



PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE AND EXPECTED EXPENDITURE to June 2000 AUSTRALIA

EMBARGO: 11:30AM (CANBERRA TIME) THURS 25 FEB 1999

DECEMBER QTR KEY FIGURES

TREND ESTIMATES (a)

	Dec 1997	Sep 1998	Dec 1998	% change Sep 1998 to Dec 1998	% change Dec 1997 to Dec 1998
	\$m	\$m	\$m		
Total new capital expenditure	11 540	11 554	11 260	-2.5	-2.4
Buildings & structures	3 063	3 650	3 699	1.3	20.8
Equipment, plant & machinery	8 475	7 889	7 500	-4.9	-11.5

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED (a)

	Dec 1997	Sep 1998	Dec 1998	% change Sep 1998 to Dec 1998	% change Dec 1997 to Dec 1998
	\$m	\$m	\$m		
Total new capital expenditure	11 772	12 112	10 750	-11.2	-8.7
Buildings & structures	3 222	3 856	3 516	-8.8	9.1
Equipment, plant & machinery	8 548	8 228	7 210	-12.4	-15.7

(a) In volume terms.

DECEMBER QTR KEY POINTS

ACTUAL EXPENDITURE

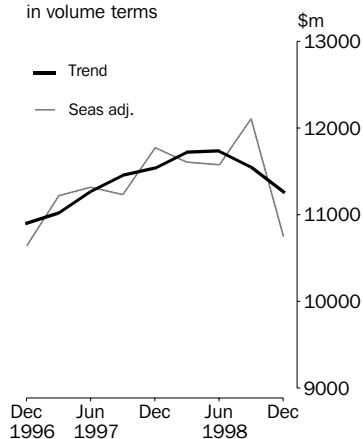
- Trend estimates of total capital expenditure (in volume terms) fell over the past two quarters, mainly due to a large seasonally adjusted decrease this quarter.
- The fall in trend estimates was 8.5% and 3.5% for Mining and Manufacturing respectively, whereas the rise in Other Selected industries was 0.7%.
- Trend estimates of expenditure on plant, machinery and equipment fell significantly (by \$389m or 4.9%), while expenditure on buildings and structures rose slightly (by \$49m or 1.3%).
- The seasonally adjusted decrease in total expenditure would have been appreciably less if Manufacturing had realised expectations reported in the September quarter. Information obtained from businesses suggested that this was due to a high incidence of deferred expenditure, particularly amongst small and medium businesses.

EXPECTED EXPENDITURE

- The latest estimate for 1998-99 is \$44,902m, which is 2.9% lower than the corresponding estimate for 1997-98.
- The first estimate for 1999-2000 is \$31,714m, which is 16.4% lower than the first estimate for 1998-99.

New Capital Expenditure

in volume terms



- For further information about these and related statistics, contact John Blanchette on 02 9268 4357 or any ABS office shown on the back cover of this publication.

NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES	<i>ISSUE (Quarter)</i>	<i>RELEASE DATE</i>
	March 1999	27 May 1999
	June 1999	26 August 1999



CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE There are no changes in this issue.



REVISIONS TO TREND Readers should exercise care in the interpretation of the trend data as the last three observations, in particular, are likely to be revised with the addition of subsequent quarters' data. For further information, refer to Revisions to Trend Estimates on page 17.

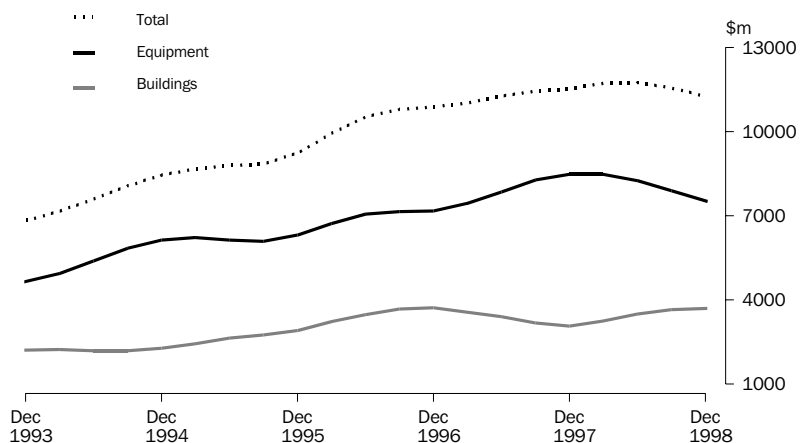
W. McLennan
Australian Statistician

ACTUAL NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE: Trend

QUARTERLY TREND ESTIMATES OF CHAIN VOLUME MEASURES

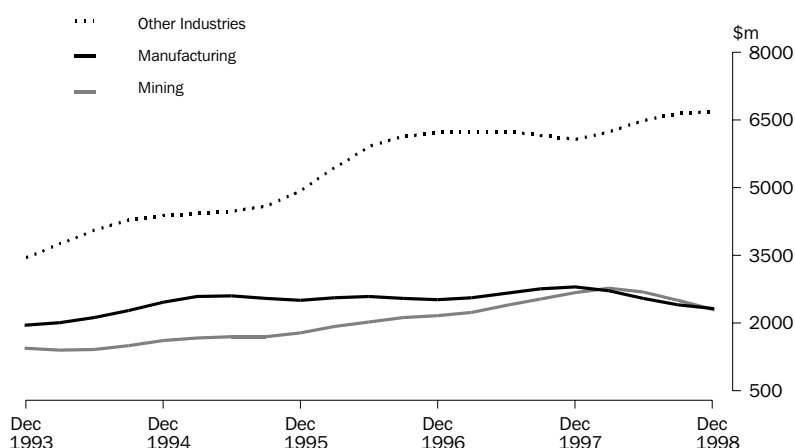
BY ASSET

After four quarters of decreasing expenditure during 1997, trend estimates for expenditure on buildings and structures have increased over 1998, although the rate of growth has slowed over the past two quarters. Growth rates of trend estimates of expenditure on plant, machinery and equipment have been decreasing since the June quarter 1997, with falls in expenditure being reported for the past three quarters.



BY INDUSTRY

Following reasonably strong growth from December quarter 1995, trend estimates for expenditure by Mining have fallen over the past three quarters. After increases during 1997, trend estimates of expenditure by Manufacturing have fallen in each quarter of 1998. Following an increase of 4.2% in the June quarter 1998, trend estimates of expenditure by Other Selected industries have reverted to more moderate growth rates in the past two quarters.

