	796	794
Forequarter chops	1 kg	568	547	534	575	577
Pork						
Leg	1 kg	616	574	622	618	601
Loin chops	1 kg	799	792	802	788	812
Chicken, frozen	1 kg	351	370	362	351	362
Bacon, middle rashers	250 g pkt	325	295	321	295	322
Sausages	1 kg	359	360	360	351	357
Potatoes	1 kg	78	108	111	104	69
Onions	1 kg	134	114	127	165	122
Peaches, canned	825 g	182	185	188	185	193
Eggs, 55g	doz.	246	246	239	235	238
Sugar, white	2 kg	183	182	185	183	201
Tea	250 g	169	175	182	183	217
Coffee, instant, jar	150 g	500	539	573	592	588
Margarine, polyunsaturated	500 g	141	133	144	142	141
Petrol						
Leaded	1 L	77.5	75.4	74.5	75.0	71.5
Unleaded	1 L	75.2	73.0	72.2	72.6	72.0

NET MIGRATION.....

<i>Period</i>	<i>Live births(a)</i>	<i>Deaths(a)</i>	<i>Natural increase</i>	<i>Interstate</i>	<i>Overseas(b)</i>	<i>Total increase</i>	<i>Population at end of period(c)</i>
ANNUAL							
1991-92	19 530	11 035	8 532	- 133	2 897	11 296	1 456 523
1992-93	19 686	11 163	8 403	-4 650	1 546	5 299	1 460 730
1993-94	20 036	11 743	7 949	-3 466	1 994	6 477	1 466 127
1994-95	19 569	11 501	7 902	-6 529	2 883	4 256	1 469 411
1995-96	18 959	11 294	7 645	-6 238	4 119	5 526	1 474 253
1996-97	18 945	11 683	7 258	-5 185	3 480	5 553	1 479 806
MONTHLY/QUARTERLY							
1996-97							
September	1 464	977	1 575	-1 746	902	731	1 474 984
October	1 779	1 196	..	..	..	..	..
November	1 536	835	..	..	..	..	..
December	1 424	920	1 780	-1 565	1 003	1 218	1 476 202
January	1 582	911	..	..	..	..	..
February	1 498	827	..	..	..	..	..
March	1 301	758	1 880	-1 368	1 228	1 740	1 477 942
April	1 673	935	..	..	..	..	..
May	1 805	1 080	..	..	..	..	..
June	1 492	959	2 023	-506	347	1 864	1 479 806
1997-98							
July	1 624	1 099	..	..	..	..	..
August	1 448	1 066	..	..	..	..	..
September	1 481	1 068	1 322	-654	1 124	1 792	1 481 598
October	1 581	1 116	..	..	..	..	..
November	1 460	877	..	..	..	..	..
December	1 459	960	1 544	-871	598	1 271	1 482 869

(a) Registrations.

(b) Includes category jumping.

