

STATE AND REGIONAL INDICATORS

VICTORIA

EMBARGO: 11:30AM (CANBERRA TIME) TUES 10 AUG 2004

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INQUIRIES

- For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070, or Neil McLean on Melbourne (03) 9615 7463.

NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

<i>ISSUE</i>	<i>RELEASE DATE</i>
September 2004	11 November 2004
December 2004	11 February 2005

CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

There have been changes to this issue of SRIV, to reflect the aim of the publication to provide a broad picture of Victoria as a whole. A number of graphs have been included for the first time and the commentary now sits with the chapter to which it relates. Some tables have been removed. Please see the Appendix for an indication of where this information can now be found. It is likely that there will be changes to future editions, as the ABS seeks additional data sources to provide a more comprehensive picture about Victoria, based on economic, social and environmental outcomes. Comments and suggestions on the changes are invited from interested parties.

Please address feedback to:

Post: Manager, Regional Statistics
 Statistical Coordination Branch
 Australian Bureau of Statistics
 PO Box 2796Y
 Melbourne VIC 3001

Email: <vic.coordination@abs.gov.au>

Fax: (03) 9615 7002

There are two annual tables in this issue. Topics covered are mean taxable income and condition of main roads. These tables are not expected to be included in the next issue, but may be included in future issues as further data becomes available.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

The statistics shown are the latest available as at 8 July 2004.

Explanatory notes in the form found in other ABS publications are not included in *State and Regional Indicators, Victoria*. Readers are directed to the explanatory notes contained in related ABS publications.

Vince Lazzaro
Regional Director, Victoria

ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS

ASGC	Australian Standard Geographical Classification
ANZSIC	Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification
ATO	Australian Taxation Office
(B)	Borough
(C)	City
EPA	Environment Protection Authority
FT	Full time
LGA	Local Government Area
ML	megalitres
mL	millilitres
MSR	Major Statistical Region
NEPM	National Environment Protection Measure
r	figure or series revised since previous issue
(RC)	Rural City
(S)	Shire
SD	Statistical Division
SEPP	State Environment Protection Policy
SITC	Standard International Trade Classification
SLA	Statistical Local Area
*	estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes
. .	not applicable
—	nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

FEATURE ARTICLE

BUILDING ACTIVITY AND INTEREST RATES

INTRODUCTION

The value of building activity and the number of building approvals are key economic indicators available at both a state and national level. The building approvals series is considered to be a forward indicator of economic activity owing to its coverage of planned activity. The value of building activity on the other hand is a measure of actual expenditure.

Interest rate changes can affect the motivations of persons to undertake building activity. The real interest rate affects the affordability of undertaking such activity and therefore real interest rate changes can influence the level of building activity by delaying or preventing construction of an approved building.

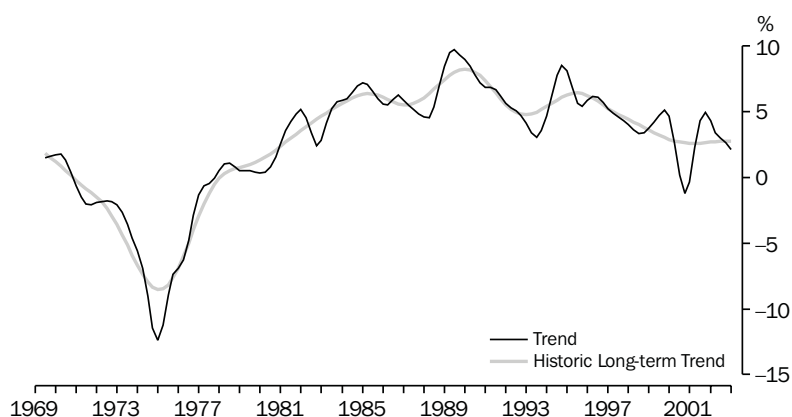
The purpose of this article is to analyse the time required for changes in real interest rates to impact on the value of Victorian building activity, assuming that interest rate movements cause changes in building activity levels, but building activity movements do not cause changes in interest rates.

TRENDS AND HISTORICAL LONG-TERM TRENDS

Although the ABS uses three versions of a data series to explain movements in the building activity (*original*, *seasonally adjusted*, and *trend*), the trend series is often preferred as it smoothes out the effects of seasonality and irregularity, leaving only the underlying trend for examination.

Graph 1 compares the trend and historical long-term trend estimates of real interest rates, that is, the nominal interest rate adjusted for inflation. Over the reference period, the two real interest rate series fell below 0.0% between 1971 and 1977 during the time of the OPEC oil shocks before peaking in 1989 at just under 10.0%. With the exception of a smaller spike in 1994 and a one-off adjustment for the introduction of the GST, both real interest rate series steadily declined from 1990 to 2001.

GRAPH 1: REAL INTEREST RATES

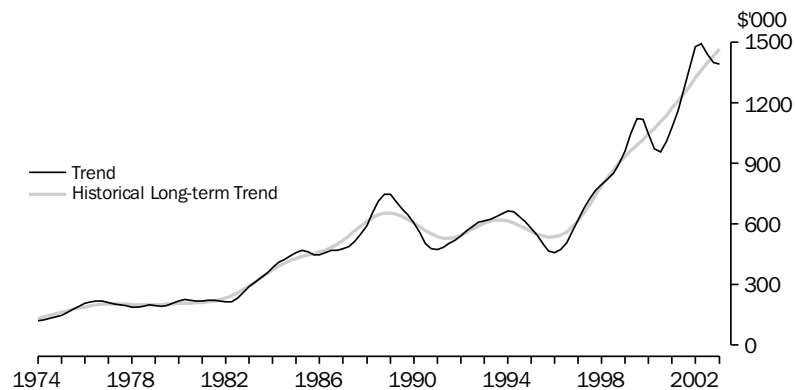


TRENDS AND HISTORICAL
LONG-TERM TRENDS

continued

Both a trend and historical long-term trend were also applied to the value of Victorian building work done (activity) – New houses. After steadily increasing between 1974 to 1982, growth in the value of Victorian building activity accelerated, peaking in 1989 which corresponded with significant residential property price growth. Growth consequently slowed between 1990 and 1996 which also corresponded with property prices. The period from 1996 to 2003 was characterised by accelerating Victorian building activity. The trend value of Victorian building activity – New houses increased from \$460 million in September 1996 to \$1,394 million in September 2003.

GRAPH 2: VALUE OF BUILDING ACTIVITY, New Houses, Chain Volume Measures—
Victoria:reference year 2001–02



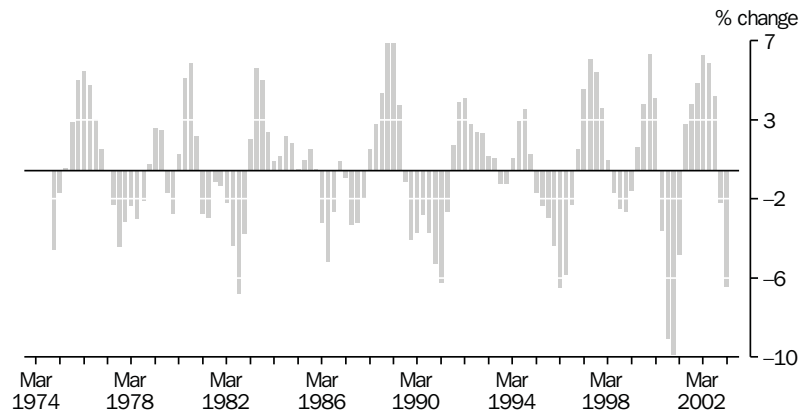
BUSINESS CYCLES

The business cycle is defined here as the difference between the trend and the historical long-term trend. A business cycle describes a period of time in which there are short-term fluctuations in economic activity. Any cycles shorter than two years are usually considered irregularities in the economy and may be caused by socioeconomic shocks. Any cycles longer than eight years can be attributed to structural changes in an economy such as permanent technological improvements or demographic changes. The National Bureau of Economic Research in the United States defines a business cycle as:

"... a type of fluctuation found in the aggregate economic activity of nations that organise their work mainly in business enterprises: a cycle consists of expansions occurring at the same time in many economic activities followed by similar general recessions, contractions and revivals which merge into the expansion phase of the next cycle; this sequence of changes is recurrent but not periodic ..."

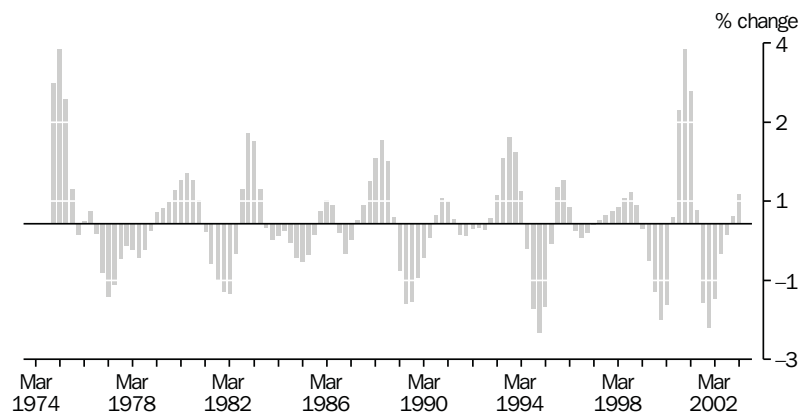
A plot of the estimated business cycle for the value of Victorian building activity – New houses is displayed in Graph 3. The first two observations may be the tail-end of a trough and similarly, the last two observations may be the start of a peak. However, this data sample cannot determine whether this is the case – a peak and trough can only be identified once a new phase has emerged. Therefore, between 1974 and 2003 nine peaks and eight troughs were identified.

GRAPH 3: BUSINESS CYCLES, Value of Building Activity, New Houses—Victoria



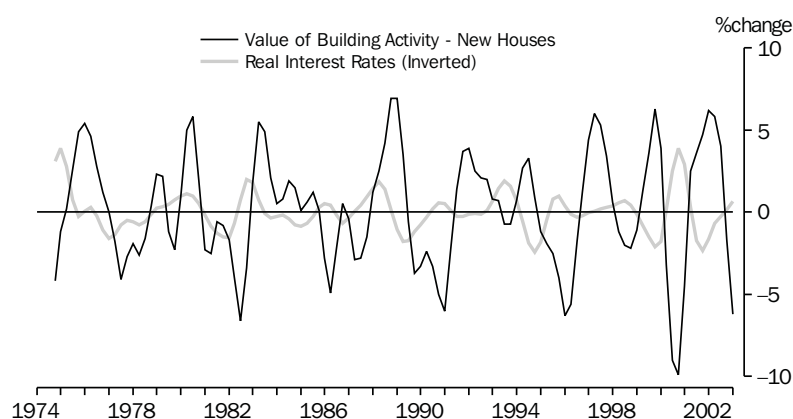
The derived business cycle for real interest rates is shown below in Graph 4. Theoretically, an increase in the real interest rate will have a negative effect on building activity. Real interest rates therefore, have been inverted to align real interest rate peaks (troughs) with building activity peaks (troughs). A total of nine peaks and eight troughs were identified from the business cycle estimates for Australian real interest rates.

GRAPH 4: BUSINESS CYCLES, Real Interest Rates—Australia



Graph 5 plots the real interest rate, and Victorian building activity – New houses business cycle estimates on the one axis allowing for the identification of turning points within each cycle. The peaks and troughs of a business cycle do not occur with any strict regularity and the amplitude of cycles may vary.

GRAPH 5: BUSINESS CYCLES



LEAD/LAG ANALYSIS

Examining each turning point in the Victorian building activity – New houses and real interest rate series, allows for the identification of the lead length for real interest rates, that is, the period of time between a change in the value of real interest rates and a change in the level of Victorian building activity – New houses. Table 1 presents all turning points identified from the two business cycle estimates.

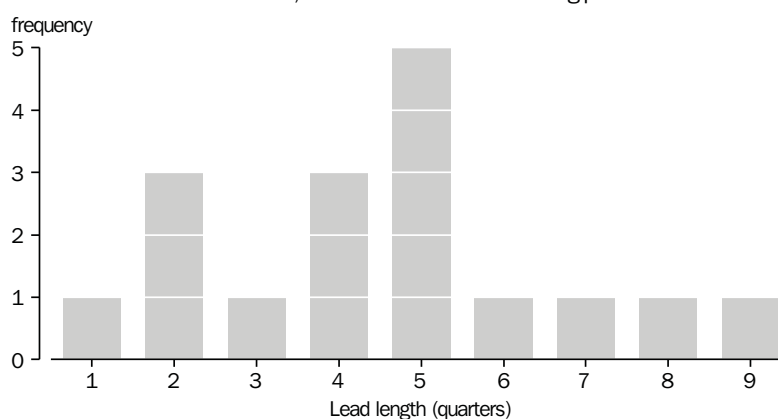
TABLE 1: BUSINESS CYCLE PEAKS AND TROUGHS

<i>Peak or Trough?</i>	<i>Real Interest Rate</i>	<i>Value of Building Activity</i>	<i>Lead of Real Interest Rate (quarters)</i>
Peak	March 1975	March 1976	4
Trough	March 1977	September 1977	2
Peak	June 1980	September 1980	1
Trough	March 1982	September 1982	2
Peak	December 1982	June 1983	2
Trough	March 1985	June 1986	5
Peak	June 1988	March 1989	3
Trough	June 1989	March 1991	7
Peak(a)	December 1990	March 1992	5
Trough(a)	December 1991	December 1993	8
Peak(a)	September 1993	September 1994	4
Trough	December 1994	March 1996	5
Peak	December 1995	June 1997	6
Trough	September 1996	December 1998	9
Peak	September 1998	December 1999	5
Trough	December 1999	December 2000	4
Peak(b)	December 2000	March 2002	5

(a) These peaks and troughs have small amplitudes but still satisfy the formal definition of a turning point.
 (b) This turning point is preliminary given that the following turning point has not yet been identified.

On only one occasion did real interest rates appear to have an almost immediate effect on building activity (June to September 1980), whereas the longest lead recorded was nine quarters between September 1996 and December 1998. There were three instances of a two quarter lead, three instances of a four quarter lead, and five instances of a five quarter lead. Leads in excess of five quarters were only apparent on four occasions. Graph 6 presents the frequencies of real interest rate lead lengths.

GRAPH 6: DURATION OF LEAD, From real interest rate turning point



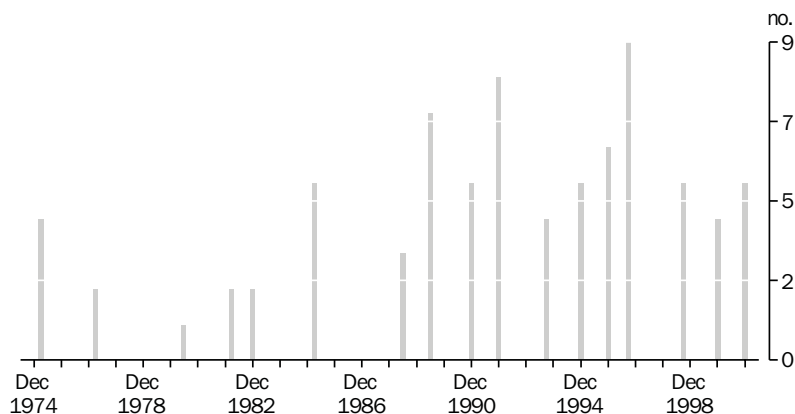
On average, real interest rates movements lead changes in Victorian building activity by 4 to 5 quarters during the reference period. The mean lag length however, was not constant as shown in Table 2. The mean lag length for interest rate changes to affect building activity was 2.7 quarters from December quarter 1974 up until June quarter 1989. From September quarter 1989 to March quarter 2003, the mean lag length increased to 5.8 quarters. The median lag length for the first sample time period was 2 quarters, whilst the median lag length for the second sample period and the entire series was 5 quarters.

TABLE 2: AVERAGE LEAD LENGTHS

<i>Time Period</i>	<i>Mean Lag Length (quarters)</i>	<i>Median Lag Length (quarters)</i>
December 1974 to June 1989	2.7	2
September 1989 to March 2003	5.8	5
December 1974 to March 2003	4.5	5

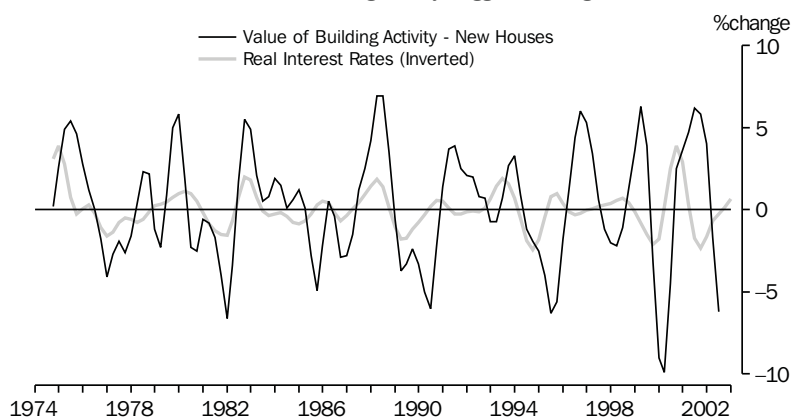
Graph 7 clearly illustrates that the lead of real interest rates on building activity was significantly larger after September quarter 1989 than beforehand. It appears that recent building activity is less responsive to real interest rate movements than past building activity, although this analysis does not account for the affects of other factors on housing demand.

GRAPH 7: TIMING OF TURNING POINTS, Lead size (quarters)



Graph 8 illustrates a comparison between the business cycles of real interest rates and Victorian building activity – New houses, where the latter has been shifted forward two quarters to account for the lagged relationship between the two estimates. For example, the December quarter 1974 real interest rate business cycle estimate is plotted against the June quarter 1975 Victorian building activity – New houses figure. Due to the smaller average lag length before September quarter 1989, shifting the series by two quarters appears to capture the lead of changes in real interest rates better for the first half of the series. The correlation coefficient, which measures the degree of association between two series, was calculated to be 0.51, indicating a reasonable positive relationship between inverted real interest rates and Victoria building activity.

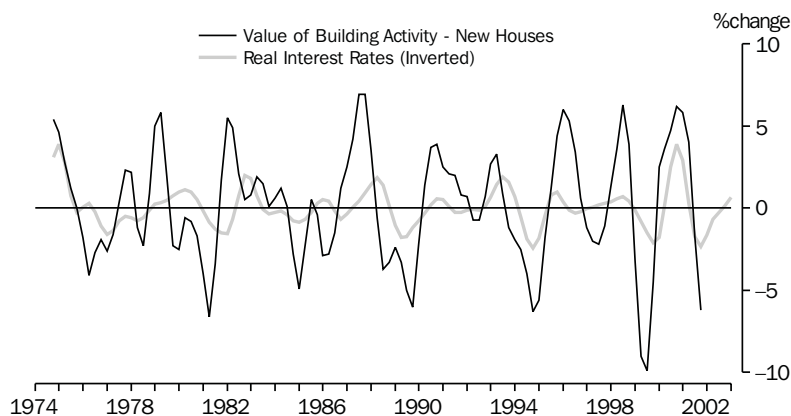
GRAPH 8: BUSINESS CYCLES, Building Activity Lagged—2 Lags



LEAD/LAG ANALYSIS
continued

To better capture the lead of real interest rates for the second half of the series, Graph 9 compares the business cycle estimate for real interest rates with Victorian building activity – New houses shifted forward by five quarters. For example, the December quarter 1974 real interest rate business cycle estimate is plotted against the March 1976 business cycle estimate for building activity. Due to the larger average lag length after September quarter 1989, shifting the series by 5 quarters appears to capture the lead of changes in real interest rates better for the second half of the series. The correlation coefficient between inverted real interest rates the 5-quarter shifted building activity was calculated to be 0.52. Whilst the 5-quarter lag appears to fit the second half of the sample better, there is little difference between the two lag sizes for the overall series.

GRAPH 9: BUSINESS CYCLES, Building Activity Lagged—5 Quarters



CONCLUSION

This investigation found a positive relationship between the business cycles of Victorian building activity – New houses and inverted real interest rates. This implies that (uninverted) real interest rates are negatively related to Victorian building activity – New houses, which is consistent with economic theory.

It appears that Victorian building activity – New houses was more responsive to real interest rate movements before September quarter 1989, and less responsive afterwards reflecting an increase in the lag size over the time period examined. The median lag length increased from 2 quarters before September quarter 1989, to 5 quarters thereafter. This study has not endeavoured to explain reasons behind this increase in lag-structure, but rather to recognise its existence. Further research could analyse and identify the causes of lag-structure changes. Areas for investigation could include increased accessibility to credit, the changes to the RBA monetary policy framework, relatively low-interest rates, labour market conditions, building and construction costs, the motives of foreign investors and exchange rate movements.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Real Interest Rates	The real interest rate is defined as the nominal interest rate (i.e. an interest rate that is advertised widely by banks and financial institutions) less the inflation rate. The real interest rate estimate is derived by subtracting the annual growth in the private consumption deflator (growth from the corresponding quarter of the previous year) from the quarterly average of the 90-day bank bill rate. The result can be negative when the private consumption deflator is greater than the average of the 90 day bank bill rate.
Trend Series	A Trend series is calculated by applying a 7-period Henderson Moving Average to Seasonally Adjusted Data.
Historical long-term Trend Series	A Historical long-term Trend series is calculated by applying a 33-period Henderson Moving Average to Seasonally Adjusted Data.
Identifying peaks and troughs	After having derived the two business cycle estimates, turning points amongst local minima and maxima were selected visually. The 'Handbook of Cyclical Indicators' proposed two rules of thumb for identifying turning points. Firstly, a turning point is clearly identified when either the next turning point has been identified or the corresponding phase has an amplitude greater than the smallest clearly recognised phase. The second rule of thumb is that the last value is chosen as the turning point in the case of equal values.
Sub-Sample Splits	The lead/lag lengths were analysed over two sub-sample periods of time. The split of September quarter 1989 was chosen for two reasons. Firstly, high median house price growth began to slow in September quarter 1989 and secondly, using September 1989 almost split the sample into two equal halves.
Lead/Lag Length	The number of quarters that Victorian building activity took to respond to changes in the real interest rate is the lead/lag length. For example, if real interest rates and Victorian building activity peaked in March 2001 and March 2002, real interest rates are said to have a 4 quarter lead on building activity, or, building activity has a 4 quarter lag on real interest rates.

