

**BUILDING ACTIVITY, AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY
SEPTEMBER QUARTER 1994**

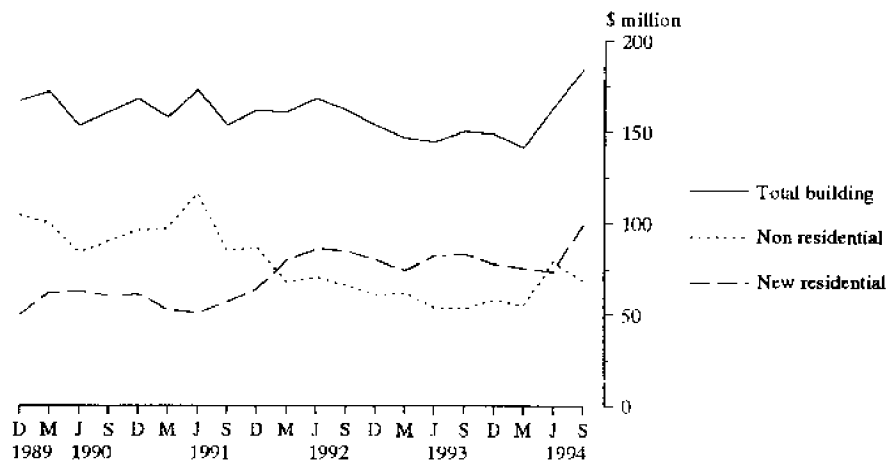
SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Value of building work done at average 1989-90 prices, seasonally adjusted

	Percentage change on	
	June quarter 1994	Sept. quarter 1993
New residential building	34.6	19.4
Alterations and additions to residential buildings	0.7	16.9
Non residential building	-13.3	27.6
Total building	12.9	22.5

- Expressed in seasonally adjusted average 1989-90 prices, the total value of building work done for the September quarter 1994 was \$184.0 million. This was 12.9% above the June quarter estimate of \$163.0 million and the highest for 5 years.
- The rise in the value of total building work done was because the value of new residential building work done rose to \$98.9 million, a record since the series began with the September quarter 1980. This was up \$25.4 million or 34.6% on the June quarter figure. Work done on residential alterations and additions, at \$13.8 million, was similar to the June quarter.
- For non-residential building, the value of work done fell by \$10.5 million or 13.3% to \$68.4 million from the June quarter's 2½-year high. However, it remained 27.6% above the September quarter 1993.

**VALUE OF WORK DONE
AT AVERAGE 1989-90 PRICES
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED**



INQUIRIES

- for more information about statistics in this publication and the availability of related unpublished statistics, contact Colin Speechley on Adelaide (08) 237 7495 or any ABS State Office.
- for information about other ABS statistics and services please contact Information Services on Canberra (06) 207 0326, call at FAI House, London Circuit, Civic, or write to Information Services, ABS, PO Box 10, Belconnen, ACT 2616.

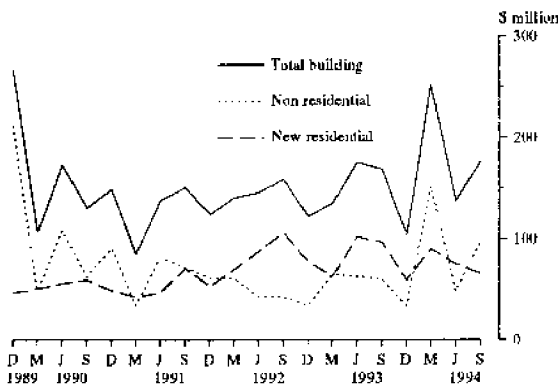
SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – continued

Value of building work commenced at average 1989–90 prices

	Percentage change on	
	June quarter 1994	Sept. quarter 1993
New residential building	-12.7	33.0
Alterations and additions to residential buildings	7.2	25.7
Non-residential building	101.9	59.8
Total building	27.7	4.2

- Expressed in average 1989–90 prices (but not seasonally adjusted) the total value of building work commenced during the September quarter 1994 rose 27.7% to \$176.0 million, the highest since the December quarter 1989 with the exception of the March quarter 1994.
- The increase in the value of total building commencements was entirely because the non-residential category more than doubled from \$47.9 million in the June quarter 1994 to \$96.7 million. Similarly, this was the highest since the June quarter 1990 with the exception of the March quarter 1994.
- The value of new residential commencements fell \$9.5 million to \$65.1 million for the September quarter 1994. This represents a decrease of 12.7% from the previous quarter and 33.0% from the September quarter 1993. On the other hand, although commencements of residential alterations and additions fell 7.2% to \$14.2 million for the September quarter, they remained at relatively high levels for this series.

VALUE OF WORK COMMENCED AT AVERAGE 1989-90 PRICES

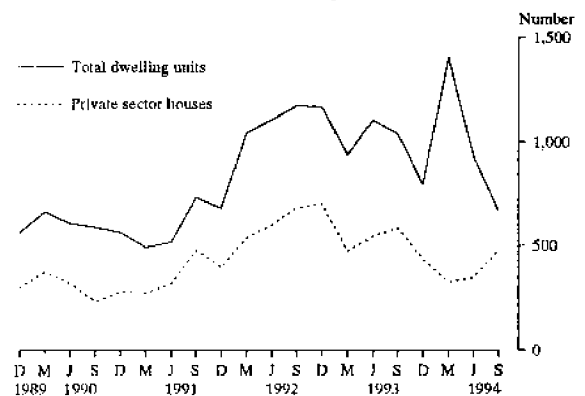


Number of dwelling units commenced, seasonally adjusted

	Percentage change on	
	June quarter 1994	Sept. quarter 1993
Private sector houses	36.9	-18.7
Private sector dwelling units	27.0	-38.3
Total dwelling units	-28.3	-35.7

- In seasonally adjusted terms the estimate of the total number of dwelling units commenced during the September quarter 1994 was 669, a drop of 28.3% from the previous quarter and 52.4% over the last two quarters.
- For the private sector, although the number of house commencements rose 36.9% to 479 for the September quarter 1994, total dwelling unit commencements fell 27.0% because of a large drop in the number of other residential dwelling units commenced.

