



July 1997

EMBARGO: 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) WED 17 SEP 1997

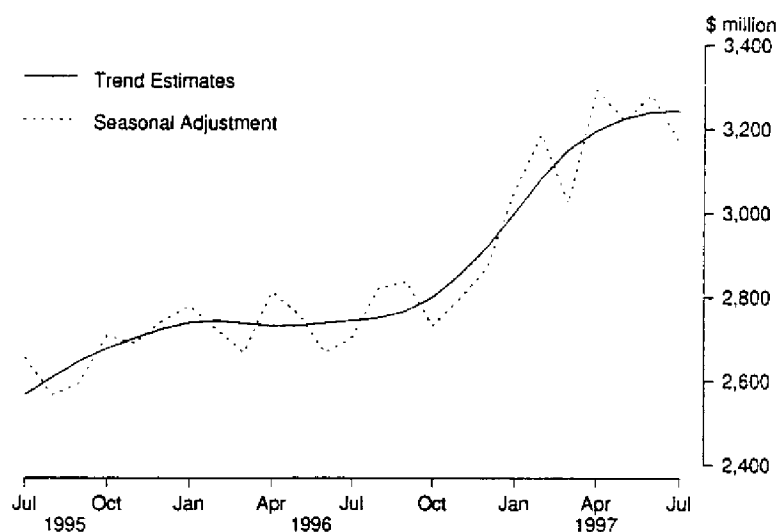
Personal Finance

Australia

Data Report

MAIN FEATURES

PERSONAL FINANCE, AUSTRALIA, JULY 1995 – JULY 1997



- 1** The provisional trend estimate for personal finance commitments made by significant lenders in July 1997 was \$3 242.9 million, little change from June 1997 and an increase of \$498.5 million (18.2%) on July 1996.
- 2** Seasonally adjusted, personal finance commitments were \$3 165.6 million in July 1997, a decrease of \$116.2 million (3.5%) on June 1997 but an increase of \$462.3 million (17.1%) on July 1996.
- 3** In original terms, personal finance commitments in July 1997 were \$3 868.6 million, an increase of \$430.0 million (12.5%) on June 1997 and an increase of \$686.1 million (21.6%) on July 1996.

INQUIRIES

- for further information about these and related statistics, contact Greg Smith on (02) 9268 4537 or at [http://greg.smith@abs.gov.au](mailto:greg.smith@abs.gov.au).
- for information about other ABS statistics and services please refer to the back cover.

PERSONAL FINANCE COMMITMENTS: SUMMARY OF MOVEMENTS IN MAJOR AGGREGATES: Original, seasonally adjusted and trend estimates, JULY 1997

Type of facility	Percentage change from previous month			Percentage change from corresponding month of previous year		
	Original	Seasonally adjusted	Trend	Original	Seasonally adjusted	Trend
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Fixed Loans	1.6	-7.8	-0.7	4.4	2.4	3.9
Revolving Credit	26.3	1.9	0.9	46.0	40.3	41.9
Total	12.5	-3.5	0.0	21.6	17.1	18.2

PERSONAL FINANCE COMMITMENTS: MAJOR AGGREGATES: Original, seasonally adjusted and trend estimates

