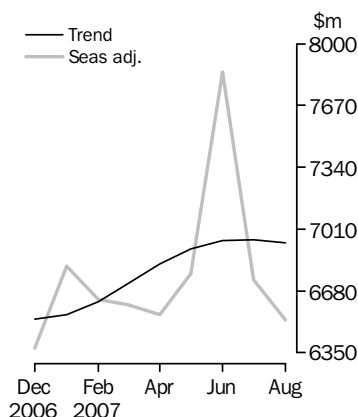


LENDING FINANCE

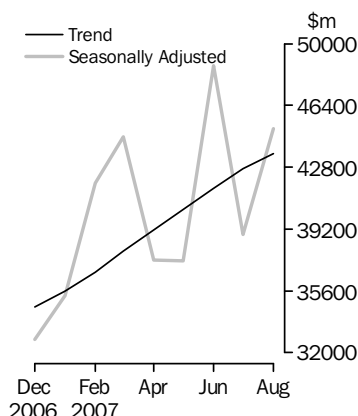
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Personal finance



Commercial finance



INQUIRIES

For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070 or Philip Beresford on Canberra (02) 6252 6052.

KEY FIGURES

	Jul 2007 \$m	Aug 2007 \$m	Jul 2007 to Aug 2007 % change
TREND ESTIMATES			
Housing finance for owner occupation	15 535	15 570	0.2
Personal finance	6 953	6 939	-0.2
Commercial finance	42 743	43 587	2.0
Lease finance	543	535	-1.4
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ESTIMATES			
Housing finance for owner occupation	15 063	15 315	1.7
Personal finance	6 739	6 524	-3.2
Commercial finance	38 868	45 074	16.0
Lease finance	537	549	2.3

KEY POINTS

AUGUST 2007 COMPARED WITH JULY 2007:

HOUSING FINANCE FOR OWNER OCCUPATION

- The total value of owner occupied housing commitments excluding alterations and additions increased by 1.7% (seasonally adjusted) while the trend series rose 0.2%.

PERSONAL FINANCE

- The seasonally adjusted series for the value of total personal finance commitments fell by 3.2%. This decrease was due to falls in both revolving credit commitments (down 5.7%) and fixed lending commitments (down 0.1%).
- The trend series for the value of total personal finance fell 0.2%, due to a fall in fixed lending commitments (down 0.9%), while revolving credit commitments rose (up 0.4%).

COMMERCIAL FINANCE

- The seasonally adjusted series for the value of total commercial finance commitments rose by 16.0%. This increase was due to a rise in both fixed lending commitments (up 22.1%) and revolving credit commitments (up 5.5%).
- The trend series for the value of total commercial finance commitments rose 2.0%. This was due to a rise in fixed lending commitments (up 4.1%) while revolving credit commitments fell (down 1.8%).

LEASE FINANCE

- Lease finance commitments (seasonally adjusted) increased by 2.3%. The lease finance trend series fell by 1.4%.

NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

ISSUE

RELEASE DATE

September 2007	12 November 2007
October 2007	12 December 2007
November 2007	21 January 2008
December 2007	13 February 2008
January 2008	12 March 2008
February 2008	15 April 2008

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REVISIONS

Revisions were made to include the latest available administrative and survey data.

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ABBREVIATIONS

\$m	million dollars
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
n.e.c.	not elsewhere classified
RBA	Reserve Bank of Australia

Brian Pink
Australian Statistician

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TIME SERIES DATA

TIME SERIES SPREADSHEETS

Data available free on the ABS web site <<http://www.abs.gov.au>> include:

- longer time series of tables in this publication, and
- the following tables:
 - C1a. Commercial finance commitments (original, seasonally adjusted, trend)
 - C1b. Commercial finance commitments, fixed loans and revolving credit
 - C1c. Commercial finance commitments, fixed loans and revolving credit by lender
 - C1d. Commercial finance commitments, fixed loans by industry
 - C1e. Commercial finance commitments, revolving credit by industry
 - C2 to C9. Commercial finance commitments, fixed loans and revolving credit by state and territory
 - L1a. Lease finance commitments, summary (original, seasonally adjusted, trend)
 - L1b. Lease finance commitments by purpose
 - L1c. Lease finance commitments by purpose and lender
 - L1d. Lease finance commitments by industry
 - L2 to L9. Lease finance commitments by purpose and state and territory
 - OL1b. Operating lease finance commitments by purpose
 - OL1c. Operating lease finance commitments by lender
 - OL1d. Operating lease finance commitments by industry
 - OL2 to OL9. Operating lease finance commitments by purpose and state and territory
 - P1a. Personal finance commitments, summary (original, seasonally adjusted, trend)
 - P1b. Personal finance commitments, fixed loans and revolving credit
 - P1c. Personal finance commitments, fixed loans and revolving credit by lender
 - P2 to P9. Personal finance commitments, fixed loans and revolving credit by state and territory
 - 13. Lending Finance Seasonal Factors and Forward Factors for 12 months, By Purpose and Lender: Australia (from January 1985)

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

HOUSING FINANCE FOR OWNER OCCUPATION

The total value of owner occupied housing commitments excluding alterations and additions increased 1.7% (seasonally adjusted), while the trend series rose 0.2%.