Period	EMPLOYED FULL-TIME.....		EMPLOYED PART-TIME.....		TOTAL EMPLOYED.....		UNEMPLOYED..		LABOUR FORCE.....	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
ANNUAL AVERAGE ('000)										
1992-93	322.2	143.2	39.2	126.8	361.4	270.0	51.9	29.9	413.3	299.9
1993-94	322.0	146.3	40.0	127.0	362.0	273.3	47.3	29.9	409.3	303.2
1994-95	323.1	151.5	42.6	131.3	365.7	282.8	44.6	28.7	410.3	311.5
1995-96	325.2	150.0	45.5	136.7	370.7	286.7	42.6	26.0	413.2	312.7
1996-97	320.8	150.5	48.6	140.7	369.4	291.2	42.1	27.5	411.5	318.7
1997-98	321.9	146.3	49.0	136.3	370.9	282.8	42.5	28.8	413.5	311.4
MONTHLY, ORIGINAL ('000)										
1996-97										
May	318.3	149.2	51.6	140.2	369.9	289.4	44.0	25.7	413.9	315.1
June	324.9	151.1	49.1	141.6	374.0	292.7	41.4	26.8	415.4	319.5
1997-98										
July	325.9	149.3	47.5	140.1	373.4	289.4	40.9	27.0	414.3	316.5
August	323.3	143.1	50.0	142.9	373.3	290.4	42.1	25.6	415.3	311.6
September	325.0	144.7	50.4	145.2	375.3	286.1	44.5	27.7	419.9	317.5
October	324.1	145.2	49.6	143.6	373.7	289.9	43.2	26.6	416.9	315.4
November	324.0	147.8	49.2	142.4	373.2	290.3	42.5	26.7	415.8	317.0
December	329.8	151.7	47.1	135.8	376.9	287.5	42.8	28.3	419.7	315.8
January	325.1	147.6	43.3	127.3	368.4	274.9	46.1	32.8	414.5	307.7
February	318.2	148.2	50.0	132.1	368.2	280.2	45.8	31.1	414.0	311.3
March	317.2	148.7	50.4	129.6	367.6	278.2	41.7	31.9	409.3	310.2
April	317.4	145.6	52.2	133.3	369.7	278.9	39.1	28.6	408.8	307.5
May	314.6	142.9	48.7	132.0	363.3	274.9	42.5	29.9	405.8	304.8
June	318.5	141.1	49.9	131.4	368.3	272.5	39.0	29.1	407.3	301.6
MONTHLY, TREND ('000)										
1996-97										
May	322.3	150.3	49.6	140.0	371.9	290.3	43.3	27.5	415.2	317.8
June	323.3	149.4	49.7	139.7	373.0	289.1	43.4	27.6	416.4	316.7
1997-98										
July	324.1	148.3	49.8	140.1	373.9	288.4	43.4	27.7	417.3	316.1
August	324.6	147.1	49.9	141.2	374.5	288.3	43.4	27.8	417.9	316.1
September	324.8	146.2	49.9	142.1	374.7	288.3	43.4	27.8	418.1	316.1
October	324.7	145.8	49.5	142.3	374.2	288.1	43.4	27.9	417.6	316.0
November	324.2	146.1	48.9	141.1	373.1	287.2	43.4	28.0	416.5	315.2
December	323.4	146.9	48.4	138.9	371.8	285.8	43.2	28.3	415.0	314.1
January	322.4	147.6	48.1	136.3	370.5	283.9	42.9	28.7	413.4	312.6
February	321.1	147.7	48.1	133.8	369.2	281.5	42.4	29.0	411.6	310.5
March	319.8	147.1	48.4	131.9	368.2	279.0	41.9	29.4	410.1	308.4
April	318.6	146.3	48.9	130.3	367.5	276.6	41.4	29.7	408.9	306.3
May	317.6	145.2	49.4	129.0	367.0	274.2	41.0	30.1	408.0	304.3
June	316.8	144.2	49.8	128.1	366.6	272.3	40.8	30.4	407.4	302.7
PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS MONTH, TREND										
1996-97										
May	0.2	-0.3	0.6	-0.6	0.3	-0.4	0.7	0.4	0.3	-0.3
June	0.3	-0.6	0.2	-0.2	0.3	-0.4	0.2	0.4	0.3	-0.3
1997-98										
July	0.2	-0.7	0.2	0.3	0.2	-0.2	0.0	0.4	0.2	-0.2
August	0.2	-0.8	0.2	0.8	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.1	0.0
September	0.1	-0.6	0.0	0.6	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
October	0.0	-0.3	-0.8	0.1	-0.1	-0.1	0.0	0.4	-0.1	0.0
November	-0.2	0.2	-1.2	-0.8	-0.3	-0.3	0.0	0.4	-0.3	-0.3
December	-0.2	0.5	-0.8	-1.6	-0.3	-0.5	-0.5	1.1	-0.3	-0.4
January	-0.3	0.5	-0.6	-1.9	-0.3	-0.7	-0.7	1.4	-0.4	-0.5
February	-0.4	0.1	0.0	-1.8	-0.4	-0.8	-1.2	1.0	-0.4	-0.7
March	-0.4	-0.4	0.6	-1.4	-0.3	-0.9	-1.2	1.4	-0.4	-0.7
May	-0.3	-0.8	1.0	-1.0	-0.1	-0.9	-1.0	1.3	-0.2	-0.7
April	-0.4	-0.5	1.0	-1.2	-0.2	-0.9	-1.2	1.0	-0.3	-0.7
June	-0.3	-0.7	0.8	-0.7	-0.1	-0.7	-0.5	1.0	-0.1	-0.5

(a) Population aged 15 and over.

