



# **MANUFACTURING PRODUCTION**

AUSTRALIA

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 EMBARGO: 11:30AM (CANBERRA TIME) FRI 12 MAY 2000

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- For further information about these and related statistics, contact Joanne Madden on Sydney 02 9268 4219, or the National Information Service on 1300 135 070.

## NOTES

### FORTHCOMING ISSUES

<i>ISSUE</i>	<i>RELEASE DATE</i>
June quarter 2000	11 August 2000
September quarter 2000	10 November 2000
December 2000	9 February 2001

### IN THIS ISSUE

This publication presents quarterly estimates of selected major indicators of manufacturing production for Australia.

More detailed and other commodity items are collected by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) and are available to users as a special data service, as are monthly series for a limited number of the data items contained in this publication. These data items are listed in paragraph 20 of the Explanatory Notes on page 7.

### EFFECTS OF ROUNDING

Estimates of change shown in this publication have been calculated using unrounded estimates and may be different from, but are more accurate than, movements obtained from the rounded estimates.

### ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS

ABARE	Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ADC	Australian Dairy Corporation
DISR	Department of Industry, Science and Resources
n.a.	not available
n.p.	not publishable
n.y.a.	not yet available
p	preliminary
r	figure or series revised since previous issue
—	nil or rounded to zero