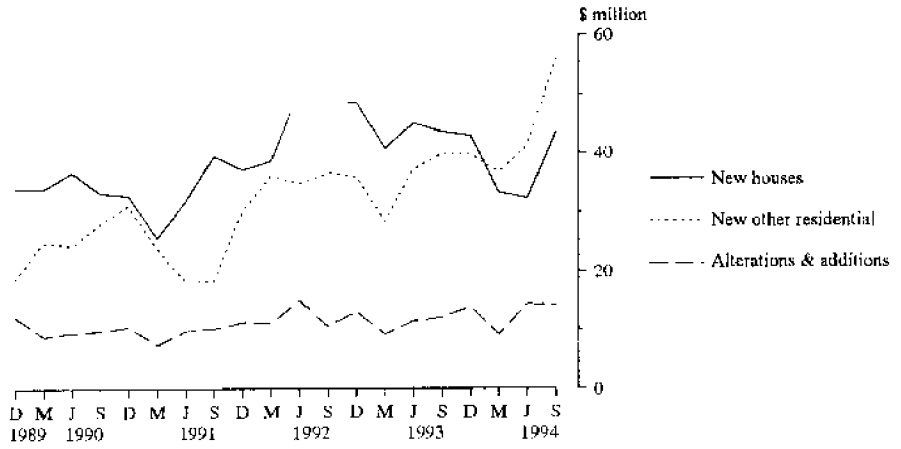
NEW DWELLING UNITS COMMENCED SEASONALLY ADJUSTED



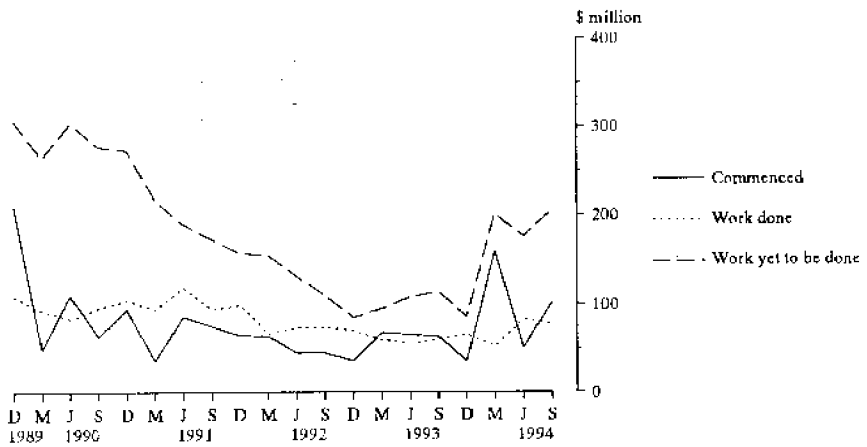
Original unadjusted data

- The total value of building work commenced (unadjusted, at current prices) during the September quarter 1994 was \$200.3 million. This was up \$41.2 million on the June quarter 1994, because of an increase of \$50.0 million to \$56.8 million in government sector office commencements.
- The total value of work done during the September quarter was up \$23.1 million to \$214.0 million while the value of work yet to be done on jobs under construction at the end of the quarter was down \$9.6 million to \$294.9 million.

VALUE OF RESIDENTIAL WORK DONE
AT AVERAGE 1989-90 PRICES



VALUE OF NON-RESIDENTIAL BUILDING



VALUE OF NON-RESIDENTIAL WORK DONE

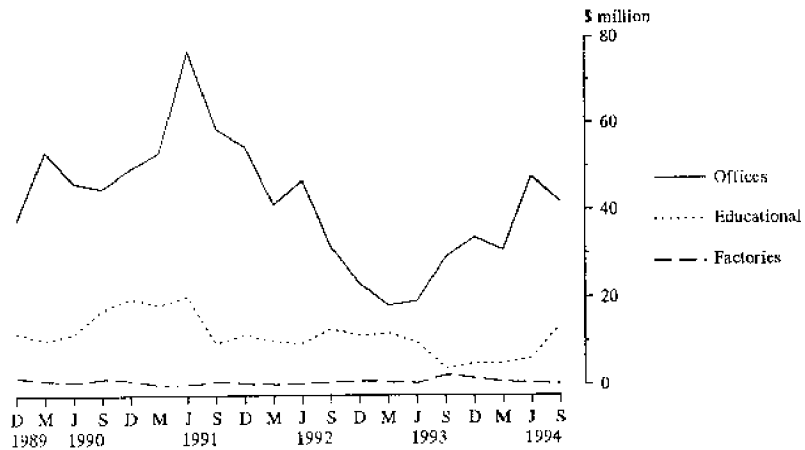


TABLE 1. SUMMARY OF BUILDING ACTIVITY, AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

Period	New residential building										Non-residential building																																
	Houses			Other residential buildings			Total				Alterations and additions to residential buildings			Hotels etc.			Shops Factories			Offices			Other business premises			Educational			Religious			Health			Entertainment and recreational			Miscellaneous			Total building		
	Number of dwelling units	Value (\$m)	Number of dwelling units	Value (\$m)	Number of dwelling units	Value (\$m)	Number of dwelling units	Value (\$m)	Value (\$m)	Number of residential buildings	Hotels etc.	Shops	Factories	Offices	Other business premises	Educational	Religious	Health	Entertainment and recreational	Miscellaneous	Total																						
COMMENCED																																											
1991-92	2,029	207.0	1,501	120.7	3,530	322.7	56.5	0.2	11.3	1.8	96.0	8.6	36.7	1.0	53.0	28.2	11.0	248.0	637.2																								
1992-93	2,417	252.4	1,993	165.5	4,410	417.9	56.0	2.6	9.8	3.0	108.8	21.9	27.1	1.2	15.8	14.6	7.7	212.5	686.3																								
1993-94 r	1,764	200.1	2,383	182.6	4,147	382.7	65.3	0.3	14.5	4.7	167.2	12.5	34.2	2.6	27.8	24.4	20.1	308.1	756.2																								
1993 June qtr	576	64.1	549	57.1	1,125	121.2	15.8	—	2.6	0.3	53.5	4.2	1.3	—	2.8	0.4	—	65.0	201.9																								
Sept. qtr	607	65.6	678	51.2	1,285	116.8	15.3	0.2	3.4	3.8	28.7	0.4	2.0	0.8	—	14.8	9.2	63.3	195.4																								
Dec. qtr	417	50.7	292	22.7	709	73.4	16.8	0.2	4.5	0.1	14.0	3.4	7.3	—	2.3	3.0	—	34.8	125.0																								
1994 Mar. qtr	371	40.5	835	63.6	1,206	104.1	12.7	—	0.7	0.1	108.1	0.9	15.5	0.8	24.4	6.6	2.8	159.8	276.7																								
June qtr r	368	43.3	578	45.1	946	88.4	20.5	—	5.8	0.7	16.4	7.7	9.3	1.0	1.0	0.1	8.1	50.2	159.1																								
Sept. qtr	482	50.7	339	29.1	831	79.8	19.0	0.2	3.3	—	65.9	6.1	13.9	0.3	2.3	0.2	9.2	101.4	280.3																								
UNDIR CONSTRUCTION AT END OF PERIOD																																											
1991-92	778	94.3	871	102.4	1,649	196.7	30.8	2.0	2.1	0.6	199.8	8.9	36.0	1.1	49.6	24.0	8.4	332.4	559.9																								
1992-93	727	97.1	1,159	109.0	1,886	206.2	25.9	1.0	1.8	2.5	95.2	13.9	20.5	1.8	57.6	17.0	5.3	216.5	448.6																								
1993-94 r	647	89.1	1,821	152.5	2,468	241.6	26.2	1.0	4.0	0.7	218.6	6.8	34.3	2.1	76.5	19.0	13.8	376.8	644.5																								
1993 June qtr	727	97.1	1,159	109.0	1,886	206.2	25.9	1.0	1.8	2.5	95.2	13.9	20.5	1.8	57.6	17.0	5.3	216.5	448.6																								
Sept. qtr	863	110.1	1,277	113.2	2,140	223.4	24.8	1.2	3.6	3.7	102.7	12.4	13.7	2.6	57.4	27.2	12.2	236.7	484.8																								
Dec. qtr	685	94.5	1,051	97.4	1,736	192.0	24.4	1.0	4.5	3.7	110.1	6.2	12.0	1.5	51.2	17.7	11.3	219.2	435.6																								
1994 Mar. qtr	684	90.5	1,516	131.1	2,200	221.6	23.6	1.0	4.6	0.1	209.8	1.0	29.8	1.7	75.6	21.1	8.4	353.2	598.3																								
June qtr r	647	89.1	1,821	152.5	2,468	241.6	26.2	1.0	4.0	0.7	218.6	6.8	34.3	2.1	76.5	19.0	13.8	376.8	644.5																								
Sept. qtr	703	92.3	1,379	119.4	2,082	211.7	28.0	1.2	5.5	0.4	211.6	11.8	43.9	2.2	29.3	4.5	22.8	331.1	572.8																								
COMPLETED																																											
1991-92	1,776	181.6	1,295	113.7	3,071	295.3	50.5	0.2	14.3	1.2	285.1	13.2	85.4	1.0	36.3	22.7	6.7	463.2	811.0																								
1992-93	2,467	249.3	1,705	165.4	4,172	414.7	61.1	3.6	9.3	1.2	219.1	19.5	45.5	0.6	8.4	31.9	11.0	349.9	825.7																								
1993-94 r	1,840	208.0	1,721	141.3	3,561	349.3	67.1	0.3	13.2	6.5	51.2	20.6	26.6	2.2	9.5	25.7	12.2	168.0	584.4																								
1993 June qtr	645	65.5	352	31.8	997	97.3	17.4	—	3.8	0.6	33.9	1.8	9.4	0.2	3.5	12.6	6.0	71.9	186.6																								
Sept. qtr	471	49.0	560	47.8	1,031	96.8	17.1	—	1.6	2.6	22.7	2.3	8.7	—	0.2	5.5	2.2	45.9	159.8																								
Dec. qtr	592	66.9	518	40.9	1,110	107.8	18.0	0.3	3.7	0.1	6.5	10.2	9.1	1.1	9.3	12.6	1.5	54.4	180.1																								
1994 Mar. qtr	372	46.1	370	29.1	742	75.2	14.1	—	1.4	3.7	9.1	6.1	4.0	0.6	—	3.1	5.8	33.8	123.1																								
June qtr r	405	46.0	273	23.6	678	69.5	18.0	—	6.4	0.1	12.9	2.0	4.8	0.5	—	4.4	2.8	33.9	121.4																								
Sept. qtr	436	47.8	781	61.3	1,217	109.1	17.5	—	1.8	0.3	78.7	1.3	3.2	0.2	49.4	14.4	0.2	149.6	276.1																								