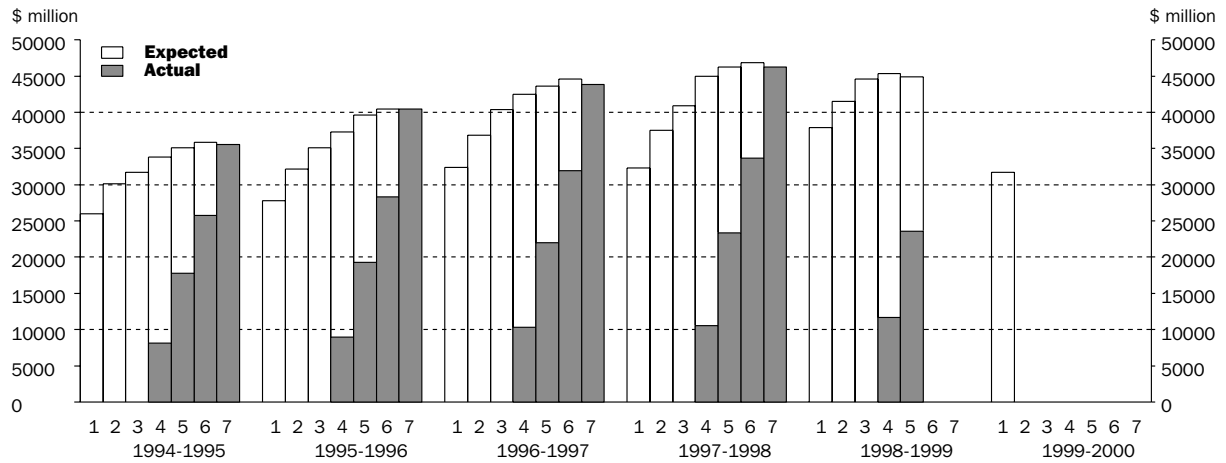


ACTUAL AND EXPECTED NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

FINANCIAL YEARS AT CURRENT PRICES

EXPENDITURE

The seven estimates of actual and expected expenditure for each financial year which appear in the graph below relate to data contained in Table 4. Care should be taken when using these series and the associated realisation ratios.



EXPLANATION OF TIMING OF ESTIMATES used in construction of graph above

COMPOSITION OF ESTIMATE.....

Estimate	Based on data reported at:	Data on actual expenditure	Data on short term expected expenditure	Data on long term expected expenditure
1	Jan-Feb, 5-6 months before period begins	Nil	Nil	12 months
2	Apr-May, 2-3 months before period begins	Nil	Nil	12 months
3	Jul-Aug, at beginning of period	Nil	6 months	6 months
4	Oct-Nov, 3-4 months into period	3 months	3 months	6 months
5	Jan-Feb, 6-7 months into period	6 months	6 months	Nil
6	Apr-May, 9-10 months into period	9 months	3 months	Nil
7	Jul-Aug, at end of period	12 months	Nil	Nil

ACTUAL & EXPECTED EXPENDITURE, By Type of Asset and Industry—Current prices

Period	BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES.....				EQUIPMENT, PLANT AND MACHINERY.....				TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE.....			
	Mining	Manu- facturing	Other selected indus- tries	Total	Mining	Manu- facturing	Other selected indus- tries	Total	Mining	Manu- facturing	Other selected indus- tries	Total
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
ORIGINAL (Actual)												
1996-1997	4 296	1 686	8 348	14 330	4 485	8 511	16 511	29 507	8 781	10 198	24 859	43 837
1997-1998	4 408	2 022	6 722	13 152	6 622	8 974	17 473	33 069	11 029	10 996	24 195	46 220
1997-1998												
September	956	523	1 442	2 921	1 535	2 005	4 102	7 642	2 491	2 528	5 544	10 563
December	1 153	728	1 847	3 728	1 867	2 459	4 751	9 078	3 020	3 188	6 598	12 806
March	936	357	1 540	2 833	1 630	2 020	3 817	7 468	2 566	2 378	5 357	10 301
June	1 363	413	1 893	3 670	1 589	2 489	4 803	8 881	2 952	2 903	6 696	12 551
1998-1999												
September	1 410	277	2 061	3 748	1 177	2 025	4 694	7 896	2 586	2 302	6 755	11 644
December	1 508	354	2 276	4 139	957	2 186	4 676	7 818	2 465	2 540	6 952	11 957
ORIGINAL (Expected)(a)												
1998-1999												
6 mths to Jun	2 254	884	3 769	6 907	1 912	4 563	7 919	14 394	4 167	5 447	11 688	21 301
Total 1998-1999	5 172	1 515	8 106	14 794	4 046	8 774	17 289	30 108	9 218	10 289	25 395	44 902
Total 1999-2000												
12 mths to Jun	3 015	1 361	4 840	9 216	3 414	7 412	11 672	22 498	6 428	8 773	16 513	31 714
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED (Actual)												
1996-1997	4 309	1 658	8 418	14 385	4 486	8 526	16 444	29 456	8 794	10 184	24 863	43 841
1997-1998	4 412	2 011	6 761	13 184	6 645	8 964	17 467	33 076	11 057	10 975	24 228	46 260
1997-1998												
September	1 061	487	1 457	3 005	1 542	2 165	4 310	8 018	2 602	2 653	5 767	11 022
December	1 021	691	1 645	3 356	1 737	2 313	4 388	8 438	2 758	3 004	6 032	11 794
March	961	405	1 755	3 120	1 847	2 259	4 458	8 565	2 808	2 664	6 213	11 685
June	1 370	428	1 905	3 703	1 519	2 226	4 311	8 056	2 888	2 654	6 216	11 759
1998-1999												
September	1 564	237	2 168	3 969	1 180	2 187	4 948	8 315	2 744	2 424	7 116	12 284
December	1 337	383	2 039	3 759	891	2 057	4 320	7 269	2 228	2 441	6 359	11 027
TREND ESTIMATES (Actual)												
1996-1997	4 339	1 743	8 267	14 349	4 573	8 564	16 458	29 595	8 911	10 307	24 725	43 944
1997-1998	4 452	2 009	6 872	13 333	6 525	8 935	17 732	33 192	10 977	10 944	24 604	46 525
1997-1998												
September	1 051	580	1 596	3 227	1 511	2 173	4 410	8 094	2 562	2 752	6 006	11 320
December	997	565	1 582	3 144	1 734	2 252	4 374	8 360	2 731	2 818	5 956	11 504
March	1 109	481	1 756	3 346	1 757	2 280	4 419	8 456	2 867	2 761	6 175	11 803
June	1 294	384	1 939	3 617	1 523	2 229	4 529	8 282	2 817	2 613	6 468	11 898
1998-1999												
September	1 431	323	2 054	3 808	1 213	2 160	4 579	7 952	2 645	2 483	6 633	11 760
December	1 474	326	2 099	3 898	917	2 104	4 564	7 585	2 391	2 429	6 663	11 483

(a) Not directly comparable with estimates of actual expenditure due to likely over/under realisation
—see paragraphs 18 and 21 of the Explanatory Notes.