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CHAPTER 1

STATE COMPARISON

1

SUMMARY OF STATISTICAL INDICATORS: State comparison

	Period	Vic. as a proportion of Aust.	% change from the same period in the previous year					
			Vic.	NSW	Qld	SA	WA	Aust.
State final demand (trend, chain volume measure)	Mar qtr 04	25.7	6.1	5.4	11.1	6.0	8.9	5.6
Population								
Total population	Dec qtr 03	24.7	1.3	0.8	2.3	0.6	1.7	1.3
Natural increase(a)	Dec qtr 03	..	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.3	0.7	0.6
Net overseas migration(a)	Dec qtr 03	..	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.4	1.0	0.7
Net interstate migration(a)	Dec qtr 03	..	—	-0.5	1.0	-0.1	—	..
Labour								
Number employed (trend)	Jun 04	24.8	2.4	1.9	4.1	—	2.9	2.4
Unemployment rate (trend)(b)	Jun 04	..	-0.3	-0.6	-1.1	-0.1	-0.9	-0.6
Participation rate (trend)(b)	Jun 04	..	0.3	-0.2	0.5	-0.5	-0.9	0.1
Job vacancies (original)	May 04	25.0	33.9	14.2	30.3	4.0	35.7	23.4
Average weekly FT adult total earnings (trend)	Feb 04	..	3.8	6.0	7.5	-3.9	6.3	5.3
Wage cost index (total hourly rates of pay excluding bonuses)	Mar qtr 04	—	3.2	3.6	3.8	4.0	3.1	3.6
Prices(c)								
Consumer price index	Mar qtr 04	..	1.8	2.0	2.5	2.1	1.6	2.0
Price index of materials used in house building	Mar qtr 04	..	1.9	3.3	3.7	1.5	2.2	2.7
Price index of materials used in building other than house building	Mar qtr 04	..	2.3	2.2	2.4	1.9	2.7	2.3
Established house price index	Mar qtr 04	..	8.9	15.8	36.6	22.8	19.0	17.9
Building								
Dwelling units approved (trend)	May 04	26.2	-2.4	-2.3	-5.1	0.6	9.1	-0.1
Value of residential building approved (trend)	May 04	28.8	14.9	11.0	9.9	13.9	13.9	11.5
Total value of building approved (trend)	May 04	30.7	8.6	-3.1	3.0	1.2	9.6	3.3
Value of building commenced (chain volume measure)	Dec 03	28.1	3.2	-28.6	26.0	28.0	22.9	-1.4
Value of building work done (seas. adj., chain volume measure)	Dec 03	29.2	3.6	-0.2	20.8	18.8	-0.4	6.1
Consumer spending								
New motor vehicle sales (trend)	May 04	26.1	0.6	0.4	14.5	0.9	6.4	3.9
Retail turnover (trend)	May 04	23.8	7.9	5.8	11.0	5.0	7.3	7.3
Takings from tourist accommodation	Mar qtr 03	18.8	9.5	12.6	14.7	16.0	10.5	12.4
International merchandise trade								
Imports	May 04	29.0	2.3	5.1	30.9	-5.6	-9.3	6.1
Exports	May 04	17.0	18.0	18.2	22.2	4.9	4.7	11.8

(a) Percentage change figures for components of population increase indicate the contribution of each component to the total population increase.

(b) Percentage change columns indicate the difference between the percentage rate for the reference period, and the percentage rate for the same period in the previous year.

(c) Data relates to capital cities.

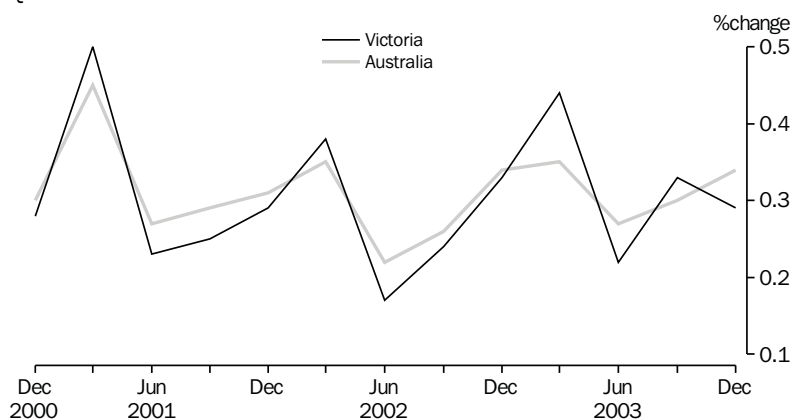
Population size and demographics are crucial social indicators. They have a major impact on the resources available for the provision of labour and other contributions within society. They are also of prime importance in the planning of infrastructure and services, including assessing the effects on the natural environment.

The graphs below show the quarterly growth in Victoria's estimated resident population (ERP), as well as the components of ERP. The ERP of Victoria is obtained by adding to the estimated population at the beginning of each period the components of natural increase, net overseas migration and net interstate movements.

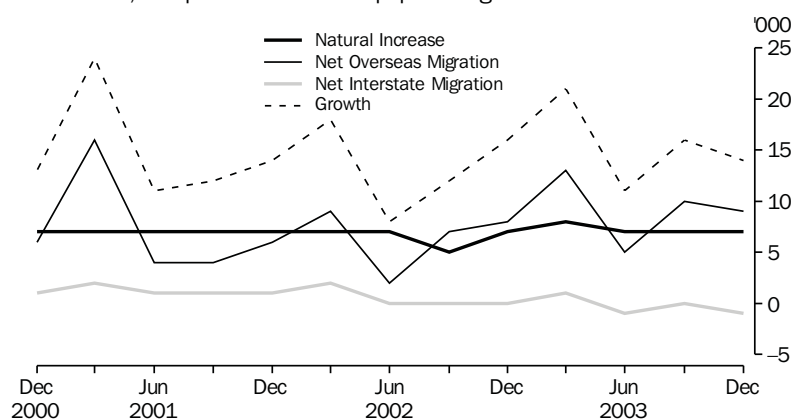
Population growth in both Victoria and Australia has followed similar cyclical patterns since December quarter 2000. Population growth has tended to peak in the March quarter and fall or 'trough' in the June quarter. The quarterly changes in population for Victoria however, have been both higher and lower than for the Australian population over the same period. The only exception to this cyclical pattern has occurred from September quarter 2003, where Victoria's population growth displays a decreasing trend, whereas Australia's growth shows an increasing trend.

Apart from some minor variation, the rate of natural increase has been fairly constant between December quarter 2000 and 2003. Fluctuations in population growth have been predominantly due to fluctuations in net overseas migration. Net overseas migration has exceeded the rate of natural increase for the last two quarters. Net interstate migration however, has been declining and has been negative for the last three quarters. As shown in Table 2 below, in December quarter 2003 there was a net loss of 1000 people from Victoria to other States within Australia.

QUARTERLY POPULATION GROWTH



POPULATION, Components of Victorian population growth



2

ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION AND COMPONENTS OF POPULATION CHANGE(a)(b)(c)

Period	Population at end of period			Components of population change				Change from previous 12 months	
	Males	Females	Persons	Natural increase	Net overseas migration	Net interstate migration	Total increase	Victoria	Australia
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	%	%
1997-98	2 287.0	2 350.8	4 637.8	27.7	19.3	-0.3	40.6	0.88	1.05
1998-99	2 309.4	2 377.0	4 686.4	27.1	24.7	2.5	48.6	1.05	1.15
1999-2000	2 335.5	2 405.8	4 741.3	27.7	27.0	5.2	54.9	1.17	1.20
2000-01	2 366.3	2 438.4	4 804.7	26.4	35.3	5.2	63.4	1.34	1.36
2001-02	2 393.6	2 463.7	4 857.2	27.9	20.3	4.4	52.5	1.09	1.17
2002-03	2 423.4	2 494.0	4 917.4	26.3	33.8	—	60.1	1.24	1.22
2001									
December	2 379.3	2 451.2	4 830.5	6.7	5.6	1.4	13.8	1.27	1.33
2002									
March	2 389.3	2 459.5	4 848.9	7.4	8.9	2.0	18.3	1.15	1.22
June	2 393.6	2 463.7	4 857.2	6.7	2.0	-0.2	8.4	1.09	1.17
September	2 399.5	2 469.6	4 869.1	4.9	7.3	-0.3	11.9	1.09	1.14
December	2 406.8	2 478.1	4 885.0	7.0	8.3	0.5	15.9	1.13	1.17
2003									
March	2 417.9	2 488.5	4 906.3	7.8	12.9	0.7	21.4	1.19	1.17
June	2 423.4	2 494.0	4 917.3	6.6	5.3	-0.9	11.0	1.24	1.22
September	2 431.7	2 501.9	4 933.6	6.8	9.7	-0.3	16.2	1.32	1.27
December	2 438.5	2 509.5	4 948.0	6.7	8.8	-1.0	14.4	1.29	1.27

(a) ERP, natural increase, net overseas and net interstate migration data up to June 2001 are final.

(b) All ERP data from September quarter 2001 to June quarter 2002 are revised and from September quarter 2002 to September quarter 2003 are preliminary.

(c) Revisions have been applied to births and deaths for March, June and September quarters 2003.

Source: Australian Demographic Statistics (cat. no. 3101.0); ABS data available on request, Australian Demographic Statistics.

CHAPTER 3

LABOUR MARKET

CIVILIAN LABOUR FORCE

In the 12 months to May 2004, the number of employed persons in the Melbourne MSR increased by an estimated 3.7%. Outside Melbourne MSR, the Goulburn-Ovens-Murray region showed the greatest growth in employment with an estimated increase of 9.8% in numbers of persons employed. Large decreases were estimated for the Barwon-Western District (6.8%) and Loddon-Mallee (15.1%).

Melbourne was the only region to have an estimated decrease in the unemployment rate (1.4%). The largest increases were estimated in Loddon-Mallee (2.8%), Barwon-Western District (2.2%) and Central Highlands-Wimmera (0.9%).

The participation rates in the Melbourne region show an estimated increase of 0.4%. The Goulburn-Ovens-Murray region shows the largest estimated increase in participation rates (5.3%), while all other regions show an estimated decrease.

3

CIVILIAN LABOUR FORCE(a)(b), By region

Month	Employed			Unemployed '000	Labour force '000	Unemployment rate %	Participation rate %
	Full-time	Part- time	Total				
	'000	'000	'000				
MELBOURNE MAJOR STATISTICAL REGION							
2003							
March	1 229.1	506.1	1 735.2	111.1	1 846.3	6.0	64.4
April	1 231.6	488.2	1 719.8	110.5	1 830.3	6.0	63.7
May	1 216.7	497.4	1 714.1	114.6	1 828.7	6.3	63.6
June	1 208.4	510.5	1 718.8	110.7	1 829.5	6.1	63.6
July	1 239.3	487.6	1 726.9	98.7	1 825.6	5.4	63.3
August	1 217.8	490.1	1 707.9	99.8	1 807.7	5.5	62.6
September	1 245.7	506.8	1 752.5	104.0	1 856.5	5.6	64.3
October	1 254.2	484.2	1 738.4	96.9	1 835.3	5.3	63.4
November	1 258.4	484.8	1 743.1	90.0	1 833.1	4.9	63.3
December	1 293.1	483.3	1 776.4	105.2	1 881.6	5.6	64.8
2004							
January	1 286.6	452.9	1 739.5	107.9	1 847.4	5.8	63.6
February	1 306.5	455.9	1 762.4	116.3	1 878.7	6.2	64.6
March	1 277.0	496.4	1 773.4	107.7	1 881.1	5.7	64.6
April	1 278.5	484.4	1 762.9	107.3	1 870.2	5.7	64.1
May	1 286.3	491.5	1 777.8	91.3	1 869.1	4.9	64.0
BARWON-WESTERN DISTRICT STATISTICAL REGION							
2003							
March	117.0	51.9	169.0	14.2	183.2	7.8	63.7
April	116.4	52.7	169.2	12.1	181.3	6.7	63.0
May	117.4	48.5	166.0	10.8	176.7	6.1	61.3
June	117.0	51.7	168.7	9.2	177.9	5.2	61.6
July	110.2	51.5	161.8	11.9	173.6	6.8	60.1
August	114.7	54.7	169.5	7.3	176.7	4.1	61.1
September	113.5	53.3	166.7	8.0	174.7	4.6	60.3
October	109.2	48.3	157.5	9.9	167.4	5.9	57.7
November	106.8	47.7	154.6	7.4	162.0	4.6	55.7
December	105.3	53.4	158.7	7.4	166.0	4.4	57.1
2004							
January	104.4	50.2	154.6	9.6	164.1	5.8	56.3
February	105.8	44.3	150.2	14.9	165.1	9.0	56.6
March	106.5	49.8	156.2	11.5	167.8	6.9	57.4
April	104.9	51.7	156.6	14.5	171.0	8.5	58.5
May	105.3	49.3	154.7	14.0	168.7	8.3	57.6
CENTRAL HIGHLANDS-WIMMERA STATISTICAL REGION							
2003							
March	60.5	27.9	88.4	5.0	93.3	5.3	60.2
April	58.8	27.4	86.1	5.8	91.9	6.3	59.2
May	59.2	26.9	86.0	5.7	91.7	6.2	59.0
June	59.1	30.0	89.1	5.3	94.4	5.6	60.7
July	60.5	29.1	89.6	5.1	94.7	5.3	60.8
August	57.9	28.5	86.4	6.3	92.7	6.8	59.4
September	60.8	29.3	90.1	5.9	95.9	6.1	61.4
October	62.3	30.7	93.1	7.2	100.2	7.1	64.1
November	60.7	31.6	92.3	6.1	98.3	6.2	62.8
December	62.8	31.4	94.2	6.3	100.5	6.3	64.1
2004							
January	64.4	27.2	91.6	8.5	100.0	8.5	63.7
February	58.6	27.9	86.5	6.2	92.7	6.7	58.9
March	58.4	29.4	87.9	4.4	92.3	4.8	58.6
April	59.3	31.6	91.0	5.6	96.6	5.8	61.3
May	56.7	27.6	84.3	6.4	90.7	7.1	57.5

For footnotes see end of table.

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3

CIVILIAN LABOUR FORCE(a)(b), By region — *continued*

Month	Employed			Unemployed '000	Labour force '000	Unemployment rate %	Participation rate %
	Full-time	Part- time	Total				
	'000	'000	'000				
LODDON-MALLEE STATISTICAL REGION							
2003							
March	91.4	34.6	126.0	5.8	131.8	4.4	64.0
April	89.0	39.0	128.0	6.9	134.8	5.1	65.4
May	92.8	39.8	132.6	7.3	139.9	5.2	67.8
June	88.9	38.5	127.4	8.0	135.3	5.9	65.5
July	87.3	38.0	125.3	5.1	130.4	3.9	63.0
August	84.4	39.3	123.7	6.9	130.5	5.2	63.0
September	86.3	39.5	125.9	7.5	133.4	5.6	64.3
October	83.3	38.5	121.8	8.5	130.3	6.5	62.7
November	82.3	38.1	120.4	6.0	126.3	4.7	60.7
December	83.2	37.4	120.6	7.9	128.6	6.2	61.7
2004							
January	76.2	37.6	113.8	8.2	122.0	6.7	58.4
February	77.9	36.7	114.6	9.9	124.5	8.0	59.5
March	78.8	38.1	116.9	7.9	124.8	6.3	59.6
April	76.6	36.2	112.8	8.1	120.8	6.7	57.6
May	78.0	34.6	112.6	9.8	122.4	8.0	58.3
GOULBURN-OVENS-MURRAY STATISTICAL REGION							
2003							
March	95.3	43.2	138.5	6.1	144.6	4.2	63.7
April	96.5	42.8	139.3	5.3	144.7	3.7	63.6
May	92.3	43.8	136.1	4.4	140.6	3.2	61.8
June	87.3	41.1	128.4	4.4	132.8	3.3	58.3
July	92.5	37.9	130.4	7.5	137.9	5.4	60.4
August	87.3	38.8	126.1	5.8	131.9	4.4	57.7
September	97.7	41.0	138.7	4.8	143.5	3.3	62.7
October	96.6	43.2	139.9	5.2	145.1	3.6	63.3
November	94.5	45.5	140.0	5.9	145.9	4.1	63.6
December	98.1	42.3	140.4	8.1	148.5	5.4	64.6
2004							
January	96.6	46.1	142.7	7.8	150.5	5.2	65.4
February	102.6	46.1	148.7	6.2	154.9	4.0	67.2
March	106.0	46.8	152.8	4.7	157.5	3.0	68.2
April	103.4	44.0	147.4	6.9	154.3	4.5	66.7
May	108.5	40.9	149.4	6.1	155.4	3.9	67.1

For footnotes see end of table.

...continued

3

CIVILIAN LABOUR FORCE(a)(b), By region — *continued*

Month	Employed			Unemployed '000	Labour force '000	Unemployment rate %	Participation rate %
	Full-time	Part- time	Total				
	'000	'000	'000				
ALL GIPPSLAND STATISTICAL REGION							
2003							
March	66.0	34.3	100.2	7.3	107.6	6.8	55.7
April	67.0	34.8	101.8	7.9	109.7	7.2	56.8
May	68.5	41.6	110.1	8.7	118.8	7.3	61.4
June	69.7	43.2	112.8	6.2	119.1	5.2	61.5
July	71.1	40.3	111.4	6.0	117.4	5.1	60.5
August	68.0	40.8	108.9	9.0	117.9	7.6	60.7
September	71.6	39.5	111.1	9.6	120.8	8.0	62.1
October	68.8	42.4	111.3	6.3	117.6	5.4	60.4
November	70.5	42.8	113.3	5.9	119.2	4.9	61.1
December	71.4	39.6	111.0	8.2	119.2	6.9	61.0
2004							
January	73.8	37.5	111.3	8.3	119.6	7.0	61.2
February	69.3	44.3	113.6	9.9	123.5	8.0	63.1
March	71.9	41.8	113.6	8.2	121.9	6.7	62.1
April	75.1	40.7	115.8	7.7	123.5	6.2	62.9
May	71.4	39.0	110.4	9.4	119.8	7.8	60.9

(a) Civilian population aged 15 years and over. From April 2001 the Labour Force Survey was conducted using a redesigned questionnaire containing additional data items and some minor definitional changes. Although the impact on core labour force series has been minor, revisions have been made to estimates previously published to ensure continuity. The revised series were released on 3 May 2001. *Information Paper: Implementing the Redesigned Labour Force Survey Questionnaire* (cat. no. 6295.0) contains further information about the questionnaire changes and the revised series. For details on the content of the redesigned questionnaire, see *Information Paper: Questionnaires Used in the Labour Force Survey* (cat. no. 6232.0).

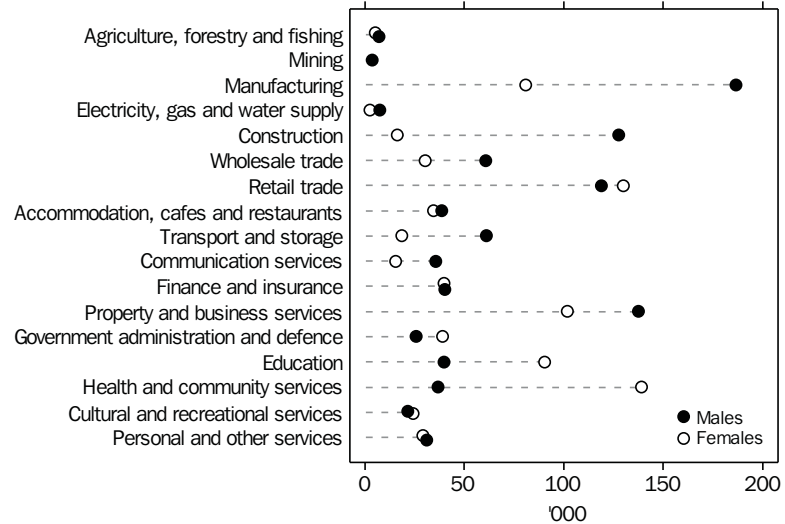
(b) Labour force estimates for the period January 1999 to January 2004 have been revised based on the updated population benchmarks.

Source: *Labour Force, Selected Summary Tables, Australia* (cat. no. 6291.0.40.001).