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## 1

## QUARTERLY COMMODITY PRODUCTION: All series(a)

No.	Item and unit/Series	1998.....				1999.....				2000..				Percentage changes between latest quarter shown and....	
		Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	prev. quarter	same quarter prev. year
<b>1</b>	<b>Red meat</b> ('000 tonnes)														
	Original	725	737	752	760	742	740	748	r743	736			-1.0	-0.9	
	Seasonally adjusted	736	728	754	756	754	731	752	r739	747			1.1	-0.9	
	Trend	731	737	749	753	750	744	742	744	746			0.3	-0.6	
<b>2</b>	<b>Chicken meat</b> ('000 tonnes)														
	Original	138	139	143	142	141	139	142	151	151			-0.3	6.9	
	Seasonally adjusted	139	141	142	139	143	141	141	148	153			3.1	7.0	
	Trend	139	141	141	141	141	141	143	147	151			3.0	7.6	
<b>3</b>	<b>Cheese</b> (tonnes)														
	Original r	79 433	56 203	60 455	109 955	82 896	66 224	74 672	111 662	n.y.a.			49.5	1.6	
	Seasonally adjusted r	77 336	75 640	70 125	80 493	80 695	88 650	86 689	81 852	n.y.a.			-5.6	1.7	
	Trend	74 953	74 490	74 549	77 523	82 932	85 923	85 814	84 582	n.y.a.			-1.4	9.1	
<b>4</b>	<b>Butter</b> (tonnes)														
	Original	32 655	24 632	35 532	64 426	45 358	30 353	r38 016	66 838	n.y.a.			75.8	3.7	
	Seasonally adjusted	32 381	40 349	43 919	40 965	45 056	49 612	r46 875	42 538	n.y.a.			-9.3	3.8	
	Trend	40 347	40 788	41 686	43 257	45 657	47 081	46 621	44 607	n.y.a.			-4.3	3.1	
<b>5</b>	<b>Beer</b> (megalitres)														
	Original	428	397	403	517	430	379	424	521	409			-21.5	-4.8	
	Seasonally adjusted	440	438	433	438	436	419	461	439	412			-6.1	-5.5	
	Trend	439	437	437	433	433	438	441	436	427			-2.2	-1.3	
<b>6</b>	<b>Tobacco and cigarettes</b> (tonnes)														
	Original	4 919	5 809	5 904	4 555	5 198	5 388	5 142	5 517	5 169			-6.3	-0.6	
	Seasonally adjusted	5 615	5 666	5 221	4 745	5 815	5 239	4 635	5 694	5 759			1.1	-1.0	
	Trend	5 432	5 447	5 287	5 238	5 243	5 199	5 190	5 366	5 705			6.3	8.8	
<b>7</b>	<b>Newsprint</b> ('000 tonnes)														
	Original	100	102	105	100	95	100	92	95	98			3.0	2.5	
	Seasonally adjusted	101	100	103	102	96	98	90	98	96			-1.8	0.5	
	Trend	100	101	102	101	98	95	95	95	96			0.8	-2.0	
<b>8</b>	<b>Wood pulp</b> ('000 tonnes)														
	Original	235	240	225	223	209	214	212	212	221			3.9	5.6	
	Seasonally adjusted	237	235	230	221	211	210	217	210	223			6.4	5.7	
	Trend	241	235	228	220	214	211	213	216	218			1.2	2.1	
<b>9</b>	<b>Undressed sawn timber</b> ('000 m <sup>3</sup> )														
	Original	888	935	927	876	r886	r913	r1 029	939	n.y.a.			-8.7	7.2	
	Seasonally adjusted	933	921	870	907	r930	r898	r966	973	n.y.a.			0.8	7.3	
	Trend	923	910	898	898	910	929	948	972	n.y.a.			2.5	8.2	
<b>10</b>	<b>Hardwood woodchips</b> ('000 tonnes)														
	Original	1 428	1 473	1 233	1 125	1 179	1 319	1 500	1 469	1 524			3.8	29.3	
	Seasonally adjusted	1 463	1 417	1 218	1 158	1 209	1 263	1 483	1 513	1 563			3.3	29.3	
	Trend	1 440	1 370	1 260	1 175	1 196	1 306	1 425	1 517	1 581			4.2	32.2	
<b>11</b>	<b>Automotive gasoline</b> (megalitres)														
	Original	4 430	4 795	4 632	4 455	4 679	4 939	4 903	4 713	n.y.a.			-3.9	5.8	
	Seasonally adjusted	4 572	4 674	4 542	4 586	4 718	4 808	4 923	4 793	n.y.a.			-2.6	4.5	
	Trend	4 659	4 609	4 577	4 611	4 705	4 811	4 856	4 854	n.y.a.			-0.1	5.3	
<b>12</b>	<b>Fuel oil</b> (megalitres)														
	Original	412	385	422	429	377	407	350	486	n.y.a.			39.0	13.4	
	Seasonally adjusted	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.y.a.			n.p.	n.p.	
	Trend	407	401	408	417	398	383	401	438	n.y.a.			9.3	5.0	
<b>13</b>	<b>Aviation turbine fuel</b> (megalitres)														
	Original	1 411	1 235	1 330	1 315	1 288	1 286	1 350	1 419	n.y.a.			5.1	8.0	
	Seasonally adjusted	1 369	1 339	1 323	1 263	1 246	1 398	1 344	1 364	n.y.a.			1.5	8.0	
	Trend	1 360	1 343	1 309	1 271	1 261	1 289	1 331	1 359	n.y.a.			2.1	7.0	
<b>14</b>	<b>Automotive diesel oil</b> (megalitres)														
	Original	3 323	3 282	3 059	3 324	3 194	3 391	3 287	3 404	n.y.a.			3.5	2.4	
	Seasonally adjusted	3 378	3 246	3 130	3 257	3 239	3 353	3 373	3 273	n.y.a.			-3.0	0.5	
	Trend	3 315	3 258	3 198	3 206	3 277	3 328	3 336	3 324	n.y.a.			-0.4	3.7	

(a) Trend estimates shown may have been revised. See paragraph 15 of the Explanatory Notes.