ACTUAL & EXPECTED CAPITAL EXPENDITURE, Detailed Industries—Current prices

Period	MINING....	MANUFACTURING.....									
	Total mining	Food, beverage and tobacco	Textile, clothing, footwear and leather	Wood and paper product	Printing, publishing and recorded media	Petroleum, coal, chemical and assoc. product	Non-metallic mineral product	Metal product	Machinery and equipment	Other manufacturing	Total manufacturing
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
ORIGINAL (Actual)											
1996–1997	8 781	1 997	251	920	587	1 664	1 071	1 501	2 007	199	10 198
1997–1998	11 029	2 443	289	906	796	1 595	870	1 666	2 130	301	10 996
1997–1998											
September	2 491	558	55	162	139	361	265	375	551	63	2 528
December	3 020	600	95	242	197	478	264	464	770	75	3 188
March	2 566	554	51	160	206	369	175	351	431	81	2 378
June	2 952	730	88	343	253	387	165	476	379	82	2 903
1998–1999											
September	2 586	441	74	286	190	383	129	433	304	63	2 302
December	2 465	607	53	140	191	420	143	564	378	45	2 540
ORIGINAL (Expected)(a)											
1998-1999											
6 mths to Jun	4 167	1 349	173	376	332	922	291	1 208	718	78	5 447
Total 1998-1999	9 218	2 397	300	801	713	1 725	563	2 206	1 399	186	10 289
Total 1999-2000											
12 mths to Jun	6 428	2 279	153	668	457	1 738	589	940	1 823	126	8 773
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED (Actual)											
1996–1997	8 794	1 986	248	919	585	1 652	1 068	1 512	2 015	197	10 184
1997–1998	11 057	2 435	284	894	790	1 600	876	1 688	2 101	307	10 975
1997–1998											
September	2 602	596	60	165	168	344	288	415	560	57	2 653
December	2 758	588	78	228	201	423	249	486	662	89	3 004
March	2 808	596	64	180	220	431	162	429	491	90	2 664
June	2 888	655	83	320	200	403	177	358	388	71	2 654
1998–1999											
September	2 744	471	81	292	230	365	141	480	308	57	2 424
December	2 228	595	43	131	195	370	134	594	324	54	2 441
TREND ESTIMATES (Actual)											
1996–1997	8 911	2 103	246	900	578	1 612	1 075	1 601	1 993	198	10 307
1997–1998	10 977	2 374	288	897	796	1 602	876	1 704	2 102	306	10 944
1997–1998											
September	2 562	578	67	190	173	375	286	420	597	67	2 752
December	2 731	604	69	197	196	405	237	439	589	80	2 818
March	2 867	607	75	242	212	418	191	422	511	84	2 761
June	2 817	586	76	268	215	404	162	422	405	74	2 613
1998–1999											
September	2 645	563	70	251	212	379	146	473	330	61	2 483
December	2 391	546	59	207	208	366	136	548	305	54	2 429

(a) Not directly comparable with estimates of actual expenditure due to likely over/under realisation—see paragraphs 18 and 21 of the Explanatory Notes.

ACTUAL & EXPECTED CAPITAL EXPENDITURE, Detailed Industries—Current prices *continued*

OTHER SELECTED INDUSTRIES.....									TOTAL
Period	Construction	Wholesale trade	Retail trade	Transport and storage	Finance and insurance	Property and business services	Other services etc.	Total other selected industries	Total new capital expenditure
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
ORIGINAL (Actual)									
1996-1997	1 145	2 545	2 253	3 303	2 464	6 269	6 880	24 859	43 837
1997-1998	1 572	2 864	2 815	3 348	2 504	6 073	5 019	24 195	46 220
1997-1998									
September	305	713	655	720	646	1 303	1 203	5 544	10 563
December	450	776	875	808	674	1 534	1 482	6 598	12 806
March	377	637	488	817	549	1 296	1 193	5 357	10 301
June	440	739	796	1 004	635	1 941	1 141	6 696	12 551
1998-1999									
September	386	698	853	1 170	616	1 420	1 613	6 755	11 644
December	502	705	811	1 088	759	1 664	1 422	6 952	11 957
ORIGINAL (Expected)(a)									
1998-1999									
6 mths to Jun	767	1 302	1 274	1 767	1 151	2 278	3 148	11 688	21 301
Total 1998-1999	1 655	2 706	2 938	4 025	2 526	5 363	6 183	25 395	44 902
Total 1999-2000									
12 mths to Jun	712	1 866	2 103	2 104	2 315	3 449	3 963	16 513	31 714
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED (Actual)									
1996-1997	1 149	2 551	2 229	3 295	2 447	6 295	6 896	24 863	43 841
1997-1998	1 576	2 877	2 785	3 360	2 513	6 069	5 047	24 228	46 260
1997-1998									
September	310	673	691	791	604	1 311	1 387	5 767	11 022
December	464	697	766	704	661	1 388	1 352	6 032	11 794
March	428	758	622	911	655	1 572	1 267	6 213	11 685
June	375	749	705	954	592	1 799	1 041	6 216	11 759
1998-1999									
September	395	656	903	1 292	574	1 430	1 866	7 116	12 284
December	516	637	709	949	746	1 506	1 296	6 359	11 027
TREND ESTIMATES (Actual)									
1996-1997	1 269	2 500	2 295	3 302	2 218	6 233	6 908	24 725	43 944
1997-1998	1 588	2 893	2 820	3 465	2 497	5 986	5 354	24 604	46 525
1997-1998									
September	361	712	681	787	608	1 369	1 488	6 006	11 320
December	403	724	696	776	645	1 425	1 287	5 956	11 504
March	416	733	705	878	631	1 571	1 241	6 175	11 803
June	408	724	739	1 024	613	1 621	1 339	6 468	11 898
1998-1999									
September	423	683	779	1 100	629	1 571	1 449	6 633	11 760
December	464	635	795	1 094	673	1 486	1 515	6 663	11 483

(a) Not directly comparable with estimates of actual expenditure due to likely over/under realisation
—see paragraphs 18 and 21 of the Explanatory Notes.