Month	Commitments under fixed loan facilities			Commitments under revolving credit facilities			Total commitments		
	Original	Seasonally adjusted	Trend	Original	Seasonally adjusted	Trend	Original	Seasonally adjusted	Trend
	\$ million	\$ million	\$ million	\$ million	\$ million	\$ million	\$ million	\$ million	\$ million
1996 —									
May	1 925.4	1 767.0	1 754.8	1 056.4	991.8	977.1	2 981.8	2 758.8	2 731.9
June	1 699.5	1 625.8	1 729.2	1 113.2	1 040.4	1 008.3	2 812.6	2 666.2	2 737.5
July	1 870.4	1 656.1	1 713.9	1 312.1	1 047.3	1 030.6	3 182.5	2 703.3	2 744.4
August	1 696.2	1 778.2	1 711.0	1 080.3	1 042.4	1 039.5	2 776.5	2 820.5	2 750.5
September	1 687.8	1 818.3	1 721.3	1 010.9	1 020.4	1 045.4	2 698.6	2 838.7	2 766.7
October	1 763.9	1 669.0	1 735.4	1 217.1	1 063.6	1 063.2	2 981.0	2 732.6	2 798.6
November	1 569.4	1 693.4	1 747.7	1 054.5	1 100.5	1 102.5	2 623.9	2 793.8	2 850.2
December	1 659.8	1 769.4	1 757.1	1 112.2	1 095.4	1 160.0	2 772.0	2 864.8	2 917.1
1997 —									
January	1 725.1	1 810.0	1 770.6	1 017.3	1 242.2	1 228.1	2 742.3	3 052.2	2 998.7
February	1 780.1	1 836.1	1 788.9	1 097.4	1 352.6	1 294.3	2 877.5	3 188.6	3 083.2
March	1 747.3	1 678.7	1 803.7	1 203.8	1 346.2	1 349.2	2 951.1	3 024.8	3 152.9
April	1 890.9	1 874.6	1 806.7	1 385.6	1 420.1	1 391.1	3 276.4	3 294.7	3 197.9
May	1 813.2	1 826.9	1 802.4	1 434.5	1 393.9	1 423.1	3 247.7	3 220.8	3 225.5
June	1 922.9	1 839.1	1 793.5	1 515.6	1 442.7	1 448.6	3 438.6	3 281.8	3 242.1
July	1 953.6	1 695.7	1 780.9	1 915.0	1 469.8	1 462.0	3 868.6	3 165.6	3 242.9

TABLE 1 — PERSONAL FINANCE COMMITMENTS — JULY 1997
(\$ million)

Purpose of commitment by type of facility	Type of lender				Total
	All banks	Credit co-operatives	Finance companies	Others	
AUSTRALIA					
Commitments under fixed loan facilities —					
Purchase of —					
Motor cars and station wagons					
New	73.5	26.2	123.2	32.1	255.0
Used	187.3	64.4	214.9	26.0	492.7
Other motor vehicles	19.3	1.1	16.2	—	36.7
Motor cycles, etc	7.6	2.5	3.5	—	13.6
Boats, caravans and trailers	18.2	2.6	5.2	1.3	27.3
Individual residential blocks of land	122.9	5.8	0.5	1.0	130.2
Household and personal goods	38.2	12.6	8.7	9.3	68.8
Owner-occupied housing (unsecured) —					
Purchase and construction of dwellings	15.8	5.6	4.4	—	25.7
Alterations and additions to dwellings(a)	17.9	10.8	0.8	0.5	30.0
Travel and holidays	15.9	8.9	3.6	0.1	28.6
Debt consolidation	138.9	43.6	9.0	1.5	193.0
Refinancing	273.4	22.9	18.4	0.5	315.3
Other	231.2	47.9	50.1	7.6	336.7
Total fixed loan commitments	1,160.2	255.0	458.5	79.9	1,953.6
Commitments under revolving credit facilities(b) —					
New and increased credit limits					
Secured	935.0	18.6	0.1	—	953.7
Unsecured	881.7	29.3	23.7	26.6	961.2
Total revolving credit commitments	1,816.8	47.8	23.8	26.6	1,915.0
Total personal finance commitments	2,976.9	302.9	482.3	106.4	3,868.6
STATES(c)					
New South Wales	1,029.0	124.6	158.0	40.2	1,351.8
Victoria	722.1	37.5	125.5	30.9	916.1
Queensland	540.6	41.0	85.4	19.4	686.4
South Australia	174.7	48.6	28.5	5.6	257.4
Western Australia	391.5	28.7	63.1	6.9	490.2
Tasmania	49.0	9.2	7.9	1.7	67.8
Northern Territory	20.4	5.1	6.3	1.1	32.9
Australian Capital Territory	49.6	8.1	7.7	0.6	66.0

(a) Includes commitments to refinance loans where the principal purpose is for alterations and/or additions to dwellings. (b) Includes credit card facilities.