Period	CIVILIAN POPULATION....		UNEMPLOYMENT RATE.....				PARTICIPATION RATE..		
	Males aged 15 and over '000	Females aged 15 and over '000	Persons aged 15-19 %	Males all ages %	Females all ages %	Persons all ages %	Males %	Females %	Persons %
ANNUAL AVERAGE									
1992-93	567.4	588.9	26.6	12.6	10.0	11.5	72.8	51.0	61.7
1993-94	570.6	592.0	28.3	11.5	9.8	10.8	71.7	51.2	61.3
1994-95	573.7	594.7	25.2	10.9	9.2	10.2	71.5	52.4	61.8
1995-96	576.2	597.1	27.2	10.3	8.3	9.5	71.7	52.4	61.9
1996-97	579.8	600.6	23.7	10.2	8.6	9.5	71.0	53.1	61.9
1997-98	583.9	604.5	23.2	10.3	9.2	9.8	70.8	51.5	61.0
PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS YEAR									
1992-93	0.6	0.6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1993-94	0.6	0.6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1994-95	0.6	0.5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1995-96	0.4	0.5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1996-97	0.6	0.4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1997-98	0.7	0.6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
MONTHLY, ORIGINAL									
1996-97									
March	580.5	601.2	22.7	10.0	9.1	9.6	71.5	53.8	62.5
April	580.8	601.5	26.7	10.6	8.6	9.7	71.1	53.0	61.9
May	581.1	601.8	23.7	10.6	8.2	9.6	71.2	52.4	61.6
June	581.5	602.2	24.3	10.0	8.4	9.3	71.4	53.1	62.1
1997-98									
July	581.9	602.6	21.6	9.9	8.5	9.3	71.2	52.5	61.7
August	582.3	602.9	21.2	10.1	8.2	9.3	71.3	51.7	61.3
September	582.7	603.3	23.2	10.6	8.7	9.8	72.1	52.6	62.2
October	583.1	603.7	22.5	10.4	8.4	9.5	71.5	52.2	61.7
November	583.6	604.1	20.9	10.2	8.4	9.5	71.3	52.5	61.7
December	584.0	604.5	23.3	10.2	8.9	9.7	71.9	52.2	61.9
January	584.3	604.8	26.5	11.1	10.7	10.9	70.9	50.9	60.7
February	584.5	605.1	24.8	11.1	10.0	10.6	70.8	51.5	61.0
March	584.8	605.3	26.1	10.2	10.3	10.2	70.0	51.2	60.5
April	585.1	605.6	23.0	9.6	9.3	9.4	69.9	50.8	60.2
May	585.4	605.9	24.8	10.5	9.8	10.2	69.3	50.3	59.7
June	585.6	606.2	19.9	9.6	9.7	9.6	69.6	49.8	59.5
MONTHLY, TREND									
1996-97									
March	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	10.3	8.5	9.5	71.1	53.2	62.0
April	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	10.4	8.6	9.6	71.3	53.0	62.0
May	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	10.4	8.7	9.7	71.4	52.8	62.0
June	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	10.4	8.7	9.7	71.6	52.6	61.9
1997-98									
July	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	10.4	8.8	9.7	71.7	52.5	61.9
August	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	10.4	8.8	9.7	71.8	52.4	61.9
September	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	10.4	8.8	9.7	71.7	52.4	61.9
October	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	10.4	8.8	9.7	71.6	52.3	61.8
November	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	10.4	8.9	9.8	71.4	52.2	61.6
December	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	10.4	9.0	9.8	71.1	52.0	61.4
January	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	10.4	9.2	9.9	70.7	51.7	61.0
February	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	10.3	9.3	9.9	70.4	51.3	60.7
March	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	10.2	9.5	9.9	70.1	50.9	60.4
April	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	10.1	9.7	10.0	69.9	50.6	60.1
May	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	10.1	9.9	10.0	69.7	50.2	59.8
June	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	10.0	10.0	10.0	69.6	49.9	59.6

(a) Population aged 15 and over.