EMPLOYED PERSONS

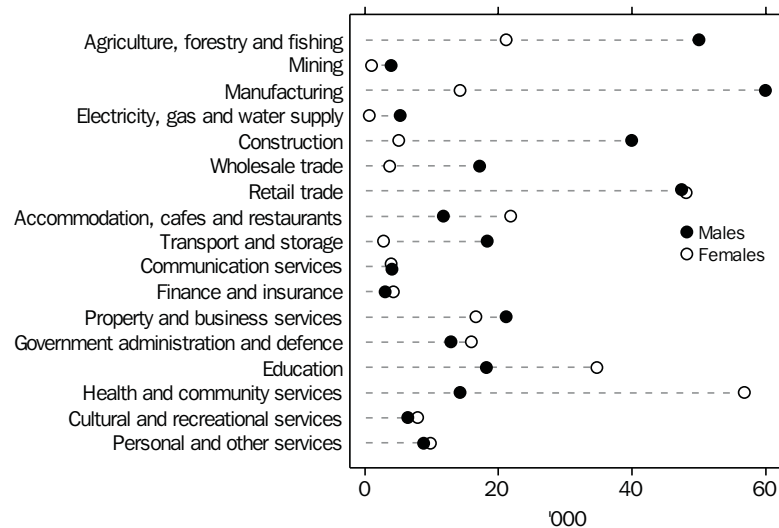
With 267,200 estimated employed persons, the Manufacturing industry was the largest employer in May 2004 in the Melbourne MSR. Other large employing industries included Retail Trade (248,600) and Property and Business services (239,200). In Construction (88.5%), Manufacturing (69.8%) and, Transport and Storage (76.6%) industries, a higher proportion of males were employed compared with Education (69.3%) and, Health and Community Services (79.1%) industries where there was a higher proportion of females.

EMPLOYED PERSONS BY INDUSTRY AND SEX, Melbourne MSR



In Balance of Victoria, Retail Trade (95,500), Manufacturing (74,200) and, Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing (71,200), were the largest employers of all ANZSIC industry groups. Manufacturing (80.9%), Construction (88.7%) and, Transport and Storage (86.3%) had a higher proportion of males in employment than other industries. Education (65.6%), and, Health and Community Services (79.9%) saw a higher proportion of females employed.

EMPLOYED PERSONS BY INDUSTRY AND SEX, Balance of Victoria



4

EMPLOYED PERSONS, BY INDUSTRY(a) AND MAJOR STATISTICAL REGION — May 2004

Industry division	Males	Females	Persons
	'000	'000	'000
Melbourne(b)			
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	7.3	5.1	12.4
Mining	3.6	–	3.6
Manufacturing	186.4	80.8	267.2
Electricity, gas and water supply	7.4	2.7	10.1
Construction	127.6	16.4	144.1
Wholesale trade	60.8	30.3	91.1
Retail trade	118.8	129.8	248.6
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	38.9	34.5	73.4
Transport and storage	61.1	18.7	79.8
Communication services	35.6	15.4	51.0
Finance and insurance	40.2	39.7	79.9
Property and business services	137.5	101.7	239.2
Government administration and defence	25.9	39.2	65.1
Education	39.9	90.5	130.5
Health and community services	36.8	139.2	176.0
Cultural and recreational services	21.6	24.2	45.8
Personal and other services	31.0	29.2	60.1
Balance of Victoria			
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	50.0	21.2	71.2
Mining	4.0	1.0	5.0
Manufacturing	60.0	14.2	74.2
Electricity, gas and water supply	5.3	0.7	6.0
Construction	40.0	5.1	45.1
Wholesale trade	17.2	3.7	20.9
Retail trade	47.4	48.1	95.5
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	11.8	21.8	33.6
Transport and storage	18.3	2.8	21.2
Communication services	4.1	3.9	8.0
Finance and insurance	3.0	4.3	7.2
Property and business services	21.2	16.6	37.8
Government administration and defence	12.9	15.9	28.8
Education	18.2	34.7	52.9
Health and community services	14.3	56.8	71.1
Cultural and recreational services	6.4	7.9	14.3
Personal and other services	8.8	9.8	18.6
Victoria			
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	57.3	26.3	83.6
Mining	7.6	1.0	8.6
Manufacturing	246.4	95.0	341.4
Electricity, gas and water supply	12.7	3.4	16.1
Construction	167.6	21.5	189.2
Wholesale trade	78.0	34.0	112.0
Retail trade	166.2	177.8	344.1
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	50.7	56.3	107.0
Transport and storage	79.4	21.5	100.9
Communication services	39.7	19.3	59.0
Finance and insurance	43.1	44.0	87.1
Property and business services	158.7	118.3	277.0
Government administration and defence	38.8	55.1	93.9
Education	58.1	125.2	183.4
Health and community services	51.1	196.0	247.1
Cultural and recreational services	28.0	32.1	60.1
Personal and other services	39.8	38.9	78.7

(a) From April 2001 the Labour Force Survey was conducted using a redesigned questionnaire containing additional items and some minor definitional changes. Revisions have been made to core labour force estimates to ensure continuity. However, counts of employed persons by industry, being non-core data items, have not been revised. Thus data from April 2001 onwards are not strictly comparable with earlier unrevised data. Further information is contained in footnotes to tables 6 and 7.

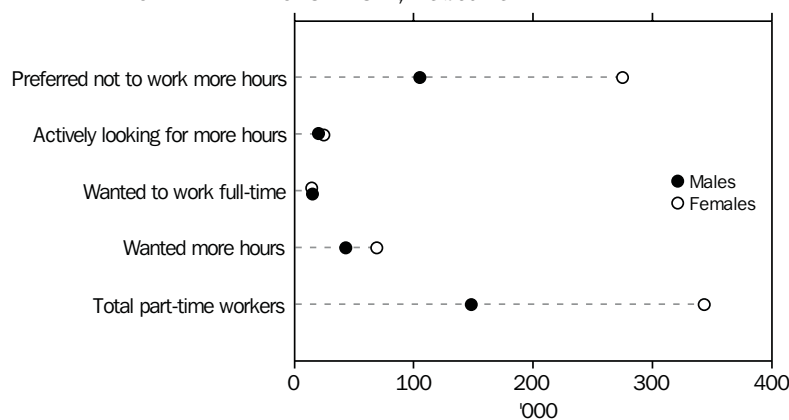
(b) The majority of the Yarra Ranges (S) LGA is in the Melbourne statistical division. However, the Yarra Ranges (S) - Pt. B SLA is in the Gippsland statistical division. The estimates for the entire Yarra Ranges LGA have been reported as part of Melbourne.

Source: ABS data available on request, Labour Force Survey.

PART-TIME WORKERS

In May 2004, the majority of all part-time workers in the Melbourne MSR were females (69.9%). Of the total 491,500 part-time workers in Melbourne MSR, 77.3% preferred not to work more hours. This response was more common amongst females (79.9%) than males (71.1%).

PART-TIME WORKER INTENTIONS BY SEX, Melbourne



5

PART-TIME WORKERS(a)(b), By Sex — Melbourne

Month	Preferred to work more hours					Total part-time workers	Proportion of part-time workers preferring to work more hours %
	Preferred not to work more hours	Had actively looked for more hours and were available to work more hours	Wanted to work full-time	All part-time workers who preferred to work more hours			
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000		
MALES							
2003							
February	85.0	23.6	18.8	49.8	134.8	36.9	
May	101.4	16.9	12.1	41.1	142.6	28.8	
August	94.5	16.5	12.9	43.5	138.0	31.5	
November	91.2	19.1	14.6	54.8	146.0	37.5	
2004							
February	88.3	19.4	11.9	43.7	132.0	33.1	
May	105.3	20.0	14.9	42.8	148.1	28.9	
FEMALES							
2003							
February	264.9	29.6	19.2	79.9	344.8	23.2	
May	281.3	28.8	19.9	73.5	354.8	20.7	
August	284.1	22.4	14.8	68.0	352.1	19.3	
November	262.7	21.9	12.0	76.1	338.8	22.5	
2004							
February	248.8	29.8	16.7	75.0	323.9	23.2	
May	274.7	24.5	14.8	68.7	343.4	20.0	
PERSONS							
2003							
February	350.0	53.1	38.0	129.7	479.7	27.0	
May	382.8	45.7	32.0	114.6	497.4	23.0	
August	378.6	38.9	27.7	111.5	490.1	22.8	
November	353.9	41.0	26.6	130.9	484.8	27.0	
2004							
February	337.2	49.2	28.6	118.7	455.9	26.0	
May	380.0	44.5	29.6	111.5	491.5	22.7	

(a) Civilian population aged 15 years and over.

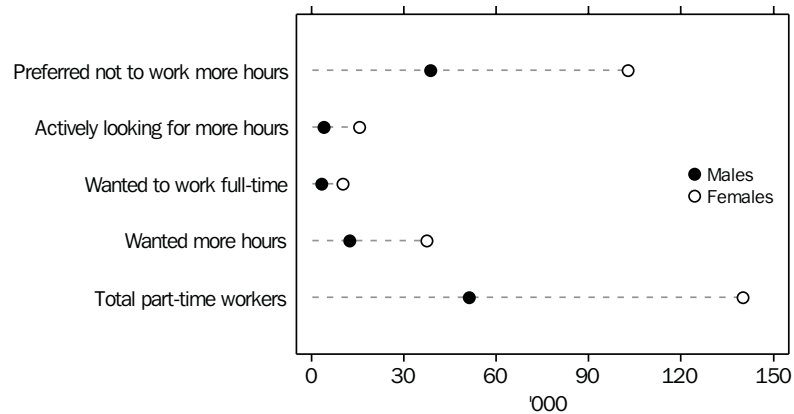
(b) Labour force estimates for the period January 1999 to January 2004 have been revised based on the updated population benchmarks.

Source: ABS data available on request, Labour Force Survey.

PART-TIME WORKERS
continued

As with Melbourne MSR, females (73.2%) accounted for the majority of all part-time workers in Balance of Victoria in May 2004. Of the total 191,300 part-time workers in Balance of Victoria, 74.0% preferred not to work more hours. This response, unlike Melbourne MSR, was more common amongst males (75.7%) than females (73.4%).

PART-TIME WORKER INTENTIONS BY SEX MAY 2004, Balance of Victoria



6

PART-TIME WORKERS(a)(b), By Sex — Balance of Victoria

Month	Preferred to work more hours						Proportion of part-time workers preferring to work more hours %
	Preferred not to work more hours '000	Had actively looked for more hours and were available to work more hours '000	Wanted to work full-time '000	All part-time workers who preferred to work more hours '000	Total part-time workers '000		
MALES							
2003							
February	23.5	6.8	5.7	16.2	39.7	40.8	
May	33.8	8.8	7.5	15.6	49.5	31.6	
August	40.6	8.5	7.5	18.9	59.5	31.8	
November	36.0	7.8	7.2	24.3	60.2	40.3	
2004							
February	39.3	6.3	5.1	13.0	52.2	24.8	
May	38.8	* 4.1	* 3.4	12.5	51.2	24.4	
FEMALES							
2003							
February	113.0	11.7	6.5	34.5	147.5	23.4	
May	112.4	10.0	7.6	38.8	151.2	25.7	
August	110.2	8.8	5.1	32.5	142.6	22.8	
November	107.9	9.9	8.5	37.5	145.4	25.8	
2004							
February	109.5	12.4	6.9	37.5	147.0	25.5	
May	102.8	15.6	10.2	37.4	140.1	26.7	
PERSONS							
2003							
February	136.5	18.4	12.2	50.7	187.2	27.1	
May	146.2	18.7	15.0	54.5	200.7	27.1	
August	150.8	17.3	12.6	51.4	202.2	25.4	
November	143.9	17.7	15.7	61.8	205.7	30.1	
2004							
February	148.8	18.7	12.0	50.5	199.2	25.3	
May	141.5	19.6	13.6	49.9	191.4	26.0	

(a) Civilian population aged 15 years and over.

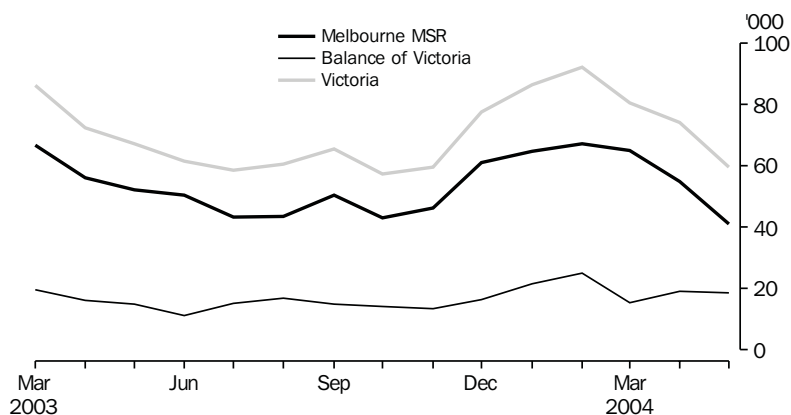
(b) Labour force estimates for the period January 1999 to January 2004 have been revised based on the updated population benchmarks.

Source: ABS data available on request, Labour Force Survey.

DURATION OF
UNEMPLOYMENT

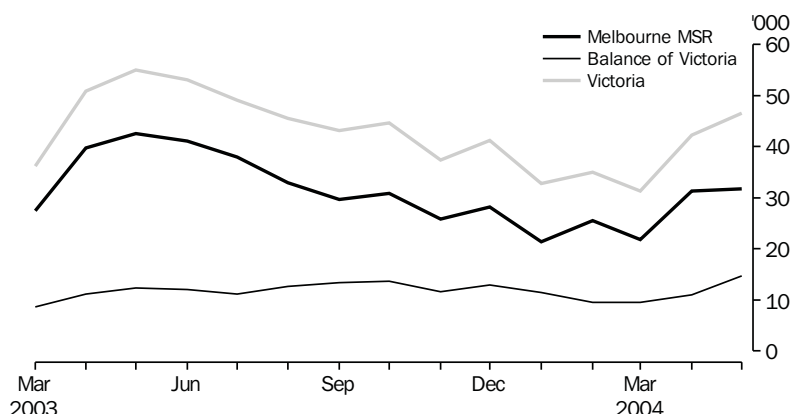
The number of total unemployed persons in Victoria fell over the 12 months to May 2004. The number of persons unemployed for fewer than 13 weeks decreased in Melbourne MSR by 10.4%, but increased in Balance of Victoria by 9.7%. The number of persons unemployed for fewer than 13 weeks for Victoria overall decreased from 67,100 to 59,600 (12.6%).

PERSONS UNEMPLOYED FOR UNDER 13 WEEKS



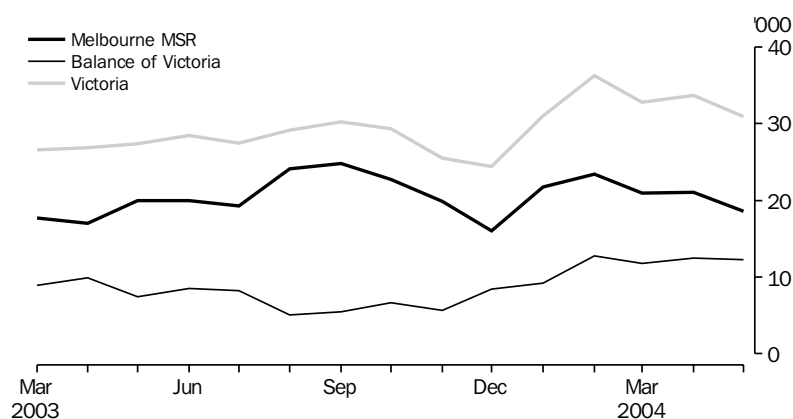
The number of persons unemployed for between 13 and 52 weeks was lower than the figure for persons unemployed less than 13 weeks indicating that many persons either became employed or exited the labour force within 13 weeks. In the Melbourne MSR the number of persons unemployed for between 13 and 52 weeks decreased by 25.6% in the 12 months to May 2004. Balance of Victoria registered an increase of 18.5%. For Victoria overall, the number of persons unemployed for between 13 and 52 weeks decreased by 15.5%.

PERSONS UNEMPLOYED FOR BETWEEN 13 AND 52 WEEKS



The number of persons unemployed for 52 weeks and over for the 12 months to May 2004 decreased in Melbourne (7.5%), increased in Balance of Victoria (66.2%), and increased for Victoria overall (12.8%).

PERSONS UNEMPLOYED FOR 52 WEEKS AND OVER



7

DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT, By Sex And Major Statistical Region

Month	Melbourne MSR			Balance of Victoria MSR			Victoria		
	Males '000	Females '000	Persons '000	Males '000	Females '000	Persons '000	Males '000	Females '000	Persons '000
NUMBER OF PERSONS UNEMPLOYED FOR UNDER 13 WEEKS									
2003									
March	32.5	34.3	66.8	9.1	10.4	19.5	41.6	44.7	86.3
April	26.5	29.7	56.2	9.1	7.0	16.1	35.6	36.7	72.3
May	27.9	24.3	52.2	8.8	6.1	14.9	36.7	30.4	67.1
June	23.7	26.8	50.5	7.2	*3.9	11.1	30.9	30.7	61.6
July	21.9	21.4	43.3	7.3	7.9	15.2	29.1	29.4	58.5
August	20.7	22.8	43.5	7.5	9.5	16.9	28.2	32.3	60.5
September	26.6	23.8	50.4	7.0	8.0	15.0	33.6	31.8	65.4
October	20.2	22.9	43.1	10.5	*3.6	14.1	30.7	26.5	57.2
November	21.4	24.9	46.3	6.7	6.7	13.4	28.1	31.6	59.6
December	29.4	31.5	61.0	10.3	6.1	16.5	39.8	37.7	77.5
2004									
January	35.4	29.4	64.8	14.6	7.0	21.6	50.0	36.4	86.4
February	31.2	36.1	67.3	10.6	14.2	24.9	41.9	50.3	92.2
March	31.6	33.3	64.9	4.8	10.7	15.5	36.3	44.1	80.4
April	32.7	22.2	54.9	8.4	10.8	19.2	41.1	33.0	74.1
May	25.0	16.0	41.0	11.1	7.5	18.6	36.1	23.5	59.6
NUMBER OF PERSONS UNEMPLOYED FOR 13 AND UNDER 52 WEEKS									
2003									
March	13.3	14.2	27.5	4.8	*3.8	8.6	18.1	17.9	36.1
April	21.6	18.2	39.7	7.1	*4.1	11.1	28.6	22.3	50.9
May	22.1	20.5	42.6	7.0	5.3	12.4	29.1	25.8	55.0
June	23.5	17.6	41.1	7.7	4.4	12.0	31.1	22.0	53.1
July	19.4	18.5	37.9	7.9	*3.2	11.1	27.3	21.7	49.0
August	19.7	13.1	32.8	7.3	5.4	12.7	27.0	18.5	45.5
September	16.1	13.6	29.7	8.3	5.1	13.4	24.4	18.7	43.1
October	17.6	13.3	30.9	5.0	8.7	13.7	22.6	22.0	44.5
November	15.3	10.5	25.8	4.8	6.7	11.5	20.2	17.2	37.4
December	14.4	13.8	28.2	7.5	5.5	13.0	21.9	19.3	41.2
2004									
January	11.6	9.7	21.3	5.9	5.6	11.5	17.5	15.3	32.8
February	13.0	12.5	25.6	6.8	2.6	9.5	19.9	15.2	35.0
March	13.3	8.5	21.8	7.2	*2.3	9.5	20.5	10.8	31.3
April	17.6	13.7	31.3	5.7	5.3	11.0	23.3	19.0	42.3
May	20.2	11.6	31.7	8.4	6.3	14.7	28.6	17.9	46.5

...continued

7

DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT, By Sex And Major Statistical Region — *continued*

Month	Melbourne MSR			Balance of Victoria MSR			Victoria		
	Males '000	Females '000	Persons '000	Males '000	Females '000	Persons '000	Males '000	Females '000	Persons '000
NUMBER OF PERSONS UNEMPLOYED FOR 52 WEEKS AND OVER									
2003									
March	10.1	7.6	17.7	6.2	*2.6	8.9	16.4	10.2	26.6
April	11.9	5.1	17.0	7.7	*2.2	9.9	19.6	7.3	26.9
May	12.5	7.5	20.0	*4.3	*3.1	7.4	16.8	10.6	27.4
June	11.3	8.6	20.0	5.0	*3.5	8.5	16.4	12.1	28.5
July	12.7	6.5	19.3	5.1	*3.1	8.2	17.8	9.6	27.5
August	15.5	8.6	24.1	*3.9	*1.2	5.1	19.4	9.8	29.1
September	14.9	9.9	24.8	*3.0	*2.5	5.5	17.9	12.3	30.2
October	12.1	10.6	22.7	*4.2	*2.5	6.7	16.3	13.1	29.4
November	10.8	9.1	19.9	*4.1	*1.5	5.6	14.9	10.6	25.5
December	7.6	8.4	16.0	4.9	3.5	8.4	12.4	12.0	24.4
2004									
January	13.1	8.7	21.8	5.9	3.3	9.2	19.0	12.0	31.0
February	13.6	9.8	23.4	8.0	4.7	12.8	21.6	14.6	36.2
March	12.3	8.7	21.0	6.6	5.2	11.8	18.9	13.9	32.8
April	13.5	7.6	21.1	7.5	5.1	12.5	21.0	12.7	33.7
May	11.4	7.2	18.6	6.1	6.2	12.3	17.5	13.4	30.9
TOTAL UNEMPLOYED PERSONS									
2003									
March	56.0	56.0	112.0	20.2	16.8	36.9	76.2	72.8	149.0
April	60.0	53.0	112.9	23.9	13.3	37.2	83.8	66.3	150.1
May	62.5	52.3	114.8	20.2	14.5	34.7	82.7	66.8	149.5
June	58.5	53.0	111.5	19.9	11.8	31.7	78.4	64.8	143.2
July	54.1	46.5	100.5	20.3	14.2	34.5	74.3	60.7	135.0
August	55.9	44.5	100.5	18.6	16.1	34.7	74.5	60.6	135.1
September	57.6	47.3	104.9	18.4	15.5	33.8	76.0	62.8	138.8
October	49.9	46.8	96.7	19.7	14.8	34.5	69.5	61.6	131.1
November	47.5	44.5	92.0	15.6	14.9	30.5	63.1	59.4	122.5
December	51.4	53.8	105.2	22.7	15.2	37.9	74.1	68.9	143.1
2004									
January	60.1	47.8	107.9	26.5	15.8	42.3	86.5	63.6	150.2
February	57.9	58.4	116.3	25.5	21.6	47.1	83.4	80.0	163.4
March	57.2	50.5	107.7	18.5	18.2	36.8	75.7	68.8	144.5
April	63.8	43.5	107.3	21.6	21.1	42.7	85.4	64.6	150.1
May	56.6	34.7	91.3	25.6	20.1	45.7	82.2	54.8	137.0

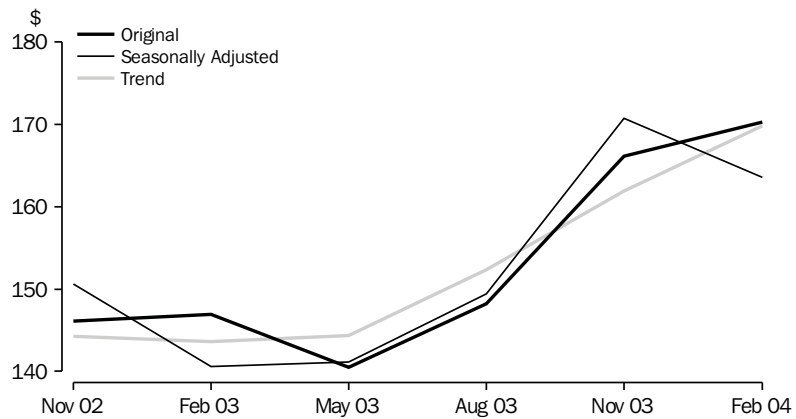
Source: ABS data available on request, Labour Force Survey.