ACTUAL EXPENDITURE, By Type of Asset and Industry—Chain volume measures

Period	ASSET.....			INDUSTRY.....			
	<i>Buildings and structures</i>	<i>Equipment, plant and machinery</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Mining</i>	<i>Manufacturing</i>	<i>Other selected industries</i>	<i>Total</i>
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
ORIGINAL							
1996-1997	14 330	29 507	43 837	8 781	10 198	24 858	43 837
1997-1998	12 833	33 358	46 191	10 732	10 886	24 574	46 191
1997-1998							
September	2 878	7 815	10 693	2 473	2 543	5 677	10 693
December	3 645	9 197	12 842	2 956	3 165	6 721	12 842
March	2 772	7 469	10 240	2 481	2 329	5 430	10 240
June	3 539	8 877	12 416	2 823	2 848	6 745	12 416
1998-1999							
September	3 585	7 790	11 375	2 443	2 226	6 707	11 375
December	3 943	7 736	11 679	2 316	2 449	6 913	11 679
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED							
1996-1997	14 330	29 507	43 837	8 781	10 198	24 858	43 837
1997-1998	12 833	33 358	46 191	10 742	10 886	24 574	46 191
1997-1998							
September	3 013	8 212	11 233	2 579	2 743	5 913	11 233
December	3 222	8 548	11 772	2 696	2 938	6 142	11 772
March	3 048	8 562	11 606	2 710	2 617	6 283	11 606
June	3 550	8 036	11 580	2 758	2 588	6 236	11 580
1998-1999							
September	3 856	8 228	12 112	2 591	2 396	7 124	12 112
December	3 516	7 210	10 750	2 089	2 268	6 392	10 750
TREND ESTIMATES							
1996-1997	14 384	29 627	44 002	8 898	10 271	24 830	44 002
1997-1998	12 970	33 474	46 452	10 659	10 830	24 969	46 452
1997-1998							
September	3 170	8 271	11 451	2 533	2 763	6 157	11 451
December	3 063	8 475	11 540	2 671	2 797	6 075	11 540
March	3 246	8 480	11 722	2 768	2 719	6 238	11 722
June	3 491	8 248	11 739	2 687	2 551	6 499	11 739
1998-1999							
September	3 650	7 889	11 554	2 499	2 403	6 650	11 554
December	3 699	7 500	11 260	2 287	2 319	6 697	11 260

ACTUAL & EXPECTED CAPITAL EXPENDITURE, By Type of Asset—Current prices

Financial year	12 months expectation as reported in Jan–Feb of previous financial year (Estimate 1)	12 months expectation as reported in Apr–May of previous financial year (Estimate 2)	12 months expectation as reported in Jul–Aug (Estimate 3)	3 months actual and 9 months expectation as reported in Oct–Nov (Estimate 4)	6 months actual and 6 months expectation as reported in Jan–Feb (Estimate 5)	9 months actual and 3 months expectation as reported in Apr–May (Estimate 6)	12 months actual (Estimate 7)
BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES (\$ million)							
1995–1996	8 700	9 528	10 479	11 878	12 861	12 373	12 348
1996–1997	9 559	11 643	14 017	15 056	15 633	15 769	14 330
1997–1998	12 085	14 505	13 668	14 014	13 593	13 740	13 152
1998–1999	11 812	13 587	14 768	16 064	14 794	n.y.a.	n.y.a.
1999–2000	9 216	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.
BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES (Realisation Ratio)(a)							
1995–1996	1.42	1.30	1.18	1.04	0.96	1.00	1.00
1996–1997	1.50	1.23	1.02	0.95	0.92	0.91	1.00
1997–1998	1.09	0.91	0.96	0.94	0.97	0.96	1.00
5 year average	1.25	1.09	1.04	0.99	0.94	0.95	1.00
EQUIPMENT, PLANT AND MACHINERY (\$ million)							
1995–1996	19 069	22 634	24 605	25 437	26 742	28 077	28 124
1996–1997	22 841	25 174	26 384	27 428	27 996	28 845	29 507
1997–1998	20 229	22 974	27 193	30 974	32 637	33 151	33 069
1998–1999	26 104	27 905	29 843	29 252	30 108	n.y.a.	n.y.a.
1999–2000	22 498	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.
EQUIPMENT, PLANT AND MACHINERY (Realisation Ratio)(a)							
1995–1996	1.47	1.24	1.14	1.11	1.05	1.00	1.00
1996–1997	1.29	1.17	1.12	1.08	1.05	1.02	1.00
1997–1998	1.63	1.44	1.22	1.07	1.01	1.00	1.00
5 year average	1.45	1.28	1.18	1.09	1.04	1.01	1.00
TOTAL (\$ million)							
1995–1996	27 769	32 161	35 084	37 315	39 603	40 450	40 473
1996–1997	32 400	36 817	40 401	42 484	43 629	44 614	43 837
1997–1998	32 321	37 479	40 860	44 988	46 229	46 892	46 220
1998–1999	37 916	41 492	44 611	45 316	44 902	n.y.a.	n.y.a.
1999–2000	31 714	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.
TOTAL (Realisation Ratio)(a)							
1995–1996	1.46	1.26	1.15	1.08	1.02	1.00	1.00
1996–1997	1.35	1.19	1.09	1.03	1.00	0.98	1.00
1997–1998	1.43	1.23	1.13	1.03	1.00	0.99	1.00
5 year average	1.38	1.21	1.13	1.06	1.01	0.99	1.00
TOTAL (Percentage change over previous estimate for same financial year)							
1995–1996	n.a.	15.8	9.1	6.4	6.1	2.1	0.1
1996–1997	n.a.	13.6	9.7	5.2	2.7	2.3	-1.7
1997–1998	n.a.	16.0	9.0	10.1	2.8	1.4	-1.4
1998–1999	n.a.	9.4	7.5	1.6	-0.9	n.y.a.	n.y.a.
1999–2000	n.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.
TOTAL (Percentage change over corresponding estimate for previous financial year)							
1995–1996	6.8	6.6	10.6	10.3	12.9	12.9	13.8
1996–1997	16.7	14.5	15.2	13.9	10.2	10.3	8.3
1997–1998	-0.2	1.8	1.1	5.9	6.0	5.1	5.4

(a) Ratio of actual expenditure for the financial year to each progressive estimate for the financial year. For more information see paragraphs 18 and 21 of the Explanatory Notes.

