



ECONOMIC INDICATORS

NEW SOUTH WALES

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- For more information about these and related statistics, contact Bill Markham on (02) 9268 4376 or e-mail bill.markham@abs.gov.au or refer to the back cover of this publication.

NOTES

GENERAL

This publication provides information on a wide range of economic indicators which are the latest available at the time of publication. In a number of cases, figures appearing in this summary are preliminary and are subject to revision in subsequent issues.

CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

Please note that changes in the scope of the Survey of Tourist Accommodation mean data presented in tables 14, 15, graph 16 and referred to in the overview and main features of this publication will not be strictly comparable with previously published data. This data presents the first information collected in the revised survey. Information in respect of 1997 has been re-tabulated on the basis of the new survey.

Data relating to the Sydney Tourism Region excludes Gosford, Wyong and Blue Mountains Statistical Local Areas (SLAs). Data was previously published for the Sydney Statistical Division which includes these SLAs.

SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT AND TREND ESTIMATION

Seasonal adjustment is a means of removing the estimated effects of normal seasonal variation from a series so that the effects of other variations on that series can be more clearly recognised. Seasonal adjustment does not aim to remove the irregular or non-seasonal influences which may be present. This means that movements of seasonally adjusted estimates may not be reliable indicators of trend behaviour. Smoothing seasonally adjusted series produces a measure of the underlying trend by reducing the impact of the irregular component of the series. This smoothing technique does result in revisions to the most recent estimates as additional observations become available. For an explanation of seasonal adjustment derivation, refer to the publication *Seasonally Adjusted Indicators* (Cat. no. 1308.0).

STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATES

One measure of the variability which occurs as a result of surveying only samples of the total business population is the standard error. There are about two chances in three that a survey estimate is within one standard error of the figure that would have been obtained if all businesses had been included, and about 19 chances in 20 that it is within two standard errors. The standard error can also be expressed as a percentage of the estimate and this is known as the relative standard error (RSE). For detailed explanatory notes and definitions for the items shown in this publication, readers are referred to the specific ABS publications.

Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications* (Cat. no. 1101.0). A *Release Advice* (Cat. no. 1105.0) is issued on Tuesdays and Fridays which lists publications to be released in the next few days. These publications are available from any ABS office.

SYMBOLS AND OTHER USAGES

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kWh	kilowatt hour
teraJ	terajoule
n.a.	not available
n.p.	not available for publication but included in totals where applicable
n.y.a	not yet available
r	figure or series revised since previous issue
..	not applicable
—	nil or rounded to zero
—	break in continuity of series (where a line is drawn across a column between two consecutive figures)

Gregory W. Bray
Regional Director
New South Wales

NSW OVERVIEW

EMPLOYMENT

The number of employed persons in NSW was 2,864,600 in seasonally adjusted terms in June 1998, a rise of 1.0% since May. National employment rose marginally in June.

UNEMPLOYMENT

Unemployment in NSW rose by 1.0% in June 1998 to a seasonally adjusted figure of 234,300. The unemployment rate remained at 7.6% in June in NSW while the national rate rose slightly to 8.2%.

BUILDING APPROVALS

The seasonally adjusted number of new dwelling units approved for NSW in May 1998 decreased by 17.9% from the previous month to 4,127.

RETAIL

In seasonally adjusted terms, total retail sales for NSW in May 1998 was \$3,985.2 million, an increase of 0.7% compared to the previous month.

NEW MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS

In seasonally adjusted terms, new motor vehicle registrations for NSW in May 1998 fell by 3.8% from the previous month to 21,923.

FINANCE

The value of housing finance commitments for owner occupation in NSW in May 1998 was \$1,858.7 million. This represented a 2.2% decrease from April 1998 and a 4.2% decrease from May 1997.

TOURIST ACCOMMODATION

Room nights occupied in licensed hotels, motels and guest houses and serviced apartments with 15 or more rooms or units in NSW decreased by 2.1% in the March quarter 1998 compared with the December quarter 1997 and also decreased by 0.4% compared with the March quarter 1997.

MAIN FEATURES

NEW MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS

In seasonally adjusted terms, the number of new motor vehicle registrations for NSW in May 1998 was 21,923, a decrease of 3.8% on the previous month but 11.3% up on May 1997. The national figure showed identical movements for the same periods.

The seasonally adjusted figure for passenger vehicles for NSW in May 1998 was 18,640, a decline of 3.6% on the previous month but an increase of 10.1% on the previous year. The national figure was 54,372, showing similar movements over the same periods.

The figure for new registrations of other vehicles (excluding motor cycles) for NSW in May 1998 was 3,282. This represented a decrease of 4.9% on the previous month but 18.5% up on May 1997. Nationally, there was decrease of 8.2% and an increase of 14.5% respectively over the same periods.

TOURISM

In NSW, room occupancy rates for licensed hotels, motels and guest houses and serviced apartments with 15 or more rooms or units, decreased by 1.6% in the March quarter 1998 compared with the December quarter 1997 and decreased by 4.8% compared with the March quarter 1997. At the national level, the room occupancy rate fell by 3.0% from the December quarter 1997 and by 3.8% compared with the March quarter 1997.

In the Sydney Tourism Region, the room occupancy rate fell from 79.1% for the March quarter 1997 to 71.9% for the March quarter 1998.

The number of licensed hotels, motels and guest houses and serviced apartments in NSW increased by 2.5% from 1,232 in the March quarter 1997 to 1,263 in the March quarter 1998.

For the Sydney Tourism Region, the number of establishments increased by 9.1% from 230 in the March quarter 1997 to 251 in the March quarter 1998 and capacity, in terms of guest rooms, also increased by 9.1%.

In NSW for the March quarter 1998, rooms and units available in licensed hotels, motels and guest houses and serviced apartments increased by 4.6% from the capacity for the March quarter 1997. Capacity in serviced apartments increased by 10.9% for the same period. This accommodation type has been identified separately for the first time this quarter and data have been recompiled to provide comparisons.

Takings from accommodation for licensed hotels, motels and guest houses and serviced apartments in NSW for the March quarter 1998 fell slightly from the December quarter 1997, while there was a 2.6% increase from the March quarter 1997.

Average takings from accommodation per room night in NSW for the March quarter 1998 increased over the March quarter 1997 for licensed hotels from \$147 to \$152, for motels from \$79 to \$80 and for serviced apartments from \$120 to \$132.