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS

Full-time ordinary earnings increased during February 2004 in Melbourne (1.4%) and Balance of Victoria (1.2%). After a plateau between May and August 2003, Victorian full-time ordinary earnings have increased from \$931.90 to \$956.10 (2.6%) from November 2003 to February 2004 in original terms.

The difference between male and female ordinary earnings in Melbourne MSR has increased for most quarters from November 2002. This difference may reflect the higher proportion of part-time female workers. From May 2003 to February 2004, the difference increased by 14.9% in original terms, 9.5% in seasonally adjusted terms, and by 11.5% in trend terms.

MALE AND FEMALE AVERAGE EARNINGS GAP



	Males			Females			Persons		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All males total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All females total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
ORIGINAL (\$)									
2002									
November	942.7	1 000.2	859.0	796.6	810.8	554.6	890.7	932.8	710.9
2003									
February	954.2	1 002.9	878.0	807.3	823.0	569.6	902.0	939.0	726.6
May	976.0	1 031.1	888.6	835.5	849.7	581.7	926.9	967.7	741.7
August	983.0	1 044.1	906.9	834.8	848.8	583.2	931.9	976.7	752.5
November	1 000.7	1 073.0	923.9	834.6	852.4	587.2	944.3	998.0	767.1
2004									
February	1 014.6	1 080.3	919.4	844.3	860.9	590.6	956.1	1 004.9	765.1
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED (\$)									
2002									
November	947.4	1 000.2	861.9	796.8	809.5	558.3	894.5	933.8	714.3
2003									
February	951.1	1 003.3	873.9	810.5	826.6	570.1	900.3	940.0	724.2
May	975.2	1 029.6	888.1	834.1	849.0	581.5	926.4	965.9	741.6
August	982.1	1 045.1	908.3	832.7	847.1	579.1	930.3	976.3	751.5
November	1 005.7	1 073.2	927.8	835.0	851.4	591.2	948.3	999.4	771.0
2004									
February	1 011.2	1 080.4	914.9	847.6	864.6	591.0	954.0	1 005.7	762.4
TREND ESTIMATES (\$)									
2002									
November	946.0	996.9	862.7	801.7	815.4	562.2	895.0	932.9	716.9
2003									
February	957.1	1 009.6	874.5	813.5	828.1	570.3	906.0	945.2	726.4
May	970.4	1 026.8	891.1	826.0	841.1	577.5	919.9	961.5	740.0
August	986.3	1 047.8	907.3	834.0	849.3	583.5	933.8	979.3	753.7
November	1 000.9	1 067.5	918.4	839.0	854.9	588.0	945.4	995.0	763.2
2004									
February	1 013.5	1 084.3	924.9	843.7	860.6	591.9	955.0	1 008.3	768.8
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (FROM NOVEMBER 2003 TO FEBRUARY 2004)									
Original	1.4	0.7	-0.5	1.2	1.0	0.6	1.3	0.7	-0.3
Seasonally Adjusted	0.5	0.7	-1.4	1.5	1.6	0.0	0.6	0.6	-1.1
Trend	1.3	1.6	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.7	1.0	1.3	0.7
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (FROM FEBRUARY 2003 TO FEBRUARY 2004)									
Original	6.3	7.7	4.7	4.6	4.6	3.7	6.0	7.0	5.3
Seasonally Adjusted	6.3	7.7	4.7	4.6	4.6	3.7	6.0	7.0	5.3
Trend	5.9	7.4	5.8	3.7	3.9	3.8	5.4	6.7	5.8

(a) Movements in average weekly earnings can be affected by both changes in the level of earnings per employee and changes in the composition of the labour force. For example, changes in the proportions of full-time, part-time, casual and junior employees and variations in the distribution of occupations can affect movements in earnings series. For more information, see paragraphs 17 and 18 of the Explanatory Notes in the source publication.

Source: *Average Weekly Earnings, Australia* (cat. no. 6302.0).

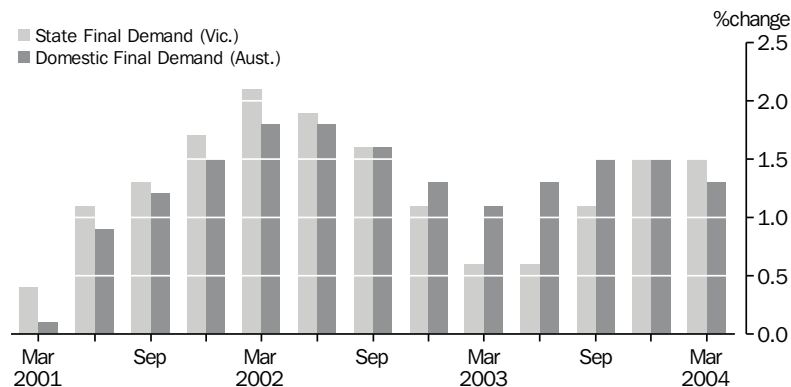
State final demand describes the total value of goods and services that are sold to buyers, who wish to either consume them or retain them in the form of capital assets. Sales excluded from the measure are: those sales made to buyers who use them as inputs to a production activity; export sales; sales that lead to accumulation of inventories.

Measures of State final demand make no distinction between demand that is met by goods and services produced within the state in question, as opposed to being met by supplies sourced from another state, or from overseas. State final demand is therefore not a measure of the value of production activity occurring within a state.

Household final consumption expenditure is the single largest component of state final demand and represents almost 60 percent of Victoria's State final demand (trend) in volume terms. The other main contributors are private gross fixed capital formation (22%) and government final consumption expenditure (16%).

For the March quarter 2004, the estimate for Victorian state final demand (trend) in volume terms was \$50,066m, an increase of 1.5% on the December quarter 2003. Over the same period, the Australian trend estimate (domestic final demand) increased at a lesser rate at 1.3%. For the 12 months to March 2004, Victorian state final demand (trend) grew by 4.8%, whereas Australian domestic final demand (trend) grew by 5.6%.

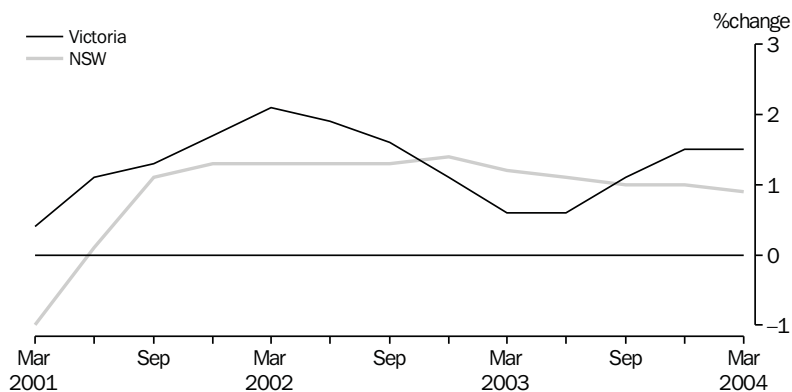
STATE FINAL DEMAND, Chain volume measures—Change from previous quarter:
Trend



From March quarter 2001 till September quarter 2002, growth in State final demand for Victoria was higher than that of New South Wales. From December quarter 2002 till June quarter 2003, Victoria's trend growth rate in State final demand was below the level for New South Wales. Since June quarter 2003 however, the trend growth for Victoria has been consistently higher than that for New South Wales.

STATE FINAL DEMAND, Chain volume measures—Change from previous quarter:

Trend



	Jun qtr 2002	Sep qtr 2002	Dec qtr 2002	Mar qtr 2003	Jun qtr 2003	Sep qtr 2003	Dec qtr 2003	Mar qtr 2004
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED (\$m)								
Final consumption expenditure								
General government	7 365	7 450	7 587	7 593	7 697	7 725	7 769	7 809
Households	27 670	27 855	27 892	28 176	28 300	28 683	29 191	29 770
Gross fixed capital formation								
Private								
Dwellings	3 139	3 138	3 209	3 221	2 956	3 186	3 328	3 338
Non-dwelling construction	1 493	1 841	1 644	1 747	1 797	1 729	1 925	1 976
Machinery and equipment	3 591	3 607	4 007	3 933	3 726	3 838	3 817	3 957
Livestock	159	117	117	117	117	151	151	151
Intangible fixed assets	800	828	835	862	828	820	874	884
Ownership transfer costs	766	785	848	773	723	738	741	752
Total private	9 959	10 316	10 660	10 654	10 147	10 463	10 836	11 058
Public	1 447	1 305	1 511	1 534	1 827	1 512	1 612	1 570
State final demand	46 443	46 926	47 650	47 957	47 972	48 382	49 408	50 208
International trade—exports of goods	6 238	5 820	5 608	5 012	4 966	5 168	5 078	5 229
International trade—imports of goods	9 948	10 422	11 037	11 363	11 636	11 320	11 981	12 477
TREND ESTIMATES(b) (\$m)								
Final consumption expenditure								
General government	7 361	7 467	7 552	7 624	7 680	7 728	7 772	7 797
Households	27 617	27 823	27 964	28 110	28 344	28 726	29 196	29 717
Gross fixed capital formation								
Private								
Dwellings	3 069	3 177	3 195	3 131	3 105	3 162	3 270	3 379
Non-dwelling construction	1 539	1 681	1 746	1 740	1 748	1 814	1 883	1 944
Machinery and equipment	3 551	3 677	3 787	3 835	3 823	3 811	3 852	3 907
Livestock	147	130	116	115	127	140	150	155
Intangible fixed assets	798	823	843	843	835	840	859	886
Ownership transfer costs	771	803	807	781	745	732	741	749
Total private	9 881	10 294	10 495	10 445	10 384	10 498	10 755	11 034
Public	1 391	1 390	1 480	1 599	1 663	1 633	1 588	1 567
State final demand	46 251	46 974	47 490	47 778	48 071	48 587	49 311	50 066
International trade—exports of goods	6 113	5 910	5 485	5 154	5 017	5 057	5 143	5 191
International trade—imports of goods	9 952	10 351	10 827	11 218	11 446	11 641	11 934	12 325
TREND ESTIMATES (% change from previous quarter)								
Final consumption expenditure								
General government	1.4	1.4	1.1	1.0	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.3
Households	1.1	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.8	1.3	1.6	1.8
Gross fixed capital formation								
Private								
Dwellings	4.4	3.5	0.6	-2	-0.8	1.8	3.4	3.3
Non-dwelling construction	13.1	9.2	3.9	-0.3	0.5	3.8	3.8	3.2
Machinery and equipment	4.2	3.5	3.0	1.3	-0.3	-0.3	1.1	1.4
Livestock	-7.5	-11.6	-10.8	-0.9	10.4	10.2	7.1	3.3
Intangible fixed assets	2.0	3.1	2.4	0.0	-0.9	0.6	2.3	3.1
Ownership transfer costs	3.5	4.2	0.5	-3.2	-4.6	-1.7	1.2	1.1
Total private	5.2	4.2	2.0	-0.5	-0.6	1.1	2.4	2.6
Public	-0.1	-0.1	6.5	8.0	4.0	-1.8	-2.8	-1.3
State final demand	1.9	1.6	1.1	0.6	0.6	1.1	1.5	1.5
International trade—exports of goods	0.2	-3.3	-7.2	-6	-2.7	0.8	1.7	0.9
International trade—imports of goods	4.1	4.0	4.6	3.6	2.0	1.7	2.5	3.3

(a) Reference year for chain volume measures is 2001–02.

(b) Trend estimates for aggregates are derived directly, rather than as the sum of components. As a result, the sum of the trend estimates of individual components of a particular aggregate will not sum to the overall trend estimate of the aggregate.

Source: Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product (cat. no. 5206.0); ABS data available on request, Australian National Accounts.

	Jun qtr 2002	Sep qtr 2002	Dec qtr 2002	Mar qtr 2003	Jun qtr 2003	Sep qtr 2003	Dec qtr 2003	Mar qtr 2004
CURRENT PRICES (\$m)								
Final consumption expenditure								
General government	7 844	r 7 452	r 7 979	r 7 837	r 8 367	r 8 087	r 8 525	8 487
Households	27 652	r 28 300	r 30 058	r 27 539	r 28 949	r 29 703	r 31 758	29 539
Gross fixed capital formation								
Private								
Dwellings	3 265	r 3 332	r 3 266	r 3 115	3 221	r 3 567	r 3 583	3 373
Non-dwelling construction	1 500	1 898	1 748	1 665	1 891	r 1 845	r 2 138	1 989
Machinery and equipment	3 634	3 495	r 4 192	r 3 274	3 530	r 3 437	r 3 568	2 908
Livestock	159	115	115	115	115	r 152	r 152	152
Intangible fixed assets	770	805	820	795	754	r 752	r 813	769
Ownership transfer costs	764	r 860	r 860	r 809	r 813	r 917	r 937	904
<i>Total private</i>	10 092	10 507	11 002	9 773	10 324	10 670	11 190	10 094
Public	r 1 663	r 1 077	r 1 510	r 1 490	r 2 073	r 1 269	r 1 586	1 488
State final demand	r 47 251	r 47 336	r 50 550	r 46 639	r 49 713	r 49 730	r 53 059	49 609
International trade—exports of goods	5 928	5 643	5 824	4 747	4 509	r 4 678	r 4 782	4 496
International trade—imports of goods	9 413	10 483	11 117	10 452	10 077	r 10 198	r 10 445	9 717
Compensation of employees(b)	21 904	22 392	23 899	22 587	23 443	r 23 849	r 25 027	23 902
CHAIN VOLUME MEASURES(c) (\$m)								
Final consumption expenditure								
General government	7 468	r 7 365	r 7 652	r 7 509	r 7 800	r 7 624	r 7 836	7 764
Households	27 491	r 27 892	r 29 487	r 26 725	r 28 119	r 28 796	r 30 809	28 379
Gross fixed capital formation								
Private								
Dwellings	3 229	r 3 278	3 198	r 3 008	3 041	r 3 318	r 3 323	3 113
Non-dwelling construction	1 490	1 871	1 716	1 626	1 816	r 1 753	r 2 009	1 847
Machinery and equipment	3 699	3 633	r 4 340	r 3 470	3 831	r 3 848	r 4 138	3 507
Livestock	159	117	117	117	117	151	151	151
Intangible fixed assets	787	833	861	845	815	r 825	r 902	866
Ownership transfer costs	751	812	859	752	705	765	742	739
<i>Total private</i>	10 130	r 10 543	r 11 091	r 9 819	r 10 324	r 10 660	r 11 265	10 224
Public	r 1 662	r 1 079	1 518	1 500	r 2 081	r 1 287	r 1 623	1 529
State final demand	r 46 754	r 46 879	r 49 749	r 45 553	r 48 324	r 48 367	r 51 532	47 896
International trade—exports of goods	6 119	5 740	5 959	4 849	4 857	r 5 098	r 5 384	5 054
International trade—imports of goods	9 708	10 810	11 482	11 002	11 163	r 11 737	r 12 465	12 082

(a) Revisions to various series resulted from the availability of more up to date source data.

(b) Method of calculation changed from March quarter 2002. For more information, see feature article in December quarter 2001 issue of *Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product* (cat. no. 5206.0).

(c) Reference year for chain volume measures is 2001–02.

Source: *Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product* (cat. no. 5206.0); ABS data available on request, *Australian National Accounts*.

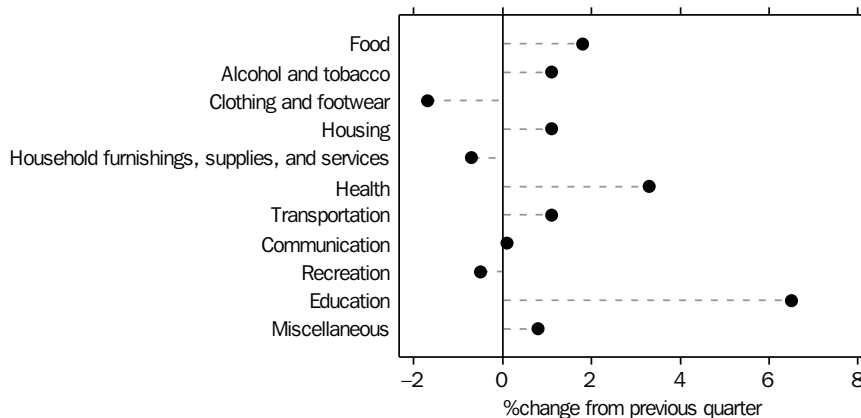
CHAPTER 5

PRICE INDEXES

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) measures quarterly changes in the price of a 'basket' of goods and services which are representative of the expenditure of private households in each capital city. Between March quarter 2003 and December quarter 2004, the all-groups Consumer Price Index (CPI) for Melbourne rose by 1.0%. This is slightly more than the increase in the weighted average for the eight capital cities (0.9%). The largest contributors to this quarterly increase were Education (6.5%), Health (3.3%) and Food (1.8%). Decreases were recorded in Clothing and footwear (1.7%), Household furnishings, supplies and services (0.7%) and Recreation (0.5%). For the year ending March quarter 2004, the CPI rose 1.8% for Melbourne, compared to a 2.0% increase in the eight capital cities weighted average. The biggest yearly increases for Melbourne occurred in Education (6.7%), Health (6.6%), Alcohol and tobacco (4.3%) and Food (3.8%). The Clothing and footwear and Recreation groups saw the biggest annual declines (1.4% each).

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX(a), Melbourne, all groups—December quarter 2004



(a) Base of each index: 1989-90 = 100.0.

Group	Mar qtr 2003	Jun qtr 2003	Sep qtr 2003	Dec qtr 2003	Mar qtr 2004	% change from Dec qtr 2003 to Mar qtr 2004		% change from Mar qtr 2003 to Mar qtr 2004	
						Melbourne	Weighted average of eight capital cities	Melbourne	Weighted average of eight capital cities
Food	148.9	149.1	149.0	151.8	154.5	1.8	1.8	3.8	3.3
Alcohol and tobacco	210.8	212.2	217.2	217.6	219.9	1.1	1.1	4.3	4.2
Clothing and footwear	114.5	114.2	115.1	114.9	112.9	-1.7	-1.4	-1.4	-0.8
Housing	107.4	108.4	109.6	109.3	110.5	1.1	0.9	2.9	4.3
Household furnishings, supplies and services	120.7	121.7	121.8	121.9	121.1	-0.7	-0.6	0.3	0.2
Health	196.3	202.3	201.8	202.6	209.3	3.3	3.2	6.6	6.5
Transportation	143.1	139.4	140.9	139.7	141.3	1.1	0.7	-1.3	-1.4
Communication	108.6	108.7	109.5	109.7	109.8	0.1	0.1	1.1	1.1
Recreation	132.1	131.3	130.8	131.0	130.3	-0.5	-1.1	-1.4	-2.0
Education	207.7	207.6	207.9	208.0	221.6	6.5	7.6	6.7	7.8
Miscellaneous	169.1	169.3	173.6	172.2	173.6	0.8	1.3	2.7	3.0
All groups	140.9	140.9	141.8	142.1	143.5	1.0	0.9	1.8	2.0

(a) Base of each index: 1989-90 = 100.0.