ACTUAL & EXPECTED CAPITAL EXPENDITURE, By Industry—Current prices

Financial year	12 months expectation as reported in Jan–Feb of previous financial year (Estimate 1)	12 months expectation as reported in Apr–May of previous financial year (Estimate 2)	12 months expectation as reported in Jul–Aug (Estimate 3)	3 months actual and 9 months expectation as reported in Oct–Nov (Estimate 4)	6 months actual and 6 months expectation as reported in Jan–Feb (Estimate 5)	9 months actual and 3 months expectation as reported in Apr–May (Estimate 6)	12 months actual (Estimate 7)
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MANUFACTURING (\$ million)

1995–1996	8 975	9 964	10 721	11 185	11 160	10 978	10 457
1996–1997	9 711	10 037	10 652	11 081	10 350	10 359	10 198
1997–1998	7 727	8 826	10 108	10 936	11 066	11 451	10 996
1998–1999	8 679	10 412	11 166	10 574	10 289	n.y.a.	n.y.a.
1999–2000	8 773	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.

MANUFACTURING (Realisation Ratio)(a)

1995–1996	1.17	1.05	0.98	0.93	0.94	0.95	1.00
1996–1997	1.05	1.02	0.96	0.92	0.99	0.98	1.00
1997–1998	1.42	1.25	1.09	1.01	0.99	0.96	1.00
5 year average	1.25	1.13	1.04	0.97	0.98	0.97	1.00

MINING (\$ million)

1995–1996	5 541	6 720	7 472	7 627	7 764	7 788	7 525
1996–1997	7 789	9 913	10 113	9 932	9 452	9 354	8 781
1997–1998	8 592	9 588	11 026	11 908	12 090	11 551	11 029
1998–1999	9 404	10 088	9 239	9 770	9 218	n.y.a.	n.y.a.
1999–2000	6 428	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.

MINING (Realisation Ratio)(a)

1995–1996	1.36	1.12	1.01	0.99	0.97	0.97	1.00
1996–1997	1.13	0.89	0.87	0.88	0.93	0.94	1.00
1997–1998	1.28	1.15	1.00	0.93	0.91	0.95	1.00
5 year average	1.15	1.00	0.93	0.92	0.93	0.94	1.00

OTHER SELECTED INDUSTRIES (\$ million)

1995–1996	13 253	15 478	16 890	18 503	20 679	21 683	22 491
1996–1997	14 900	16 867	19 636	21 470	23 827	24 901	24 859
1997–1998	16 002	19 065	19 726	22 144	23 074	23 889	24 195
1998–1999	19 833	20 992	24 206	24 973	25 395	n.y.a.	n.y.a.
1999–2000	16 513	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.

OTHER SELECTED INDUSTRIES (Realisation Ratio)(a)

1995–1996	1.70	1.45	1.33	1.22	1.09	1.04	1.00
1996–1997	1.67	1.47	1.27	1.16	1.04	1.00	1.00
1997–1998	1.51	1.27	1.23	1.09	1.05	1.01	1.00
5 year average	1.60	1.39	1.30	1.17	1.06	1.02	1.00

(a) Ratio of actual expenditure for the financial year to each progressive estimate for the financial year. For more information see paragraphs 18 and 21 of the Explanatory Notes.

RATIOS OF ACTUAL TO SHORT TERM EXPECTATION FOR SAME PERIOD(a)—Current prices

Financial year	3 MONTHS ENDING.....		6 MONTHS ENDING.....	
	31 December (collected in September Survey)	30 June (collected in March Survey)	31 December (collected in June Survey)	30 June (collected in December Survey)
TYPE OF ASSET				
Buildings and Structures				
1996–1997	0.94	0.70	1.02	0.84
1997–1998	0.91	0.86	0.92	0.94
1998–1999	0.87	n.y.a.	0.91	n.y.a.
5 year average	0.93	0.82	0.97	0.89
Equipment, Plant and Machinery				
1996–1997	0.97	1.08	1.06	1.11
1997–1998	1.02	0.99	1.15	1.03
1998–1999	1.00	n.y.a.	0.95	n.y.a.
5 year average	0.98	1.02	1.06	1.08
Total				
1996–1997	0.96	0.94	1.04	1.01
1997–1998	0.99	0.95	1.08	1.00
1998–1999	0.95	n.y.a.	0.93	n.y.a.
5 year average	0.96	0.95	1.03	1.02
TYPE OF INDUSTRY				
Mining				
1996–1997	0.84	0.80	0.87	0.87
1997–1998	0.92	0.85	1.02	0.84
1998–1999	0.92	n.y.a.	0.99	n.y.a.
5 year average	0.88	0.80	0.94	0.88
Manufacturing				
1996–1997	0.74	0.95	0.91	0.97
1997–1998	0.96	0.86	1.03	0.99
1998–1999	0.84	n.y.a.	0.81	n.y.a.
5 year average	0.84	0.90	0.92	0.95
Other Selected Industries				
1996–1997	1.15	0.99	1.20	1.09
1997–1998	1.04	1.05	1.13	1.10
1998–1999	1.01	n.y.a.	0.97	n.y.a.
5 year average	1.07	1.06	1.13	1.12
Total				
1996–1997	0.96	0.94	1.04	1.01
1997–1998	0.99	0.95	1.08	1.00
1998–1999	0.95	n.y.a.	0.93	n.y.a.
5 year average	0.96	0.95	1.03	1.02

(a) For more information on Realisation Ratios see paragraphs 18 and 21 of the Explanatory Notes.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1 This publication contains estimates of actual and expected new capital expenditure by private businesses in Australia. The series contained in this publication have been compiled from data collected in a quarterly survey of private businesses.

SCOPE OF THE SURVEY

2 This survey aims to measure the value of new capital expenditure by private businesses in Australia. Private households and public sector businesses (i.e. all departments, authorities and other organisations owned or controlled by Commonwealth, State or Local Government) are outside the scope of the survey.