For further information, please refer to Housing Finance, Australia (cat. no. 5609.0).

PERSONAL FINANCE

In seasonally adjusted terms, the value of total personal finance commitments fell 3.2% in August 2007 compared with July 2007. This decrease was due to a fall in both revolving credit commitments (down 5.7%) and fixed lending commitments (down 0.1%).

In trend terms, the value of total personal finance fell 0.2% in August 2007. The trend series decreased in fixed lending commitments (down 0.9%), while revolving credit commitments rose (up 0.4%).

In original terms, fixed lending commitments increased by \$106m (up 3.5%) in August 2007 compared with July 2007.

Movements in the original series contributing to this increase were:

- Refinancing, up \$56m (8.7%)
- Other, up \$28m (3.8%)
- Individual Residential Blocks of Land, up \$27m (5.5%)

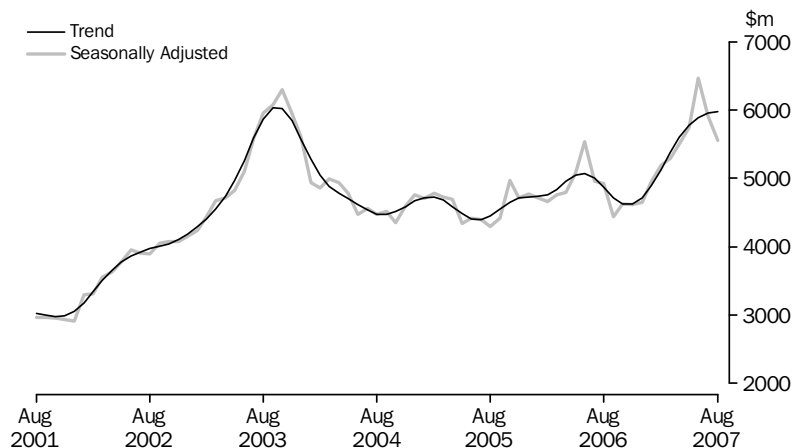
COMMERCIAL FINANCE

The seasonally adjusted series for the value of total commercial finance commitments rose by 16.0% in August 2007. This increase was due to a rise in both fixed lending commitments (up 22.1%) and revolving credit commitments (up 5.5%).

The trend series for the value of total commercial finance commitments rose 2.0% in August 2007. This was due to a rise in fixed lending commitments (up 4.1%), while revolving credit commitments fell (down 1.8%).

The value of purchases of dwellings by individuals for rent or resale (seasonally adjusted) fell 5.9% in August 2007, after an decrease of 8.6% in July 2007. The trend series rose 0.3% in August 2007.

PURCHASE OF DWELLINGS BY INDIVIDUALS FOR RENT OR RESALE



LEASE FINANCE

The value of lease finance commitments (seasonally adjusted) increased by 2.3% in August 2007. The trend series for lease finance commitments fell by 1.4%.

FINANCE COMMITMENTS, Summary

Month	SECURED HOUSING(a)		PERSONAL(b)			COMMERCIAL			LEASE
	Construction and purchase of dwellings(c)	Alterations and additions	Fixed loans(c)	Revolving credit(d)	Total	Fixed loans(c)	Revolving credit(d)	Total	Total
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
ORIGINAL									
2006									
August	15 140	501	3 214	3 622	6 836	24 828	11 872	36 700	518
September	13 636	446	2 932	3 386	6 318	20 744	14 803	35 547	497
October	14 099	475	3 028	3 650	6 679	23 623	14 179	37 801	508
November	15 077	499	3 266	3 421	6 687	20 684	13 729	34 413	497
December	13 402	438	2 846	3 188	6 034	23 382	13 800	37 182	583
2007									
January	11 836	387	2 724	3 286	6 010	19 370	7 711	27 080	374
February	13 138	439	2 886	3 089	5 974	20 171	15 764	35 935	482
March	15 633	494	3 328	3 668	6 996	20 262	23 885	44 147	602
April	13 954	430	2 801	3 117	5 918	18 796	11 686	30 483	494
May	17 276	528	3 451	4 033	7 484	25 203	13 932	39 135	580
June	16 317	477	3 648	5 118	8 766	38 933	23 884	62 817	668
July	15 527	426	3 046	3 760	6 806	25 532	13 665	39 197	561
August	16 402	492	3 152	3 649	6 801	34 179	15 825	50 004	590
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED									
2006									
August	14 032	488	3 063	3 421	6 484	22 557	10 707	33 265	505
September	13 748	456	3 005	3 394	6 399	21 511	15 872	37 383	505
October	13 958	464	3 002	3 622	6 624	23 164	15 171	38 335	526
November	13 963	467	3 090	3 356	6 446	20 760	12 058	32 818	519
December	14 099	474	3 032	3 342	6 374	21 269	11 485	32 754	553
2007									
January	14 298	468	3 018	3 794	6 811	24 248	11 087	35 335	458
February	14 441	460	3 060	3 574	6 634	24 043	17 861	41 904	561
March	14 651	450	3 095	3 511	6 606	21 649	22 928	44 577	565
April	15 181	469	3 154	3 401	6 555	22 715	14 659	37 374	571
May	15 157	461	3 122	3 651	6 773	22 573	14 784	37 357	548
June	16 324	462	3 469	4 382	7 850	31 020	17 685	48 705	518
July	15 063	425	3 007	3 732	6 739	24 567	14 300	38 868	537
August	15 315	473	3 005	3 519	6 524	29 988	15 087	45 074	549
TREND									
2006									
August	14 046	479	3 061	3 443	6 504	21 854	11 067	32 922	521
September	14 000	474	3 051	3 422	6 473	21 886	11 172	33 058	514
October	13 963	470	3 035	3 444	6 479	22 020	11 345	33 365	511
November	13 986	466	3 028	3 480	6 508	22 190	11 751	33 941	514
December	14 077	465	3 030	3 498	6 528	22 282	12 380	34 662	522
2007									
January	14 258	464	3 046	3 509	6 555	22 404	13 195	35 599	531
February	14 523	464	3 078	3 543	6 621	22 628	14 067	36 695	540
March	14 812	462	3 119	3 602	6 721	23 109	14 793	37 902	546
April	15 082	459	3 153	3 673	6 825	23 887	15 259	39 146	549
May	15 298	457	3 172	3 734	6 906	24 902	15 464	40 366	549
June	15 448	455	3 170	3 780	6 950	26 082	15 511	41 592	545
July	15 535	455	3 153	3 800	6 953	27 251	15 492	42 743	543
August	15 570	455	3 124	3 814	6 939	28 380	15 206	43 587	535