TABLE 1. SUMMARY OF BUILDING ACTIVITY, AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY—continued

Period	New residential building				Non-residential building											Total building								
	Houses		Other residential buildings		Alterations and additions to residential buildings		Offices				Other business premises		Educational		Religious		Health		Recreational		Miscellaneous		Total	
	Number of dwelling units	Value (\$m)	Number of dwelling units	Value (\$m)	Value (\$m)	Number of dwelling units	Hotels etc.	Shops	Factories	Offices	Other business premises	Educational	Religious	Health	Recreational		Miscellaneous	Total						
VALUE OF WORK DONE DURING PERIOD																								
1991-92	..	199.7	..	128.0	377.6	57.4	1.6	10.6	1.5	201.2	10.0	40.6	1.5	31.4	26.9	8.0	333.3	718.4						
1992-93	..	242.3	..	146.2	388.5	59.1	2.0	9.5	2.7	92.1	20.3	46.1	0.7	39.9	34.2	10.3	257.8	705.4						
1993-94 1	..	205.8	..	167.5	373.4	67.7	0.6	14.0	5.1	141.0	15.4	20.3	1.6	17.9	26.2	18.0	260.1	701.2						
1993 June qtr	..	61.0	..	39.2	100.3	15.6	—	3.0	0.5	19.2	5.5	9.8	—	8.8	6.6	2.0	55.4	171.3						
Sept. qtr	..	58.4	..	42.3	100.8	16.4	0.2	2.9	2.4	29.0	3.3	3.9	0.3	8.9	5.8	3.2	59.7	176.9						
Dec. qtr	..	57.9	..	42.2	100.1	18.9	0.2	3.7	1.6	33.6	7.9	5.0	0.3	3.8	7.3	2.5	65.9	184.9						
1994 Mar. qtr	..	44.8	..	39.0	83.8	12.4	—	2.6	0.7	30.8	1.4	5.2	0.4	2.9	5.5	2.9	52.4	148.6						
June qtr	..	44.7	..	44.0	88.7	20.1	0.2	4.8	0.5	47.6	2.8	6.2	0.6	2.3	7.6	9.5	82.1	190.9						
Sept. qtr	..	58.6	..	59.7	118.2	19.2	0.4	3.5	0.2	41.9	4.6	13.9	0.9	6.1	0.9	4.2	76.6	214.0						
VALUE OF WORK YET TO BE DONE																								
1991-92	..	37.9	..	33.2	71.1	12.2	—	1.7	0.3	48.7	3.0	21.4	0.1	38.5	12.6	5.1	131.5	214.8						
1992-93	..	48.2	..	59.2	107.3	9.6	0.7	1.1	0.7	71.1	7.2	5.7	0.7	15.0	3.2	2.7	108.0	224.9						
1993-94 1	..	42.6	..	76.3	119.0	9.2	0.4	2.4	0.3	104.7	5.3	25.9	1.6	25.6	4.7	5.4	176.3	304.5						
1993 June qtr	..	48.2	..	59.2	107.3	9.6	0.7	1.1	0.7	71.1	7.2	5.7	0.7	15.0	3.2	2.7	108.0	224.9						
Sept. qtr	..	51.7	..	68.8	120.5	9.1	0.7	1.6	2.2	72.3	4.7	3.7	1.2	6.2	13.2	8.7	114.4	244.0						
Dec. qtr	..	45.5	..	51.7	97.2	7.8	0.7	2.6	0.7	52.6	0.9	6.0	0.8	5.4	8.9	6.7	85.3	190.4						
1994 Mar. qtr	..	42.7	..	75.5	118.2	8.7	0.6	1.5	—	130.7	0.4	22.6	1.3	27.0	10.0	6.7	200.7	327.6						
June qtr	..	42.6	..	76.3	119.0	9.2	0.4	2.4	0.3	104.7	5.3	25.9	1.6	25.6	4.7	5.4	176.3	304.5						
Sept. qtr	..	35.1	..	44.9	80.0	9.3	0.3	2.2	0.1	134.5	7.1	24.9	1.0	21.7	3.6	10.3	205.7	294.9						

NOTE: The number of self-contained dwelling units commenced as part of the construction of non-residential building and alterations and additions to existing buildings (including conversions to dwelling units) are excluded from this table. There were 1 such dwelling unit commenced in the September quarter 1994.

