

VICTORIAN YEAR BOOK 1998

Number 110

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**VICTORIAN
YEAR BOOK
1998**

NUMBER 110

**STUART JACKSON
REGIONAL DIRECTOR**

**AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS
VICTORIAN OFFICE**

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PREFACE

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) is Australia's official statistical agency. The mission of the ABS is to assist and encourage informed decision-making, research and discussion within governments and the community, by providing a high quality, objective and responsive national statistical service.

In order to produce official statistics, the ABS undertakes a large number of separate collections, ranging from periodic censuses to regular surveys to provide current social and economic indicators. This 1998 edition of the Victorian Year Book presents a wide range of statistical information on the social, demographic and economic structure of Victoria and represents a first point of reference for people throughout the community endeavouring to satisfy their statistical needs.

The feature article for 1998, the 110th edition of the Victorian Year Book, is on multimedia. This article is written by Multimedia Victoria, which was established by the Victorian Government to provide leadership, facilitate growth and provide other supports for the development of the Victorian information industries. This feature defines multimedia, discusses Victoria's ability to embrace this technology and position Victoria as a multimedia hub, outlines the Victorian information industries and highlights the Governments initiatives in this industry.

Special articles in this edition have been provided by : The Department of Treasury and Finance, Parks Victoria, Australian Red Cross Blood Service—Victoria, Crimestoppers, Tourism Victoria, Monash University Accident Research Centre, The Department of Natural Resources, The Melbourne City Council and the Australian Chamber of Manufacturers.

All sources have been carefully referenced to assist those seeking more detailed data. If further information is required ABS publications can be accessed through public libraries, obtained via our subscription service or purchased on an ad hoc basis. An extensive range of products and services, including a comprehensive consultancy service, is also available through the Information Services Section on (03) 9615 7755.

The production of the Year Book has involved significant input from a number of individuals within the ABS and from various other organisations who have contributed material for inclusion. I would like to take the opportunity to acknowledge the efforts of all those involved in bringing together this edition of the Victorian Year Book.

Stuart Jackson
Regional Director
March 1998

GENERAL INFORMATION

Symbols

The following symbols mean:

- n.a. not available
 - n.e.c. not elsewhere classified
 - n.e.s. not elsewhere specified
 - n.f.d. not further defined
 - n.p. not available for publication, but included in totals where applicable
 - n.y.a. not yet available
 - p preliminary – figure or series subject to revision
 - r figure or series revised since previous issue
 - .. not applicable
 - nil or rounded down to zero
 - break in continuity of series (where a line is drawn across a column between two consecutive figures)
 - * subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes
- M, males; F, females; T, total

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), SA (South Australia), WA (Western Australia), Tas. (Tasmania), NT (Northern Territory), ACT (Australian Capital Territory), and Aust. (Australia).

Yearly periods ending 31 December are shown as a single number, e.g. 1995. Yearly periods ending 30 June are specified as the years spanned e.g. 1995–96. Other yearly periods are specifically indicated.

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

All data are presented in metric terms.

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

Availability of ABS products and services

Information regarding the availability of ABS data can be obtained from the Information Services Section, Australian Bureau of Statistics, Box 2796Y, GPO, Melbourne, 3001, phone (03) 9615 7000. All publications issued by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications, Australia* (1101.0) which is available from any ABS Office.

This and other publications are available through ABS Subscription Services, Freecall 1800 020608.