(a) For owner occupation.

(d) New and increased credit limits during the month. Includes credit cards.

(b) Includes unsecured housing finance for owner occupation.

(c) Includes refinancing.

HOUSING AND PERSONAL FINANCE COMMITMENTS, By Lender: **Original**

Month	HOUSING FINANCE(a)					PERSONAL FINANCE(b)				
	Banks	Permanent building societies	Wholesale lenders n.e.c.	Other lenders	Total	Banks	Credit co- operatives	Finance companies	Other lenders	Total
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
2006										
August	11 972	412	1 996	761	15 140	5 563	283	270	721	6 836
September	10 870	345	1 698	723	13 636	4 955	272	256	835	6 318
October	11 147	351	1 882	718	14 099	5 347	274	273	785	6 679
November	12 087	366	1 941	684	15 077	5 199	319	265	904	6 687
December	10 924	276	1 581	620	13 402	4 744	257	239	794	6 034
2007										
January	9 610	272	1 413	541	11 836	4 505	255	275	975	6 010
February	10 463	335	1 732	608	13 138	4 708	276	260	731	5 974
March	12 415	376	2 146	697	15 633	5 489	318	287	903	6 996
April	11 108	320	1 889	637	13 954	4 611	258	238	811	5 918
May	13 699	439	2 315	822	17 276	6 051	316	290	827	7 484
June	13 157	344	2 083	732	16 317	7 319	316	267	864	8 766
July	12 266	400	2 130	730	15 527	5 329	291	264	922	6 806
August	13 104	433	2 036	829	16 402	5 426	287	262	826	6 801

(a) Secured finance for owner occupation. Excludes alterations and additions.

(b) Includes unsecured housing finance for owner occupation.

COMMERCIAL AND LEASE FINANCE COMMITMENTS, By Lender: **Original**

Month	COMMERCIAL FINANCE					LEASE FINANCE				
	Banks	Money market corporations	Finance companies	Other lenders	Total	Banks	General financiers	Finance companies	Other lessors	Total
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
2006										
August	31 765	np	403	np	36 700	173	132	99	115	518
September	32 292	np	384	np	35 547	174	130	85	108	497
October	34 697	np	380	np	37 801	169	141	87	111	508
November	29 537	np	402	np	34 413	156	134	91	115	497
December	32 135	np	382	np	37 182	244	145	79	115	583
2007										
January	24 236	np	357	np	27 080	127	99	66	82	374
February	29 291	np	445	np	35 935	181	116	74	111	482
March	np	np	424	np	44 147	218	172	82	129	602
April	26 027	np	429	np	30 483	178	132	76	109	494
May	34 558	np	438	np	39 135	216	149	84	130	580
June	56 480	np	479	np	62 817	233	164	124	146	668
July	34 507	np	371	np	39 197	168	179	85	129	561
August	np	np	437	4 039	50 004	193	184	82	132	590

np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated

PERSONAL FINANCE COMMITMENTS, By Purpose (Fixed Loans): **Original**

	<i>New motor cars and station wagons</i>	<i>Used motor cars and station wagons</i>	<i>Total motor vehicles(a)</i>	<i>Individual residential blocks of land</i>	<i>Unsecured finance for owner occupa- tion(b)</i>	<i>Debt consolidation</i>	<i>Refinancing</i>	<i>Other(c)</i>	Total
<i>Month</i>	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
2006									
August	312	445	832	412	39	362	812	757	3 214
September	296	412	774	372	42	301	718	724	2 932
October	303	438	812	389	47	319	697	765	3 028
November	319	426	821	385	55	360	756	888	3 266
December	278	356	700	383	38	295	623	807	2 846
2007									
January	314	426	808	336	31	273	575	700	2 724
February	314	414	799	387	37	302	569	791	2 886
March	342	451	872	441	43	364	675	933	3 328
April	272	366	713	403	37	291	601	757	2 801
May	336	441	871	513	42	376	743	907	3 451
June	326	417	827	528	39	387	867	999	3 648
July	310	438	831	489	36	309	650	731	3 046
August	301	451	838	516	36	297	706	759	3 152

(a) Includes motorcycles and other motor vehicles.