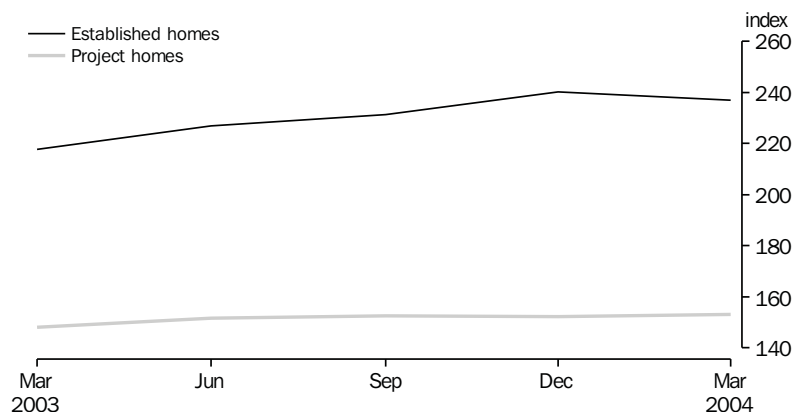
Source: Consumer Price Index, Australia (cat. no. 6401.0).

HOUSE PRICE INDEXES

The prices of established homes in Melbourne fell by 1.3% during the March quarter 2004. This follows an increase of 3.8% in the previous quarter and is the first time the index has declined since the September quarter 2000. Established house prices rose in all other capital cities during the March quarter. Project homes in Melbourne increased by 0.5% in the March quarter.

In terms of annual change, established home prices in Melbourne rose 8.9% from March 2003 to March 2004, approximately half that of the weighted average of the eight capital cities (17.9%). Over the same period the Melbourne project home index rose 3.3%. Project home prices nationally rose 7.7% for the same period.

QUARTERLY HOUSE PRICES, Melbourne: Base: 1988-89 = 100.0



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HOUSE PRICE INDEXES(a) — Melbourne and Weighted Average of Eight Capital Cities

Period	Melbourne				Weighted average of eight capital cities			
	Established homes		Project homes		Established homes		Project homes	
	Index number	% change from previous period	Index number	% change from previous period	Index number	% change from previous period	Index number	% change from previous period
2000–01	159.1	10.0	136.9	12.2	152.8	7.4	134.9	11.8
2001–02	193.7	21.7	142.1	3.8	178.0	16.5	138.1	2.4
2002–03	216.4	11.7	147.2	3.6	209.9	17.9	144.1	4.3
2002								
December	213.6	3.0	144.9	0.7	206.1	4.8	142.5	0.8
2003								
March	217.7	1.9	148.1	2.2	213.1	3.4	144.7	1.5
June	226.9	4.2	151.8	2.5	223.8	5.0	147.9	2.2
September	231.3	1.9	152.5	0.5	231.3	3.4	151.2	2.2
December	240.2	3.8	152.2	-0.2	245.1	6.0	153.7	1.7
2004								
March	237.0	-1.3	153.0	0.5	251.3	2.5	155.8	1.4

(a) Base of each index: 1989–90 = 100.0.

Source: House Price Indexes: Eight Capital Cities (cat. no. 6416.0).

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PRICE INDEXES OF MATERIALS USED IN BUILDING(a) — Melbourne

Group					% change from Dec qtr 2003 to Mar qtr 2004		% change from Mar qtr 2003 to Mar qtr 2004	
	Jun qtr 2003	Sep qtr 2003	Dec qtr 2003	Mar qtr 2004	Melbourne	Weighted average of six state capital cities	Melbourne	Weighted average of six state capital cities
House building (all groups)	129.6	130.1	130.5	131.2	0.5	0.6	1.9	2.7
Other than house building								
Structural timber	124.4	124.8	126.5	128.4	1.5	1.4	2.8	2.7
Clay bricks	134.8	137.8	137.8	138.1	0.2	-1.3	2.8	4.3
Ready mixed concrete	132.7	132.8	132.8	132.8	0.0	-0.3	4.3	3.7
Precast concrete products	172.0	174.3	172.0	177.2	3.0	1.6	5.3	4.0
Steel decking and cladding	113.8	112.6	112.6	112.6	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.9
Structural steel	107.5	107.2	107.5	107.5	0.0	0.1	0.0	1.0
Reinforcing steel bar, mesh, etc.	97.7	97.2	95.7	94.8	-0.9	0.7	1.3	3.5
Aluminium windows	125.2	126.3	127.7	130.3	2.0	0.8	5.5	4.8
Fabricated steel products	133.6	141.4	142.2	142.3	0.1	0.2	6.6	4.1
Builders' hardware	140.2	140.2	138.0	140.1	1.5	1.1	0.1	1.9
Sand and aggregate	146.1	147.4	151.1	149.2	-1.3	0.2	2.1	4.3
Carpet	112.8	112.2	112.4	111.7	-0.6	-0.4	0.7	0.8
Paint and other coatings	196.4	191.8	198.9	198.9	0.0	0.1	3.0	4.7
Non-ferrous pipes and fittings	135.5	135.5	140.8	147.6	4.8	2.9	8.9	6.1
All plumbing materials	137.5	136.9	139.9	140.9	0.7	0.8	3.8	3.3
All groups excluding electrical materials and mechanical services	126.0	126.5	126.7	127.6	0.7	0.5	2.7	2.8
All electrical materials	119.7	119.5	121.0	122.0	0.8	0.0	3.4	1.9
All mechanical services	124.7	125.1	125.4	126.0	0.5	0.2	1.1	1.4
All groups	124.8	125.2	125.4	126.1	0.6	0.2	2.2	2.3

(a) Base of each index: 1989–90 = 100.0.

Source: Producer Price Indexes, Australia (cat. no. 6427.0); ABS data available on request, Producer Price Indexes.

CHAPTER 6

CONSTRUCTION

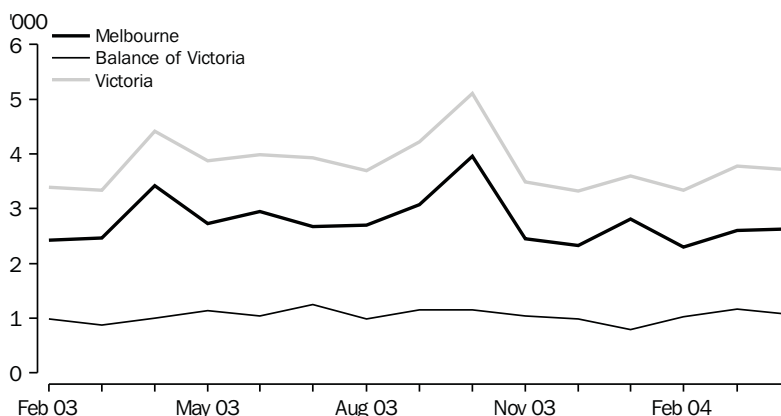
BUILDING APPROVALS

Building Approvals consist of residential and non-residential dwelling approvals. The number of building approvals is considered a 'forward indicator' of economic activity as the value of building approvals represents an estimate of planned expenditure.

The number of New Building Approvals has not significantly increased or decreased between February 2003 and April 2004. Over this period, the series peaked for both Melbourne and Victoria in October 2003. Melbourne MSR accounts for the majority of Victoria's building approval and so movements for Victoria tend to reflect movements for Melbourne.

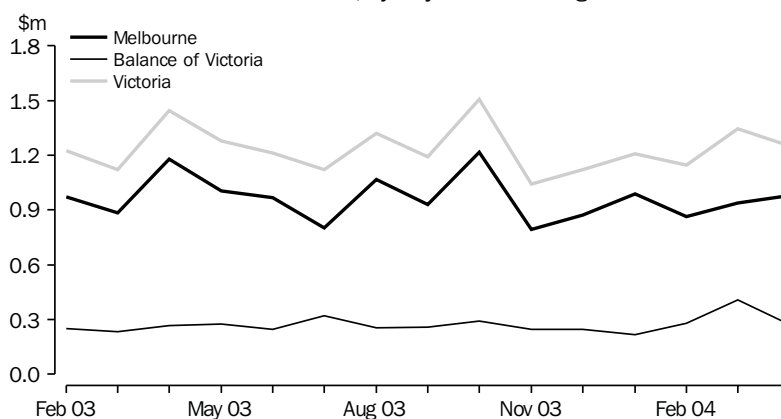
Over the reference period, the contribution of Melbourne to the Victorian series varied between 68.1% (in July 2003 when there were 2,680 approvals in Melbourne) and 78.1% (in January 2004 when there were 2,810 approvals). Variations in the number of building approvals for Balance of Victoria are smaller than those in Melbourne, with the series peaking at 1,173 in March 2004.

NEW BUILDING APPROVALS, By Major Statistical Region



The value of all building approvals exhibits a similar pattern of monthly variations to the new building approvals series.

VALUE OF ALL BUILDING APPROVALS, By Major Statistical Region



Period	Number of new dwelling units(a)(b)				Value of building approvals				
	All new dwelling units				All building				
	Private sector no.	Public sector no.	no.	Proportion of state total %	New dwelling units(a) \$m	Residential alterations, additions and conversions(a)(c) \$m	Non-residential building(d) \$m	\$m	Proportion of state total %
MELBOURNE									
2000-01	26 265	374	26 639	77.8	4 118.0	990.6	3 470.7	8 579.3	82.7
2001-02	r 35 611	r 636	r 36 247	75.0	r 5 930.1	1 153.8	3 843.4	10 927.4	80.8
2002-03	r 34 963	572	r 35 535	75.3	r 6 574.3	1 215.5	4 243.0	12 032.9	80.6
2003									
February	2 313	105	2 418	71.2	412.9	112.8	446.7	972.4	79.4
March	2 427	34	2 461	73.7	428.4	93.7	362.2	884.3	79.0
April	3 381	35	3 416	77.3	792.1	112.6	274.7	1 179.3	81.6
May	r 2 590	142	r 2 732	70.5	r 475.3	111.7	419.6	1 006.7	78.6
June	2 938	14	2 952	73.9	545.2	105.8	r 315.6	966.6	79.7
July	r 2 679	1	r 2 680	r 68.1	r 480.8	120.0	201.3	802.0	71.5
August	2 666	38	2 704	r 73.3	479.2	112.4	474.0	1 065.6	80.6
September	3 050	18	3 068	r 72.6	544.6	132.5	253.4	930.5	78.1
October	r 3 939	16	r 3 955	r 77.4	r 827.4	114.4	r 274.0	1 215.8	80.7
November	2 351	98	2 449	r 70.3	r 459.6	97.5	r 237.1	794.2	76.3
December	2 318	r 11	r 2 329	r 70.3	r 442.2	92.8	338.5	873.5	78.0
2004									
January	2 763	47	2 810	r 78.1	518.6	r 80.7	r 390.7	990.0	82.1
February	2 273	r 31	r 2 304	r 69.1	r 467.6	r 103.1	r 292.9	863.6	75.5
March	2 571	37	2 608	69.0	491.3	110.2	336.7	938.3	69.8
April	2 605	32	2 637	71.2	488.0	107.4	384.0	979.4	78.3
BALANCE OF VICTORIA									
2000-01	7 551	71	7 622	22.2	996.8	200.4	592.1	1 789.4	17.3
2001-02	r 11 818	r 260	r 12 078	25.0	r 1 687.4	238.3	675.6	2 601.3	19.2
2002-03	r 11 485	153	r 11 638	24.7	r 1 833.0	267.3	794.0	2 894.4	19.4
2003									
February	974	5	979	28.8	162.0	22.3	68.3	252.7	20.6
March	866	11	877	26.3	139.2	22.6	73.2	235.1	21.0
April	975	27	1 002	22.7	161.6	23.4	81.4	266.4	18.4
May	r 1 129	12	r 1 141	29.5	r 188.4	24.3	60.8	273.6	21.4
June	1 030	10	1 040	26.1	168.0	25.8	51.8	245.6	20.3
July	1 231	22	1 253	r 31.9	201.2	29.9	88.2	319.4	28.5
August	980	4	984	r 26.7	157.0	22.8	76.0	255.8	19.4
September	1 150	5	1 155	r 27.4	187.5	26.3	46.7	260.6	21.9
October	r 1 152	3	r 1 155	r 22.6	r 190.9	30.4	70.0	291.3	19.3
November	1 013	22	1 035	r 29.7	174.3	24.4	48.4	247.0	23.7
December	982	4	986	r 29.7	166.6	26.1	54.1	246.8	22.0
2004									
January	785	5	790	r 21.9	138.3	23.1	54.8	216.1	17.9
February	1 023	5	1 028	r 30.9	178.9	r 29.8	71.6	280.2	24.5
March	1 170	3	1 173	31.0	200.5	26.9	178.5	405.9	30.2
April	1 064	3	1 067	28.8	190.3	26.3	54.8	271.4	21.7

For footnotes see end of table.

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Period	Number of new dwelling units(a)(b)				Value of building approvals				
	All new dwelling units				All building				
	Private sector	Public sector	Proportion of state total		New dwelling units(a)	Residential alterations, additions and conversions(a) (c)	Non-residential building(d)	Proportion of state total	
no.	no.	no.	%	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	%	
VICTORIA									
2000–01	33 816	445	34 261	100.0	5 114.8	1 191.1	4 062.8	10 368.7	100.0
2001–02	47 429	896	48 325	100.0	r 7 617.5	1 392.1	4 519.0	13 528.7	100.0
2002–03	46 448	725	47 173	100.0	8 407.3	1 482.9	5 037.1	14 927.3	100.0
2003									
February	3 287	110	3 397	100.0	574.9	135.1	515.1	1 225.1	100.0
March	3 293	45	3 338	100.0	567.7	116.4	435.4	1 119.4	100.0
April	4 356	62	4 418	100.0	953.7	135.9	356.1	1 445.7	100.0
May	3 719	154	3 873	100.0	663.7	136.1	480.5	1 280.2	100.0
June	3 968	24	3 992	100.0	713.2	131.6	367.4	1 212.2	100.0
July	r 3 910	23	r 3 933	100.0	r 682.0	149.9	289.5	1 121.3	100.0
August	3 646	42	3 688	100.0	636.2	135.2	550.0	1 321.4	100.0
September	4 200	23	4 223	100.0	732.1	158.8	300.1	1 191.0	100.0
October	5 091	19	5 110	100.0	1 018.3	144.7	344.1	1 507.1	100.0
November	3 364	120	3 484	100.0	r 634.0	121.9	285.4	1 041.3	100.0
December	3 300	r 15	r 3 315	100.0	r 608.7	118.9	392.7	1 120.3	100.0
2004									
January	3 548	52	3 600	100.0	656.9	r 103.7	445.5	1 206.1	100.0
February	3 296	r 36	r 3 332	100.0	r 646.5	r 132.9	364.4	1 143.8	100.0
March	3 741	40	3 781	100.0	691.9	137.1	515.2	1 344.2	100.0
April	3 669	35	3 704	100.0	678.3	133.7	438.8	1 250.8	100.0

(a) Valued at \$10,000 and over.

(b) Excludes dwelling units created as a result of conversions or construction of non-residential buildings.

(c) Includes alterations and additions creating dwellings, alterations and additions not creating dwellings, and conversions.

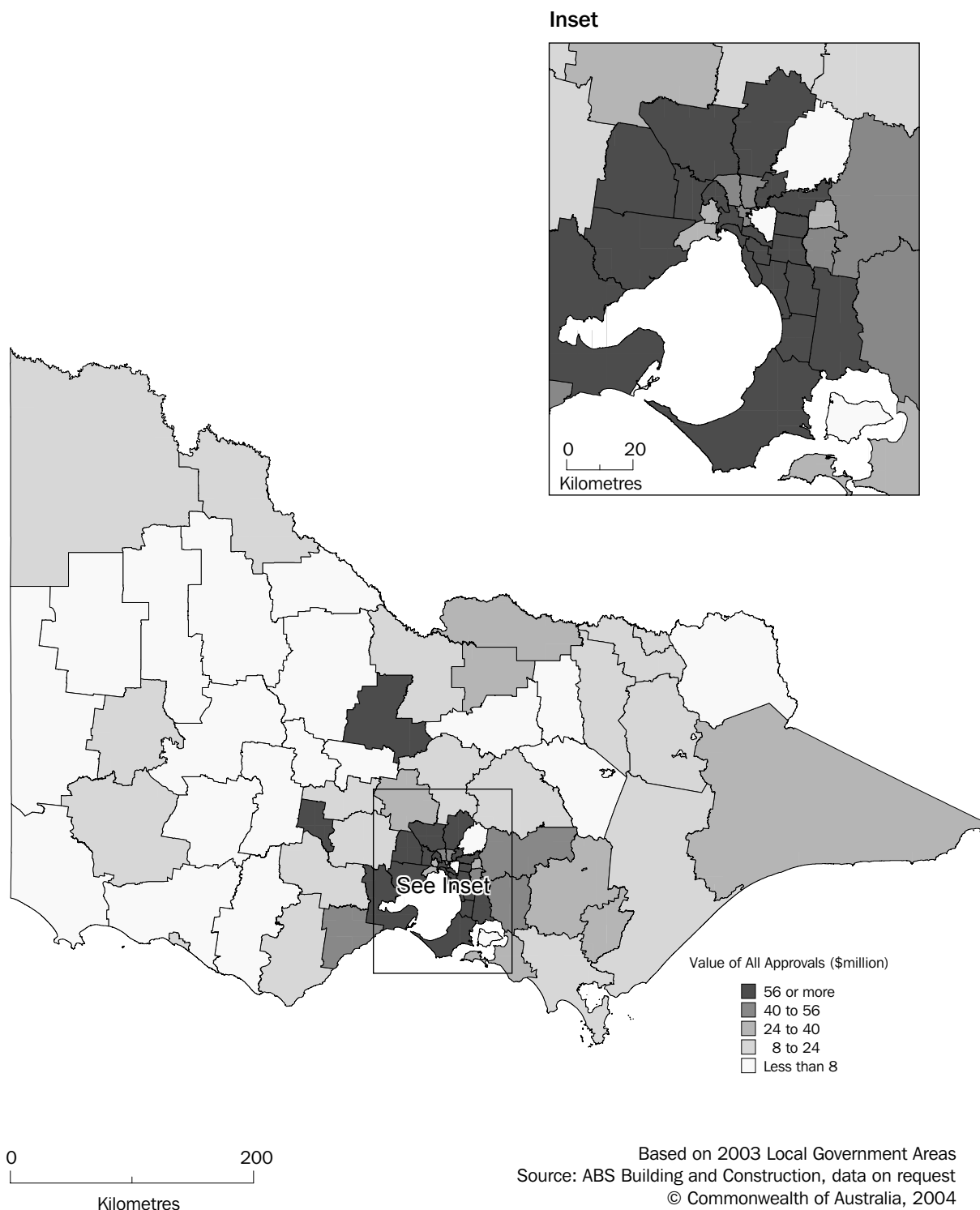
(d) Valued at \$50,000 and over.

Source: *Building Approvals, Australia* (cat. no. 8731.0); ABS data available on request, *Building Approvals* collection.

The value of building approvals was highest in Melbourne (C) where 296 dwelling units were approved worth \$352.3 million. The outer Melbourne LGAs of Melton (S) and Casey (C) also registered high values of building approvals for March quarter 2004. In Melton (S), 451 new dwelling units were approved with an associated value of \$195.5 million, and in Casey (C), 951 dwelling units were approved with a total value of \$166.6 million.

Within Balance of Victoria, regional centres including Greater Geelong (C), Greater Bendigo (C) and Ballarat (C) registered higher values of all building approvals. In Greater Geelong (C), 651 new dwelling units were approved with an associated value of \$199.3 million. In Greater Bendigo (C), 349 new dwelling units were approved with a total value of \$57.6 million and, in Ballarat (C), 326 new dwelling units were approved with a value of \$64.9 million.

**VALUE OF BUILDING APPROVALS BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA,
March quarter 2004**



The highest average values of approvals were recorded in the LGAs of Melbourne (C) (\$1.2 million) and Melton (S) (\$433,500). In Balance of Victoria, average values were approximately \$306,100 for Greater Geelong (C), \$165,000 for Greater Bendigo (C), and \$199,100 in Ballarat (C). These values do not include associated land values and largely reflect differences in construction type, for example, medium and high density in Melbourne (C).