TABLE 2. SUMMARY OF PRIVATE SECTOR BUILDING ACTIVITY, AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

Period	New residential building				Non-residential building										Total building				
	Houses				Other residential buildings		Value (\$m)												
	Number of dwelling units	Value (\$m)	Number of dwelling units	Value (\$m)	Number of dwelling units	Value (\$m)	Alterations to and additions to residential buildings	Hotels etc.	Shops	Factories	Offices	Other business premises	Educational	Religious		Health	Recreational	Miscellaneous	Total
COMMENCED																			
1991-92	2,028	201.7	1,376	110.0	3,404	311.7	51.9	0.2	10.9	1.7	35.5	8.3	3.2	1.0	1.4	20.1	8.0	90.4	454.0
1992-93	2,408	251.3	1,849	151.9	4,257	403.3	55.5	2.6	9.3	2.9	22.8	14.4	3.7	1.2	2.9	11.3	1.6	72.6	531.4
1993-94	1,703	195.5	2,326	177.9	4,029	373.4	65.3	0.3	14.2	4.7	45.3	3.6	5.5	2.6	8.1	19.6	5.9	109.7	548.4
1993 June qtr	576	64.1	549	57.1	1,125	121.2	15.8	—	2.5	0.3	7.7	3.5	0.5	—	—	0.1	—	14.6	151.5
Sept. qtr	603	65.3	667	50.1	1,270	115.4	15.3	0.2	3.4	3.8	22.0	0.4	1.9	0.8	—	12.6	0.1	45.2	175.9
Dec. qtr	415	50.6	282	22.0	697	72.6	16.8	0.2	4.4	0.1	5.4	0.6	2.8	—	2.3	3.0	—	18.7	108.0
1994 Mar. qtr	316	36.4	799	60.7	1,115	97.1	12.7	—	0.7	0.1	8.3	0.5	0.4	0.8	5.3	4.0	0.6	20.6	130.4
June qtr	368	43.3	578	45.1	946	88.4	20.5	—	5.6	0.7	9.7	2.1	0.3	1.0	0.5	0.1	5.2	25.2	134.0
Sept. qtr	492	50.7	295	25.5	787	76.2	19.0	0.2	2.6	—	9.1	5.2	—	0.3	—	0.2	0.4	18.0	113.2
UNDER CONSTRUCTION AT END OF PERIOD																			
1991-92	777	94.0	773	94.0	1,550	187.9	24.2	—	2.1	0.6	58.1	8.9	0.6	1.1	—	12.1	6.5	90.0	302.1
1992-93	727	97.1	1,066	100.7	1,793	197.9	22.8	1.0	1.7	2.5	9.5	7.3	2.8	1.8	—	13.9	2.3	42.7	263.4
1993-94	600	85.6	1,785	149.6	2,385	235.1	26.2	1.0	4.0	0.7	36.0	1.2	—	2.1	8.1	18.9	5.3	77.3	338.7
1993 June qtr	727	97.1	1,066	100.7	1,793	197.9	22.8	1.0	1.7	2.5	9.5	7.3	2.8	1.8	—	13.9	2.3	42.7	263.4
Sept. qtr	859	109.8	1,194	105.8	2,053	215.6	24.8	1.2	3.6	3.7	21.5	5.8	1.9	2.6	—	21.9	0.2	62.3	302.7
Dec. qtr	679	94.1	982	91.7	1,661	185.7	24.4	1.0	4.5	3.7	25.4	2.7	4.5	1.5	2.3	15.0	0.1	60.7	270.9
1994 Mar. qtr	626	86.1	1,459	126.4	2,085	212.5	23.6	1.0	4.6	0.1	32.5	0.6	2.6	1.7	7.6	18.2	0.6	69.5	305.6
June qtr	600	85.6	1,785	149.6	2,385	235.1	26.2	1.0	4.0	0.7	36.0	1.2	—	2.1	8.1	18.9	5.3	77.3	338.7
Sept. qtr	673	90.1	1,335	115.7	2,008	205.8	28.0	1.2	4.9	0.4	16.9	5.6	—	2.2	5.3	4.5	5.7	46.7	280.5
COMPLETED																			
1991-92	1,772	181.3	1,186	103.2	2,958	284.5	48.4	0.2	12.7	1.1	103.0	6.9	10.6	1.0	5.5	18.6	1.7	161.4	494.4
1992-93	2,457	247.9	1,564	153.0	4,021	400.9	56.3	1.6	8.8	1.1	74.4	18.6	1.6	0.6	2.9	16.7	5.7	132.0	589.2
1993-94	1,826	207.0	1,607	131.8	3,433	338.7	63.9	0.3	12.8	6.5	20.9	10.5	7.8	2.2	—	18.1	2.9	82.0	484.7
1993 June qtr	645	65.5	309	27.7	954	93.2	14.4	—	3.4	0.6	17.1	1.5	0.2	0.2	2.7	2.6	4.5	32.9	140.5
Sept. qtr	471	49.0	539	45.9	1,010	94.9	14.0	—	1.6	2.6	11.4	2.3	2.8	—	—	5.5	2.2	28.4	137.3
Dec. qtr	592	66.9	494	38.6	1,086	105.5	18.0	0.3	3.6	0.1	1.6	4.2	0.1	1.1	—	10.0	0.1	21.1	144.5
1994 Mar. qtr	369	45.9	322	25.6	691	71.5	14.1	—	1.4	3.7	1.6	2.5	1.9	0.6	—	0.8	0.1	12.6	98.2
June qtr	394	45.1	252	21.8	646	66.9	18.0	—	6.2	0.1	6.3	1.5	3.0	0.5	—	1.9	0.5	19.9	104.8
Sept. qtr	419	46.5	745	58.4	1,164	104.9	17.5	—	1.6	0.3	25.6	0.8	—	0.3	2.8	14.2	—	45.6	167.9

TABLE 2. SUMMARY OF PRIVATE SECTOR BUILDING ACTIVITY, AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY—continued

Period	New residential building										Non-residential building																			
	Houses					Other residential buildings					Total					Alterations and additions to residential buildings etc.					Shops Factories Offices business premises Educational Religious Health					Entertainment and recreational Miscellaneous Total building				
	Number of dwelling units	Value (\$m)	Number of dwelling units	Value (\$m)	Number of dwelling units	Value (\$m)	Number of dwelling units	Value (\$m)	Hotels etc.	Value (\$m)	Shops	Factories	Offices	Business premises	Educational	Religious	Health	Entertainment and recreational	Miscellaneous	Total building										
VALUE OF WORK DONE DURING PERIOD																														
1991-92	..	199.3	..	118.5	..	317.8	..	53.7	0.2	9.8	1.4	78.8	9.1	4.0	1.5	4.1	19.3	3.5	131.8	503.3										
1992-93	..	241.1	..	132.0	..	373.6	..	54.3	1.9	9.0	2.6	52.9	17.6	3.6	0.7	2.9	22.3	5.5	118.9	546.8										
1993-94 r	..	203.0	..	160.6	..	363.6	..	67.4	0.6	13.7	5.1	39.2	6.2	5.6	1.6	3.6	20.7	2.2	98.5	529.5										
1993 June qtr	..	61.0	..	36.1	..	97.1	..	14.8	—	2.9	0.5	10.0	4.0	1.9	—	0.7	4.3	0.5	24.9	136.7										
Sept. qtr	..	58.3	..	40.5	..	98.8	..	16.1	0.2	2.9	2.4	10.3	2.6	1.0	0.3	—	4.9	0.7	25.1	140.0										
Dec. qtr	..	57.8	..	39.8	..	97.6	..	18.9	0.2	3.6	1.6	6.7	1.5	2.1	0.3	0.5	5.3	—	21.7	138.2										
1994 Mar. qtr	..	43.4	..	37.5	..	80.9	..	12.4	—	2.6	0.7	7.9	0.4	2.1	0.4	1.3	3.0	0.2	18.7	112.0										
June qtr r	..	43.5	..	42.7	..	86.2	..	20.1	0.2	4.6	0.5	14.2	1.7	0.5	0.6	1.8	7.5	1.3	33.0	139.3										
Sept. qtr	..	57.6	..	57.8	..	115.4	..	19.2	0.4	2.8	0.2	15.0	2.0	—	0.9	2.1	0.8	2.0	26.2	160.8										
VALUE OF WORK YET TO BE DONE																														
1991-92	..	37.8	..	28.2	..	66.0	..	8.4	—	1.7	0.3	30.9	3.0	0.4	0.1	—	6.1	4.6	47.1	121.5										
1992-93	..	48.2	..	55.5	..	103.6	..	9.3	0.7	1.0	0.7	3.9	2.5	0.6	0.7	—	2.2	0.7	12.9	125.8										
1993-94 r	..	40.9	..	75.5	..	116.4	..	9.2	0.4	2.4	0.3	12.1	0.7	—	1.6	4.4	4.6	4.3	30.9	156.6										
1993 June qtr	..	48.2	..	55.5	..	103.6	..	9.3	0.7	1.0	0.7	3.9	2.5	0.6	0.7	—	2.2	0.7	12.9	125.8										
Sept. qtr	..	51.6	..	65.8	..	117.4	..	9.1	0.7	1.6	2.2	17.0	0.7	1.5	1.2	—	10.8	—	35.8	162.3										
Dec. qtr	..	45.3	..	50.4	..	95.7	..	7.8	0.7	2.6	0.7	15.8	0.3	2.2	0.8	1.8	8.6	—	33.5	137.1										
1994 Mar. qtr	..	39.8	..	73.3	..	113.1	..	8.7	0.6	1.5	—	16.6	0.4	0.2	1.3	5.8	9.6	0.4	36.3	158.0										
June qtr r	..	40.9	..	75.5	..	116.4	..	9.2	0.4	2.4	0.3	12.1	0.7	—	1.6	4.4	4.6	4.3	30.9	156.6										
Sept. qtr	..	34.2	..	42.3	..	76.5	..	9.3	0.3	2.2	0.1	3.7	3.9	—	1.0	2.4	3.6	2.7	19.7	105.5										