(b) Includes alterations and additions.

(c) Includes boats, caravans and trailers, household goods, travel and holidays and other purposes.

PERSONAL FINANCE COMMITMENTS, Revolving Credit Stocks and Flows: **Original**

	NEW AND INCREASED CREDIT LIMITS			CANCELLATIONS AND REDUCTIONS	CREDIT AT END OF MONTH	
	Secured	Unsecured	Total	Total	Total limits(a)	Credit used
Month	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
.....						
2006						
August	1 759	1 863	3 622	1 676	222 150	104 650
September	1 630	1 756	3 386	1 642	223 899	104 718
October	1 632	2 018	3 650	1 807	225 745	104 976
November	1 579	1 842	3 421	1 617	227 655	105 520
December	1 553	1 636	3 188	1 368	229 489	106 321
2007						
January	1 360	1 926	3 286	1 492	231 280	106 441
February	1 307	1 781	3 089	1 432	232 943	107 582
March	1 710	1 958	3 668	1 565	235 049	107 851
April	1 484	1 632	3 117	1 408	236 739	108 689
May	2 211	1 823	4 033	1 725	239 086	109 709
June	3 222	1 896	5 118	1 632	242 582	112 405
July	1 708	2 052	3 760	1 798	244 543	111 275
August	1 840	1 809	3 649	1 918	246 279	111 190

(a) This figure sometimes reflects a rebasing of the data by one or more lenders without adjustment to earlier periods' commitments or cancellations.

COMMERCIAL FINANCE COMMITMENTS, By Purpose (Fixed Loans): **Original**

	<i>Construction finance</i>	<i>Purchase of real property</i>	<i>Wholesale finance</i>	<i>Purchase of plant and equipment</i>	<i>Refinancing</i>	<i>Other</i>	Total	<i>Commitments not drawn at end of month</i>
<i>Month</i>	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
2006								
August	1 758	7 241	901	1 815	1 670	11 443	24 828	47 281
September	2 697	6 462	np	1 605	1 808	np	20 744	39 843
October	1 515	6 637	797	1 407	2 887	10 380	23 623	39 839
November	1 868	7 745	1 057	1 366	1 572	7 075	20 684	39 616
December	2 124	6 912	579	1 383	2 932	9 452	23 382	42 632
2007								
January	999	6 194	833	1 140	1 585	8 619	19 370	42 020
February	1 046	6 988	np	1 495	1 643	np	20 171	39 591
March	1 822	7 791	1 047	1 281	1 251	7 071	20 262	42 876
April	878	7 072	801	1 161	1 379	7 504	18 796	39 164
May	1 227	8 673	968	1 758	1 905	10 672	25 203	41 084
June	2 395	11 572	882	1 380	3 154	19 549	38 933	47 412
July	1 624	8 944	1 176	1 258	1 842	10 689	25 532	48 432
August	3 879	10 299	np	1 881	2 562	np	34 179	50 138

np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated

LEASE AND COMMERCIAL FINANCE COMMITMENTS, Stocks and Flows: **Original**

	<u>LEASE FINANCE</u>		<u>COMMERCIAL REVOLVING CREDIT</u>			
	<i>Total commitments</i>	<i>Commitments not drawn at end of month</i>	<i>New and increased credit limits</i>	<i>Cancellations and reductions</i>	<i>Total credit limits at end of month(a)</i>	<i>Credit used at end of month</i>
<i>Month</i>	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
2006						
August	518	516	11 872	7 019	312 045	169 715
September	497	511	14 803	8 187	318 735	173 923
October	508	513	14 179	8 932	323 904	175 844
November	497	530	13 729	8 601	328 997	176 555
December	583	531	13 800	8 394	334 397	176 008
2007						
January	374	508	7 711	7 629	334 509	178 887
February	482	516	15 764	6 771	343 457	185 846
March	602	526	23 885	16 048	351 210	188 286
April	494	539	11 686	5 837	357 149	194 184
May	580	551	13 932	8 738	362 331	195 923
June	668	577	23 884	11 938	374 215	201 873
July	561	535	13 665	10 732	377 102	202 776
August	590	540	15 825	8 243	384 820	211 348

(a) This figure sometimes reflects a rebasing of the data by one or more lenders without adjustment to earlier periods' commitments or cancellations.