3 The scope of the survey:

- includes the following Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC) industries

Mining (Division B)

Manufacturing (Division C)

Food, beverages and tobacco (21)

Textiles, clothing, footwear and leather (22)

Wood and paper products (23)

Printing, publishing and recorded media (24)

Petroleum, coal, chemical and associated products (25)

Non-metallic mineral products (26)

Metal products (27)

Machinery and equipment (28)

Other manufacturing (29)

Other Selected Industries

Construction (Division E)

Wholesale trade (Division F)

Retail trade (Division G)

Transport & storage (Division I)

Finance and insurance (Division K)

Property & business services (Division L)

Other selected services (including electricity & gas; communication; accommodation, cafes & restaurants; cultural & recreational services; and personal services (36,37,57,71,91–93,95))

- excludes the following industries

Agriculture, forestry and fishing

Government administration & defence

Education

Health and community services

SURVEY METHODOLOGY

4 This quarterly survey is based on a stratified random sample of private business units recorded on the ABS register of businesses. The sample consists of approximately 7,700 units. The figures obtained from the selected businesses are supplemented by data from units which have large capital expenditure and/or large employment and which are outside the sample framework, or not adequately covered by it.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

SURVEY METHODOLOGY *continued*

5 Adjustments are included in the estimates to allow for lags in processing new businesses to the ABS business register, and the omission of some businesses from the business register. The majority of businesses affected and to which these adjustments apply are small in size. The adjustments contributed 2.8% to the current quarter's estimate of reported capital expenditure. These adjustments were introduced in the June quarter 1997 publication and have been made back to the June quarter 1987. For further information see the June quarter 1997 publication or Information paper—*Improvements to ABS Economic Statistics 1997* (Cat. no. 1357.0) issued on 22 August 1997.

6 Respondents are asked to provide data on the same basis as their own management accounts. Where a selected business unit does not respond in a given survey, an estimate is substituted. Revisions may be made to these estimate adjustments if data are provided subsequently from those businesses. Aggregates are calculated from original data using the 'number raised' estimation technique. Data are edited at both individual unit level and at aggregate level.

7 Surveys are conducted in respect of each quarter and returns are completed in the 8 or 9 week period after the end of the quarter to which the survey data relate (e.g. March quarter survey returns are completed during April and May). Full details of the reporting cycle are shown below.

TIMING AND CONSTRUCTION OF SURVEY CYCLE

Survey quarter	Period to which reported data relates											
	1997–1998			1998–1999			1999–2000					
	Dec	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar	Jun	
December 1997	Act	E1			E2							
March 1998	Act	Act	E1		E2							
June 1998	Act	Act	Act		E1	E2						
September 1998				Act	E1	E2						
December 1998				Act	Act	E1	E2					
March 1999				Act	Act	Act	E1	E2				
June 1999				Act	Act	Act	Act	E1	E2			

8 This survey cycle facilitates the formation of estimates of expenditure for financial years (12 months ending 30 June). For example, as the table above shows, the first estimate for 1998–1999 was available from the December 1997 survey as a longer term expectation (E2). It was subsequently revised in the March 1998 survey (again as a longer term expectation) and in the June 1998 survey as the sum of two expectations (E1 + E2). In the September and subsequent surveys the estimate is derived as the sum of actual expenditure (for that part of the year completed) and expected expenditure (for the remainder of the year). The final (or seventh) estimate from the June quarter 1999 survey, will be derived by summing the actual expenditure for each of the four quarters.

9 Businesses are requested to provide 3 basic figures each survey:

- Actual expenditure incurred during the reference period (Act)
- A short term expectation (E1)
- A longer term expectation (E2).

EXPLANATORY NOTES

SAMPLE REVISION

10 Prior to the June quarter 1996 survey, the survey frames and samples were revised annually to ensure that they remained representative of the survey population. Adjustments were made to the survey estimates each quarter to reflect changes in the size of the survey frame throughout the year. From the June quarter 1996 survey, the survey frames and samples are being revised each quarter. The aim is to further improve the quality of the survey estimates by selecting a sample which will be more representative of the survey population. Additionally, the timing of sample selection will now be consistent with other ABS surveys. This will lead to greater consistency when comparing data across these surveys.

11 With these revisions to the sample, some of the business units are rotated out of the survey and are replaced by other to spread the reporting workload equitably. The rate of rotation under quarterly sample selection is slightly higher than one quarter of the previous annual rate of rotation.

12 When the frames and samples were updated annually prior to the June quarter 1996, some data would be revised as a consequence. No data revisions of this nature will be needed given quarterly updates to frames and samples. Data may be revised, however, on the basis of further processing.

STATISTICAL UNIT

13 This survey uses the Management Unit as the statistical unit. The management unit is the highest level accounting unit within a business, having regard to industry homogeneity, for which accounts are maintained. In nearly all cases it coincides with the legal entity owning the business (i.e. company, partnership, trust, sole operator, etc). In the case of large diversified businesses, however, there may be more than one management unit, each coincides with a 'division' or 'line of business'. A division or line of business is defined when separate and comprehensive accounts are compiled for it. Prior to 1989, the survey was on a different business unit basis. Further details are available on request.

CLASSIFICATION BY INDUSTRY

14 The Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC) has been developed for use in both countries for the production and analysis of industry statistics. It replaced the Australian Standard Industrial Classification (ASIC) and the New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (NZSIC).

15 For further information, users are referred to *Australian & New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification, 1993, ANZIC*, (Cat. no. 1292.0) and *Statistis New Zealand* (Cat. no. 19.005.0092).

CHAIN VOLUME MEASURES

16 The chain volume measures appearing in this publication are annually reweighted chain Laspeyres indexes referenced to current price values in the chosen reference year (currently 1996–1997). Chain volume measures were introduced in September quarter 1998, replacing constant price estimates. Chain volume measures can be thought of as current price values re-expressed in (i.e. based on) the prices of the previous year and linked together to form continuous time series. Each year's quarter-to-quarter growth rates in the chain volume series are based on the prices of the previous year, except for those of the quarters of the latest incomplete year which are based upon the second most recent financial year. With each release of the June quarter issue of this publication, a new base year will be introduced and the reference year will be advanced one year to coincide with it. This means that with the release of the June quarter 1999 issue of this publication, the chain volume measures for 1998–1999 will have 1997–1998 (the previous financial year) as their base year rather than 1996–1997, and the reference year will be 1997–1998. A change in reference year changes levels but not growth rates.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

CHAIN VOLUME MEASURES

continued

17 Chain volume measures are not generally additive. In other words, component chain volume measures do not, in general, sum to a total in the way original current price components do. For capital expenditure data this means that the original chain volume estimates for industry groups will not add to total capital expenditure for Australia. However, by using the latest base year as the reference year, non-additivity does not exist for the quarters following the reference year and is relatively small for the quarters in the reference year and those immediately preceding it. For further information on chain volume measures refer to the information paper *Introduction of Chain Volume Measures in the Australian National Accounts* (Cat no. 5248.0).