TABLE 3. SUMMARY OF PUBLIC SECTOR BUILDING ACTIVITY, AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

		Value (\$m)																	
		New residential building					Non-residential building												
		Houses		Other residential buildings			Total												
Period	Number of dwelling units	Value (\$m)	Number of dwelling units	Value (\$m)	Number of dwelling units	Value (\$m)	Alterations and additions to residential buildings	Hotels etc.	Shops	Factories	Offices	Other business premises	Educational	Religious	Health	Entertainment and recreational	Miscellaneous	Total	Total building
COMMENCED																			
1991-92	1	0.3	125	10.7	126	11.0	4.6	—	0.4	0.1	60.5	0.3	33.5	—	51.6	8.1	3.0	157.6	173.2
1992-93	9	1.1	144	13.5	153	14.6	0.5	—	0.5	0.1	86.0	7.5	23.3	—	12.9	3.4	6.1	139.9	155.0
1993-94 r	61	4.6	57	4.7	118	9.3	—	—	0.3	—	121.8	8.9	28.7	—	19.7	4.8	14.2	198.4	207.8
1993 June qtr	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.1	—	45.8	0.7	0.7	—	2.8	0.3	—	50.4	50.4
Sept. qtr	4	0.3	11	1.1	15	1.4	—	—	—	—	6.7	—	0.1	—	—	2.2	9.1	18.1	19.5
Dec. qtr	2	0.2	10	0.7	12	0.9	—	—	0.1	—	8.6	2.8	4.5	—	—	—	—	16.1	17.0
1994 Mar. qtr	55	4.1	36	2.9	91	7.0	—	—	—	—	99.7	0.4	15.1	—	19.2	2.6	2.2	139.2	146.3
June qtr r	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.1	—	6.8	5.7	8.9	—	0.5	—	—	25.0	25.0
Sept. qtr	—	—	44	3.6	44	3.6	—	—	0.7	—	56.8	0.9	13.9	—	2.3	—	8.8	83.4	87.1
UNDER CONSTRUCTION AT END OF PERIOD																			
1991-92	1	0.3	98	8.5	99	8.7	6.6	2.0	—	—	141.7	—	35.4	—	49.6	11.9	1.8	242.4	257.7
1992-93	—	—	93	8.3	93	8.3	3.1	—	0.1	—	85.7	6.6	17.7	—	57.6	3.1	3.0	173.8	185.1
1993-94 r	47	3.5	36	2.9	83	6.4	—	—	—	—	182.6	5.6	34.3	—	68.5	0.1	8.4	299.5	305.9
1993 June qtr	—	—	93	8.3	93	8.3	3.1	—	0.1	—	85.7	6.6	17.7	—	57.6	3.1	3.0	173.8	185.1
Sept. qtr	4	0.3	83	7.5	87	7.8	—	—	0.1	—	81.2	6.6	11.9	—	57.4	5.3	12.0	174.4	182.2
Dec. qtr	6	0.5	69	5.8	75	6.2	—	—	—	—	84.7	3.6	7.5	—	48.8	2.7	11.2	158.5	164.8
1994 Mar. qtr	58	4.4	57	4.7	115	9.1	—	—	—	—	177.3	0.4	27.1	—	68.0	2.9	7.8	283.6	292.7
June qtr r	47	3.5	36	2.9	83	6.4	—	—	—	—	182.6	5.6	34.3	—	68.5	0.1	8.4	299.5	305.9
Sept. qtr	30	2.2	44	3.6	74	5.9	—	—	0.5	—	194.7	6.2	43.9	—	24.0	—	17.0	286.4	292.3
COMPLETED																			
1991-92	4	0.3	109	10.5	113	10.8	2.0	—	1.6	0.1	182.1	5.3	74.8	—	30.8	4.2	5.1	303.8	316.6
1992-93	10	1.4	141	12.4	151	13.8	4.8	2.0	0.5	0.1	144.7	0.9	43.9	—	5.5	15.2	5.2	217.9	236.5
1993-94 r	14	1.0	114	9.5	128	10.6	3.1	—	0.4	—	30.3	10.1	18.8	—	9.5	7.5	9.4	86.0	99.7
1993 June qtr	—	—	43	4.1	43	4.1	3.0	—	0.4	—	16.8	0.3	9.2	—	0.8	10.0	1.5	39.0	46.1
Sept. qtr	—	—	21	1.9	21	1.9	3.1	—	—	—	11.3	—	5.9	—	0.2	—	—	17.5	22.5
Dec. qtr	—	—	24	2.3	24	2.3	—	—	3.1	—	4.9	6.1	8.9	—	9.3	2.6	1.4	33.3	35.6
1994 Mar. qtr	3	0.2	48	3.5	51	3.7	—	—	—	—	7.5	3.6	2.1	—	—	2.4	5.6	21.2	24.9
June qtr r	11	0.8	21	1.8	32	2.7	—	—	3.1	—	6.6	0.5	1.8	—	—	2.6	2.3	14.0	16.7
Sept. qtr	17	1.4	36	2.9	53	4.3	—	—	0.2	—	53.1	0.5	3.2	—	46.6	0.1	0.2	104.0	108.2

TABLE 3. SUMMARY OF PUBLIC SECTOR BUILDING ACTIVITY, AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY—continued

		Value (\$m)																	
		New residential building					Non-residential building												
		Houses		Other residential buildings			Total												
Period	Number of dwelling units	Value (\$m)	Number of dwelling units	Value (\$m)	Number of dwelling units	Value (\$m)	Alterations and additions to residential buildings	Hotels etc.	Shops	Factories	Offices	Other business premises	Educa-tional	Reli-gious	Health	Enter-tainment and recrea-tional	Miscel-laneous	Total	Total building
VALUE OF WORK DONE DURING PERIOD																			
1991-92	..	0.4	..	9.5	..	9.9	3.7	1.4	0.8	0.1	122.3	0.9	36.5	—	27.4	7.6	4.5	201.5	215.1
1992-93	..	1.2	..	13.7	..	14.9	4.8	—	0.5	0.1	39.2	2.8	42.5	—	37.0	11.9	4.8	138.9	158.6
1993-94 r	..	2.8	..	7.0	..	9.8	0.3	—	0.3	—	101.8	9.2	14.7	—	14.2	5.5	15.8	161.6	171.7
1993 June qtr	..	—	..	3.2	..	3.2	0.8	—	0.1	—	9.2	1.5	7.9	—	8.1	2.2	1.4	30.5	34.5
Sept. qtr	..	0.1	..	1.8	..	1.9	0.3	—	—	—	18.7	0.7	2.9	—	8.9	0.9	2.5	34.6	36.9
Dec. qtr	..	0.1	..	2.3	..	2.5	—	—	0.1	—	26.9	6.3	2.9	—	3.3	2.1	2.5	44.2	46.6
1994 Mar. qtr	..	1.3	..	1.5	..	2.8	—	—	—	—	22.8	1.0	3.2	—	1.6	2.5	2.7	33.7	36.6
June qtr r	..	1.2	..	1.3	..	2.6	—	—	0.1	—	33.4	1.1	5.7	—	0.5	0.1	8.2	49.0	51.6
Sept. qtr	..	0.9	..	1.9	..	2.8	—	—	0.7	—	26.9	2.6	13.9	—	4.0	0.1	2.2	50.3	53.2
VALUE OF WORK YET TO BE DONE																			
1991-92	..	0.1	..	5.0	..	5.1	3.8	—	—	—	17.8	—	21.1	—	38.5	6.5	0.5	84.4	93.3
1992-93	..	—	..	3.7	..	3.7	0.3	—	—	—	67.3	4.7	5.1	—	15.0	1.0	2.1	95.1	99.1
1993-94 r	..	1.7	..	0.8	..	2.6	—	—	—	—	92.6	4.6	25.9	—	21.1	0.1	1.1	145.4	148.0
1993 June qtr	..	—	..	3.7	..	3.7	0.3	—	—	—	67.3	4.7	5.1	—	15.0	1.0	2.1	95.1	99.1
Sept. qtr	..	0.2	..	3.0	..	3.1	—	—	—	—	55.2	4.0	2.2	—	6.2	2.3	8.6	78.6	81.7
Dec. qtr	..	0.2	..	1.3	..	1.5	—	—	—	—	36.8	0.7	3.8	—	3.6	0.3	6.7	51.8	53.3
1994 Mar. qtr	..	3.0	..	2.2	..	5.1	—	—	—	—	114.1	0.1	22.4	—	21.2	0.4	6.3	164.4	169.5
June qtr r	..	1.7	..	0.8	..	2.6	—	—	—	—	92.6	4.6	25.9	—	21.1	0.1	1.1	145.4	148.0
Sept. qtr	..	0.9	..	2.6	..	3.4	—	—	0.1	—	130.8	3.2	24.9	—	19.3	—	7.7	186.0	189.4