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ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION, NSW

Period	Estimated resident population at end of period			Increase during period			Mean estimated resident population for year ended	
	Males	Females	Persons	Natural increase(a)	Net estimated migration	Total increase(b)	30 June	31 December
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
1995	3 064.0	3 104.8	6 168.8	42.0	33.7	78.6	6 093.2	6 128.0
1996	3 098.2	3 142.6	6 240.9	40.6	29.3	72.1	6 167.2	6 204.2
1997	3 131.5	3 174.8	6 306.3	11.9	14.3	13.3	6 240.9	6 276.1
1996								
September qtr	3 089.1	3 132.3	6 221.4	8.8	7.9	16.6	..	..
December qtr	3 098.2	3 142.6	6 240.9	11.1	8.4	19.5	..	..
1997								
March qtr	3 108.6	3 152.6	6 261.3	11.4	9.0	20.4	..	..
June qtr	3 115.3	3 159.0	6 274.4	11.0	2.1	13.1	..	..
September qtr	3 124.9	3 168.1	6 293.0	7.6	11.0	18.6	..	..
December qtr	3 131.5	3 174.8	6 306.3	11.9	14.3	13.3	..	..

^a Excess of live births over deaths.

^b For dates prior to June 1996, differences between the total increase shown and the sum of the natural increase and net estimated migration arise from retrospective adjustments to population estimates (which are made after each Census) to compensate for any intercensal discrepancy. A description of intercensal discrepancy is contained in the ABS information paper Demographic Estimates: Concepts, Sources and Methods (Cat. no. 3228.0).

Source: Australian Demographic Statistics (Cat. no. 3101.0)

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LABOUR, NSW AND AUSTRALIA

Indicator	Unit	Latest period	New South Wales			Australia		
			Latest figure	Change from prior period %	Change from same period prior year %	Latest figure	Change from prior period %	Change from same period prior year %
Employed persons (seasonally adjusted)	'000	June 98	2 864.6	1.0	2.7	8 587.5	0.2	2.3
Unemployed persons (seasonally adjusted)	'000	June 98	234.3	1.0	0.7	767.8	1.8	-2.0
Labour force (seasonally adjusted)	'000	June 98	3 098.9	1.0	2.5	9 355.4	0.4	1.9
Participation rate (seasonally adjusted)	%	June 98	62.1	1.0	1.3	63.4	0.3	0.5
Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)	%	June 98	7.6	0.0	-1.3	8.2	1.2	-3.5
Industrial disputes—working days lost	'000	Apr 98	8.1	-58.9	211.5	22.1	-56.0	-41.4
Job vacancies	'000	May 98	20.5	-12.7	4.4	73.3	-3.0	26.0
Average weekly employee earnings—full-time adult ordinary time earnings (seasonally adjusted)	\$	Feb 98	744.1	0.7	3.4	721.2	1.4	4.1

Source: *Labour Force, Australia, Preliminary (Cat. no. 6202.0)*, *Job Vacancies and Overtime, Australia (Cat. no. 6354.0)*, *Industrial Disputes, Australia (Cat. no. 6321.0)*, *Average Weekly Earnings, States and Australia (Cat. no. 6302.0)*

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LABOUR, NSW

Period	Seasonally adjusted						
	Employed persons '000	Unemployed persons '000	Labour force '000	Participation rate %	Unemployment rate %	Industrial disputes (working days lost) '000	Job vacancies '000
1997							
April	2 822.9	245.5	3 068.3	62.4	8.0	2.6	..
May	2 803.3	250.6	3 054.0	62.0	8.2	13.2	19.6
June	2 790.4	232.6	3 023.0	61.3	7.7	10.8	..
July	2 805.7	255.4	3 061.1	62.0	8.3	18.5	..
August	2 774.4	242.2	3 016.6	61.0	8.0	22.1	19.3
September	2 815.2	240.2	3 055.5	61.7	7.9	23.0	..
October	2 787.7	244.1	3 031.7	61.2	8.1	28.0	..
November	2 831.9	238.7	3 070.6	61.9	7.8	8.1	22.8
December	2 836.6	228.0	3 064.7	61.7	7.4	4.8	..
1998							
January	2 843.3	227.1	3 070.4	61.8	7.4	3.3	..
February	2 805.4	234.5	3 039.9	61.1	7.7	9.3	23.5
March	2 830.3	230.7	3 061.0	61.5	7.5	19.7	..
April	2 850.4	220.5	3 070.9	61.6	7.2	8.1	..
May	2 835.4	231.9	3 067.3	61.5	7.6	n.y.a.	20.5
June	2 864.6	234.3	3 098.9	62.1	7.6	n.y.a.	..

Source: *Labour Force, Australia, Preliminary (Cat. no. 6202.0)*, *Industrial Disputes, Australia (Cat. no. 6321.0)*

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LABOUR FORCE STATUS, NSW—ORIGINAL