No.	Item and unit/Series	1998.....			1999.....			2000..			Percentage changes between latest quarter shown and....	
		Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar	prev. quarter	same quarter prev. year
<b>15</b>	<b>Portland cement</b> ('000 tonnes)											
	Original	1 719	1 861	1 956	2 067	1 737	1 944	2 005	2 027	1 835	-9.5	5.6
	Seasonally adjusted	1 873	1 835	1 886	2 005	1 911	1 915	1 923	1 950	1 996	2.4	4.5
	Trend	1 830	1 870	1 911	1 940	1 941	1 920	1 925	1 955	1 983	1.5	2.2
<b>16</b>	<b>Clay bricks</b> (million)											
	Original	339	394	412	391	383	408	437	425	423	-0.5	10.4
	Seasonally adjusted	377	382	388	388	430	395	409	422	469	11.1	9.0
	Trend	381	379	388	400	407	406	412	429	457	6.5	12.4
<b>17</b>	<b>Ready mixed concrete</b> ('000 m <sup>3</sup> )											
	Original	4 302	4 477	4 889	4 850	4 251	4 611	5 187	5 260	5 038	-4.2	18.5
	Seasonally adjusted	4 636	4 495	4 654	4 729	4 579	4 632	4 938	5 128	5 425	5.8	18.5
	Trend	4 484	4 606	4 647	4 637	4 637	4 693	4 896	5 151	5 382	4.5	16.1
<b>18</b>	<b>Basic iron, spiegeleisen and sponge iron(b)</b> ('000 tonnes)											
	Original	1 950	1 987	1 951	1 834	1 841	1 827	1 972	1 507	1 503	-0.3	-18.3
	Seasonally adjusted	1 994	1 987	1 898	1 862	1 864	1 825	1 937	1 525	1 515	-0.6	-18.7
	Trend	2 009	1 969	1 914	1 866	1 850	1 868	1 887	1 533	1 529	-0.2	-17.3
<b>19</b>	<b>Blooms and slabs of iron or steel(b)</b> (‘000 tonnes)											
	Original	2 083	2 090	2 024	1 890	1 864	1 900	2 056	1 505	1 577	4.8	-15.4
	Seasonally adjusted	2 113	2 098	1 969	1 910	1 889	1 906	1 999	1 523	1 598	4.9	-15.4
	Trend	2 111	2 068	1 990	1 915	1 896	1 919	1 954	1 558	1 578	1.3	-16.8
<b>20</b>	<b>Alumina</b> ('000 tonnes)											
	Original	3 319	3 449	3 532	3 553	3 522	3 601	3 707	3 702	n.y.a.	-0.1	4.2
	Seasonally adjusted	3 367	3 429	3 516	3 539	3 608	3 579	3 659	3 717	n.y.a.	1.6	5.0
	Trend	3 395	3 435	3 497	3 552	3 581	3 612	3 654	3 695	n.y.a.	1.1	4.0
<b>21</b>	<b>Zinc</b> ('000 tonnes)											
	Original	74	79	81	78	79	85	90	84	n.y.a.	-6.7	7.7
	Seasonally adjusted	77	78	80	78	82	84	89	84	n.y.a.	-6.0	7.7
	Trend	77	78	78	79	82	84	86	86	n.y.a.	-0.1	8.3
<b>22</b>	<b>Silver</b> (tonnes)											
	Original	49	69	101	100	96	113	134	129	n.y.a.	-3.7	29.0
	Seasonally adjusted	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.y.a.	n.p.	n.p.
	Trend	54	71	91	101	105	112	125	137	n.y.a.	9.1	34.7
<b>23</b>	<b>Copper</b> ('000 tonnes)											
	Original	71	80	61	73	77	102	120	119	n.y.a.	-0.8	63.0
	Seasonally adjusted	79	72	59	76	86	92	116	124	n.y.a.	6.3	62.9
	Trend	71	69	68	72	83	98	111	124	n.y.a.	11.3	72.0
<b>24</b>	<b>Lead</b> ('000 tonnes)											
	Original	46	43	39	45	53	62	65	60	n.y.a.	-7.7	33.3
	Seasonally adjusted	45	40	42	46	52	58	70	61	n.y.a.	-13.2	33.7
	Trend	44	42	42	45	53	60	64	65	n.y.a.	1.6	43.5
<b>25</b>	<b>Tin</b> (tonnes)											
	Original	175	205	150	125	170	150	140	125	n.y.a.	-10.7	—
	Seasonally adjusted	167	185	162	142	161	130	152	142	n.y.a.	-6.0	0.6
	Trend	166	171	166	153	145	144	144	143	n.y.a.	-0.4	-6.4
<b>26</b>	<b>Gold</b> (tonnes)											
	Original	83	89	131	106	96	86	78	115	n.y.a.	47.4	8.5
	Seasonally adjusted	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.y.a.	n.p.	n.p.
	Trend(c)	87	88	93	98	94	89	89	95	n.y.a.	6.7	-3.6
<b>27</b>	<b>Electricity</b> (million kWh)											
	Original	43 241	44 281	46 084	43 235	45 084	45 227	46 785	44 591	46 040	3.2	2.1
	Seasonally adjusted	44 321	44 113	44 023	44 412	46 190	45 062	44 709	45 803	47 159	3.0	2.1
	Trend	44 287	44 096	44 228	44 828	45 267	45 233	45 263	45 799	46 760	2.1	3.3
<b>28</b>	<b>Gas</b> (petajoules)											
	Original	141	174	191	157	145	182	186	159	156	-1.5	7.8
	Seasonally adjusted	166	164	165	169	170	171	161	170	183	7.6	7.7
	Trend	164	165	166	169	170	167	167	171	178	4.0	5.0