TABLE 2 — PERSONAL FINANCE COMMITMENTS — ALL LENDERS

Commitments under fixed loan facilities for -												
Purchase of							Owner-occupied housing (unsecured)					
Motor cars and station wagons				Motor cycles, etc \$ m	Other motor vehicles \$ m	Total motor vehicles \$ m	Boats, caravans and trailers \$ m	Individual residential blocks of land \$ m	Household and personal goods \$ m	Purchase and alterations to construction of dwellings \$ m	additions to dwellings(a) \$ m	
New	Used											
Number	\$ m	Number	\$ m									
AUSTRALIA												
YEARS												
1994-1995	131,105	2,623.7	5,135.5	467,665	127.6	400.2	8,287.0	222.2	1063.1	541.4	239.8	386.3
1995-1996	129,715	2,505.3	5,558.0	489,333	151.2	433.6	8,648.1	222.1	1120.2	565.1	292.1	412.6
1996-1997	133,055	2,634.6	5,406.2	454,847	165.8	433.3	8,639.9	280.5	1211.0	739.1	316.0	442.9
1996												
May	12,411	239.8	508.8	43,794	13.9	38.8	801.3	19.2	95.9	59.3	22.7	39.4
June	11,334	221.3	446.4	38,353	11.6	35.4	714.8	16.3	78.4	52.5	19.9	30.9
July	11,665	228.6	481.4	40,745	13.6	40.1	763.7	19.6	98.9	61.9	25.7	33.4
August	10,865	212.8	462.8	39,365	13.7	38.2	727.5	20.8	92.4	58.2	27.6	32.6
September	10,486	211.5	440.0	37,588	14.0	35.6	701.1	21.5	80.3	52.1	26.7	32.8
October	11,105	224.6	475.6	40,412	16.0	41.1	757.3	23.1	101.3	60.1	29.1	42.0
November	9,987	203.6	408.8	35,013	15.4	32.7	660.5	33.8	94.9	61.4	30.1	42.3
December	10,190	207.1	414.5	34,629	14.0	34.5	670.1	22.3	92.8	59.6	27.6	40.6
1997												
January	11,651	228.9	457.1	37,547	12.7	35.6	734.2	23.4	92.2	62.0	20.2	35.1
February	10,930	210.5	456.9	38,481	13.6	36.6	717.5	24.1	110.9	64.0	24.1	37.2
March	11,105	208.1	416.9	34,975	12.1	34.2	671.3	20.4	106.8	65.7	23.4	37.0
April	11,956	237.1	453.1	37,457	14.7	34.9	739.7	21.2	113.9	69.1	26.9	41.2
May	10,939	220.2	437.7	35,979	13.3	35.2	706.4	25.1	115.1	64.6	29.0	36.8
June	12,107	240.7	500.5	42,515	12.6	34.6	788.3	25.3	111.7	60.5	25.6	31.6
July	12,589	255.0	492.7	39,763	13.6	36.7	797.9	27.3	130.2	68.8	25.7	30.0
STATES — JUNE 1997												
NSW	4,723	89.8	146.0	12,545	4.5	8.8	249.1	10.1	31.5	25.0	11.0	12.7
Vic.	3,062	64.4	132.8	10,933	2.6	9.9	209.8	4.2	26.0	13.6	5.2	7.7
Qld	1,856	35.5	99.8	8,847	2.3	6.1	143.6	6.1	25.5	9.6	3.2	4.6
SA	739	15.5	44.6	4,125	0.9	2.8	63.8	1.4	6.0	4.1	0.7	1.5
WA	1,166	25.0	54.9	4,102	1.5	5.5	86.8	2.4	19.4	5.5	2.9	2.9
Tas.	157	2.3	9.6	983	0.4	0.9	13.2	0.3	1.6	1.3	0.6	1.1
NT	130	2.8	6.0	421	0.2	0.2	9.4	0.3	0.8	0.4	—	0.7
ACT	274	5.3	6.9	559	0.2	0.3	12.8	0.5	0.9	0.9	2.0	0.4
STATES — JULY 1997												
NSW	4,898	91.2	152.3	12,424	4.8	10.3	258.6	11.0	38.2	27.5	12.9	13.3
Vic.	3,115	65.9	126.7	10,054	3.1	10.3	206.0	4.4	33.2	17.5	5.4	7.1
Qld	1,876	35.6	89.1	7,359	2.5	6.3	133.6	6.5	29.2	9.7	2.9	4.5
SA	786	14.5	37.6	3,234	1.0	2.8	55.9	1.1	4.6	4.3	0.6	1.3
WA	1,348	36.6	62.4	4,627	1.6	5.3	106.0	2.6	20.6	6.9	1.5	1.9
Tas.	173	2.6	11.3	1,079	0.3	1.1	15.3	0.7	2.0	1.4	0.4	0.9
NT	159	3.8	6.4	448	0.2	0.2	10.6	0.3	1.4	0.6	—	0.4
ACT	234	4.7	6.8	538	0.2	0.3	12.0	0.8	1.1	0.9	2.0	0.6