Period	FULL-TIME ADULTS ORDINARY TIME EARNINGS.			FULL-TIME ADULTS TOTAL EARNINGS.....			ALL EMPLOYEES TOTAL EARNINGS.....		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
ANNUAL AVERAGE (\$ per week)									
1991-92	588.40	524.10	567.80	624.90	534.00	595.80	564.80	386.90	483.70
1992-93	610.10	534.90	585.40	646.40	546.80	613.70	560.00	382.60	477.40
1993-94	625.10	547.60	600.00	667.50	560.10	632.70	595.10	396.60	503.30
1994-95	632.70	559.10	608.20	681.70	572.50	645.30	599.90	411.90	513.40
1995-96	653.80	555.90	622.80	703.20	568.50	660.10	620.10	403.90	520.70
1996-97	678.20	575.10	644.30	735.10	589.40	687.20	636.90	408.70	529.80
PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS YEAR									
1991-92	4.8	7.8	5.6	4.3	7.6	5.1	3.3	8.0	4.7
1992-93	3.7	2.1	3.1	3.4	2.4	3.0	-0.8	-1.1	-1.3
1993-94	2.5	2.4	2.5	3.3	2.4	3.1	6.3	3.7	5.4
1994-95	1.2	2.1	1.4	2.1	2.2	2.0	0.8	3.9	2.0
1995-96	3.3	-0.6	2.4	3.1	-0.7	2.3	3.4	-1.9	1.4
1996-97	3.7	3.5	3.5	4.5	3.7	4.1	2.7	1.2	1.8
QUARTERLY (\$ per week)									
1996-97									
15 November	669.60	575.30	639.50	728.30	591.80	684.80	626.80	402.30	522.20
21 February	685.60	578.20	649.70	741.90	594.00	692.40	639.80	409.50	530.80
16 May	690.90	584.50	655.70	750.00	597.20	699.30	652.30	419.50	542.50
1997-98									
15 August	703.90	583.70	663.40	756.20	593.50	701.40	651.00	420.00	542.50
21 November	689.70	594.20	655.00	739.90	607.40	691.80	631.70	433.90	533.90
20 February	715.10	626.20	683.60	764.60	642.10	721.20	656.10	447.70	553.60
PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM CORRESPONDING REFERENCE DATE IN PREVIOUS YEAR									
1996-97									
15 November	3.4	4.8	3.8	5.1	5.5	5.2	3.2	1.5	2.3
21 February	4.1	3.8	3.7	4.0	4.3	3.8	1.3	1.8	0.7
16 May	3.3	4.9	3.5	4.0	4.4	3.7	1.8	2.7	1.5
1997-98									
15 August	5.6	3.8	4.9	5.0	3.3	4.3	3.6	4.1	3.6
21 November	3.0	3.3	2.4	1.6	2.6	1.0	0.8	7.9	2.2
20 February	4.3	8.3	5.2	3.1	8.1	4.2	2.5	9.3	4.3
PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS REFERENCE DATE									
1996-97									
15 November	0.4	2.3	1.1	1.1	3.0	1.9	-0.3	-0.3	-0.3
21 February	2.4	0.5	1.6	1.9	0.4	1.1	2.1	1.8	1.6
16 May	0.8	1.1	0.9	1.1	0.5	1.0	2.0	2.4	2.2
1997-98									
15 August	1.9	-0.1	1.2	0.8	-0.6	0.3	-0.2	0.1	0.0
21 November	-2.0	1.8	-1.3	-2.2	2.3	-1.4	-3.0	3.3	-1.6
20 February	3.7	5.4	4.4	3.3	5.7	4.2	3.9	3.2	3.7

SECURED HOUSING
FINANCE
COMMITMENTS.....