**TABLE 4. NUMBER OF DWELLING UNITS BY STAGE OF CONSTRUCTION, AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED SERIES**

<i>Period</i>	<i>Houses</i>				<i>Total</i>			
	<i>Private sector</i>		<i>Total</i>		<i>Private sector</i>		<i>Total</i>	
	<i>Commenced</i>	<i>Completed</i>	<i>Commenced</i>	<i>Completed</i>	<i>Commenced</i>	<i>Completed</i>	<i>Commenced</i>	<i>Completed</i>
1993 June qtr	546	667	553	643	1,109	994	1,106	1,033
Sept. qtr	589	417	577	423	1,102	869	1,041	892
Dec. qtr	437	543	427	552	726	990	796	1,016
1994 Mar. qtr	325	452	398	457	1,283	873	1,405	929
June qtr	350	410	355	406	932	679	933	709
Sept. qtr	479	369	465	390	680	993	669	1,044

**TABLE 5. VALUE OF BUILDING WORK DONE, AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED SERIES
(\$ million)**

<i>Period</i>	<i>New residential building</i>		<i>Alterations and additions to residential buildings</i>	<i>Non-residential building</i>	<i>Total building</i>
	<i>Houses</i>	<i>Total</i>			
1993 June qtr	58.4	100.4	14.8	56.9	169.6
Sept. qtr	55.8	100.0	15.9	56.9	174.9
Dec. qtr	56.9	94.3	17.6	61.6	173.5
1994 Mar. qtr	50.3	90.0	14.8	58.0	163.1
June qtr	42.7	88.6	19.0	84.1	186.5
Sept. qtr	56.0	117.4	18.6	73.0	212.0

**TABLE 6. VALUE OF BUILDING WORK COMMENCED, AT AVERAGE 1989-90 PRICES (a), AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY
(\$ million)**

Period	New residential building			Alterations and additions to residential buildings	Non-residential building		Total building
	Houses	Other residential buildings	Total		Private sector	Total	
1991-92	166.6	114.2	280.8	46.4	85.6	235.2	562.4
1992-93	190.7	157.8	348.5	42.2	69.4	203.0	593.7
1993-94 r	147.2	173.5	320.7	48.4	104.8	294.2	663.3
1993 June qtr	47.5	54.5	102.0	11.7	14.0	62.2	175.9
Sept. qtr	48.3	48.8	97.1	11.3	43.2	60.5	168.9
Dec. qtr	37.3	21.6	58.9	12.4	17.9	33.3	104.6
1994 Mar. qtr	29.7	60.4	90.1	9.4	19.7	152.5	252.0
June qtr r	31.9	42.7	74.6	15.3	24.0	47.9	137.8
Sept. qtr	37.6	27.5	65.1	14.2	17.2	96.7	176.0

(a) See paragraphs 24 and 25 of the Explanatory Notes. Constant price estimates are subject to revision each quarter as more up to date information on prices and commodity compositions becomes available.

**TABLE 7. VALUE OF BUILDING WORK DONE, AT AVERAGE 1989-90 PRICES (a), AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY
ORIGINAL AND SEASONALLY ADJUSTED SERIES
(\$ million)**

Period	New residential building			Alterations and additions to residential buildings	Non-residential building		Total building
	Houses	Other residential buildings	Total		Private sector	Total	
ORIGINAL.							
1991-92	165.4	119.5	284.9	47.5	122.9	310.9	643.3
1992-93	182.9	137.9	320.8	44.4	111.6	241.8	607.0
1993-94 r	152.1	157.6	309.7	49.9	92.6	244.4	604.0
1993 June qtr	45.0	37.2	82.2	11.5	23.5	52.2	145.9
Sept. qtr	43.6	39.9	83.5	12.2	23.6	56.2	151.9
Dec. qtr	42.9	39.7	82.6	14.0	20.4	61.9	158.5
1994 Mar. qtr	33.3	36.7	70.0	9.2	17.6	49.3	128.5
June qtr r	32.3	41.3	73.6	14.5	31.0	77.0	165.1
Sept. qtr	43.6	56.0	99.6	14.3	24.6	71.8	185.7
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED							
1993 June qtr	43.1	n.a.	82.3	10.9	n.a.	53.6	144.5
Sept. qtr	41.7	n.a.	82.8	11.8	n.a.	53.6	150.2
Dec. qtr	42.1	n.a.	77.8	13.1	n.a.	57.8	148.7
1994 Mar. qtr	37.4	n.a.	75.2	11.0	n.a.	54.5	141.1
June qtr r	30.9	n.a.	73.5	13.7	n.a.	78.9	163.0
Sept. qtr	41.7	n.a.	98.9	13.8	n.a.	68.4	184.0

(a) See paragraphs 24 to 26 of the Explanatory Notes. Constant price estimates are subject to revision each quarter as more up to date information on prices and commodity compositions becomes available.

TABLE 8. NUMBER OF DWELLING UNITS BY OWNERSHIP,
CLASS OF BUILDER AND STAGE OF CONSTRUCTION,
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

Period	Private sector			Public sector			Total				
	Houses			Other residential buildings	Total	Other residential buildings					
	Contractor-built	Other	Total			Houses	Other residential buildings	Total			
COMMENCED											
1991-92	1,900	128	2,028	1,376	3,404	1	125	126	2,029	1,501	3,530
1992-93	2,241	167	2,408	1,849	4,257	9	144	153	2,417	1,993	4,410
1993-94 r	1,607	96	1,703	2,326	4,029	61	57	118	1,764	2,383	4,147
1993 June qtr	537	38	576	549	1,125	—	—	—	576	549	1,125
Sept. qtr	572	32	603	667	1,270	4	11	15	607	678	1,285
Dec. qtr	386	30	415	282	697	2	10	12	417	292	709
1994 Mar. qtr	297	20	316	799	1,115	55	36	91	371	835	1,206
June qtr r	353	15	368	578	946	—	—	—	368	578	946
Sept. qtr	489	3	492	295	787	—	44	44	492	339	831
UNDER CONSTRUCTION AT END OF PERIOD											
1991-92	669	108	777	773	1,550	1	98	99	778	871	1,649
1992-93	599	128	727	1,066	1,793	—	93	93	727	1,159	1,886
1993-94 r	523	77	600	1,785	2,385	47	36	83	647	1,821	2,468
1993 June qtr	599	128	727	1,066	1,793	—	93	93	727	1,159	1,886
Sept. qtr	733	126	859	1,194	2,053	4	83	87	863	1,277	2,140
Dec. qtr	555	124	679	982	1,661	6	69	75	685	1,051	1,736
1994 Mar. qtr	519	108	626	1,459	2,085	58	57	115	684	1,516	2,200
June qtr r	523	77	600	1,785	2,385	47	36	83	647	1,821	2,468
Sept. qtr	609	65	673	1,335	2,008	30	44	74	703	1,379	2,082
COMPLETED											
1991-92	1,691	81	1,772	1,186	2,958	4	109	113	1,776	1,295	3,071
1992-93	2,309	147	2,457	1,564	4,021	10	141	151	2,467	1,705	4,172
1993-94 r	1,678	148	1,826	1,607	3,433	14	114	128	1,840	1,721	3,561
1993 June qtr	598	47	645	309	954	—	43	43	645	352	997
Sept. qtr	438	34	471	539	1,010	—	21	21	471	560	1,031
Dec. qtr	559	33	592	494	1,086	—	24	24	592	518	1,110
1994 Mar. qtr	333	36	369	322	691	3	48	51	372	370	742
June qtr r	348	46	394	252	646	11	21	32	405	273	678
Sept. qtr	403	15	419	745	1,164	17	36	53	436	781	1,217