FINANCE COMMITMENTS, For Housing (Owner Occupation and Commercial)

Month	OWNER OCCUPATION (SECURED FINANCE)				OWNER OCCUPATION (UNSECURED FINANCE)	COMMERCIAL FINANCE(a)			ALL HOUSING FINANCE
	Construction of dwellings	Purchase of new dwellings	Purchase of established dwellings	Alterations and additions	Total(b)	Construction of dwellings for rent or resale	Purchase of dwellings by individuals for rent or resale	Purchase of dwellings by others for rent or resale	Total
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
ORIGINAL									
2006									
August	1 256	748	13 136	501	39	500	5 211	454	21 847
September	1 061	645	11 930	446	42	580	4 418	598	19 720
October	1 091	661	12 348	475	47	371	4 469	409	19 869
November	1 124	720	13 234	499	55	396	4 911	613	21 552
December	984	644	11 774	438	38	792	4 388	651	19 708
2007									
January	898	587	10 351	387	31	318	4 110	551	17 233
February	947	710	11 481	439	37	432	4 678	881	19 606
March	1 105	850	13 679	494	43	650	5 594	483	22 896
April	960	680	12 314	430	37	264	5 098	503	20 286
May	1 280	927	15 069	528	42	489	6 588	733	25 656
June	1 201	922	14 194	477	39	1 068	7 090	1 158	26 149
July	1 198	866	13 463	426	36	489	5 915	773	23 166
August	1 297	898	14 207	492	36	536	5 946	767	24 180
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED									
2006									
August	1 093	711	12 228	488	39	503	4 924	461	20 447
September	1 062	664	12 022	456	42	528	4 437	611	19 822
October	1 078	682	12 198	464	49	404	4 631	448	19 953
November	1 080	691	12 192	467	48	479	4 615	565	20 136
December	1 070	639	12 389	474	37	632	4 651	577	20 471
2007									
January	1 095	722	12 481	468	36	494	4 952	685	20 934
February	1 078	759	12 605	460	38	472	5 192	968	21 572
March	1 082	783	12 786	450	38	521	5 286	474	21 420
April	1 079	742	13 359	469	41	317	5 496	616	22 120
May	1 109	797	13 252	461	39	513	5 745	701	22 617
June	1 160	921	14 243	462	41	735	6 461	896	24 919
July	1 101	831	13 131	425	38	549	5 907	738	22 721
August	1 139	849	13 328	473	37	542	5 561	772	22 700
TREND									
2006									
August	1 072	704	12 271	479	42	502	4 870	482	20 420
September	1 079	686	12 236	474	43	505	4 720	499	20 241
October	1 081	676	12 206	470	43	511	4 624	538	20 149
November	1 080	678	12 228	466	43	512	4 626	586	20 220
December	1 078	689	12 310	465	41	504	4 721	628	20 435
2007									
January	1 078	708	12 472	464	40	492	4 893	658	20 805
February	1 082	734	12 707	464	39	486	5 124	678	21 312
March	1 089	763	12 960	462	38	485	5 375	693	21 864
April	1 098	791	13 193	459	39	495	5 600	704	22 379
May	1 109	816	13 373	457	39	519	5 775	719	22 808
June	1 119	837	13 492	455	39	548	5 893	742	23 125
July	1 127	853	13 555	455	39	575	5 957	764	23 325
August	1 135	865	13 570	455	39	593	5 974	779	23 410

(a) Excludes revolving credit.

(b) Includes alterations and additions.

FINANCE COMMITMENTS, For Motor Vehicles: **Original**

	PERSONAL FINANCE(a)					COMMERCIAL	LEASE	ALL VEHICLE
						FINANCE (a)	FINANCE	FINANCE
	<i>New motor cars and station wagons</i>	<i>Used motor cars and station wagons</i>	<i>Motorcycles</i>	<i>Other motor vehicles</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>Month</i>	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
2006								
August	312	445	24	52	832	658	251	1 741
September	296	412	22	44	774	613	248	1 635
October	303	438	23	48	812	651	249	1 711
November	319	426	23	53	821	676	244	1 741
December	278	356	21	44	700	636	263	1 598
2007								
January	314	426	20	48	808	510	179	1 498
February	314	414	21	49	799	614	212	1 626
March	342	451	24	55	872	681	263	1 815
April	272	366	21	54	713	665	208	1 586
May	336	441	25	68	871	716	261	1 848
June	326	417	21	63	827	735	309	1 871
July	310	438	21	62	831	633	277	1 741
August	301	451	24	62	838	663	285	1 786

(a) Excludes revolving credit.

