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PREFACE

Year Book Australia is the principal reference work produced by the Central Office of the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS). It provides a comprehensive and detailed statistical review of various aspects of the economy and social conditions in Australia. In addition, it contains descriptive matter dealing with Australia's history, government, international relations, defence, climate, physiography, culture and environment.

The first *Official Year Book of the Commonwealth* was published early in 1908, although individual Australian States and colonies had been producing year books for several decades before that. *Year Book Australia 1991* is issued under the authority of the Commonwealth Government and follows a similar pattern to past issues. However, chapters have been revised and new material added.

Each year a number of *Special Articles* appear in the Year Book. This year the *Special Articles* are listed in the Table of Contents.

Most of the statistics contained in this volume relate to the years ended June or December 1989 or 1990. More detailed, and in most cases more recent, statistics are available in other ABS publications. The more significant of these publications are listed at the end of the relevant chapters of the Year Book, while the ABS *Catalogue of Publications and Products* (1101.0) lists all current publications of the ABS.

I extend my thanks and appreciation to all those officers involved in the preparation of *Year Book Australia 1991* and those organisations who have kindly supplied material for inclusion in this publication.

Australian Bureau of Statistics
Canberra
March 1991

IAN CASTLES
Australian Statistician

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A number of government departments as well as private organisations and bodies have provided information in conjunction with the Australian Bureau of Statistics for inclusion in the *Year Book*.

The Bureau would like to thank the following institutions who either supplied basic material for the various chapters or advised on their preparation.

- | | |
|---|---|
| Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission | Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation |
| ACT Department of Education | Australian Opera |
| ACT Electricity and Water, Water Branch | Australian Patent, Trade Marks and Design Office |
| ACT Institute of TAFE | Australian Road Research Board |
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 Office of Water Resources (Victoria)
 Overseas Telecommunications Commission
 Australia
 Parliament of Australia, Department of the
 Parliamentary Library
 Police Commissioner's Australian Crime
 Statistics
 Sub-Committee—Selected Crime
 Statistics, Australia
 Queensland Water Resources Commission
 Radio Australia
 Reserve Bank of Australia
 Rivers and Water Supply Commission
 (Tasmania)
 South Australian Housing Trust
 Social Broadcasting Service
 State and Federal Police Commissioner's
 Annual Reports
 State Housing Commission of Western
 Australia (HomesWest)
 Tasmanian Development Authority
 Telecom Australia
 Water Authority of Western Australia
 Surface Water Branch
 Worksafe Australia

GENERAL INFORMATION

Symbols

The following symbols, where shown in columns of figures or elsewhere in tables, mean:

n.a.	not available
n.y.a.	not yet available
—	nil or rounded to zero
. .	not applicable
n.p.	not available for separate publication (but included in totals where applicable)
p	preliminary—figure or series subject to revision
r	figures or series revised since previous issue
n.e.i.	not elsewhere included
n.e.c.	not elsewhere classified
n.e.s.	not elsewhere specified
—	break in continuity of series (where drawn across a column between two consecutive figures)
*	subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes.
	m.—males; f.—females; p.—persons.

Other forms of usage

The following *abbreviations* are used for the titles of the Australian States and Territories and Australia: NSW (New South Wales), Vic. (Victoria), Qld (Queensland), WA (Western Australia), SA (South Australia), Tas. (Tasmania), NT (Northern Territory), ACT (Australian Capital Territory), Aust. (Australia).

In general, the *statistics in this volume relate to the States and Territories of Australia*, i.e. they exclude particulars of the External Territories of Australia, which, however, are specifically dealt with in Chapter 27, The Territories of Australia.

Yearly periods shown as e.g. 1989 refer to the year ended 31 December 1989; those shown as e.g. 1988–89 refer to the year ended 30 June 1989. Other yearly periods are specifically indicated. The range of years shown in table headings, e.g. 1901 to 1988–89 indicates the period covered, but does not necessarily imply that each intervening year is included.

Values are shown in Australian dollars (\$) or \$A) or cents (c) unless another currency is specified.

Catalogue numbers. Throughout this book references are made to ABS publications. In each case the catalogue number is shown in brackets; this should be quoted when ordering these publications (see below).

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

Availability of ABS publications

Information regarding the availability of ABS publications and other products can be obtained from Central Information Services Section, Australian Bureau of Statistics, PO Box 10, Belconnen, ACT 2616, Australia, phone (06) 252 6627, or from ABS offices in any capital city in Australia.

A complete list of ABS publications produced in Canberra and in each of the State Offices is contained in the *ABS Catalogue of Publications and Products (1101.0)* which is available from any ABS office.

In many cases, the ABS can also provide information which is not published or which is historical or compiled from a variety of published and unpublished sources. Information of this kind may be obtained through the Information Consultancy Service. This information may be made available in one or more of the following forms: consultancy reports, microfiche, floppy disk, magnetic tape, computer printout or photocopy. Charges are generally made for such information. Inquiries may be made by contacting Information Services in the nearest ABS office.