(a) Includes commitments to refinance loans where the principal purpose is for alterations and/or additions to dwellings.

TABLE 2 — PERSONAL FINANCE COMMITMENTS — ALL LENDERS — continued
(\$ million)

Commitments under fixed loan facilities for (cont.) -										Commitments under revolving credit facilities(a)					Total fixed loans and revolving credit commitments
Travel and holidays	Debt consolidation	Refinancing	Other	Total commitments during period	New and increased credit limits during period			Cancellations and reductions of credit limits during period		Credit limits at end of period		Total	Used		
					Secured	Unsecured	Total	Total	Used						
AUSTRALIA															
YEARS															
1994-1995	301.0	1,502.4	3,466.2	2,613.4	18,623.0	4,090.9	5,800.0	9,890.9	7,326.1	40,523.9	16,766.8	28,513.9			
1995-1996	327.0	1,872.5	4,155.6	3,321.2	20,936.4	4,093.4	7,257.0	11,350.4	7,774.4	44,418.9	18,053.0	32,286.8			
1996-1997	334.4	1,950.8	3,664.8	3,550.3	21,129.7	6,996.4	7,451.3	14,447.8	7,130.9	51,583.7	21,358.4	35,577.5			
1996															
May	36.4	170.4	363.2	317.8	1,925.4	373.7	682.7	1,056.4	502.2	43,859.2	17,806.2	2,981.8			
June	34.4	153.1	309.0	290.2	1,699.5	491.1	622.1	1,113.2	557.7	44,402.3	18,046.8	2,812.6			
July	33.6	173.8	378.2	281.7	1,870.4	550.1	762.0	1,312.1	705.6	44,998.2	18,397.0	3,182.5			
August	29.2	162.3	297.0	248.7	1,696.2	543.7	536.6	1,080.3	537.0	45,560.1	18,374.0	2,776.5			
September	24.7	161.1	281.9	305.6	1,687.8	457.4	553.5	1,010.9	518.4	46,057.1	18,635.2	2,698.6			
October	32.0	153.5	294.8	270.6	1,763.9	509.1	708.0	1,217.1	712.6	46,709.8	18,849.3	2,981.0			
November	26.3	141.4	246.7	232.0	1,569.4	445.2	609.2	1,054.5	429.7	47,387.7	19,193.8	2,623.9			
December	33.5	145.7	273.8	293.8	1,659.8	470.9	641.3	1,112.2	543.3	47,940.8	19,999.4	2,772.0			
1997															
January	24.2	146.2	269.8	317.8	1,725.1	475.6	541.7	1,017.3	733.6	48,251.7	20,173.3	2,742.3			
February	26.1	160.0	288.1	328.1	1,780.1	526.4	571.0	1,097.4	488.0	48,868.6	20,364.1	2,877.5			
March	26.5	171.4	310.4	314.6	1,747.3	635.0	568.8	1,203.8	678.1	49,394.2	20,462.0	2,951.1			
April	25.7	179.1	346.1	327.9	1,890.9	732.1	653.4	1,385.6	747.8	49,670.4	20,389.4	3,276.4			
May	25.4	177.2	334.2	299.5	1,813.2	761.5	672.9	1,434.5	511.2	50,598.0	20,807.3	3,247.7			
June	26.9	178.3	344.3	330.4	1,922.9	885.6	630.0	1,515.6	504.5	51,586.7	21,358.3	3,438.6			
July	28.6	193.0	315.3	336.7	1,953.6	953.7	961.2	1,915.0	813.0	52,683.6	21,923.6	3,868.6			
STATES — JUNE 1997															
NSW	10.0	50.6	125.2	98.0	623.0	341.7	208.1	549.8	239.4	19,220.7	7,914.1	1,172.9			
Vic.	6.6	34.7	75.6	77.0	460.4	192.1	150.2	342.2	111.0	12,157.5	4,995.1	802.6			
Qld	4.1	30.3	67.7	58.8	353.6	150.2	122.3	272.6	74.9	9,208.4	4,058.4	626.2			
SA	1.7	12.9	26.5	27.3	145.9	58.3	45.7	104.0	38.0	3,640.7	1,341.7	249.8			
WA	2.8	43.6	31.6	55.8	253.8	111.1	75.9	186.9	24.0	5,128.2	2,106.3	440.8			
Tas.	0.9	2.3	7.1	3.9	32.3	13.3	12.7	25.9	5.7	808.2	349.9	58.2			
NT	0.2	0.9	4.3	3.0	20.0	2.9	5.0	7.9	1.6	315.8	121.4	27.9			
ACT	0.6	3.0	6.4	6.4	33.9	16.2	10.1	26.3	9.9	1,107.3	471.5	60.2			
STATES — JULY 1997															
NSW	11.2	57.7	125.1	101.4	656.7	365.7	329.3	695.0	384.8	19,530.1	8,045.2	1,351.8			
Vic.	7.3	39.8	65.9	88.4	474.8	209.9	231.3	441.3	173.1	12,425.7	5,113.4	916.1			
Qld	4.2	33.4	63.3	48.0	335.3	171.7	179.4	351.1	121.6	9,438.4	4,168.4	686.4			
SA	1.7	13.8	17.5	20.4	121.1	54.1	82.2	136.3	63.6	3,709.0	1,448.4	257.4			
WA	2.8	41.0	27.7	62.7	273.7	116.6	99.9	216.5	35.3	5,309.1	2,198.6	490.2			
Tas.	0.5	2.8	5.8	8.4	38.3	13.9	15.5	29.4	9.7	827.8	346.9	67.8			
NT	0.2	1.7	2.5	2.4	20.3	5.9	6.7	12.6	8.6	319.7	124.6	32.9			
ACT	0.7	2.8	7.4	5.0	33.3	15.9	16.8	32.7	16.3	1,123.8	478.0	66.0			