(a) Trend estimates shown may have been revised. See paragraph 15 of the Explanatory Notes.

(b) A trend break for December quarter 1999 has been included in this series, due to an abnormal movement in the original series for that quarter.

(c) Due to abnormal movements in September quarter 1998 and December quarter 1999 in the production of gold, the trend has been modified to remove their effect. See also paragraphs 14–16 of the Explanatory Notes.

# EXPLANATORY NOTES

## INTRODUCTION

**1** This publication presents quarterly estimates of production of selected major manufacturing commodities for Australia.

## SCOPE AND COVERAGE

**2** Data presented in this publication are collected from a number of different sources. The prime source is ABS surveys of manufacturing production. Data are also obtained from surveys undertaken by the Department of Industry, Science and Resources (DISR), the Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics (ABARE), the Australian Dairy Corporation (ADC) and from ABS agriculture collections. Scope and coverage varies slightly depending on the source of the information.

**3** Production statistics sourced from ABS manufacturing production surveys are not collected from single establishment manufacturing businesses with fewer than four persons employed, nor from establishments predominantly engaged in non-manufacturing activities but which may carry out some manufacturing in a minor way. However, in general, the contribution of these small producers to statistical aggregates is only marginal, and data contained in this publication provide reliable information for the evaluation of movements in commodity production.

**4** The statistics of meat production include data collected from abattoirs and other major slaughtering establishments, and include estimates of animals slaughtered on farms and by country butchers and other small slaughtering establishments for human consumption. Further information about this series, including more detail, is available in the monthly publication *Livestock and Meat, Australia* (Cat. no. 7218.0) and in the quarterly publication *Livestock Products, Australia* (Cat. no. 7215.0).

**5** The statistics of chicken meat have been collected from commercial poultry slaughtering establishments. Many very small producers and Tasmanian producers are excluded from the collection; however, the statistics represent a high level of coverage. Further information about this series, including more detail, is available in the quarterly publication *Livestock Products, Australia* (Cat. no. 7215.0).

**6** Data of production of base metals and sawn timber are obtained from the ABARE publications *Mineral Statistics* and *Australian Forest Products Statistics*.

**7** Data of production of fuels are obtained from the DISR Petroleum and Fisheries Division publication *Australian Petroleum Statistics*.

**8** Data of production of cheese and butter are obtained from the ADC as unpublished data.

## COMPARABILITY WITH OTHER ESTIMATES

**9** The quarterly production statistics presented in this publication account, in total, for less than one-quarter of the output of the manufacturing sector. For information about general trends in the manufacturing sector, refer to the publications shown in paragraphs 10 and 11.

**10** Details of the value of manufacturers' sales and stocks are published quarterly in *Inventories and Sales, Selected Industries, Australia* (Cat. no. 5629.0). Information about the manufacturing sector's contribution to the Australian economy is published quarterly in *Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product* (Cat. no. 5206.0).