Local Government Area	March quarter 2004			12 months ending March quarter 2004			
	Number of dwelling units(b)	Number of building jobs	Value of all approvals	Number of dwelling units(b)	Number of building jobs	Value of all approvals	Number of dwelling units per '000 population(c)
	no.	no.	\$m	no.	no	\$m	
Alpine (S)	52	38	9.9	131	231	29.8	10.0
Ararat (RC)	27	16	4.0	51	99	22.6	4.4
Ballarat (C)	326	231	64.9	838	1 255	222.5	9.7
Banyule (C)	259	247	75.7	611	1 005	186.9	5.2
Bass Coast (S)	211	136	27.9	660	972	127.6	23.9
Baw Baw (S)	166	95	30.1	417	646	110.8	11.2
Bayside (C)	216	107	62.8	701	1 052	304.9	7.8
Benalla (RC)(a)	27	16	3.2	63	112	21.1	4.5
Booroondara (C)	362	134	86.9	801	1 573	402.4	5.1
Brimbank (C)	308	260	66.9	1 143	1 448	303.6	6.6
Buloke (S)	13	6	1.0	13	41	3.3	1.8
Campaspe (S)	105	66	15.3	258	431	62.9	7.0
Cardinia (S)	313	269	50.5	1 225	1 450	242.2	23.9
Casey (C)	951	816	166.6	3 561	4 248	711.4	17.6
Central Goldfields (S)	26	13	2.7	65	118	15.9	5.0
Colac-Otway (S)	86	48	18.8	186	317	51.9	8.7
Corangamite (S)	52	18	5.6	80	175	26.0	4.6
Darebin (C)	237	242	49.4	915	1 132	220.3	7.2
East Gippsland (S)	178	129	31.3	616	753	136.5	15.4
Frankston (C)	319	250	80.1	1 207	1 480	316.8	10.3
Gannawarra (S)	27	12	3.1	50	116	13.2	4.2
Glen Eira (C)	283	168	95.4	659	1 099	271.1	5.4
Glenelg (S)	64	22	6.2	121	297	32.9	6.0
Golden Plains (S)	94	57	11.7	232	372	47.6	14.7
Greater Bendigo (C)	349	237	57.6	976	1 418	219.6	10.5
Greater Dandenong (C)	207	151	74.0	567	841	284.6	4.5
Greater Geelong (C)	651	437	199.3	2 012	2 860	598.0	10.1
Greater Shepparton (C)	140	79	24.4	365	612	103.7	6.1
Hepburn (S)	55	27	11.2	179	271	40.7	12.3
Hindmarsh (S)	7	0	1.4	8	44	5.7	1.2
Hobsons Bay (C)	184	109	39.4	473	753	162.7	5.6
Horsham (RC)	68	38	17.2	164	261	41.9	8.8
Hume (C)	573	459	166.3	2 035	2 589	565.1	14.1
Indigo (S)	72	41	9.8	134	255	57.1	8.9
Kingston (C)	285	151	60.3	869	1 394	307.8	6.4
Knox (C)	297	165	51.3	622	1 170	222.9	4.1
Latrobe (C)	191	112	27.8	400	740	111.3	5.7
Loddon (S)	13	8	1.2	28	68	8.4	3.3
Macedon Ranges (S)	180	119	28.8	509	722	116.7	13.1
Manningham (C)	192	112	65.9	554	801	212.8	4.9
Mansfield (S) (a)	52	37	6.8	109	157	19.7	16.0
Maribymong (C)	143	97	30.7	495	659	143.7	8.0
Maroondah (C)	203	106	37.1	493	930	156.6	4.9
Melbourne (C)	296	858	352.3	3 557	1 214	2 070.6	61.3
Melton (S)	451	459	195.5	2 225	2 199	512.4	34.0
Mildura (RC)	126	72	17.8	380	634	108.0	7.5
Mitchell (S)	141	121	22.3	477	607	92.9	15.6
Moirā (S)	118	88	24.4	277	399	66.2	10.2
Monash (C)	350	309	137.1	1 057	1 424	474.2	6.5
Moonee Valley (C)	198	171	71.0	607	935	256.0	5.5

For footnotes see end of table.

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Local Government Area	March quarter 2004			12 months ending March quarter 2004			
	Number of dwelling units(b)	Number of building jobs	Value of all approvals	Number of dwelling units(b)	Number of building jobs	Value of all approvals	Number of dwelling units per '000 population(c)
	no.	no.	\$m	no.	no.	\$m	
Moorabool (S)	109	84	17.3	275	413	65.8	10.7
Moreland (C)	300	204	54.9	928	1 112	216.9	6.8
Mornington Peninsula (S)	641	388	110.1	1 571	2 689	465.0	11.4
Mount Alexander (S)	66	26	6.3	121	235	28.6	7.0
Moyne (S)	48	24	7.0	108	219	30.5	6.8
Murrindindi (S)	60	38	12.8	128	209	33.6	9.3
Nillumbik (S)	128	52	21.9	253	559	93.0	4.2
Northern Grampians (S)	22	7	2.9	46	123	17.5	3.6
Port Phillip (C)	164	183	154.4	1 078	716	489.2	13.1
Pyrenees (S)	18	10	1.4	39	81	9.1	6.0
Queenscliffe (B)	14	8	2.3	37	63	11.2	11.5
South Gippsland (S)	134	67	16.8	292	485	61.9	11.0
Southern Grampians (S)	48	19	8.1	73	201	26.4	4.3
Stonnington (C)	197	57	69.5	548	918	420.8	6.1
Strathbogie (S)	27	14	2.5	76	139	15.5	7.9
Surf Coast (S)	157	99	41.0	357	584	123.5	16.2
Swan Hill (RC)	49	32	17.5	122	217	42.4	5.7
Towong (S)	8	3	0.7	37	64	7.0	6.0
Wangaratta (RC)	55	39	16.9	147	253	43.5	5.5
Warrnambool (C)	104	92	19.8	337	413	85.9	11.1
Wellington (S)	119	79	16.2	356	618	71.6	8.6
West Wimmera (S)	7	3	0.7	8	30	3.1	1.7
Whitehorse (C)	265	134	61.5	529	1 258	293.9	3.6
Whittlesea (C)	395	302	71.2	1 252	1 492	272.7	10.1
Wodonga (RC)	82	46	20.4	387	536	93.9	11.4
Wyndham (C)	680	605	136.4	2 940	3 202	592.4	29.5
Yarra (C)	165	103	47.7	821	634	266.3	11.8
Yarra Ranges (S)	313	154	49.2	601	1 333	187.8	4.2
Yarriambiack (S)	6	1	0.4	6	25	1.5	0.7
Unincorporated Vic	19	6	5.6	14	27	10.5	30.7
Victoria	14 644	10 838	3 694.2	47 714	63 315	14 934.8	9.7

(a) Formerly included in Delatite(S).

(b) Valued at \$10,000 and over. Excludes dwelling units created as a result of conversions or construction of non-residential buildings, but includes alterations and additions to all buildings.

(c) Preliminary Estimated Resident Population as at 30 June 2002.

Source: ABS data available on request, *Building Approvals*.

VALUE OF BUILDING ACTIVITY

The value of building activity is a measure of actual expenditure (as opposed to the planned expenditure indicated by building approvals data).

Total residential building accounted for 64.2% of value of work done for Melbourne MSR during December quarter 2003. Slightly higher proportions were recorded for Balance of Victoria (75.3%) and Victoria (66.5%) over the same period.

Melbourne's proportion of Victoria's value of building activity commenced ranged above 80% for most industry sub-groups. Health (72.0%) and Other non-residential building (60.8%) recorded lower proportions for Value of building activity commenced inside Melbourne MSR.

	<i>Value of building commenced</i>	<i>Value of building under construction at end of quarter</i>	<i>Value of building completed</i>	<i>Value of work yet to be done at end of quarter</i>	<i>Value of work done</i>
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
MELBOURNE					
Houses	1 445.0	3 353.2	1 318.8	1 686.3	1 359.5
Other residential building	701.5	4 149.4	804.1	2 285.1	616.9
<i>Total residential building</i>	2 146.5	7 502.6	2 122.9	3 971.4	1 976.4
Hotels etc	77.4	133.1	116.6	76.2	28.0
Shops	187.2	472.3	374.5	218.9	214.5
Factories, offices and other business premises	353.3	2 289.0	415.9	1 085.9	482.7
Educational	206.6	684.0	219.9	287.6	151.1
Health	19.3	534.1	57.0	301.7	96.4
Entertainment and recreational	65.9	504.1	160.9	352.0	81.2
Other non-residential building	59.1	186.5	38.7	95.4	48.1
<i>Total non-residential building</i>	968.8	4 803.2	1 383.5	2 417.7	1 102.1
Total Melbourne	3 115.3	12 305.8	3 506.4	6 389.1	3 078.5
BALANCE OF VICTORIA					
Houses	539.7	1 188.0	593.7	573.1	562.3
Other residential building	33.2	92.2	40.2	47.0	36.4
<i>Total residential building</i>	573.0	1 280.2	633.9	620.1	598.6
Hotels etc	9.5	14.7	8.6	8.4	4.9
Shops	15.6	30.3	40.1	12.9	27.1
Factories, offices and other business premises	50.2	93.1	53.9	40.2	57.5
Educational	31.2	129.6	38.4	69.5	34.9
Health	7.5	88.6	52.6	43.6	26.0
Entertainment and recreational	13.6	30.6	10.1	11.0	19.0
Other non-residential building	38.1	86.2	28.4	51.0	27.2
<i>Total non-residential building</i>	165.7	473.1	232.2	236.6	196.6
Total Balance of Victoria	738.6	1 753.4	866.0	856.7	795.3
VICTORIA					
Houses	1 984.7	4 541.2	1 912.5	2 259.4	1 921.8
Other residential building	734.7	4 241.6	844.2	2 332.1	653.2
<i>Total residential building</i>	2 719.4	8 782.8	2 756.8	4 591.5	2 575.0
Hotels etc	86.9	147.8	125.2	84.6	32.9
Shops	202.8	502.6	414.6	231.8	241.6
Factories, offices and other business premises	403.5	2 382.1	469.8	1 126.1	540.3
Educational	237.8	813.7	258.3	357.1	186.0
Health	26.8	622.7	109.6	345.2	122.4
Entertainment and recreational	79.6	534.8	171.0	363.0	100.3
Other non-residential building	97.2	272.7	67.2	146.4	75.2
<i>Total non-residential building</i>	1 134.5	5 276.3	1 615.7	2 654.3	1 298.7
Total Victoria	3 853.9	14 059.1	4 372.5	7 245.8	3 873.8

Source: *Building Activity, Victoria*, (cat. no. 8752.0); ABS data available on request, *Building Activity*.

The March quarter is usually a peak for tourist accommodation. In March quarter 2004, total takings for tourist accommodation in Victoria from licensed hotels, motels, guest houses and serviced apartments (combined) was \$260.3 million, an increase of \$22.7 million (9.5%) from March quarter 2003. Of this increase in total takings, the Melbourne Tourism Region accounted for \$19.5 million (85.9%). This is reflected in an increase in the number of guest arrivals to Melbourne from 857,100 in March quarter 2003 to 878,200 in March quarter 2004. There was also a commensurate increase in the average length of stay from 2.4 to 2.6 days during this period. Overall, the Melbourne Tourism Region accounted for 76.9% of Victoria's total takings from tourist accommodation in March quarter 2004.

Other tourism regions which experienced notable rises in takings between March quarter 2003 and 2004 were Macedon (83.5%), Wimmera (24.4%), Goulburn (22.4%) and Bendigo Loddon (11.9%). The largest declines in takings during this period were experienced in Central Highlands (20.1%), Murray East (11.5%) and Ballarat (3.1%) tourism regions.

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TOURIST ACCOMMODATION, By Tourism Region — March quarter 2004

Tourism region	Hotels, motels and serviced apartments(a)				
	Room occupancy rate	Guest nights	Guest arrivals	Average length of stay	Takings from accommodation
	%	'000	'000	days	\$'000
Melbourne	69.6	2 283.0	878.2	2.6	200 244
Melbourne East	43.8	32.2	16.7	1.9	2 711
Peninsula	51.3	64.3	35.0	1.8	4 650
Geelong	62.4	82.1	42.2	1.9	5 324
Western	64.8	174.7	101.5	1.7	9 742
Western Grampians	48.8	35.1	26.7	1.3	1 856
Central Highlands	40.9	22.6	14.9	1.5	936
Ballarat	60.5	86.4	46.3	1.9	3 946
Macedon	43.3	4.0	2.7	1.5	466
Spa Country	56.1	8.9	5.8	1.5	1 054
Bendigo Loddon	56.5	72.0	41.8	1.7	3 829
Wimmera	34.0	5.9	3.6	1.6	240
Mallee	48.8	95.3	59.4	1.6	4 513
Central Murray	52.0	45.8	30.0	1.5	2 227
Goulburn	51.9	60.6	35.6	1.7	3 585
Upper Yarra	28.4	14.7	8.6	1.7	1 114
High Country	25.6	92.3	51.1	1.8	4 094
Murray East	40.3	28.0	17.3	1.6	1 247
Lakes	57.1	63.2	41.5	1.5	2 806
Gippsland	44.8	64.3	37.8	1.7	3 143
Phillip Island	60.4	51.2	21.7	2.4	2 588
Total Victoria	61.6	3 386.5	1 518.1	2.2	260 315

(a) Comprising establishments with 15 or more rooms or units.

Source: *Tourist Accommodation, Small Area Data, Victoria* (cat. no. 8635.2.55.001).

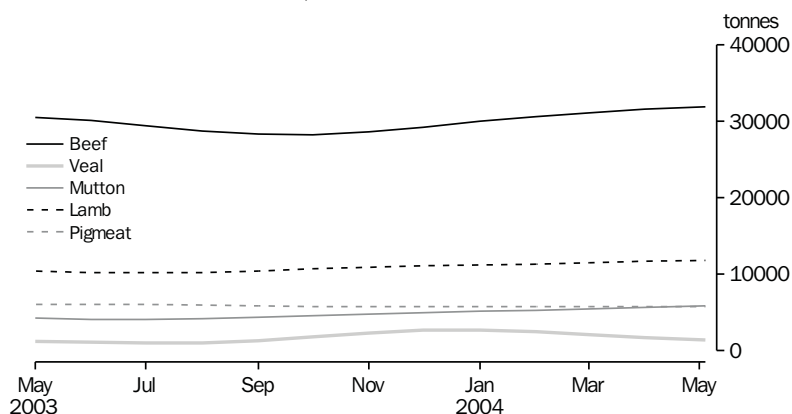
CHAPTER 8

PRODUCTION

LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTERINGS AND MEAT PRODUCTION

Meat and dairy products are traditionally important manufacturing activities in Victoria. The trend estimate for total livestock meat production (carcass weight) in Victoria for the year ending May 2004 was 692,258 tonnes. Beef production accounted for the majority of this total (56.1%), followed by lamb (20.5%), pigmeat (11.0%), mutton (9.1%) and veal (3.3%). Comparing meat production in May 2003 to May 2004, the highest growth rate was in mutton production (35.9%), followed by lamb (13.3%), veal (10.4%) and beef (4.3%). Production of pigmeat declined (4.6%) during this period.

LIVESTOCK MEAT PRODUCTION, Victoria—All series: **Trend**



Period	Livestock slaughterings					Meat (carcass weight)				
	Cattle '000	Calves '000	Sheep '000	Lambs '000	Pigs '000	Beef tonnes	Veal tonnes	Mutton tonnes	Lamb tonnes	Pigmeat tonnes
ORIGINAL										
2003										
March	143.7	22.7	279.2	557.1	82.8	32 099	481	5 021	10 702	5 776
April	136.1	41.7	237.9	548.4	86.2	29 821	859	4 216	10 618	6 011
May	145.9	56.0	225.0	573.1	94.3	32 044	1 156	3 940	11 004	6 681
June	128.7	66.6	179.8	518.1	89.0	28 001	1 323	3 244	10 071	6 331
July	127.8	85.7	165.7	515.8	92.5	28 240	1 633	3 080	9 896	6 642
August	110.0	142.5	163.7	441.9	77.5	24 769	2 693	3 188	8 589	5 637
September	120.1	134.7	212.2	520.6	78.1	27 315	2 753	4 206	10 378	5 569
October	134.1	62.2	276.0	610.7	82.4	31 282	1 349	5 737	12 304	5 896
November	126.9	28.7	260.2	555.1	74.1	28 837	935	5 440	11 381	5 399
December	117.6	24.3	272.5	582.0	87.2	27 853	835	5 651	11 842	6 017
2004										
January	135.0	16.5	276.5	503.5	72.4	32 032	859	5 645	10 230	5 266
February	135.6	10.0	326.1	521.8	74.9	31 857	365	6 280	10 794	5 356
March	143.6	18.9	318.0	600.5	86.5	34 232	590	6 003	12 334	6 264
April	133.4	33.9	286.9	582.8	81.2	31 216	908	5 267	11 943	5 929
May	137.5	46.7	287.7	574.2	80.4	32 185	1 066	5 335	11 740	5 932
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED										
2003										
March	145.2	76.9	263.3	578.6	84.7	31 798	1 367	4 875	10 937	5 914
April	140.8	73.7	256.9	561.4	85.1	30 971	1 495	4 708	10 794	5 896
May	134.3	60.4	236.0	555.4	87.8	29 974	1 312	4 331	10 630	6 180
June	142.4	56.0	223.4	543.6	88.0	31 349	1 138	4 113	10 365	6 209
July	131.6	52.0	191.8	521.1	86.8	29 199	1 025	3 592	9 586	6 073
August	119.9	48.8	220.6	494.6	83.1	28 104	934	4 230	9 976	6 006
September	127.9	54.5	229.0	532.3	82.4	28 306	1 203	4 465	10 583	5 727
October	118.2	53.8	237.0	537.9	79.1	27 759	1 142	4 713	11 103	5 685
November	125.0	79.9	242.5	525.7	78.9	28 421	2 087	4 845	10 941	5 791
December	124.4	140.2	260.8	553.8	79.4	29 161	3 685	5 211	11 324	5 722
2004										
January	130.3	102.4	231.5	514.3	78.5	30 631	3 960	4 836	10 600	5 740
February	130.7	70.3	274.9	551.2	78.6	30 508	1 910	5 360	11 255	5 722
March	133.7	59.8	284.2	574.2	82.4	31 406	1 563	5 495	11 740	5 970
April	135.1	59.0	296.0	594.2	80.6	31 362	1 592	5 721	11 977	5 851
May	137.6	55.3	316.5	585.3	76.9	31 811	1 325	6 035	11 702	5 656
TREND ESTIMATES										
2003										
March	137.5	72.6	270.4	571.0	85.1	30 412	1 343	5 038	10 874	5 939
April	138.7	68.4	250.6	561.9	85.9	30 598	1 322	4 641	10 677	6 013
May	138.1	62.8	233.4	550.1	86.6	30 529	1 243	4 308	10 444	6 072
June	135.4	55.9	221.1	537.4	86.6	30 102	1 111	4 098	10 253	6 084
July	131.2	50.9	216.1	527.3	85.7	29 395	993	4 055	10 184	6 042
August	127.0	52.1	217.6	522.2	84.1	28 710	1 050	4 161	10 261	5 959
September	124.1	60.7	223.4	521.9	82.1	28 286	1 357	4 361	10 451	5 856
October	122.9	73.8	231.4	524.3	80.4	28 262	1 847	4 595	10 675	5 769
November	123.5	86.2	240.1	529.1	79.3	28 603	2 356	4 814	10 891	5 728
December	125.6	92.9	248.8	536.2	79.1	29 242	2 679	4 998	11 066	5 735
2004										
January	128.4	91.6	258.2	544.8	79.3	29 971	2 711	5 155	11 200	5 765
February	130.9	83.9	269.4	554.8	79.6	30 604	2 486	5 325	11 343	5 791
March	133.2	73.3	282.0	566.3	79.7	31 127	2 129	5 511	11 515	5 803
April	135.4	63.2	294.4	577.7	79.6	31 555	1 759	5 694	11 681	5 805
May	136.8	52.9	305.4	588.1	79.4	31 849	1 372	5 854	11 834	5 794

Source: ABS data available on request, Livestock Slaughtering Collection.

OTHER PRODUCTION

Between December quarter 2003 and March quarter 2004, the quantity of live sheep exports fell by 57.0%. Comparing March 2003 to March 2004 quarters, the drop in live sheep exports is 38.9%. Production of hardwood woodchips also fell (8.6%) between December 2003 and March 2004 quarters and by 25.2% between March quarters 2003 and 2004. In trend terms, chicken meat production rose by 3.8% from December quarter 2003 to March quarter 2004 and by 3.9% from March quarter 2003 to March quarter 2004.

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OTHER PRODUCTION(a)

		Dec qtr	Mar qtr	Jun qtr	Sep qtr	Dec qtr	Mar qtr
	Units	2002	2003	2003	2003	2003	2004
Livestock products							
Milk							
Factory intake	million litres	2 489.6	1 457.7	971.1	r 1 492.3	2 325.7	1 546.3
Market sales by factories(b)	million litres	118.9	113.8	120.4	124.2	120.3	119.2
Milk products							
Cheese(c)	tonnes	r 94 003	r 77 733	r 60 742	r 65 305	r 97 487	84 748
Whole milk powder(d)	tonnes	66 882	34 884	19 726	42 747	65 263	34 127
Skim milk/buttermilk powder	tonnes	88 206	32 198	24 788	45 124	84 814	34 829
Butter/buttermilk	tonnes	46 410	25 249	15 966	22 264	42 142	29 037
Wool receivals							
Original	tonnes	45 598	27 060	19 327	27 518	38 987	29 160
Seasonally adjusted	tonnes	32 747	30 225	28 719	26 399	28 071	32 562
Trend(e)	tonnes	32 609	30 300	28 086	27 640	28 795	30 587
Live sheep exports							
Quantity	number	65 611	124 602	195 991	210 003	177 012	76 077
Gross weight	tonnes	3 547	6 495	9 388	10 173	9 211	4 314
Chickens slaughtered							
Original	'000	30 632.3	29 496.2	29 138.0	29 312.9	31 092.4	30 319.2
Seasonally adjusted	'000	29 312.4	29 798.9	29 383.6	29 946.9	30 193.4	30 003.4
Trend(e)	'000	29 506.4	29 521.5	29 682.0	29 867.2	30 034.3	30 172.6
Chicken meat							
Original	tonnes	54 613	51 239	49 071	49 055	51 857	54 627
Seasonally adjusted	tonnes	52 258	51 746	49 200	50 707	49 654	55 085
Trend(e)	tonnes	51 892	51 322	50 136	50 087	51 371	53 341
Other products							
Electricity(f)	'000 megawatt hours	11 880	11 722	11 719	11 567	10 765	12 331
Ready mixed concrete(g)(h)	'000 cubic metres	1 315	1 137	1 289	1 352	1 289	1 232
Hardwood woodchips(g)(i)	tonnes	35 383	31 415	25 969	26 395	25 726	23 512

(a) Quarterly statistics on Victoria's production of gold, oil and gas are available in Australian Mineral Statistics, published by the Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics.