(a) Includes credit card facilities.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1 This data service presents statistics of personal finance commitments made by significant lenders to individuals for their own personal (non-business) use.

SCOPE

2 The scope of the survey comprises the following types of lenders:

- banks
- permanent building societies
- credit unions/co-operative credit societies
- life or general insurance companies
- superannuation funds
- corporations registered under the *Financial Corporations Act 1974* and
- other providers of consumer finance registered with State credit tribunals, including mortgage managers.

COVERAGE

3 The statistics cover significant lenders only. From July 1997 significant lenders are defined as those who reported commitments of more than \$47 million Australia-wide for the calendar year 1996. They account in aggregate for at least 95% of the Australian total and at least 90% of each State total. An annual collection is conducted to maintain coverage of significant lenders. In addition, new lenders are included in the series as their level of lending becomes significant.

STATISTICAL PERIOD

4 While the statistics are described as being for calendar months, it should be noted that some lenders have accounting periods which do not correspond exactly to a calendar month and that these figures are used without adjustment.

DEFINITIONS AND DESCRIPTIONS OF DATA ITEMS

5 *Lending commitments.* A lending commitment is a firm offer to provide finance which has been or is normally expected to be accepted. Commitments to provide personal finance to employees and commitments accepted and cancelled in the same month are included.

6 *Fixed loan facilities* generally involve:

- a commitment for a fixed amount for a fixed period for a specific purpose
- a schedule of repayments over a fixed period and
- repayments which reduce the liability of the borrower but do not act to make further finance available.