Month	Employed		Unemployed		Labour force	Not in labour force	Civilian population aged 15 years and over	Unemployment rate(a)	Participation rate(b)
	Full-time workers	Total	Looking for full-time work	Total					
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	%	%
MALES									
June									
1994	1 345.3	1 509.1	156.1	169.8	1 678.9	650.1	2 329.0	10.1	72.1
1995	1 411.4	1 575.4	122.1	134.2	1 709.6	647.6	2 357.2	7.8	72.5
1996	1 404.2	1 588.7	119.5	138.6	1 727.4	661.9	2 389.3	8.0	72.3
1997									
April	1 421.2	1 610.1	120.9	139.1	1 749.3	666.3	2 415.6	8.0	72.4
May	1 408.0	1 597.3	127.6	143.3	1 740.7	677.4	2 418.1	8.2	72.0
June	1 416.4	1 598.9	116.8	129.1	1 728.1	692.7	2 420.7	7.5	71.4
July	1 422.3	1 600.4	130.3	145.4	1 745.8	677.8	2 423.6	8.3	72.0
August	1 390.3	1 567.6	120.3	135.2	1 702.8	723.7	2 426.5	7.9	70.2
September	1 434.3	1 613.3	126.1	147.6	1 760.9	668.5	2 429.3	8.4	72.5
October	1 428.1	1 595.3	121.3	138.9	1 734.2	698.1	2 432.3	8.0	71.3
November	1 431.3	1 615.2	119.0	138.1	1 753.3	681.9	2 435.2	7.9	72.0
December	1 456.8	1 637.6	116.8	135.1	1 772.7	665.4	2 438.1	7.6	72.7
1998									
January	1 441.8	1 616.3	127.1	141.7	1 758.0	682.3	2 440.3	8.1	72.0
February	1 431.8	1 599.2	129.3	150.7	1 749.9	692.5	2 442.4	8.6	71.6
March	1 432.2	1 613.1	123.5	140.6	1 753.7	690.9	2 444.6	8.0	71.7
April	1 441.4	1 622.7	104.7	122.9	1 745.6	701.8	2 447.3	7.0	71.3
May	1 434.0	1 614.6	115.7	133.2	1 747.8	702.3	2 450.1	7.6	71.3
June	1 443.0	1 623.9	117.7	134.6	1 758.5	694.4	2 452.9	7.7	71.7
FEMALES									
June									
1994	685.7	1 126.3	79.7	111.3	1 237.6	1 175.9	2 413.5	9.0	51.3
1995	706.8	1 193.5	58.9	84.8	1 278.3	1 161.9	2 440.2	6.6	52.4
1996	712.0	1 208.0	55.2	86.8	1 294.8	1 179.6	2 474.4	6.7	52.3
1997									
April	730.2	1 211.6	68.9	104.5	1 316.1	1 189.1	2 505.3	7.9	52.5
May	720.4	1 206.6	67.2	101.9	1 308.5	1 199.5	2 508.0	7.8	52.2
June	704.3	1 192.4	64.1	92.3	1 284.7	1 226.0	2 510.7	7.2	51.2
July	729.6	1 213.2	61.7	92.7	1 305.9	1 207.7	2 513.6	7.1	52.0
August	703.9	1 182.9	65.3	92.7	1 275.6	1 240.8	2 516.5	7.3	50.7
September	722.2	1 226.8	63.4	96.1	1 322.9	1 196.5	2 519.4	7.3	52.5
October	721.0	1 194.1	68.1	97.3	1 291.5	1 230.6	2 522.1	7.5	51.2
November	725.5	1 228.3	62.1	87.8	1 316.1	1 208.6	2 524.7	6.7	52.1
December	730.8	1 234.9	66.3	95.7	1 330.6	1 196.8	2 527.4	7.2	52.6
1998									
January	721.4	1 185.5	71.4	102.6	1 288.1	1 241.2	2 529.3	8.0	50.9
February	707.1	1 189.9	72.1	111.7	1 301.7	1 229.5	2 531.1	8.6	51.4
March	715.8	1 217.8	73.7	105.3	1 323.1	1 209.9	2 533.0	8.0	52.2
April	720.0	1 226.2	63.2	96.2	1 322.4	1 212.9	2 535.3	7.3	52.2
May	707.9	1 220.7	68.5	94.0	1 314.7	1 222.9	2 537.7	7.1	51.8
June	727.3	1 242.0	57.2	88.3	1 330.4	1 209.6	2 540.0	6.6	52.4

For footnotes see end of table.

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LABOUR FORCE STATUS, NSW—ORIGINAL *continued*

Month	Employed		Unemployed		Labour force	Not in labour force	Civilian population aged 15 years and over	Unemployment rate(a)	Participation rate(b)
	Full-time workers	Total	Looking for full-time work	Total					
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	%	%
PERSONS									
June									
1994	2 031.0	2 635.4	235.8	281.1	2 916.5	1 826.0	4 742.4	9.6	61.5
1995	2 118.3	2 769.0	181.0	219.0	2 988.0	1 809.5	4 797.4	7.3	62.3
1996	2 116.3	2 796.8	174.7	225.4	3 022.2	1 841.5	4 863.7	7.5	62.1
1997									
April	2 151.5	2 821.7	189.8	243.6	3 065.4	1 855.5	4 920.8	7.9	62.3
May	2 128.4	2 804.0	194.9	245.3	3 049.2	1 876.9	4 926.1	8.0	61.9
June	2 120.8	2 791.3	181.0	221.4	3 012.8	1 918.7	4 931.4	7.3	61.1
July	2 151.9	2 813.6	192.1	238.1	3 051.7	1 885.5	4 937.2	7.8	61.8
August	2 094.3	2 750.5	185.6	228.0	2 978.4	1 964.5	4 942.9	7.7	60.3
September	2 156.5	2 840.0	189.5	243.7	3 083.8	1 865.0	4 948.7	7.9	62.3
October	2 149.1	2 789.4	189.3	236.2	3 025.7	1 928.7	4 954.3	7.8	61.1
November	2 156.7	2 843.5	181.1	225.9	3 069.4	1 890.5	4 959.9	7.4	61.9
December	2 187.6	2 872.6	183.1	230.8	3 103.3	1 862.2	4 965.6	7.4	62.5
1998									
January	2 163.2	2 801.8	198.5	244.3	3 046.1	1 923.5	4 969.5	8.0	61.3
February	2 138.9	2 789.1	201.4	262.4	3 051.5	1 922.0	4 973.5	8.6	61.4
March	2 148.0	2 830.9	197.1	245.8	3 076.8	1 900.8	4 977.5	8.0	61.8
April	2 161.5	2 848.9	167.9	219.1	3 068.0	1 914.7	4 982.7	7.1	61.6
May	2 141.9	2 835.3	184.2	227.2	3 062.5	1 925.2	4 987.8	7.4	61.4
June	2 170.3	2 865.9	174.9	223.0	3 088.8	1 904.1	4 992.9	7.2	61.9

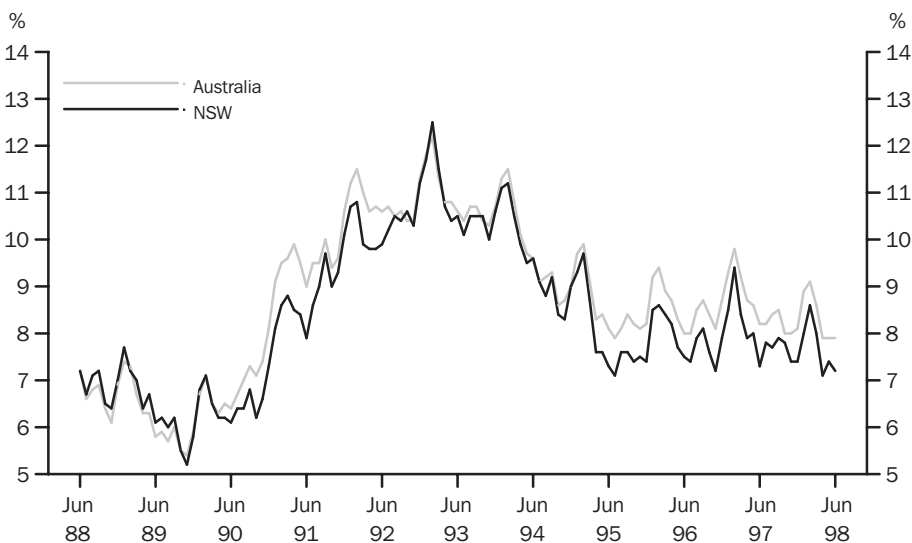
^a The number of unemployed in each group expressed as a percentage of the labour force in the same group.