(b) Original series.

(c) Includes processed cheese.

(d) Data from September quarter 2001 onwards are for Australia. For confidentiality reasons, State data are no longer available. The majority of whole milk powder production occurs in Victoria.

(e) Trend estimates for the most recent quarters are subject to revision when data for the subsequent quarters become available.

(f) Total metered generation of all generators in Victoria.

(g) Compiled from the ABS manufacturing production collection. Excludes details relating to both single establishment manufacturing enterprises with fewer than four persons employed, and establishments predominantly engaged in non-manufacturing activities which may also undertake some limited manufacturing activity. However, the effect of these establishments on production levels and movements is usually marginal.

(h) ANZSCC 375.01.01. Reported production of ready mixed concrete for sale as such. Excludes production used, or for use, in the same business. (An improvement in coverage for Melbourne Statistical Division from June month 2000 contributed approximately a 4% increase in the June month 2000 production level for Victoria).

(i) ANZSCC 312.03.01. Expressed as greenweight; excludes chips which are not sold or are used in own works.

Source: Australian Dairy Corporation; ABS data available on request, Wool Receivals and Purchases; ABS data available on request, Merchandise Exports; ABS data available on request, Poultry and Game Birds Slaughtered; National Electricity Market Management Company; ABS data available on request, Manufacturing Production Survey.

CHAPTER 9

TRADE

BALANCE OF INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE

Over the last 12 months Victoria's international merchandised trade performance improved. Merchandised exports increased by 18.0% while imports increased by 2.3%. Improvements in Victoria's exports relative to imports resulted in Victoria's net trade performance, (i.e. the difference between the state's exports and imports) improving by \$189.0 million or 11.3%.

Over the same time period Australia's merchandised exports and imports grew by 11.8% and 6.1% respectively, whilst the net trade performance improved by 30.5% (\$427 million). Victoria's exports as a proportion of Australia's exports also increased by 0.9% to 17.0% whilst Victoria's proportion of imports decreased by 1.1% to 29% of the Australian total.

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BALANCE OF INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE

Period	Victoria(a)				Australia			
	Exports \$m	Imports \$m	Excess of exports \$m	Exports (including re-exports) \$m	Imports \$m	Excess of exports \$m	Victoria exports as a proportion of Australia %	Victoria imports as a proportion of Australia %
2000-01	22 506	36 485	-13 978	119 539	118 317	1 222	18.8	30.8
2001-02	22 242	37 558	-15 316	121 108	119 649	1 460	18.4	31.4
2002-03	18 904	42 129	-23 225	115 479	133 129	-17 650	16.4	31.6
2003								
March	1 638	3 584	-1947	9 868	10 786	-918	16.6	33.2
April	1 382	3 589	-2207	8 699	10 948	-2 249	15.9	32.8
May	1 441	3 118	-1678	8 972	10 371	-1 399	16.1	30.1
June	1 360	3 370	-2011	8 822	10 718	-1 896	15.4	31.4
July	1 344	3 438	-2094	8 520	10 604	-2 083	15.8	32.4
August	1 405	3 248	-1843	9 062	10 864	-1 802	15.5	29.9
September	1 564	3 512	r-1 947	9 057	r 11 456	r-2 398	17.3	r 30.7
October	r 1 573	r 3 570	r-1 997	r 9 065	r 11 920	r-2 855	17.4	r 29.9
November	r 1 361	r 3 298	r-1 938	r 8 674	r 10 213	r-1 539	15.7	32.3
December	r 1 514	r 3 561	r-2 046	r 9 229	r 10 977	r-1 749	16.4	r 32.4
2004								
January	r 1 124	r 3 183	r-2 059	r 7 896	r 9 924	r-2 028	14.2	32.1
February	r 1 475	r 2 942	r-1 467	r 8 365	r 9 451	r-1 086	r 17.6	31.1
March	1 597	3 559	-1 962	9 210	11 420	-2 210	17.3	31.2
April	1 551	3 411	-1 861	9 277	10 841	-1 564	16.7	31.5
May	1 701	3 190	-1 489	10 029	11 000	-972	17.0	29.0

(a) Victorian imports are those imported goods released from Customs control within Victoria. Victorian exports are those whose final stage of production or manufacture occurred within Victoria.

Source: *International Trade in Goods and Services* (cat. no. 5368.0); ABS data available on request, *Merchandise Exports Collection*; ABS data available on request, *Merchandise Imports Collection*.

INTERNATIONAL
MERCHANDISE TRADE

The total value of Victoria's merchandise exports declined by \$1.7 billion (8.7%) during the year ending May 2004. The decline was largely driven by decrease in gold exports (94.5%), Crude Materials inedible (except fuels) (19.3%) and Manufacturing goods classified chiefly by material (10.4%). The decrease was partly offset by an increase in Beverages and tobacco (26.9%), Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials (6.0%) and Machinery and transport equipment (2.2%).

During this period, the total value of Victoria's merchandise imports declined by 4.2% with decreases recorded in all of the major import commodity categories. The most significant decreases were in gold non-monetary imports (19.1%), Miscellaneous manufactured articles (4.1%) and Machinery and transport equipment (2.9%).

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INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE(a), By Commodity(b)(c)

Section and Division of the SITC Rev3	Year ending May 2002		Year ending May 2003		Year ending May 2004	
	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
0 Food and live animals chiefly for food(d)(e)	6 500	1 495	4 940	1 684	4 589	1 601
1 Beverages and tobacco(d)(e)	280	223	346	254	439	227
2 Crude materials, inedible (except fuels)(d)(e)	2 033	633	1 984	665	1 602	664
3 Mineral fuels, lubricants, and related materials(e)	1 108	1 952	1 002	2 347	1 062	2 220
4 Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes(d)(e)	107	106	108	125	107	123
5 Chemicals and related products, n.e.c.(d)(e)	1 329	3 929	1 308	4 175	1 311	4 170
6 Manufacturing goods classified chiefly by material(d)(e)	2 796	4 848	2 645	5 377	2 369	5 238
7 Machinery and transport equipment(d)(e)	4 009	16 026	3 824	18 727	3 910	18 186
8 Miscellaneous manufactured articles(d)(e)	1 337	6 381	1 298	6 799	1 202	6 522
9 Commodities and transactions of merchandise trade, n.e.c.(f)						
97 Gold, non-monetary (excluding gold ores and concentrates)	1 604	1 738	658	1 646	36	1 331
98 Combined confidential items of trade	1 148	502	889	165	734	6
Other Section 9	270	1 222	244	1 474	207	1 317
Total Section 9	3 022	14	1 790	7	978	8
Total	22 521	39 072	19 245	43 447	17 568	41 613

(a) Victorian imports are those imported goods released from Customs control within Victoria. Victorian exports are those whose final stage of production or manufacture occurred within Victoria.

(b) Standard International Trade Classification.

(c) Any discrepancies between sums of the component items and totals are due to rounding.

(d) Excludes export commodities subject to a confidentiality restriction. These are included in Section 9.

(e) Excludes imports commodities subject to a confidentiality restriction. These are included in Section 9.

(f) Includes export and import commodities subject to a confidentiality restriction.

Source: ABS data available on request, Merchandise Exports Collection; ABS data available on request, Merchandise Imports Collection.

Country	Year ending June 2002		Year ending June 2003		Eleven months ending May 2004	
	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
Belgium-Luxembourg	97	285	61	395	—	—
Brazil	56	144	35	176	28	171
Canada	204	351	234	478	168	399
China	1 559	4 378	1 601	5 083	1 683	4 807
Fiji	211	144	186	99	112	70
Finland	10	211	8	225	11	204
France	166	882	126	1 669	104	1 609
Germany	409	2 761	461	3 342	427	3 000
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	1 100	435	617	346	458	328
India	257	332	194	384	181	341
Indonesia	486	1 110	350	1 058	394	733
Italy	399	1 112	422	1 382	229	1 247
Japan	2 093	4 895	1 785	5 217	1 462	4 492
Korea, Republic of (South)	1 121	1 053	939	956	803	987
Malaysia	538	1 064	462	1 141	402	960
Mexico	166	110	137	128	106	125
Netherlands	111	386	114	448	91	391
New Zealand	2 058	1 751	2 183	1 866	1 930	1 760
Pakistan	71	97	41	95	40	72
Papua New Guinea	133	11	120	10	95	43
Philippines	458	171	345	208	270	195
Saudi Arabia	1 404	188	1 051	133	845	187
Singapore	1 137	825	650	930	433	936
South Africa	228	253	215	327	177	346
Sweden	32	543	43	552	44	435
Switzerland	51	340	50	342	41	291
Taiwan	674	906	696	1 006	576	888
Thailand	603	834	611	982	405	921
United Kingdom	691	1 888	647	1 962	515	1 539
United States of America	2 151	7 259	1 828	7 615	1 723	5 963
Other and unknown	3 566	2 840	2 692	3 575	2 454	3 474
Total(c)	22 242	37 558	18 904	42 129	16 209	36 911

(a) Victorian imports are those imported goods released from Customs control within Victoria. Victorian exports are those whose final stage of production or manufacture occurred within Victoria.

(b) The list of countries in this table reflects the volume of trade with Victoria.

(c) Any discrepancies between sums of component items and the total are due to rounding.

Source: ABS data available on request, Merchandise Exports Collection; ABS data available on request, Merchandise Imports Collection.

Local Government Area	Estimated resident population at 30 June 2002			Mean Taxable income \$	Taxpayers	
	no.(a)	no.	%		Mean Net Tax \$	Net Tax Ratio
Melbourne (b)						
Banyule (C)	118 286	54 774	46.3	40 844	10 040	24.6
Bayside (C)	89 078	45 216	50.8	58 852	17 979	30.5
Boroondara (C)	157 588	79 067	50.2	58 230	17 807	30.6
Brimbank (C)	171 080	69 680	40.7	34 578	7 614	22.0
Cardinia (S)	48 602	20 806	42.8	35 964	8 136	22.6
Casey (C)	191 035	83 308	43.6	35 844	8 087	22.6
Darebin (C)	127 481	51 618	40.5	35 947	8 161	22.7
Frankston (C)	115 519	49 579	42.9	34 990	7 696	22.0
Glen Eira (C)	123 013	59 140	48.1	43 313	11 172	25.8
Greater Dandenong (C)	127 801	50 716	39.7	32 256	6 732	20.9
Hobsons Bay (C)	83 705	36 153	43.2	38 520	9 234	24.0
Hume (C)	139 913	55 667	39.8	35 423	7 903	22.3
Kingston (C)	135 033	59 098	43.8	38 071	8 930	23.5
Knox (C)	148 959	70 170	47.1	37 422	8 700	23.2
Manningham (C)	114 153	54 854	48.1	44 641	11 745	26.3
Maribymong (C)	61 422	23 925	39.0	36 225	8 257	22.8
Maroondah (C)	100 618	47 899	47.6	37 843	8 797	23.2
Melbourne (C)	53 786	23 869	44.4	52 098	15 459	29.7
Melton (S)	58 580	24 094	41.1	34 966	7 718	22.1
Monash (C)	162 399	74 130	45.6	40 292	9 809	24.3
Moonee Valley (C)	109 952	51 641	47.0	41 091	10 188	24.8
Moreland (C)	136 036	54 603	40.1	36 231	8 272	22.8
Mornington Peninsula (S)	135 329	56 302	41.6	38 476	9 153	23.8
Nillumbik (S)	60 810	30 463	50.1	42 589	10 908	25.6
Port Phillip (C)	81 592	43 021	52.7	52 393	15 331	29.3
Stonnington (C)	90 186	48 551	53.8	65 833	21 359	32.4
Whitehorse (C)	146 290	66 639	45.6	41 410	10 240	24.7
Whittlesea (C)	120 506	50 244	41.7	33 769	7 295	21.6
Wyndham (C)	92 313	41 313	44.8	37 102	8 460	22.8
Yarra (C)	69 263	34 431	49.7	46 590	12 796	27.5
Yarra Ranges (S)	143 300	65 139	45.5	35 873	8 151	22.7
Barwon						
Colac-Otway (S)	21 079	9 040	42.9	32 909	6 786	20.6
Golden Plains (S)	15 312	5 766	37.7	35 231	7 703	21.9
Greater Geelong (C)	197 542	81 898	41.5	36 620	8 385	22.9
Queenscliffe (B)	3 253	1 464	45.0	38 437	8 585	22.3
Surf Coast (S)	21 549	8 785	40.8	36 924	8 487	23.0
Western District						
Corangamite (S)	17 482	7 391	42.3	35 016	7 140	20.4
Glenelg (S)	20 282	8 375	41.3	36 614	8 192	22.4
Moyne (S)	15 776	6 998	44.4	35 480	7 489	21.1
Southern Grampians (S)	17 016	7 442	43.7	33 622	6 950	20.7
Warrnambool (C)	30 020	12 966	43.2	33 934	7 384	21.8
Central Highlands						
Ararat (RC)	11 714	4 525	38.6	33 613	6 812	20.3
Ballarat (C)	84 580	34 734	41.1	34 518	7 608	22.0
Hepburn (S)	14 518	5 267	36.3	31 825	6 497	20.4
Moorabool (S)	25 332	10 685	42.2	36 251	8 214	22.7
Pyrenees (S)	6 585	2 224	33.8	31 555	6 266	19.9

For footnotes see end of table.

...continued

Local Government Area	Estimated resident population at 30 June 2002			Mean Taxable income \$	Taxpayers	
	no.(a)	no.	%		Mean Net Tax \$	Net Tax Ratio
Wimmera						
Hindmarsh (S)	6 544	2 709	41.4	40 262	8 631	21.4
Horsham (RC)	18 647	8 286	44.4	34 607	7 196	20.8
Northern Grampians (S)	12 982	5 481	42.2	33 371	6 863	20.6
West Wimmera (S)	4 819	2 081	43.2	39 455	8 220	20.8
Yarriambiack (S)	8 210	3 585	43.7	39 672	8 293	20.9
Mallee						
Buloke (S)	7 238	3 030	41.9	35 148	6 949	19.8
Gannawarra (S)	11 970	5 057	42.2	31 711	6 182	19.5
Mildura (RC)	50 302	20 112	40.0	32 176	6 601	20.5
Swan Hill (RC)	21 375	9 125	42.7	32 745	6 699	20.5
Loddon						
Central Goldfields (S)	13 090	4 411	33.7	30 777	6 006	19.5
Greater Bendigo (C)	91 545	36 756	40.2	32 902	6 893	20.9
Loddon (S)	8 547	3 115	36.4	33 156	6 538	19.7
Macedon Ranges (S)	38 264	16 135	42.2	39 748	9 559	24.0
Mount Alexander (S)	17 114	6 351	37.1	32 238	6 557	20.3
Goulburn						
Campaspe (S)	36 622	15 449	42.2	33 906	7 124	21.0
Delatite (S)	21 000	8 274	39.4	31 981	6 468	20.2
Greater Shepparton (C)	58 830	24 836	42.2	33 100	7 042	21.3
Mitchell (S)	29 222	11 595	39.7	35 089	7 703	22.0
Moira (S)	26 893	11 035	41.0	32 638	6 619	20.3
Murrindindi (S)	13 736	5 875	42.8	32 803	6 862	20.9
Strathbogie (S)	9 611	3 780	39.3	31 450	6 312	20.1
Ovens-Murray						
Alpine (S)	13 162	5 046	38.3	31 656	6 467	20.4
Indigo (S)	14 844	5 910	39.8	35 348	7 652	21.6
Towong (S)	6 266	2 475	39.5	32 842	6 597	20.1
Wangarratta (RC)	26 599	11 409	42.9	32 943	6 899	20.9
Wodonga (RC)	33 087	15 193	45.9	34 759	7 547	21.7
East Gippsland						
East Gippsland (S)	39 679	14 729	37.1	30 826	6 152	20.0
Wellington (S)	41 244	16 476	39.9	35 305	7 770	22.0
Gippsland(a)						
Bass Coast (S)	26 690	8 873	33.2	31 708	6 310	19.9
Baw Baw (S)	36 714	14 987	40.8	34 250	7 403	21.6
Latrobe (S)	70 332	27 101	38.5	36 959	8 544	23.1
South Gippsland (S)	26 289	11 373	43.3	32 946	6 665	20.2
Unincorporated Vic	93	41	44.1	29 370	6 261	21.3
Unknown	—	4 688	—	41 742	10 991	26.3
Victoria	4 857 228	2 129 049	43.8	39 424	9 599	24.3

(a) Revised Estimated Resident Population as at 30 June 2002.

(b) The majority of the Yarra Ranges (S) LGA is in the Melbourne statistical division. However, the Yarra Ranges (S) — Pt. B SLA is in the Gippsland statistical division. The estimates for the entire Yarra Ranges LGA have been reported as part of Melbourne.

Source: Australian Taxation Office, <www.ato.gov.au>.

CHAPTER 11

NATURAL RESOURCES

AIR QUALITY

The Air Quality Index compiled by the Victorian Environment Protection Authority measures the concentration of various pollutants relative to the levels at which they may cause harm. The index is available for four areas in the Port Phillip Region (East, West, City and Geelong) and the Latrobe Valley.

In relation to ozone pollutants, the air quality for September quarter 2003 was predominantly "very good" and "good" across all regions. Over 90% of days were recorded as "very good", which was also the case for the June 2003 quarter. Data for the March 2002 and 2003 quarters show a lower proportion of "very good" days across all regions as well as a small proportion of "fair" days. Some "poor" days were recorded in the West and East regions in March quarter 2003.

In terms of days with visible pollutants, the data for September quarter 2003 show that overall air quality improved for most regions compared to June quarter 2003. This was evident in a rise in the proportion of "very good" days across all regions and a decline in the number of "fair" and "poor" days across most regions. A small proportion of "very poor" days continued from June to September quarter 2003 in the West and East regions. Levels of visible pollutants were highest in the March quarter 2003, where all regions experienced many "very poor" and "poor" days. The Latrobe Valley recorded the highest proportion of "very poor" days in this period (11%).

	Proportion of days per quarter with Ozone Pollutant Index(b) at stated level(c)								Proportion of days per quarter with Visibility Pollutant Index(b) at stated level(c)							
	2001		2002			2003			2001		2002			2003		
	Dec	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar	Jun	Sep
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
West(d)																
Very Good	81	63	90	87	60	51	91	96	79	67	40	60	59	50	41	61
Good	19	32	10	13	37	40	9	4	21	30	41	34	34	28	34	35
Fair	—	4	—	—	3	7	—	—	—	3	15	6	6	8	19	2
Poor	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	3	1	1	7	5	1
Very Poor	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	8	1	1
East(d)																
Very Good	83	67	82	76	46	49	93	94	77	58	26	46	61	52	26	39
Good	17	30	18	24	50	40	7	6	23	41	36	36	35	23	35	39
Fair	—	3	—	—	4	9	—	—	—	1	20	12	3	10	26	16
Poor	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	14	6	1	4	11	3
Very Poor	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	10	1	2
City(d)																
Very Good	96	90	99	100	89	77	98	100	88	85	50	75	74	59	51	72
Good	4	9	1	—	11	20	2	—	12	15	33	22	23	22	32	25
Fair	—	1	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	14	2	2	7	14	1
Poor	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	1	5	3	2
Very Poor	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	—
Geelong(d)																
Very Good	94	70	84	98	77	71	92	97	94	88	57	72	85	72	61	81
Good	6	27	16	2	23	21	8	3	6	12	28	22	15	13	34	16
Fair	—	3	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	15	6	—	5	3	2
Poor	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	1
Very Poor	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	—
Latrobe Valley(d)																
Very Good	86	83	85	89	60	61	97	92	85	71	25	25	84	56	21	29
Good	14	17	15	11	40	36	3	8	15	24	35	45	15	20	48	42
Fair	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	2	30	26	1	8	19	21
Poor	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	9	3	—	6	10	8
Very Poor	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	11	2	—

(a) The EPA reports air quality as an index for any given pollutant as its concentration expressed as a percentage of the relevant standard. It enables easy interpretation of whether the pollutant is at a level which may cause harm. An index value of 100 means the pollutant is currently at a concentration equal to the National Environment Protection Measure (Air NEPM) or State Environment Protection Policy (The Air Environment) (SEPP) standard levels (levels designed to protect human health and the environment). Indexes are calculated separately for each measured pollutant: Ozone, Nitrogen Dioxide, Sulfur Dioxide, Carbon Monoxide, Fine Particulates (PM10), Visibility (Airborne Particle Index). For each station, the daily pollutant indexes are the maximum index values for that day. Note that not all pollutants are measured at each station. The EPA also calculates an overall Air Quality Index, which amalgamates each pollutant index into an overall measure of air quality at each station.