<i>Period</i>	<i>Dwelling units</i> no.	<i>Value</i> \$m	<i>Alterations and additions</i> \$m	<i>Personal finance commitments</i> \$m	<i>Commercial finance commitments</i> \$m	<i>Lease finance commitments</i> \$m
ANNUAL						
1991-92	31 765	2 083.8	88.8	1 456.7	6 667.9	256.2
1992-93	36 960	2 569.5	102.8	1 656.9	5 122.5	249.5
1993-94	45 725	3 387.9	221.8	1 840.3	5 467.2	250.6
1994-95	36 429	2 879.7	242.2	2 152.2	5 405.6	271.4
1995-96	38 707	2 982.2	240.7	2 211.5	6 516.2	265.4
1996-97	36 680	2 956.1	188.1	2 612.0	6 092.4	232.0

PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS YEAR

1991-92	10.7	20.4	51.0	-3.1	6.6	-20.7
1992-93	16.4	23.3	15.8	13.7	-23.2	-2.6
1993-94	23.7	31.9	115.7	11.1	6.7	0.5
1994-95	-20.3	-15.0	9.2	16.9	-1.1	8.3
1995-96	6.3	3.6	-0.6	2.8	20.5	-2.2
1996-97	-5.2	-0.9	-21.9	18.1	-6.5	-12.6

MONTHLY

1996-97						
March	3 117	251.4	12.9	241.7	526.5	13.9
April	3 318	270.4	15.5	251.6	487.5	21.6
May	3 228	264.5	14.8	251.7	561.6	20.7
June	3 172	253.3	11.9	249.8	497.9	30.6
1997-98						
July	3 004	243.4	10.8	278.3	640.2	29.8
August	3 085	251.1	10.4	204.6	377.0	21.8
September	3 033	252.6	9.9	218.5	556.2	21.7
October	3 138	265.4	13.2	221.1	619.2	21.6
November	2 996	255.5	11.5	219.7	452.4	17.8
December	3 200	274.7	10.1	233.3	831.4	20.0
January	2 563	210.9	8.9	196.5	379.1	15.3
February	3 107	254.1	10.3	209.4	409.2	18.6
March	3 349	282.8	15.8	250.7	518.2	24.2
April	3 236	272.6	12.6	227.6	466.3	16.1
May	3 048	256.9	12.1	300.0	457.1	23.0

PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS MONTH

1996-97						
February	4.4	6.6	7.0	-3.0	1.5	11.5
March	3.5	2.0	-21.3	12.8	26.8	-8.7
April	6.4	7.5	19.6	4.1	-7.4	55.3
May	-2.7	-2.2	-4.3	0.0	15.2	-4.2
June	-1.7	-4.2	-19.8	-0.7	-11.3	47.6
1997-98						
July	-5.3	-3.9	-9.0	11.4	28.6	-2.7
August	2.7	3.1	-3.9	-26.5	-41.1	-27.0
September	-1.7	0.6	-4.3	7.6	47.9	-0.4
October	3.5	5.1	33.2	0.4	11.1	-0.5
November	-4.5	-3.7	-12.8	-0.6	-26.9	-17.7
December	6.8	7.5	-12.0	6.2	83.8	12.4
January	-19.9	-23.2	-12.1	-15.8	-54.4	-23.5
February	23.1	22.3	15.4	6.6	7.9	21.6
March	7.8	11.3	53.7	19.8	26.6	30.3
April	-3.6	-4.0	-20.0	-9.2	-10.0	-33.4
May	-5.5	-5.4	-4.7	31.8	-2.0	42.9

PUBLICATIONS SOURCE INDEX

- (1) *Australian National Accounts, Quarterly State Details* (Cat. no. 5206.0.40.001)
- (2) *International Merchandise Trade, Australia* (Cat. no. 5422.0) Quarterly
- (3) *Retail Trade, Australia* (Cat. no. 8501.0) Monthly
- (4) *New Motor Vehicles Registrations, Australia, Preliminary* (Cat. no. 9301.0) Monthly
- (5) *State Estimates of Private New Capital Expenditure* (Cat. no. 5646.0) Quarterly
- (6) *Tourist Accommodation, Australia* (Cat. no. 8635.0) Quarterly
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- (8a) *Building Activity, Australia, Dwelling Unit Commencements, Preliminary* (Cat. no. 8750.0) Quarterly
- (9) *Engineering Construction Activity, Australia* (Cat. no. 8762.0) Quarterly
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- (25) Unpublished statistics available from PC AUSSTATS
- (26) *Reserve Bank of Australia Bulletin*

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