^b The labour force in each group expressed as a percentage of the civilian population aged 15 and over in the same group.

Source: Labour Force, Australia, Preliminary (Cat. no. 6202.0)

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UNEMPLOYMENT RATE—ORIGINAL



Source: Labour Force, Australia, Preliminary (Cat. no. 6202.0).

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COAL, ELECTRICITY AND GAS PRODUCTION, NSW AND AUSTRALIA—ORIGINAL

Indicator	Unit	Latest period	New South Wales				Australia		
			Latest figure	Change from prior period		Latest figure	Change from prior period		
				%	Change from same period prior year		%	Change from same period prior year	
Raw coal won—									
Underground	'000 tonnes	Apr 98	5 146	19.0	7.1	6 014	6.0	1.4	
Open cut	'000 tonnes	Apr 98	7 016	27.2	5.9	14 544	-2.4	-3.2	
Total	'000 tonnes	Apr 98	12 162	23.6	6.4	20 558	-0.1	-1.9	
Electricity	mill. kWh	Mar qtr 98	14 390	-5.5	-4.9	42 669	-1.2	4.0	
Gas(a)	teraJ	Mar qtr 98	22 521	-11.5	-1.0	141 059	-6.8	4.2	

^a Available for issue through mains. Includes ACT.

Source: Joint Coal Board, Manufacturing Production, Australia (Cat. no. 8301.0)

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COAL, ELECTRICITY AND GAS PRODUCTION, NSW—ORIGINAL

Period	Raw coal won			Electricity mill. kWh	Gas(a) teraJ
	Underground	Open cut	Total		
	'000 tonnes	'000 tonnes	'000 tonnes		
1994-95	48 702	59 079	107 781	60 016	104 881
1995-96	54 314	58 775	113 089	62 047	104 141
1996-97	r54 643	69 037	r123 680	62 788	109 284
1997					
February	3 831	5 583	9 414	n.a.	n.a.
March	4 088	5 663	9 751	n.a.	n.a.
April	4 804	6 625	11 429	} 15 973	} 29 907
May	5 183	6 626	11 809		
June	4 717	5 785	10 502		
July	6 491	7 085	13 576	} 16 632	} 34 086
August	5 124	6 112	11 236		
September	4 911	5 792	10 703		
October	4 498	6 716	11 214	} 15 220	} 25 445
November	4 252	6 084	10 336		
December	4 090	5 997	10 087		
1998					
January	5 361	6 322	11 683	} 14 390	} 22 521
February	4 560	5 748	10 308		
March	4 326	5 515	9 841		
April	5 146	7 016	12 162	n.a.	n.a.

^a Available for issue through mains. Includes ACT.

Source: Joint Coal Board, Manufacturing Production, Australia (Cat. no. 8301.0)

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BUILDING APPROVALS, NSW AND AUSTRALIA

Indicator	Unit	Latest period	Latest figure	New South Wales		Australia		
				Change from prior period %	Change from same period prior year %	Latest figure	Change from prior period %	Change from same period prior year %
Number of dwelling units(a) (seasonally adjusted)—								
New houses	No.	May 98	2 419	-6.4	-21.4	9 247	-2.4	3.2
Total	No.	May 98	4 127	-17.9	-9.5	13 256	-6.8	8.1
Value of new residential building (seasonally adjusted)	\$m	May 98	463.7	-19.6	-5.7	1 396.7	-13.1	9.1
Value of alterations and additions to residential building(b) (seasonally adjusted)	\$m	May 98	129.4	-19.3	42.7	280.8	3.3	28.2
Value of non-residential building(c) (original)	\$m	May 98	640.7	21.6	146	1 476.9	18.2	60
Value of all building (original)	\$m	May 98	1 335.0	5.7	37.4	3 288.4	6.7	25.4

^a Includes dwelling units approved as part of the construction of non-residential building and alterations and additions to existing buildings (including conversions to dwelling units).

^b Valued at \$10,000 or more. Includes conversions of existing buildings into residential buildings.

^c Valued at \$50,000 or more.

Source: Building Approvals, Australia (Cat. no. 8731.0)

9

BUILDING APPROVALS, NSW

Period	Number of dwelling units(a), seasonally adjusted				Value of building approvals			
	New houses		Total		Seasonally adjusted		Original	
	Private sector	Total	Private sector	Total	New residential building	Alterations and additions to residential building(b)	Non-residential building(c)	All building
	no.	no.	no.	no.	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
1994-95	..	..	..	..	..	..	3 733.5	10 211.0
1995-96	..	..	..	..	..	..	3 650.3	9 168.6
1996-97	..	..	..	..	..	..	5 169.2	11 357.5
1997								
March	2 042	2 064	3 850	4 007	384.0	92.2	202.4	648.7
April	2 164	2 187	4 067	4 199	464.8	90.8	307.3	847.3
May	3 059	3 076	4 504	4 558	491.5	90.7	260.5	971.3
June	2 111	2 120	4 118	4 277	460.7	127.3	353.0	903.0
July	2 122	2 134	3 621	3 700	427.2	95.3	584.9	1 156.7
August	2 198	2 203	4 622	4 742	614.2	99.5	710.5	1 405.9
September	2 181	2 186	3 844	3 961	430.3	93.8	396.4	958.0
October	2 424	2 434	4 045	4 077	479.4	108.9	520.3	1 123.1
November	2 399	2 411	4 424	4 470	503.1	103.5	380.6	1 028.0
December	2 545	2 563	4 476	4 620	529.0	119.0	286.0	885.8
1998								
January	2 621	2 648	4 395	4 506	450.2	144.0	477.0	984.0
February	2 451	2 482	3 635	3 767	413.4	122.5	461.8	943.8
March	2 574	2 592	4 496	4 633	522.9	112.7	386.4	988.9
April	2 578	2 585	4 909	5 025	577.0	160.4	527.0	1 263.2
May	2 405	2 419	4 050	4 127	463.7	129.4	640.7	1 335.0

^a Includes dwelling units approved as part of the construction of non-residential building and alterations and additions to existing buildings (including conversions to dwelling units).

^b Valued at \$10,000 or more. Includes conversions of existing buildings into residential buildings.

^c Valued at \$50,000 or more.