## COMPARABILITY WITH OTHER ESTIMATES *continued*

**11** Details from the ABS annual manufacturing collection are published in *Manufacturing Industry, Australia* (Cat. no. 8221.0) and corresponding State publications.

## SEASONALLY ADJUSTED AND TREND ESTIMATES

**12** In the seasonal adjustment process, account has been taken not only of normal seasonal factors but also, where appropriate, of 'working day' effects (arising from the varying numbers of Sundays, Mondays, Tuesdays, etc. in the quarter) which may, in successive years, affect figures for different quarters. Details of the methods used in seasonally adjusting these series are available on request.

**13** Seasonal adjustment procedures do not aim to remove the irregular or non-seasonal influences which may be present in any particular quarter, such as the non-systematic effect of strikes, holiday shutdowns, providers' inconsistent reporting periods (where, for example, a 'quarter' may variously represent 13 or 14 weeks production), or other factors which vary with the prevailing demand for products. Irregular influences that are highly volatile can make it difficult to interpret the movement of the series even after seasonal adjustment. Seasonally adjusted estimates of production for the series 21 Zinc, 23 Copper and 25 Tin are more volatile than other series. Seasonally adjusted estimates for 12 Fuel oil and 22 Silver are not sufficiently reliable to be published, while those for 26 Gold do not exhibit sufficient seasonal behaviour to be published.

**14** The smoothing of seasonally adjusted series to create trend estimates is a means of reducing the impact of the irregular component of the series. The trend estimates have been derived by applying a 7-term moving average to the quarterly seasonally adjusted series. The 7-term Henderson averages (like all Henderson averages) are 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 surrogate weights employed with the quarterly data have been tailored to suit the particular characteristics of individual series.

**15** 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 quarters as additional observations become available. Generally, subsequent revisions become smaller and after two quarters have little impact on the series. There will also be revisions as a result of changes to the original estimates and annual reviews of seasonal and 'working day' factors.

**16** Users may wish to refer to the ABS's *Information Paper: A Guide to Interpreting Time Series — Monitoring 'Trends', an Overview* (Cat. no. 1348.0) for more detailed information on smoothing of seasonally adjusted time series data.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

**17** ABS publications draw extensively on information provided freely by individuals, businesses, governments and other organisations. Their continued cooperation is very much appreciated: without it, the wide range of statistics published by the ABS would not be available. Information received by the ABS is treated in strict confidence as required by the *Census and Statistics Act 1905*.

## RELATED PUBLICATIONS

- 18** Other ABS publications which may be of interest are:
- *Australian Mining Industry* (Cat. no. 8414.0) issued annually
  - *Information Paper: Availability of Statistics Related to Manufacturing, 1997* (Cat. no. 8205.0), released on 16 January 1998
  - *Livestock and Meat, Australia* (Cat. no. 7218.0) issued monthly
  - *Livestock Products, Australia* (Cat. no. 7215.0) issued quarterly
  - *Manufacturing, Australia, 1999* (Cat. no. 8225.0) released on 16 December 1999
  - *Manufacturing Industry, Australia, 1997-98* (Cat. no. 8221.0) released on 13 September 1999
  - *Manufacturing Industry, Australia, Preliminary, 1998-99* (Cat. no. 8201.0) released on 30 March 2000
  - *Manufacturing Production, Australia: Commodities Produced, 1997-98* (Cat. no. 8365.0) released on 16 December 1999

## OTHER PUBLISHED STATISTICS

**19** Some annual manufacturing production series which mainly relate to textiles, clothing, footwear and food were last published in the June quarter 1999 and September quarter 1999 issues of this publication. These series are expected to be next published in the June quarter 2000 and September quarter 2000 issues.