DERIVATION AND USEFULNESS OF REALISATION RATIOS

18 Once actual expenditure for a financial year is known, it is useful to investigate the relationship between each of the prior 6 estimates and that actual. The resultant realisation ratios (subsequent actual expenditure divided by expected expenditure) then indicate how much expenditure was actually incurred against the amount expected to be incurred at the various times of reporting. Realisation ratios can also be formed separately for 3 or 6 month expectations as well as the 12 month E2 estimates or combinations of estimates containing at least some expectation components (e.g. 6 months actual and 6 months expected expenditure).

19 Realisation ratios provide an important tool in understanding and interpreting expectation statistics for future periods. The application of realisation ratios enables the adjustment of expectation data for known under (or over) realisation patterns in the past and hence provides a valid basis for comparison with other expectation data and actual expenditure estimates. For example, if one wished to predict actual expenditure for 1998–1999 based on the June 1998 survey results and compare this with 1997–1998 expenditure, it is necessary to apply relevant realisation factors to the expectation to put both estimates on the same basis. Once this has been done the predictions can be validly compared with each other and with previously derived estimates of actual expenditure for earlier years.

20 There are many ways in which realisation ratios can be applied to make predictions of actual expenditure for a future period. A range of realisation ratios for both type of asset and industry estimates is provided in Tables 4 and 5.

21 In using realisation ratios to adjust expectations data, attention should be paid to the range of values that has occurred in the past. A wide range of values is indicative of volatility in the realisation patterns and hence greater caution should be exercised in the application of realisation ratios. This is particularly the case with the twelve month expectations collected in the December and March surveys.

DESCRIPTION OF TERMS

22 *New capital expenditure* refers to the acquisition of new tangible assets either on own account or under a *finance lease* and includes major improvements, alterations and additions. In general, this is expenditure charged to fixed tangible assets accounts excluding expenditure on second hand assets unless these are imported for the first time.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

DESCRIPTION OF TERMS

continued

23 Some estimates are dissected by type of asset:

- *Buildings and Structures.* Includes industrial and commercial buildings, houses, flats, home units, water and sewerage installations, lifts, heating, ventilating and similar equipment forming an integral part of buildings and structures, land development and construction site development, roads, bridges, wharves, harbours, railway lines, pipelines, power and telephone lines. Also includes mine development (e.g. construction of shafts in underground mines, preparation of mining and quarrying sites for open cut extraction and other developmental operations primarily for commencing or extending production). Excludes purchases of land, previously occupied buildings and speculatively built projects intended for sale before occupation.
- *Equipment, plant and machinery.* Includes plant, machinery, vehicles, electrical apparatus, office equipment, furniture, fixtures and fittings not forming an integral part of buildings, durable containers, special tooling, etc. Also includes goods imported for the first time whether previously used outside Australia or not.

RELIABILITY OF THE ESTIMATES

24 Since the estimates are based on data obtained from a sample rather than a complete enumeration, the data and the movements derived from them are subject to sampling variability; that is, they may differ from the figures that would have been obtained if all units had been included in the survey. One measure of the likely difference is given by the standard error, which indicates the extent to which an estimate might have varied by chance because only a sample of units was included. There are about two chances in three that a sample estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the figure that would have been obtained if all units had been included, and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two standard errors.

25 Another measure of sampling variability is the relative standard error which is obtained by expressing the standard error as a percentage of the estimate to which it refers. The relative standard error is a useful measure in that it provides an immediate indication of the percentage errors likely to have occurred due to sampling. The sample estimates of quarter to quarter movement in the value of new capital expenditure are also subject to sampling variability. The relative standard error of the estimate of movement is expressed as a percentage of the quarterly estimate of the level of capital expenditure.

	RELATIVE STANDARD ERROR
Total new capital expenditure:	
Mining	7.3%
Manufacturing	2.8%
Other Selected Industries	3.4%
Buildings & Structures	4.8%
Equipment, Plant & Machinery	2.7%
Total Selected Industries	2.6%

26 The imprecision due to sampling, which is measured by the standard error, is not the only type of inaccuracy to which the estimates are subject. Other inaccuracies, referred to collectively as non-sample error, may occur for a number of reasons, for example misreporting of data by respondents or imputation for missing respondents.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

RELIABILITY OF THE ESTIMATES *continued*

27 In the design of questionnaires and in the processing of survey data every effort is made to reduce the non-sample error to a minimum.

SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT

28 The quarterly actual new capital expenditure series in this publication are affected to some extent by seasonal influences and it is useful to recognise and take account of this element of variation.

29 Seasonal adjustment may be carried out by various methods and the results may vary slightly depending on the procedure adopted. Accordingly, seasonally adjusted statistics are in fact only indicative and should not be regarded as in any way definitive. In interpreting seasonally adjusted data it is important therefore to bear in mind the methods by which they have been derived and the limitations to which the methods used are subject.

30 At least once each year the seasonally adjusted series are revised to take account of the latest available data. The most recent reanalysis takes into account data collected up to and including the March quarter 1998 survey. Data for periods after March 1998 are seasonally adjusted on the basis of extrapolation of historical patterns. The nature of the seasonal adjustment process is such that the magnitude of some revisions resulting from reanalysis may be quite significant, especially for data for more recent quarters. Care should be exercised when interpreting quarter to quarter movements in the seasonally adjusted series in the publication, particularly for recent quarters.

31 It should be noted that the seasonally adjusted figures necessarily reflect the sampling and other errors to which the original figures are subject.

32 Details of the seasonal adjustment methods used together with selected measures of variability for these series are available on request.