7 *Revolving credit facilities* generally have the following characteristics:

- 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 and
- 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.

8 *Total credit limits at end of period* In principle, total credit limits at end of the period for revolving credit presented in Table 2 are derivable by adding new and increased lending commitments during the period less cancellations and reductions of credit limits during the period to the balance of credit limits at the end of the previous period. In practice, however, revisions and other adjustments such as the transfer of an existing fixed credit facility to a revolving credit facility will mean that such a derivation is inexact.

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED AND TREND ESTIMATES

9 Seasonal adjustment is a means of removing the estimated effects of normal seasonal variations and trading day effects (arising from the varying reporting practices of the lenders). Adjustment has also been made for Easter which may affect the March and April estimates differently. Seasonally adjusted data have been revised from this issue following annual re-analysis of seasonal factors.

10 Seasonal adjustment does not remove from the series the effect of irregular or 'non-seasonal' influences (e.g. a change of interest rates).

11 Smoothing seasonally adjusted series reduces the impact of the irregular component of the seasonally adjusted and creates trend estimates. These trend estimates are derived by applying a 13-term Henderson-weighted moving average to all months of the respective seasonally adjusted series except the last six months. 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 *A Guide to Interpreting Time Series — Monitoring 'Trends': an Overview* (1348.0) or contact the Assistant Director, Time Series Analysis on (06) 252 6345.

12 While the smoothing technique described in paragraph 11 enables trend estimates to be produced for the latest few months, it does result in revisions to the trend estimates as new data becomes 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 adjustment factors may also lead to revisions to the trend.

ADDITIONAL DATA

13 More detailed dissections of the data may be made available on request. A charge is made for providing this information. Inquiries should be made by writing to the Australian Bureau of Statistics, Financial Surveys Section, GPO Box 796 Sydney 2001, or by calling the Manager, Financial Surveys Section on Sydney 02 9268 4784.

REVISIONS

14 Revisions to previously provided statistics are included in issues of this publication as they occur.

RELATED DATA

15 Users may also wish to refer to the following publications which are available on request:

Housing Finance for Owner Occupation, Australia (5609.0) — issued monthly.

Commercial Finance, Australia — available monthly (data service)

SYMBOLS AND OTHER USAGE

— nil or rounded to zero

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



For more information . . .

The ABS publishes a wide range of statistics and other information on Australia's economic and social conditions. Details of what is available in various publications and other products can be found in the ABS Catalogue of Publications and Products available from all ABS Offices.

ABS Products and Services

Many standard products are available from ABS bookshops located in each State and Territory. In addition to these products, information tailored to the needs of clients can be obtained on a wide range of media by contacting your nearest ABS Office. The ABS also provides a Subscription Service for standard products and some tailored information services.

National Dial-a-Statistic Line

0055 86 400

Steadycorn P/L: premium rate 25c/21.4 secs.

This number gives 24-hour access, 365 days a year, for a range of important economic statistics including the CPI.

Internet

<http://www.abs.gov.au>

A wide range of ABS information is available via the Internet, with basic statistics available for each State, Territory and Australia. We also have Key National Indicators, ABS product release details and other information of general interest.

Sales and Inquiries

Keylink STAT.INFO/ABS
X.400 (C:Australia,PUB:Telememo,O:ABS,FN:STAT,SN:INFO)
Internet stat.info@abs.telememo.au

National Mail Order Service (06) 252 5249
Subscription Service 1800 02 0608

	Information Inquiries	Bookshop Sales
SYDNEY	(02) 9268 4611	9268 4620
MELBOURNE	(03) 9615 7755	9615 7755
BRISBANE	(07) 3222 6351	3222 6350
PERTH	(09) 360 5140	360 5307
ADELAIDE	(08) 8237 7100	8237 7582
HOBART	(03) 6220 5800	6220 5800
CANBERRA	(06) 252 6627	207 0326
DARWIN	(08) 8943 2111	8943 2111

Information Services, ABS, PO Box 796, Sydney NSW 2001