TABLE 9. NUMBER AND VALUE OF NEW HOUSES BUILT BY CONTRACT BUILDERS FOR PRIVATE OWNERSHIP, BY COMPLETION VALUE RANGE AND STAGE OF CONSTRUCTION AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

Period	Commenced				Under construction at end of period				Completed			
	Less than \$40,000	\$40,000 to \$59,999	\$60,000 and over	Total	Less than \$40,000	\$40,000 to \$59,999	\$60,000 and over	Total	Less than \$40,000	\$40,000 to \$59,999	\$60,000 and over	Total
	NUMBER											
1991-92	9	225	1,666	1,900	—	32	637	669	12	241	1,437	1,691
1992-93	5	320	1,916	2,241	—	52	547	599	12	297	2,000	2,309
1993-94 r	4	67	1,536	1,607	—	11	512	523	4	101	1,573	1,678
1993 June qtr	—	104	433	537	—	52	547	599	—	111	487	598
Sept. qtr	—	34	537	572	—	30	704	733	—	53	385	438
Dec. qtr	—	15	371	386	—	4	551	555	—	41	518	559
1994 Mar. qtr	—	4	293	297	—	—	519	519	—	4	329	333
June qtr r	4	15	335	353	—	11	512	523	4	4	341	348
Sept. qtr	—	47	442	489	—	27	581	609	—	34	369	403
VALUE (\$m)												
1991-92	0.3	12.3	172.0	184.6	—	1.8	76.8	78.6	0.4	12.9	156.0	169.3
1992-93	0.2	17.4	211.1	228.7	—	2.9	76.1	79.0	0.4	16.1	211.6	228.1
1993-94 r	0.1	3.8	178.9	182.8	—	0.6	71.5	72.2	0.1	5.5	182.1	187.8
1993 June qtr	—	5.5	53.2	58.7	—	2.9	76.1	79.0	—	5.9	53.7	59.6
Sept. qtr	—	1.9	59.5	61.4	—	1.7	90.1	91.8	—	2.8	41.9	44.7
Dec. qtr	—	0.8	46.2	47.0	—	0.2	75.3	75.5	—	2.3	60.7	62.9
1994 Mar. qtr	—	0.2	33.4	33.6	—	—	69.7	69.7	—	0.2	40.5	40.7
June qtr r	0.1	0.9	39.8	40.8	—	0.6	71.5	72.2	0.1	0.2	39.0	39.4
Sept. qtr	—	2.6	47.4	50.0	—	1.5	76.8	78.3	—	1.9	42.0	44.0

TABLE 10. SUMMARY OF BUILDING ACTIVITY, AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY
RELATIVE STANDARD ERRORS (PER CENT)
SEPTEMBER QUARTER 1994

Ownership and stage of construction	New residential building				Value	
	Houses		Total		Alterations and additions to residential buildings	Total building
	Number	Value	Number of dwelling units	Value		
PRIVATE SECTOR						
Commenced	2.4	2.7	1.5	1.8	3.3	1.3
Under construction at end of period	4.2	3.9	1.4	1.7	3.5	1.3
Completed	6.6	7.4	2.4	3.3	4.4	2.1
Value of work done	..	3.4	..	1.7	3.0	1.3
Value of work yet to be done	..	5.3	..	2.4	5.0	1.8
TOTAL PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SECTORS						
Commenced	2.4	2.7	1.4	1.7	3.5	0.8
Under construction at end of period	4.0	3.8	1.4	1.7	3.5	0.6
Completed	6.3	7.2	2.3	3.2	4.4	1.3
Value of work done	..	3.3	..	1.6	3.0	1.0
Value of work yet to be done	..	5.1	..	2.3	5.0	0.6

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

This publication contains detailed results from the quarterly Building Activity Survey. Users should note that data for the latest quarter is subject to revision.

2. The statistics are compiled on the basis of returns collected from builders and other individuals and organisations engaged in building activity. The quarterly survey consists of two components.

- (a) A sample survey of private sector house building activity involving new house construction or alterations and additions valued at \$10,000 or more to houses.
- (b) A complete enumeration of jobs involving construction of new residential buildings other than private sector houses, all alterations and additions to residential buildings (other than private sector houses) with an approval value of \$10,000 or more, and all non-residential building jobs with an approval value of \$50,000 or more.

3. Prior to the September quarter 1990, the cut-off for inclusion of non-residential building jobs (both new and alterations and additions) was \$30,000 or more and prior to the September quarter 1985 it was \$10,000 or more. Care should be taken in interpreting data for specific classes of non-residential building.

4. The use of sample survey techniques in the Building Activity Survey means that reliable estimates of private sector house building activity, including alterations and additions to houses, are available only at the State/Territory and Australia levels with the exception of the Northern Territory. However, dwelling unit commencement data for regions below State level are shown in the monthly series of dwelling unit commencements compiled by State offices of the ABS. Data from this series, unlike those compiled from the Building Activity Survey, are based on information reported by local and other government authorities.

Scope and coverage

5. The statistics relate to *building* activity which includes construction of new buildings and alterations and additions to existing buildings. Construction activity not defined as building (e.g. construction of roads, bridges, railways, earthworks, etc.) is excluded.

6. Building jobs included in each quarter in the Building Activity Survey comprise those building jobs selected in previous quarters which have not been completed (or commenced) by the end of the previous quarter and those building jobs newly selected in the current quarter. The population list from which building jobs are selected for inclusion comprises all approved building jobs which were notified to the ABS up to but not including the last month of the reference quarter (e.g. up to the end of August in respect of the September quarter survey). This introduces a lag to the statistics in respect of those building jobs notified and commenced in the last month of the reference quarter (e.g. for the month of September in respect of the September quarter survey). For example, building jobs which were notified as approved in the month of June and which actually commenced in that month are shown as commencements in the September quarter. Similarly, building jobs which were notified in the month of September and which actually commenced in that month are shown as commencements in the December quarter.

Definitions

7. A *building* is defined as a rigid, fixed and permanent structure which has a roof. Its intended purpose is primarily to house people, plant, machinery, vehicles, goods or livestock. An integral feature of a building's design, to satisfy its intended use, is the provision for regular access by persons.

8. A *dwelling unit* is defined as a self-contained suite of rooms, including cooking and bathing facilities and intended for long-term residential use. Units (whether self-contained or not) within buildings offering institutional care, such as hospitals, or temporary accommodation such as motels, hostels and holiday apartments, are not defined as dwelling units. The value of units of this type is included in the appropriate category of non-residential building.

9. A *residential building* is defined as a building predominantly consisting of one or more dwelling units. Residential buildings can be either *houses* or *other residential buildings*.

- (a) A *house* is defined as a detached building predominantly used for long-term residential purposes and consisting of only one dwelling unit. Thus, detached 'granny flats' and detached dwelling units (such as caretakers' residences) associated with non-residential buildings are defined as houses for the purpose of these statistics.

- (b) An *other residential building* is defined as a building which is predominantly used for long-term residential purposes and which contains (or has attached to it) more than one dwelling unit (e.g. includes townhouses, duplexes, apartment buildings, etc.).

10. The number of dwelling units created by alterations and additions to existing buildings, and through the construction of new non-residential buildings, is not included in the tables but is shown as a footnote to Table 1.

11. *Commenced*. A building job is regarded as commenced when the first physical building activity has been performed on site in the form of materials fixed in place and/or labour expended (this includes site preparation but excludes delivery of building materials, the drawing of plans and specifications and the construction of non-building infrastructures such as roads).

12. *Under construction*. A building job is regarded as being under construction at the end of a period if it has been commenced but has not been completed, and work on it has not been abandoned.

13. *Completed*. A building job is regarded as completed when building activity has progressed to the stage when the building can fulfil its intended function. In practice, the ABS regards buildings as completed when notified as such by respondents to the survey.

Valuation of building jobs

14. The value series in this publication are derived from estimates reported on survey returns as follows.

- (a) *Value of building commenced or under construction* represents the anticipated completion value based, where practicable, on estimated market or contract price of building jobs excluding the value of land and landscaping. Site preparation costs are included. Where building jobs proceed over several quarters, the

anticipated completion value reported on the return for the first (commencement) quarter may be amended on returns for subsequent (under construction) quarters as the job nears completion.