(b) Data have been provided for the Ozone and Visibility (or Airborne Particle) Indexes as these are the dominant pollutants and are widely measured across the EPA network. It should also be noted that meteorological conditions are a major determinant on the incidence of elevated pollutant levels. Hence significant daily, seasonal and annual variations can be expected in air quality. For more information on Air Quality, see the EPA website, <<http://www.epa.vic.gov.au>>.

(c) The index is converted into a qualitative scale with 5 commonly understood terms. Very Good (0–33), Good (34–66) and Fair (67–99) represent measurements within the standards, while Poor (100–149) and Very Poor (150+) represent measurements exceeding the standards.

(d) For reporting purposes the Port Phillip Region (PPR) has been divided into 4 regions: East, West, City and Geelong. Air monitoring stations assigned to each region are: East — Alphington, Brighton, Box Hill, Dandenong, Mooroolbark; City — RMIT, Richmond; West — Footscray, Melton, Point Cook, Paisley; Geelong — Point Henry, Geelong South. In addition, the Latrobe Valley has stations at Moe and Traralgon. The regional index is considered to be the maximum of the station indexes calculated within each particular region. The daily index reported for a region is the maximum region index recorded each day.

Source: Environment Protection Authority, Victoria.

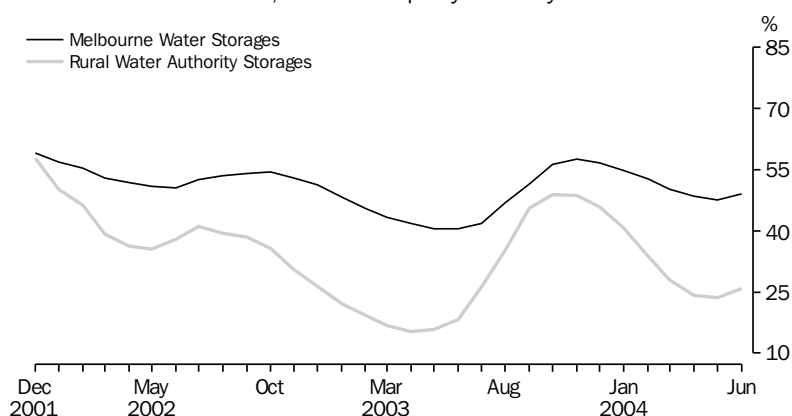
WATER RESOURCES

Due to the prolonged drought conditions affecting most of Australia, water storage and conservation has become a national priority.

At the end of June 2004, Victorian water storages were at 28.6% capacity, an increase of 1.9% from the end of May and 6.9% higher than in June 2003.

Melbourne's water storages at the end of June 2004 were at 49.0% capacity, an increase of 1.5% from the end of May and 8.6% higher than in June 2003. Rural water storages however, were at 25.8% capacity at the end of June 2004, an increase of 2.2% from the end of May and an increase of 8.6% overall since June last year.

WATER STORAGE VOLUMES, Percent of capacity—Monthly



25

STORAGE VOLUMES IN VICTORIAN WATER STORAGES, By River Basin

Basin	Capacity at full service level ML	Storage levels at end of month (percent of capacity)						Change (percent of capacity) from	
		2003			2004			May 2004 to Jun 2004	Jun 2003 to Jun 2004
		Apr	May	Jun	Apr	May	Jun		
Goulburn	3 833 500	8.4	8.9	12.5	20.1	19.0	22.0	3.0	9.5
Broken	405 000	20.2	21.0	22.3	27.1	26.5	27.1	0.6	4.9
Campaspe	387 060	8.8	8.6	9.0	8.8	7.6	7.9	0.2	-1.1
Loddon	284 300	22.8	21.0	19.7	21.1	19.5	19.8	0.4	0.2
Murray	7 113 210	21.2	23.0	26.3	31.4	31.6	33.0	1.5	6.8
Ovens	37 500	28.8	45.2	75.5	40.0	32.4	68.7	36.3	-6.8
Werribee	76 020	13.7	12.2	10.5	7.4	7.0	6.3	-0.7	-4.2
Maribymong	24 900	12.4	11.3	10.6	7.0	6.5	6.5	0.0	-4.1
Glanelg/Wimmera	770 410	6.2	6.3	7.3	9.3	9.2	9.6	0.4	2.3
Thomson/Latrobe	1 466 200	34.8	32.1	33.6	41.6	39.9	42.2	2.2	8.5
Total	14 398 100	18.0	18.8	21.7	27.2	26.7	28.6	1.9	6.9
Total Volume of Water									
In Melbourne Water storages(a)	1 772 500	41.8	40.5	40.5	48.5	47.5	49.0	1.5	8.6
In rural water authority storages(b)	9 773 495	15.2	15.9	19.0	24.2	23.6	25.8	2.2	6.8

(a) The total volume in Melbourne Water storages is calculated as the sum of volumes in store in Thomson, Upper Yarra, O'Shannassy, Maroondah, Sugarloaf, Yan Yean, Greenvale, Silvan and Cardinia (Tarago and Devil Bend are excluded).

(b) The total volume in rural water authority storages is calculated (as an approximation) as the sum of volumes in store for all listed storages, minus the volume in Thomson reservoir, minus half of the volume stored in the Murray Basin.

Source: Department of Sustainability and Environment web site, <<http://www.dse.vic.gov.au/vro>>.

CONDITION OF MAIN ROADS The condition of our roads is an important measure of access into and out of communities and remote locations.

Measures of road condition include roughness, rutting and cracking. Roughness less than 110nm is considered acceptable for non-metropolitan roads. Municipalities outside Melbourne with the highest percentage of rough main roads in 2003 were Strathbogie and Yarriambiack (both 25%), and Pyrenees and Surf Coast (both 22%). The lowest percentages were found in Alpine, Queenscliffe and Warrnambool (4% each), however the latter two municipalities have less than 10 kilometres of main roads. Other low percentages occurred in Mildura (5%), Glenelg and Towong (both 6%).

With lower travel speeds in urban areas, roughness less than 140nm is considered acceptable for metropolitan roads. Municipalities within Melbourne with the highest percentage of rough main roads in 2003 were Yarra and Manningham (both 15%) and Hobsons Bay and Melbourne City (both 12%). The lowest percentage was found in the Docklands Authority area (nil), which has only 0.5 kilometres of main road. Other low percentages were found in Casey and Whittlesea (both 3%) and Frankston, Melton and Mornington Peninsula (all 4%).

Local Government Area	Total length of main roads km	Roughness(a)		% with rut depth(b) greater than 10mm	% with cracking	Distressed(c) length km
		% greater than 110nm	% greater than 140nm			
Melbourne(d)						
Banyule (C)	55.5	21	7	7	10	1.0
Bayside (C)	46.6	13	5	12	8	2.1
Boroondara (C)	78.9	16	5	7	7	2.3
Brimbank (C)	87.5	26	8	12	13	4.6
Cardinia (S)	183.5	14	6	13	4	6.2
Casey (C)	111.4	10	3	16	4	4.1
Darebin (C)	52.0	22	9	12	16	3.2
Docklands (Authority)	0.5	64	0	4	61	0.0
Frankston (C)	36.8	11	4	10	3	0.6
Glen Eira (C)	34.5	11	5	8	3	0.3
Greater Dandenong (C)	56.2	12	5	10	8	2.8
Hobsons Bay (C)	62.4	29	12	15	21	7.2
Hume (C)	122.9	16	5	16	7	6.9
Kingston (C)	82.5	13	5	9	6	3.1
Knox (C)	103.4	19	6	13	8	6.1
Manningham (C)	99.2	32	15	13	7	3.4
Maribymong (C)	29.5	27	9	14	29	2.6
Maroondah (C)	60.8	19	7	7	10	0.8
Melbourne (C) (excluding Docklands (Authority))	54.7	31	12	9	20	2.1
Melton (S)	46.5	18	4	11	4	0.9
Monash (C)	80.2	20	7	13	9	4.5
Moonee Valley (C)	55.5	28	10	12	9	2.8
Moreland (C)	41.6	31	11	17	30	3.6
Mornington Peninsula (S)	186.3	11	4	12	3	3.8
Nillumbik (S)	101.8	24	8	12	2	1.4
Port Phillip (C)	49.3	18	7	9	14	1.9
Stonnington (C)	47.3	20	9	12	21	5.6
Whitehorse (C)	66.7	19	9	6	10	1.4
Whittlesea (C)	143.3	9	3	10	9	6.7
Wyndham (C)	99.0	19	7	12	8	4.1
Yarra Ranges (S)	312.2	25	8	11	3	4.7
Yarra (C)	30.3	34	15	21	32	5.1
Barwon						
Colac-Otway (S)	317.3	8	2	19	2	8.9
Golden Plains (S)	194.6	9	2	10	2	1.4
Greater Geelong (C)	256.7	13	4	15	5	11.6
Queenscliffe (B)	4.7	4	4	12	9	0.2
Surf Coast (S)	107.4	22	8	20	6	8.6
Western District						
Corangamite (S)	423.8	12	4	25	3	19.0
Glenelg (S)	352.0	6	1	21	2	7.9
Moyne (S)	364.6	8	2	24	5	30.2
Southern Grampians (S)	311.9	8	2	16	2	7.9
Warrnambool (C)	9.7	4	0	15	3	0.1
Central Highlands						
Ararat (RC)	222.0	14	4	9	1	2.0
Ballarat (C)	123.8	14	6	13	3	2.5
Hepburn (S)	163.3	20	6	16	2	4.4
Moorabool (S)	150.1	19	6	14	4	7.1
Pyrenees (S)	152.2	22	6	12	1	1.1

For footnotes see end of table.

...continued

Local Government Area	Total length of main roads km	Roughness(a)		% with rut depth(b) greater than 10mm	% with cracking	Distressed(c) length km
		% greater than 110nm	% greater than 140nm			
Wimmera						
Hindmarsh (S)	257.0	15	3	10	2	2.7
Horsham (RC)	151.7	17	5	18	1	3.3
Northern Grampians (S)	248.6	19	5	11	1	2.6
West Wimmera (S)	419.2	20	5	21	1	4.8
Yarriambiack (S)	400.5	25	7	12	4	9.8
Mallee						
Buloke (S)	433.2	17	5	17	5	18.8
Gannawarra (S)	204.4	8	2	8	3	1.4
Mildura (RC)	188.7	5	1	5	2	1.0
Swan Hill (RC)	201.2	12	3	20	9	11.0
Loddon						
Central Goldfields (S)	133.4	16	4	10	1	0.8
Greater Bendigo (C)	257.4	20	4	15	1	2.8
Loddon (S)	394.1	13	4	14	2	6.9
Macedon Ranges (S)	177.2	13	3	14	3	2.9
Mount Alexander (S)	93.0	18	5	11	3	2.9
Goulburn						
Benalla (RC)	91.0	14	4	6	1	0.0
Campaspe (S)	367.8	14	4	15	1	4.8
Greater Shepparton (C)	261.5	11	3	10	2	5.5
Mansfield (S)	131.7	20	5	14	3	1.4
Mitchell (S)	135.3	15	4	12	1	1.4
Moira (S)	270.1	12	3	9	1	2.5
Murrindindi (S)	110.3	9	2	11	1	0.4
Strathbogie (S)	171.3	25	8	9	1	0.4
Ovens-Murray						
Alpine (S)	126.6	4	0	9	1	0.6
Indigo (S)	218.0	12	2	11	1	1.2
Towong (S)	184.8	6	1	7	1	0.2
Wangarratta (RC)	221.3	19	4	11	1	1.0
Wodonga (RC)	33.0	7	2	13	1	0.3
East Gippsland						
East Gippsland (S)	349.6	19	5	12	0	0.7
Wellington (S)	403.5	13	4	10	1	2.1
Gippsland(d)						
Bass Coast (S)	43.5	15	4	19	1	1.1
Baw Baw (S)	302.0	15	5	11	1	3.3
Latrobe (C)	195.4	19	6	17	2	4.0
South Gippsland (S)	248.2	14	3	18	2	8.1
Victoria	13 109.4	15	4	14	3	328.9

(a) Roughness <140nm is considered acceptable for metropolitan roads. Roughness <110nm is considered acceptable for non-metropolitan roads.

(b) Rut depth is defined as the maximum gap under a 3.0m straight edge across a traffic lane.

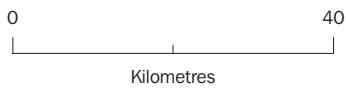
(c) Distressed pavement is defined as 30% of a pavement with more than 10mm rutting together with at least 10% cracking.

(d) The majority of the Yarra Ranges (S) LGA is in the Melbourne statistical division. However, the Yarra Ranges (S) - Pt. B SLA is in the Gippsland statistical division. The estimates for the entire Yarra Ranges LGA have been reported as part of Melbourne. Therefore, summing LGA estimates within Melbourne will slightly over-report the true estimate for Melbourne SD, and summing LGA estimates within Gippsland or Balance of Victoria will slightly under-report the true estimate for the corresponding ASGC regions.

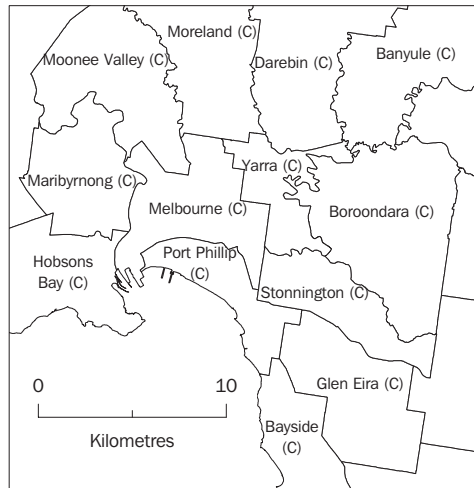
Source: *Pavement Inventory and Condition Report, VicRoads.*

Local Government Areas, Melbourne

2003



Inset



Source: Australian Standard Geographical Classification, 2003

APPENDIX

LIST OF TABLES REMOVED FROM JUNE 2004 STATE AND REGIONAL INDICATORS, VICTORIA

<u>Tables removed from June quarter 2004 SRIV</u>	<u>Source for this information</u>
Registration of births, deaths, marriages and divorces	<i>Australian Demographic Statistics</i> (cat. no. 3101.0)
Civilian labour force: all series	<i>Labour Force, Australia</i> (cat. no. 6202.0)
Job vacancies: original	<i>Job Vacancies, Australia</i> (cat. no. 6354.0)
Industrial disputes causing stoppage of work	<i>Industrial Disputes, Australia</i> (cat. no. 6321.0)
Wage cost indexes	<i>Wage Cost Index, Australia</i> (cat. no. 6345.0)
Price indexes of materials used in manufacturing industries: Australia	<i>Producer Price Indexes, Australia</i> (cat. no. 6427.0)
Price indexes of articles produced by manufacturing industry: Australia	<i>Producer Price Indexes, Australia</i> (cat. no. 6427.0)
Export price indexes, by commodities: Australia	<i>International Trade Price Indexes, Australia</i> (cat. no. 6457.0)
Private new capital expenditure, by type of asset and industry: original	<i>Private New Capital Expenditure and Expected Expenditure, Australia</i> (cat. no. 5625.0)
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Commercial finance commitments	<i>Leading Finance, Australia</i> (cat. no. 5671.0)
Lease finance commitments, by purpose	<i>Leading Finance, Australia</i> (cat. no. 5671.0)
Personal finance commitments	<i>Leading Finance, Australia</i> (cat. no. 5671.0)
Secured housing finance commitments, dwelling units: all series	<i>Housing Finance for Owner Occupation, Australia</i> (cat. no. 5609.0)
Secured housing finance commitments, dwelling units, by type of borrower	<i>Housing Finance for Owner Occupation, Australia</i> (cat. no. 5609.0)
Building approvals: all series	<i>Building Approvals, Australia</i> (cat. no. 8731.0)
Value of building work, chain volume measures	<i>Building Activity, Australia</i> (cat. no. 8752.0)
New motor vehicle sales: all series	<i>Sale of New Motor Vehicles, Electronic Delivery</i> (cat. no. 9314.0.55.001)
Retail turnover, by industry: all series	<i>Retail Trade, Australia</i> (cat. no. 8501.0)
Retail turnover, chain volume measures: all series	<i>Retail Trade, Australia</i> (cat. no. 8501.0)
Tourist accommodation	<i>Tourist Accommodation, Australia</i> (cat. no. 8635.0)
Internet Activity, by Statistical Division	<i>Internet Activity, Australia</i> (cat. no. 8153.0)
Government-owned social housing stocks by LGA, as at 30 June 2003	Office of Housing, Department of Human Services, Victoria
Road traffic fatalities by LGA	Victorian Police Statistical Services Division, < www.police.vic.gov.au >
Income support customers by LGA, as at 30 June 2002	Australian Government Department of Family and Community Services (FaCS)

GLOSSARY

Chain volume measures Annually-reweighted chain Laspeyres indexes referenced to the current price values in a chosen reference year (i.e. the year when the quarterly chain volume measures sum to the current price annual values). Chain Laspeyres volume measures are compiled by linking together (compounding) movements in volumes, calculated using the average prices of the previous financial year, and applying the compounded movements to the current price estimates of the reference year. Quarterly chain volume estimates are benchmarked to annual chain volume estimates, so that the quarterly estimates for a financial year sum to the corresponding annual estimate.

Generally, chain volume measures are not additive. In other words, component chain volume measures do not sum to a total in the way original current price components do. In order to minimise the impact of this property, the ABS uses the latest base year as the reference year. By adopting this approach, additivity exists for the quarters following the reference year and non-additivity is relatively small for the quarters in the reference year and the quarters immediately preceding it. The latest base year and the reference year will be advanced one year with the release of the June quarter data each year. A change in reference year changes levels but not growth rates, although some revision to recent growth rates can be expected because of the introduction of a more recent base year (and revisions to the current price estimates underlying the chain volume measures).

Duration of unemployment The elapsed period to the end of the reference week since a person began looking for work, or since a person last worked for two weeks or more, whichever is the shorter. Brief periods of work (of less than two weeks) since the person began looking for work are disregarded.

Employed Persons aged 15 years and over who, during the reference week:

- worked for one hour or more for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind, in a job or business or on a farm (comprising employees, employers and own account workers); or
- worked for one hour or more without pay in a family business or on a farm (i.e. contributing family workers); or
- were employees who had a job but were not at work and were:
 - away from work for less than four weeks up to the end of the reference week; or
 - away from work for more than four weeks up to the end of the reference week and received pay for some or all of the four week period to the end of the reference week; or
 - away from work as a standard work or shift arrangement; or
 - on strike or locked out; or
 - on workers' compensation and expected to return to their job; or
- were employers or own account workers who had a job, business or farm, but were not at work.

Part-time workers	Employed persons who usually worked less than 35 hours a week (in all jobs) and either did so during the reference week, or were not at work in the reference week.
Particles as PM₁₀	Particles with an aerodynamic diameter of 10 micrometres or less.
Seasonal adjustment	A means of removing the estimated effects of normal seasonal variations from economic time series so that the effects of other influences are obvious. Seasonal variations are the systematic (though not necessarily regular) intra-year movements of economic time series. These are often the result of non-economic phenomena, such as climatic changes and regular religious festivals (e.g. Christmas and Easter).
State final demand	Conceptually identical to domestic final demand at the national level (the sum of private and government final consumption expenditure and private and public gross fixed capital formation). National estimates are based on the concepts and conventions embodied in the <i>System of National Accounts, 1993</i> , but for regional (including State) estimates there is no separate international standard. Although national concepts are generally applicable to State accounts, there remain several conceptual and measurement issues that either do not apply or are insignificant nationally. Most of the problems arise in the measurement of gross state product for the transport and storage, communication services, and finance and insurance industries, where production often takes place across State borders. In these cases, a number of conceptual views can be applied to the allocation of value added by State. For more information, see chapter 28 of <i>Australian System of National Accounts: Concepts, Sources and Methods</i> (cat. no. 5216.0).
Trend estimates	Smoothing seasonally adjusted series produces a measure of trend by removing the impact of the irregular component of the series. The trend estimates are derived by applying a 13-term Henderson weighted moving average to the respective seasonally adjusted series. Readers are reminded that trend estimates are subject to revision as subsequent months' data become available.
Unemployed	Persons aged 15 years and over who were not employed during the reference week, and: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ had actively looked for full-time or part-time work at any time in the four weeks up to the end of the reference week and: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ were available for work in the reference week; or ■ were waiting to start a new job within four weeks from the end of the reference week, and could have started in the reference week if the job had been available then.

FOR MORE INFORMATION...

- INTERNET* **www.abs.gov.au** the ABS web site is the best place to start for access to summary data from our latest publications, information about the ABS, advice about upcoming releases, our catalogue, and Australia Now—a statistical profile.
- LIBRARY* A range of ABS publications is available from public and tertiary libraries Australia-wide. Contact your nearest library to determine whether it has the ABS statistics you require, or visit our web site for a list of libraries.
- CPI INFOLINE* For current and historical Consumer Price Index data, call 1902 981 074 (call cost 77c per minute).
- DIAL-A-STATISTIC* For the latest figures for National Accounts, Balance of Payments, Labour Force, Average Weekly Earnings, Estimated Resident Population and the Consumer Price Index call 1900 986 400 (call cost 77c per minute).

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