



Dear subscriber

## CESSATION OF THE QUARTERLY STATE AND TERRITORY BUILDING APPROVALS PUBLICATIONS

You should have recently received your annual renewal notice and an explanation of some changes to our subscription service to be implemented from 1 January 2004. The changes are the result of increasing demand by clients for electronic data. As part of these changes and rationalisation of publications, the quarterly state and territory *Building Approvals* publications (cat. nos. 8752.1–7) have been discontinued.

**The enclosed September quarter 2003 issue is the final issue of this publication.** It has been discontinued in both hard copy and electronic form. Your past subscription has been appreciated.

In future, all data in this publication will be available in other ABS products. Alternative sources are:

### *Building Approvals, Australia* (cat. no. 8731.0)—monthly

This publication will be expanded (commencing with the October 2003 issue to be released on 2 December 2003) to include the state and territory data series of interest to most users. It will contain data for all states and territories and has traditionally been released one week before the state and territory publications. A copy of the publication in its revised format will be available on the ABS web site <[www.abs.gov.au](http://www.abs.gov.au)> on 31 October.

If you wish to subscribe to the above publication (in printed or electronic form), contact the Subscription Services Centre on 1300 366 323 or visit the ABS web site.

Alternatively, the ABS provides an email notification service with free links to main features of publications. Additional state and territory information, to be included in the main features of 8731.0 from the October issue onwards, will be available via this service.

### **Building Approvals data cubes**

Data cubes allow you to select the variables required and to cross classify them to meet your needs. Most of the variables in the enclosed publication are available in data cubes. You may find it useful to purchase a data cube containing either:

- Australian and state and territory data classified by a number of variables by month for the latest 37 months, or
- similar data classified by statistical local area (SLA) for a given state or territory for either a given financial year or for the latest financial year-to-date.

In each case, the data cubes are updated monthly, and can be purchased at, for example, monthly, quarterly or annual intervals or on an ad-hoc basis as required. Cost of the cubes is \$20 per month (except for Queensland SLA data which costs \$25 per month) and can be purchased from the ABS web site. They can be found by selecting 'Data Cubes' from the list of 'Statistical Products and Services' and then clicking on the 'Building and construction' twistie.

Much of the SLA data contained in data cubes will also be available in spreadsheet format on the ABS web site (see below).

### **Time series spreadsheets**

Individual time series spreadsheets can be purchased on the ABS web site for a nominal charge by selecting 'Time Series Spreadsheets' from the list of 'Statistical Products and Services' and then clicking on the 'Building and construction' twistie.

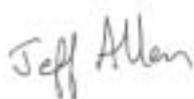
### ***AusStats***

This on-line service is most useful to subscribers seeking access to ABS data covering a wide range of subject areas. It is updated daily with the latest ABS releases. All data series in the enclosed publication will also be available in AusStats, updated monthly. The advantage of a subscription to this service is that you always have access to the latest data the instant it's released, previous periods are updated/revised automatically and it contains a lengthy historical time series. If you would like further information about this service, contact 1300 135 070.

### **Libraries**

Another option, of course, is that you can visit your nearest library. At the State Libraries, National Library and many public and tertiary libraries, ABS publications and other products may be accessed for free. For libraries accessing ABS information on the web, this will include Building Approvals data at the SLA level in spreadsheet format.

If you have any queries about the availability of Building Approvals data, please contact Sophia Colangelo on 08 8237 7350 or by email to [sophia.colangelo@abs.gov.au](mailto:sophia.colangelo@abs.gov.au).



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