LEASE FINANCE COMMITMENTS, For Motor Vehicles: **Original**

<i>Month</i>	MOTOR CARS AND STATION WAGONS		LIGHT TRUCKS		HEAVY TRUCKS		OTHER MOTOR VEHICLES	ALL VEHICLES
	<i>New</i>	<i>Used</i>	<i>New</i>	<i>Used</i>	<i>New</i>	<i>Used</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
2006								
August	164	46	16	5	9	3	7	251
September	168	43	14	4	11	3	6	248
October	157	42	18	11	11	4	6	249
November	162	42	10	9	14	2	6	244
December	193	38	11	4	10	2	4	263
2007								
January	125	32	9	2	6	1	4	179
February	146	40	12	4	7	2	2	212
March	178	46	14	4	9	2	10	263
April	142	39	12	3	7	2	5	208
May	173	47	14	3	9	6	10	261
June	200	50	20	4	14	np	np	309
July	186	47	15	3	9	7	10	277
August	195	48	16	3	9	np	np	285

np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated

COMMERCIAL AND LEASE FINANCE COMMITMENTS, For Plant and Equipment(a): **Original**

<i>Month</i>	COMMERCIAL FINANCE(b)			LEASE FINANCE	ALL PLANT AND EQUIPMENT FINANCE
	<i>Transport equipment</i>	<i>Other plant and equipment</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
2006					
August	86	1 071	1 157	267	1 424
September	87	905	992	249	1 240
October	77	679	756	259	1 015
November	108	582	690	253	943
December	99	649	748	321	1 068
2007					
January	181	449	630	195	825
February	77	804	880	270	1 150
March	100	500	600	339	940
April	82	414	496	286	782
May	145	896	1 041	319	1 361
June	127	518	645	359	1 004
July	140	485	625	284	909
August	137	1 082	1 218	305	1 523

(a) Excludes motor vehicles (see tables 9 and 10).

(b) Excludes revolving credit.

LEASE FINANCE COMMITMENTS, For Plant and Equipment: **Original**

	<i>Transport equipment (a)</i>	<i>Construction and earthmoving equipment</i>	<i>Agricultural machinery and equipment</i>	<i>Manu- facturing equipment</i>	<i>Electronic data processing equipment</i>	<i>Office machines</i>	<i>Shop and office furniture, fittings and equipment</i>	<i>Other goods</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>Month</i>	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
2006									
August	10	32	14	10	71	55	22	51	267
September	6	28	8	10	73	56	15	52	249
October	12	19	12	12	84	56	18	47	259
November	9	32	10	15	59	62	16	48	253
December	10	44	10	18	84	51	28	76	321
2007									
January	8	27	11	13	42	35	13	46	195
February	10	36	11	11	60	60	33	50	270
March	11	49	9	14	86	62	19	90	339
April	16	36	11	8	48	53	34	79	286
May	43	30	10	18	77	62	20	59	319
June	15	48	21	15	82	61	33	85	359
July	32	25	7	13	77	65	18	47	284
August	13	45	9	13	95	56	17	57	305

(a) Excludes motor vehicles (see tables 9 and 10).

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

- 1** This publication presents statistics of finance commitments made by significant lenders for the purposes of secured housing finance for owner occupation, other personal finance, commercial finance and lease finance.
- 2** *Secured housing finance for owner occupation* is secured finance to individuals for the purchase or construction of dwellings for owner occupation, and for alterations and additions to existing owner occupied dwellings. Refinancing involving a change of lender is also included, while refinancing with the same lender is excluded from all estimates.
- 3** *Personal finance*, other than secured housing finance for owner occupation, is finance provided to individuals for their personal, non-business, use. Both fixed loans and revolving credit finance are included.
- 4** *Commercial finance* is finance provided to individuals and corporations for business or investment purposes, including for the construction or purchase of dwellings for rental or resale. Fixed loans, revolving credit and commercial hire purchase are included.
- 5** *Lease finance* includes finance and leverage leases. Operating lease finance statistics are provided as spreadsheets on Details tab of this issue.

SCOPE

- 6** Finance commitments made by the following types of lenders are included:
 - Banks
 - Permanent building societies
 - Credit unions/cooperative credit societies
 - Life or general insurance companies
 - General government enterprises
 - Superannuation funds
 - Securitised mortgage assets (wholesale lenders) which provide funds to borrowers through a retail intermediary (e.g. mortgage originators)
 - Other Registered Financial Corporations. (RFCs).

COVERAGE

- 7** The statistics cover all bank commitments, and all commitments for secured housing finance for owner occupation made by permanent building societies. Of the remaining commitments, the largest lenders for each of secured housing finance for owner occupation, other personal finance, commercial finance and lease finance are covered, so that when calculated separately for each of the four broad categories of purpose finance, at least 95% of Australia-wide finance commitments and at least 90% of each state's finance commitments are covered. While many lenders other than banks are not covered, at least 70% coverage is maintained for all published lender types (including the Other Lenders series and Other Lessors series).
- 8** An annual collection is conducted to maintain and update the survey coverage. New lenders are included as their lending for any of the four categories of finance becomes sufficiently large.
- 9** From June 2001, the statistics for:
 - secured housing finance for owner occupation cover all commitments by banks and permanent building societies, and commitments by all other lenders which provided more than \$50m for housing finance in 2000
 - personal finance cover all commitments by banks, and commitments by all other lenders which provided more than \$96m for personal finance in 2000.
- 10** From June 2002, the statistics for:
 - commercial finance cover all commitments by banks, and commitments by all other lenders which provided more than \$484m for commercial finance in 2001
 - lease finance cover all commitments by banks, and commitments by all other lenders which provided funds of more than \$31m for lease finance in 2001.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

COVERAGE *continued*

11 Additional smaller lenders are also covered where it is necessary to maintain collection coverage (as specified in paragraph 7).