Source: Building Approvals, Australia (Cat. no. 8731.0)

10

TURNOVER OF RETAIL ESTABLISHMENTS(a), NSW AND AUSTRALIA—SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

Indicator	Unit	Latest period	New South Wales				Australia		
			Latest figure	Change	Change	Latest figure	Change	Change	
				from prior period	from same period prior year		from prior period	from same period prior year	
			%	%		%	%	%	
Food retailing	\$m	May 98	1 510.5	0.3	2.0	4 634.1	1.0	5.6	
Department stores	\$m	May 98	354.3	-1.6	8.1	996.6	-3.1	3.1	
Clothing and soft good retailing	\$m	May 98	295.3	10.8	4.3	776.6	6.9	7.7	
Household good retailing	\$m	May 98	427.7	-2.0	-5.6	1 254.1	-2.5	-1.9	
Recreational good retailing	\$m	May 98	216.6	-5.5	-2.1	618.2	-1.8	0.8	
Other retailing	\$m	May 98	407.2	0.4	5.8	1 165.2	-1.5	4.6	
Hospitality and services	\$m	May 98	773.6	2.6	4.4	1 940.9	2.7	6.4	
Total value of retail sales	\$m	May 98	3 985.2	0.7	2.4	11 385.7	0.5	4.4	

^a The figures shown are derived from a monthly survey of retail establishments. Excludes motor vehicle, boat and caravan dealers, service stations, smash repairers, tyre and battery retailers, bread and milk vendors, footwear repairers and electrical appliance repairers n.e.c. Retail establishments which do not have employees are excluded from the survey. Turnover includes retail sales, wholesale sales, takings from repairs, meals and hiring of goods; and commissions from agency activity (e.g. commissions received from collecting dry cleaning, selling lottery tickets etc.)

Source: Retail Trade, Australia (Cat. no. 8501.0).

11

TURNOVER OF RETAIL ESTABLISHMENTS(a), NSW—SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

Period	Food retailing	Department stores	Clothing and soft good retailing	Household good retailing	Recreational good retailing	Other retailing	Hospitality and services	Total
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
1997								
March	1 487.8	329.5	267.4	445.2	214.8	378.0	732.7	3 855.4
April	1 455.1	314.7	271.6	440.6	219.6	378.3	727.8	3 807.8
May	1 481.5	327.9	283.2	452.9	221.2	384.7	741.0	3 892.4
June	1 464.5	314.2	274.8	455.6	223.7	389.0	765.4	3 887.2
July	1 512.0	364.5	279.8	446.9	214.0	400.5	748.2	3 965.9
August	1 505.2	328.1	276.4	438.9	211.6	385.2	764.2	3 909.6
September	1 537.5	358.4	275.1	427.1	229.9	374.6	765.4	3 967.9
October	1 517.4	336.8	272.8	415.0	225.2	398.1	760.6	3 926.0
November	1 526.7	347.2	280.8	399.3	216.2	410.3	767.4	3 947.9
December	1 539.2	337.0	284.4	413.7	232.8	406.2	770.8	3 984.2
1998								
January	1 568.6	366.8	267.6	444.7	238.7	396.2	761.0	4 043.4
February	1 560.5	325.7	265.1	434.7	224.0	405.0	758.9	3 973.9
March	1 550.9	336.5	259.6	452.7	220.0	394.1	755.7	3 969.6
April	1 506.0	360.1	266.5	436.3	229.3	405.6	754.0	3 957.8
May	1 510.5	354.3	295.3	427.7	216.6	407.2	773.6	3 985.2

^a The figures shown are derived from a monthly survey of retail establishments. Excludes motor vehicle, boat and caravan dealers, service stations, smash repairers, tyre and battery retailers, bread and milk vendors, footwear repairers and electrical appliance repairers n.e.c. Retail establishments which do not have employees are excluded from the survey. Turnover includes retail sales, wholesale sales, takings from repairs, meals and hiring of goods; and commissions from agency activity (e.g. commissions received from collecting dry cleaning, selling lottery tickets etc.)

Source: Retail Trade, Australia (Cat. no. 8501.0).

12

NEW MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS(a), NSW AND AUSTRALIA—SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

Indicator	Unit	Latest period	Latest figure	New South Wales		Australia		
				Change from prior period	Change from same period prior year	Change from prior period	Change from same period prior year	
				%	%	%	%	
Passenger vehicles	no.	May 98	18 640	-3.6	10.1	54 372	-3.4	13.5
Other vehicles (excluding motor cycles)	no.	May 98	3 282	-4.9	18.5	9 940	-8.2	14.5
Total registrations (excluding motor cycles)	no.	May 98	21 923	-3.8	11.3	64 312	-4.2	13.6

^a Includes vehicles (other than those of the defence forces) owned by Government departments and authorities. Excludes mobile plant and equipment, tractors, trailers and non-motorised caravans.

Source: *New Motor Vehicle Registrations, Australia, Preliminary (Cat. no. 9301.0)*.

13

NEW MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS(a), NSW—SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

Period	Passenger vehicles	Other vehicles (excluding motor cycles)	Total (excluding motor cycles)
	no.	no.	no.
1997			
March	16 761	2 837	19 598
April	17 194	2 637	19 831
May	16 924	2 770	19 694
June	17 978	2 728	20 706
July	17 377	2 763	20 141
August	16 977	2 732	19 709
September	18 454	2 711	21 165
October	18 920	2 729	21 650
November	18 995	2 513	21 507
December	18 315	3 020	21 335
1998			
January	19 116	2 967	22 083
February	18 501	3 259	21 760
March	17 747	2 978	20 725
April	19 342	3 450	22 791
May	18 640	3 282	21 923

^a Includes vehicles (other than those of the defence forces) owned by Government departments and authorities. Excludes mobile plant and equipment, tractors, trailers and non-motorised caravans.

Source: *New Motor Vehicle Registrations, Australia, Preliminary (Cat. no. 9301.0)*.

14

ACCOMMODATION ESTABLISHMENTS(a) NSW AND AUSTRALIA—ORIGINAL

Indicator	Unit	Latest period	New South Wales				Australia		
			Latest figure	Change from prior period		Latest figure	Change from prior period		
				%	%		%	%	
Room nights	'000	March Qtr 98	3 017.3	-2.1	-0.4	9 056.0	-4.1	0.8	
Room occupancy rate	%	March Qtr 98	59.8	-1.6	-4.8	58.0	-3.0	-3.8	
Takings	\$'000	March Qtr 98	343 248	-0.1	2.6	955 499	-3.2	2.7	

^a Licensed hotels with facilities, motels and guest houses and serviced apartments with 15 or more rooms or units.