- (b) *Value of building completed* represents the actual completion value based, where practicable, on the market or contract price of building jobs including site preparation costs but excluding the value of land and landscaping.
- (c) *Value of building work done during the period* represents the estimated value of building work actually carried out during the quarter on building jobs which have commenced.
- (d) *Value of building work yet to be done* represents the difference between the anticipated completion value and the estimated value of work done up to the end of the period on building jobs commenced but not completed.

Building classification

15. *Ownership.* The ownership of a building is classified as either *public sector* or *private sector* according to the sector of the intended owner of the completed building as evident at the time of approval. Residential buildings being constructed by private sector builders under government housing authority schemes whereby the authority has contracted, or intends to contract, to purchase the buildings on or before completion, are classified as public sector.

16. *Builder type.* Houses are classified according to the type of builder as follows.

- (a) *Contractor-built houses* are those constructed by a private recognised building contractor, either under contract, or in anticipation of sale or rental.
- (b) *Houses built by other than contract builders* are those constructed by an owner (other than a recognised building contractor) or under the owner's direction, without the services of a single contractor responsible for the whole job. Houses built by businesses (other than recognised building contractors) and public sector organisations are also included in this category.

17. *Functional classification of buildings.* A building is classified according to its intended major function. Hence, a building which is ancillary to other buildings or forms a part of a group of related buildings is classified to the function of the building and not to the function of the group as a whole. An example of this can be seen in the treatment of building work approved for a factory complex. In this case a detached administration building would be classified to Offices, a detached cafeteria building to Shops, while factory buildings would be classified to Factories. An exception to this rule is the treatment of group accommodation buildings where, for example, a student accommodation building on a university campus would be classified to Educational.

18. Examples of the types of buildings included under each main functional heading are shown in the following list.

- (a) *Houses.* Includes cottages, bungalows, detached caretakers'/managers' cottages, rectories.
- (b) *Other residential buildings.* Includes blocks of flats, home units, attached townhouses, villa units, terrace houses, semi-detached houses, maisonettes.
- (c) *Hotels, etc.* Includes motels, hostels, boarding houses, guesthouses, holiday apartment buildings.

(d) *Shops.* Includes retail shops, restaurants, cafes, taverns, dry cleaners, laundromats, hair salons, shopping arcades.

(c) *Factories.* Includes paper mills, oil refinery buildings, brickworks, foundries, powerhouses, manufacturing laboratories, workshops as part of a manufacturing process.

(f) *Offices.* Includes banks, post offices, council chambers, head and regional offices.

(g) *Other business premises.* Includes warehouses, storage depots, service stations, transport depots and terminals, electricity substation buildings, pumping station buildings, telephone exchanges, mail sorting centres, broadcasting stations, film studios.

(h) *Educational.* Includes schools, colleges, kindergartens, libraries, museums, art galleries, research and teaching laboratories, theological colleges.

(i) *Religious.* Includes churches, chapels, temples.

(j) *Health.* Includes hospitals, nursing homes, surgeries, clinics, medical centres.

(k) *Entertainment and recreational.* Includes clubs, theatres, cinemas, public halls, gymnasiums, grandstands, squash courts, sports and recreation centres.

(l) *Miscellaneous.* Includes law courts, homes for the aged (where medical care is not provided as a normal service), orphanages, gaols, barracks, mine buildings, glasshouses, livestock sheds, shearing sheds, fruit and skin drying sheds, public toilets, and ambulance, fire and police stations.

Reliability of the estimates

19. Since the figures for private sector house building activity (including alterations and additions) are derived from information obtained from a sample of approved building jobs, they are subject to sampling error; that is, they may differ from the figures that would have been obtained if information for all approved jobs for the relevant period had been included in the survey. One measure of the likely difference is given by the *standard error*, which indicates the extent to which an estimate might have varied by chance because only a sample of approved jobs was included. There are about two chances in three that a sample estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the figure that would have been obtained if all approved jobs had been included, and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two standard errors. Another measure of sampling variability is the *relative standard error*, which is obtained by expressing the standard error as a percentage of the estimate to which it refers. The relative standard errors of estimates provide an indication of the percentage errors likely to have occurred due to sampling, and are shown in Table 10.

20. An example of the use of relative standard errors is as follows. Assume that the estimate of the number of new private sector houses commenced during the latest quarter is 2,000 (for actual estimate see Table 2) and that the associated relative standard error is 2.5 per cent (for actual percentage see Table 10). There would then be about two chances in three that the number which would have been obtained if information had been collected about all approved private sector house jobs would have been within the range 1,950 to 2,050 (2.5 per cent of 2,000 is 50) and about nineteen chances in twenty that the number would have been within the range 1,900 to 2,100.

21. The imprecision due to sampling variability, which is measured by the relative standard error, should not be confused with inaccuracies that may occur because of inadequacies in the source of building approval information, imperfections in reporting by respondents, and errors made in the coding and processing of data. Inaccuracies of this kind are referred to as non-sampling error, and may occur in any enumeration whether it be a full count or only a sample. Every effort is made to reduce the non-sampling error to a minimum by the careful design of questionnaires, efforts to obtain responses for all selected building jobs, and efficient operating procedures.

Seasonal adjustment

22. Seasonally adjusted building statistics are shown in Tables 4, 5 and 7. In the seasonally adjusted series, account has been taken of normal seasonal factors and trading day effects (arising from the varying numbers of Sundays, Mondays, Tuesdays, etc. in the quarter) and the effect of the movement in the date of Easter which may, in successive years, affect figures for different quarters. Details of the methods used in seasonally adjusting the series are given in *Seasonally Adjusted Indicators, Australia* (1308.0).

23. Since seasonally adjusted statistics reflect both irregular and trend movements, an upward or downward movement in a seasonally adjusted series does not necessarily indicate a change of trend. Particular care should therefore be taken in interpreting individual quarter to quarter movements. Each of the component series shown has been seasonally adjusted independently. As a consequence, while the unadjusted components in the original series shown add to the totals, the adjusted components may not add to the adjusted totals. Further, the difference between independently seasonally adjusted series does not necessarily produce series which are optimal or even adequate adjustments of the similarly derived original series. Thus the figures which can be derived by subtracting seasonally adjusted private sector dwelling units from the seasonally adjusted total should not be used to represent seasonally adjusted public sector dwelling units.

Estimates at constant prices

24. Estimates of the value of commencements and work done at average 1989-90 prices are shown in Tables 6 and 7. Constant price estimates measure changes in value after the direct effects of price changes have been eliminated. The deflators used to revalue the current price estimates in this publication are derived from the same price data underlying the deflators compiled for the dwellings and non-dwelling construction components of the national accounts aggregate 'Gross fixed capital expenditure'.

25. Estimates at constant prices are subject to a number of approximations and assumptions. Further information on the nature and concepts of constant price estimates is contained in Chapter 4 of *Australian National Accounts: Concepts, Sources and Methods* (5216.0).

26. The factors used to seasonally adjust the constant price series are identical to those used to adjust the corresponding current price series.

Unpublished data and related publications

27. The ABS can also make available certain building approvals and activity data which are not published. Where it is not practicable to provide the required information by telephone, data can be provided in the following forms: microfiche, photocopy, computer printout, floppy disk and clerically extracted tabulation. Inquiries should be made to the contact shown at the front of this publication.

28. Users may also wish to refer to the following building and construction publications which are available on request:

Building Approvals, Australia (8731.0) – monthly (\$13.50)
Building Activity, Australia: Dwelling Unit Commencements, Preliminary (8750.0) – quarterly (\$11.00)
Engineering Construction Activity, Australia (8762.0) – quarterly (\$11.00)

29. Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products, Australia* (1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Publications Advice* (1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The Catalogue and Publications Advice are available from any ABS office.

Symbols and other usages

n.a. not available
 .. not applicable
 — nil or rounded to zero
 r figure or series revised since previous issue

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

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