TREND ESTIMATES

33 The trend estimates are derived by applying a 7-term Henderson moving average to the seasonally adjusted series. The 7-term Henderson average (like all Henderson averages) is symmetric, but as the end of a time series is approached, asymmetric forms of the average are applied. Unlike the weights of the standard 7-term Henderson moving average, the weights employed here have been tailored to suit the particular characteristics of individual series. While the asymmetric weights enable trend estimates for recent quarters to be produced, it does result in revisions to the estimates for the most recent three quarters as additional observations become available. There may also be revisions because of changes in the original data and as a result of the re-estimation of the seasonal factors. For further information, see *A Guide to Interpreting Time Series—Monitoring 'Trends': an Overview* (Cat. no. 1348.0) or contact the Assistant Director, Time Series Analysis on (02) 6252 6345.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

COMPARABILITY WITH NATIONAL ACCOUNTS ESTIMATES

34 The statistics for new capital expenditure shown in this publication differ from estimates of private gross fixed capital expenditure shown in the Australian National Accounts for the following reasons:

- National Accounts estimates incorporate data from other sources as well as information from the capital expenditure survey. For example, estimates for capital expenditure on 'equipment' are based on annual statistics of depreciable assets available from the Taxation Commissioner. Quarterly estimates are interpolated between and extrapolated from the annual taxation based estimates using a variety of indicators including this survey. The ABS's quarterly Building Activity Survey and Engineering Construction Survey are the main sources for estimating the National Accounts dwelling and non-dwelling construction items respectively.
- National Accounts estimates include capital expenditure by all private businesses including units classified to agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting and community services industries and capital expenditure on dwellings by households. Data for these sectors are excluded from this publication.
- National Accounts estimates include the value of work done on speculative construction projects as the work is put into place. The statistics in this publication, however, include full value of the speculative projects as new capital expenditure of the purchases (if in scope), when the project is sold.
- For equipment, the National Accounts estimates relate to acquisitions less disposals of all fixed tangible assets whereas the survey figures are acquisitions of new fixed tangible assets only.

35 For a more detailed explanation of the concepts and methods used in compiling the National Accounts estimates see *Australian National Accounts: Concepts, Sources and Methods* (Cat. no. 5216.0).

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

36 Users may also wish to refer the following publications:

- *Australian Business Expectations* (Cat. no. 5250.0)
- *Australian National Accounts. National Income, Expenditure and Product* (Cat. no. 5206.0)
- *Building Activity, Australia* (Cat. no. 8752.0)
- *Business Operations and Industry Performance, Australia* (Cat. no. 8140.0)
- *Company Profits, Australia* (Cat. no. 5651.0)
- *Directory of Capital Expenditure Data Sources and Related Statistics* (Cat. no. 5653.0)
- *Engineering Construction Activity, Australia* (Cat. no. 8762.0)
- *Introduction of Chain Volume Measures in the Australian National Accounts* (Cat. no. 5248.0)
- *State Estimates of Private New Capital Expenditure* (Cat. no. 5646.0)
- *Stocks and Sales, Selected Industries, Australia* (Cat. no. 5629.0).

37 Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products, Australia* (Cat. no. 1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Release Advice* (Cat. no. 1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The Catalogue and Release Advice are available from any ABS office.

UNPUBLISHED DATA

38 In addition to the data contained in this publication, more detailed industry information may be made available on request. For example, data are generally available at the ANZSIC group (3 digit) level.

SYMBOLS AND OTHER USAGES

ANZSIC Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification
n.y.a. not yet available

WHAT IF...? REVISIONS TO TREND ESTIMATES

EFFECT OF NEW SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ESTIMATES ON TREND ESTIMATES

Each time new seasonally adjusted estimates become available, trend estimates are revised (see paragraphs 28 and 33 of the Explanatory Notes).

TREND REVISIONS

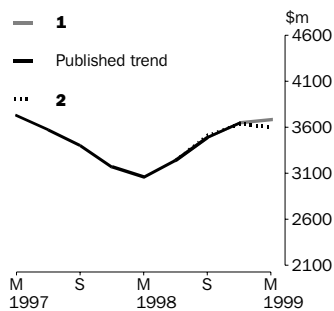
The examples in the tables below show two scenarios and the consequent revisions to previous trend estimates of capital expenditure by private businesses.

1 The March quarter seasonally adjusted estimate of chain volume measures is higher than the December quarter estimate by the percentage shown.

2 The March quarter seasonally adjusted estimate of chain volume measures is lower than the December quarter estimate by the percentage shown.

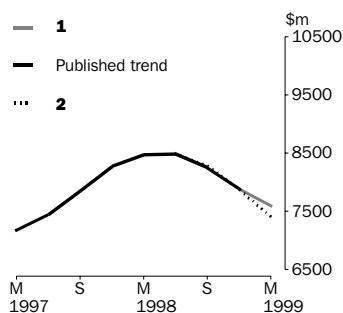
The percentages chosen are approximately the long term average movement, without regard to sign, in the seasonally adjusted series.

BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES



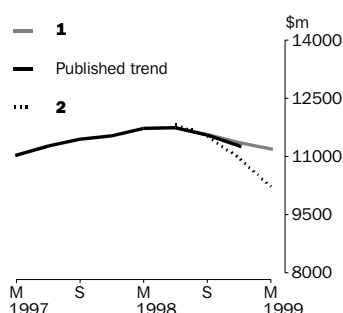
	TREND AS PUBLISHED		WHAT IF NEXT QUARTER'S SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ESTIMATE:			
	\$m	% change	1 <i>rises by 6.7% on Dec 1998</i>		2 <i>falls by 6.7% on Dec 1998</i>	
	\$m	% change	\$m	% change	\$m	% change
1998						
June	3 491	7.5	3 496	7.7	3 514	8.3
September	3 650	4.6	3 647	4.3	3 640	3.6
December	3 699	1.3	3 685	1.0	3 597	-1.2
1999						
March	—	—	3 637	-1.3	3 442	-4.3

EQUIPMENT, PLANT AND MACHINERY



	TREND AS PUBLISHED		WHAT IF NEXT QUARTER'S SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ESTIMATE:			
	\$m	% change	1 <i>rises by 4.9% on Dec 1998</i>		2 <i>falls by 4.9% on Dec 1998</i>	
	\$m	% change	\$m	% change	\$m	% change
1998						
June	8 248	-2.7	8 246	-2.8	8 287	-2.3
September	7 889	-4.4	7 895	-4.3	7 880	-4.9
December	7 500	-4.9	7 597	-3.8	7 397	-6.1
1999						
March	—	—	7 394	-2.7	6 934	-6.2

TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE



	TREND AS PUBLISHED		WHAT IF NEXT QUARTER'S SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ESTIMATE:			
	\$m	% change	1 <i>rises by 4.4% on Dec 1998</i>		2 <i>falls by 4.4% on Dec 1998</i>	
	\$m	% change	\$m	% change	\$m	% change
1998						
June	11 739	0.1	11 733	0.1	11 818	0.8
September	11 554	-1.6	11 562	-1.5	11 532	-2.4
December	11 260	-2.5	11 366	-1.7	10 959	-5.0
1999						
March	—	—	11 189	-1.6	10 223	-6.7

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