Source: *Tourist Accommodation, Australia (Cat. no. 8635.0)*

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ACCOMMODATION ESTABLISHMENTS(a) SYDNEY AND NSW—ORIGINAL

Period	Sydney Tourism Region (b)			New South Wales		
	Room nights	Room occupancy rate	Takings	Room nights	Room occupancy rate	Takings
	'000	%	\$'000	'000	%	\$'000
1996						
December qtr(c)	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
1997						
March qtr	1 680.2	79.1	230 849	3 030.9	62.8	334 524
June qtr	1 515.1	70.5	209 163	2 810.3	57.5	303 313
September qtr	1 555.0	69.6	209 484	2 964.9	59.0	322 065
December qtr	1 653.5	73.0	235 244	3 081.0	60.8	343 650
1998						
March qtr	1 664.9	71.9	235 516	3 017.3	59.8	343 248

^a Licensed hotels with facilities, motels and guest houses and serviced apartments with 15 or more rooms or units.

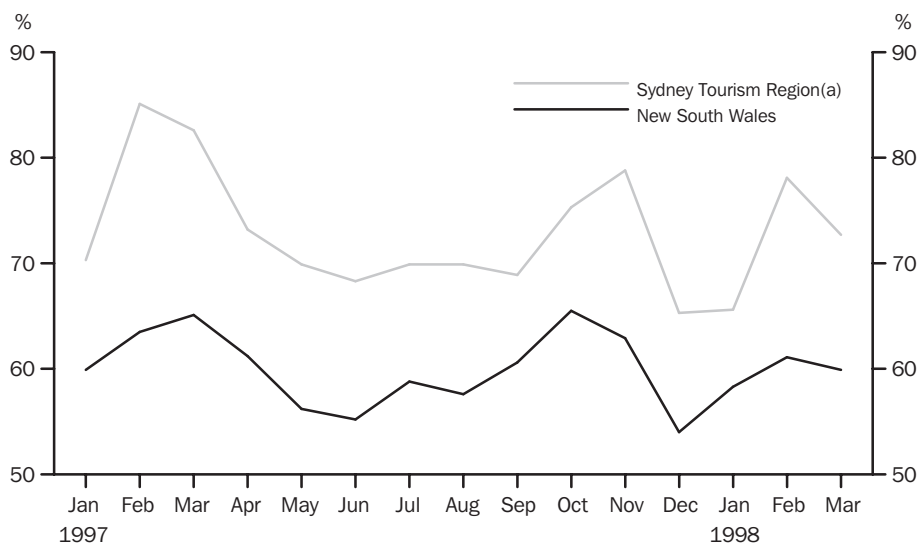
^b Excludes Gosford, Wyong and Blue Mountains Statistical Local Areas.

^c Refer to "Changes to this issue" in the Notes section, page 2 of this publication.

Source: *Tourist Accommodation, Small Area Data, NSW (Prod. no. 8635.1.40.001)*

16

ACCOMMODATION ESTABLISHMENTS MONTHLY ROOM OCCUPANCY RATE—ORIGINAL



(a) Excludes Gosford, Wyong and Blue Mountains Statistical Local Areas.

Source: *Tourist Accommodation, Small Area Data, NSW (Prod. no. 8635.1.40.001)*

17

CONSUMER AND PRODUCER PRICE INDEXES, NSW AND AUSTRALIA

Indicator	Unit	Latest period	Latest figure	New South Wales		Australia(a)		
				Change from prior period %	Change from same period prior year %	Latest figure	Change from prior period %	Change from same period prior year %
Consumer Price Index (all groups)	1989-90 =100.0	Jun qtr 98	121.4	0.6	1	121.0	0.6	0.7
Price index of materials used in house building (all groups)	1989-90 =100.0	Jun qtr 98	120.7	-0.1	2.9	119	0.3	1.7
Price index of materials used in building other than house building (all groups)	1989-90 =100.0	Jun qtr 98	114.8	0.3	0.8	114.5	0.4	0.5

^a For the Consumer Price Index this is the weighted average of eight capital cities and for the other two indexes, the weighted average of the six State capital cities.

Source: Consumer Price Index (Cat. no. 6401.0), Price Index of Materials Used in Building Other Than House Building, Six State Capital Cities (Cat. no. 6407.0), Price Index of Materials Used in House Building, Six State Capital Cities (Cat. no. 6408.0)

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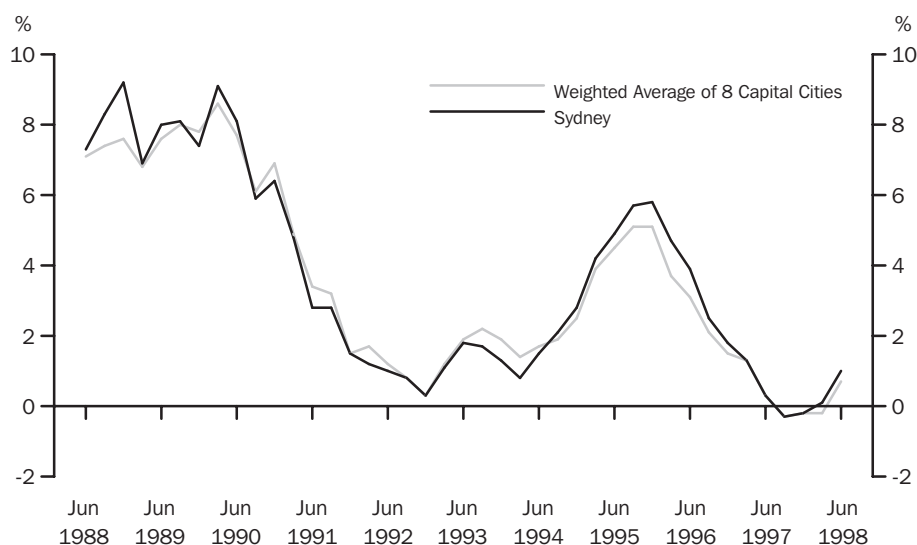
CONSUMER AND PRODUCER PRICE INDEXES, NSW

Period	Consumer Price Index, all groups	Price Index of materials used in house building, all groups	Price Index of materials used in building other than house building, all groups
	1989-90 = 100.0	1989-90 = 100.0	1989-90 = 100.0
1997			
March qtr	120.6	116.0	113.2
June qtr	120.2	117.3	113.9
September qtr	119.8	117.8	114.2
December qtr	120.1	119.4	114.2
1998			
March qtr	120.7	120.8	114.4
June qtr	121.4	120.7	114.8

Source: Consumer Price Index (Cat. no. 6401.0), Price index of Materials Used in Building Other Than House Building, Six State Capital Cities (Cat. no. 6407.0), Price Index of Materials Used in House Building, Six State Capital Cities (Cat. no. 6408.0).