## UNPUBLISHED STATISTICS

**20** More detailed and other commodity items are collected by the ABS and are available to users as a special data service, as are monthly series for a limited number of the data items contained in this publication. Items for which additional production data are available are:

- audio and non-audio compact discs
- beer
- cars and station wagons
- clay bricks
- concrete bricks, blocks and pavers
- cotton broadwoven fabric
- cotton yarn
- gas
- hosiery
- knitted sweatshirts and sloppy-joes
- knitted underwear
- malt
- man-made fibre broadwoven fabric
- men's and boys' long trousers and shorts
- men's and boys' shirts
- men's complete suits and men's and boys' woven coats
- mowers
- other clothing (excluding those listed here)
- plasterboard
- Portland cement and cement clinkers
- ready mixed concrete
- roofing tiles
- space heaters
- starches, wheat gluten and glucose
- synthetic fibre yarn
- textile floor coverings
- unlaminated particle board

## EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

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### UNPUBLISHED STATISTICS *continued*

water heaters  
women's shirts and blouses  
wool broadwoven fabric  
wool yarn

For further information, please contact Joanne Madden on Sydney 02 9268 4219 or by email through the Internet to [jo.madden@abs.gov.au](mailto:jo.madden@abs.gov.au).

### CURRENT PUBLICATIONS

**21** Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products* (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.



## APPENDIX CLARIFICATION OF TERMS

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1 Red meat	Includes veal, pork and buffalo.
2 Chicken meat	Expressed in the dressed weight of whole birds, pieces and giblets.
3 Cheese	Includes fresh cheeses such as ricotta, cottage, cream and quark.
4 Butter	Includes direct butter oil.
5 Beer	Includes ale and stout; excludes low alcohol beer containing less than 1.15% but more than 0.5%, by volume of alcohol.
6 Tobacco and cigarettes	Includes those containing tobacco substitutes.
7 Newsprint	Excludes directory paper, mechanical and printing paper.
8 Wood pulp	Expressed as air-dried weight.
9 Undressed sawn timber	Expressed in terms of green off saw volumes.
10 Hardwood woodchips	Expressed as greenweight; excludes chips which are not sold or are used in own works.
11 Automotive gasoline	Produced by Australian refineries from imported and indigenous petroleum.
12 Fuel oil	Oils derived from the distillation of petroleum which are generally used for domestic heating or fuelling furnaces; produced by Australian refineries from imported and indigenous petroleum.
13 Aviation turbine fuel	Produced by Australian refineries from imported and indigenous petroleum.
14 Automotive diesel oil	Produced by Australian refineries from imported and indigenous petroleum.
15 Portland cement	Includes blended Portland cement. Excludes both Portland cement clinker and Portland cement used to make blended Portland cement in-house.
16 Clay bricks	Saleable bricks (of all sizes) removed from kiln; excludes firebricks and bricks for other than structural purposes.
17 Ready mixed concrete	Excludes production used or for use within the same business.
18 Basic iron, spiegeleisen and sponge iron	In pigs, blocks and other primary forms; includes pig iron. This item comprises production of BHP Steel only.
19 Blooms and slabs of iron or steel	Continuous cast; includes steel in the molten state. This item comprises production of BHP Steel only.
20 Alumina	Aluminium oxide.
21 Zinc	Primary origin only.
22 Silver	Refined.
23 Copper	Primary origin only.

**APPENDIX CLARIFICATION OF TERMS** *continued*

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- 24 **Lead** Includes lead content of lead from primary sources.
- 25 **Tin** Primary origin only.
- 26 **Gold** From primary and secondary sources.
- 27 **Electricity** Generation of electricity. Excludes purchases or transfers in of electricity.
- 28 **Gas** Gas (including natural gas) available for issue through mains, including gas production for distribution via natural gas pipelines which service a single user.



## FOR MORE INFORMATION...

- INTERNET* **www.abs.gov.au** the ABS web site is the best place to start for access to summary data from our latest publications, information about the ABS, advice about upcoming releases, our catalogue, and Australia Now—a statistical profile.
- LIBRARY* A range of ABS publications is available from public and tertiary libraries Australia-wide. Contact your nearest library to determine whether it has the ABS statistics you require, or visit our web site for a list of libraries.
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