SOURCES

12 For banks, credit cooperatives, building societies and RFCs, the statistics in this publication are currently derived from returns submitted to the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA). The Financial Sector (Collection of Data) Act 2001 facilitates the collection of statistical data from the financial sector, with APRA established as the central point for collection of both prudential and statistical data. In October 2001, APRA implemented new reporting forms for building societies and credit cooperatives. New reporting forms were implemented for banks in March 2002, and for RFCs in March 2003. APRA commenced collecting loan commitments data from banks, credit cooperatives, building societies in July 2002 and from RFCs in March 2003.

13 Secured housing finance commitments for owner occupied housing from banks, building societies and credit cooperatives are derived from form ARF 392.0 Housing Finance collected by APRA. Personal finance commitments from these lenders are sourced from the ARF 394.0 Personal Finance. Commercial finance commitments from these lenders are sourced from the ARF 391.0 Commercial Finance and from the ARF 394.0 Personal Finance for fixed loans for personal investment purposes. Lease finance commitments are sourced from the ARF 393.0 Lease Finance.

14 Finance commitments for RFCs are collected on the RRF 391.0 Commercial Finance (commercial finance commitments), RRF 392.0 Housing Finance (secured housing finance commitments for owner occupied housing), RRF 393.0 Lease Finance (lease finance commitments) and RRF 394.0 Personal Finance (personal finance commitments and commercial finance commitments).

15 Electronic versions of the forms and instructions for ADIs are available on the APRA web site at <http://www.apra.gov.au/Statistics/Revised-Authorised-Deposit-taking-Institution-ADI-reporting-requirements.cfm>. For RFCs, these are available at: <http://www.apra.gov.au/rfc/>.

16 All other institutions, including securitisation vehicles, are collected directly by the ABS.

REVISIONS

17 Revisions to previously published statistics are included in the publication as they occur.

18 Changes in the classification of lenders (e.g. the conversion of a permanent building society to a bank) are reflected in the Lender series from the month of the change. Data for earlier periods for such lenders are not reclassified. Details of the establishment of new banks are published in the Reserve Bank of Australia's monthly *Bulletin* in the section on Technical Notes to Tables.

SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT

19 Seasonal adjustment is a means of removing the estimated effects of normal seasonal variation and 'trading day effects'. A 'trading day effect' reflects the varying amounts of activity on different days of the week and the different number of days of the week in any month (i.e. the number of Sundays, Mondays, etc.). This effect may be partly caused by the reporting practices of the lenders. Adjustment is also made for Easter which may affect the March and April estimates differently. Trading day effects are removed from the original estimates prior to the seasonal adjustment process. Seasonal adjustment does not remove the effect of irregular or non-seasonal influences (e.g. a change in interest rates) from the seasonally adjusted series.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT

continued

20 The lending finance series uses a concurrent seasonal adjustment methodology to derive the seasonal adjustment factors. This means that original estimates available at the current reference month are used to estimate seasonal factors for the current and previous months. As a result of this methodology, the seasonally adjusted and trend estimates for earlier periods can be revised each month. However, in most instances, the only noticeable revisions will be to the previous month and the same month a year ago.

TREND ESTIMATES

21 Smoothing seasonally adjusted series reduces the impact of the irregular component of the seasonally adjusted series and creates trend estimates. These trend estimates are derived by applying a 13 term Henderson-weighted moving average to all but the last six months of the respective seasonally adjusted series. Trend series are created for the last six months by applying surrogates of the Henderson moving average to the seasonally adjusted series. For further information, refer to *Information Paper: A Guide to Interpreting Time Series—Monitoring Trends: An Overview* (cat. no. 1349.0) or contact the Assistant Director, Time Series Analysis on Canberra (02) 6252 6345 or by email at <timeseries@abs.gov.au>.

22 While the smoothing technique described in paragraph 21 enables trend estimates to be produced for the latest few months, it does result in revisions to the trend estimates as new data become available. Generally, revisions become smaller over time and, after three months, usually have a negligible impact on the series. Changes in the original data and re-estimation of seasonal factors may also lead to revisions to the trend.

EFFECTS OF ROUNDING

23 Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals. Percentage changes presented in the commentary are based on unrounded data and may differ slightly from percentage changes calculated from the rounded data presented in the tables in this publication.

ABS DATA AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

24 Estimates for months prior to those shown in this publication and more detailed series are available in spreadsheet format from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) web site. For more information, contact the ABS National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070.

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

25 Users may also wish to refer to the following ABS releases:

- *Housing Finance, Australia* (cat. no. 5609.0)
- *Assets and Liabilities of Australian Securitised* (cat. no. 5232.0.0.55.001)
- *Building Approvals, Australia* (cat. no. 8731.0)
- *Dwelling Unit Commencements, Australia, Preliminary* (cat. no. 8750.0) - issued monthly
- *Private New Capital Expenditure and Expected Expenditure, Australia* (cat. no. 5625.0)
- *Sales of New Motor Vehicles, Australia Electronic Publication* (cat. no. 9314.0).