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CONSUMER PRICE INDEX, ANNUAL RATE OF CHANGE



Source: Consumer Price Index (Cat. no. 6401.0)

Indicator	Latest period	Latest figure	New South Wales		Australia		
			Change from prior period %	Change from same period prior year %	Latest figure	Change from prior period %	Change from same period prior year %
Lending commitments for the construction or purchase of dwellings—							
Construction of dwellings	May 98	215.3	-3.3	-2.7	708.7	0.9	5.4
Purchase of newly erected dwellings	May 98	93.8	-11.1	-22.7	223.1	-3.3	-14.1
Purchase of established dwellings(a)	May 98	1 247.1	-4.0	-2.7	2 893.5	-0.4	1.7
Refinancing of existing dwellings	May 98	302.4	10.6	-4.4	767.3	4.0	-6.0
Lending commitments for alterations and additions	May 98	99.3	4.1	-0.4	225.7	1.0	-3.5
Total lending commitments to individuals for housing(b)	May 98	1 858.7	-2.2	-4.2	4 592.5	0.4	0.0
Total lending commitments to individuals for housing (seasonally adjusted)(b)	May 98	1 750.8	-7.8	-1.6	4 415.2	-6.5	3.0

^a Excludes refinancing.

^b Excludes alterations and additions.

Source: *Housing Finance for Owner Occupation, Australia (Cat. no. 5609.0)*

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SECURED HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS TO INDIVIDUALS FOR OWNER OCCUPATION, NSW

Period	Lending commitments for the construction or purchase of dwellings				Lending commitments for alterations and additions	Total lending commitments to individuals for housing(b)	
	Construction of dwellings	Purchase of newly erected dwellings	Purchase of established dwellings(a)	Refinancing of existing dwellings		Original	Seasonally adjusted
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
1994-95	2 162.6	819.8	9 952.4	2 381.9	1 242.0	15 316.7	..
1995-96	1 894.7	897.9	10 145.3	2 929.8	1 261.8	15 867.7	..
1996-97	2 117.3	1 233.9	12 565.7	4 062.3	1 221.2	19 979.1	..
1997							
March	187.5	106.3	1 121.1	328.4	103.8	1 743.3	1 715.8
April	212.2	116.6	1 231.9	371.7	108.5	1 932.3	1 792.4
May	221.3	121.3	1 282.3	316.2	99.7	1 941.1	1 778.7
June	193.0	120.8	1 122.6	327.5	89.9	1 764.0	1 735.7
July	220.8	116.8	1 218.6	321.5	93.1	1 877.8	1 707.7
August	213.6	114.8	1 154.9	310.7	90.3	1 794.1	1 824.0
September	236.2	116.0	1 210.2	322.4	102.7	1 884.7	1 856.1
October	224.0	110.9	1 253.3	302.3	110.1	1 890.5	1 884.3
November	201.1	110.0	1 198.4	261.8	97.9	1 771.4	1 804.5
December	203.8	111.7	1 137.4	246.8	90.6	1 699.7	1 789.0
1998							
January	168.7	72.8	918.8	237.9	80.8	1 398.2	1 927.9
February	216.3	98.3	1 136.5	298.5	105.5	1 749.5	1 790.2
March	238.7	111.0	1 281.6	306.3	106.7	1 937.6	1 713.1
April	222.6	105.5	1 298.4	273.3	95.4	1 899.8	1 899.4
May	215.3	93.8	1 247.1	302.4	99.3	1 858.7	1 750.8

^a Excludes refinancing.

^b Excludes alterations and additions.

Source: *Housing Finance for Owner Occupation, Australia (Cat. no. 5609.0)*

Item	Actual 1995-96 \$m	Actual 1996-97 \$m	Estimates 1997-98 \$m	July-May	
				1996-97 \$m	1997-98 \$m
RECEIPTS					
Current receipts					
Taxes, fees and fines					
Stamp duties	2 630	3 193	3 373	2 883	3 381
Payroll tax	2 876	3 161	3 338	2 889	3 120
Land tax	575	641	786	516	754
Motor vehicle tax	937	903	930	805	850
Gaming and betting	1 179	1 209	1 392	1 029	1 181
Licences	1 729	1 850	1 979	1 672	144
Commonwealth Safety Net Taxes	—	—	—	—	1 497
Other	943	1 000	1 114	931	876
Land transactions and royalties	246	243	238	211	211
Income from Non Budget Sector Enterprises	1 290	1 436	1 341	1 161	1 228
Commonwealth General Purpose Recurrent Grants	4 517	4 673	4 900	4 510	4 366
less—State Fiscal Contribution	—	210	216	193	196
Commonwealth Specific Purpose Recurrent Grants	2 757	2 944	2 962	2 483	2 648
Other	729	599	626	498	382
<i>Total current receipts</i>	20 408	21 642	22 763	19 394	20 442
Capital receipts					
Commonwealth General Purpose Capital Grants	—	—	—	—	—
Commonwealth Specific Purpose Capital Grants	867	854	854	794	678
Other	11	17	228	5	223
<i>Total capital receipts</i>	877	872	1 081	799	901
Total current and capital receipts	21 285	22 514	23 844	20 193	21 343
EXPENDITURE					
Current expenditure					
Departmental payments					
Services					
Health	5 116	5 381	5 585	4 867	5 290
Education(a)	4 641	4 928	5 174	4 468	4 595
Law and order(b)	1 247	1 679	1 711	1 484	1 608
Community Services	989	1 113	1 155	1 051	1 084
Other	3 944	4 057	4 192	3 543	3 975
Redundancies	17	22	38	18	42
Subsidies to Non Budget agencies					
Services	726	1 073	866	889	768
Redundancies	66	33	63	30	64
Interest payments	1 683	1 399	1 527	1 171	1 168
Superannuation	1 077	1 402	1 451	1 187	1 351
Treasurer's advance(c)	—	—	100	—	—
less—User charges	1 286	1 349	1 347	1 189	1 231
<i>Total current expenditure</i>	18 220	19 739	20 516	17 519	18 714
Capital expenditure					
Capital works	1 940	2 315	2 665	1 778	2 039
Capital grants	1 483	1 109	1 240	1 001	929
less—Asset sales	160	247	322	194	204
<i>Total capital expenditure</i>	3 263	2 589	3 583	2 585	2 763
Total current and capital expenditure	19 669	22 328	24 099	20 104	21 477
SURPLUS OR DEFICIT (-)					
Current account	2 188	1 903	2 246	1 875	1 728
Capital account	-2 386	-2 305	-2 502	-1 786	-1 862
<i>Total result surplus/deficit</i>	-198	-402	-256	89	-134
Add Advances made/repaid (net)	1 812	588	200	466	46
<i>Total result surplus/deficit (original budget est. basis)</i>	1 617	186	-56	554	-88

^a Includes Department of Training and Education Co-ordination, Department of School Education, Office of the Board of Studies and TAFE.

^b Includes Attorney Generals Department, Department of Corrective Services and Police Services.

^c Expenditure from the Treasurer's Advance is included in the relevant current payments figures.

Source: Financial Statement released by NSW Treasury. Figures may differ from data published in annual ABS publications.

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ACTUAL PRIVATE NEW FIXED CAPITAL EXPENDITURE, CURRENT PRICES—NSW AND AUSTRALIA, TREND

Indicator	Unit	Latest period	New South Wales				Australia		
			Latest figure	Change from prior period	Change from same period prior year	Latest figure	Change from prior period	Change from same period prior year	
				%	%		%	%	
Type of asset—									
New buildings and structures	\$m	Mar qtr	1 033	2.0	-3.7	3 220	0.7	-11.1	
Equipment, plant and machinery	\$m	Mar qtr	2 744	3.8	18.7	8 504	2.1	15.6	
Total	\$m	Mar qtr	3 777	3.3	11.6	11 724	1.7	6.8	

Source: State Estimates of Private New Capital Expenditure (Cat. no. 5646.0)

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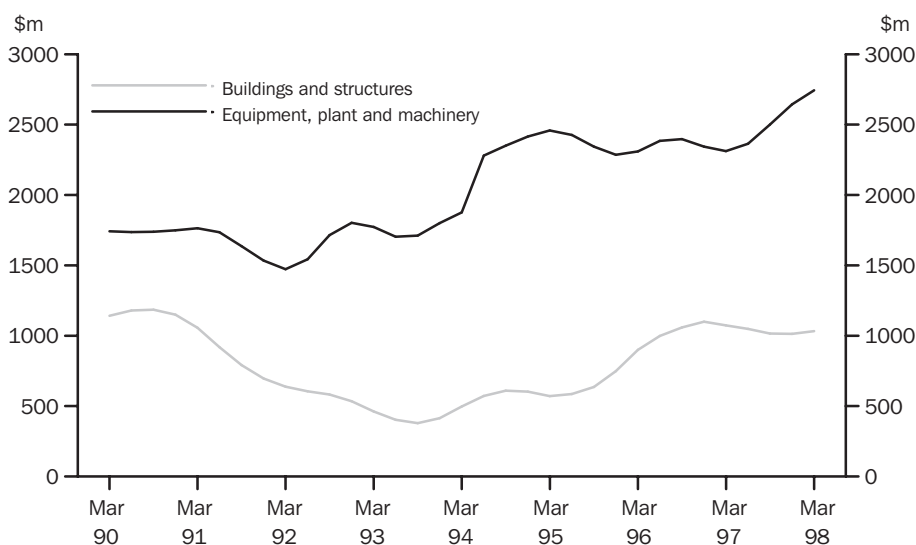
ACTUAL PRIVATE NEW FIXED CAPITAL EXPENDITURE, CURRENT PRICES—NSW, TREND

Period	Type of asset		
	New buildings and structures	Equipment, plant and machinery	Total
	\$m	\$m	\$m
1996			
December qtr	1 100	2 344	3 444
1997			
March qtr	1 073	2 312	3 385
June qtr	1 048	2 364	3 412
September qtr	1 016	2 501	3 517
December qtr	1 013	2 644	3 657
1998			
March qtr	1 033	2 744	3 777

Source: State Estimates of New Capital Expenditure (Cat. no. 5646.0)

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ACTUAL PRIVATE NEW FIXED CAPITAL EXPENDITURE, CURRENT PRICES—NSW, TREND



Source: State Estimates of New Capital Expenditure (5646.0)

Indicator	Unit	Latest period	New South Wales				Australia		
			Latest figure	Change	Change	Latest figure	Change	Change	
				from prior period	from same period prior year		from prior period	from same period prior year	
%	%	%	%						
Overseas imports into NSW	\$m	May 98	3 267	6.6	17.2	7 655	3.0	18.8	
Total overseas exports(b)	\$m	May 98	1 668	12.1	-2.8	7 420	7.7	1.7	
Exports of—									
Meat and meat preparations	\$m	May 98	80	24.0	6.8	353	28.7	20.6	
Cereals and cereal preparations	\$m	May 98	96	-7.8	-51.5	377	-17.6	-19.8	
Wool and other animal hair	\$m	May 98	66	0.0	-9.8	259	7.4	-23.1	
Coke, coal and briquettes	\$m	May 98	346	2.4	19.5	855	5.9	11.4	
Iron and steel	\$m	May 98	122	17.0	9.3	184	13.8	2.4	
Aluminium	\$m	May 98	111	11.2	12.6	308	7.1	35.4	
Office machines and parts	\$m	May 98	37	1.0	-6.5	74	10.6	3.6	

^a Figures shown are Free On Board (FOB) values.

^b Excludes re-exported goods. State of origin is defined as the State in which the final stage of production or manufacture occurs.

Source: *International Trade, Australia: FASTTRACCS Service (Cat. no. 5466.0).*

Period	Overseas exports of selected commodities(b)								
	Overseas imports into NSW	Total overseas exports(b)	Meat and meat preparations	Cereals and cereal preparations	Wool and other animal hair	Coke, coal and briquettes	Iron and steel	Aluminium	Office machines and parts
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
1994-95	33 280	15 201	885	458	1 035	2 801	913	1 018	829
1995-96	34 891	16 684	794	822	720	3 338	1 037	1 111	638
1996-97	34 204	r17 727	784	1 540	859	3 426	968	993	535
1997									
March	2 649	1 527	70	149	100	261	80	95	50
April	2 939	r1 446	76	137	62	286	92	88	31
May	2 788	r1 717	75	197	74	289	112	99	40
June	3 182	1 552	68	204	61	270	57	73	41
July	3 221	r1 761	74	r146	104	335	65	97	45
August	3 002	1 763	71	r186	79	318	93	116	44
September	3 217	r1 670	76	r159	102	350	59	73	48
October	3 387	r1 694	78	95	r120	302	123	98	45
November	3 096	1 761	89	r149	130	328	98	102	51
December	3 419	r1 838	88	165	116	r383	89	99	59
1998									
January	r2 942	r1 431	65	r135	72	355	115	118	37
February	2 804	r1 461	75	r115	82	322	87	82	38
March	3 438	r1 502	82	r119	r73	301	99	r107	38
April	r3 064	r1 489	65	r104	r66	r337	r104	r100	r37
May	3 267	1 669	80	96	66	346	122	111	37

^a Figures shown are Free On Board (FOB) values.

^b Excludes re-exported goods. State of origin is defined as the State in which the final stage of production or manufacture occurs.

Source: *International Trade, Australia: FASTTRACCS Service (Cat. no. 5466.0).*

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