26 In addition, the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) produces the monthly *Reserve Bank of Australia Bulletin*, the tables of which are available on the RBA web site <<http://www.rba.gov.au>>. The Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA) also publishes a range of finance statistics on its web site <<http://www.apra.gov.au>>.

27 Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products* (cat. no. 1101.0). The *Catalogue* is available from any ABS office or the ABS web site <<http://www.abs.gov.au>>. The ABS also issues a daily Release Advice on the web site which details products to be released in the week ahead.

GLOSSARY

Agricultural machinery and equipment	Includes tractors, tillage implements, seeding, planting and fertilising equipment, agricultural mowers, harvesters, etc.
Alterations and additions	Comprises all structural and non-structural changes which are integral to the functional and structural design of a dwelling. Examples are garages, carports, pergolas, reroofing, recladding, etc. Alterations and additions do not include swimming pools, ongoing repairs, or maintenance and home improvements which do not involve building work.
Commitment	Is a firm offer of finance. It either has been, or is normally expected to be, accepted. Commitments accepted and cancelled in the same month are included. Commitments to non-residents are excluded.
Construction and earth moving equipment	Includes concrete mixers and pumpers, dozers, graders, mobile cranes, crawler tractors, dumpers, road rollers, earth packers, scarifiers, rippers, etc.
Construction of dwellings	Comprises commitments made to individuals to finance, by way of progress payments, the construction of owner occupied dwellings.
Debt consolidation	For personal finance, comprises commitments whose principle purpose is to consolidate and pay out amounts owing by the borrower to third parties.
Dwelling	Is a single self-contained place of residence such as a detached or semidetached house, a terrace house, a flat, home unit, town house, etc. which includes bathing and cooking facilities.
Electronic data processing equipment	Includes computers, computer peripherals, data entry devices, word processing machines, etc.
Established dwelling	Is a dwelling that has been completed for 12 months or more prior to the lodgement of a loan application, or has been previously occupied.
Finance lease	Refers to the leasing or hiring of tangible assets under an agreement, other than a hire purchase agreement, which substantially transfers from the lessor to the lessee all the risks and benefits incident to ownership of the asset without transferring the legal ownership.
Fixed loans	Generally involve: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ a commitment for a fixed amount for a fixed period for a specific purpose ■ a schedule of repayments over a fixed period ■ repayments which reduce the liability of the borrower but do not act to make further finance available.
Heavy trucks	Comprises all vehicles with a gross combination mass rating in excess of 3.5 tonnes, including prime movers registered without trailers.
Light trucks	Comprises vehicles constructed primarily for the carriage of goods which do not exceed 3.5 tonnes gross vehicle mass such as utilities, panel vans, trucks, cab-chassis, forward control vans and four-wheel drives used to carry goods.
Manufacturing equipment	Includes all plant and equipment used in the manufacture of goods except motor vehicles such as forklifts, work trucks and tractors.
Motor cars and station wagons	Includes cars, station wagons, four-wheel drive and forward control passenger vehicles with up to nine seats (including the driver).
Motorcycles	Includes two and three wheeled motorcycles and mopeds, scooters and motorcycles with side cars.
New dwelling	Is a dwelling that has been completed within 12 months of the lodgement of a loan application, and the borrower will be the first occupant.
Office machines	Includes telephone systems (including PABX equipment), facsimile machines, cash registers, photocopiers, etc.

GLOSSARY *continued*

Purpose	Of the loan is that specified by the borrower. Where possible multiple purpose loans are split and each component is reported in the appropriate purpose category. Otherwise the whole loan is classified to the major purpose.
Refinancing	For personal and commercial finance, represents a commitment to refinance an existing loan. For secured housing finance, only those loans where the refinancing lender is not the original lender and the security is unchanged are included. The refinancing of a loan to fund a change of residence is treated as a new lending commitment.
Revolving credit	Generally has the following characteristics: <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ a commitment for a credit or borrowing limit is given for a specific period after which the commitment is reviewed■ the extent of the borrowing used at any time during the period may be for any amount up to the authorised limit■ repayments (other than of charges and interest) made during the period reduce the extent of the borrowing used and thereby increase the amount of unused credit available up to the authorised limit. Examples include credit cards, lines of credit and approved overdrafts.
Secured credit limits	Includes overdrafts, lines of credit, credit cards, etc. backed by a mortgage or other assets owned by the borrower.
Secured housing finance	Comprises all secured commitments to individuals for the construction or purchase of dwellings for owner occupation, regardless of type of security. Commitments for housing that will be occupied by persons other than the owner(s) are excluded.
Total credit limits at end of month	Comprises total approved credit limits available at the end of the reference month. In principle, this can be derived by adding new and increased lending commitments during the month less cancellations and reductions of credit limits during the month to the balance of credit limits at the end of the previous month. In practice, however, revisions and other adjustments (such as the transfer of an existing fixed credit facility) will mean that such a derivation is inexact.
Wholesale finance	Comprises finance for the purchase of goods by retailers and wholesalers.

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